

*A Celebration of*  
NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FIRST 100 WOMEN LAWYERS



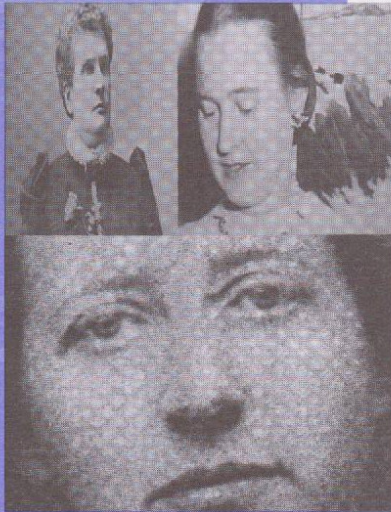
NEW HAMPSHIRE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

# A Celebration of

## NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FIRST 100 WOMEN LAWYERS

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### Dedication

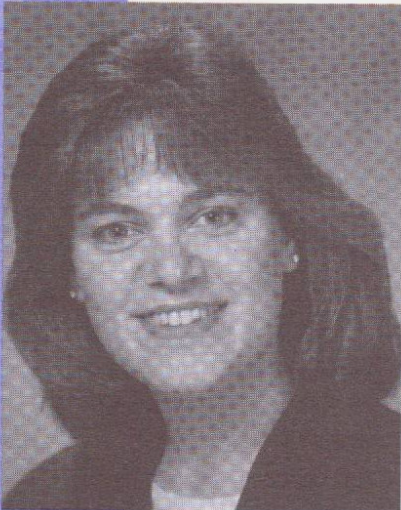
**T**his commemorative booklet is dedicated to Marilla M. Ricker, who opened the door to the courthouse for women in New Hampshire and to each one of the women we honor tonight. We salute your bravery, perseverance and dedication. For all those who have followed you into this honorable profession, thank you.

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# A Celebration of

## NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FIRST 100 WOMEN LAWYERS

### Introduction



Over a year ago, the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association determined to identify the first 100 women admitted to practice law in New Hampshire. Our purpose was simple – to celebrate the women who led the way for today's women lawyers. What we learned during this project is that women's history in the legal profession is very recent. It is hard to believe that the 100th woman was admitted to practice just twenty-five years ago.

Marilla M. Ricker would be proud of the advancement women have made in the profession since she opened the door in 1890. It is difficult to imagine the barriers and antiquated stereotypes facing women in the early-to-mid 1900s. We discovered in our research that not until the late 1970s did women begin entering into the practice of law in large numbers. Women now make up about 31% of the members of the New Hampshire Bar. While there have been staggering changes for women in the practice and substantial progress toward equal opportunity, gender equality issues persist. As the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession study recently concluded, the agenda remains unfinished. Therefore, we must not be complacent.

In order to establish our goals for the future, we must appreciate our past. This event is just the beginning. We invite you to explore this commemorative booklet and examine the lives and careers of each of these remarkable women. Read their comments about the practice of law. Share their stories with others. We hope you will find their biographies as fascinating as we have found them.

This has been a rewarding project for us. We are indebted to the many women on the First 100 Women Committee who labored tirelessly to make this event a reality. We also thank all those who allowed us access to their archives and submitted personal stories about these women for our research.

We celebrate the women who led the way for today's women lawyers.

*Jennifer L. Parent and Joni N. Esperian,  
Co-Chairs of the First 100 Women Committee*



# A Celebration of NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FIRST 100 WOMEN LAWYERS

## History of the First 100 Women Project

### A. Introduction

Looking back into history is a way of enhancing our understanding of who we are and where we have come from. Collectively, as women lawyers, our entry into and acceptance within the legal profession has been a fight. Yet, principles of equality and fairness, the foundation of our system of law, eventually prevailed, and the barriers began to give way.

What motivated the women whose names appear on this list to defy social, cultural and familial expectations of their gender? What painful quips and indignities did they keep to themselves, resolving to work even harder to prove the disbelievers wrong?

Statements like that made by the famous attorney, Clarence Darrow, to a group of women attorneys in Chicago in 1895 reflect the prevailing view of women lawyers at that time:

**You can't be shining lights at the bar because you are too kind. You can never be corporation lawyers because you are not cold-blooded. You have not a high grade of intellect. You can never expect to get the fees men get. I doubt if you [can] ever make a living. Of course you can be divorce lawyers. That is a useful field. And there is another field you can have solely for your own. You can't make a living at it, but it's worthwhile and you'll have no competition. That is the free defense of criminals.**

Darrow was mistaken of course. Women attorneys are shining lights within the profession because they recognize when kindness will accomplish more than cold-bloodedness. Women attorneys expect to get the fees men get, but wide differences in earnings between male and female attorneys unfortunately persist. The women on this list have shown they can succeed at the highest levels of government, bench and bar. They serve as presidents of large law firms and bar associations. Their skills and intellectual abilities are recognized by being published, receiving awards and being included among the ranks of the best trial lawyers in the country. This project both documents and celebrates the achievements of these successful women.

The right of women to apply for admission to the bar of the State of New Hampshire was won by Marilla Marks Ricker, of Dover, New Hampshire, an attorney already admitted to practice in Washington, D.C. It was her Ricker's Petition, 66 N.H. 207 (1890), which allowed women, previously denied, to seek license to practice law in New Hampshire. If only we could ask Attorney Ricker why she never sought admission here herself.

The first woman admitted to practice law in New Hampshire was 8 years old when the Ricker decision came down. Classmates of New Hampshire native Agnes Winifred (Winnie) McLaughlin predicted she would become a lawyer. She did indeed, on June 30, 1917. It took 60 years before there were 100 women admitted to practice law in this state. The 100th woman, Nancy O. Dodge, was admitted on November 1, 1977.

What was it like to be the first woman to argue a case before the New Hampshire Supreme Court, looking at an all male bench, with the portraits of past male members of the court looking down? Brave and determined these women were indeed.

What joy and pride did these women pioneers and their friends and family feel about their determination and resulting accomplishments? What were the personal and professional sacrifices they made as they tried to satisfy the demands of their personal lives, family obligations and also clients, deadlines, judges, opponents and partners?

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As the biographies on the pages that follow indicate, the first 100 women took diverse paths in their careers, with some attending law school right out of college, and others, later in life. Some never attended law school at all. Harriet Mansfield, for example, started as a secretary at the McLane firm. Her aptitude was recognized and she was encouraged to take the bar examination, which she passed. She eventually became a partner in the firm. There were many men who served as mentors to these women, encouraging them and supporting them in their careers.

Many women attended area law schools, including Portia Law School, the only law school in the nation founded exclusively for the education of women. The wife of the attorney who founded the school named it Portia after the heroine in Shakespeare's, *The Merchant of Venice*. The school is now known as New England School of Law. There are many graduates of Boston University School of Law, Boston College, the University of Maine School of Law, Northeastern, Suffolk Law and Franklin Pierce Law Center (Pierce Law). Still others attended schools in California, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Washington, D.C., Washington state and elsewhere.

Leila Lister Maynard, (#25) is the senior-most living member on our list. Her daughter, Martha Jacques, was admitted to practice in New Hampshire last year. Mother and daughter both attended Suffolk Law School. Ms. Maynard was valedictorian of her class. Attorney Maynard will share some remembrances with us this evening, as will Associate Justice, Superior Court (ret.), Margaret Quill Flynn (#28).

Catharine Sage (#31) inspired so many Cheshire county women attorneys that a group gathers every May to celebrate her birthday and to remember her.

### **B. Acknowledgements, Methods and Sources**

Kay Sternenberg planted the seed for this project after attending Vermont's celebration of its pioneer women attorneys. Those of us who are history buffs decided we wanted to take it on. The Committee formed included Kay Sternenberg, Jennifer Parent, Maureen Raiche Manning, and Joni Esperian as Chair. Bobbie Hantz recommended Kristin Thompson join the committee, as she was working at the Supreme Court at the time as a clerk to Senior Associate Justice (ret.) Sherman D. Horton, Jr., and later to Associate Justice James E. Duggan. Elizabeth Hodges, now Deputy General Counsel to the Supreme Court also joined the committee and presented the Supreme Court with our plans, receiving in response enthusiastic support and endorsement for the project. We thank former Clerk of the Supreme Court, now General Counsel to the Court, Howard Zibel, for agreeing to let us search the court's docket and its records of applications for admissions.

We thank the Supreme Court as a whole for their endorsement of our efforts in preserving this important part of New Hampshire's legal history. In particular, we thank Associate Justice Linda Stewart Dalianis (#50) who narrated the video documentary, and who will speak at tonight's dinner. We also thank Deputy Clerk Carol Belmain, and Confidential Clerk Debbie Bills of the Supreme Court who assisted us in searching the State Archive materials, and the court's records. For those of us who were able to gently handle the court's leather bound docket dating back to the mid-1800s, to see the carefully written names and dates in fountain pen made in beautiful cursive strokes, history came alive. At one time, all that was needed was that single book to record the names and dates of admission of all New Hampshire attorneys.

The architect of this project was Kristin Thompson. Her early inquiries revealed that, while the New Hampshire Bar Association identifies the gender of its members, it does not maintain

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comprehensive records of admittees to the Bar prior to the unification of the Bar in 1968. On the other hand, the Supreme Court records from 1878 to 1977 enter the names of all attorneys admitted to practice in a separate administrative docket number on the day they were admitted. The admittees were listed with all other cases which came before the court on any given date. Unfortunately, these dockets, and indeed the records of the Court in general, do not indicate gender, so we were left with searching the court's records for "female-sounding" names.

We anticipated that locating the first woman would be easy, as we knew that Marilla Ricker had successfully argued for women to be admitted to the bar in 1890, so Kristin started looking for her name among the Supreme Court docket summaries, starting on that year. Three hours later, in the 1917 records, Kristin discovered the first female-sounding name, which was decidedly not Marilla Ricker, but rather Agnes Winifred McLaughlin. Subsequent research confirmed that Ms. McLaughlin was indeed the first woman admitted to practice in New Hampshire. We will leave it to later research to inquire as to the path Ms. Ricker actually took.

Thereafter, Kristin spent days pouring over the court's docket from the early 1900s forward, and, with the help of a second reader, Joni Esperian, compiled two preliminary lists: those names sounding so likely female that they resided on the "Presumed Women" list, and those we could not categorically rule out as belonging to men, which resided on the "Unknown Gender" list. Some of those questionable names included: Valmore M. Carignan, Leigh I. Harvey, Ovel Lee Gregory, Ansis Maris Helmanis, Leslie Mark Apple, and Verdi McKay. Interestingly enough, some of the names we originally included on the "Presumed Female" list were later found to be male. A couple of these were: Ora Craig and Ovila Gregoire. Such are the vagaries of naming conventions through the decades!

Once the preliminary lists were compiled we set about to confirm the gender of everyone on either list. A number of people on the lists were known by members of the committee. In addition, each committee member made a point of running the lists by senior members of the Bar who were able to help us confirm and rule out many of the names on the lists. Next, the committee members fanned out to District and Superior courts across the state to review photographs hanging in the halls capturing local and statewide bar meetings, to see if gender could be verified. We checked the Bar Foundation's photographs, photographs in Bar Association and Trial Lawyers Directories through the years, photographs appearing in the Proceedings of the Bar, the precursor to the New Hampshire Bar Journal, and the older photographs located in the basement of the Bar Association building and the attic of the Supreme Court. Thank you to Angela Sepela at the New Hampshire Bar Foundation for tracking down photographs, videotapes and transcripts to assist in the production of the video for this event.

Kristin, assisted by Debbie Bills, poured over the Supreme Court card file containing general information about all members of the bar, active and inactive, retired and deceased, to glean non-photographic information that would help identify the gender of those on the two lists. From those files, we were able to confirm some women (and rule out some men) based on their attendance at single-sex colleges or preparatory schools, the use of a "Jr." after their names, or changes in names attributable to marriage.

Although a change from a maiden to a married name was often a helpful confirmation that a person on the list was female, sometimes the use of maiden versus married names added an element of confusion. For example, it was not initially clear that Marguerita M. Broderick and Marguerita M. Hurley (#13) were the same person. For that, and as a general cross-check, we went to the Bar Association. Kay Sternenberg spent hours combing the Bar Association's records

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from which we could rule out some names as belonging to men.

One such maiden versus married name was solved with the assistance of Manchester Attorney W. Jean Laflamme. Margaret Sheehan applied for admission to the bar. Margaret Blodgett showed up in the 1977 Bar Directory. Were they one and the same? Since her address was listed as 440 Coolidge Avenue, and Attorney Laflamme's law office is located at 212 Coolidge Avenue, Joni Esperian asked him if he knew anything about a Margaret Sheehan Blodgett (#3). Attorney Laflamme happened to have the Manchester Phone Directories dating back to 1926. There we were able to verify that Margaret Sheehan and Margaret Blodgett were the same person. It pays to hold on to things sometimes.

Thanks to the able assistance of Anna O'Neill, we were able to verify name changes and answer other questions. Anna is the only staff member at the bar who knows how to computer access the older word processing and database programs the Bar Association used when it was first computerized. Anna was a good source of information and directed us to others who could answer more of our questions. Thanks to her, to Dan Wise for providing us with photographs for the booklet and video, and to Lisa Sanford for writing a Bar News article about the project. That publication resulted in phone calls from those who had further information to offer about women on the list who are now deceased.

As the lists were being confirmed, Kristin and Carol Belmain began to unearth the original petitions for admission associated with each name on the lists. Some of these were found in storage in the basement of the Supreme Court, but the bulk had been transferred to the State Archives, where we received valuable assistance from Director and State Archivist Frank C. Mevers and Records Clerk Douglas R. Gourley over a number of days while Kristin and Carol dug through masses of records. Through that process, we were able to confirm or rule out nearly all of the names on the list based either on letters of recommendation referring to the petitioner's gender or notations on the petition itself on which the petitioner struck out the pre-printed "he" or "him" and substituted "she" or "her." In the end, we were left with three or four names for which we could not obtain objective confirmation of gender, and simply concluded based on the names themselves that they belonged to women.

Kristin started a file for each woman on the list, placing any information the committee uncovered in that woman's file. She searched the Proceedings of the Bar for articles featuring women on the list. She also searched the Supreme Court's records for case citations attributable to those on the list. She and those assisting her at the Supreme Court made copies of any information located on each woman. As members of the committee researched the names further, producing additional information, documents were copied into individual files. We have preserved these materials with the ultimate goal of having the archives available to the public for research purposes, locating them perhaps in the Bar Association's future new home.

Having confirmed the women on the list, we next had to confirm who was deceased. After that information was determined, we researched current addresses for the remaining women, many of whom had moved, retired, or otherwise had inactivated their memberships and sent them letters congratulating them, and asking them for information about their careers. We also asked them about their personal observations and insights. You will see their responses reflected in some of the bios.

Kay Sternenberg's office served as "command central" and we are grateful to her and to her staff, as she is a sole practitioner, and this project added a volume of mail, phone calls and chaos to her

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office. Lucy Hodder, President of the Women's lobby, loaned us Theresa Gerrior, a student at the University of New Hampshire, who served as our intern. Theresa created databases, fielded phone calls, issued press releases, collected the biographical information that came in, and, with Kay Sternenberg's guidance, kept the project on schedule.

