



MARSHALL B. GROSSMAN was elected chairman of the State of California Commission on Judicial Performance in March, 2005. He was named an attorney member of the Commission in April 2001 by Governor Gray Davis, was elected vice chairman in 2004, and was appointed to a new term by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in early 2005. Grossman, a name partner of Alschuler Grossman Stein & Kahan LLP, has been listed as among the "100 Most Influential Lawyers" in California by the *Daily Journal* for several years running.

MARVIN BURNS writes that, in June, 2005, "I received a 'Recognition' from the California Supreme Court and the State Bar of California 'for fifty years of service as a member of the State Bar of California,' of which I am justifiably proud and appreciative." Congratulations on reaching this milestone, Marvin!

CSCHS Advisory Board member MARGARET LEVY reports that she was elected to the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Bar Foundation effective July 1, 2005.



On July 29, 2005, RICHARD IAMELE retired after twenty-five years as Director of the Los Angeles County Law Library. Iamele joined the law library in 1971 and was appointed Librarian (the former title for the position) in 1980. During his time as Director, Iamele saw the library through the

adoption of new technologies and worked tirelessly to maintain LACLL's financial stability. His plans for retirement include traveling, especially back to South Bend for Notre Dame football games. The CSCHS salutes Richard for his dedicated service to the bench, bar, and general public of Los Angeles County.

HON. ADORALIDA PADILLA, Administrative Law Judge for the State of California, has been elected to two positions: Vice President of the California Conference of Workers' Compensation Judges, and Treasurer of the State Bar of California's Workers' Compensation Executive Committee. Off the bench, Judge Padilla is an accomplished fiction writer. Her short story, entitled "Guardian Angel," can be found in the collection *Open My Eyes, Open My Soul*, created by Yolanda King (eldest daughter of Martin Luther King, Jr.) and Elodia Tate and published by McGraw Hill. The story is about an adventure

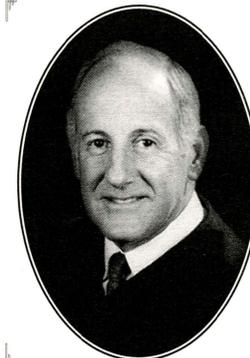
Judge Padilla had while on an extended trip to Turkey in 1998.



CSCHS Board of Directors member ERIC JOSS, of the law firm Paul, Hastings, Janofsky and Walker LLP, has been elected as a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Selection for this professional honor requires nomination by College members outside one's own firm, refer-

ences and evaluations from other members of the bar and the judiciary, and screening by a credentials committee in each circuit which makes selection recommendations to a national Board of Governors which votes on new members. Joss was inducted in August, 2005, at a ceremony in Chicago.

CSCHS Board of Directors member TOM McDERMOTT announces the opening of a new law firm in Indian Wells, in the greater Palm Springs area. McDermott & DeLateur specializes in trial work, appeals, and real estate and land use matters.



The CSCHS extends hearty congratulations to HON. RONALD M. GEORGE, who celebrated his tenth anniversary as California's Chief Justice on May 1, 2006. During his tenure, Chief Justice George has made access to justice for Californians a priority, leading an eight-year effort to rewrite jury instructions,

and overseeing both the unification of the municipal and superior courts and the move from county to state responsibility for funding courts and managing court facilities. The Chief Justice has served on the California bench for thirty-four years, as an appointee of four governors, Reagan, Brown, Deukmejian, and Wilson.

CSCHS Treasurer OPHELIA BASGAL was named to the newly established position of Pacific Gas and Electric Company Vice President, Civic Partnership and Community Initiatives in September, 2005. Basgal is a nationally recognized expert on housing and community development issues, having served for twenty-seven years as Executive Director of the Alameda County Housing Authority. In her new position, she is

responsible for managing PG&E's charitable contributions program, external relations, and partnerships with community-based organizations.

