

Association for Women in Communications

Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon

Championing Leaders...Building Relationships...Recognizing Excellence

By Kerry Methner / CASA

STEPPING UP TO SOLIDARITY AND AWAY FROM PATRIARCHY,

Women in Communications met recently to honor their own, local women making their marks in the community and the world, much like the seven organization founders did in Washington 100 years ago.

The Santa Barbara Chapter of the Association for Women in Communications met at the Canary Hotel for an Awards Luncheon that honored Catherine Remak for *Creating Community through Excellence in Radio Broadcasting* and Ann Louise Bardach for *The Courage to Pursue a Story Wherever It May Lead*.

Chapter President Lois Phillips, noting the approaching 100 year anniversary of the organization that began in Seattle, shared, "There is an incredible amount of energy between women."

Perhaps a testament to those remarks, the room was full of smiling, interested women, there to listen and support each other. Many were not members, but friends and associates of the honorees. There was even a handful of men.

Continuing, Phillips noted that the organization spanned the lives of women - from young professionals and students to retirees. "Women need role models... and we enjoy meeting people of different generations."

Catherine Remak was the first of the honorees to be introduced. Annie Crawley shared of Remak, "She's made a career of being the voice for people without a voice - and she has a smile in her voice."

Remak took to the podium with ease, while smiling at exclamations over her daily routine of rising at 3:30am. "I am honored," she said to be recognized by an organization that celebrates the voice of women. Of her work she noted, "We love

to tell stories and bring people together...We love to create community."

Kathleen Barry introduced Ann Louise Bardach, the second honoree, saying "You have an

inquiring mind and passionate heart that drives you to be courageous and inspires others to be courageous."

Bardach replied with sincerity, "This is what I do, reading and writing." As she looked back over a career that spans the globe and a variety of responsibilities, she noted that as a journalist "you realize there are no black and white stories...I'm always surprised I never know the ending of a story... Most people's lives are lived in the gray zone."

Bardach was excited to announce that her most recent book on Castro is on its way to be published.

The luncheon which as a combination of healthy (salad) and decadence (chocolate) concluded in time for most to continue their day along their chosen avenues of expression as women in communications.

The AWCBSB Board of Directors includes: Kathleen Barry, Becky Christenson, Annie Crawley, Cindy Faith, Anna Laura Jansma, Barbara Mintzer, Lois Phillips, and Sylvia Williams. The Santa Barbara Chapter was chartered in May, 2007.

For more information about the organization visit: www.awcsb.org or www.womcom.org.



Lois Phillips, AWCBSB President; Michael Mulnix; Honoree Ann Louise Bardach; and Susan Rose



Maureen "Mo" McFadden with Honoree Catherine Remak



Marsha Bailey, President & CEO of WEV and Phyllis de Picciotto



Deborah Hutchison



Tammy Esposito



Board Member Nancy Black



Antoinette Charrier and Larry Crandell



Mikki Reilly and Board Member Cindy Faith



Rebecca Christenson and Loretta Redd



Board Member Sylvia Williams and Susan Wax



Kathleen Barry and Bicky Townsend



Jane Ferry and Monica Waltz



Susan Parker and Irelle Beatie



Margaret Gosfield and Victoria Bortolussi