

Letter from the Alumni President

Dear Alumni:

Time and golf balls always seem to fly when you are having fun, especially at the Alumni Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing held this past July. Records were broken by the number of golfers registered, steak served, and money raised.

The team of Joe Kimble, Bill Weiner, Jerry MacDonald, and Steve Wilson had the low score at 15 under, while the Cooley Cup went to the law firm of Hubbard Fox Thomas White & Bengston, PC. The next *Benchmark* will have the 2002 date for the 13th Annual Alumni Golf Outing, so that you can start setting up your team for next year.

Time also seems to fly when you consider that my term as President of the Alumni Association is nearly finished. I would like to thank the Executive Committee and the Alumni Relations Office for their support and dedication to the mission of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Alumni Association.

I strongly believe that the Alumni Association has taken major steps toward achieving its mission. Those actions include reaching out to alumni through the creation of state and regional alumni associations, to students through the Distinguished Student Award and Alumni Memorial Scholarship, and to the Lansing community through our support of the Children's Miracle Network and the Cooley for Kids Day.

Cooley for Kids Day was an event provided in partnership with the Student Bar Association. It gave Lansing-area school children attending the district's summer program the chance to spend an afternoon at a Lugnuts baseball game.

To scale new heights, it is essential for our Alumni Association to gain assistance from our graduates in three specific ways. First of all, the Alumni Association needs input from its membership. The association recognizes that we are only as strong as the commitment the organization has from its graduates.

Second, the Alumni Association relies upon the donation of time and money from its alumni. We need volunteers, as we have numerous activities that support the mission of the association, the law school, and the community. Hole sponsorship and direct scholarship donations are tax deductible and go directly into the Thomas M. Cooley Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Income from that fund provides scholarships to Thomas M. Cooley students who exhibit the potential to become outstanding lawyers. The tax-deductible profits from the Holiday Wreath sale go into another fund that is used to support activities other than the Alumni Scholarship, such as our support of the Cooley for Kids Day.

Third, alumni should tell their friends and peers about the virtues of a Cooley Law education, including the growing list of distinctions bestowed upon the law school, its students, faculty, and alumni. As alumni, we are Cooley Law School's best marketing team. If you have any questions, please contact Darryl Parsell, Director of Alumni Relations at 800-243-ALUM, or leave a question on the Alumni Homepage for Darryl or me at <www.cooley.edu>.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff G. Haarer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff G. Haarer