

THE LEGAL LIGHT

THE J. REUBEN CLARK LAW SOCIETY
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER



Brent J. North
2013-2014 Chair

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

BY BRENT J. NORTH

As members of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society, we profess that an attorney's religious conviction brings strength to the practice of law, but which religious convictions do we bring? The answer may be as varied as the problem we are trying to solve, but I submit that the most fundamental religious conviction that we ever bring to the practice of law is our covenant to bear burdens, mourn with those who mourn and comfort those who stand in need of comfort. Christ taught that a final heavenly division would not be between those who professed his name and those who didn't, but between those who helped the oppressed and those who didn't. Whether or not we knew as 1L's what we were getting into, we have become problem solvers. As lawyers, we have a special skillset that helps us to bring relief that no one else can.

I have watched members of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society do exactly that in ways that could never be enumerated in a newsletter. It is ennobling to be around attorneys who take seriously their call to solve problems, relieve suffering, and lift the hands around them that need the help. Often times those efforts are given with no expectation of financial gain. Bless you for the work you do to make this world a better place. You and your mission to help those around you are making a difference.

INSIDE: UPCOMING ANNUAL DINNER WITH ELDER BRUCE
C. HAFEN AND REVIEW OF JRCLS-OC CHAPTER
OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS FROM 2014

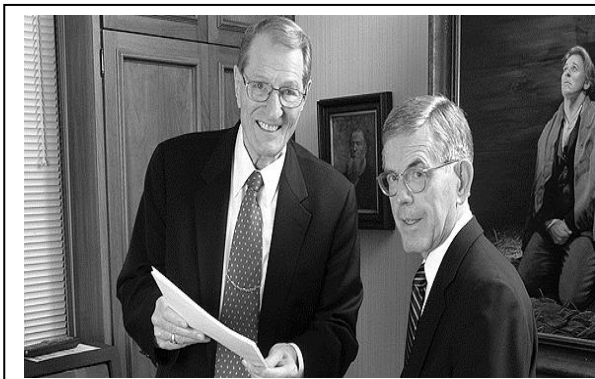
MISSION STATEMENT

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.

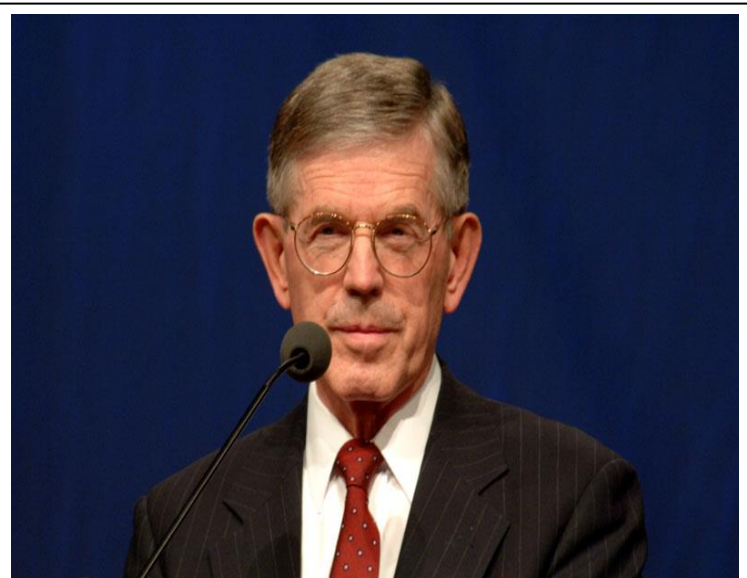
ELDER BRUCE C. HAFEN TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL DINNER

Continuing a tradition of outstanding speakers, the Events Committee has announced that Elder Bruce C. Hafen will be the guest speaker at the 2014 Annual Dinner to be held on September 19, 2014 at the Irvine Marriott. His topic will be *"Faith, Reason and the Things of Eternity"*.

Elder Hafen was called to serve as a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 6, 1996 and was given emeritus status in October 2010. His ties to the J. Reuben Clark School of Law go back to its beginnings in 1973 when he began teaching as a law professor, as well as serving as an assistant to the president of BYU. From 1978 to 1985 he served as the President of Ricks College (now BYU-Idaho) and then as Dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School from 1985 to 1989. Thereafter, he served as the Provost for BYU from 1989 until his call to the First Quorum of the Seventy. Since being designated emeritus, Elder Hafen and his wife served as Temple President and Matron of the St. George Temple, from November 2010 to November 2013. Elder Hafen has authored a number of books, including *The Believing Heart: Four Essays on Faith* (1986), *The Broken Heart: Applying the Atonement to Life's Experiences* (1989), *The Belonging Heart: The Atonement and Relationships with God and Family* (1994), *A Disciple's Life: The Biography of Neal A. Maxwell* (2002), *Covenant Hearts: Marriage and the Joy of Human Love* (2005), and *Broken Hearts: Applying the Atonement to Life's Experiences* (2008). The Annual Dinner promises to be another great event and we look forward to hearing from Elder Hafen and seeing you all there.



