AABANY’s Second Quarter 2014

The quarter covering May through July has proven to be one of the busiest yet, starting with APA Heritage Month and carrying momentum throughout the quarter. The second quarter hosted a slew of key events and milestones, including AABANY’s collaboration with the New York City Bar Association for a performance of The Honorable Denny Chin and Kathy Hirata Chin’s trial re-enactment script, “22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v. Freeman,” the 7th Annual Winetasting and Networking Reception for in-house counsel and corporate lawyers, and the 6th Annual Prosecutors Committee’s Reception honoring Asian American women in federal law enforcement. Along the lines of our 25th anniversary theme, “Empowering Progress and Unity,” AABANY hosted many meaningful, educational, and engaging programs, including numerous networking events, CLEs and panel discussions, and community outreach opportunities.

Headed by Naf Kwun, the Newsletter Committee produced the May Edition of The Advocate, AABANY’s quarterly publication. This issue featured: “Jimmy Yan: Working in the Public Interest,” Sponsor Spotlight: Baker Hostetler, republication of the article from AABANY President Clara Ohr that appeared in the New York Law Journal’s 2014 Law Day edition, “Helping Every Vote Get Cast,” coverage of the “22 Lewd Chinese Women” re-enactment and Other Courtroom Dramas, Successful March to 1,000 Campaign, letters from the Chairs of our new committees, and a summary of AABANY’s 2014 first quarter activities.

AABANY was pleased to announce the formation of two new Committees: the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, chaired by Brian Song, and the Tax Committee, co-chaired by Sahang-Hee Hahn and Michael Kam.

This quarter also saw impressive growth for the Don H. Liu Scholarship Fund, announced at AABANY’s Annual Dinner last quarter.

AABANY granted a posthumous membership to Hong Yeng Chang, first Chinese immigrant admitted to any bar in the United States, in support of UC Davis’ APALSA’s efforts to posthumously admit him to the California State Bar, where he was denied admission in 1887 due to his race and lack of United States citizenship.

Awards and Recognitions

AABANY recognizes and congratulates the many members of its community, achieving great success and garnering many awards across different fields of law. We congratulate these members and many more:
Don Liu, Advisory Committee member, for being named one of the “Legends of Law” by the Burton Awards Program in association with the Library of Congress, receiving the Roderick Palmore Pathmaker Award granted by InsideCounsel Magazine as part of its Fifth Annual Transformative Leadership Awards, and for making the July cover of InsideCounsel Magazine with Xerox CFO Kathryn Mikells;

Kevin Kim, for his appointment as the first Asian American Commissioner of the New York State Liquor Authority;

Parkin Lee, for his recognition as an honoree at the New York Immigration Coalition’s 10th Annual Builders of the New York Gala on June 23, 2014;

Glenn Lau-Kee, who was sworn in as the 117th president and first Asian American to lead the New York State Bar Association;

Vincent Chang, Past President (2007), Gilbert Liu, and Ken Chin for their recognition among the Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business 2014 by the Asian American Business Development Center;

Chris Kwok, Labor and Employment Law Committee Co-Chair, who was promoted to Supervisory ADR Coordinator at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the New York District Office;

Alice Hsu and Vinoo Varghese, for being named among the 42 New York Law Journal’s 2014 Rising Stars; and

Myung Kang-Huneke, Advisory Committee Member, for being honored as a Trailblazer at the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York’s 28th Anniversary Gala on June 10, 2014.

Featured in the news this quarter:

AABANY President Clara Ohr’s “Helping Every Vote Get Cast” and Randall Eng’s “Courts Play a Vital Role in Assuring Fairness” are both featured in the New York Law Journal’s “American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters”;

Helen Wan's The Partner Track is spotlighted in CUNY TV’s “Asian American Life” on May 2, with comments from AABANY President Clara Ohr, AABANY Executive Director Yang Chen, and Baker Hostetler Partner Ona Wang;

Tristan Loanzon made the front page of the New York Law Journal on May 7 for the unanimous decision he won before the First Department, reversing the lower court and clarifying the scope of automatic renewal clauses in contracts;
Glenn Lau-Kee, 117th president and first Asian American president to lead the New York State Bar Association, is interviewed for a profile in the May/June issue of New York State Bar News; Jeffrey K. Oing is profiled in Law360: “The No-Nonsense New Yorker,” by Gavin Broady, for his efficient methods yet fair demeanor; and Vince Chang is prominently quoted in Law360’s “NY Swap Contract Ruling Means Defenses Hinge on the ‘S-Word,’” by Pete Brush.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Events

May 16, 2014 Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP hosted a Diversity Luncheon and Book Discussion for AABANY member Helen Wan on The Partner Track, currently in its second printing since being published last September, moderated by Executive Director Yang Chen. As a former corporate lawyer herself, she drew from her own experiences as a natural introvert navigating relatively uncharted waters to create protagonist Ingrid Yung, a female Chinese American lawyer working at fictional corporate law firm Parsons Valentine LLP. Helen advises young associates of color to learn the unwritten rules of corporate culture early, and in fact, The Partner Track has become the guidebook that she and so many others desperately needed.

