

Summer 1992

Alumni Forum, Summer 1992

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/alumnews>



Part of the [Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

"Alumni Forum, Summer 1992" (1992). *Alumni News*. Paper 50.
<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/alumnews/50>

This Newsletter or Magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the Other Law School Publications at GGU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Alumni News by an authorized administrator of GGU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jfischer@ggu.edu.

ALUMNI Forum

Volume 17, No. 2

Golden Gate University • School of Law

Summer 1992

Federal Court Judge Offers Timely Advice to Graduates

Judge Stephen Reinhardt of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals delivered the keynote address at the Annual Commencement Ceremony of the Law School's Class of 1992, on Saturday, May 16 at the Masonic Auditorium in San Francisco. In his speech, Judge Reinhardt discussed the aftermath of the Rodney King trial and linked the riots in Los Angeles to the growing consensus among minorities that the court system designed to protect them has failed recent years.

"A judicial revolution has occurred," he challenged. "A Court that once served the poor, the oppressed, the disadvantaged now has entirely different clients, entirely different interests, an entirely different agenda." Judge Reinhardt cited the Supreme Court in particular as one whose dedication to the protection of civil rights has been altered dramatically as a result of the



Photo by Casey Cheung

Students express their wish for peace as they wait in line for the ceremony to begin.

more conservative appointments to the Court in recent years.

He urged graduates to do their part "to ensure that all individuals are treated with dignity and with respect....You must remember at all times that you are a part of a profession with a particular responsibility, a responsibility to see that fairness and justice is done, that equal treatment under law prevails."

More than 180 of the 220 graduating students attended the commencement ceremony. Graduate David Hershey-Webb delivered a speech on behalf of the graduating class, and San Francisco immigration attorney Marc Van Der Hout, '77, was this year's recipient of the Judith G. McKelvey Award for Outstanding Achievement as an Alumnus. After the ceremony, Dean Pagano sponsored a reception at the Fairmont Hotel for graduates and their families.

This year's commencement was particularly memorable because it was the last Law School ceremony at which President Otto Butz conferred degrees. President Butz is retiring after more than 21 years as president of Golden Gate University and will be missed by students and alums. ■



Photo by Richard Tauber

Graduate Mark Magarian shares the spotlight with his niece Kailie.



Photo by Casey Cheung

Dean Anthony Pagano joins President Otto Butz for the conferring of degrees.

First PILAP Grants Awarded

Eight alums received a total of \$8,325 as the first recipients of the Public Interest Loan Assistance Program (PILAP). Chosen from 14 applicants, this year's awardees are: Hrair Balian, '85, Armenian Cultural Foundation; Karen Elcaness, '88, Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic; Michael Ginther, '86, First District Appellate Project; Lisa McCoy, '85, Office of the Attorney General in Indianapolis; Jennifer Perkins, '91, San Joaquin

Last spring students voted to increase their fees to help pay for the program

Public Defender; Patricia Spaletta, '91, U.S. Labor Department; John Stephenson, '90, Office of the Honorable Merlyn Hoyt, Nevada; and Jean Turk, '87, Legal Assistance to the Elderly.

PILAP grants are designated for graduates who choose careers in public interest law and are intended to help them repay their student loans. Initial funding for PILAP was provided by a \$25,000 allocation from the University to create an endowment. In addition, last spring law students voted to increase their student fees by \$20 a year in order to help pay for the program. Several fundraisers have also provided financial support to the grant program.

Applications for next year's PILAP grants will be available in early 1993. ■

Mock Trial Team Wins Silver Trophy

The Golden Gate University Law School trial team captured the silver trophy in the ABA Criminal Justice Trial Competition held in Chicago in March. The ABA program is an invitation-only competition for 20 law school teams representing every section of the country. Schools are selected for the competition based upon the quality of their trial advocacy teaching programs. This was the second consecutive year that Golden Gate was invited to the competition.



Back row (l-r): Steven Forster, James Treppa, Heather Elrick. Front row (l-r): Professor Bernie Segal, David Lehr, Justice Joyce Manning of the Illinois Appellate Court.

Golden Gate's trophy was awarded for the team's third place finish in the 20-team field. Golden Gate's only loss in the competition was in a split decision to the team from Harvard, which was the ultimate winner of the competition. Of the five evaluators of the Golden Gate-Harvard trial, two chose GGU as the better team, and one chose Harvard. The other two judges declared that the teams were tied. Under a complicated tie-

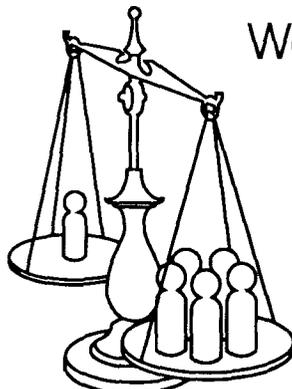
breaking system, Harvard was awarded the win.

