

Summer 2000

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SJCL Inter Alia

San Joaquin College of Law Quarterly Newsletter

The Reunion is coming, the Reunion is coming

As San Joaquin College of Law reaches the respectable age of 30, it's time to party.

What could be better than a reunion of all the students and all the faculty in the school's history?

Founded in 1970 by Judge Dan Eymann, Oliver Wanger and John Loomis to provide a local site for quality legal education, SJCL has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of Valley residents and changed the face of the legal profession in the Central Valley. Alumni of the Law, Paralegal and Tax programs

now number 1,287. Over a quarter of the bar in the Fresno Metropolitan area graduated from SJCL. Almost one half of the women practicing law in the Fresno area received their training at SJCL. Almost a third of the minority bar earned their degrees from SJCL. Of the current student body, over two-thirds were born and raised in the Central Valley.

Moreover, numerous members of the bar and bench have given of their time, knowledge and experience to

train aspiring attorneys, paralegals and tax professionals. Over 150 local attorneys and judges have taught at San Joaquin College of Law.

On Saturday, September 16th we want to bring everyone back together. We've begun contacting members from each graduating class to help organize the festivities. Each class will have its own area to display memorabilia, pictures, whatever. (Well—if someone wants to bring the dumpster from Shields, there might be a

See **All Class Reunion** page 7



**Class of
1975**

The Dean hits 15 years and 30 cats

SJCL recognizes the dedication of Jan Pearson

Jan Pearson began teaching at the law school in 1982 as an adjunct professor, teaching Debtor-Creditor Law. A plaque with a very large screw hangs on her wall—a gift from her first class. She taught her first Torts class in the 1982-1983 academic year. She has been the sole Torts' instructor at San Joaquin College of Law since that time. Over 590 attorneys learned Torts from Jan.

In 1983 she became Associate Dean, while Carol Sellers Herbert served as Dean. In June of 1985 she began her official tenure as Dean of San Joaquin College of Law. For the last 15 years—half of the school's existence—she has shepherded the law school in its quest to provide a quality legal



education to people desiring to enter the legal field and to be a resource to the local community.

In 1992 she received the Justice Pauline Davis Hanson award from the

Fresno County Women's Lawyers. She was recognized with the Liberty Bell Award in 1993 and a Finalist for YWCA / Fresno Bee Professional Woman of the Year in October 1990. Jan has also been voted SJCL Teacher of the Year in 1986 and 1996.

While Jan estimates her cat population has gone from 4 to 30 in her years at San Joaquin College of Law, some things stay the same. Frenzy the cat still rules the roost at Jan's house. At 17 years old he accepts homage from all the other cats each day, as well as receiving a very special diet of raw chicken from Jan and Jackson.

Thank you and congratulations Jan.

SJCL participates in "Rails to Trails"

"Rails to Trails" was a huge success with almost 3000 volunteers participating.

On May 6, 2000 Tree Fresno coordinated almost 3,000 volunteers in planting almost 5,000 15-gallon deciduous and evergreen trees in three hours, making this the nation's largest documented single-day planting. Planting these trees transformed the former railroad tracks into tree lined trails which provide recreation paths for residents. The trail starts in southern Clovis, moves through North East Fresno, and ends in the new Riverpark shopping center.

San Joaquin College of Law was a proud participant in this historic event and had responsibility for the section of trail between 5th Street and Rodeo Drive along Clovis Avenue. The SJCL crew, consisting of Gene Bruce, Rita Davenport, Jennifer Enns, Mark Enns, Jackson Grode, Joan Lassley, Jan Pearson, Pam Ramirez, Gwen Watt, and Mike Watt, worked well as a team planting, staking, and tying trees like a well-oiled machine.



