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# SJCL Inter Alia

San Joaquin College of Law Quarterly Newsletter

## Alumnus Richard Lee joins the bankruptcy bench

*San Joaquin College of Law congratulates Richard Lee on his appointment as a U.S. bankruptcy judge.*

On Friday, January 5, 2001, Richard Lee became the first San Joaquin College of Law graduate to be appointed to the federal bench as a United States Bankruptcy Judge.

The ceremony, held in United States Bankruptcy Courtroom Number 2, was attended by 150 friends, colleagues, and family members.

Richard was presented by Jon Wallace Upton of Kimble, MacMichael & Upton, the law firm where Richard spent his entire legal career after graduating from San Joaquin College of Law in

1985. In that firm Richard worked his way up from law clerk to vice president and director. The Hon. Oliver Wanger, who at one time was Richard's law professor, administered the oath of office.

Richard succeeds Brett Dorian who was named a bankruptcy judge in 1988 and is retiring. Richard joins bankruptcy judge Whitney Rimel on the bench in Fresno. Federal

bankruptcy judges are appointed by the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals for 14 year terms.

Fresno's bankruptcy division ranks in the top five as the nation's busiest. The number of cases has more than doubled in the last decade.

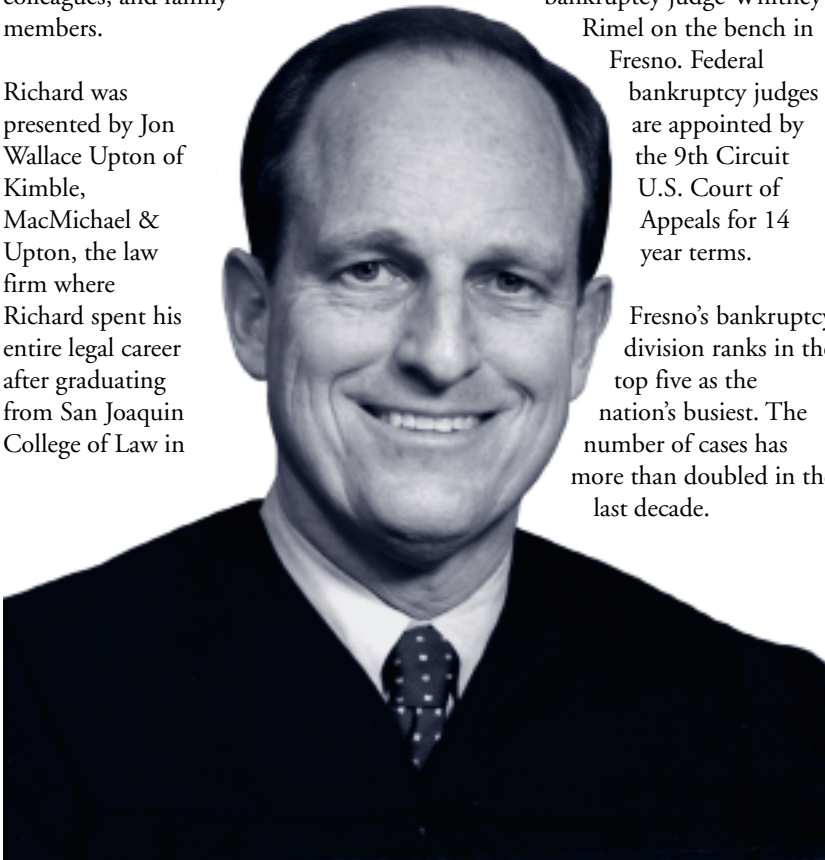


**Kim Lee enrobes husband Richard Lee.**

Along with his Juris Doctorate Richard is a licensed mechanical engineer with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a master's degree in business administration, both from the University of Southern California.

Richard has served on the advisory board of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review. He is also a member of the State Bar's bankruptcy law advisory commission and the Central California Bankruptcy Association. He has served as judge pro term of the Fresno County small claims court.

Richard is married to Kim and has two sons, David and Scott.



# Building a legal resource in the Valley.

By Kathryn McTigue Floyd, Library Director

**S**JCL's long-term goal is to develop our existing solid foundation into an institution that would meet the requirements of the American Bar Association. In the library, SJCL focuses on this goal in all development efforts, and is committed to making smart decisions now to place it in the best possible position to move forward. Ultimately, establishing a library to satisfy ABA standards will require changes in three major areas: library facility, collection and services. These changes will benefit the SJCL community directly with improved resources and services for the students, faculty and alumni. Additionally, a library of this caliber will provide a much-needed resource to the residents of the Central Valley. Currently no law library between Los Angeles and San Francisco is of comparable size or quality.

