

alumni notes



Mike Guerin, L'74, Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown

and decided to complete his undergraduate degree. In 1970, Guerin earned a bachelor's degree from Marquette University and, when he was in his thirties, went on to Marquette Law School. "I was of that era," he explains, "that you went to the lecture on the first day to be told, 'Look to your left, look to your right—one of you isn't going to be here!' I was pretty sure I was going to be the one." But through the personal attention afforded him by Dean Boden and Associate Dean Mentkowski, as well as Professors Ghiardi and Aiken, he graduated in 1974. "They took time to work with all of us and make us better lawyers," says Guerin.

He is grateful for his Marquette education and has done his best to make a difference. "I thought I received a good education in the 1970s, and it's an even better law school today," says Guerin. "The commitment to both rigor and *cura personalis* was articulated by my dear friend Howard Eisenberg and is being carried on with even more aggressiveness by Dean Joseph Kearney," says Guerin. "We are blessed with Joe, and the Law School's future is very bright."

Although he always thought he was going to be a prosecutor, Guerin's career took a much different turn. "That's the wonderful thing about life," he says. "Opportunities present themselves, and if we are in a position to take them, we do!" He joined the firm of Frank Gimbel, L'60, after graduating from law school and is now a partner in Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown in Milwaukee. The focus of Guerin's practice is in the areas of personal injury, criminal law, and general civil litigation. He has taught various courses at Marquette, including trial skills. Guerin has been active in the Law Alumni Association, serving in the past as its president, and is a member of the Woolsack Society. He and his wife have three children.

All of this scarcely leaves much time for other matters. But when time permits, Guerin says he plays "bad golf" and rides his Harley motorcycle.

Guerin was recently elected by lawyers statewide to serve as the next President of the State Bar of Wisconsin, a position that he will assume on July 1. He is looking forward to it. "I love being a lawyer," Guerin says. "I am also very proud to be one and take my responsibilities as a lawyer very seriously."

Without a doubt, D. Michael Guerin took a rather unconventional path to his partnership in the firm of Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown and to his leading role in the state legal community.

After an initial rough start in college following high school, Guerin decided to abandon the educational effort and instead to join the Milwaukee Police Department. For many years, he worked on the tactical enforcement squad during the late shift. Guerin later went on to work as a special agent investigating organized crime in Milwaukee and Madison for the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Throughout his career in law enforcement, Guerin recalled in a recent conversation, he was encouraged by the many lawyers with whom he interacted to pursue his dream of becoming an attorney.

His journey was restarted when he was in his twenties

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John Cahill, age 80, a resident of Salt Lake City, ran the Virginia Beach Rock 'N' Roll Half Marathon in September 2004. He began running at age 62 and now has run more than 30 marathons, including the New York City Marathon eight times, as well as races of varying distances in places from Moscow to Barcelona to Berlin.

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Claude Kordus recently started Kordus Holding, LLC, a real estate venture capital firm based in San Diego. He is the president and manager, and his wife, Bobbie Hilkert Kordus, is the finance director.

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Harry G. Holz has been recently elected a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He is a retired partner of Quarles & Brady LLP in Milwaukee.

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Richard C. Ninneman, an attorney with Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006*, with specific reference to the practice of business litigation.

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Frank J. Daily, senior partner at Quarles & Brady LLP, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the

University of Alabama School of Law Foundation for the term 2004–2008. He serves as chairman of the Cherry and Bart Starr Endowed Scholarship Fund at the law school and has tried numerous product liability cases in state

and federal courts in Alabama. Frank has also been appointed by Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle to the Governor's Advisory Council on Judicial Selection.



William A. Jennaro, Judge (ret.), of Cook & Franke S.C., was selected by the Southeast Wisconsin

Professional Baseball Park District to do a "fairness-assessment" of the proposed settlement between the District and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries of America as well as other parties to litigation in Milwaukee County Circuit Court.

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Patrick M. Ryan, an attorney with Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006*, with specific reference to the practice of corporate, mergers and acquisitions, and securities law.

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Thomas L. Frenn recently completed a two-year term as Chair of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin and was elected to the State Bar Board of Governors for the term 2004–2006. He currently resides in Brookfield with his wife Marilyn Frenn, an Associate Professor at Marquette University College of Nursing. Daughter Sara graduated from Marquette University College of Communication in December 2004, and daughter Kristen is a senior at the University of Minnesota, majoring in child psychology.

Eric J. Van Vugt, an attorney with Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006*,

with specific reference to the practice of business litigation.

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Jim Caraway received the U.S. Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service Award (the highest award granted

to civilians) for his patriotic response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He served as director of the Coast Guard Foundation since 1989 and took over the chairmanship in 2002. After three consecutive terms, he will be retiring to a more leisurely pace of life on an island off the coast of Florida with his wife, Bobbi.

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John R. Lagowski has joined DeWitt Ross & Stevens in the firm's Intellectual Property Practice Group. He is a

registered patent and trademark attorney, and his practice is focused on drafting, filing, and prosecuting patent applications, primarily in the electrical and mechanical arts. John works out of the law firm's Metro Milwaukee office in Brookfield. Prior to joining DeWitt Ross & Stevens, he practiced independently in Milwaukee and at an intellectual property firm in Chicago.

