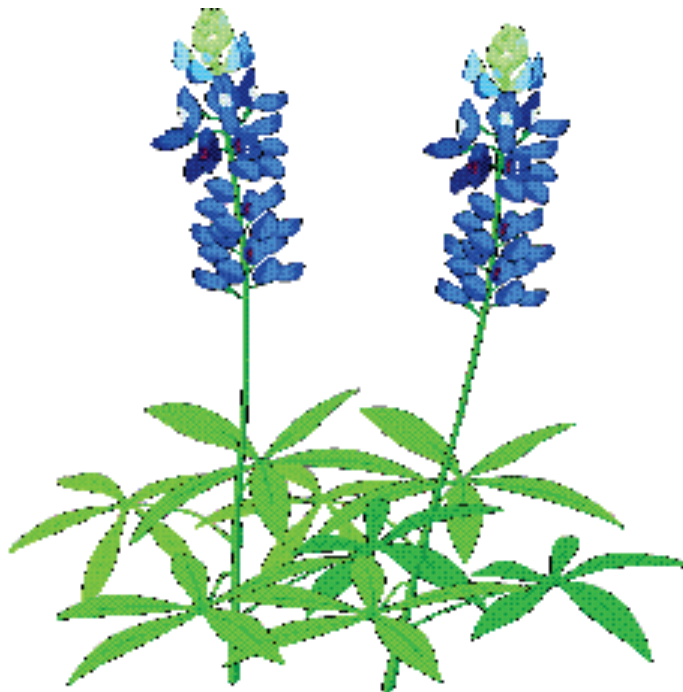




The Texas Docket

www.texasalp.org

July 2015
Volume 13, Issue 1



DID YOU KNOW? Named for its color and, it is said, the resemblance of its petal to a woman's sunbonnet, the bluebonnet is the state flower of Texas. It blooms in the early spring and can be readily found in fields and along the roadsides throughout central and south Texas.

Scientifically named *Lupinus texensis*, the bluebonnet is also called buffalo clover, wolf flower, and (by our neighbors to the south) el conejo. It was adopted as the official state flower by the Texas Legislature in 1901.

Editor

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The Texas Docket

Contents

JULY 2015
VOLUME 13 ■ ISSUE 1

Features

What’s Your Comfort Zone?	6
Staying Healthy and Working Long Hours--Is That an Oxymoron?.....	7
Meet the New Western District Clerk.....	10

Texas ALP

President’s Message	3
Keep Connected.....	5
The 2014-15 LPY Winner.....	9
The 2014-15 Scholarship Winner	10
March 2015 Certification Pass List.....	11
Education: Houston Conference Speakers	13
Chapter Anniversaries	15
Membership Campaign	16
<i>Texas Docket</i> Advertising.....	18
Note from the Editor	18
Texas ALP Mini-Roster.....	21

Events

2015 Fall Conference Invite	17
Registration Form	19
Schedule of Events	20

NALS

Inspire	12
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Marty S. Olson, PP, PLS, TSC-RE

In preparing for my installation speech, I read a lot of speeches, so I must acknowledge Doris Compton, a NALS Past President, with the following: "Whenever you see a turtle sitting on a fence post, you know it did

not get there by itself." I would like to acknowledge the many people who have helped me get on the fence post.

When I was 19, I started working as a legal secretary for a sole practitioner who specialized in commercial real estate. The State Bar had its annual meeting in Houston and my boss, co-worker, and I went to the meeting. At that meeting I was introduced to the Texas Association of Legal Secretaries as it was one of the many vendors. I started talking to my co-worker about this association, and she informed me that the association was like a union and only discussed wages. Boy, was she ever wrong! I didn't think anything more about the association until I changed jobs and went to work for Foreman & Dyess. There a co-worker, Joan Bowen, asked if I wanted to attend a Houston Association of Legal Secretaries meeting. So at the ripe old age of 20 I joined HALS (as it was then called) and our tri-level association.

Now that I was a member of this association, I learned I needed to become involved if I wanted to grow in the legal field. I learned that this association offers many things, but to me the most important are: education, certifications, and networking. As a beginning legal secretary I was able to take the Basic Legal Education Course. The basic course opened my eyes to the many areas of law that a person could work in.

When I first joined our association I learned that a requirement for taking the PLS exam was five years' employment in the legal field. I could hardly wait until I was able to take the exam. Plus at this time in my local association there was a member (Elsbeth Baskett) who had a finger in my back as well as the

backs of many of the other local and state members who had not received their PLS. She thought all members should strive for obtaining their PLS. So when my local association had a PLS study course after I had obtained my five-year requirement, I took the study course so I would be ready for the exam. HA! Since I had only worked for real estate attorneys, there were words on that exam that I had never used. What's an "in limine"? That's not used in real estate. I realized that although I had five years of experience in the legal field, I was not ready for the PLS exam. I re-took the exam many years later but couldn't pass the written communications part. I had passed the other six sections, even the accounting portion, but could not pass the written communications section. I decided to put the PLS test behind me and start taking college classes at night. Each class was a step towards sitting for the PLS exam. When I took my first English departmental final, it was like taking the written communications section of the PLS. I was confident when I took that final. I had taken the PLS written communications section exam, which was much harder. I passed that English final, but a lot of other students had problems with it. They had never had to sit for the PLS exam's written communication section.

