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Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

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Volume 4 · Issue 1
Cleveland-Marshall Law
Alumni Association News

"Winter Woods" by Gloria Plevin
Dear Fellow Alumni:

It is with deep sadness that I must announce my resignation as President of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association. I have accepted a position as Managing Attorney for the Maui Office of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii. My duties officially begin March 1, 1996.

Although I am very excited about this wonderful opportunity to further my personal growth and professional career, I have formed friendships through this Association with people I will sorely miss.

This is an exciting time for the alumni of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. The present and future direction of this Association is being redefined by its Board of Trustees in order that we may better serve its members and the College of Law.

Although I am departing, I nevertheless remain firmly committed to the principles of maintaining and increasing the capital foundation of this organization and to do so with a view towards serving the law school and the interests of those who are in need of legal services but cannot afford them.

This year’s Annual Recognition Luncheon is honoring two of Cleveland-Marshall’s finest in Judge Patricia Blackmon and Judge James J. Sweeney. These two individuals exemplify the diversity, expertise and moral character which signify a Cleveland-Marshall education.

The quality of the Continuing Legal Education seminars sponsored by the Law Alumni Association continues to be second to none, and the students are benefiting as never before from the mentoring they receive from Marshall alumni.

Unfortunately, membership is not as high as it should be. I again urge you to do yourself a favor and consider the benefits of being a member of an organization which can produce the type of quality publication you are about to read. I will make every effort to identify all alumni dispersed throughout the state of Hawaii and get them on board.

It does not matter how far away we go, it is what we do that counts. It is how we distinguish ourselves as persons and professionals that matters. The common bond of a Cleveland-Marshall juris doctor is the passport.

This farewell letter would not be complete without thanking Dean Steven R. Smith, Jerry Walton, Rich Koblentz and Mary McKenna for their tireless support, expertise, and relentless enthusiasm.

I am told that when you live on an island you quickly learn that reliance upon others, selfless contribution and a strong sense of community are indispensable survival skills. These four people have already taught me well. I will take with me all that I have learned.

Sincerely,

Gary J. Maxwell
About the cover artist:

Gloria Plevin has studied art at the Ohio University, the Cooper School of Art, the Cleveland Institute of Art, the Chautauqua Summer Schools, and the Albert Handel Workshops. Her paintings have been widely exhibited in regional and national exhibitions, including a one-person show at the Butler Institute of American Art. Ms. Plevin is listed in Who's Who in American Art 1995.

Of her paintings Ms. Plevin writes: "My large acrylic paintings and smaller pastels and monoprints are landscapes inspired by the Chautauqua region which has been summer home to my family for a quarter of a century. My attraction to this area is profound, and its picture-making possibilities seem endless. Perhaps it is the girl in me who grew up in Clarksburg, West Virginia, also the foothills of the Appalachians, who feels so at home and never tires of looking in wonder at the amazing variety of beauty in Chautauqua County."

Ms. Plevin is married to Leon M. Plevin '57. In Cleveland her work is represented by the Verne Collection and the Brenda Kroos Gallery. The Kroos Gallery will exhibit her paintings in a landscape show beginning January 19, 1996.
THE MOOT COURT PROGRAM: A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

A large display case dominates the wall on the south end of the College of Law atrium. The case houses the law school's trophy collection; by far the greatest number of trophies are those won by two decades of Cleveland-Marshall Moot Court Teams competing against and triumphing over teams from law schools all around the country in contests testing quick wits and oral and brief-writing skills. Recently a gleaming silver tray and bowl joined the trophy collection. The two new additions acknowledge the victory of third year students Rachelle Zidar, Todd Schrader and Aaron Reber at the Benton National Moot Court Competition in Information Law and Privacy in Chicago. The team walked off with first place honors and best petitioner's brief honors in the competition.

The Benton victory meant that the 1995-96 Cleveland-Marshall Moot Court Teams, like their predecessor teams, were bound for glory. And, in fact, by the close of the fall semester, Cleveland-Marshall had already sent three teams to two major national competitions with impressive results: One team placed first, one advanced to the quarter finals, and one team advanced to the semi-finals; two teams submitted first-place briefs, and the third team submitted a third-place brief. In the National Regional Moot Court Competition in Columbus, Ohio, the Cleveland-Marshall team of Sandra DeBalzo, Linda Silakoski, Daniel Urban, Janice Aitken, David Arena and Robert Patton was honored as the Best Ohio Team, surpassing students from Case Western Reserve University School of Law and Ohio State University. In the meantime, as honors mount, the shelves of the trophy case fill up, and custodians ponder how to accommodate even a single slim plaque, much less the numerous trays, bowls and bronzed figurines the College's teams pack up and bring home year after year.

For one member of the College community, the problem of how to display the booty is of little consequence, for according to CMLAA Life Member Professor Stephen J. Werber, the resplendent trophies don't represent the real prizes. For the last 15 years Professor Werber has directed the Moot Court Program, advising its Board of Governors and coaching, cajoling, scolding.
CLEVELAND-MARSHALL: HEADING TOWARD THE NEXT ONE HUNDRED YEARS

by Steven R. Smith

The end of 1995 is the final chapter of the law school’s 99th year of preparing women and men for careers in law. The year-to-come begins our one-hundredth year and heads us toward our centennial celebration in 1997, an event we have already begun to anticipate with eagerness. Because our alumni have been such a significant part of our history, I hope each of you will become a significant part of our Centennial.

The closing of 1995 is tinged with nostalgia, for we will have to get used to Cleveland-Marshall without two of our most valuable colleagues. Professor Joan E. Baker, retiring after the spring.

Dean Sierk has been at the College since 1968, serving both as a teacher and an administrator. In recent years he has been the chief administrator of the night school program, recruiting adjunct faculty when necessary and coordinating the scheduling of classes and teachers. Both these colleagues are featured in this issue of Law Notes. The College held a farewell reception for Professor Baker in October; we will honor Dean Sierk later in the year. We will miss them both.

This 1995 December has set its mark upon us with heavy snowfall and blustery winds, challenging us with a winter already as remarkable for cold as the past summer was for heat. Yet daily we discover that inclement weather brings out the best in many of us. Faculty, staff and students emerge from the city and suburbs and appear at school on time, only mildly discomforted by the sometimes treacherous ride to work; classes proceed as usual, followed by exams and the welcomed holiday break. While we inside work steadily and warmly, outside work continues apace on the new library site, now almost ready for the actual construction to begin. Soon we will see the walls of this long-awaited facility rise, and by August of our centennial in 1997, we will be moved into this super library. When these two events are underway, the centennial celebration and the opening of the law library, we will truly feel that the past and the present have come together and that the future has begun. Remember, you are a part of it all.

I wish each of you a Happy New Year.

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ASSOCIATE DEAN
CARROLL SIERK: CLEVELAND-MARSHALL'S INSTITUTIONAL WIZARD

By Professor William L. Tabac

It is a late Friday afternoon, a quiet reflective time at the law school, as good a time as any, I conclude, to confront our "Institutional Memory." So I head for Carroll H. Sierk's office.

This tribute to Sierk—paid in an otherwise innocuous memo that made the rounds of the faculty—leapt out at me. It had never even occurred to me that the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law might have an Institutional Memory.

Now, after having finally ferreted out our living archive, we were about to lose him. After 27 years, Sierk was retiring. The prospect of wandering aimlessly, without history or mission, doomed to repeat our worst mistakes, made me uneasy.

The decor of his office only hints at the Pentagon-like War Room that it really is. From here, the most vital decisions for the Law School community are made, namely, who will teach what courses and when and where classes will be held.

Bent over his desk, his trademark array of pens, pencils, graph paper and legal size pad within easy reach, he sketches sly compromises between faculty and students—faculty who gripe about lousy classroom configurations and teaching too many days or at night, and students who can never seem to find the courses they want.

As he motions toward a chair, he squints at me through his glasses. The lenses are so thick that, on a clear night, he can probably see Jupiter. An unresolved issue is whether he will have cataract surgery, a procedure that, because of his advancing years and frail condition, could threaten his life.

His face is soft, a beacon of his warm, gentle demeanor. The voice, like the rest of his delicate appearance, is peaceful, the accent unmistakably Texas. When spoken, his words do not explode; instead, they hover in the air, then slowly fade. His bottom lip is curled; the fact that he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth probably has nothing to do with it.

"We were quite well off," he says self-consciously about his earliest years in Dallas, Texas. "We lived in a mansion."

Through some shrewd bargaining, he explains, his businessman-father was able to convince the bank to finance the house with a non-recourse mortgage. During the Depression, when the family's fortunes evaporated, the house was quitclaimed to the bank and the Sierks moved, unburdened by debt, to the outskirts of the city, onto a farm.

Sierk began his professional career as a CPA. He then earned an LLB from St. Mary's in Texas and a Master of Laws Degree from SMU. Before coming to the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1968, he taught law at St. Mary's and then briefly at Mercer in Georgia.