Board of Trustees

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Ross Borba, Jr.; Richard Caglia, J.D.; Hon. Jane Cardoza; Edward D. Fanucchi, J.D.; Hugo Gomez-Vidal; James K. Herbert, LL.B.; Dr. Howard Loewen; William Lyles; Kendall Manock, J.D.; Elizabeth O'Neill, J.D.; Hon. Robert Oliver; Susie Osterberg; Wanda L. Rogers; Dr. Vivian Vidoli; David Weiland, J.D.; Sara Widener-Brightwell, J.D.

Garabedian Donation

A generous grant of \$3,500 from The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation recently assisted SJCL in purchasing library shelving. The shelving is required to house the 2,000 new volumes recently given to the law school by The Frank J. Creede Jr. Public Law Library. The County Library did not have space to house these early English, Canadian, and American case reporters and early state reports.

These volumes are an important addition to the research capability of SJCL's Library. Although many practice resources are available online, only about 25% of the resources needed by a research law library are currently computer accessible. Without the Garabedian gift, SJCL would not have been able to properly house this old collection.

The entire SJCL community is grateful to the Garabedian Foundation for this generous gift.

Civil Trial Skills Series

Many thanks to the local judges and practitioners who did so much to make SJCL's spring Civil Trial Skills Series a wonderful success: U.S. Magistrate Judge Lawrence J. O'Neill, Richard Watters, Michael Marderosian, Hon. Stephen Kane, Hon. Wayne Ellison, Lisa M. Martin, and Justus C. Spillner.

Full-Time Faculty

Lawrence M. Artenian, Richard M. Cartier, Denise M. Kerner, Janice L. Pearson, Sally A. Perring, Jeffrey G. Purvis

Adjunct Faculty

Russ Akins, Marc C. Ament, Hon. James A. Ardaiz, Tom Armstrong, Jesse J. Avila, Barry J. Bennett, Jeff Bird, Sal M. Blanco, Stanley A. Boone, Peter S. Bradley, Tim Buchanan, Hon. A. Dennis Caeton, David M. Camenson, Chris Campbell, Michael Carrigan, Jeff Carter, Ken Carver, Jonathan B. Conklin, Andrea DeShayes, Denise DiMascio, James E. Durkee, John P. Eleazarian, Thomas J. Georgouses, Christine A. Goodrich, Hon. Sara Hedgpeth-Harris, Ronald A. Henderson, Kim Herold, Elizabeth Karby, Kathi K. Kesselman, Heather Kruthers, Jim Ledbetter, Robert A. Mallek, Michael P. Mallery, Hon. Vincent J. McGraw, John McGregor, William McLaughlin, Mark D. Miller, Douglas E. Noll, Hon. Lawrence J. O'Neill, Deborah D. Owdom, Vickie Panagopoulos, Harry Pascuzzi, Rosendo Pena, Toni Porter, Duane R. Ruth-Heffelbower, Russell K. Ryan, Victor Salazar, Rose Safarian, James I. Shepard, Michael Seng, Michael Slater, Robert Swanton, David Weiland, Patti L. Williams, Curtis Wong, E. Robert Wright

Hot dog feed a success

Alumni Association hosted a hot dog feed for students

The SJCL Alumni Association staged a free hot dog feed in the park outside SJCL on April 24, 2000 from 5:00-6:30PM. Hungry students and staff appreciated the good food and good company. This highly successful event provided a great way for students to learn about the Alumni Association and meet some SJCL Alumni. The Alumni Association allows graduates to support current students and the college. The relationship a student has with SJCL faculty and staff should continue past graduation. The Alumni Association helps keep that connection between graduates and the school.



(L-R) Linda Richardson, Mary Felkner, Pat Harter, and Tim Richardson enjoy the good food and nice weather.

The Bar results are in!

San Joaquin College of Law congratulates the Alumni who passed the February, 2000, California State Bar exam, which is considered to be the most difficult bar examination in the country.

Congratulations go out to **Rick Banks, Melissa Barrios, Jane Austin Boulger, Richard Esquivel, Greg Gross, Kristine Howe, Pat Lloyd, Lynn Meyer, Jacob Rivas, Paul Rodriguez, Sandy Smith, Jason Sorenson, and Kathy Wallace.**

Bookstore Specials

The following texts are on SALE.

