

# The Profile

Fall 2012



A publication of the  
Mississippi Legal Professionals Association

## CURRENT STATE OFFICERS

President	Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS
President-Elect	Jamie Roddey, PLS
Vice President	Misty Lewis, PP, PLS
Executive Secretary:	Lorraine Knight
Treasurer:	Sherry Clark Baran

## CURRENT CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Tri-County LSPA – Debra Garmon

Metro LPA – Pam Jones

Gulf Coast ALSP – Gina Knight, PP, PLS

Pine Belt LP – Jaime Roddey, PLS

Greenwood LPA – Lisa Roberts, PLS

Jackson LPA – Tene Wansley

**Jeannie Shaw, Certified PP, PLS  
Profile Editor**

## OFFICER REPORTS

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS

It is hard to believe that we are at mid-year of my term as your President and that the Holiday Season is just around the corner.

I believe most of you have had a busy summer with not only your job but with your families. We, unfortunately, have had illness and loss among our members. We have also had strange and sometimes extreme weather conditions with lots of heat, rain and storms to go along with all the other issues we have had to face. Through it all, we have had the support and comfort of our members to help us get through the crises – such a wonderful benefit of the friendships made through membership in our association.

We have also had celebrations and good things happening as well. Enjoying the networking, having a great Region 6 and State August Board meeting with very interesting and informative legal education, and now we have the November meeting to look forward to. It is a time to take advantage of the opportunities provided by membership in our association – networking, taking care of business, learning new things, just getting away from the work atmosphere to an atmosphere of rejuvenation and encouragement for facing the challenges in your local chapter, your state and national association and in your personal life. November is also a time to be thinking of the members that you want to lead your association next year as we elect new officers at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> mid-membership meeting. In November, we will also be voting on the leader of our nation, so please be informed and get out and vote – it is a privilege that our men and women over the years have fought and died for in order to keep us a nation that provides us with the freedom and choice to elect its leaders.

If we stop a minute in this world that seems to be passing us so quickly, we will find that we are blessed in many ways. There is still stress and strife in our world, but I believe most of our members recognize the importance of being employed, having a great family and being a part of a tri-level legal professional association such as ours. I continue to encourage you to participate in our association on all levels, to take advantage of the continuing legal education programs that are offered and as we continue to move forward, remember you are an important part of the Mississippi Legal Professionals Association. Take advantage of all the opportunities afforded to you and take those steps to move forward toward the goals you have set for yourself, whether it is just to be a better member, a better person or a better leader – the opportunity, encouragement and support is there in your membership in our tri-level association.

I hope you were able to join the members for the Special Membership Family Outing held on 9/22/12. It is always fun getting to know everyone and their families in a more personal way and often times quite interesting to know some things that you learn that surprise you about that member. The wounded warriors and their families are always a special inspiration as they encourage us to be the best that we can in all that we do as they continue to strive to be examples themselves. Your Membership Chair and Committee Members work hard to get this together for the benefit of each member and their family. This year was our second year and I look forward to this being an annual event for our members in the years to come.

With the Holiday Season coming up, I hope that each of you will be inspired throughout this season and have a great Holiday. There are always lots of family activities as well as association activities going on and some that encourage participation by all members. It's during this time that we usually reflect on our lives and wonder what it is we really want out of life and what we need to do to move forward. We start out with such wonderful New Year resolutions and again, I encourage you to take advantage of the

opportunities afforded by our association.

Hope you are having a wonderful day as you read the Profile that Jeannie has put together for your benefit, and I'll see on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Greenwood, MS.

In friendship,

Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS  
2012-2013 MALS President

## **PRESIDENT ELECT**

Jamie Roddey, PLS

When I was a child the older folks always told me that the older one got the faster it seemed that time passed and how right they were. In years it seems quite some time since I was a child but in memory and reflection it seems just a few short days ago. Only a few days ago we were celebrating our 50th anniversary in Gulfport and starting this new year; now we are nearly half through it – too much to do, too little time.

