



January 2009



Lex Amicus

A bi-monthly publication of the Southeast Texas Association of Paralegals, Inc., (SETAP), an affiliate of the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc. (NALA).

P.O. Box 813, Beaumont, TX, 77704

Web Address: www.setap.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Southeast Texas Association of Paralegals, Inc., is a nonprofit organization of paralegals committed to establishing good fellowship among association members and members of the legal community, encouraging a high order of ethical and professional attainment, and furthering education among member of the profession.

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President's Message

It's hard to imagine that another year has come and gone. Hopefully everyone had a Merry Christmas and the New Year is shaping up to be a blessed one for you.

I am very pleased to report that SETAP collected \$655.00 for the Beaumont Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Thanks to each of you for another great year for SETAP!

Sheila Milbrandt
SETAP President 2008-2009



SETAP 2008-2009 VOTING BOARD MEMBERS

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sheila Milbrandt | President |
| Angie Laird | President-Elect |
| Cheryl Bryan | PD Liaison |
| Melissa LeJeune | 1 st Vice President |
| Jane Barron | 2 nd Vice President |
| Marissa Paltz | Secretary |
| Rene Crum | Treasurer |
| Cheryl Bryan | NALA Liaison |
| Kim Stephens | Parliamentarian |
| Jill Hoffman | Executive Advisor |

SETAP 2008-2009 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jane Barron | Nominations & Elections |
| Melissa LeJeune | Membership Development |
| Needs to be Filled | Public Relations (Special Projects) |
| Needs to be Filled | Audit |
| Jane Barron | Programs/Speaker Meetings |
| Sheila Milbrandt | Job Bank |
| Kim Stephens | Newsletter |
| Melissa LeJeune | Teen Court |

INSUFFICIENT FUNDS POLICY

If collection efforts are unsuccessful for thirty (30) days, and the check is non-dues related, research whether the check may be turned over to the appropriate county district attorney and take steps to submit it.

If collection efforts are unsuccessful for thirty (30) days, and the check is dues related, draft a letter to the Membership Chair for the President's signature requesting member be removed from the membership roles and write member explaining that dues amount plus \$25.00 returned check charge must be sent to the Treasurer in order to reinstate membership.



USEFUL LINKS

www.allrecipes.com
www.daily-inspiration.org
www.tlsc.org

Teen Court



Teen Court will be starting up soon. It will be held on Tuesday evenings from 5:15p.m. to 7:30p.m. at the Beaumont Municipal Court. I have provided you with the 2008-2009 schedule for those who would like to participate in this worthwhile experience.

2009:

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| January | 6 |
| | 20 |
| February | 3 |
| | 17 |
| March | 3 |
| | 17 |
| | 31 |
| April | 14 |
| | 28 |
| May | 12- Appreciation Reception |

If anyone would like more information please do not hesitate to contact Melissa Lejeune at 839-4545 or melissa@pwn-mediate.com.

REMINDERS:

UPCOMING SPEAKER MEETINGS:

JANUARY 15, 2009
FEBRUARY 19, 2009
MARCH 19, 2009

**PLEASE VISIT THE CALENDAR PAGE AT WWW.SETAP.ORG FOR
ADDITIONAL EVENTS.**

**“Special thanks to Perry W. Neichoy
for his continued support of SETAP”**

Perry W. Neichoy, P.C.
LAWYER – Mediator
(409) 839-4545 * Fax (409) 832-1378
www.pwn-mediate.com

Locations

Beaumont
Century Tower
550 Fannin Street., Suite 111
Beaumont, Texas 77701

Houston
5 Houston Center
1401 McKinney, Suite 2250
Houston, Texas 777010

*****Please see Mr. Neichoy’s resume attached at the end of the Lex Amicus*****



JOB BANK

The Southeast Texas Association of Paralegals (SETAP) operates a Job Bank and needs resumes! Local employers have utilized this service for many years as a means of searching for qualified employees. If you know anyone looking for a position as a paralegal or legal secretary, please encourage him or her to submit their resume to SETAP's Job Bank by contacting:

Sheila Milbrandt
Germer Gertz, LLP
P. O. Box 4915
Beaumont, TX 77704
(409) 654-6725
(409) 835-2115
sheilal@germer.com

The fee is \$10.00 for non-SETAP members and \$5.00 for SETAP members. All checks must be made payable to SETAP.