Once the biographical information was in (or wasn't in some cases) the list was divided into thirds headed by Elizabeth Hodges, Joni Esperian and Kristin Thompson. Those responsible for researching and writing the biographical information include Theresa Gerrior, Martha Jacques, Kay Sternenberg, Joceline Champagne, Elizabeth Hodges, Joni Esperian, Kimberly Memmesheimer, Christine Fillmore, Kristin Thompson, Carole Mansur and Christine Windler. The bios were then edited by Elizabeth Hodges, Joni Esperian and Kristin Thompson. Final edits for consistency and accuracy were shouldered by Kristin Thompson and Joni Esperian.

Heather Krans is credited with shepherding the logistics of graphics, photographs and printing.

This project began over a year ago. Many hours before work, during lunch, at night and at least five Saturdays of meetings brought this research effort together. To the spouses, family and friends who gave us up while we worked on this project, who threatened to unplug our computers, thank you for understanding. Thank goodness for email. Other states who have done similar research projects have listed 80+ committee members. The work of this project was undertaken by approximately 20 committee members. Thank you to all those volunteers. We thank our individual and corporate sponsors for their contributions to this event. We especially thank the New Hampshire Bar Foundation for underwriting the cost of the videotape. This event could not have happened without your support.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this commemorative booklet, we apologize for any omissions or inaccuracies and request you to bring those to the attention of the Chair or any other committee member.

It is our sincere hope that you enjoy reading the biographies that follow. They are rich in details, observations, reflections and inspiration. We intend for the research into these women's lives to continue, and urge anyone with information about the honorees to tell the committee members what they know, or who they think may know more.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating the achievements of 100 special women.

Joni N. Esperian, with assistance from  
Kristin D. Thompson

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FIRST 100 WOMEN LAWYERS

1.	Agnes Winifred McLaughlin	June 30, 1917
2.	Jennie Blanche Newhall	June 30, 1920
3.	Margaret Sheehan Blodgett	July 16, 1926
4.	Helen George	July 15, 1927
5.	Sara T. Knox	July 24, 1928
6.	Esther Gottesfeld Lublin	October 2, 1928
7.	Miriam G. Rosenblum	December 4, 1928
8.	Pauline Swain Merrill	July 31, 1929
9.	Harriet E. Mansfield	July 10, 1930
10.	Paula Ladday	April 5, 1932
11.	Florence T. Cavanaugh	July 20, 1932
12.	Nina N. Frankman	July 13, 1933
13.	Marguerita M. Hurley	November 7, 1933
14.	Evelyn C. Earley	July 16, 1935
15.	Emily Marx	April 7, 1936
16.	Beatrice F. Little	July 14, 1936
17.	Beryle M. Aldrich	July 13, 1937
18.	Mary Alice Fountain	July 13, 1937
19.	Celia D. R. Novins	October 5, 1937
20.	Evangeline V. Tallman	July 7, 1938
21.	Doris Louise Bennett	July 7, 1938
22.	Mary E. Perkins	July 11, 1939
23.	Pauline B. Barnard	July 11, 1939
24.	Mabelle Fellows Murphy	October 3, 1939
25.	Leila L. Maynard	June 26, 1944
26.	Ida V. C. Milligan	April 5, 1949
27.	Ruth I. Moses	April 5, 1949
28.	Margaret Quill Flynn	June 3, 1952
29.	Lucille Kozlowski	September 3, 1958
30.	Irma A. Matthews	October 7, 1958
31.	Catharine B. Sage	October 7, 1958
32.	Anne M. Howorth	August 18, 1960
33.	Rachel Hallett Johnson	August 18, 1960
34.	Caroline R. Grey	September 4, 1963
35.	Constance M. Mehegan	August 27, 1964
36.	Winnifred M. Moran	August 27, 1964
37.	Constance J. Betley	August 27, 1965
38.	Helen White	August 25, 1966
39.	Judith Dunlop Ransmeier	September 12, 1969
40.	Mary Susan Stein Leahy	September 18, 1970
41.	Laura Jane Kahn	ltd practice: September 6, 1972 admitted: April 2, 1974
42.	Martha Margaret Davis	October 27, 1972
43.	Eleanor S. Krasnow	October 27, 1972
44.	Susan B. Monson	October 27, 1972
45.	Julia N. Nelson	September 5, 1973
46.	Dorothy R. Sullivan	October 2, 1973
47.	Jean K. Burling	November 2, 1973
48.	Donna W. Economou	November 2, 1973
49.	Alexander T. Breed	October 31, 1974
50.	Linda Stewart Dalianis	October 31, 1974

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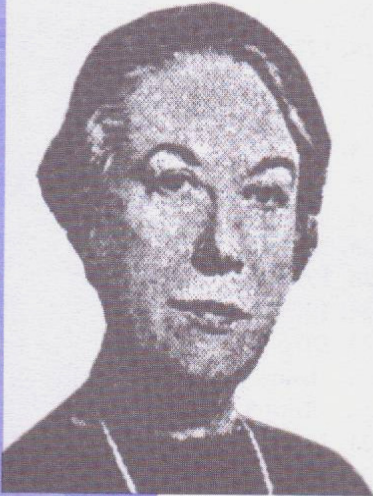
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51.	Claudia Cords Damon	October 31, 1974
52.	Georgia C. Griffin	October 31, 1974
53.	Barbara Sard	October 31, 1974
54.	Bruce Earman Viles	October 31, 1974
55.	Joyce Ann Wilder	October 31, 1974
56.	Joan L. Carroll	June 3, 1975
57.	Anne Swift Almy	October 24, 1975
58.	Sharon Ann Coughlin	October 24, 1975
59.	Anne M. Goggin	October 24, 1975
60.	J. Campbell Harvey	October 24, 1975
61.	Judith Miller Kasper	October 24, 1975
62.	Patricia McKee	October 24, 1975
63.	Ellen J. Musinsky	October 24, 1975
64.	Brenda T. Piampiano	October 24, 1975
65.	Janina Stodolski	October 24, 1975
66.	Elizabeth B. Sullivan	October 24, 1975
67.	Priscilla B. Fox	ltd. practice: January 6, 1976
68.	Micki B. Stiller	ltd. practice: April 5, 1976
69.	Mae C. Bradshaw	October 21, 1976
70.	Anne Cagwin Hagstrom	October 21, 1976
71.	Deborah J. Cooper	October 21, 1976
72.	Lynne M. Dennis	October 21, 1976
73.	Nancy E. Ebb	October 21, 1976
74.	Abigail Elias	October 21, 1976
75.	Alice S. Love	October 21, 1976
76.	Stephanie T. Nute	October 21, 1976
77.	Elaine R. Warshell	October 21, 1976
78.	Catherine Ravinski	April 5, 1977
79.	Carolyn W. Baldwin	October 28, 1977
80.	Dorothy Bickford-Desmond	October 28, 1977
81.	Charlotte Crane	October 28, 1977
82.	Pamela D. Kelly	October 28, 1977
83.	Janine Gawryl	October 28, 1977
84.	Cathy J. Green	October 28, 1977
85.	Jody D. Handy	October 28, 1977
86.	Dona L. Heller	October 28, 1977
87.	Carolyn H. Henneman	October 28, 1977
88.	Constance G. Jackson	October 28, 1977
89.	Barbara R. Keshen	October 28, 1977
90.	Karin Kramer	October 28, 1977
91.	Jane R. Lawrence	October 28, 1977
92.	Ellen L. Arnold	October 28, 1977
93.	Lizbeth Lyons	October 28, 1977
94.	Elizabeth Marean Mueller	October 28, 1977
95.	Marilyn Billings McNamara	October 28, 1977
96.	Margaret B. Morin	October 28, 1977
97.	Nancy V. Sisemoore	October 28, 1977
98.	Susan Vercillo Duprey	October 28, 1977
99.	Lanea A. Witkus	October 28, 1977
100.	Nancy O. Dodge	November 1, 1977

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### 1. Agnes Winifred McLaughlin



Agnes Winifred (Winnie) McLaughlin was born in Northumberland, New Hampshire on April 15, 1882. She was raised in Lancaster, New Hampshire. A graduate of Lancaster Academy in 1901, she distinguished herself in debate and public speaking, prompting her classmates to predict that she would become a lawyer.

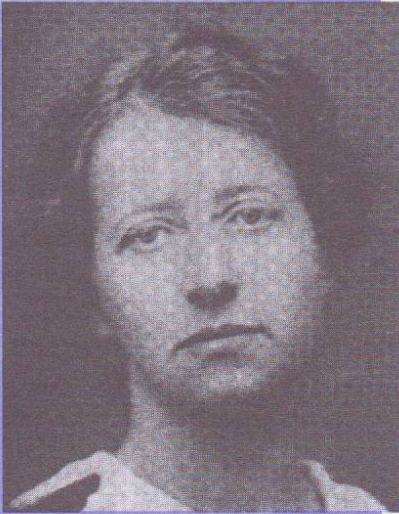
After graduation, Attorney McLaughlin attended Burdette Business College in Boston for secretarial training, after which she was employed by Attorney Fred C. Cleveland in Coos County. During this time, she also took depositions in French and English for Attorney George F. Morris, who recommended her as official court stenographer for the Berlin Municipal Court. After several years with the court, she became secretary to Jesse F. Libby, a prominent trial lawyer, and through him made connections with nearly all bar members in northern New Hampshire.

Attorney McLaughlin's petition to the New Hampshire Supreme Court "that she may be allowed to take an examination with a view to [bar] admission" states that she began the study of law with O. J. Coulombe in Berlin on December 28, 1911, and continued until August 5, 1916. Thereafter, she studied with M. J. Ryan from August 7, 1916 to April 7, 1917, and at the University of Maine Law School from April 9, 1917 to June 9, 1917. On June 30, 1917, she became the first woman admitted to practice law in New Hampshire.

On a business trip to New York during World War I, Attorney McLaughlin was offered a position at the law firm of Frank Laughran on Broadway in New York City. Soon afterward she accepted a position at the Equitable Life Insurance Society in a newly formed estate planning division, where she remained for 25 years until her retirement. Upon retirement, she returned to New Hampshire, first to a family farm in Shelburne, and, then, to Gorham, where she resided until her death on October 29, 1964.

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## 2. Jennie Blanche Newhall



Born on June 8, 1874, in Concord, New Hampshire, J. Blanche Newhall graduated from Concord High School. Her first job was as a clerk at a large law office in her hometown, where she resided throughout her life, with the exception of a brief stint of war work in Washington, D.C., during World War I. Attorney Newhall's legal preparation consisted of correspondence courses at Hamilton Law College and study under New Hampshire attorneys, culminating with study while she worked as a secretary to the New Hampshire Attorney General.

She petitioned for admission to the bar on December 2, 1919. Among the correspondence associated with her petition is a letter to the Honorable Robert J. Peaslee on December 5, 1919, to which she attached her amended petition, including her full first name rather than merely her first initial (Attorney Newhall went by J. Blanche). Apologizing, Miss Newhall wrote, "I am sorry that you were bothered to send it to me—the more so as I am very doubtful that my name will ever appear on the roll of attorneys."

In 1920, she successfully passed the bar exam and was admitted to practice on June 30 of that year. Attorney Newhall continued to work in the New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General and was promoted from secretary to law clerk. She served as the first woman law clerk in the attorney general's office for more than 25 years, during which she argued many cases before the New Hampshire Supreme Court. Her position there earned her the reputation as an expert in New Hampshire corporation law.

Attorney Newhall was an active member in the National Association of Women Lawyers and served as vice president of that organization. She was also a charter member of the Concord Business and Professional Women's Club. Perhaps one of her most notable contributions to the status of women in New Hampshire was her crusade to enable women to hold public office. In 1927, she applied to the governor and executive council to become a justice of the peace. The matter was then referred to the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

The supreme court ruled that there was no constitutional bar to appointing a woman to this office, but that legislation must first be passed to allow it. Attorney Newhall drafted the appropriate legislation and lobbied heavily for its passage. The act was passed in 1929. The governor and executive council appointed Attorney Newhall to be the first woman justice of the peace in February 1929. Attorney Newhall revised the 1888 edition of *Justice and Sheriff*, an important text in court procedure. Her edition was published in 1931.

She described her devotion to New Hampshire and others best when she stated, "I studied law to be of help to others more than to secure material gain to myself." This attitude was reflected in her personal life and her involvement with the Hathaway Outing Club, the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America, and the Unitarian Church of Concord.

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### *3. Margaret Sheehan Blodgett*

**M**argaret Sheehan Blodgett was born on October 13, 1897, in Manchester, New Hampshire and graduated from Mount St. Mary School in Hooksett, New Hampshire. She received her B.A. from Trinity College in Washington, D.C., in 1919. She attended evening courses at Portia Law School in Boston for four years and graduated in 1925. Attorney Blodgett was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on July 16, 1926. She specialized in corporate law and was also an insurance agent.

Attorney Blodgett was the first passenger to fly cross-country from Boston to California, as the winner of a Lydia Pinkham Award for the best essay explaining why she wanted to go to California. The flight was originally scheduled to last just five days, but delays and 11 forced landings extended her journey to 23 days.

Attorney Blodgett was active in the Manchester community, and in 1986 the New Hampshire Commission on the Status of Women honored her as one of New Hampshire's "unsung heroines." Attorney Blodgett was deceased in Centerville, Massachusetts in June 1987. She was the widow of Col. Robert F. Blodgett, and she is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

### *4. Helen George*

**H**elen George was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts on April 17, 1887, and graduated from Nashua High School in 1903. She was a graduate of the Nashua Business College and of Portia Law School in Boston. While studying at the law school in the evening, Attorney George was stenographer and secretary to Attorney Alvin J. Lucier in Nashua from 1920 to 1925. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 15, 1927, and was reportedly the first woman in Nashua to maintain a law office.

Attorney George was a past president of the Nashua Business and Professional Women's Club and a member of the Nashua Historical Society, the League of Women Voters, the Nashua and New Hampshire Bar Associations, and the Nashua Centennial Committee. She was also a member of the Daughters of the Good Shepherd, the Altar Guild, and the Episcopalian Church Women. She died in Nashua at the age of 84.

### *5. Sarah T. Knox*

**S**arah T. Knox was born in Manchester, New Hampshire on May 28, 1888. She graduated from Manchester High School in 1906 and from the Abbot Academy in Andover, Massachusetts in 1909. Attorney Knox completed the law course at LaSalle Extension University in 1926. Her petition for admission reflects that her legal education was "supplemented by reading in the office of John R. McLane" and "six months of study with Samuel J. Dearborn." During this period of study, she was employed at the New Hampshire Children's Aid and Protective Society. Attorney Knox was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 24, 1928.

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## 6. Esther Gottesfeld Lublin

Born in Austria on March 14, 1893, Esther Gottesfeld Lublin studied at the Brooklyn Law School, St. Lawrence University, in New York from 1916 to 1919 and was admitted to the New York bar in 1921. She practiced law in New York for six-and-a-half years before petitioning the New Hampshire Supreme Court for admittance. Attorney Lublin became a resident of Manchester and was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 2, 1928.

## 7. Miriam G. Rosenblum

Born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, Miriam G. Rosenblum graduated from Boston University Law School. Upon graduation, Attorney Rosenblum relocated to Manchester, where she resided for more than fifty years. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on December 4, 1928.

