

2004-2005 Board

President	Banita Ford
Vice-President	Misty Lewis, PP, PLS
Secretary	Mary Bibey
Treasurer	Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS
Director	Beth Steverson

Calendar of Events

State Membership Meeting May 13-15
 Region 6 Mtg Jul

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

Our newly elected Board of Officers for 2005-2006 will be installed at our monthly meeting, May 12, 2004. Please attend and show your support for our new officers as they start their year..

President	Misty Lewis, PP, PLS
Vice President	Mary Bibey
Secretary	Renee Haugen, ALS
Treasurer	Juanita Hathorn
Director	TBD



May's Birthstone - EMERALD

The emerald is known as the Queen of Gems, and the gem of queens. The most prized is pure green or slightly bluish green. Emeralds are often characterized by a garden of included crystals trapped within. Under magnification, you will see all sorts of lovely patterns resembling foliage in a garden. A flawless, clear emerald is very rare and is usually found in only small

sizes. Small to medium sized stones are often faceted in the "step" or emerald cut. The gem is also lovely when cut into a cabochon or dome shape. Sometimes emeralds are even carved.

The ancients held the emerald in great esteem, believing they sharpened the wearer's eyesight and mind. The earliest engravers kept emeralds on their work tables to gaze upon from time to time to rest their tired eyes. Travelers relied on emeralds as protection against the hazards and perils of long journeys. The green gem was also said to give its owner the power to predict the future.

Emerald is the birthstone for the month of May and is also the anniversary gemstone for the 20th and 35th years of marriage. They are found mainly in Colombia, Brazil, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

President's Message

What a wonderful year I have had. Thank you to all the members of this association for making it a wonderful year. My goals could not have been accomplished without your help. As most of you know, we had election of the new Board of Directors last month. However, Pat Brier who was elected as our Director will not be able to fulfill her role as Director for the 2005-2006 year. We will have a short business meeting before installation to elect a new director for the coming year. All nominations will be taken from the floor and who ever is elected will be installed with the rest of the Board at this month's meeting.

We have a lot coming up and I am sure that Misty will keep us busy this year as well. Congratulations to our incoming Board of Directors: President – Misty Lewis, PP, PLS, Vice-President - Mary Bibey, Secretary - Renee Haugen, ALS, and Treasurer – Juanita Hathorn.

Following is a list of events going on at this month's meeting: Member of the Year will be announced, the award for the most G.E.M. points will be given away, we will elect a new Director and the new Board of Directors will be installed.

Thanks again for the wonderful year, I have truly had a **G.E.M.** of a time this year.

**Banita Ford, President
G.C.A.L.S.P. 2004-2005**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to take this opportunity to thank the members for their confidence in electing me as your 2005-2006 President. I have enjoyed being the Vice-President and thank you for allowing me this opportunity to grow both professionally and personally.

**MISTY E. LEWIS, PP, PLS
Vice-President**

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE 2004-2005 END OF THE YEAR REPORT

Our chapter started this year with Twenty-Nine members. To date, we are now Forty-One members strong. The members who have joined during the 2004-2005 year are:

Trisha Barela
Patricia Brier, ALS
Kimberly Burge Pickles
Fawna Finnell
Susan M. Grelle
Angie Groves
Juanita L. Hathorn
Gina L. Knight
Diane K. Lanquist
Teresa Malmberg
Annette McMain
Kim D. Phifer-Starks
Sherry Richards
Judy Rogers
Tracy L. Scribner

Sandra L. Seymour
Darla Woods
Tammy Woods

As of May10, 2005, we have 41 members with a 75.35% retention rate.

Member celebrating NALS anniversaries this month are:

Mary Ellis, PLS 10 years
Teresa Wilson, PP, PLS 21 years

The Membership Committee expended Two Hundred Nine Dollars and Forty-One Cents (\$209.41)* this year.

We received a grant from the NALS Foundation in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) to be used as a membership fee scholarship, which was given away at the Membership Drive in August. Kimberly Burge Pickles was our membership winner.

* \$9.41 overage approved.

**MISTY E. LEWIS, PP, PLS
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Lunch-N-Learn

2004-2005 END OF THE YEAR REPORT

The Lunch-n-Learn program has had a great year and I have had a lot of fun chairing this committee. We have had outstanding turnout, both from our members and from the non members. To date, the Lunch-n-Learn program has earned Five Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars (\$555.00). I want to thank those members who took time to come to the programs. I would also like to thank Tulane College for donating the use of one of their classrooms to our association free of charge. Tulane also provides door prizes to be given away at the programs. This month's Lunch-n-Learn program is on the "Criminal Justice System in Harrison County" and it will be presented by William W. Martin. The program will start at 12:15 p.m. at Tulane College at Edgewater Mall. I hope to see everyone there.

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

***L*egal Directories**

If you have any legal directories left or have money turn to in, please contact Karen Kuhn, PP, PLS, Legal Directories Chairman immediately for a final accounting.

Karen Kuhn, PP, PLS

***T*reasurer**

Please turn in any receipts or requests for payment by the May meeting so the books can be completed and turned over to the Audit Committee immediately following the Annual State meeting.

Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS

***C*ERTIFICATION**

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.



. . .the basic certification for legal support professionals

Examination Dates:

First Saturday in March,
June* and December*

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.

Examination Fees:

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



. . .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

Application Deadlines:

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

Examination Fees:

Initial Examination:
NALS Member \$150.00
Nonmember \$200.00

Part Retakes:

Members \$40.00 per part
Nonmember \$50.00 per part



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
- Nonmember \$250.00

Part Retakes:

- Members \$50.00 per part
- 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.

MISTY E. LEWIS, Certified PP, PLS
Certification Chair

Contact the editor at:

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- e-mail: jshaw@bryantdukes.com

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the editor of the News N Notes for the past two years. I have truly enjoyed putting it together for you but now it is time to turn it over to someone new. I know you will give her the same support you have given me. Thank you again.

Please see attached for flyer for the NALS Advance Course coming in Aug 2005.