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SJCL Inter Alia

San Joaquin College of Law Quarterly Newsletter

Volume XVII, Number 4

Judge Oliver W. Wanger

The Bar honors Judge Oliver Wanger, SJCL founder, taking senior status at the District Court for the Eastern District of California.

By **Carol Moses, Esq.** (Law '92)

The Transition to Senior Status Celebration for the Honorable Oliver W. Wanger was held on September 8, 2006 at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Fresno. Over 300 people attended the event to honor Judge Wanger, who assumed Senior Status on May 30, 2006. Judge Wanger was presented with a number of gifts, including a new judicial robe by his wife Lorrie Anthony-Wanger, an autographed photo of William Shatner by Mic Marderosian, and a Waterford crystal gavel and plaque by the Federal Bar Association and the Association of Business Trial Lawyers.

Speakers included Chief Judge David F. Levi, the Honorable Lawrence J. O'Neill, former Fresno County Sheriff Steve Magarian, Richard Shehadey, and Gary Cocola, Additional speakers were Peggy Crawford, Judge Wanger's court reporter, Debbie Pell, Judge Wanger's secretary of 26 years, and Dorothy Pflug, Judge Wanger's courtroom interpreter. Family members who spoke in Judge Wanger's honor were his sons Guy and Andrew, as well as his wife, Lorrie Anthony-Wanger.

This was truly an exceptional night. People from all over traveled many miles to be present to honor and celebrate Judge Wanger's transition to senior status, including former clients, law clerks, current staff, attorneys, and

fellow judges from both the state and federal judiciary. Photographs were taken by Hilton Ryder, Esq and Juan Ramirez. The number of people at the celebration and their congeniality is truly a wonderful tribute to the Honorable Oliver W. Wanger.



Hilton Ryder

Judge Wanger celebrating with a crystal gavel.



Juan F. Ramirez

Honorable **Lawrence O'Neill**, *Master of Ceremonies.*



Juan F. Ramirez

The Honorable **David Levi**, U. S. District Court Judge in Sacramento



Dianna & Cyrus Setoodeh, Elizabeth O'Neill, and Dean Janice Pearson

Paralegal Graduation



(Above) The Fall Paralegal Class of 2005-2006

(Left) Professor **Sally Perring** and Valedictorian **Gordon Miller**



Judge **David Kalemkarian**



Keynote Speaker and Professor **Deanna Martinez, Esq.**

Congratulations to the Class of 2005-2006

Andrea Belknap, Jennifer Finnegan, Gary Frey, Leticia Gonzales, Nicole Helgeson, Jeanne James, Oliver Larrivee, Stacie Marcotte, Gina Martinez, Laurel Medlock, Gordon Miller, Adrian Ramirez, Mary Rosellini, Elizabeth Rouse, Sarah Schneider, Jasminn Terzian, Teresa Torres, and Colleen Tudman

What I did over my summer vacation

By **Sally Perring**, *Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*

This summer I had the good fortune to be invited to participate in the Oxford Roundtable. The Oxford Roundtable, now over 15 years old, gathers, by invitation only, educators and others for the presentation of papers and discussion of such topics as international law, diversity, and women's rights. The topic for my roundtable was the Influence of Sir William Blackstone on Education. (Yes, for all my past students, he's the one espousing the Occupancy Theory of property.) Participants

included judges, attorneys, legal educators and those who teach education. While most participants were from the United States-- Alaska, Texas, California, Illinois, Ohio, Florida and New York-- we also had coterie of attorneys, educators and a judge from Canada.

The Roundtable was held in Oxford, England. We stayed and ate at Pembroke College, Blackstone's alma mater. Our daily discussion sessions took place at the Examination Rooms, part way across town. Paper topics



Dining Hall, Pembroke College, Oxford

ranged from looking at legal education for students with disabilities to sentencing laws in Canada for driving under the influence. (As you can see, some presenters took greater liberties with the scope of the topic than

See "Summer vacation" page 10



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Need to Catch-Up on MCLE Hours? Join SJCL for its Annual January 2007

MCLE Marathon Month



Topics Include

- Elimination of Bias
- Legal Ethics *
- Substance Abuse
- 2007 Update: Family Law*
- 2007 Update: Civil Procedure*
- 2007 Update: Personal Injury*
- Anti-SLAPP and Anti-SLAPPback Motions*
- CJA/TRG Employment Litigation 2006*
- Solving Complex Issues in Estate & Trust Litigation*
- Attorney Malpractice: Risks and Solutions*
- Consumer Litigation*

MCLE Compliance Deadlines

25 total hours
 Legal Ethics: 4 hours
 Substance Abuse: 1 hour
 Elimination of Bias: 1 hour

LAST NAME	DEADLINE
A-G	January 31, 2007
N-Z	January 31, 2008
H-M	January 31, 2009

For more information on times and dates of programs, please visit SJCL's MCLE web page at www.sjcl.edu/mcle for a free downloadable brochure or contact Kasi Welte, MCLE Coordinator, at (559) 323-2100 or kwelte@sjcl.edu.