She married Attorney J. Morton Rosenblum and, after her husband's death in 1962, took over his law practice. Attorney Rosenblum was a member of Temple Adath Yeshurun and was a president of Hadassah. She was deceased on May 22, 1982.

## 8. Pauline Swain Merrill

Born in Boston, Massachusetts on May 8, 1904, Pauline Swain Merrill graduated as valedictorian from the New Hampton Literary Institution in 1921. She was encouraged to become a lawyer by her father, Attorney Clarence G. Swain, and earned her LL.B., cum laude, from Northeastern University Law School in 1928. She was admitted to practice law in Massachusetts in 1928 and in New Hampshire on July 31, 1929.

Attorney Merrill practiced primarily with her father at Swain and Swain, both in Boston and in Bristol, New Hampshire. She married Bernard E. Merrill in 1932. After her father's death, she opened her own law office. She took a hiatus to raise her children, but returned to practice in 1958, when she re-opened her law office, specializing in real estate and probate law. She continued to practice until she retired in 1992 at the age of 88. Even in retirement, Attorney Merrill continued to provide minor legal services to friends in need.

Attorney Ruth Gulick, who was mentored by Attorney Merrill, commented on her working in a male-dominated field, "She said she never had a problem being female in a male-dominated profession. . . . She didn't expect problems, so there weren't any. She expected [male attorneys] would be decent and treat her well, so they did."

Attorney Merrill was a life member of the Audubon Society, and a member of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, the Science Center of New Hampshire, the New Hampton Garden Club, and the New Hampshire Historical Society. She made three cross-country trips with her son, visiting all 48 contiguous states. She died on March 30, 2001, at the age of 96.



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## 9. Harriet E. Mansfield



Harriet E. Mansfield was born in East Farnham, Quebec, Canada on August 12, 1899, and was naturalized in Manchester in 1923. She attended Wilson Grammar School and Manchester High School. She began the study of law with Attorney John R. McLane on November 1, 1925, and was employed with the Manchester office of McLane and Davis when she applied for admission to the New Hampshire bar. On July 10, 1930, she was admitted to practice and was made an associate in the firm. A recognized expert in probate law, Attorney Mansfield worked 56 years as an attorney.

Attorney Mansfield instituted her own scaled billing policy long before organized free legal assistance, committing herself to her clients regardless of their ability to pay. She was also asked to read over and check references for Judge William Treat's three-volume Treat on Probate. When interviewed on what made a good lawyer, she responded that attorneys are successful if, "they're interested in what they're doing and stick to doing it. You can't just be casual about taking care of your clients." In 1986, the Manchester Bar Association named her the Lawyer of the Year for her "outstanding service to the bar and the community."

Attorney Mansfield passed away on December 3, 1986, at the age of 87.

## 10. Paula Ladday

Paula Ladday was born on May 1, 1879, in Manheim, Germany. She attended high school and college in New York and graduated from New Jersey Law School. She was admitted to practice law in New Jersey in 1913. After practicing law in New Jersey for 18 years, she became a resident of Alton, New Hampshire. Attorney Ladday was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on April 5, 1932.

## 11. Florence T. Cavanaugh



Born in Hudson, Massachusetts on July 27, 1891, Florence T. Cavanaugh was raised in Manchester, New Hampshire, where she graduated from Manchester High School in 1908. She attended Trinity College in Washington, D.C. in 1911 and Bryant and Stratton Business College in Boston in 1912. Upon completion of her studies, she was employed as a secretary with the law firm of Brandeis, Nutter, Dunbar & McClennen in Boston, where she was the private secretary for Attorney Brandeis until he became a justice of the United States Supreme Court.

In 1919, she moved to Manchester to marry James Harrison Cavanaugh and became office manager and financial and legal advisor to Cavanaugh Brothers Motors. During her employment, she attended Portia Law School in Boston from 1927 to 1931, where she received her Bachelor of Laws. She was admit-

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ted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 20, 1932. While Ms. Cavanaugh never engaged in active practice, she was an active member in the Manchester Girl's Club, the Manchester Garden Club, the Red Cross, and the local Community Chest.

### 12. *Nina N. Frankman*

**N**ina N. Frankman was born in Russia on April 10, 1904. She graduated from Public School 101 in New York City in 1915, Detroit Central High School in Detroit, Michigan in 1923, and attended Detroit Teacher's College from September 1923 until February 1924. She became a naturalized citizen in 1927. She returned to the east coast to study law at Portia Law School in Boston, from which she graduated in 1929. After studying under Attorney Henry C. Arwe in Keene, she was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on July 13, 1933.

### 13. *Marguerita M. Hurley*

**M**arguerita M. Hurley was born on December 19, 1905, in Manchester, New Hampshire, where she grew up. After graduation from Manchester High School, she received her A.B. from College of New Rochelle in 1927. She received her LL.B. in 1930 from Boston University Law School. Attorney Hurley was admitted to practice law in Massachusetts in 1930 and practiced there for three years before returning to New Hampshire. She was admitted to the New Hampshire bar on November 7, 1933.

Attorney Hurley practiced law for the next ten years with her father and brother and argued before the New Hampshire Supreme Court during that time. She married Timothy P. Hurley, and they had four children. After her husband's death in 1946, Attorney Hurley became a teacher in the Nashua public schools. She earned her masters in education from Rivier College in 1963, just three years before she retired in 1966. Attorney Hurley was very active in the Democratic Party. She was a delegate to the Democratic Convention in 1936 and attended the inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt following his re-election in 1937.

Attorney Hurley died on May 16, 2000, in Mount Vernon, New York, where she resided, at the age of 95.

### 14. *Evelyn C. Earley*

**B**orn on December 24, 1909, in Nashua, New Hampshire, Evelyn C. Earley graduated from Nashua High School in 1928. She received her law degree from Northeastern School of Law in Boston in 1935. During her law school years, she worked as a stenographer, secretary, and law clerk in the offices of William H. Barry and Robert E. Earley, whom she later married, in Nashua. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 16, 1935.

Attorney Earley practiced in Nashua from 1935 to 1942, when she became the postmaster of Nashua. She was active in many civic organizations, including the American Legion Auxiliary, the New Hampshire Bar Association, the New



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Hampshire Chapter of the National Association of Postmasters, St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary, and Beth Abraham Synagogue.

### *15. Emily Marx*

**B**orn in Somerville, New Jersey on July 6, 1904, Emily Marx attended Public School 186 in New York City and graduated from New York's Hunter College High School in 1920. She received her A.B. from Barnard College in New York in 1923, and her LL.B. from Yale Law School in 1925. Attorney Marx was admitted to the New York bar in 1926, and she practiced there for ten years before moving to New Hampshire. She was admitted to the New Hampshire bar on April 7, 1936.



### *16. Beatrice F. Little*

**B**orn in Nashua, New Hampshire on March 22, 1897, Beatrice F. Little graduated from Nashua High School in 1917. She went to work at the law office of Wason, Guertin & Leahy in 1921 and began to study law there in 1927. She received her LL.B. from Portia Law School in Boston in 1936 and was admitted to the New Hampshire bar on July 14, 1936.

### *17. Beryle M. Aldrich*

**B**eryle M. Aldrich was born in Lisbon, New Hampshire on July 31, 1901. She graduated from Lisbon High School in 1919 and studied law at the office of Attorney George W. Pike from 1927 until 1937, when she studied with Attorney Ora W. Craig. She was admitted to the New Hampshire bar on July 13, 1937. Attorney Aldrich appeared on the brief for the Town of Lisbon in a case before the New Hampshire Supreme Court in 1962. She was deceased on March 21, 1976.



### *18. Mary Alice Fountain*

**M**ary Alice Fountain was born on July 13, 1908, in Woodstock, New Hampshire. She attended Mount St. Mary Seminary in Hooksett and Plymouth Normal School. She received her B.S. in Education from Boston University in 1932, and her LL.B. from Boston University Law School in 1936. On July 13, 1937, she was admitted to the New Hampshire bar. Ms. Fountain died in 1984.

### *19. Celia D. R. Novins*

**C**elia D. R. Novins was born in Boston, Massachusetts on January 14, 1907. She graduated from Roxbury High School in 1922 and earned her law degree from Northeastern University School of Law in 1927. Attorney Novins continued her education by taking special courses at the

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College of Business Administration at Boston University from 1928 to 1930 and special courses at Harvard University in 1930 and 1931. She was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1928 and practiced there for eight years. She was married in 1934, and later moved to Rochester, New Hampshire. Attorney Novins was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 5, 1937.

### *20. Evangeline V. Tallman*

**E**vangeline V. Tallman was born February 21, 1909 in Claremont, New Hampshire. She attended Stevens High School in Claremont and graduated from Howard Seminary in West Bridgewater, Massachusetts in 1927. She was a special student in pianoforte at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston in 1929 and 1930. She studied law with various attorneys in Concord from 1933 to 1938, and was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on July 7, 1938.

### *21. Doris Louise Bennett*

**B**orn on May 30, 1900, in Henniker, New Hampshire, Doris Louise Bennett was the Henniker High School valedictorian in 1918. She graduated from Bryant & Stratton Business College in 1919 and completed the law course at LaSalle Extension University in 1938. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 7, 1938.

### *22. Mary E. Perkins*

**M**ary E. Perkins was born July 18, 1915, in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. She graduated from Portsmouth High School in 1932 and received her B.A. from the University of New Hampshire in 1936. She earned her law degree at Yale Law School in 1939. Ms. Perkins was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 11, 1939.

### *23. Pauline B. Barnard*

**P**auline B. Barnard was born in Maple Ridge, New Brunswick, Canada, on May 27, 1909. She attended Anson Academy in Anson, Maine from 1922 to 1926. She earned her B.A. from the University of Maine, Orono, in 1931 and her LL.B. from Boston University Law School in 1935. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on July 11, 1939, and was also a member of the Maine bar.

### *24. Mabelle Fellows Murphy*

**B**orn on December 14, 1892, in Canterbury, New Hampshire, Mabelle Fellows Murphy graduated from Laconia High School in 1910 and from Post's Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1914. She received her LL.B. from Northeastern University in Worcester in 1933. She was admitted to practice law in Massachusetts in 1934 and was admitted to New Hampshire on October 3, 1939.



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During her career, Attorney Murphy appeared before the New Hampshire Supreme Court. She was deceased on January 26, 1988.

### *25. Leila L. Maynard*



**L**eila L. Maynard was born on March 13, 1919, in Concord, New Hampshire. Her mother had emigrated from Labrador and her father from England. She graduated from Concord High School in 1936 and attended the University of New Hampshire from 1937 to 1939. She was accepted to Suffolk University Law School in Boston in 1939, following an interview with Dean Gleason Archer, the founder of the school. She received her LL.B. in 1943, graduating with highest honors as valedictorian of the class. Throughout her law school years, she was the only female student in the school.

Mrs. Maynard was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on June 26, 1944. She subsequently married William Maynard, who had passed the bar with her, and raised five children. Although Mrs. Maynard never practiced law as a career, she assisted her husband in his practice when needed.

When the marital master program was first initiated, Judge William Grimes appointed Mrs. Maynard to serve as a marital master for the initial six-month trial period. At the end of the period, she chose not to remain in that role. Mrs. Maynard was a selectman for the town of Bow from 1970 to 1975, being the first female to hold that office. Mrs. Maynard resides in Concord.

### *26. Ida V. C. Milligan*



**I**da V. C. Milligan of Newbury, New Hampshire was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on April 5, 1949. Ms. Milligan died in 1976.

### *27. Ruth I. Moses*



**R**uth I. Moses of Tilton, New Hampshire, was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on April 5, 1949.

### *28. Margaret Quill Flynn*

**S**uperior Court Justice (ret.) Margaret Quill Flynn was born on July 9, 1922, in Stoughton, Massachusetts. She received her A.B., with honors, Phi Beta Kappa, from Boston University College of Liberal Arts in 1943, and her LL.B., magna cum laude, the following year from Boston University School of Law. She was admitted to the practice of law in Massachusetts in 1944. She served as legal assistant to the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from August 1944 to September

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1946, when she became associated with the firm of Herrick, Smith, Donald, Farley & Ketchum in Boston.

She married Nashua attorney Charles J. Flynn, with whom she had gone to law school, in 1950, after he returned from his naval service in the war. Although she moved to Nashua, she continued to practice at Herrick, Smith in Boston. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on June 3, 1952. When her first child was born in January 1959, she gave up her Boston practice and joined the practice of her husband and Robert Earley, Sr. in Nashua. In 1967, Judge Charles Flynn was appointed to the New Hampshire Superior Court. In 1986, after more than forty years of practice, Judge Margaret Flynn was also named to the bench of the superior court.

Judge Flynn has retired from the bench and continues to reside in Nashua, where she is active in the academic community at Rivier College. She received an honorary Doctorate from that college in 1980.

#### *29. Lucille Kozlowski*

**L**ucille Kozlowski was born on February 22, 1926, in Nashua, New Hampshire. She began her career in the law in 1943 as a legal secretary for Nashua attorney Leonard G. Velishka. She received her Associates Degree from Northeastern University in 1954 and her LL.B. from Boston College Law School in 1958. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on September 3, 1958.

Attorney Kozlowski became a partner with Attorney Velishka in 1958 and maintained a general practice with him until 1976. Thereafter, she established a partnership with Attorney Roger Gauthier. In 1978, Attorney Robert Parodi joined the partnership, and the three practiced together until 1989, when Attorney Kozlowski became a sole practitioner. Her office is located in Nashua.

#### *30. Irma A. Matthews*

**B**orn in Belmont, Massachusetts on October 20, 1913, Irma A. Matthews attended Arlington High School in Arlington, Massachusetts, graduating in 1931. With the exception of an accounting course at the evening school of Boston University, she did not attend college. She received her LL.B., cum laude, from Portia Law School in Boston in 1939. She was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1940.

From 1941 to 1946, Attorney Matthews was employed in the office of Attorney Alfred H. Avery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Among her duties were the interpretation of federal wartime regulations. Her practice involved business, contracts, torts, probate matters, and small claims. In 1946, she married Alan R. Matthews and moved to Concord, New Hampshire, where she worked as a legal secretary and stenographer between raising her four children. After approximately eleven years, she petitioned to practice law in

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New Hampshire, and she was admitted on October 7, 1958.

Attorney Matthews worked for the New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General, first as a law assistant, under Louis Wyman, Gardner Turner, and William Maynard, then, as an attorney, under William Maynard, and, finally, as assistant attorney general under George Pappagianis and Warren Rudman. During that time, she argued a number of cases before the New Hampshire Supreme Court. Attorney Matthews lived in Concord until her death on June 6, 1975.

### *31. Catharine B. Sage*



**B**orn on May 18, 1921, in Frostburg, Maryland, Catharine B. Sage attended Portsmouth, New Hampshire public schools and graduated from Friends Academy, a Quaker high school on Long Island, New York in 1939. She then attended Wellesley College, the University of New Hampshire, and the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, from which she earned her undergraduate degree in 1944. She received her LL.B. in 1952 from Boston University School of Law. She was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1953 and practiced in Massachusetts for a number of years.