Team members tried the case of *People v. Cantu*, in which a police officer was charged with obstructing justice based on the allegation that he had destroyed photographs of another officer

beating a person he had arrested, which had been taken by an onlooker. Students on the team were Heather Elrick, Steven Forster, David Lehr, and James Treppa. The team was coached by Professor Bernard L. Segal, who was assisted by Professor Wendy Rouder and adjunct instructor Arlin Armstrong, both

of whom are GGU alumni.

The Chicago trophy was the third major achievement of Golden Gate trial teams this school year. In February, another trial team finished third in a field of 24 teams at the Western Regional of the National Trial Competition. Last fall, still another trial team was undefeated in the trial competition of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers held in New Orleans. ■



Wanted: Aspiring Judges

This fall the Law School will inaugurate an Appellate Advocacy program for second-year students. Participants will prepare appellate briefs and argue their cases before panels of judges. Alumni interested in acting as judges should contact Professor Barbara Anscher at (415) 904-6881. Courtrooms and robes will be provided. ■

Alumni Profile: David Brennan

Retirement. For some it's an opportunity to read, travel, and just take it easy. For others, it's a chance to go back to school and learn new skills. But for David Brennan, '73, it's a means to pursue a longtime interest in archeology.

Last March, after retiring from active law practice in San Diego, David was able to turn his full attention to an archeological dig in central Belize called "El Pilar." The project, he explained, is "a study of a Mayan lowland household site leading up to a major Mayan ruin. We'll be exploring that, excavating it, and restoring it to how it looked a thousand years ago." Being able to focus on archeology was something David had always dreamed about, even while building a successful legal career over a span of almost 20 years.

After graduating from GGU, David worked as a trial attorney with Ericksen, Lynch, Mackenroth,

Arbuthnot & Brennan in San Francisco, Sacramento, and Orange County. In 1978 he started his own business, Brennan & Hollins, where he remained for 10 years. But by 1988, he opted to downsize operations. "I decided I didn't want to be the senior partner of a 40 or 50 lawyer firm, working 80-90 hours a week," he said, so

"I was always fascinated by anything old."

-- David Brennan, '73

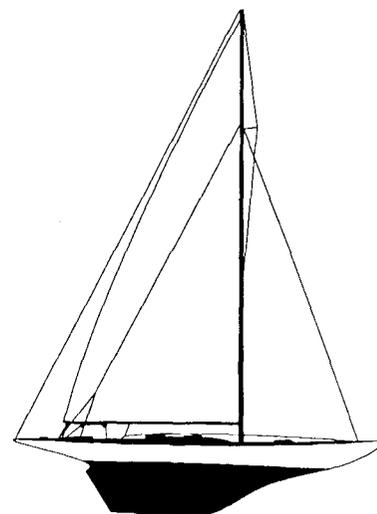
he sold his share of the firm to his partners, moved to San Diego, and started a smaller practice with four associates. In 1990 he merged his firm with Rowe, McEwen, Rowe, McElravy & Braun in an effort to downsize even further and give himself more time to pursue outside interests. In March of

1991, David left active law practice and put his energy into archeology.

Throughout his law career, David had continuously been interested in archeology. "I was always fascinated by anything old," he said. Whenever he took a vacation, he usually spent it on the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, exploring the Mayan ruins. "I realized that if I could just figure out a way I could do this two to three weeks a year, it

would be the most exhilarating thing I could do."

David got involved in the El Pilar project through his affiliation with an anthropology professor at UC Santa Barbara and an association with a group called BRASS, the Belize River Archeological Settlement Survey. Since joining up with BRASS, David has become a part of all aspects of the dig -- bagging artifacts, categorizing them, taking measurements, and writing reports on the findings. "It is creative, exploring the history of the past people, finding out how they survived on a day-to-day



basis." The group will go to a site that is simply a huge mound of dirt. By the end of the 6-8 week excavation, they will have uncovered floors, walls, arches, and artifacts.

Retirement has also given David an opportunity to pursue his other great love -- sailing. One of his goals is to sail from San Diego to Panama, and this year he began the journey by sailing to Cabo San Lucas, La Paz, and Loreto in the Sea of Cortez.

Although, says David, he does do some occasional freelance legal work, for the most part he hopes to continue doing exactly what he loves best -- exploring the mysteries of the past and enjoying the wonders of life. ■



David Brennan, '73

Associate Dean, Librarian Join Law School

Maggy Hughes has been appointed Associate Dean of Students. She replaces Elaine Andersson, who is leaving the position to teach as a Visiting Professor for the Law School.

