

Inter Alia

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 5
December 1999

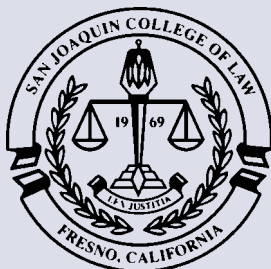
*The Newsletter of
San Joaquin
College of Law*

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*Wishing You every
Happiness this Holiday
Season and Throughout the
Coming Year.*



ALUMNI and FRIENDS of the COLLEGE: CREATE A SCHOLARSHIP

Alumni, remember when you were a poor, starving, overworked law student, sacrificing time with family and friends to pursue your law degree? Wouldn't it have been great if someone recognized your hard work (and maybe given you a little money)?

Each year at the Spring Banquet we honor the achievements of various students and recognize their struggles and sacrifices. Currently, the law school administers approximately 25 scholarships, totalling over \$30,000 per year. Scholarship amounts range from \$250 to \$3000 per recipient. These scholarships are made possible through the continuing generosity of alumni and others concerned about the students at San Joaquin College of Law and the legal community.

Some scholarships focus on academic achievement, community service, leadership or financial need. Others, seek to identify and help students particularly interested in practicing in such areas as trial advocacy, family law or criminal law. Finally, some scholarships are directed toward those for whom attending law school presents a special challenge—students who must work full time in addition to going to law school, single parents or those who have otherwise worked through adversity.

For a very small annual commitment, you too can help. You can name the scholarship, identify the criteria and, if you choose, select the recipient. If you'd like more information about our scholarship program, please contact Joyce Morodomi at 323-2100.

We would like to thank those who generously donated last year:

The Alumni Association — The Carolyn T. Mirviss Scholarship
Fresno County Young Lawyers Assn. — The George Hopper Memorial Scholarship
James K. & Carol Sellers Herbert — James K. and Carol Sellers Herbert Scholarship
Leon S. Peters Foundation — The Leon S. Peters Leadership Awards
The SJCL Student Bar Assn. & an anonymous donor — The Founder's Scholarship
Ernest S. Kinney — The Ernest S. Kinney Trial Lawyer Scholarship
Hon. Annette LaRue — Woman Lawyer Scholarship
The Moradian Family — The Ralph Moradian Memorial Scholarship
Patricia Mattson-Markell — The Family Law Scholarship
Student Bar Association — SJCL Student Bar Association Scholarships
The Long Family — The LeRoy Long Memorial Scholarship
An anonymous donor — Brown Scholarship for Women and Minorities
Hollis Best Senate, Delta Theta Phi — Delta Theta Phi Scholarships
Law Review Donors — Law Review Editorial Board Scholarships

San Joaquin College of Law

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Law Alumni Profiles

Throughout 1999, Inter Alia, will highlight the lives of the 1989 SJCL graduates.

MICHAEL GOLDRING CLASS OF 1989

Michael has worked with Baker, Manock & Jensen since passing the California bar examination in December 1989. Initially his practice focused upon real estate transactions, but seven years ago, his interest turned to the health field. Michael is currently Chair of BMJ's Health Care Industry Group. He works with every type of provider on every type of transactions. He is currently working with a group of providers considering suit against the federal government for inadequate levels of Medicare reimbursement in the Central Valley. He serves as health care counsel to consultants and other law firms locally and nationally, and frequently lectures on health care issues.

Michael currently serves as President of Exceptional Parents Unlimited whose mission is to support families facing extraordinary medical, developmental, and parenting challenges. He also serves on the Fairness 2000 Coalition lobbying for national Medicare reform. He is Chairperson of Valley Children's Hospital's Parent Advisory Committee and works with the San Joaquin Valley Consortium of Health Care Providers and Commercial Law Affiliates.

Michael and his wife, Kimberly, have three daughters—Jocelyn (12), Alexis (8), and Rachael (7). He

says he doesn't have any time for fun but he does play ice hockey and chauffeur his girls around. When asked about his memories of law school, Michael immediately said that he remembers his study group meetings and the overwhelming amount of food provided by his study partners, Jim Petrucelli and Bud Ellis.

