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Those of us involved in higher education talk a lot about giving back. We believe we are all indebted to the institutions that helped us get to where we are, and that giving back to those institutions allows us not only to express gratitude for what we’ve gained but also to ensure that those institutions are able to help others along their way.

I can think of few better expressions of gratitude than the USC Law School Class of 2003’s efforts to inaugurate an annual class gift program. “A what?” I hear some of you asking. I asked the same thing when the idea was suggested to me by USC Trustee Reggie Lathan during a lunch before a home football game this year. Reggie explained it this way: In putting together a class gift, graduating students pledge a contribution from post-graduation earnings to a chosen program or project that will be named for the class. In essence, a class gift is a way for the graduating class to leave its mark.

We investigated and found that a majority of the top law schools in the United States already have such programs. By giving back to their school, graduates provide funding for important services and programs that benefit future students. They also increase the percentage of graduates who give to the law school in any given year. That percentage — the alumni participation rate — is one of the measures by which law schools are ranked. The bigger the percentage of law graduates who give each year, the higher the law school is rated.

Additionally, class gifts are a tangible expression of an understanding that a good education is about more than books and tests; it’s about community, teamwork, and making way for those who follow in your footsteps.

There are many reasons to give. And yet, in some respects, I find it quite remarkable that people whose careers have not quite begun have responded with such enthusiasm to the opportunity to contribute to the Law School. Under the leadership of Third-year Class President Janna Jenkins and Vice President Rebecca Furman, this year’s graduates chose to support a need-based scholarship and the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF). To encourage their efforts, Board of Councilors member Rob Skinner ’92, Associate Dean Tom Tomlinson, and I each have pledged $500 per year for the next five years in matching funds. More than 40 percent of the class pledged more than $20,000 in all. Altogether, I think we’ve made a great start on the Class of 2003 scholarship fund — and laid the groundwork for a class gift program that will benefit the school and its students for years to come.

Alumni have similar opportunities to support USC. You can contribute to the Legion Lex Annual Fund, which supports scholarships, the library, academic programs and PILF. In addition, you may contribute to your class’s reunion-year scholarship fund. This year, the classes of ’53, ’58, ’63, ’68, ’73, ’78, ’83, ’88, ’93 and ’98 celebrate their reunions by supporting scholarship funds to assist current and incoming law students. (See www.law.usc.edu/alumni for more information.) Even if you can’t make it your reunion party, supporting your class scholarship is a classy way to give back to USC.

Matthew L. Spitzer,
Dean and Carl M. Franklin Professor of Law
On a stunning spring afternoon, USC Law School awarded juris doctorate degrees to 212 graduates and master of laws degrees to 12 foreign law students from the Class of 2003. Calling the commencement ceremony “a day of great promise,” Dean Matthew L. Spitzer told the hundreds of graduates, family members and friends gathered in USC’s Alumni Park, “we are very proud of our graduates and we welcome you to the ranks of the alumni!”

Third-year Class President Janna Jenkins urged her classmates to remember and respect the diversity that the Law School has fostered in its classes. “We have the power to carry the torch USC has passed to us, and give voice to the cause of diversity within each of our practices. Take time to encourage diversity in every forum, and be appreciative that you know what it is like to experience the richness of an education such as your own.”

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein delivered a somber assessment of America’s foreign policy strategy in her commencement remarks. Calling her speech “a sober address for a bright, young law school class,” Feinstein cautioned that a developing U.S. “policy of unilateralism and preemption” was undermining international law, squandering the global goodwill spurred by the terrorist attacks of 9/11, and increasing U.S. reliance on nuclear weapons. “In the long run, I deeply believe that this new strategy undermines U.S. security and may well make the world more dangerous, not safer,” Feinstein said. She told the graduates: “This great nation needs your guidance…the voices of reason and restraint can still prevail.”
A golden anniversary for a USC treasure

It seems that few people stay with a single employer for more than a few years at a time these days. Luckily for USC, Carl M. Franklin has stayed with his for 50 years.

During a luncheon this spring, members of the Law School community gathered to commemorate Franklin’s 92nd birthday and his 50th anniversary at USC. Since coming to USC in 1953, Franklin has served as professor of law, vice president for financial affairs and vice president for legal affairs. He is now law professor and vice president emeritus, keeping regular hours in his third-floor office at the Law School.

Philanthropy is as strong in his blood as longevity. Along with his late wife, Carolyn, Franklin is one of the university’s most successful fund-raisers, having raised more than $150 million in private donations to USC. The Franklins themselves have given nearly $4 million to USC and USC Law School for scholarships, faculty positions and campus beautification, a cause to which Carolyn was particularly devoted. The Franklins also have contributed to or helped establish 26 of the Law School’s 33 endowed professorships.

“Carl Franklin’s contributions to the community and to USC are truly unparalleled,” said Law School Dean Matthew L. Spitzer. “As dean, I am lucky to have him as a friend, colleague and adviser. His presence at the Law School continues to be a driving force toward excellence.”

Franklin’s service to the community has extended well beyond his career at USC. He has served as a consultant to the U.S. State Department and president of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. He also is a trustee to many charitable foundations, including the Seeley G. Mudd Fund, Morris S. Smith Foundation, Torrey H. Web Charitable Trust, John Stauffer Trust, Donald and Katherine Loker Foundation, and others. Together, these institutions have contributed $32.4 million to USC.

“Of the many things I’ve learned from Carl, I’ve learned that if you try to induce others to support USC, the best way to do it is through your own example,” said USC Professor George Olah, whose Nobel-Prize winning research in organic chemistry has been funded in part by private donations steered by the Franklins. “To many, fund-raising is a mechanical thing. To Carl, it’s a very individual thing. He knows that behind every donation is a person.”

For Franklin, supporting USC is a way to give back to an institution that has shaped his life — and a way to set an example to others. “I know many USC graduates and friends of USC who love the university and want it to excel,” he says, “I just try to inspire them with the joy of helping the many schools and departments at USC with their philanthropy.” — M.V.

This spring, Dr. Carl M. Franklin celebrated his 92nd birthday and 50 shining years at USC. In his half century at the school, Franklin has worked with both present dean, Matthew L. Spitzer (left), and former dean, Scott Bice (right).
Grad gives $1.8 million for endowed professorship

Here's the short of it: Edward G. Lewis graduated from USC Law School in 1970, started a corporate and real-estate practice as a sole practitioner, did quite well for himself and his wife, Marie, and now lives half the year in Paris, in a flat along the Seine with a stunning river view overlooking Notre Dame Cathedral.

When Lewis looks back across those decades of prosperity he has a single point of reference for it all: USC.

“Everything great that has ever happened to me I can trace back to my wife and USC,” says Lewis, who also attended the university as an undergraduate. “From the moment I entered 'SC, doors just opened for me. I never had to beat the pavement looking for a job.”

Now, in semi-retirement, Lewis is intent on supporting education for generations of future USC students. With a gift of $1.8 million, he has endowed the Edward G. Lewis Chair at USC Law School, providing funding for a top-level faculty position in perpetuity. Lewis decided to fund the chair as a result of a comment made years ago by former Law School Dean Orrin Evans during the final session of a Gifts, Wills & Trusts class, appropriately enough.

“Dean Evans said something that left an indelible impression on me,” Lewis says. “He said, 'If you want to be immortal, give a chair to the USC Law School.' And, that's what I decided to do.”

The final decision came during Lewis’ 30-year class reunion in 2000. As the story goes, while Lewis was chatting with Professor Marty L. Levine, everyone else sat down for the reunion dinner. Levine took the last space at Lewis' table next to Lewis' wife and motioned to Lewis to go sit somewhere else. Lewis then said to Levine: “I want my own chair.” So Professor Levine immediately got up and brought over Dean Matthew L. Spitzer to talk to Lewis about the chair – an endowed chair, that is.

And, the rest is history.

Lewis says he has no qualms about giving to the Law School because USC provided him with some of his proudest days. “The Law School and the university have done so much for me,” he says. “I just felt it was the natural thing to give something back.” -P.C.
USC’s PILF holds auction, hands out grants

USC’s Public Interest Law Foundation awarded 24 grants this year to law students who will work at legal aid organizations during the summer. PILF also honored third-year student Catherine “Poppy” Durant with its inaugural Karen A. Lash Grant, which honors former Law School Associate Dean Karen Lash, a 1987 USC law graduate who, as a student, co-founded PILF and ceaselessly supported its efforts throughout her tenure at USC.

Also recognized at the luncheon: Outstanding Graduate Pegine E. Grayson ’87, honored for her service as the executive director of the Western Center on Law and Poverty and her long-time commitment to public interest law; and Outstanding Student Erin Morgan ’03, honored for her work with such organizations as Public Counsel, USC’s Immigration Clinic, the Los Angeles County Bar’s Domestic Violence Clinic and the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.

Maria Hall ’03 received the Sydney and Audrey Irmas Fellowship, which will support a year of post-graduate employment as an attorney at Communities for a Better Environment. Kimberly Baker ’05 received the Adam Freeman Scott Memorial Grant, honoring her efforts as a member of Street Law, the Black Law Students Association and PILF, and as a volunteer at the First A.M.E. Church Legal Clinic and People’s Independent Church.

In announcing the LACBA Pro Bono Awards, which recognize students who gave more than 30 hours to public interest work, LACBA President Miriam Krinsky quoted Winston Churchill, who once said, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

“You will have ample opportunities to make a living as lawyers,” Krinsky said. “I urge you as well to make a life by continuing to give your time and energy to address the needs and interests of those who are less fortunate.”

To support the fellowships, PILF raised $38,000 at its annual spring auction. The event began with a silent auction featuring an eclectic selection of items, such as lunch with Los Angeles District Attorney Steve Cooley (a 1973 grad), surfing lessons with Professor Dan Simon and a magnum bottle of Thomas Jefferson’s favorite wine during his 1785-88 tour of France — empty, of course.

During the live auction, students bid for such perennial favorites as a cruise on Professor Scott Bice’s boat, dinners with professors Susan Estrich, Scott Altman and Charles Whitebread, and having Dean Matthew L. Spitzer as your student for the day. – PC.
Revitalizing the downtown of any large American city requires enormous amounts of political willpower and money, said Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown during his keynote speech at the first annual USC Law School Institute – LACBA Benjamin S. Crocker Symposium on Real Estate Law and Business held in May.

Brown, the former California governor, said his vision for revitalizing Oakland’s downtown involves the creation of an “elegant density” of residents, businesses and cultural institutions within arm’s reach of each other.

“You want to have a diversity of ideas, race, gender, class and wealth,” said Brown, who was elected mayor of Oakland in June 1998 and re-elected to a second term in 2002. “People like to live near one another and they like bumping into each other. You want to have this urban dynamism.”

Brown’s luncheon keynote was part of the newly expanded symposium, which aimed to provide attorneys and other real estate professionals with legal and business perspectives on the real estate sector.

“This partnership of USC Law School and the Real Property Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association builds upon the renowned LACBA Crocker Symposium and USC Law School’s nationally recognized real estate law presence and stellar program of continuing education conferences and institutes,” says USC Law School Assistant Dean Richard Shaffran, who directs the Continuing Legal Education Program.

Panel discussions addressed the outlook for the real estate industry, recent developments in real estate law, real estate sales issues and opportunities, trends in real estate financing, the evolution of retail, structuring construction projects and current leasing issues.

Besides Brown, other notable speakers included John C. Cushman, chairman of Cushman & Wakefield Inc.; Alan I. Casden, chairman of Casden Properties LLC; James A. Thomas, chairman of Thomas Properties Group LLC; O’Malley Miller, lead counsel for Disney Hall and Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels; and George Lefcoe, professor of real estate law at USC.

U.S. Treasury Assistant Secretary Pamela Olson, former Congressman Bill Archer, Securities and Exchange Commissioner Roel Campos and U.S. Attorney Debra Yang were just a few of the A-list speakers who headlined USC Law School Continuing Legal Education programs this spring.

At the 2003 Institute for Corporate Counsel in March, jointly presented with the Los Angeles County Bar Association Corporate Law Departments Section, Campos discussed how recent reforms implemented by the SEC will raise the level of accountability for attorneys who advise companies.

“This is a very critical time in our history,” Campos said during his keynote address. “We need to engender more confidence among regular investors in the system. Lawyers have a huge role to play. They have got to be squeaky clean.”

During a separate panel discussion on corporate compliance, U.S. Attorney Yang said companies should develop meaningful mechanisms for internal disclosure of wrongdoing.

At the 2003 Institute on Federal Taxation in January, Secretary Olson said the global economy requires that the United States reform its international tax code to make American companies more competitive and more efficient. The current U.S. tax code, the bulk of which was created a century ago, is outdated and creates hurdles for multinational companies, she said.

“We must reconsider the extent to which our rules impede the flow of capital of U.S. businesses, necessitate inefficient business structures and operations, and leave U.S. companies and workers in a less competitive position,” Olson said.

Professor Erwin Chemerinsky and Congressman Archer, the former chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, also delivered keynote speeches at the tax institute. Chemerinsky gave a well-received talk entitled “My Life as a Taxpayer Litigant.”

Archer said the federal government should fundamentally reform the tax system, chiefly by repealing the income tax. He has proposed a “border adjustable tax,” a value-added tax that is levied at each stage of production and is assessed on imports but not exports.
Shattuck Awards honor students who have the greatest potential to be leaders in the legal profession based on their service and contributions to the community and the Law School. The Miller-Johnson Equal Justice Prize honors commitment to social justice; the Mason C. Brown Award honors commitment to justice and trial advocacy skill; and the SBA Outstanding Faculty and Staff Awards honor service to students.

**Agis Bray** activities: Treasurer for USC’s Black Law Students Association, member of BLSA’s Western Regional Board, USC representative at national BLSA conference. **honored for:** Service to the Law School through recruiting efforts. Bray volunteered to assist the admissions office in recruiting top minority students to USC. He was praised for his “energy and commitment to improving the school through diversity and public interest activities.” **notable:** At his own suggestion, he traveled to his alma mater, Morehouse College, and other historically black schools to speak to and encourage students interested in attending USC.

**Poppy Durant** activities: Intern in the Habeas Unit of the Federal Public Defender’s Office, editor-in-chief of the Review of Law and Women’s Studies, ILS instructor, participant in the Law School’s Domestic Violence Clinic. **honored for:** Leadership in social justice issues. One of the first law students to participate in the Domestic Violence Clinic, Durant not only provided legal assistance to victims of domestic violence but also helped expand the clinic’s scope by participating in local and regional domestic violence coalitions and conducting outreach to the professional community and law enforcement. **notable:** She’s a top student at USC and also “one of the most modest and kind people at our school.”

**Paul Kroeger** activities: Instructor in the Introduction to Lawyering Skills program (ILS), member of the Southern California Law Review staff. **honored for:** Going the extra mile. He is “a reliable leader and a source of encouragement and support,” “a diligent worker and contributor and a willing volunteer when there’s extra work to be done,” said nominators. **notable:** Kroeger also excelled in his coursework and this fall begins a prestigious clerkship with the Chancery Court of Delaware.

**Larry Logsdon** activities: International Law Society, internships at Los Angeles Superior Court and San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Legal Services. **honored for:** Extraordinary service to community. Logsdon logged more than 400 hours of volunteer service at Neighborhood Legal Services, where he assisted victims of domestic violence. His expert legal work, fluency in Spanish and his “enormous sensitivity” to clients made him invaluable to the organization, said a supervisor. **notable:** He came to the Law School with the sole goal of helping people; his follow-through is impeccable.

**Eli Palomares** activities: La Raza, Interdisciplinary Law Journal, Street Law. **honored for:** Helping to revitalize USC’s chapter of Street Law, which brings high-school kids to USC to learn about college, law school and the law. One nominator noted that Palomares “finds it extremely important to reach out to underprivileged and minority kids in the local community.” He’s done just that — and built a way for USC students to follow his footsteps. **notable:** He’s also widely recognized as one of the nicest, most compassionate and friendliest people at the Law School. “You just couldn’t ask for a more pleasant person to be around,” said one nominator.