**HAVE YOU MOVED?
CHANGED JOBS?
NEW E-MAIL?**

**IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT MELISSA LEJEUNE AT
MELISSA@PWN-MEDIATE.COM SO SHE CAN UPDATE YOUR
INFORMATION ON THE ROSTER.**

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Active Member..... | 45 |
| Associate Members..... | 4 |
| Sustaining Members..... | 0 |
| Student Members..... | 1 |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| January 11 | Angie Laird |
| January 19 | Sandra Kirkland |
| January 20 | Trish Carpenter |
| January 31 | Darlene Guy |
| February 13 | Regina Rogers |
| February 17 | Regina Youngblood |
| February 26 | Vicki Westbrook |
| February 28 | Cheryl Bryan |
| February 29 | Misty Segrest |

SOUTHEAST TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF PARALEGALS
MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT
AS OF
November 30, 2008

OPENING BALANCE – 11/1/08: \$8,526.45

RECEIPTS:

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Renewals | \$375.00 |
| Paralegal Day Luncheon | 1,735.00 |

\$2,110.00
\$10,636.45

DISBURSEMENTS:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Jane Barron – vendor thank you notes | 5.40 |
|--------------------------------------|------|

5.40

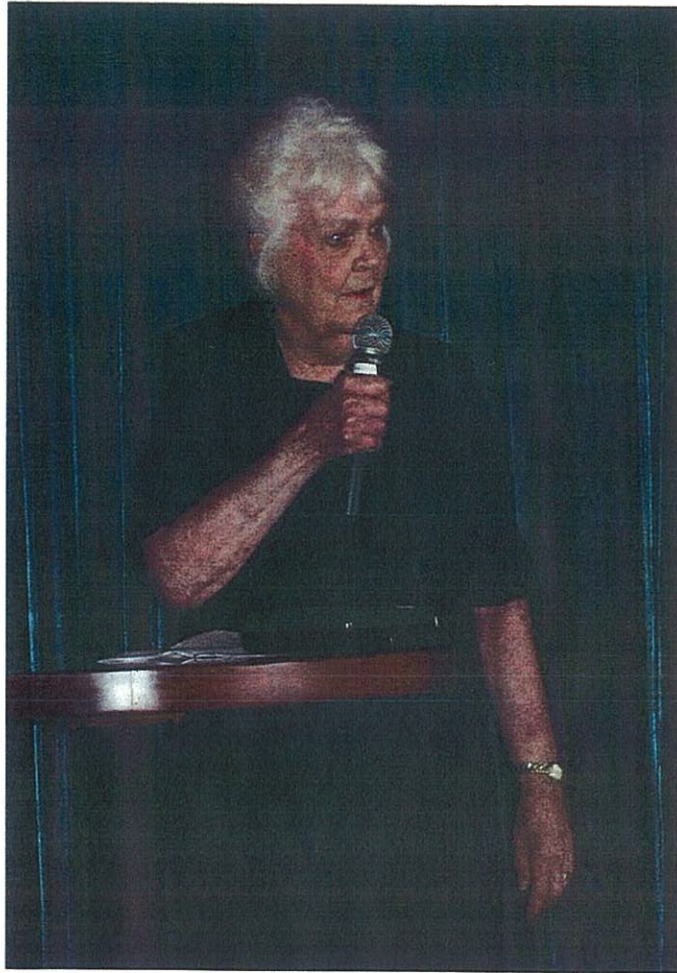
ENDING BALANCE – 11/30/08: \$10,631.05

Respectfully submitted,

Rene' Crum
Treasurer



PARALEGAL DAY LUNCHEON 2008











Thanks to all of the attendees for another great
Paralegal Day Luncheon!

Special thanks go out to our loyal vendors!
SETAP appreciates each of you!

2008 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON







HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Timeless Valentine

As time goes by from year to year,
One thing is surely true, my dear;
Though decades come and decades go,
Just seeing you sets me aglow.

Time shifts my body; I start to sag,
When I pass a mirror, it can make me gag.
My joints all ache; I can hardly move;
Still a smile from you, and I'm in the groove.

Getting older can be a pain,
But with you along, I can't complain.
Despite the things that we go through,
I know I'll never stop loving you.

Your loving heart turns life to play,
As we laugh at time from day to day.
So I write this poem, and I'll hang my sign,
Saying, "Always Be My Valentine."

By Karl and Joanna Fuchs



SOUTHEAST TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF PARALEGALS



NALA AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS QUARTERLY REPORT FORM

(Report Due: September 30; December 31; March 31; June 30.)

Name of Association: Southeast Texas Association of Paralegals Date of Report: 12/30/08

Number of Members: 46 Active; 5 Associate; 1 Student; 2 Sustaining; 2 Freelance (see attached roster).