May 20, 2014 AABANY had the privilege to host a Reception for Judge Pamela K. Chen, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, with the Kings County District Attorney’s Office. D.A. Kenneth Thompson presented a citation to The Hon. Pamela K. Chen (EDNY). Judge Chen shared her thoughts about the importance of promoting and celebrating diversity in our society, and the role of the judiciary in advancing the values embraced by diversity. She read from Justice Sotomayor’s dissent in the United States Supreme Court decision in Schuette v. Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action, reminding us why race matters and matters still.
May 21, 2014 Led by Judge Denny Chin, AABANY collaborated for the first time with the New York City Bar Association to present a trial re-enactment of “22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v. Freeman,” the 1876 case in which a state official determined 22 women on a ship carrying some 600 Chinese passengers to be ‘lewd,’ i.e. prostitutes. The women were not allowed to disembark unless a bond of $500 was paid on each. Legal proceedings ensued, including a four-day trial and appeals reaching the United States Supreme Court, raising issues of immigration, sex trafficking, federalism, and human and civil rights. The reenactment featured a dramatic performance of the trial proceedings, narration, historic photographs, and live courtroom reporting. CLE credit was offered and a reception followed. AIG, Baker Hostetler, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, Planet Depos, LLC, and Proskauer Rose LLP sponsored the event and our many community partners helped to spread the word.

Special Events

June 17, 2014 The In-House Counsel Committee and Corporate Law Committee held their 7th Annual Winetasting and Networking Reception at La Fonda Del Sol in Midtown Manhattan. Blossom Kan and Austin So, Co-Chairs of the In-House Counsel Committee, kicked off the invite-only event by welcoming all the attendees and introducing Dwight Yoo, Larry Wee, and Charlotte Kim, Co-Chairs of the Corporate Law Committee. Following the welcomes, Clara Ohr, AABANY President, introduced and thanked all the sponsors for the event, especially the anchor sponsors, Planet Depos and Summit Financial Printing. As one of AABANY’s premiere events, in-house counsel and corporate attorneys had the opportunity to network over hors d’oeuvres and wine. Many prestigious legal departments and General Counsel, including the Don Liu of Xerox Corporation, Parkin Lee of Rockefeller Group, Bobby Liu of M.D. Sass, and Sonia Low of the ONE Group, attended the event. The event was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback.

June 18, 2014 The Prosecutors’ Committee celebrated its 6th Annual Prosecutors’ Reception at the New York County Lawyers Association with over 100 prosecutors, law
enforcement officials, and friends in attendance. The Committee was pleased to honor two Asian American women trailblazers in law enforcement: Wen Ting Cheng, NY ICE Chief Counsel, US Department of Homeland Security, and Belle Chen, Assistant Special Agent in Charge NY FBI, US Department of Justice. Some of the city’s top prosecutors and law enforcement agents gathered to honor their fellow colleagues, including US Attorney Preet Bharara, Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson, Richmond County District Attorney Daniel Donovan, New York County District Attorney Cyrus Vance, Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget Brennan and Queens Executive Assistant District Attorney Jesse Sligh all attended and delivered uplifting and inspiring remarks. Each speaker delved into the importance of having a diverse staff that reflects the community to which they have dedicated their lives to serving. The Honorable Pamela Chen, the Honorable Doris Ling-Cohan, and the Honorable Gilbert Hong were among the dignitaries to join us for this joyous occasion.