- \$20 The First Amendment - A Reader
- \$20 The First Amendment - Cases & Comments
- \$20 CA Cases on Security Transactions in Land
- \$10 Using American Law Books
- \$5 A Programmed Guide to tax research

Please call the Bookstore at 323-2100 to reserve your copy.

Graduation

On May 27, 2000 San Joaquin College of Law celebrated its Twenty-Sixth Graduation at the William Saroyan Theater in Fresno.

SJCL is fortunate to have commencement speaker Hon. Steven M. Vartabedian, Associate Justice, California Court of Appeal for the Fifth District with the Valedictorian address delivered by Stefanie Jill Krause-Cota.

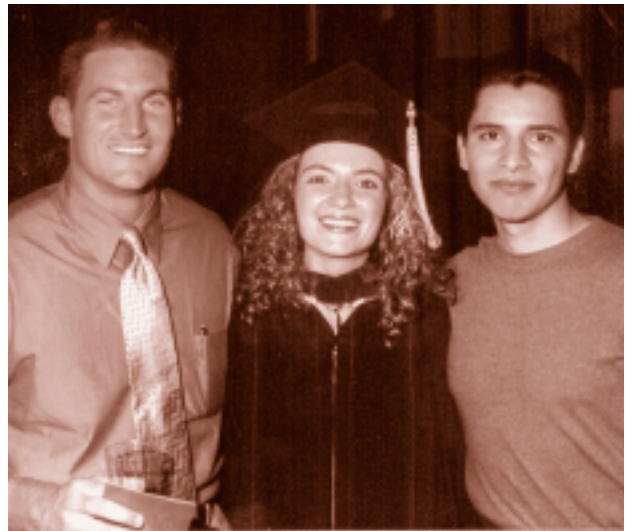
The students graduating at the top of their class with high honors were Gary Dean Brunsvik, David Anthony Soldani, and Stefanie Jill Krause-Cota. Amelia Rappaport graduated with honors. Craig Benjamin Fry and David Douglas Schneider graduated with distinction.

Congratulations go out to Cynthia Ann Arroyo, Jason Scott Bell, John Rich Coniglio, C. Warren Daugherty, Shannon Lynn Geiger, Timothy Robert Goodger, Charlotte Michelle Hylton, Christiane Aho Issa, Kristine Marie Kelly, Rod Lawrence Kodman, Nancy J. LeVan, Kathryn Melazine Mackie, Sean Patrick McLeod, Karney Mark Mekhitarian, Russell Cameron Miller, Sara Mirhadi, Jo Anne Morales, Debra Ann Mosley, James Lester Myers, Mark Eric Northway, Kerry Patrick O'Brien, Jun Gonzales Payoyo, Susan J. Purvis, Kathleen Lucy Reyna, Ann Elizabeth Roberts, and Gerald S. Schwab Jr.

Also celebrating are Alice Berger Contreras, Wesley Joseph Hammond, and Robert Vercellino, who earned their Master of Science degree in Taxation.



(L-R) **Robert Vercellino, Wesley Hammond, and Alice Contreras** each achieved a Masters of Science in Taxation.



Rich Caglia ('99) and Paul Rodriguez ('99) congratulate class of 2000 graduate **Christiane Issa**.



Nancy LeVan with a congratulatory embrace from her mother **Leona Cramer** and **Wanda Willis ('93)**.



Class of 2000 Valedictorian **Stefanie Krause** addresses her classmates.



Kathleen Reyna and Ann Roberts anxiously await the beginning of the ceremonies.



