



Inter Alia

San Joaquin College of Law Quarterly Newsletter
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Lifetime Giving Societies Donor Wall Reception

As torrential rain pelted the law school, over 60 people braved the weather to celebrate the 6th Annual Lifetime Giving Societies Donor Wall Reception on Friday, February 25, 2011.

By **Robin Leppo**, *Director of Institutional Advancement*

As always, Chef Reyes Chacon did not disappoint, offering guests hors d'oeuvres plated to perfection and wine for all to enjoy. New this year, a cupcake and candy buffet was added to entice the sweet tooth in all who were present. Director of Institutional Advancement, Robin Leppo, welcomed everyone in attendance and acknowledged all the new and elevated donors, thanking them for their loyalty and investing in our legacy of excellent legal education. The program was then turned over to Dean Jan Pearson who also thanked everyone for their support of the law school and gave a short 'State of the School' address.

The real surprise came after Dean Pearson finished her address. Everyone was asked to gather towards the front hallway of the school where an unassuming black cloth hung high on the wall. As the contents were unveiled (by the Dean jumping up as high as she could to reach the corner of the cloth and yank it down!), there hung a shiny black plaque with the face of the co-founder and Board of Trustee member, John Loomis, emblazoned on it. The plaque was presented in special recognition to Mr. Loomis for his vision and dedication in serving on the board of the law school for the past 40 years. As he stood

by his wife Sue, John thanked everyone in the crowd and said he needed to keep his ear closer to the ground from now on because these "surprises" have been popping up frequently (referring to his recent Chevalier honor).

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty and staff of SJCL, we thank all our donors for their continued generosity and loyalty to the law school and not only think of you as "donors", but "investors" in our future and legacy. We are grateful to everyone that makes giving to SJCL a priority each year!

More photos on page 10



Reception attendees gather around co-founder **John Loomis**, his wife **Sue**, and **Janice Pearson**, *Dean*, for a group photo.

Photo: Howard Watkins

Three challenges for SJCL

When the old Clovis High School, now San Joaquin College of Law, was built in 1920, no one could foresee what its use would be 90 years later.

Computers and wireless Internet access, for example, were not even a glimmer in someone's eye. Now they are a virtual necessity of modern productive life. Few people gave much thought to the barriers buildings created for people with mobility constraints, but over time, we as a people have become much more aware. SJCL is attacking three challenges to bring the building to modern performance expectations.

WiFi Access

Some years ago, SJCL brought wireless Internet access into our building. The system allowed for 50 simultaneous users and had limited bandwidth. Since then, wireless use has skyrocketed. Two hundred students plus staff and faculty now occupy the building on a daily basis. Generally, each has a laptop and a cell phone. Thus as many as 400 devices may be trying to access the WiFi system simultaneously. Needless to say, that doesn't work! The result is much frustration for students and faculty.

First, SJCL contracted with the City of Clovis to bring its existing fiber optics line into the building. SJCL's share of the construction cost was \$4700. SJCL pays approximately \$13,500 annually to a provider for the service. Now, SJCL is undertaking addition of 15 receptors (each of which can handle a minimum of 25 users) to the building. Equipment will be installed to transfer a user to another available receptor automatically



if the nearest receptor has reached its capacity. This should mean immediate access for all users.

The installation is not simple. The building is not wired to support this kind of hardware. Thus, significant rewiring is also required to make the system functional. The entire project will cost approximately \$45,000 and, hopefully, will be completed before the start of the Fall 2011 semester, if not sooner. This upgrade should satisfy SJCL's communication needs for at least five years.

Exterior Doors

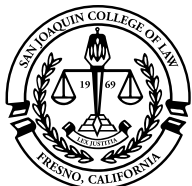
The four exterior doors are original from when the building was constructed in 1920. The hinges and locking devices can no longer be repaired because parts are unavailable. The doors are energy inefficient. As original doors, they were not designed for disabled users. SJCL has modified one of them to allow patron access but the modification does not function reliably. All four doors

need to be replaced with two being made totally accessible. The total cost would be \$25,000.

Library Modification

Unbelievable as it may be, SJCL has now occupied the Clovis building for 15 years. The Library carpet, in particular, has experienced significant wear and tear. Ripples and bubbles in the carpet make it unsightly and potentially hazardous. New ADA regulations require SJCL to increase the space between the stacks. All this requires the books and shelves to be removed from the Library, new carpet installed, and then books and shelves replaced in a new configuration. This project will cost at least \$45,000.

These are challenges for SJCL's budget, but fortunately, they are one-time capital challenges that will meet student needs for some time. If helping us to fund one of these projects excites you, we would appreciate your help and love to talk to you about it.



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John Loomis Named Chevalier

With a crowd of friends, family, dignitaries and a color guard from Travis Air Force Base, the Consul General of France, Romain Serman, formally conferred the title of Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor upon John Loomis on January 14, 2011.

By **Missy McKai Cartier**, Public Information Officer

Being named a Chevalier is roughly the French equivalent of knighthood, and it is the highest honor bestowed on a civilian by France. The honor was created by Napoleon more than 200 years ago.

Loomis was honored for his service during World War II, when he was a Private First Class mortar gunner with the 379th Infantry Regiment, 95th Infantry Division, 20th Corps, Third Army of the United States. He was part of the campaign to liberate the City of Metz in the eastern region of France in the autumn of 1944. Consul General Serman minced no words in explaining France's feelings about his sacrifice and service. "You are a hero," he said.

Although the spotlight was on Loomis as he took to the podium, he quickly turned it on others, "Jim Northrop from Illinois and Bill Fleming from New York City were killed in separate incidents by machine gun fire within hand shaking distance from me. Fred Haymore from Virginia and Walt Haynes from West Virginia were killed by artillery fire as I stood chatting between them. Bill Gallagher, my sergeant, from Wisconsin and Clarence Judd from Pennsylvania were killed by rifle fire."

Those weren't the only immediate casualties en route to Metz. Of the approximately 150 men from his company who were directed to attack through fixed enemy defenses flanked by enemy-occupied Fort Jean d'Arc and Fort de Guise, less than 30 arrived, including Loomis. For five days, their only supplies came via airdrops. The following day, with Metz liberated, Loomis discovered he could not walk due to trench foot, adding, "that ended my combat career."

As for being named a Chevalier, Loomis said he is highly honored, and returns that affection for France. In 1994, Loomis and his wife, Sue, were part of a ceremony in Metz celebrating the 50th anniversary of the city's liberation. He was among veterans who marched down the main street, but then faced a long walk back to their hotel. Sue asked a woman for help in finding a city bus headed that direction. The woman boarded the bus with them and said a few words to the driver, who then refused to take any bus fare from the couple. The bus then left its assigned route, dropping them at the front door of their hotel as other passengers smiled and waved.

Smiles seemed to rule the evening as the dignitary-packed crowd included Clovis Mayor Harry Armstrong; Mr. Edward L. Fanucchi, Sr., the former Honorary Vice Consul of Italy; Larry Roselle, President of the French Alliance Club; Clovis Memorial District Board Members; SJCL Board Members; Honorable Gary Austin; and Honorable James Aaron.

Loomis seemed especially proud to mention family members in the audience, some of whom had flown in for the ceremony.

SJCL Dean Jan Pearson, who introduced Loomis, spoke of how she had seen him give selflessly for 40 years to build the Law School, serving on the Board of Trustees the entire time. She



The Consul General of France, **Romain Serman**, formally conferred the title of *Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor* upon **John Loomis**, Co-founder and SJCL Board Member.

added "there would not be a San Joaquin College of Law without John's efforts." However, she said she was shocked when she discovered the depth of his sacrifice and bravery during World War II.

