



Marty Greenberg, Katie Maloney Perhach, Patricia Gorence, and Tom Curran at the 2007 Alumni Awards ceremony.

Honoring Some Exemplars

The Law School in 2007 honored several alumni for various aspects of their career or service to the Law School. Genyne Edwards, L'00, then the President of the Law Alumni Association Board, Dean Joseph D. Kearney, and the President of the University, Rev. Robert A. Wild, S.J., presented the various awards to the recipients.

Charles W. Mentkowski Sports Law Alumnus of the Year

Martin J. Greenberg, L'71, received the Charles W. Mentkowski Sports Law Alumnus of the Year Award. Greenberg excelled as a student at the Law School, serving as an editor of the *Marquette Law Review* and being admitted into Alpha Sigma Nu. Since graduation, Greenberg has become one of the nation's leading experts on the development of sports facilities.

The Alumni Association was “impressed with how Marty has sought to share his expertise,” authoring numerous articles and books, including most notably perhaps *The Stadium Game*, concerning the location and financing of sports facilities. Greenberg has been as well an engaged public citizen in the best tradition of the legal profession, seeking to apply his knowledge of the law—not just sports law, but also especially real estate law—to improve Milwaukee. The most recent and perhaps most significant example of this is Greenberg's service as Chair of the Wisconsin State Fair Park Board of Directors and his work at nursing that enterprise to fiscal health.

Throughout this time, Greenberg has been a loyal alumnus of the Law School, most prominently as founder and one of the first directors of the Law School's National Sports Law Institute. As Dean Kearney observed, “How grateful we are that this Milwaukeean would boldly make the claim that Marquette would have not simply a sports law institute, but the *National Sports Law Institute*.”



If it were not for Chuck Mentkowski, there would be no attorney Marty Greenberg. There would be no National Sports Law Institute. Chuck Mentkowski gave me a chance. He took a risk on me. So an award that bears his name in memory has very special meaning to me.

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What was at the time a conference in Fort Lauderdale, a vision for the future of Marquette Law School, and the generosity of the Wisconsin sports community, has now turned into one of Marquette's marquee law programs and the very best sports law program in the world.

From conceptualization to formation, some at Marquette gave the National Sports Law Institute little chance of success. I want particularly to thank former dean Frank DeGuire for his leadership and profile in courage in making certain the National Sports Law Institute became a reality.

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It is easy to remember the legal and academic achievements of my dear friend and mentor Charles Mentkowski. Those achievements, however, are not what I will remember about him most. What I will remember is a man who was willing to take chances in expanding the minds and opportunities of future Marquette lawyers. I am forever grateful for the chance he took on sports law. It is this sense of innovation in legal education that should be Charles Mentkowski's legacy. Without him, the National Sports Law Institute may not have risen in prominence around the world, and I may not have even become a Marquette lawyer. How can you possibly say "thank you" to someone who made such a tremendous impact?

— From the remarks of Martin J. Greenberg, L'71, in accepting the Charles W. Mentkowski Sports Law Alumnus of the Year Award

Howard B. Eisenberg Service Award

The Howard B. Eisenberg Service Award honors a relatively recent graduate of the Law School who has demonstrated a particular commitment to the school, the profession, or the underserved. The Alumni Association's Awards Committee looks for someone who in his or her early years in the profession has demonstrated the same service ethic as marked Howard Eisenberg's career.

In the words of Dean Kearney in presenting the award, "With all respect to the members of the committee, they did not have to look far this year." **Katie Maloney Perhach, L'00**, graduated from Marquette University's undergraduate program *summa cum laude* and from the Law School *cum laude*. The Alumni Association cited her as evidently bringing the same dedication to her practice at Quarles & Brady as she must have invested in her studies while in school—a dedication that extends equally to her pro bono clients, of which there have been many.

Perhach has devoted several hundred hours annually to nonpaying clients who would not have been able to afford an attorney. These clients have included a Senegalese woman in the Immigration Court in Chicago on a gender-asylum claim, a very difficult claim to win. They have brought as well contentious work on behalf of a woman whose effort to gain

custody of her late sister's children was opposed in part on the ground that the woman was too poor to be entrusted with rearing the children. Nor was that some small family-law matter, as the engagement required Perhach, in addition to her own legal work, to find another lawyer to act as guardian of the children's estate and still another attorney to probate the late mother's estate.

