



Summer 2018

[www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



My Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Welcome to the Summer NRBA Newsletter! On September 6th, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. the New Rochelle Bar Association's Installation of the NRBA's officers and directors will be held at Posto 22 at 22 Division Street in New Rochelle. At the Installation I will be ending my two years as the President of the NRBA as I hand over the leadership of the NRBA to Ron Zezima. The service and dedication of Lori Corini and Mike Faust, who are leaving the Board has been greatly appreciated. At the Installation we will be welcoming as new Board members the Hon. Barbara Zambelli, Frank D'Onofrio, Jr., Artem Djukic and Laurie Dallos. Frank DiMarco will return as the treasurer and Andrew Buder will become the secretary. The new vice-president is David Lacher. I will assume the position of Immediate Past President. Michele Tombini will continue to serve as vice-president. Continuing to serve on the Board of Directors are Mark Griffin, Richard Sosis, Jennifer Pasquantonio, Richard Weiss, and Warren Agatston. The oaths of office will be administered by the Hon. Daniel D. Angiolillo.

The last two years have been a successful continuation of the NRBA's service to its members, activities, and to the New Rochelle community. The NRBA membership has continued to grow. The number of members participating in our programs has increased. The NRBA's programs have expanded. The Lawyer in the Classroom remains a source of pride and recognition for the NRBA. The inaugural season of the innovative Law Club at the New Rochelle Boys and Girls Club was a success. In addition to the annual NRBA scholarships given to students at New Rochelle High School, Iona College and Pace Law School, this year the first Walter A. Bobrow Memorial Scholarship was awarded. The recipient was a graduating high school senior who was a member of the Law Club.

The NRBA has maintained it's free to members Continuing Legal Education program offering ten CLE programs each year during the past two years, including the newly required Diversity CLE. Additionally the dinner programs with the Westchester District Attorney, the Surrogates, the Holiday Party and the crown jewel of the NRBA's programs, the Court of Appeals Dinner, have all been well attended.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity given to me to lead the NRBA. I have particularly enjoyed meeting each of you and getting to be acquainted with so many fine attorneys. Lastly, the NRBA greatly appreciates the support of its many sponsors. I thank each and every sponsor and member for helping to make the NRBA a great success.

Yours,  
*Jeffrey Levin*



**Annual Surrogates Court Dinner**

On January 10, 2018, the NRBA held its annual Surrogates Court dinner at Juliano’s Caterers in New Rochelle, which was generously sponsored by Westchester Family Care, Inc. Honorees Surrogate Brandon Saul (Westchester) and Surrogate Nelida Malave-Gonzalez were joined by 56 attendees at Juliano’s Caterers, and a good time was had by all.



