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LAW LETTER

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

WINTER 1998

Ronald Dworkin delivers 21st Miller Lecture

Professor Ronald Dworkin, University Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford University and Professor of Law at New York University, delivered the 21st Henry J. Miller Distinguished Lecture on November 3. The audience, comprising students, faculty and alumni of Georgia State as well as members of the bar, the judiciary, and faculties of other institutions, filled the Urban Life Center Auditorium to hear Dworkin speak on Justice, Death and Luck.

Dworkin developed themes from his recent book on the abortion debate, *Life's Dominion* (Knopf 1993), and from the "Philosopher's Brief," which he and a group of leading moral philosophers submitted amicus curiae to the U.S. Supreme Court in the assisted suicide cases decided last term. A woman's right to an early abortion, he told the audience, is legally settled though still controversial, but recognition of a constitutional right to a physician's assistance in seeking a "better, if shorter," life has not been decisively repudiated by the Court, despite last summer's decisions in *Glucksburg v. Washington* and *Vacco v. Quill*. He then turned to the looming ethical puzzles that new biological technologies, such as cloning and DNA engineering, will soon make as urgent as the assisted-suicide issue is today.

Ronald Dworkin

Dworkin studied philosophy at Harvard College, where he received a B.A. degree. He then studied jurisprudence at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he discovered the depth of his interest in the law. He returned to Harvard to study at the law school and, after graduating, clerked for Judge Learned Hand.

After practicing with Sullivan and Cromwell in New York, he joined the faculty of Yale Law School. In 1968, Yale appointed him to the Wesley Newcombe Hohfeld Chair of Jurisprudence, but in the following year he left Yale for Oxford, to succeed H.L.A. Hart as University Professor. Since 1975, Dworkin also has taught in the fall of each year at the New York University School of Law.

Although he is best known for theoretical work challenging the positivism that has dominated 20th-century Anglo-American jurisprudence, Dworkin has also been continuously engaged in the great public debates of our time. His visit to Georgia State will long be remembered.

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

The College of Law is dedicated to the fulfillment of its public service mission. Through pro bono service, the college's students, graduates and faculty share their expertise both to enlighten public discourse and to help the needy. Professional public service not only helps to redress inequities, but imparts joy to those giving to others.

As we celebrate our 15th anniversary, we thank the college's founders who fought valiantly for a decade to establish a public law school that would open its doors to part-time as well as full-time students. Although the genesis of our law school arose from Emory University's decision to close its part-time law program in 1969, the college's founders would labor until August 1981 before receiving the necessary state approval. The generous contributions of a number of organizations and individuals kept the college alive in its early years before the American Bar Association granted full accreditation in 1990.

Located in the heart of downtown Atlanta, one block away from the capitol, the college seeks to be a good neighbor. During the college's upcoming Law Week, from April 3-9, we will stress the importance of community service as we celebrate our country's heritage of liberty and justice under law. Our students will organize several public service projects during Law Week that will emphasize the college's pride in its central Atlanta urban neighborhood. Volunteers will aid nearby community members.

Public service is not reserved just for Law Week. Last fall our Student Bar Association coordinated with the Task Force for the Homeless to assist in the completion of a new homeless shelter at the corner of Peachtree and Pine streets. Each year the college's Public Interest Law Association raises funds to finance several public interest law positions for students during the summer.

Our talented faculty performs pro bono service in a variety of ways. Faculty members share their knowledge with many different professional and public-interest groups through frequent presentations. Others serve on the boards of nonprofit and governmental organizations. Faculty members also serve on bar association and professional committees to update members of the bench and bar on important new legal developments. Through our close association with Georgia's state government, law professors assist the legislature in law revision projects.

In the years ahead, I am sure that the college will continue to strengthen the tradition of public service it established in its formative years. The services provided by our Tax Clinic, our Consortium on Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, our Law Library and our Law Review's publication of the *Peach Sheets* helps to assure our continued success in serving others.