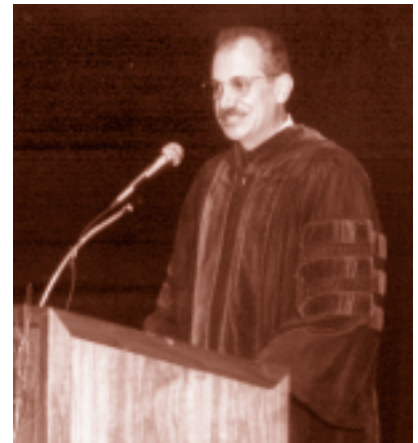
Kathy Mackie and current student **Donna Taghdiri**.



Professor **Jeff Purvis** with “Fashion Emergency” recipient, **James Myers** (outgoing SBA president) and fellow class of 2000 graduate **Susan Purvis**.



Paige’s daddy, **Tim Goodger**, says “I did it!”



Inspiring words were given by commencement speaker **Honorable Steven M. Vartabedian**.



best friend **Rebecca Shannon** and graduate **Debra Mosley** both have something to smile about.



Board of Trustee member **Ross Borba** speaks of SJCL’s humble beginnings and bright future.

Alumni profiles

The year 2000 is the Twentieth Anniversary of the graduation of the Class of 1980 and the Tenth anniversary of the Class of 1990. Throughout the year, we will be letting you know “where they are now.”

1980

Linda Bonett

Upon graduation, Linda Bonett worked with Ed Marouk for five years before opening a partnership with classmate, Gerald Farrington. The partnership operated for 14 years, doing principally plaintiff’s personal injury work, until Jerry retired about a year ago. Now Linda is on her own and doing well.

Linda is active in the Fresno County Women Democrats and an avid reader. Linda remembers the friendships she formed in law school. She is still in contact with many of her classmates, especially Craig Trippel and Jerry Farrington. She believes the class will always be close because they shared a “baptismal by fire”.

Russell Cook

Russ worked with Mushines, Baradat & VanDoren from graduation until March of 1992 when he opened his own practice. Russ’ work is mostly plaintiff’s civil litigation. He represents individuals in personal injury, wrongful termination, business, and civil rights cases. He has participated in 75 civil jury trials throughout his career.

Russ spends most of his “free” time hauling his twins around to their various activities. When not hauling, he is hiding out on his 40 acre ranch in the foothills near Coarsegold.

Russ thought law school was tedious. He says the practice of law is a lot more fun. In his own practice, he gets to choose his clients. He really enjoys his career in law.

Karen Kern

Karen began her legal career with Parichan, Renberg, Crossman & Harvey. From 1986 to 1990 she was an associate and then partner with Lerrigo, Nibler, Moss, Berryman & Coleman, emphasizing representation of lending institutions and construction litigation. Thereafter, she was a staff attorney with the United States Small Business Administration.

Karen joined the Fresno City Attorney’s Office in November 1993. In 1997, she became Assistant City Attorney and Supervisor of the Litigation Unit. This unit represents the City in litigation, trial, and settlement of a broad range of matters from basic slip and fall actions to complex land use issues. In addition, Karen handles all labor and personnel matters for the City.

Karen served on the Clovis Planning Commission for three years. She is a member of Leadership Fresno, Class Five.

Karen and husband, Richard Kern, have three children. Karen has coached softball and soccer and served as a Girl Scout Troop leader. In fact, the whole family plays soccer. More recently, however, they have discovered sailing and have purchased a 25

foot sailboat. Maintenance and enjoyment of the sailboat is now a major family project.

1990

Nancy Aten

Nancy worked for Stroup & deGoede for one year after graduating and passing the bar exam. In May of 1992 Nancy joined the Legal Department of State Compensation Insurance Fund. She defends employers in Workers Compensation insurance claims. Much of the work involves fraudulent claims for benefits and premium fraud by employers.

Nancy and her husband, Bill, have two daughters. The older daughter will be married in August. The younger daughter and her husband presented Nancy and Bill with their first grandchild in May of 1999. Nancy and Bill love to travel and spend a great deal of time at their cabin on Sonora Pass.

Nancy remembers her entire class as one large wonderful support group. She says she accomplished all her goals in law school—she graduated, she passed the Bar, and she stayed married to the same man.

