

## An extrovert and change agent

“I was given the gift of gab,” Franklyn Gimbel says. Indeed. Prominent lawyer, civic leader, confidant of major politicians and judges, storyteller, schmoozer, all-around extrovert—someone, by his own description, born with a gene for wanting to get up in front of crowds and lead. Someone who says that when it comes to practicing law, he agrees with the adage that it’s not only what you know but “who you know.”

It sometimes seems like everyone knows Gimbel, L’60, a Milwaukee native who has practiced in his hometown for more than half a century. Has there been anyone who, at least on a personal level, doesn’t like him?

Well, yes. For one: Harold Breier, the tough, legendary chief of Milwaukee police from 1964 to 1984. “Breier and I fought for five years,” Gimbel says, referring to his term on the city’s Fire and Police Commission from 1977 to 1982. Gimbel was appointed by another legend, Henry Maier, Milwaukee’s mayor from 1960 to 1988. Gimbel was a close informal advisor to Maier on political matters.

Breier ran the police department in an old-fashioned, authoritarian manner. He adamantly resisted pressure to change his ways, especially when it came to policies regarding a range of race-related issues, such as the small number of minority police officers at that time and the refusal to assign any of them to the then-all-white south side. Gimbel



was one of the main people working to apply that pressure. The outcome was a federal court consent decree in the early 1980s under which the police department created two hiring lists, one for white candidates and one for minority candidates. For several years, the department had to hire two minority applicants for each white hired, with the goal of redressing past practices. The Milwaukee Fire Department was required to follow similar practices.

The result was what Gimbel calls “a major revolution” in the racial makeup of Milwaukee’s police and fire departments. He said he would put that at the top of his list of “events or structures that will live on after me.”

Also high on the list: His appointment in 1994 by then-Gov. Tommy Thompson to the Wisconsin Center District board of directors, which oversees Milwaukee’s convention center. Gimbel soon became—and remains—chair of the board. The Frontier Airlines Center was built during that period, and the old Milwaukee Auditorium was transformed into the Milwaukee Theatre. “I have

Marquette law degree: 1960

Practice: Gimbel, Reilly,  
Guerin & Brown

a huge sense of pride about the opportunity to oversee construction of the convention center,” Gimbel says.

The list of other civic and volunteer involvements is long—past president of the State Bar of Wisconsin and of the Milwaukee Bar Association and member of the board of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation since 2000, to give a few examples.

Gimbel recently turned 76. He continues practicing at the firm he founded in 1968, after serving as an assistant United States attorney from 1963 to 1968. Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown now has 13 lawyers. Gimbel himself continues to take high-profile cases—he is representing one of the defendants in a case arising from the “John Doe” investigation involving several aides and associates of Gov. Scott Walker when Walker was Milwaukee County executive. His workdays aren’t as long as they used to be, and he involves other lawyers in all of his cases, he allows.

But retire? “I’m still working because there’s nothing I’d rather do,” Gimbel says. ■

## 1956

**Claude Kordus** acted as the content editor and a contributor for the text, *Trustees Handbook*, a publication of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, a Milwaukee-based organization. The book provides legal, actuarial, accounting, investment, administration, and communication insights for the trustees of multi-employer blue-collar benefits plan.

## 1967



**Michael J. Zimmer** was awarded the Paul Steven Miller Memorial Award for Scholarly Contributions to the Field of Labor and Employment Law. The presentation was at

the Sixth Annual Labor and Employment Law Colloquium, held at Loyola and Southwestern law schools in Los Angeles. Zimmer is a professor of law at Loyola University Chicago.

## 1968

**William A. Jennaro** has become of counsel to the firm Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown in Milwaukee.

## 1976



**John T. Bannen** has received a master of arts in foreign language and literature degree, in Spanish, from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. He is with

the Milwaukee office of Quarles & Brady.

## 1977

**John S. Shiely** has been elected to the Oshkosh Corporation Board of Directors. He is currently chairman emeritus of Briggs & Stratton Corp. in Wauwatosa, Wis.

## 1981

**Ronald R. Hofer** has received the 2011 V. Robert Payant Award for Teaching Excellence from the National Judicial College in Reno, Nev. (the award is named after Judge Payant, L’56). Hofer has been teaching at the college for the past 18 years and is the former chair of the college’s faculty council.



**Julianna Ebert** received the Frederick O. Kiel Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Bond Lawyers Board of Directors. She is a partner in the Milwaukee office of Quarles & Brady.

**Kay N. Hunt** has been named Minneapolis Best Lawyers Appellate Practice Lawyer of the Year for 2012. She is chair of appellate practice for Lommen, Abdo, Cole, King & Stageberg.

