



JACKSON LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

February

Newsletter

Volume 20 February 2006

Message from the President...



The time has come again to choose our leadership for the coming year. I believe we have made some good choices and that if we all work together, and support the newly elected officers, JLPA will continue to grow and be an association we will all be proud to be a part of.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers:

President – Roberta Welch, Certified PP, PLS (Butler, Snow, O’Mara, Stevens & Cannada)

Vice President – Renee Dean (Wise Carter Child & Caraway)
Secretary – Charlotte Simmons, Certified PLS (Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes)

Treasurer – Marilyn Mills (Forman, Perry, Watkins, Krutz & Tardy)

Director – Diane Roark, Certified PLS (Wise Carter Child & Caraway)

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Boss of the Year/ Award of Excellence Dinner...



The 44th Annual Boss of the Year and Award of Excellence Dinner will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2006 at River Hills Club, 3600 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The deadline for reservations is February 6, 2006 and they should be made to Renee Dean, P. O. Box 651, Jackson, MS 39205, e-mail: rmd@wisecarter.com.

The Special Guest Speaker will be Marshall Ramsey, Editorial Cartoonist for The Clarion-Ledger. The price is \$30.00 per person. The menu will include a choice of: Southern Pork Loin (stuffed with savory dressing and finished with an apple garnish), or Lemon Chicken Fettuccini (Sauteed chicken breast served with a lemon basil sauce with fettuccini noodles and cream sauce)

Dinner will be served with: Club Spinach Salad (Fresh baby spinach with crumbled blue

cheese, kalamata olives, red onion, bacon, roma tomatoes and toasted almonds topped with balsamic vinaigrette);

Dessert: Charlotte Russe (Lady fingers layered with cream, sponge cake and chocolate). Warm Rolls Tea and coffee

**Renee Dean
Boss of the Year/Award of Excellence/Partner of the Year Chairman**



Happy January Birthdays to...

- 5 Peggy Belding
- 12 Cindy Hampton
- 13 Romas M. Turner
- 17 Janet Rieder



Happy Anniversary...

- 2/14/91 CJ & Don Armstrong
- 2/15/02 Kathy & Charles Hayes



President's Message
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To those who ran but were not elected, I congratulate you as well for having the courage to step up to the plate when nominated and take the chance. I hope that you will continue to run for office and to serve on committees with the association. You are the future of JLPA. Legal support professionals know the meaning of teamwork and teamwork is what it takes to run this association and make it work. I look forward to finishing out my term as President and also to passing the gavel on to my replacement. I sincerely hope that you will show the new EC the same level of cooperation and assistance that you have shown me and the current EC for the last two years.

I have said it before and I am going to say it again, **the more you put into this association, the more you will get in return.** When you receive the committee preference sheet from Roberta, I hope that you will seriously consider stepping forward to join the JLPA Board and make a difference in this association. Everyone in this association has a talent, it could be fund-raising, it could be teaching the ALS/PLS/PP study group or writing articles for the newsletter, it could be cooking for a lunch in the park thing, but each and every one of you has a talent that will benefit this association. Please volunteer to use that talent in 2006-07.

Several of you have asked why I turned down nominations on

both the state and local levels this year. There really is a good reason. I will be serving on the national board as Vice-Chair of the Certifying Board beginning in March and cannot serve as an officer on the local or state level while serving in this position; there just are not enough hours in the day. After all, our employers do still expect us to do the work they pay us for during the workday. And while I am on that subject, I would like to thank my bosses at Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes for the support they have given me and JLPA. They have been wonderful. Thank you, Richard, Benje, Denise, and the Board at Brunini.

Reba Peden, PP, PLS
JLPA President 2004-2006

Board Meeting...

The JLPA Board Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 21, 2006, at the Mississippi Bar Center, located at 643 North State Street** at 12:00 noon. Lunch will be provided by Foreman Perry.

A Texas attorney, realizing he was on the verge of unleashing a stupid question, interrupted himself and said, "Your Honor, I'd like to strike the next question."

Nominations and Elections...

The Nominations and Elections Committee met on January 24th to count the ballots for the 2006-2007 officers. A run-off

was required in the Vice-President's race. The run-off was held at the January membership meeting. The newly elected officers for the 2006-2007 term are:



President: Roberta H. Welch,
PP, PLS



Vice President: Renee Dean



Secretary: Charlotte
Simmons, PLS



Treasurer: Marilyn Mills



Director: Diane Roark, PLS

Kimberly J. Knox
Nominations and Elections
Chairman



Study Group...

Starts February 2, 2006 and every Thursday night.