Walk-in Registrations Welcome!

* Topics include 0.5 hours or more of Legal Ethics. All courses subject to change due to availability of materials

SAVE THE DATE



5TH ANNUAL Judy Wiseman Memorial Golf Tournament

MARCH 24TH, 2007

The SJCL Alumni Association is excited to announce that we have reserved the beautiful Sherwood Forest Golf Club for the morning of Saturday, March 24, 2007 to host the 5th Annual Judy Wiseman Memorial Golf Tournament. By popular demand, the Shotgun Start is back! When we asked last year's players what we could do to improve the tournament, you said it was a great event,

but what about having a shotgun format? You asked for it, and with 80 or more players, we will deliver!

The upcoming tournament promises to be bigger and better than ever. With your participation, we will have more sponsors, more prizes, and will raise more money towards our goal of permanently endowing the Judy Wiseman Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was created in honor of an SJCL student who sadly lost her courageous battle with cancer, but who, throughout her illness, inspired classmates with her academic achievement.

Look for more information coming your way soon. Please contact Joan Lassley, Alumni Liaison at jllassley@sjcl.edu or Kathy McKenna at kathy.mckenna@doj.ca.gov, with your ideas and suggestions for sponsors, prize donations and players.

Full-Time Faculty

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

Adjunct Faculty

Jesse Avila; Art Baggett, Barry J. Bennett, Hristo Bijev, Stanley A. Boone, David M. Camenson, Dan Casas; Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Phil Cronin, Mark Cullers, Matthew Farmer, Jack Fischer; Tom Georgouses, Christine Goodrich, Gary Green, Jason Hamm, Jeff Hammerschmidt, David Jenkins, Donna Johnston, Allan E. Junker, Hon. David Kalemkarian, Jeremy Lusk, Kathi K. Kesselman, Michael P. Mallery, Jeff Manning-Cartwright, Deanna Martinez, Lewis Martinez, William T. McLaughlin II, Mark D. Miller, Douglas E. Noll, Kimberly Nystrom-Geist, Harry Pascuzzi, Curtis Rindlisbacher, Rose Safarian, Gary Sawyers, Michael Sheltzer, Michael Slater, Jonathan Skiles, Hon. Mark Snauffer, Bob Whitlock, Lynda Williams, Jacqueline Yates.

Senior Citizen's Law Day

100 Senior Citizens attended the SJCL Alumni Association's Senior Citizen Law Day on September 16.

By **Charlotte Hylton**, 2006 Alumni Association President

This community outreach program provides free legal information and advice specific to the interests and needs of Senior Citizens. This has been an annual event sponsored by the San Joaquin College of Law Alumni Association. Topics included; Estate Planning, End of Life Decisions, Health Care Directives and Durable Powers of Attorney, Conservatorship and Guardianships, Elder Abuse, Medicare Part D and Medi-Cal CRA Changes, Senior Housing, Reverse Mortgages, the Reality of Elder Care and Independence, I.D. Theft, and current scams. This was the largest turnout to-date, and thanks to the help of SJCL alumni and students, we anticipate it will continue to grow.

The 2006 Law Day Committee thanks the following people for giving their time and talents: Nancy LeVan, Esq.;



Richard Hemb, Esq.

Detective David Case, Fresno County Sheriff; Ron Nijmeddin, Esq., Fresno County Superior Court, Senior Court Examiner; Cathy Sharbaugh, Esq.; Richard Hemb, Esq.; David A. Roberts, Esq.; Vince Weibert, Corporal, Clovis Police Department; Nancy Altschuler, Residential Homecare Services; and Yolonda Reeves, Esq.

Got MCLE?

By **Charlotte Hylton**,
2006 Alumni Association President

On October 7, 2006, the SJCL Alumni Association sponsored the Second Annual "Got MCLE?" This program provides 3-hours of free MCLE to SJCL Alumni Association members, and low-cost MCLE for alumni who are not members. This will be an annual event!

Speakers this year were the Honorable Hilary Chittick on Evidence, Mari Henson on Alternative Dispute Resolution, Roger Litman, Esq. on Immigration Consequences of Criminal Conviction, Brian Baker, J.D., M.L.S. on the Basics of Online Research, Marshall Whitney, Esq. on Legal Malpractice & How to Avoid Being a Party, and Jeffrey Purvis, Esq. on Freedom of Religion in the Modern World.

I encourage those of you who are not members of the SJCL Alumni Association, to join for the minimal cost of \$30 for a one-year membership. Not only will you receive 3-hours of free MCLE, but your membership dues support the SJCL Alumni Association's community outreach programs, student support programs, and scholarships.