His goal was to become dean of a law school. His face brightens at a memory: It was his 15 minutes of fame at St. Mary's when he served as the school's Acting Dean. The first entry in his Cleveland-Marshall memory bank, however, is a traumatic one of a bitter divorce. When he arrived at the Law School, it had just severed its affiliation with Baldwin-Wallace College.

"The Baldwin-Wallace people wanted to make all the decisions from the main campus, even hand-picking the Dean!" he recalls emphatically, explaining how the tiny law school faculty had split into two warring factions during the merger.

He arrived just after a purge of the dissidents; the gangly, soft-spoken Texan was part of a group of new law school faculty that were hired.

Back then, Sierk recalls, riffling through his remembrances, there was...
only a small full-time day division. The school was located in a factory building, sharing space with the Jewish Vocational Service. (Because there were too many lawyers then, too, the tenant was happy to help with the glut.)

The merger with Cleveland State brought Craig Christensen, a brash, new Dean, and an appointment for Sierk as Assistant Dean. It also launched a protracted power struggle between the visionary Christensen and the University.

Sierk's first assignment demonstrated his uncanny knack of appearing to give everyone what they want.

"It can't be done!" Christensen asserted in his memorable style. But Sierk did it: With a tremendous push and some finagling, he was able to integrate the day-to-day law school schedule into the rigid University block system.

During the Christensen years, Sierk found himself clinging to his notepads and pens for dear life. As a wide-eyed observer-participant, he witnessed the pouring of the foundation of a modern, University-based law school, the dedication of a new law building and the suppression of another painful faculty revolt.

Keeping his eyes glued to his graph paper, Sierk was able to hold on. The day program burgeoned and the school became the state's largest. There was a batch of new faculty to contend with and a greater, more diverse group of students as well.

Under Robert Bogomolny and the Era of Good Feeling that followed the tumultuous Christensen years, Sierk remained on as Assistant Dean, still the man-in-the-middle, bridging students and faculty.

Then, in 1988, he moved a step closer to his goal. Professor Lizabeth Moody, the Interim Dean who took over when Bogomolny left, named Sierk as Associate Dean of the law school. With Steve Smith's arrival, however, the dream would be over. Because of Sierk's advancing age and health problems, he could no longer cling to it.

We mull over the troubled years and the high and mighty direction that the school is taking. This prompts an expression of worry from Sierk about the law school's mission.

"I would hate to see us become an elitist institution," he says somberly, reflecting on the dwindling night school. "We must not turn our backs on the working men and women who, because of the opportunity given them by our part-time program, have been able to enter the profession and achieve so much success."

Outside Sierk's office, I reflect on the multitude of faculty (myself included) and students who have poked their heads inside to request something of him.

As the perpetual man-in-the-middle, Carroll Sierk has served a unique role. For almost three decades, he has accommodated the most pressing professional needs of students and faculty to keep the College of Law functioning on a day-to-day level.

But much more important, in the midst of all the upheavals and changes, this man has scissored and pasted together a program that allowed generations of faculty and students to discover the heart, courage and brains of their chosen profession.

A plodding, everyday job and a life's work to admire, rolled up in one.

A job well done by an Institutional Wizard, humbly and quietly, with only a little smoke and maybe one or two mirrors.

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<th>WELCOME NEW LIFE MEMBERS</th>
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Prior to a Cleveland-Marshall alumni gathering in Washington last year, I met with Louise Dempsey and Sonia Winner. They informed me that many of the students currently at Cleveland-Marshall were interested either in the field of international law or in practicing law with an organization that is internationally oriented, such as the State Department. I have worked at the State Department since I graduated from Cleveland-Marshall in 1986. Presently, I serve as an Attorney Advisor for the Bureau of Consular Affairs Office of Overseas Citizens Services. I draft legislation, regulations and opinions concerning consular issues (basically, matters concerning individual U.S. citizens or their interests overseas, such as judicial assistance, assistance in emergency situations, opinions on acquisition and loss of citizenship, implementation and drafting of consular and related treaties, and a host of other issues).

Note: Law Notes is pleased to publish an article by Michael Meszaros '86, who has worked at the U.S. Department of State since his graduation. After hearing of his month in Liberia as acting Consul, we asked Michael to let Law Notes publish an account of his experiences for our alumni and students interested in international law careers. We are grateful Michael was willing to send us the story following.
During the past five years in this job, I have gained considerable experience in dealing with emergency situations at U.S. Embassies. I have visited our posts abroad to provide assistance on four occasions: twice to our Embassy in Port Au Prince, one of these times during the 1991 coup, and once to the U.S. Liaison Office in Mogadishu, Somalia. I would like to share with you some of the more interesting moments of my most recent sojourn. From July 1 until August 10 of 1995, I was Acting Consular Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia.

U.S. Consular Officers perform a wide range of functions, from issuing visas to visit or live in the U.S. to safeguarding the estates of deceased U.S. citizens. The Embassy in Monrovia presents a particularly challenging environment for consular work. Since 1990, Liberia has been engulfed in a civil war. Currently, the United States Government does not recognize any of the competing factions in the conflict as a legitimate government. The area around the capital city of Monrovia is occupied by forces of the West African Peace Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), made up of soldiers from Nigeria, Ghana, and a few other African countries. The area outside of the ECOMOG-occupied zone is heavily mined. Fighting between the competing factions occasionally erupts. In Monrovia itself, the crime rate is very high. The Consular Information Sheet published by the State Department's Office of Overseas Citizens Services states that "[t]he police are ill-equipped and largely incapable of providing effective protection." Unemployment is at least 50% and perhaps as high as 80%. The city has no municipal electricity or water. As you would expect, the phone service is uneven at best.

The Consular Information Sheet provides information on the conditions found in a country. Before going to Liberia, I bought a copy of Graham Greene's Journey Without Maps. The book describes a journey Greene made in 1935 across Liberia. Prior to setting out on his journey, Greene consulted a British Government Blue Book, which seems to have served the same purpose as our Consular Information Sheet. The Blue Book made the following observations about Liberia in 1935:

The rat population may fairly be described as swarming, the wooden and corrugated iron houses lend themselves to rat harborage... The absence of any attempt by the Government, not only to take effective steps to control yellow fever or plague, but even to arrange for the notification of yellow fever, as well as the complete lack of medical supervision of ships touching the Liberian coast. As far as is known, the principal diseases in the interior include elephantiasis, leprosy, yaws, hookworm, schistosomiasis, dysentery, smallpox and nutritional conditions. In the whole country there are only two doctors in Monrovia, both foreign and both engaged in private practice, a medical officer on the Firestone Plantations, and three or four missionary doctors working in the interior.

Many of the observations Greene made (or that are mentioned in the British Government Blue Book he consulted before leaving for the trip) are true today.

I arrived from Abidjan, the capital of the adjoining nation of Cote D'Ivoire, on July 1 on an old Russian aircraft which had a Russian flight crew. This particular airline provides the most reliable service into Monrovia's Spriggs Payne Airport. The landing was smooth, despite the many potholes on and around the runway. The airport is not fenced in and there is no security on the field itself. People (and a wide... Continued on next page
meet stringent requirements and can be denied a visa on a variety of legal grounds, the most common being that they are intending to immigrate to the U.S. At smaller U.S. Embassies, such as the one in Liberia, the consular officer personally adjudicates many, if not most, of the non-immigrant visas. For many of the visa applicants, the consular officer’s decision is very important. Due to the volume of the applications, the consular officer has a very short time to make these crucial decisions.

During my stay in Monrovia, I also conducted several interviews for immigrant visas. An immigrant visa permits a foreign national to live and work in the U.S., and the individual may eventually obtain U.S. citizenship. Generally, I found the immigrant visa applicants to be hard-working, decent people who will one day make fine U.S. citizens.

Unfortunately, there is a less savory side to visa work. This involves fraudulent attempts to enter the U.S. (by selling and altering passports with valid U.S. visas in them, printing authentic appearing U.S. visas, etc.). I spent some time with the Embassy’s Regional Security Officer (RSO) investigating and attempting to eliminate this fraudulent activity.

Another aspect of consular work is the protection of U.S. citizens abroad; however, my most memorable citizen service incident in Monrovia occurred on Saturday, July 15. I was in my apartment watching a baseball game when the guard at the front door of my apartment building telephoned me and stated that a man was outside with information about a deceased American. I quickly went down to talk to him. A portion of his story convinced me that the deceased individual was probably not a U.S. citizen, but since the U.S. is currently the only Western Embassy in Liberia, we help out when we can. I radioed the RSO (all U.S. Embassy personnel in Liberia carry a portable radio) and asked him to pick me up in his car and take me to the hospital where the deceased person was reported to be.

