



CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

TEACHING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY

A Newsletter for Sponsors, Participants, and Friends of Classroom Law Project

Volume 20

Number 11

Winter 2006

In This Issue

2 We the People News

3 Mr. Dependable

3 CLP's Fresh New Face

4 2006 Legal Citizen Named

4 Save These Dates

5 Civic Education Conference

6 Lesson: Federalism - Gonzalez v. Oregon

7 Essay Contest

8 Calendar

News From the Director:

Teaching Democracy with Foreign Partners

When I return from a trip - whether business or pleasure - my mind is awash with thoughts and images of new things and old things in a new light. And so it goes after December's trip to Croatia. Including that elephant in the room.

It was a business trip. My role in Croatia is to facilitate bringing people together and boost democracy education. I saw old friends in Croatia's judiciary, met new ones in the Ministry of Education, plus greeted teachers and students from all over the country. We went many

places. Their faces, voices, and dreams for the future play the movie in my mind.

I was there to help educators teach about democracy. We have some pretty terrific models right here in Oregon. At Classroom Law Project we bring teachers, students, attorneys and civic leaders together in programs like mock trial, youth summits, and the simulated hearings about the Constitution. So, in a similar fashion, we have linked judges in Croatia with teachers and, using our mock trial fact patterns, showed them how mock trials work. One of the judges invited me to a war crimes trial.

There was a video of the killing. The movie is nightmarish and haunting. Nightmarish and haunting because it is not a movie. It is their very recent history. It is what they live with every day. It is in fact why I am there - why there is a democracy education program in Croatia.

But for the war, I would not be there aiding their effort towards democracy. I would not have met the latest bureaucrat from Ministry of Education. I would not have met the wizened folks from the US Embassy. I would not have watched the freshest faces of democracy espouse on their Project Citizen activity. I would not have had an



A Croatian class presenting its Project Citizen portfolio.

opportunity to work with the teachers, the change agents of their country. The ugly irony is that the elephant of war is bringing great things.

I am also struck by the issues that are not so different from our own. I heard complaints of corruption, then returned to headlines of Abramoff. And I heard about "it's not what you know but who you know," and realize some things never change.

Woven in the web of what never changes were fresh ideas. I heard about how Croatia appoints its judges by a committee of judges and law professors. I watched what seemed to be unusually tight parental-like bonds between students and their teachers. Perhaps this is because their field trips are to places like Italy, Spain, and Greece!

There is much hope. Croatia's National Youth Parliament program gets students sworn into city councils. Youth are finding their voices via the Project Citizen curriculum. And seeds have been planted for a democracy camp on Croatia's spectacular coast that will include educators and students from Croatia and America.

Yes, the images are of hope. In the elephant's dust is promise for a future rich with discussion, participation, listening, and learning. I saw it in their faces. *-Marilyn R. Cover*

We the People News:

Grant High School to represent Oregon at Nationals

SALEM, January 20, 2006 -

Portland's Grant High School kept its eye on the prize. Its constitution team took the top spot and is going to Washington, D.C. in April.

In a closely contested race, Grant led by teacher Matt Campeau edged out cross-town rival Lincoln High School. Nipping at both schools' heels was Lake Oswego, Pendleton, and Junction City high schools. Those schools represented their congressional districts at the annual high school We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution competition, and finished in that order.

All teams came to the State Capitol ready to testify in simulated hearings -- just like the type Supreme Court nominee Judge Alito underwent in Washington. The panels of judges - acting the part of legislators - included many members of Oregon's Appellate and Supreme Courts, House members, attorneys, and other civic leaders.

At the end of the day, the nod went to Grant. Presenting the award was recently retired chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court Wallace Carson, Jr. Introducing Justice Carson and representing the governor was James Sager, education policy



advisor to the governor. Both Carson and Sager remarked that, given what they heard in the hearing rooms that day, Oregon is in good hands.

This is the third year in a row for Grant to go to nationals. Three years ago they placed third, last year second, this year they say they are going for the gold.

For more information on Oregon's We the People program, not only for high school but also upper elementary and middle school, contact Classroom Law Project.



Students from across Oregon compete at the annual high school We the People State Finals. At the top of the page, the 1st place team from Grant High School, Portland.