## Facility

In order to meet the space requirements of an ABA law school library, SJCL would have to build a separate building large enough to accommodate a collection of 100,000+ volumes. It would also have to provide quiet study and group study areas adequate for 50% of the student body. SJCL's current library facility will soon reach its full capacity, and will not accommodate growth to this degree.

## Collection

Two questions invariably arise regarding the size of the collection SJCL would need to satisfy ABA requirements: how large would the collection have to be and why can't it all be accessed online? Historically the ABA has placed great emphasis on

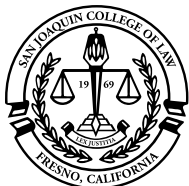
bound volumes held in a physical collection. Although this is still a very significant part of any collection, some of the most recent schools to be granted ABA accreditation had only between 65,000 and 80,000 bound volumes in their collections, numbers significantly less than the 100,000 minimum which used to be assumed. These schools rely far more heavily on online access to information than ever before. They also rely on microform for much of their archive holdings. It is very unlikely the ABA would even consider any library with fewer bound volumes than this. Currently SJCL has 27,500 bound volumes, so under any formula there is quite a bit of growing to do.

The ABA limits a school's reliance on electronic resources for a variety of reasons. First, and probably most important, there is still a very large body of legal work that is not available electronically. Much of the information available on LEXIS® and WESTLAW® would not have been collected by the average legal research library such as the vast news and public records databases. The ABA, therefore, considers access to this information supplemental to the basic collection they require in a law school, and will not allow this access to substitute

for other required holdings. Additionally, the ABA historically required libraries to hold duplicate print sets for what is now duplicated online. This policy was established to ensure access to the most heavily used reporters and other primary resources. The ABA has loosened its "duplicate" policy allowing libraries to rely on their electronic access for this secondary purpose.

The expanded print collection would have to include many general reference resources providing access to historical and social sciences information. The ABA requires law schools that are not otherwise connected to an undergraduate university to include these general resources because they are often very important to legal research.

A study conducted at Gallagher Law Library at the University of Washington School of Law shows that only 7% of their print collection is duplicated on either LEXIS or WESTLAW. This



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represented approximately 25,400 volumes. (Full study available in Legal Reference Services Quarterly, Vol. 18(1) 1999.) Currently, approximately 75-80% of the SJCL library is duplicated online. This percentage is significantly higher than the percentage cited in the Gallagher study due to the nature of SJCL's collection, consisting largely of primary resources and practice guides. When SJCL has the necessary resources to meet ABA standards, approximately 25-30% of our collection will be duplicated online. This is higher than Gallagher's library statistic (7%) because even as SJCL adds a research capability, the library will continue to contain a relatively large percentage of primary resources and practice materials.

These statistics illustrate that the majority of collecting SJCL must do to satisfy ABA standards will not be available electronically. One exception to this is out-of-state statutes, which are available online. Although the ABA will require SJCL to maintain surrounding states statutes as well as some key states' such as New York in print, SJCL will rely on electronic resources for the remaining states. This reflects one area the ABA has relaxed their standards because of the availability of the information online.

Additionally, SJCL must consider that alumni will not have access through the library to the resources LEXIS provides. Due to SJCL's academic contracts with LEXIS, only current law students have access to this resource.

## Technology gift



**Albert Ramirez** (Law '96) stands among the monitors and keyboards he generously donated for students to use in the computer lab.

### Services

The ABA has increased their emphasis on library services. They look closely at what services the library provides to:

- **Students:** Does the library participate in legal education? Are librarians involved in the legal research and writing program? Do librarians provide workshops for clerks, moot court, law review? How many interlibrary loans does the library provide to students?
- **Alumni:** Are there continuing education opportunities in legal research? Are reference services available to alumni including telephone reference and fax/document delivery services? Are there library web site links? Are there up-to-date guides to research and library resources?
- **Faculty:** Does the library offer a current awareness program to the

faculty? Do librarians provide research assistance to faculty? How many interlibrary loans does the library provide to faculty?

Offering these services will require increased staffing. Two professional consultants have indicated that the library will need 1-2 additional professional librarians as well as an expanded support staff in order to be in compliance with the ABA standards.

Each of the above changes will require time and money to implement. As SJCL looks toward the future, it is exciting to realize that we are building a quality institution that will be a unique resource to valley residents, and to students, faculty and alumni. If you would like to help build this resource, please contact our Library Director, Kathryn McTigue-Floyd.

### Full-Time Faculty

Lawrence M. Arterian, 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, Sara Hedgpeith-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

# Spring Banquet



**Susan Anderson** (Law '87), her mother **Faye Burrow**, and Dean **Jan Pearson**.



Over 200 people attended this year's Spring Banquet.