CASEY OLIVER CLASS OF 1989

For roughly the first five years after graduation, Casey worked in insurance defense for Silveira, Mattos & Lewis in Merced. In her first trial, against counsel for whom she had worked as a law clerk during law school, the insurance company authorized her to admit liability and try damages issues, but the jury returned with a zero damages award. This gave Casey a real taste of the thrill of trial work.

In August 1994, Casey opened her own practice in Merced where she specializes in family law and personal injury work. She represents juveniles and conservatees by court appointment, including occasional homicide cases. She recently settled a PI case with only \$17,000 in medical damages for \$250,000.

Casey adores running her own practice because it gives her the flexibility to do things with her kids. Casey

has three children—the oldest just started studies at Merced College, the middle child is in the third grade, and the youngest is in kindergarten. A typical day for Casey may begin making clay ornaments in kindergarten and end sitting as Judge Pro Tem.

Casey helped establish a pro bono family law clinic in Merced about three years ago. Family law attorneys meet each week to assist a group of potential petitioners in completing their forms and representing themselves in obtaining a dissolution.

Casey loves to scuba dive and ride her motorcycles and horses. Until recently, when she broke her collarbone in a fall from a horse, she was also taking karate lessons. Casey also loves to travel with her children. This last year they undertook one excursion to Colorado, Mesa Verde and the Grand Canyon and another to Washington and western Canada. On the Canadian trip, one daughter had custody of her class pet - a tarantula - so there are pictures of the tarantula at various U.S. and Canadian monuments!!!

As to law school, Casey remembers being determined to get the highest grade in at least one class. Throughout high school she had always been the top grade getter. She says she worked so hard in law school, and finally got the top grade in Family Law. In contrast, she remembers being in tears over grades in Doug Noll's Remedies class. She feels she got a

Congratulations Bar Passers

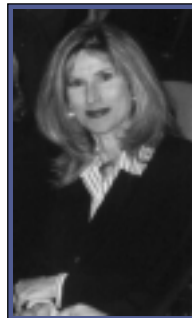


L-R: Paul Franco, Kevin Cook, Rob Cassio

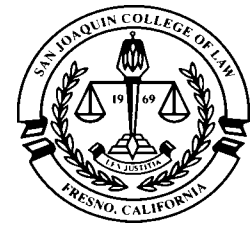
Congratulations to the following SJCL graduates who passed the July 1999 California State Bar Examination: Rob Cassio, Kevin Cook, Paul Franco, Megan Henke Hager, Clark Haman, Eric Hamilton, Lance Hennesay, David Hollingsworth, Yoriko Ishikawa, Colleen Luiz, Suzanne McGuire, Kathleen McGurty, Sandra McIntyre, Fred Meine, Diana Mitts, Jennifer Morrison, Tom Nixon, Michelle Oleksa, Dana Owens,

David Siler, Janice Smith, Brad Stevens and Zipporah Underhill.

The pass rate statewide was the lowest pass rate in 12 years. Nonetheless, 46.5 percent of SJCL first time takers passed, as compared to an average of 33.3 percent for graduates of all state-accredited law schools.



Zipporah Underhill



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CHELA Scholarship Winners

San Joaquin College of Law students Geoff Adalian, Rod Kodman and Michelle Pepper were awarded \$1,000 Chela Financial Scholarships. Chela Financial is a nonprofit corporation that provides financial assistance to students pursuing a higher education. Since its founding in 1984, Chela Financial has made nearly \$3 billion available for higher education to over 780,000 parent and student borrowers. After receiving hundreds of nominations from schools throughout

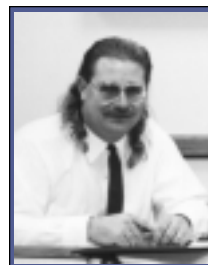
eight states in the Western Region, the Chela Scholarship Committee used three criteria in reviewing candidates: level of indebtedness, perseverance, and school/community involvement. In addition, students who excelled academically while overcoming extreme hardship earned special consideration. San Joaquin College of Law is thrilled that three of its students each received one of the 150 scholarships available.



Michelle Pepper



Geoff Adalian



Rod Kodman

very solid education overall with excellent preparation for the bar exam and legal research.