Attorney Sage was admitted to the New Hampshire bar on October 7, 1958. She practiced for a short time with Maurice M. Blodgett before starting her own practice in Peterborough on July 4, 1959. She was a general practitioner with an emphasis in tax law. Attorney Sage was one of the first woman attorneys to open her own law office, first in Amherst and Northampton, Massachusetts and, then, in Peterborough. She was deceased on September 30, 1997.

### *32. Anne M. Howorth*

**A**nne M. Howorth was born in Nashua, New Hampshire on December 28, 1930. She attended the College of New Rochelle and received her B.S. in Secretarial Studies from the University of New Hampshire in 1951. Attorney Howorth attended DePaul Law School from 1957 to 1958 and received her LL.B. from Boston College Law School in 1960. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on August 18, 1960, and in Massachusetts in 1962. Attorney Howorth is of counsel with her daughter at Howorth Law Offices in Nashua. Another daughter is currently in law school.

Of her inspiration to practice law, Attorney Howorth relates that when she was in college in New York, she and her roommate visited the first United Nations at Lake Success, New York. "Having lived through W.W.II and having had a brother who fought and nearly died in the war, the prospect of 'the law' as an idea and avenue for peaceful co-existence for individuals and nations had huge appeal to me."

Attorney Howorth enjoys skiing and traveling—especially to Italy and Germany—and languages.

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## *33. Rachel Hallett Johnson*

Rachel Hallett Johnson was born on December 19, 1933, in Plainfield, Massachusetts. She earned her B.A. from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa in 1955 and her LL.B. from Harvard Law School 1960. She married Robert A. Johnson and moved to Concord, New Hampshire in 1960. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on August 18, 1960. Ms. Johnson resides in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

## *34. Caroline R. Grey*

Caroline R. Grey was born on April 18, 1910, in Yonkers, New York. She received her B.A. from Vassar College in 1933 and enrolled at Columbia Law School later that year. After attending for a year and a half, she took a twenty-five-year absence to raise her family. She returned to Columbia in 1960 and was awarded her LL.B. in 1963.

Attorney Grey was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on September 4, 1963. She began serving as a representative for Canaan to the General Court of New Hampshire on January 1, 1963. She practiced law in Canaan until her retirement in 1976. She was the first woman President of the Grafton County Bar Association. Attorney Grey died on February 20, 1995, at the age of 84.

## *35. Constance M. Mehegan*

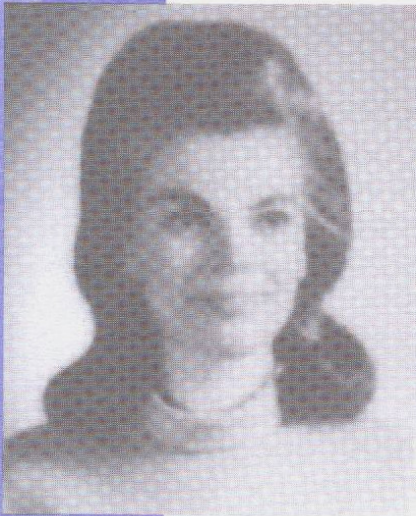
Constance M. Mehegan was born on September 13, 1923, in New Haven, Connecticut. She received her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College in 1943 and her LL.B. from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1952. She was admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1952. Two years later, on August 27, 1964, she was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar. On August 13, 1989, Ms. Mehegan passed away at the age of 65.

## *36. Winnifred M. Moran*

Born on January 20, 1919, in Woodsville, New Hampshire, Winnifred M. Moran earned her B.S. in Economics from the University of New Hampshire in 1940. She received secretarial training at the Katherine Gibbs School in Boston in 1941 and, received her LL.B. from the Law School of George Washington University in 1964. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on August 27, 1964. Her legal career included a 1982 appearance before the New Hampshire Supreme Court on behalf of the plaintiff in the case of Hazen v. Hazen. Ms. Moran died on February 17, 1986.

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### 37. Constance J. Betley

Constance J. Betley was born in Manchester on July 9, 1941. She began her undergraduate studies at Mary Washington College, and she earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania in 1962. Three years later she received her LL.B. from Boston College Law School in Brighton, Massachusetts. On August 27, 1965, Ms. Betley was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire. She and her father, Joseph J. Betley, former United States Referee in Bankruptcy for the State of New Hampshire, practiced together. In 1966 their Manchester firm, Betley & Betley, was New Hampshire's only father-daughter law firm. Ms. Betley appeared before the New Hampshire Supreme Court in 1966 as plaintiff's counsel in the case of Kramas v. Beattie.

### 38. Helen White

Helen White was born on September 3, 1924, in New Haven, Connecticut. She did her undergraduate course work at New York University, University of Connecticut, and Boston University. She began her law studies at Boston University Law School and obtained her LL.B. from Portia Law School in 1950. On August 25, 1966, she was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar. During her career, Attorney White briefed and argued at least three cases before the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

### 39. Judith Dunlop Ransmeier



Born in Brooklyn, New York on November 8, 1943, Judith Dunlop Ransmeier grew up in Westwood, New Jersey. She received her B.A. in Social Science from Bennington College in 1966 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1969. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on September 12, 1969.

Prior to her admittance, Ms. Ransmeier worked at numerous offices, including the Boston City Law Department; the Waltham, Massachusetts, Mayor's Office; the New York State Attorney General's Office; and the United States Department of Justice. After her admittance, Attorney Ransmeier worked for the New Hampshire Attorney General's office from 1969 to 1971 and as an associate at McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton from 1971 to 1975. Since leaving the McLane firm, she has continued to represent children as an attorney and Guardian ad Litem in the Superior, District and Probate courts. For several years, she was a contract attorney for the New Hampshire Division for Children Youth and Families. She mediates for the superior court and for the New Hampshire Human Rights Commission. She currently serves on the Board of the Concord Housing Authority and the Board of the Rolfe and Rumford Home in Concord.

Ms. Ransmeier was married to Edward J. Mulligan from 1968 until his death

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in 1971. She married John C. Ransmeier in 1974, and they have two daughters, Johanna, born in 1975, and Abigail, born in 1977, and a son, Peter, born in 1979. For fun, the Ransmeiers travel and visit their children in interesting places like China and Argentina. Judith reports that she is still a tennis groupie mom for son Peter, an Amherst College senior, and continues to try to play tennis herself.

### *40. Mary Susan Stein Leahy*



**M**ary Susan Stein Leahy was born on March 27, 1944 at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. She received her A.B. from Mount Holyoke College in 1966 and her law degree from Boston University School of Law in 1970. As a law student, Attorney Leahy estimates, she was one of 20 women in a class of 500. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on September 18, 1970.

Attorney Leahy's first position as a lawyer was as law clerk to Hon. Frank R. Kenison of the New Hampshire Supreme Court. She then became an associate at Orr and Reno, P.A. where, in 1994, she was named president of the firm. Attorney Leahy was the first woman to serve as president of a major law firm in New Hampshire. Her extensive involvement in the community includes holding office in the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, the New Hampshire Historical Society, Leadership New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts, and the Capitol Region Food Program. She is the 2001 recipient of the Marilla M. Ricker Award, presented by the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association.

### *41. Laura Jane Kahn*



**B**orn on July 1, 1971 in New York City, Laura Jane Kahn attended Elmira College from 1960 to 1961 and received her B.A. degree from Rutgers University in 1965. In 1965, she attended American University School of Law and received her J.D. from Rutgers Law School in May 1968. She was admitted to practice law in New Jersey in 1968. From 1968 to June 1971, she was employed by various legal services organizations in New Jersey including the Newark Legal Services Project and the Newark-Essex Joint Law Reform Project. In July 1971, Attorney Kahn moved to Merrimack, New Hampshire and was a volunteer attorney with New Hampshire Legal Assistance in Manchester until August 1972.

In September 1972, she was admitted to limited practice in New Hampshire and was managing attorney of the legal assistance office in Manchester until April 1973 when she became the managing attorney for the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Office in Nashua, New Hampshire. Attorney Kahn was fully admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on April 2, 1974.

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## *42. Martha Margaret Davis*

**B**orn in Hanover, New Hampshire on September 22, 1946, The Honorable Martha Margaret Davis received her B.A. from the University of Florida in 1968. She received her J.D. from Northeastern University in 1972 and was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 27, 1972. Her first job as an attorney was with New Hampshire Legal Assistance in Lebanon where she worked until 1976 when she began a clerkship with Attorney Alexander Evarts in Windsor. In 1977 and 1978, she was co-director of the Franklin Pierce Law Center Family and Housing Law Clinic with Attorney Marilyn McNamara. Since then, Attorney Davis has been in private practice in both New Hampshire and Vermont, primarily practicing family law. She is frequently acting judge in Windsor Family, Superior, and District Courts.

## *43. Eleanor S. Krasnow*

**E**leanor S. Krasnow was born on April 24, 1929 in Buffalo, New York. She attended Cornell University from 1947 to 1949 and graduated cum laude with her A.B. from the University of Buffalo in 1951. Ms. Krasnow received her J.D. degree from the University of California at Berkley in 1971 and was admitted to practice law in the state of New Hampshire on October 27, 1972.

## *44. Susan B. Monson*

**S**usan B. Monson was born in Boston, Massachusetts on August 5, 1941. She graduated from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota with a B.A. degree in 1963. She attended the University of Michigan Law School in Ann Arbor, Michigan and graduated with a J.D. degree from the John Marshall Law School in 1968. Attorney Monson was admitted to practice law in Illinois in 1969 and in New Hampshire on October 27, 1972.

## *45. Julia N. Nelson*

**B**orn on March 31, 1916, in Pacific Grove, California, Julia N. Nelson received her B.A. with a major in economics from the University of California at Berkley in 1944. She received her J.D. from George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C. in 1962, and was admitted to practice law in the District of Columbia in 1963, and to the bar for the U.S. Court of Appeals on September 18, 1963. Attorney Nelson was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on September 5, 1973.

## *46. Dorothy R. Sullivan*

**B**orn in Nashua, New Hampshire on August 31, 1920, Dorothy R. Sullivan graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1942. Attorney Sullivan attended Portia Law School in Boston, Massachusetts and received her LL.B. and LL.M. in 1950. She was admitted to practice law in Massachusetts in 1957 and in New Hampshire on October 2, 1973.

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## *47. Jean K. Burling*



Superior Court Justice Jean K. Burling was born on July 7, 1946, in Worcester, Massachusetts. She earned her A.B. from Wellesley College in 1968 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1973. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on November 2, 1973.

Judge Burling has the distinction of being the first woman appointed to the New Hampshire judiciary. In 1979, she was appointed Special Justice of the Claremont District Court, where she served until 1999. She also served as a Family Court Judge in Grafton County, Lebanon Division, from 1997 to 1999 and as a Probate Master from 1994 to 1999. In November 1999, Judge Burling was appointed Associate Superior Court Justice. She currently presides in Grafton County.

Judge Burling served as the Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee of the Supreme Court from 1998 to 1999. She was the Committee's Vice-Chair from 1992 to 1998, having served as a member of the Committee since 1990. She served on the Character and Fitness Committee of the Supreme Court from 1994 to 1998. She has been a master member of the Justice Frank Kenison Chapter of the Inns of Court since 1995.

Judge Burling's community involvement includes being a Co-founder and Chair of the Sullivan County Domestic Violence Council from 1993 to 1996. She has served in the capacity of trustee of several organizations, including the Northfield Mt. Hermon School, the Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center, Franconia College, and the Upper Valley Humane Society. She is an original incorporator of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Green Mountain Horse Association, Mary Hitchcock Hospital, and Mt. Ascutney Hospital. She served as a volunteer and parent advocate at the Cornish Elementary School. She was honored in 1993 by the Manchester Bar Association with its Distinguished Service Award.

Among her non-legal interests, she reports being an avid traveler, horseback rider, fly fisher and parent. She is married to Peter Hoe Burling and has a son, Jonathan, born in 1986.

## *48. Donna W. Economou*



Born in Manchester on September 9, 1948, Donna W. Economou received her A.B. from Mount Holyoke College in 1970 and her J.D. from the University of Maine in 1973. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on November 2, 1973. Ms. Economou is with EG&G, Inc., in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

## *49. Alexandra T. Breed*

Alexandra T. Breed was born in New York City on August 2, 1948. She earned her A.B., cum laude, in History from Vassar College in 1970, and her J.D. in 1974 from Boston University School of Law. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 31, 1974. Attorney Breed earned an LL.M. in

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Taxation in 1999 from Boston University School of Law.

Attorney Breed was a Director and Chair of the real estate department at Nighswander, Lord & Martin, P.A., in Laconia. She joined McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton in 1998 and was recently elected a director of the firm. Her practice is concentrated in estate planning, estate and gift taxes, probate and trust administration and real estate.

Attorney Breed is a past-chair of the Science Center of New Hampshire in Holderness and a member of the Boards of Trustees of the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, the Mount Washington Observatory, and The Nature Conservancy of New Hampshire. She has served as a Governor-at-Large for the New Hampshire Bar Association and as a member of the Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct. She is currently a member of the Bar's Professionalism Committee and the New Hampshire Estate Planning Council.

### *50. Linda Stewart Dalianis*



Associate New Hampshire Supreme Court Justice Linda Stewart Dalianis was born in Boston on October 9, 1948. She earned her B.A., cum laude, from Northeastern University in 1970 and her J.D. from Suffolk University Law School in 1974. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 31, 1974. Justice Dalianis was awarded degrees of Juris Doctor Honoris Causa from Notre Dame College in 1992 and from Suffolk University in 2001.

Justice Dalianis has had many "firsts" in her career, including becoming the first woman appointed to the New Hampshire Supreme Court in April 2000. She was also the first woman appointed Chief Justice of the New Hampshire Superior Court (March 2000), and the first woman appointed to the Superior Court (October 1980). Prior to that she served as a Superior Court Marital Master from 1979 to 1980. She began her legal career at the law firm of Hamblett & Kerrigan, P.A., in Nashua.

Justice Dalianis has had extensive involvement with a number of civic and community organizations, including the Girls Club of Nashua, the Greater Nashua YWCA, the Greater Nashua YMCA-YWCA Council, The Nashua Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the Rivier College Center for the Study of Social Policy, the Nashua Challenge Program, and the Northeastern University National Council. She has served on the advisory committee to the Hillsborough County Correction Facility, the Nashua Memorial Hospital, and is an original incorporator of the New Hampshire Charitable Fund, serving that organization from 1991 to 1999. She has also been active on many bar and bench committees over the course of her career.

Justice Dalianis has been honored with numerous awards, most recently including the Distinguished Women Leader Award from the Nashua YWCA; General Federation of Women's Clubs of New Hampshire, Centennial Public Affairs Award; New Hampshire Community Technical College, President's

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Award for Community Service; Network Publications, "New Hampshire's Most Brilliant Legal Minds"; Network Publications, "Most Powerful Woman in New Hampshire"; and Who's Who in American Law, Outstanding Young Woman in America.

She lives in Nashua with her husband, Griffin T. Dalianis, Ph.D., a retired psychotherapist. She has two stepdaughters and two sons.

### 51. *Claudia Cords Damon*



Born in Heidelberg, Germany, on August 11, 1946, Claudia Cords Damon grew up in Germany, New Jersey and California. She received her A.B. in Political Science from Wellesley College in 1967, her M.A. from Boston University in 1968, and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1974. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 31, 1974.

