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A Newsletter of the Florida Student Bar Association
Cumberland School of Law

Volume 1

Fall 1989

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GREETINGS!

I just wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and tell you how excited I am about serving as President of the Cumberland Florida Student Bar Association this year. I am a Florida State University graduate (class '85) from Hollywood, Florida. I am a senior this year, employed part-time at the United States Attorney's Office in Birmingham and plan to return to south Florida upon graduation in May 1990.

One of our goals this year is to develop better communication with the alumni. We intend to achieve this goal through semi-annual newsletters, as well as taking an active role in Law Week activities, March 24 through 31, 1990.

The Florida Student Bar Association is also working closely with the administration to ensure that the topical matters covered on the Florida Bar Exam are offered through the school curriculum. For example, Dean Williams has agreed to arrange a Florida Constitutional Law Seminar for the spring semester. In addition to the seminar, we have invited a former employee of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners to lecture about the "mechanics" of taking the Florida Bar Exam.

We are excited about our progress thus far! If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, please write to:

Florida Student Bar Association
Cumberland School of Law
Samford University
Birmingham, Alabama 35229

Sincerely,

Hillary Halvorsen
Hillary Halvorsen

FLORIDA ALUMNI HELP STUDENTS LOCATE JOBS!

The "Cumberland Connection" in Florida continues to flourish by way of admittees to Cumberland from the great state of Florida. We presently have 20% of the students in each class from Florida, and as always, these graduates wish to return for the practice of law. Alabama is the only state to exceed this enrollment percentage.

Being a law school located out of state, we are not always informed of employment opportunities in Florida. Back in 1986 and 1987 Cumberland attended the Florida Young Lawyers Job Fair held each spring in Tampa. Our students obtained excellent results via this Job Fair. The law school met all the necessary out-of-state participant requirements in order for our

students to attend. However, as you probably know, the Job Fair has since been limited to only Florida law schools. This action by the Florida Young Lawyers Section of the Bar closed a door for Florida students who chose to attend Cumberland.

Cumberland has a very strong alumni contingent in Florida, approximately 900. Many of you have assisted recent graduates or students in their job search process for which we are grateful. Students meeting the qualifications can interview with the major Florida law firms at the Southeastern Law Placement Consortium which is held in Atlanta each fall. And yes, we do have a small group of Florida employers recruiting at Cumberland.

The Office of Career Services seeks your assistance in providing more job opportunities for our Florida students. We encourage you to look to our law school for applicants when positions, both summer and

full-time, prevail within your firms. You are invited to participate in our on campus programs; allow us to post employment opportunities instructing the students to submit resumes to this office for forwarding collectively to you, or advising applicants to send their resumes directly to you.

We believe many Florida employers are unaware of the Florida contingent here at Cumberland and for this reason we seek your assistance in making it known. For example, almost 20% of the Class of 1988 obtained employment in Florida within six months of graduation. With your help and cooperation we can assist all Florida students and alumni in securing legal employment. You may contact our office at the following address and/or telephone

number: Jeanette Rader, Director
Office of Career Services
Cumberland School of Law
Samford University
Birmingham, AL 35229
(205) 870-2797

**PHONATHON AIDS FLORIDA
ROOM REFURBISHMENT**

The Florida Room at Cumberland was dedicated by Governor Reubin Askew in 1978. Since that time, the Florida Room has served a variety of purposes - it is used by employers for interviewing, used by faculty as a classroom, used by Trial Board for client-counseling competitions and most importantly, used by students as a place to study.

Because the Florida Room has lost some of its appeal, the Florida Student Bar Association has decided to refurbish the room this year. To raise funds for this project, John Uskert, our secretary, arranged with Lochrane Coleman Smith, director of Alumni Affairs, to have the Florida Student Bar participate in Cumberland's annual Phonathon.

The Phonathon was held Monday, September 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Ms. Smith arranged for the Florida Student Bar to phone Cumberland's Florida alumni. Not only did students get a chance to talk with alumni but we raised a good deal of money for our project as well as for the school and had a lot of fun in the process. In fact, we won a prize for being the organization that had the most volunteers

participate in the Phonathon. I would like to thank the following volunteers for their time and efforts:

John Uskert, Jeff Coleman, Rebecca Robinson, Jane Cobb, Perry Cobb, Tim Beasley, Barry Woodham, Paul Latvis, Kevin Pribell, and Michael Jones. I especially want to thank Lochrane Coleman Smith and all the alumni that we spoke with.

In addition to the Phonathon, we sent letters to all alumni in Florida. Thus far, we have had a favorable response to our letters.