**Shaiza Shamim** activities: Women’s Law Association, MESALA, chair of Hale Moot Court Honors program. **honored for:** Uncommon dedication to the moot court program and its participants. “She encouraged us, practiced with us, and gave us pointers,” said one student. “Her enthusiasm was contagious and led many of us to get farther in the program than we ever thought possible.” **notable:** Her skill in the courtroom also impressed judges at the Benjamin Cardozo School of Law/BMI Entertainment Law Competition this spring, where she received top honors for oral advocacy.
Maria Hall activities: Public Interest Law Foundation, Post-Conviction Justice Project, Women’s Law Association, National Lawyer’s Guild, volunteer work at Public Counsel and the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice honoree for: Dedication to an incredibly diverse array of social justice causes and activities. Hall came to law school to be a public interest attorney, and she never strayed from that path. “She has strong beliefs about an individual’s responsibility to help those less fortunate and less powerful,” notable: In between all her other activities, Hall helped orchestrate a campus production of a play about incarcerated women to help raise awareness of the challenges such women face.

Kara Oien activities: Supervisor in Post-Conviction Justice Project, intern at Federal Public Defender’s Office, participant in USC’s Immigration Clinic. honoree for: Commitment to advocacy and skill in trial work. As a supervisor in Post-Conviction Justice Project, Oien demonstrated incomparable talent as an advocate and exceptional dedication to her clients. Her talents were especially evident when she presented oral arguments before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of a PCJP client. Her commitment to helping others also extended to her classmates. “If any of us needed help with filing our papers or figuring out a procedural/court rule,” said a fellow PCJP student, “she would drop what she was doing to help.”

Associate Dean Albert Brecht honoree for: Giving law students a voice in the management of the law library. Brecht is leading a major renovation of the library to improve the quality of the facilities and service provided to students. He’s known for being responsive to students needs. “He responded immediately to safety concerns that we raised,” said SBA President Hutan Hashemi. “He’s extremely pleasant to work with.” notable: Brecht is an all-around pleasant guy — and “a sharp, sharp dresser,” Hashemi said.

April Gallegos honored for: working with student organizations to help them produce their events. As the Law School’s event manager, Gallegos works closely with student leaders, staff and faculty. “Working with her is working with a friend,” said Hashemi. notable: “She even ordered the plaque she’s accepting today,” Hashemi joked.
Enron, WorldCom, Global Crossing, Tyco...
By now, millions of investors can only recite this list of disgraced companies with palpable anger and a deep sense of betrayal. After all, investors depended on the integrity of these corporate giants to create personal wealth, prosperity and security – only to have those private dreams turn into public nightmares as the front pages of The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times revealed stunning financial malfeasance at some the biggest and most respected companies in America.

Spurred by the widespread outrage of activists and ordinary investors, Congress passed the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The new law establishes a stricter regime of accountability by public companies in their financial reporting and disclosure, audits and governance. Sarbanes-Oxley not only imposes greater responsibilities for meeting financial disclosure requirements directly on chief executives and financial officers, it also creates a higher bar of accountability for in-house attorneys and outside counsel.

Corporate attorneys face stricter regulations and greater scrutiny in a post-Enron world.
With this in mind, USC Law School is developing a continuing legal education program to educate outside directors of public companies about their new responsibilities and accountabilities under Sarbanes-Oxley. Produced in conjunction with the Marshall School of Business and the Annenberg School of Communication, the two-day training session taking place next spring will focus specifically on the needs of public company directors. The program, which will be sponsored by the New York Stock Exchange Foundation, will feature major business leaders and academics providing direct, practical and up-to-the-minute information on key issues in this fast-evolving area.

“USC Law School, with its exceptional faculty in corporate law and its nationally respected continuing education program, is in a unique position to make an important contribution in this critical field,” notes Assistant Dean Richard Shaffran, who runs the Continuing Legal Education Program. “The need for high-level training for directors of public companies is critical in light of the recent seismic changes brought about by Sarbanes-Oxley.”

A landmark law
Indeed, many experts say the law—along with related rules implemented by the Securities and Exchange Commission—may mark a groundbreaking moment in the modern history of corporate law.

“I think this is a watershed kind of situation,” said SEC Commissioner Roel C. Campos during his keynote address at the USC Law School-Los Angeles County Bar Association 2003 Institute for Corporate
Counsel in March. “The Sarbanes-Oxley Act will fundamentally change the way in which American companies do business.”

Speaking to an audience of top corporate attorneys, he offered this somber warning: “The public is very, very angry. I believe that anger can be turned against the profession. So the profession needs to take steps to self regulate. We’ve seen what happened to auditors when they didn’t self regulate.”

But the SEC isn’t waiting around for the profession to make those reforms themselves. Sarbanes-Oxley, which was passed in July 2002, empowered the commission to issue the specific regulations governing implementation of the new law. The SEC has already implemented key provisions of the act, including Section 302, which covers the corporate disclosure process; and Section 307, which outlines the standards of practice for lawyers.

In particular, Section 307 requires a practitioner to report “up the ladder” evidence of material violations of federal securities law or breaches in fiduciary duty. Under the new rules adopted by the SEC in January, the attorney must report the violations to the general counsel or CEO of the company that the lawyer represents. If those officers do not produce “remedial remedies” toward solving the problem, the lawyer must then bring the matter to the full board of directors or an audit committee.

But this reporting-out scheme seems to leave open a number of difficult interpretational questions.

“One of the trickiest aspects about the rule is that it requires corporate lawyers to make forecasts about imminent violations,” says USC Law Professor Eric Talley, who teaches corporate law at the Law School and directs USC’s Center for Law, Economics and Organization. “The rule provides no guidance, for example, about how an attorney formulates this prediction, or whether she may consider the possibility that others are likely to expose such violations.”

Talley, along with Professor Ehud Kamar, who also specializes in corporate law at the Law School, will be among the instructors for USC’s CLE program on Sarbanes-Oxley.

Noisy withdrawal gets loud reception
The SEC is considering even further reporting requirements, forcing practitioners to make a so-called “noisy withdrawal” from representing a client if appropriate steps are not taken by company executives or board directors to deal with possible violations at that company. The withdrawal would include a written statement to the SEC disavowing any document that the lawyer helped to prepare that might contain questionable information.

It is this withdrawal rule that has most riled the profession. Corporate law experts say Sarbanes-Oxley represents a major departure from parameters set by such landmark cases as Central Bank of Denver v. First Interstate Bank of Denver, which effectively shielded secondary actors such as accountants and attorneys from private suits for aiding and abetting various forms of corporate misconduct under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Most crucially, the new SEC rules under Sarbanes-Oxley may force lawyers to break the sacred attorney-client privilege in order to protect themselves, say critics of the proposed noisy withdrawal regulation. In essence, attorneys will become involuntary whistleblowers, opponents say.

“When you deputize attorneys, you also marginalize them and limit their ability to sway bad decisions before they become final,” said Barry Nagler, chair of the American Corporate Counsel Association’s board advocacy committee, in comments to the commission.

“It’s a bit optimistic to assume that there’s all kinds of nefarious, inappropriate, illegal conduct going on out there that is going to be changed if only the attorneys and accountants are forced to disclose either to boards or to the government,” said Fred Krebs, president of the ACCA, in an interview with The New York Times. “There’s a high level of concern about the implications of this. There’s a very real fear that the rules will change the relationship” between attorneys and clients.

Questioning reporting requirements
In public comments sent to the SEC, the American Bar Association also has come out against the noisy withdrawal, saying it may “have the potential to impede the ability of lawyers to effectively counsel legal compliance by clients.” The ABA noted that all states already require lawyers to withdraw from representation if necessary to avoid assisting a client to commit a crime or fraud.

Both the ABA Model Rules and the California Rules of Professional Conduct have long required, or at least permitted, lawyers to report corporate employee wrongdoing up the ladder, but only if the lawyer has actual knowledge of wrongdoing, says USC Law Professor Larry Simon.

“Since most corporate lawyers find the idea of up-the-ladder reporting at least awkward,” Simon says, “it is very likely that lawyers who suspected, but were not certain of, wrongdoing in the past avoided reporting it by telling themselves they did not know for sure it was happening. The new SEC rules will make this avoidance technique more difficult, since they require reporting whenever a reasonable, competent lawyer would find credible evidence of wrongdoing.”

Moreover, Simon says, lawyers who fail to report when they should do so are likely at increased risk of malpractice liability to the corporation, if it suffers injury by reason of the lawyer’s failure to report. This is mainly because the new SEC rules preempt state ethics rules with lower standards, and therefore, probably remove the pre-existing defense that the lawyer did not “know” of the wrongdoing, Simon says.

In response to fierce criticism of the withdrawal requirement, the SEC is considering an alternative. Under this new proposal, an attorney...
who has reported up the ladder but has received no response would still be required to withdraw from representation, but the client company, not the attorney, would then need to notify the SEC of the withdrawal. To some lawyers, this change would protect the client-attorney confidentiality that they hold so dear.

Critical need for lawyerly advice
At the very least, the ambiguities of the new SEC regulations will force companies to lean on the counseling skills of corporate attorneys more than ever before.

“Lawyerly advice is going to be critical,” says the SEC’s Campos.

U.S. Attorney Debra Yang, speaking at USC’s Institute for Corporate Counsel, reiterated the need for corporate attorneys to give open and ethical advice. She said federal investigators who are considering whether to pursue criminal charges in a business fraud case will look very closely at the comprehensiveness of a company’s willingness to meet reporting and disclosure requirements under Sarbanes-Oxley.

Yang, who is on the U.S. Department of Justice’s national task force on business fraud, said her office in Los Angeles also looks at whether companies have created effective compliance programs with mechanisms to protect corporate whistleblowers and facilitate internal disclosure of misconduct.

Under Sarbanes-Oxley, corporations are encouraged to establish formal systems to deal with disclosure and lawyer reporting. Such qualified legal compliance committees, or QLCCs, should consist of at least one member of the company’s audit committee and two or more members of the board of directors who are not employed directly or indirectly by the corporation. Once established, the QLCC should have the authority and responsibility to inform top company executives of reports of material violation, oversee investigations and implement appropriate responses. QLCCs may well serve to shield corporations from an attorney’s failure to report misconduct, Simon says.

“The very existence of these systems may make it more credible that but for a lawyer’s failure to report an agent’s misdeeds, the corporation would have taken action that would have avoided or mitigated its damage,” he says. “Consider for example, a lawyer’s failure to report to a corporate client with a QLCC that has a historical practice of taking all reports seriously.”

A note of caution
Some observers worry that the new SEC regulations could penalize companies and the attorneys advising them for being aggressive and entrepreneurial. There may not always be inappropriate motives for pushing the accounting envelope, some experts say.

“In part, the recent corporate scandals have their roots in our capitalistic system,” says Aulana Peters, a former SEC commissioner and a 1973 Law School graduate. “Some CEOs push the edges of the envelope trying to enhance shareholder value. These executives are driven to succeed. So they may make mistakes. Some of them don’t have the appropriate sense of where to draw the line. These people don’t recognize what is fair and what is not fair, what is legitimate and what is fraud. CEOs push the edges of the envelope trying to enhance shareholder value. These executives are driven to succeed. So they may make mistakes. Some of them don’t have the appropriate sense of where to draw the line. These people don’t recognize what is fair and what is not fair, what is legitimate and what is fraud.”

Professor Talley agrees, adding, “It is precisely the most entrepreneurial and aggressive CEOs who need sound legal advice the most. Ironically, these managers may be the least likely to get it, particularly if they respond to Section 307 by withholding more and more sensitive information from their attorneys.”

Shoring up the system
While the ABA and others may argue about the specifics of implementing Sarbanes-Oxley, Campos says the new rules are needed to shore up public confidence in the markets, which are essential to the economic vitality of the country.

“This is a very critical time in our history,” Campos told his audience at USC’s Institute for Corporate Counsel. “We need to engender more confidence among regular investors in the system. Lawyers have a huge role to play. They have got to be squeaky clean.”

Campos urged the attorneys to keep in mind the ultimate victims of any corporate malfeasance. “I have a very simple philosophy: It’s the investors, stupid.”

By the same token, there are some potential costs to an approach that focuses myopically on investor confidence, says Talley, who contends that the drawbacks are particularly acute with the regulatory implementation of Sarbanes-Oxley.

“Administrative rule-making processes are largely shaped by the most focal and vocal interest groups — upset investors in this case—leaving behind groups that seem less salient, such as entrepreneurs, providers of startup capital, trade creditors, employees, or customers,” Talley says. “Very little is known about the cost that Sarbanes-Oxley visits upon these other constituencies, and whether the next generation of corporate scandals will simply leave them holding the bag.”
Fifteen years after Aulana Peters ’73 resigned from the Securities and Exchange Commission, her legacy continues to this day.

Partly due to her aggressive lobbying, the SEC can now issue greater fines for securities law violators, bar repeat offenders from leading public companies, and pursue suits against executives for failing to supervise subordinates responsible for financial misconduct. Peters also worked to find compromise on an inherently political body.

Upon her resignation, New York Newsday wrote: “With Peters’ departure, the SEC will lose a voice of reason that has helped moderate more dogmatic and divisive opinions on the panel.”

Peters served on the agency from 1984 to 1988, earning a reputation for being the commissioner most willing to take enforcement action and the one who was most sympathetic to the concerns of individual investors.

“I like to think that I was instrumental in enhancing the power of the SEC,” says Peters. “I think they continue to have enforcement as a very high priority.”

After resigning from the SEC, she returned to Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher’s Los Angeles office, where she had previously worked from 1973 until 1984. She retired from the firm and the practice of law altogether in December 2000. This January, the Association of Securities and Exchange Commission Alumni made Peters the 11th recipient of the William O. Douglas Award for her contribution to the development of federal securities law.

It’s no wonder that Peters still commands an audience eager to receive her advice on securities law and corporate governance. A frequent speaker, she serves on the board of directors at Merrill Lynch, 3M Company, Northrop Grumman and John Deere & Company. She also served as a member of the Public Oversight Board, a private-sector agency that oversaw the accounting industry, before it disbanded last year.

Despite her busy schedule, Peters manages to devote time to non-profit causes, such as her work with KCET public television, and to keep in touch with USC classmates, including California Court of Appeal Justice Candice Cooper ’73. – P.C.

Aimee Dominguez ’89 emigrated to America from Cuba as a young child during the Cuban Revolution.

America became her adopted country, where newly arrived refugees could transform their lives just by working hard. In turn, Dominguez became fascinated with how people created and maintained wealth – “the money flow,” she says. Her fascination led her to USC Law School and then to the Securities and Exchange Commission, where she worked as a senior trial attorney in the enforcement division.

“The American Dream is embodied in the public companies and the markets, the mechanism that creates wealth and opportunity for millions of people,” says Dominguez, who left the SEC in 2000 after three and a half years of public service to work in Kaye Scholer’s Los Angeles office. This spring, she resigned from the firm to start her own private practice, Dominguez LLP, fulfilling a lifelong dream of her own.

Dominguez approached her SEC job with a fierce determination to maintain trust in the public markets.

“When you are entrusted with other people’s money,” she says, “you have an ethical obligation on every level to do the right thing. The goal for public companies is to have full disclosure and transparency.”

At USC, Dominguez received the Florence Lakersheim Merit Scholarship, giving her a full ride through all three years of law school. She has worked hard to return the favor, including raising thousands of dollars in scholarship money for USC law students through her affiliation with the USC Mexican American Alumni Association. This spring, the La Raza Law Students Association honored her with its Inspirational Alumnus Award in recognition of her efforts. – P.C.
**For two decades**, a vicious civil war has gripped the Northern African country of Sudan. The raging conflict has claimed more than two million lives and displaced many millions more. Peace treaties have failed miserably over the years, prompting the U.S. special envoy to Sudan to comment: “The history of Sudan is replete with paper agreements that the parties have quickly ignored.”

Yet, hope persists.