The Honorable Gary Austin was also surprised to learn of Loomis' heroic past because, despite the many years that they have known each other, Loomis never mentioned it. Austin believes "It shows how humble he is, and what a great man he is." The history between the two men dates back to Austin's days as a first year law student, with Loomis as his Contracts professor. Even though every student was fully aware of Loomis' standing as one of the three founders of the Law School, Austin describes his classroom demeanor as "very kind, very embracing, reaching out to his students. It just makes me so proud to be a part of this school and all the wonderful traditions he created at San Joaquin."

Consul General Serman made it clear during his presentation that the people of France are absolutely aware that it was soldiers like Loomis who have enabled them to live in a free society today.

Grades Hot Off the Griddle!

How do you grade the success of this year's Elizabeth O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Pancake Breakfast and Book Drive?

By **Missy McKai Cartier**, Public Information Officer

It was A+ if the criterion was attendance! Despite a storm that finished banging through the Clovis area just two hours before the first flap jacks were flipped onto plates, attendance was up this year compared to last. About 230 tickets were sold, and those chowing down on pancakes, sausage, and eggs included Judges Lawrence O'Neill, Gary Austin (Law '76), Jonathan Conklin, and W. Richard Lee (Law '85). Also in attendance was SJCL Board of Trustees Member Richard Caglia (Law '99), along with dozens of other alumni, Race Judicata runners, and other friends of the Law School.

It was A+ if the criterion was ambience! When it was discovered that last year's chefs would not be available for the breakfast this year, SJCL student Kristina Garabedian stepped into the flapjack gap! She recruited help from father, Robert Garabedian (Law '81) and his wife, Sharon. Kristina also rounded up her friends from Hope Lutheran Church, including Shirley Kruel, Phil Benner and Barbara Cowart, and SJCL classmate Mary Raterman-Doidge (1L). Barbara lent all of the cooking hardware for the Breakfast. Numerous participants commented on how tasty the food was! Another friend, Ken Berryhill, delighted children with his balloon animals, flowers, and even balloon swords. Special thanks also goes



SJCL Staff **Mark Enns, Kasi Welte, Joyce Morodomi, Joan Lassley, and Robin Leppo** display the breakfast banner.

to other SJCL students and Buchanan Leadership students who helped with everything from the food line to recruiting runners to grab a plate.

It's another A+ if success is measured in money! Between ticket sales and donations, this year's Elizabeth O'Neill Breakfast cleared nearly \$2,000 for the scholarship named in her honor, but next year could be even bigger. One individual has entered into talks with the Law School to underwrite the cost of the food for next year's event.

And chalk up another A+ for the children's book drive at the Breakfast. This year's total of 358 books is nearly double what was collected last year! The librarians at Tarpey and Sierra Vista Schools split the books, but say the donation doubles the amount of books they were



Tarpey & Sierra Vista librarians and **Missy McKai Cartier**, Staff, join Sierra Vista students inspecting 358 books donated at this year's O'Neill Breakfast Book Drive.

each able to acquire this year. Tarpey Librarian Georgie Leonardo says many of the children at her school are very excited to check out a library book because they have none at home. A single book at either library is checked out up to a hundred times per school year.



Honorable Lawrence & Kathy O'Neill, Kit & Wendel Wersching



Sharon Garabedian, Shirley Kruel, current student Kristina Garabedian, Phil Benner, and Robert Garabedian (Law '81)

And the Skies Parted...

Our thoughts kept racing towards the sky. If we weren't saying it out loud to each other, we were thinking it in our minds.

By **Michael Hess**, 2012 Race Judicata Race Chairperson

All of the forecasts of the previous week pointed to rain—a four letter word to runners on race day. The ‘day’ was February 19th, the 10th running of Race Judicata and the 3rd annual O’Neill scholarship pancake breakfast.

Those thoughts of rain were in the mind of all of the volunteers from SJCL and Sierra Challenge Express, the local running club that organizes the race. The volunteers ruled the halls of the school early that morning... usually a day set aside for sleeping in and doing yard work.

It was sprinkling at 6:15am and even until 6:45am, as the volunteers milled in and out setting up the registration tables. They were prepared for the worst. Canopies were set up to protect the after race food, the awards, and the most important carafes of coffee! The main hallway of the Law School was already lined with tables for the breakfast.

The volunteers were ready for this day. The race brings a type of closure and fulfillment to the months of planning, emails, meetings, and new ideas that had been put into the race. All were hoping for the best... and wishing and praying that the weather forecasters were wrong about this day.

Sherrie Flynn (Law '05), 2011 chairperson, was helping setup tables and directing other volunteers effortlessly as she relied on her years of experience. To the great surprise of everyone, prayers were answered that day because the rain stopped before the races started. The participants came, if for no other reason than because they heard about the all-you-can eat pancake breakfast for \$5. Even with the gloomy forecast, there were still over 400 official registrants for the four races.

The ¼ Mile Kids Run is always such a joy seeing kids run as hard as they can with complete abandon, and with arms and legs flailing in all directions. Their elation after they had thrown themselves across the finish line was hard to miss. Owen Monke of Clovis was the fastest male kids runner in a time of 1:36, and Angela Gonzales was the first female kids runner to cross the finish in a time of 1:52!

The 2 Mile Walk and 2 Mile Run were next. Two miles is a ‘sprint’ for most long distance runners, but it is the standard distance for high school track. A 2 mile is a race where participants run as fast as they can and hang on for dear life. The run event was won by Josh Orosco from Buchanan with a blazing fast time of 9:50! Annelis Walker of Clovis won the overall female title in a very fast



11:49. James McCall (19:47) and Kerry Caldwell (21:51) won the men and women’s overall walking titles.

The featured 5K Race, a 10-point Runner of the Year Series Race, had a starting line that was crowded with the better known faster runners at the front. Using mile markers to help gauge their pace, the more serious runners would nary even glance at any spectators. Several personal records were broken on this fast, flat course. The overall male winner was Sean Marzolf at a 5:03 average pace per mile (15:38 winning time), and the female winner was Lindsay Gray in a 6:30 average pace per mile (20:09 winning time)! Congratulations to all!

After the race many runners took advantage of the delicious, hot pancake breakfast. It was a great way for them to reload after burning a few hundred calories, and to celebrate a race well run – without rain!



My Winter Symposium

San Joaquin College of Law Alum Ben Greer (Law '08) didn't rest on his laurels after his article appeared in the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review. He now has three articles accepted for publication in law journals at ABA law schools.

By **Jeffrey G. Purvis**, *Professor*

Fortunately for me and for SJCL, one of those articles involved a constitutional law issue, so Ben invited me to be a co-author and write the relevant portion of the paper. We presented this paper (working title: “Judges Going Rogue: Constitutional Implications When Mandatory No-gun Possession Language Removed From Domestic Violence Restraining Orders”) at the *Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender & Society 2011* Symposium on Gender, Justice, & Victim Rights: A Gendered Perspective of Victims in the Criminal Justice System, held in Madison, Wisconsin on February 25, 2011.

As scholarly writing of this sort is a new endeavor for me, I am learning that an important part of the process is not to discover what I find interesting to write about, but to seek out what law journals are interested in publishing. That involves scouring the internet for “calls for papers,” and then tailoring a proposal (usually in the form of an “abstract”) to the topic announced. If the proposed paper is within one’s area of expertise and interest, so much the better. Ben Greer is way ahead of me at this game, and is generously sharing his skill and energy as we continue to fire abstracts into the Intertubes.

