



## IOWA 2003-04 Board of Directors

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*continued next page*

## “202 in 2002”

*by Christine Conover*

I.O.W.A. has renewed its commitment to the ambitious 202 in 2002 project that longtime I.O.W.A. member and past-president Gail Sheridan-Lucht started in 1999. The goal is for all counties in Iowa to install diaper-changing stations in the men’s and women’s restrooms throughout all the courthouses in Iowa. We called the project “202 in 2002” based on the 101 courthouses in Iowa and our timeline of completing the project in 2002.

To date, over 50 Iowa counties have participated in this project and have installed the stations. Our philosophy continues to be that the availability of a diaper changing station is not a luxury but a necessity.

Since the project first started, the cost of installing diaper-changing stations has decreased by approximately \$100. Koala stations, for example, start at \$134. Adding approximately \$18 per station in shipping charges and \$38 for a box of 500 bed liners, the total cost of two stations is just under \$400.

I.O.W.A. recognizes that the soft economy has created tight budgets for counties across Iowa. For that reason, I.O.W.A. has made some funds available to assist counties with the purchase of these diaper-changing stations. Last fall the board allocated \$100 per county up to a maximum of \$1,000 to donate to counties to get the diaper changing stations installed.

**WE NEED YOU!** What follows is the list of counties that have not installed stations to the best of our knowledge. Please look over this list. If this is your county, please contact a member of your local board of supervisors and lobby for them to install the diaper changing stations in their courthouse. Then, contact your I.O.W.A. district representative to let them know what you have found out. If you want more information about the types of diaper-changing stations available, please contact your district representative or me. Let’s all do what we can to get 100% participation in this worthwhile project!

**1st District:** Allamakee, Buchanan, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Grundy, Howard

**2nd District:** Butler, Carroll, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hamilton, Hardin, Marshall, Mitchell, Pocahontas, Sac, Winnebago, Worth, Wright

**3rd District:** Crawford, Dickinson, Emmet, Ida, Lyon (might be done - need to follow up), Monona, Pocahontas, Sioux, Woodbury (I think this is done - double check)

**4th District:** Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Montgomery, Page, Shelby

**5th District:** Adams, Clarke, Dallas, Decatur, Guthrie, Lucas, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, Wayne

**6th District:** Iowa, Jones, Linn, Tama

**7th District:** Clinton, Jackson

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PROPOSED LEGISLATION ON

# IOWA WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The House and Senate have proposed a Resolution declaring March as Women's History Month. The Resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 109, provides as follows:

BY MADDOX and MASCHER

A Concurrent Resolution designating March 2004 as Iowa Women's History Month.

WHEREAS, Iowa women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our state and nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways, including through the struggle for women's rights; and

WHEREAS, Iowa women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside the home despite being underpaid; and

WHEREAS, Iowa women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Iowa women and men finally amended the Constitution of the State of Iowa to provide that "All men and women are, by nature, free and equal, and have certain inalienable rights ..."; and

WHEREAS, Iowa women have been leaders in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, the peace movement, and the women's suffrage movement, which have created a more fair and just society for all people; and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, and those of women throughout the world, the role of women has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the literature, teaching, and study of history; NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly designates the month of March 2004 as Iowa Women's History Month and invites the citizens of Iowa to continue to uncover the roles women have played throughout history.



## 2003-04 IOWA Board

*cont'd from page 1*

*7th District Rep.*  
Brandy Dulceak  
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Lisa Shileny  
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515-281-3592

## Job Opening

The Iowa Division of Labor Services in Des Moines will soon have a full-time opening for an Attorney II staff position. The job requires 18 months of legal experience and pays approximately \$50,000 plus benefits annually. Interested persons have to apply with the State Department of Personnel and be on a list. For more information or to send your resume, please contact: Gail.Sheridan-Lucht@iwd.state.ia.us

## Member Information

We sadly announce that Attorney Patricia R. Cepican passed away on Friday, January 23, 2004 at Genesis Medical Center in Davenport. Patricia was an attorney with McDonald, Stonebaker, Cepican & Woodward, P.C. in Davenport. Patricia was active in the Iowa and Scott County Bar Associations and served on the Board of Directors of HELP Legal Assistance for more than 25 years.