Association web address: www.setap.org

EDUCATION *(you may use the back of form for additional space or attach additional sheets)*

SETAP's October 2008 meeting consisted of its Annual Texas Paralegal Day Luncheon held on October 23, 2008. Ms. Charlene Mobley was the speaker. She is an informational and inspirational speaker. President Sheila Milbrandt was honored by being voted as Paralegal of the Year. Karina Arenas was awarded a SETAP Scholarship in the amount of \$300.00 to assist her with her expenses incurred in taking the CLA Exam in December in Dallas. At SETAP's November 2008 meeting, Attorney Jimmy Hamm spoke concerning Criminal Law. SETAP's December 2008 meeting was its annual Christmas Luncheon. Every year SETAP undertakes a charitable venture, and this year we took up a collection to benefit the local chapter of the American Red Cross, whose coffers have been depleted recently because of its responses to the disasters in the form of hurricanes that have hit our area.

ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

Please see attached membership roster.

Current Association President:

Sheila Milbrandt
P. O. Box 4915
Beaumont, TX 77704
(409) 654-6700
sheilal@germer.com

Current Association NALA Liaison:

Cheryl A. Bryan, CP
P. O. Box 1751
Beaumont, TX 77704
(409) 838-6412
cbryan@obt.com

Fiscal Year Begins: July 1, 2008

Ends: June 30, 2009

Date Officers Elected: May 15, 2008

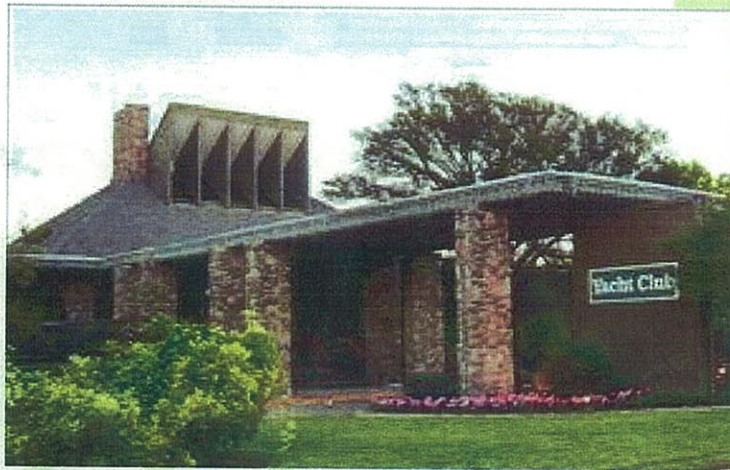
Annual Meeting Date: May 14, 2009

Name of person submitting this form: Cheryl A. Bryan, CP
Position Held: NALA Liaison

E-mail form to: nalanet@nala.org
Mail to: NALA Headquarters, 1516 S. Boston, Suite 200, Tulsa, OK 74119-4013



2ND ANNUAL IMPORTANT SKILLS FOR TODAY'S PARALEGAL



**Half-Day Seminar
February 6, 2009
Walden Yacht Club
Montgomery, Texas**

**Hosted by: District 10 Members
Paralegal Division, State Bar of Texas**

2ND ANNUAL "IMPORTANT SKILLS FOR TODAY'S PARALEGAL"

Half-Day Seminar
Friday, February 6, 2009
8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Walden Yacht Club
On Lake Conroe
13101 Melville Drive
Montgomery, Tx 77356
(936) 582-4222



www.waldenonlakeconroe.com

* AGENDA 8:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M. *

Includes Continental Breakfast and Mid-Morning Snack

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m. | Registration and Breakfast |
| 8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m. | Computer Forensics PAUL BROWN CyberEvidence, Inc. The Woodlands, Texas |
| 9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m. | Ethical Practice Pointers for Today's Paralegal J. MITCHELL SMITH, ATTORNEY Germer Gertz, LLP Beaumont, Texas |
| 10:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m. | Break and Visit Vendors |
| 11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. | Utilizing Technology at Trial WENDI ROGERS, CP, TBLS Ambassador (Past Paralegal Division President—State Bar of Tx) Dallas, Texas |
| 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m. | A Paralegal's Guide to Mediation PORTIA K. BROWN, ATTORNEY-MEDIATOR U. S. Department of Health & Human Services The Woodlands, Texas |

2ND ANNUAL "IMPORTANT SKILLS FOR TODAY'S PARALEGAL"

* CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION *

4 hours of CLE have been approved by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in the following areas of law:



- ♦ Civil Trial Law
- ♦ Criminal Law
- ♦ Family Law
- ♦ Personal Injury Trial Law

Discount for Early Registration!

Receive a discount by submitting your registration form and tuition by January 15, 2009.

DOOR PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN AWAY!!