John A. Rothstein, an attorney from Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006*, with specific reference to the practice of business litigation.

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David B. Bartel, an attorney from Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006*, with specific reference to the practice of environmental law.

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Thomas P. McElligott, an attorney with Quarles & Brady LLP, Milwaukee, has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006*, with specific reference to the practice of environmental law.

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Mike Marcil has been named the Commissioner of the Sunshine State Conference as of September 2004. Since its inception in 1975, the SSC has risen from a men's basketball conference to one of the nation's premiere NCAA Division II athletic conferences; it currently sponsors championships in 14 sports.

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Christine Liu McLaughlin is now a new shareholder at Godfrey & Kahn S.C. She is a member of the firm's Labor and Employment

Practice Group in the Milwaukee and Waukesha offices.

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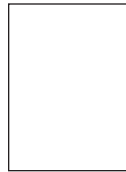


Jynine Schmidt Strand joined Godfrey & Kahn S.C. to work in its Real Estate Practice Group in the Waukesha office.

alumni notes

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Jay Urban and **Scott Taylor** are the principal shareholders in the firm of Urban Taylor & Lee, S.C. The firm is located in the historic Collins Elwell Mansion on Prospect Avenue in Milwaukee.



Sara J. MacCarthy has joined von Briesen & Roper, S.C., as an associate in the appellate and litigation and risk-management sections.

Bill Miller is the Past Chair for the Sports & Entertainment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

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David L. Coon recently formed a new partnership, Wimmer & Coon, LLP. The office is located in Waukesha.

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Scott Richardson of Richardson Financial Group, Inc. announced the formation of a new entity, Richardson Capital Management, LLC. The new firm was formed as a result of the continued growth of Richardson Financial Group's investment advisory practice. The formation of the new entity also coincides with the completion of the firm's new office facility in Menomonee Falls.

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Paul Anderson, Associate Director of the National Sports Law Institute at Marquette Law School, has been elected Chair of the Sports & Entertainment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

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Alexander R. Kuszewski recently moved from Milwaukee to Shaker Heights, Ohio, to work for Rockwell Automation as Intellectual Property Counsel at its suburban Cleveland location.

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Robert E. Webb, a criminal defense attorney with the Wisconsin State Public Defender since 1997, was promoted to Manager in July 2003. He is currently serving on active military duty as a Judge Advocate General in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and was promoted to the rank of Major in July 2004. He has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal in connection with his wartime service. He resides with his wife, **Sherry Terrell, L'95**, and their three children in Milwaukee.

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Jon E. Fredrickson has been elected shareholder in the law firm of Kravit, Hovel, Krawczyk & Leverson, S.C. He resides in Milwaukee and continues to concentrate his practice in the areas of complex business, insurance coverage, bad faith, toxic tort, products liability, and real estate litigation.

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Bridget Slaght-Krause currently works at the Milwaukee Public Defender's Office. She married Andrew Krause in May of 1999. Son Andrew "Drew" J. Krause was born on January 31, 2004.

Bernie and Erin Grall share more common bonds than most fathers and daughters. They are both proud to be Marquette Law School graduates, and they practice law together.

Bernie, a 1975 graduate, came to Marquette after earning an undergraduate degree in political science from the University of South

Florida and then serving

in the U.S. Marine Corps. He attended law school in Louisiana at Southern for a year and transferred to Marquette. "I believe God sent me there," says Bernie. "That's where I met my wife, Marge." Together, Bernie and Marge (Dental Hygiene '69) have eight children, one of whom is Erin.

The most important calling in the Gralls' lives has been to raise their children—five daughters and three sons. They are all involved in athletics, and Bernie has been right there throughout. He has taken his daughters to state championships in girls' softball and shares lots of pleasant memories with them. "When you are involved with your kids," says Bernie, "your kids *and you* stay out of trouble!"

Bernie is also very involved in his community, serving on many volunteer boards. He enjoys a successful and fulfilling legal career, which began in the mid-1970s when he worked for an insurance defense firm in Vero Beach, Florida. He clerked with the firm during summer and Christmas breaks while in law school and then accepted a full-time position. He stayed until 1979 when he established his own firm, today known as Grall, Fanaro & Glenn.

Bernie and his partners have been practicing together for more than 20 years. Throughout the years, he has most





Erin K. Grall, L'03, and Bernard F. Grall, Jr., L'75

emphasized the value of honesty and consistency.

“Despite the many bumps in the road, people who work with me, as well as against me, know that I mean what I say,” says Bernie. “It offends me when people say they are going to do something and then don’t follow through.” He

has sought to pass these virtues on to his daughter Erin, who entered Marquette Law School in 2000, twenty-five years after Bernie graduated.

Erin’s law school experiences show that those virtues have indeed been passed along. Erin followed in her father’s and her maternal great-grandfather’s footsteps in attending Marquette Law School. While a student, she served as both the Student Bar Association president and president of the Public Interest Law Society and led many of the groups’ initiatives. She also clerked for the U.S. Attorney’s Office, did some criminal defense work with the late Dean Howard B. Eisenberg, and worked for Westlaw. Dean Joseph D. Kearney says that he frequently recalls her example. “Erin was the heart and soul of the school during her three years here,” Kearney says. “Both her fellow students and many of us on the faculty learned a good deal from her.”