Did we all have a good time in Hot Coffee, Mississippi, on September 22 at the Membership Party! A great debt of gratitude is owed to Reba, Troy and Beverly Davis, Max, and Red Barley. Troy and Beverly shared themselves, their home, grounds, and resources freely with our families; Red prepared us some delicious meat to go with the other good food provided by our members; and Max and Reba coordinated it all with their time and talents. Thanks should also be extended to Mr. Bill Diehl for the use of his hay for the ride. That was fun and brought forth many childhood memories. Some of our children experienced the hula hoop for the first time and were quite naturals and others of us found that we still “had it” after all these years. Some of you may have already seen Nancy and Renee Dean on Utube! I think

every child who wanted one left with a sack of cotton picked by their own hands – what an experience that was for them! And, some of our family members experienced S'mores for the first time – what a treat!

On November 3 we will hold our state membership meeting in Greenwood and elect officers for our association for 2013-2014. Please attend this important meeting and give a lot of time and thought into the election process, choosing those officers who you feel will best serve our association on the coming year. Also, if you are not on the ballot for an office or may not be elected to an office, there is still a great need for committee chairs for this next year. Please think about serving our association and let me know your preferences if you are interested and willing to chair a committee.

Thank you all again for allowing me to serve this year as your President-Elect. I am having a good time serving with this Executive Committee under Billie's capable leadership. I look forward to seeing you all on November 3 in Greenwood.

Jamie Roddey, PLS  
2012-2013 MALS President-Elect



**MISSISSIPPI LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
MAY 5, 2012  
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS, called the meeting to order at 1:24 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Evelyn Harper, PLS, Jackson LPA gave the Invocation.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

President Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS presented a resolution making Evelyn Harper, PLS, an Honorary Member of Mississippi Legal Professionals Association. A copy of the resolution will be attached to the minutes.

**WELCOME**

President Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS, welcomed those in attendance and expressed her appreciation to the Gulf Coast Association Support of Legal Professionals for their hospitality.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS, Gulf Coast ALSP.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission Statement was read by Linda Adair, secondary member MSLPA.

**CODE OF ETHICS**

The Code of Ethics was read by Sheryl Rogers, Gulf Coast ASLP.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

<b>Officers:</b>	President -	Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS
	President Elect -	Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS
	Vice President -	Jamie Roddey, PLS
	Executive Secretary -	Lorraine Knight
	Treasurer -	Sherry Clark-Baran
	Parliamentarian -	Karen Shearer
	Executive Advisor -	Evelyn Harper, PLS

## RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS:

<b>Past Presidents in Attendance:</b>	Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP Jamie Roddey, PLS - Pine Belt LP Karen Shearer - Jackson LPA Karen Kuhn, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP Lisa Roberts, PLS - Greenwood LPA Reba Peden, PP, PLS - Tri-County LSPA Misty Lewis, PP, PLS - Tri-County LPA Evelyn Harper, PLS - Jackson LPA Sue Allmon, PLS - Pine Belt LP Glenda Anderson, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP Theresa Wilson, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP
<b>Honorary Members in Attendance</b>	Doris Compton, PP, PLS, NALS President - Elect
<b>NALS Current or Past Officers</b>	Doris Compton, PP, PLS, NALS President - Elect Karen Kuhn, PP, PLS, NALS Certification Director Reba Peden, PP, PLS, Region 6 Director
<b>Current Chapter Presidents:</b>	Lisa Roberts, PLS, Greenwood LPA Glenda Anderson, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP Olivia Burgess Renfroe, Jackson LPA (absent) Pam Jones , Metro LPA Debra Garmon, Tri-County (absent)
<b>Current Chapter Directors:</b>	Lisa Roberts, PLS, Greenwood LPA (alternate) Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS - Gulf Coast ALSP Marilyn Mills, - JLPA (alternate) Renee Dean - Metro LP Sue Allmon, PLS - Pine Belt LP Misty Lewis, PP, PLS - Tri-County LPA

**2011 Award of Excellence :** Charlotte Simmons, PP, PLS

**2011 Cheryl Crayden, PLS, Memorial Scholarship:** Lauren Michelle Barron

### **Other recognitions:**

President Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS, asked the following groups to stand and be recognized:

NALS National Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs/Members  
Life Members  
Members at Large  
Honorary members  
Guests  
First timers

## **DIRECTIONS AS TO VOTING:**

Parliamentarian Karen Shearer read the instructions as to voting.