* SEMINAR HOSTS *

District 10 Paralegal Division Members

PR Sub-Chair:

Mary Beth Jones, CLA
Jenkins & Martin, LLP
2615 Calder, Suite 500
Beaumont, Tx 77702
(409) 832-4100
marybj@j-mlaw.com

CEC Sub-Chair:

Sheila Milbrandt
Germer Gertz, LLP
P.O. Box 4915
Beaumont, Tx 77704
(409) 654-6700
sheilal@germer.com

Director:

Cheryl Bryan, CP, TBLS
Orgain Bell & Tucker, LLP
P.O. Box 1751
Beaumont, Tx 77704
(409) 838-6412
cbryan@obt.com

Elections Sub-Chair:

Angie Laird, ACP
Orgain Bell & Tucker, LLP
P.O. Box 1751
Beaumont, Tx 77704
(409) 838-6412
alaird@obt.com

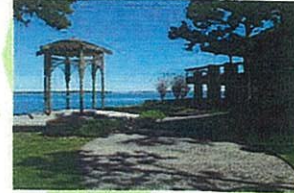
Membership Sub-Chair:

Audrey Moore, CP
Orgain Bell & Tucker, LLP
10077 Grogan's Mill Rd, Ste 500
The Woodlands, Tx 77380
(281) 296-8877
amoore@obt.com

2ND ANNUAL "IMPORTANT SKILLS FOR TODAY'S PARALEGAL"

REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print or Type Information:



Name: _____ Professional Designation: _____

PD Member? Y N PD Member # _____ County in which you work: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Tuition

(Includes continental breakfast and mid-morning snack).

EARLY Registration (Received by January 15, 2009):

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| PD Members | \$40.00 |
| Student Members | \$30.00 |
| Non-Members | \$55.00 |

LATE Registration (Received AFTER January 15, 2009):

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| PD Members | \$50.00 |
| Student Members | \$40.00 |
| Non-Members | \$65.00 |

Payment Amount: _____ Check # _____ Driver's License # _____ State _____

***Tuition must be submitted with registration form.**

****An additional \$25 will be assessed for a returned unpaid check.**

Make checks payable to the Paralegal Division and mail to:

Angie Laird
Orgain Bell & Tucker, LLP
P.O. Box 1751
Beaumont, Texas 77704-1751
Telephone: (409) 838-6412, ext. 415
alaird@obt.com

Note: You are welcome to register at the door, however, we can only guarantee seminar materials to those who pre-register.

PERRY W. NEICHROY, P.C.

LAWYER-MEDIATOR
Mediation · Arbitration
Special Master - ADR Consultation
(409) 839-4545 | Fax: (409) 832-1378
www.pwn-mediate.com

Beaumont
Century Tower
550 Fannin Street, Suite 111
Beaumont, Texas 77701

Houston Office:
5 Houston Center
1401 McKinney, Suite 2550
Houston, Texas 77010

Professional:

Perry W. Neichroy, J.D.
Civil Litigation - Mediator

I have represented both plaintiffs and defendants in many types of civil litigation cases since graduating from Texas Tech Law School in 1989. My focus on professional mediation began in 2002. I have mediated an excess of 800 disputes. Many of the disputes I have mediated have been multi-party cases with complex legal and factual issues.

I mediate a broad range of civil litigation cases, including all types of personal injury cases, wrongful death, products liability, maritime law, pharmaceutical, medical malpractice, legal malpractice, premises liability, insurance coverage disputes and bad faith, construction, business disputes, contracts, employment matters, multi-party cases including class actions, toxic torts and environmental matters.

I also frequently serve as a Court-appointed Special Master in complex civil litigation cases.

Admitted to Practice:

- State Bar of Texas (1989)
- United States District Court of Texas (1990)
- United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit (1990)

Education:


Texas Tech Law School - Lubbock, Texas
Doctor of Jurisprudence (1989)


Lamar University - Beaumont, Texas
Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Communication (1984)

A. A. White Dispute Resolution Institute (1994)

Professional Memberships:

State Bar of Texas
Jefferson County Bar Association
Maritime Law Association
American Bar Association
College of State Bar of Texas

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|-----------|--|--------|----------|
| <h1>January 2009</h1> | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1  | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Board Meeting | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Speaker Meeting | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|---|---|
| <h1>February 2009</h1> | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Paralegal Division ½ Day Seminar in Conroe | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Board Meeting | 13 | 14  |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Speaker Meeting | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | | | | | | |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------|--------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|--------|----------|
| <h1>March 2009</h1> | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Board Meeting | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Speaker Meeting | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 NALA Quarterly Report Due | | | | |