Nancy LeVan (Law '00)



Joan Lassley, Alumni Liaison; **Judy Rogers**, SJCL Alumni Association V.P.; and **Jennifer Walters**, SJCL Alumni Association Secretary



Teresa Petty (Law '07) and **Marjorie Webb** (Law '07)

Staff

Janice Pearson, Dean; **Sally Perring**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; **Brian Baker**, Director of the Law Library; **Debbi Chacon**, Secretary & Receptionist; **Ken Coyle**, Manager of Information Systems; **Tara Crabtree**, Associate Library Director & Head of Public Services; **Matthew Dillard**, Maintenance Assistant; **Mark Enns**, Director of Marketing & Director of Public Relations; **Megan Fuller**, Library Assistant; **Maureen Hayes**, Assistant to Chief Financial Officer; **Lonzetta Hightower**, Student Services Assistant; **Joan Lassley**, Facilities Administrator & Alumni Liaison; **Jeannie Lewis**, Director of Financial Aid; **Joyce Morodomi**, Director of Student Services; **Carlyn Robbins**, Assistant Receptionist; **Rick Rodriguez**, Maintenance Supervisor; **Pete Rooney**, Associate Library Director & Head of Technical Services; **Michelle Rude**, Accounting Assistant; **Patricia Smith**, Law Coordinator; **Diane Steel**, Director of Admissions; **Cynthia Van Doren**, Director of Career Services; **Jill Waller-Randles**, Chief Financial Officer; **Gwen Watt**, Human Resources & Regulatory Compliance Officer; **Kasi Welte**, Development Assistant & Continuing Legal Education Coordinator

Back to school night



Alexia Belardinelli (Law '10), Adam Rodriguez (Law '10) and their guests



(L-R) **Dede Agrava (Law '07), Julie Jones (Law '07), LeAnn Kent (Law '09), Shawn Olsen (Law '08), Steve Graham (Law '09), and Marcie Webb (Law '07)**



Brianna Ellis (Law '07) with guest



Honorable Jon and Val Conklin



Christina Skaf (Law '07) and **Courtney Caron (Law '07)**



(L-R) **Laura Arnold (Law '07), Keri Troehler,** and **Errin Anderson-Woodward (Law '07)**



Kay (Law '08) and **Frank Strohl**



Professor Stan and Karen Boone



(L-R) **Jeffrey Suggs (Law '09), Robert, Katwyn Delarosa (Law '09), and Heather Phillips (Law '09)** with spouse **Jeff**.



Craig Tristao (Law '07) and **Bob Abrams (Law '08)**

Alumni Profiles

SJCL congratulates our alumni celebrating 10, 20 and 30-year anniversaries in 2006. It has been my pleasure contacting and interviewing each of you. Thanks to those who participated in this effort. I look forward to catching up at the next milestone.

-Joan Lassley, Alumni Liaison

1976

C. William Brewer

In late summer 1972, Bill returned from his second combat tour in Vietnam. He had miraculously survived his fighter jet being blown full of holes by Soviet surface-to-air missiles. He was met in San Francisco by anti-war activists calling him “Baby Killer” and spitting at him.

Bill intended to attend Harvard Business School, but needing some time to readjust to the America he loved, he deferred admission there for a year and decided at the last minute to enroll in law school at SJCL. Only 17 of his 89 fellow students advanced to the second year. Too stubborn to quit, Bill graduated from SJCL in 1976. He says it was the right decision.

Bill has practiced law in Fresno for 30 years. He first spent six years in private practice, followed by six years in public practice, the latter ending with several months as Acting City Attorney for Fresno. He has been a partner in the law firm of Motschieder, Michaelides & Wishon, LLP, since 1988. His areas of expertise are real property, business and estate planning, eminent domain and inverse condemnation, redevelopment, and environmental law. He has represented clients at all state and federal levels. He has served as a seminar speaker, expert witness, and Congressional witness in condemnation matters.

Bill was a strike fighter pilot through two combat tours, 238 combat missions and 340 carrier landings. He received awards including Distinguished Flying Cross with two Gold Stars, several individual Air Medals,

Navy Commendation Medals with combat “V”, and the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross. Bill currently serves as a Presidential Appointee to the Board of National Veterans Small Business Development Corporation (Washington, D.C.). In this role he does pro-bono work for veteran and disabled veteran entrepreneurs. Remembering his difficult return from war, Bill goes out of his way to encourage and support uniformed service men and women.

Bill has been married to Lin for 35 years. They have three children and two grandchildren. Bill takes great joy in being a grandfather, traveling with Lin, fishing, backpacking, cycling, nature and wildlife photograph, elk and deer hunting in Wyoming, and flying.

Bill has done over 30 years of volunteer service through the Valley Christian Center. He has served on several non-profit boards, including New Hope Madera, a gangs-to-jobs training and mentoring outreach that he and his wife helped found. In his spare time, Bill is a headhunter for a company in Dallas and helps non-profits with innovative ways of fundraising.

