

THE LEGAL LIGHT

THE J. REUBEN CLARK LAW SOCIETY
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER



Paul A. Hoffman
2011-2012 Chair

**PLEASE CLICK ON THE
HYPERLINKS BELOW TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
VALUED 2011-2012
ANNUAL SPONSORS**

CALL & JENSEN

EXECUTIVE LAW GROUP, INC.

GREENWALD & HOFFMAN, LLP

**JULANDER, BROWN & BOLLARD,
LLP**

**KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR
LLP**

PAYNE & FEARS LLP

ROBINSON & ROBINSON, LLP

**SHEPPARD MULLIN RICHTER &
HAMPTON LLP**

SHIELDS LAW OFFICES

SMITH AND SMITH, LLP

WILNER & O'REILLY

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

By Paul A. Hoffman

FULFILLING OUR DUTY TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS LIBERTIES IN 2012

This past year, 2011, was a great year for the Orange County Chapter of the JRCLS under the leadership of Chair Jim Moss and our Board of Directors. We heard inspiring messages from two Apostles (Elders Dallin H. Oaks and D. Todd Christopherson), two judges (Hon. Sherrill Ellsworth and Stuart T. Waldrip), a nationally syndicated radio talk show host (Hugh Hewitt), and other experts in their respective fields (Dyke Huish, Merilee Boyack, and Jeremy Guthrie). We wish to thank each one of our speakers, our sponsors and our sustaining membership, and every one of you who contributed your time and/or resources to making these important events such a success. We could not do it without you.

In 2012, in accordance with the International JRCLS First Amendment Initiative and consistent with Elder Oaks' counsel during his address at our February 2011 Orange County Religion & the Law Symposium, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors have decided to promote several events this year that will revolve around fulfilling our duty as lawyers to protect religious liberty. In January 2012, we heard from Gary Lawrence regarding how the public views Mormons and how to fight bias in the legal profession arising from such views. This month, we heard Elder L. Whitney Clayton speak at the Annual JRCLS Fireside digitally recorded and rebroadcast for our Chapter members. In March, Brian Walsh, Executive Director of the new

**INSIDE: NATIONALLY SYNDICATED RADIO TALK SHOW
HOST HUGH HEWITT RECEIVES J. REUBEN CLARK AWARD**

MISSION STATEMENT

We affirm the strength brought to the law by a lawyer's personal religious conviction. We strive through public service and professional excellence to promote fairness and virtue founded upon the rule of law.



Above, Gary Lawrence speaks to Chapter members Richard Heaton and Edward Allebest. At right, Elder L. Whitney Clayton speaks at Annual JRCLS Fireside.



American Religious Freedom program at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington D.C., will speak at the 8th Annual Orange County Religion and The Law Symposium on "Secularism vs. Religious Liberty: Is Recent U.S. Law and Policy Taking Sides?". In April, a First Amendment panel of local experts will teach us how to educate and defend religious liberties in the public square; in May, Karen Clemes will talk about worldwide employment law trends from the perspective of in-house LDS Church counsel. In June, the Women in the Law section will have a special gathering and speaker. In July, Joseph A. Bentley will address us on the legal relationships of the LDS Church in the Holy Land. In September, Ninth Circuit Judge J. Clifford Wallace (Ret.) will address us at our annual dinner regarding his experiences as an international ambassador for the rule of law. Finally, in November, Lowell Brown and John Schroeder interfaith collaborators will speak on Article 6 of the U.S. Constitution.

Among our other initiatives, we are also improving our website (see www.jrcls-oc.com), including listings for employment offered and wanted. We will continue to offer specific networking opportunities within the Chapter and we will be continuing publication of our annual color picture directory. It promises to be another exciting and educational year.

But none of these events would be possible without our loyal sponsors and sustaining membership. Accordingly, we encourage each of you to renew your membership and/or sponsorship early so we can continue to offer the same quality of events and services in the future. Our events are only made possible by your generous contributions of time, service, and financial support. Thank you to each one of you.

"I have a tremendous respect for the job of lawyers. . . . At their best lawyers help ease humankind through their rough spots in life".
Elder L. Whitney Clayton



HUGH HEWITT RECEIVES J. REUBEN CLARK AWARD AT ANNUAL DINNER

Nationally syndicated radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt received the J. Reuben Clark Award at the JRCLS-OC Chapter Annual Dinner held on October 7, 2011, at the Irvine Marriott.

Many of you will recall Professor Hewitt's gracious hosting and warm reception of Elder Dallin H. Oaks on his nationally syndicated radio show last year following Elder Oaks' speech at the 7th Annual Orange County Religion & The Law Symposium.

Professor Hewitt's ardent support of religious freedom and of the Constitution, as well as his exemplary public service and professional excellence certainly make him a worthy and honored recipient of the J. Reuben Clark Award. In this regard, Professor Hewitt's nationally syndicated radio show is heard in more than 70

markets nationwide.

He received 3 Emmys during his decade of work as co-host of the week-night television news and public affairs show *Life & Times* on PBS Los Angeles affiliate KCET-TV. Professor Hewitt was also the host of the PBS Series *Searching For God In America*, an eight-part show which premiered on PBS in July 1996. Professor Hewitt is also the author of a companion work by the same name published by Word. Professor Hewitt is the author of five other books. He is a bi-weekly columnist for *The Daily Standard*, the online edition of the *Weekly Standard*. Professor Hewitt served for nearly six years in the Reagan Administration in a variety of posts including Assistant Counsel in the White House and Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States. He was Governor Wilson's appointee to the South Coast Air Quality Management District, and was a member of the California Arts Council. Professor Hewitt appears frequently as a political and social commentator on shows including: *The O'Reilly Factor*, *Chris Matthews*, *The Dennis Miller Show*, *The Today Show* and *Larry King Live*. Professor Hewitt is an honors graduate of Harvard College and the University of Michigan Law School.

