

## News Notes

**James Otto Heiting**, fourth President of The Other Bar, was sworn in as President of the State Bar of California September 9, 2005 in San Diego. Jim is an enormously talented attorney who specializes in workmen's compensation litigation. He was a greatly effective President of the Other Bar, a founder of the Bloomington, CA meeting and is a persuasive educator in the field of substance abuse. He is a valued friend and mentor of many members of The Other Bar. He was also a twenty-year serving member of the board of directors of The Other Bar. We extend to him our congratulations and best wishes in his new responsibility.

**Jim Brugge**, the OB's consultant for the San Jose metropolitan area, reports that the San Jose meeting is vibrant. The average age of the attendees is 36, indicating that the OB is reaching a younger audience. **Judge Laurence Terry** of the Santa Clara Superior Court has been instrumental in the founding of this chapter. Judge Terry is also responsible for the introduction of a successful Drug Program in the Santa Clara County courts.

**Howard C. Oberg**, who was the initiator of the OB's website and a very honored member died in Tennessee in the spring. He established our electronic outreach to fulfill our mission purpose of helping attorneys, judges and those in the legal community who suffer drug dependency. His welcome manner and gentle kindness helped many members over the years. He is missed.

The 18<sup>th</sup> Spring Networking of the Other Bar was a wonderful event in April. Many from the Los Angeles area, including second President **Eli Guana**, now secretary of the international Lawyers Helping Lawyers organization, attended it. A great friend of

the OB, **Ted Cohen**, joined him from Los Angeles. Ted has successfully represented many attorneys facing disciplinary action before the State Bar process. He has also helped hundreds of men and women in the Los Angeles area over the existence of the Other Bar and strengthened the OB meetings in the Los Angeles area. Many of those attending the Networking for the first time found a cooperative series of meetings and established support networks for their recovery that will stand them in good stead in their day-to-day activities and private life. We all owe a great deal to the organizers of the Spring Networking and they are profoundly thanked for their efforts.

The upcoming retreats for women and for men are focused on strengthening each of our resolves to recovery. Each has modest cost. For those that cannot attend due to cost, scholarship funds are available. All anyone has to do is ask any of the Consultants to put him or her in touch with the organizers of these weekends. The format of the Retreats feature outstanding speakers. The destination places of these retreats are designed for their relaxing and helping atmospheres. All are most sincerely welcome. The retreats begin on late Friday afternoon with registration followed by an evening social reception. Often as many of 50 attendees, with their families and friends, attend. Our goal is to enable people at various stages of recovery to reach out to men and women who share some affinity with the legal profession to secure a stable psychological footing in their recovery.