Elder Neal A. Maxwell and Elder Bruce C. Hafen



"I challenge all of us to work with people of other faiths to improve the moral fabric of our communities, nations, and world and to protect religious freedom." – Elder Quintin L. Cook, Restoring Morality & Religious Freedom, Ensign September 2012

JANUARY-JULY 2014 PROGRAM SPEAKERS



(Clockwise from right)

Robert O'Brien, Judge Josephine L. Staton, Elder Bruce C. and Marie Hafen, E. Gary Smith, and Neylan McBain



"We share with many others a love and appreciation for the Constitution and a concern about efforts to diminish the Bill of Rights' guarantee of freedom of religion." – Elder Quintin L. Cook, Restoring Morality & Religious Freedom, Ensign September 2012

JANUARY TO JULY 2014 PROGRAM REVIEW

The JRCLS-OC Chapter has enjoyed another year of outstanding events providing both interesting, informative and network-building programs and opportunities, as well as providing CLE-accredited programs to our members and guests.

In January, members heard from Neylan McBain – *“How the ‘I’m a Mormon’ Campaign Helps Eliminate Bias: Lessons for the Legal Profession”*. Showing clips from a variety of ads, as well as studies, Ms. McBain, a graduate of Yale University who currently works as a brand strategist at Bonneville Communications, the agency working with the Church to produce “Mormon.org” and the “I’m A Mormon” campaign, explained to a captivated audience how the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has adapted its media outreach to address the perceptions of non-members and ever-changing trends in social media.

In February, we viewed the rebroadcast of the JRCLS Annual Fireside, where both Elder Bruce C. Hafen and his wife Marie shared heart-felt remarks on *“Marriage, Family and the Temple”*.

In March, the JRCLS-OC Chapter, spear-headed by Jeffrey W. Shields, put on another well-attended, timely and relevant Religion and the Law Symposium, at Chapman University, entitled *“Rights of Conscience vs. Same-Sex Rights: Religious Liberty in the Post-Prop 8 Environment”*, a Debate between Prof. John C. Eastman, Chair of the National Organization for Marriage and Constitutional Law Professor at Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law and Prof. Lawrence E. Rosenthal, Civil Rights and Constitutional Law Professor at Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law.

In April, we were favored to hear an elimination of bias presentation *“Lessons from the Bench”* by United States District Court Judge Josephine L. Staton who spoke on bias drawing from her vast experience as an associate and then partner at Morrison & Foerster from 1987-2002, as a Superior Court Judge in Orange County from 2002-2009, and as a United States District Court Judge from 2009 to the present.

May brought our own Gary Smith back from Utah to speak on the *“Lost Legacy – The Mormon Office of Presiding Patriarch”*. As the son of the last Presiding Patriarch to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Eldred G. Smith, Gary shared his unique perspective and wealth of knowledge in a fascinating presentation. Gary’s presentation was also particularly timely as his father had passed away just one year earlier on April 4, 2013, at the age of 106.

In July, we heard from Robert O’Brien on “Global Hot Spots”. Robert, a managing partner at Ardent Fox in LA, served as the US Alternative Representative to the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2005-2006, where he addressed the General Assembly considering the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. His vast international experience advising on foreign judicial reform and elections and as a Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to Governor Mitt Romney’s Presidential Campaigns allowed him to speak on global hot spots and issues currently confronting the world and its leaders.

We wish to thank all those who have taken the time to speak to the JRCLS-OC Chapter so far this year and all those who have attended the various luncheons and programs. It has been, and promises to be, an enriching experience for our members.

“Our joint effort should be to protect important civic values like honesty, morality, self-restraint, respect for law, and basic human rights.” – Elder Quintin L. Cook, Restoring Morality & Religious Freedom, Ensign September 2012

2013-2014

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2014 10th Annual Religion & The Law Symposium



Dean Tom Campbell of the
Chapman University Dale E. Fowler
School of Law and Jeffrey W.
Shields Welcome Guests



Professors
Lawrence E.
Rosenthal (above)
and John C.
Eastman (below)
Present and
Defend Their
Positions, and
Answer Questions
from the Audience



PHOTOS BY DESIREE
NORDSTROM



"No government can exist in peace, except such laws are framed and held inviolate as will secure to each individual the free exercise of conscience." — Doctrine & Covenants 134:2

THE LEGAL LIGHT

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Deborah Dickson of SMITH DICKSON, has been acting, pro bono, as our Chief Financial Advisor, assisted by Elaine Kazzi. Founded in 1982, Smith Dickson is a full-service CPA firm specializing in providing high-quality services designed to create long-term value for its clients. Smith Dickson's clients appreciate the personal connection that is established with the firm, as each client is handled by a partner-level CPA who leads a team of highly-trained professionals dedicated to superior service. Smith Dickson encourages a holistic approach to the services provided to its clients, with involvement in all of its clients' financial decisions, not just in the preparation of financial statements and tax returns. In addition to the foregoing, Smith Dickson provides auditing services, bank financing negotiations, tax planning and compliance, trust and estate compliance, and litigation support, including working with attorneys to analyze financial information, evaluate claims and calculate damages, as well as provide expert testimony. We are grateful for Smith Dickson's professional assistance.



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Editor
 Rick A. Varner

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 19, 2014	JRCLS-OC Chapter Annual Dinner, with special guest speaker Elder Bruce C. Hafen " <i>Faith, Reason and the Things of Eternity</i> "	6:15 p.m. Irvine Marriott 18000 Von Karman Avenue Irvine, CA 92612
November 13, 2014	Luncheon Speaker: Jon Jensen, CLE Presentation: " <i>Legal Affairs in Russia</i> "	12:00 noon Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main St., 2nd Floor, Irvine