Janice C. Griffith

The ***Law Letter*** is published by the Office of Development three times a year for graduates, students, faculty, staff and friends of the College of Law. Please send address changes, graduate news, comments and requests to:

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FOCUS ON SERVICE

Beasley receives Ben Johnson Award

The College of Law presented its fourth Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award to Judge Dorothy Toth Beasley on April 24, 1997. The Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award is presented annually to a Georgia lawyer whose life and career reflects the high tradition of selfless public service that our founding dean, Ben Johnson, has exemplified during his career. The College of Law was honored to present the award to Beasley, whose career reflects precisely that high tradition.

A letter read from Sen. Paul Coverdell at the award ceremony expressed gratitude for Beasley's public service with these words: "It is the kindness and generosity of Chief Judge Beasley, who throughout her many hours of service, surely makes our state a better place. The state of Georgia is forever indebted to Chief Judge Beasley, and we are proud to celebrate with her as she receives this noble award she so richly deserves." In addition to Beasley's family and friends, guests at the ceremony included members of the bench and bar, representatives from nonprofit organizations to which she has provided significant service, and College of Law faculty, staff, graduates and students.

Judge Beasley's distinguished legal career began in Arlington, Va., where she was a law clerk in the Circuit Court of Arlington County before entering private practice. After moving to Atlanta, she left private practice and subsequently served both as an assistant attorney general of Georgia and as an assistant United States attorney. Her judicial career began when Gov. George Busbee appointed her to the State Court of Fulton County in 1977; subsequently elected, she served there for seven years. Appointed to the Georgia Court of Appeals in 1984, Beasley became the first woman to serve as chief judge (1995-96).

Beasley's public-minded service takes many forms. In 1991, she was part of a three-person team sent to Albania by the ABA's Central and Eastern European Law Initiative project, to consult on judicial reform. She has served two terms on the board of directors of the National Center for State Courts and was given its first Paul C. Reardon Award. Beasley chaired the drafting subcommittee of the Judicial Article Subcommittee for the 1983 Constitution of Georgia. She has also served as an adviser to the Governor's Commission on Children and Youth and as a member of the Georgia Commission on Gender Bias in the Judicial System and the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

Judge Dorothy T. Beasley and Dean Emeritus Ben F. Johnson Jr.

"It is the kindness and generosity of Chief Judge Beasley, who throughout her many hours of service, surely makes our state a better place."

— Sen. Paul Coverdell

Beasley participates in many professional and public-interest organizations. She is a member of the American Law Institute and a member and former director of the American Judicature Society. In 1992, Beasley was elected Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. She was a charter member and trustee of the Georgia Legal History Foundation in June 1995 and has served as guest essays editor of the *Georgia Journal of Southern Legal History*. In 1993, she was given the Lodestar Award by American University for inquiry, involvement, diversity and service.

Beasley's commitment to community outreach is exemplified by her work as co-founder of Atlanta's Table and as a member of its Friends Committee as well as her service on the board of directors of the Atlanta Community Food Bank and on the advisory board of Project Reach. She has served on the board of directors of Lutheran Towers and is an active member of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. And she is an alumna of both Leadership Atlanta (class of 1975) and Leadership Georgia (class of 1982).

The 1998 Ben Johnson Jr. Award Committee, chaired by Professor Charles Marvin, accepted nominations for the 1998 award through January 31 and will present the award in April. Friends of the College of Law are invited to attend the awards ceremony and reception. For more information about the Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award, call Kelly Littrell at 404/651-2040 or visit our home page at gsulaw.gsu.edu. Past recipients of the award are the Honorable Harold G. Clarke, former Chief Justice, Georgia Supreme Court; Donald Lee Hollowell, Esq.; and the Honorable Elbert P. Tuttle, former Senior Judge, Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

FOCUS ON SERVICE

PILA Fellows lend legal hands

Four College of Law students spent last summer lending their legal talents and skills to public-interest law agencies thanks to money raised at the 1997 Public Interest Law Association Auction in March. The auction secured more than $8,000 and enabled L. Vincent Anderson to work for the Georgia Center for Law in the Public Interest; Carmelia Jackson to work for the Victim Witness Assistance Program of the Municipal and Superior Courts; Kasey Roberts to work for the Elderly Legal Services Program of Georgia Legal Services Program; and Ann Pickett to work for the Environmental Justice Project of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

The PILA summer fellowships reward both the public-interest law agencies and the future attorneys. L. Vincent Anderson, who was responsible for legal research and analyses of municipal utility compliance records, said, "It was a pleasure to feel that I was investigating something both challenging and consequential."