Executive Secretary Lorraine Knight determined that a quorum was present.

## **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

President Gates recognized Lorraine Knight to present the minutes of the November 12, 2011, Membership meeting, who moved that the minutes be approved as distributed to the membership.

Seconded by Jamie Roddey, PLS Pine Belt LPA; said motion unanimously passed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Sherry Clark-Baran presented the financial report. It was decided to table the approval of the financial report until the May 6, 2012, Board of Directors Meeting in order for Sherry Clark-Baran to provide specific details on MSLPA's income and expenditures.

## **OFFICERS' AND DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

The following officers and directors presented written reports which are attached.

<b>President Elect</b>	Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS
<b>Vice President</b>	Jamie Roddey, PLS
<b>Jackson</b>	Tene' Wansley
<b>Metro</b>	Renee Dean

The following officers and directors gave verbal reports:

**President Elect** Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS, spoke about the lack of interest in participating and joining MSLPA.

**Vice President** Jamie Roddey, PLS, membership party was a success. She also, stated everyone enjoyed the meeting and getting together with the members and their families.

**Parliamentarian:** No Report

Sue Allmon, PLS Pine Belt LPA stated the audit would be presented at May 6, 2012, Board of Director's Meeting. The chapter was working on the CLE Seminar for attorneys. The date of the seminar is July 26, 2012.

Misty Lewis, PP, PLS, Tri County, reported they are working on the study course to get ready for the certification test in September. The course will be held on Saturdays at Brooks Court Reporting in Flowood. The dates for the classes are to be determined.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**HUMANITARIAN CHAIR:** Reba Peden, PP, PLS, reported the association raised a total of \$1,619.00 for the Wounded Warriors. The donations made were the following:

Metro LPA	\$310.00
Jackson LPA	\$545.00
Tri County	\$310.00
Pine Belt LPA	\$310.00
Brunini Law Firm	\$100.00
Reba Peden, PP, PLS	\$100.00
AALS	\$ 25.00
Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS	\$ 25.00

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** No report.

**FINANCE:** No report

**PROFILE:** Jeannie Shaw thanked the members for their participation and stated the date for the submission of articles and reports for the Fall Profile was to be determined.

**COURT OBSERVANCE:** No Report

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**DEBIT CARD: Vice President - Elect** Jamie Roddey, PLS, Pine Belt LPA, reported the debit card was cancelled when new signature cards were issued for the checking account. A debit card could be issued in the association's name but a specific name must be associated with the card. The debit card must be requested each time the officers change.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### BIDS FOR 2012 - 2013 MEETINGS

August Board of Directors Meeting: Renee Dean of Metro LPA presented a bid for the meeting to be held at Wilkins Tipton, date, time, and scrip ticket to be determined. Motion to approve the bid offered by Metro LPA was made by Jamie Roddey, PLS and seconded by Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS. Motion carried.

November 2012 Membership Meeting: No Bid

February Board of Directors Meeting: Jackson LPA presented for the meeting to be held in Jackson. Date, time, location, and scrip ticket to be determined. There were no other bids. The bid was accepted by acclamation.

May 2013 Annual Meeting: Pine Belt LPA and Tri County bid to host the annual meeting in Ellisville at Jones County Junior College the dates, time, and scrip ticket to be determined. Reba Peden, PP, PLS will chair the committee. Motion to accept the bid for the May 2013 Annual Meeting was made by Sue Allmon, PLS, Pine Belt LPA and seconded by Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS, Gulf Coast ALSP. Motion carried.