July 16, 2014 NYCLA and AABANY held a Joint Reception for Glenn Lau-Kee, honoring his historical accomplishment of becoming the 117th President of the New York State Bar Association and the first Asian American to hold this position. Margaret Ling, Chair of NYCLA’s Asian Practice Committee and co-chair of AABANY’s Real Estate Committee, began the program by introducing Presiding Justice of the Second Department, Hon. Randall T. Eng, to present the first remarks of the evening. Margaret then introduced representatives from the many organizations Glenn has impacted or been part of, many of whom shared personal stories of their work with or connection to Glenn. Among the speakers were Lewis Tesser, President of NYCLA, Bridgette Ahn, Vice President of Programs and Committees for KALAGNY, Nadine Fontaine, Immediate Past President of the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, Rosevelie Marquez Morales, Co-Chair of NYSBA’s Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, Alex Lee, Vice President of Finance and Development for NAPABA, and Clara Ohr, President of AABANY. Representatives from Federal, State and City government were on hand to honor Glenn. All of the speakers extolled Glenn for his outstanding record of leadership and status as a significant role model for Asian American, minority and under-represented groups. After all the speeches were given, Glenn’s father, Norman Kee, a trailblazer in his own right, introduced Glenn. Glenn expressed his gratitude for the honors bestowed upon him at the reception. He urged everyone, especially young lawyers, to get involved in bar associations as a way to develop as lawyers and serve the profession.
Panels & CLEs

May 28, 2014 Treasurer Jane Chuang (Partner at Lee Anav Chung White & Kim LLP) and Charles Chen (Assistant General Counsel at HICKIES Inc.) led the “Copyright Registration: Part V of the IP Skills Workshop Series” CLE at Bingham McCutchen, organized by our Intellectual Property Committee. Participants learned the nuances of registering a work for copyright protection. Using the imaginary FLIPKICK as a hypothetical client, Jane and Charles covered the nuances of protecting its intellectual property against competitors. They covered everything from the litigation benefits, relative cost and speed, and scope of protection to anatomy of copyright registration. Over 20 people attended the event; 1 CLE Credit in Skills was granted.

June 4, 2014 AABANY Labor & Employment Law Committee Co-Chair Christopher M. Kwok was invited for a Talk with NYCLA ADR Committee at JAMS NY about his experience at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Each NYCLA ADR Committee meeting features an ADR expert; Chris spoke to an intimate audience of 15-20 NYCLA members. Having spent his entire legal career there, Chris has felt firsthand the changes that the political environment has effected for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, an outgrowth of the civil rights movement. Envisioning himself as an arrow traveling fast towards a resolution, Chris works in the hyper-niche field involving resolution value and does about 2-3 mediations a week, with an average mediation taking 5 hours. He strives to treat all parties the same, handling cases from the top of the economic scale to the bottom. Chris walked the NYCLA ADR Committee through the process of investigation, cause, and conciliation and how to go forward with a case using the right amount of engagement and emotional investment to effectively resolve and settle.

June 4, 2014 AABANY, represented by Committee Co-Chairs Margaret Ling (Real Estate Committee), Wendy Yu (Real Estate and Solo and Small Firm Practice Committees) and Cary Chan (Solo and Small Firm Committee) and Executive Director Yang Chen, attended and promoted a CLE program hosted by the Queens Asian Bar Association and Chinese American Flushing Attorneys at Mudan Banquet Hall in Flushing. Past AABANY Treasurers Sandra Ung and Tim Wong were also in attendance. The subject was “Effective Title Review Techniques” and CLE credit was provided. Chase sponsored and attendees were treated to a wonderful buffet dinner. They learned a great deal about sound title review practices. Some 60 attorneys were in attendance.
June 5, 2014 At “Why Choose International Arbitration?” our co-hosted CLE and reception with Alston Bird, AABANY member Lou Russo moderated panelists Michelenia Hallie (Viacom, Inc.), Suzanne Ulicny (ICC International Court of Arbitration), John D. Roesser (Alston & Bird LLP), and AABANY member Charles Yoon (Yoon & Kim LLP). The panel emphasized the importance of keeping in mind possible conflicts in the midst of celebrating a closed deal. "Why Choose International Arbitration?" discussed international courts, choosing international arbitration as an alternative to time-consuming litigation, and effective arbitration clauses. Over 30 people attended the event; 1 hour of CLE credit in Areas of Professional Practice was available.

June 12, 2014 AABANY and United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), hosted a Discussion with Lu Jun, a distinguished human rights lawyer from China. Lu Jun is the Chief Coordinator of Beijing Yirenping Center (“Center for Promotion of Equality and Mercy “), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting social justice and public well being in China. Yirenping offers education on communicable disease prevention and control, provides community outreach and assistance for patients, and works to eliminate discrimination. During the roundtable discussion, lawyers knowledgeable about the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), New York State Attorney General’s Office, and the US EEOC shared their insights and comparisons to the protection of workers in the United States. Lu Jun spoke about his cases of impact litigation against employment discrimination due to many factors: gender, age, hepatitis B status, appearance, disability, etc. He spoke about the full gamut of prejudice and how Yirenping chooses cases that will garner public attention in the effort to halt the discriminatory practices.