Robert Hurlbett

After graduation, Bob worked in the bankruptcy section of McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte & Carruth until February of 1994 when he moved to Santa Barbara. (Bob always

Staff

Janice L. Pearson, Dean; **Sally A. Perring**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Lawrence M. Arterian, Professor of Law; **Richard M. Cartier**, Professor of Law / Family Mediation Center Director; **Denise M. Kerner**, Professor of Law / Small Claims Supervisor; **Jeffrey G. Purvis**, James K. and Carol Sellers Herbert / Professor of Constitutional Law;

Jill Waller-Randles, Chief Financial Officer; **Kathryn McTigue-Floyd**, Library Director; **Pam Ramirez**, Director, Paralegal Program / Director, Placement Services; **Joyce Morodomi**, Admissions Director / Registrar; **Gwen Watt**, Financial Aid Director; **Mark Enns**, Director of Recruitment & Public Relations **Joan Lassley**, Law Program Coordinator / Facilities Administrator; **Maureen Hayes**, Assistant to Chief Financial Officer; **Patricia Smith**, MCLE Coordinator; **Tom Chacon**, Accounting Assistant; **Ken Coyle**, M.I.S. Director; **Tara Phelps**, Assistant Librarian; **Lonzetta Hightower**, Receptionist; **Rick Rodriguez**, Maintenance Supervisor, **Bruce Krotter**, Bookstore Manager

planned to live on the coast some day.) In Santa Barbara, he opened his own bankruptcy practice wherein he spent the first two years working on approximately 15 bankruptcies all related to the country's largest private builder and operator of low-income housing. Since those cases concluded, his practice has diversified to include bankruptcy, business transactions, and business counseling. He recently opened a second office in Arroyo Grande

Bob's two daughters are now nearly grown. Natalie is a camp counselor in Maine this summer and will transfer to the University of California at Santa Barbara in the fall. Jessica will be a senior in high school. In November 1995, Bob married Sara Weber, formerly a senior pattern-maker with Patagonia, now the owner and operator of StudioWorks, a freelance pattern making and design company with customers in California, Montana, and Wyoming. He spends his free time paragliding; she spends hers photographing.

Bob's clearest memory of law school is thinking it would never be over. Now it's ten years over.

Thomas Georgouses

Tom began clerking at Stammer, McKnight, Barnum & Bailey in October 1989 then joined the firm as an associate upon graduation. He became a partner in Tom's practice consists of insurance and corporate defense principally in the areas of medical malpractice, premises liability, and product liability. Tom was President of the Fresno Young Lawyers Association and currently serves on the Board of the Fresno County Bar Association.

Tom and his wife, Sally, have two sons—Nicholas, 4, and Anthony, 2. Their free time goes to “kid stuff”—trips to the beach and the mountains, although Tom does sneak in golf.

Tom remembers the good times with his classmates at The Copper Pot after class. (I have a photo on my wall of this class in front of the Copper Pot—their home away from home—Jan.).

Staff Happenings



Tara Phelps

Assistant Librarian

Tara Phelps joined SJCL's staff in January 2000 as Assistant Librarian. Tara holds a B.A. in English from Loyola Marymount University and is currently a fourth year student at SJCL. Tara is an active member of Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity.

Tara previously worked as Law Librarian at Dowling, Aaron & Keeler. She also worked as a proctor in SJCL's library for several years.

Tara is assisting with reorganization and upgrading projects in the library. Plus, she has a major

reorganization project of her own in the works for September 2000 when she becomes Tara Crabtree.

Long-time Financial Aid Officer, Pat Smith, has been promoted to MCLE Coordinator effective July 1, 2000. Pat will be responsible for the planning, promotion, and coordination of all SJCL continuing education events. Pat will also function as administrative assistant to the Dean. Pat will continue to be responsible for Graduation, an event she has pulled off highly successfully for the last two years. Congratulations, Pat!



