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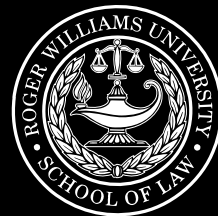
ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY RALPH R. PAPITTO SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI NEWS

SPRING 2002



A Leap of Faith:

A Look Back at the Inaugural Class





AMICUS

Vol. 1 No. 1

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Amicus is the alumni magazine of Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law

Published by the Law Alumni Association and the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events

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Dear Alumni:

The Law Alumni Association is proud to introduce the premiere issue of the Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law alumni magazine. *Amicus*, a semi-annual magazine, represents the latest chapter in alumni efforts to maintain and foster relationships between our alma mater and alumni. Although *Amicus* represents the alumni's most recent achievement, the efforts of many have yielded other milestones.

Just three years ago, alumni efforts began with the inception of the Law Alumni Association, an organization one automatically joins upon graduation. Our Alumni Association is guided by several broad principles, among which include maximizing alumni talents, promoting community service, and providing continuing legal education opportunities. Most importantly, the Law Alumni Association continues the relationships we began as students.

One of our first endeavors was to establish the Law Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, awarded annually to second-year students based upon academic excellence. Not only have alumni organized this Scholarship Fund, but, in large part, alumni also have provided the requisite support through two golf tournaments, raising nearly \$10,000, as well as through our annual fundraising campaign.

More recent activities have reunited alumni and rededicated efforts to support our School of Law. For example, last fall, our inaugural graduating class reminisced at the first five-year reunion; and last December, alumni from all six graduating classes assembled at the 4th Annual Law Alumni Association Holiday Party. Alumni have also returned to the law school to join panel discussions on the bar examination and to extol the virtues of the law review. Through the Law Alumni Association, other alumni have participated in moot court programs, forged alumni-student mentor/mentee relationships, and presented continuing legal education classes.

In the coming months and years, the Law Alumni Association will continue the bond between the alumni and the law school. Soon an on-line alumni directory will debut, and other events, such as the Annual Meeting, Class of 1997 five-year reunion, and the 3rd Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament have been planned. Also, currently the election process for positions on the Board of Directors is taking place. These events, and indeed our Association and School of Law, can only succeed with the participation and support of the alumni. I sincerely hope that you will participate in alumni functions and return to the School of Law. After all, as alumni, no one has a greater interest in the success of our law school.

The Alumni Association can be contacted via e-mail at lawalumni@rwu.edu, and the latest School of Law and Law Alumni Association news/photographs can be found at the law school's web site at <http://law.rwu.edu>. I hope that you will take advantage of the opportunities that the Alumni Association and the School of Law have to offer.

Michael W. Field, '97
Law Alumni Association, President



A Leap of Faith: A Look Back at the Inaugural Class

by Stephen P. Maguire, '96

I signed the check for the deposit on my law school education while standing on a pile of steel girders left unattended near a hole in the ground at Roger Williams University on a cold day in the Spring of 1993.

There had been some trouble with the contractors that slowed the construction, and since I had another option, I wanted to see for myself whether the school would become a reality.

It didn't look promising, but I talked briefly with my girlfriend (now wife) Laura, and decided that you never get anywhere in life unless you take some chances. I told her I thought that someday it would make a good "leap of faith" story.

Then I met Vince Mitchell, whose leap of faith put mine into perspective.

Dean Christel Ertel called Mitchell, in Philadelphia, Pa., on August 19, 1993, at about 9:00 p.m. It was the night before orientation and she offered him the last spot in the first class to enter the Roger Williams University School of Law.

When Mitchell told Dean Ertel that he would accept the position, she told him to "bring \$14,000 and be here for orientation tomorrow by noon."

"I told her I've only got about \$6,000, and I'll get there as soon as I can," Mitchell said. "She said we had a deal, so I typed up my resignation that night, went into work the next day and quit. Then I rented a truck and emptied my apartment and left."

Mitchell, then 33 years old, had been an Appellate Court clerk in Philadelphia for 13 years. He is now the Senior Associate at Kalander, Shaw & Janney, in Providence, R.I.

"I wasn't even sure where the campus was," he said. "I had an atlas and I came in over the two bridges and I thought, 'this is like heaven.'"

Orientation was well underway when Mitchell arrived. There was a long table in the foyer with one packet left on it. Mitchell grabbed the packet and slipped into a hall where a professor was speaking to his new class. He stood next to Professor Michael Yelnosky along the

back wall. Thinking that he was a fellow student, Mitchell asked Yelnosky if he had missed much of the program. Professor Yelnosky laughed and acknowledged that Mitchell must be the student they were expecting from Philadelphia. “I didn’t know he was a professor until he went up to give his introduction,” Mitchell recalled.

During a break, Mitchell asked Dean Ertel what he should do about housing. She introduced him to Joseph “Jody” Healey, a 22-year-old classmate who also arrived in Bristol without housing accommodations. She said there was little available in town so they might fare better together.

Healey, from Scranton, Pa., had been holding out for a position at Villanova Law School, and did not decide to come to Bristol until a day or so before orientation.

Healey remembers that he had first approached the late Dean Gary Bahr during a break on the first day of orientation and asked him where he should look for housing.

“He told me, ‘I don’t know what to tell you, but you’ve got a lot of reading to do, so you’d better look quickly,’” Healey said.

They set out together and initially settled for The Harriet Bradford Inn.

“We spent the first week in that flop-house,” Mitchell said. “It had two cots and a toilet behind a curtain. We had looked everywhere for a place to stay. Poor Jody would get up every morning

“...I came in over the two bridges and I thought, ‘this is like heaven.’”

and say, ‘What am I doing here,’ and then he’d throw up.”

“I was popping Roloids like they were Pez candies,” said Healey, who went on to earn a place on the first Law Review and is now an Associate with O’Malley, Harris, Durkin & Perry, in Scranton, Pa. “I don’t know that I would do it again, but I suppose it’s the journey and not the destination that makes the trip memorable.”

The law school building was still far from complete when Mitchell and Healey arrived with the 183 other students in the first day and evening classes. The first classes were held in undergraduate rooms on the far end of the campus until the arrival of the undergraduate students forced the law students to join the plumbers, carpenters, masons, and assorted other construction workers in and around the building.

About a week or two after occupying the building, Professor Barbara Bernier was teaching Torts in a brand new, beautifully appointed, state-of-the-art classroom when the usual construction racket was ratcheted up a notch by what sounded like jackhammering.

She had just brought her students through a fact pattern involving two parties with gender neutral names. While questioning a student on the facts of the case, she deftly pointed out an assumption the student had made concerning the gender of the tortfeasor.

“How do you know it was a man?” she asked, sparking a debate and embarrassing the student.

As the class continued and the hammering became unbearable, Bernier clearly became frustrated and finally looked up from her book and said, “What is he doing?”

Sitting to her left, Mitchell, without missing a beat, asked, “How do you know it was a man?”

The class erupted as the Professor closed her book and left the room.

Professor Bernier was gone a minute or so when the racket abruptly ceased. The class fell silent as she returned to the room.

Mitchell, not willing to leave well enough alone, broke the brief silence. “Did *she* put *her* hammer down?” he asked, prompting another roar in the classroom.



Above: **1** Strong community support is demonstrated at the groundbreaking for the School of Law, May 12, 1992. From left to right are: Halsey C. Herreshoff, administrator, Town of Bristol; Robert O. Rondeau, chair, Community Advisory Board; Kenneth J. Marshall, chair, Bristol Town Council; President Anthony J. Santoro (then dean); The Hon. Victoria Lederberg, Associate Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court, and chair, Board of Trustees Law School Committee; Chairman Ralph R. Papitto '85H; The Hon. Joseph R. Weisberger '97H, then-Associate Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court, and chair, Law School Advisory Board. **2** By Summer of 1992, land was cleared and bulldozing began for the foundation. **3** Steel framing was well underway by Fall 1992.