Bill’s memories of SJCL include chats with classmates and instructors while waiting for Professor Wanger to arrive. He remembers Hollis Best’s congeniality. He remembers asking Judge Ginsburg, “Do you play golf?” to which the Judge responded utterly deadpan, “I played for 10 years until I realized I had to go back to the office to relax.”

During the bar exam, Bill sat at the same table as Gary (now Judge) Austin and a third candidate (3P). Gary and Bill were impressed, if not intimidated, when 3P began typing in excess

of 100 words per minute five seconds after opening the exam booklet. After typing a half page, 3P dramatically ripped the paper out of his typewriter, kicked his feet forward, wadded the piece of paper, and threw it to the floor with accompanying expletives. 3P repeated this routine over and over, until suddenly the power to all the electric typewriters in the room went out. A frantic effort by the support person eventually revealed that 3P had kicked out the main power extension cable under their table. After 30 stressful minutes, power was restored, and 3P resumed his routine, though somewhat subdued, as Bill and Gary were throwing him threatening glances.

James Mele

Jim was born and raised in Fresno, California. He graduated from UC Davis with a Bachelor’s degree in Rhetoric. He entered SJCL in 1972. Jim married Debbie after his second year and returned from a 2-day honeymoon to argue moot court.

While in law school, Jim began working in private practice with Stanton M. Levy, a local attorney who had been practicing in Fresno for many years. After graduating from SJCL, he continued to work with Mr. Levy, first as an employee, then as a partner. After many years, they continued in association, but with separate practices. Jim specializes in representing individuals injured as a result of the actions of others, including medical negligence. Jim has successfully handled cases for clients with catastrophic injuries and losses.

Jim has been married over 32 years to Debbie, a wonderful wife, mother, and friend who cares for everyone and loves to quilt. They have three daughters and a son. Jennifer, a graduate of UC Davis, is a first-year student at SJCL, and works full-time as Jim’s legal assistant. Lisa, a graduate of UC San Diego with a Master’s in Education, teaches in San Ysidro. Andrea, a recent graduate of UC Berkeley, plans to be a writer. Tony, a student at San Francisco State, is majoring in music.

Jim is interested in singing, playing guitar, performing, hunting, fishing, and backpacking.

Jim remembers his first year study partner, Roger Vehrs, and taking the “Baby Bar” exam somewhere down south. They stayed in a crummy little motel. Jim had to carry his “portable” electric typewriter 5 blocks. The sound of 500 typewriters in the exam room was overwhelming! He recalls his study partners Paul Hager and Jim Sanchez, and the “real” bar exam taken in Sacramento. They took his 10 year old car because it was the newest, therefore most reliable, and it broke down on Highway 99 on the way. Most of all, Jim remembers all of the people upon whose lives he has had some impact because of his profession.

1986 William Hazen

Prior to becoming an attorney, Bill taught for 23 years at Hanford High. As a teacher he was spoiled with time off to travel. Bill practiced law for two years with Steve Barnes, but eventually realized that while the practice of law was interesting, he often found himself dealing with people in unhappy situations. Bill returned to teaching at the Kings County Juvenile Center for 13 years. He retired in 2002.

Bill is married to Rachael, who is a speech therapist. He has one son, Stephen, an IT graduate from Fresno State. Steve lives in Visalia and runs a web page and database service for Tulare County.

Bill loves to travel and sail. He recently moved his boat from Morro Bay to Ventura in hopes of being able to use it more often. He keeps active with swimming, tai chi and tennis.

Bill proudly has participated in the 20-year tradition of the Knudson run, which provides three high school scholarships each year. He is also on the board for the preservation of the Taoist Temple in China Alley in

Hanford. The temple was built in the 1890’s and is on the National Historical Registry. They hold a Harvest Moon festival each October as a fundraiser.

Bill wanted Kevin Gunner to know that Kevin’s comments about Hazen vs. everybody else were quite accurate; Bill still thinks he is right. Bill enjoyed his car pool and study partners, Mike Splivalo, Jeff Wass and Mary McCarthy, and the many trips to the donut shop in the adjacent shopping center. He also recalls the fashion statement Judge Wanger made in those days and enjoyed the roasts of him and his earlier taste in plaids.

Jeffrey Wass

Jeff’s first job after law school was with the Tulare County District Attorney’s Office prosecuting misdemeanors and serious felonies. Seven years later, he was promoted to Supervising District Attorney. After serving a total of 14 years in the Criminal Division of the DA’s office, he became Supervising DA to the Family Support Division. It separated from the District Attorney’s Office in 2000 becoming the Tulare County Department of Child Support Services. In 2001, Jeff was promoted to Chief Child Support Attorney and later was placed in charge of Child Support Operations. He managed 160 people with a mission to collect and distribute money to families. Jeff said, “What a great job - giving children an opportunity to grow up healthy and successful.”