CHARLES LAWRENCE SWEZEY is a recipient of the inaugural 2005 Spirit of CEB Award, bestowed at the Annual Meeting of the State Bar in San Diego in October, for his contributions in the area of workers' compensation law. The Spirit of CEB Awards honor attorneys, motivated by a desire to serve the profession and a love of teaching, who have volunteered their time to author CEB legal publications and/or serve as speakers at CEB's MCLE programs.

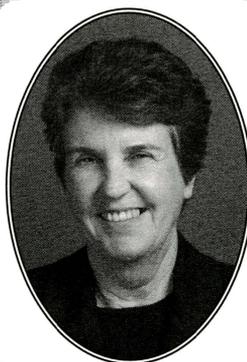
On February 28, 2006, former CSCHS president (and present Board of Directors member) KENT RICHLAND argued *Marshall v. Marshall* in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of his client, Anna Nicole Smith. On May 1st, the Court issued a unanimous opinion in Ms. Smith's favor. The case raised the issue of the scope of the "probate exception" to federal jurisdiction – a limitation that Justice Ginsburg described in her majority opinion as "stemming in large measure from misty understandings of English legal history."

Whittier Law School Professor PETER REICH has contracted with Carolina Academic Press to produce *The Law of the U.S.-Mexico Border: Cases and Materials*, which will be the first casebook covering transnational legal issues in the border region. In March, 2006, Reich presented the paper "Siete Partidas in My Saddlebags: Spanish Legal Sources in Antebellum Louisiana and Texas" at the Louisiana Historical Association Annual Meeting, held in Lafayette, Louisiana.

JUDGE WILLIAM BEVERLY writes, "My individual quest for the African American history of Los Angeles developed into Eighth & Wall Incorporated, a non-profit corporation, in 2003. We have given presentations over the last three years to organizations including the Palos Verdes Library, the Torrance Center for Culture and the Arts, the Southwest Rotary, the Drug Enforcement Agency of the Department of Justice, the University of Southern California, and, most recently on April 15, 2006, the Southern California Library. Currently, we are conceptualizing a sixty-minute video presentation on the history of the African American bar in Los Angeles. More information about Eighth & Wall can be found at our website at [www.eighthand-wall.org](http://www.eighthand-wall.org)."

Reaching quite a milestone, ED HOROWITZ writes, "I have filed a brief on my five-hundredth appellate case as lead counsel (as counted by the Board of Legal Specialization). After almost forty years of practice, I am wondering whether 'enough is enough.'"

Congratulations on keeping up such a pace, Ed!



The CSCHS congratulates Board of Directors member SUSAN WESTERBERG PRAGER on her appointment as Occidental College's thirteenth president. Taking office on July 1, 2006, Prager is the first woman to hold the post. She was the Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law and served as the dean of the law school for sixteen years. While dean, Prager established the school's first major gifts program, which made possible construction of a dramatic new library.

#### P A S S I N G S



The California Supreme Court Historical Society is saddened to inform members of the passing of former Board of Directors member MARCELLE (MARCIE) MIHAILA on July 11, 2005. Mihaila was a partner at DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary in the firm's Seattle office, where she specialized in civil writs and appeals. As chairwoman of the litigation department of what was then Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich, she helped lead a three-way merger of firms in January, 2005. Mihaila was a selfless mentor, especially to women. She was a recipient of a YWCA Tribute to Women in Industry Award and was named among the "Top 20 Lawyers Under 40 to Watch" by *California Law Business*.

The CSCHS is also saddened to report the passing of its former Executive Director, JAMES E. PFEIFFER, on January 14, 2006. Pfeiffer, who served the Society from 1997 to 2000, was founding Executive Director of the Foundation of the State Bar of California for thirteen years until his retirement in 2003. While with the Bar Foundation, he helped to create a variety of programs to educate young people about the legal system, including Peer Courts for first-time youthful offenders, pamphlets entitled "Kids in the Law" and "When You're Over 18," and the Legal Heritage Institute for high school students. At the Society, Pfeiffer oversaw the publication of *California Court Houses*, a pictorial edited by Barbara George.