Opposite: Faculty and members of the inaugural class pose outside a nearly complete Law School building.

I spent the evenings of those first couple weeks with Matt Sabo, of the Bronx, N.Y., working in the library. We unpacked thousands of books, installed the anti-theft strips, and stacked them on the shelves. We kept pace with men laying the carpet and setting up the shelving. It was mindless work, but a good chance to talk about the magnitude of the life change brought about by law school.

Sabo's leap of faith was as impressive as Mitchell's. An evening division student, Sabo and his wife quit their jobs and moved from the Bronx to Bristol. He had been a proofreader for HBO in Manhattan. His wife, Lisa, who had been a day care provider, took a job as a waitress at Aidan's Pub. It was hard to find anyone more enthusiastic about the law school, or as invested in its success, than Matt Sabo. He became a Public Defender in Palm Beach, Fla., for three years, and recently returned to the Bronx where he works for The Bronx Defenders as a public defender.

By April 1994, the building had made slow and steady progress. The exceptionally expensive cherry handrail on the main staircase was finally finished and the hot water that flowed into the toilets was switched over to cold. The building was scheduled to be dedicated in an elaborate ceremony to coincide with Law Day, May 1, 1994.

With only a few days to spare, an army of landscapers arrived. Students stationed themselves in the library windows to watch the feverish installation of the lawn and the trees. It took only one day to plant all of the sod and all of the trees, and by the end of that day, the building finally looked complete, inside and out.

It was, of course, not complete. The completion of the building and the tremendous reception at the dedication ceremony were comforting signs for the day and evening division students who had each taken their own leap of faith on those first sweltering August days.

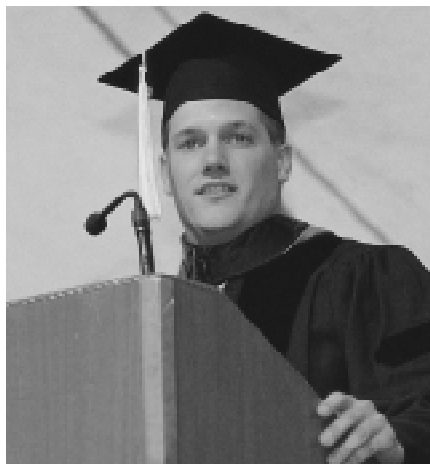
However, it was not until February 1995, and the realization of the promise of early Provisional Accreditation by the American Bar Association, that the angst

of these pioneers was significantly soothed. The early accreditation was crucial, and a prelude to many great accomplishments that have followed.

By then, another class of students would join the mix and the once private study rooms would have to be shared. By the time the third day and evening classes had arrived, the humble beginnings of the school seemed a distant memory. While still in its infancy, the law school now had already produced a Law Review and expanded to Providence, and the faculty had grown so substantially that it appeared to have a full complement by the time the procession was assembled for the Inaugural Commencement Ceremony.

The procession was made complete by the addition of U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, a friend and former colleague of then Dean John E. Ryan. Justice Kennedy delivered an inspiring address and then joined the graduates and their families for the reception that followed. Delivered without notes, his address was entitled Law and History in America.

Undaunted by those with whom he shared the stage, Valedictorian John William Chamberlain, Jr., then delivered the class response acknowledging the arrival at a moment that was, at once, a longed-for destination and the start of a new journey for him and his 86 First Classmates.



John Chamberlain, valedictorian, of Fall River, Massachusetts, quotes Thomas Paine, "Character is easier kept than recovered."



Left to Right: Members of the Class of 1996 reunite for their Fifth Year Reunion. Stephen Maguire, Timothy Coppo, Robert Stack, Michael Annicelli, Professor Anthony Santoro, Joshua Davis, Robert Kando, and Kevin McManimom.

Class of 1996 Reunion

During a Law Alumni Association meeting late in the Spring of 2001, a member commented that the fifth anniversary of the first graduation was upon us. The comment sparked a discussion about a Reunion.

With little time for planning or publicity, the reunion was scheduled for the Saturday after Labor Day, which was the weekend of the Law Alumni Golf Tournament. Cheryl (Camille) Robertson chaired the committee and whipped up a party for dinner and dancing at Linden Place, a historic carriage house in Bristol.

About 50 people attended, many from New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Members of the faculty, including Interim Dean Bruce I. Kogan, Professor Esther Clark, and Professor and President Emeritis Anthony Santoro, joined the alumni members. Also in attendance was Mrs. Anita Bahr, wife of the late Professor Gary Bahr, who passed away in July 1999.

Professor Santoro, the founding President and Dean of the law school, commented on the growth of the school and reminisced about the role of the First Class in the success of the school. He also introduced the new University President Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D. and said that he looks forward to his new jobs as a professor and a grandfather.

Dean Kogan, now serving his second tenure as Interim Dean of the law school, gave a State of the School update. A member of the founding faculty, he also reflected on his first days in Bristol.



MILITARY TRIBUNALS:

More Than Enough Protection

by Associate Professor John Kunich

President Bush's Executive Order authorizing trial of al-Qaeda members by United States military tribunals has been criticized by those who fail to understand the law of armed conflict. The law validates military tribunals under the circumstances of the 911 War.

The United States' Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 18, states "general courts-martial...have jurisdiction to try any person who by the law of war is subject to trial by military tribunal and may adjudge any punishment permitted by the law of war." Article 21 provides that military tribunals may be utilized as well, and was properly cited in President Bush's Executive Order as authority. The principle this reflects was not invented by Americans, but comes from international law, as formed through centuries of practice.

It is firmly established under customary international law, as shaped by the Hague Conventions of 1907, the Geneva Conventions of 1929 and 1949, and other treaties, that belligerents such as al-Qaeda terrorists are not entitled to any trial at all. The law only provides legal rights to belligerents classified as lawful combatants, who must either be a member of the regular armed forces of a nation that is party to hostilities, or adhere to each of the following requirements:

1. Serving in a force under the command of a person responsible for his or her subordinates;
2. Clear designation of the force by a fixed distinctive sign recognizable at a distance;

3. Carrying arms openly to clearly establish combatant status; and
4. Conducting force operations in accordance with the laws and customs of war.

Members of al-Qaeda arguably violate all four criteria. Violation of even one would strip them of legal protection. Their violation makes them non-uniformed "partisans," without legal rights. When such partisans are captured, their treatment is left to the discretion of the detaining nation. They are not legally entitled to treatment as prisoners of war, nor are they due any trial.

This may seem harsh, but the world's nations created these rules for good reasons, mandated through centuries of experience. Partisans like the al-Qaeda terrorists make it impossible for armed forces to distinguish between military and civilian, combatants and non-combatants, proper targets and mosques. Absence of distinctive uniforms or insignias, surreptitious, treacherous methods of combat, and secret, ill-defined lines of command authority enormously expand the risk of harm to innocent people. This is why the law establishes such strict punishment for those who violate it through their secret, terrorist means.

The Administration has afforded al-Qaeda members more protection than the law grants them. By offering these unlawful combatants trial by military commission, the United States government is performing an act of grace, because we are not required to provide them with any legal process whatsoever. Use of military tribunals is entirely appropriate under the circumstances, as

was recognized by the Supreme Court in the landmark case, *Ex Parte Quirin*, 317 U.S. 1 (1942). The allied military tribunals in Nuremberg and Tokyo are similar, demonstrating the dignity and majesty of such proceedings. They powerfully declare two key messages: (1) This was a war, which we won and our enemies lost; and (2) We, unlike our enemies, are civilized people who believe in adherence to the rule of law. This is a message of hope and justice which military tribunals are uniquely capable of expressing to the entire world.