After graduating in 2003, Erin joined Bernie’s firm as its fourth attorney. “I am the only woman—and the youngest lawyer, by far!” she quips. “Dad and I work very well together and really complement each other’s styles.”

With just over a year and a half of legal work under her belt, she is happy to be exposed to a number of litigation experiences that, she suspects, she would not enjoy for a number of years at a larger firm. “My dad has great confidence in my ability and allows me to do a lot. He is a fabulous lawyer, and I’m

learning from the best,” she says. Despite the professional relationship, however, their family relationship takes precedence. “He signs memos to me ‘Pops,’” Erin laughs.

She is very proud of her dad, who won the largest-ever personal injury verdict in Indian River County (Vero Beach), Florida. This was a \$19.6 million award to a woman who was hit head-on by a state trooper, suffered brain injuries, and now requires 24-hour care. To Erin, this is public service of the sort she learned at Marquette. “We provide representation for people who don’t have the ability to stand up for themselves. Without our championing their rights, they wouldn’t receive the compensation that is necessary, as was the case with the victim of the head-on crash.”

Erin is grateful for her education at Marquette. “Service, leadership, and excellence were the goals instilled in us,” she says. “The entire experience—professors, administration, and curriculum—worked together to help me become the best attorney, the best person, that I can be.”

As close as Bernie and Erin are, Bernie has one pastime in which Erin declines to participate. Every year, Bernie puts tens of thousands of Christmas lights and decorations outside and inside the law office. The display is a local tourist attraction and has gotten to the point where Bernie has two separate garages to hold his decorations in the off-season. Erin does not do the same at her new house, which is a few miles away. In fact, she says, “My mom and I tried to discourage him this year, arguing that along with the rest of Vero Beach we were still cleaning up from the hurricanes.” Bernie demurred. “We need it more than ever,” he told Erin and Marge.



The Gralls' law office at Christmastime

alumni notes

2 0 0 0 (cont.)

Robert Teuber and Brookellen (Dulin) Teuber were married on September 5, 2004, in Waukesha.

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Kristi Schoepfer has been elected Vice Chair for the Sports & Entertainment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

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Ben Menzel has been elected Treasurer for the Sports & Entertainment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

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Kathleen Healy is an associate with Urban Taylor & Lee S.C. in Milwaukee. The practice is exclusively plaintiff's-side personal injury and employment rights litigation.

Andrea B. Niesen (formerly, Andrea B. Kriegel) was married on June 5, 2004, in Wausau to Adam D. Niesen. They reside in Milwaukee, where she is an attorney at Kmiec Law Offices.

Jeff Tanner has been elected Secretary for the Sports & Entertainment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

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Henry M. Abromson is an attorney with the firm of Ober, Kaler in Baltimore, Maryland. He resides in Cockeysville, Maryland.

Andrew J. Bezouska has joined the Milwaukee office of Davis & Kuelthau, S.C., as an associate on the Labor and Employment team. He will focus his practice on general employment, school, and municipal law.

Sharon M. Horozaniecki has joined the Messerli & Kramer P.A. law firm in Plymouth, Minnesota, in the Credit and Collections

Save the Date! Marquette Law School Reunions

Classes of

1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985,
1990, 1995, and 2000

Save the dates:
June 3 and 4, 2005

Class of 1955 will have a
special Golden Jubilee Celebration
May 21 and 22

Questions? Phone: (414) 288-3167
Christine Wilczynski-Vogel

E-mail: christine.wv@marquette.edu

do-gooders do great!

The Twelfth Annual Public Interest Law Society Auction—also known as the “Howard B. Eisenberg Do-Gooders Auction”—took place at the Pfister Hotel on Friday evening, February 18. The event surpassed its previous record and raised more than \$30,000 to support stipends for students participating in the PILS summer fellowship program for students working in public interest law.

The evening began with the silent auction, where more than 120 items, ranging from jewelry to baby-sitting services to tickets to events, commanded more than \$6,000. Two dramatic events occurred at the beginning of the live auction. First, Dean Joseph D. Kearney introduced Phyllis Eisenberg, who was attending her first auction since the death of her husband, Dean Howard Eisenberg, in 2002; she received a spontaneous standing ovation. Second, Dean Kearney announced that

the Law School would match, from the dean's discretionary fund, each dollar spent in the live auction.

The 20 items in the live auction—which included a Cajun dinner for 10 prepared by Professor Gregory J. O'Meara, S.J.—commanded some \$11,000 and more than \$22,000 when doubled.

More than 300 people attended. The event was organized by the PILS executive board, which consists of Elizabeth Conradson Cleary, Jess Johnson, Renee Mehl, Melanie Persich, Corinthia Van Orsdol, Doug Raines, and Jenni Spies. They were assisted by other members of the Law School community, including Jane Eddy Casper, Carol Dufek, and Christine Wilczynski-Vogel.

See you next February! Precise date to be announced.