Attorney Damon had a 25-year general litigation practice as a partner at Sheehan, Phinney, Bass + Green that included personal injury, employment, workers' compensation, contract and business, land use, and family law. She is currently of counsel at McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton, where she works in the areas of administrative, regulatory, and environmental law. She has participated in a number of cases before the New Hampshire Supreme Court, including Day v. N.H. Retirement System, a seminal case involving accidental disability. Attorney Damon observes that she has represented all sorts of clients ranging from leaders of corporations to municipalities to low-income people. While she has been primarily a litigation attorney, she notes that she is most proud of the advice she has given clients to reduce problems and to avoid future problems.

Attorney Damon was a founding member of the Hillsborough County Women's Bar Association, the precursor organization to the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association, for which she is a founder and incorporator. In 1997 she was honored as the Manchester Bar Association Lawyer of the Year. She is the current chair of the IOLTA Grants Committee, of which she has served as a member since 1998. Attorney Damon also served on the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Board from 1990 to 1998 and as its Secretary from 1996 to 1998. She has served on the Concord Board of Education since 1997 and is currently President of the Board.

Other community activities include service on the Merrimack County Savings Bank, Board of Corporators; New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts; Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce; Manchester Family YMCA Board of Trustees; Pats Peak Educational Foundation Board of Directors; Boscawen Master Plan Committee; Boscawen Zoning Board of Adjustment as Chair; Merrimack Valley Day Care Services, Inc., Board of Directors; and Girls Club of Manchester, Inc., Board of Directors.

Attorney Damon relates that when she started out she was mentored by Bill Green, Bill Phinney and W. Michael Dunn. There were no women in her firm at the time she arrived. She was the first woman hired at Sheehan, Phinney, Bass + Green, the first woman to become partner, and the first to have a baby. She and Mike Dunn

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defended a few pornography cases in Exeter District Court and Hillsborough County Superior Court. One involved the Penthouse issue of July 1976, which contained a mixture of patriotism and sexuality that did not sit well with the Manchester law enforcement establishment. In a motion hearing in the case, Attorney Damon appeared, and was visibly pregnant. The Judge, with whom she had previously had pleasant encounters, asked out of genuine concern for her, "Claudia, what are you doing here on a case like this?" She thought the question was rather funny, and not offensive, as she was used to such comments.

In her early days of practice, Attorney Damon was often introduced as "the lady lawyer," and she noticed at times she was not taken as seriously as her male counterparts. The Sheehan, Phinney firm did, however, take her seriously, which she appreciated. While judges for the most part took her seriously, one referred to her as "the little lady" in 1987 when discussing settlement negotiations in chambers during a trial. Another referred to her as "Miss," using a disdainful tone, in a motion hearing in open court. Fortunately, the client was not in attendance.

Of balancing family and career, Claudia reflects that it "required a high degree of organization and energy." She credits her husband, also a lawyer, who understood the long hours of work required for her career. She remembers that raising her family and maintaining her career was like having two full-time jobs. She feared that if she chose to work part-time, such a decision would have meant poorer work assignments, but she observes that the frequency of part-time work for men and women attorneys these days is much higher and seems accepted by firms, demonstrating appreciation of diversity and of the fact that it is worth having women in the work place.

Claudia reports that in her spare time, she enjoys skiing, biking, hiking, knitting, sewing, reading, and attending theater and concerts.

## *52. Georgia C. Griffin*

**G**eorgia C. Griffin was born on June 29, 1946, in Norwood, Massachusetts. She earned her Bachelors degree in mathematics and related physics from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1968. Her J.D. was awarded by Boston College Law School in 1972, although she spent her third year at Case Western Reserve University Law School.

A review of court records reveals that the New Hampshire Supreme Court's approval for Mrs. Griffin to take the New Hampshire Bar Exam was addressed to "George C. Griffin, Esq." Mrs. Griffin wrote back, pointing out the error and requested that the court, "[p]lease correct this error on all your lists so that there will be no confusion when I arrive to take the exam." She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 31, 1974.

## *53. Barbara Sard*

**B**arbara Sard was born in Washington, D.C., on May 22, 1947. She earned her A.B. in Social Studies, magna cum laude, from Radcliffe College, Harvard University, in 1968 and her J.D from Harvard Law School in 1974. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 31, 1974.

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## 54. Bruce Earman Viles

**B**orn on September 11, 1945, in Clifton Forge, Virginia, Bruce Earman Viles earned her A.B. from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in 1967 and her J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1968.

Attorney Viles was admitted to practice before the Bar of the State of Kentucky in 1971. A 1973 Certification from the Kentucky Bar Association states that Attorney Viles is a member in good standing and "no complaints or charges of any kind ever ha[ve] been preferred (sic.) against him." Attorney Viles was also admitted to practice in the District of Columbia in 1972.

Attorney Viles worked as an employee of the Central Intelligence Agency in the summers of 1963 and 1965 while she was in college. After law school, she worked for the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, Inc., in Lexington, Kentucky in 1972. Her family relocated to Washington, D.C., in 1972, where she was employed by the Office of the General Counsel, United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, until 1974.

Eventually, Attorney Viles and her family moved to Concord, New Hampshire. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 31, 1974. Attorney Viles joined the Public Defender's office as New Hampshire's first female public defender. After leaving the Public Defender's office, she practiced with Robert Stein, with whom she had been a public defender. She subsequently maintained a practice with Richard A. Hampe and, later, Patrick MacNicholas, with whom she practiced for six years.

She recently moved back to Kentucky, where she lives today. She is the widow of Robert M. Viles, former Dean and President of the Franklin Pierce Law Center.

## 55. Joyce Ann Wilder

**J**oyce Ann Wilder was born on March 10, 1950, in Keene, New Hampshire, where she grew up. She attended Bryn Mawr College for two years and received her B.A. in Religious Studies, magna cum laude, from Yale University in 1971. She received her J.D. from Cornell Law School in 1974 and was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 31, 1974.

## 56. Joan L. Carroll

**J**oan L. Carroll was born in Boston on September 30, 1936. She received her A.B. from Emmanuel College in 1958 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1961. Attorney Carroll was first admitted to practice in Massachusetts in 1961. She opened her own law practice from her home in Marshfield, Massachusetts in 1961 and practiced there until 1965. Thereafter she worked for State Street Bank and Trust in the Personal Trust Division, at the Boston University Law Library as assistant law librarian, and at both Hale & Dorr and Powers & Hall in Boston. Attorney Carroll was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on June 3, 1975.



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## 57. Anne Swift Almy

Born in New York City on November 28, 1947, Anne Swift Almy received her A.B. in Economics, cum laude, from Radcliffe College, Harvard University, in 1969 and her J.D. in 1975 from the University of Maine School of Law. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975. Ms. Almy died on October 13, 1997.

## 58. Sharon Ann Coughlin

Born on December 10, 1949, in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Sharon Ann Coughlin grew up in Westfield, New Jersey. She earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of New Hampshire in 1971. She attended the University of Miami School of Law, where she received her J.D. in 1974. She was admitted to practice law in Florida in 1974 and in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975.

Ms. Coughlin was engaged in a general practice with a real estate concentration from 1974 to 1986. She has since been busy raising three sons, James, Adam and Michael, and volunteering as a member of the Board of Directors of Birthright of Manchester and for the St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Bedford. She has been married to Attorney James E. M. Coughlin, Jr., since 1971. The Coughlins live in Bedford.

## 59. Anne M. Goggin

Anne M. Goggin was born on November 28, 1948, in Malden, Massachusetts. She received her B.A. from Regis College in 1970. She attended the Catholic University of America Law School for a year and received her J.D. in 1975 from Boston College Law School. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975.

## 60. J. Campbell Harvey

J. Campbell Harvey was born December 13, 1947, and earned her B.A. from Boston University, Phi Beta Kappa, in 1970. She spent time living and studying in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey, at the Middle East Technical University and Robert's College. She also worked in Kabul, Afghanistan, between 1970 and 1972, where she researched and wrote Paxchtowali, the Pashtun Tribal Code. She attended American University, Washington College of Law, earning her J.D. in 1975. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975.

In 1975, Attorney Harvey was the first woman hired as a Law Clerk in the United States District Court, District of New Hampshire. She remembers, "I believe that Judge Bownes hired me as his first woman law clerk for two reasons: first, affirmative action, and second, because I interviewed him about his



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decisions, believing that that would be the only time I would ever be able to interview a judge. It was, but I had a wonderful time learning the law under his brilliant tutelage while I tutored him on the mores of the new, co-educational workplace."

From 1977 to 1979 she worked at New Hampshire Legal Assistance. She and others drafted and lobbied for passage of RSA 173-B, the domestic violence statute. She engaged in a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of New Hampshire's Family Research Center from 1979 to 1981.

In 1981 she and Marilyn Mahoney opened the law firm of Harvey & Mahoney in Manchester, the first woman-owned law firm in New Hampshire. The firm handles family law matters.

### 61. *Judith Miller Kasper*

Born April 19, 1949, in Chicago, Illinois, Judith Miller Kasper earned her A.B. in English from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1971. She received her J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law in 1975 and was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975. At the time of her admission, she was employed by the law firm of Ingram and Myers in Hanover, New Hampshire. Attorney Kasper currently lives in Windsor, Vermont.

### 62. *Patricia McKee*

Patricia McKee was born on June 20, 1941, in Detroit, Michigan. She earned her B.A. in Education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1963, and her J.D. from the University of Puget Sound School of Law in Tacoma, Washington in 1974. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975.

Attorney McKee's initial attempts to obtain work in the New Hampshire seacoast area were unsuccessful. She interviewed at Sanders & McDermott, although the firm was not interested in hiring. According to Attorney McKee, Ed McDermott wore a "male chauvinist pig tie" during her initial interview. She persisted until she was given some files to work on at home. Soon, she occupied a vacant office, became an associate, and later a partner in the firm where she remained until opening her own firm in 1988. Attorney McKee served for five years as a District Court Judge in Exeter.

Attorney McKee wrote the plaintiff's brief in the case of *Cushing v. Thomson*, which sought specific performance of a contract allowing the Clamshell Alliance, an anti-nuclear activist group, to hold a gathering at the National Guard Armory in Portsmouth. Then-Governor Meldrim Thomson issued an order to the Adjutant General's office to rescind the offer permitting the use of the armory by the controversial group. The New Hampshire Supreme Court upheld the existence of a contract, but noted, "In deciding the legal issues of contract law in this case, we, of course, are not passing on the aims or activities of the Clamshell Alliance."

Attorney McKee passed away on May 20, 1995. Attorney Jack Sanders remembers her as an exceedingly compassionate person who was fair in her dealings with all. She viewed the law as an honorable profession.



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### 63. Ellen J. Musinsky



Ellen J. Musinsky was born on June 17, 1950, in Brookline, Massachusetts. She received her B.A. in History in 1972 from the University of Vermont in Burlington and her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in 1975.

After her admission to practice in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975, Professor Musinsky began her legal career at New Hampshire Legal Assistance, representing low-income clients in housing, consumer, domestic, health and juvenile law matters. She served as the managing attorney at her departure in 1979.

In 1980, Professor Musinsky went to work for the Civil Practice Clinic at Franklin Pierce Law Center as Assistant Clinic Director. Her work involved teaching classes in administrative procedure, family law, and nonprofit corporations. In addition, she supervised law students who assisted in the representation of low-income clients served by the clinic in matters of Social Security law, as well as family and domestic violence law. Currently, she is the Externship Director and a tenured Professor at the Law Center.

Professor Musinsky has been instrumental in drafting legislation upholding the civil rights of children, the elderly, the abused, and lesbians and gay men. She participated in drafting the domestic violence statute, RSA 173-B, as well as its numerous revisions. She assisted in drafting a major revision to the child protection statute, RSA 169-C, and RSA 463, Guardianship of Minors. The guardianship statute won a national award.

In addition, Professor Musinsky assisted in drafting RSA 651:6, which extends the criminal sentences of those who commit hate crimes. She is a founding member of the Citizen's Alliance for Lesbian and Gay Rights. She wrote the brief arguing that the law prohibiting gays and lesbians from adopting children, being foster parents, or providing day care was unconstitutional. The argument was partially successful. *Opinion of the Justices*, 129 N.H. 290 (1987). Attorney Musinsky has also participated in class action lawsuits involving the denial of unemployment benefits coverage and the unlawful transfer of nursing home patients.

Professor Musinsky has served as Chair of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. She helped develop and run the New Hampshire Women's Lobby. She has won numerous awards, and in 1995 was invited to the White House for the announcement of President Clinton's Violence Against Women Act.

In the early years, Attorney Musinsky was perhaps the first woman to play pick-up softball in the Manchester Bar Association league. She observes, "At the time, [playing ball with the guys] seemed as momentous as being a trial lawyer. Fortunately, I was a good softball player. I leave it to others to judge whether I have been a good lawyer."

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Still a self-proclaimed "sports nut," Ellen can often be found on the golf course, where she is currently the women's golf champion at the Duston Country Club in Concord.

### 64. *Brenda T. Piampiano*

**B**renda T. Piampiano was born on July 5, 1948, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and she received her B.A. in letters with high honors in 1970 from the University of Oklahoma. She earned her J.D. from Cornell Law School in 1975, having spent her final semester at the University of Tulsa College of Law. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975, and moved to Lebanon "with a husband, two sons under the age of 5, boundless energy and a will-not-be-denied attitude."

Job opportunities in Grafton County were not plentiful, even for male attorneys, but she faced the additional obstacle of concerns about "conflict of interest" (i.e., whether a firm that hired her might be precluded from taking cases involving attorneys from the firm where her husband worked). She says "I was a 'finalist' for many positions with several excellent firms but was frustrated time and again as I held out for the right job." She eventually took a job teaching business law at Plymouth State College along with a part-time job in a small Plymouth firm. Then came a stint with legislative lobbying for a group of Chris Gallagher's clients in Concord. Attorney Piampiano credits her own bravado at demanding a high salary for obtaining that job—they reasoned that an attorney who perceived herself as worth a top-level starting salary was the kind of person they wanted in that job. "I learned one of the most valuable lessons of my career in that interview: I have never de-valued my ability or my worth as an attorney."

Attorney Piampiano left New Hampshire to take a position in the litigation department of one of Portland, Maine's largest firms. Her husband left a job he loved in a place he loved to come to Portland so that she could further her career. "Incredibly, as if two healthy kids were not enough, after five years in our jobs, we decided to have another baby. This was the child that broke the proverbial camel's back. I simply could not work full-time with 3 children. My law firm balked at part-time work and discussions about the impact of a compromise on my prospects for partnership cast a pall on what had been a wonderful employment relationship. In those days I saw their recalcitrance as a slap in the face, as a failure to recognize the sacrifices I had made for the firm. Now, twenty years later, I recognize both that there was a learning curve for law firms in creating a reasonable policy and that, above all, a law practice is a business and I am a businesswoman." For more than a dozen years Attorney Piampiano has served as the managing attorney for the staff counsel operations of a major insurer.

