

ISSUE NUMBER 31 / MARCH 2023

IWIRC NEWSLETTER

Connecting Women Worldwide



Be Connected



Be Informed



Be Inspired



Network News

NETWORK NEWS



New Jersey and Greater Philadelphia Networks

IWIRC New Jersey and IWIRC Greater Philadelphia held a joint networking event on September 28, 2022, at the Grounds For Sculpture and Rat's Restaurant in Hamilton, NJ.

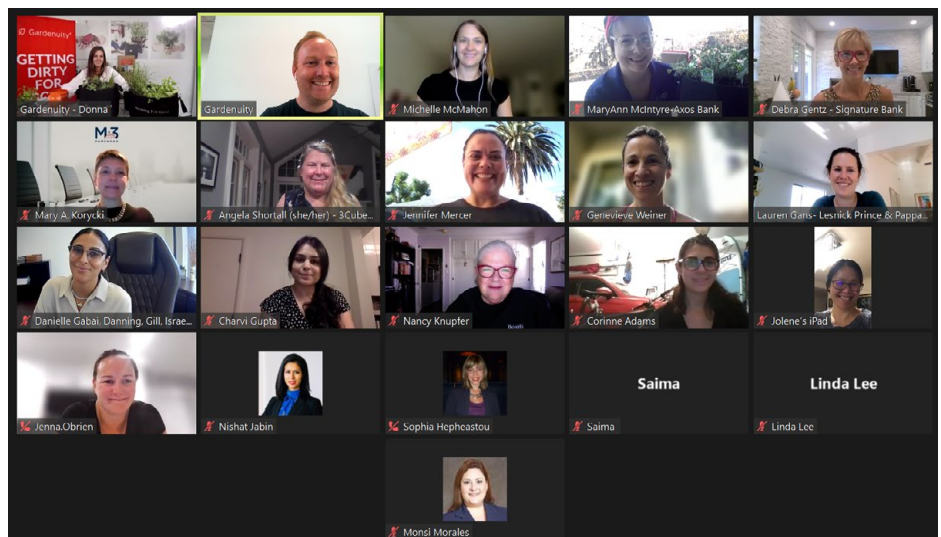


Founded by artist and philanthropist Seward Johnson, the Grounds For Sculpture features nearly 300 contemporary sculptures across 42 landscaped acres on the former New Jersey State Fairgrounds. IWIRC Members from across the region enjoyed a guided walking tour featuring a history of the park and of Johnson's works, as well as insight into site-specific work and featured artists.

The tour was followed by a private dinner at the renowned Rat's Restaurant. Located on the grounds, Rat's Restaurant overlooks a lily-pond and bridge inspired by the impressionist paintings of Claude Monet. Members enjoyed a burrata bar, dinner featuring French-inspired flavors, and a quartet of mini desserts.

SoCal, New York and Maryland Networks

The SoCal, New York and Maryland networks co-hosted Patio to Plate: A Virtual Container Gardening Class. Attendees were shipped everything they needed to plant and maintain an herb garden and connected with each other and the instructor in a virtual class.



Mexico Network

IWIRC Mexico was honored to be part of the “Latin America High Yield & Distressed Fall Summit” hosted by REDD Intelligence, in which our board members had the opportunity to promote the network. IWIRC Mexico recognizes the committment of REDD Intelligence to empower and encourage women in the insolvency field. The panel, “The corporate outlook in Brazil & Mexico” focused on Latin America’s two largest economies, Brazil and Mexico. For Mexico, the debate focused on the insolvency proceedings of two non-bank lenders.



Additionally, on March 2nd, 2023, IWIRC Mexico and REDD Intelligence hosted an event at the Four Seasons Hotel Mexico City where the subject matter was “Legal Actions foreseen in the Mexican Bankruptcy Law comparable to the Automatic Stay,” a legal figure that temporarily prevents creditors, collection agencies, governmental entities, and others from pursuing debtors for the money they owe.



Minnesota Network

On December 5, 2022, the IWIRC MN Chapter hosted its annual charity gift wrapping event at Maslon LLP's offices in downtown Minneapolis. We partnered with Women's Advocates shelter (www.wadvocates.org/) to provide gifts for families in need. Through generous donations from IWIRC MN members, we were able to purchase and wrap all of the gifts requested by 8 mothers and their children. Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP sponsored the wrapping supplies, and Maslon LLP sponsored the food and beverages for the event. We enjoyed holiday music, wine and snacks while sharing stories with other IWIRC members and wrapping gifts to be given to the families. Special thanks goes to Brittany Michael of Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP and Stephanie Bramer of Huntington Bank, who helped purchased the gifts using our donated funds in advance of the event, and to Brittany Michael and Kara Casteel of ASK LLP who helped transport the gifts to and from the event.

Pictured from left to right are Ella Vincent of Stoel Rives LLP, Adine Momoh of Stinson LLP, Kara Casteel of ASK LLP, Amy Swedberg of Maslon LLP and Brittany Michael of Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP. Women who also attended and did not make the photo below are Amanda Schlitz of U.S. Bank, Anastasia Kazmina of ASK LLP and Erin Snyder of Maslon LLP.