On arrival at the hospital, the orderly took me to a small corrugated metal shed where the body was stored. I viewed the body and immediately noticed the rather high temperature of the shed. I was concerned that the body would not last too long if kept there. I asked the orderly what was going to happen next to the remains, and he made a motion which indicated that they would be unceremoniously removed to the rear of the hospital. (There is no municipal morgue in Monrovia.) Although I was reasonably (?!) sure that they would not simply dispose of the body in the back of the hospital, I immediately tried to make appropriate arrangements for the remains. After several minutes of intense negotiation, the hospital’s chief of security agreed to provide a van to transport the remains to the nearest funeral home.

While the security chief was arranging the transportation, I entered the hospital to obtain information about the deceased from the attending physician. The hospital was a large warehouse-like structure. Portions of the floor were compacted earth (dirt), while other portions were crumbling concrete. The ‘rooms’ consisted of many separate partitions of various heights and design but generally white in color. As I talked with the attending physician, a man of few words, I noticed a decent-sized pool of a reddish liquid (blood?) about three feet away from my left foot. Eventually, through sheer persistence, I was able to obtain the name of the deceased and something that resembled a death certificate, with a cause of death and a typical Liberian address for the deceased (e.g., the house by the river).

As I emerged from the hospital, the orderlies had just finished placing the corpse, which was on a stretcher covered with a bed sheet, in the van. The van was very small and about two feet of the stretcher hung out of the back through partially closed doors. About eight “attendants,” some of whom may have worked for the hospital, (whereas some of the others may have been just loitering about the hospital), clambered into the vehicle, hovering around and over the dead body. The van then proceeded to the nearest funeral home, with the RSO and me following at a respectful distance. Once at the funeral home, I had a lively and sometimes heated discussion with the establishment’s director, centering on the fact that neither I nor the U.S. government would be responsible for the cost of storage or burial of the body. (By U.S. law, the U.S. government cannot pay for the repatriation of a deceased private U.S. citizen.) An understanding was eventually reached, with the funeral director agreeing to hold the remains until the next of kin was located. Before departing the funeral home, I paid the driver of the van $10 Liberian and each “attendant” $5 Liberian (approximately 18¢ and 9¢
U.S., respectively) which, for the most part, they seemed happy to receive.

The next day I was able to locate the deceased's home, establish the fact that he was not a U.S. citizen but the national of another country, and recover his passport and personal effects. Fortunately, I am able to report that his country's foreign ministry was able to locate a next of kin, who was in the process of forwarding money to Liberia for burial when I left Monrovia.

My other major citizen services issue, alluded to earlier in my comments regarding the airport, occurred on July 26, Liberian Independence Day. Generally U.S. Embassies celebrate local holidays, and we were off on this day. After having my fill of "Good Morning America," I left my apartment to work out at the Embassy's gym. On the way out of the door, I picked up my radio. As I turned it on, I heard it crackle with intense bursts of speech, which, for some reason, I ignored. As I walked into the Embassy, I was greeted by the Charge (who is the highest ranking U.S. official at an Embassy which does not have an Ambassador). He was happy to see me (almost ecstatic) and "glad that I was monitoring my radio and had immediately come over when I heard about the air crash." I stammered out something about always being prepared for an emergency.

The Charge quickly organized a little group to deal with this crisis. A Nigerian airliner had crashed on landing at Spriggs Payne Airport. In a situation like this, the Embassy's role is to report the event and to ascertain if there are any U.S. citizens who need assistance. The Charge, the political officer, the duty secretary, and I set up shop in the Charge's office, while the RSO and the chief of our local guard force went to the crash site. The Embassy nurse stood by to go to local hospitals. The RSO reached the crash site and reported what was happening via his portable radio. The political officer drafted required telegrams which were immediately forwarded to the Department. I called the two applicable offices in the State Department (the Operations Center and my own office) and reported what was going on (practically in real time).

Miraculously, no one was killed in the crash. The Embassy nurse interviewed all who were treated for injuries at two local hospitals (neither of which was the one I visited earlier), and none were U.S. citizens. Sometime during the passengers' and crew's quick exit from the aircraft, it caught fire. This posed a considerable problem because there are no operable fire engines in Liberia; however, the police did have a light tank equipped with a water cannon for riot control. This was employed but had minimal effect on the fire. Continued on next page

The best relationships are based on trust.
When the fire burned itself out, a large crowd looted what was left of the aircraft. Perhaps the water cannon would have been more effective if it had been used at this juncture, but some of the looters appear to have been soldiers and police. I visited the airport the next day and the only remnants of the aircraft were the nose, the tail and the wings. When I took off out of the airport on August 10, these remnants were still in the same spot.

I hope I have managed to convey some of the unusual challenges we sometimes face in the State Department. While my work in Washington is not normally as exciting as the incidents related above, it does sometimes have its moments, and my trips abroad have provided me with some adventure. I fully realize that most Cleveland-Marshall alumni, students and professors would not consider my sojourns to Port Au Prince, Mogadishu or Monrovia to be adventurous and fun, as I do. In this regard, I may be just a little 'different' from my law school contemporaries; nevertheless, during the nine years that I have worked for the State Department, I can honestly say that I have had a rewarding and thrilling career.

This article does not represent the opinions or views of the U.S. Government, its agencies or employees.

We hope Michael's article will be the first of many written by alumni and alumnae about their professional lives. If you would like to write such an article for us, please phone or write Mary McKenna, Executive Director of the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association and Editor of Law Notes.

IN MEMORIAM
Helen M. Farnacy '20
D. Harland Jackman '29
Gilbert Weil '30
Aurel G. Ostendorf '31
Robert L. Ball '39
William J. Petro '41
Albert J. Biro '53
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SPRING 1996 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 24  Litigation Essentials: Negotiation - The Art of Compromise
March 9    Labor Law: Wrongful Discharge & Discrimination
March 23   Estate Practice
April 13   Professional Responsibility and Substance Abuse
April 27   Subrogation
May 11    Driving Under the Influence

EIGHTEEN HOURS OF QUALITY, CONVENIENT, TIMELY CLE PROGRAMS

• All programs approved for 3 Ohio CLE credits
• Information and registration information to be sent separately for each scheduled program
• All programs presented in the Moot Court Room, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
• Unless otherwise specified, all programs on Saturday mornings, 9:00 am to 12:15 pm
• Coffee and doughnuts available from 8:30 am
• Attendance required for CLE credit
• Printed materials available for all programs to be distributed at session
• All programs emphasize "current events"
• CLE faculty all outstanding in respective fields
• CMLAA-CLE will submit registration/credit forms to Supreme Court
• Tuition: Advance registration, paid 7 days in advance: $80
  Registration paid less than 7 days in advance: $95
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• CMLAA MEMBERS RECEIVE A SPECIAL $10 PER PROGRAM DISCOUNT UPON ADVANCE REGISTRATION.
Many Classes; Much Fun: Five Classes Reunite in Cleveland

Members of the Cleveland-Marshall classes of 1954, 1955, 1970, 1975 and 1980 joined together for a gala weekend of festivities: a tour on Lolly the Trolley for those who had not visited Cleveland in many years, an Indians game in the new Jacobs Field, lunch at the law school and a reception and dinner at the Wyndham Hotel, Cleveland's newest and most sumptuous. Though 26 years separated the alumni and alumnae of the 'oldest' and 'youngest' classes, all were united in their affection for their alma mater, and there were good stories, good food and good times aplenty.

The Law Alumni Association is grateful to Joseph B. Jerome '75 for chairing the event and to these representatives of their classes for heading the individual class effort: Daniel McCarthy for the class of 1954, the Honorable George W. White for the class of 1955, Steven Brown and Jeff Rich for the class of 1970, Rich Koblentz and Joe Jerome for the class of 1975 and Jerry Walton and Howard Mishkind for the class of 1980.

Alan Ross, Hon. Patricia Hemann, Tony Palmieri

The Class of 1980
MEMORIES...

Janet and Howard Egert

Dan McCarthy, Fredrick Korey, Berthina Palmer

Lillian White, Molly Feliciano, Judge George White

Helen and Ralph Stark

Lorraine Holmes, Caroline and Steve Brown

Gary Maxwell, Judge Diane Karpinski

Joe Jerome, Dean Smith, Rich Koblentz

Alfia Bourne, Owen McCafferty, Bill Sweeney, Irene Kotulic

Leslie and Jeff Rich, Dean Smith

Where "Lil" Things Mean a Lot

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"Lil John" Rinaldi
Supplier to the CMLAA

Winter 1996 13
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New Life Members

Joseph B. Jerome

Joseph B. Jerome is a 1975 cum laude graduate of Cleveland-Marshall. His BSBA is from Bowling Green State University. During the last two years of his law school studies, Joe served the City of Cleveland as a Federal Grant Monitor and then as CFO for the city of Cleveland Impact Cities program. He has been engaged in the private practice of law since 1976, presently as sole principal of Joseph B. Jerome and Associates, a law firm primarily engaged in the areas of commercial and real estate transactional law and commercial litigation.