Pat Smith

MCLE Coordinator

All Class Reunion from page 1

problem.) There will be an excruciatingly short program, open bar, and sumptuous meal for all.

We are also trying to complete our collection of graduating class photos from 1974 - present which are hung in each of the two stairwells in the college. We still need pictures for 1974, 1976, 1981-85, and 1989.

We recently found a photo for the class of 1975 (cover photo). Front row (L-R) Ernest Kinney, Larry Donaldson, Gaines Duff Green, Thomas Campagne, Hon. Ralph

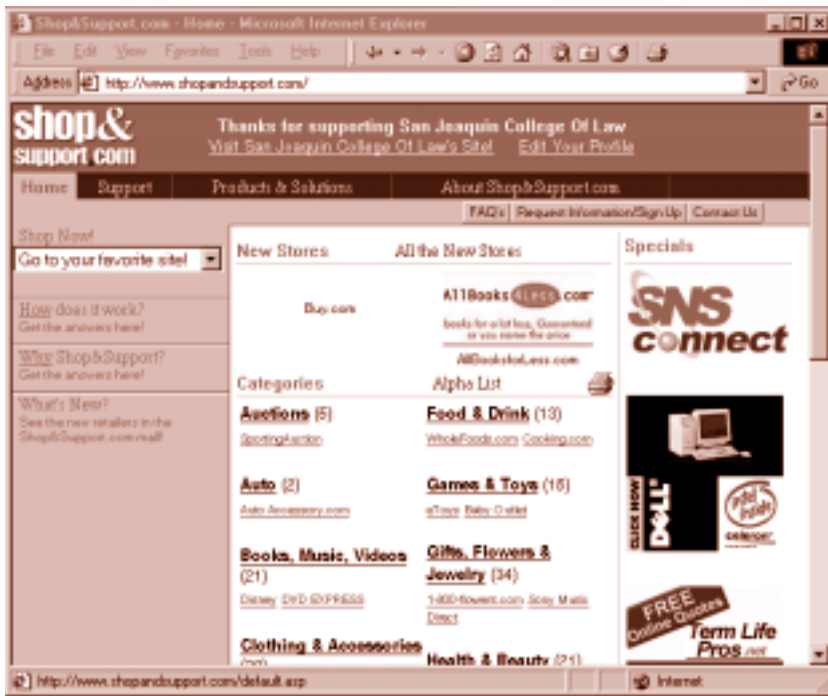
Putnam, Robert Williams. Back row (L-R) William Cowin, Jack Johnson, Michael Eberlein, Ima Harvey, Richard Rossi, James Wasson, Fred Douma.

You can help by:

- 1) Setting aside Saturday, the 16th of September on your calendar now
- 2) Submitting a graduation photo of yourself or your class from one of the missing years.
- 3) Root around for anything fun / nostalgic which you still have from 'the good ol' days' and lend it for the reunion.

Shopandsupport.com

Log onto www.shopandsupport.com - and a portion of your purchases benefits SJCL.



Did you know that you can log on to www.shopandsupport.com and all of your purchases benefit SJCL? The school receives a percentage of any purchase you make. All you need to do is log on and follow the easy instructions. Then you will be sent weekly specials via e-mail.

We want updates!

Write us about what you are doing. It's a great way to reconnect with old friends and classmates. Include your graduation date & program (i.e. J.D., Paralegal, or Tax Law), current address, family information, recent accomplishments, and any other information or photos you would like to provide. Then send us your information by fax: (559) 323-5566, email: info@sjcl.org, or mail it to: Mark Enns, SJCL, 901 5th Street, Clovis, California 93612.

Wish list

SJCL is in need of some new computers. If you have a Pentium II or better computer that you would like to donate please contact Ken Coyle at 323-2100.

Correction

In the Spring 2000 issue we inaccurately listed Charles Brian Haddix as "Charles Brian Hendrix," his wife Keven as "Karen," and their daughter Anneka as "Anne."



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