Theresa Wilson, PP, PLS, Gulf Coast ALSP stated the profit from the seminars was \$589.43.

**REPORT ON ATTENDANCE:**

Total attending were 34 with one guest, with the following chapter breakdown:

1	Greenwood
17	Gulf Coast
4	Jackson
3	Metro
4	Pine Belt
2	Tri-County
1	Member at Large
<u>2</u>	Guest
34	Total

Proceeds for the Annual Meeting were:

Silent Auction	\$300.00.
Anniversary Pins	\$ 65.00
T - Shirts	\$140.00
50/50 Raffle	<u>\$145.00</u>
Total	\$650.00

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

President's Reception will be at 6:30 p. m.  
Banquet will be at 7:00 p. m.  
Region 6 meeting in St. Louis MO, July 12 - 15, 2012  
NALS Educational Conference in Portland, OR, October 18 - 21, 2012  
NALS Professional Development Conference in Tulsa, OK, March 2013

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS, President

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Lorraine Knight, Executive Secretary

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRS, LOCAL CHAPTER DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

The **2012 November Membership Meeting** of Mississippi Legal Professionals Association for the fiscal year 2012 - 2013, will be held at **Leflore County Cooperative Extension Service, 309 W Market**, Greenwood, Mississippi, on **November 3, 2012**. The Meeting Registration will commence at 9:30 a.m.

### **REPORTS**

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS:** You are requested to prepare brief, single-spaced, typewritten reports, on 8 ½" by 11" paper. Please submit the original and one copy of your report to the President and a copy to the Executive Secretary. The deadline for receipt of reports to be presented at this meeting is **October 22, 2012**.

### **DIRECTORS**

**DIRECTORS:** Since this is a membership meeting the certification form for Alternate Director is not being attached.

So noticed, this **27<sup>th</sup>** day of **September**, 2012.

Lorraine Knight  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Address: 1216 Coachlight Cove  
Brandon, MS 39042

Email: [lorraineknight@bellsouth.net](mailto:lorraineknight@bellsouth.net)

President Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS  
Address: 24080 East Dubuisson  
Pass Christian MS 39571

e-mail: [brudbud@aol.com](mailto:brudbud@aol.com)



## Director's Reports

### Gulf Coast Association of Legal Support Professionals

We have moved our meeting place from Salute Restaurant to the Fire Station on 15<sup>th</sup> Street Gulfport. Our 2012-2013 officers were installed on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Gina Knight, PP, PLS, President; June Hobson, Vice President; Cheryl Rogers, Secretary; Barry Pickreign, Treasurer and Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS as Director.

We were pleased to host the Annual Meeting and would like to thank all those who made the meeting a success as well as all those who came down to the meeting.

Despite several unsuccessful attempts during the past couple of years to conduct the NALS Basic Course, we will be offering it again in the early Spring.

Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS  
Director, GCALSP 2012-2013



MSLPA CLE/Seminar Chair  
Dear Members,

Fall is a good time of year where the weather cools down and you gather with family for the holidays. It is also the time of year where the MSLPA brings you another amazing seminar!! The seminar is in conjunction with the MSLPA's November Board Meeting hosted by the Greenwood Chapter in Greenwood, MS. This seminar will be on Estate Administration & the Probate Process and will be taught by Judge Catherine L. Farris-Carter, Seventh Chancery Court District Judge. This seminar will be exciting and will touch on what is expected out of you as legal professionals when submitting documents to the Court and the Probate laws. If you can try to encourage a co-worker to register, or your boss!!! This will be a great learning opportunity for all. I have attached the guest speakers' bio for your reference along with the Registration Form. Don't worry if you don't get the registration form in the mail before the seminar. We will take registrations at the door up to the time of the seminar. I look forward to seeing you all there!!