Attorney Patrick Driscoll of Stanley, Lande & Hunter in Davenport wrote the following about Patricia:

*As we know so well, Pat was a wonderful person, an excellent lawyer, and an active member of the Scott County and Iowa State Bar Associations. She previously served as SCBA president, currently serves on the Executive Committee, on the Board of Governors of the Iowa State Bar Association, and on the Board of Directors of H.E.L.P. Legal Assistance, to name a few.*

*Despite her valiant battle with cancer, Pat continued to work tirelessly for her clients and her profession. At the last Executive Committee meeting, she reported on the Board of Governors meeting. This past Tuesday, she attended the H.E.L.P. Legal Assistance board meeting. We will truly miss her.*

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to HELP Legal Assistance.       \*\*\*

I.O.W.A. Newsletter Chair, Liz Croco, gave birth to her first child, Samantha Margaret, on January 8, 2004. Congratulations to Liz and her husband Matthew.



## WellFem-in-Law

Looking for suggestions on well-being? Recipes for tonight's dinner? Visit our website at <http://www.iowawomenattorneys.org> to read Bev Clark's WellFem-in-Law monthly columns.



## In the Spotlight



After twenty-three years of service to the people of Iowa, **Roxann Ryan** is leaving the Iowa Attorney General's Office to become an Assistant Professor specializing in criminal justice in the Social Sciences Department at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

Roxann graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1980. Following graduation, she was hired as an Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Appeals Division of the Attorney General's Office, later becoming Deputy Attorney General. In 1995, Roxann enrolled in a doctoral program in criminal justice at the University of Nebraska- Omaha, while continuing to work part-time for the Attorney General's Office. Roxann completed her Doctor of Philosophy Degree in 1998.

Since 1996, Roxann has taught classes at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Iowa State University, and Des Moines Area Community College. Roxann will begin her new position in August 2004. Each semester, Roxann will teach two to three classes and supervise twelve to fifteen interns majoring in criminal justice. Roxann will be teaching criminal justice courses including criminology, criminal investigation, criminal justice policy, victimology, women in crime, and constitutional issues in criminal justice.

## Emily's Boutique

Are you looking for a great gift idea? Contact Emily Chafa Gould at (515) 283-4530 or [ebchafa@dmgov.org](mailto:ebchafa@dmgov.org) to place an order for Woman Pins, Little People Pins, Flag Pins, and Peace Pins for \$14.00 and Jewel Pins in various styles for \$20.00. Proceeds from the sale of these pins benefit I.O.W.A. and related projects. Breast cancer women pins are also available for \$14.00. Proceeds from those pins will benefit Race for the Cure. Finally, Emily has for sale I.O.W.A. T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs and a number of Puckerbrush Potluck Recipe Cards, created in honor and memory of Bess Osenbaugh. I.O.W.A. appreciates your continued support of these fundraising endeavors.

## Law Student Events

### OWLSS

On Tuesday, October 21, 2003, a panel of attorneys from I.O.W.A. met with the Organization for Women Law Students and Staff (OWLSS) at the University of Iowa College of Law. The event was designed to give members of OWLSS a chance to interact with practicing attorneys and ask questions about life after law school. I.O.W.A. members were able to offer their perspective on practicing law or utilizing their law degree in non-traditional ways. The students asked questions about the challenges of law school and how to practice law or use their legal skills after law school. I.O.W.A. members **Christine Conover, Sue Dulek, Emily Pittenger, Nancy Johnson, Jenny Schulz, Allison Smith, Jennifer Clinton, Sonja Rajki and LeAnn Heun** answered

the students' questions based on the attorneys' experiences in the private sector, public sector and non-profit sector. Sonja was able to give students a perspective on using her law degree in a non-traditional way by working on HIPAA issues in the UIHC compliance office. The panel members also gave some history of I.O.W.A. and encouraged the students to join and maintain their membership once they graduate. Everyone also had an opportunity to view the selection of pins and I.O.W.A. memorabilia in Emily's Boutique. Thanks to the I.O.W.A. members who participated in this event and thanks to OWLSS, for continuing the dialogue between the members of these organizations.

## Upcoming Events

### March 7, 2004, Des Moines, Iowa Celebrate International Women's Day

In honor of International Women's Day, a number of organizations are co-sponsoring a discussion entitled "Women of the World and their Stories of War." A panel of women from diverse backgrounds will discuss their personal experiences with war and violence. The talk is Sunday, March 7, 2004 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Central Community Senior Center, 2008 Forest Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. A reception with food and music will follow from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This event is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please contact Mira Yusef at (515) 244-7424 ext. 19 or at [asianoutreach@iowacasa.org](mailto:asianoutreach@iowacasa.org).

