

## JRCLS WEST AFRICAN CHAPTER FORMED

The first meeting of the West African Chapter of J. Reuben Clark Law Society was held in Nigeria in August 2010, bringing the total number of international chapters to 24 in 18 different countries. Elder Declan O. Madu, an Area Seventy from Owerri, in Imo State, was named chair of the new chapter with Ted Goh, from Accra, Ghana, as chair-elect. The meeting was attended by 32 lawyers, students, General Authorities, and a justice of the Nigerian High Court.

Elder Madu, Justice Ikpomwem, Nigerian government attorney Chijioke Okoro, and Elder Adesinna J. Olukanni of the Seventy spoke. J. Reuben Clark Law Society international chair Nancy Van Slooten joined the proceedings via Skype and also addressed the gathering. Later, at a fireside, Elder John B. Dickson of the Seventy, who is serving as the first counselor in the Africa West Area presidency, spoke.



Van Slooten pointed out benefits of membership in the Society to the West African community. She said that members there would reach out, mentor each other and younger attorneys, look for opportunities for pro bono service, and seek to be an influence for good.

Justice Ikpomwem set down expectations of the judiciary for LDS attorneys. He said LDS lawyers are expected to say no to all forms of injustice and, as stated in Amos 5:15, he or she must “hate the evil, and love the good” to help establish justice.

Elder Dickson said that he believed members in the chapter had been prepared for this day “with unique and God-given talents.” He said, “The Lord wants righteous, believing, and faithful people to stand as a light on the hill in these trying times. We must be some of those men and women.”



# Class Notes

E-mail your professional news to [copel@law.byu.edu](mailto:copel@law.byu.edu).

THE SPRING ISSUE OF THE CLARK  
MEMORANDUM PUBLISHES NEWS OF  
THE GRADUATES OF J. REUBEN  
CLARK LAW SCHOOL. BECAUSE OF  
SPACE CONSTRAINTS, IT IS NOT  
ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO PUBLISH EVERY  
SUBMISSION FOR THE CLASS NOTES.

## CLASS OF 1976

**Conrad Houser** became semiretired as president of Geovic Energy at the end of 2010. He continues as an expert legal witness in mining litigation and a due diligence consultant. Pro bono work continues to be one of his highest priorities.

**Cheryl A. Russell** died August 8, 2010, in Salt Lake City. She had served as Logan City Justice Court judge since 1992.

## CLASS OF 1977

**David R. Bird** was awarded the Patrick Conner Award for his distinguished service to the mining industry at the 95th Annual Convention of the Utah Mining Association. He was honored for his work as a trusted advisor and lobbyist for various Utah mining companies as well as the Utah Mining Association. According to the Utah Mining Association, Bird's leadership, knowledge, and close working relationships with Utah's government leaders and policy makers has been a great benefit to the mining industry for many years. Bird, a natural resources lawyer, has been a generous contributor to various charities and served on the Utah State Bar Commission and later as president of the bar. He also served on the Utah Foundation Board and the Utah Manufacturers Association board of directors.

**Douglas Holt** is serving his 12th year as Graham County Superior Court judge in Safford, Arizona. He is a member of the Arizona Judicial Council and a senior member of the Presiding Judges Committee for the Arizona Judiciary.

**Scott R. Jenkins** was admitted to the Utah State Bar and the U.S. District Court, District of Utah, in 1978 and the U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit, in 1979. He has more than 30 years of experience advising individuals, entities, and charitable organizations on legal matters affecting their lives, families, and businesses, including business organization, public offerings, private placements, and SEC reporting.

**Stephen L. Roth** was unanimously confirmed by the Utah Senate to be a

judge on Utah's Court of Appeals on February 26, 2009. He has been a judge in West Jordan since 2002 as well as an adjunct professor at the University of Utah.

## CLASS OF 1981

**Charlene Barlow** has been appointed to the Third Judicial District Court, which serves Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele Counties. Prior to her appointment she served as the section chief of the Criminal Division of the Utah Attorney General's Office, as the Provo City attorney, as the Orem City attorney, and as a prosecutor in the Utah County Attorney's Office.

**Glade Myler** spoke on February 26, 2010, in Logan, Utah, as part of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Distinguished Alumni Speakers Series at Utah State University. He is a senior deputy attorney general in Carson City, Nevada. Myler mainly practices administrative law, including emergency management and homeland security for the state of Nevada.

