From the Dean's Desk

Baylor Law School has a long and proud history, and that translates into some great stories.

In this month's *Rocket Docket*, we bring you the story of Louise "Lou" Boucher (JD '50). More than a year ago we discovered a photo in Baylor University's Texas Collection that showed a Practice Court session circa 1949-1950. In the photo you can see the back of a young female student. Her identity was a mystery until this past spring, when Lou recognized herself in the photo.

At a time when women were expected to remain in the home, Lou forged a career in law and continues to serve her community in Dallas.

This month's *Rocket Docket* also brings you the story of James Craig (JD '07), who recently was sworn in as the Lynn County attorney. Before James ever entered a courtroom he performed center stage as an opera singer.

Enjoy!

Louise "Lou" Boucher: The Woman in the Photo

Housed in Baylor University's Texas Collection is a photo that perfectly captures the spirit of Baylor Law School's Practice Court program. Taken circa 1950, the photo shows a student advocate angrily pointing to another student sitting on the witness stand. The other students look on with various degrees of concentration and amusement.

The photo not only is emblematic of the Practice Court experience, it also features students from the Greatest Generation – young men who served in the military during World War II and attended Baylor Law thanks to the GI Bill.

But wait. Not all of the students in the photo are men. There in the far left bottom corner is a young woman. For more than a year, Baylor Law has sought to identify all of the students in the photo. When asked about the young woman, Baylor Lawyers of the era said it could be only one of three who attended the law school at the time: Louise "Lou" Smith Boucher (JD '50), the Hon. Rachel (Littlejohn) Young (JD '50) or Pat (Raulston) Irvin (JD '50).

When the latest edition of the Baylor Law School directory was released in the spring, the mystery was solved. The young woman in the photo was positively identified as Boucher – by Boucher herself.

The story of how dozens of law firms refused to even interview retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor for a job after she graduated from Stanford Law School has become legendary. But Boucher, who graduated two years before O'Connor, was practicing law on her first job. Granted, the Waco firm Boucher worked for started her off as a secretary, but soon she was doing title work for one of the firm's clients, a savings and loan.

Boucher would eventually practice law in South Carolina and ended her career as in-house counsel for a company in Dallas. Today, she is president of the Dallas Area Heritage Club and chairman of the board of Silver Serenaders of Texas Inc., a senior adult choir.

So how did this young girl from Abilene end up going to law school and becoming a practicing attorney at a time when women were expected to be stay-at-home mothers?

Her husband asked her to go to law school with him.

In 1945, Boucher, a graduate of what was then called Abilene Christian College, married a young airman. After the war, the couple moved back to his home state of New Hampshire, but it didn't take long for Ernest "Butch" Boucher to realize he'd need more than a high school diploma if he wanted a successful career. Taking his GI Bill credits, and with a little help from Lou Boucher's cousin, Butch enrolled at Abilene Christian College in 1946.

At a time when many American colleges and universities were allowing GIs to enroll in law schools with just 90 undergraduate hours, Butch set his sights on a legal career and asked Boucher to join him.

"I was all for it," she said.

Boucher started writing letters to law schools all over the country and while they admitted her, Butch still lacked at least one hour of credit. Baylor University gave Butch a "military science" credit and the couple enrolled at Baylor Law School.

Boucher remembers that their male classmates treated her, (Littlejohn) Young and (Raulston) Irvin as colleagues. She credits then-Professor Margaret Amsler for the accepting attitude.

"That may have been a mitigating factor in the guys not paying too much (negative) attention to us females," Boucher said.

After graduation, Boucher worked at a Waco law firm for six months before her husband was recalled to active

duty for the Korean War. The couple had the first of their three sons and then moved to Big Spring before Butch was transferred to South Carolina.

Boucher got a job working at a law firm in South Carolina, but because she was not licensed in the state she could not practice law. Boucher eventually was persuaded to take the South Carolina bar, passed in 1956 and continued doing title work.

The Bouchers picked up stakes several more times, moving around the country and even to Japan. When she couldn't practice law, Boucher worked as a school teacher.

"I am not a housewife by nature," she said.

The couple finally settled down in Dallas and Boucher spent 23 years as part of the in-house counsel team for a bank holding company.

The Bouchers had been married for 61 years when Butch passed away in 2006. Boucher continues to serve her community in true Baylor Law spirit.

Oh, and the young man sitting next to Boucher in the PC photo is Butch.

From the Stage to the Courtroom

On April 2, James Craig (JD '07) was sworn in as the Lynn County attorney. Before Craig ever entered a courtroom – or even Baylor Law – he performed center stage as an opera singer. Rocket Docket interviewed Craig about his new job and his life in music.

Which came first, the law or singing?
Singing came first, but that is mainly due to the fact that I got a scholarship and needed help paying for my undergraduate degree. I had always been told that I could go to law school on just about any degree, so I figured I might as well get a scholarship out of it. I ended up enjoying opera so much that I decided to see if I could make it as an opera singer. Unfortunately, someone forgot to tell me that you cannot stay in Texas if you want to start an opera career, and that was not a choice for me.