In November, 2005, Jeff accepted the Chief Child Support Attorney position for the San Bernardino County Department of Child Support Services and moved to Redlands. They have 141,000 child support cases and every challenge you could imagine. Jeff says, “any new lawyer, undecided about an area to practice, should consider child support.”

Jeff’s children are grown and have left the nest. All are doing well. Sailing has become his passion. He has a boat in Dana Point where he spends weekends, whenever possible. He also has a

house in Morro Bay where he will one day retire.

Jeff currently serves on the California Child Support Director’s Association Legal Practices Committee, working to standardize and improve child support practices throughout the state. California is building and implementing the largest automated child support case management system in the country.

Jeff always remembered the unique handwriting of one of his favorite classmates, Baxter Richardson. He lost touch with Baxter for about 15 years after law school. One day, while reviewing applications for Child Support Attorney positions in Tulare County, Jeff recognized that unmistakable handwriting before he recognized (or could make out) the name on the application. Baxter came to work for them and did an outstanding job. He was well-liked and appreciated by all, until his passing just a few years later. Jeff will never forget Baxter or any of his classmates. “Law school was a great time!”

Linda Zachritz

Linda worked in a law firm the first year and a half out of school then went into private practice. She concentrates on appeals and family law. Linda maintains a great connection to the law school as the conflicts advisor to the Small Claims Clinic.

Linda has been involved with the downtown revitalization and served on many committees in that effort. She is active in the Downtown Fresno Coalition and Fresno Arts Council. Linda also served on the Registered Veterinary Technician Committee of the State Veterinary Medicine Board that she found a very rewarding experience. Linda does not seem to have a lot of spare time but does enjoy her animals and gardening.

Linda wanted to express her thanks to San Joaquin College of Law for the rewarding and fulfilling career she continues to enjoy.

Continued Page 8

1996

Patrick Aguirre

Patrick worked for Nick Reyes and John Patrick Moore getting introduced into criminal law while he waited for his bar results. He then joined the Public Defender's Office in Fresno where he worked for about 2 ½ years. In 2000, he met his wife, Elvira, in Southern California and decided to move there. He opened his private practice in Downing doing mainly criminal defense and immigration and deportation cases. Pat really enjoys the opportunity to appear in Federal Courts in many states doing this type of work.

Pat and his wife, Elvira, live in Long Beach. They have two children, Amber 10 years old, and Jacob 2 ½. Pat keeps busy with the kids and coaches soccer with a league in Long Beach.

In his spare time Pat still enjoys snow skiing and has taken on a new sport called kite-surfing. You can only do this sport from March to September; it requires great skill. Pat also enjoys "RVing" whenever the opportunity arises. The family often goes to Colorado and Mammoth.

Patrick has very fond memories of his days at SJCL. He cut classes with Angela Ransom and Marshall Moushigian so they could run up to Sierra Summit to ski. He loved the air guitar skits they would perform in the back seat as Angela drove them home. He recalls the great softball games that were played when Linden put together the SJCL Softball team and what a great break it provided from the intense study. He recalls friendships that will be with him forever – Patricia Carrillo, Angela, and Marshall.

Leah Ann Alcazar

After her second year at SJCL Leah Ann clerked for the California Attorney General's Office and remained there full time after graduation. She felt it was the best of all possible worlds as a good mix of trial and appellate work. Leah Ann had

several published cases while there, several arguments in the Fifth District Court of Appeal and argued before the Ninth Circuit twice. Leah Ann was admitted to the United States Supreme Court after receiving notice they were considering granting certari on a case she had argued in the lower courts involving a Miranda issue. Alas, they ultimately decided not to grant certari.

With her background in juvenile probation, she eventually served as an expert on juvenile issues for the AG's office. She spent the better part of her last year at the AG's office writing the prosecution's appellate brief in the Dana Ewell matter. As her time to handle a capital case approached, she realized that based on personal and spiritual convictions, she simply couldn't be involved in arguing in favor of the death penalty. She made one of the most difficult decisions of her life and resigned from the AG's office.

After taking a couple of months off, Leah Ann joined Cooper & Hoppe working in civil litigation, primarily insurance defense work. She was with the firm for a little over three years, learned a great deal while there and thoroughly enjoyed the people. "Joe Cooper & Tad Hoppe were great bosses. It was good to become close friends with Barbara Rueger, who was very patient in helping her learn the ins and outs of a practice very different from the one she had known."

In August of 2006 Leah Ann was contacted by the firm which had just been appointed the contract public defender for Placer County. They offered her a position as the head of their juvenile division and she accepted. Leah Ann is very happy to be back in criminal law and decided that juvenile law really is her "first love."