Joe is licensed to practice law in the State of Ohio as well as before the Northern District Court of Ohio and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He is also licensed to practice before the United States Tax Court. He is a member of the American, Ohio State, and Cleveland Bar Associations as well as the American Arbitration Association. With the A.A.A., Joe serves as an arbitrator and mediator in respect to both Commercial and Construction Alternative Dispute Resolution and serves as the Vice Chairman of its Commercial Advisory Council. He resides in Lakewood with his wife, Sharon and their two daughters, Carolyn and Kathryn.

Two of the most engaging guests at the Alumni Reunion in September were Class of 1954 alumnus Howard E. Egert and his wife, Janet, the former “Lady Jan” of WJW’s Children’s Hour.

When Howard Egert left law school in 1954, juris doctor degree in hand, he went immediately to work in his father’s law office. After his father’s death the following year, Egert maintained the practice as a solo practitioner until joined by James J. Schneider in 1969, W. James Mayer, Jr., in 1985, and Edward Hack in 1989. Mr. Egert’s legal specialties include probate and trust planning and administration.

Like many Cleveland-Marshall students, our new Life Member already had an impressive service and employment record before entering law school: A graduate of the University of Michigan with a BSE, he served with the U.S. Army Air Forces as a Test Engineer from 1941-45. After his discharge from the Air Force, he joined Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corporation as Manager of its Aircraft Sales Division from 1945-48. In 1948 he joined ERF Acoustical Company as a contractor, and in 1950 he joined the General Motors Cadillac Tank Division as general foreman, Engineering Procurement.

Howard Egert

Egert is a Past President and Trustee of the Lakewood Little Theatre-Beck Center, a member of the Lakewood Kiwanis, the Ohio State Bar Association, and the Cleveland Bar Association.

Howard and Janet Egert live in Lakewood, Ohio. They are the parents of twins Steve, a Delta Airlines pilot, and Scott, now deceased. Their daughter, Terri Wood, a model and a photographer, lives in Darien, Connecticut, with her three children.

The Law Alumni Association looks forward to a relationship of many years with Howard Egert and his family.

Ralph A. Stark

The Class of 1955’s 40th reunion was made even more special as Ralph A. Stark was presented with a surprise gift from his wife, Helen: Life Membership in the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association. Ralph is a lifetime resident of Cleveland Heights. He served his country well, first in the U.S. Maritime Service and U.S. Army Transport Command during World War II, and later as a member of the U.S. Army’s 5th Infantry Division and Counter Intelligence Corps during the Korean War.

Ralph received his A.B. Degree from Kent State University and studied Political Science at Oxford University in England. He has been engaged in the private practice of law for 40 years with a concentration in probate and real estate property law. He and Helen are the proud parents of three sons, David, Robert and Jonathan, and two grandchildren.

A trial lawyer with over eighteen years of litigation experience in state and federal courts, L. Richard Musat is a 1975 cum laude graduate of Cleveland-Marshall, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the Gavel and was a member of the Moot Court Team. Mr. Musat is a strongly diversified litigator, with extensive trial experience in the areas of aviation law, products liability, contractual disputes, fires and explosions, commercial arbitrations, professional liability, and personal and wrongful death actions.

Mr. Musat is a licensed pilot with single-engine, multi-engine land and instrument ratings with over 2,000

Continued on next page
L. Richard Musat

hours. He is a member of the American, Colorado, and Denver Bar Associations, the International Association of Defense Counsel, Defense Research Institute, Colorado Defense Lawyer's Association, and the National Transportation Safety Board Bar Association. He is on the Board of Directors of the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association and serves as its Chairperson for the State of Colorado. Mr. Musat lives in Denver, Colorado, where he is a shareholder, officer and director of the law firm Treece, Alfrey & Musat, P.C. The Law Alumni Association was most pleased to have Mr. Musat in Cleveland for his 20-year reunion celebration.

Following his graduation from Staunton Military Academy and Kent State University, where he received a B.A. in Political Science and Sociology, William L. Summers began his law school education at the University of Miami School of Law. After a brief interruption, he came to Cleveland and graduated from Cleveland-Marshall in 1969. An accomplished trial attorney concentrating in trial practice and labor law, Mr. Summers has tried to conclusion over 300 civil and criminal jury trials.

Mr. Summers is admitted to practice in the U.S. Supreme Court, all State Courts of Ohio and Kentucky, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in over 10 states, as well as a host of U.S. District Courts and the U.S. Tax Court. He has served on the Board of various organizations, including: the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, both the Ohio and Kentucky Associations of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Horsemens Benevolent and Protective Association, the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and the Cuyahoga County Criminal Defense Lawyers, both of which he served as President. In addition, he is a member of the American Board of Criminal Lawyers, the American and Ohio State Bar Associations, the Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers, the Kentuck Association of Trial Attorneys and numerous others.

Mr. Summers lives in Chagrin Falls with his wife, Barbara, and their six children ranging in age from 7 to 24.
For the Dean and several administrators, October has come to mean reunion time with Cleveland-Marshall graduates living in the Washington, D.C., area. On October 5, Dean Steven R. Smith, Law Alumni Executive Director Mary McKenna, Assistant Dean for External Affairs Louise P. Dempsey ’81, Communications Coordinator Louise Mooney, and Sonia Winner, Interim Director of Career Planning, traveled to the capital for an alumni and friends reception at the Army and Navy Club.

Though the night was so drizzly and wet that traveling was hazardous, our alumni were undaunted, spirits were high, and the setting and food were splendid, thanks to alumnus William Bransford ’75, who sponsored the event.

Visiting our D.C. graduates is invigorating: Not only are they a sociable, enthusiastic group, they are also well-informed, and often we are treated to perspectives on national and international events that we would not otherwise have — especially from our many alumni and alumnae in the federal government. For instance, Michael Meszaros ’86, Attorney Advisor to the Bureau of Consular Affairs for the Department of State, had recently returned from Liberia where he served as Acting Consul. We were intrigued by his story and asked him to describe his African trip for us in this issue of Law Notes.

Michael’s news was not all business, however. He also announced that he has recently married and moved to Lorton, Virginia. Nor was Michael our only groom: Francis Allegra ’81, Assistant Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice, is also soon to be married. Like other alums in government and private practice, Fran has repeatedly welcomed us into his office at the Justice Department and given us good counsel in strategies for placing graduates who wish to locate in the D.C. area.

Another alumnus from the Department of State who came to our reception was Jay A. Rini ’70, Mission Director and Alternate Representative for the United States Mission to the Organization of American States.

We were pleased to see once more Joseph Vukovich ’61 from the Internal Revenue Service and two of our graduates working in branches of the military, William Kraus ’87, Trial Attorney with the Special Litigation Branch of the United States Air Force, and Ajay Pathak ’92, Patent Attorney with the Naval Research Laboratory, who attended our reception with his wife, Sushana. Another recent grad who keeps us informed on government business and Virginia politics is Steven Cerny ’89, Trial Attorney in the Office of Litigation and Fair Housing Enforcement, the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Finally, many thanks to all the alumni who braved the weather in order to be with us, including William Schmidt ’68, Everett Bellamy ’80, William LaMarca ’93, Tom Peterson ’81, Jeffrey Olson ’75, Rupinder Gill ’93 and Jeffrey Stickle ’86.
The Law Alumni Association hosted a gala holiday party honoring its Life Members and participants in the 1995-96 CMLAA Mentor Program. The Atrium of the Law School literally twinkled with over 200 in attendance for the ever popular annual reception. We are most grateful to each group, as they are instrumental in the future success of our law students. For a listing of Life Members, please see page 14.
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In 1975 Professor of Law Joan E. Baker left the University of Colorado School of Law where she had taught since 1970 to join the faculty of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. Two decades later, Professor Baker is retiring, an honored teacher and colleague and a distinguished scholar. On November 30, Dean Steven R. Smith hosted one of the largest retirement receptions in the College’s history, a gathering of faculty and present and former students, all convened to express affection for Joan Baker and gratitude for the contributions she has made to their lives.

At Cleveland-Marshall Professor Baker taught Contracts, Federal Jurisdiction, Employment Law, Labor Law, Women and the Law and many other courses. She will also be remembered for her concern for the College’s LCOP students and her involvement in the LCOP Summer Program. She is the author of a casebook, Law of Contracts (1982), and numerous articles, primarily in labor relations law. She is presently researching employment issues in American prisons.

Professor Baker’s law degree is from the National Law Center, George Washington University, where she was Order of the Coif, and her LL.M. is from Yale Law School. She holds memberships in several professional organizations, including the American Law Institute, the American Bar Association, the American Association of University Professors and the Advisory Board of the Labor-Management Relations Center. She is a founding member of the Ohio Women’s Bar Association and has been an active and conscientious member of numerous university and law school committees.