After the summer ended, Carmelia Jackson found her fellowship so satisfying that she has continued to volunteer for the Victim Witness Assistance Programs, where she helps domestic violence victims obtain temporary protective orders and violent crime victims to better navigate court proceedings.

1998 PILA Auction

The 1998 PILA Auction will be held February 20 at the Buckhead Wyndham Garden Hotel at 6:30 p.m. and will include both live and silent auctions. College of Law graduates and friends are invited to attend.

New Inn of Court established

The Georgia Family Law American Inn of Court held its first annual banquet on November 24. It is the first specialized Inn of Court in Georgia and was chartered for the purpose of promoting law practice excellence, high standards of professionalism, and increased civility among members of the family law bar. The banquet, which was the first full meeting of inn members, included a keynote address by Judge Patrick E. Higginbotham, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and president of the American Inns of Court Foundation.

Eight third-year students were selected as the first pupils of the inn. Each is assigned to a pupillage team consisting of masters (judges and attorneys with 10 or more years of experience) and barristers (attorneys with three to 10 years of experience). Each team will present an educational program to the inn members during the 1997-98 year. The pupils are Eddie H. Cooper, Christopher Gene Harris, Pamela Johnson, Linda H. Register, Kelli Cobb Rutherford, Stanley W. Schoolcraft III, Stephen R. Starks, and Michelle Guthrie Whitelaw.

Robert Wellon, of counsel to Wilson, Strickland & Benson, P.C., chaired the founding committee and now serves as president of the inn. Justice Leah Sears, Georgia Supreme Court, is chancellor (president-elect). Professors Bernadette Hartfield and Mark Kadish are program co-chairs for the inn and faculty advisers to the pupils.

From left: Anne Jarrett, Turner, Turner & Turner; Richard Schiffman, Davis, Matthews & Quigley; Judge T. Jackson Bedford, Fulton County Superior Court; Dean Janice C. Griffith; Robert Wellon, President, of counsel, Wilson, Strickland & Benson; Judge Mary Staley, Cobb County Superior Court; Professor Bernadette Hartfield, program co-chair; Professor Mark Kadish, program co-chair; and Judge Patrick Higginbothom, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, president of the American Inns of Court Foundation.

The Bleckley Inn of Court, launched in 1990 for litigators, hosts six programs a year devoted to a wide range of issues relating to trial practice, ethics and professionalism. The president of the inn for the 1997-98 academic year is Mary Ann Oakley. Professors Paul Milich and Eric Segall help structure the inn's activities and coordinate various meetings and social events. This year's 12 participating students are Amy Bergeron, Nowell Berreth, Rochelle Bozman, W. Kent Davis, Mary Hawk, Michael Lesutis, Chuck Morris, Kathryn Pulliam, James Standard, Kristin Stagliano, Lawrence Thrower and Harris Troutman.

FACULTYBRIEFS

Ronald Blasi was a principal speaker at the Annual Bank Tax Institute in Orlando, Fla., and he was appointed to represent the ABA Tax Section at the Section Officers Conference Pro Bono Committee of the American Bar Association.

Mark Budnitz presented a paper entitled "Privacy Protections and the CyberConsumer: The Need to Regulate the Fundamentals," at a conference in Arlington, Va., on government applications of smart card and biometrics technology. In October, Budnitz made a presentation entitled Emerging Issues in Electronic Banking at the National Consumer Rights Litigation Conference in New Orleans.

Victor Flatt was interviewed regarding EPA environmental enforcement findings by the publication *Inside EPA*. He also guest lectured in Georgia State's Department of Economics on environmental takings legislation.