The Administration has properly modified its early position to make it clear that tribunals will require proof beyond a reasonable doubt, unanimous verdicts in death penalty cases, and formal appellate options. These steps are not legally required, but they are advisable as providing additional evidence of our commitment to fundamental fairness and the judicial process. By voluntarily applying such requirements to ourselves, we underscore the message that civilization will prevail in the face of all assaults.

It is powerful evidence of the greatness of the United States that our government would extend such legal protection to the terrorists who attacked us. It is an act of grace, more than is mandated by the law of armed conflict. It is, in large part, what makes us the leader of the free world.

Professor Kunich's areas of expertise include property, national security, and First Amendment-individual liberties. He is frequently interviewed by local and national media concerning these areas. Professor Kunich is teaching Torts II, Property I, and National Security Law this semester.

People were flooding out of their office buildings. She reported that a plane had crashed into one of the towers. When we got home, we looked out the window and saw all the smoke. I immediately turned on the TV.

A Day In September

by Christine M. Fraser, '99

For the first time, I saw what had happened. I couldn't believe what I was watching. We had no idea if the worst had past or if there was more to come...

On September 11, 2001, The United States of America fell victim to the most devastating terrorist attack on home soil. Four American airplanes were hijacked and steered towards their targets, and as most of us watched in disbelief and wondered what would happen next, others, several of them law school friends, experienced the day's events, and its aftermath, firsthand.

Colleen Delaney, '00, was in Midtown on the morning of the attacks. She was a volunteer for the mayoral campaign for Michael Bloomberg and woke up early to distribute literature to remind people to vote and encourage them to vote for Bloomberg. Delaney reported to campaign headquarters at 6:00 a.m. and was assigned to a location a few blocks away.

Shortly before 9:00 a.m., "All hell broke loose at the police station right across the street from me," she said. "Then something caught my attention. There was a plane flying so low that I could see the details of the bottom of the plane. It made such a loud sound, that it made me look up. At the time, I didn't realize what was happening."

Still unaware of what had happened, Delaney left her post and walked to Grand Central Station to gather her mail.

"It took me about 5 or 6 minutes to walk there, and I was still oblivious. There was no indication that anyone else on the street realized what was happening either. When I arrived at my mailbox in Grand Central Station, I heard a radio broadcast 'Bombing of the World Trade Center, Terrorist Attack.'"

Delaney left Grand Central Station, initially heading towards her apartment in Greenwich Village. Looking down Park Avenue, she could see a huge white cloud of smoke.

"I knew I had to get away from landmarks and get as far uptown as possible. I couldn't go back to my apartment."

She ran about 10 blocks, and then caught a bus heading towards Harlem. "Hundreds of people were lining up trying to ride the bus, but the bus was filled to capacity. A few of us on the bus had Walkmans, and we began reporting the news out loud to the others. I will never forget it. I was the one that reported that the Towers had collapsed. People were in shock. Then we began hearing reports about Pennsylvania and D.C."

Not knowing where to go or what might happen next, Delaney decided to volunteer her time at a nearby hospital, where she was asked to run the admitting desk in the Emergency Room.

"I started answering hundreds of phone calls from family members who were searching for lost loved ones," she said. She worked non-stop through the night and into the next morning.

The next day Delaney, with great difficulty, obtained a train ticket and left for Providence. When she arrived, she learned that her brother, a volunteer firefighter in Providence, was on his way to help at Ground Zero.

Delaney returned to New York on September 29th. Since her return, she has been active in several matters. Her most recent endeavor is working with New York New Visions (<http://www.aiany.org>), a coalition of architecture, planning, and design organizations that has pulled together to address issues surrounding the rebuilding of Lower Manhattan.

Now more than ever, Delaney said she feels a strong drive to devote herself to public service.

"Using my law degree from Roger Williams University will no doubt be invaluable to achieve these goals," she said.

Gerard Norum, '98, has been in the Police Academy in New York City since July and was in a classroom on September 11th. The classroom was in Brooklyn, on a former military base that is right on the water overlooking Manhattan.

"No one in the class knew that anything had happened until an Instructor came in and told us that two planes had crashed into the World Trade Center. We looked out the window and saw all the smoke."

Norum and his classmates were instructed to clear the airstrip they had been using for Driver's Training and prepare it for use as a rescue site. Then they loaded trucks with body bags, cots, and supplies to be shipped to Manhattan.

Norum recalls, "We didn't have any radios or a television. Eventually, we were able to go to our cars and listen to the radio. A lot of the people in the class had family in there, or thought they did at the time. A few of us had cell phones and people started calling family and friends to see if they were okay. When it happened, the first thing that came to my mind was my brother and his fiancée, who work in Midtown. I called home, and my dad didn't know if my brother was okay, or if he was working that day. Later, we found out that he was not working, and that his fiancée had made it out in time. Fortunately, no one I knew lost their life."

“There was a plane flying so low that I could see the details of the bottom of the plane.”

On the days after the attacks, Norum and his classmates worked 14-16 hour shifts, for 10 days straight. “We mostly did security work and directed traffic. They wanted the police officers at Ground Zero. A couple of times, I was assigned to a place where the families could pick up death certificates. That was sad. There were so many people who had lost loved ones.”

Norum’s brother, a police officer in Manhattan, and his father, a retired Fire Chief, were both part of the rescue and recovery effort at Ground Zero. Had his father not retired two years ago, Norum fears he could have been injured or killed in the collapse of the Towers.

“On the days following the attack, there were police officers and military vehicles all over the place,” Norum said. “There were fighter jets and helicopters flying overhead. It almost felt like you were in a war-torn city. Everyday, depending on how the wind blew, you could smell the fire. Now, the City is getting back to normal. There is also a more positive feeling in the City now in the sense of City pride.”

Norum said the tragedy changed the way the public views police officers, noting that “everyone now loves the police officers and firefighters.”

“They’ve always loved the firefighters,” he said. “But in the past few years, the police have not been looked at as favorably. After the events of the 11th, a woman came up to me and said ‘Thank you.’”

Norum will graduate from the Police Academy in April, two months late due to the attacks.

David Habich, ’98, a Special Agent on the Counterterrorism Squad of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was also affected by the events of September 11th. Habich was attending a terrorism conference at Quantico on the day of the attacks. He immediately left Quantico to return to Boston.

“As soon as we were aware that it was not an accident, but a hijacking, we immediately formed a command post staffed by local, state, and federal agencies,” he said. “We were also involved in the Massport command post at Logan Airport. We worked 12-14 hour shifts, 7 days a week, for the first couple of months following 9/11. Despite the emotional and physical exhaustion, not to mention the magnitude and complexity of the investigation, we never slowed.”

“Personally, whenever I began to feel a bit tired, I would think of those planes hitting the Towers and the responsibility I owed to the victims’ families,” he said. “September 11th was only the beginning of the tragedy for the victims’ families.”

In addition to terrorism investigations prior to September 11th, Habich has also been involved with the investigation of the September 11th events.

“My squad primarily handled the hijacking investigation involving United Airlines Flight 175 and American Airlines Flight 11. We have also assumed new roles in the ongoing PENTTBOMB investigation and the ‘shoe bomber’ case.”

PENTTBOMB is the case name assigned to the September 11th investigation – PEN stands for “Pentagon,” TT stands for “Twin Towers,” and BOMB refers to a terrorist bombing. Because PENTTBOMB is an ongoing investigation, Habich’s ability to comment on most aspects of the investigation is limited.

Tyler Savage, ’99, lives and works in Manhattan with his wife, Jessica. On the morning of the attacks, Tyler, an associate in the Midtown Manhattan office of Stern, Levy & Pellegrino, LLP, was at work.