## CLASS OF 1982

**Kenneth M. Anderson** has joined Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell as a partner based in the firm's Houston, Texas, office. He was formerly Vinson & Elkins' syndicated finance practice group chair. His practice expertise is in energy finance.

**M. James "Jim" Brady**, former Mapleton City mayor, was confirmed by the Utah Senate as a judge of the Fourth District Court. He has been a partner in the Provo law firm Bradford & Brady for the past 24 years.

**Stephen Mikita**, Utah assistant attorney general, recently joined the board of directors of the Spinal Muscular Atrophy Foundation with four other experienced business, media, and law leaders. SMA works to find a cure for Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

**Monte J. Stiles** was honored November 17, 2010, by the Idaho State Bar with its Professionalism Award. Stiles has served as a federal prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Idaho since

1987. From 1982 to 1987 he worked for the Ada County Prosecutor's Office in Boise.

**Kevin J. Worthen** was called as an Area Seventy in the April 2010 general conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

## CLASS OF 1983

**Dane O. Leavitt**, of Cedar City, Utah, was called as an Area Seventy in the April 2010 general conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

**D. James Tree** is mentioned in a Yakima, Washington, newspaper article for mentoring his son-in-law in the state's law clerk program. Students like Tree's relative and paralegal, Tim Anderson, can take the bar without attending law school. Tree spends five to six hours a week in this work. His main legal practice is in disability law.

## CLASS OF 1984

**David Lynch** has recently been appointed chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah.

## CLASS OF 1985

**Peter A. Thompson** was appointed to the Maricopa County Superior Court by Arizona governor Jan Brewer. He currently is serving as a Maricopa County Superior Court commissioner in Phoenix.

## CLASS OF 1986

**Sherene T. Dillon** was appointed by Utah governor Gary R. Herbert to the Second District Juvenile Court (covering Davis, Morgan, and Weber Counties). She is currently with Utah's Office of the Guardian Ad Litem. She will take office after being confirmed by the Utah State Senate.

**Mitch Edwards** is headphone company Skullcandy's new chief financial officer and general counsel in Park City, Utah. He previously was CFO and general

counsel for the software distributing company BitTorrent.

**William Tilleman** has worked on the Canada Energy Commission and has been a visiting professor at Harvard in addition to having other legal assignments. He is a federal justice for the Queen's Bench of Alberta.

## CLASS OF 1988

**Dan Curriden** has accepted an in-house counsel position with AAA of Northern California, Nevada, and Utah. As of 2011 he and his wife have three next-generation Cougars at the Y and look forward to seeing a lot more of Provo.

**Robert N. Johnson**, an immigration attorney, joins as a shareholder the Atlanta, Georgia, offices of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz.

## CLASS OF 1989

**David McGrath** is a senior vice president and managing legal counsel for Zions First National Bank.

## CLASS OF 1990

**Matthew Bryan** spoke at the ABA Intellectual Property Law Conference in Washington, D.C. He works in Geneva, Switzerland, as the director of the Patent Cooperation Treaty Division of the World Intellectual Property Organization. Over 140 countries are parties to the PCT, which is an agreement for international cooperation in the field of patents.

## CLASS OF 1991

**Michael F. Krieger** ran with the bulls in Pamplona, finished his sixth marathon, and had one of his sons graduate from high school and enroll at BYU. Mike has enjoyed growing the IP practice at Kirtson & McConkie and is a little nervous about what life will be like as an empty nester.

**Kumen Taylor** is a partner with Hutchison & Steffen at its Bountiful, Utah, office. He practices primarily in the areas of civil and commercial litigation

and also litigates cases involving employment and real estate law.

**Erin Lee Truman** is now of counsel to Hutchison & Steffen at its Las Vegas office. Erin is a trial lawyer and will head Hutchison & Steffen's Alternative Dispute Resolution Department, which includes both mediation and arbitration.

#### CLASS OF 1994

**Gary Bryner**, a political science professor and former Law School adjunct professor at BYU, died March 10, 2010. He graduated from the Law School while teaching at BYU.

**Lauralyn Cabanilla** is an attorney, member of the Provo City Council, and a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves. She will be going to Iraq in August to serve in the military.