We appreciate Professor Hewitt's friendship and his dedicated and tireless service to many of the causes and convictions espoused by the JRCLS, as well as his willingness to speak to our members. We sincerely thank and wish Professor Hewitt and his family all the best in this New Year.

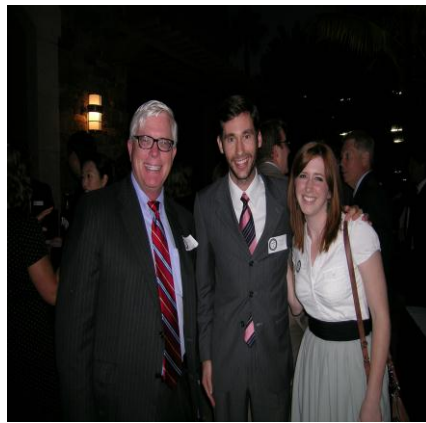
"... you made a very interesting argument today about elevating the Free Exercise clause above what it has fallen to. It's not just another right. It's not one of a collection of rights. It was intended by the framers to be the first couple of rights, ahead of even speech and press ... it would give some justices good direction, I think, to ponder on that a little bit." Hugh Hewitt interview with Dallin H. Oaks

2011 ANNUAL DINNER

The 2011 Annual Dinner was a great capstone to an outstanding and enriching year in the JRCLS-OC Chapter. Held at the Irvine Marriott, members of the Chapter, their friends and family members enjoyed reconnecting with colleagues, networking and making new friends, while enjoying a new venue with its warm and inviting patio and outdoor fireplace. We were also privileged to hear from keynote speaker Hugh Hewitt who received the J. Reuben Clark Award.

Outgoing Chair, James R. Moss, Jr. and Immediate Past Chair, Glen L. Nuttall, as well as retiring Board members, Jason Blonska, Todd Hales, Craig Mordock, Gabe Pate, Nathan Smith and Rick Varner were recognized and thanked for their service to the Chapter. New Board members Nathan Cazier, Sherri McInnis, Desiree Nordstrom, Mark Peterson and Lance Smemoe were welcomed to the Board and Rick Varner was named to the Executive Committee as Secretary. Since the Annual Dinner, Jennifer Wilson has also accepted an invitation to serve on the Board.

The Executive Committee and Board of Directors thank all of our Chapter members for their service both to the Chapter and elsewhere. In ways both seen and unseen, you are fulfilling the Mission Statement of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society.



Photos courtesy of Rick A. Varner

"I say to you that the price of liberty is and always has been blood, human blood, and if our liberties are lost, we shall never regain them except at the price of blood. They must not be lost!"

J. Reuben Clark

2011-2012

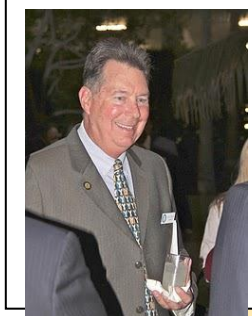
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Paul A. Hoffman, Chair
Deborah A. Gubernick, Chair Elect
Brent J. North, Treasurer
Rick A. Varner, Secretary
James R. Moss, Jr.,
Immediate Past Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Will C. Bollard
Michael W. Buhrley
Nathan Cazier
Norman C. Davis
J. Gregory Dyer
Robert D. Falck
Dirk O. Julander
Mark D. Klein
Sherri Fanger McInnes
Philip M. Nelson
Desiree J. Nordstrom
Mark D. Petersen
Erich D. Schiefelbine
Lance D. Smemoe
Jennifer Hanson Wilson

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS FROM 2011 ANNUAL DINNER



Photos courtesy of Robert H. Briggs

"The goal in life is not to be right but to be good. To be good means doing good."
Elder L. Whitney Clayton

INFORMATION

All luncheons are held at Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main St., 2nd Floor, Irvine. There is free validated parking. Most luncheons and the dinner qualify for MCLE credit. The luncheons are from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.

The cost of luncheons are prepaid for the year for Gold and Silver members, \$25 with RSVP for Bronze members, \$30 at the door for Bronze members, and \$35 for all others. Lunches are free to Law Students. The cost of the annual dinner is prepaid with membership for Gold members, \$50 for Silver and Bronze members, \$50 for guests of members, and \$60 for all others. Students are \$25, guests of students \$25.

The Legal Light welcomes the input of our Chapter members. If you know of interesting topics or have been involved in a particularly interesting case or activity that you would like to share in The Legal Light, please contact Rick Varner at (949) 724-7906 or rick@shieldslawoffices.com.

Editor
Rick A. Varner

UPCOMING EVENTS

March, 22, 2012	8 th Annual Religion & the Law Symposium Speaker: Brian Walsh, Executive Director of American Religious Freedom Program EPPC	12:00 p.m. Chapman University Law School
April 19, 2012	Luncheon Panel: "Use it or Lose it: What every JRCLS lawyer must know to protect the First Amendment"	12:00 pm Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main St., 2nd Floor, Irvine.
May 17, 2012	Luncheon Speaker: Karen Clemes, "Worldwide employment law trends from the perspective of LDS Church former in-house counsel"	12:00 pm Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main St., 2nd Floor, Irvine.