“I first heard of the attacks from our receptionist,” he said. “She reported that a plane had crashed into one of the towers. I had no idea of the severity of the incident, so I kept working. Then she came back and said another plane had crashed into the other tower. Then my wife called, and told me that she was watching everything on TV. She was extremely upset.”

Savage called as many people as he could to let them know that he and Jessica were

safe, and then he left work and met up with her. During the initial moments, Savage recalls, the entire City was in a state of “organized chaos...vehicular traffic had all but stopped, with the exception of emergency vehicles. People were flooding out of their office buildings. The bridges and tunnels to Manhattan were closed to all incoming vehicles. The sidewalks were clogged with people and we were told that no public transportation was available.”

“The walk home was very eerie. You could see and hear everyone talking and asking questions. However, the farther north we went, the less people seemed to be aware of what had happened. We picked up some food, water, and other supplies. When we arrived home, I immediately turned on the TV. For the first time, I saw what had happened. I couldn’t believe what I was watching.”

Savage did not feel completely safe in the City and decided to leave. They packed a bag and, like countless others, walked to Penn Station, hoping to board a train to Long Island.

“We had no idea if the worst had passed or if there was more to come,” he said, “and we didn’t feel like sitting and waiting for it. There were fighter jets circling, and the smoke had enveloped the City. The most memorable moment of the entire walk was seeing the news ticker at Fox Studios flashing the latest statistics from the crashes, ‘10,000 feared dead, estimates are conservative, the President has put the military on highest alert.’”

One after another, trains were arriving at Penn Station empty, and leaving for Long Island filled to capacity “with people who were scared, confused, and without doubt, wanted retribution,” he said. Tyler and Jessica returned to Manhattan a few days later and observed that the City had noticeably changed.

“High security was the order of business,” he said. “At the same time, ‘typical’ New Yorkers seemed to be a little more courteous and a little more tolerant.”

“What I can take away from this tragedy is that everyone is vulnerable to the chaotic minds of destructive men. I feel very fortunate not to have lost any family members or friends in this tragedy.”

The September 11th attacks were truly life-altering events. That so many of our classmates remain actively involved with the recovery from the attacks, is a tribute both to our School and to the American spirit.



The 2nd Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament: A Huge Success!

Over \$3,500 raised for the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund!

by Anthony R. Leone, '97
Tournament Chairperson

On Sunday, September 9, 2001, over 120 law alumni and friends joined at the Cranston Country Club for the 2nd Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament. It was a beautiful afternoon to make new friends and reunite with old friends.

The primary purpose of the Law Alumni Golf Tournament is to raise money for the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund. This year, the Law Alumni Association raised over \$3,500 for the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund thanks to the generosity of alumni, friends, family, and the School of Law.

The tournament featured a full day of activities. Many golfers warmed up on the driving range and putting green, working up an appetite for the full buffet lunch, which was sponsored by Sharp/Copyrite.

With everyone full from lunch, play began. Players of all abilities enjoyed the scramble format and the on-course events, including the long drive contest and hole-in-one shootout. Joe Simon,

'97, from Simon Chevrolet Buick, generously sponsored a 2001 Chevrolet for the hole-in-one prize on the 15th hole. Players enjoyed hamburgers when they reached the 5th hole. The Law Alumni's "Head Chef," President Michael Field, '97, grilled the hamburgers and was ably assisted by fellow alumni and Board members Steve Maguire, '96 and Cheryl Robertson, '96. At the 15th hole, our friends from Dave & Buster's prepared fajitas for everyone as the Budweiser beer wagon provided refreshments.

After the round, everyone headed for the dining room for a full dinner and raffle. The raffle was a tremendous success with many of the prizes donated as a result of the efforts of Immediate Past President Michael Voccola, '97. Raffle prizes included Boston Celtics tickets, Rhode Island Philharmonic tickets for its Spring concert with Bernadette Peters, and gift certificates to some of Rhode Island's finest restaurants including Café Itri, Tyler Point Grill, Redlefsen's, and much more.

The success of the day was ensured through efforts of many alumni and

Clockwise from Top: Pat Barry, John Garry, '00, Alex Smolenski, and Armando Batastini, '98; Matthew Kogan, Professor Larry Ritchie, Professor David Zlotnick, and Interim Dean Bruce Kogan; The Winning Foursome: Thomas Connell, '00, Walter Manning, '00, Matthew Leonard, '00, and Andrew Calcione.



friends. Nancy Zelman, '01 and Ann Sheppard, '01 volunteered throughout the day. Also, Chelsie Horne and Stacy Hart from the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events, along with Nancy Waggner, Director of Career Services, and her assistant, Lisa Richmond volunteered.

The 2nd Annual Golf Tournament was a rousing success. Alumni and friends came from near and far to play. Joe Ustynski, '97 made the trip from Hazleton, Pa. Stephen Bernardo, '98 came from La Grange, Ill. to play. The furthest to travel was Seth Hargraves, '98, who came from Phoenix, Ariz., to play in the tournament.

With the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament behind us, the planning for the 3rd Annual Golf Tournament scheduled for Sunday, September 22, 2002 at the Cranston Country Club, has already begun.

Left to Right: Josh Davis, '96 and Andy Alberino, '96; Eric Miller, '01 and Ann Sheppard, '01; Board Member Steve Maguire, '96.






4th Annual Law Alumni Association Holiday Party — Another Success!

Monday, December 3, 2001

by Michael A. Voccola, '97

The 4th Annual Holiday Party, hosted by the Law Alumni Association, on December 3, 2001, was a success. The party was held at Olives Martini Bar in Providence, the venue since its inception, and was attended by approximately 125 people, including University President Roy J. Nirschel Ph.D., Interim Dean Bruce I. Kogan, alumni, staff, and faculty. A vast array of food and appetizers was served. The evening was complete with music and dancing.

The evening's activities included a raffle to raise funds for the Law Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. The raffle prizes included gift certificates to Nordstrom, The Discovery Store, Sharper Image, Brookstone, and Banana Republic; as well as a bottle of Château de Pape wine, a gift basket, various Roger Williams School of Law shirts, bags, and other gifts.

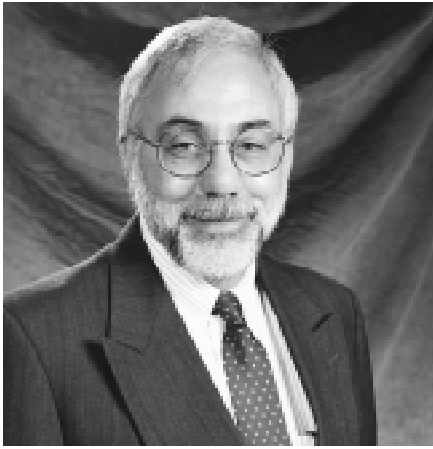
During the evening, an engraved plaque was presented to the first members of the Board of Directors' Executive Committee, which was comprised of Inaugural President Michael Voccola, '97; Vice President Robert Falvey, '98; Treasurer Deborah Pannullo, '97; and Secretary Anthony Leone, '97.

The plaque is displayed at the School of Law and will be updated annually as the Executive Committee changes.

Each year at the Holiday Party, alumni have generously given to those who are less fortunate. For the second year in a row, the Law Alumni Association collected food, warm clothing, as well as toys and gifts for our area's less fortunate families and children. This year all donations were made to the Elmwood Community Center in South Providence for distribution to local families. Thanks to the efforts of Board of Director Member Susan Perkins, '97, this year's collections exceeded last year's total. It was great to assist a family that might not otherwise have a happy holiday.