## 1982

**Michael S. Ariens** recently published *Law School: Getting In, Getting Out, Getting On* (Carolina Academic Press 2010) and *Lone Star Law: A Legal History of Texas* (Texas Tech University Press 2011). He is a professor of law at St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas.



**Donald W. Layden, Jr.** has joined Baird Venture Partners as an operating partner. He will focus on evaluating and overseeing investment opportunities in the

business services sector. Layden is also with the Milwaukee office of Quarles & Brady.

## 1983

**William A. Kissinger** has joined Kahler Slater, a Milwaukee-based architecture and experience design firm, as director of business development. He will focus on Kahler Slater’s health care and academic health sciences teams. ▶▶

SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASS NOTES may be emailed to [jonathan.leininger@marquette.edu](mailto:jonathan.leininger@marquette.edu) or [christine.wv@marquette.edu](mailto:christine.wv@marquette.edu). We are especially interested in accomplishments that do not recur annually. Personal matters such as wedding and birth or adoption announcements are welcome. We update postings of class notes weekly on the Law School's website, [law.marquette.edu](http://law.marquette.edu).

## 1984



**Linda S. Maris**, Brookfield, Wis., has been named the first president of the National Christian Foundation Wisconsin, a ministry that supports individuals with their charitable planning. The

organization is affiliated with the National Christian Foundation in Atlanta, which is the nation's largest provider of donor-advised funds for Christians.

## 1988

**Navroz J. Daroga** has joined the TriComply compliance team. TriComply is a division of TriNovus, which is based in Birmingham, Ala.

**Peter M. Garson**, Madison, has joined DeWitt Ross & Stevens as part of the firm's business and trusts and estates groups.

## 1992

**Timothy S. Jacobson**, La Crosse, Wis., recently published his first novel, *The Kurchatov Penetration*, with Visjonær Press. Jacobson, executive director of Mississippi Valley Conservancy, a land trust, also is serving as executive producer of a documentary film of science exploration, *Mysteries of the Driftless*, expected to be released in 2012.

## 1993

**Lisa C. Paul**, Milwaukee, has been named one of the most inspiring people of 2011 by the *Catholic Herald* in Milwaukee. Her memoir, *Swimming in the Daylight*, was featured at the Association of Marquette University Women Spring Book Club.

## 1997

**John Paul Fernandes** has been named director and CEO of Eurotex Finanz Inc., a private investment company located in the British Virgin Islands.

## 1999



**Michael T. Flynn** has been appointed director of litigation at Joy Global, Inc., a Milwaukee-based original-equipment manufacturer and aftermarket parts and services provider for both

the underground and aboveground mining industries.

**Roberta A. Heckes** received the 2011 John Lederer Service Award from the State Bar of Wisconsin's Solo, Small Firm, and General Practice section.



**Mary T. Wagner's** *Fabulous in Flats* was recently named 2011's "Book of the Year" by the Florida Writers Association. The award was presented during the annual Royal Palm Literary Awards contest.

## 2001

**Chad J. Wiener**, Milwaukee, has been elected partner at Quarles & Brady. He is a member of the firm's corporate services group.

**Jennifer Peterson Wolff** has been elected a shareholder at Godfrey & Kahn. She is a member of the corporate practice group in the firm's Milwaukee office.

## 2002

**Semhar Araia**, Minneapolis, Minn., was recently honored by the White House as part of the Champions of Change series. She and 13 others were recognized for their leadership in America's diaspora communities. Araia is the founder and executive director of Diaspora African Women's Network.

**Patrick D. McNally**, a shareholder in the Milwaukee office of Borgelt, Powell, Peterson & Frauen, has been named the 2011–2012 Lead State Chair in Wisconsin for the Council on Litigation Management, a nonpartisan alliance of thousands of insurance companies, corporations, general counsel, risk managers, claims adjusters, and attorneys.



**Joseph W. Voiland**, Milwaukee, has been named a shareholder at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren. He is a member of the firm's litigation, employee benefits, and government relations practice groups.

## 2003

**Christopher M. Cahlamer** has been elected a shareholder at Godfrey & Kahn. He is a member of the securities practice group in the firm's Milwaukee office.



**Tara R. Devine** was promoted to partner at the Illinois firm, Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard. She concentrates her practice in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, and medical malpractice cases.

**Lisa Nester Kass**, Milwaukee, has been named a shareholder at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren. She is a member of the firm's litigation and intellectual property practices.

