



JACKSON LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

Volume 11 May 2005



Message from the President...

I would like to thank our members for the prayers and support they have shown to me and my family during the recent loss of my husband's mother. We were shown how much our members care for each other during this trying time.

We have another member who is in need of our support and prayers. Linda Davis of the Brunini law firm lost her mom after a long illness over the weekend. Please remember Linda, Billy and their family in their time of sorrow.

On a happier note, the past year has been a great success for JLPA. We have raised funds to help those less fortunate than ourselves. We have funded our scholarship program and we have had some really great speakers and educational opportunities.

The membership has entrusted us, your officers, to serve it once again. It is my sincere hope that this year

will be even more successful than last year and with your help, it will be.

Please continue to support JLPA's efforts again this year. Get involved! Remember, you get out of an organization what you put into it. If you are interested in working on a committee, please contact me at rpeden@brunini.com.

Your officers and board look forward to serving you and working with you in the coming year.

**Reba Peden, Certified PP, PLS
JLPA President, 2005-06
KISMIF**



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

Board Meeting...

The Board Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 17, 2005**, at the Mississippi Bar Center, 643 North State Street. Lunch will be provided by the members from the Brunini firm.



Monthly Meeting...

Don't forget that we are moving the location of our monthly meetings from Denny's to Mardi Gras, beginning this month. Our May meeting will be on May 25, 2005, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at Mardi Gras Restaurant, 824 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201, telephone: 601-351-3300.



Happy 34th Wedding Anniversary to Lynn and J. Michael Gibbs on May 6, 2005!

"The trouble with jogging is that, by the time you realize you're not in shape for it, it's too far to walk back." --Franklin P. Jones





May Birthday Bouquets to...

- 2 Diane Bass
- 9 Melinda Ryan
- 20 April Hughes
- 21 Lisa Joyner
- 23 Debi Lee
- 25 Karen Branton
- 31 Kay Pardun Earles
- Jan Hammack

Welcome New Members...

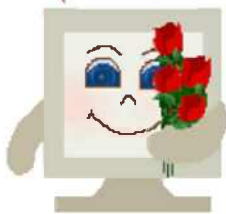
Joy Lunardini
Butler Snow
Pam Jones

Baker Donelson
Loretta Harwell

Legal Resources
Jennifer Thompson
Watkins & Eager
Dorothy Milton
Watkins & Eager

Kasandra Davis Hewitt
Cassandra W. Bogan
Deborah Hodgins
Gloria B. Hawkins
Brandy Smith
Maria Funchess
Lisa May Jones
Forman Perry

A GIFT



FOR MOM

Wedding Announcement...



Darlene Dunn's son, Timothy Daniel Fortman, and his bride, the former Camille Elizabeth Burchfiel. The wedding was held at the Chapel at the Ag Museum with the reception immediately following at the Ethnic Heritage Center (also located at the Ag Museum). They were married at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2005. After a week-long honeymoon in California, they are now residing in Florence, MS.

New Babies...



Karen Shearer's great niece was born on Good Friday, just in time to celebrate Karen's birthday on Easter Sunday. Unfortunately she's in Maryland so Karen has had to settle for looking at her sweet photos. Lily Colleen is Karen's first great niece, her mother's first great grandchild, and her brother and sister-in-law's

first granddaughter. No doubt she will be loved!



New proud parents, Liz and Art Spratlin, holding Aden.



Three generations of Spratlin men. Ladies, if you have a new daughter or granddaughter, may I present young Arthur Dennis Spratlin III. Aden was born Thursday March 31, 2005 at 3:56 pm, weighed 8 lbs, 11oz; and was 21 inches long. Mom and dad are doing well and learning fast.

Editor's Note: Since I was Art's very first secretary when he finished law school and joined our firm, I feel like I have a new grandchild too. Congratulations, Art! I remember you when...and you know you have always been my favorite!





This is JLPA member, Linda Jones, who is Art's secretary, and Amanda McMillian, Art's paralegal, getting acquainted with Aden.

The JLPA 2005-2006 Executive Committee is installed...



Left to right: Anita Campbell, PP, PLS, from the Metro Legal Professionals Association, who installed the 2005-2006 JLPA Executive Committee; Bonnie Parkison, Parliamentarian; Reba Peden, PP, PLS, President; Roberta Welch, PLS, Vice President/ Membership Chairman; CJ Armstrong, Recording Secretary; Holly Connell, Treasurer; and Rose Jones, Director. The installation of officers took place at our April meeting.



JLPA's 2004-2005 Scholarship Winner, Paul D. Myers, III. Paul will graduate from Hinds with a paralegal degree. Congratulations to Paul and to Shivochie Dinkins and her committee for their good work in selecting a winner.