Our plans for the refurbishment, funds permitting, include new draperies, new carpet and reupholstering the chairs. We intend to decorate the walls with prints of Florida scenery as well as a seal of the State of Florida. Finally, we plan on purchasing a plaque that has all the donors names inscribed on it. We have already received a Florida flag donated by the Office of the Secretary of State.

We will begin the improvements in January 1990. The Florida Room should be completed by March , 1990, in order for us to make a presentation during Law Week. We look forward to meeting all of you during Law Week.

Thank you for your continued support.

CORRECTION

Our letter to the Florida Cumberland Alumni erroneously reported that former Governor Askew dedicated the Florida Room in 1973. Governor Askew, in fact dedicated the Florida Room on April 8, 1978.

REMINDER

Our plans to refurbish the Florida Room are well under way. As of October 30, 1989, the Cumberland Alumni Office has received \$1,925.00 in donations from Florida Cumberland Alumni restricted for the Florida Student Bar Association's Florida Room Project. In addition, the Alumni Office has advised us there are 41 pledges in the amount of \$4,895.00 yet outstanding.

We thank you for your generous support in helping us attain our goal.

If you have not made a pledge or donation to the refurbishing project, but would like to, please contact

Lochrane Coleman Smith at the Cumberland Alumni Office, telephone (205) 870-2444, for information.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Cumberland student body in 1989, as in the past, has a high concentration of Florida residents. Currently, the 123 Florida students comprise approximately 20% of Cumberland's enrollment.

The Florida students attended 39 different undergraduate schools, with the greatest number of students coming from Florida State University, University of Florida, the University of South Florida, and the University of West Florida. Forty-two Florida students completed requirements for their undergraduate degrees outside the state of Florida.

In descending order of frequency, the following ten undergraduate majors account for more than 70% of the majors chosen by Cumberland's Florida enrollment: political science, business, economics, finance, english, history, criminology, engineering, marketing, and communications.

FLORIDA LUAU . . HOT, HOT, HOT

The Florida Student Bar Association held its annual luau Friday, October 13th at the Clubhouse of the Club Apartments. The party featured an all-you-can-eat shrimp and oyster bar. Entertainment was provided by "Attractive Nuisance," a band composed of third year law students Scott Johnson, Jim DeKleva, Matt Knight, and William Tucker.

Doors opened at 9:00 p.m. and the last person left well after 2:00 a.m. Most of the ninety plus members of the Florida Student Bar attended the party as well as a number of non-members.

As predicted, it was the biggest party of the fall semester. We're already planning our Mardi Gras Festival for early next February.

Special thanks to the following people for making the luau a success - Jeff Kirby, Jeff Coleman, Hillary Halvorsen, John Uskert, Adam Pittman, Linda Fiveash, Rebecca Robinson, Cyndi Strickland and Attractive Nuisance.

FROM THE DEAN

Almost one-quarter of the student enrollment at the Cumberland School of Law hails from the great state of Florida. Active in all aspects of student life at Cumberland, our Florida students particularly enjoy the friendships they form through membership in the Florida Student Bar Association. One of five state-related student groups at the Law School, the Florida Bar Association offers a useful and informative program. Florida residents get to know one another and form important friendships that will be valuable in years to come as they practice in the Sunshine State. Through participation in the annual Alumni Phonathon, Florida students make contact with many Cumberland alumni practicing in Florida. These contacts frequently lead to summer clerkships and to employment after law school. Additionally, the Florida Student Bar Association sponsors programs and seminars dealing specifically with Florida law. The Cumberland School of Law is proud of its Florida students and strongly supports the work of the Florida Student Bar Association. Under the leadership of Hillary Halvorsen of Hollywood, FL, the Association is working diligently on a number of useful projects. The Association's active work in the Alumni Phonathon produced the largest amount of pledges ever received from Florida alums. A portion of these gifts is earmarked for renovation of the Florida Room, the beautiful seminar room which was dedicated by then Governor Reubin

Askew in 1978. Heavily used as a seminar room and as a meeting room for the Florida Student Bar Association and faculty committees, the room is in need of new carpeting and draperies; its chairs badly need reupholstering. Refurbishing the room will begin soon and will be complete by Law Week 1990 when our Florida students

will proudly welcome alumni, parents and friends.

To assist Florida students in preparing for the Florida Bar examination, the Florida Student Bar Association and the Law School will sponsor a week-long seminar in March, 1990 on Florida Constitutional Law.

Parham H. Williams

The 1989-90 Officers and members of the Florida Student Bar Association extend *Best Wishes for a happy, healthy Holiday Season.*

President: Hillary Halvorsen
Vice President: Robert Black
Treasurer: Jeff Coleman
Secretary: John Uskert
Social Chairman: Jeff Kirby

Florida Student Bar Association
Cumberland School of Law
Samford University
Birmingham, AL 35229

FORWARD AND ADDRESS CORRECTION

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