Location: Watkins Eager Conference Room, Emporium Building on corner of Capitol and Congress Streets.

Time: Thursdays from 5:15pm until 7:15pm

We would like for all who are interested to come and participate. You will need the most current books and study materials as outlined by NALS for your particular test. A list of these materials and ordering information can be found at NALS.org.



We will be hosting a weekend cram session before the March deadline--we will let everyone know what weekend later.

Please contact us by e-mail.
Everlyn Harper, PLS
eharper@watkinseager.com
Cheryl A. Wadsworth, PP, PLS
WadsworthCA@fpwk.com

Correction...



We had five new members sworn in at the December meeting. From left, they are Ellen Yeates, Kathy Hayes, Tina Richardson, Angela Cossar and Lindsay Woodrow. I apologize for getting a couple of your names wrong last month.



Rose Jones is our Employment Chairman. The list of jobs available is provided to our members once a month. If you need a copy in the meantime, please e-mail Rose at rjones@watkinsludlam.com.

Member Spotlight

Kathy B. Hayes

Imagine my surprise and delight when I received the letter ... the letter that most “wannabe” writers dreams of receiving. Yes, it was the acceptance letter ... accepting one of my poems for publication in an anthology of poetry and vignettes.

I’ve been writing poetry and short stories for more years than I can count. I have to admit ... most were written as a form of therapy ... as one writes in a journal or a diary. Most were never meant to be read by anyone, except maybe those closest to me. However, when I took some creative writing classes several years ago, I then had to force myself to write things that someone else would read.

That was really a hard thing for me to do ... since everything I had written up until then had been fact, not fiction ... autobiographical, in a sense.



But I dug in and used my life experiences to start writing fiction ... or elaborated on my journey to where I am today. It started to be fun ... and the compliments of my fellow students and my professors made me begin to realize that just maybe I should do something with some of what I'd written, that maybe I did have a gift.

That's what led me to submit the poem to Sunpiper Press in the first place. Well, actually the call for submissions is what convinced me. The call was for writings of inspiration, writings telling of an experience that turned your life around or inspired you to do great things. I didn't have to think twice about what poem I would submit.

I had written a poem about 15 years ago telling of an experience I had while searching for an answer to the age old question: "What am I doing here?" I may not have received a definitive answer to that question, but I was given an answer to many unasked questions. My answer came from an encounter with a bald eagle in the mountains outside Salt Lake City, Utah.

*"And in the sky against the blue
With wings of golden tan,
An eagle soared just out of reach
And turned to come again
In its feathered face of white
Its eyes stared into hers
As she turned her eyes up
toward the sky
And spread her arms wide*

She felt the touch of the eagle's wing

*'My God, my god
You've answered me'."*

An excerpt from "The Eagle, Her God", by Kathy B. Hayes

As written by the editors of Whispers of Inspiration, "It's been said that a man must first move himself before he can move the hearts of others. In this diverse collection, each poem not only captures the thoughts of its readers, but aspires to touch their souls, as well. Individually, each piece of the puzzle proves thought-provoking and heartfelt. Collectively, however, the entire portrait provides undeniable evidence that none of us is ever alone."

I hope you will read this beautiful compilation of novice and veteran contributors ... my promise to you is that you will be touched ... deeply.

www.whispersofinspiration.com

Kathy B. Hayes

To Be Great

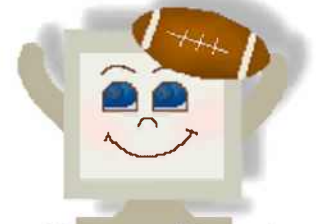
*Everybody can be great...
because anybody can serve.*

You don't have to have a college degree to serve.

You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve.

You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

~Martin Luther King Jr.~



Super Bowl Sunday

NALS Online Learning Center...

The weekly online **study group sessions** are held on **Tuesday** nights, from 8:00pm to 9:30pm Central Time.

Tuesday

Feb. 7 Bankruptcy

**Feb. 14 Taxation/
Environmental/Water/Oil &
Gas/Admiralty/Antitrust/
Immigration**

February 19, 2006 (SUNDAY)

ALS Review

On Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m. Central Time, join NALS President Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS, for **discussions and Q&A sessions.**

Feb. 1 NALS Foundation TBA

Feb. 8 Leadership-How to Motivate Others

Feb. 15 Internal Marketing: Holding on to What You've Got

Recipe Corner...

By Marie Mills

Spiced Crackers

1 large wide mouth gallon plastic jug with lid - (can buy at Wal-Mart)

1 box cheap crackers (4 pack) - I bought Wal-Mart brand for 87 cents