*NRBA Secretary Lori Corini with Elliot Pilson.*

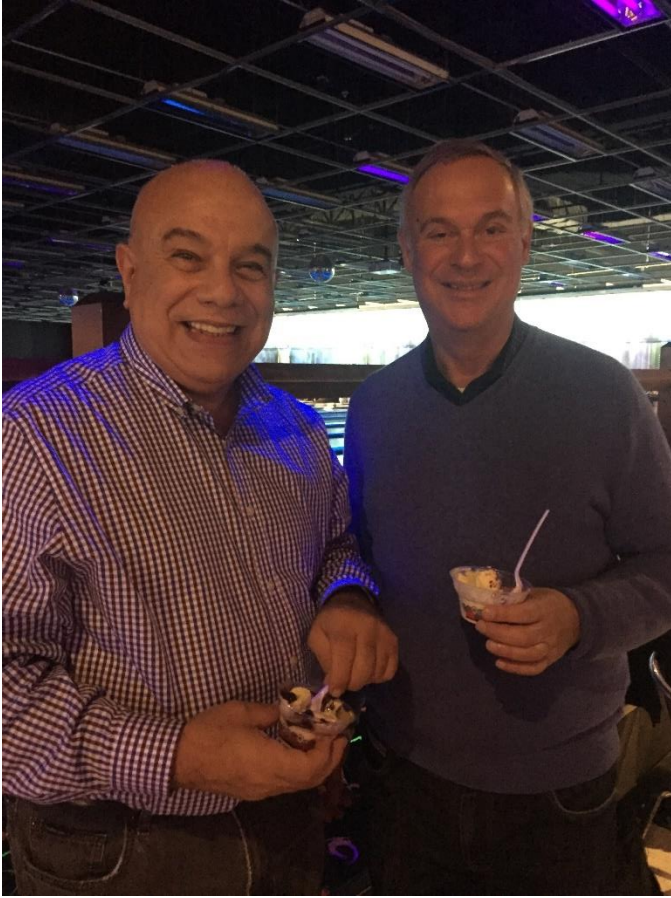


**Meet & Greet Bowling Extravaganza**

On February 27, 2018, the NRBA held its first annual Meet and Greet Bowling Extravaganza at FunFuzion at New Roc City, New Rochelle. A good time was had by all, fashion-forward footwear notwithstanding.



*NRBA Treasurer Andrew Buder, with NRBA members Milton Kreppel and Julie Kattan, and NRBA Director Frank DiMarco.*



*NRBA Vice-President Ron Zezima with NRBA President Jeffrey Levin.*



## COURT OF APPEALS DINNER

Notable guests included: Chief Judge Janet DiFiore and Associate Judges Hon. Paul G. Feinman, Hon. Michael Garcia, and Hon. Jenny Rivera; Retired Judges of the Court of Appeals Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick and Hon. Robert Smith; Hon. Kathie Davidson (9th Judicial District Administrative Judge); Justice

Daniel Angiolillo (AJSC (Retired) and Harrison Town Justice); Hon. Joel Aurnou (County Court Judge, Retired); Hon. Susan Capeci (AJSC and County Court Judge); Hon. John Colangelo (JSC); Hon. David Everett (AJSC and County Court Judge); Support Magistrate Keri Fiore (Family Court); Hon. William Giacomo (JSC); Hon. Victor Grossman (JSC); Hon. Barbara Gunther Zambelli (County Court (Retired)); Hon. Tanya Kennedy (JSC (New York County)(President of the National Association of Women Judges)); Hon. Susan Kettner (New Rochelle City Court); Hon. Carl J. Landicino (JSC (Kings County)); Hon. Joan Lefkowitz (JSC); Hon. Nelida Maláve-Gonzaléz (Bronx County Surrogate); Hon. Michael Martinelli (AJSC and Chief Judge of the Yonkers City Court); Hon. Paul Marx (JSC); Hon. Christie McEvoy-Derrico, (Mamaroneck Village Court); Hon. Robert Ollman, (New Rochelle City Court (Retired)); Hon. Brendon R. Sall (Westchester County Surrogate); Hon. Barry Salman (JSC, Administrative Justice, (Bronx County) (Retired)); Hon. Michelle Schauer (Family Court); Hon. William Viscovich (JSC (Queens County)); Hon. Thomas Walsh (JSC); Hon. Barry Warhit (AJSC and County Court Judge, Supervising Judge of the Criminal Courts); Hon. Charles Wood (JSC); Stephanie Burns, Esq. (President, Westchester County Bar Association); Richard S. Vecchio, Esq. (President-Elect, Westchester County Bar Association); Westchester County 1st Deputy District Attorneys Eileen Songer McCarthy, Paul Noto and James McCarty; Hon. Barry Fertel, (New Rochelle City Council); Hon. Chris Selin, (New Rochelle City Council (Retired) and President of the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation).



**PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES AT THE NRBA**  
**By Ronald V. Zezima, Esq.**



The Rules of the Chief judge require every attorney to report bi-annually on the number of hours of pro bono work they have performed during the prior reporting period. While pro bono is aspirational, rather than mandatory, many of us contribute our time to various projects in our local community. Among the opportunities to utilize your legal expertise here in New Rochelle, your bar association offers the following:

**Small Claims Court** - volunteer as an Arbitrator. The New Rochelle Small Claims Court adjudicates cases involving claims up to the jurisdictional limit of \$5,000 - not so "small"! Each of the cases on the City Court Small Claims calendar are referred out to an Arbitrator for settlement discussions or trial. Most volunteers sit three or four times a year, from 2 - 4:30 PM on weekday afternoons. You must be admitted to the bar for a minimum of five years to qualify as an Arbitrator. Contact Mike Faust ([mfaust@mfaustlaw.com](mailto:mfaust@mfaustlaw.com)) for information and an application.