What led you to Baylor Law?
Several events contributed to me going to law school at Baylor. First and foremost was the fact that I had done my undergraduate work in the Baylor Music School. I love Baylor University and all it represents, and so when

I had the opportunity to return to my school to get a law degree I jumped at the chance. I also knew that there were many attorneys out there already practicing and even more coming out of law school to start their practice. I felt like I needed to go to the best school in the state so that I might have a leg up on the competition in the legal field. It also helped that I had known several Baylor Law graduates who felt they absolutely got the best legal education from Baylor Law School. Each Baylor Law graduate that I knew said they were ready to hit the ground running once they graduated.

How do/did your theater skills help you in the courtroom/PC?
The most important skill is the ability to speak clearly and loudly. Enunciation is almost second nature to me because of my opera background. Once you have sung in Italian, German, French, Russian, Korean, and even Pig Latin, speaking English is a walk in the park. Also, being able to get in front of people to sing helped me prepare for having to get up in class and answer questions or get up in court and advocate for a client. There is a lot of pressure in performing, especially in the educational context, so performance anxiety was also something I had dealt with during my opera days and therefore I could translate those coping skills to the practice of law.

What do your colleagues make of your theatrical skills?
They definitely find it interesting. Many have asked that I go and sing for functions. Christmas time is really busy for me and my singing. From singing the Grinch to kids here in town to singing "O Holy Night" at the Women's Club in Lubbock, I stay very busy.

The singing has also helped me become very involved in the community. I have the opportunity to meet more people and therefore have more opportunities to serve in the community. I have been President of Rotary, current president of the Tahoka Area Chamber of Commerce, member of the Hospital Board (had to resign from this due to county attorney position being a conflict of interest), Lynn County Harvest Festival Committee, Tahoka Pioneer Museum Board, and RA leader for the kids at First Baptist Tahoka.

What does your new job entail?
I mainly prosecute A and B misdemeanors, but invariably there are other questions that come up in the daily grind of the courthouse that I usually have to tackle whether or not the issue is related to criminal law. It definitely creates interesting days.

Stadium View

As we look across the Brazos River from the Sheila and Walter Umphrey Law Center, we are amazed to see the impressive progress of McLane Stadium! In fact, crews are working around the clock, 24/7. Baylor fans will enjoy the first home game at the new stadium (Baylor vs. SMU) on Sunday, Aug. 31. With the new stadium comes

The Baylor Club at McLane Stadium, a premier dining and social/business venue. In 2014, The Baylor Club was formed by leaders of Baylor University and the Waco community. Baylor Law School Dean Brad Toben serves on the Board of Governors of The Baylor Club.

From The Baylor Club's floor-to-ceiling windows, members and their guests enjoy panoramic views of McLane Stadium and downtown Waco over the Brazos River. Amenities include:

- Welcoming lobby lounge.
- Anytime Bar and Grill where members can dine and enjoy relaxed business and social gatherings.
- Outdoor patio overlooking the football field.
- Upscale formal dining room -- a sophisticated setting for upscale dinners and celebrations.
- Technology-equipped Touchdown Rooms for private calls, interviews or meetings with clients.
- Versatile private dining and meeting rooms.
- Ballroom – perfect for celebrating elegant weddings, corporate and social events for up to 750 guests seated and 1,500 standing.

The Baylor Club offers several membership options depending on where you live, and each has varying levels of benefit privileges, including benefits in your home community. Details on these membership options can be found on The Baylor Club website at www.thebaylorclub.com. For further questions about The Baylor Club, please contact Gretchen McCormack or Ryan Hulme, membership directors for the club, at 254-710-8073 or 254-710-8072, respectively.

News & Notes

Fall On-Campus Interviews
Fall On-Campus Interviews are coming up soon! If you have a need for a Baylor Law student or recent graduate, please make plans to attend a session of Fall OCI. Session I (typically large and mid-size employers) takes place Aug. 18-22, while Session II (typically mid-size, small, government and public interest employers) is Oct. 6-10. The program is free to attend and you can register by emailing Monica Wright at Monica_Wright@baylor.edu or calling 254-710-1210. Hire Baylor Law!

Upcoming Alumni Networking Events

Baylor Law Alumni Reception Held In Conjunction With The State Bar Of Texas Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 26, 2014
5:30-7 p.m.