At the November 30 event, many colleagues gave testimonials to the part Professor Baker has played in their lives, including Dean Smith, Professor of Law and Life Member Susan Becker ’83 and Professor of Art Masumi Hayashi. Two former students, the Honorable Patricia Hemann ’80, U.S. District Court Judge Magistrate, and Pamela N. Hultin, who was Professor Baker’s student at the University of Colorado and is now a partner in the Cleveland firm of McCarthy, Lebit Crystal, & Haiman, also spoke of their gratitude to Professor Baker. Both have allowed Law Notes to publish their remarks. LFM
REMEmBERING JOAN BAKER

“JOAN SAYS YOU SHOULD APPLY”

By Hon. Patricia Hemann '80

W

When my husband, John, and I first moved to Cleveland, the Engineering and Law Schools were both in the Chester Building. John came home one afternoon early in the semester and announced that he had spoken with the law professor in the office next to his and she, Joan Baker, told him that a large number of women, even "older" women, were attending law school in the evening program. John handed me an application form and said, “Joan says you should apply.”

Joan did not ignore us. She held us to the same high standards as male students, interrogating and testing us so that we too were prepared for the real world.

Assuming that I would never be accepted, I did apply. After I received my acceptance, and before I began classes, I met Joan at a faculty function. I remember telling her, “I don’t think I can do this.” Giving me that look with which we are all familiar, she responded, “Of course you can.” Then she flashed a smile and walked away.

The message from Joan to me was not that I, as an individual, could in fact “do it” because Joan did not know me. Joan was not going to let me use the excuse that a woman with three children could not do it. Joan cared about the issue of women in the law.

Four years later I had Joan for law school. Professor Baker repeatedly thrilled and surprised me and the few other women in my law school class with her positive comments concerning the number of women who she believed should be practicing law and the exciting role she believed they should play in that practice. Professor Baker commented in our civil procedure class, to the shocked amazement of most of the men, that she expected 50 percent of law school students to be women since 50 percent of the college graduates were female. Most of us, including the women, thought she was dreaming and that it could never happen.

Professor Baker urged us to be excited about the future of the profession and about our place in it. Thank you for your vision, Professor Baker.

Back then, only three percent of the practicing attorneys were women, not the 22 percent we have today. Back then, only 10 percent of my class was female, not the over 40 percent who attend C-M today. It was such a male-oriented community that our husbands and fathers were praised for “letting” us go to law school. Professor Baker urged us to be excited about the future of the profession and about our place in it. Thank you for your vision, Professor Baker.

Today, for the first time in 22 years, I spoke to my good friend and classmate telling her, “JOAN SAYS YOU SHOULD APPLY.”

I am honored to have an opportunity to thank Joan Baker in person for having been a professor of mine at the University of Colorado School of Law back in Boulder, Colorado in the early 1970s. Joan Baker was the only woman professor I had during my law school career and the only one who did not mind the hippie student bringing her one-year-old baby to class with her.

I cannot stress strongly enough the need for diversity in the academic setting. Not only does the presence of a diverse faculty provide a comfort level to members of “minority” groups and provide role models, more important it gives those individuals the opportunity to excel, to be challenged equally with the nonminorities and to be prepared to compete.

Recently I was paging through a magazine and saw a sweatshirt with the letters W Y S I W Y G -WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOUR GET. I thought, "How appropriate that saying is when talking about Professor Baker.” We see, and we get, a person with deep convictions, a person who cares about her students, cares about women, cares about scholarship and who, above all, is true to herself.

Joan, you have my personal thanks for your ever present support. I am proud to be a part of this celebration of your contributions.

THANK YOU PROFESSOR JOAN BAKER

By Pamela N. Hultin

I am honored to have an opportunity to thank Joan Baker in person for having been a professor of mine at the University of Colorado School of Law back in Boulder, Colorado in the early 1970s. Joan Baker was the only woman professor I had during my law school career and the only one who did not mind the hippie student bringing her one-year-old baby to class with her.

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STUDENTS PRO BONO PROGRAM

By Professor Susan Becker '83

The Cleveland-Marshall Student Pro Bono Program is being further developed and refined through the collective efforts of the Pro Bono Committee. The Program matches student volunteers with lawyers in the community (including attorneys at nonprofit, public service agencies such as Legal Aid and Cleveland Works) who are doing pro bono work; the students provide research, writing, and other assistance to the attorneys.

The Pro Bono Committee is comprised of members of the newly-formed Public Interest Law Committee of the Law Alumni Association, representatives of student groups including the Student Bar Association (SBA) and Student Public Interest Organization (SPILO), Deans Steven Smith and Jean Lifter, members of the Placement Office, and several faculty members. The Student Pro Bono Program officially commenced last year with Dean Lifter serving as Director. Dean Lifter authored the Student Pro Bono Program Manual which provides extensive guidance on the respective roles and responsibilities of the students and supervising attorneys; she also developed and maintained a list of eligible placements with area agencies and attorneys. The successful placement of a modest number of students during the Program’s inaugural year has inspired the Pro Bono Committee to continue its work to improve the Program.

“I think this Program provides a great opportunity for our students to develop good habits regarding professional responsibility, habits which hopefully will carry into their lives after they graduate,” commented Dean Steven Smith. Dean Smith added that the continuation of public service after graduation in turn offers its own rewards by helping practitioners find meaning and balance in their professional lives.

“I don’t think I know anyone who has a complete and rewarding professional life without doing some type of public service or pro bono type of work,” Dean Smith said. “Lawyers who don’t engage in this type of work are missing out on a very satisfying experience and our community is missing out on the valuable services those lawyers could be providing.”

As Dean Smith observed, the Program has many obvious benefits for all involved. The student’s practice skills are developed through “hands on” experience and the attorney receives significant support in handling pro bono matters. The student’s sense of professional service and pride is enhanced as the attorney shares his or her valuable insight and knowledge with the student. The students formulate a view of public service which may inspire them to make pro bono work a routine part of their legal practice. Clients obtain quality legal services and the image of the profession is enhanced.

And, although participating attorneys take on additional responsibilities by serving as role models and mentors to the students with whom they collaborate on pro bono projects, the attorneys also receive more from the students than just research and written work product.

“Whenever an attorney takes the time to explain some area of the law or procedure to a student, the lawyer is acting as a teacher and mentor,” explained Megan Hensley '94, Chair of the Law Alumni Public Service Committee and Pro Bono Committee member. “This creates a situation where the attorney can reexamine his or her own views on the matter and look at the issues from whatever new perspectives are offered by the student.” Such a fresh perspective is especially helpful, Hensley noted, to an attorney who has practiced in a particular area for a significant amount of time.

While the benefits of the Student
Pro Bono Program are overwhelmingly positive, the challenges of administrating the Program are equally obvious. Students desiring to perform public service and the practicing attorneys engaged in pro bono work have many other demands on their time, thus rendering the match-making process somewhat of a logistic nightmare. Making sure students and the law school are indemnified by some type of malpractice insurance and overseeing the nature and quality of the students' work are also areas of concern.

"The Program is a natural fit with the school's commitment to the community and with our desire to help students obtain practical experience."

Building on the work done thus far, Pro Bono Committee members are exploring several options for increasing the scope of the Program. While the Pro Bono Program is likely to remain a relatively modest endeavor due to the many other personal and professional demands faced by students at Cleveland-Marshall, Committee members believe that it is a Program worthy of further attention and development.

"The Program is a natural fit with the school's commitment to the community and with our desire to help students obtain practical experience," Hensley commented. "We (the Alumni Public Service Committee) want to work with programs like this one to help make them stronger."

Options being considered to enhance the existing Pro Bono Program include strengthening the lines of communication between the law school and area nonprofit agencies which offer legal services to disenfranchised persons, connecting students with faculty members engaged in pro bono work, and coordinating placement efforts with existing pro bono and public service programs sponsored by local bar associations.