Thank you,  
Barry Pickreign MSLPA CLE/Seminar Chair

Mississippi Legal Professionals Association  
Presents  
A CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION SEMINAR  
in conjunction with the  
Fall Membership Meeting  
November 3, 2012

DATE: Saturday, November 3, 2012  
TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
PLACE: Leflore County Cooperative Extension Service  
309 W. Market  
Greenwood, MS  
COST: \$20 for members/\$40 for non-members

ESTATE ADMINISTRATION AND THE PROBATE PROCESS

Presented by:  
Judge Catherine L. Farris-Carter  
7<sup>th</sup> District Chancery Court Judge

Early registration is encouraged, but will also be accepted at the door on the day of the seminar.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. For more information contact Barry Pickreign, Seminar/CLE Chair at (228) 383-3984 or by email at [barry.pickreign@gmail.com](mailto:barry.pickreign@gmail.com).

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Mississippi Legal Professionals Association  
CLE SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CERTIFICATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED:\$\_\_\_\_\_

MISSISSIPPI BAR NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail registration form and check for the correct amount payable to Mississippi Legal Professionals Association to:**

**Barry Pickreign  
1224 29<sup>th</sup> St., Apt. A1  
Gulfport, MS 39501**



**CATHERINE L. FARRIS - CARTER**  
**CHANCERY COURT JUDGE**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT**

**BOLIVAR, COAHOMA, TUNICA, LEFLORE, QUITMAN AND TALLAHATCHIE COUNTIES**

Judge Catherine L. Farris - Carter has been on the bench since January 2011. Prior to coming to the bench she was a Special Assistant Attorney General, with the Mississippi Attorney General's Office, starting in 1990. She represented the interests of the Citizens of the State of Mississippi before administrative, state and federal agencies and courts. She reviewed contracts for Community Development Block Grants to local governments, especially in the Delta, dealing with street projects, water/sewer projects, municipal buildings and housing developments. She reviewed programmatic operations for Restaurants Inspections and Public Drinking Water Programs. Judge Farris - Carter provided direct legal representation to the Mississippi Development Authority, the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Mississippi Department of Health.

Judge Farris - Carter began her legal career with North Mississippi Rural Legal Services in 1983. She started as a staff attorney in the Greenville, Mississippi branch office. She provided legal representation to low-income Citizens of the Mississippi Delta in the area of family law, child support, Income Taxes, Social Security/SSI and property matters.

Judge Farris - Carter has served as a Municipal Prosecutor and Municipal Judge. She has served as an individual advocate before various courts throughout the State of Mississippi in the capacity of Guardian Ad Litem and Lunacy Counsel.

Judge Farris - Carter received her Juris Doctorate Degree from Chicago College of Law and her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Jackson State University.

**Mississippi Legal Professionals Association  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
NOVEMBER 3, 2012  
Leflore County Cooperative Extension Service  
309 W. Market  
Greenwood, Mississippi  
(across from Courthouse)**

	Price	Member	Guest(s)
Registration	\$10.00	_____	_____
Lunch** (includes sandwich, chips, drink and dessert - see below**)	\$10.00	_____	_____

**TOTAL: \$20.00**

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ALS \_\_\_\_\_ PLS \_\_\_\_\_ PP \_\_\_\_\_ (other)  
 Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, October 26, 2012 (\$5 late fee after this date)

**PLEASE MAIL REGISTRATION FORM  
AND CHECK TO:**

**SCHEDULE**

9:30-10:00 Registration  
 10:00-11:30 Seminar  
 11:30-12:45 Lunch  
 12:45-1:00 Break  
 1:00 Meeting

Lisa Roberts  
 P.O. Drawer 8230  
 Greenwood, MS, 38935-8230  
*lroberts@upshawwilliams.com*  
*Make check payable to Greenwood  
 Legal Professionals Assn.*

*Room rate for Friday, November 2, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Express (behind Hampton Inn) - \$89.00 (double room).*

**PLEASE MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY:**

Contact: *Holiday Inn Express*  
 Telephone: *662-455-1885*

**ROOM BLOCK: MISSISSIPPI LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ASSN. (ROOM BLOCK EXPIRES ON OCTOBER 15, 2012)**

Please direct any questions to Cindy Brown at (662) 455-1613 or [cbrown@upshawwilliams.com](mailto:cbrown@upshawwilliams.com)

[NOTE: Seminar fee will be separate.]