Leah Ann continues to travel with family and friends and has tried to stick with the vacation plan she and her husband adopted while she was at SJCL – one summer visiting a new country, alternated with a summer

visiting a new state. Two years ago she discovered Belize and has fallen in love with that little country, making 7 trips in the last two years! Being a firm believer that everyone should vacation, in September of '05 she talked Barbara into going with them to Belize. Barbara now has the bug. They returned this past September with a group of girlfriends. Leah Ann hopes it will be an annual event!

In addition to travel, Leah Ann still enjoys having large groups of people over for dinner and cooking as a group. A couple of years ago she adopted a neurotic little dog from the pound and named him Mr. Lunch. He insists on daily walks and as the new job is dog-friendly, he accompanies her to work on days she is not in court and lays on the floor in front of her desk insisting that everyone who walks by stop to pet him.

While in Fresno, Leah Ann served for several years on the Fresno Pacific University School of Business Advisory Counsel and on the Board of Directors for the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, including a term as board chair. She served as a judge for SJCL's Moot Court. She held several offices on the Board of Directors for the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference and is currently serving as Moderator.

Leah Ann loved her law school experience, especially the first year when everything was so new. She remembers the crew climbing over the fence to grab coffee and donuts. She very much appreciated the personal attention the professors gave their students and has fond memories of meeting with each of them prior to exams to fill in holes in her outlines. Larry Artenian's exam questions were hilarious. She wishes she had paid better attention in Rich Cartier's Civ Pro class. She was pleased to learn Justice Ardaiz can take a joke (who passed that note to the front of the class?!). She doesn't think she'll ever be able to get Jan Pearson's "barf sentences" out of her head.

Recent Library Acquisitions

- 1992 Judicial Council Strategic and Reorganization Plan.
- 2005 Bankruptcy Reform Legislation with Analysis 2d.
- The Abandoned Mines Technical Advisory Committee's Report on Abandoned Mines / submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board.
- The ABCs of Environmental Regulation / Joel B. Goldstein.
- ADR Guidebook / Prepared by the Ninth Circuit Standing Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- Basic Contract Law for Paralegals / Jeffrey A. Helewitz.
- Borrowers' Rights and the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 : a Guide for Farmers Home Administration [sic] and Farm Credit System borrowers and their attorneys / by Neil D. Hamilton.
- California Automobile Insurance Law Guide / Ralph A. Lombardi.
- California Civil Litigation / Susan Burnett Lutten.
- California Conservatorships and Guardianships / William S. Johnstone, Jr., Susan T. House ; edited by Pamela J. Jester.
- California Criminal Practice, Motions, Jury Instructions, and Sentencing / Edward A. Rucker, Mark E. Overland.
- California Expert Witness Guide / Raoul D. Kennedy, James C. Martin ; edited by CEB attorneys, Anne Harris, supervising editor, Linda Compton, Mary Gerber.
- California Lis Pendens Practice / authors, Michael D. Berk, Robert M. Hertzberg, Dean J. Zipser ; edited by CEB attorney, Craig H. Scott
- California Mortgage and Deed of Trust Practice / Roger Bernhardt.
- California Practice Guide: Alternative Dispute Resolution / H. Warren Knight, Coleman F. Fannin, Sally Grant Disco.
- California Practice Guide: Civil Appeals and Writs / Jon B. Eisenberg, Ellis J. Horvitz, Howard B. Wiener.
- California Practice Guide: Civil Procedure before Trial / Robert I. Weil, Ira A. Brown, Jr.
- California Practice Guide: Civil Trials and Evidence / William E. Wegner, Robert H.
- California Practice Guide: Corporations / C. Hugh Friedman.
- California Practice Guide. Enforcing Judgments and Debts / Judge Alan M. Ahart.
- California Practice Guide: Family Law / William P. Hogoboom, Donald B. King ; contributing editors, Michael R. Asimow, Bruce E. Cooperman.
- California Practice Guide: Federal Civil Procedure before Trial / William W Schwarzer
- California Practice Guide: Insurance Litigation / H. Walter Croskey, et. al.
- California Practice Guide: Landlord-Tenant / Terry B. Friedman, David A. Garcia, Mark Hagarty.

Moot Court was one of her all time favorite experiences. She is still in touch with her partner, Roger Wilson, and was pleased to see Jon Conklin appointed to the bench. At Dean Pearson's suggestion, Marshall Moushigian and she became study partners during their second year. They have maintained a close friendship since their time at SJCL, getting together each Christmas to trade her tamales for his mom's baklava! Leah Ann will miss seeing so many former classmates in court on a regular basis; it was one of the real pleasures of being part of the Fresno County Bar. "It is exciting to see SJCL continue to grow and succeed in its mission to provide quality legal education in the valley," she says.