Most importantly, the Annual Holiday Party is an opportunity for alumni to meet and reminisce. It was incredible how many alumni have married, expanded their families, opened new offices, or moved to new homes in the past year. The true purpose of this holiday party is to foster and encourage a continuing relationship between and among our alumni and our School of Law. To this extent, the holiday party has proven itself a great vehicle for both rejoining and rejoicing, and was a tremendous success.

Top to Bottom: Law Alumni President Michael Field, '97, presents the Inaugural Executive Committee with an engraved plaque; Michael Field, '97, with President Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D., and Interim Dean Bruce Kogan; Shannon Signore, '00 and Board Member Cassie Cioci, '00; Aaron Strojny, '00, and Christiana Mann, '01; Robert Pellegrini, Jr., '97, Karen Bутtenbaum, '97, and Board Member Mark Gemma, '97; and Raffle Prize Winner Vincent Mitchell, '96.



Message from Dean Bruce I. Kogan

Over the past decade, trustees, administrators, professors, students, and graduates of Roger Williams University School of Law have been working very hard to establish this law school as an important member of the legal community. The faculty and deans have been focusing on their core missions of teaching, scholarship, and community service. Roger Williams University law students do their part by volunteering to be of service in innumerable ways, either in the law clinics, in judicial clerkships, at legal service agencies, or just by working in the community alongside their teachers.

What is the role of the alumni in building the law school's future? Becoming and staying involved in the life of the law school is essential. The law alumni executive board and Alumni Office organize programs in support of the school and its alumni. Whether the golf tournament, the CLE programs, the law student mentoring program, or judging moot court arguments, there are numerous opportunities for you to volunteer to help improve the law school, its students, and its reputation. Contributing to the law school annual fund in whatever amount you can afford is tremendously important since outside funding sources are concerned about participation levels among alumni.

Your ideas for the betterment of the school are also absolutely critical, and you should not be shy in letting either the Dean or the University President know how you think we are doing as we strive together toward achieving the law school's potential.



University Welcomes Eighth President

President Roy J. Nirschel, Ph.D., came to Roger Williams University and the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law on August 1, 2001 from Newbury College in Brookline, Massachusetts where he was president since 1998.

President Nirschel achieved Newbury's initial accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

Previously, President Nirschel was vice president for Institutional Advancement at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida from 1991-1998. While there, he increased private giving from \$50 million to \$80 million, placing the institution among the top 25 private research universities in the nation in charitable giving. He was also assistant vice president and director of the Bicentennial Campaign at the University of Pittsburgh from 1986-1990. He designed and directed the \$200 million campaign, which concluded ahead of schedule and \$25 million over goal.

President Nirschel's doctorate dissertation, "Charitable Giving as Obligation or Option" received the Grenzsbach Award as the best dissertation in the field of philanthropy in 1997. He earned his M.A. in Public Administration and Ph.D. at the University of Miami. He completed his undergraduate studies in History at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven. A husband and father of three, President Nirschel enjoys adventure travel, hiking, biking, running, and reading.



Welcome the New Dean of Students

The School of Law welcomes Dennis J. Tonsing as Dean of Students & Academic Support Program Director. Dean Tonsing describes his dual role: "As Dean of Students, I recognize and promote this school's emphasis on student dignity, quality, diversity, retention, and success. The Academic Support Program objectives include equipping students with the tools they need to meet the challenges of law school with self-assurance, and encouraging them to monitor their own progress as they adjust their study practices to achieve their personal goals."

Dean Tonsing began teaching in 1969, paused in 1971 to attend law school and practice law in the San Francisco Bay Area, then resumed his academic activities 22 years later. For several years, he taught business courses and law in the undergraduate and MBA programs at Northern Arizona University's College of Business Administration. In 1999, Vermont Law School enlisted his assistance to develop and direct an Academic Support Program.

Dean Tonsing earned his Juris Doctor from Southwestern University School of Law in California, a Master of Arts degree in English from Northern Arizona University, and his Bachelor's degree in classical liberal arts from Saint Mary's College of California.

Dean Tonsing currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools' Academic Support Section. He remains an active member of the California State Bar, and the American Bar Association.

Supreme Court Visits Roger Williams

Usually the site for first year classes, panel discussions, and moot court competitions, on November 5, 2001, the Appellate Moot Courtroom was transformed into the Rhode Island Supreme Courtroom. Over 250 law students, faculty, and members of the public gathered in the moot courtroom, and an adjoining classroom, to witness oral arguments being presented to the Justices of the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

The High Court heard five cases in a special session held at the School of Law. In one high-profile case, the Justices considered an appeal from Keith Nunes, who was convicted of first-degree murder for a 1999 drive-by shooting near the Fish Company Bar and Grill in Providence. Two months after the Supreme Court heard his argument, Nunes, who had argued that his conviction should be overturned due to a faulty jury instruction, had his life-sentence affirmed.

The November 5th session marked the second time that the Supreme Court convened at the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law and is part of the ongoing effort by the Judiciary to make the court system more accessible. "While our courts are open and we always encourage the public to sit in on our proceedings, occasionally we take steps to make this forum more open and accessible to the public and students of the law," said Chief Justice Frank J. Williams.



Left to Right: The Supreme Court of Rhode Island: Associate Justice Robert G. Flanders, Jr., Associate Justice Victoria Lederberg; Chief Justice Frank J. Williams; Associate Justice John P. Bourcier; and Associate Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg.

Clinical Programs Update

The clinical program at the law school is now beginning its fourteenth semester. It is hard to believe that in six years, our students represented over 1,000 clients in the Criminal Defense Clinic alone. In the Fall of 1999, Professor Horwitz was appointed Director of Clinical Programs. He also directs the Criminal Defense Clinic. Many of his students continue their defense work in both the private and public sector and found their clinical experience to be a valuable asset.

In the Fall of 2000, the law school opened a Disability Law Clinic under the direction of Peter Margulies. Although

the Disability Clinic was originally intended to replace the Family Law Clinic, Professor Margulies agreed to keep the pending family law cases and decided to take on a few new family law cases each semester. Students in this Clinic encounter a variety of issues, from SSI/SSDI appeals to educational IEP hearings, as well as a myriad of family law issues, ranging from a simple divorce to grandparent visitation rights. To date, the Disability/Family Law Clinic has serviced over 300 indigent clients and continues to assist the indigent population in Rhode Island.

To those of you who remember the early clinical years, when we had one student phone and three computers, you will be happy to know that the clinic space is now equipped with two copy machines, four student attorney rooms, ten student computers with internet access, and two full-time staff members. The clinical programs continue to improve and grow, in large part due to student input and involvement. We look forward to expanding the clinical program within the next few years to meet increased student demand.

A Message from The Office of Career Services

by Nancy Waggner, Director of Career Services

The Office of Career Services is available to meet with alumni if you are looking for employment or reassessing your current position and would like some guidance. The Office of Career Services is here to help. If you have relocated beyond New England, we can work via telephone, e-mail, or fax.

Since your graduation, some general changes within our office include the on-campus administration of the MPRE three times a year and the placement of job postings on our web site at <http://law.rwu.edu/CareerS/CareerS.htm>. The Career Services Office is developing a database of employers coded by area of practice to assist students and alumni in researching local firms. I am also beginning to explore the possibility of hosting a job fair next fall. Any input you have regarding the job fair is most welcome.

If you would like assistance on career issues, if you have ideas or needs about community service, if you would like to hire students for part-time work, or if you have full-time hiring opportunities for alumni, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to hearing a career update from you!

The Office of Career Services

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
or by appointment

Telephone: (401) 254-4650**Fax:** (401) 254-4540**E-mail:** nwaggner@rwu.edu**Job Postings at:**<http://law.rwu.edu/CareerS/CareerS.htm>

Faculty Briefs



Associate Professor Carl Bogus' book, "Why Lawsuits are Good for America," published this past summer by NYU Press, has been widely discussed and praised.