CATHERINE WALSER CLASS OF 1989

Upon being admitted to the bar in December, 1989, Catherine became a Deputy District Attorney for Fresno County. She handled every type of trial, except homicides, including many major felonies. In March of 1999, she opened her own practice, specializing in estate planning, conservatorships, and criminal defense. She and five other attorneys purchased and renovated the Romain Building which now houses their offices.

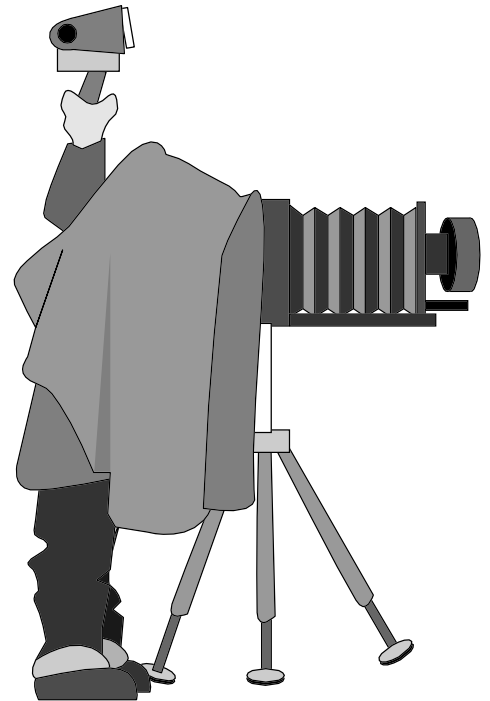
In February 1999, Catherine married Terry Talbot of the folksinging group Talbot & Maguire. Catherine now spends a lot of time traveling for his performances. Her son, Carson, who was two years old when she started law school, is now 17 and planning to attend UC Berkeley to study business. Carson will soon be singing in the chorus of the opera *La Traviata* at the Saroyan Theatre.

Catherine is involved in activities for her church, the above-mentioned travel, and reading. One of the greatest hardships for her in law school was the lack of time to read for pleasure. Catherine remembers trying to survive law school as a single parent of a two-year-old. She also remembers Judge Wanger's obsession with armadillos and the pride her class felt at having the highest pass rate on the California bar exam of every school in the country that year.

RICK HEATTER CLASS OF 1989

Rick worked at Dowling, Magarian, Phillips & Aaron from 1989 until spring of 1998. His work included business litigation, insurance defense, employment litigation, intellectual property work, and antitrust defense. In spring of 1998, Rick moved to Las Vegas, Nevada to work as in-house counsel for MGC Communications. He is currently the Assistant Vice President-Legal. MGC is fast-paced, growing business providing competitive telephone services. It is currently expanding into a half a dozen new markets. Rick handles legislative and administrative work, traveling all over the United States. He regularly works with the FCC in Washington, D.C. and with local exchange carriers.

Rick and his wife, Rita, have a daughter who is a teacher in Riverbank, California and due to deliver their second grandchild in April. Rick is thrilled with his new job that includes ACTUAL WEEKENDS OFF !!! Rick uses those weekends to play golf and run marathons. He is currently in training for the February 2000 Las Vegas Marathon.



Photos Needed for All School Reunion

As you know, Fall of 2000 marks the 30th Anniversary of SJCL opening its doors to students . . . and we are going to celebrate!

In anticipation of this All-Class Reunion, we are trying to locate pictures of every graduating class. Group pictures of the classes of 1974, 1976-1978, 1980-1985 and 1989 are still needed! If you have any pictures and are willing to share them, please call Jennifer Canalin at 323-2100. Thank you!

**WE WOULD LOVE
TO
HEAR FROM YOU**

PLEASE E-MAIL US AT
jcanalin@sjcl.org
TO UPDATE YOUR
ADDRESS, ETC.

MCLE

Marathon Month

In January 2000, the MCLE Department of SJCL will offer the following Rutter Group video replays for MCLE credit. All video programs will be shown at San Joaquin College of Law.