CLP Profiles

Mr. Dependable: Spotlight on Jerry Boehm, CLP Board Member

The *We the People* competition depends on getting the timing perfect. Four minutes for prepared remarks, six minutes for follow-up. Mess it up and the whole competition goes south. That's why Jerry is the man with the stopwatch.

Year after year Jerry Boehm has been there. In addition to the high stakes *We the People* competition, he offers his services on CLP's finance committee and golf tournament. The finance committee is a natural since he's a banker in his day job. But golf? He doesn't play the game. Yet he is one of the most influential men on the course. He cajoles players into buying big ticket

game packages, the pure profits of which support CLP.

And if that wasn't enough ... Jerry has started training to be a guide for our court tour program as well!

CLP is lucky to count Jerry among its directors. With

more than 34 years of experience in the banking industry,

currently Vice President and Commercial Lending Officer at Banner Bank, he has a wealth of experience,



wisdom, contacts, and good will to share. When not serving CLP or Banner Bank, Jerry is the dependable husband of Pam, and father of their two grown sons, Jared, a 3-D animator and, Andrew, a senior at University of Oregon. Oh, and he is also an avid civil war and US history buff who dabbles in antiques

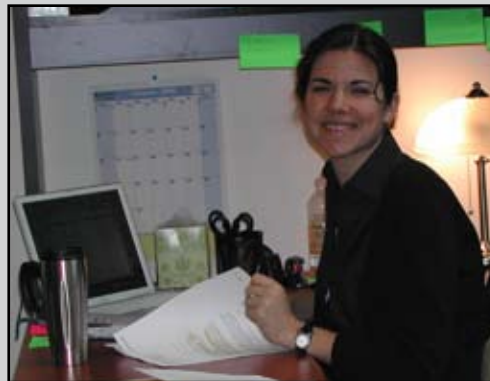
and collectibles.

Mr. Dependable to his family, bank, and to the CLP. That's Jerry!

CLP's Fresh New Face - Emily Kropf

Greetings! My name is Emily Kropf (pronounced Kropp) and I was recently hired as a program manager here at Classroom Law Project. I am thrilled to join such an impressive organization and look forward to meeting the hundreds of dedicated people affiliated with the Classroom Law Project.

I became interested in CLP after many years of working with children. I spent several years in New York City as a high school teacher in an alternative public school before moving to Portland to attend Lewis & Clark Law School. While a law student, I focused my



studies on family and juvenile law. I met Marilyn Cover while taking the Street Law course and taught the Street Law curriculum at Rosemary Anderson High School.

After graduation I practiced juvenile law for two years at the Juvenile Rights Project. While I adored my clients and learned a tremendous amount from my colleagues, I greatly missed teaching and the collaborative, creative side of non-profit work.

CLP has provided me the opportunity to merge my interests of law, civic education and child advocacy. I am happy to be here!

Free Text Books!

Would you like to receive a free set of books? Teachers of upper elementary, middle and high school social studies, history, language, civics, government, etc., are using the *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution* texts in their classrooms. Funded by the US Dept. of Education, there are sets of texts allotted for every congressional district. To see if there are remaining sets available in your district, contact your district coordinator:

Congressional District 1 (Rep. David Wu)

Susan Marcus, Teacher-retired
ph: 503-292-9452
swmarcus@aol.com

Congressional District 2 (Rep. Greg Walden)

Brian Johnson, Teacher
Pendleton High School
ph: 541-276-3621
brian_johnson@pendleton.k12.or.us

Congressional District 3 (Rep. Earl Blumenauer)

Cheryl Johnson, Principal - retired
ph: 503-659-1382
crjohnson99@juno.com

Congressional District 4 (Rep. Peter DeFazio)

Gayle Faust, Teacher - retired
ph: 541-687-3234
g_faust@comcast.net

Congressional District 5 (Rep. Darlene Hooley)

Co-Cordinators:

Chuck Chamberlin, Teacher
South Salem High School
ph: 503-399-3252
chamberlain_chuck@salkeiz.k12.or.us

Diane Thelen-Sager, Teacher - retired
ph: 503-293-1895
dianesager@gmail.com



Hon. Sue Leeson Named Legal Citizen of the Year

Classroom Law Project is thrilled to announce its 2006 Jonathan U. Newman Legal Citizen: Hon. Susan M. Leeson, Oregon Supreme Court, retired.