**Lawyer in the Classroom** - each May, volunteer attorneys spend four consecutive Friday afternoons teaching basic Constitutional Law to fifth graders in

the New Rochelle public school system. The total time commitment is approximately eight hours a year. Volunteers are offered a two credit CLE training course and are provided with a curriculum created by an educator jointly with an attorney. This is a great opportunity to interact with very eager, bright students and the dedicated teachers who work in our city's public schools. Contact David Lacher ([dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com)) for more information.

**Boys & Girls Law Club** - Volunteer attorneys meet during the school year, September through May, twice a month at 6:00 PM with local high school students at the Mascaro Center Boys & Girls Club to discuss different legal topics. The sessions consist of a 30 minute presentation by an attorney who specializes in the particular field, followed by Q and A and small discussion groups led by attorneys. Past meetings have addressed topics such as Civil Rights, Criminal, Employment, Immigration, Divorce and Child Custody, Real Property and Inheritance. The sessions typically end by 7:30 PM. Contact David Lacher ([dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com)) for more information.

**Law at the Library** - A panel led by an attorney and consisting of other professionals in the particular field make a presentation to community members on a legal topic of general interest. The seminars, which take place in the auditorium of the New Rochelle Public Library, last for approximately an hour and a half. Contact David Lacher ([dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com)) for more information.



**SMALL CLAIMS COURT UPDATE**  
**By Mike Faust, Esq.**

The New Rochelle Small Claims Court meets either once or twice a month on Wednesdays, starting at 2:00 P.M. until approximately 4:30 P.M. If you want to volunteer your time as an Arbitrator to help in Small Claims Court on any one, or all, of the below dates at 2:00 P.M., please contact "Mike" Faust at [mfaust@mfaustlaw.com](mailto:mfaust@mfaustlaw.com).

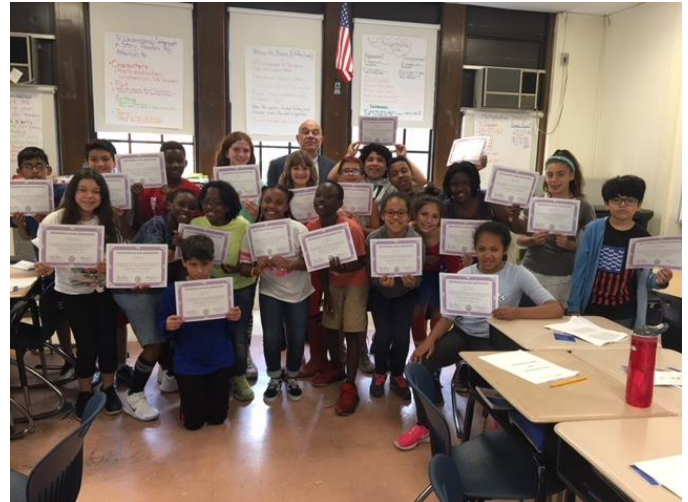
**August 22, 2018**  
**September 12, 2018**  
**October 17, 2018**  
**November 14, 2018**  
**December 12, 2018**

Volunteering as an Arbitrator is a worthwhile opportunity for members of the NRBA!



**NRBA LAWYER IN THE CLASSROOM**  
**UPDATE**  
**By Ronald V. Zezima, Esq.**

In 2017, our program was enthusiastically received by 740 students. On April 10, 2018, NRBA member Joyce Furfero, a professor at St. John's University, and Corey Andrews, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Ward Elementary School, conducted a 2 credit CLE training session for our volunteers. The volunteer lawyers reviewed case materials used in the course to explain basic concepts of constitutional law and will learn how to appropriately convey the subject matter to fifth graders. The classroom presentations took place on four consecutive weeks in May 2018.



*Webster School 5th graders show off their Certificates after completing "Lawyer in the Classroom" Program*

This project is approved for Pro Bono credit by the Office of Court Administration. For further information and to volunteer, contact David Lacher at [dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com).



**COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NRBA**  
**AND THE NEW ROCHELLE BOYS AND**  
**GIRLS CLUB**  
**By Richard Sosis, Esq.**

On March 23, 2018, NRBA Board members Ronald Zezima, David Lacher, Michele Tombini and Richard Sosis (with his wife, the former Judith Bobrow) attended the annual dinner of the New Rochelle Boys and Girls Club. At the dinner the president of the Boys and Girls Club, during her remarks at The Surf Club, commended the NRBA for its support of their Law Club, and especially mentioned the Bobrow Family for its generosity in partnering with the NRBA to establish an annual scholarship for a participant in the Law Club.