The genesis for the *Wisconsin Journal of LG&S* article came while Ben worked as Webinar Coordinator & Research Attorney for the California District Attorneys Association (in Sacramento, where his spouse and fellow 2008 SJCL alum Leanne Kent has gone a-lawyering). Ben discovered that some California judges issuing domestic violence restraining orders were lining out the preprinted, statutorily mandated language on the Judicial Council forms that required the subject of the order to surrender all firearms during the life of the order. As

80 percent of persons seeking domestic violence restraining orders are women, and because the involvement of firearms in domestic violence immensely increases the likelihood that a woman will be killed by the subject of the order, the impact of this illegal disregard of law impacts very disproportionately upon women.

Where a judge has wrongfully permitted the subject of a domestic violence restraining order to keep his guns, what remedies are available to the woman seeking the protection of law? In a similar context, a woman argued that a willful police failure to enforce her domestic violence restraining order was a violation of her constitutional right to due process of law, and sought money damages under federal statutes. The US Supreme Court held, in the *Castle Rock v. Gonzales* decision, that no protected constitutional interest was present under either procedural due process or substantive due process concepts. In the paper, I make an analytical and theoretical comparison of the *Castle Rock* situation to the firearm-ban scenario in order to determine whether the same constitutional result should be reached.

With regard to substantive due process, it is settled that there is no general constitutional right to be protected from harm by the government. However, where a government official takes affirmative action that increases the risk of a pre-existing danger to a citizen, the federal courts have recognized a protected constitutional interest. Our paper argues that when a judge lines out pre-printed statutory language prohibiting firearm possession, this is affirmative action greatly increasing the risk of danger to the person protected by a domestic violence restraining order.



The Supreme Court majority opinion in *Castle Rock* refused to find a protected interest under procedural due process in part because of the traditional discretion afforded police officers as they perform their duties. In addition, *Castle Rock* involved the arrest of a violator who could not be located by the police. This, and other difficulties, led the high court to hold that no protected “property” interest was present where state law appeared to require police to take action to enforce a domestic violence restraining order. Our paper identifies several very important differences in the facts—that a judge is involved, rather than a police officer, that removing language from a court order is nothing like the fluid situation facing police seeking an arrest, and other considerations—that justify finding a protected property interest in our circumstances. In addition, we argue that legislatures enacting statutes designed to protect women from domestic violence are utilizing a newly-recognized form of state-created liberty interest. We hope that the article will stimulate interest among both litigators and legislatures to pursue the lines of analysis that we suggest.

See [Symposium](#), page 19

Join the Alumni Association!

Do you remember the day you walked into your first law school class? Were you anxious? Were you nervous? Fast forward to today. Think of all the friends and contacts you have made since that first day.

By **Dede J. Agrava**, *President*

Think of all the memories you have shared, the laughs, the tears and the fun. What is the one common denominator? The answer is SJCL. The SJCL Alumni Association sponsors several annual events and we need YOU to make them even better. We need your participation, your time, your ideas or simply your membership dues.

We have made it easier for you to join. As always, you can drop a check in the mail or you can simply go to www.sjcl.edu and click on the alumni association membership page and pay online—so simple yet so important.

SAVE THE DATES

Cookie and Coffee Night April 11
Golf Tournament.....September 10
Senior Law DaySeptember 24
Got MCLE.....October 15
Hall of FameOctober 20
MMC Christmas Party December 8

Remember your \$30 membership allows you to participate in the “Got MCLE?” event for free. That alone is worth more than the cost of your dues!

Your membership allows the alumni board to do some really great things. One of the most moving events we sponsor is the annual Christmas party for the residents of the Marjaree Mason Center. Thanks to generous donations by alumni and staff, each child and mother receives a gift distributed by Santa (Rick Horowitz – Law '06) and one of his elves. This year the Clovis High School choir sang songs, Kopi Sotiropolous from KMPH hosted the celebration, as he has for many years, and each child

received a knitted cap, handmade by Joyce Morodomi’s mother, Kay. It was a wonderful time. For some of these children this is the only celebration they will experience.

Other annual events include “Cookie and Coffee Night” in April, when alumni visit the Remedies class to answer questions about Bar exam preparation. Alumni also attend the annual scholarship dinner and graduation ceremonies. Current students are always seeking greater participation from former students. A few words from YOU can make a lot of difference for a struggling student.

For many years, the Alumni Association has funded three scholarships: Spirit of SJCL, Carolyn T. Mirviss, and Judy Wiseman Memorial Scholarship. Recently the Alumni Association has strengthened its ties to SJCL students, working closely with the Student Body Association on a number of projects. Alumni have joined with the SBA to sponsor a Senior Citizen’s Law Day and students assisted with the Judy Wiseman Memorial Golf Tournament. This contact between students and alumni benefits everyone, forging friendships and the potential for employment contacts in the future.

They always say if you want something done ask a busy person to do it, which is why our SJCL staff liaison is Joan Lassley. We know YOU too are busy but we would love you to join us. If you simply cannot personally be involved, please at the very least, join today. Your membership dues can help the rest of us continue on. We appreciate your support and look forward to your participation.

SJCL Generations



Leah Cole (Law '92) with daughter **Rachel Gonzalez** (Law '11)

Soon there will be three generations of lawyers in the Cole family. Long-time Worker’s Compensation practitioner, Curtis Cole, retired five years ago. Leah Cole, his daughter and 1992 San Joaquin College of Law graduate, joined the firm of Cole and Fisher upon graduation and is now a principal partner. Her daughter, Curtis’ granddaughter, Rachel Gonzalez, will graduate from SJCL this May.

Leah had talked about going to law school for years before finally taking the leap. She wonders now how she managed as a single mother with two small children but, as a mother, discovered she was used to going without sleep. Rachel was always enamored of her mother’s professionalism and loved language. She was convinced by an internship with Judge Denise de Bellefeuille while an undergraduate at UC Santa Barbara. It took longer to decide that Worker’s Compensation was the right field for her.

Both Leah and Rachel appreciate the flexibility of practice in the Worker’s Compensation area. Leah felt it lent itself well to being a mother. That is even truer now as the Court recently went paperless and much of the practice is online.

The current love of Leah’s life is her new Multi-poo puppy. Rachel, on the other hand, has recently become engaged to SJCL student, Michael Mahoney, who will be graduating with her in May.

Will there be a fourth generation?

Mario G. Olmos Banquet

Congratulations to three SJCL students who won scholarships at the 31st annual Mario G. Olmos Scholarship Banquet on March 5, 2011.

By **Missy McKai Cartier**, Public Information Officer

The banquet was presented by the Central Valley Chapter of La Raza Lawyers Association. The Keynote Speaker was the Honorable Anthony Ishii, Chief Judge of the US District Court – Eastern District of California. Jesse Padilla, Executive Director of California Rural Legal Assistance, was the Guest Speaker.

Scholarship winners include SJCL students Mark Castro, Raul Uribe, and George Vasquez, along with University of San Francisco School of Law student Jesse Arana and Boalt Hall student Camille Pannu.

Mark Castro is a third year SJCL student and the youngest of seven children. When he was 22 years old, his father suffered a pair of strokes, leaving Mark to run the family's trucking business. Mark is now a member of the Fresno Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the California Trucking Association, and a former Americorps member. After graduation, he hopes to practice in the areas of agriculture law and water law.

Raul Uribe graduates from SJCL this spring. He immigrated from Mexico with his family when he was three months old, spent his childhood working the fields with his parents, and graduated from Fresno State with a degree in engineering. His current work with the Law Offices of Perez, Williams, Medina and Rodriguez requires him to meet with the Mexican Consulate



Photo: Howard K. Watkins

(L-R) La Raza Lawyers Association Executive Board Member **Erica Gonzalez**, La Raza Lawyers Association Vice President **Amy Guerra** (Law '07), SJCL Student **Raul Uribe**, SJCL Student **Mark Castro**, Boalt Hall student **Camille Pannu**, and SJCL student **George Vasquez**.

weekly and deliver lectures to those waiting for various documents.