**Natalie R. Remington** is fulfilling a one-year elected term as president of the Association for Women Lawyers, a statewide organization based in Milwaukee. Remington is with the Milwaukee office of Quarles & Brady, focusing her practice on trade secrets litigation, breach of contract claims, and lender-liability matters.



## A goalie on the move



When Annie Owens returned to Kentucky this spring for her wedding, she had come a long way since graduating from high school there in 1998 and heading to Brown University in Rhode Island. Still on the rise, she is now an appellate lawyer who appears before and submits briefs to federal courts throughout the country.

At Brown, Owens played Division I field hockey; she was a four-year letter winner and starting goalie on the 1999 Ivy League championship team. She studied political science and American history. After graduating in 2002, she headed to Marquette Law School. While in law school, she was a research assistant for Dean Joseph D. Kearney and, during the summers, worked in Washington, D.C. She became enamored with constitutional law.

The summer after her first year of law school, she served a fellowship with Senator Herb Kohl on the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary. During her second summer, Owens accepted a position with the law firm then known as Wilmer Cutler & Pickering, also in D.C. That settled for her a key goal: She wanted a career in the nation's capital.

After she graduated first in her Law School class in 2005, Owens clerked at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit for a year. "I interviewed with Chief Judge Carolyn Dineen King, who had grown up in Milwaukee. She was thrilled to have an applicant from Marquette Law School and hired me the same day." At

**Marquette law degree:** 2005

**Practice:** Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, Washington, D.C.

the end of the clerkship in Houston, Owens applied for a Bristow Fellowship with the Office of the Solicitor General in the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. "I honestly did not expect to receive it," she explains.

Owens had accepted a position in Washington at a firm that practiced telecommunications regulation and appellate litigation. Then she got the call: "I was offered the position as Bristow Fellow. The Solicitor General's Office picks four people a year nationwide," she explains. She accepted the year-long position in 2007. "It was a fascinating year. I drafted briefs in opposition to certiorari, wrote appeal-recommendation memoranda, and assisted in drafting of merits briefs and preparation of oral arguments before the United States Supreme Court. I also briefed and argued a Vienna Convention case before the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit."

Owens was recently named counsel at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, a large private practice firm with offices worldwide, where she began as an associate in 2008. "I have an argument before the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit coming up this summer," she says. "So I'm having fun and doing interesting work."

Owens has an active pro bono practice. "Our firm is very committed to pro bono work," she says, "and it is a very rewarding aspect of my career. I get to help people who might not have had the best representation in the past and who have a real need for someone to represent them in court."

Owens's husband is also a lawyer in Washington, D.C. "It's great to be married to someone with whom I can discuss the law and who understands my professional obligations," Owens notes.

First-rate research skills, an affinity for litigation, and a spirit of service: It's a formula for growing success for Owens. ■

## Finding perspective in the mountains—and in her practice

For Julie O'Halloran, L'89, being a lawyer is not so much about moving mountains as it is about how mountains have moved her.

She and her husband, Hugh O'Halloran, L'89 (a law school classmate and now partner at Foley & Lardner), spend as much time as they can in mountain areas all over the world, most often in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Many years ago, they decided that instead of griping about the winter, they would embrace it. They bought skis and boots and headed to Colorado.

And then the mountains transformed them—especially Julie O'Halloran's practice, albeit indirectly. "My time in the mountains quite literally gives me a healthier perspective in all aspects of my practice. It brings to the forefront how necessary it is to remain humble, respectful, and authentic—which, if one is honest, are tasks that are challenged in a law practice on a regular basis," she explains. After years in her family-law practice, she was seeking ways to merge her passion for finding unique and peaceful resolutions to problems with conflicts that are inherent in her line of work. The "mountain perspective," as O'Halloran calls it, gives her that ability to step back and recognize how to approach problems in a healthier way.

"I find that our time in the mountains is profound



and important in a way that is difficult to articulate. The practice of law can be tough, and the ability to spend quality time in a place that is larger and grander than all of us put together is simply awe-inspiring." These experiences launched her into personalizing her practice to be true to herself.

During her two-plus decades in practice—first at Margolis & Cassidy, Milwaukee, for 12 years and then, since 2001, as a partner in her own firm, Gagne & O'Halloran, focusing on family law—O'Halloran has stayed committed to bringing quality and meaning to her practice. "My efforts to personalize my practice led me to pursue additional education and training

**Brian P. Thill**, Madison, has been elected a shareholder at Murphy Desmond. He focuses on creditors' rights, bankruptcy, title insurance, litigation, business, and real estate. Brian and his wife, Jodie, welcomed a daughter, Betsy, born on October 18, 2011.