Marjorie Girth served on the planning committee for a national conference sponsored by the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Its topic was Challenging Discriminatory Practices in Public Education, and it met in Atlanta in mid-September. Later that month, Girth participated in the second meeting of the national Debtor Education Think Tank concerning consumer bankruptcy issues. She was also an invited guest at the annual convention of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in mid-October and led a workshop on Reaffirmation Practices as part of the bankruptcy judges' continuing education program.

Janice Griffith co-moderated a panel on the Model Act to Create a Central Hearing Agency, a program sponsored by the National Conference of Administrative Law Judges, the Administrative Law Section, and the Section of State and Local Government Law of the American Bar Association at the ABA's annual meeting. She participated in a panel on finance at the Fall Council Meeting of the ABA's Section of State and Local Government Law in Asheville, N.C., in November.

Mark J. Kadish's article "Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations: A Search for the Right to Consul," was published by the *Michigan Journal of International Law* in October. Kadish spoke at the Senior Citizens University at Mercer.

Marjorie Knowles spoke at the Fall Regional Conference of the American Society of Corporate Secretaries, Southeastern Chapter, and to the second-year M.B.A. class at the Emory Business School. Both talks were on the changes in corporate governance, especially the role of institutional investors.

Knowles chairs the District IV Committee for the Rhodes Scholarships. District IV includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. Knowles was a discussion leader at the Annual Convocation on Professionalism of the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. She also visited six Women's Studies Centers in connection with a project for the Ford Foundation.

Charles Marvin was appointed program director of the Regent University Summer International Human Rights Law Program in Strasbourg, France. Locally he presented a survey of recent developments in administrative law to the annual conference of the Georgia Association of Administrative Law Judges and Hearing Officers.

Ellen S. Podgor was elected to membership in the American Law Institute. She spoke in New York City at the International Law Weekend '97 on the topic of White-Collar Crime from a Global Perspective. She co-wrote the second edition of *White-Collar Crime in a Nutshell* with Professor Jerold H. Israel.

Linda Robinson created and wrote the moot court problem for the 1997 Honorable Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition and wrote the bench brief provided to the competition judges. On October 23, Robinson made a two-hour presentation on Opinion Writing to the Office of State Administrative Hearings as part of its annual continuing judicial education workshop.

Teresa Wright conducted a seminar on Written Communication at the Region 4 meeting of the National Association of Legal Secretaries on October 24, 1997. NALS members from six states in the Southeast attended the session entitled, Dotting the "I"s and Crossing the "T"s, and they received continuing professional education credit for the seminar.

Doug Yarn conducted two presentations on his work at the Annual Society of Professions in Dispute Resolution Conference in Orlando in September. The presentations were entitled The Evolution of Language in Conflict Resolution and Garnering Institutional Support for Conflict Resolution Systems in Higher Education. Dr. Art Dunning, senior vice chancellor of the University System of Georgia, co-presented the latter.

In November, Yarn was invited to speak to the State Bar Section on Dispute Resolution at their annual meeting and CLE program. His presentation was entitled The Death of ADR: Issues for Consideration.

In the fall, the Harrison Co. published two of Yarn's treatises, the second edition of *Alternative Dispute Resolution: Practice and Procedure in Georgia* and *Alternative Dispute Resolution: Practice and Procedure in North Carolina*.

ABA accredits Linz Program

The College of Law's Transnational Comparative Dispute Resolution Program was accredited by the American Bar Association after a site visit to Linz, Austria, during the 1997 program. The ABA accreditation allows students from other law schools to apply for the program and earn transferrable credit hours.

The TCDR Program has been held each summer since 1994 in Linz as a joint academic endeavor with the law faculty of Johannes Kepler University. Professor E.R. Lanier directs the program, which has expanded to include sponsored activities in Linz, Vienna and Salzburg, Austria; Prague, Czech Republic; and Budapest, Hungary.

The 1998 program, which is scheduled for May 21 through June 21, has already attracted 40 applicants, an increase from 28 in 1997. The current 40 student applicants also represent the University of Georgia and the University of South Dakota.