George Vasquez is a first year SJCL student who previously spent years as a volunteer in the "Jumpstart" program, which helps develop literacy skills for preschoolers in low-income areas. He also has been involved in a political campaign, where he canvassed door-to-door in low-income areas. He hopes his law career will ultimately lead him to work developing policies which affect the poor.

Jesse Arana is a first year law student at the University of San Francisco School of Law. He was born in California after his parents fled violence in El Salvador. He says he was inspired to go to law school after hearing about the pro bono work another attorney had done to prevent his father from being deported. He hopes

to work with the immigrant community when he becomes an attorney.

Camille Pannu is a third year law student at Boalt Hall, where she helped establish a clinical project in rural environmental justice. She has also worked as a legal intern with the Center for Race, Poverty, and the Environment, and ultimately hopes to work with rural, low-income communities in the Valley.

The banquet's namesake, the late Judge Mario G. Olmos, is remembered as a man who rose from humble beginnings to preside over the Parlier and Selma Courts for seven years before his appointment to the Fresno County Superior Court in 1982. He is also remembered for his fight against discrimination, his active role in community organizations, and his work as a mentor and inspiration to Hispanic youth.

Full-Time Faculty

Justin B. Atkinson, Richard M. Cartier, Christine A. Goodrich, Denise M. Kerner, Janice L. Pearson, Sally A. Perring, Jeffrey G. Purvis, Peter Rooney

Adjunct Faculty

Larry Artenian, Jesse Avila, Art Baggett, Barry Bennett, Alyson Berg, Hristo Bijev, Raquel Birch, Hal Bolen, Andreas Borgeas, Dave Camenson, Dan Casas, Hilary Chittick, Lisa Coffman, Jon Conklin, Mark Cullers, Matt Farmer, Gregory Gillett, David Guy, Jason Hamm, Shannon Harding, Kathi Kesselman, Stephanie Krause-Cota, Abigail Leaf, Jeremy Lusk, Jeff Manning-Cartwright, Bill McLaughlin, Mark Miller, Hilda Canto Montoy, Dave Mugridge, Doug Noll, Kim Nystrom-Geist, Rose Safarian, Rene Sample, Gary Sawyers, Mike Sheltzer, Mike Slater, Jacqueline Yates

SJCL on TV, Radio, and Print

It's been busy the past few months! SJCL has been the center of media attention both as the heart of one story and legal commentator for several others.

By **Missy McKai Cartier**, Public Information Officer

SJCL Co-founder John Loomis was showered with coverage as a result of his being named a Chevalier by the President of France. The Fresno Bee ran both an advance article about the upcoming formal presentation ceremony and followed it up with a quick picture and congratulations in its "Board Room" column. KFSN Channel 30's Nancy Osborne visited the Loomis home personally for an interview, and was ecstatic to see the Loomis scrapbook. Much of that made it into her TV package. KMJ's Paul Loeffler interviewed Loomis for his "Hometown Heroes" series, and later commented "It's all about the substance these guys share. I'm continually amazed by the twists of fate and what they made out of lives they almost lost."



KSEE TV reporter Jobin Panicker not only interviewed Loomis at his home, but also attended the formal presentation in Clovis. The final TV package includes the Loomis interview interspersed with WWII footage. As a direct result of the interview, KSEE TV becomes the Law School's newest media partner. That means its coverage of the Loomis honor is available on our Multimedia page, along with the KMJ "Hometown Heroes" interview.



After more than a year on the air, the SJCL Roundtable comes to a close, but the partnership between the Law School and KYNO/KJWL lives on. Following a move to cut their local talk shows to just one hour per day, the Roundtable wrapped up in January with interviews including Director of Admissions Diane Steel, consumer protection attorney Eric Kapigian (Law '05) discussing lemon laws, and Central California Legal Services with a look at an avalanche of calls from those denied unemployment and a call to the legal community for pro bono help. The new partnership between SJCL and KYNO/KJWL is news and event oriented. It's already happening; an interview with Dean Jan Pearson in the wake of the Judy Soley murder ran on both KYNO and KJWL news. In addition, PIO Missy Mckai Cartier was invited for a morning show interview as part of "KJWL Cooks," promoting that weekend's Elizabeth O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Pancake Breakfast.



Alumnus Sevag Tateosian (Law '08) returns to his Alma Mater for interviews as he hosts "San Joaquin Spotlight" each week. Most recently, it includ-

ed an interview with Karen Mathes (Law '95) on Human Trafficking. Tateosian plans another interview centered on a soon-to-be released comment slated for the 20th Volume of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review.



KMJ called on the Law School for its Morning News. That included an interview with Adjunct Labor Law Professor Barry Bennett on a legislative move to prevent union collective bargaining for pension benefits. In addition, SJCL was no stranger to the talk shows. Jennifer Walters (Law '04) joined Chris Daniel to discuss estate planning for lotto winners after an Orosi man hit the jackpot. Catarina Benitez (Law '06) was also interviewed by Daniel on the current foreclosure status in the Valley, strategies for those involved, and a closer look at one local case in particular.



Each month, news feed stories and photos on the SJCL Facebook page are viewed more than 25,000 times. If you participated in any SJCL event, chances are your photo is in there somewhere! Hitting the "Like" button also assures you know about events and alumni media appearances in advance.

Staff

Janice Pearson, Dean, **Sally Perring**, Dean of Academic Affairs, **Missy Mckai Cartier**, Public Information Officer, **Debbi Chacon**, Accounting Assistant, **Matthew Dillard**, Maintenance Assistant, **Mark Enns**, Marketing Manager, **Maureen Hayes**, Assistant to Chief Financial Officer, **Lonzetta Hightower**, Student Services Assistant, **Joan Lassley**, Facilities Administrator & Alumni Liaison, **Robin Leppo**, Director of Institutional Advancement, **Jeannie Lewis**, Director of Financial Aid, **Joyce Morodomi**, Director of Student Services & Special Events Coordinator, **Lisa Nilmeier**, Accounting Assistant, **Kerry Prindiville**, Head of Public Services, **Carlyn Robbins**, Administrative Assistant/ Receptionist, **Cyndee Robinson**, Technical Services Librarian, **Rick Rodriguez**, Maintenance Supervisor, **Pete Rooney**, Law Librarian, **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**, Prospect Research Analyst & Continuing Legal Education Coordinator, **Derron Wilkinson**, Manager of Information Systems



Honorable W. Richard Lee (Law '85) with wife **Kim**



Donors, alumni, faculty, and staff enjoying wine and hor d'oeuvres at this year's Lifetime Giving Societies Donor Wall reception



Ron Henderson (Law '80) with wife **Christina Knox**



Honorable Gary Austin, (Law '76)



Holly (Law '88) & **Bob Perez**, **Katherine Hart** (Law '77), **Honorable Annette LaRue**, and **Doug Haas** (Law '82)



Janice Pearson, *Dean*, and **James** (Law '84) & **Piti Witherow**



Joanna Ebner (Law '05)



Kim Herold, **Carlyn Robbins**, *staff*, **Joan Lassley**, *staff*, **Sue Mettee**, and **Mary King** from Soroptimist of Clovis



Bob (Law '96) & **Ellen Hirth** and **Allen & Nancy Stegall** (Law '96)