### April 16-17, 2004, Chicago, Illinois Women in Law Leadership Academy

The National Association of Women Lawyers is pleased to co-sponsor the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession first ever Women in Law

Leadership Academy to be held in Chicago on April 16-17, 2004. The Academy's purpose is to empower women lawyers with less than ten years practice experience, to enhance their skills and learning, to motivate them to stay in the profession, and to instill in them the capacity to direct their own careers more effectively through mentors and networking. For registration and more information, please visit [http://www.abanet.org/women/will\\_registration.doc](http://www.abanet.org/women/will_registration.doc) or contact the Commission at (312) 988-5715.

### April 21-23, 2004 Minneapolis, Minnesota Midwest Conference for Women in Law

The Minnesota Women Lawyers is hosting the Midwest Conference for Women in Law in Minneapolis, MN from April 21 through the 23, 2004. Keynote speakers include Mara Liasson, NPR correspondent, Diane Yu, chair of the ABA Commission on Women, and Carol Moseley Braun, attorney, former US Senator and Presidential candidate. Public officials, judges and attorneys from around the Midwest also are on the program. Complete information is available at [www.mwlawyers.org](http://www.mwlawyers.org).

## Upcoming Events

April 29-30, 2004, Des Moines, Iowa  
**CREATING JUSTICE**

**Renaissance Savery Hotel, 401 Locust St.**

Co-hosted by:

National Ass'n of Women Judges District 9; Polk County Women Attorneys; and Iowa Org'n of Women Attorneys

The National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) is going to hold its regional meeting on April 29 and 30, 2004 in Des Moines. There will be a reception for judges and lawyers on Thursday and a joint CLE on Friday. See agenda below.

### **THURSDAY, April 29, 2004**

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Reception for judges, NAWJ members and attorneys at the Art House gallery and restaurant, 28<sup>th</sup> and Ingersoll, Des Moines. Heavy hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar. The Art House contains an art gallery, with many art pieces and jewelry items for sale. Transportation will be provided to and from the hotel. Dinner on your own. There are restaurants near the Art House, including Bistro Montage, Noah's Ark, and Jesse's Embers.

### **FRIDAY, April 30, 2004**

7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Fun walk. Meet in the lobby of the Renaissance Savery Hotel for a scenic walk along the Des Moines River, led by a local volunteer.

8:15 Complimentary continental breakfast at the Renaissance Savery Hotel., sponsored by I.O.W.A.

9:00 – 9:45 *Animated Accident Reconstruction Videos: Are They Admissible Scientific Evidence?* Matthew Haindfield, Bradshaw Law Firm

9:45 – 10:30 *The Color of Justice: Women and Minority Judges in Iowa, Wisconsin and Missouri.* Judge Artis Reis (Iowa), Judge Brenda Loftin (Missouri), Judge Maxine White (Wisconsin)

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 11:45 *Ethical Considerations: Current Issues.* Linda Neuman, Former Iowa Supreme Court Justice and lecturer on ethics at University of Iowa College of Law

11:45 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch. Lieutenant Governor Sally Pederson invited to speak.

1:00 – 2:00 *Stress Reduction for Judges Through Mentoring.* United States Magistrate Judge Celeste Bremer

2:00 – 2:30 *Helping Children Find a Permanent Home: Expedited Appeals in Dependency Cases.* Gayle Nelson Vogel, Iowa Court of Appeals Judge

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 3:30 *Diversity in the Justice System.* Roxann Ryan, Assistant Iowa Attorney General and Professor of Criminal Justice

3:30 – 4:45 *Art, Architecture, and the Law.* Anuradha Vaitheswaran, Iowa Court of Appeals Judge. Includes a tour of Iowa's new, state-of-the-art Judicial Branch Building, which houses the Iowa Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

*(Approval pending for 6 hours CLE credit, including one hour of ethics credit.)*

### **CONFERENCE FEE**

Thursday reception: \$15.00; Friday CLE (including lunch): \$60.00

(please indicate the event on memo line of your check)