IWIRC on ICE

IWIRC on ICE 2023 was a great success! Approximately 40 female professionals gathered for a 2-day regional event held on January 25-27 at Sundara Spa in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. The conference provided a killer lineup of speakers (including 5 female bankruptcy judges), as well as a published author and consultant on mergers and acquisitions. But more importantly, IWIRC on ICE provided a bang-up networking schedule including an opening wine reception, dinner at a famous supper club, an "after-party", fun run, yoga, smoothie bar, group trivia and more! The conference also offered complimentary headshots and included a IWIRC 30th Anniversary celebration party (with cake!).



Cayman Islands Network

The Restructuring and Insolvency community in the Cayman Islands welcomed a packed house of delegates from the US, Canada and other parts of the Caribbean to the ABI Caribbean Insolvency Symposium in early February.

Highlights included a drinks reception jointly hosted by IWIRC Cayman and ABI on the picturesque Governor's Lawn at the Westin overlooking Seven Mile Beach and a host of informative panel discussions, featuring issues such as cross-border restructuring and recognition issues, the Cayman Islands restructuring regime compared and contrasted with Chapter 11, costs in insolvent estates and a Judges Round Table.

IWIRC was particularly pleased to see such a great representation of IWIRC members from both the Cayman Islands and internationally featured across the panels.



Western Canada Network

In mid-January we held our AGM, and elected a new set of directors. Returning to the Board was Chair - Carole Hunter, Vice Chair - Dana Gaspar, Secretary – Pavin Takhar and Directors at Large, J.J. Burnell, Pinky Law, Charla Smith and Stephanie Wanke. We added the following as Directors at Large: Breanna Burkhard-Smith, Jessica Cameron, Kristin Gray and Jing Shi, and we added a new Treasurer with Jacqueline Shellon.

On February 2, 2023 IWIRC Western Canada hosted a reception at Modern Steak in Calgary, Alberta in advance of the Canadian Annual Review of Insolvency Law Conference. The event was sold out with many on the waitlist. We had attendees from all across Canada and the event was a great success.



On February 16, 2023 IWIRC Western Canada (Vancouver) hosted an afternoon tea. The attendance was great and it was great to reconnect with all of our Vancouver colleagues.

Upcoming events include Ski Day (March 17th) and the IWIRC Western Canada Spring Conference (June 2-4th)



New Jersey Network

Galentine's Day Happy Hour

On February 16th, the IWIRC-NJ chapter hosted a Galentine's Day Happy Hour at The Laundromat, a speakeasy in Morristown, NJ. The event was extremely well-attended; and despite (or perhaps "thanks to"!) the "Gal" moniker, several of IWIRC-NJ's male counterparts in the insolvency profession joined the festivities. Business and personal relationships were forged and strengthened over fancy cocktails and tasty appetizers to the soundtrack of live music.



Cheers to 30 Years

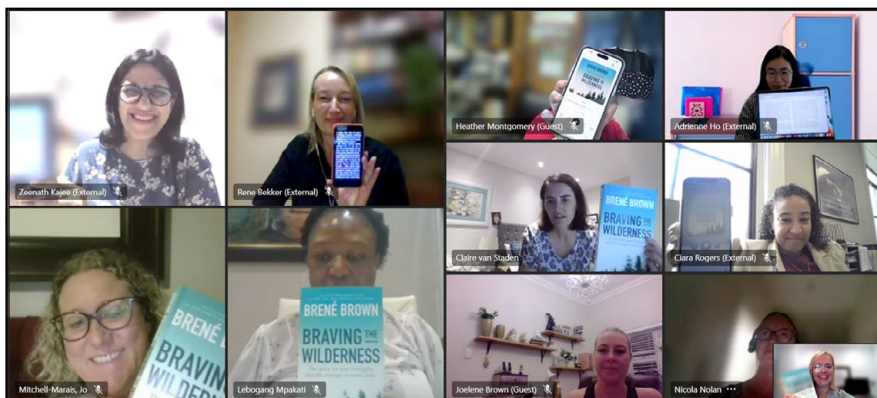
As part of IWIRC's 30th Anniversary celebration, IWIRC-NJ participated in the North East regional "Cheers to 30 Years" virtual wine tasting moderated by wine-educator, Sandra Zotti. Our close-knit network decided to gather for a viewing party to taste together, and were graciously hosted by the Lowenstein Sandler firm in Roseland, NJ. Members brought their bottles and food to share with friends and potential IWIRC recruits. In total, nearly 20 professional women sipped, networked, and learned about new wines.



Southern Africa Network

IWIRC Southern Africa Network Book Club

IWIRC Southern Africa Network launched a Book Club with their first book being Brené Brown's *Braving the Wilderness*. Given everyone's busy schedules it was decided that the book will be discussed over three sessions. The first session took place on 28 February 2023 and focussed on Chapters 1 to 3 - The crisis and the quest. It was a huge success with IWIRC members from all over the globe attending the opening meeting.