Beth Holck

Beth practices with Kaye Scholer LLP, approaching her 8th year in the Los Angeles office. She has practiced primarily in the Product Liability Group, representing Pfizer in the Rezulin and,

currently, the Hormone Replacement Therapy litigations, as well as Novartis Consumer Health in the PPA (phenylpropanolamine) litigations. During her practice at Kaye Scholer, she has especially enjoyed the opportunity to integrate the fields of science and law. This intersection has frequently resulted in new case law. For example, she developed expert support for a *Daubert* motion that was granted by the Southern District of New York and precluded MDL Rezulin plaintiffs from arguing that the product induced a novel "silent liver injury". In 2004, she was a member of the trial team that obtained dual defense verdicts on behalf of Novartis Consumer Health in the first PPA suit to proceed to trial. The verdicts, obtained in the Central Civil West division of Los Angeles Superior Court, were recognized as among the Top 10 of 2004 by *The National Law Journal*. In January 2006, Product Liability Practice Group was honored to be selected by *The*

American Lawyer as the Top Product Liability Practice in the country. The recognition from *The American Lawyer* was particularly significant because the Product Liability Practice Group is composed of only a few dozen lawyers - not a large number for a major New York law firm.

On October 1, Beth celebrated her first wedding anniversary. Since the wedding occurred in the middle of a trial last year, they were relieved when the trial slated to begin on October 2, 2006 was moved at the last minute. In between trials, she enjoys cooking, gardening and spending time with their two dogs - a Keeshond and a Norwegian Elkhound. Beth's favorite SJCL memories are taking second place in the Traynor Moot Court competition with Regina Tanner (who has a marvelous sense of humor) and also hunkering down with her talented study partners - Roberta Rowe, Jenell Hudson, Leslie Moore and Ty Kharazi.

Continued Page 10

Jenell Hudson

Jenell clerked at Wagner and Jones while in school and joined the firm as an attorney after passing the bar. When she left Wagner's office, she went to work with Tuttle and McCloskey where she gained experience in municipal and education law representing teachers. Jenell left Tuttle's office to work for the City of Fresno as a Deputy City Attorney. After two years with the City, she rejoined the private sector in education law now representing school districts working for Lozano Smith. Jenell enjoys her current position at Lozano Smith where she works with her long time friend and former study partner, Roberta Rowe.

Jenell enjoys spending time with her husband, Rob, and their children. She has a seven year-old stepdaughter, a three year-old son and a two year-old daughter, all of whom keep her busy and active.

Jenell finally likes reading again. She had stopped reading for pleasure for several years after law school; she just couldn't pick up or even look at a book after all that reading. She enjoys playing softball and golfing, but has been unable to do either since having children. Her athletic activities have been curtailed to working out at the gym and playing baseball with her son

in the backyard. Before having children, she coached girls' softball, but now just enjoys being a mom.

What Jenell remembers most about law school is the study groups and friendships that were made and the practical knowledge the instructors provided. She remembers meeting to study at the fire house with Ron Nissila, Roberta Rowe, Leslie Moore, Ty Kharazi and Jackie De Leon. She also remembers holding study sessions for real property on "future interests" which she loved and everyone else with whom she studied, hated.

Toni Mims

Toni moved back to the Bay area after taking the Bar and went to work as a legal assistant at Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro. Her first attorney position was as a staff attorney for the Eviction Defense Center. The EDC is a non-profit law corporation which provides legal assistance and representation for low-income tenants who are being evicted. The EDC was a great experience because it was definitely trial experience by fire. She was in the trial department every Friday carrying approximately 5-10 cases for jury trial. While employed at the EDC she worked with other tenant organizations to get EE, Oakland's Just Cause for Eviction Ordinance on the ballot.

Toni opened her own office in February 2002 and decided to continue representing tenants in eviction proceedings as well as filing affirmative cases on behalf of tenants against landlords who have failed to maintain their property. She and co-counsel, Roxanne Romell, recently settled a housing case for \$1.1 million. They filed the action on behalf of about 70 tenants living in various units in Oakland owned by one of Oakland's notorious slumlords, Ms. Pham.

Toni is currently on the court-appointed panel representing either parents or children who have been removed because of abuse or neglect.

Toni raised her son, Hasaan, as a single mom. He is currently 19 and attending college. On September 30, 2006 Toni married Zizani Cochran and is looking forward to expanding their family (crazy... she knows).

Toni is working on the next great legal thriller. She will continue to practice in an area which allows her to help people in the community in which she grew up. She enjoys spending time with her family and being active in the lives of her son, niece and nephews and encouraging them to be successful—as others did for her.

In 2002 Toni volunteered at the Alameda County's Self Help Center running the free landlord tenant clinic two mornings a week. She volunteers for and is a member of the Charles Houston Bar Association's Legal Information Clinic and has made two appearances on Soul Beat (African American owned television station... no longer on the air). Toni is currently on the Alameda County Judicial Evaluation's Committee, the Elder Access Committee, and in November of this year, will be on the board of the Women Lawyers of Alameda County.