Mark your calendars

PILA Auction
February 20, 6:30 p.m.
Buckhead Wyndham Garden Hotel

Judicial Independence
Law Review's third symposium
Thursday, February 26, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Plaza Cafe, third floor Student Center
CLE credit available
Speakers:Edwin M. Meese III, Heritage Foundation, former United States Attorney General; Stephen B. Bright, director of the Southern Center for Human Rights; Professor Barry Friedman, Vanderbilt University School of Law; Professor Lino A. Graglia, University of Texas School of Law; Judge Alex Kozinski, U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit; and Professor Suzanna Sherry, University of Minnesota School of Law.

22nd Henry J. Miller Distinguished Lecture
Thursday, March 12, 6 p.m.
Professor Richard Epstein
Product Disparagment: At the Crossroads of Defamation and Free Speech
Urban Life Center Auditorium

Law Week, April 3-9
A celebration of the College of Law's 15th anniversary and our continuing commitment to community service.
Festivities will include community service projects, 5K fun run, Noon Speakers Series, Barrister's Ball, and Moot Court RWA Oral Argument Finals

For more information about these and other events, call Kelly Littrell at 404/651-2040 or visit our home page at gsulaw.gsu.edu.

Croatian visiting students welcomed

Two students from Croatia, Sanja Baric of the Rijeka University Faculty of Law, and Katarina Dominovic of the University of Split Faculty of Law, visited the College of Law for fall semester 1997 under the auspices of the International Connection, a cooperative venture of representatives from the Atlanta Bar Association, the bench and bar, the private sector, and the college. Baric and Dominovic each took three academic courses at the college, held externships, and visited area courts and law firms.

The personnel of the American Bar Association's Central and Eastern European Law Initiative, who are on site in Croatia, assisted in the student selection by interviewing applicants and forwarding a short list to the College of Law and International Connection. The Georgia Power Foundation, Delta Airlines, the Coca-Cola Foundation, the Loridans Foundation; the law firms of Aitcheson & Walden, King & Spalding, and Holland & Knight; the Atlanta Bar Association and the College of Law and several of its graduates assisted in bringing the two students to Georgia State for the semester.

This is the second time the International Connection has sponsored visits by students from former communist countries. In fall semester 1995, two law students from Bulgaria, Svilen Todorov and Dessislava Bijiva, were selected with the assistance of ABA-CEELI personnel and invited to visit the College of Law.

Croatian visiting students Sanja Baric and Katarina Dominovic discuss their course schedules with Tricia Rackliffe, College of Law Registrar.

In 1997 the College of Law shifted its attention to Croatia due to established parallel links there in the field of international commercial arbitration through Professor E. R. Lanier.

Baric and Dominovic received assistance with externship activities from various individuals active in the International Connection group. Particular thanks are forthcoming to Judge Dorothy Toth Beasley of the Georgia Court of Appeals, Professor Charles Marvin, and to local practitioners and Atlanta Bar Association members Terrence Croft and James Nobles, who provided special guidance to the students. College of Law Professor Marvin continues to serve as faculty coordinator for the International Connection and ABA-CEELI associated activities.

CLASSACTIONS

1985

Bill Cornwell and Leslie Cornwell, '86, announce the birth of their daughter, Stephanie Grace, born in November.

1986

Bobby C. Aniekwu completed his chair of the Atlanta Bar Law Week Committee for the second year in a row. During his tenure, the committee achieved the highest lawyer participation and public call-in for free legal advice in the history of the Atlanta Bar Association. In 1996, the committee was selected as the committee of the year and was recognized with an award by the American Bar Association.

1987

Jeannette G. Congdon, a solo practitioner, hired a full-time paralegal and her first summer law clerk.

Jim Weidner's son, John William, was born in October.

1988

Andrew T. Rogers married Shelley Nichols in January 1996.

1989

David V. Johnson left Sullivan, Hall, Booth & Smith and formed Green & Johnson L.L.C., continuing his trial practice in the areas of wrongful death, personal injury, medical malpractice and products liability litigation.

1991

Melanie McNeil is the co-chair of the Younger Lawyers Section Elder Law Committee.

Carol P. Michel announces the birth of her third son, Jacob Michel.