Sue personifies what Classroom Law Project is about. Using her experience as a teacher and a judge, she pours her energy into helping students understand the Constitution. Working closely with CLP's *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution* program, she has planned teacher workshops, presented in them, then judged the fruits of her labors -- the students who testify in simulated hearings. Always happy to take a call from CLP, she has guided, suggested, taught, laughed, and led. She is one who walks the talk.

Sue Leeson served on the Oregon Supreme Court from 1998 to 2003, and on the Oregon Court of Appeals for 10 years before that. Before becoming a judge, she taught political theory and public law at Willamette University. She has been a Judicial Fellow at the United States Supreme Court and a law clerk in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She volunteers for the Marion County Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program mediating criminal cases as well as trains victim-offender mediators. Presently, she is completing her senior judge duties at the Oregon Court of Appeals, lecturing for the National School Safety Center and the Center for Civic Education, and looking for her third career. She enjoys the search.

Please join Classroom Law Project on April 11 at the Governor Hotel to honor this inspiring leader of lawyers, teachers and students. Contact CLP for details, 503-224-4424 or office@classroomlaw.org.

Event: Legal Citizen Dinner Honoring Sue Leeson
Date: April 11, 2006
Location: The Governor Hotel, Portland
Tickets: \$150 each

For information, contact CLP.

Psst!! Check this out!

Hot summer days bring these very cool professional development opportunities to educators . . . just a few of our faves:

June 22-23 Civic Education Conference for High School Teachers & Administrators, Lewis & Clark College, Portland

DON'T MISS THIS! See article highlighting this unique opportunity. Teams may qualify for \$4000 worth materials, stipends, and related expenses. Brochure and registration information at www.classroomlaw.org.

June 15-20 and June 22-27 Supreme Court Summer Institute for Teachers, Washington, D.C.

This unique and superb opportunity is offered to teachers by Street Law, Inc. Go to Washington, D.C., learn about the Supreme Court (past presenters have included Chief Justice John Roberts), and even visit the Court to hear decisions as they are handed down. Information is available at www.streetlaw.org.

July 10-14 CLP's Summer Institute for Educators, Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland

Highly-acclaimed annual professional development opportunity for 5th and 8th grade, and high school social studies, civics, government, or history teachers. \$250; scholarships available; optional Lewis & Clark College credit. Brochure and registration information at www.classroomlaw.org.

July 9-14 Project Citizen Summer Institute, Prescott, AZ

Fifth through 8th grade teachers should have this fabulous opportunity on their

radar screens. Learn about this amazing curriculum developed by the widely respected Center for Civic Education;

enjoy free room, board, travel and registration. Go to www.civiced.org for more information.

It is not professional development, but after all that book learnin', have a swing at this:

August 1 Senators' Cup Golf Tournament, The Reserve Vineyard and Golf Club, Aloha

Join Senators Smith and Wyden (fingers crossed)

at this annual charity golf tournament supporting CLP at the superb and challenging course, The Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha.



Civic Education Conference for High School Teachers and Administrators

High school teachers: put this one on your calendar now!

You won't want to miss it!

June 22-23, 2006

Lewis & Clark College, Portland

Teams may qualify for \$4000 worth materials, stipends, and related expenses!

This conference is for both individual teachers and educator teams from Oregon high schools. The conference will offer interactive, practical, hands-on sessions on proven strategies for effective civic education. Really good, use now stuff.

Educator teams made up of one administrator plus up to five teachers may apply for mini-grants worth approximately \$4000. The grants ask teams to focus on strengthening or implementing civic education in their schools. The conference allows for planning time on Day 2, June 23. And the grant provides for follow-up onsite assistance in schools

plus another gathering in summer 2007. The grant covers travel, room, meals, plus some materials and stipends.

Teachers not part of a team are encouraged to attend the June 22, conference on the beautiful campus of Lewis & Clark College. Individual teachers as well as mini-grant teams will participate in a day of exciting keynoters, interactive workshops, and stimulating camaraderie.

Professional development and graduate level credit is available.

The conference is administered by Classroom Law Project and planned by Oregon's Coalition for the Civic Mission of Schools. For details, brochure, and registration information go to www.classroomlaw.org, or call 503-224-4424.



Volunteer to be a mock trial judge

It's that time of year again – mock trials are coming and we need your help!

With competitions being held throughout the state on several different days, the opportunity to get involved is great. Literally hundreds of judges are needed to put on the competitions.