This raffle was a big success as current SBA president **Hugo Gomez-Vidal** (Law '01) and next year's SBA president **Cadee Ohanesian** (Law '02) work the evening selling tickets.



**Jim & Judy Ganulin** and **Lee & Susan Estrada**.



**Ann Bennett** (Law '01) and **Gina Fazio** (Law '01) serve up wine with style.



**Jose & Erica Camarena** (Law '02), **Sally Perring**, and **Ken Hahus** enjoying the evening.



**Lawrence O'Neill** served as emcee.



**Brent Simonian, Regina Bradshaw (Law '02), Amy (Law '03) & Tony Freeman.**



**Lee Lockhart**, Managing Editor of The Business Journal, presents the Research and Writing Award.



**Hal McKinney** enjoyed the evening roasting Susan Anderson.



**Melissa White** presented the Carolyn T. Mirviss Memorial Scholarship and The Spirit of San Joaquin Scholarship.



**Dale Bond, Sheri Mount (Law '91), Toni Lerandeau and Paul Lerandeau.**



Susan Anderson's friend, **Sheran Morton**, (Para '86) was one of two roasters.

# Alumni profiles

*The year 2001 is the Twentieth Anniversary of the graduation of the Class of 1981 and the Tenth Anniversary of the Class of 1991. Throughout the year, we will be letting you know “where they are now.”*

## 1981

### David Overstreet

After completing law school, David joined the firm of Eldridge & Newman which subsequently became Eldridge, Newman, Weakley & Myers. In 1984, David and Greg Myers created Myers & Overstreet, which recently became Myers, Overstreet & Mayfield, a professional corporation. The firm is now a six-attorney general litigation practice that handles a wide range of civil cases including construction problems, public entity issues, criminal law, business litigation, personal injury matters, and most recently, family law.

David and his wife have two sons. When he can eke out a little free time, David enjoys waterskiing, golf, and watching the boys wakeboarding. David says “If you are a litigator, you are a slave to your calendar.”

David said law school was a very difficult experience. He remembers the friends - Randy Penner, Gerald Lewis, Scott Quinlan, and Neal Pedowitz - who helped him get through.

## 1990

### Ken Brock

Upon leaving law school and passing the bar examination, Ken immediately opened his own law office which has

blossomed into a broad-based practice of criminal and civil matters, including a number of aviation design and engineering cases. He had the honor of arguing before the California Supreme Court in a rare case where a judge was being removed from the bench by the Judicial Commission.

Ken is in the middle of a death penalty trial at this time. Ken wrote a program to allow defense counsel instant access to all the available evidence as well as the ability to call up video, audio and graphics evidence on demand. The evidence is presented to the jury on two 61" projection TV's poised five feet in the air, as well as on a bank of three 20" computer monitors. This 21st century presentation tool permits him—as well as the court—to display all applicable law, jury questions, and jury instructions.

Ken leads a multi-faceted life. He pilots experimental aircraft in his spare time. Owners of these planes compete for speed records. Ken currently holds the second fastest speed time on record for an experimental plane. He and his family also raise quarter horses. Once the death penalty trial is completed, Ken is taking a short sabbatical. He has been hired by a Los Angeles company to produce some short films about undiscovered geniuses, some of whom are in the experimental aviation industry.

Ken remembers the long drives from Visalia to Fresno to attend class but he also says going to law school changed his life forever. He feels he got a much more valuable education because many of his professors were practicing lawyers and judges in the real thick of things while also teaching classes.

### Rayma Church

Rayma worked for two years doing plaintiff personal injury work with Perez, Makasian & Williams. During that time, she argued before the California Supreme Court in a case that made new law in the election field. She then worked with Ed Chatoian for two years, also doing plaintiff personal injury cases. In March of 1995, she joined Emerson, Corey & Barsotti, where she is now a partner, doing principally defense and intervention work in personal injury cases. Rayma says, “It's been fun. I still enjoy what I do!”

Rayma collects first editions of modern fiction. She says she reads them anyway and this hobby lends itself to her out of town travel schedule. No matter where she is, there is always a used book store to browse. Rayma and her ex-husband coached the Reedley High School Moot Court team for a number years, but she says when they divorced “she let him keep the team.”

Continued page 7

## Staff

**Janice L. Pearson**, Dean; **Sally A. Perring**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; Lawrence M. Artenian, 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

## Alumni profiles

continued

Rayma's clearest memory of law school is having to get glasses. It was the first time that school was more important than work and the first time she actually studied.

