



JACKSON LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

Volume 08 February 2005



Message from the President...

I am proud to be a member of JLPA and I would like to tell you a little bit of the why behind that statement. I walked (or stumbled) into the legal field in approximately 1987 when a friend I was temping with at a battery warehouse suggested that I apply for a job at a small law firm in Jackson as a receptionist. For the next 10 years, I got lots of "on-the-job" training moving from receptionist to legal secretary, to collections manager and then moving on to a new firm with two of the lawyers as their legal assistant/office manager. I have been involved with several legal organizations in my career in the legal field, but none have come close to JLPA.

In 1997, I began working for a large defense firm and was encouraged to join JLPA. I did so and got involved in committee work almost immediately. I have never regretted anything I have done through JLPA, the state association or the national association. I am proud of the work we do through education,

certification, scholarship and our welfare projects.

JLPA is one of the hardest working and generous associations I have ever had the pleasure of being associated with. Membership in this association has pushed me to limits I had no idea I could reach. I have studied and obtained my PLS and PP certifications through NALS and I am extremely proud of those accomplishments. I have been supported through the births of my grandchildren and the death of my son-in-law, my daughter's widowhood, and my own struggles to obtain certification. Members of this association never cease to amaze me with their caring and willingness to help out fellow members.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask that each of you take a moment and think about what you can give to the members of this association. Volunteer to work on a committee for the next year, it can be a lot of fun. Become a mentor to a new member, they value your experience and opinions. In short, get involved. There's nothing like it.

Your Executive Board is grateful for the support you have shown this year and we are looking forward to a great future for JLPA. You, the members, are the future of JLPA.

**Reba Peden, PP, PLS
JLPA President**



**KISMIF
Remember
Keep It Simple
Make It Fun!**

The ALS/PLS/PP Study Group will meet every Thursday night at the Bar Center, 643 North State Street, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February Birthdays...

- 5 Peggy Belding
- 11 Betty Carwyle
- 12 Cindy Hampton
- 13 Renita Ragsdale
- Romas M. Turner
- 17 Janet Rieder
- Kellye Shoemaker
- 26 Patricia T. Burkett



A former JLPA member needs our help! Trudie Matrick is recovering from cancer surgery and needs a helping hand.

1. She needs Pampers, sizes 4 and 5, for her 2 year old triplets.

2. She needs prepared food that she can freeze and thaw to feed her family. Your good home cooking would be ever so much appreciated! Please remember to use disposable dishes for convenience.

3. If you prefer, a love offering of money will always be put to good use.

Please bring any of the above items to the next JLPA membership meeting on Wednesday, January 26, and we will see that they are delivered to Trudie. As always, your prayers for Trudie and her family are appreciated!

Board Meeting...

The Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2004, at the Mississippi Bar Center, 643 North State Street. Lunch will be provided by the ladies from the Brunini firm.



February Wedding Anniversaries

- 14 CJ & Don Armstrong
Karen & Joseph Branton
- 26 Kellye & Michael
Shoemaker



Monthly Meeting...

The Boss of the Year/Award of Excellence dinner will take the place of our regular monthly luncheon in February. Please make plans to attend the dinner and invite your boss(es) also.



Prayer Requests...

Please keep Chris Gooch in your prayers following her surgery on January 31, 2005. She is in Woman's Hospital for the next few days.

For Sue Eason, JLPA member, for the loss of her daughter, Laura Bell, and for Sue Allmon, Mississippi Division of NALS member, for the loss of her brother, Troy Cooley.

JLPA Nursery News...



Alicia Sanford's baby boy, Pierce Ryan Sanford, who was born December 16, 2004, at 3:50 a.m., weighed 6 lb. 7 oz. and was 18.5 inches long. Mommy, Daddy, big brother Colton and baby Pierce are all doing well. We look forward to her return to the Brunini family.

Kathy Curry



Jared & Kathy Makamson are the proud parents of Kaitlyn Elizabeth, who arrived Tuesday, January 18, 2005, at 5:10 P.M. at The Suites at River Oaks Hospital. She weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. and was 20.5" long. Jared, who is a JLPA member, is employed with Butler Snow and Kathy is employed with Burr Forman. Our very own Becky Usry who is employed with Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes is the proud Grandmother. Kaitlyn, mommy and daddy are all doing well.





Mary Manning Farese, born Christmas Day at 4:14 p.m., 7 pounds 15 ounces, 20 1/2 inches. The proud parents are Paxton and Christie Farese. Paxton's father, Steve Farese, Esq., is a lawyer in Ashland, Mississippi. Christie Farese's father, Lucien L. Bourgeois, Esq., is a lawyer in the Butler Snow firm.

And congratulations to Bonnie Parkison. She has a new grandson, Wyatt Pierce Teague, Born 12/2/04, 6 lbs. 14 ounces, 21 inches long. His parents are Stephanie and Warren Teague. Stephanie is Bonnie's daughter.