If you think that because you have little or no experience, you cannot judge. Think again! Each mock trial round is judged by a 3-person panel -- one with experience presides, and the other two sit in the jury box and judge silently. So inexperienced attorneys, educators and other members of the community are welcome.

Take a look at the days and locations of the competitions. If you would like to be part of this great event, complete the form below and send it to the CLP. Send via fax to 503-224-1721. Send via mail to: 620 SW Main St., #102, Portland, OR 97205. Or email the information to us at office@classroomlaw.org. Questions? Give us a call!

Mock Trial Judge CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Firm/Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

COMPETITION INFORMATION

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney Judge | <input type="checkbox"/> Experience Judging (circle: real trial / mock trial) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator/Community Representative | <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to serve as presiding judge |

March 4 - Regionals (check which region you want to judge):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Albany | <input type="checkbox"/> Multnomah Co. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bend | <input type="checkbox"/> Pendleton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clackamas Co. | <input type="checkbox"/> Salem |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants Pass (March 3rd) | <input type="checkbox"/> Washinton Co. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medford | |

March 17-18 - State Finals:

- Multnomah Co.

Lesson

Federalism: Gonzalez v. Oregon

This very current lesson from the Bill of Rights Institute helps students learn the ground covered in the recent U.S. Supreme Court case about Oregon's Death with Dignity law. Find it online at www.billofrights.org/instructional/resources/Lessons/Lessons_List.asp?action=showDetails&id=106&ref=showCatD&catId=6

Synopsis

In 2001, Former Attorney General John Ashcroft ruled that doctors prescribing certain drugs to terminally ill patients in Oregon were in violation of federal law. However, a January 17, 2006 decision by the Supreme Court let stand the Oregon law that allows for such prescriptions. In what situations does the federal government have the constitutional right to apply national regulations when they are in conflict with state laws?

Questions

1. Describe Oregon's Death with Dignity Act (1994).

Terminally ill patients in Oregon may be prescribed a lethal dose of prescription drugs if they have less than six months to live (as confirmed by at least two doctors) and they are judged to be of sound mind.

2. Why did the Federal Government believe it had the right to regulate this type of action?

The Federal Government has the authority to regulate prescription drugs for legitimate medical purposes under the federal Controlled Substances Act. According to the former Attorney General John Ashcroft, assisted suicide is not a legitimate medical purpose for the prescribed drugs regulated by the Act.

3. On what constitutional grounds did the Supreme Court decide to uphold the Oregon law?

The Supreme Court said that the Executive Branch did not have the constitutional authority to apply the Controlled Substances Act so broadly and prosecute doctors who prescribed drugs to terminally ill patients wishing to end their lives. Oregon had the constitutional right to enact the Death with Dignity Act.

4. In 1997, the Supreme Court stated there is no constitutional right to die (Washington v. Glucksburg). The Court indicated states had legislative authority to regulate physician assisted suicide, not the federal government. How is this ruling similar to one handed down in Gonzalez v. Oregon? How is it different?

The two cases are similar in that they both relate to physician-assisted suicide and the relative rights of the state and federal governments. They are different because Washington v. Glucksburg affirmed the rights of states to establish physician-assisted suicide laws under the authority of the Tenth Amendment while Gonzalez v. Oregon denied the executive branch the authority to broadly interpret and enforce a law which would limit access to physician-assisted suicide.

Washington v. Glucksburg was argued on the basis of federalism issues; Gonzalez v. Oregon raised issues both about federalism as well as separation of powers.

5. As the Tenth Amendment has been interpreted, the states have power to make laws about all of the following:

- Speed limits on state highways
- Legal drinking age
- Marriage licensing (age, sex, rules about divorce.)
- Age for compulsory school attendance
- Death penalty
- Restrictions on abortion
- State-sanctioned medicinal drug use

Do you agree these are areas that should be the legislative responsibility only of the states? Or should federal laws (which would apply to the entire country) be passed in some of these areas? If so, which areas and why?

Answers for all of these questions will vary

Extensions

1. Compare and contrast this decision with the federalism issues surrounding the Terri Schiavo case last year.

2. Further reading about cases related to *Gonzalez v. Oregon*.

- Washington v. Glucksburg (1997)
<http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/index.html>
- Raich v. Ashcroft (2005)
- South Dakota v. Dole (1987)
<http://www.oyez.org/oyez/resource/case/363/>
- Bill of Rights Institute eLesson about Terri Schiavo

Resources

"Oregon Suicide Law Is Upheld by High Court" Legal Times. 1/18/06.