Dean Kearney concluded the presentation of the award by reading from a letter nominating Perhach for the honor: "In sum, Katie is an excellent example of Jesuit education. Her strong faith, supported by the ideals developed in seven years at Marquette, has made her a leader in serving others. She shines as a Marquette lawyer and would wear well the mantle of an Eisenberg Award winner."



This award is a testament to the belief of my colleague, Mike Gonring, and our firm, Quarles & Brady, that it is our duty as lawyers to help to ensure that justice is available to all persons, regardless of income. I am truly blessed to be working at a firm that is dedicated to helping provide quality legal representation for those in our community who are least able to pay for it, but most in need of those services.

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One final thank you goes out to Marquette University. Over the course of the last 38 years, the Maloney family has received 29 degrees from the University, including six degrees from the Law School, with our seventh to be awarded this coming May. Marquette has instilled in each one of us a thirst for knowledge, the desire to help those less fortunate than we, and the ability to make a difference in the lives of others. And for this, each one of us will be eternally grateful.

— From the remarks of Katie Maloney Perhach, L'00, in accepting the Howard B. Eisenberg Service Award

Lifetime Achievement Award

Thomas J. Curran, L'48, received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Dean Kearney noted that it was not simply Curran's almost quarter century of service as United States District Judge here in Milwaukee that recommended him for the award: "I am inclined to think that Tom Curran would be receiving this award even if he had never become Judge Curran, for his accomplishments simply from 1948 to 1983 would have sufficed."

Tom Curran joined his brothers' law firm in Mauston, Wisconsin, in 1948, and for a brief moment—a year or so—the firm was Curran, Curran & Curran. One of the brothers left in 1950 to become a circuit judge in Juneau County. The firm flourished nonetheless, and today Curran, Hollenbeck & Orton, S.C., is one of the largest out-state firms. In the words of the dean, "You cannot maintain a firm of this size—or even stay in business for so long—without developing a reputation for quality and trustworthiness, and the Curran firm surely has that reputation." Much of that reputation developed during Tom Curran's 35 years of practice in Mauston.

His own stature as a lawyer enabled Tom Curran to be elected by his statewide peers to the presidency of the State Bar of Wisconsin, a signal honor. Curran thereupon received a seat on the federal district court in Milwaukee. The strength of Judge Curran's belief in Marquette University can be seen in the fact that all six of his children attended the University, and three of them attended the Law School. In presenting the award on behalf of the University, Dean Kearney

Given the very special place Marquette already had in the lives of the Currans, it was no surprise, when I was discharged from the navy in July 1946, that I would come up and enroll at Marquette. And I found myself, four days later, sitting in a classroom, for we then had the three-semester-a-year program, given that probably 95 percent of us were veterans. I would guess that we ranged in rank from a private to a brigadier general—a former brigadier general. The only problem was that the general had trouble remembering the “former” part of it—or at least he did, for maybe two or three weeks, until he ended up in Professor Ghiardi's class.

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If there is a message that I should leave tonight, I want it to be one that relates to what I think distinguishes Marquette's law school from a number of other law schools, and that is its interest in legal ethics. I do not think that our judicial system can function effectively unless we have more emphasis on high standards that must first be addressed in the classroom. The temptations are too great, unless you have an ethical compass to guide you through some of the very difficult cases that confront the practicing bar.

And yet it has been my experience, both as a trial lawyer and as a federal judge, that those lawyers who adhere to the highest standards of personal conduct and civility toward their fellow advocates are the people who are most admired and most respected within their profession. Far from impairing the quality of their advocacy, their style enriches and enforces their skills in the debate and greatly enhances their persuasive powers.

