

# alumni news

Yale Law School alumni have been gathering around the country. Here is a sampling of the get-togethers that have taken place over the past six months.



## Justice Thomas Speaks at YLSA of DC Annual Dinner

ON JUNE 28, close to 300 YLS alumni, current students, admitted students, and their guests gathered at the National Press Club, for the Yale Law School Association of Washington, DC, Annual Dinner.

The evening began with a reception and remarks by Dean **Robert Post '77**, who gave an update on the Law School, including news about the latest additions to the faculty. After dinner, YLSA of DC Steering Committee Co-Chair **Samuel Davidoff '03** welcomed alumni and their guests and introduced guest speaker **Clarence Thomas '74**, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Justice Thomas gave a heartfelt talk, filled with humor and insight, then opened the floor to questions. Everyone had a wonderful time, not only seeing their YLS friends and classmates, but also having the special opportunity to hear and speak with Justice Thomas, who lingered long after the event to personally greet graduates and their guests.

Attendees included alumni from across the decades, including many recent graduates and summer associates. In fact, the representation of several class years (including the Justice's own) resulted in spontaneous mini-reunions!



### NEW ENGLAND



#### Professor Gerken Offers Insights into Election 2012

Members of the Yale Law School Association of New England gathered on June 14 at the Boston offices of Edwards Wildman for a fascinating talk by YLS Professor Heather Gerken, J. Skelly Wright Professor of Law, titled "Lessons Learned From the 2008 Election and a Look Forward to Critical Issues for 2012." A reception and dinner followed, hosted by **Rebecca Lee '91**.

### NEW YORK



#### A Night at the Theater

On June 5, the Yale Law School Association of New York City hosted more than 140 alumni and their guests at the gorgeous Walter Kerr Theater for a performance of the Pulitzer Prize winning play, *Clybourne Park*. The play takes a timely and provocative look at race, real estate, and volatile social mores. (Five days later, it won the Tony Award for Best Play, as well as several acting honors.) Many of the alumni and their guests stayed after the play to hear members of the cast, the costume designer, and the director talk about the play and take part in a lively talkback session. Arrangements were made by producer **Eric Falkenstein '94**, including special seating, discounted tickets, and the post-show talkback.

### THE VINEYARD



#### Annual Martha's Vineyard Cocktail Party & Picnic

The weather was perfect for the fifth annual Martha's Vineyard Cocktail Party on August 9 in Aquinnah. It was a wonderful gathering of alums and families from around the country, who were treated to the gracious hospitality of Norma and **Arnold Zack '56**. The typically intimate get-together gave old friends a chance to visit and to meet new alumni visiting the Vineyard for the first time.

#### Apartheid Photography Exhibit

The Yale Law School Association of New York City hosted more than 100 New York alumni for a private tour and discussion of the moving exhibit, "Rise and Fall of Apartheid: Photography and the Bureaucracy of Everyday Life," on November 27 at the International Center of Photography. The exhibit explored the significance of the fifty-year civil rights struggle, from how apartheid defined and marked South Africa's identity from 1948 to 1994, to the rise of Nelson Mandela, and finally its lasting impact on society. Hosted by **Mitchell Presser '89** and **Dan Reich '02**, the evening provided a wonderful opportunity for guests to hear directly from the Center's knowledgeable curator and staff, as well as Yale Law School's own Professor **James Silk '89**, Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, who spoke on apartheid's lasting impact on human rights activism and advocacy.

### NEW YORK



NEW YORK



**Cory Booker's Newark Renaissance Showcased**

On November 11, the Yale Law School Association of New York City hosted a lively and well-attended event in Newark, NJ. One of the nation's most troubled cities, Newark is engaged in an important experiment in urban revitalization under the leadership of Mayor **Cory Booker '97**. The group gathered for a meet-and-greet at Newark City Hall, then took an informative walking tour of several neighborhoods led by Mayor Booker's Chief Policy Advisor, **Matt Klapper '11**. Following the tour, the group enjoyed a lively discussion between Matt and Adam Zipkin, Deputy Mayor and the Director of the Department of Economic and Housing Development, exploring some of the challenges of revitalization and what it takes to build an urban renaissance.