Barbara Green Swinton announces the birth of her daughter, Jennifer Lea Swinton.

Lori V. Winkleman is an associate with the firm Dennis, Corry and Porter.

1993

Nanette L. Wesley relocated to Tennessee and is an associate with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs. She will sit for the Tennessee Bar in February.

1994

Julie Pomerantz is an associate with Bovis, Kyle and Birch after working two years at the office of the Commissioner of Insurance.

Anne M. Sereg attended the fifth annual conference of the International Alliance of Holistic Lawyers in Santa Fe, N.M. in November. She was greatly inspired by the gathering and has decided to take the Georgia Bar exam in July.

1995

Robin Renee McLean was admitted to the South Carolina Bar and has a son born in February 1996.

Michael J. Temper is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

1996

Julia Wilson, a contract administrator for Lockheed Martin Aeronautical Systems, has been doing more international travel. She recently spent three weeks in Melbourne, Australia, one week in Varese, Italy, and four weeks in Rome, Italy.

1997

Jeff Watkins and **Tanya Watkins**, also class of '97, announce the birth of their son, Jake Walker, born in October.

Students win

The Mock Trial Team won the Southeastern Invitational Mock Trial Tournament held in Atlanta in late November. Teams competing in the competition included Emory, University of Georgia, John Marshall, Florida State University, North Carolina Central, University of Memphis and University of Alabama.

The team was coached by Tom Jones, and winning team members included Barbara Davis and Paul Qualey as lawyers and Chris Westmoreland and Jason Yost as witnesses.

At the Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition, College of Law students Greg Ananthasane and Rupal Vaishnav placed second and won $1,000.

CLGA to present first service award

The College of Law Graduates Association will present its first Award for Service to the College at the State Bar of Georgia's Annual Meeting in June. The award will be presented to a graduate who has made outstanding contributions to the College of Law, defined by donation of time and financial resources. The recipient should reflect a continuing commitment to the successful growth and development of the college.

At the June bar meeting, which will be held in Atlanta at the Grand Hyatt, the college will host a breakfast and an evening reception for graduates:

Graduates reception	Graduates breakfast
Wednesday, June 17	Thursday, June 18

The Graduates Association Award for Service to the College will be presented at the breakfast. (The times of the events will be determined by the State Bar.)

Reunion classes celebrate with return to alma mater

Amidst strings of white lights and light jazz music, the classes of 1987 and 1992 celebrated their reunions by returning to their alma mater in October. The joint reunion was held in the Urban Life Center, and nearly 100 people, including graduates, their guests, faculty and staff, attended the event. A School of Music jazz ensemble provided the festive musical backdrop for the catered affair.

Admissions Director Cheryl Jackson led interested graduates on a tour of the College of Law. The college has changed significantly since members of the classes of 1987 and 1992 were students. Jackson's tour highlighted many of the recent changes, including the implementation of new technology discussed in the fall 1997 *Law Letter*. The graduates were especially impressed with the college's acquisition and renovation of the sixth floor of the Urban Life Center.

Dean Janice C. Griffith warmly welcomed the returning graduates with assistance from professors Jim Bross, Norm Crandell, Anne Emanuel, Victor Flatt, Linda Harrison, Bernadette Hartfield, Steven Kaminshine, Pat Morgan, Paul Milich, Linda Robinson, Ellen Taylor and Patrick Wiseman. Each faculty member addressed the attendees by microphone with amusing anecdotes, congratulations of success and warm memories. Milich's provocative question, "Let's see now...who should I call on?" aroused laughter from the graduates and faculty alike.

Class of 1992 reunion attendees

Reunion committee members worked diligently to plan the well-attended event. Special thanks to class of 1992 committee members Michael Chen, Sheila Chrzan, Angela Clonts, Gwendolyn Fortson, Lisa Gunn, Linley Jones, Lynda Moser, Anandhi Rajan and Jennifer Summa; and the class of 1987 reunion committee members Stan Klinger, Ed Perkerson, Carol Walker Russell and John Sumner.

The classes of 1988 and 1993 will celebrate their reunions this year. Watch your mailboxes for invitations!

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