Members of the Pro Bono Committee welcome input from law alumni regarding all aspects of the Program. We also welcome requests from practitioners currently involved in pro bono work for student volunteers. Comments and suggestions regarding the Program should be directed to Dean Lifter, Beverly Pyle, or Susan Becker at the law school (687-2344) or Megan Hensley at 226-5000, extension 17.
BAR RESULTS

The Law Alumni Association would like to congratulate the following alumni who were successful applicants to the July 1995 bar exam:

Matthew Alden  
Theodore Amata  
Anil Anthony  
Neil Aragones  
Anne Arnold  
Awatif Assad  
Werner Bathol  
Matther Baumgartner  
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Carl Gedeon  
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Alexander Geotsch  
Jonathan Good  
Elizabeth Goodwin  
Lynn Grabiak  
David Grant  
Elizabeth Grant  
Matthew Grimm  
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Victoria Nagy  
Stephen O'Keefe  
Patrick O'Malley  
Carolyn Paschke  
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Michael Schmitz  
Craig Schwartz  
Diane Sekerak  
Shilpa Shah  
Stanley Shea  
Jennifer Sorce  
Eric Spade  
John Spellacy  
Janice St. John  
Robert Sylvester  
Joseph Szeman  
Susan Takacs  
Vicki Tansler  
Richard Timm  
David Tracy  
Elena Tuhy  
Darrell Tyburski  
Michele Tyrapak  
Donna Urbank  
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Nancy Walker  
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Renee Weiss  
Kimberly Yoder  
David Young  
Audra Zarlenoga  
Linda Zickar  
Richard Zielinski  
Stacy Zingler
RECENT GRADS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

A GRAND SLAM

The Cleveland Indians were instrumental in a successful Law Alumni Association membership drive for recent graduates in September. One hundred people attended the informal reception at Fanatics, followed by the Indians vs. Boston Red Sox at Jacobs Field. Special thanks to CMLAA Trustees Elaine Walton '93 and Megan Hensley '94 and SBA Officers Joshua Marks and Donna Andrew for their efforts.
Moot Court from page 2

and praising the numerous two and three member teams that travel the
country on behalf of the College of Law.
(“Oh, my God! Fifteen years! Fifteen
years!” exclaims Professor Werber, re-
calling the decade and a half he has
spent accompanying Moot Court stu-
dents to approximately five to seven
competitions a year: 15 years of jittery
students, plane and travel schedules, all
night appellate brief-
writing sessions and the inevitable last
minute unforeseen
risks. But also 15
years of astounding
successes, of watch-
ing students grow in
self-assurance and
lawyerly skills.)

“No, the real re-
wards are not the tro-
phies,” Werber states emphatically,
“Mind you, I like winning a lot better
than losing. But success in the trophy
case is only one form of winning.
You’ve written a tough brief, you’ve had
a best orals, you’ve won or been in the
final rounds. But the real rewards are
in the learning process itself. One of
the things we try to do is not lose sight
of those goals. We try to bring students
to an awareness that they can exceed
the potential they only sense they have.
We want them to know they can do it
as part of a team and professionally.”

For the Moot Court students, these are
the elusive, priceless rewards that can’t
be sealed away in glass cases: the trans-
formation of an insecure student into a
formidable advocate, the confidence in
one’s self that makes an attorney to be
reckoned with. And for Professor
Werber, the greatest reward is the 15-
year pleasure of sending upwards of 24
new attorneys a year into the nation’s
courts and law offices with skills already
perfected that might require years to
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And the payoff
has been enor-

mous,” adds the
Dean, a former
civil defense
litigator for the
Cities of Cleve-
land and East
Cleveland.

When Steve
Werber joined the
faculty 25 years
ago, he had, in
addition to an
LL.M. from New
York University
and a J.D. from
Cornell, six years
of legal experience behind him: one
year with the Federal Communications
Commission and five years in govern-
ment and private practice, principally
in product liability defense litigation.
His experience in private practice in-
forms his teaching and research, and
his background in litigation has been a
great benefit to the Moot Court Program as well. For many years, the Moot Court Program had been in the capable hands of Professor Ann Aldrich. When Professor Aldrich was appointed to the federal bench in 1981, the directorship of the program passed easily to Werber.

He has readily met the challenge of following in Judge Aldrich’s footsteps, building a program generally acknowledged as one of the country’s best. “The Moot Court Program,” reports Dean Steven R. Smith proudly, “is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate and sharpen practical skills. The dedication and success of Professor Werber and the Moot Court teams over the years are testimonials to the quality of our students and his instruction.”

In recent years as one success followed another, Moot Court has grown in popularity, and more and more students vie to be admitted into the Program. In this year alone the College will dispatch nine teams of 25 students to six competitions. So arduous has the schedule become that Werber, who, in addition to his Moot Court responsibilities, administers the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association’s CLE Program, teaches and publishes scholarly pieces, serves as consultant to a local law firm and is the busy advisor to the Journal of Law and Health, has had to seek assistance from his colleagues. Fortunately, he has been able to convince four of the law school’s most persuasive teachers to assume some of the coaching responsibilities. Karin Mika ’88, CMLAA Life Member and Assistant Director of the Legal Writing, Research and Advocacy Program, coached the Benton team and did an “excellent, splendid job,” according to Werber.

Professors Patricia Falk, Gregory Mark and CMLAA Life Member Steven Lazarus will coach three teams in contests during the second semester. Mark will take a team to Minneapolis for the Eleventh Annual University of Minnesota Civil Rights Competition, Falk will accompany students to Newark, New Jersey, for the Third Annual John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Competition and Lazarus will direct the team headed for Fort Lauderdale and the F. Lee Bailey Moot Court Competition. And Professor Werber? Well, he will not be too hard to find. Werber will continue to work with the teams and their special advisors, and he will coach and accompany a team to the National Appellate Advocacy Moot Court competition in March.

There are two other colleagues Werber cannot praise too highly (“You must put them in the article,” he instructs Law Notes): Holli Goodman, for 11 years the Administrative Secretary to Moot Court, and April Mixon, a more recent addition to the Program’s secretarial staff. Both are remarkable for their commitment to the Moot Court students and their coach, both willing to work long hours preparing briefs and both managing the scheduling of the teams’ tours and the annual Moot Court Night.

Though quick to acknowledge his indebtedness to the faculty who have volunteered to help him and the staff on whom he relies, the undisputed guiding spirit behind the Moot Court Program remains Stephen Werber. In a year which looks toward the College of Law centennial in 1997, a time when words like ‘tradition’ and ‘history’ assume in the minds of all of us a larger importance, Professor Werber and the consistently excellent performances of his Moot Court Teams are setting the standard for the Cleveland-Marshall of the second century, a paradigmatic leader in legal education.

And with the glass case already groaning, wherever will they put all the trophies then? LFM

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1932
William G. Wickens, chairman of the board of Wickens, Herzer & Panza, was honored by the Lorain County Bar Association for "outstanding service" to the residents of Lorain County and the legal community. The resolution cited Wickens' 63 years of "noble public service" and states that Wickens "has earned our respect for his integrity, perseverance, and expertise" throughout his years in the bar association.

1950
U. S. District Judge John M. Manos was one of 100 citizens from across the nation this year to be awarded the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations' "Ellis Island Medal of Honor" in recent ceremonies on the island in New York Harbor.

1952
Hon. Thomas D. Lambros, Chief Justice Emeritus of the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, has joined the Columbus based law firm of Bricker & Eckler as special counsel and is practicing in its Cleveland office.

1970
Life Member Kenneth A. Bossin, was sworn in as Second Vice President of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association. He also serves as Chair of the Judicial Selection Committee of the CCBA.

1973
James Mitchell Brown, Brown and Margolius, L.P.A., spoke at a program sponsored by "People for the American Way," a Washington, D.C. organization that lobbies to protect the rights of all Americans. Brown spoke on the legal requirements of non-profit and for-profit corporations in political campaigns. In addition, Brown spoke at the Lupus Foundation's annual Public Education Forum on "Disability Issues When You Are Unable to Work". Brown was the primary speaker at a conference on the work-injured spine patient at the Cleveland Clinic Education Foundation where his speeches were entitled "I Have a Lawyer—Attorneys Can Help Physicians Help Patients" and "Navigating the Bureau of Workers' Compensation with Your Patient's Attorney—Attorneys Hate Forms as Much as Physicians."

1974
Judge Donald C. Nugent was sworn in as judge of the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland. He will succeed Judge Thomas Lambros '52, who has retired.

1975
The Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the American Bar Association has voted José C. Feliciano as Chair-Elect of the Section. Feliciano, a partner in the Cleveland office of Baker & Hostetler, is an active trial lawyer engaged primarily in general corporate litigation. The American College of Trial Lawyers has announced that Feliciano was inducted as a Fellow in the organization in September. Membership in the College is by invitation of the Board of Regents. The College's purpose is to improve the standards of trial practice, the administration of justice and the ethics of the legal profession.

Bruce A. Taylor is President and Chief Counsel for the National Law Center for Children and Families in Fairfax, VA.

1976
M. Colette Gibbons, a principal with Kahn, Kleinman, Yanowitz & Arons Co., L.P.A. has been appointed to the American Bar Association's Professional Ethics and Bankruptcy Cases Subcommittee.

Telling It All: A Legal Guide to the Exercise of Free Speech is the recently released paperback ($8.95) written by Howard W. Fuson, Jr. who lives in Encinitas, CA. Fuson has advised new organizations such as the "Los Angeles Times" and is counsel for Copley Newspapers. He is a former journalist and college teacher. The goal of the book is to "offer practical advice, not only to the gallant reporters on prancing chargers, but to the many others, both amateur and professional, whose exercise of their rights to free expression comprise the final bulwark against tyranny and abuse of power," says Fuson.