Maggy will assume all of Elaine's duties, including supervising the Registrar and Law Placement Offices, working with students to provide academic and personal counseling, and administering the scholarship and academic assistance programs. She hopes to teach a course in the future.

Before coming to Golden Gate, Maggy was with Morrison and Foerster, where she supervised

and managed legal assistants who provided litigation support for the recent State Farm discrimination case. She has a B.A. from Northwestern University and a J.D. from UC Berkeley. Maggy has clerked with the Nevada Supreme Court and practiced as an associate with Feldman, Waldman & Kline, and Steefel, Levitt & Weiss in San Francisco.

Maggy's background in managing and working with people provides an ideal match for her duties as Associate Dean. "I think this is a really good opportunity to do what I do best," she said. "Tony and Elaine have done a great job of bringing the administration of the Law School into the '90s. I hope to help continue that progress."

Also joining the staff is Brent Bernau, Director of the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law. Brent is a returnee to Golden Gate, having worked as Membership Services Librarian from 1986 to 1987, and Public



Brent Bernau, Director of Law Library

Services Librarian from 1987 to 1988. After leaving GGU, he moved on to his most recent job at the University of San Diego, where he served as Assistant Director and Head of Public Services of the school's law library for four years.

Brent has a B.S. from University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, a J.D. from University of San Diego School of Law, and an M.L.I.S. from UC Berkeley.

"It's nice to be back. The library at Golden Gate has some challenges ahead of us with the continuous work that's being done from the earthquake. Golden Gate has been around a long time. We should be able to meet these challenges and take them in stride." ■

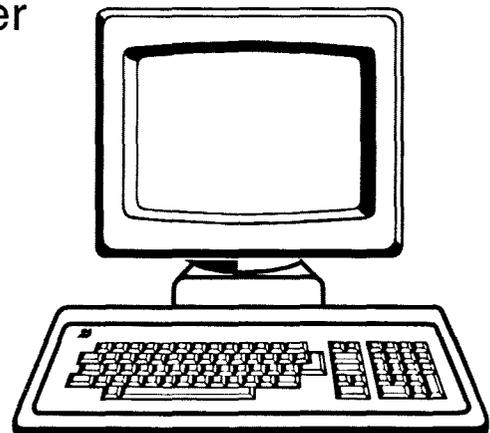


Maggy Hughes, Associate Dean of Students

Computer Needed by Placement Center

The Law Placement and Career Counseling Office is in need of a personal computer for its daily operations. Any IBM compatible with a 286 CPU (equivalent to an IBM AT or later model) will enable the office to help

students and alumni make the most of their degrees from Golden Gate. If you can be of assistance, please contact Tony Bastone, Law Placement and Career Counseling Director, for more details at (415) 904-6825. ■





Lawyers in Love: Alumni Couples



Most people don't go to law school expecting to meet the love of their life. But every once in awhile, the unforeseen

occurs -- and in between Remedies and Torts, romance may blossom. Following is a list of Law School alumni couples

who've discovered another meaning for the word "partner." If by chance we've overlooked you, please write and let us know. ■

Gary A. Angel, '76
Sharman B. Spector-Angel, '76

Philip M. Bachrach, '80
Deborah R. Bronner, '83

Christine A. Balthazar, '77
Samuel F. Barnum, '77

John Bekins, '84
Kate Bekins, '83

Julienne E. Bryant, '79
Patrick J. Coughlin, '79

James I. Cohen, '82
Judith H. Cohen, '79

Charles R. Conradi, '78
Rebecca A. Conradi, '77

Roberta E. Dicks, '90
Xavier C. Dicks, '90

Julie Gamache-Traub, '77
Paul Traub, '77



Anne S. Grappo, '78
David M. Grappo, '75

Mary C. Hogan, '80
Alexander L. Schmid, '88

Loren C. Hu, '78
John W. McKenney, '78

Barbara H. Karlin, '82
Jeffrey H. Karlin, '82

Lawrence Moll, '72
Virginia Irving, '75

Roy J. Otis, '80
Susan W. Otis, '76

Bruce G. Peterson, '76
Patricia S. Peterson, '75

David B. Rubinoff, '79
Stephanie S. Rubinoff, '80

Dorothy E. Webb, '51
Robert L. Webb, '52

Elise Z. Wessels, '85
Kai H. Wessels, '85

Eugene E. White, '77
Gail L. White, '79

Did You Know?...