"When I was a little girl growing up in Oklahoma I fantasized about being the president of a major corporation or ambassador to Russia. The reality has been less glamorous than those early dreams, the accomplishments less dramatic. But it has been enough and I am proud to have contributed in some small way to the efforts to obtain equal opportunities, equal pay, and equal treatment for capable women. I am

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also proud to have reared two sons and a daughter who see women as equal partners in marriage, in business, in life."

## 65. Janina Stodolski

Janina Stodolski was born in New York City on October 19, 1950. She earned her A.B. with departmental honors in American Studies at Vassar College in 1972. She earned her J.D. at Boston University School of Law in 1975 and was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975.



When Ms. Stodolski finished her course requirements at Vassar College early in the winter of 1972, she had hoped to work for James Beard as an editor on his American Cooking Cookbook. However, she didn't get the job and instead went to work as assistant librarian at Sherman and Sterling on Wall Street. After a few months, she realized that research wasn't for her and that she would be better off going to law school.

After graduating from law school, she returned for a couple of years to Sherman and Sterling, but ultimately determined that New York City was not where she wanted to be. A friend informed her of the possibility of clerking at Sulloway & Hollis in New Hampshire, so she applied and got the job. She worked at that firm until 1978, when she opened her own office. Attorney Stodolski attributes the early success of her practice to the time she spent carrying bags for Larry Spellman and Ted Soden, who provided her with many contacts. At that time, she observes, no one wanted to work on divorce cases, so she received many referrals and within a year had concentrated in family law. Attorney Stodolski still maintains her own practice in Manchester.

## 66. Elizabeth B. Sullivan

Elizabeth B. Sullivan was born on December 19, 1944, and grew up in Burlington, Vermont. She received her B.A. from Goucher College in Towson, Maryland in 1966 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1974.

Ms. Sullivan became a member of the New York Bar in 1975 and lived and worked in New York City for a year following graduation. She then married her husband, David, and moved to New Hampshire. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 24, 1975, and worked for Devine, Millimet, Stahl and Branch full-time until 1977. She worked part-time until 1979, when she decided to devote her full-time energies to being a mother. She leads a very busy and active life in Jaffrey.

## 67. Priscilla B. Fox

Born in Rochester, New York on September 13, 1947, Priscilla B. Fox earned her B.A. from Wellesley College in 1969 and her J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1973. She has been admitted to practice in

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three states (California, 1974; Massachusetts, 1975; and New Hampshire, January 6, 1976). Although she began her career in litigation, Attorney Fox has concentrated on regulatory work and has a special interest in environmental health issues.

Attorney Fox's early practice was quite varied and included work at New Hampshire Legal Assistance, which brought her to Keene in 1975. She returned to the Boston area in 1977 as legal counsel at the Massachusetts Office for Children (1977 – 1979) and as Deputy General Counsel in the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (1980 – 1992), where she was responsible for environmental health issues such as lead poisoning prevention, food regulation and housing conditions. Attorney Fox moved with her family (including two children) to Vermont in 1992, where she continued her varied career. Currently, she is working with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health again, this time as a legal consultant on food and drug regulation. She also teaches Environmental Health Law at Vermont Law School.

When she learned that she was among the first 100 women admitted to practice in New Hampshire, Priscilla was "astonished." However, upon reflection, she recalls that opposing counsel in her early Legal Assistance cases were all male. She well remembers her first telephone conversation with one "belligerent" male attorney—she pushed right back, and from then on he was always polite!

On a more personal note, she loves the outdoors, especially in warm weather, and has vowed to go south for at least a week every winter. She has enjoyed amateur photography since the purchase of her first good camera in law school, and has recently begun creating and selling her own greeting cards featuring her photography. She currently resides in Vermont.

### 68. Micki B. Stiller

**M**icki B. Stiller was born in Providence, Rhode Island on August 29, 1947. She earned her B.A. from Case Western Reserve University in 1965 and her J.D. from Case Western Reserve's Franklin Backus School of Law in 1972. She was admitted to practice in Ohio in 1975 and in New Hampshire on April 5, 1976. During her career in New Hampshire, Micki worked for New Hampshire Legal Assistance.

### 69. Mae C. Bradshaw

**B**orn on March 31, 1945, in Methuen, Massachusetts, Mae C. Bradshaw earned her B.A. with Honors in English from Connecticut College in 1966 and her J.D. cum laude from Suffolk University Law School in 1976. She was on Law Review there. She was admitted to practice law in New Hampshire on October 21, 1976. She is also a member of the Massachusetts, Maine and Florida Bars.

Attorney Bradshaw began her practice in Exeter, New Hampshire when she assumed the law practice of Patricia McKee (#62) who was terminally ill. She formed the law firm, Bradshaw & Associates, P.C., and has successfully argued before the New Hampshire Supreme Court. In addition to her law practice, Attorney Bradshaw serves as Vice Chair of the Rockingham County Bar Association, and on the Board of



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Directors of the Exeter Rotary. She is on the Board of the New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Seacoast Visiting Nurse Association. She is former President of the Newburyport Bar Association, the Old Newbury Historical Society, as well as the Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce. She received the Vanguard Woman of the Year Award. She has served as Trustee of the Anna Jaques Hospital and the Salem State College Board.

## *70. Anne Cagwin Hagstrom*

**A**nne Cagwin Hagstrom was born on August 16, 1950, in Syracuse, New York. She earned her B.A. in Russian Studies from Wells College in 1972 and her J.D. from Syracuse College of Law in 1976. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 21, 1976. During her legal career in New Hampshire, she worked for several years in the Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant Attorney General, as well as with the law firm of Orr & Reno, P.A. Ms. Hagstrom has since moved to Maine, where she currently resides.

## *71. Deborah J. Cooper*

**B**orn in Hanover, New Hampshire on November 29, 1951, Deborah J. Cooper earned her B.A. from Wellesley College in 1973 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1976. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 21, 1976. She was an attorney in the Office of the Attorney General of New Hampshire (including work as an Assistant Attorney General and a Deputy Attorney General) and with the law firm of Daschbach, Kelly & Cooper, P.A. (now Daschbach, Cooper, Hotchkiss & Csatari, P.A.).

## *72. Lynne M. Dennis*

**L**ynne M. Dennis was born in New Haven, Connecticut on July 6, 1951. She earned her A.B. in Political Science from Mount Holyoke College in 1973 and her J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1976. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 21, 1976. Her legal career in New Hampshire included several years as a litigator with the law firm of McNeill & Taylor, P.A.

## *73. Nancy E. Ebb*

**B**orn on July 16, 1950, in Washington, D.C., Nancy E. Ebb earned her A.B. with a concentration in Government from Radcliffe College in 1972 and her J.D. from the University of California School of Law, Berkeley in 1976 (attending Boston University School of Law as a special student during the Fall semester of 1975). She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 21, 1976.



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## *74. Abigail Elias*

**B**orn in Ithaca, New York on June 26, 1952, Abigail Elias earned her B.A. from Brandeis University in 1973 and her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1976. She was admitted to practice in New Hampshire on October 21, 1976. During her legal career in New Hampshire she worked as a clerk for the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

## *75. Alice S. Love*



**M**arital Master Alice S. Love was born on December 8, 1949 in Manchester, New Hampshire, where she grew up. She earned her B.A. in Political Science from Wayne State University in 1972 and her J.D. from the University of Detroit School of Law in 1976. Following her graduation, she returned to New Hampshire, was admitted to practice on October 21, 1976, and began working as an associate with the law firm of Devine, Millimet, Stahl and Branch. During her years with Devine Millimet, she worked under the guidance of J. M. McDonough and the now-Honorable Richard Galway (with whom she has now come full circle as a colleague at Hillsborough-South Superior Court).

In 1980, she was appointed a marital master. Thanks to the generosity of Chief Justice Richard Dunfey, she was able to maintain this position on a part-time basis for several years while she lived part of the time in Washington, D.C., and, later, in Connecticut. She has fond memories of this time, during which she commuted between locations with her daughter for the first two years of her daughter's life.

Master Love's professional life has been enriched by the wit and wisdom of her colleagues, the kindness of court personnel, and the challenge of literally thousands of people who have come into the courtroom over the past 21 years. She has been fortunate in her position as a marital master to have had time to raise her two children, Ashley, a senior in high school, and Adam, an 8th grader, who have brought balance and great joy to her life.

## *76. Stephanie T. Nute*



**B**orn in Beverly, Massachusetts on August 7, 1947, Marital Master Stephanie T. Nute earned her B.A. in 1969, her M.A. in English in 1973, and her J.D. from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1976. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 21, 1976. She was an attorney and partner in the firm of Nute & Nute from 1976 to 1981, and was appointed a marital master in the New Hampshire Superior Court in 1981.

Throughout her career, Master Nute has been active in numerous aspects of state, local, legal, business, and charitable community activities. Among many other accomplishments, she was president of the Strafford County Bar Association from 1985 to 1986. She was a member of and court representative to the Legislative Committee on Child Support Guidelines (1988 - 1989), the committee that drafted the present child support guidelines and New Hampshire RSA 485-C. She was a member of the

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Guardian ad Litem Rules Committee and chaired the Guardian ad Litem Certification Training Committee. She was also a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association's Task Force on Women in the Bar, as well as the New Hampshire Supreme Court's Long Range Planning Committee. Master Nute is married and has a son, born in 1982.

One (male) colleague who experienced "a hundred small, humorous moments" practicing before Master Nute describes her as a pioneer whose following is larger than just women lawyers, noting that she raised the level of legal sophistication of New Hampshire's domestic relations practice "tenfold" in the past twenty years through her competence and willingness to embrace change.

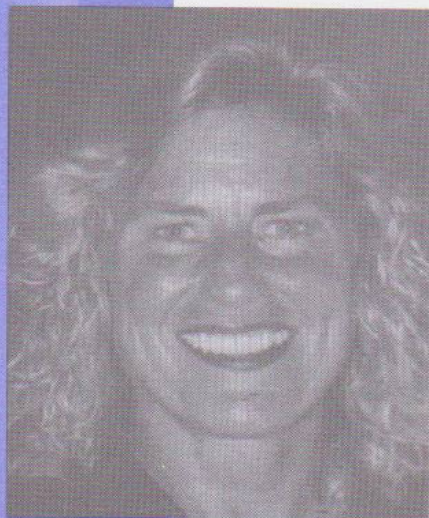
### *77. Elaine R. Warshell*

**E**laine R. Warshell was born in Chicago, Illinois on March 3, 1949. She received her B.A. from the University of Illinois in 1970 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1973. Prior to her admission to the New Hampshire Bar on October 21, 1976, she was admitted to practice in Massachusetts and Illinois, both in 1973, and was a tax attorney for Coopers & Lybrand in Boston.

### *78. Catherine Ravinski*

**B**orn in Boston on March 15, 1947, Catherine Ravinski received her B.A. from Wellesley College in 1969 and her J.D. from Suffolk University Law School in 1975. She was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1975, the New Hampshire Bar on April 5, 1977, and the U.S. Supreme Court, in 1990. A resident of Miami, Florida, Judge Ravinski is Chief U.S. Administrative Law Judge for the Miami Office of Hearings and Appeals of the Social Security Administration. Her entire professional career, starting as a passport examiner in the Boston Passport Office from 1970 to 1976, while attending law school at night, has been with the federal government.

Having spent most of her youth living in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, Judge Ravinski took both bar exams, thinking she might practice in both states. In June 1976, she accepted a job as Staff Attorney in the Office of Hearings Appeals, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, ostensibly for "a year or two." As it turned out, she and her husband became devoted to life in the tropics and remained for nine years. They later reluctantly moved to Virginia so Judge Ravinski could pursue her career. She worked there at OHA's Headquarters in Arlington, for the Appeals Council, an appellate board that reviews the work of the ALJs in OHA's 141 Hearing Offices nationwide. In 1990, she became an Administrative Appeals Judge, and remained with the Appeals Council in Virginia until 1994, when she was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge assigned to the Miami Hearing Office. She has been Chief Judge there since 2000. At present, the office has a staff of 52 employees, including 9 ALJs who conduct hearings and issue decisions in Social Security and Medicare appeals, primarily cases involving disability issues. The office serves South Florida, has a



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remote hearing site in Key West, and has approximately 4,000 cases pending.

Over the past 26 years with OHA/SSA, Judge Ravinski has done extensive training, functioned in various leadership roles, chaired a number of committees, written several scholarly articles for publication in the OHA Law Journal and served on numerous task forces. She has received many awards, including two Social Security Administration Commissioner Citations, four Deputy Commissioner Citations, and an Associate Commissioner Citation, all for team projects.

Judge Ravinski observes that she got the idea to study law because she wanted to acquire a body of knowledge that would provide a systematic view of some cross-section of human endeavors—how we define what we are, how we choose to delineate the rights and obligations we want to regulate our lives by. She thinks it was probably blind luck that she chose a field for which she seems to have a natural aptitude, which has been enjoyable and fulfilling, and which has provided her with plenty of opportunity to utilize her talents to make a positive difference.

### 79. Carolyn W. Baldwin

**B**orn in Newton, Massachusetts on July 9, 1932, Carolyn W. Baldwin received her A.B., cum laude, in English Literature from Middlebury College in 1954, her M.A. in Library Science from the University of Chicago in 1971, and her J.D. from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

Attorney Baldwin tells us that like most other '50s graduates, she started as a secretary. She was an editorial assistant working for seven years in the P.R. department at M.I.T. to "PHT" (put hubby through) graduate school. She soon became a mother and pursued a part-time position editing adult education publications at the Unitarian Universalist Association in Boston. Two more children and a move to Chicago led to a return to school at the University's graduate library school and a great job as exhibits coordinator for the then-brand-new Regenstein Library's rare books department. Then came the recession of the early '70s and a move to New Hampshire.

Attorney Baldwin observes that it was in New Hampshire that she became sharply aware of serious sex discrimination. Despite her experience and education, she couldn't find a job. The University of New Hampshire told her they would never have a special collections department; six months later, she was introduced to the man hired to head the department. After a year as part-time manuscripts librarian at the New Hampshire Historical Society, her boss, the senior librarian, resigned. It was made clear to her that she would never be considered for the position because she was the wrong sex. Other efforts to obtain employment using her education and experience had similar results.

Determining that it was time to get out of the "women's professions," She applied to Franklin Pierce and was admitted to the Class of '77. Attorney Baldwin acknowledges a huge debt of gratitude to Franklin Pierce, and especially to Bob Viles, the late husband of Bruce Viles (#54) and then-Dean of the Law Center, who urged her on when her first semester grades were discouraging; and to Joe Dickinson, Professor of



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Law at the Law Center, who told her that her problem was "test-taking strategy."

Upon graduation, she remembers a new problem: who wanted a 45-year-old female law graduate? She recognizes Dave Wolowitz, then of New Hampshire Legal Assistance, Phil McLaughlin, and Mike Murphy for giving her her chance. Ms. Baldwin was the first woman lawyer in Belknap County. She remembers that the first two firms she approached made it clear that they would never hire a woman lawyer—a position that quickly changed after McLaughlin and Murphy took her on. She observes that she was generally treated with respect, if some bewilderment. She remembers questions such as "We can't address you as 'brother'; what do you want to be called?" "Is it Miss, Mrs., Ms.?"