June 24, 2014 The Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee and Real Estate Committee organized a CLE program on “Emerging Trends in Fraud and Forensics,” with presenters Brian P. Sandvidge (partner at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP) and Edward Farrell (Partner at Tarter, Krinsky & Drogin, LLP). Participants learned the ins and outs of fraud, why people commit fraud, how to spot it, and what to do to uncover fraud, stressing the ethical obligation attorneys have to report fraud, both to protect the parties involved and themselves. Over 17 people attended; 1 Ethics CLE Credit was granted.
June 25, 2014 AABANY and Legal Services NYC held a joint pro bono initiative CLE training regarding U-Visas: “Immigration Relief for Low-Income Survivors of Domestic Violence” at Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel, led by Katrina Goyco and Karen Kithan Yau, Co-Chairs of our Government Service and Public Interest Committee. This CLE marked the launch of AABANY’s pro bono project with Legal Services NYC to offer immigration relief to those most in need. Presenters included Legal Service NYC attorneys Sophia Khan and Pro Bono and Community Service Co-Chair June Lee. Sofia Khan gave a background of U-Visas, an immigration status that is often (though not necessarily) the first step to a naturalization path for undocumented victims of qualifying crimes, most prominently domestic violence, and described the types of clients that AABANY and Legal Services NYC plan to serve in this pilot Pro Bono project – primarily low-income women and families who have suffered mental, physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Legal Services NYC and AABANY are working in conjunction to serve this marginalized group, which presents a unique set of challenges including post-traumatic stress, limited English proficiency, and mistrust of the legal system due to the threat of their immigration status being used against them. June Lee presented the step-by-step process of U-Visa application, with emphasis on working with clients who are domestic violence survivors in any given stage of abuse or recovery.

July 17, 2014 AABANY’s Real Estate and Solo and Small Firm Practice Committees and Bank of America Home Loans co-sponsored at the US Trust Building in Manhattan a Career Panel on Powerful Real Estate Professionals. The panel for the event included Mary Frank, VP Bank of America Home Loans Manager; Raymond Ferrier, Partner at Vanchieri & Ferrier, Kathy; Michael Myer, President of F & T Group; Katie Kao, Realtor for Keller Williams Realty; and Margaret Ling, Sr. Underwriting Counsel for Great American Title Agency, Inc. The panel discussed various topics regarding the real estate market and the real estate profession, such as the advantages and disadvantages of obtaining mortgages in this economy and how international clientele has changed the landscape of the real estate market. The panel ended with a discussion on the importance of networking and marketing oneself to the legal and real estate industry.
Community Outreach

May 1, 2014 AABANY was pleased and privileged to be part of a special screening of “Documented: A Film by an Undocumented American” at the Asia Society. Jose Antonio Vargas, the Pulitzer Prize winning journalist who revealed in a 2011 essay in the New York Times Magazine that he was undocumented, created a moving, powerful, poignant and thought-provoking film following him in his public and personal struggle with the aftermath of his coming out as an undocumented American.

May 3, 2014 Community groups in Chinatown gathered at Hok Shan Association on Mott Street for a Press Conference for Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan’s Appointment to the New York State Appellate Term. Judge Ling-Cohan is the first judge of APA descent in that court. Chinese press and media were out in full force.

May 9, 2014 The Asian American Federation hosted a special evening at the Manhattan Penthouse for a Farewell Celebration honoring former Executive Director, Cao O, who retired at the end of 2013. Many members of the APA community came out to join in recognizing Cao’s years of leadership and dedication to advancing the APA
community. AABANY, represented by Executive Director Yang Chen and Program Associate Simone Nguyen, was privileged to be part of this celebration.

May 15, 2014 In addition to assisting the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) secure actual judges (Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan, Hon. Lydia Lai, Hon. Lillian Wan, Hon. John Lansden, and Hon. Leslie Purificacion) to keep score at the event, AABANY participated in AAJA’s biggest fundraiser of the year, The Trivia Bowl. At Broad Street Ballroom in the Financial District, teams of up to ten people from different news organizations and community groups competed in five rounds of 12 questions each. After a tumultuous journey fraught with close calls and second guesses, AABANY almost emerged victorious, but was forced to settle for second place and the chance to try again next year.