Make checks payable to National Association of Women Judges District 9 and mail to: Judge Eliza Ovrom, Polk County Courthouse, 500 Mulberry, Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Questions: contact Eliza Ovrom at 515-286-3889; Fax: 515-286-3858; Email: [Eliza\\_Ovrom@jb.state.ia.us](mailto:Eliza_Ovrom@jb.state.ia.us)

## Upcoming Events

June 17, 2004, Des Moines, Iowa

### I.O.W.A. Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

Mark your calendars: I.O.W.A.'s Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday June 17, 2004. Once again, I.O.W.A. will present two awards at the annual meeting banquet on June 17th. These awards are the **Arabella Mansfield Award** and the **Gertrude Rush Award**. We encourage all of you to nominate a worthy candidate for one or both of these awards. Below is the information regarding both awards. Nomination forms can be found on I.O.W.A.'s website at [www.iowawomenattorneys.org](http://www.iowawomenattorneys.org)

### THIRD ANNUAL ARABELLA MANSFIELD AWARD

Sponsored by the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys

I.O.W.A. established the **Arabella Mansfield Award in 2002** to recognize outstanding women lawyers in Iowa. The award honors women lawyers who have promoted and nurtured women in the legal profession.

The award is named after Arabella Mansfield, also commonly known as Belle Babb Mansfield, the first woman lawyer admitted to the practice of law in the United States. Ms. Mansfield studied law in her brother's law office for two years and was admitted to the Iowa Bar in 1869. She was admitted despite the fact that Iowa law required an applicant for bar admission to be white, male and over the age of 21. She was active in the women's suffrage movement, but died in 1911, nine years before women obtained the right to vote.

Any I.O.W.A. member may nominate a woman lawyer for this award. **Nomination forms are due by April 30, 2004.** Nomination forms can be submitted electronically to [president@iowawomenattorneys.org](mailto:president@iowawomenattorneys.org) or by regular mail to I.O.W.A., Attn: Arabella Mansfield Award, P.O. Box 4736, Des Moines, IA 50306.

#### Application Requirements:

Send the following materials, using the guidelines below, by April 30, 2004:

- A. Nomination Form.  
Please complete the form that follows.
- B. Nominee's Resume.  
Please attach the nominee's resume or biographical information, describing her background and contributions.
- C. Reason for Nomination.  
On a separate page, in a few concise paragraphs, describe the accomplishments, contributions and/or initiatives of the nominee in the area of promoting and nurturing women in the legal profession, indicating the significance of her impact on women attorneys in Iowa.

#### Deadline and procedure.

I.O.W.A. will accept nominations electronically or through regular mail. Please e-mail your completed nomination, including the nomination form and accompanying materials, to [president@iowawomenattorneys.org](mailto:president@iowawomenattorneys.org) or send these items by regular mail to I.O.W.A., Attn: Arabella Mansfield Award, P.O. Box 4736, Des Moines, IA 50306.

## Third Annual Arabella Mansfield Award Nomination Form

Please type or print clearly:

---

Name of Nominee

---

Title/Position

Firm/Organization

---

Address

City

State

Zip

---

Telephone (indicate day or evening)

(fax)

(Email)

Categories (Please indicate one or more category that describes the nominee's present position or activity).

Private Practice

Judiciary

Academia

Non-profit

Government

Prosecutor/public defender

State, local or women's bar leader

Corporate/business sector

Other (Please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the nominating person's name and information as listed below:

---

Your Name

---

Title/Position

Firm/Organization

---

Address

City

State

Zip

---

Telephone (indicate day or evening)

(fax)

(Email)

**RETURN NOMINATION FORM AND MATERIALS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30, 2004 TO:**

**Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys**

**Attn: Arabella Mansfield Award**

**P.O. Box 4736, Des Moines, IA 50306**

**Or via e-mail to [president@iowawomenattorneys.org](mailto:president@iowawomenattorneys.org)**

## SECOND ANNUAL GERTRUDE RUSH AWARD

Sponsored by the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys and the Iowa Chapter of the National Bar Association

I.O.W.A. and the INBA established the **Gertrude Rush Award in 2003** and jointly co-sponsor the award to recognize a lawyer who manifests the pioneering spirit of Gertrude Rush, demonstrates leadership in the community and in the legal profession and demonstrates concern for human and civil rights. The award will honor a lawyer who meets the criteria stated above.