- <http://www.law.com/jsp/article.jsp?id=1137492311061>

"High court upholds Oregon assisted-suicide law" MSNBC.com. 1/17/06.

- <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/10891536/>

"Ruling Comforts Some Patients in Oregon" Houston Chronicle, TX. 1/17/06.

- <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/nation/3593440.html>



An avid supporter of civic education, Hon. Ancer Haggerty of the U.S. District Court (seated in the center), volunteered his time and skills to judge the final round of the State Mock Trial Competition last March. Teaming with him were fellow volunteers (l-r) Larry Wolf of the Oregon Education Association, Portland Attorney Christine Meadows, Hon. Keith Meisenheimer of the Multnomah County Circuit Court, and Sue Hildick of The Chalkboard Project.

Essay contest for Oregon high school students kicks off its second year

The Oregon Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is pleased to announce the 2nd Annual Ancer L. Haggerty Civil Rights Essay Contest.

For those who aren't familiar with the name, the Honorable Ancer L. Haggerty is the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Ninth District, here in Oregon. He has served as a judge in Oregon since 1989, first on the state court bench and since 1994 on the federal bench. He is the first and only African-American to serve as a federal judge in Oregon.

Classroom Law Project is pleased to support the Federal Bar Association's contest in honor of Judge Haggerty. When this contest was started, Judge Haggerty was given a choice of several kinds of activities and it was his desire to include high school students -- rather than college or law students -- in the

event. He has been a strong supporter of civic education programs in Oregon schools, including the *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution*, and the Mock Trial Competition programs administered by the CLP.

Students should review selected portions of the court case *U.S. v. Rabinowitz*. These selections can be found on the CLP website, www.classroomlaw.org. Or you may contact CLP office to request a copy.

After reviewing this document, the question students must address in this year's essay is: *Why do you think it is important to have juries that reflect the racial composition of the community?*

All students enrolled in an Oregon high



school are eligible to enter. Essays should be no longer than 1,000 words and must be received by March 15, 2006.

Prizes are \$300 for first place, \$200 for second place

and \$100 for third place. Cash awards are provided by the Federal Bar Association.

Submissions should go to: Kelly A. Zusman, Haggerty Essay Contest Chair, 1000 SW 3rd Ave., #600, Portland, OR 97204.

The top three winners will be judged by a three-person panel and recognized at the annual dinner of the Federal Bar Association in April, to which the winners will be invited.

Classroom Law Project is an Oregon non-profit organization. We depend on your donations to run our programs! Yes, I want to help students become active citizens by making a contribution!

Ms./Mr./Mrs. _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

Amount \$ _____ Check payable to Classroom Law Project

_____ VISA / MasterCard _____

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date

_____ Matching Employer Amount? _____ Stock transfer (contact CLP)

Mail to: Classroom Law Project, 620 SW Main St., #102, Portland, OR 97205

Classroom Law Project's

2005-06 Calendar

Teacher consultations, lending library, and other workshops are ongoing throughout the year

February 2006

- 7 Reception with Charles Jordan & Friends of CLP
– Portland

March 2006

- 3, 4 High School Mock Trial Regional Competitions –
10 locations statewide
17, 18 High School Mock Trial State Finals Competition
– Portland

April 2006

- 11 Legal Citizen Dinner – The Governor Hotel, Portland
29-May 1 *We the People* Finals – Washington, D.C..

May 2006

- 3 Law Day Conference for High Schoolers – Portland State
University, Portland
19 *We the People* Day for 5th-8th Graders at the Capitol:
Project Citizen Competition *and* Constitution Hearings
– State Capitol, Salem
24-30 Civitas World Conference - Warsaw, Poland

June 2006

- 22-23 Civic Mission of Schools Conference for Educators
– Lewis & Clark College, Portland
24-27 *We the People* Coordinators' Annual Meeting
– Washington, D.C..

July 2006

- 10-14 Summer Institute for Educators – Lewis & Clark Law
School, Portland

August 2006

- 1 Senators' Cup Golf Tournament – The Reserve, Aloha

CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT
620 SW MAIN STREET, SUITE 102
PORTLAND, OR 97205

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Portland, OR Permit No. 4391