In February, a group of U.S. foreign policy experts, academics and humanitarian workers convened in Asamara, Eritrea, to train leaders of Sudanese opposition forces to form a coalition government with their long-time enemies, the Arabs who control Sudan’s political and military power in the northern part of the country. Among the instructors who traveled to Africa were USC Law Professor Edwin “Rip” Smith, Adjunct Professor Debbie Shon and USC law graduate Andrew Michaels ’99.

The conference was sponsored by the Sudanese National Democratic Alliance, an umbrella group representing the many factions fighting the Islamic government in Khartoum, and by the U.S.-based Worldwide Humanitarian Services, which was subcontracted by the U.S. State Department. Because the Khartoum government opposes the alliance, conference organizers decided to convene on neutral territory in neighboring Eritrea. The high mountain city of Asamara, replete with many architectural and culinary signs of its former Italian occupation, offered a safe and splendid meeting place.

For a week, Smith met with some 40 leaders of the Sudanese opposition, which is mostly comprised of Christians, native African tribes in southern Sudan, and a large minority of Arabs who don’t agree with their Islamic brethren in Khartoum. Smith lectured on international law and diplomacy, using many of the same presentations he has given to his law students at USC. Shon gave presentations on international trade. Michaels, a senior consultant for Worldwide Humanitarian Services, organized much of the conference.

Smith said the disparate mix of delegates made for a “fascinating group.” While they listened carefully, they also argued passionately about issues of religion, statehood and human rights.

“Some had very little formal education; others were Oxford-trained,” recalls Smith. “They were very challenging as students – very smart people with hugely different world views.”

The delegates are expected to lead any coalition group that might be created with the Khartoum government. Peace — lasting peace — is something that most, if not, all Sudanese desire. But before Africa’s longest civil war can end, complicated issues, such as the fate of possible war criminals and the future of Sudan’s rich oil reserves, still need to be resolved. For instance, Khartoum has expressed serious reservations about the coalition-building effort itself.

“The Sudanese government believes we’re training the secessionists,” says Smith. But Khartoum currently faces strict United Nations sanctions and has an interest in improving its international relations, particularly with the U.S., Britain and France, all of whom have pressed the Sudanese to accept peace accords.

For Smith, who is African-American, this visit to Eritrea was more than just another academic conference.

“This was my first trip to Africa – it was sort of an ancestral homecoming,” he says. “I was thrilled to be there for the first time.”

—P.C./M.V.
Gross, a professor of law and history at USC, received a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship, and a National Endowment for the Humanities Huntington Fellowship, enabling her to join an elite cadre of scholars who study at the Huntington each year. With access to the Huntington’s vast collections of rare documents and books relating to Western and Native American history, Gross hopes to conduct the bulk of the research needed to complete her forthcoming book, *Racial Identity on Trial in America: A History* (under contract to Farrar, Straus & Giroux).

The book will explore how U.S. courts have come to terms with race during the past two centuries and the various ways people have interpreted race in the courtroom. Her research grew from her article, “Litigating Whiteness: Trials of Racial Determination in the Nineteenth Century South,” 108 *Yale Law Journal* 109 (1998), which focused on the stories of slaves who sued for — and often won — freedom by claiming to be white based on blood lines or behavior. Building on that foundation, she’ll now examine litigation over racial identity throughout American history, including trials involving Native Americans, Asians, Hispanics and African-Americans in various parts of the country.

Cases involving racial identity have sprung from a variety of circumstances, Gross says, including slaves’ suits for freedom, inheritance disputes, criminal cases, immigrants’ suits for naturalization, and interracial marriages. Identifying a person’s race could be crucial in such cases: Lines among races often decided who could be free, who could own property, and who could be capable of citizenship.

The courts generally deciphered racial identity using a combination of two standards: biological tests, such as the shape of a person’s foot or brow, or performance tests, such as whether a person possessed behavioral traits normally associated with white people. A person’s behavior was often a key factor, since physical features might not always clearly reveal racial identity. Lighter-skinned African-Americans and Native Americans may have looked white, for instance; in such situations, their “performance” would be more closely examined.

While litigation over racial identity is more rare now, how well one performs his or her racial identity is still a contentious cultural and social issue.

“To today, many of our debates over culture are in fact debates over racial performance,” Gross says. “There are unspoken guidelines for what is ‘authentically black’ or ‘authentically white.’ Racism today often takes the form of the argument that the ‘performances’ associated with certain racial groups are inferior.”

Gross hopes her research will help illuminate the impact of historical perceptions of racial identity on contemporary debates over race — and offer ideas for ways to attack the traditions that continue to foster racism.

“By looking at the changing meanings of race throughout our history, we can see both the changes and the continuities in racism itself, from its roots in a slave society up through the 20th century,” Gross says. “Since both biology and performance have been the basis for the maintenance of a racial hierarchy, it seems clear that both standards must be dismantled if we now hope to break down that hierarchy.” — M.V.
Tourists visiting Old Havana, the colonial heart of Cuba’s capital city, are typically enchanted by the rich but crumbling architectural heritage dating back 500 years to Spanish colonial days — a living museum of baroque church facades, art deco shops, long abandoned art nouveau bank headquarters, pastel townhouses, and late ’50s apartment houses.

For a group of real estate experts, attorneys and students led by USC Law Professor George Lefcoe, a trip to Havana’s historic quarter offered a unique opportunity to study the impact of a rigidly communist economy that has sought foreign investment to help stimulate tourism, agriculture, mining and other industries. Under the auspices of USC’s annual Traveling Land-Use Seminar, the group spent a week in March meeting with Cuban architects, planners and economists. What they discovered was a cash-strapped country desperate for foreign currency to keep the lights on, trying to balance tourist development with the social needs of its residents.

Nowhere was this more evident than in the streets of central Havana, overcrowded with 70,000 residents living in decrepit housing structures. Much progress has been made in the construction of five-star hotels and the restoration of the sagging facades right up to the magnificent portico-sheltered buildings along the city’s seafront boulevard, the Malecon. Tourist revenues finance the redevelopment through a tax on the gross receipts of all the hotels, shops, art galleries and restaurants within the redevelopment boundaries of Old Havana.

“Rates of return for foreign investors are good, but dealing with the Cuban bureaucracy is a full-time challenge,” says Lefcoe, who teaches real estate law and organizes the yearly seminar, which has previously traveled throughout Europe.

“The poorest Cubans live far more fulfilling lives than their counterparts in most other developing countries,” he adds, “as measured by the quality of education through college, the delivery of health care, and the absence of any social stigma for being poor. The government heavily subsidizes everything — housing, transportation, utilities, food and entertainment — but also restricts economic freedom more than any country in the world except North Korea.”

Cubans have almost no discretionary income unless they earn tips by working in tourism or receive dollars from relatives living abroad, says Lefcoe. Very few Cubans are granted permission to work for themselves. Those who do are heavily taxed, regulated and scrutinized closely by the government.

The USC group included four students from Lefcoe’s Real Estate Law course, Professor Scott Bice, Amy Forbes ’84, an associate at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles; Steve Mertz ’84, general counsel of WB Europe; Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Pasadena Mayor Bill Boagard and Steve Madison, a Pasadena city council member. — P.C.

Top: Signs of Fidel Castro’s Communist Revolution are abundant throughout Havana. Bottom: Most of the city’s poor residents live in overcrowded, decrepit homes — another reality of the revolution.

In all his years of teaching, Professor George Lefcoe has known only one place: USC Law School. He recently marked his 40th year on the Law School’s faculty, which he joined immediately upon graduation from Yale Law School. At USC, Lefcoe specializes in real estate law and land-use planning, and holds the Florine and Ervin Yoder Chair of Real Estate Law. He has served on many state and local planning commissions, including those of the county and the city of Los Angeles. For the past 12 years, he has organized USC’s Traveling Land-Use Seminar, leading real estate experts on overseas trips to Italy and Cuba, among other places. “George Lefcoe represents the very best of USC Law School,” says Dean Matthew L. Spitzer. “We are very grateful to have benefited from his four decades of teaching, scholarship and professional contributions.”
In the first academic event of its kind, the Law School brought together leading economists and scholars from across several related disciplines to examine how, if at all, the burgeoning field of behavioral finance can be applied to the study of government fiscal activities.

At the Behavioral Public Finance Conference in February, presenters discussed such topics as how the government should set "sin" taxes, how behavioral economists should view welfare programs, and the psychology of saving.

Academic luminaries in attendance included behavioralist pioneer Richard Thaler of the University of Chicago; University of Chicago Law Professor Richard Epstein; MIT economist Peter Diamond; University of Michigan public finance economist Joel Slemrod; and Harvard economist David Laibson. The conference was jointly sponsored by the USC-Caltech Center for the Study of Law and Politics and the Office of Tax Policy Research at the University of Michigan Business School.

Behavioral finance challenges the traditional notion that all economic activity can be explained through rational individuals trying to maximize their wealth while public finance examines government’s role in the economy, said USC Law Professor Ed McCaffery, who led the conference and also presented a paper.

"We have learned a lot about how behavioral deviations from perfect rationality affect how people act in private financial markets," McCaffery said. "But about one-third of the economy operates through the public sector, through taxing and spending programs. We know a lot less about how behavioral biases and tendencies affect that side of our financial lives. This conference was about setting the boundaries for a new field of study."

In February, USC’s Center for Law, History and Culture examined how marriage has intersected with civil rights, citizenship, sexual orientation and gender equality, at a two-day conference, "Making, Remaking and Unmaking of Modern Marriage."

Conference sessions addressed the role of marriage in determining ideology, sexuality and race in colonial Latin America; the relationship between marriage law and the legal regulation of people living outside marriage; how marriage helped or hindered individual rights in the post-Emancipation American South; and how current marriage laws affect the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Lisa Sousa, a colonial and modern Latin American historian from Occidental College, said native tribes in Mexico struggled with the church over the very idea of marriage when it was introduced by white colonialists. Nahua people were reluctant to give up their indigenous marriage practices, which often involved polygamy or serial monogamy, Sousa said.

"Many opposed the church’s notion of marriage as a lifelong, monogamous commitment," she said, adding that the natives eventually did adopt lifelong marriage partners, but only after much conflict and compromise with church officials.

Morton J. Horwitz, one of the country’s leading scholars on American legal history, delivered the inaugural Lecture in Law and Humanities in an April event sponsored by USC’s Center for Law, History and Culture. His speech, “The Rise of Race Consciousness Before the Warren Court,” credited liberal justices on the Supreme Court for initiating a revolution in race relations and expanding the reach of the Equal Protection Clause.

The Warren Court regularly handed down opinions that have transformed American constitutional doctrine and, in turn, profoundly affected American society, Horwitz said.

“By the end of the Warren Era in 1969,” he said, “the court had incorporated virtually all of the Bill of Rights into the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment.”

A Harvard Law School professor since 1970, Horwitz has criticized the current Supreme Court’s tendency toward “color blindness” and “wishing away existing racial realities.”


Exchanging behavior and public finance

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Erwin Chemerinsky, Sydney M. Irmas Professor of Public Interest Law, Legal Ethics and Political Science, received the President’s Award from the Criminal Courts Bar Association in Los Angeles. He spoke about civil rights and terrorism at law schools around the country and presented lectures on constitutional law and recent decisions of the Supreme Court to bankruptcy judges in San Francisco, the 5th U.S. Circuit Judicial conference in New Orleans and 6th U.S. Circuit Judicial Conference in Memphis, Tenn. He delivered the David C. Baum Memorial Lecture at the University of Illinois and the Bownes Lecture at Franklin Pierce Law School. He participated in re-enactments of oral arguments in Marbury v. Madison at Chapman Law School and Brown v. Board of Education at American University Law School. In March, Chemerinsky was scheduled to present oral argument at the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of Medical Board of California v. Hason, but the state withdrew its appeal and the case was pulled from the court’s calendar. The state was appealing a lower court ruling that cleared the way for Michael Hason, a California doctor and Chemerinsky’s client, to sue the state medical board under the Americans with Disabilities Act for denying his medical license because of clinical depression. Chemerinsky was quoted widely in the media on the unusual circumstances of the case. He also spoke to the media about affirmative action cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, terrorism and civil liberties, and the high court’s decision to uphold California’s three-strikes law—a case in which Chemerinsky himself had argued before the court on behalf of clients sentenced to long sentences for petty theft. Chemerinsky also filed an amicus brief with the high court on behalf of clients challenging the University of Michigan's affirmative action programs in law school and undergraduate admissions.

Mary Dudziak, Judge Edward J. and Ruey L. Guirado Professor of Law, presented “Discrimination and Diplomacy: Recovering the National Stake in the Civil Rights Act of 1964” at a Stanford Law School symposium, co-sponsored with the American Bar Association, on “Rights and Realities: Legal and Social Science Approaches to Employment Discrimination.” She published “Birmingham, Addis Ababa and the Image of America: International Influence on U.S. Civil Rights Policy during the Kennedy Years” in Window on Freedom: Race, Civil Rights, and Foreign Affairs, 1945-1988, Brenda Gayle Plummer, ed. (University of North Carolina Press, 2003). Dudziak served as chair and commentator for a panel on “Reform Politics in American History,” and for another panel on “Law, Business and Political Development” at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association in Denver, Colorado. She is chair of the History and Politics Section of the WPSP and organized the History and Politics panels for this meeting. She also presented “Exporting American Dreams: Thurgood Marshall and the Constitution of Kenya” on a panel on “American Reform in International Perspective” at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians in Memphis, Tenn. Dudziak was appointed to the board of managing editors of American Quarterly, the journal of the American Studies Association.

Thomas Griffith, John B. Miliken Professor of Taxation, published “Taxing Sunny Days,” co-written by University of Pennsylvania Professor Michael Knoll, in the Harvard Law Review. The article was cited by Boston Globe columnist Christopher Shea in his April 6 column, which noted that people in cities with a higher cost of living may feel the pinch of taxes more directly than people making similar salaries in less expensive cities. “I tell my friends who complain, ‘Well, look, why don’t you move?’” Griffith told the Globe. “They say, ‘Well, I kind of like it here in L.A.’” If you stay, Griffith said, that shows that deep down you think you’ve got a fair deal. You’ve made a rational decision to live in an appealing place, and you’re willing to pay a surcharge for the privilege.

Ehud Kamar, associate professor of law, published “The Myth of State Competition in Corporate Law,” co-written with NYU professor Marcel Kahan, in the Stanford Law Review. The article challenges the conventional wisdom that states other than Delaware compete for incorporations and explains this apathy by a combination of economic entry barriers and political factors. In March, he presented research on the same subject at the Corporate Law and Economics Workshop of the law firm of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson in New York.

Daniel Klerman, professor of law and history, presented “Competition and the Evolution of the Common Law” at the International Legal History Conference, University of Exeter, England, and “Statistical and Economic Approaches to Legal History” at the law and social science section of the American Association of Law Schools annual meeting in Washington, D.C. He published “Was the Jury Ever Self-Informing?” in Judicial Tribunals in England and Europe, 1200-1700: The Trial in History, vol. I (University of Manchester Press, 2003) and “Women Prosecutors in Thirteenth-Century England” in the Yale Journal of Law and Humanities. Klerman was quoted in a Feb. 17 People magazine story about CleanFlicks, a Utah company that reedits Hollywood films to remove violence, nudity and offensive language. “Under copyright law, the studio has exclusive right to edit the work,” Klerman told the magazine. “My question is: Why don’t the studios enter this market themselves?”
Research for research on interviewing young children about family violence. He presented “Maximizing Details and Minimizing Suggestion through Structured Interviewing” at the San Diego Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment and led training sessions for Los Angeles police officers who work with children in domestic violence cases. In March, he co-wrote an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in Stogner v. California, a case concerning the constitutionality of a law that retroactively extends the statute of limitations for child sexual abuse.