Former State Representative Kate Walsh has accepted a job working with Erie County Prosecutor Kevin Baxter as Assistant Prosecutor doing legal work for nine townships. Walsh had been a legislator for six years.

1977
Hilary S. Taylor, a partner with Weston, Hurd, Fallan, Paisley & Howley was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society, a national organization that promotes improvements in the courts. He is also a participant in the Cleveland Attorneys Seeking Equity program.
provides pro bono legal services to the indigent, a member of the Advisory Committee to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, and chair of the Mass Tort Subcommittee.

1978

Robert S. Peck has been named Director of Legal Affairs of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America in Washington, D.C. Peck is the author and editor of numerous books and articles in the field of constitutional law.

Since January, 1995, Carey N. Gordon, a U.S. Foreign Service Officer, has been Regional Contracting Officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development, based in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. In that position, he covers USAID contracting activities in several countries in West Africa. He writes: “I would be happy to see C-M alumni and students if any happen to pass through Abidjan. I can be reached c/o the American Embassy here.” During 1991-94, Gordon was a Contracting Advisor for USAID in Islamabad, Pakistan.

1979

Joan Bloomberg Sebelin has joined the staff of Realty One at the Pepper Pike Office as a sales associate. Prior to becoming a sales associate, she had a private law practice for 15 years and was special counsel to Ohio Attorney Generals Lee Fisher and Anthony Celebreze, Jr.

1980

Mark Greenfield and Diane Smilawick ‘81 announce the July arrival of a daughter, Sonja Bess Min Smilawick Greenfield, born in January. Sonja joins her brother, Daniel and the rest of the family in University Heights.

Mark is General Counsel at Kenneth Young Realty Associates, Inc. Diane is an Assistant County Prosecutor in the appellate section.

1981

Rita S. Eppler has joined the firm of Schwartz, Klem, Warren and Ramirez to practice in the areas of litigation and employment law. Eppler was formerly chief of the Federal Litigation and Employment Law Sections for the Ohio Attorney General. She is a member of the Local Rules Advisory Committee of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

The Catholic Charities Corporation Board of Trustees elected as an at-large executive committee member Gregory F. Clifford, Cleveland Municipal Court deputy chief referee. CMLAA Trustee Clifford was also elected to chair the board of the St. Martin de Porres Center and to serve on the executive committee of the Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association.

1982

Nancy M. Russo has taken a position with Nationwide Insurance and is developing its Ohio operation’s first bodily injury/liability fraud investigation program. Also, she was a featured speaker at the insurer’s national fraud training seminar.

Former Assistant Lake County Prosecutor Karen D. Lawson is the head of the Cleveland office of Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery.

James J. Bartolozzi, a principal with Kahn, Kleinman, Yanowitz & Amson Co., L.P.A., chaired the eighth annual Litigation Institute at the CLE series presented by the Cleveland Bar Association. He is chair of the Cleveland Bar Association’s Litigation Section and previously served as chair of that organization’s Business Litigation Committee and secretary of its Litigation Section.

Suzanne M. Nigro has been appointed managing attorney for Kramer & Niemann, L.P.A.; she has been of counsel with the firm.

Roetzel & Andress announced that Peter M. Kostoff has become a partner with the firm.

K. Ronald Bailey was recently elected to the position of President of the Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He was installed at the annual Superstar Seminar of the OACDL held this year at the Breakers Hotel at Cedar Point. Mr. Bailey’s practice is in Sandusky where he resides with his wife, Lynn and their two boys.

Michael J. Bertsch has been elected as a partner in the law firm of Arter & Hadden. Bertsch’s practice is in the area of workers’ compensation defense. He is a lecturer on employer intentional tort liability, Ohio Workers’ Compensation and related legislative and insurance issues.

1983

Diana M. Thimmig was newly-elected Cuyahoga County Bar Association Trustee and has also been elected President of the Women’s City Club.

Dr. Annie Clement has been elected a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Dr. Clement is a professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance at Cleveland State University and Director of its Sports Management Program.

1984

The law firm of Williams, Welser & Kratcoski of Kent announced that Todd K. Westfall has joined the firm as an associate attorney.

Susan Clark was appointed General Counsel and Secretary for Reliance Comm/Tec Corporation.

Governor George Voinovich has appointed William Harris to the Monroe County Court of Common Pleas.
1985

James Barnes has been appointed chief of the Worker’s Compensation Section by Ohio Attorney General Betty Montgomery.

“Properties Magazine,” June ‘95 issue, interviewed Mary Forbes Lovett. Lovett is a principal in the law firm of Cowden, Humphrey and Sarlson Co., L.P.A. where she practices in the area of real estate, environmental and business law.

1986

The Heinz Foundation announced that Lynne (Basista) Shine was selected as a 1994 Heinz Founder’s Award winner for community service. Shine received a medallion and a $1,000 unrestricted grant which will help Contact Pittsburgh, a hotline crisis agency, to continue helping those in a crisis situation. She is a tax attorney for H.J. Heinz in Pittsburgh. Also, Michelle Marie Shine was born on July 21, 1995, to Lynne and her husband, Ed. The family lives in Coraopolis, PA.

1987

Dr. Thomas H. Allison has been elected First President-Elect of the American Veterinary Medical Law Association, founded in 1993. The Association is limited to veterinarians and attorneys, with forty of the eighty-five members being dual-degreed. Allison, a partner in Arter & Hadden, has served on the Steering Committee of the AVMLA since its founding. His practice includes veterinary malpractice defense and veterinary and equine law, as well as medical products liability and medical malpractice defense.

John B. Ertle, Jr. has moved his law offices to 25675 Lorain Road, North Olmsted.

Arter & Hadden announced the election of William H. Falin as partner in the law firm. Falin’s practice is in commercial and securities litigation, and professional and medical malpractice and medical products liability defense.

1988

Dorothea M. Polster, an associate with the Cleveland law firm of Kahn, Kleinman, Yanowitz & Aronson Co., L.P.A. has been named to the Subcommittee on Bankruptcy Aspects of Business Transactions and the Subcommittee on Membership: Minorities, Women, and Young Lawyers for the American Bar Association’s Business Bankruptcy Committee.

Nancy Fuerst has announced her candidacy for election to the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, General Division. She has been in private practice since 1989 including criminal and civil work at trial and appellate level. From 1988 to 1989 she served a Federal clerkship for U.S. District Court, Sixth Circuit.

1990

Edward J. Leonard has joined the firm of Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff as an associate with the Litigation Practice Group.

1991

Bernadette M. Walsh has joined McConnell & Associates, a new law firm in Berwyn, PA. Walsh practices primarily in estate planning and estate administration. She also serves as director of the YWCA of Greater West Chester.

Tact and an ability to deal with different people is the key to success as an Executive Director of the Cleveland branch of the NAACP. Pauline H. Tarver, who has held the position for fourteen years, uses those skills well. In a recent article in the Plain Dealer on
Tarver, 8th District Ohio Court of Appeals Judge Sara Harper complimented Tarver's style, "The director holds everything together. She is the bridge from one administration to another, and if the director isn't doing the job, the president won't look good."

Nick A. Selvaggio has joined Ulmer & Berne.

The certified public accounting firm of Seitz, Kate & Medve, Inc. has announced that Ronald S. Schickler has joined the firm. Schickler has also opened a law office where he will concentrate in the areas of estate planning and business law.

Thomas Connor of the Northland area is the new director of hearing services for the Industrial Commission of Ohio.

1992

Sandra A. Shoup-Gorga announces she has passed the 1995 California Bar Exam. This exam had a passage rate of 41.6%, the lowest in 9 years.

Gregory S. Costabile has joined the firm of Phillips & Mille Co., L.P.A. of Middleburg Heights.

Paul Mancino has become an associate with the law firm of Hahn Loeser & Parks.

Lynn Lebit was married to Jon Hardacre in December.

Ann Fisher-Yan was a delegate to the Non-governmental Organizations Forum on Women and an official observer at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in China in September.


Brendan J. Sheehan is a law clerk for the Honorable Donald C. Nugent.

Congratulations to Katherine Graham, corporate counsel at Cole Vision Corporation in Warrensville Heights. Graham was married to Mark Sarlson, a partner at Cowden, Humphrey & Sarlson Co., L.P.A. in September.

Michelle Landever married Bradley C. Bond at the Amasa Stone Chapel at CWRU on April 29, 1995.

Reminger and Reminger announce that Brian Goldwasser has passed the Kentucky Bar.

Gretchen Younker and Mitch Cohen are engaged. The couple plan a June wedding.
Williams & Sennett Co., L.P.A. announce that Adam E. Carr has become associated with the firm.