We need a variety of volunteers to present and lead discussions in other areas of law. For further information and to volunteer, contact David Lacher at [dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com).



**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
CELEBRATES WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH**

**By Margaret Corchado, Esq.**

The Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts recognized the winners of its Annual High School Essay Contest at a breakfast held on May 11, 2018 in celebration of Women’s History Month. Supreme Court Justice Terry Jane Ruderman, Chair of the Committee, presented the awards. The generosity of various professional organizations and bar associations, including the Westchester County Bar Association, enabled the committee to award cash prizes to the students.

In the freshman/sophomore category, Stephanie Markowitz from Briarcliff High School won first prize and Valerie Lippin, from Horace Greeley High School won second prize. In the junior/senior category, Aidan Hoff from Cornwall Central High School won first prize and Aniya Matthews from Hastings High School won second prize. The essay topic was:

A local public university has an irrevocable clause in its charter requiring same-sex dormitories (one all-male dormitory and one all-female dormitory). Two university students, Emily and Jacob, who identified as female and male, respectively, when they were admitted to the school, are now in the process of transitioning to the gender which reflects who they are.

Each student has submitted an application to the school's administration stating that they would like to reside in the dormitory of the gender they identify with.

**COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NRBA  
AND THE NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY FOUNDATION UPDATE**

**By Ronald V. Zezima, Esq.**



From left to right: John Woodruff, Paul Vacca, Greg Varian and Richard Sosis.

**NRPL Foundation and New Rochelle Bar Association  
Team-up To Sponsor Another Successful  
“Law At The Library” event**

**A**ttorney **Richard Sosis**, former chair of the New Rochelle Zoning Board, moderated the panel that featured Real Estate attorney **Greg Varian**, Deputy Commissioner Building Official **Paul Vacca** and Architect **John Woodruff**.

We thank these New Rochelle professionals for sharing their valuable time and expertise with the community. This free presentation is jointly sponsored by the NRPL Foundation and the New Rochelle Bar Association.

*From the NRPLF’s spring newsletter, in the picture above are from left to right: Architect John Woodruff, Deputy Building Official Paul Vacca, NRBA member Greg Varian and NRBA Director Richard Sosis*

We look forward to future collaborations with the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation, and invite any members interested in conducting a workshop for the public at the Library to contact David Lacher at [dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com).

Argue for or against the university granting Emily and Jacob's request for their desired dormitory.

The students read their essays to the more than 50 assembled guests. Those in attendance included State Supreme Court Justices John P. Colangelo, Lawrence H. Ecker, William J. Giacomo, Linda S. Jamieson, Barry E. Warhit, and Charles D. Wood. Also in attendance were Ken Jenkins, Deputy County Executive of Westchester County, Catherine Borgia, Westchester County Legislator for District 9, and representatives of various local bar associations including the Hon. Jeffrey L. Levin, Scarsdale Town Justice and President of the New Rochelle Bar Association.

The committee anticipates that this contest and awards breakfast will be held again next year and is hoping for even greater participation in the district.



*Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, Hon. Linda S. Jamieson, Valerie Lippin, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Aniya Matthews, Aidan Hoff, Stephanie Markowitz and County Legislator Catherine Borgia.*

*The NRBA supports this program of the Committee to Promote Gender Fairness and has contributed to the scholarship fund.*



**CLEs**

The NRBA would encourage each of you to send us your suggestions for programs and speakers. Information regarding upcoming CLEs may be found in the “Upcoming Events” section of this newsletter

After each CLE the NRBA has continued to donate the surplus dinners to the Open Arms Men’s Shelter in White Plains.

Expect to receive advance notices with particulars by e-mail of these and future CLEs. Information will also be posted at [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org).

**UPCOMING AND FUTURE CLES:**  
 For information on and reservations for our CLEs, or suggestions for future CLE topics, please contact **Jeffrey L. Levin, Esq.** at [jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com)



**A REMINDER ABOUT OUR SPONSORS**

The following individuals and institutions have sponsored our CLEs and events in the past. We thank them for their support and ask our members to seriously consider engaging them for their services.