The second session, on 28 March 2023, will address Chapters 4 and 5 - Move in close, but do speak truth to bullshit. The third session will deal with Chapters 6 and 7 - Holding hands with a strong back, soft front and wild heart. It is a great way to really (and 'really' is used intentionally) get to know your network members. Don't miss out on this opportunity!

Ceramics and Connections Event

IWIRC Southern Africa Network hosted, together with South African Restructuring and Insolvency Practitioners Association NPC (SARIPA), and proudly sponsored by Shackleton Risk Management, a wonderful morning of creativity and connection at the Color Cafe in Dunkeld, Johannesburg. This breakfast event was sold out, and by all accounts a huge success - following this event three new members registered! This event may well become a fixed event on IWIRC Southern Africa Network's annual calendar.



IWIRC in the Blue Ridge

The Carolinas and KIT Networks came together March 5 – 7 at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, North Carolina to celebrate IWIRC's 30th Anniversary and to launch the inaugural IWIRC in the Blue Ridge Mountains. In addition to a welcome reception and group dinner, network members got together for hiking excursions and trips to the spa and local salt caves. The event culminated on March 7 with a wellness and ethics CLE at the Asheville Botanical Gardens where network members collected hundreds of dollars in gift cards that will be distributed to women's-focused charities across the networks' five-state footprint.



Hong Kong Network

In celebration of International Women's Day, IWIRC Hong Kong in collaboration with IWIRC PRC, held the Breakfast Bites session with Venessa Wong, General Manager from Scania (Hong Kong) Ltd, moderated by Kent Fo, APAC Inclusion Manager from Clifford Chance.



Indonesia Network

On this year's International Women's Day, the Indonesian Network organized an in-person gathering with members and friends at Basque Mega Kuningan in Jakarta. Twelve guests, both men and women, enjoyed a night of nice food and light-hearted catch-up in a relaxing environment. This is the first in-person gathering by the Indonesian Network, and we hope to organize more in the future.



International: IWIRC at the Vibe (Dubai)

Charles Russell Speechlys, Walkers and Quantuma International in association with IWIRC had a fabulous morning hosting women in the insolvency and restructuring field to mark International Women's Day. Thank you to all of the inspirational women that joined us to celebrate.

This was the second event for IWIRC in the Middle East and we are proud to be committed to the connection, promotion and success of women in insolvency and restructuring in the region.



Two New Networks!



Co-Chairs April Prendergast and Victoria Procter shared with IWIRC, “When we started this journey, we didn’t know if there would be sufficient interest to start a new network. However, following the initial call we were overwhelmed with the number of women willing and excited to become part of the IWIRC community. We are fortunate to be able to establish three subcommittees (for each of Yorkshire and the North East, the North West and the Midlands). This will ensure that all of our network members have the opportunity to make local and regional connections at our upcoming events. Networking can be intimidating, especially for those who have just joined a new firm, relocated, or are at the start of their career. We hope that the launch of the IWIRC Midlands & North of England Network will bring restructuring and insolvency professionals together at welcoming, insightful, and friendly events.”



Co-Chairs Antonia Anderson and Charlotte Caulfield shared with IWIRC, “We are excited to launch the BVI chapter of IWIRC. We held our launch event on March 8th, in conjunction with International Women’s Day, to highlight IWIRC’s commitment to the connection, promotion, and success of women in our industry. BVI is a leading international finance centre, a trading hub where the world does business supported by preeminent advisory and legal service professionals. The launch of IWIRC in BVI will empower our members to elevate not just their firms but their own personal brands connecting them with our IWIRC peers in other jurisdictions including Cayman, Hong Kong, and New York. By building closer ties, we anticipate doing more business and sharing Ideas and best practices.”

CONNECT WITH OUR NETWORKS



Follow our networks on social media! Click the icons below to be directed to their pages.

IWIRC Brazil 

IWIRC Carolinas 

IWIRC Cayman Islands  

IWIRC Chicago  

IWIRC Dallas/Fort Worth 

IWIRC DC  

IWIRC Delaware 

IWIRC Europe 

IWIRC Greater Maryland 

IWIRC Greater Philadelphia 

IWIRC Georgia 

IWIRC Florida   

IWIRC Houston  

IWIRC Hong Kong    

IWIRC India 

IWIRC Latin America  

IWIRC London  

IWIRC Malaysia 

IWIRC Mexico  

IWIRC Michigan  

IWIRC Midlands 

IWIRC New England  

IWIRC New Jersey 

IWIRC New York  

IWIRC Ontario 

IWIRC Puerto Rico 

IWIRC Singapore  

IWIRC So Cal   

IWIRC Western Canada  

IWIRC Western Pennsylvania 

Thanks for sharing your Network News!

Has your network hosted a great event? Have some exciting events coming up? We want to hear!

Send your submissions to news@iwirc.com to be featured in future IWIRC member news communications.



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