



News-N-Notes

Gulf Coast Association of Legal Support Professionals
Affiliated with NALS, Inc.
"G E M"

January 2005 Edition
Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS, Editor

2004-2005 Board

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Vice-President	Misty Lewis,PP, PLS
Secretary	Mary Bibey
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Garnet is the birthstone for the month of **January** & the anniversary gemstone for the **second** year of marriage.

President's Message

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and I wish everyone a very Happy and Safe New Year. We have a lot going on to start the year out. Everyone should have received a nomination form for Boss of the Year and Award of Excellence. Be sure to bring them to the meeting with you if you want to nominate someone for either of these awards.

We will be discussing the following items at our meeting on January 13:

- Alternate Director for the February Meeting in Seminary;
- Budgeted money for NALS, INC.;
- Seminar attendance and documentation;
- Request for approval of the Award of Excellence and Boss of the Year Judges; and
- Tulsa Educational Conference.

If you know of any items that need to be brought to the attention of the members, please let me know so that I can get it on the Agenda.

Having a GEM of a time,

Banita Ford

Garnet derived its name from the Latin word granatus, meaning like a grain, which refers to the mode of occurrence wherein crystals resemble grains or seeds embedded in the matrix. Garnet is a family of minerals having similar physical and crystalline properties.

There are a number of trade and variety names for garnet, most of these names are for particular colors of a specie.

Hessonite is the variety name for a fine orange, cinnamon brown, or pinkish variety of grossularite, while tsavorite is the trade name for fine dark green grossularite.

Melanite is a black titanium bearing variety of andradite and demantoid is a rich green variety. Malaya is a trade name for a pyrope-spessartite that varies in color from red, through shades of orange and brownish orange to peach and pink. Rhodolite is a purplish red pyrope-almandite solid solution garnet.

Fine-quality pyrope garnets from Czechoslovakia are often called Bohemian garnets.

Almandite and almanditepyrope solid solution garnets are the best abrasive types, but andradite, grossularite, and pyrope also are used. All species of garnet have been used as gemstones. Garnet displays the greatest variety of color of any mineral, occurring in every color except blue. For example, grossularite can be colorless, white, gray, yellow, yellowish green,

various shades of green, brown, pink, reddish, or black. Andradite garnet can be yellow-green, green, greenish brown, orangy yellow, brown, grayish black or black.

Pyrope is commonly purplish red, orangy red, crimson, or dark red; and almandite is deep red, brownish red, brownish black or violet-red. Spessartite garnet can be red, reddish orange, orange, yellow-brown, reddish brown, or blackish brown.

A few garnets exhibit a color-change phenomenon. They are one color when viewed in natural light and another color when viewed in incandescent light.

Award of Excellence Chairman

I mailed out nomination forms for the Award of Excellence before Christmas. I have already received some nominations and hopefully I will receive more at the meeting on the 13th.

Following are the deadlines for the Award of Excellence:

Nominations due to Chairman	January 13, 2005
PDF e-mail/mailed to nominees	January 17, 2005
PDF returned to Chairman	February 10, 2005
Documents to judges	February 14, 2005
Award presented	March 24, 2005

I encourage each of you to nominate a member you feel is deserving of this prestigious award. Please remember, a member may nominate him/herself. I hope to receive nomination forms for each and every eligible member. Nomination forms will be available at the January General Membership Meeting. Good luck to each of you who will be nominated.

Banita Ford, Chairman

Boss of the Year Chairman

I mailed out nomination forms for the boss of Year Award before Christmas. I have already received one nomination and hopefully I will receive more at the meeting on the 13th. Following are the deadlines for Boss of the Year:

Nominations due to Chairman	January 13, 2005
Nominations given to Judges	January 17, 2005
Membership Vote	February 10, 2005
Award presented	March 24, 2005

Banita Ford, Chairman

Vice-President's Message

Our December meeting was our Christmas Party that was held at Karen Kuhn's daughter's house. We all want to say thank-you to Kristin for the use of her home and thank-you to Karen, Kristin and Renee for the wonderful food.

Our January meeting will be held on January 13, 2005, at the at the Election Commission building, 2600 24th Avenue, Gulfport, Mississippi at 5:45 p.m.

MISTY E. LEWIS, Certified PP, PLS

Vice-President.

Membership Chairman

MEMBERSHIP As of January 1, 2005, we have 37 members with a 83.89% retention rate.

Member celebrating NALS anniversaries this month are:

Henrietta Caranna	42 years
Johnny Harris	1 year

MISTY E. LEWIS, Certified PP, PLS
Membership Chair

Lunch-N-Learn

Due to the hectic schedule everyone deals with at this time of year, Lunch-N-Learn was not held during December. I am looking forward to seeing everyone this month.

