

The Legal Light

The J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Orange County Chapter
February 2004, Volume II

Members on a Mission

By Don D. Sessions

Chairman of the O.C. Chapter of the JRCLS



A number of our members are on missions, but not the missionary type. They are on a mission to really accomplish something noteworthy this year with our Chapter.

Many of you have now, already, made a commitment in pre-paying for the entire year.

Our Gold Members even paid a little more to help support our law students and recognize our judges. Some even volunteered to help on the committees. The Service and Liaison Committees are coordinating service opportunities with other organizations. The Communications Committee established an outstanding newsletter and developed new ways to communicate with our members and friends. The Events Committee planned out the entire year with outstanding speakers at the luncheons and the annual dinner. The luncheon location is prestigious and the food delicious. We also receive timely updates on law and religion from Judge London and ethics from Donna Bashaw. The enthusiasm of our luncheon crowds of 70-80 people is contagious! We enjoy getting together with others who share our values. We hope to see you at the next luncheon on March 17.

Great things have happened already and there is much more on the way. We challenge you also to go on a mission-the local kind-by getting involved in our unique chapter.

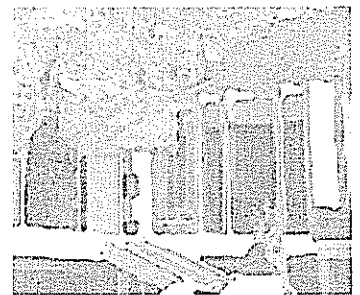
Short History of the JRCLS

By Scott W. Cameron

Associate Dean & Executive Director JRCLS

The J. Reuben Clark Law Society was formally organized in the fall of 1988 by a group of mostly LDS lawyers representing several major regions of the United States. Dean Bruce C. Hafen, third Dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School, originated the idea. He worked in collaboration with Ralph W. Hardy, a prominent attorney from Washington D.C., who became the first chair of the Board of Directors of the Society. Douglas F. Higham, representing Orange County, was one of the original seventeen lawyers on the charter board. From its inception the Law Society has drawn on the philosophy and personal example of J. Reuben Clark, Jr. The goals of the society have also remained unaltered: (1) encourage high moral and professional standards throughout the legal profession; and (2) serve the professional needs of its members.

The Law Society is divided into geographic chapters, with the earliest chapters being formed in San Francisco, Washington D.C., Orange County, Los Angeles and Phoenix. There are now chapters in 43 cities around the United States, two chapters in Canada, and chapters in England, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico and Brazil. Initially, the Law Society had approximately 1500 members. After fifteen years of growth, it now numbers in excess of 6,000.



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Don D. Sessions, Chairman
Jeffrey W. Shield, Chair Elect
Jeffrey A. Robinson, Secretary/Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard T. Benson
Dyke E. Huish
Stephanie Knutson
Brent J. North
Steven B. Scow
Mark D. Watkins
Vicki M. Huebner-Dummitt
Stephen C. Kimball
James R. Moss
Glen Nuttal
Steven C. Smith
Keith A. Wilford

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Joseph I. Bentley
Donna R. Bashaw
Douglas F. Higham
Hon. Brett G. London
R. Marshall Tanner
Hon. Harmon G. Scoville
William B. Bunker
William C. Bollard
R. Craig Scott
Hon. Clay M. Smith
Randell L. Wilkinson

A Short History...

Continued from page one


Those who have served as International Chairs of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society include: Ralph W. Hardy (1987-1992, Washington, D.C.), Gary Anderson (1992-1995, San Francisco), the Honorable Chief Justice Charles E. "Bud" Jones (1995-1997), Ralph R. Mabey (1997-1999, Salt Lake City), R. Marshall Tanner (1999-2001, Orange County), William F. Atkin (2001-2003, Salt Lake City), and Lew W. Cramer (2003-2005, Washington, D.C.).