Toni remembers the first day of law school and graduation. Also she recalls her son would occasionally come to class with her. She remembers in particular during a contracts review

Summer vacation from page 2

others.) However, Blackstone was indeed mentioned and discussed by all. Lively intellects engaged in discussion and arguments no matter what the topic. It was truly a stimulating experience. During the afternoons we were escorted on various tours of the other colleges, libraries, and other local sites.

The group members, many accompanied by spouses or companions, drawn together by our vast love of Blackstone, gathered nightly in a local pub and composed ditties and limericks. We had to relocate to a new pub each evening, our boisterous compositions apparently unappreciated by other patrons. Unfortunately, the end of the Roundtable was marred by the "liquid" terrorist plots in England, giving each of us our own story of making it through the purgatory of Heathrow or Gatwick, on our way home.

her son turned to her and whispered very loudly, "What is a widget?" The classroom erupted in laughter.

Connie Roberts

Upon graduation, Connie worked for 4 years as a research attorney with the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Since November 2001, Connie has been employed by McCormick Barstow Sheppard Wayte & Carruth. She loves the challenging work and the people there. She has learned so much from attorneys she truly admires. Since the birth of her last child, she has been working part time from home. This has enabled her to take care of her children and participate in their activities. Her husband, Brent, and she have 4 children - Brendan (11), Cameron (8), Shelby (6), and Ryan (2). The kids keep them very busy! There's always a baseball game or dance recital going on, and the house seems to be the hangout for the neighborhood kids. Working at home has been wonderful, though it definitely has its challenges. As Ryan gets older, he doesn't nap as much and likes to "tease" her by tugging on the computer cord when she is working. She also has some scribbling on a few of her exhibits! But overall this has been a great arrangement until her kids get a little older.

Most of Connie's spare time is spent with her kids, but she does some home remodeling with her husband. They just moved to a bigger house - needed those bedrooms - and there's lots of work to do. She also took up quilting a few years ago, and really enjoys it. She tries to keep active with different sports. Some weeks she is successful, and some weeks she is definitely not.

Connie's best memories of law school include getting married and having their first child during those years. She also has fond memories of study groups, and the "all nighters" to prepare for the Traynor Moot Court competition with Sally Moreno and Joe O'Keefe. She was one of the few students who took the Bar exam in San Diego, and to this day, Connie

gets nervous whenever she flies there for work. Overall, she remembers a lot of studying, and a lot of socializing during law school! She especially cherishes friends, like Beth Egan and Sara Blanchard, that she met during law school.

Nancy Stegall

In 1997, Nancy started private practice in family law with the help of her good friend, Julia Brungess. She shared office space with Julia for seven years, and thoroughly enjoyed her time there. Julia was not only a good mentor, but also Nancy was able to learn procedures from Julia's staff. In September 2004, Nancy opened her own office at the Civic Center Square near the Galleria. In December 2004, Nancy became a Certified Specialist in Family Law.

Nancy and husband, Allen, have been married for 30 years. Allen is a Human Resource Manager for a consulting company called Your HR Department.com. They have two sons of whom they are very proud. Jon, is 25, lives in San Francisco and is a technical artist for Perpetual Entertainment. Jon has a B.S. in computer programming from Fresno State, and has nearly completed a B.A. degree in art. He designs computer games. Matt is 22 years old and just graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a business degree. Matt works for Pelco in their International Credit Department.

Nancy received the Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award in 2006 from Central California Legal Services. She was the President of the Family Law Section of the Fresno County Bar from 2004-2005. Nancy is currently a Member at Large on the Board of the Fresno County Women's Lawyers.

Nancy loves to paint watercolors. Allen and she sail and snow ski. They have been taking Tango lessons for the past year. They also enjoy evening walks.

Nancy is on the Advisory Committee of First Five for Fresno County, which

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is the tobacco initiative to promote education and services to children ages 0-5. She volunteers each year at the Stand Down for Veterans, giving legal advice. She has been a member of the Executive Association of Fresno for eight years, where she has served on the Board and as President.

Her fondest memories of law school are sitting around her kitchen table with her study group - Linda Richardson, Michelle West and Jessica Millar. They would take a break from their tedious studies to share stories and gossip about their fellow colleagues and teachers -- often resulting in laughter and kidding.



Kasi Welte

Kasi is the person responsible for keeping your addresses up to date. If you need to update your address information please contact Kasi at kwelte@sjcl.edu or 559/323-2100.

Mentor Award



Adjunct Professor Mark Cullers (Criminal Trial Practice) of SJCL received the Honorable Blaine Pettit Memorial Mentor Award at the annual Hopper luncheon on September 27, 2006. Congratulating him are (L-R) Kathleen DeSantis, Esq., Brooke Airey, Laura Arnold, Jody Winter (Hopper Scholarship Winner), Christina Skaf, Dean Janice Pearson, Scott Jones, Desiree Terronez, Amy Guerra, Dede Agrava, Tim Kuckelman, Myava Escamilla, and Adrian Ramirez.

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