Kasi Welte, *staff*, acting as wine sommelier for the evening



Joel (Law '08) & **Wendee Winter**



John (Board) & **Sue Loomis**



Honorable Annette LaRue
and **Honorable Dale Ikeda**



Travis Ishikawa, *student*, and **Scott Jones** (Law '07)

*A special thank you
to this year's honorees*

ELEVATED LEVEL

Trustee's Circle

The John & Bertha Garabedian
Charitable Foundation

Dean's Circle

Albert Ramirez Bail Bonds
SJCL Student Bar Association

Barrister's Circle

Donna Korotie
Hon. Annette LaRue
Kimberly Sweidy

Platinum

Deborah A. Coe
Douglas Noll
Richard & Diane Watters
Zinkin Family

Gold

Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Michael Marderosian
Quinlan, Kershaw & Fanucchi

Silver

H. Ty Kharazi

Bronze

Baker, Peterson & Franklin, CPA's
Denise Cahill
Michael & Germaine Dias
Greg & Jeanne Durbin
Dowling, Aaron & Keeler
Joanna Ebner
Ronald Henderson
Scott L. & Laurie Jones
Hon. Robert H. & Stephanie Oliver
Dennis Veeh

NEW ADDITIONS

Cornerstone

Delta Theta Phi—Hollis G. Best Senate
Craig & Jonna Fry
Wes Merritt
Law Offices of Jennifer S. Morrison
Brent Smittcamp & Lisa Sondergaard
Smittcamp (Law '95)
Philip & Linda Tavlian

Lien on Me

San Joaquin College of Law celebrated the release of the 19th Volume of the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review with a reception for both the authors and the Law Review Board on January 21, 2011.

By **Missy McKai Cartier**, Public Information Officer

The *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review* is the oldest agricultural law review in the country and one of only two which focuses on the legal issues facing agriculture. While the publication's eight comments came from law students, including one from the University of San Diego School of Law, the 19th Volume also hosted two professional articles from attorneys.

One is of particular interest to the Central Valley. *California's Producer's Liens: A Primer* was co-authored by Riley C. Walter (of Walter and Wilhelm Law Group in Fresno), Donald F. Drummond (of Drummond and Associates in San Francisco), and Elizabeth E. Waldow, a 2009 SJCL grad (of Walter and Wilhelm). This article not only analyzes the steps necessary to assert a producer's lien, but also traces changes in the law following the Fifth District's decision in *Frazier Nuts v. American Ag Credit*, 46 Cal. Rptr3d 869, which extended the producer's lien beyond processed products. Both Mr. Walter and Mr. Drummond were lead counsel in several of the cases mentioned in this article, and, in fact, reached back to an article Mr. Walter wrote for the 1994 *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review* to support some of their court arguments.

Mr. Walter was unable to attend the reception, but his co-authors attended. Drummond asked for and was granted the opportunity to speak briefly to those gathered regarding the impact of both the article and Law Review as a whole.

Drummond later explained his motives. "My comment was to ensure that the students understand what an important role the *Journal* plays. In the *Frazier*



(L-R) **Daren Stemwedel**, Student and Comment Author, **Lisa Cutts**, 2011 SJALR Editor-in-Chief, **Kyle Roberson**, 2011 Executive Editor, **Rachel Cartier**, 2011 Notes and Comments Editor, **Karen Ray** (Law '10), 2010 Editor-in-Chief, **Ashley Allred**, 2011 Managing Editor, **Erick Rhoan**, 2011 Production Editor, **Ali Wrest** (Law '10), 2010 Assistant Editor-in Chief, **Beth Waldow** (Law '09), Article Co-author, and **Donald Drummond**, Article Co-author

case we cited an article from the *Journal* in both our trial court and appellate briefs and I believe the court cited it in its published opinion. Law journals perform a great service to the bar and the bench in taking the time to do the in-depth scholarly review of an area of law that might well be prohibitively expensive, both in time and resources, for judges and lawyers. It helps ensure that good decisions are made and justice is done."

Editor-in Chief, Lisa Cutts, notes *SJALR* is preparing to celebrate a major milestone.

"A special 20th Anniversary edition of the *SJALR* is going into production now. It tackles a wide variety of subjects, including hot topics such as sustainable agriculture, animal welfare, genetically

modified crops, marijuana, pesticide labeling, upcoming milk pricing legislation and more. The *Journal* will have a special 20th Anniversary cover and will include special material, such as citing references and all 19 years of prior *Journal* covers. As a special treat, there will be an update to a piece written in the very first *Journal* by one of the original authors. There will be a celebration of the *SJALR's* 20th anniversary, and the release of the 20th volume, in the Fall of 2011."

SJALR is currently looking for attorneys who would like to write for the 21st Volume. At least one professional article is needed to publish the *Journal* each year. Those interested should contact Executive Editor Kyle Roberson at Kyle.Roberson@student.sjcl.edu for details.

Alumni Profiles

SJCL congratulates our alumni celebrating 10, 20 and 30-year anniversaries in 2011. There was one profile that missed the December deadline, so from the class of 2000 we have added Kathryn Mackie McKinzie. It has been a wonderful opportunity to contact all of our alumni to write their amazing stories. Thanks to all for reading and participating.

1981

Susan Friesen Cameron

Susan practiced general civil law with a firm in Santa Cruz for about 7 years after graduation. She then took a break for a couple of years and went into business. Both law and technology were in her blood, so she joined a firm finding new ways to bring legal services to consumers – Divorce-Help Line. Rather than representing people, this project coaches couples on how to represent themselves in negotiating a settlement, either directly or through mediation. In 1997, her

husband, Rich was offered a job teaching at Cerritos College so they moved to Southern California. Since then, Susan has taught Business Law and Conflict Management classes at University of Phoenix, and has co-authored two books for Nolo Press. Susan

decided it was time to devote her energy in a different direction, so she enrolled and graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with her Masters of Divinity. Susan has served on the board of several non-profits over the years, and thinks she'll be a social entrepreneur when she grows up!

Susan is married to Rich Cameron. They have two children—a son, Rich, who is 26, and a daughter, Rachel, who is 17. They have been very busy with their children; Rachel has a passion for dance so Susan has become a theatre mom. She also enjoys gardening when she can find the time.



Susan has fond memories of her days at Fresno Pacific in the round building and recalls the big move to the Shields campus. Her mother now works in the Mennonite Historical Archives, which occupy SJCL's old law library.

Robert Garabedian

Robert has been self employed as a dentist in Fresno for over 48 years. He attended SJCL because he wanted to broaden his knowledge of the law. Robert was a practicing dentist at the time and SJCL made it possible for him to practice dentistry and attend law school at the same time. Lawyers have referred clients to him to be evaluated because he has a strong knowledge of the law and dentistry. Robert was able to assess the patient in a way that the lawyer could understand and help the lawyer find the information he was looking for. Robert taught at the continuing education level for orthodontics at the University of Detroit Dental School, Louisiana State University Dental School and the University of Calgary in Canada. Once he had children, he made a decision to stop teaching and focus on raising them.

Robert has been married to his loving wife, Sharon, for over 25 years. His daughter, Kristina, is currently a 1L at SJCL and his son, Michael, is a mechanical engineer in Irvine.

Robert is the former President of the International Association of Orthodontics, former board member of Fresno Community Theater, and founding member of the Fresno Gnathology Project. He serves on the Board of ShoeBox Sharing, a local non-profit organization, founded by his daughter, Kristina, which helps children in our local community as well as overseas. Their family travels to

Armenia almost every summer to deliver school supplies, toys, soccer uniforms and medical supplies to children and people in need. Robert also performs dentistry on children in Armenia free of charge, along with training Armenian dentists and lecturing at the National Health Institute of Armenia.