This award is named in honor of Gertrude Rush, the first African-American woman to be admitted to the practice of law in Iowa, in 1918. She began to study law in 1908 under the tutoring of her husband, James Rush. She sat for the Iowa bar examination in the summer of 1918, passed the bar examination and was admitted to practice law in the State of Iowa. She was the first and only African American woman practicing law in Iowa, until 1953, when Willie Stevenson Glanton was admitted to practice law in Iowa. Gertrude Rush became one of the founders of the National Bar Association after she and four other black lawyers were denied membership in the American Bar Association in 1924. The National Bar Association (NBA) was officially founded in 1925 and incorporated in 1926. Mrs. Rush was also a composer of religious songs and was active in many church and civic organizations.

Any I.O.W.A. or INBA member may nominate a person for this award. **Nomination forms are due by April 30, 2004.** The nomination forms can be submitted electronically to: [president@iowawomenattorneys.org](mailto:president@iowawomenattorneys.org) or by regular mail to I.O.W.A., Attn: Gertrude Rush Award, P.O. Box 4736, Des Moines, IA 50306.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Send the following materials, using the guidelines below, by April 30, 2004:

- A. Nomination Form.  
Please complete the form that follows.
- B. Nominee's Resume.  
Please attach the nominee's resume or biographical information, describing her or his background and contributions.
- C. Reason for Nomination.  
On a separate page, in a few concise paragraphs, describe how the accomplishments, contributions and/or initiatives of the nominee manifest the pioneering spirit of Gertrude Rush, demonstrate leadership in the community and in the legal profession and demonstrate concern for human and civil rights.

### Deadline and procedure.

I.O.W.A. will accept nominations electronically or through regular mail. Please e-mail your completed nomination, including the nomination form and accompanying materials, to [president@iowawomenattorneys.org](mailto:president@iowawomenattorneys.org) or send these items by regular mail to I.O.W.A., Attn: Gertrude Rush Award, P.O. Box 4736, Des Moines, IA 50306.

## Second Annual Gertrude Rush Award Nomination Form

Please type or print clearly:

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Name of Nominee

---

Title/Position

Firm/Organization

---

Address

City

State

Zip

---

Telephone (indicate day or evening)

(fax)

(Email)

Categories (Please indicate one or more category that describes the nominee's present position or activity).

Private Practice

Judiciary

Academia

Non-profit

Government

Prosecutor/public defender

State or local bar leader

Corporate/business sector

Other (Please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the nominating person's name and information as listed below:

---

Your Name

---

Title/Position

Firm/Organization

---

Address

City

State

Zip

---

Telephone (indicate day or evening)

(fax)

(Email)

**RETURN NOMINATION FORM AND MATERIALS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30, 2004 TO:**

**Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys**

**Attn: Gertrude Rush Award**

**P.O. Box 4736, Des Moines, IA 50306**

**Or via e-mail to [president@iowawomenattorneys.org](mailto:president@iowawomenattorneys.org)**

## IOWA LISTSERV

Have you been receiving e-mail messages from an unfamiliar address providing you with information of interest to women attorneys and law students and asking you to volunteer for countless events? Have you wondered why? We found a new listserv provider that shouldn't cause all the spam problems and access difficulties we suffered with the "yahoo" site. Most of you were automatically added to the new listserv since you are already I.O.W.A. members and/or subscribers to our other listserv. You will now receive messages on a somewhat regular basis. Of course, you may also post messages to the new listserv that you deem to be of interest to other women attorneys and law students. The new address is [iowaorgwomenattys@npogroups.org](mailto:iowaorgwomenattys@npogroups.org) (it's not as easy to remember or type in as the old address, but it was the best we could do under the circumstances). Please add this new address to your address books and use it to send messages to I.O.W.A. members. Emily Chafa intends to eliminate the old yahoo listserv soon. If you haven't been receiving e-mail messages lately, please contact Emily to be added to the list. A number of events are coming up in April and the next few months, so you don't want to miss out on any of the news! Please contact Emily Chafa directly at [ebchafa@dmgov.org](mailto:ebchafa@dmgov.org) or 515-283-4530 with any questions or comments about this new e-mail communication service or I.O.W.A. in general. Thanks for your patience with this process.

## Newsletter Submissions

Do you have an idea for the I.O.W.A. newsletter? Do you have a job to advertise, news about an I.O.W.A. member, or an upcoming event to announce?

Contact Liz Croco at  
[ecroco@simmonsperine.com](mailto:ecroco@simmonsperine.com).