The New Press has recently published "The Second Amendment in Law & History," a book Professor Bogus edited and contributed. He has also presented his article, "Hidden History of the Second Amendment" at a faculty development colloquium at Rutgers-Newark Law School, and had his book review of "A Trial By Jury" by D. Graham Burnett, published by the Nation.



Professor Edward Eberle's book, "Dignity and Liberty: Constitutional Visions in Germany and the United States" was published by Praeger. In his book, Eberle challenges

current thinking in the field by setting out alternative visions of human freedom, dignity, personality, and expression; by demonstrating that use of comparative methodology has much to offer critical examination of major constitutional and public policy issues; and by showing that different conceptions of fundamental ideas are possible.



Associate Professor Jonathan Guttoff has written an amicus brief for the First Circuit on behalf of the RI ACLU. The case involves state immunity from investigations by federal agencies. Professor Guttoff's participation in the case was discussed in an article in the *Providence Journal* in July 2001 entitled "ACLU Jumps Into Case of Whistleblower v. RI."



In June 2001, **Professor David Rice** moderated and spoke at an International Conference on Cyber Law sponsored by FLAD in Lisbon, Portugal. Professor Rice

has been acting as an expert witness for Softman Products in *Softman Products v. Adobe Systems* in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. The case involves enforceability of computer software license terms. In a recent decision in favor of Softman denying a preliminary injunction, Professor Rice's expert declaration and his articles were cited and quoted by the judge.



Associate Professor Louise Teitz spent June 2001 at The Hague at treaty negotiations as part of the official United States delegation. The treaty, called the Convention on Jurisdiction and Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters, has the goal of setting global procedures for resolving civil lawsuits in the Internet age. Professor Teitz was also the featured speaker at a symposium on e-Commerce at Bangkok University School of Law.



Associate Professor David Zlotnick has just been named the recipient of a 2002 Soros Senior Justice Fellowship from the Open Society Institute. The fellowship

will be used to conduct a study and issue a report on federal judges' opposition to mandatory minimum sentences. His article, "Federal Prosecutors and the Clemency Power" has been published in the *Federal Sentencing Reporter*.



School of Law Annual Fund

As our School of Law continues to grow, so does the need to support the various scholarships and programs. Your financial support has a direct impact on the quantity and quality of programs and enhances the value of a Roger Williams legal education to students and alumni. Alumni can designate gifts to support scholarships, fund academic programs, or assist with the development of new projects. Some donors may choose to make "unrestricted" gifts, allowing the School of Law to determine where their generosity can do the most good. Log on to <http://law.rwu.edu> for Annual Fund giving opportunities or call the Office of Alumni, Programs & Events, (401) 254-4658, to make a gift. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Alumni Holiday Gifts Distributed in South Providence

Susan Perkins, '97, presents alumni toy and food contributions to Dennis Tabella, Executive Director of the Elmwood Community Center. Last year, the Center distributed over 2,500 toys to children in Providence, R.I. This is the second year that the Alumni Association has provided assistance to the Community Center. The contributions were made by alumni attending the 4th Annual Law Alumni Holiday Party.



Law Alumni Association Awards First Two \$500 Scholarships

Whether a six-figure attorney at a large law firm or a solo practitioner just beginning a law practice, all law alumni can relate to the challenges law students face in financing a legal education. With that in mind, the Law Alumni Association established the Law Alumni Scholarship Fund to award scholarships to help finance the cost of a legal education. From the annual alumni golf tournament, to the holiday party, proceeds from many alumni events benefit the Scholarship Fund.

The Law Alumni Scholarship is awarded to two second-year students each year. A five hundred dollar scholarship is awarded to a day division student and to an evening division student who demonstrated financial need and academic excellence in the first year of law school.

In Spring 2000, the Law Alumni Association awarded our first ever alumni scholarships to Ms. Christy Hetherington and Mr. John Harrington. Ms. Hetherington, a day division student, resides in Bristol, R.I. and earned her Bachelor of Arts from Pitzer College in Claremont, Calif. She is an active member of the Roger Williams Law Review, serving as the Notes and Comments Editor. Ms. Hetherington is also a member of the Honors Program. After graduation, she will serve as a law clerk to Rhode Island Supreme Court Associate Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg.

Mr. Harrington, an evening division student, resides in Wakefield, R.I. He works full time assisting developmentally disabled adults for a human services

agency. Mr. Harrington is a candidate for a joint Juris Doctor and Master's Degree in Marine Affairs in conjunction with the University of Rhode Island.

The Law Alumni Association is now in the process of reviewing selected applications for the 2002 awards. Recipients will be announced by the Law Alumni Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 4, 2002.

The continued success of this program depends on the support of the entire Law Alumni Association. We look forward to more outstanding events that will continue the bonds we have made in law school and raise scholarship funds.

Alumni Association
RWU Law

What's New With You

Please take a moment to fill out this form and return it to the address below, fax to (401) 254-4655, or e-mail us at lawalumni@rwu.edu

Name _____ Year of Graduation _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Is this a new address? yes no Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

Present job title _____

Company name _____

Company address _____

E-mail address Home Work _____

Here's my news for "Class Notes": _____

Return to: Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law
Office of Alumni, Programs & Events, Ten Metacom Avenue, Bristol, RI 02809

Photos are welcomed but cannot be returned.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 26, 2002

Continuing Legal Education Program

Introduction to Immigration Law

Presented by Cathleen DeSimone, '96,
and Vicki Ray, '98

1 Hour MCLE credit

This presentation will provide a basic introduction to Immigration Law and is intended to give a general overview of the immigration laws of this country. This program will cover the visa process, including the distinction between a non-immigrant and immigrant visa. This program will also cover business visas and family-based visas, and the requirements for each. We will also discuss Removal and Deportation Proceedings and navigating through the Immigration Court system.

12:00 noon Lunch

12:30 p.m. CLE Program

Metropolitan College
150 Washington Street
Providence, Rhode Island

\$35 Includes lunch

Saturday, April 6, 2002

Ninth Annual Barrister's Ball

Providence Biltmore
Kennedy Plaza
Providence, Rhode Island



The keynote address will be given by The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse, Rhode Island Attorney General.

6:00 p.m.

\$60 per person

Reception, Dinner & Dancing

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Continuing Legal Education Program



*Rules of Civil Procedure:
RI State vs. Federal*

Presented by
Professor Robert Kent
Author,
Rhode Island Practice

Closely patterned upon the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Superior Court Rules of Civil Procedure deviate

from the federal model. Some deviations are textual, while others are matters of interpretation. In particular, the latter poses problems that will be explored in this session. They include: summary judgment, motions for judgment as a matter of law, motions for new trial, time for service process, appeal ability, and discovery from experts.

5:00 p.m. Light Hors d'oeuvres

5:30 p.m. CLE Program

Metropolitan College
150 Washington Street
Providence, Rhode Island

\$35 Includes hors d'oeuvres

Saturday, May 4, 2002

Law Alumni Association Annual Meeting

The Westin Providence
One West Exchange Street
Providence, Rhode Island

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Annual Meeting

10:30 a.m. CLE Program

*A Practical and Substantive Guide
to Rhode Island Civil Motion Practice*

Presented by Anthony R. Leone, '97

1 Hour MCLE credit

This program will explore the practical and substantive aspects of civil motion practice in the Rhode Island Superior and District Courts. Participants will learn about basic strategies and techniques to prepare and argue civil motions. This program targets new attorneys beginning motion practice and more experienced attorneys who do not regularly engage in motion practice.

The Annual Meeting is free of charge. The CLE Program is **\$35** and includes a continental breakfast.

