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## Message From the President

### THE THREE PILLARS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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I AM HONORED TO have served as the Society's President for almost one year now. At the beginning of my term, I identified what I viewed as the three pillars of the Society: its publications, programs, and people. Each has an integral and unique role in carrying out the Society's work and mission, and the interrelationship between the three is what continues to make the Society successful.

#### PUBLICATIONS

Most practitioners know the Society through this newsletter. But what they do not realize is how the newsletter has evolved over time — from a brief update of Society business to a full-fledged independent publication that includes scholarly articles, articles both by and about our Supreme Court justices, and brilliant photographs and illustrations. Our editor Thomas Reynolds continues to improve and enhance the newsletter with every issue.

Most in academia know the Society through our annual journal. Editor and board member Selma Moidel Smith continues to work tirelessly to produce the journal. Her efforts have resulted in increased submissions every year, and thanks to the high quality of the journal articles we accept, our journal is now routinely cited in other scholarly publications.

Moving ahead, we hope soon to add to our list of publications the long awaited *History of the California Supreme Court*. Editor Harry Schieber is currently finishing up this ambitious, comprehensive history of our state's highest court. The book will be the culmination of the Society's efforts for the past several years, and we look forward to sharing the book with you this year.

#### PROGRAMS

Our David Terry program has become the template for our future programs. It involved significant Board participation, and was written by Board member Richard Rahm; our Supreme Court justices participated in its presentation; we collaborated with other bar associations and historical societies; and the program was presented in multiple venues throughout the state. The Society intends to use this model to develop upcoming programs associated with the publication of the history.

During much of this past year, the Society focused on another way in which we convey information to our members and others — through our website. Thanks to the efforts of Board members David McFadden and Joyce Cook, the Society presented a redesigned web-



Society President Jennifer King

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site that included new content and an improved functionality and organizational structure. We continue to make enhancements to the website that have enabled it to become not only a source for information about the Society, but also a destination for research about California law and jurisprudence.

#### PEOPLE

The few individuals identified above are just a handful of those who make up the Society's third and most important pillar. Our Board has a level of depth and diversity rarely seen in a law-related organization. We have been fortunate enough to join together attorneys, judges, professors, and other professionals, from the public and private sector throughout California, all of whom are at the top of their fields. These individuals sustain the Society in myriad ways — for example, by contributing articles to our publications, facilitating our development efforts, or researching organizations and programs for collaboration opportunities.

Beyond our Board, our members who support the Society also help to uphold our most important pillar. Although the Society appreciates the necessary financial support that our members provide, we want to encourage participation in additional ways — attending our programs, joining a committee, or submitting an article for one of our publications. Please visit our website, [www.cschs.org](http://www.cschs.org), or contact us at [director@cschs.org](mailto:director@cschs.org) for more information on how to get involved. ★

— JENNIFER KING