**Amalia L. Todryk**, Milwaukee, has been elected partner at Quarles & Brady. She is a member of the firm's trusts and estates group.

### 2004

**Walter N. Neta**, Green Bay, has been promoted to shareholder at Olson, Kulkoski, Galloway & Vesely. He focuses on worker's compensation, Social Security disability, and long-term-disability litigation.

### 2005

**Joseph A. Abruzzo** has been elected shareholder at Lichtsinn & Haensel, Milwaukee. He focuses on civil litigation and general corporate law.



**Danielle Bergner** has joined the Milwaukee office of Michael Best & Friedrich. She is with the firm's transactional practice group and will focus on real estate, municipal law, and finance.

**James R. Johnson**, Washington, D.C., has joined Hogan Lovells as a member of the firm's FDA practice group. Johnson began his career in the FDA's Office of the Chief Counsel, where he most recently served as Associate Chief Counsel.

**Reggie L. Wegner** has been elected shareholder at Lichtsinn & Haensel, Milwaukee. Wegner focuses on tax and general corporate law.

**Marquette law degree:** 1989

**Practice:** Gagne & O'Halloran, Milwaukee

**Family:** Married to Hugh J. O'Halloran, L'89

in mediation. Disputes exist in everyone's life, and this experience gave me a different perspective on how to creatively resolve matters." She is on track to earn a master's degree in dispute resolution from Marquette University's College of Professional Studies in December.

O'Halloran is dedicated to developing skills for working through conflict and problems in respectful, constructive, and dignified manners. Her practice includes collaborative family law, an approach developed in recent decades to try to minimize strife and contested litigation in the divorce process.

She says that parties are relying more and more on mediators and arbitrators rather than going to court. "Mediation is efficient, more cost-effective, and often provides a creative resolution. As architects of their own deal, people are more likely to abide by the solution," she explains.

Another gift from the mountains is their reminder to O'Halloran about her place in this world. "We tend to think we are important as lawyers," she says. "The mountains and their majesty, the wildlife, and the breathtaking beauty of nature prove to be constant reminders of how relatively unimportant we are as individuals, and that we need to find ways to effectively coexist." Her philosophy was partly developed, O'Halloran says, looking back, by her education at Marquette. "I am proud to be a Marquette lawyer, with all that it means. Marquette Law School really focuses on law as a profession, and I do everything I can to be true to the profession and my colleagues and treat everyone with respect." ■

## 2006

**Lisa A. Baiocchi** has joined the Milwaukee office of Arnstein & Lehr. She concentrates on labor and employment litigation.

**Michael A. McCanse** has joined the Phoenix, Ariz., office of Quarles & Brady as an associate with the firm's commercial litigation group.

## 2007

**Adam S. Bazelon**, Milwaukee, has joined the Law Firm of Jonathan B. Levine. He focuses on condominium law and real estate litigation.



**Kristin A. Occhetti** has been appointed to the trust committee of Life Navigators (formerly ARC of Greater Milwaukee). She is with the Milwaukee office of Quarles & Brady and

focuses her practice on estate planning and wealth preservation strategies for individuals, small business owners, and professionals.

## 2010

**Jesse R. Dill** has joined the Milwaukee office of Arnstein & Lehr. He represents

management in a variety of labor and employment law matters before state and federal courts.

**Drew S. Jelinski**, Milwaukee, has joined Halloin & Murdock as an associate. He focuses on construction, real estate, and insurance coverage litigation.



**Larry Lueck** has been named associate counsel for Nsight, a company he has been with for 19 years. He was also elected to the Common Council for the City of De Pere, Wis., in 2011.

## 2011

**Thomas J. Burmeister** has joined the Milwaukee office of von Briesen & Roper. He is a member of the firm's banking, bankruptcy, business restructuring, and real estate practice groups.



**James M. Burrows**, Milwaukee, has joined Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren as an associate. He is with the firm's litigation practice.

**Lora L. Chupita**, Milwaukee, has joined Rose & deJong as an associate. She focuses on commercial and civil litigation.

**Ryan D. Gehrke** has joined the Milwaukee office of von Briesen & Roper. He is a member of the firm's litigation and risk management practice group.

**Emily I. Lonergan**, Milwaukee, has joined Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown as an associate. She focuses on civil litigation, personal injury, and criminal defense matters.

**Samantha Prah** has joined the Sheboygan County District Attorney's Office as an assistant district attorney.

**James D. Rael**, Sheboygan, married in July 2011. He is with the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office.

**Rose Simon**, Menasha, has joined Petit & Dommershausen as an associate. She focuses on criminal defense, juvenile law, and family law. ■