January's Lunch-N-Learn will be on Friday, January 21, 2005 at the Edgewater Mall Campus of Tulane College. Our speaker will be Bill Williams, Esq. and his topic is still to be determined. The program will start at 12:15 p.m. as usual. I hope to see you all there.

MISTY E. LEWIS, PP, PLS
Lunch-N-Learn Chair

Employment Coordinator

I have several new listings for employment opportunities on the Gulf Coast. Anyone interested should contact me at 863-6913 or email me a resume as quickly as possible.

THERESA WILSON, PP, PLS
Employment Chair

Care Committee Report

The Care Committee would like to say Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to the following members who will celebrate one in the month of January:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Henrietta Caranna	Jan 9
Karen Kuhn	Jan 18

Please contact me if you know of a member or a members family having an illness, accident or death so that I may send out the appropriate card immediately.

If any member is not listed here and/or has not received a birthday and/or anniversary

card please contact me so that I can verify your current mailing address and/or add you to my list.

You may contact me at work 374-2685 or home 831-9312.

Sheila J. Schultz Care Committee Chair



A LEGAL ASSISTANT/PARALEGAL is a person, qualified by education, training or work experience who is employed or retained by a lawyer, law office, corporation, governmental agency or other entity and who performs specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a lawyer is responsible.'

Certification

Misty Lewis, PLS

NALS offers members and nonmembers the opportunity to sit for three different certification exams based on skill levels. The ALS, PLS and PP exams are offered at set times throughout the year.

ALS. . .the basic certification for legal support professionals

Examination Dates:	First Saturday in March, June* and December*
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In conjunction with the regional conferences held in July
Last Saturday in September

Application Deadlines:

March:	Postmarked by January 1
June:	Postmarked by April 15
July:	Postmarked by June 15
September:	Postmarked by August 1
December:	Postmarked by October 15

* June and December testing are for those who have completed the Basic or Advanced NALS Legal Training Course.

Nonmember \$250.00
Part Retakes: Members \$50.00 per part

Examination Fees:
Full-time Student \$50.00
NALS Member (not a full time student) \$75.00
Nonmember (not a full time student) \$100.00

Nonmember \$60.00 per part

Please visit the NALS online study group on Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. for 1.5 hours of CLE that will help you in your quest to become certified.

PLS. . .the advanced certification for legal support professionals

Examination Dates: First Saturday in March
In conjunction with the regional conferences held in July
Last Saturday in September

MISTY E. LEWIS, Certified PP, PLS
Certification Chair

Application Deadlines:
March: Postmarked by January 1
July: Postmarked by June 15
September: Postmarked by August 1

NALS Mission Statement

NALS is dedicated to enhancing the competencies and contributions of members in the legal services profession. NALS accomplishes its mission and supports the public interest through:
Continuing legal education and resource materials;
Networking opportunities at the local, state, regional, and national levels;
Commitment to a Code of Ethics and professional standards;
Professional certification programs and designations.
Integrity and high standards of conduct are fundamental to the success of our professional association.

Examination Fees:
Initial Examination: NALS Member \$150.00
Nonmember \$200.00
Part Retakes: Members \$40.00 per part
Nonmember \$50.00 per part

PP. . .the professional paralegal certification

Examination Dates: First Saturday in March
In conjunction with the regional conferences held in July
Last Saturday in September

Application Deadlines:
March: Postmarked by January 1
July: Postmarked by June 15
September: Postmarked by August 1

Examination Fees: Current PLSs:
NALS Member \$150.00
Nonmember \$200.00
Non-PLSs: NALS Member \$200.00

NALS Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility

Members of NALS are bound by the objectives of this association and the standards of conduct required of the legal profession.

Every member shall:

- ***Encourage respect for the law and the administration of justice;***
- ***Observe rules governing privileged communications and confidential information;***
- ***Promote and exemplify high standards of loyalty, cooperation, and courtesy;***
- ***Perform all duties of the profession with integrity and competence; and***
- ***Pursue a high order of professional attainment.***

This Code is promulgated by the NALS and accepted by its members to accomplish these ends.

Contact the editor at:

I am changing offices effective January 10, 2005. Effective immediately please contact me at home 228-831-8709 (home) or my new email address jmshaw@cableone.net

Editor's Notes

The deadline for next month's issue of News-N-Notes is January 25th. Contributions for publication are greatly appreciated! Please let me know if you have any suggestions on ways to improve our bulletin.

***Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS
Editor***

A special thank you to everyone who donated for our Humanitarian project.

Henrietta and Jeannie