Thursday, June 13, 2002

2nd Annual Law Alumni Breakfast
in conjunction with the Rhode Island
Bar Association Annual Meeting

The Westin Providence
One West Exchange Street
Providence, Rhode Island

7:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Reservations required.

Friday, August 2, 2002

Continuing Legal Education Program

*4th Annual Rhode Island Attorney General's
Open Government Summit*

Presented by Special Assistant Attorney
General Michael Field, '97.

8:30 a.m. No charge.

School of Law - Bristol Campus



Saturday, September 21, 2002

Class of 1997, Fifth-Year Reunion

Providence Biltmore
Kennedy Plaza
Providence, Rhode Island

6:30 p.m. Reception

7:30 p.m. Dinner

Tickets: **\$45 per person**
\$80 per couple

Mark Gemma, '97
John Leidecker, '97
Co-Chairs, Class of 1997
Reunion Committee



Sunday, September 22, 2002

3rd Annual Law Alumni Association
Golf Tournament

Cranston Country Club
Cranston, Rhode Island

\$95 per golfer

All proceeds benefit the Law Alumni
Association Scholarship Fund.

Anthony R. Leone, '97
Tournament Chairperson

For additional information log on to
<http://law.rwu.edu/Alumni/Events.htm>
or to register for law alumni events,
please contact the Office of Alumni,
Programs & Events at (401) 254-4659
or e-mail lawevents@rwu.edu.

Class Notes

1996

Timothy Coppo is an attorney for the United Food & Commercial Workers Union of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, Local 464A, in Little Falls, N.J.

Jay Donegan is an assistant prosecutor with the Warren County Prosecutor's Office specializing in domestic violence located in Belvidere, N.J.

Jeffrey L. Eger is the 2001-2002 chairperson for the RI Bar Association New Lawyers Committee in which he created a new program called, "Legal Dialogues." The program will feature senior guest speakers meeting with new lawyers to discuss practical aspects of law on a monthly basis.

Christopher Fritz and **Marie Tenaglia Fritz '96** were married and make their home in Margate, N.J. They are both associates of the firm Slater, Tenaglia & Kanowitz in Ocean City.

Lisa A. Geremia is a partner with Geremia & DeMarco Ltd. located in Providence, R.I.

Jason Gramitt took a position with the Ethics Commission in Rhode Island. He married classmate, **Denita (Tremblay) Gramitt '96**, and welcomed a son, Noah.

Joseph T. Healey married Maureen Dillon on May 12, 2001 in Philadelphia, Pa. The couple resides in Clarks Summit. Joseph is an associate at O'Malley, Harris, Durkin & Perry.

Carolyn Pendleton is a staff attorney at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in Washington, D.C.

Martina Ripanti of Waban, Mass. was married in Newport, R.I. last October and is now Martina A. R. Frangis. She is employed as a trust officer at Pell Rudman Trust Co. in Boston.

Cheryl Robertson and her husband announce the birth of their daughter, Jane Elizabeth, born on November 21, 2001.

Attorneys Humberta Goncalves '99 and **Armando Batastini '98** were recognized in the Rhode Island Bar Journal for their efforts in pro bono public service programs.

Armando's non-profit work has assisted organizations serving low-income clients work with zoning and planning boards, as well as insurance and contract issues. Humberta has worked with individuals who are in critical need of legal assistance specifically with immigration cases.

1997

Alyssa Boss married Bill Martin on September 30, 2000. The couple resides in Exeter, R.I. Alyssa is an attorney at Hinckley, Allen & Snyder.

Jay C. Bianco and **Joy Sivo Bianco '97** have two children, ages 2 years and 5 months. Jay is a certified National Football League Contract Advisor and a Canadian Football League Contract Advisor. Jay also has a private law practice. The couple resides in Johnston, R.I.

Cara Conaty is an associate with Fidelity Title & Escrow, Inc. located in East Providence, R.I.

Michelle Felix married **William Felix, '97** and became the proud parents of their daughter, Sabrina Mae, last year. Michelle is a sole practitioner for Felix Law Associates. William is an associate with DKW Law Group in Pittsburgh, Pa.

William W. Harvey is an associate with Peter M. Iascone, Ltd. located in Newport, R.I. William specializes in bankruptcy, personal injury, and real estate.

Sylvia Wade Josh is employed with Monroe County Public Defender's Office as an assistant public defender in Rochester, N.Y. Sylvia specializes in criminal law.

David Lough is an associate with Hinckley, Allen & Snyder located in Providence, R.I.

Robert Pellegrini is working as in-house counsel for Cumberland Farms/Gulf Oil located in Canton, Mass. Rob and his wife, Amie, have one son, and a second child due in June 2002. Sam was born in April 2000 and is pictured on the inside front cover.

Gregory Pennington specializes in defense litigation at White, Fleischner & Fino, LLP located in Red Bank, N.J.

1998

Stephanie DiSarro-Anderson and her husband had a baby boy, Dennis James Anderson, Jr., on July 28, 2001. The family lives in North Providence, R.I.

Kevin Foley is with the law firm of Wright & Fusco located in Hackensack, N.J.

Paula Francese gave birth to a baby boy, Matthew Nathaniel, on January 19, 2001.

Jennifer J. Kelly Gates married Scott P. Gates on June 10, 2000. She is employed as an attorney with the Rhode Island Family Court-CASA.

David Habich is a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation located in Boston, Mass.

Joseph R. Marion, III, and wife, Sarah, are proud parents of John Joseph who will be two years old this June. Joseph is an attorney with Sayer, Regan, Thayer & Flanagan located in Newport, R.I.

Dean Mastrangelo is engaged to Nancy Kersich and plan to marry on March 22, 2002. Dean is currently the in-house legal counsel for a national bank and mortgage broker. Dean resides in Farmingville, N.Y.

Ryan Thomas Truskoski is practicing as an appellate attorney concentrating in criminal and juvenile law in Orlando, Fla.

Michele Vignola is engaged to marry Cory Cinque in Positano, Italy on October 12, 2002. Michele is an assistant public defender in the Public Defenders Office in Annapolis, MD.

Michael Wagner and **Denise Ryone '99** were married on September 2, 2001. Michael and Denise are both employed at CIGNA Corp. in Philadelphia, Pa.

Ronald Warr and **Rebecca Morency Warr '99** announce the birth of their daughter, Cassandra Kelly, born on December 11, 2001. Rebecca is a senior associate specializing in health care law with Tate & Elias. Ronald has a private practice in Riverside, R.I.

1999

James Brown and **Kimberly (Brisette) Brown '99** were married on September 2, 2001 at St. Sebastian's Church in Providence, R.I. Members of their wedding party included **Tyler Savage '99**, **Christopher Lordan '99**, and **Tim Frawley '99**. Jim is currently a police officer in the Town of Smithfield, where the couple resides, and Kim is an associate at D'Amico & Burchfield, LLP in Providence.

Kevin Chrisanthopoulos and his wife, Tracy, announce the birth of their son, Peter Alexander, born on December 8, 2001.

Steven H. Crawford and wife, Kerri Lynn, announce their son, Steven H. Crawford, Jr., born on February 27, 2001. The family resides in Cranston, R.I.

Stacy (Gordon) Giron married Bryon D. Giron on August 21, 1999. They have two children, Julia Sydney and Angelina Nicole. Stacy is a business affairs specialist for Blitz Media, Inc. in Las Vegas, Nev.

Matthew Homsher and his wife, Tracie, have two children. He is an attorney with Dell & Associates of Lancaster, Pa.

Bethany Hunt and Brian Igoe were married on August 17, 2001. Bethany is employed at GTECH Corp. The couple resides in Providence, R.I.

Walter Manning III has his own law practice, Manning Law Offices, where he specializes in corporate and real estate law. Walter resides in Narragansett, R.I.