**Michael Rawlins** has joined the law firm Durham Jones & Pinegar (DJP). Michael is a shareholder in the firm's Las Vegas office, doing commercial litigation, construction and mechanic's lien litigation, real estate litigation, intellectual property litigation, and representation of creditors in bankruptcy proceedings.

**Benjamin C. Stahmann** was hired last month by Oklahoma State University Foundation in Stillwater, Oklahoma, to serve as its senior director of gift planning. His prior work was as director of tax and legal services with the National Boy Scouts of America Foundation in Irving, Texas.

**Christopher L. Thomas** joined the Denver office of the labor and employment law firm Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart as a shareholder. He and three others formerly with the immigration practice group of Holland & Hart in Denver will serve as their new firm's immigration practice group for the western United States. Christopher was a partner at Holland & Hart.

#### CLASS OF 1996

**Martin W. Bates** was appointed the new superintendent of Granite School District in Salt Lake City, starting September 1, 2010. He most recently was the assistant superintendent in the district over administrative and legal services. Martin has served as an assistant to the superintendent since 1999 and in other district administrative capacities since 1997. Granite is the largest district in Utah, with 89 schools, 3,000 teachers, and 68,400 students.

**David Moore**, a BYU law professor, was the main participant in an online symposium sponsored by the *Virginia Journal of International Law*. He discussed his recent essay in VIII: "Medellin, the Alien Tort Statute, and the Domestic Status of International Law." David's essay looks at the U.S. Supreme Court case *Medellin v. Texas* and its impact on

the Alien Tort Statute in the context of how treaties are considered in American law.

#### CLASS OF 1997

**James E. Lake**, a patent lawyer, joined the IP law firm Zarian, Midgley & Johnson in Boise and Spokane. He was a shareholder at Wells St. John in Spokane.

**Elizabeth Sewell** has been published in a coauthored casebook, *Law and Religion: Cases in Context* (Aspen Publishers Legal Education, 2010). The book is edited by Leslie C. Griffin of the University of Houston and has sections by 14 coauthors. Elizabeth is currently associate director at the International Center for Law and Religion Studies at J. Reuben Clark Law School.

#### CLASS OF 1998

**Richard C. Blake** was named a partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Palo Alto, California, specializing in private and public offerings, public company representation, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate governance counseling.

**Dane Watkins Jr.** has been elected to serve as a judge for the Seventh Judicial District in Idaho. His service on the bench follows nine years as the Bonneville County prosecuting attorney.

#### CLASS OF 1999

**Paul C. Farr** was appointed by Herriman City to be its new justice court judge. Paul has been a partner with the law firm Morgan, Minnock, Rice & James in downtown Salt Lake City. He lives in Herriman, Utah.

**Sarah Leeper** was recently elected as a partner with the law firm Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP. Sarah works in the firm's San Francisco office, where her practice focuses on representing water, energy, and telecommunications companies in matters before the California Public Utilities Commission, FCC, and FERC. Sarah is married to Steven Egli, and they reside in Mill Valley, California.

**Matt Martinez**, an immigration attorney, was recently elected a shareholder at the Phoenix law firm Fennemore Craig.

#### CLASS OF 2000

**Patrick Malone** has joined Barrick Gold of North America as senior counsel.

**Clate Mask**, the current president of Infusionsoft, was recently interviewed on a business blog by entrepreneur Sramana Mitra.

#### CLASS OF 2001

**Jeffrey R. "Jeff" Atkin** was elected partner last week by the law firm Foley & Lardner in Los Angeles. A former

senior counsel, Jeff works with energy, finance, transactional, and securities law.

#### CLASS OF 2003

**Chad B. Balfanz** was promoted to major in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. He previously taught constitutional law at West Point. Chad and his family currently reside in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he is pursuing an LL.M. in international law. His wife, Cathy, gave birth to their third child, Tristan Chad Balfanz, in November 2010.

**Michael P. Brooks** is director of BYU's University Accessibility Center and president of the Utah Chapter of the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD). He was recently appointed as chair for the Disability Issues Advisory Committee at BYU. A licensed psychologist, Michael will become an associate clinical professor in the Counseling and Career Center. **Edward L. Carter** was a newspaper reporter before he went to law school and clerked for Judge Aldisert of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Edward currently is an assistant communications professor and serves as the associate department chair of the Department of Communications at BYU.