Attorney Baldwin also wishes to thank the Law Center for inviting her back to run the environmental law clinic, which she did for about four years, and Greg McGregor, who taught environmental law at the Law Center in the early days, for urging her to go out on her own. Since then, she has been able to combine her law degree and her interest in planning, history and the environment to develop a satisfying career. She finds it especially satisfying, now that she is "of counsel" at Baldwin, Callen, Hogan & Kidd and semi-retired, that Jed Callen, Scott Hogan and Grant Kidd have taken up as she leaves off.

### *80. Dorothy Bickford-Desmond*



**D**orothy Bickford-Desmond was born on August 23, 1946, in Wilmington, Delaware. On academic scholarship, she received her B.A. from Barnard College, Columbia University, in New York City in 1968. After a brief stint working for the New York City Bureau of Child Welfare, Dorothy enlisted in VISTA and served 18 months in Houston, Texas.

Returning to New York City, she worked in publishing, becoming the Manager of Conventions and Exhibits for the College Textbook Division of Harper & Row. There, she met and married a New Englander who was also in publishing, becoming Dorothy M. Bickford. Ms. Bickford followed her husband to North Conway in 1970, where they lived on a small farm and she gave birth to their daughter. In the North Country, she became friends with interesting people who went on to become attorneys, including Steve Duprey (now husband of Susan Duprey, #98) and Penny Deans. She also became acquainted with a number of North Country attorneys, and, realizing that she could do what they did, she applied to Boston University Law School in 1974. Upon her acceptance, she and her family sold the farm and moved to Boston.

Dorothy remembers that her daughter was eighteen months old when she entered law school and used to "study" with Dorothy, highlighting her books and making "notations" in the margins just as Dorothy did. Life was very hectic, but her husband was very supportive. Attorney Bickford earned her J.D., cum laude, in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. Having worked as a summer intern for Sheehan, Phinney, Bass +



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Green, she moved back to New Hampshire to join that firm. While at Sheehan, she got to know Claudia Damon (#51), who also introduced her to Alexandra Breed (#49).

Attorney Bickford and her husband divorced in 1979. Also in 1979, she joined what was then Sulloway, Hollis, Godfrey & Soden. Her practice at Sulloway was primarily probate and estate planning, with some public utilities work for PSNH and appellate work under "Marty Gross's wonderfully instructive eye." Steve Duprey, whom she'd last known when he was a college student, was also an associate at the firm. She remembers that many of the lawyers she worked with there "were and are very talented, wonderful people, both in the law and outside of it."

In 1984, Attorney Bickford joined the Dover office of what was then Shaheen, Capiello, Stein & Gordon, "an interesting group of lawyers to be associated with," and became a partner the following year.

When her daughter left for Barnard College in 1991, Attorney Bickford began to seek opportunities outside New Hampshire. She was invited to manage the estate and probate department at a mid-sized Boston firm, Barron & Stadfeld, P.C., in the summer of 1993 and was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar the following year. In the spring of 1997, she took a position "of counsel" with Badger, Dolan, Parker & Cohen, in Boston, where she is essentially self-employed. She considers this to have been the best decision she has ever made.

Dorothy married Richard Desmond in 1996, but has retained the name "Dorothy M. Bickford" for her law practice. In the rest of her life, she is Dorothy M. Desmond.

Dorothy doesn't remember that she experienced much real discrimination because she was a woman lawyer, although there was client early on who would not deal with her. She observes that the judges at both the Superior and Supreme Courts were extremely courteous to her and remembers one judge who put a quick stop to the disrespectful "shenanigans" of opposing counsel early in her practice. She notes that she has clients now who say that they prefer to have a woman lawyer doing their work.

### 81. Charlotte Crane

Charlotte Crane was born in Hanover, New Hampshire on August 30, 1951. She received her A.B. in History, magna cum laude, from Radcliffe College, Harvard University, in 1973 and her J.D., magna cum laude, from the University of Michigan in 1976. Following law school, Professor Crane clerked for the Honorable Wade H. McCree, U.S. Court of Appeals in Detroit, Michigan, and for Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the U.S. Supreme Court. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

In making her decision to go to law school, Professor Crane, who grew up in Plymouth, drew upon some distinctly New Hampshire experiences. She remembers watching town meetings and meetings of various volunteer organizations at which the lawyers present were the only ones making concrete suggestions that seemed

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likely to produce any results, and witnessing the trials or protesting Dartmouth students interspersed with hearings on condemnation awards in connection with the building of I-93, which took place when she was finishing her senior year at Plymouth High School. Throughout law school, Professor Crane still thought of herself as "of New Hampshire," as evidenced by the inclusion of this designation with her name in the masthead of the Law Review.

During law school, Professor Crane married a college classmate from Chicago. Upon graduation from law school, she and her husband had no plans to settle anywhere in particular beyond their knowledge that Professor Crane would be clerking for a circuit judge in Detroit while her husband finished business school. Permanent plans were further postponed when she was offered her clerkship with Justice Blackmun. Anxious to be properly credentialed as a lawyer somewhere, and knowing that she would soon lose her claim to take the New Hampshire bar (residency was still a requirement), she took the New Hampshire bar during the year of her Supreme Court clerkship. (To this day, Professor Crane considers the fact that she passed, given the time she had to study, on her own, using only some old outlines, one the life's great miracles.)

Thinking that she would never feel as if she knew what lawyers really did if she never practiced in the city, Professor Crane succumbed to her husband's request that they move to Chicago so that he could resume employment with a former employer. Although she never considered the move to be permanent, almost twenty-five years later, they are still in Chicago. In that time, Professor Crane worked for four years as an associate, primarily in tax, at what was then Hopkins and Sutter (the firm has since merged with Foley and Lardner). With the impending birth of her first child, she took her current position as a professor of law at Northwestern University School of Law, teaching primarily tax and local government law.

Although Professor Crane has never practiced law in New Hampshire, she still feels an attachment to the state of her youth, as evidenced by her frequent vacations to the state, and the map of Squam, the picture of the view from the shoulder of Wildcat, and the picture of the view from Mt. Percival that hang in her office.

## *82. Pamela D. Kelly*

**M**arital Master Pamela D. Kelly was born in New York City on February 10, 1947, and later lived in Long Island and Connecticut until her family moved to New Hampshire when she was ten. When her mother remarried, her family lived in Massachusetts and six months in Puerto Rico until her senior year in high school, when they returned to New Hampshire and she graduated from Winnacunnet High School in Hampton.

Master Kelly studied languages and majored in French at Chatham College in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she received her B.A. in 1968. After spending a year in Europe on a Fulbright Fellowship, she returned to get her M.A. in French Literature at Harvard University in 1971. Following her husband's graduation from law school, they moved to Portsmouth, where she discovered there were few-to-no employment prospects available in her chosen field. At her husband's suggestion, but with more curiosity than conviction, she enrolled at the University of Maine School of Law in Portland.

By the time Master Kelly received her J.D. and passed the New Hampshire bar in 1977 (she was admitted on October 28, 1977), she was pregnant with her daughter, who was born in December of that year. When her daughter was about a year old, she worked part time, then stayed home for another two years following her son's birth in 1980. By 1983, Master Kelly was

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back to work full-time in a practice with her husband, and began to concentrate on family law. The clients who sought out her advice and services in the early years of her practice were primarily women. Master Kelly observes that the legal issues that pull women into court arise, for the most part, out of the dissolution of relationships. She notes that women felt comfortable confiding in a woman lawyer, and they were free to help themselves to the box of Kleenex she always kept on her desk.

Following her divorce in 1985, Master Kelly accepted a position managing the domestic relations department at Shaines and McEachern. Come to think of it, observes Master Kelly, she was the department there. She remembers being treated with enormous respect and given amazing support by all the lawyers in the firm—and not just because they were so happy to have her take over their divorce cases: her field of practice was deemed to be both worthy of special attention and valuable to the firm. Master Kelly credits her years at Shaines and McEachern with immeasurable gains in her experience and confidence.

Because Master Kelly was in court more than she was in the office, she decided to apply for the position of marital master, reasoning that she would then be in court full-time. In February of 1988, she and four other full-time appointees began work in the Superior Court. Master Kelly considers herself quite lucky to have had extensive experience appearing before Master Stephanie Nute (#76), whom she considers to be a wonderful mentor, prior to taking the bench herself. She loves her job.

In 1991, Master Kelly remarried and began to find time for hobbies. Her husband introduced her to hiking and camping, and his passion for gardening rekindled her own interest. She is an avid reader, which pleases her writer-husband. They spent many adventurous years raising their blended family of three children. As soon as the children appeared to be moving on to their own adult lives, the Kellys “downsized” and retreated to the woods of Nottingham. Master Kelly notes that, after residing in Portsmouth for a quarter of a century, living at the end of a mile-long dirt road was both shock and bliss. The Kellys’ home on Pawtuckaway Lake provides Master Kelly with both serenity and adventure. Kayaking and water sports (including loon watching) have been added to her summer and fall leisure activities. In the winter, skating, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing are right outside her front door.



### 83. Janine Gawryl

**B**orn on January 16, 1952, in Roubaix, France, Janine Gawryl became naturalized an American citizen in 1970. She received her B.A. in Psychology and Education from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, in 1974 and her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. Attorney Gawryl practices with Gawryl & MacAllister, Attorneys at Law, in Nashua.

### 84. Cathy J. Green

**C**athy J. Green was born in New York City on August 18, 1953. She received her B.A. in Political Science from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut in 1974. Attorney Green came to New Hampshire while working for George



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McGovern in his presidential primary campaign and fell in love with the state. She attended Franklin Pierce Law Center, receiving her J.D. in 1977. While in law school, she interned for Judge Hugh Bownes and then was hired as an investigator by James E. Duggan (now Associate Justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court) of the New Hampshire Public Defender Program. Upon graduation, she was hired as one of three Public Defenders in the state, remaining in that position for three years. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

After leaving the Public Defender Program, Attorney Green went into private practice. Her firm, Green & Utter, handles criminal defense matters in the state and federal courts.

Attorney Green is a fellow in the American college of Trial Lawyers and the International Society of Barristers. She was recognized by the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association as a recipient of the Marilla Ricker Award in 2001. She served for thirteen years as the first President of the New Hampshire Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and currently serves on that Board as well as the Board of the New Hampshire Public Defender Program.

She and her husband, James Starr, have raised two daughters, Michelle, age 17, and Victoria, age 14. When she is not working or watching her daughters play softball, basketball or field hockey, she and her family enjoy traveling—both internationally and within the United States.

### *85. Jody D. Handy*



Jody D. Handy was born in Holland, Michigan on October 17, 1949. She received her B.A. from the University of Colorado in 1971 and her J.D. from Washington University School of Law in 1977, having completed her third year of law school at Boston University. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. Attorney Handy was a law clerk—perhaps the first female—for the New Hampshire Superior Court from 1977 to 1978. From 1978 to 1980, she practiced with Burns, Bryant, Hinchey, Cox & Shea in Dover, becoming the second woman to practice in Strafford County. In 1980 and 1981, she taught two paralegal classes for the University of New Hampshire Continuing Education Department. She served on the Durham Planning Board and the Board of Directors of Durham Visiting Nurses and was appointed Guardian ad Litem in some divorce cases.

She returned to Michigan in 1985, where she was admitted to the Bar in 1986. From 1986 to 1999, she served as corporate counsel to Herman Miller, Inc., and has served as Vice President of Corporate Giving at Herman Miller since 1999.

Attorney Handy has participated in numerous volunteer activities, which currently include: Trustee, Young Life, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Director, Priority Health, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Holland, Michigan, Area Young Life Committee; Third Reformed Church Personnel Committee, Holland,

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Michigan. Attorney Handy enjoys walking, tennis, swimming, reading, travel and knitting. She has two children, Jessica DePree Handy, born in 1979, and Owen Nicholas Handy, born in 1981.

### *86. Dona L. Heller*

**B**orn in Hanover, New Hampshire on September 16, 1947, Dona L. Heller received her A.B. from Bryn Mawr College in 1970 and her J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1973. She was admitted to the Bars of Vermont and Colorado in 1974 and to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

### *87. Carolyn H. Henneman*

**C**arolyn H. Henneman was born in Boston on August 5, 1949. She attended Oberlin College during the sixties, graduating magna cum laude in 1970, the spring of the violence at Kent State, just down the road from Oberlin. She became a lawyer as a direct result of her anti-war activities at school, where she was a draft counselor. She remembers that she and dozens of others were arrested for a sit-in on campus to protest recruiting by the military, and it was the experience of having to defend herself against charges of trespass that motivated her interest in becoming a criminal defense attorney.

She worked for two years as a paralegal before attending law school at New York University, from which she received her J.D., cum laude, in 1974. At NYU, she received the Founders Day Award (for scholastic achievement), Order of the Coif, and a civil liberties fellowship. She also served on the Moot Court Board.

After graduation from law school, she clerked for the Honorable Whitman Knapp, at the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York from 1974 to 1976 and then became an associate at a small white-collar defense firm in Manhattan. Attorney Henneman remembers that the partners at the firm were all former federal prosecutors, and they convinced her to apply to the U.S. Attorneys Office, promising that she would there learn how to be a trial lawyer. At first, she was resistant to the idea of becoming a prosecutor, but they assured her she could do more justice and help more people as a prosecutor. She found them to be right.

Toward the latter part of her tenure in the U.S. Attorneys Office, Ms. Henneman fell in love with New Hampshire and decided to take the New Hampshire bar exam so she could practice here. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. At about that time, the partners in another small litigation firm in New York City made her an offer she could not refuse, so instead of moving to New Hampshire, she stayed in Manhattan, and went to work with that firm, where she became partner in 1982. In 1988, she took the Maryland bar and was appointed an Assistant Attorney General assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division (CID). Attorney Henneman became the Deputy Chief of CID in 1992 and the Chief in 1996.

Attorney Henneman is also very active in the Maryland legislature, advising the

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Attorney General on all criminal justice matters. She drafted what became Maryland's procurement fraud statute, as well as the bill that created the new crime of identity fraud. Most recently, on behalf of the Governor's Task Force on Terrorism, she drafted all the Task Force's anti-terrorism bills and is very busy currently in the legislature working to get them passed.

### *88. Constance G. Jackson*

Constance G. Jackson was born on November 19, 1947 in Cincinnati, Ohio. She received her B.S., cum laude, in Education from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 1972 and her J.D from the University of Cincinnati College of Law in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. Her practice in New Hampshire included association with the Wm. Howard Dunn Law Offices in Claremont, and she was a member of the New Hampshire Trial Lawyers Association. Attorney Jackson was deceased on May 16, 1999.

### *89. Barbara R. Keshen*



Born in Brookline, Massachusetts on June 8, 1948, Barbara R. Keshen received her B.A. from Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut in 1970 and her J.D. from New England School of Law in Boston in 1976. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977, and to the Massachusetts Bar the same year. From 1978 to 1985, Attorney Keshen served as an Assistant District Attorney in Essex County, Massachusetts. She served as an Assistant Attorney General in New Hampshire from 1985 to 1990 and has been a New Hampshire Public Defender since 1992.

Attorney Keshen's career has been devoted to the practice of criminal law in the public sector—first as a prosecutor and now as a defender. Through the years, her caseload has come frequently to include complex, highly publicized cases. She has never regretted the decision to become an attorney or her choice of practice area. Although it is emotionally and physically grueling at times, she has loved the challenge. She feels she was born to be a trial lawyer.