May 17, 2014 The Joint Minority Bar Judicial Internship Program (“JMB JIP”) 2014 Orientation Program took place at the New York City office of Littler Mendelson, P.C. This year, JMB JIP helped place 27 law students in judicial internships with various federal and state judges/justices in New York. JMB JIP Co-Director William H. Ng, Labor and Employment Law Committee Co-Chair and Associate at Littler Mendelson, provided an overview of the New York State and Federal court systems. JMB JIP Founder and Co-Director Linda S. Lin, AABANY Past President and Board Director, Senior Counsel, Liberty International Underwriters, taught a legal writing and research course entitled “Tackling Assignments Successfully.” The JMB JIP interns also participated in an interactive writing assignment that required them to review, analyze and edit a legal brief. The orientation program concluded with a career panel with current and former law clerks, including AABANY President-Elect William Wang. JMB JIP’s 2014 partners include the Asian American Bar Association of New York, Asian American Law Fund of New York, Association of Judges of Hispanic Heritage, Metropolitan Black Bar Association, New York Women’s Bar Association Foundation, Inc., Puerto Rican Bar Association, and South Asian Bar Association of New York.

May 31, 2014 A group of attorneys from Skadden’s Asian Affinity Group volunteered their time as part of the Playground One Restoration Project organized jointly by community partners the Dynasty Project and Apex for Youth. Spearheaded by associate Sunjay Mathews, more than a dozen Skadden attorneys and their family members spent their Saturday morning cleaning up the playground and re-painting the basketball courts
that are a popular summer destination for local community youth. Former AABANY President and current AALFNY Board Member Alec Chang and AABANY Corporate Law Committee Co-Chair Dwight Yoo were on hand and getting their hands dirty. The project also included the Skadden attorneys getting together to add a new dimension to the basketball court, namely a 3-point line. AABANY member Charles Chen also participated in the project as part of a group of professionals from TAP NY (Taiwanese American Professionals NY). AABANY President-Elect, William Wang, a board member of the Dynasty Project and Apex for Youth volunteer, was among the project’s organizers. The restoration project also included the addition of a community mural by Asian American artist Sahra Vang.

June 6, 2014 AABANY hosted a table for the 11th Anniversary of the Caren Aronowitz Diversity Committee Unity in Diversity Program at 60 Centre Street, presented by the Cultural Diversity Committee and the Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County, and the New York County Clerk’s Office. Executive Director Yang Chen, Program Associate Simone Nguyen, and Summer Intern Jules Shackman manned AABANY’s table. To the crowd’s delight, patriotic bagpipes, songs, and a heartfelt remembrance of Caren Aronowitz kicked off the event with ethnic food to follow. AABANY brought food from Nom Wah Tea Parlor (a huge hit!) and took note to order more shrimp rice rolls for next year. Judge Doris Ling-Cohan dropped by with her interns for the first meal from the AABANY table.

June 7, 2014 AABANY co-sponsored MinKwon Center’s Voter Engagement Training at the Robin Hood Foundation. James Hong (Civic Participation Project Manager for MinKwon Center), Jennifer S. Pae (Project Manager for Voter Service and Education at the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund), and Parag Mehta, (Communications Director for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs) led an audience of over 20 people through Civic Engagement and Political Organizing Training. They shared their own experiences to speak more broadly on the marginalization, erasure, and issues affecting Asian Americans. In addition to complicating the “model minority” myth, they illuminated the importance of Asian Americans as a political force, emphasizing the need to speak with our feet by voting.
June 16, 2014 The Asian American Law Fund of New York (AALFNY, formerly the AABANY Foundation) and AABANY held its Annual Summer Reception at Debevoise & Plimpton, LLP. The Summer Reception featured networking over cocktails and hors d’oeuvres followed by presentations of the AALFNY scholarships and JMB JIP internship stipends. L. Lynnette Sarno, AALFNY President, spoke of AALFNY’s history and goals and presented the AALFNY Community Service Scholarship awards and AALFNY/SABANY scholarship. Linda Lin, Co-Chair of the Joint Minority Bar Judicial Internship Program (JMB JIP) and Director on both AALFNY and AABANY Boards, spoke of JMB JIP’s history and goals and presented the JMB JIP stipends to eligible Judicial Interns. Clara Ohr, President of AABANY, then spoke of the Don H. Liu Scholarship Fund for rising 1Ls, designed to seek out and cultivate future APA leaders in the legal profession.