8 Edward McCaffery, Maurice Jones Jr. Professor of Law, presented “Framing the Family: Normative Evaluation of Tax Policies Involving Household Composition,” co-written with Jon Baron of the University of Pennsylvania, at a Work, Families & Public Policy Seminar Series at Washington University in St. Louis and at UCLA. He also presented his paper, “The Fair Timing of Tax,” at Washington University and UCLA. His article, “Are There Sex Differences in Fiscal Political Preferences,” co-written with Mike Alvarez of Caltech, was the lead article in the March issue of Political Research Quarterly. McCaffery was widely quoted by the media on tax proposals being debated by Congress; in April, he was quoted in The Washington Post Magazine in an article discussing partisan bickering over the so-called “death tax.” Though McCaffery supports efforts to abolish the death tax, his reasoning doesn’t line up with traditional conservative arguments. “I believe in progressive taxes,” he told the Post. “I don’t believe in this naive libertarian, ‘It’s my money, I can keep it.’ A rich person’s wealth isn’t truly his alone, but ‘a joint product. It came out of society.”

9 Jean Rosenbluth, director of lawyering skills, is one of the academic contributors to the upcoming eighth edition of Black’s Law Dictionary. She wrote or revised dozens of definitions, primarily pertaining to criminal law.

10 Matthew Spitzer, dean and Carl M. Franklin Professor of Law, was quoted in the media on issues ranging from the Federal Communications Commission’s review of media ownership policies to the Bush administration’s plans to push for major changes in Medicare. The proposed Medicare changes would make it more difficult for beneficiaries to appeal the denial of benefits such as home health care and skilled nursing home care, requiring arbitration over disputes in many cases. Spitzer told The New York Times that consumers “should think long and hard before they agree to binding arbitration.” It is, he said, extremely difficult to overturn an arbitrator’s decision.

Christopher Stone, J. Thomas McCarthy Trustee Professor of Law, spoke on “The Value of Marine Biodiversity” at an international symposium on marine biodiversity at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He presented the keynote address at a conference on “Environmental Ethics and Policy” at the University of California, Davis. He discussed sustainable use of ocean resources at two international conferences in Tokyo, and presented “Emergent Principles of International Environmental Law” at a meeting-of-experts conference on “Revisiting the Law of the Sea” in British Columbia.

12 Charles Whitebread, George T. and Harriet E. Pfleger Professor of Law, presented analysis of recent decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court to judges in Minnesota and Georgia and at the University of Minnesota Law School. He gave his exam-taking lecture at 70 law schools around the country. And, after two years of service as the reporter and principal draftsperson for the L.A. County Bar’s task force on the criminal justice system, Whitebread participated in a press conference releasing the group’s research, which called for significant reforms to prevent a repeat of the Rampart scandal.

on the record

Keep track of the men and women who are fighting and dying in Iraq. How many of them will turn out to be immigrants, first-generation Americans? How many of them will turn out to be the sons and daughters of Harvard graduates, and how many will be the sons and daughters of housekeepers and gardeners, immigrants and the children of immigrants?

— Professor Susan Estrich, writing about proposals to tighten immigration policies and strengthen border patrols in a San Diego Union-Tribune op-ed
Each year, various USC law graduates are honored for their inspirational leadership, contributions to the legal profession and commitment to legal education.

At its annual Judges and Lawyers Night in March, the USC La Raza Law Students Association recognized Superior Court Judge Rudolph A. Diaz ’72 and Aimee E. Dominguez ’89, a former senior trial attorney with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

In accepting the Judge Armendariz Community Service Award, Diaz recalled that he grew up in a neighborhood near USC but never found any reason to step on campus until he applied to law school — at a time when only 10 other students were Latino.

“There’s been tremendous change in the last 30 years and I’m proud to be a part of it,” said Diaz, who currently presides in the Eastlake Juvenile Court. “It’s a tremendous honor to be here at USC, where it all started.”

Dominguez, who worked as a senior attorney for Kaye Scholer after three and a half years with the SEC, won the Inspirational Alumnus Award. She now runs her own firm, Dominguez LLP.

“What I realized early on,” said Dominguez, who has helped raised thousands of dollars to support scholarships for Latino law students at USC, “is that you need to do your absolute best. And if you do, you will always fare well.”

At its annual alumni dinner in April, USC’s Black Law Students Association honored Candace D. Cooper ’73, who has served as a California Court of Appeal justice in the Second Appellate District since 1999. Prior to assuming the state bench, she was a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge and a Municipal Court judge.

Cooper, who worked as an associate with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher for seven years following law school, has received numerous accolades for her public service, including the Langston Bar Association Judge of the Year Award, the California Women Lawyers Distinguished Judge Award and the USC Alumni Merit Award. She continues to serve the USC law community and is currently on the Law School’s board of councilors. — P.C.

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke: A Life in Politics

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke ’56 was honored in an exhibit in USC’s Doheny Memorial Library as part of the USC Black Alumni Association’s celebration of Black History Month. The exhibit, “Yvonne Brathwaite Burke: A Life in Politics,” showcased Burke’s contributions to the Los Angeles community and told the story of her career through interviews, personal papers, newspaper articles and photographs.

When Burke graduated from the Law School, not one firm granted her an interview. Undaunted, she opened her own office and practiced privately until she was offered a state position as deputy corporation commissioner.

Burke was a police commission hearing officer during the Watts Riots of 1965 and was selected as one of the staff attorneys for the McCone Commission organized to investigate the riots. The position catapulted her into political life.

Through a grassroots campaign, Burke became a voice for communities devastated by the riots by being elected to the California State Assembly, where she held office from 1966 to 1972. At the time, Burke was one of the few women to successfully seek political office. She became a rising star in the Democratic Party in Los Angeles and in 1972 was named vice chair of the Democratic Convention. The position introduced her to the national political arena; in 1972, she was elected to represent the 28th Congressional District.

In 1992, Burke became the first African-American to sit on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, which she now chairs. She continues to advance causes that have characterized her career, such as the care and education of children, economic empowerment and development within underserved communities, and environmental justice. — E.A.
Class of 1950

Class president, Judge Jack Ryburn, and his wife, Toni, are both recovering from surgery. To date $73,000 has been contributed to the Scholarship Fund established by the Ryburns. This is short of the minimum goal of $100,000. As a get-well message and in appreciation of Jack’s many efforts in support of the Class of 1950, a contribution to the Scholarship Fund would be appropriate. Contributions can be made to USC Law School, Class of 1950 Scholarship Fund, Development and Graduate Relations, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0071. Judge Robert Armstrong and wife, Eleanor, stayed at the San Bernardino Radisson Hotel from September through January, while he served as Superior Court Judge. Under the assigned Judge program, he had a fast track criminal court. The Armstongs planned to leave California on March 16 to visit their home in Scotland. Judge Edwin F. Beach almost fully retired from private judging, arbitration, etc., is still active on several boards: founding director of local bank; civic organization boards; library endowment; hospital; elementary school endowment, etc. He is still operating an avocado “ranch.” Willis M. Brooks still spends long hours in his Beverly Hills office with his son, William Brooks. He reports having lunch with Ted Sullivan: “He has more hair than I”! Judge E. Scott Dales and Dorothy celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary with a cruise through the Panama Canal. They play a lot of golf and he still does some mediation and arbitration. Sadly, Judge David N. Eagleson passed away in June. Walter C. Foster now has four grandchildren and one granddaughter, born November 4, 2002. On January 1, 2001, Albert Ghirardelli turned his practice over to his associate Michael S. Overing and is “of counsel” to his office. Wayne C. Holle and wife Marion are living temporarily in Pasadena, but their primary residence remains at La Costa. He retired as general counsel for the Los Angeles office of an international insurance brokerage firm. Evans J. Karpenko’s wife of 58 years, Fran, passed away on July 23, 2002. In appreciation of the education he received at the University of North Dakota and to honor Fran’s memory, he has established The Fran and Evans John Karpenko Campus Beautification Endowment within the UND Foundation. Ralph Helm spent several days in the hospital for angioplastic surgery. He sees Dick Morrow at Lakesides Golf Club, and with his wife, Alice, visits the Armstongs in Scotland. Dick and Virginia, married 55 years, have six grandchildren. Three are in college, two attending USC and one in Arizona. Dick reports seeing Luther Marr with some regularity. Luther is still practicing as a consultant to Walt Disney Co. William Marshall Morgan, retired, has moved from Palm Desert to Pasadena. Edward Sanders still reports to work every day. On January 1, 2003, his firm, Crosby Heafey, combined its practice with a major Eastern firm, Reed Smith. He is still close with Judge Sam Mayerson and Chuck Wilson. Wanda Young Sankary leads a quiet, busy life. In the same house for 50 years. The grandchild she’s been raising is now twelve. Elaine T. Schoech, coping with multiple sclerosis, lives in an assisted living facility on Pacific Coast Highway. Herbert E. Selwyn does arbitration and mediation. His daughter, Jennifer, wrote a book on 16-17th century Europe and is a professor of history at the University of New Hampshire. He spoke recently with Albert Armendariz. Ted Sullivan, retired in Palm Desert, noted with sorrow the passing of classmatemate Judge M. Ross Bigelow. They were law partners for approximately fifteen years, until Ross’ appointment to the bench. Benjamin L. Susman and Mimi have lived in Dana Point for five years. His “big career move has been from growing red roses to growing white ones; in between fishing and traveling.” His son, Howard, is now a partner in the San Diego law firm of Duckor, Spradling & Metzger. Leo J. Vander Lans, since retirement from the firm of Graham & James, has been in the arbitration and mediation field. Allan W. Wallace “still going, albeit with diminished zeal and vigor.” Judge Juaneita Veron-Foster enjoys raising a variety of phenomenal irises in the rocky soil of her Palos Verdes home overlooking the ocean. She generously shared bulbs with Shirley Olsen who raises ordinary iris in the equally rocky soil in Pine Mountain Club. Hopefully the bulbs will survive the transition. Thanks to everyone who responded to the questionnaires and particularly for information on other classmates.

Shirley Olsen, Class Reporter richard@fracmtn.com

Class of 1951

Members of the Class of 1951 remain so active it is a wonder that so many of them have reported in. Among those still practicing law are Don Brown, Roy Mann, Ken Holland, Art Wasserman and Bruce Campbell. Milton Zerin continues to arbitrate fee disputes. Others, although retired, still use their legal learning, for example, to assist two sons who are lawyers (Leonard Weinberg), and to cope with the complexities of life (Sandford Willford and Bill Birnie). Marshall Davis does some real estate brokerage. Donald von Mizener, who “thinks” he has 19 children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, serves them as a bad example. The reason that the classmates can do these marvelous things is that they keep physically fit (and as good looking as ever) by diet and moderate exercise (Davis), “bike, swim, walk, hike, kayaking and golfing” (Birnie), “golf, ping pong, walking, dancing, loving” (Willford, emphasis the reporter’s), jogging and weight lifting (Volney Brown), walking and doing the crossword puzzle “which is a challenge for a non-spoiler” (John Anderson), walking to the post office (Dan Leedy), walking, work-out and golf (Holland), gym and swim (Wasserman), tennis, skiing and walking (Zerin), tennis and golf (Weinberg), soap and water (Mann), and “eating no foods that taste good” (Don Brown). Some express themselves artistically: paint (Birnie), play old 78 records (Don Brown), piano (Davis and Volney Brown) and “dream in color” (Willford). Others travel: to Glendale and Arcadia (Don Brown), to Palm Desert (Davis), to a military reunion in Spokane (Birnie), to Sun Valley, New York and New Jersey (Zerin), on a walking tour of France (Willford), to Alaska, Europe and the Panama Canal (Mann), to Montana and Alaska (Weinberg), flying his own airplane across southern Canada (Wasserman), “Scotland for the Open” (Holland), summer in Aspen and winter in Hawaii (Sid Rose) and to the market and home improvement stores (Anderson). Our parents taught us to follow the straight and narrow (Davis), to stay out of trouble (Birnie), to have a good work ethic (Zerin), do not procrastinate (Willford), to work (Mann), that healthy food makes for a healthy mind and body (Anderson) and “potty training” (Don Brown). On the other hand, these same brilliant minds report that the Law School taught them to think, to analyze critically, to work, that
life is illogically logical, to “fight on” and to be a member of a great profession. Finally, life, the greatest of all teachers and the reason you youngsters should listen to your elders, taught us to share the joy, to philosophize, that people are not basically good, that the human animal is not smart, to shut up and listen more, and “to be worthy of the blessings of good health and life.” Further the classmates sayeth not.

Volney Brown, Jr., Class Reporter 
vbrown@cox.net

> Class of 1956
Allan F. Grossman writes in to report that classmate Robert Zakon married Imelda Zapanta on February 8, 2003, at Saint Mel Catholic Church in Woodland Hills, California, and says, “We, of the class of ’56, wish Bob and Imelda much happiness in their marriage.”

> Class of 1961
Dick Norman completed his year as president of the Ventura County Bar Association last December and reports that he is in contact on a regular basis with Charlie Whitesell (that is me, your humble reporter) and recently enjoyed seeing Jack Trotter, Hodge Dolle and Shelly Sloan at the USC Law School Golf Tournament. Joan and Phil Nicholson attended his oldest daughter’s wedding and were entertained by Randy Siple at the baggage. Robert Schalk practices in Santa Cruz in the areas of trusts and estates, bankruptcy and corporations. Stan Epstein is fully retired and spends his spare time biking, attending the theatre and concerts as well as attending Emeritus College in Santa Monica. Ed Rote lives in South Colby, Washington. Bob O’Brien has retired from the Superior Court and now sets on assignment in Los Angeles Central, having previously spent some time in Glendale in the North Central District and various other districts of the L.A. Superior Court system. Hodge Dolle reports that his daughter, Marcy, recently had her first child, Antonia, making this his 7th grandchild. He tried and successfully appealed a landmark eminent domain case settling a complex procedural issue (City of Lincoln v. Barringer (2002)).

On the Honor Roll
James M. Sutton Jr. ’60 is retiring after 19 years of service as a Los Angeles Superior Court judge. He was appointed to the Superior Court by Gov. George Deukmejian in 1984. Before that, he worked for 20 years with the Long Beach firm of Kight and Sutton, practicing real estate, insurance defense and business and corporations law.

102 CA 4 1211), Judy Hollinger retired from her judicial position on the L.A. Superior Court and has successfully made the transition “from the bench to the kitchen where some of you said ‘women belonged’” She recently ran into Walt Zifkin, CEO of William Morris Agency, at a Valentine’s party. Walt and his wife are board members of the L.A. Philharmonic, as are Judy and her husband, Glen. Shelly Sloan, also a retired bench officer and his wife, Shelby, have four children and eight grandchildren with another on its way. His practice consists, primarily, in handling Governmental Advocacy matters (nice name for a lobbyist). He is still in contact with Howard Johnson, Hodge Dolle, and Ron Ferry – all attending Howard’s son’s wedding in Sundance, Utah, in March of this year. Donald Reisner is also a Governmental Advocate in Sacramento. Jarrett Anderson claims to be “slowing down” in his practice but he appears to be as busy as ever. I had lunch with Jim Kaddo ’63, Judge of the L.A. Superior Court in Van Nuys. He is doing well and enjoys being a judge. Ginger and I just returned from a lengthy trip to Aix-in-Provence with the USC College Abroad program, after which we spent a week in Paris. Fishing is still good in Cabo and you are always welcome.