1994

David J. Syroney has joined the firm of Joseph B. Jerome and Associates. As an associate in the firm, Syroney's practice is centered primarily in the areas of probate, estate planning, commercial transactions and litigation.

Reminger and Reminger announce that Andy Dorman has passed the Kentucky Bar.

Michael J. Spisak has opened his own law practice in Toledo.

Dolores C. Knowlton Realtors Inc., a Chester Township company with 12 offices and 380 realty agents has hired Daniel J. Riley as President and Chief Executive. Riley plans to expand the business to 17 offices and 700-800 agents within three years.

James Sammon is a law clerk for the Honorable Donald C. Nugent.

Scanlon and Gearinger announce that John Scanlon has joined the law firm which specializes in the areas of personal injury and product liability.

Janice Breen announces she has passed the Illinois bar.

1995

Brenna Smith and Matthew J. Grimm were married September 2, 1995. Matthew is an associate in the litigation department of Minsky & Associates Co., L.P.A.

Marie Haynes has joined Arter & Hadden as an associate with the firm's Corporate Group.

Laurie T. Rosenfeld announces that she has passed the July, 1995 Washington state bar. She lives in Seattle.

Joan Baker from page 21

mate in the Class of 1972, Linda Kinney Neuman, Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court. She recalled travelling with Professor Baker to Yale University for a conference on women in 1971 or 1972. Professor Baker's effect on her was formative in her decisions regarding her practice and her potential. She was the first woman appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court. Thank you for your encouragement, Professor Baker.

Another classmate, Don Wharton, dedicated his practice life to the representation of First Americans, calling on the activism he developed during Professor Baker's tenure at the University of Colorado School of Law for the benefit of the American Indian tribes across the country. He argued before the United States Supreme Court and prevailed for the Kalamath Indians, securing their treaty rights to fish the Columbia River. Thank you for the example of your dedication, Professor Baker.

Across the country, men and women are practicing law, having had your gentle introduction into the various subjects of law which you have had occasion to teach. We all have been inspired by the goals you saw for us and the potential you see in us.

After my 16 years of practice in Colorado, I moved to Ohio. I was stunned and excited to find that you were here and that you really remembered me and my Class of 1973. I was further pleased to see that you were still quietly inspiring others, even here in Ohio. The Ohio Women's Bar Association and its members owe you a debt of gratitude for being in the group of founding members, but most of all for being proof that a woman can be successful at law without losing herself in the process. Thank you and best wishes for the future from the University of Colorado School of Law, Class of 1973.

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by Rosa M. DelVecchio

Visiting Professors of Law at Cleveland-Marshall this year include David Bickford (former Legal Advisor to Great Britain's MI5 and MI6 and Under Secretary of State) and Lai Pengcheng (Associate Dean and Professor, Faculty of Law, Fudan University, Shanghai, China). Stephen Gottlieb, Professor of Law at Albany Law School of Union University, joined the Cleveland-Marshall faculty as this year's Visiting Baker-Hostetler Chair.

The Sixtieth Cleveland-Marshall Fund Lecture was delivered by Lea Brilmayer, Benjamin F. Butler Professor of Law at New York University Law School, in September. Her presentation was entitled "Ideals and the International Environment." Professor Brilmayer also conducted a Faculty Jurisprudence Seminar during her visit.

The Sixty-First Cleveland-Marshall Fund Lecture was delivered by Professor Robert W. Gordon of Yale Law School, in November. His presentation was entitled "The Struggle Over the Past: The Return to History in Legal Argument." Professor Gordon also conducted a Faculty Jurisprudence Seminar during his visit.

Linda Ammons taught a week-long Advanced Administrative Law course at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, in May.

Howard R. Besser, Adjunct Professor, was elected Secretary of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and re-elected to Council of Delegates of the Ohio State Bar Association. Having served in the OBT Legal Department for 17 years, Professor Besser has returned to the U.S. EEOC to serve as Trial Attorney. Professor Besser served on several CLE panels this year for the Ohio State, Cleveland and Cuyahoga County Bar Associations as well as the National Convention of Philippine Physicians in

America regarding equal employment law and legal ethics matters.

Louise P. Dempsey, Assistant Dean of External Affairs, participated in a panel discussion on "Constituent Groups: How Many Ways Can We Effectively Group Our Graduates?" at the AALS Section on Institutional Advancement at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago in August.

Deborah A. Geier co-authored an article, "Simon Says: A Liddle Night Music With Those Depreciation Deductions, Please," with Joseph M. Dodge, which appeared in Tax Notes. The article explores the Tax Court and Second Circuit recent decisions regarding the depreciable value of antique musical instruments which have substantial value in the collector market used by professional musicians.

Candice Hoke served as a commentator on a panel on "Living in a Constitutional Moment?" at the New Federalism after U.S. v. Lopez Symposium in November at Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Pamela N. Hultin, Adjunct Professor, co-chaired a two-day seminar entitled Cleveland Courthouse Trial Academy, a joint effort by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and the Ohio Women's Bar Association. The purpose of the seminar was to prepare women for the courtroom experience, primarily in civil litigation.

W. Dennis Keating co-edited Cleveland, A Metropolitan Reader (Kent State University Press, 1995) with Professors Norman Krumholz of CSU and David C. Perry of SUNY at Buffalo. This book is a collection of essays on Cleveland's political economy, social development and history from 1796 to present. Dean Keating authored one essay for the book entitled "Open Housing in Metropolitan Cleveland" and co-authored two others, "The Nineteen-Year War over Public Power in Cleveland" and "Postpopulist Public-Private Partnerships."


Patricia McCoy published an article "The Notional Business Judgment Rule in Banking" in the Catholic University Law Review. In summer Professor McCoy taught Comparative Financial Services Law at the new CSU/CWRU Summer Law Institute in St. Petersburg, Russia. In May she participated in the Cleveland Orchestra's performance of Mahler's Eighth Symphony at Carnegie Hall under the direction of Robert Shaw.

Kevin Francis O'Neill lectured at Squire Sanders & Dempsey in July reviewing the past U.S. Supreme Court term. Professor O'Neill also delivered a lecture entitled "The First and Fourth Amendment Rights of Students" at a seminar in Columbus in September sponsored by the Ohio CLE Institute, the lecture outline of which was included in the Institute's subsequent publication in book form, School Law: Class of '95. Professor O'Neill co-authored an article with Raymond Vasvari, "Counter-Demonstration as Protected Speech: Finding the Right to Confrontation in Existing First Amendment Law," which was published in the Fall 1995 issue of the Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly. Professor O'Neill delivered a lecture on "Trends Last Term in the Supreme Court's Treatment of Civil Liberties" at the University of Akron Law School in October. Professor O'Neill's speech was part of a day-long seminar on public interest law sponsored by the Alliance for Justice.

Alan Miles Ruben chaired a panel presentation of New Developments in Al-
ternative Dispute Resolution before 250 members of the National Academy of Arbitrators as the Academy's annual Education Conference at San Antonio, Texas, in November.

Alan C. Weinstein published a paper on "First Amendment Issues in Land Use Law: Regulations of Signs, Adult Entertainment Businesses and Religious Institutions." This paper is the published version of an address he delivered at the Southwestern Legal Foundation Institute on Planning, Zoning and Eminent Domain held in Dallas in November 1994. The paper was published as Chapter 9 of the annual volume by Matthew Bender on Planning, Zoning and Eminent Domain.

Stephen J. Werber has been elected to the status of Master of the Bench Emeritus by the Harold Burton Chapter of the American Inns of Court. Professor Werber taught as a volunteer at Temple Emanu-El Religious School's High School Program in a course designed to introduce students to similarities and differences in American and Judaic Law. The discussion topics were selected by the students. Professor Werber lectured on "The Constitutional Dimension of Pending Federal and Ohio Tort Reform Legislation" at a CLE program on "The Changing Face of Tort Law" in November, sponsored by the Law Alumni Association.

Associate Dean Frederic White was the featured speaker for the Cleveland Public Schools Senior Staff Development Workshop held in the Moot Courtroom in August. Dean White participated on the Real Estate Law panel of the "People's Law School," a course of general law study for the public, co-sponsored by the Cleveland Bar Association and the Plain Dealer, in September; Dean White spoke on "Residential Leases; Tenant's Prospective." In October, he also chaired a CLE program on Landlord Tenant Law at the law school, which was sponsored by the CMLLA. Dean White was re-appointed to an additional two-year term as a member of the Test Development and Research Committee of the Law School Admission Council. Dean White delivered a presentation, "Civil Rights and the Property Manager," to the Akron Area Board of Realtors. Dean White's donation of his speaker fees coupled with the proceeds of his program enabled the Board to award two scholarships, appropriately named The Frederic White Minority Scholarships.

The following presentations were delivered at the Law Faculty Seminar Series in September through November: "Rejection of Moral Autonomy Defines the Emergence of the Rhenquist Court"
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