**\*\*Lunch choices:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Smoked Chicken Salad Sandwich (on toasted sourdough w/lettuce & tomato)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef (w/provolone & horseradish mustard \_\_\_\_\_ or Comeback sauce \_\_\_\_\_)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Turnrow Club (ham, turkey, bacon, provolone w/Comeback sauce, toasted)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Pimento Cheese (toasted \_\_\_\_\_ or grilled panini-style \_\_\_\_\_)

**FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL**

The Friday Night Social will be held at Webster's, 216 W. Claiborne, Greenwood, MS, beginning at 6:30 p.m.. A presentation on holiday crafts will be given by Brandy Allen. Dinner will be Dutch Treat.

## **NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Lisa Roberts, PLS, Chair

A call for nominations was issued on August 2, 2012, and I am pleased to announce the nominees for 2013-2014 officers of the Mississippi Legal Professionals Association. Incorporated herein is a sample ballot with the nominees listed in alphabetical order. Voting will be at the general assembly of the November 3, 2012 Membership Meeting in Greenwood, at which time nominations may also be made from the floor. Thumbnail Sketches of each nominee are also provided herewith for your review.

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### **SAMPLE BALLOT**

#### **President-Elect:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Lorraine Knight  
\_\_\_\_\_ Misty Lewis, PP, PLS  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jacqueline B. Thompson  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Vice-President:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Janice M. Dear  
\_\_\_\_\_ Stephanie A. Floyd, PP, PLS  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lorraine Knight  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Executive Secretary:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Sherry Clark Baran  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cindy Brown  
\_\_\_\_\_ Renee Dean  
\_\_\_\_\_ Janice M. Dear  
\_\_\_\_\_ Barry Pickreign  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Treasurer:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Cindy Brown  
\_\_\_\_\_ Janice M. Dear  
\_\_\_\_\_ Barry Pickreign  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tene' Wansley  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Nominations and Elections Chair, and I wish the best of luck to all of the nominees.

## Congrats 2013-14 Board of Directors!

This year's election was a huge success with Region 1 earning the highest percentage of electronic ballot returns. Newly elected board members will be sworn in to office at the 2013 Professional Development & Education Conference held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Nominations and Elections Committee wishes to thank all NALS members who exercised their right to vote.

### Officers

#### President

Doris Compton, PP, PLS

#### President-Elect

Karen McElroy, PP, PLS

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Brynne Williamson, PP, PLS-SC

### Functional Directors

#### Certification Director

Karen Kuhn, PP, PLS

#### Education Director

Tina Hurley, PP, PLS

#### Marketing Director

Kathy Sieckman, PP, PLS, CLA

#### Membership Director

Lisa Mitchum, PLS

### Regional Directors

#### Region 1 Director

Michelle Ward, PP, PLS

#### Region 5 Director

Mari Johnson, PP, PLS

#### Region 2 Director

Linda Hanley

#### Region 6 Director

Katherine Warren, PP, PLS

#### Region 3 Director

Sandy Lavender, CHRS

#### Region 7 Director

Debra Taylor, PP, PLS

#### Region 4 Director

Leslie Keys, PP, PLS

#### Region 8 Director

Tara Hughes, PP, CP

### Non-Voting Board Members

#### Immediate Past President

Helene Wood, PP, PLS-SC, TSC-RE

#### Executive Director

Tammy Hailey, CAE

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## NALS Governance Changes Pass With Over 2/3 Majority

The proposed [changes to NALS' governance structure](#), originally announced in January 2012 with [bylaw amendments affecting member rights](#) noticed to the membership in July 2012, have passed with well over the two-thirds majority required. The vote was conducted in conjunction with the 2013-2014 Board of Directors election.