**Appellate Printers**

**Helen Mezger of Appellate Innovations,**  
3 Barker Avenue, 2nd Floor, White Plains, NY  
10601. Cell: (203) 232-1764.

**Banks**

**Adam Kintish of TD Bank,** 107 Chatsworth  
Avenue, Larchmont, NY 10538. Cell: (914) 960-  
4243.

**Anthony J. Forgione of Sterling National Bank,**  
21 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY 10707. Cell: (914)  
922-9429.

**Joseph A. Ruhl, Esq. of Orange Bank & Trust,**  
42 Waller Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601. Cell:  
(914) 260-3475.

**Lola Gazivoda, of M&T Bank Business Banking,**  
120 White Plains Road, Suite 300, Tarrytown, NY  
10591. Phone: 914-366-8591 Cell: 914-268-7975  
Fax: 914-366-8501 & Email: [lgazivoda@mtb.com](mailto:lgazivoda@mtb.com).

**Michael Padilla, of M&T Bank,** 300 Mamaroneck  
Avenue, Mamaroneck, New York 10543. Phone:  
914-698-6400 & Email: [mpadilla@mtb.com](mailto:mpadilla@mtb.com).

**Financial Advisors**

**Keith D. Munroe of Morgan Stanley,**  
1 Blue Hill Plaza, Suite 100, Pearl River,  
NY 10965. Tel: (845) 731-2931.

**James Alperin, Financial Advisor at Morgan  
Stanley Wealth Management,** One Fawcett Place,  
3rd Floor, Greenwich, CT 06830. Cell: (917) 697-  
1581.

**Mortgage Brokers**

**Ralph J. Berardi, Jr. of Pepe/Berard Capital,  
LLC and Quantum Mortgage Corp.,**  
211 South Ridge Street, Second Floor,  
Rye Brook, New York 10573. Cell: (914) 329-6375.

**Real Estate Brokers**

**Michele Silverman Bedell, of Silversons Realty  
LLC,** 6 Palmer Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Cell:  
(914) 906-4376.

**Miriam "Lori" Morrow of Keller Williams  
Realty,** 120 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, NY  
10804. Cell: (914) 260-5349. Email:  
[lorimorrow@kw.com](mailto:lorimorrow@kw.com).

**Title Insurance Companies**

**David Baron and Daniel Bokol of TitleVest,**  
44 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. Tel: (212)  
757-5800.

**Christine Gagliardi of TitleVest,**  
235 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 303, White Plains,  
NY 10605. Tel: (914) 304-8100 ext. 382.

**Brett Forman of First Nationwide Title (an  
AmTrust Financial Company),**  
220 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 3105, New York, NY  
10017. Cell: (917) 837-6358.

**Michael Lisk of Record and Return Title  
Agency, Inc.,** 7 Dempsey Place, Eastchester, NY  
10709. Tel: (914) 395-2285.

**Nancy A. Scovotti of The Great American Title  
Agency Inc.,** 170 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 207  
White Plains, NY 10601. Cell: (914) 841-6229.



**Holly Hasbrouck of Stewart Title Insurance Company**, 707 Westchester Ave., Suite 302, White Plains, NY 10604. Cell: (914) 552-0756.

**Roseanne Picone of Benchmark Title Agency, LLC**, 222 Bloomingdale Road, Suite 102 White Plains, NY 10605. Cell: (914) 422-1550.

### Others

**Kommer Bave & Ollman LLP**, 145 Huguenot Street, Suite 402, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Tel: (914) 633-7400.

**Sam Pierce, New Rochelle City Marshall**, 475 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801.

**Westchester Family Care, Inc.**, 1 Depot Plaza, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. [Tel:\(914\) 764-7500](tel:9147647500).



### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS REMINDER**

The NRBA transitioned to a new membership software system in 2017, where membership is from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year. The annual dues are \$100. Members who renew, and prospective members seeking to join the NRBA, should do so through the website. All renewing members must update their contact information, practice areas and other information online at <http://www.nrbar.org/> (by registering as a “new” member, once initially registered in the new system, annual renewals will be less cumbersome). When you load the website, enter the email address at which you currently receive NRBA notices as

your login-in ID and click on the “Forgot Password” button to begin the registration process. If you have technical difficulties renewing online, please contact Hon. Jeffrey Levin at: [jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com) and we will assist you.