Charles E. Whitesell, Class Reporter 
cwhitesell@earthlink.net

> Class of 1964
Richard Ackerman is still engaged in the dual practice of law and accounting in Montana. Judge John Cheroske was the subject of a very informative article in the Los Angeles Daily Journal. John has been on the bench for more than 10 years. Instead of retiring 10 years ago, John accepted the appointment to the bench. John is the supervising judge of the South Central District. Suspiciously missing from the article were John’s groundbreaking imitation of George Lefcoe and the skeleton John brought to evidence class and which received credit for attendance. Tom Freiberg reached retirement age at his old law firm but wasn’t ready. Instead, he said “take this retirement and .” and is now practicing eminent domain with Berger & Norton. Talking about our 40th reunion next year, Ron Goodgame and his wife left New Hampshire for a 40-day, 10,000-mile cruise. Sounds like Noah. The Goodgames stopped in New Zealand. After 39 years, Ron got together with Jerry Garrett in Russell, Bay of Islands, New Zealand. Ron and Jerry spent the day together with their wives touring and reminiscing about their days at ‘SC and of course, Paul Jones was a major subject. Ron e-mailed me some pictures taken at the mini-reunion which I had hoped to print with the article but wasn’t allowed. Both of them look great and are enjoying their retirement. Ron reported that Jerry is the holder of numerous saltwater fishing trophies and records. Ron likens Russell to Avalon, Catalina, 50 years ago. It was Jerry who reminded me of John Cheroske’s stunt with the skeleton. Jerry has really embarked upon an e-mail campaign and has located Guy Henry who lives in Vermont and recently passed the Vermont Bar. Jerry is looking forward to seeing all of our class at the 40th reunion. Congratulations to my partner, Ron Rosenfeld, on the impending marriage of his son. I look forward to hearing from each of you. See you in the next issue.

Gary Zimmerman, Class Reporter 
gzl@beverlyhillslaw.com

> Class of 1965
Dear Classmates, I am doing something wrong. Most of you are retired, happy and traveling. Well at least I’m happy. Bob Martin has been voted director of the 454th Bombardment Group Association (Italy, WWII). He is retired, and with his wife, Monica, spent two months driving in all directions in Western Australia. He has been a TV commentator on the death penalty and, in his spare time, does pro bono work with non-profit organizations. Walkie Cole and I traveled to
On the Honor Roll

Aulana L. Peters ’73 received the 11th William O. Douglas Award from the Association of Securities and Exchange Commission Alumni organization. The award honors contributions to the development of federal securities law. Peters is advisory counsel at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and was a commissioner of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from 1984 to 1988. She also serves on the boards of directors for Merrill Lynch, 3M Company, Northrop Grumman Corp. and John Deere & Co., and is a member of the New York Stock Exchange’s market regulatory advisory committee.

Class of 1966

Our class is not only “shrinking” in size but also in its communication skills. I received very few responses to my last request for information but here goes with what I did receive. Paul H. Abram is now the proud grandfather of a new grandson. He is also still “semi-retired” from the practice of law and writes a fishing column for the local paper. Phil Feldman is still practicing with a specialization in the areas of both legal and medical malpractice. Wayne Hunkins is apparently still practicing insurance defense law, despite his information to me for my prior year with his wife, who is a plaintiffs’ attorney. Glen F. Mowrer is still providing pro bono legal services to the homeless in the Santa Barbara area, although he did take some time off to travel to Australia in February and March of this year. Unfortunately, we lost another of our classmates with the sad and untimely passing of Brad Leonard – You will be missed Brad. Hope to hear from some more of you next time.

Judge Chris R. Conway, Class Reporter
CConway@lasuperiorcourt.org

Class of 1972

After a year that included a 30th Class Reunion, a basketball team in the sweet sixteen and a football team in the Orange Bowl, I have issues with the year 2003. We continue to live in interesting times with key words like SARS, Iraq, Security Council, and 401(k) meltdown all contributing to thegrimness. What a contrast with one year ago. I seem to have misplaced my sense of humor. Now for some news about our classmates. Norman Barker wrote from Washington, D.C. He is a financial advisor at Bernstein Investment Research and Management. Norm says Bernstein reminds him of Ernst & Ernst (where he was a former tax partner) in 1970. But now Norm’s office is across the street from the White House on Connecticut Avenue. Norm’s daughter, Jordan, will be entering high school this fall and may be attending a marine biology program at the USC Wrigley Institute on Catalina Island this summer. The Barkers will take the traditional family vacation at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club. Norm’s job is to bring in financial assets under management, and that means high-net-worth individuals and families with wealth accumulation and wealth transfer strategies. I was pleased to hear recently from John Kotick, one of the “silent types.” John is the executive director of the Center For Health Care Rights in Los Angeles, whose mission is to assure access to health care through education, counseling, advocacy, and research. The Center primarily serves Medicare beneficiaries in direct service programs and has been an active participant in managed care reform in California. John sits on a variety of boards and recently co-authored an article in the Daily Journal about patient abandonment in public health care systems. John resides with his wife and four children, all of whom sound remarkably accomplished. You can judge for yourself: special education teacher, personal trainer, retinopathy screening, aspiring writer and aspiring primatologist. Kurt Matthews sent a pithy note to brag that he is retired and enjoying it. Although he does no public speaking, Kurt is performing pro bono work as an arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau in lemon law cases. He has been married for 17 years and has a seventh-grade son who will skip a grade and proceed directly to high school. He must be very bright, just like his father! Kurt says that I should keep my vacation plans for France very flexible because we may be at war with them by summer. Sounds like twisted humor from a guy in my own study group! John Johnson called to brag about his seven-year-old daughter who teaches him something new everyday. Being a Superior Court Commissioner in
On the Honor Roll

Julie Bornstein ’74 has been appointed director of the Keston Infrastructure Institute at USC’s Lusk Center for Real Estate. A real estate attorney, Bornstein was appointed by Gov. Gray Davis in 1999 to oversee California’s Department of Housing and Community Development. In her new position, she will marshal USC’s academic resources in an effort to develop non-partisan policies addressing state growth and quality of life issues, including transportation, open space, water and power.

William Q. Liebmann ’76, a longtime civil and family law attorney, has been appointed to the Ventura County Superior Court by Gov. Gray Davis. Liebmann had served as a court commissioner for two months and, in 2000, served as Camarillo’s mayor. He is expected to serve as a family law judge in Simi Valley. After graduating from USC Law School, Liebmann worked at two law firms before forming the partnership, Liebmann & Dunlevy, in 1983. He later opened his own firm and also served as a court arbitrator and judge pro tem.

The Honorable Jane D. Myers ’76 received the Judge of the Year Award in October from the American Board of Trial Advocates’ Orange County chapter. It is the first time that an Orange County Superior Court Commissioner has received the award. Myers was honored for her “outstanding judicial qualities and persistent efforts to preserve the civil jury system and maintain its orderly and efficient process” in Orange County.

Ruben Castillo ’77 was appointed Merced County counsel by the county’s board of supervisors. He was previously chief deputy with the Fresno County counsel’s office.

Thomas G. Leo ’78 was promoted to partner in Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton’s newly-created multi-disciplinary entertainment, media and communications department in Los Angeles. His practice focuses on entertainment finance, secured transactions and commercial law.

alumni profile: James Scott Bell ’84

As a former trial attorney-turned-novelist, James Scott Bell ’84 has written Christian thrillers that examine some of the most profound legal conundrums of our time: abortion, bioethics, evolution vs. creationism and the meaning of justice.

His latest novel, Deadlock, centers around a liberal U.S. Supreme Court justice, the swing vote on a split court, who suddenly becomes a born-again believer and is forced to reconsider the way she thinks about the law, including such fundamental issues as separation of church and state. Bell, who produces two books per year on average, is currently at work on the latest installment of a series about the first female attorney in turn-of-the-century Los Angeles.

Since his 1995 debut novel, The Darwin Conspiracy, Bell has written himself into the top ranks of faith-based writers while the genre itself has exploded. He has won praise from critics and readers alike for creating believable characters who navigate morally complex worlds.

“The idea is to weave the spiritual themes into the story,” says Bell, who counts Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett among his influences. “The best way to do that is to create real, multi-dimensional characters and let the story affect them realistically. I let the story emerge naturally.”

Bell actually began his career as a film actor and a screenwriter. He enrolled in law school after realizing he needed a steady paycheck to support himself and his wife, Cindy, an actress. At USC, he put his acting skills to good use — by appearing in the long-defunct “Libel Show” spoofing professors Scott Bice, David Slawson and Charles Whitebread.

After law school, Bell began working with his father, a civil litigator who published Bell’s Compendium on Search and Seizure, a leading treatise on the subject. Though he no longer practices law, Bell took over his father’s legal publishing business after his death in 1988.

As long as he maintains his creative freedom, Bell says he doesn’t fret about writing for a niche audience.

“When I was writing scripts for Hollywood,” he says, “I ran into walls when I wanted to explore certain subjects. Now, I feel very free to write what I want to write.” — P.C.
Inglewood would make John more of an expert than I in regard to the importance of accumulating wisdom every day! John is married to a clinical professor at the USC Health Sciences Campus, and she is his “Doctor Welby” on a 24/7 basis. John saw Patrick Madden, a Superior Court judge sitting in Long Beach, at a judicial conference recently. They chatted about careers and inevitably remarked on Rick Edwards’ son who just turned one in April. John, Pat, and I are in agreement that Brett Edwards is the largest infant we ever saw. If he plays basketball, stand by NBA! Rick told me that he and his wife and two sons will spend a summer vacation at their new dacha in a village near St. Petersburg, Russia. Rick describes swimming in the nearby river as memorable daily exercise. Where is the caviar in this picture? Dennis Wheeler wrote to say that he is in his 30th year at Haight, Brown & Bonesteel in Los Angeles. He regularly speaks to physician interns and residents about how to avoid malpractice claims in their private practice. Dennis and his wife, Susan, were married in Law School and reside in Manhattan Beach. They have two sons who are very athletic as you may have concluded from all you remember about Dennis. One of his sons is coached by a former assistant basketball coach to Henry Bibby at USC. That sums up the current news. Keep in touch and remember to contribute to the Annual Law School Fund.

Jack Baker, Class Reporter jbaker@brickstonenco.com

> Class of 1978

As I reluctantly retired, due to disability, from the full-time practice of law in 1988, I felt it only right and proper that I assume the responsibilities of Class Reporter. I heard from 15 out of our class of 185. Michael J. Bazylzer, an international law litigator and a professor of law at Whittier School of Law in Costa Mesa, has a newly published book entitled Holocaust Justice: The Battle for Restitution in America’s Courts (April 2003). It details the series of lawsuits filed against German corporations, French and Austrian banks, European insurance companies, and museums and private collectors of art stolen by the Nazis to right the great thefts perpetuated during the Holocaust. From Las Vegas, Steven Michael Burris reports that he has had his own firm since 1983 with its practice limited to plaintiffs’ PI, was the president in 1997 of the Nevada Trial Lawyers, and is honored to be a member of the American Board of Trial Advocacy. His son from his first marriage is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno. His 12-year-old son from his second marriage in 1983 to Melanie, he boasts, is an exceptional golfer. Michael A. Cane, married with two young sons, reports that in 1997 he started an international securities law practice in Las Vegas, Nevada, and then in 2001 took his business Legal Access Technologies (formerly Tele-Lawyer, Inc.) public. David Robert Clark, married for 20 years with a son who is a sophomore at UC Davis, has practiced business litigation for 25 years in San Diego with many published appellate decisions to his credit. Married with three children, Frederick Philip Cozens does a lot of trial work, mostly felony cases or federal cases, in his criminal defense practice in Northern California; to relax, he coaches his son’s soccer team, serves as the swim team chairman, and attends school plays and children’s birthday parties. Victoria J. Dodd has been teaching law at Suffolk University Law School in Boston since 1981; she has just published an education law treatise entitled Practical Education for the Twenty-First Century. Every year, Victoria and Richard Gruner (who also teaches at Whittier School of Law) have a chat at the annual law professors’ convention. George R. Hedges’ two sons are in college and his wife, Christy, is a Cordon Bleu-certified chef and a food writer. Out of his firm’s Los Angeles office, he specializes in entertainment litigation. His clients include motion picture studios, international production/distribution companies, television networks, major productions, actors and directors, talent agencies and management companies. You may have read newspaper coverage of some of his legal victories or seen “Lost City of Arabia” released on PBS’s NOVA about the successful archeological expedition he organized to find the fabled spice-trade city of Ubar. Katherine Louise Hensley, married to David Hensley ‘63 since 1959 with three sons and six grandchildren, joined the Los Angeles office of O’Melveny & Myers in 1978, made partner, and is now retired from her practice of general corporate and securities law. She currently serves on two boards of directors and on an audit and executive compensation committee. Steven L. Hogan, a civil litigation attorney with an office in Beverly Hills, notes with pride that his daughter Rebecca graduated magna cum laude from UCLA in 2002 with college honors and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa honors society. His younger daughter, Cheryl, is a UCLA freshman and his wife Debra a law librarian. Sherri Lyn Kocen married Jerry Beal, an actor, director, and university professor, on January 5, 2003. Attending her wedding in NYC were our classmates, Michael Bazylzer with his new wife Mari, Colleen Calkins, Pilar Luna, Pam Marx, Mark Goldstein, Karen Rothberg, and Sandra Ormsby Wheeler. Her practice involves the Investment Company Act of 1940, working on prospectuses for mutual funds and for variable life and annuity products. In Los Angeles, Thomas Glen Leo and Suzie, his wife of 18 years, have seven-year-old triplets who are in the first grade. Tom reports that “the five of us are having a blast, with Y Guides, Y Princesses, Tiger Cubs and lots of other activities.” For the last 15 years, he has practiced commercial law, specializing in debt finance and secured transactions, focusing on the entertainment industry in general and film finance in particular. Thomas S. Pabst practices tax estate planning in Palos Verdes and has a real estate broker’s license. Laurie Schall, who uses her husband Alan’s last name of Coltz, is the mother of two young daughters and teaches Alternate Dispute Resolution and Introduction to Law at the University of Maryland’s University College. She is completing a Legal Studies textbook entitled Conflict Diagnosis and Alternative Dispute Resolution, as well as a professional handbook for Prentice Hall (anticipated publication in fall 2003). In 1980, Dennis Supanich married Lisa Spencer ’80; they have two children. Dennis, a certified specialist in estate planning, trust, and probate law, has been working with the same two guys since December 1979, and in January 1996, the three of them started their own law firm in Los Angeles. The classmate we knew as Judy Vaughn, now goes by the name of DeeDee Quinn; living in Los Angeles, she and our classmate Michael Quinn have been married for over 24 years. Their daughter Rachel is an 8th grader. DeeDee is not presently practicing law but currently serves on the board of directors of both the Sinai Temple and of the Sinai
Temple Sisterhood. She is a past president of the Sinai Temple Sisterhood and a local chapter of the Toastmasters International. Both her sons, who were just little boys while we were in law school, are now married, but DeeDee reports “no kids yet!” In June 1992, David Ross Weinstein opened a bankruptcy and insolvency specialty boutique law firm in Century City. He is divorced with two sons, the older in graduate school at Brandeis and the younger a freshman at American University in Washington, D.C. Rory Richard Wicks and his wife, Laura, have just celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary. They have two daughters, one at UC Santa Barbara and the other in high school. He is a sole practitioner in San Diego in a practice which emphasizes business and environmental litigation; he also teaches both trial advocacy and environmental litigation. I am sad to report that the Law School’s records list the following members of our class as deceased: S. Alan Holoch, Phillip S. Lopez, Joseph P. Miramontez, Patricia T. Mulryan, Russell Smith, and John Todd Wise. Please keep in contact. I would like to be able to report on more of you in my next column.