The member approval of these bylaw amendments directs the NALS Board of Directors to make the necessary changes to the bylaws to implement the election of a five-member Board of Directors not later than March 2014.



# Shoulda, Coulda, Woulda

Too many people put off something that brings them joy just because they haven't thought about it, don't have it on their schedule, didn't know it was coming or are too rigid to depart from their routine.

I got to thinking one day about all those people on the Titanic who passed up dessert at dinner that fateful night in an effort to cut back. From then on, I've tried to be a little more flexible.

How many women out there will eat at home because their husband didn't suggest going out to dinner until after something had been thawed? Does the word 'refrigeration' mean nothing to you?

How often have your kids dropped in to talk and sat in silence while you watched 'Jeopardy' on television?

I cannot count the times I called my sister and said, 'How about going to lunch in a half hour?' She would gasp and stammer, 'I can't.. I have clothes on the line. My hair is dirty. I wish I had known yesterday, I had a late breakfast, It looks like rain' And my personal favorite: 'It's Monday.' She died a few days ago. We never did have lunch together.

Because we cram so much into our lives, we tend to schedule our headaches.. We live on a sparse diet of promises we make to ourselves when all the conditions are perfect! We'll go back and visit the grandparents when we get Steve toilet-trained. We'll entertain when we replace the living-room carpet. We'll go on a second honeymoon when we get two more kids out of college.

Life has a way of accelerating as we get older. The days get shorter, and the list of promises to ourselves gets longer. One morning, we awaken, and all we have to show for our lives is a litany of 'I'm going to,' 'I plan on,' and 'Someday, when things are settled down a bit.'

When anyone calls my 'seize the moment' > friend, she is open to adventure and available for trips. She keeps an open mind on new ideas. Her enthusiasm for life is contagious. You talk with her for five minutes, and you're ready to trade your bad feet for a pair of Rollerblades and skip an elevator for a bungee cord.

My lips have not touched ice cream in 10 years. I love ice cream. It's just that I might as well apply it directly to my stomach with a spatula and eliminate the digestive process. The other day, I stopped the car and bought a triple-decker. If my car had hit an iceberg on the way home, I would have died happy.

Now....go on and have a nice day. Do something you WANT to...not something on your SHOULD DO list. If you were going to die soon and had only one phone call you could make, who would you call and what would you say? And why are you waiting? I had a friend from high school that I was always going to call and never did. The other day her name was in the obituaries so we never had that chat.

Have you ever watched kids playing on a merry go round or listened to the rain lapping on the ground? Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight or gazed at the sun into the fading night? Do you run through each day on the fly? When you ask, 'How are you?' Do you hear the reply?

When the day is done, do you lie in your bed with the next hundred chores running through your head? Ever told your child, 'We'll do it tomorrow.' and in your haste, not see his sorrow? Ever lost touch? Let a good friendship die? Just call to say 'Hi'?

When you worry and hurry through your day, it is like an unopened gift....Thrown away.... Life is not a race. Take it slower. Hear the music before the song is over. Show your friends how much you care.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

*Reneé and I want to express to you all how much your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits, and other kind expressions of condolence and sympathy have meant to us during the illness and passing of Mother/Mawmaw (Mayzelle Phillips). This has been a hard time for us, as many of you already know from personal experience. We could never have made it through without your love and caring for us during these long months. We are still having some difficult days but know that with time and the love of dear friends this will get easier to bear. There are no adequate words to convey to you all how much we love and appreciate you and your many acts of kindness.*

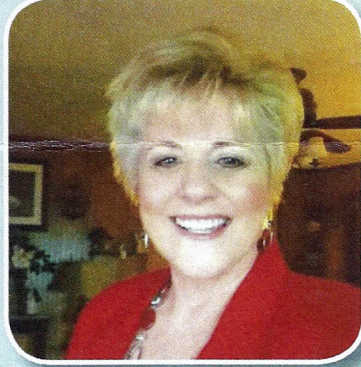
*With love and appreciation,*

*Jamie and Reneé Roddey and Family*

# Member Spotlight!

## Janice M. Dear

If you are looking for a diligent, hard-working advocate for NALS, look no further than Janice M. Dear. This legal assistant, with 26 years of experience in the legal field, has been described as one of the hardest working members of our tri-level association.