### Michael Keitz

Mike has worked with the Madera District Attorney's office since graduating from law school and passing the bar. He ran the Narcotics Enforcement Team for four years and now is back to a varied caseload ranging from DUI's to homicides. He is a member of the Madera County Bar Association and a Law Library Trustee.

Mike and his wife, Mary, have one child. As a family they enjoy camping in the Sierras, fishing, and gardening. Mary works for the Bank of America.

Mike felt his class was a really great group of people. He also remembers Jan Pearson telling him never to take shortcuts. ( I don't remember saying that, but it sure sounds good!)

### Sharon Madsen

Sharon worked for four years with Julia Brungess practicing family law. She then took a position with the Social Security Office of Hearings and Appeals where she is now a Senior Attorney. She writes decisions on disability and Medicare issues.

Sharon is a marathon runner - having run 16 of them officially - including the Boston Marathon, New York Marathon, and Big Sur Marathon. Last summer, Sharon and friends ran a Trans-Sierra from Lake Edison to McGee Creek. This year they plan a route from Devil's Postpile to Tuolumne Meadows. That's running across the Sierra in a single day at high elevations, folks! Sharon also golfs, skis, and enjoys her two cats.

As to law school, Sharon remembers studying every free minute and enjoying the people in her class.

## Grant for Technology

*Garabedian Foundation helps lay the groundwork for development.*

The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation recently granted \$2500 to San Joaquin College of Law to assist in the purchase of sophisticated development computer software. This software enables SJCL to document the entire giving history of every SJCL donor. Such software is crucial to a comprehensive professional development effort. The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation is a local foundation that has regularly and generously supported the law school for many years. The entire SJCL community is grateful for the Foundation's assistance in this project so important to the school's future.

## Staff/Faculty Milestones

Congratulations to **Larry Artenian**, **Lonzetta Hightower**, and **Joan Lassley** for 10 years of service at San Joaquin College of Law.

### Steven Meyer

Steve came to law school with a background as an engineer in accident reconstruction. After graduating, he worked with Ed Chatoian for a year, then took his legal training back to the accident reconstruction arena. He joined Safety Analysis and Forensic Engineering (then Liability Research) in Goleta, California doing auto safety and crashworthiness analyses. He was one of the consulting experts on the infamous case that brought a truck chassis into Judge Wanger's federal courtroom. Three years ago, Steve and a friend bought the business which is doing well. Steve says his litigation career as an attorney encompassed one case - a huge product liability suit against Nissan where he sat as second chair in a four week trial. They won \$3.2 million.

Steve has four children, ranging in age from 14 months to 15 years. Most of his free time is spent with them, although he also enjoys bicycling. Last year, Steve rode in an AIDS benefit ride on the east coast.

When asked what he remembered about law school, Steve said "missing sleep." He also remembered worrying about an Evidence midterm on which he had not done well - but managed to make a comeback on the Final.

### Jean Pinkerton

Upon graduation Jean went to work for Register & Cartier, doing exclusively family law cases. On January 1, 1996 as June Register retired, Jean opened her own office. Her practice has evolved into a unique specialty; Jean now almost exclusively writes Qualified Domestic Relations Orders for other attorneys. Jean was active for many years in Fresno County Women Lawyers.

Jean is still happily married to the same man, Gary, and they now have four grandchildren. Jean loves camping and hiking, especially in the southwestern United States. They just returned from a trip to Canyon de Chelly in Arizona.

Jean has very fond memories of law school and her class; a picture of the graduating class still hangs on the wall in her office. She found it amazing how devoted the professors were to the students succeeding. In addition, her class was supportive and tight-knit, something she feels no other law school could have given her.

# Congratulations to our paralegal graduates



BACK ROW (L-R)  
**Randy Smith, Chris Fannin, Lisa Smith, Jamie Miller, Cecilia Cenicerros, Lori Eaton, Autumn Steitz, Irma Hunter, Rhoda Hunter**

FRONT ROW (L-R)  
**Pam Ramirez, Deborah Gentile, Brenda Carter, James Miller, Angela Eaton, Annette Montague, Jennifer Karst**

**LAW GRADUATION**

**June 2, 2001**  
**William Saroyan Theatre**  
**Fresno, CA**  
**3:00PM**

**For more information call Pat at 323-2100**

## We want updates

We want to know what you are doing. Include your 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: [menns@sjcl.edu](mailto:menns@sjcl.edu), or mail it to: Mark Enns, SJCL, 901 5th Street, Clovis, California 93612.

## We need your donation

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.

We also accept office furniture donations and are in need of a small conference table. Please contact Joan Lassley to arrange any donations.



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