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

We will give honor to Boss of the Year and Award of Excellence winners on Friday, February 18, 2005 at the Hilton Hotel, Penthouse Ball Room. Please invite your boss/bosses to attend. You wouldn't want to miss an evening of good food, door prizes and just a wonderful time. So we encourage all to attend.

Co-Chairs: Diane Bass, Rose Jones and Felicia Turner.



Secretary's Notes...

Thanks to all of you for appreciating your current "team" of leadership enough to have us back for one more year! It was exciting to find that out at today's meeting! I know this is more of the President Peden's job, but I know her well enough by now that she takes all the help she can get - so, here goes, I will speak my mind!

We are so quickly approaching a new fiscal year. I hope we can have your input. I hope that you will lend us your talents when it comes time to choose committee chairs for the 2005-2006 board. We can't say it enough - we need YOU!! Please begin to consider lending us your time and talents to make this coming year a resounding success.

If you haven't made plans to attend the Boss of the Year and Award of Excellence Dinner on February 18th, please do so. Rose Jones and Diane Bass are doing an excellent job to give us a dinner we won't soon forget. It wouldn't be right for you and your boss to miss it.

Again, thank you for putting your trust in me again this year and allowing me to serve as your recording secretary. I look forward to another excellent year, meeting challenges head on and hearing your input.

Happy Valentine's Day to you all.
CJ Armstrong
Recording Secretary

Membership...

DO YOU WANT TO STAY ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION?

GET IN THE GAME WITH NALS!

See why NALS is THE association for legal professionals. Take the time to get to know us and you will be eager to GET IN THE GAME WITH NALS!

Roberta Welch, PLS
JLPA Vice President & Membership Chairman
roberta.welch@butlersnow.com



Flashbacks...

It's been a wonderful year serving as Program Chair. Thanks to all of our speakers who were willing to take the time to speak to us at the monthly luncheons.

May 26, 2004 - John Lawrence, Downtown Jackson Partners. "Future Developments of Downtown Jackson and Ongoing Projects".

June 23, 2004 - Patti Gandy, Esq., Butler Snow, O'Mara,



Stevens & Cannada: "Being a Woman of Virtue in a Not So Good World".

July 28, 2004 – Anne Sanders, Esq., Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes: "Workaholism/Job Burnout/ Addiction".

August 25, 2004 – Lieutenant Robert Turner, Jr., Hinds County Sheriff's Office: "Processing & Service".

September 22, 2004 – Marc Christopher Porter, Esq, Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis, P.A.: "Spousal Tax Resources".

November 17, 2004 – E. J. Thompson, Thompson Consulting: "Touching in the Workplace".

January 26, 2005 – PFA Victor Mason, FBI: "What Does the FBI Do for Us".

Please remember to listen while are speakers are at the podium.



Felicia Turner
Program Chairman

JLPA Member, Donna Marshall, is now a freelance legal secretary. You may reach her at home at 824-1957, or on her cell phone at 278-6389.



Recipe Corner...

By: Roberta H. Welch, PLS



Broccoli Salad I

This nutty and fruity broccoli salad is a big hit at potlucks! The recipe was printed from Allrecipes, and submitted by Jennifer Stephens. It was given to her by her Aunt Rossanne, who she says is the best cook ever! To bulk up the salad, you can add an extra cup of broccoli. Prep Time: approx. 15 Minutes. Cook Time: approx. 15 Minutes. Ready in: approx. 30 Minutes. Makes 8 servings. (Note: I have made this salad several times and it is delicious. Roberta)

- 1 pound bacon
- 4 cups broccoli florets
- 5 green onions, chopped
- 1/4 cup sunflower seeds
- 1/4 cup golden raisins
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 6 tablespoons red wine vinegar

Directions

- 1 Place bacon in a large skillet. Cook over medium-high heat until evenly browned. Cool, crumble, and set aside.
- 2 In a large bowl, toss together broccoli, green onions, sunflower seeds, raisins, and bacon.
- 3 In a small bowl, mix together mayonnaise, sugar, and red wine vinegar. Toss with vegetables to coat. Cover, and chill until serving.



Letters to the Editor...

Roberta, earlier this week, after working all weekend, and going home to a cluttered house, fussing babies and a sixth grade science fair project just waiting for my input, I asked myself why I picked a legal secretary, a LITIGATION legal secretary, as my life's desire. Later the next day I found this on my computer, having written it long ago, and it answered my question. Thought I would share it with you.

Being a legal secretary is my life, literally. As a 19-year old single mother of two small children, I had to find a job that would support us. I knew I could never afford my dreams of law school. I had to find some way to keep our heads above water and food in the house. I entered what was then called "trade school." As soon as I began my legal secretary studies, I knew I had found my life's dream, only slightly different from my initial imaginings. Now, eighteen years later, I know it's more than a "job;" it's a career that I proudly call my own.

I really can't explain how passionate I am about my career. I simply love my job. Yes, there's stress that few other positions can rival, but the rewards I reap more than make up for it. I have pride in the firm that I work for, the



