



JACKSON LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

Volume 15 September 2005

Message from your President



That sounds kind of stuffy, doesn't it? After all, I'm the same as everyone else out there, the only difference is I have to get up in front of all of you and run the meetings and when there is a problem I get to hear about it first. I guess over the last year and a half or so you have noticed that your president is just not a very formal person. I like to have fun with our meetings and to plan fun things for us. That's just my style. I hope you don't mind.

Our association is growing in leaps and bounds. We now have 124 members and more are signing up every month. Some months we get one or two new members and other months we may get nine or more. With there being so many of us, I have asked Roberta and CJ to plan a membership party for our members and I hope you will try to attend when the plans are completed. We will also be pleased if you will bring prospective members along with you to the party.

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Board Meeting...

The Board Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 20, 2005**, at the Mississippi Bar Center, 643 North State Street. Lunch will be provided by CJ Armstrong and Roberta Welch, PP, PLS. ♦



Monthly Meeting...

Our September meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 28, 2005**, at noon, at Mardi Gras Restaurant. ♦



Happy Wedding Anniversary...

3 - Jan and Butch Hammack
13 - Nichelle & Louis Bradley, Jr.



September Birthdays...

- 6 Elizabeth A. Madrak
- 8 Ann Williamson
- 11 Karen Randall, PLS
- 13 Shirley Mize
- 14 Tandra Dodd
- 15 Charlotte Simmons
- 21 Darlene R. Dunn
- 22 Beverly Herbert

Welcome New Members...

Welcome to **Courtney O. Ward** and **Deborah Phillips** from Forman Perry Watkins Krutz & Tardy LLP. ♦

Congratulations!...

As State Certification Chair, I would like to congratulate the following JLPA members on passing their PP exams at the NALS Region 6 Meeting in Natchez, MS, in July. They are Cheryl Wadsworth, Certified PP, PLS, and Roberta Welch, Certified PP, PLS. **Sue Staley**, Certification Chairman, Mississippi Division of NALS, Inc. ♦



Message from your President, continued from Page 1...

Since moving our meetings to Mardi Gras, there have been a few glitches to overcome, but they are working with us to make the meetings run smoothly and I appreciate your patience in this transition period. I believe that we must be the first group of this size that they have had to deal with so we'll give them a little leeway and see if they don't get it down soon. The set up and sound system were much better this time.

Felicia Turner is doing a wonderful job recruiting our speakers. They have been very interesting this year.

Interest in NALS certifications has also increased over the past year. I am pleased and proud to congratulate our newest Certified Professional Paralegals, Cheryl Wadsworth, Certified PP, PLS and Roberta Welch, Certified PP, PLS. We also have several ladies going for the PLS or the PP certifications in September.

Other items of interest are Art in the Park which will be held September 16 at Smith Park, the National Education Conference in Buffalo, New York, which will be held in October, the Mid-Winter Conference of the Mississippi Division of NALS, Inc. which Jackson is hosting on November 12 at Mardi Gras, this is the meeting where you elect your state officers for the coming year. Please try to attend and cast your vote for the person you believe will work for you on the State EC. And last, but certainly not least, we have the Annual Meeting of

the Mississippi Division of NALS, Inc. which is an "unhosted" event this year which means that all the chapters will be hosting different portions of the three day event. This year's theme is a Renaissance Family Weekend. JLPA will be hosting the Friday afternoon Lads and Lassies' game time and the dinner on Friday night. Get your costumes ready and let's party like its 1399! More information will be forthcoming in the very near future. If you would like to work with the committee on these events, please contact me.

There are so many exciting things to talk about when it comes to the tri-level association that if I tried to cover it all here, Roberta wouldn't have room in her newsletter for anything else. Thank you all for your support and for making my job so much fun! ♦

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



ALS/PLS/PP Study Group...

The ALS/PLS/PP Study Group is being held every Thursday night, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Beginning September 1, 2005, the ALS/PLS/PP Study Group will be meeting at Evelyn Harper, PLS's firm, Watkins & Eager, in the Emporium Building, 400 East Capitol Street. Evelyn advised that everyone should park along Capitol Street and Evelyn will come down and let us in. ♦



Art in the Park...

JLPA is continuing the tradition of "Art in the Park". As in the past, it will be held in Smith Park, across from the Governor's Mansion in downtown Jackson. Local area vendors are as diverse as watercolor artist Gary Walters; photographer Emily Kamber and Kelli Wallace; handmade crafts by Dee Dee's Creations and Deborah Morgan; scarves, hats and gloves knitted by Anna Ruth Kesler from Texas; Mary Kay cosmetics.

As in the past, a light lunch will be offered for sale. For a very nominal fee, we will serve sandwiches, chips, various drinks and desserts of cookies and brownies.

Mark your calendars for Friday, September 16th, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. We have put in an order for a nice sunny day because there will be no rain date.

If you are interested in being a vendor, or know someone who might, please contact Nancy Vosika at Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis, (601) 949-4923 or email nvosika@watkinsludlam.com ♦

Authority

Since when have we Americans been expected to bow submissively to authority and speak with awe and reverence to those who represent us?

Justice William O. Douglas



Notes from Our Recording Secretary...

You haven't heard from me in a while because, honestly, I've felt I hadn't anything important to say. Well, I break my silence this month!

It just so happens that our August Membership Meeting was today. As I looked upon the group of ladies that make up the Jackson Chapter, I was amazed - there are so many things we can do with our lunch hour, yet we are all compelled to support this wonderful Association. And I was thankful for each of you and the time and money you so graciously give to each project that always makes it a resounding success.