- The Law School's Bar pass rate for the February 1992 examination was at a record high: 81% of our students passed on their first try.
- This year's spring appeal phone-a-thon for the Public Interest Loan Assistance Program (PILAP) resulted in 116 pledges, for a total of \$3,800. Thanks to all who contributed!
- More than 2,700 students applied for admission to the Fall 1992 entering class. It is expected that the class will have approximately 210 students.
- There are currently 27 alumni living and working overseas. Countries include Australia, Canada, China, England, France, Hong Kong, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Republic of South Africa, and Switzerland.

Class Notes

Class of 1991

Gayle Allen has joined the Stockton law firm of Neumiller & Beardslee as an associate.

Class of 1990

Caroline Guzzetta Allen has opened her own office in San Francisco, specializing in personal injury cases.

Mark Lobb practices with Borton, Petrini & Conran, based in San Diego.

Dexter Louie, M.D., was elected to the board of directors of the San Francisco Medical Society.

Richard Paris is an associate with Paris and Paris, specializing in business and commercial law. He is also an associate mediator with the offices of Tim Emerick-Cayton in Kentfield.

Robert D. Turnbull is a civil rights investigator with the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission.

Class of 1989

Kathleen Wyatt lives in Chicago and works as a grantwriter and fundraiser for Access Living, a non-profit organization that helps individuals with disabilities lead independent lives.

Class of 1988

William K. Peterson, Jr. has joined the Paris office of Arthur Andersen International, where he will consult on U.S. tax law.

Jane Tishkoff has been promoted to assistant general counsel for the Norcal Mutual Insurance Company, where she is responsible for advising the human resources, underwriting, and risk management departments, as well as for reviewing physician contracts and responding to their medical and legal questions.

Class of 1987

Julie Ann Candoli has relocated to Austin, Texas.

Class of 1986

Caroline Karp is a project manager for the Narragansett Bay Project in Providence, Rhode Island, which is part of the Environmental Protection Agency's estuary program.

Class of 1985

Richard H. Brattain has opened a private practice in Las Vegas, where he specializes in personal injury and workers' compensation cases.

Barbara Coccodrilli Carlson has relocated to Albany, New York to be the director of program and policy at the New York State Child Care Coordinating Council.

Class of 1984

Sarah MacMurraugh is currently working for the State Compensation Insurance Fund, doing workers' compensation defense in the Stockton office.

J. Virginia Peiser has joined the Walnut Creek law firm of Schofield & Schiller as a senior associate, where she continues to practice tax planning and compliance, real estate and general business transactions, and estate planning. She is a certified specialist in taxation law and was elected president of the Contra Costa County Bar Association Tax Section for the 1991-92 year.

Susan Rabin teaches Legal Aspects of Arts Administration in the graduate business program at GGU. She also runs a private practice in entertainment law in San Francisco, lectures for the California Lawyers for the Arts, and serves on the Committee of the Sports and Entertainment Law Section of the Bar Association of San Francisco.

Class of 1983

Kathryn Anderson has been promoted to partner of the San Francisco office of Lewis, D'Amato, Brisbois & Bisgaard.

Cindy A. Ossias has been promoted to senior staff counsel for the Department of Insurance, Legal Division, in San Francisco.

Class of 1982

George H. John has been named by the California State Bar as a certified specialist in probate estate planning, and trust law.

Anne Payne has been promoted to partner of Landels, Ripley & Diamond in San Francisco.

Barbara Solomon is currently working part-time as a deputy city attorney in the San Francisco City Attorney's Office.

Class of 1980

The Honorable **Anne Bouliane** has been appointed to the San Francisco Superior Court bench. She had previously been a municipal court judge for the City.

Sheila Brogna is a founding partner of Children's Law Offices, Inc., in San Francisco, a non-profit law office representing children in non-fee generating litigation on welfare, education, civil rights, custody, domestic violence, and abuse issues.

Gregory Ebstein has been named a partner in the San Francisco office of Ericksen, Arbuthnot, Brown, Kilduff & Day.

Geri Anne Johnson has been promoted to partner at the Eureka-based law firm of Harland & Gromola. She is a specialist in the areas of education law, governmental law, appellate practice, and general practice matters and an acting deputy county counsel for Del Norte County.

Virginia Palmer has been promoted to partner of Fitzgerald, Abbott & Beardsley in Oakland.

Class of 1979

Claire S. Reiner has assumed directorship of Commonground: The Dispute Resolution Center of Skagit County in Mt. Vernon, Washington, an organization that focuses on resolving disputes outside of the traditional adversarial process.