The Law Society in conjunction with the Law School Alumni Association has sponsored Founders Days Dinners Annually with keynote speakers including: BYU President Rex E. Lee, Elder Bruce C. Hafen, Elder Marlin K. Jensen, Elder Lance B. Wickman, Sister Sheri Dew, Elder Marion D. Hanks, and Elder Neal A. Maxwell on two occasions. President Howard W. Hunter was a featured guest at the 1994 Founders Day Dinner when Brother Truman C. Madsen and Sister Ann Madsen were the featured speakers.

As the Law Society continues to mature, the sense of camaraderie will continue to grow. This maturity is nowhere more self-evident than in the use of the LDS Church satellite system in broadcasting the Annual Devotional Fireside. When President James E. Faust presented his clarion message "Be Healers" on February 28, 2003, there were attorneys at 117 locations throughout the world listening to his message. The letters of thanks from all over the world were inspiring. One student at the University of Maine Law School wrote that he was so pleased to be included and indicated that without the Society, he would not have the opportunity to have his life affected positively by this message. It is a great thought while you were listening to President Faust a group of 7 attorneys in Hamilton, New Zealand were having a barbecue and also listening—as were groups from Australia to London to Sao Paolo, Brazil.

We look forward to increasing the number of locations and the number in attendance at the annual Devotional Fireside. We are certain that additional groups of attorneys in other locations will desire to become a part of this Society which in 15 years has become an international force for good.

Chapters of the Law Society have also sponsored impressive venues for their members. However, what is more important than events are the opportunities to make new friends and acquaintances in the law. It is a privilege to meet and associate with professionals with shared values. The Society encourages service as one of its key values, and it is at the chapter level where the important service component of the society is being realized. Chapters have sponsored pro bono activities ranging from advising ecclesiastical leaders about immigration issues to representing disabled citizens in housing disputes. Each chapter is given the autonomy to structure its meetings and programs to fit the needs of its membership.



The JRCLS is fast becoming an important force in the world's legal community.

Member News and Spotlight

Joseph I. Bentley retired on November 30, 2003 after 34 years with Latham & Watkins. He was a partner in the Finance and Real Estate Department. Throughout his career he handled several major California real estate transactions, including the acquisition, financing and development of Pepperdine University's Malibu Campus, the joint venture financing and development of Century City's twin delta towers, and the negotiation of nearly \$1 billion in construction financing lines for the Irvine Company.

Dyke E. Huish was granted his Criminal Law Specialist Certification by the California Board of Legal Specialization on January 1, 2004. A former Deputy District Attorney and Former Deputy Public Defender he is one of only a few LDS Criminal Defense attorneys in Southern California.

Don D. Sessions, Stephen C. Kimball and Patrick Turner have formed the law firm of Sessions Kimball & Turner LLP. The firm will focus its practice exclusively in the area of **Labor and Employment Law** on behalf of employees.

"Please send us your information so we can stop using ourselves to fill this section."

JANUARY LUNCHEON

By Stephen C. Kimball

We had another large turnout at our January luncheon. Each committee chair presented a status update. Judge Brett London gave a short presentation on religion and the law. Donna Bashaw presented a topic on ethics. Newly installed chairman, Don D. Sessions, presented Bill Bollard with a plaque to thank him for his service as outgoing chairman. Thanks Bill.

Our keynote speaker, Kelly Crabb, provided unique insight into his career as an entertainment lawyer. His legal career began while he was working at the Missionary Training Center in Provo, Utah. While developing a set of Japanese missionary discussions, he received a call from a BYU history professor asking whether anyone on his staff was interested in attending law school at Columbia University, which had just launched a Japanese legal-studies program. Kelly decided to go.



After moving to Los Angeles and working for several large law firms, he joined the Century City office of Morrison & Foerster in 1999, where he is a partner. He represents many of Hollywood's elite including Paul McCartney and the producers of Schindler's List. He represented the Organizing Committee for the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Games, and currently represents the Organizing Committee for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. He has also worked with the Church on a number of media issues.