Elizabeth Karen Reinhart, Class Reporter erl@worldnet.att.net

> Class of 1981

Thanks to overwhelming response, there is a lot to report about the Class of 1981! Bill Coyne was recently appointed president and CEO of Raley’s, a chain of superstores and supermarkets. Congratulations! On the personal side, he has been married for 20 years and has three sons, Patrick (17), Jon (15) and Robert (14). The entire family enjoys skiing in Tahoe and water skiing. Keith Bishop joined Buchalter, Nemer, Fields & Younger as a shareholder in March 2003. (Keith had the good sense to ask your class reporter, John Jameson of Jameson Ziskind LLC, to assist him in his move. I wish him all the best in his new position!). Debbie Hall is a corporate partner at Allen, Matkins. She is president of the Alumni Association for her undergraduate alma mater, Caltech, and is also helping at her local YMCA. Her son, Jim, is a freshman at Georgetown University. She and her husband, Hank, also have a daughter, Amy (12). Kevin Marcy is currently working in Vancouver, B.C. as associate producer on “Scary Movie 3” for Miramax/Dimension Films. He is also working with Dan Aykroyd to launch a line of Blues Brothers merchandise at the Universal Theme parks. Henry Stiepel left Pillsbury in March 2002 and opened Garrett De Frenza Stiepel LLP in Costa Mesa. This is a real estate boutique firm with 10 attorneys. He lives in Mission Viejo with his wife, Franca. They have two boys, ages 7 and 10, and are very busy with Cub Scouts and Little League. Phyllis Shibata is a Commissioner with the Los Angeles Superior Court in West Covina. She was formerly a deputy Public Defender. Patty (Parnell) Wheeler practices employment law with Wimberly, Lawson, Seale, Wright & Daves PLLC in Knoxville, Tenn. She is married to Manfred Grote. Her son, John Patrick Parnell, just passed the bar and is now a licensed attorney. She is obviously keeping it in the family! Jeffrey Dale Thompson is still with Tenet Health System. He has moved back to Southern California after nearly two years in Philadelphia heading the company’s eastern law department operations. Scott Darling is a principal and managing director of Portfolio Management for American Realty Advisors in Glendale, Calif. His company buys, manages, sells and finances commercial real estate for pension fund clients. He and his wife Marion have been married for 21 years and have two daughters, Dawn (16) and Kristy (14). Jeremy Kaufman has his own immigration and personal injury law practice in Los Angeles. He and his wife, Joanne, have two daughters: Sarah (14) and Amanda (4). Sarah is currently in the HGM program at North Hollywood High School. Michael O’Halloran and his wife Margaret Mann are chapter authors in the recently published CEB Personal and Small Business Bankruptcy Practice treatise. Betsy Brinson reports that all is well in Bellingham, Wash. Her partner Matt Elch is now a district court judge so the firm is now called Nelson, Bronson, Thrippen & Fryer. She passed on the news that Lynn Skordal is living on Mercer Island, Wash., and is extremely busy practicing law, being married and the mother of 8- and 12-year-old girls. Last, but not least, I have been informed that Ron Fomalont and his wife, Robin, had a baby boy in November 2002.

John B. Jameson, Class Reporter
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> Class of 1982

John Heilman is busy as always! He was just re-elected to the West Hollywood City Council. John also teaches at Whittier Law School in Orange County Calif., and is presently helping Whittier College start a master’s program in Public Administration. Val Vega was recently re-elected to a second six-year term as District Court Judge for the State Court of Las Vegas. Val reports that she is busier than ever. At year’s end, court statistics revealed that she had spent the most days in trial of any Nevada judge in 2002! To celebrate Val’s successful re-election bid, she and her husband sold their home of 13 years and decided to build a new home. Barney Ales also lives in Nevada and is the litigation director for Goold, Patterson, Ales, Roadhouse and Day, specializing in real estate and construction law. Barney reports that it is always a pleasure to appear before Val. Barney and his wife, Mary, have much to report. Mary opted to home school the couple’s three children rather than
to practice law. The couple's efforts seemed to pay off. Justin attended USC, graduating cum laude in 2002 from the Honors Program in the School of Engineering with a degree in Biomedical and Electrical Engineering. He is now in the Doctoral Program in Vision Science at UC Berkeley. Barney Jr., Barney and Mary's second child, turned down USC's Aeronautical Engineering Program to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy. He was one of six cadets selected to the elite Flying Team, Virginia, Barney and Mary's youngest, began attending college at the age of 15. She is now 17 and studying in Berlin, Germany.

Susie Herbst Roos is practicing law and living with her family in Northern California. She left Sheppard, Mullin, Richter and Hampton eight years ago. She and another former Sheppard, Mullin partner started Cook and Roos in 1995. The firm specializes in employment law for management. Susie and her husband, John (21 years), have two children, a boy and girl. Robert Campbell and his wife, Janie (16 years), live in Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., with their two children, Ellen (13) and Jack (10). Robert joined the litigation department of Cox, Castle and Nicholson as senior counsel after many years with the Los Angeles office of Thelen, Reid & Priest. Aside from his busy practice, Robert is involved as a coach with his children's soccer and baseball teams and is a passionate UCLA and sports fan. In December 2000, classmate Jacquelyn Phillips Lacey was named the director of the Bureau of Central Operations for the District Attorney's Office of Los Angeles County. She and her husband, David (23 years), have three children. Their eldest son is a junior at Howard University in Washington D.C. and their daughter is a sophomore at the University of Arizona. Randy Sinnott was mobilized in January as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and is presently at Camp Pendleton, Calif., serving as the deputy commander of the First Marine Division troops in the continental U.S. You may recall that Randy has served a total of 27 years in the Marine Corps and Marine Corps Reserves.

On the Honor Roll

Kathleen White ’84 was appointed to the Yolo County Superior Court by Gov. Gray Davis. A former Los Angeles and Pasadena lawyer specializing in business bankruptcy, White previously served as the executive officer of the Yolo Superior Court and had served as judge pro-temp on an as-needed basis.

Ara J. Najarian ’85 was elected to the Glendale Community College board of trustees in April. A Glendale–area attorney and chairman of the Glendale Transportation and Parking Commission, Najarian is also active in the Los Angeles Armenian community and serves as a director for Medical Outreach for Armenia.

Victoria K. Trotta ’86 was elected vice president and president-elect of the American Association of Law Libraries. Trotta served in various positions in USC's law library before becoming associate dean for information technology at Arizona State University College of Law.

on local government law, tax exempt financing and land development. Tom Kent got married in November 2000 and still practices in Los Angeles with his own firm, Lee and Kent. Al Boelter has his own firm in Marina Del Rey, Calif. Boelter and Perry is primarily an entertainment firm. Al performs work for one major studio plus various musicians and independent labels. Ellen Spindler practices insurance coverage, primarily for AIG's excess casualty and construction divisions. She and her 12-year-old daughter, Margot, enjoy weekend trips to the Berkshires where they have a home. On a very sad note, classmate Dave Viera passed away this winter. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Dave's family and friends.

Mark Frazier and Geri (Craft) Frazier, Class Reporters mfrazier@rutan.com (Mark) newportangelfan@aol.com (Geri)

> Class of 1986

It looks like the past few months have been quiet for the Class of 1986. Only a handful of you faithful correspondents sent in information about what's going on in your lives. Now if that keeps up, this will turn into the C. Dana Hobart personal marketing page. That's right, you'll hear about his $16 million verdict for an airfreight client in Portland Federal Court or his jaunts to New York and London for his Dutch bank client. Or even about his family's spring break vacation in Mammoth Lakes. But you really don't want that, do you? So keep those cards and letters coming in! As for the trusted few who wrote, David Brand announced the formation of Knott & Brand, whose firm provides contract services to small firms and sole practitioners in Los Angeles. Billie Jan Goldstein credits the Law School's Post Conviction Justice Project for giving her a great foundation for her work handling criminal appeals, writs and motions for the Public Defender of the 11th Judicial Council of Florida (that is Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties to the rest of us). Maize Whalen Pusich continues her practice representing indigent criminal defendants while staying busy with kindergarten, soccer, and swim lessons. She laments not seeing any classmates in Reno, Nevada, and asks, “Where are all of you?” Maybe they all went to Las Vegas? From Costa Mesa, Joel Boyer reports that his firm's name has changed to Madigan & Boyer, but Joel insists that it wasn’t a promotion. Michelle Fujimoto and her husband, Patrick Porter, are enjoying raising their two sons, Dalton and Ethan, as Michelle practices pharmaceutical and medical device defense as a partner of Palmieri, Tyler, Wiener, Wilhelm & Waldron LLP in Irvine. Marcia Wurmbrand-Larson is also enjoying raising her two children, Alexandra and Jordan, in Rancho Palos Verdes but, unlike Michelle, Marcia prefers leaving the law to her husband. Andrea White is still with Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc., but has recently been placed in charge of Information Security & Privacy, which she emphasizes, is “not a legal position.” And last, but not least, Steve Del Guercio has become mayor of the City of La Canada Flintridge. Congratulations! And Steve, from two of your subjects, Sam Balisy and I, we request that you are mild in your rule.

Dana Hobart, Class Reporter hobartd@hbdlawyers.com
The tiny and largely unpaid legal team that defended former Los Alamos scientist Dr. Wen Ho Lee three years ago against charges of espionage faced enormous odds: lack of resources, a federal government bent on making an example out of Lee and an initially unfriendly public.

Luckily for Lee, his ad hoc team of legal advisers included Brian Sun ’79 and Heather Hersh ’98, both attorneys at the Santa Monica-based litigation boutique firm of O’Neill, Lysaght & Sun LLP.

Sun, the child of Chinese immigrants and one of the most prominent members of the Asian American legal community, was a perfect pick. He had defended California businessman Johnny Chung and Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple officials in 1997 against allegations that they had violated campaign finance laws. He’d also clerked for U.S. District Judge A. Andrew Hauk and spent four years at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles.

Lee’s primary attorney, Mark Holscher, brought Sun on board. Sun then turned to one of his firm’s promising associates for support. Although Heather Hersh had finished law school less than two years before the Lee case broke, she also had clerked for a federal judge — U.S. District Judge Manuel Real — and had a firm handle on federal litigation. At USC, she won the Hale Moot Court championship.

“After that experience, I had no fear of entering any courtroom,” Hersh says.

Soon after Lee’s indictment for mishandling confidential computer files in December 1999, Sun and Hersh filed a civil complaint against the federal government, alleging that it had violated their client’s rights under the federal Privacy Act of 1974. The suit alleged that the government falsely painted Lee as a spy by selectively leaking bits of his personal information.

“This was a case that was driven a lot by the politics of the time,” says Sun, recalling Republican attacks against the Clinton administration for being “soft” on China, “and that affected the prosecutorial conduct. The administration wanted to make an example out of him.”

Working closely with other members of the legal team — Holscher, a partner at O’Melveny & Myers and a former assistant U.S. attorney; John Cline, a former partner with Williams & Connolly in Washington who had helped defend Oliver North; and Nancy Hollander, a partner of Cline’s with civil rights experience — Sun and Hersh steadily eroded the government’s case. In the end, the federal prosecution collapsed completely and Wen Ho Lee pleaded guilty to one count of mishandling classified material — the other 58 charges against him were dismissed. At the hearing before Lee was set free, the federal judge overseeing the case offered him an apology and harshly criticized the manner in which the Clinton administration and law enforcement agents had handled the case.

“It was like a Hollywood moment,” says Sun, clearly savoring the memory. “You couldn’t have scripted it out better.”

For her part, Hersh said she learned an invaluable lesson from the experience: “The government doesn’t win by convicting every case. The government wins when justice is done.” —P.C.
Class of 1987

Alfredo (Al) Jarrin and his wife Megan are enjoying life with their two kids: Alina (7) and Christopher (1). Al continues to serve as International Counsel for Hughes Electronics Corporation. Karen Lash is a vice president for Equal Justice Works, based in Washington, D.C. Karen is also the 2003 recipient of the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law Community Service Award. Barry Seaton is vice president and general counsel of Crave Entertainment, a privately held video game publisher and distributor, which supplies the video games for all Toys R Us and Blockbuster video stores in the U.S. and Canada, as well as several other major retailers. His wife, Caprice, and their daughter, Samantha, (4) live in Newport Beach. Barry’s only complaint is the temporary commute to work in Carson; next year his company will relocate to Irvine. Ken Swenson is an assistant general counsel for Bank of America N.A. as the bank’s Global Corporate Investment Banking attorney for real estate secured loan workouts, owned real estate sales and administration, and environmental services. He works from the bank’s downtown Los Angeles office. Mike Vaughan is the general counsel and secretary for Quest Software, Inc. (Nasdaq: QSFT), a provider of application management software, based in Irvine. Mike and his wife, Debbie, recently celebrated 20 years of marriage. They have two children: Erika (16), who is a performing classical ballet artist and a junior at Mission Vejo High School, and Bryan (12), a seventh grade basketball and soccer prodigy. Please contact your class reporter with information you would like to share with your classmates.

Jon R. Robertson, Class Reporter
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Class of 1988

As we approach our 15-year reunion, one thing is certain: the species continues to propagate. At this rate, a Special Am Jur award should be presented to the first Class of 1988 graduate to reach five children! In no particular order: Craig Welin and his wife Lisa have two children, and the whole family loves USC football – who doesn’t after last year? Craig has been appointed managing partner of the Los Angeles office of Frandzel Robins Bloom & Ceato LLC, where he specializes in creditor’s rights when he’s not running the show. Annee Della Donna has left big firm life to start her own practice, specializing in litigation. She has three children and is married to an emergency care physician – no crisis in health care costs in that family! Brett Rawitz resides with his wife and four children in Illinois, where he is in charge of labor and employment matters for McDonald’s. Mike Trotter is challenging Brett for that Am Jur award – he and his wife, Mary, have three girls and a boy, and have now been married for almost 15 years. On the professional front, Mike routinely convinces juries that medical professionals can do no wrong. And while the rest of us at least pay lip service to it, Carla Garret actually specializes in ethics law. Every day is a class reunion for Carla and her husband of 13 years, Robert Ball. They keep busy with three (very ethical) children, an 11-year-old daughter and twin seven-year-old boys. Rob Zwierlein and his wife, Kristi, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in December. Their daughter turns four in September and has left big costs in that family! Emergency care physician – no crisis in health care. And, finally, your Class Reporter, in addition to carrying water for Jerry on the board of Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine, continues to practice civil litigation in Los Angeles and Guam. More significantly, I got married in June 2001 to Kerri Speck (USC ’94), with Scott Adamson, Dave Nash, Joe Bovino, John Gordon, Joe Bogdan, Dave Michaelson, and Judi and Mike Delbick in attendance. And one year later little Maggie Marks came into the world. Maggie parties with her friends, Delaney (daughter of Linda and Class Reporter Emeritus Dave Michaelson) and Katie (daughter of Laura and Dave Nash). And for those of you who weren’t written up in this report, be sure to make it to our Class Reunion this year – I will be taking notes!