At a social event after graduation, Robert saw John Loomis and John said to him, "I didn't think you were going to make it." Robert's response was, "I got the second highest grade in your Contracts class." This tells you how much Robert partied at law school: he was the proctor in the library on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. He really liked it because no one else wanted to work those nights. It forced him to study those nights since he was out of the state teaching every other weekend. Robert also remembers that he had the lowest LSAT score that the school had ever admitted but they figured since he already had a doctorate, he could do it.

Gerald Lewis

Gerald retired in 2007 and moved to Austin, Texas, home of the Texas Longhorns. When Gerald began law school, he was a CHP Officer and remained employed through law school. When Gerald passed the bar in 1981 he opened his own law office in Fresno. Gerald was in private practice, handling several kinds of law, until July 2003. He had become tired of working the 60-70 hours per week required in private practice, so he accepted the position of Staff Counsel with the California Department of Corrections in Sacramento. Shortly thereafter he became a Deputy Commissioner with the Board of Parole Hearings, where he remained until retirement.

Gerald has been married to Kathy for 32 years. Between them, they have four daughters who have given them four grandchildren. Gerald's oldest daughter, Brenda, followed his path to law school and graduated in 1994. She is currently an Administrative Law Judge with the Department of Unemployment Insurance.

Gerald was fortunate enough to win the Moot Court competition as the Best Oral Advocate in his second year of law school. Those were great times.

Among his friends and family he is known as a sports fanatic. Gerald follows all the Texas Longhorn sports in Austin. Gerald and wife hit the gym on a daily basis and travel quite a bit; of course, coming back home to Fresno to see their kids and grandkids. They also are very involved serving with various ministries in their church.

Of his early SJCL memories, Gerald recalls, "Our class was small. I believe we only had 13 people at the end. This, however, probably caused us to bond better than most classes. With my crazy Highway Patrol work schedule I wasn't able to join a study group with my friends. Several of them did spend a fair amount of time at Stanley's on Shaw Ave after class."

"One of my favorite memories took place in Judge Caeton's Criminal Law class our first year. We had spent over two hours trying to decide if it was a crime to steal a hole in the ground. Sorry, I don't remember the outcome."

"My class did get to enjoy several locations as the school moved around a lot back then. We started at Pacific College, then moved to a church on Chestnut and then finished up at the school's first home of their own at a location near Shields, behind Gemco."

"San Joaquin College of Law gave me and my family an opportunity to have a very prosperous life and I thank them very much."

David M. Overstreet, IV

David's excitement for civil trial practice has spanned the years since 1979 when classmates referred him to work as a law clerk for the Law Offices of Dominic Mushines and Eldridge & Newman during law school. After he graduated the economy had declined so that work as a lawyer was not as easy to find. Gratefully David continued to work in private practice at Eldridge & Newman. Starting in 1984 he opened his own firm, Myers & Overstreet which became Myers Overstreet & Mayfield. In 2002 Overstreet & Associates opened and has operated as a civil litigation firm concentrating in the representation of public entities and businesses.

David's greatest life-goal has been to have a family with harmony and love. His wife, Janet, of 32 years is credited for reaching the goal within the home along with their now grown children. David expresses that the best part of life is time with family and friends. David also enjoys exercise, hiking, hunting and reading.

While stressful, doing well in Moot Court was an enjoyable part of school for David. David's enjoyment gave him the privilege of representing SJCL in the State Moot Competition.

When the much-beloved Judge Hollis Best decided to retire from teaching, David taught evidence in the paralegal program at SJCL from 1986 to 1989. David has been a member of American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) and Association of Defense Counsel (ADC) serving as a member of the Board of Directors. He has spent time working with churches.

The night before Professor Mary Louise Frampton's Constitutional Law final exam involved practice test sessions with the study group - Randy Penner, Scott Quinlan and Neal Pedowitz. Upon attempting the first question, David realized he was about to have a very unfavorable outcome. He got up from the table, went outside and sat on Scott's porch. The smooth talking Scott noted the apparent angst, and came to give sage advice. Scott took a long drag on his cigarette. He held onto the smoke. Then in his usual drawl manner Scott said, "Well, Dave, you better get your studies together because the final is tomorrow." David left the group for an all night study session. The test results were a rare and pleasant surprise. David tied Scott for the highest grade in the class.

Reflecting on the study of law, it is good to remember how fine a time it was. It will be really the only time one will be able to see the interrelationship of all the law at one sitting. Getting to know all that law is an admirable goal. Those who stay with it should be proud of their accomplishment. San Joaquin will always hold special memories of the dedicated instructors who shaped our careers- Dean John Loomis, Judge Oliver Wanger (instructing most of our classes), Judge Best, Judge Caeton, Ms. Frampton, Mr. Dean Bailey, Mr. Norman Fletcher, and many others.

"Thirty years have passed incredibly quickly. It is with pride that one can look upon many excellent attorneys and judges in our community whose roots come from San Joaquin. May the Law School continue to add value to the community for years to come."

John Shehadey

After receiving his law degree, John worked for and later purchased a convenience store chain called Shop N' Go. By selling or franchising the less profitable

properties and improving or building others in better locations and working with McDonalds to offer fast food service in some, it has now grown to over 20 locations in the San Joaquin Valley.

A few years ago John purchased Red Triangle Oil Company, which provides propane to homes and businesses as well as fuel for gas stations and farming operations. About six years ago, when their Producers Bar 20 Dairy was in need of modernizing and expansion, John built a state-of-the-art dairy, now milking 9,000 cows from a herd of 19,000. He also owns Shehadey Farms.

John is married to Mary. They have 6 adult children and 10 grandchildren between them. He is fortunate to have two of his sons, Steve and Jim, helping him run the businesses. His youngest son, Tom, is a district manager for Alteria in Los Angeles and his daughter, Nancy, was recently promoted to operations manager at the Anheuser Busch plant in L.A.

For many years, John's passion has been ultra-marathon running. He completed the American River 50 and twice ran the 150-mile "Badwater". The run goes from Death Valley to the top of Mt. Whitney (14,500 ft.). The air temperature was 123-126 degrees. The pavement tem-

perature was +200 degrees. It reminded him of his days at SJCL.

John's current interests include travel and scuba diving. Most recently he and Mary traveled to Europe, Hawaii and Tahiti.

In the past John has served on the boards of the Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts of America, The Redwoods in Yosemite, the YMCA, and was president of the SJCL Board. He has also been involved with the Boys and Girls Club, Fresno Joggers and various churches.

John has received many awards. He was named Fresno County Volunteer of the Year and elected to the YMCA Hall of Fame. He has been honored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Boys and Girls Club.

His memories of SJCL were the great teachers, such as Dean Loomis, Hon. Wanger, Hon. Caeton and good memories with too many classmates to mention and stories which cannot be told (ever). Overall, his time at SJCL was tough (as you all know) but a life-changing experience (for the better). His knowledge and experiences from SJCL have helped him immensely in all areas of his life.

1991

Rayma Church

Rayma is a partner in the firm of Emerson Corey Sorensen Church & Libke.

Rayma, along with Rene Sample, were the first women inducted into the local chapter of American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). She is very honored and proud of that induction by two SJCL women alumnae. Last year Rayma was President of the Fresno Chapter of National Women's Political Caucus.

Rayma took up skiing two years and one medial meniscus tear ago, but stubbornly persists on skiing as well as kayaking, scuba diving and spending time with her four-legged children.

Rayma shared that there will always be a soft spot in her heart for Justice Ardaiz because his Evidence class is how she passed the bar. She is working hard at not becoming a workaholic, but she has not won the battle yet.