**Constitutional Law Breakfast**

On June 18, the Yale Law School Association of Washington, DC, and Yale Law School co-sponsored the Third Annual Constitutional Law Breakfast Program, "YLS Breakfasts in June for Supreme Court Watchers." The audience was treated to a spirited discussion about Supreme Court decisions from this past term with participants **Beth S. Brinkmann '85**, Deputy Assistant A.G., Civil Div., U.S. Dept. of Justice; Andrew J. Pincus, Clinical Visiting Lecturer, YLS and Partner, Mayer Brown; and **Paul M. Smith '79**, Partner, Jenner & Block. The discussion was moderated by **Linda Greenhouse '78 MSL**, Knight Distinguished Journalist-in-Residence and Joseph Goldstein Lecturer. Special thanks to Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson for so generously hosting the terrific breakfast.



WASHINGTON, DC

ILLINOIS



**Happy Hour on the Shores of Lake Michigan**

A group of nearly fifty alums, summer associates, and admitted students gathered at the Chicago Yacht Club on July 10 for a festive happy hour featuring delicious refreshments as well as breathtaking views of Lake Michigan and Chicago's famous skyline. Yale Law School Association of Illinois Chair **Brett August '77** hosted the evening gathering as old friends were reacquainted and new friends made over wine and snacks.

**Dinner with Judge Ellison '76**

On June 21, the Yale Law School Association of Texas hosted alumni, current and admitted students, and their guests at Maggiano's Little Italy for an evening of "Drinks, Dinner, and a Discussion with The Honorable **Keith Ellison '76**." Ellison, a judge with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, spoke on "Behavioral Economics and the Law."

**ALSO SEEN AND HEARD ...other YLS alumni events**

**New England** The Yale Law School Association of New England gathered once again for its annual Red Sox event on September 7. The event began with a tour of parts of Fenway Park and a buffet dinner, followed by the game. As fate would have it, though, the sky darkened and a tremendous thunderstorm erupted before the game got underway. Alums and their families ran for cover as the storm continued for about forty minutes. A small core of diehard Sox fans stayed to finally see their team play after a long delay. Final score: Blue Jays 7-5.

**New Haven** On June 24 nearly fifty brand new alums (who only weeks earlier had been taking final Law School exams!) and current JD and graduate students enjoyed a welcome break from their studies at a Mediterranean-themed luncheon hosted by the Office of Alumni Affairs in the Law School's courtyard. Guests included those studying for the Bar, JD and graduate students, Legal Services Organization interns, and other rising 2Ls and 3Ls living in New

Haven. All in attendance enjoyed the lunch and each other's company.

**New York City** The Yale Law School Association of New York City hosted a happy hour and discussion at the New York City Bar Association in midtown on July 17. Alumni, summer associates, and admitted students and their guests gathered to hear about the provocative book *I Know Who You Are and I Saw What You Did: Social Networks and the Death of Privacy* with author **Lori Andrews '78**, Distinguished Professor of Law and Director of the Institute for Science, Law and Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law.

**Washington, DC** Approximately 80 members of the Yale Law School Association of Washington, DC, gathered on May 15 at the DC offices of WilmerHale for dinner and a reception, and to hear YLS Professor Heather Gerken talk about lessons learned from the 2008 presidential election and legal issues to watch in 2012 and beyond.

PENJERDEL



**Sunday Brunch**

On July 22, the Yale Law School Association of PenJerDel enjoyed a wonderful Sunday brunch at the lovely home of **Charisse Lillie '82 LL.M.** and her husband, Thomas McGill, Jr. Those in attendance were treated to an engaging discussion between **Chip Becker '97** and **Peter Goldberger '75** on civil and criminal appellate practices. Alums from a wide variety of class years joined the pool-side discussion on a perfect summer day.



**PenJerDel Annual Garden Party**

At summer's end, the outdoor festivities and great weather continued for PenJerDel alumni, who gathered at the home of **Sarah Ricks '90** and **Tom Dolgenos '90** on September 23 for the Fifth Annual PenJerDel Garden Party. After relaxing over brunch, the group of graduates and their guests listened attentively to Judge **Jan "Bud" E. DuBois '57**, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, who spoke about Cameras in the Courtroom. Following his presentation, there was a very lively discussion about this timely topic.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



**Stanley E. Tobin '58 Memorial Address**

On June 24, under a brilliant Southern California summer sky, **Christine Adams '94** and Jim Asperger once again welcomed Yale Law School Association of Southern California alumni, summer interns, admitted students and their guests to their beautiful Pasadena home for dinner and the Stanley E. Tobin '58 Memorial Address. Reprising her popular talk offered only ten days earlier to YLS alumni in Boston, Professor Heather Gerken shared her insights on the (then pending) presidential election, providing much fuel for the lively conversation that continued over a terrific dinner.