He represented Elizabeth Smart and her family in negotiating book and movie rights. The Smart family was faced with a serious dilemma when dozens of media companies expressed a desire to tell Elizabeth's story, whether they cooperated or not. In order to have some measure of control over the content, the Smart family eventually authorized book and television deals. With Kelly's expertise, they were able to negotiate deals that avoided salacious content and avoided negative publicity to the church.



See you in March.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Events

There was another big crowd of over 70 members at our January luncheon. The direct entry to the 19th floor from the elevator gives easy access to the presentation room and two sides of food serving tables speed up the seating. Meaning you get in and out with enough time to eat and enjoy the speaker. We also planned facilities for the President Packer Devotional. We look forward to a successful March luncheon with Bill Bollard as our speaker.

Liaison

We attended the San Diego Chapter's January luncheon to support them and learn how we can improve. We had good success with a record number of six law students attending our January luncheon.

Jim Moss attended a seminar at Pepperdine on Law and Religion and passed out copies of our Society's book, Life in the Law, to participants. He coordinated possible joint activities with the St. Thomas More Society. Paul Miner of Chapman Law School is trying to get a Student chapter established.

Communications

We spent considerable time improving our masthead on the "Legal Light" newsletter. We believe it represents the ideals our society stands for. Starting in March, the OCBA Lawyer will begin publishing our next scheduled events in its "Monitor" calendar section. We have revised the Chapter's website at JRCLS.org.

Service

We are evaluating various service opportunities we can promote from our Chapter, particularly involvement in the upcoming Law Day. We would love to hear your ideas and have your input.

Membership

We have exceeded our goals of receiving over 55 applications in which members have prepaid for the entire year. This gives us great stability. In total, we received 80 paid applications, with many others requesting to be on our mailing list. We have built the main list up to almost 400 names of people who should be interested in our goals and activities. We hope to work on a directory of our particular areas of practice.

Executive Committee

We met with Anthony Capozzi, our State Bar President, at a meeting with other affiliate leaders. He expressed particular interest in the uniqueness of our group. He said they would list us at State Bar headquarters if there were any inquiries in the future. He also committed to improve on the lobbying efforts after resolutions trying to improve laws are passed.

JRCLS LUNCH MEETING CALENDAR - 2004

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
March 17	Crusading for Challenging Legal Causes	Bill Bollard, Former JRCLS OC Chair
May 19	Observations from the Bench	Judge Clay Smith
July 21	My Life in the FBI	FBI Special Agent (Possibly Female/LDS/J.D.)
September 17	Law in the New Testament (Annual Dinner)	John Welch, Founder of F.A.R.M.S., Attorney, Author, Law Professor, Bishop
November 17	Influencing Man's Laws with a Religious Background	Charles Jones, Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, Former International Chair of the JRCLS

For Your Information

Stuents Seeking Law Clerk Position:

Bret Anderson: Bret.G.Anderson@pepperdine.edu
Paul Miner Miner: Miner100@chapman.edu
Andy Basseri: AABasseri@aol.com

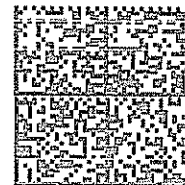
Attorney's Seeking Work

Dell Walker: 801-414-9969
Daniel Anderson: ddaemail@yahoo.com

Help Wanted:

3 Associates at Klein, De Natale et al: slee@klienlaw.com (Bakersfield)
Legal Secretary at Higham, Dunning & Mc Connell: dhigham@hmdlaw.com
Attorney at Sessions Kimball & Turner LLP: dds@job-law.com

JRCLS-OC
c/o Don D. Sessions
Sessions Kimball & Turner LLP
23456 Madero, Suite 170
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
(949) 380-0900



014H15204910
HASLER
\$0.370
03/11/2004
Mailed From 92691
US POSTAGE

RECEIVED
MAR 12 2004
LOPEZ