Douglas W. Moore married Diane E. Haug of Paramus, N.J. on May 30, 1999. Douglas is a captain and judge advocate for the U.S. Army in Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

Douglas T. Ominsky is an associate with Ominsky & Ominsky, P.C. focusing on civil litigation. He lives in Gladwyne, Pa.

Class Notes

Thomas Robinson married Bethany L. Carnevale on April 29, 2000. He works in the litigation department at Tillinghast, Licht, Perkins, Smith & Cohen. They are expecting their first baby June 1, 2002.

Tyler J. Savage married Jessica Hickman of Northport, N.Y. on October 6, 2001. Groomsman from the School of Law Class of 1999 included Timothy Frawley, Christopher Lordan, and Chad Bank. Tyler is an associate with Stern, Levy & Pellegrino in New York.

Max J. Stagliano focuses on insurance defense as an associate with McDermott & McGee located in Millburn, N.J.

2000

Melissa Coulombe Beachesne gave birth to twins, Jack Ronald and Julia Doriann, on October 10, 2001. Melissa and her family reside in Cumberland, Maine.

Joseph Bonnici set up an immigration web site at www.lawmatters.org. Joseph lives in Cumberland, R.I.

John B. Garry is an associate with Adler, Pollock & Sheehan P.C. specializing in environmental law.

Stephen Germani and wife, Kerri, are expecting their second child in February 2002. Stephen is an associate with the Law Office of Tammy Bottella in West Warwick, R.I.

Sarah K. Heaslip is an attorney with Brown, Rudnick, Freed & Gesmer. Her primary area of practice is litigation-employment law.

2001

Andrew Cellemme, Kevin Hagan, and Eric Miller are clerks for the trial court in the Rhode Island Supreme Court Clerk Pool.

Susan Rossi Cook is a law clerk with the Massachusetts Probate & Family Court in Barnstable, Mass.

Lorraine N. Lalli is an associate with the firm of Brown, Rudnick, Freed & Gesmer.

David MacDonald is the associate director of legal affairs with the Boston Medical Center.

Wendy Lucas Pisman is a national field representative with National Treasury Employee's Union in Washington, D.C.

Maurene Souza is a law clerk for Justice Robert Flanders, Jr. at the Rhode Island Supreme Court.



Richard Millies, Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, presented the Joint Meritorious Unit Award to the staff of the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies. Pictured with Mr. Millies is recipient, Cassie A. Cioci, Esq., '00.

Defense Institute of International Legal Studies Awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award

On Thursday, November 8, 2001, Richard Millies, Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), traveled to Newport, RI, to present the Joint Meritorious Unit Award (JMUA) to the staff of the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies (DIILS). He was accompanied by Beth Baker, DSCA/Policy. This occasion also provided an opportunity for Mr. Millies and Ms. Baker to receive an orientation tour of DIILS, briefings on the DIILS mission, and to engage in extensive discussions with the DIILS staff on their various responsibilities.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award to DIILS on August 27, 2001. In the award, Secretary Rumsfeld made note of the "...exceptionally meritorious achievements for the period of June 16, 2000 to June 15, 2001. During this period, the Institute led United States foreign policy efforts worldwide under the State Department's Expanded International Military Education and Training program. Staff members presented 54 seminars in 30 countries and trained more than 2,350 senior foreign civilian and military officials. The Institute staff executed State Department policy by providing international humanitarian law training to Russian Federation Forces during the conflict in Chechnya. The faculty worked directly with the Colombian government on human rights and rule of law training for the military, both key components of 'Plan Colombia.' The Institute quickly responded to administration decisions to conduct rule of law training in Nigeria upon its transition to democracy and to educate members of the Iraqi National Congress on 'War Crimes, Investigation and Prosecution.' The Iraqi National Congress is now better prepared for the eventual transition of power and the prosecution of war criminals from the current Iraqi regime." The award recipients included the active duty and civilian staff, as well as Reserve officers from all four Services, who served at DIILS during the period of the award.

It is highly unusual, and possibly unique, for this prestigious award to be presented to a joint US military organization that is a legal organization. DIILS is a joint agency activity that is engaged in international legal training on military justice, disciplined military operations, adherence to the rule of law, and respect for human rights. In his presentation, Mr. Millies noted the tremendous efforts put forth by DIILS that merited this award, and commented that he was confident that DIILS is well prepared to successfully face the many challenges that lay ahead for DIILS and the entire Security Assistance community.



E-mail your
Class Notes to:
lawalumni@rwu.edu

A Message From The Office of Admissions

by Christel L. Ertel
Dean of Admissions

I am pleased to report that we had a very successful Fall 2001 semester. Prospective law students from around the country continue to be very interested in our law school. In fact, application volume is up considerably when compared to this same time last year and above the national average. Visits to colleges and universities around the United States, guiding tours of the law school, answering telephone calls and e-mails of prospective law students, and hosting a major Fall Open House are just some of the highlights of our busy, but exciting Fall. To accomplish all this and more, I had the distinct benefit of a very able team assisting me. In the Office full-time was Debi Curry, Office Manager, and Joan Schak, Administrative Assistant, and part-time was Kimberly Moore, J.D. '01. Those traveling full-time were three recent graduates: Christiana Mann, '01, Giulio Savo, '01 and Nancy Zelman '01. Also, three alumni with recruiting experience, Tom Shaffer, '98, Imabong Edet Udo Okopedeghe, '00, and Mark Watson, '97, generously volunteered their time to travel to major events and talk about RWU Law. Indeed, I am absolutely delighted to be back in the Office of Admissions for the School of Law after a five-year hiatus during which time I was serving as Vice-President of University Advancement.

In addition, I would like to update you on the class that just entered the School of Law in August 2001. We matriculated 187 students in the Regular Division and 53 students in the Extended Division for a total of 240 students. This was our largest class ever. Of the 240 students, 53% are female and 47% male; 14% are students of color; and 16% are members of the Honors Program. They hail from 35 states and 2 foreign countries and represent 139 undergraduate colleges and universities.

This message also affords me the opportunity to announce a special Application Fee Waiver Program directed to each of you as alumni. It is my hope that you, as an RWU Law alumnus and a valued member of our community, may know of a friend, neighbor, or family member who is interested in attending the School of Law next Fall. If so, please complete the attached official fee waiver voucher and give it to the prospective student to send along with their application. In return, we will waive the usual \$60 application fee. You will be doing a great service to your alma mater by recommending someone that we know will be a great asset to our community, as you continue to be.



Instructions to Alumni:

- Detach and complete the form below.
- Give to a friend, neighbor, or relative that is interested in attending the School of Law for the 2002 - 2003 academic year.
- Have the applicant enclose the form with their RWU Law application and the Admissions Office will waive their \$60 application fee.
- If you need additional vouchers, please duplicate the form below prior to completing it.

Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law

Waive Application Fee of Sixty and 00/100 Dollars For the Below Named Applicant

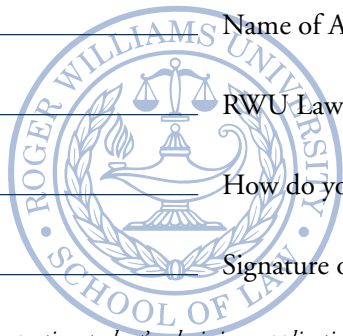
Please Print

Applicant's Name _____ Name of Alumnus _____

Address _____ RWU Law Graduation Date _____

How do you know applicant? _____

Telephone _____ Signature of Alumnus _____



- This voucher entitles an RWU Law Alumnus to sponsor a prospective student's admissions application.
- This voucher allows the applicant to waive the \$60 application fee.
- The voucher must be signed by the RWU Law Alumnus and attached to the prospective student's application.



The
Reunion
of the
Inaugural
Class

1996
2001

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