Barbara observes that it has been wonderful to see the ranks of women lawyers grow behind her. She often feels like the "grand dame" of the criminal defense bar.

### *90. Karin Kramer*



Karin Kramer was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on June 30, 1952. She spent two years at Smith College before transferring to Brown University, where she earned her B.A. in 1974. She received her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. While in law school, Attorney Kramer

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became interested in practicing in the area of Title VII. She chose to practice in New Hampshire at Orr & Reno, in part, because Susan Leahy (#40), of that firm, was prosecuting a large Title VII case against Public Service of New Hampshire. While in New Hampshire, she attempted to set up a New Hampshire chapter of NOW and worked with the ACLU to defend nine anti-nuclear demonstrators who had been arrested while protesting the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant.

However, after 15 months, Attorney Kramer moved to San Francisco, where she worked in a defense-oriented litigation firm. She also became the legal referral for the local chapter of NOW. Later, she opened her own law practice and was a founding member of the San Francisco Women Lawyer's Alliance. By 1987, she joined Keker & VanNest (formerly Keker & Brockett) as a contract attorney, later as an associate, and in January 1994, she became a partner. Among her more interesting trials was the largest palimony case in history. She represented the woman, and the case ended up on Court TV.

Ms. Kramer is married and has two daughters, Chloe and Skye. Skye is Vietnamese and was adopted in 1996.

### *91. Jane R. Lawrence*

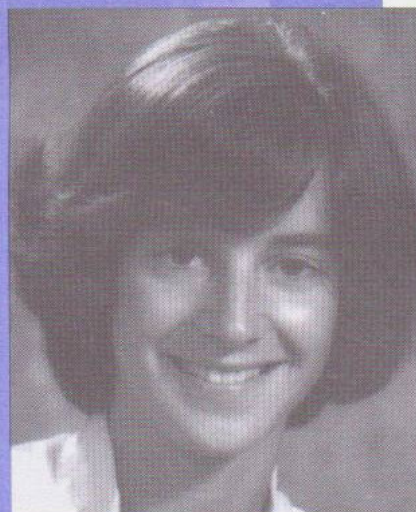
**B**orn on March 31, 1947 in Baltimore, Maryland, Jane R. Lawrence received her A.B. in English from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania in 1969 and her J.D. from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

After graduation, Attorney Lawrence practiced at Myers and Brown in Concord for two years. Soon after, she and her husband, Paul, opened the firm of Lawrence and Lawrence in Manchester. When Paul was appointed to a full-time judicial position, and after raising two children, Jessica and Duncan, she joined a small firm in Peterborough, practicing primarily in the area of estate administration. She is currently a principal in the firm, Blodgett, Makechnie & Forrest, PLLC. Attorney Lawrence served on the ConVal School Board for six years and is currently on the Board of the Scott-Farrar Home in Peterborough and the Board of the Southern New Hampshire Youth Ballet in Bedford.

### *92. Ellen L. Arnold*

**E**llen L. Arnold was born on October 11, 1951 in Cleveland, Ohio. She received her B.A. from Skidmore College in 1973 and her J.D. from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

During her career in New Hampshire, Attorney Arnold has served as Special Counsel to Governor Judd Gregg and counsel to the New Hampshire Senate and has practiced as a litigation partner at McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton. While at that law firm, she served as Chair of the Land Use Practice Group and a member of the Administrative Law Section.



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Attorney Arnold is currently Associate General Counsel for Dartmouth College in Hanover. Her practice is primarily in the area of land use and real property taxation, environmental, employment and disabilities law. She is a part-time District Court and Grafton County Family Division Judge. She also serves on the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association Board as the Grafton County Representative.

### *93. Lizbeth Lyons*

**B**orn in Boston on December 25, 1945, Lizbeth Lyons received her B.A., summa cum laude, from Seattle University in Seattle, Washington in 1967 and her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in 1977, having attended Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco for her first year of law school. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

### *94. Elizabeth Marean Mueller*

**B**orn in Boothbay Harbor, Maine on July 12, 1948, Elizabeth Marean Mueller graduated cum laude from the University of Massachusetts in 1970 with a B.A. in Sociology. She completed her student teaching internship and Teaching Psychology class (M.A.T. Program) at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She taught second grade in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania public school system until 1973. Wanting a profession that would provide flexibility and mobility, after reviewing her skills and education, she decided to study law. She attended Duquesne University for her first year of law school and then transferred to Suffolk University Law School, earning her J.D. there in 1977.

During the summer of 1976, she clerked for what was then Shaines, Madrigan & McEachern in Portsmouth. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977, and to the Massachusetts Bar the same year. She held a position in the Law Offices of Frederick T. McCarthy, Esq. as in-house counsel for the United States Fidelity & Guaranty Insurance Company in Boston until 1979, when she moved to Maine. That same year she took the Maine Bar Exam, got married, was admitted to the Maine Bar and joined the Law Offices of Joseph L. Bornstein, Esq. in Portland, where she worked on plaintiff's-side cases similar to those she defended while working for the insurance company. She left this position in 1982 and commenced a lengthy sabbatical to raise four children.

Although staying home with her children has not been without its consequences with respect to her professional development, Attorney Mueller thinks it was the right choice for her. She remains active in her children's schools.

Ms. Mueller is currently a retail sales representative at L.L. Bean in Freeport, Maine and this summer will be a Temporary Team Leader. She is having fun learning new skills while continuing to maintain enough flexibility for her two younger children who are now in high school.

### *95. Marilyn Billings McNamara*

**M**arilyn Billings McNamara was born in Watertown, New York on April 16, 1950. She enrolled at the University of New Hampshire in 1967 planning to be a veterinarian but graduating cum laude with a B.S. in Home Economics instead in 1971. After a

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brief stint teaching, she became a caseworker for the Division of Welfare, working in Concord and then Claremont. She decided to go to law school after frequently appearing in the District Court in front of the Honorable Albert Leahy, Jr., now retired, who demonstrated authority, compassion and respect for the law while retaining a sense of humor and affection for the people who came before him. It seemed like law might be an honorable profession and might result in increased job satisfaction in light of the fact that it would not entail having to remove crying children from their crying parents' arms.

Attorney McNamara graduated from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1977 and was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. After graduating from law school, she co-directed Franklin Pierce Law Center's Family and Housing Law Clinic. She worked in private practice for over twenty years in Lebanon while raising two children. She observes that she balanced family and practice by having the lowest possible housekeeping standards, the highest possible expectations for her children and a wonderful husband who cooks all the meals. Attorney McNamara notes that she has never experienced overt discrimination or bias in her home county of Grafton or elsewhere.

Attorney McNamara left private practice in June 2001 to become the Executive Director of the Legal Advice and Referral Center at the New Hampshire Bar Association. She misses going to court and having clients, but she loves the work she does now—overseeing the provision of legal services to low-income clients.

### *96. Margaret B. Morin*

**B**orn on September 14, 1947, in Rochester, New York, Margaret B. Morin received her A.B., magna cum laude, from Brown University in 1969 and her J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of Law, in 1977. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. Attorney Morin practiced at Stebbins & Bradley, P.A., in Hanover for several years before her husband took a teaching position at S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook. She now resides on Long Island.

### *97. Nancy V. Sisemoore*

**N**ancy V. Sisemoore was born in St. Louis, Missouri on January 11, 1953. Her family moved to southern California in 1957 and she grew up there. She received her B.A., magna cum laude, in American Studies from Brandeis University in 1974, having spent her junior year in France. She went to law school at the National Law Center of the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where she was a member of the law review and graduated with honors in 1977.

Attorney Sisemoore moved to New Hampshire after law school with her husband, who was a New Hampshire native, and she was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977. She has two children, Jennifer and Thomas, whom she considers, without a doubt, to be the greatest achievements of her life.

Her first job as an attorney was working for Robert Shaw, in Exeter, who had a small



## *A Celebration of*

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general practice with one associate. She handled domestic cases and general small litigation. Shortly after starting this position she received a phone call from Patricia McKee (#62), who was working at Sanders & McDermott in Hampton. She asked Nancy to go lunch with her and told her how great it was to have another woman attorney working in the seacoast region. Patricia was very encouraging and helpful to her in her first year of practice.

In 1978, Attorney Sisemoore and her then-husband, Jeff, opened a private practice in Portsmouth, where she practiced for two years doing divorce, juvenile and real estate work. She started taking accounting courses at night and was offered a job at the Internal Revenue Service, where she worked for five years as an estate tax attorney. She continued taking accounting courses and then passed the CPA exam. She became a licensed CPA in 1985.

Attorney Sisemoore started working with Devine, Millimet, Stahl and Branch, P.A., in December 1985 and became a partner a couple of years later. She specialized in Estate Planning, Tax and Probate. In 1993 she was voted in as a member of the New Hampshire chapter of the American College of Trust and Estate Council (ACTEC).

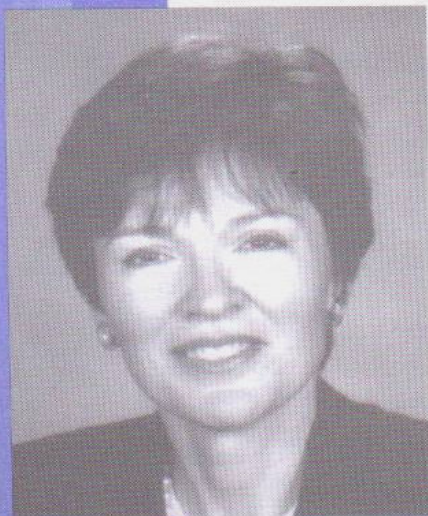
Outside of her practice and her family, Attorney Sisemoore took up ballroom dancing and began doing amateur competitions. She also served on the Board of the New Hampshire Performing Arts Center, serving as its treasurer for two years. In addition, she participated in the New Hampshire Bar Association's "Lawyer in Every School" program for several years, in which she taught elementary school children about the law. She also helped low-income individuals prepare their tax returns through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program.

In 1998, she decided 21 years of being a lawyer was enough. She "retired" from law practice on July 31, 1998, got remarried a couple of weeks later (she's now Nancy V. Brown), and began taking computer courses. A year later she started a new career as a software engineer. At the end of 2000, she and her husband decided they had had enough of New England winters and moved to Cary, North Carolina (just outside of Raleigh), where they now smile every time they hear about a snowstorm in New Hampshire.

#### *98. Susan Vercillo Duprey*

**S**usan Vercillo Duprey was born in Syracuse, New York on August 3, 1951 and lived there through her college years. She received her B.A. from Syracuse University in 1972, and her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in 1976. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977.

After law school Attorney Duprey clerked at the New Hampshire Supreme Court for the Honorable William Grimes. His love of land-use law, and particularly his view that people should be as free as possible to use their land as they wished, probably sparked her original interest in real estate. This interest was carried through at the first-and-only firm she ever worked at, Devine, Millimet



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& Branch, where Norman H. Stahl (now the Honorable Norman H. Stahl) was her mentor. Judge Stahl's practice contained a significant amount of real estate, one of the larger projects they worked on being the Settlers Green project, which was the development of the North Conway Airport.

Attorney Duprey practiced at Devine, Millimet & Branch from 1977 through 1988. At that time she took what was to have been a one-and-a-half-year leave of absence, which ultimately extended through six years. She rejoined the firm in the fall of 1994, became its president in 1998 and remains its president and a senior shareholder. Prior to taking the leave of absence she had two sons, Thad and Sam, who are now 16 and 15, and while she was on leave of absence she had a third son, Luke, who is now 11.

While Attorney Duprey was on leave she became involved in many community projects. Her family has a long history of community involvement. She became a member of the Concord Planning Board and a member of the Concord Heritage Commission and was the chairperson for the redrafting of the Concord Master Plan. She also ran for and became a Concord City Councilor. At the same time she served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Kimball-Jenkins Estate, Trustee and Vice President of the Concord Regional Visiting Nurses Association, and Concord Hospital and Capital Region Health Care Corporation where she served as Trustee. Today she serves as a Trustee of the New Hampshire Institute of Art, a Director of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce and a Trustee of the New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts.

Attorney Duprey originally came to New Hampshire through a friend whose parents had a home on Squam Lake. After seeing how beautiful the state of New Hampshire was, she made a prompt decision to live in this state. She first began working in New Hampshire in 1973, before graduating from law school, by doing an internship at New Hampshire Legal Assistance for six months. Since law school, all of her career has been in New Hampshire and she is married to a bona fide New Hampshire native. In 1998 she was recognized as one of the 30 most powerful women by New Hampshire Magazine.

Susan does not recall any tremendous obstacles because of her gender. She feels that Devine, Millimet & Branch has always been more than fair to her in terms of its approach to work and the opportunities that have been provided to her. Her mentor, Norman Stahl, always believed in her capabilities and provided lots of opportunities to her, and she feels very fortunate for that. Now her firm has many women in it and they support one another.

## *99. Lanea A. Witkus*

**L**ane A. Witkus was born in Newport, New Hampshire on September 27, 1953. She graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of New Hampshire in 1974, where she received the Jere Chase Award for participation in Student government. She received her J.D. from George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., in 1977. During law school, she clerked for Judge John Fairbanks and worked for two law firms in



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Washington, D.C.

After her admission to the New Hampshire Bar on October 28, 1977, she joined Bemis, Davis, Murray and Grossman in Somersworth, New Hampshire, doing primarily title work. At that time she became active in the bar association and admired the openness and participating nature of the bar.

Attorney Witkus set up her own practice in Newport in 1979. She claims the first computer in Sullivan County although she reports that several firms were well served by their mag card machines. Since opening her practice, she has done a fair amount of court-appointed work, and handles domestic, probate, personal injury, bankruptcy, and civil litigation cases. She also has a limited practice in the Federal District Court and has had several cases before the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

Attorney Witkus was a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association's Board of Governors, twice as a representative from Sullivan County and once as a governor at large. She is currently on the New Hampshire Trial Lawyers board.

She married Jeffrey Blonquist, another Newport native, on October 16, 1988. They have a daughter Brittany, born in 1989, and a son Jeffrey, born in 1994. They reside in Newport.

Attorney Witkus was joined by Jonathan Weidman in the practice of law in 1984, and he became a partner. They incorporated as Witkus and Weidman, P.C., and then Vanessa Wilson joined the firm and they became Witkus, Wilson, and Weidman. Jonathan has since left and they practice now as Witkus and Wilson, P.C. Attorney Witkus still loves the practice of law.

## *100. Nancy O. Dodge*

**B**orn in Bridgeport, Connecticut on February 13, 1976, Nancy O. Dodge received her B.A. from Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York in 1968 and her J.D. from Boston College Law School in 1971. She was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1971 and the New Hampshire Bar on November 1, 1977.

In 1979, Ms. Dodge moved with her husband to Westerly, Rhode Island, where she practiced part-time from 1981 through 2000. She was the town attorney for Block Island from 1985 to 1989 and Probate Judge in Hopkinton, Rhode Island from 1991 to 1996, while she continued a private practice that focused on real estate law and education law. In February 2000, she was asked to assume the job of Interim Manager for Block Island when the former manager was dismissed, and she became the permanent manager in May 2000, a position she holds presently. Nancy has four children: Josh, Amy, Jed and Casey. Two have graduated from college and two are currently attending college.



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