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Jean C. Powers

Message From The President

The 30th year of our Association begins on an auspicious note, having concluded an outstanding year under the dynamic leadership of Anthony J. Colucci, Jr. I am pleased to report that our membership last year exceeded 1,000 and our chapters in Albany, New York City, Rochester, and Washington, D.C. are active and flourishing. Entertainment abounded, as the Greater New York and Washington-Baltimore chapters toasted the New Year and old friends at elegant luncheons; our Capital District (Albany) graduates sailed the Hudson, then gathered again to feast on beef-on-weck and chicken wings while watching the Bills on Monday Night Football; and our Rochester chapter hosted a reception for new attorneys last fall and held its annual luncheon in May. As demonstrated by our New York City alumni, who recently presented an informative program on alternative careers, our chapters provided valuable services, as well as camaraderie, to their members.

In Buffalo both the Convocation and Annual Dinner were exceptional. Chaired by Dianne Avery and Paul Suozzi, the Convocation Committee assembled an exemplary panel on recent developments in criminal law. The timely and informative program was well received by a large audience, which honored Justice M. Dolores Denman upon her receipt of the Jaeckle Award at the luncheon following the presentation.

Five distinguished alumni were honored at the Annual Dinner in May, which was attended by over 325 alumni. Congratulations were

extended to Hon. Joseph Mattina (Judiciary Award), Joel Daniels (Private Practice Award), Gerald Lippes (Business Award), Clarence Sundram (Public Service Award) and Thomas Beecher (Community Service Award) and to dinner chairpersons Sharyn Rogers and K. Michael Sawicki for their outstanding efforts.

A new group, Graduates of the Last Decade ("GOLD") was started this year under the tutelage of directors Catherine Wettlaufer and Rosemarie Wyman. The GOLD group has been enthusiastically received by our most recent graduates, who have already planned a tent party and Bisons outing for late June. I am excited by the energy displayed by our newest committee and look forward to its growth during the next year. Our association has also become more active in facilitating gatherings for our reunion classes, and we hope that we can encourage more groups to get together in the coming year.

The accomplishments of our organization are the result of your support and participation and the countless hours devoted to it by our officers, directors and support staff. In addition to Tony Colucci, Linda Nenni, our outgoing Treasurer, departing directors Helen Zimmermann, Hon. Robert Whelan and Hon. Hugh Scott, our past and future Secretary Robert Schaus, Executive Director Ilene Fleischmann, Dean David Filvaroff, Associate Dean Alan Carrel and alumni staff member Pat Warrington deserve our sincere thanks for their dedication and extraordinary effort.

I am pleased to announce that former Vice President, Mark Farrell, who is a Past President of UB's

General Alumni Association, shall be our President-Elect, outgoing Director, Peter Fiorella, Jr., will serve as our Treasurer and Garry Graber, Sharyn Rogers, K. Michael Sawicki and William Savino have been elected Vice Presidents. All have rendered outstanding service to our Association in the past few years and I am delighted to be working with them. We welcome your new Directors: Rosalie S. Bailey, Terrence E. Barnes, Ann B. Bermingham, Michael Kanaley, Jr., Robert Lane, Jr., Samuel L. Shapiro and Herbert Siegel.

I hope that 1991-92 will provide many opportunities for our Association to grow and that we will be able to afford each of you additional occasions to renew old friendships, attend challenging workshops and programs, interact with faculty members and assist the Law School and its students. We are all painfully aware of the budgetary crisis faced by the State. Your support of our efforts to ease the financial constraints that the Law School may face in the coming years is essential.

My goals for the Association for the coming year are readily expressed by not easily achieved: to expand and enhance its services to you and the Law School. The success of our organization depends upon the commitment of each member. I welcome your comments and ideas and ask that you share with me your thoughts on how we may best meet your needs. It is my privilege to be your President this year. I'll need your friendship, insight and help; with them I am confident that we shall continue our tradition of fellowship and service. ■