Networking

June 5, 2014 Held in conjunction with Advisory Committee’s first meeting of fiscal year 2014, AABANY hosted a Welcome Dinner at Pampano as part of NAPABA’s In-House Counsel Summit. The evening included a cocktail reception followed by a delicious dinner. The meeting included remarks from Simone Wu and Alan Tse, Co-Chairs of NAPABA’s In-House Counsel Committee. Clara Ohr, AABANY President, spoke about the status of 2014 initiatives and activities, Gurinder Singh, AABANY Vice President of Programs and Operations, discussed upcoming AABANY events, and Don Liu asked for support for the Don Liu Scholarship fund, designed to seek out and cultivate future APA leaders in the legal profession. The invite-only In-House Counsel Summit was held the next day for General Counsel, Deputy General Counsel, and lawyers with at least 5 lawyers reporting directly to them. AABANY Past President Jean Lee organized outstanding professional advancement opportunities, including recruiters from nationally recognized executive recruiting firms, and productive activities and panels on how to lead a boardroom.
June 26, 2014 The neighboring NAPABA affiliate Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of Jersey, Inc. (APALA-NJ) celebrated its 17th Annual Gala and Installation of Officers at the Liberty House Restaurant in Jersey City, NJ with the theme “Celebrating 30 Years: Building on Excellence.” AABANY sponsored their Annual Gala at the Silver Sponsor level. As there are many who are admitted to practice in New York and New Jersey, many AABANY members were in attendance.

June 26, 2014 The Women’s Committee held their Welcome Dinner and Kickoff Meeting at Congee Village. Marianne Chow and Naf Kwun, Co-Chairs of AABANY’s Women’s Committee began the event with introductions. Marianne and Naf discussed the purpose of the Women’s Committee and the events they have planned for the upcoming year, in particular the Kicking Glass Video Project inspired by a video of women in the law field shown 20 years ago at a NAPABA conference. “Kicking Glass” hopes to bring this video back to shed light on what challenges stayed the same or have changed 20 years later for women in the law field. The dinner concluded with a discussion of how members can get involved in upcoming events and projects by joining subcommittees.

July 1, 2014 AABANY held its Annual Summer Reception and July Board Meeting at Kenyon & Kenyon LLP. More than 70 AABANY members, board, committee chairs, staff, and guests met friends old and new over the delectable assortment of food, wine, and refreshments graciously provided by the firm. AABANY members filled both reception rooms and balconies on the top floor, with a beautiful (and windy) view of Battery Park and the Bay stretched out before us.

July 11, 2014 AABANY held the first Get to Know AABANY Happy Hour of 2014 at the K2 Lounge in the Rubin Museum of Art, co-hosted by AABANY’s Student Outreach Committee, Young Lawyers Committee, and Mentorship Program. Attendees had the opportunity to network with AABANY members from those committees and with AABANY members generally. AABANY Officers, President Clara Ohr, President-Elect Will Wang, Treasurer Jane Chuang, VP of Programs and Operations Gurinder Singh, Membership Secretary Irene Tan and Recording Secretary Naf Kwun, were in attendance. Julie Kwon, Coordinator of the Mentorship Program, was there to answer any
questions about the program. Well attended with over 100 registered for the event, the evening provided an opportunity for attendees to Get to Know AABANY over delicious hors d’oeuvres and drinks.

**July 14, 2014** The **Tax Committee’s Kickoff Event** launched what promises to be a robust and vigorous committee. Formed this year, AABANY’s Tax Committee leads the way in creating a space for Asian Americans attorneys in tax law on a local, state, or national level. Co-Chairs Sahang-Hee Hahn and Michael Kam welcomed attorneys and law students alike to share in their vision of an active, open, and productive community for those interested in tax law. Following introductory remarks and networking at Dechert LLP, the attendees ventured over to Izakaya Mew to share merriment and delicious Japanese food. Thomson Reuters and EisnerAmper sponsored this event.

**July 15, 2014** Sponsored by Planet Data, AABANY held its first **SoulCycle** event, co-hosted by the In-House Counsel and Litigation Committees. AABANY members had the opportunity to network over fruits and power drinks, in a different environment focusing on the chance to stay healthy and fit through cycling. The trendy new fitness phenomenon, SoulCycle describes itself as indoor cycling reinvented with cardio, full-body workouts, and choreography to work your cores. For many of the attendees, it was their first time. The event was successful, so there may be more SoulCycle sessions in the future for AABANY members.