Paul Marks, Class Reporter
pmarks@hklaw.com

Class of 1990

REPORTING FROM COURTSIDE: Dan Rather interviewed Tracy Dressner (for “60 Minutes II”) in connection with Tracy’s representation of a client incarcerated under the felony murder rule. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, Tracy ended up on the cutting room floor. But, we are confident that Tracy’s points were heard in full when she argued a death penalty case before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and another case before the California Supreme Court. IT’S OFFICIAL: (Paul) Kevin Wood

class of 1988 reunion
To be held Saturday, July 26, 2003
at The Ritz-Carlton, Marina Del Rey
Call (213) 740-6143 for more information
was recently certified by the California Bar as an Appellate Specialist, and is also serving on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals pro bono panel. James Bozajian was to be sworn in as mayor of Calabasas (for the second time) in March, and Mark Feldman reported that he and his family would be attending the swearing in festivities. MOVIN, MOVIN, MOVIN: Since our last report, Boyd Rutherford has been appointed by Maryland’s Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. to serve as Secretary of the Maryland Department of General Services. As Secretary, Boyd is responsible for more than $800 million in annual contract administration and 6.5 million square feet of state-owned facilities. Matt Lester reported that, in October of last year, Joel Margolis moved to Princeton Real Estate Corporation, where he serves as general counsel. Charles Savoni is a senior vice president and general counsel at Artemis International Solutions Corporation, his first publicly traded employer. Charlie reports that the job is fascinating and the executive team is close and hardworking. Chad Wootton reported that his firm, Charleston, Revich & Chamberlin, moved to the other side of Century Park East. And, Chris Olsen, who is a certified financial planner with Northwestern Mutual/Strategic Financial Group, moved to his company’s downtown Los Angeles office. ON THE FAMILY FRONT: Brian Cabrera, the general counsel and vice president of Operations at Callidus Software in the Silicon Valley, reports that his “Spanish came in handy after all” on a blind date “that actually worked!” More specifically, Brian was set up on a blind date with Xochitl (pronounced “Sochi”), a manufacturer’s representative and part-time model visiting the U.S. from Guadalajara, and the couple was married just after Christmas last year. Vivienne (Allen) Alpaugh and husband, Thom, continue to enjoy Mollie (3), Sam (5) and Spencer (7). Orange County attorneys Amy (Del Pero) Hoff and Sherry (Maxwell) Dupont can be seen pushing their strollers around Disneyland on the weekends, and laughing about how they would never have imagined this scene 10 years ago. Barry Stephens has a new son, Jayson, who joined siblings Christopher, Amanda and Annika. Barry is serving as the Task Force Legal Advisor for U.S. military operations in the Philippines. Jon Takasuki and his wife, Haydeh, were blessed with a new daughter, Kinuyo Iman, who was in such a hurry to meet her new parents that she came a full month early during Thanksgiving dinner. Steve Atlee reports that with Tommy (5) and Grace (almost 4) growing up so fast, he and wife Liz (’93) are trying to savor the experience of parenting with this “last one” – baby Eleanor – who joined them last September. Steve is still working at Latham & Watkins in downtown Los Angeles, and would love to catch up and compare notes with other classmates who are working downtown. Laura Forbes continues to keep busy raising her four boys, and working part-time in Paul Hastings’ Orange County office. She speaks frequently with Jackie (Miller) Joseph, who is working part-time at Gorrey, Meyer & Rudd in Los Angeles. Reporting in from “sunny and warm” Minnesota, Jerry Johnson announced two new developments: the birth of a son named Parker (who joins sister Peyton), and becoming a partner in Sumner Harrington, an investment bank. Jerry was previously in a CFO position with a public company, and is really enjoying the transition back to his investment banker roots. And, after an 18-month gestation, Molly Hansen is proud to announce the birth of “Secondhand Lions” – a Digital Domain production that should be coming soon to a theater near you. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Continuing to enjoy his retirement, Steve Boggs has purchased another new toy – a bright red Formula Atlantic racecar – that has a top speed of 150+ mph. Shirley Paine reported that she and Rowan were speeding off to Paris and London in April. Peter Zilgalvis reported from France that he’s been a member of the editorial board of the Baltic Yearbook of International Law, and was special editor, a contributing author, and contributor of the editorial note in the special Bioethics issue (Vol. 2, 2002). And, while taking a little break from his writing and editing duties last year, Peter took 9th place in the Latvian National Amateur Golf Championship! One final note, at press time, Cynthia Garrett (host of TV Guide Channel’s “Hollywood Insider” and HBO’s “The Buzz”) was scheduled to lead a star-studded parade of presenters and special guests, including Dule Hill (“The West Wing”) and Sean Patrick Thomas (“The District”), as she hosted the Ninth Annual NAMIC Vision Awards, to be held on March 28 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills. (Some of you may recall that, back in law school, this venue was more commonly referred to as the hotel behind Trader Vic’s. Ah, the memories.) Cheers to one and all! Molly Hansen & Mary Ann Soden, Class Reporters mhansen@d2.com (Molly) masoden@hotmail.com (Mary Ann) > Class of 1991 Happy summer! Here’s the latest: Dennis Wilson reports he, wife Lynn and daughter Summer welcomed little Leo last July… Leslie King just finished shooting a short film starring Fionnula Flanagan (“The Others”) which Leslie wrote, directed, produced and was editing. She and her family just moved into the new home she has been telling us about for the past two years. Todd Davis and wife, Anna, proudly announce the birth of their son, Savannah Leigh born in January. Melissa Balaban writes she is now assistant dean for career services at the Law School. She also reports seeing Scott Palmer, Paul Singarella, Jeff Schneider, Tom Moglovkin at the Alumni-1st Year Lunch – and “missed seeing the rest of you!” (oops!) Ken Ryken, currently assigned to head the Felony Law & Motion division for Alameda County Southern Branch DA’s office announces he and Detective Jean Luevano, a child abuse detective for the Hayward PD, were married on a yacht last December. Greg Tenhoff attended the wedding. Ken was also elected to the board for the American Inns of Court, Earl Warren Chapter, in Oakland. Amie Jacoby went into private practice last December with Ing, Horikawa & Jorgensen in Hawaii, but resigned this March because she is heading back to California with her family, including new baby Stephen. She is looking for work and asks, “Anybody know of any contract work
On the Honor Roll

Christine D. Ryan '92 was promoted to partner in the Southern California office of Nossaman, Gunther, Knox & Elliott. She is a member of the firm’s infrastructure group.

Brooks worked at Christensen White, et al. before opening up his own office in Orange County. (Check out www.thehonestlawyer.com). Zev and his wife Yvette have two daughters, Jacqueline (3) and new baby Danielle Hannah. Zev is the cantor at Temple Beth Emet in Anaheim, and has a band: Zero Emission Vehicle, or ZEV. Sean Luner, a member of the patent bar, focuses on high stakes, contingency, patent litigation with his firm, Dovel & Luner. Sean founded Visual Victory, a trial-consulting firm, and also teaches a class at the Law School entitled Persuasion. Daniel Hayes is managing partner of the L.A. office of Davis Shapiro Lewit Montone & Hayes, specializing in entertainment law. He has two dogs, Lyric and Sonet, and founded an animal rescue organization, Take Me Home (www.takemehome.b). Leslie de Moresas writes in from Glenwood Springs, Colo., that she and husband Ron have a new granddaughter, Emily Marie. Leslie and Ron continue to travel and are planning their semi-annual boating trip from Florida to their home in Massachusetts. Greg Lee (who lives in Nevada) ran into Tracy Cahill (who lives in L.A.) in San Francisco where their children played in Huntington Park while Greg and Tracy caught up on life. And sometimes you just have to relax in exotic locales or just relaxing with friends and family. Given how busy we are, we certainly deserve a vacation! Rick Melendez is working hard at Legal Helpers (immigration, bankruptcy, tax) and enjoying life in San Diego. Sylvia (Virsik) Karlan decided to take a break from the practice of law while she and her husband, Mark, expect their first child, who should arrive a few months before this article comes out. Zev

Teri Villa-McDowell, Class Reporter
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> Class of 1992

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer, vacationing in exotic locales or just relaxing with friends and family. for a telecommuter?” Amie tells us that Eve Karasik recently helped her out with a bankruptcy case. Chris Harmon announces baby Callie Grace joined brothers Christopher and Collin in the Harmon family this January. He reports seeing Scott Palmer in Ventura court recently. Isabella Whitaker writes in that she is now an estate planning attorney in San Francisco and that her five-year-old daughter will soon be starting kindergarten. Phil Albert is practicing law “as a partner in one of the few Bay Area technology firms that has not gone out of business recently.” He reports they have won big cases against behemoths ($150 million from Intel, $1.1 billion from Microsoft) but other cases are as interesting, like the case “that turned on the definition of ‘book.”’ Phil also writes, “I am sure everyone else might have more interesting stories, but I figured I had to say something response to get on the list of who gets your compilation.” Hope USC Law sends to everyone, Phil, not the case “that turned on the definition of ‘book.”’

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Efrat received his JSD (Doctor of the Science of Law) from Stanford Law School and is an assistant professor in Cal State Northridge’s Business Law Department. Rafi and his wife recently welcomed twins, son Neev and daughter Danielle, who join big sister Maya. And, Linda Hamilton reports she is alive and well, and enjoys her work at the Department of Labor in Pasadena where she manages a group of attorneys, accountants and auditors who investigate ERISA violations. … Thank you all for continuing to keep in touch. Until next time, respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Nuszkiewicz) Blum, Class Reporter
mblum@jonesday.com

> Class of 1996

Due to a miscommunication, we were unable to get our questionnaire out to you…but I reached out to my fellow classmates and in a matter of days, no hours, in some cases even minutes, the Class of ’96 rallied, proving once again that they are truly one of USC Law’s finest graduating classes. I’d especially like to thank Lorin (Levinson) Fairchild and Steve Harris for getting the word out – it was a tremendous help. Let’s start with the Julies: Julie Giacopuzzi traveled for two weeks through Italy with Alexandra Bodnar in December 2002, and then followed that up by serving as a bridesmaid at Stacey Turner and Peter Sessions’ (’97) wedding in March 2003; while Julie Hsu has become director of business affairs at Overture Services, Inc., bought a new house in December 2002 (complete with puppies), and is getting married in July 2003. Alison (Riggs) Wade lives in San Diego and is senior counsel for Sony Electronics. She and her husband, Rob, are expecting their first child in August 2003, as are Tony Christopoulos and his wife, Eduardo Leaton and his wife, Diana, had their first child, a new daughter (Helliiki Sofija Luis-Leaton), on September 21, 2002. Eduardo is still with the County of Los Angeles Department of Consumer Affairs and may be looking to go solo in a couple of years. In the meantime, he is on the board of directors of a new non-profit corporation (Blue Raerae: The Adrienne Wilson Liver Cancer Center) and is also working on his writing (although his handwriting has not improved one bit).

On the Honor Roll

Scott M. Pearson ’94 was named partner at Stroock & Stroock. Pearson’s practice focuses on complex commercial litigation.

Dana S. Treister ’94 was elevated to partner at Munger, Tolles & Olson. A member of the firm’s real estate practice group, Treister focuses on the acquisition and sale of commercial properties, commercial leasing and financing transactions.

Elizabeth K. Penfil ’95 was named partner at Irell & Manella. She works with the firm’s appellate, art law, intellectual property and litigation groups and focuses on business litigation in state and federal courts.

Kristin McCarthy is still in Washington D.C., but hopes to move back to San Diego soon with her two-year-old son. Gretchen (Wida) Corbell and her husband, Peter ’94, have recently moved to a new home in Hermosa Beach and are expecting their second child, a boy, on June 9, 2003. Speaking of kids, Melissa Price has begun teaching first graders at Sharp Elementary, a Title I school in Pacoima. Howard Seo was married on September 22, 2001, and resides in San Diego while Quimby Pierce bought a house in May 2001 and then got married in October of that same year. Lisa Stanhope and Dean Grafos got married in August 2000 in Santorini, Greece, and have been enjoying several “amazing, adventure-filled years” since then. Lisa and Dean are practicing together (Grafos & Grafos) from their home (heaven) and plan to travel to Thailand over New Year’s. Meanwhile, Dean has recently started a real estate investment/development company with Amritesh Damudar, who plans to wed in May of 2003 (Lisa and Dean will attend). Josh Laterman plans to wed as well this coming Labor Day. Josh recently became general counsel of Natesis Bleichroeder, an established Wall Street investment house. Also in New York is Kent Wakeford, who has become vice president of business development at AOL and currently sits on the board of directors for Care for the Homeless. On the other side of the country, Derek Reeve recently purchased a home in San Juan Capistrano and ran for City Council, falling short by just a mere 200 votes despite being “publicly smeared by large land developers.” That’s all for now, hope the rest of you are doing very well and I look forward to hearing from you the next time around.

John Rosati, Class Reporter
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> Class of 2000

It’s summertime and it’s hot – and I’m not talking about the weather. No, I’m talking about the USC Law School Class of 2000, our class – the hot class. Let us, then, use this space as the evidence of our hotness, the “smoking gun”, if you will, okay? And we shall begin with, what other than, the practice of law; feel the heat of opposing counsel! John Bowerbank is at Sheppard Mullin in Costa Mesa practicing business litigation with an emphasis in securities, commercial real estate and corporate disputes. Lori Sinanyan has changed firms and practice areas – she currently specializes in complex insurance litigation and general business litigation at Kirkland & Ellis. Chris Milligan, upset at Sandeep Motwani for driving too fast in the California Plaza parking structure, has left downtown Los Angeles and now specializes in employment and labor relations at Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo in Cerritos. Lissette Garcia practices at Gates, O’Doherty, Gontier & Guy in Rancho Cucamonga. In other professions, Doug Revere has relocated to Houston where he is the sales manager of the downtown Houston Merrill Lynch branch and has recently been blessed with his third precious baby boy, John ‘Jack’ Revere. Sticking with the subject of little ones – Monika and Ben Wiener celebrated the birth of their first child, Henry David Wiener, in March. Monica Goei and Gilbert Hornberger are expecting their first child in September. And, though not a child, Kim Fontaine is working on a baby of her own – Kim is currently recording an album. Yes, that means the Class of 2000 knows how to lay down hot tracks! If she needs a DJ, she should contact Eric Wang (a.k.a. DJ E-dub) who spun recently at The Grandstar in downtown Los Angeles. (Now that’s networking!) Speaking of networking, if you’re in San Francisco, please look...
Gloria Castro ’97 always knew she would devote her career to helping others. After all, Castro, the eldest child of immigrant parents and the first person in her family to attend college, had been given plenty of opportunity to succeed herself.

“I just feel so fortunate to have been given a college and law school education,” she says. “I feel like I need to give back.”

Castro is doing just that. As a deputy attorney general in the Civil Rights Enforcement Section of the Attorney General’s Office in Los Angeles, she led an investigation into immigrant consultant businesses that were allegedly selling improper legal services to mostly non-English-speaking clients, cheating them out of thousands of dollars in some cases. The yearlong investigation built on a project that Castro began as an Equal Justice Works (formerly NAPIL) Fellow at Public Counsel Law Center. Castro was the first USC student to receive a NAPIL fellowship.

Based on Castro’s work, Attorney General Bill Lockyer filed in October 2001 complaints against two major immigration consultant companies in Los Angeles for illegally portraying themselves as attorneys and engaging in false advertising. Those cases are now headed for trial.

“Most of the folks who are defrauded are desperate to legalize their immigration status,” says Castro, 32, a fluent Spanish speaker. “It’s a perfect scam because many victims are afraid that they will be deported if they come forward to complain. Many of the victims will never see justice.”

Castro’s tenacity and leadership comes as no surprise. At USC, she served as third-year class president, was appointed a USC Presidential Fellow and received a slew of other honors, including a Shattuck Award, the Dorothy Wright Nelson Justice Award and a Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton Scholarship. The La Raza Law Students Association honored her with its Inspirational Alumnus Award in 2001. In May 2001, she was given the California Attorney General’s Award for Citizenship in recognition of her diligent efforts on behalf of Californians and the Department of Justice.

These days, Castro is turning her attention to hate crimes and public access for the disabled. “I’ve always wanted to help the underrepresented,” she says. “I knew I wanted to be proactive in public service.” — P.C.
Carlos Silva. He hasn’t seen any fellow alum in a while – but I know you’re out there! Insurance defense litigation can be lonely without classmate support. Farther afield, where it may never get hot and where the nearest classroom might be a metropolis away, Philip Jensen is living in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and working as a reporter with the city’s CBS affiliate. Which (somehow) leads me to my second fellow alum – myself! Matthew G. Matzkin, too, have ventured into the world of television, and am now a director of legal affairs at Hearst Entertainment Productions, Inc. We make TV movies. You should watch them so I don’t get fired. (Thank you.) Now then, on the other side of the world, David Wang was transferred to Paul Hastings’ Hong Kong office in January 2003. Joining David in Hong Kong are his wife, Susan, and son, Nicklaus. We should mention the two, one must assume, hot and heavy weeks Luis Guzman spent in Brazil for Carnival. “Too much fun,” he said. His sentiments were echoed by travel buddy, Ari Lanin. Further adventures in recreation put Chris Laffoon, Scott Hettema and Troy Sugg recently on a golf course in San Clemente. Though Sugg had the hot hand, Mrs. Liz Laffoon bested the others. Penultimately, real estate is hot, and it’s not surprising that our smart fellow classmate are getting in on the action – Lindsay Dinn and her fiancé, Chris Casamassima, bought a house in Los Feliz and moved in April. Justin Farar, as smart and good looking as always, bought a house in the Hollywood Hills (or Valley, depending on how you look at it) Monica and Gil also bought a house this past spring. Ultimately and as I always like to do in closing, let us pause and share some joy with our upcoming marrying classmates – with wishes of hot honeymoons to you all. Mr. Farar and Lani Cristofar ‘01 have a summer wedding date. Stephen Bush will marry Marie Anne Miles, a soon-to-be doctor, in October 2003 at Sea Ranch, Calif. Reggie Roberts will marry Alicia Thomas on September 6, 2003, in Malibu, Calif. And, also in September, Jennifer Orenberger will marry Matt Holder ‘01 (we sure do love that class of 2001).