Hilton Austin Hotel
500 E. Fourth Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Dallas Baylor Lawyer Network Reception
Thursday, July 17, 2014
6-7:30 p.m.
PayneMitchell Law Group
2511 Turtle Creek Blvd.
Suite 1400
Dallas, Texas 75219

Houston Baylor Lawyer Network Reception
Thursday, Aug. 14, 2014
6-7:30 p.m.
KoonsFuller
109 N. Post Oak Lane
Suite 425
Houston, Texas 77024

Professor David Guinn's Annual Skeet Shoot
Saturday, Aug. 30, 2014
4-7:30 p.m.
Waco Skeet & Trap Club
7209 Karl May Drive
Waco, Texas 76708

Austin Baylor Lawyer Network Reception With Dean Brad Toben
Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014
5:30-7 p.m.
Scott, Douglass, & McConnico, LLP
600 Congress St.
Suite 1500
Austin, TX 78701

Baylor Law Alumni Weekend
Friday & Saturday, Oct. 10 & 11, 2014

**RSVP and online credit card payment must be received by Monday, Oct. 6, 2014. Refunds will not be given.

Dallas Baylor Lawyer Network Reception
Thursday, Oct. 16, 2014
6-7:30 p.m.
K&L Gates
1717 Main St.
Suite 2800
Dallas, TX 75201

Baylor Homecoming And Baylor Law School Alumni Breakfast
Saturday, Nov. 1, 2014
Breakfast and Baylor vs. Kansas Football
Game Time TBA

Austin Baylor Lawyer Network Reception
Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014
5:30-7 p.m.
Jackson Walker, LLP
100 Congress St.
Suite 1100
Austin, TX 78701

Alumni Notes

1970s
Lyn Fenwick (JD '75) was the graduation speaker at Macksville High School in Macksville, Kansas. She is the author of *Should the Children Pray? A Historical, Judicial and Political Examination of Public School Prayer*.

1980s
Tresi Moore Weeks (JD '87) has joined the Disability Rights Texas (DRTx) board of directors. She also is chairperson of the DRTx Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Advisory Council. She has served on the PAIMI Council for four years. Weeks is an attorney and founder of the Weeks Law Firm, PLLC in Plano, where she assists clients with estate planning, special needs planning, probate, and guardianship.

2000s
Matthew Matheny (JD '03) has been named to the National Trial Lawyers: Top 40 Under 40. Membership into The National Trial Lawyers: Top 40 under 40 is by invitation only and is extended exclusively to those trial lawyers practicing civil plaintiff and/or criminal defense law. Invitees must exemplify superior qualifications, trial results, and leadership as a young lawyer under the age of 40. Selection is based on a thorough multi-phase process, which includes peer nominations combined with third-party research. Matheny, a non-equity partner at Provost Umphrey, is board certified in personal injury trial law. Matheny primarily handles personal injury cases, and he currently serves as primary counsel in the NFL concussion litigation on behalf of the firm.

2010s
Seth E. Burt (JD '14) has joined the firm of Kelly Hart & Hallman as an associate in the energy/oil & gas practice group. He was senior technical editor of the *Baylor Law Review*.

The following Baylor Lawyer has been selected for inclusion in Texas Super Lawyers 2014 by Thomson Reuters:

- Ryan L. Thompson (JD '04), Watts | Guerra LLP

The following Baylor Lawyer has been selected for inclusion in the 2014 Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business guide:

- Ken Stohner (JD '75), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Texas), Jackson Walker L.L.P.

If you have been recognized on a Best Lawyers list or have any professional news to share, please email Janet_Perez@baylor.edu for inclusion in the next issue of Rocket Docket.

<u>In Memoriam</u>

Dean Arrington (JD '59), 79, of Austin, passed away on May 9, 2014, after a long battle with diabetes. He was born in Athens, Texas on Nov. 6, 1934 to Henry Aubrey and Mary Kate Arrington. He graduated from Marshall High School in 1953. He was elected president of the senior class and enjoyed participating in sports with the Marshall Mavericks. Arrington attended East Texas Baptist College in Marshall and graduated from Baylor Law School in 1959. While at Baylor Law, he served as chairman of the Grievance Committee and was a member of the Delta Theta Phi Legal Fraternity. Arrington was admitted to the Texas Bar and to practice before the Supreme Court of Texas in 1959. He also was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court in 1973. Arrington met and married his wife, Cynthia, in Pittsburg, Texas where he practiced civil law. He was elected county attorney of Camp County in 1960. He and Cynthia, along with their two young sons, Jeff and Jim,

moved to Austin in 1964. Their family was complete with the birth of Jud in 1968. Arrington served the people of the state of Texas as an assistant attorney general from 1964 until his retirement in 1994. He served in that capacity under the administrations of six attorneys general. Arrington completed his legal career working with the Texas Department of Transportation. The Texas Rangers had a devoted fan in Arrington. He loved the game of baseball, having had the opportunity to coach Little League, and then watch his sons and grandsons play the game. He also was entertained by dance recitals, always bringing bouquets to the granddaughters. Arrington was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Laverne Gelling. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia; sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Paige, and their children, Justin, Jason, and Abby; Jim and Vicki, and their children, Drew, Tyler, and Jett; Jud and Kristen, and their children, Anna, Jackson, and Judson. He also is survived by a sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Glynda and Ingo Olejak, and a number of nieces and nephews.