Jan is a member of the Metro LPA in Jackson, Mississippi. She has held numerous leadership positions in her local chapter, including the offices of president and vice president. She also holds the honor of being one of the Metro LPA Award of Excellence recipients.

Jan joined NALS in 1998 for the professional development opportunities, and in the process she strengthened her personal commitment to herself. By getting involved in her local chapter, Jan gained the confidence to go further and since then has pursued and held positions on the state and national levels. Due to her hard work, Jan was listed in Women in Business in 2008 in Simpson County.

Membership and recruitment are areas in which Jan excels. From serving on the NALS Membership Committee to increasing her local chapter's membership, Jan is always committed to ensuring NALS' visibility. She has worked diligently, as evidenced by her achieving the "Engage 5" membership dues waiver on two separate occasions.

Jan stated that her membership in NALS has assisted her in her career as a legal assistant for Wilkins Tipton, P.A., by giving her the knowledge and confidence to do her job better. "The friendships are unbeatable and the networking has helped me on more than one occasion," said Jan.

In her spare time, Jan enjoys sewing, scrapbooking, horseback riding, playing Words With Friends, reading, and spending time with her wonderful husband of 11 years, Grady. They enjoy spending time with their three children and two grandchildren. Jan is also an active member of Harrisville Baptist Church, where she is a member of the choir.

Jan feels that she has gained much on both a professional and personal level through her membership in NALS. She stated, "I have gained a higher respect for the legal field and my love for it has grown. I cannot imagine doing any other job."

*Nominate someone to be featured in the Member Spotlight by filling out the form online at [www.nals.org/?p=810](http://www.nals.org/?p=810).*

# BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERS

Janice Dear  
Stephanie Floyd, PP, Pls  
Nancy Gates, PP, PLS, CLAS  
Evelyn Harper, PLS  
Pam Jones  
Lorraine Knight  
Karen Kuhn, PP, PLS  
Misty Lewis, PP, PLS  
Reba Peden, PP, PLS  
Lisa Roberts, PLS  
Jamie Roddey, PLS  
Renee Roddey  
Billie Ruddick, PP, PLS  
April Ruddick  
Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS  
Karen Shearer  
Rita smith, PLS



# CERTIFIED (CURRENT) MEMBERS



<b>Glenda C Anderson PP, PLS</b>
<b>Anita Campbell PP, PLS</b>
<b>Stephanie A Floyd PP, PLS</b>
<b>Nancy M Gates PP, PLS, CLAS</b>
<b>Virginia G Gordon PP</b>
<b>Laura J Green PP, PLS</b>
<b>Gina L Knight PP, PLS</b>
<b>Karen Kuhn PP, PLS</b>
<b>Misty Lewis PP, PLS</b>
<b>Reba Peden PP, PLS</b>
<b>Diane B Roark PP, PLS</b>
<b>Billie J Ruddick PP, PLS</b>
<b>Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS</b>
<b>Charlotte G Simmons PP, PLS</b>
<b>Theresa L Wilson PP, PLS</b>



<b>Sue C Allmon PLS, CFE</b>
<b>Mary B Ellis PLS</b>
<b>Evelyn S Harper PLS</b>
<b>June A Hobson PLS</b>
<b>Gini M James PLS</b>
<b>Ruby W McBride PLS</b>
<b>Jamie Roddey PLS</b>
<b>Lisa H Roberts PLS</b>
<b>Rita F Smith PLS</b>
<b>S. R Solis-Champion PLS</b>



<b>Karen Lyons Pyle ALS</b>
<b>Ginger Parmentier ALS</b>
<b>Leah H. Tolbert, ALS</b>