If paying by physical check, please make it out to “New Rochelle Bar Association” and mail it to The New Rochelle Bar Association, P.O. Box 1863, New Rochelle, NY 10802. Even if you pay by check, you should log in and update your contact information to ensure that this information is current. If you need help with this, please contact the NRBA and we will assist you.



### **MEMBER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We congratulate NRBA member **James Maisano** on accepting the position of Director of Consumer Affairs for Westchester County.

**Walter Bobrow**, a long-time New Rochellian and member of our Bar passed away recently at the home of his daughter Sarah in Georgia. Walter died peacefully after suffering a number of health setbacks in the last couple of years. He was in private practice with offices at 271 North Avenue. Walter had been a past president of the congregation at Temple Israel and a volunteer with New Rochelle Meals-on-wheels. He was the attorney for the Boys and Girls Club of New Rochelle. Because of his connection to the Boys and Girls Club, his family contributed \$5,000 to the New Rochelle Bar Association to create an on-going annual scholarship for a participant in the Boys and Girls Club Law Club (which is itself sponsored by our Bar). We are also sad to note that within a number of weeks of Walter’s passing, his

wife and mother of his children, Edythe Bobrow, also passed away.

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:**

We welcome our newest and returning members:

1. **Paul J. Richards, Esq.**
2. **Peter Costacos**
3. **Eduardo Zambrano**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **September 2018**

**Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>:** Board meeting at offices of Frank DiMarco, Esq.

**Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>:** Installation Dinner at Posto 22 at 6:00 PM. \$45.00 for members.

**Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>:** CLE on Foreclosure at City Hall, in the Counsel Chamber. Judges Marx and Dillon are the speakers.

**Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Law at the Library Program titled "Senior Day." 11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

### **October 2018**

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Board meeting at offices of Frank DiMarco, Esq.

**October 16<sup>th</sup>:** First Annual Judges' Night at Juliano's Caterers.

**October 25<sup>th</sup>:** CLE on "Immigration in the Age of Trump" at City Hall, in the Council Chamber. Joseph Sena, Esq. - speaker.

### **November 2018**

**November 6<sup>th</sup>:** Board meeting at offices of Frank DiMarco, Esq.

**November 29<sup>th</sup>:** CLE on Mediation and Arbitration at City Hall, in the Council Chamber. Judge Daniel Angiolillo - speaker.

### **December 2018**

**December 11<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Holiday Party at John Jay Mansion and Heritage Center in Rye, NY.

### **January 2019**

**January 8<sup>th</sup>:** Board meeting at Posto 22 Restaurant

**January 8<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Surrogate's Dinner at 6:30 P.M. located at Posto 22.

### **April 2019**

**April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Court of Appeals Dinner, Glen Island Harbor Club.



## MEMBERSHIP DUES & PAYMENT METHODS REMINDER

Annual NRBA Membership runs from the calendar year from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Dues must be paid before a member can attend a CLE. Membership dues and event ticket purchases may now be done on the NRBA's website (<http://www.nrbar.org>).



OUR WEBSITE: [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org)

With our website members can obtain information concerning our Bar, its activities, and general legal and community news. We welcome feedback.

This Newsletter can be downloaded from our website. Thanks for helping keep NRBA green.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

For an up-to-date listing of scheduled events, including CLEs and dinner meetings, kindly view existing event postings on our website: [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org).

For reservations for any of our upcoming dinners or events please contact Treasurer **Frank DiMarco, Esq.**, New Rochelle Bar Association, P.O. Box 1863, New Rochelle, NY 10802.

#### Getting Published

We welcome your submissions! All submissions should be sent to Artem Djukic, Editor, at [adjukic@hhrslaw.com](mailto:adjukic@hhrslaw.com). Please mark the subject as NRBA news. Articles between 500 to 1200 words should be sent in Word format. Photographs should be sent as jpeg attachments. Authors should include a short biographical statement with their articles, which must be spell checked, cite checked and in blue book form. Opinions expressed in any article printed in the NRBA newsletter are solely those of the author(s) and are not positions taken by the NRBA. Materials submitted allow NRBA limited copyright and full permission to reprint the article in the NRBA newsletter without additional consent.