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>COST</u>
2000 Update: Civil Procedure	1/11/00	6:00 pm-9:15 pm	\$110
CJA/TRG Employment Litigation 1999	1/11/00-1/20/00 (5 sessions)	6:00 pm-9:15 pm	\$250
Workplace Violence & Your Ethical Responsibilities	1/13/00 or 1/22/00	6:00 pm-7:00 pm 1:30 pm-2:30 pm	\$50
Violent Clients: Who Are They & What Can We Do?	1/13/00 or 1/15/00	7:15 pm-8:15 pm 1:30 pm-2:30 pm	\$50
Taking Video Depositions	1/15/00 or 1/20/00	9:00 am-10:00am 7:15 pm-8:15 pm	\$50
Persuasive Speaking Skills	1/15/00 or 1/20/00	10:15am-11:15 am 6:00 pm-7:00 pm	\$50
2000 Update: Insurance Litigation	1/15/00	1:00 pm-4:15 pm	\$110
2000 Update: Personal Injury	1/18/00	6:00 pm-9:15 pm	\$110
2000 Update: Family Law	1/22/00	9:00 am-12:15 pm	\$110
Enforcing Debts and Judgments	1/22/00	9:00 am-12:15 pm	\$110
Legal Ethics 2000	1/22/00	1:00 pm-4:15 pm	\$110

For more information or a registration form, please contact
Mary Felkner, MCLE Coordinator,
at (559) 323-2100.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Leland D. Sterling (Law '74) is working in Orange and sharing partnership of Sterling & Sterling, with his daughter, Lisa. Leland is a member of SJCL's first graduating class in 1974. After graduation he went to work for the Fresno County District Attorney's office. He worked there until 1980 when he and his family moved to Newport Beach, CA where he went into private practice. His daughter joined his firm as partner in 1989. Leland and his wife, LaVone have just celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary and have 3 daughters and 4 grandchildren.

Jane Woodcock (Law '92) works for the firm of Klein, Testan & Brundo in Fresno (along with Jim Dubbels, another 1992 SJCL grad). Jane married Al Longoria in 1998 and her son, Nathan, graduated from Clovis West in 1999.

Lydia Kumskow (Law '97) is working in as a solo practitioner in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties with an emphasis on Business Litigation. Lydia has one son (24) and one daughter (18).

Ivan F. Altamura (Law '95) is working in Fresno as a sole practitioner and recently completed the construction of a new office building near Maple and Herndon. Ivan and his wife Alisa have one son, Nikolas and two Shar Peis, Miko and Kess.

Jenell A. Hudson (Law '96) is working for the firm of Tuttle & McCloskey in Fresno. Jenell is currently single, but has spent a lot of her free time training two very rambunctious lab puppies.

Peter Jason Cabbiness (Law '95) is working as a sole practitioner in Fresno. His emphasis is on Law Practice Management, Asset Protection, Financial Planning and Capitalization, Taxation, Business Formation and consulting.

Kimberly L. Mayhew (Law '98) is working as a first associate in the law office of William M. Kreig where she primarily works with Lemon Law and Auto Sales Fraud. Kimberly and her husband, Don, have one son, Trey, born 1/24/99.

John P. Fennacy (Law '97) was recently appointed as Legal Counsel for State Labor Commissioner of California. He and his wife of 11 years, Meredith, have two children; a daughter, Logan (10), and a son, Blaine (2).

Leah Cole (Law '92) is a partner in the firm of Cole, Fisher, Bosquez-Florez and Cole, and certified by the State Bar as a workers' compensation specialist and a specialist of Social Security Disability Law. Leah is also a member of the State Bar Board of Governors of the California Applicants Attorney Association. She has a daughter, Rachel (15) and a son, Mario (12).

Sue Gorder (Paralegal '87) is enjoying free-lance and contract paralegal work out of her home in Fresno. Sue has been married to Greg for over 24 years and they have 5 English Setters that she shows and hunt tests.

Welcome !



Wanda Rogers

A new Board Member was welcomed onto the San Joaquin College of Law Board of Trustees at the December 7th meeting. Wanda Rogers, president of Rogers' Helicopters, has been in business in the Valley for many years. The Board of Trustees of San Joaquin College of Law is the legally constituted policy-making body of the institution. Members are selected on the basis of their integrity and concern for the community, as well as their ability and desire to work unselfishly for the good of the College.

SJCL Wish List

Are you downsizing or retiring? The Law School is in great need of several things:

- conference tables
- office desk chairs
- book shelves
- credenzas
- file cabinets
- office furniture
- volunteer file clerk hours