Sheri Mount

Sheri began working for June Register as a certified law student during her second year of school. June was a great mentor and gave her the opportunity to learn so much about family law. June also gave her the opportunity to obtain courtroom experience for her last 2 ½ years of law school. Sheri remained with June's office until April 1992 after passing the bar in November 1991. When Sheri left, she opened her own firm and has remained self employed since then. For a time, Sheri practiced with Paul Lerandeanu, then with Dale Blea. Now she practices with Ron Nijmeddin, exclusively in the area of family law. Her offices have been maintained in the Bank of the West building downtown since 1993. She also maintains a small office in Oakhurst. Sheri enjoys learning about collaborative law and working with other attorneys to spread the word about collaborative law through the Central





Valley Collaborative Law Affiliates. She occasionally teaches family law at Fresno City College.

Sheri has four adult children, ages 23, 28, 29, and 30. She had her youngest daughter the day before she started law school. Sheri can't believe that baby will be graduating from Seattle Law School in May this year and will be an attorney! Sheri has been married to Dale Bond for the past 11 years. For the past 6 ½ years, they have been raising their grandson, Logan, age 8. They have two other grandchildren, age 5 and 6. It is interesting to be the oldest parents at Back-To-School night and the soccer games, but they are enjoying every minute of it. Their family interests involve Logan's sports, boating, and traveling. Logan is well traveled as he turned 4 years old during their two week cruise through Europe. They have a 38' yacht that they keep at the Delta and spend many weekends each year on the water. In 2004 they moved from Clovis to Oakhurst, where Sheri had spent her childhood years. Sheri also maintains a condo in Fresno for those days that she finds herself not wanting to face the snow.

Sheri has served as a judge pro tem in the Fresno County Superior Court since 1997. Sheri now spends her time giving back to the community by representing minors caught in the system due to their parents' inability to get along.

Oakhurst is a small community with close connections. Dale and Sheri participate in nearly all of the community charities. She has served as the President of the Eastern Madera County Bar Association for the past 3 years.

Sheri's years at San Joaquin College of Law flew by in a blur between having an infant and small children and studying. Looking back, she doesn't know how she got it all done.

2000 Kathryn Mackie McKinzie

Kathryn McKinzie was quite sure she didn't pass the bar exam because her study partner, Joanne Morales, who was always the smart one in their group, had completely different answers on the bar exam. Joanne passed the first time which was no surprise to Kathy; however, the fact that Kathy did still astonishes her to this day!

Kathy's first job as a lawyer was as a Public Defender at the Law Office of John Barker and Associates. That was a very interesting job and she was very fortunate to work with some great people.

After two and half years, Kathy decided to make the big bucks by working at a private law firm. She worked as a Workers Compensation Defense Attorney for Mullin and Fillipe. Again, they were a

fine group of attorneys and staff but she simply could not function in the world of billable hours and cases that went on for years.

In May of 2004, Kathy was hired by Phil Cline at the Tulare County District Attorney's office. She started as a special prosecutor for the stolen vehicles grant. Then she worked in the Juvenile Division before she was assigned as the special prosecutor for the major narcotics grant. Kathy's next assignment was as the special prosecutor for felony domestic violence cases.

Later Kathy was assigned to the Porterville Unit which handles felonies and misdemeanor cases. She is currently assigned to the unique position as prosecutor for the "Expedited Case Disposition" felony calendar. The "Expedited Case Disposition" calendar strives to reach a reasonable legal outcome at an early stage when it is appropriate. In cases where a resolution is not possible the felony cases are moved forward to other courtrooms for appropriate dispositions. Kathy loves her work and is very grateful to Phil Cline for affording her an opportunity to find her home in the work force.

On September 25, 2010, Kathy married Monty McKinzie in Pismo Beach. He is a wonderful person, with too many qualities to list and he comes with a great sense of humor, thank heaven! Kathy has two children, Diana and John; and two grandchildren. Madyson, age 8, and Asha, age 6, are like all grandchildren—beautiful, sweet, brilliant, and talented...but in her case it is really true! Of course Madyson's mom, Diana, and Asha's dad, John, are equally proud!

Kathy loves taking photographs, traveling (Disneyland is a big favorite), the beach and scrapbooking.

In her spare time Kathy is very involved with the local high school's "Mock Trial Competition". The first couple of years she performed the duty of "scorer" in the competition. The last three years, she has

helped coach the Redwood High School team. In 2008, the team placed 5th in the State Competition.

When asked about SJCL memories she said, “Wow... so many memories where does one begin... with my great friend and constant study partner, Joanne Morales... Dean Jan Pearson’s Torts... Sally’s Real Property... the list goes on and on! For those of you that remember, we transitioned from a really ugly commercial building where breaks were taken at the dumpster to the beautiful school which is now the San Joaquin College of Law. But the very best memories are the professors and the staff that made it all possible. They were always there to guide and encourage the students and believe me, we needed both guidance and encouragement. Without them graduation would have been just a missed opportunity. The overwhelming happiness that comes with passing the bar would have never become a reality for many of us. Thank you all!”

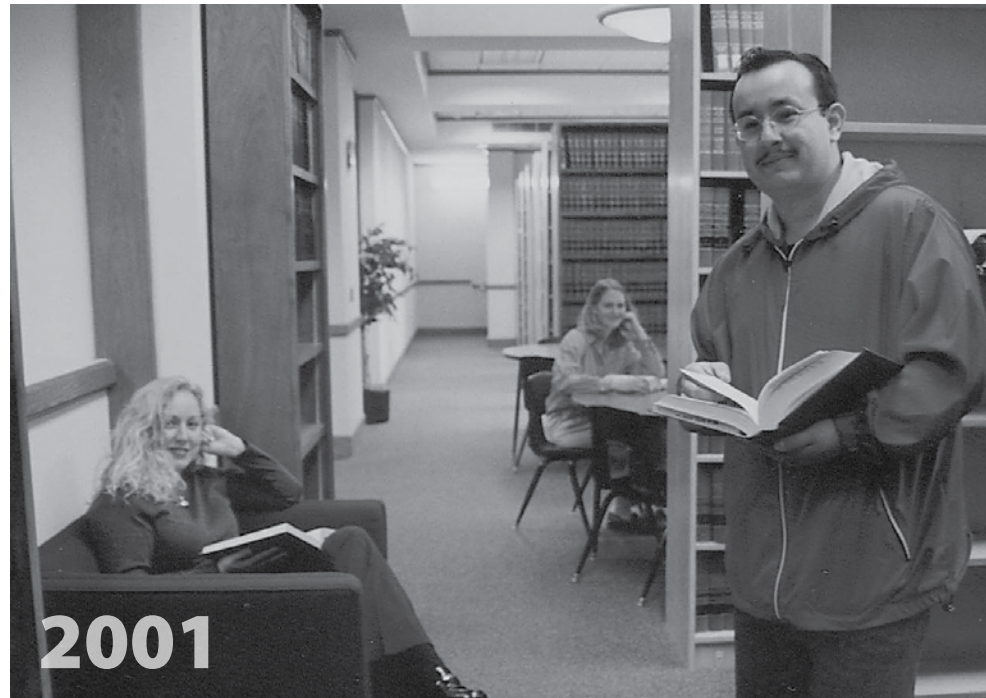
2001 Tara Crabtree

After leaving her position in the library at SJCL in 2006, Tara went to work for the State of California, Court of Appeal, Fifth District, as their librarian.

Tara has 3 amazing children who were born when she worked as a librarian at SJCL. Tristan is now 9 and the twins, Aidan and Brenna, are 7 years old.