> Class of 2002

A big congratulations to our many classmates who have either tied the knot or have accepted the proposition! Bryan Kelly married Marisa Sakaguchi in November and is now working with Thompson & Colegate as a real estate, commercial, employee benefits and estate planning associate. Aneiko Webb Hickerson married Chet Hickerson under a beautiful sunset in October. Aneiko and Chet are expecting their first child in August. Ashleigh Aitken-Penn married her fiancé, Michael, a week after the bar. After their Hawaii honeymoon, Ashleigh took off for a three-week tour of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana. Make sure to ask about her trip, for she tells me that, “It was the most amazing experience!” Ashleigh is doing almost exclusively eminent domain litigation with Nossaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliot. Isabel Birlueva, Jessica Linehan-Garcia, Juanita Mantz and Lane Cook were sworn to silence after Amy Clark’s bachelorette party. Amy married Joshua on March 8 and Juanita and Maricela Segura were bridesmaids. In attendance at the wedding, among other USC law grads, were Daniel Gonzalez, Stacie Yee, Aamir Raza, Courtney Stuart-Alban. Gevik M. Baghdassarian married Paola in September. He is currently a litigation associate with the L.A. office of Pillsbury Winthrop where he works alongside Andre Khansari and Julian Forman. Coincidentally, Julian and Jessica Kaplan are getting married next Labor Day weekend in Malibu. Jessica is an IP patent prosecution and litigation associate in the Irvine and L.A. offices of Howrey, Simon, Arnold & White. Sheila Gibson (formerly Anirola) married Hal in Long Beach this past August. Sheila and Hal are the new proud owners of a home in Paint Loma, near the San Diego office of the intellectual property boutique Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear where Sheila is an associate. After sending Sheila and Hal on their honeymoon to Cancun, Terri Liley began her tenure as a clerk for the Delaware Court of Chancery where she primarily focuses on corporate law disputes and other matters at equity. Jeannine McGregor (formerly Taylor), when not being a super mom to her beautiful daughters, Adara and Annisa (1 and 3 respectively), works as a health care associate for the L.A. office of Foley & Lardner. Marybeth Lipp will be marrying Graham Smith (2002 Loyola law grad) in May 2004. Marybeth is thoroughly enjoying her clerkship and is currently looking for a post-clerkship job.

Peter Breckheimer will be marrying Holly Moore in August. Peter is a business and technology litigation associate with the San Diego office of Gray Cary. Christopher McReynolds will be marrying Jennel Iacono, his girlfriend of eight years, in spring 2004. Christopher practices criminal defense and miscellaneous civil litigation with the Pasadena office of Mathews & Roger. Amber Sullivan Abraham, if not celebrating her first-year marriage anniversary or her daughter’s first year, could be found hard at work as an associate with the L.A. office of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton, LLP. Michelle Feinstein joined the L.A. office of Fircher, Nichols & Meeks, a national real estate law firm, as an associate in the real estate department. Bridget Garcia moved to Washington D.C. after graduation and is currently an attorney advisor with the U.S. Department of the Interior. Kristin Henderson left to New York and is an associate with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP. Richard Lee is a litigation associate for the L.A. office of Holland & Knight LLP. Isabel Birrueta is an employment associate with the L.A. office of Demetriou, Del Guercio, Springer & Francis, LLP. Mary Ruth Hughes is practicing corporate law with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Stacie Yee is an associate with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP. Jill Reza is a litigation associate and practicing creditor’s rights and insolvency law with the Newport Beach office of Irell & Manella, LLP. Jennifer Wayne is a litigation associate with Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, LLP. Kim Krotts, is an associate in the Orange County real estate department of Latham & Watkins. James Christopher is an employment and securities litigation associate with Cooley Godward, LLP. Shehnaz Bhujwala, is a litigation associate with Greene, Broillet, Panish & Wheeler. She primarily represents high-end plaintiffs and is happy to report that she loves her work. Lloyd Pitchen is an environmental law and land use associate with the L.A. office of Jeffers, Mangels, Butler & Marmaro, LLP. Last, but certainly not least, yours truly is living the single life in San Diego still looking for employment.

Pablo C. Palomino, Class Reporter
palomino_pablo@hotmail.com
The Classes of '58, '73 and '98 celebrated their reunions earlier this year. Top right: Merrilyn Erskin Kulis, Jim Kulis and Steve Cooley; second row, first photo: David Rodriguez and Thomas Clark; second row, third photo: Candace Cooper; third row, first photo: Daniel Lin; third row, second photo: Walter Croskey and Robert Garcin; fourth row, first photo: Patrick Collins and April Gallegos; fourth row, second photo: David Pirnazar and Lowell Reinstein; bottom left: Ronald Ross and Gerald Ansell; bottom right: Richard Byrne.
Marcus M. Kaufman, 73
former California Supreme Court justice

Marcus M. Kaufman '56, a former associate justice of the California Supreme Court, died in March at his home in Newport Beach after a long illness. He was 73.

Known for his independent and sometimes outspoken views, Kaufman was appointed to the state's high court by Republican Gov. George Deukmejian and was expected to be among the most conservative members of the court. He quickly established himself, however, as an independent thinker who disagreed with the majority more often than he agreed.

He spoke frequently and passionately about the rights of the ordinary citizen to have access to the courts. He joined the conservative majority in upholding the death penalty and wrote the majority opinion when the court allowed police to erect roadblocks in an effort to get drunken drivers off the road. But he joined the liberals in dissenting in a landmark decision in which the majority sharply limited the amount of damages available to a worker who had been unfairly fired. He also joined the liberal justices in dissenting on a ruling that California antitrust laws cannot be applied to mergers.

"Justice Kaufman was a state treasure — an independent thinker who did what he thought was right, not what was easy," said Law School Dean Matthew L. Spitzer. "He left an indelible mark on the court, the state of California, and this Law School."

A big man with a booming voice, Kaufman jokingly referred to himself as a "redneck with a high IQ." One of four USC graduates to have served on the California Supreme Court, he was active in USC Law School activities throughout his life and spent a year teaching at the Law School. In 1992 he contributed more than $600,000 to augment the Law School's Eileen and Marcus Kaufman Scholarship Fund.

Kaufman was born in Virginia and raised in the Hollywood area. He served as a law clerk for Justice Roger J. Traynor and eventually started a private practice in San Bernardino, specializing in real estate and business law. When he wasn’t working, he was an avid fisherman and tennis player. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Eileen; two daughters, Sharon and Ellen; and five grandchildren. A son, Joel, preceded him in death. — E.A.

Richard F. “Dick” Alden ’49 passed away Jan. 6 after a long illness. He served in the U.S. Navy before completing law school at USC. In 1949, he joined the firm of Latham & Watkins and became one of its earliest partners as well as a key leader in the firm’s growth. Alden’s career spanned nearly every practice area. He also was extremely active in the Los Angeles community and bar activities. In 1985, he left Latham & Watkins to serve as general counsel for Hughes Aircraft Corp. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie, and three children, Amy, Anne and Dana.

Mark C. Allen ’49 a respected expert in municipal law, died Dec. 28, 2002, in Oxnard, Calif. He was 80. Born in Santa Monica in 1922, he worked as a young boy to help support his family through the Depression. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II and the Korean War. After law school, he was a city attorney in Palos Verdes Estates, El Segundo, Bell, Port Hueneme, Inglewood and Camarillo. He later joined the law firm of Burke, Williams and Sorensen in Los Angeles and Ventura, serving as senior partner and leading the firm’s municipal law practice group. Allen is survived by his wife, Rebecca, and children Mark, Nancy and Frank.

James L. DeSouza ’41 passed away Dec. 19, 2002. A native of Phoenix, he earned his bachelor’s degree and J.D. at USC. He spent much of his career in Arizona, where he was a lifelong member of the State Bar of Arizona and was active in the legal community. He served as Arizona state chairman for the Junior Bar Conference and as the Junior Bar’s council-member-at-large from the 9th and 10th Judicial Circuits. He also chaired the State Bar of Arizona’s public information
committee for a number of years. DeSouza was preceded in death by his wife, Eileen Abbot.

Harold M. Fagin ’55, died at age 86 on May 15 at Riverside Community Hospital. Born in New York City, Fagin lived in Riverside, Calif., for 50 years and worked there as an attorney in private practice for 40 years until he retired in 1990. A World War II veteran, he served in the U.S. Air Force for a decade and retired as a captain. He received his bachelor’s degree from New York University, a law degree from St. John’s University in New York, and his master of laws degree from USC.

Robert I. Hoadley ’84 of Syracuse, N.Y., died Dec. 20. He graduated from Syracuse University in 1980 and, after attending law school at USC, returned to New York to open a private practice in Mattydale, N.Y. He was a member of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Onondaga County Bar Association. He was preceded in death by his mother, Mildred Hoadley. He is survived by his father, Irving Hoadley, and a sister, Susan DiKenzo.

William R. Morton ’61, a retired oil and gas attorney, died of melanoma on Feb. 26. Born in San Francisco in 1932, Morton grew up in La Canada-Flintridge, Calif., and earned an engineering degree at the University of Colorado in 1954. He served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After completing his law degree, he worked for many years as an oil and gas attorney and retired from Atlantic Richfield’s legal department in 1986. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Whelton Morton; and their daughter, Ellen Whelton Morton.

Thomas B. Osborne ’64, a lifelong resident of Ventura, Calif., passed away on Nov. 22 at USC Norris Cancer Center. He was 75. He was a retired attorney with Cohen, England, Whitfield and Osborne and judge pro tem for the Ventura County Superior Court. He also was a former investigator for the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office and a former Ventura County sheriff’s deputy. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and the Korean conflict. Osborne is survived by his wife of 49 years, Viola; sons Thomas Jr. and Timothy; and daughters Terri and Tammi.

Mark A. Soden ’48, a retired Orange County Superior Court judge, died of pneumonia on March 7. He was 86. Appointed by Gov. Ronald Reagan, Soden was a Superior Court judge from 1972 to 1986 and served as supervisor of the court’s family law, probate and appellate departments. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1941 and flew B-24s on anti-submarine patrols over the English Channel during WWII, missions for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. After the war, Soden earned his law degree and practiced for 24 years as a civil attorney before being appointed to the bench. He later worked with Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services (JAMS). Soden also was a supporter of the Legal Aid Society’s Legion Lex Fund. He is survived by his wife, Sheryl; son, Mark Jr.; and daughter, Mary Ann, a 1990 graduate of the USC Law School.

Sidney Troxell ’47, a civil litigation attorney in Los Angeles for more than half a century, died on Jan. 15 at his home in Pacific Palisades. Troxell spent his entire life in Los Angeles except for three years spent as a radio operator in the South Pacific during World War II. Troxell earned his bachelor’s and law degrees at USC. He was admitted to the state bar in 1947 and shortly thereafter established a law practice in North Hollywood, which he maintained until 2000. He handled divorce cases and general civil litigation and, as environmental cleanup became a major governmental concern, represented small businesses in their dealings with the Environmental Protection Agency.

John D. Viera ’82, died on Jan. 29 in Long Beach. A film professor at California State University in Long Beach, Viera produced experimental films, television shorts, documentaries and CLIO-winning commercials. He also wrote Lighting for Film and Electronic Cinematography and edited The Entertainment, Publishing and Arts Handbook. He earned a Ph.D. in film from the London International Film School after completing his law degree at USC in 1982. He is survived by his wife, Maria, and two children, Claudia and Stefan.

Gerald A. Weinstein ’60 passed away on Jan. 17. Born in Chicago in 1922, Weinstein moved with his mother to Los Angeles after earning a degree in accounting at the University of Illinois. He served as a military officer in both World War II and the Korean conflict. He later earned a law degree at USC and began a career as an attorney and accountant. He practiced in both fields until his death. He is survived by Lenore, his wife of 50 years; and three daughters, Shelley, Laurie, and Jill.

Elisabeth Eberhard Zeigler ’41, a trailblazing female judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court, passed away on April 13, her 85th birthday. Zeigler began her legal career in the U.S. Navy and in private practice. When she was appointed to the Los Angeles bench in 1949 by Gov. Earl Warren, she became the first woman presiding judge of her court. During her professional career, she also was active in efforts to pass legislation mandating equal pay for business and professional women. She is survived by her husband, John H. Zeigler; and her sister, Mildred Younger.
I decided to work to promote greater understanding between the estranged nations. In college, I helped organize a North Korean Student Exchange Program.

In 2000, the unprecedented inter-Korea summit took place between South Korean President Kim Dae Jung and North Korean leader Kim Jong Il. Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright also made a historical trip to Pyongyang. It seemed like peaceful reunification was imminent, and I, alongside millions of South Koreans, was overjoyed.

Our optimism proved premature. In early 2002, President George W. Bush called North Korea a “rogue state” and part of an “axis of evil” during his State of the Union Address. Pyongyang responded by expelling its nuclear inspectors and made plans to begin manufacturing plutonium from spent nuclear fuel. It also pulled out of the Non-proliferation Treaty and threatened to turn Seoul into a “sea of fire.”

As North Korea restarted its nuclear program, I continued exploring options for peace. Through my work on a statewide gubernatorial race, I met Young Kim, a district representative for Congressman Ed Royce. She was working on the nuclear standoff issue and suggested that I write a foreign policy proposal for the congressman.

As a second-year law student at USC, I now had abundant resources to support my research. Professor Edwin Smith gave me invaluable guidance. Adjunct Professor Paul Hoffman introduced me to an international human rights expert who was working on the North Korean situation, while Adjunct Professor Debbie Shon took an active interest in my research. With their help, I developed a discussion paper that examined the historical underpinnings for North Korea’s threatening behavior and offered suggestions for effective diplomacy. I sent the article to Congressman Royce. It also will be published in the Review of International Affairs.

In my paper, I suggest that North Korea’s foreign policy flows from the xenophobic mindset of its leader, who wants to resist foreign subjugation at all costs. Virtually every aspect of North Korean life, from its self-contained economy to its offensive military posture, is influenced by this mentality. American leaders, while not appearing to be soft on North Korea, would do well to make careful policy decisions based on a full understanding of the country’s historical mistrust of foreign powers. Unfortunately, U.S. policymakers have overlooked this element. As anti-Americanism grows on the Korean peninsula, I am frustrated at how little attention is given to the unique worldview and reality of North Koreans.

As the nuclear standoff continues, I am caught between two realities: I understand the insecurities of a regime scarred by Japanese colonialism, but I also realize the need for regional stability in Asia. My greatest hope is that we can begin to live in an international community where other people’s perspectives, cultures and traditions are considered and respected — leading to greater understanding that will foster peace and security throughout the world.
To support its scholarship programs, the Law School’s Public Interest Law Foundation raised $38,000 at its annual spring auction. Top left: Dean Matthew Spitzer got into the action by offering to be a student for a day. Top center: Professor Susan Estrich placed bids during the silent auction before taking the stage to host the live auction with Professor Charles Whitebread, who sported his 1965 tiger-striped Princeton jacket (bottom left picture). Bottom right picture: Professors Ariela Gross (center) and Carrie Hempel (right), pictured with PILF auction co-chair Jonathan Hicks, also showed off their auctioneering skills.

This spring, the USC Law School Class of 2003 initiated our inaugural annual class gift program. Nearly half of the class pledged, making it one of our most successful fund-raising campaigns to date. It’s a remarkable show of support from our newest crop of alumni.

While the Class of 2003 is poised to enter the profession, most likely you have had years to make your mark. No doubt, the legal training you received from USC helped you along on the road to success. As you look back, an appropriate response might be to give back. We would be delighted to have you follow the excellent example provided by our most recent graduates, who realize that their tuition covers only two-thirds of the cost of their education. The rest comes from the support of alumni — like you.