#### CLASS OF 2004

**Carolyn E. Howard** was profiled in the *Salt Lake Tribune*, emphasizing her good work with students at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah.

**Carolina Núñez** has just published an article that is now available on SSRN: "Fractured Membership: Deconstructing Territoriality to Secure Rights and Remedies for the Undocumented Worker," *Wisconsin Law Review*, 2010.

#### CLASS OF 2005

**Ryan Bellows** was a Twenty Under 40 Award winner on November 4, 2010. These annual awards are given by the *Reno Gazette-Journal* "to exceptional business leaders under 40 years of age who work in the Greater Reno-Tahoe [Nevada] market."

**Ronald K. Fuller** is the 2010 recipient of the LexisNexis John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship, given to a law school graduate pursuing a library school degree. The scholarship was announced at the American Association of Law Libraries annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. Ronald currently is an assistant librarian and adjunct professor of law at the S. J. Quinney Law Library at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

**Rob Mooney** has started his own firm in Salt Lake City, the Law Office of Robert P. K. Mooney PLLC, focusing on commercial litigation. Rob prepared to open his practice by working under the trial lawyers at Holme Roberts & Owen LLP

and Burbidge Mitchell & Gross, working exclusively in commercial litigation.

**Lorianne Updike Toler** found a previously unknown copy of the U.S. Constitution in November 2009 while researching at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

#### CLASS OF 2006

**Paul S. Holdaway** has become a shareholder of the intellectual property firm Wells St. John PS after four years as an associate attorney. His patent practice is focused on electrical and software technologies and includes client and inventor counseling, application preparation, and prosecution of applications before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

**Daniel C. Swinton** has been elected as president of the Association for Student Conduct Administration (ASCA). The association has approximately 1,700 members at over 700 colleges and universities nationwide. Daniel is currently assistant dean of students and director of student conduct and academic integrity at Vanderbilt University. He and his wife, Julia, live in Nashville, Tennessee, with their three children; they are expecting their fourth in May.

#### CLASS OF 2008

**Michelle Bushman** is the lead author of a new geological study about a desert oasis near Death Valley, California. Her study looks at where the water comes from that flows out of the ground at Ash Meadows, Nevada, about 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas on the California/Nevada border. The water feeds about 22,000 acres of wetlands in the middle of the desert at the oasis, which is home to the largest concentration of endemic life in a local area in the country. The study concludes that the water comes from the area of the Nevada Test Site, not from other areas as previously assumed. Michelle is an attorney with Ford & Huff in Lehi, Utah. She received both a master of science degree and a JD at BYU in 2008.

#### CLASS OF 2009

**Benjamin Kearns** has joined the law firm Best, Best & Krieger in their Ontario, California, office. He previously worked at the firm as a summer associate in 2008.

**Tyler V. Snow** has joined the law firm Christensen & Jensen. He concentrates his practice on product liability, insurance defense, commercial litigation, and personal injury.

**David Stott** has published an article that was originally a paper in the law school class "Joseph Smith and the Law," taught by Professor Jack Welch. David was an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York City prior to now clerking for a federal judge, also in New York.



# 2011: A Year for Milestone Anniversaries of the Law School

*Anniversaries remind us of the shoulders we stand on and of our obligation to make today something worth celebrating in the future.*

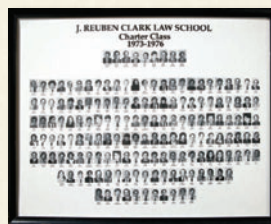


## 40th ANNIVERSARY

The first announcement of J. Reuben Clark Law School was on March 9, 1971, when Harold B. Lee, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, made known both the building of a new law school at BYU and the retirement of then BYU president Ernest L. Wilkinson.

## 35th ANNIVERSARY

The first graduating class of BYU Law School received JD diplomas on April 18, 1976.



## 140th ANNIVERSARY

The birth of J. Reuben Clark Jr. was on September 1, 1871, in Grantsville, Utah.



## 50th ANNIVERSARY

The death of J. Reuben Clark Jr. was on October 6, 1961, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The *Clark Memorandum* welcomes the submission of short essays and anecdotes from its readers. Send your short article (750 words or less) for "Life in the Law" to [wisej@law.byu.edu](mailto:wisej@law.byu.edu).