Tara has no time for personal interests but stays very busy with kids and their activities. Where they go, she goes.

Tara is involved with many associations such as: Fresno County Women Lawyers, American Association of Law Librarians, Fresno Area Library Council (Co-Chair) and Northern California Association of Law Librarians (Secretary).



When Tara was asked about law school memories she said her favorites were receiving special birthday treats from her coworkers at SJCL while helping assess a collection in Wichita, Kansas. She also enjoyed hearing Kathryn McTigue-Floyd say “Oh Dear,” when hearing nearly anything Gerry Schwab or Jim Trevino went on about at the front desk in the library.

Michelle “Shelli” Pepper

Shelli has been with Stammer, McKnight, Barnum & Bailey LLP since passing the bar in 2001 and has been a partner for the last two years. Shelli works with SJCL alums Tom Georgouses, Jackie Yates, and Kevin Kallajian. Her main area of practice is Civil Litigation. In law school Shelli interned for the Federal Defender’s Office and Henry, Logoluso & Blum and also did an externship at the Fifth District Court of Appeal for Justice Ardaiz.

Shelli has been married to Pat Turner for 16 years. They have a daughter, Audrey,

who is 6 and in the first grade. In her free time Shelli likes to travel and spend time with her family whenever possible.

Shelli has been a Board member of American Lung Association Central California.

Shelli loved law school! She thoroughly enjoyed Constitutional Law with Professor Purvis. She mostly studied with David Moreno and David Soldani and remembers when David S. came to study group the day after his first child was born. Shelli had a great time going to Traynor Moot Court Competition with David Moreno and Deborah Boyett. Judge Conklin and Stanley Boone made the trip fun and devoted a lot of time to them. She now realizes how precious time is and has much respect for those that give their time back by mentoring students and being involved at SJCL. She is extremely thankful to SJCL for giving her the opportunity to change her life and career.



SJCL has enlisted the help of some dedicated alumni and supporters who are now part of the newly formed, Alumni Ambassador committee.

Committee Members

- Dede Agrava ('07)
- Mark Blum ('92)
- Michael Dias ('93)
- Amy Guerra ('07)
- Brande Gustafson ('09)
- Doug Haas ('82)
- Shannon Pell Harding ('06)
- Carey Hartsock ('10)
- Dan Martin ('05)
- Kathy McKenna ('99)
- Teresa Petty ('07)
- Nancy Stegall ('96)
- Peter Wall ('97)
- Margie Webb ('07)
- Nancy Flynn

Meetings (Held Quarterly)

Downtown Club
12:00-1:00PM
Lunch is provided

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2011

We welcome anyone interested in participating on this committee to attend. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to call me at (559) 323-2100 or email me at rleppo@sjcl.edu.

In light of the recent tragedies in Japan, we take this moment, to be so very grateful for what we have, and extend that thankfulness to all of our supporters who continue to invest in SJCL's Legacy of Excellence.

Very soon many of you will start to receive the annual Classathon letters signed by one or more of your classmates, encouraging you to make a gift to the Annual Fund. Because of the success of last year's Annual Fund, we have set our sights high and challenged ourselves, with your help, to raise \$100,000!

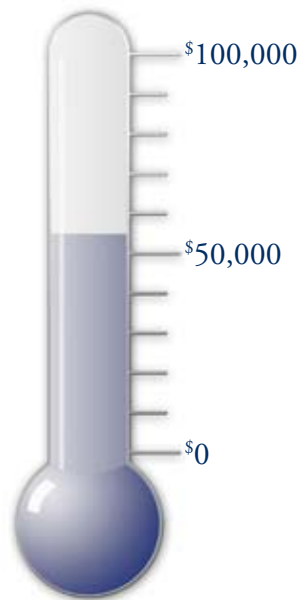
This year's priorities for the Annual Fund include:

- **Increasing our Wi-Fi capacity** so students can access the internet at any time
- **Upgrading the library furnishings and facility** to increase accessibility to our ADA students
- **Increasing faculty positions** to be able to offer more law classes in the curriculum

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the class representatives who have taken the time to sign their class letters and encourage participation from each of their classmates to give. We hope you will consider your classmate's request to support us and be a part of a long list of generous and loyal donors.

If you have already made a gift this fiscal year (started August 1, 2010), you will be counted in the class participation and contribution totals, and we thank you for your support. If you have not made a contribution, I encourage you to take part in our challenge with your fellow alumni and friends and show your support today!

Happy Spring!



2010-2011
Annual Fund
as of March 1, 2011
\$54,335



Joyce Morodomi, staff, **Donna Korotie** (Law '85), and **Robin Leppo** staff, enjoy the evening at this year's donor wall reception.

Thank you for your support!

December 11, 2010-March 1, 2011

San Joaquin College of Law thanks the following individuals and organizations for their gifts. Their generosity helps SJCL deliver an outstanding academic program to students.

Gifts of \$5,000+

Borba Family Farms
Ross Borba (Board)
The Bertha and John
Garabedian Charitable
Foundation
Nick Zinkin ('01)

Gifts of \$2,500-4,999

Darryl Freedman ('93)
Hon. Annette LaRue
SJCL Alumni Association
SJCL Student Bar Association
Kimberly Sweidy ('85) and
Raymond Stata

Gifts of \$1,000-2,499

Carl Brown ('76)
Central California
Bankruptcy Association
Michael Dias ('93 and Board)
Greg Durbin (Board)
H. Ty Kharazi ('96)
Laurie Renton Mendes
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John Loomis (Board)
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Anthony Mendes (Board)
Douglas Noll (Board)
Peter Rooney (Staff)
Soroptimist International of
Clovis

Gifts of \$500 - 999

Michel Bryant ('91)
Bolen Fransen LLP
Hal Bolen
Michael Condry ('80)
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Gregory Dias, Jr. & Alice Dias
Joanna Ebner ('05)
In Memory of
Rosemary Hidalgo
Craig Fry ('00)

Ronald Henderson ('80)
Hon. W. Richard Lee ('85)
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Cercone, Lehman
Michael G. Marderosian ('77)
Jennifer Morrison ('99)
Hon. Lawrence
& Kathy O'Neill
Marjorie Webb ('07)
Kathryn and Wendel
Wersching
Bob Whalen (Board)

Gifts of \$250 - 499

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Edward D. Fanucchi ('95)
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Eric Fogderude
David Ibarra ('10)
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Tolerance
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Symposium

From Page 6

As for the symposium itself, there are too many wonderful stories to include here. Join me at the bar in the faculty dining room some evening, and I will regale you with the tale of me trying to pry open the frozen glove compartment of my rental car so I could get to my GPS device, upon which I was counting to get me back to the airport through the raging blizzard of a Wisconsin winter. The high was 25 degrees F. in Madison when we hiked a few miles (or so it seemed to me) from the law school to the Audubon Room of the University of Wisconsin faculty mansion for lunch. By some bizarre meteorological coincidence, the other presenters were warm-state denizens as well, from Golden Gate Law School in San Francisco and from Barry University in Orlando, Florida. The attendees were, besides the presenters, the U of W law students on the editorial board of the *Journal of LG&S*—they attended in two shifts, morning and afternoon, and had to sign in to get “credit” for attendance. According to my daughter, Dara, now a Visiting Associate Professor at the University of Illinois Law School, this is pretty much standard for a symposium of this nature, but it was all fresh and new to me. As I continue my quest to become a Real Law Professor (as I refer in class to those whose career depends upon publishing), I assume such experiences will become routine, and hardly worthy of mention. But this was a significant milestone for me, and a small but important step in SJCL's long term growth.

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