Robert Shubow is in private practice in Corte Madera, emphasizing business and couples mediation. He also works with individuals on stress reduction and self-empowerment issues.

School of Law

We Need Your Help!

Please let us know when you have moved so that we will have your current address.

If you have news for the **Alumni Forum**, we'd like to hear from you. Please clip and mail this form to:

Golden Gate University
School of Law
Development Office
536 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA
94105-2968
or FAX it to:
(415) 495-2671

Questions?

Call (415) 442-7000,
ext. 7554

Alumni News and Address Confirmation

Name _____ Class Year _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Business Phone () _____

Firm Name _____

Position _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Home Address? _____ Yes _____ No

New Business Address? _____ Yes _____ No

My preferred mailing address is: _____ Home _____ Business

NEWS FOR THE ALUMNI FORUM: _____

Stephen Siegel serves as a public defender in Santa Cruz where he also does private criminal defense work. He invites any classmates who are coming to the Santa Cruz area to give him a call.

Class of 1978

Robert M. Wagman is a tax partner with Price Waterhouse in Century City, where he provides tax and other types of financial counseling services to T.V. and film production companies and entertainers, executives, and other individuals associated with the entertainment industry.

Class of 1977

Nancy B. Cherney has been promoted to senior vice president of Capital Guaranty in San Francisco, where she is responsible for all the legal affairs of the company and its subsidiaries and for preparation of the corporate books.

Carol Goodman and **Kathleen S. King**, formerly with Henning, Walsh & King, have formed a partnership and relocation of their law practices under the name King and Goodman, based in San Francisco. The firm specializes in business, tax, labor, and employment law.

Marc Van Der Hout received the Judith G. McKelvey Award for Outstanding Achievement by an Alumnus at the Annual Commencement Ceremony of the Golden Gate University School of Law in May.

Class of 1976

Sara Simmons is president of the International Aviation Womens Association for a two-year term. She is a partner at Wright, Robinson, McCammon, Ostheimer & Tatum in San Francisco.

continued on next page



Golden Gate University
 School of Law
 536 Mission Street
 San Francisco, CA 94105-2968
 (415) 442-7000, ext. 7554

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 San Francisco, Ca.
 Permit No. 8212

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Class Notes, continued

Class of 1975

Tom Buford is practicing law in Ventura, emphasizing labor relations and business. He was recently elected to the Ventura City Council.

Milton Oliver has opened a Stamford, Connecticut satellite of his Manhattan patent law office.

Class of 1974

The mayor of San Francisco proclaimed January 7 Ruth Astle Day, in honor of her work with the San Francisco Rent Board.

The Honorable Lee Baxter has been appointed to the San Francisco Superior Court bench, having served as a municipal court judge since 1987.

Class of 1973

Allan I. Shatkin is employed as a research attorney with Alsop, Silva, Clasen & Raffalow in Los Angeles and as house counsel for Mercury Insurance, where he writes coverage opinions.

Class of 1971

Roger E. Holl is practicing law in Anchorage, Alaska in the areas of commercial law, real estate law, and personal injury.

Lawrence G. Olson has been appointed city manager for the City of Carson.

Class of 1952

Patricia A. Carson has been commissioned to a four year term on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

Faculty Notes

Professor Myron Moskovitz gave a speech called "Winning an Appeal" to the Contra Costa County Bar Association in May.

Professor David Oppenheimer gave a presentation on "Communicating a Sexual Harassment Policy" at the Annual Convention of the International Association of Business Communicators in May.

Registrar Wally Walker was elected Assistant Executive Director for the National Network of Law School Officers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Watch for announcements about the following Law School events during the 1992-93 school year:

* **Judges Night**, honoring newly appointed San Francisco Superior Court Judges Ann Bouliane and Lee Baxter

***State Bar Annual Meeting Luncheon**

***Class Reunion** for the classes of 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987

Vol. 17, No. 2

Alumni Forum is published twice a year by Golden Gate University School of Law for graduates and others interested in the school and its activities.

Writer/Editor: Andi Stein

Please send address changes, letters to the editor, comments, and requests to:

Editor
Alumni Forum
 Golden Gate University
 School of Law
 536 Mission Street
 San Francisco, CA 94105-2968

Transitions

Linda Ackley, '84, gave birth to a daughter, Emma Ackley Bowman, on December 27, 1991.

Richard H. Brattain, '85, married Susan Fong in May 1990. Susan's uncle, Bill Hing, is a former law professor at GGU.

In Memoriam

David E. Adelson, '50
 Thomas Rettig Cooper, '81
 Alan D. French, '79
 Isabel C. Greiner, '45
 John A. Mord, Jr., '32
 Frank J. Reilly, '66