Then I began to think about our leadership team. We should be thankful. All of us work hard for you, but I want to give our President, Reba Peden an extra pat on the back. She works tirelessly not only on the local level, which is what most of us see. We don't get to see the extra long hours she puts in at the State and National levels. She does all this because she believes in JLPA and NALS and wants us to become all we can be. Thank you, Reba for stretching our boundaries and all you do for us. We are truly blessed to have you as our president.

CJ Armstrong
Recording Secretary ♦

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

Membership...

I am glad to welcome our two new members this month, Courtney and Deborah. Please let me know if I can assist you in any way or answer any questions you may have about JLPA and NALS. That goes for all of our JLPA members too. I was in this organization many years ago and I never volunteered to be on a committee or run for office. I know most of you will find it hard to believe that I was extremely shy at an earlier age. Thank goodness I got over myself a long time ago! As a result of not getting involved, I never knew quite what was going on except for what was on the menu at lunch that day.

I changed jobs and my new law office wouldn't pay my dues, and because I was a single parent and could not afford to pay my own dues, I was not a member for a long time. After getting back into JLPA, I was asked to be on a committee and then run for office and I have been deeply involved since then. And I would like to thank Reba Peden, PP, PLS, and others who took the mystery out of taking the PLS and PP exams. Thanks to you, I stepped out of my comfort zone and not only took them, but passed them, and I feel good about that! Please let me know how I can help you make that step and I will be glad to. Accomplishment loves company even more than misery does.

Roberta Welch, PP, PLS
JLPA Vice President & Membership Chairman

JLPA Program Chairman's

Point of View

Our speaker for September 28, 2005 is William E. Dossett, Esq., a shareholder with the law firm of Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis, P. A. Mr. Dossett will speak to us on "Why Do You Need a Will".

Felicia Turner
Programs Chairman ♦



Member News...



Beckie Jones, JLPA member, is the proud mother of these two little angels, Nathaniel (Nate) and Katherine (Katie) Jones. ♦

Please keep Betty Sutton, JLPA member and one of my "lunch buddies," in your prayers. Betty had back surgery over a month ago and is still not doing well enough to return to work. In fact, she had to have another surgery on Thursday, August 25th, to repair something that went wrong the first time. ♦



From left, the three adorable grandchildren of Reba Peden, PP, PLS, Wyatt, Hannah and Katie. ♦





JLPA Member, Pat Burkett (left), and her sister, Betty McDonald (right), at the new Braves Ballpark with "Tommy Hawk," the Braves' mascot, getting the inside scoop on the line up! ♦

Marie Mills spent August 7-13 at Ft. Benning Recreation area in Destin, Florida on vacation - first full week she has taken off for vacation in years. She had a picnic lunch every day overlooking the bay, went to the beach, played at the pool, shopped outlet malls while they were there and it was very relaxing.

Marie really enjoyed her trip. Then she came back to work and worked three days and then left on Thursday for trips to Union City, TN, and on Friday they went to Hazard, KY and on Saturday to Dayton, OH for Ty Herndon concerts. After driving almost 2,000 miles she had to take Monday, August 22 off to recuperate. ♦

Recipe Corner...

By Roberta H. Welch, PP, PLS

Prep: 30 min

Start To Finish: 1 hr 45 min

Makes 16 servings

Success

Use mini chips to make sure there are lots of chips and that they stay distributed in the cake.

Substitution: Betty Crocker® Rich & Creamy white frosting can be used for the Whipped frosting.



Watermelon Cake

Savor the sweetest slice of watermelon you'll ever eat! The chocolate seeds are a melt-in-your-mouth prize.

1 box Betty Crocker® SuperMoist® white cake mix

Water, vegetable oil and egg whites called for in cake mix directions

1 package (0.13 oz) cherry or other red-colored unsweetened soft drink mix

1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons miniature semisweet chocolate chips

1 container (12 oz) Betty Crocker® Whipped fluffy white frosting

Green and red food colors

2/3 cup green jelly beans

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottoms only of two 8- or 9-inch round pans with shortening or cooking spray.

2. In large bowl, beat cake mix, water, oil, egg whites and drink mix with electric mixer on low speed 30 seconds; beat on medium speed 2 minutes, scraping bowl occasionally. Stir in 1/2 cup of the chocolate chips. Pour into pans.

3. Bake 27 to 32 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes; remove from pans to wire racks. Cool completely, about 1 hour.

4. In small bowl, stir 1 cup frosting with 10 to 12 drops green food color. Stir 10 to 12 drops red food color into remaining frosting. Frost sides of cakes with green frosting; press green jelly beans into frosting. Frost tops of cakes with red frosting; press remaining 2 tablespoons chocolate chips into frosting for seeds. If desired, cut cakes crosswise in half and arrange "slices" randomly on

tray. To serve, cut into wedges. Store loosely covered at room temperature. Betty Crocker® 2005 and ®/TM General Mills ♦



Employment...

There are 2 positions available with Wise Carter:

Legal Secretary - Minimum 3 years experience; prefer litigation, some business experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

Paralegal - Minimum 3 years experience -prefer insurance defense experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

Contact Person: Preston Piazza
Phone # 601-968-5550, Fax # 601-968-5595 or e-mail resumes to Preston Piazza at pdp@wisecarter.com

For a complete list of employment opportunities, please e-mail Rose: rjones@watkinsludlam.com ♦

Rose Jones

Employment Chairman



COURT OBSERVANCE WEEK

Week of October 10-14, 2005
NALS' 2005 THEME: WE, THE PEOPLE

JLPA's Court Observance luncheon will be held **October 13, 2005, 12:00**