— From the remarks of Thomas J. Curran, L'48, in accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award



MARQUETTE
UNIVERSITY

LAW SCHOOL

**You are invited to attend
the 2008 Law Alumni
Awards Convocation**

Thursday, April 24, 2008

5:30 p.m., reception

6 p.m., program



Alumni Memorial Union
Monaghan Ballroom, 3rd floor
No charge



Law School

Alumnus of the Year

Gregory B. Conway, L'70

Law School Lifetime
Achievement Award

Ralph J. Huiras, L'41

Law School Howard B.
Eisenberg Service Award

Raeshann D. Canady, L'04

Sports Law

Alumnus of the Year

James T. Gray, L'90



Nominations are currently being accepted for 2009. To receive information on how to nominate a deserving classmate or colleague, please contact Christine Wilczynski-Vogel, Assistant Dean for External Relations, christine.wv@marquette.edu or 414.288.3167.

thanked Judge Curran for his accomplishments as a Marquette lawyer for well more than half a century and added, “How grateful also I have been since becoming dean for the counsel combined with good humor that you have provided to me.”

Alumna of the Year

Patricia J. Gorence, L’77, was the Law School’s Alumna of the Year. Gorence serves with distinction as United States Magistrate Judge in Milwaukee. As with Judge Curran, though, it is as much her service before becoming a judge, as well as her extrajudicial work in service of the community, that recommended Gorence for the award.

Some of this work has been direct service within the legal profession, including in the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Wisconsin and as Deputy Attorney General for the State of Wisconsin. But, in the words of Dean Kearney at the awards ceremony, “The trial and advocacy skills that Pat Gorence brought to and honed in those positions have been put to use outside of the profession as well. Simply stated, Pat Gorence has been and continues to be a leader in this community in the effort to ensure that the less fortunate receive assistance and equal justice.”

Examples abound. Gorence is a founder of Women’s Resource Day. For more than a decade, this program has sought to help low-income women in Milwaukee in myriad ways, including workshops on parenting skills, resume writing, finding a job, confronting domestic violence, first-time home buying, and countless other topics. Gorence has been an integral part also of an organization named the Bottomless Closet. This enterprise provides professional business attire free of charge to low-income women entering the workplace; it has served hundreds of women in need.

Gorence has been a leader in countless other community initiatives as well. Dean Kearney remarked that “[t]hey are far too numerous to list, although I may find myself held in contempt of court if I do not pause to note Judge Gorence’s service on the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s Slovenian Arts Council for almost two decades now.”

Kearney concluded by pointing to two examples of how Gorence has melded together

Alumni Service to the Community Award

A 1985 law school alumna—the Honorable Maxine Aldridge White—received an award at the separate All-University Awards Ceremony in 2007. Judge White, pictured here, received an Alumni Service to the Community Award.



her judicial service with her broad concern for her fellow man. One is the work that she has done for the local federal court in supervising the “pro se law clerks.” These are the young lawyers working for the court whose special charge it is to help the court sort through the pleadings filed in civil litigation by prisoners unrepresented by counsel. Gorence leads here in part by example, making clear to all involved in the process that, while these individuals are not entitled to better substantive results than the law will permit, they are as human beings entitled to respect from those involved in the judicial process. The other is the work that Judge Gorence undertook a few years ago, along with others

but in a leadership role, to ensure that the prosecutors and other law-enforcement officials in the various communities of Milwaukee County take a reasonably consistent approach to the prosecution of offenses, regardless of whether they occurred in the city of Milwaukee or somewhere else in the county.

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Marty Greenberg, Katie Maloney Perhach, Tom Curran, and Patricia Gorence, together with so many of their fellow Marquette lawyers, reflect how fortunate, indeed, Marquette Law School is in its alumni. •



I would like briefly to address a few of my remarks to the soon-to-be new lawyers, the Marquette law students who are here. If I could give you one bit of advice as you start what I hope will be a fulfilling, challenging new career, I would urge you to include a commitment to serve others as an integral part of your daily life.

I have found that my community involvement and service have enriched my life in ways I never could have imagined. Working as a volunteer reporter on a civil rights newspaper in Alabama many years ago opened my eyes to a whole different world and ultimately gave me a better understanding of myself. Looking back, I realize it changed my life.

I have been fortunate to have good role models for service in my life: my parents, immigrants from Slovenia, who emphasized the importance of community and helping those who were less fortunate than we were; and, probably most of all, my husband, John, a Marquette High and Marquette University graduate, who has devoted his time and talent for the past 40 years to building and rehabilitating homes so that migrant workers who settled in Wisconsin and other low-income people could, often for the first time, own a home of their own. He is truly an inspiration to me and our children.

— From the remarks of Patricia J. Gorence, L'77,
in accepting the Alumna of the Year Award