From Our Outgoing Director...

I want to thank each of you for the support you have given me during my terms as Treasurer, Vice President, President and Director. I have honestly enjoyed every minute and cannot thank you enough for the opportunities you have given me. I will continue to stay involved with our chapter and help in any way I can. I look forward to serving as the Secretary for the MS Division of NALS, something that would not have happened if the Jackson LPA chapter hadn't supported me during my tenure here.

I'd like to remind each of you that the Annual Meeting of the MS Division of NALS will take place Friday, April 13 through Sunday, April 15. There will be educational seminars, business meetings and social gatherings. If you have not attended one in the past, I encourage you to do so now, and if not now, in the near future. You cannot imagine the growth that comes from

associating with your Sisters-in-Law (thank you Karen Shearer, I love this term).

I look forward to seeing you at Mardi Gras in May if not in Biloxi. Again, thank you for your support. It will not be forgotten.

Kim Knox, 2004-2005 Director

From Our Incoming Director...

It is an honor to serve as JLPA Director for 2005-2006. My continued goal is to work for the advancement of our Association and our profession. I encourage all to join me May 13-15, 2005 at the Treasure Bay Casino and Resort, Hwy. 90, Biloxi, MS for the MS Division of NALS 43rd Annual Educational Conference. The registration form for the Conference and the Continuing Legal Education Seminar are located in the recent issue of the Profile.

Rose Jones, 2005-2006 Director

Membership...

Our 2004-2005 Membership Party was a big success and a lot of fun. We had nine guests and 28 members in attendance. Felicia Turner decorated the room in our Mardi Gras theme and it looked great. We had plenty of good food and time to visit with each other and we gave away door prizes every 15 minutes and had enough at the end of the party to give away about five more. And we got one new member signed up and paid up while at the party. I would like to thank my party committee, Romas Turner, Shirley Mize, Bonnie Parkison, Lena Lawrence, Felicia Turner



and Reba Peden, PP, PLS, for all of their help in planning and giving the party. Everyone had a good time!

Welcome to all of our new members. Please fill out a committee preference sheet and get to know your sisters-in-law!

Roberta Welch, PLS
JLPA Vice President &
Membership Chairman

With Sympathy...

JLPA's sincere sympathy goes out to Linda Davis, who lost her mother, Sadie McCartney Pourciau, on April 25, 2005. Mrs. Pourciau was a resident of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. There was a memorial service at Goodwood Baptist Church at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 27, conducted by the Rev. Jimmy Davis. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Baton Rouge or the American Heart Association.



Mistakes -- if the Thunderbirds can make them, you can too. *By: Anonymous Attorney*

The Thunderbirds-- the U.S. Air Force's precision flying team.

Hundreds of miles per hour, wingtips just inches apart, the Thunderbirds are excellence personified. So why is this Thunderbird ejecting? Why is his twenty-plus million dollar jet about to become a greasy spot on the runway?

The whole story (along with video) can be found here: http://www.f-16.net/f-16_news_article968.html (no one

was hurt); the bottom line is that the pilot made a simple mistake. Performing a maneuver that required him to be two thousand five hundred feet above the ground at the start, he started instead at about a thousand feet less than that, apparently because he forgot that the airfield, in Mountain Home, Idaho, was a thousand feet higher than the airfield at his home base, in Nevada, where he practiced the maneuver.

The point is this: mistakes *will* happen. And unless you began your career yesterday you have had the awful experience of discovering that you filed the wrong pleading, missed a deadline, lost a file folder, etc., you *will* make mistakes; the only question is what you do when you discover one.

The temptation, of course, is to keep quiet and hope no one else discovers it. This, of course, is not a real option. Keep in mind that the longer a mistake goes uncorrected, the worse it gets. If the interrogatory answers designating Dr. X. Pert and giving his opinions are filed a week late, six months before trial, it will be

difficult for the other side to say that they have suffered prejudice. If they are not filed at all, and the other side hears about Dr. X. Pert for the first time when the attorney from your Firm calls him to the stand, the other side will have very good grounds to keep Dr. X. Pert from testifying. The same, or something like it, is true of every mistake.

So keep this in mind, take a big breath, and go to see the Boss *immediately*. And, if necessary, remind him that you can't be expected to be *better* than the Thunderbirds.

Our CLE article author does not want recognition and agreed to give us this article on the grounds that they not be identified. Thank you for this very interesting article, Anonymous Attorney!



Holly Connell is our JLPA Employment Chairman. If you would like a copy of the employment list please e-mail Holly at hconnell@brunini.com.

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.

Fall seven times, stand up eight.
~Japanese proverb~