After two years in college, it was time for me to take accounting. Accounting would be the last class I would take before re-sitting for the PLS exam. At that time the PLS exam was a two-day exam and one entire section was devoted to accounting. When I took the accounting section of the PLS exam I was confident, even when time was called and I still had a few more questions to finish. Six weeks later, I received my envelope with the "PLS" designation after my name. What a thrill! I am also proud to say that I went ahead and received my associates' degree. Studying for the PLS has helped me in so many ways in my daily job.

During my membership in the state level, Texas ALP had members who wanted to show their proficiency in Texas Civil Litigation. In 1997 the Texas Institute for Specialty Certification was founded. The following year the first exam for Texas Specialty

Certification—Civil Litigation was given and 11 people passed the exam. I remember the first couple of State Annual Meetings in which the people who passed this exam were given special recognition. How I wished that there was an exam for real estate. In October 2004 my dream came true and a specialty exam in Texas real estate was offered. My local association held a real estate study course. Many people attended the seminar, but only two sat for the exam—Sondra Heugatter and me. (Since this exam had never been given, we couldn't tell the attorneys what they should cover. They were told that anything that is in the *Texas Property Code* could possibly be on the exam.) I am proud to say that Sondra and I were among the five people in Texas who passed the exam on the first sitting

In February 2004 NALS offered the first Certified Professional Paralegal exam. That February I was indisposed, but eight years later, when HALP offered a PLS and a PP study course, I decided that I would take the study course and sit for the PP exam. Sondra Heugatter was the PP study course leader, and Vickie French was the PLS study course leader. I am proud to say that I passed the PP exam on my first sitting. WHAT A RELIEF! The day of the exam was a rainy Saturday, and I remember that Sondra wanted us to call her after the exam and let her know how we felt. I told her that I felt good, but there was a section of questions regarding family law and I had not even read the chapter. Oh, well! It is always exciting to receive an envelope with the coveted initials after your name, Marty S. Olson, PP, PLS, TSC-RE.

Our association provides a great way to network. When I joined our association I started attending state and national meetings and would room with Joan Bowen, my mentor. When Joanie retired, Joyce Look Buck and Sondra Heugatter became my roommates and my mentors. By attending state meetings, you might say I caught "TALSitis," as it once was called. Attending local, state, and national meetings I learned I could network with other people in other cities of Texas and the United States. In fact, a couple of months ago I was able to contact a NALS member in another state, and she was able to help me with some real estate documents that needed to be filed in her state. (As I had come to find out, not all states have the same easy rules

regarding the filing of real estate documents that Texas has.)

Without the encouragement or the twisting of an arm by Texas ALP Past President Faynell Poe, I would never have run for a state office. This had never been my goal. There have been many other local, state, and national members who have helped me in my journey to this night. Carol McVay was the Texas ALP president when I was president of Houston. Carol was a classy dresser and a classy leader, qualities that I admired. Another state president, Beth Walker, wanted me to be her certification chairman, but I didn't pass the PLS exam, so I was not allowed to chair that committee. This made me realize that I needed to obtain my PLS. Sandy Yost, a NALS Past President, was such a vibrant, dynamic president, I hope that I can have just one-tenth of her dynamic personality as I lead our state!

My theme for this year is "Workout Your Future With Texas ALP." Webster defines "workout" as:

- ✓ A practice or exercise to test or improve one's fitness for athletic competition, ability, or performance.
- ✓ A test of one's ability, capacity, stamina, or suitability.

Working out your body keeps you in shape to deal with the situations that come up in your daily life. Most of the people who know me, know that I work out most days at lunch; this helps me keep my sanity when things get stressful. I hope that you will at least take a minute or two when things are hectic to calm yourself down. By working out (attending seminars or studying for certifications), I hope our members can improve their performance at work.

Texas ALP will continue to provide quality education seminars. This year Anne Hoover and her committee will be working to provide a live seminar in San Antonio and have the seminar go out over the Internet (webcast maybe?) to our members who otherwise would have to travel a great distance. If we can broadcast this seminar, the cost to our members would be greatly decreased. Faynell, it might not be like a NALS webcast where you can participate while still in your jammies, but you wouldn't have to buy an airline ticket to attend.

As president of Texas ALP, Helene Wood, past president of Texas ALP and NALS, has challenged me to start a blog regarding my year as president, so as soon as I learn how to blog I will be starting one. As many of you know, this will be a real challenge since I am not even on Facebook. As president of Texas ALP, I need to bring myself to the 21st century.

I challenge each of you to go beyond your comfort zone and accept a challenge that you have not met and [Workout Your Future With Texas ALP](#).

Keep Connected

*You joined Texas ALP to get our stuff.
It's on YOU to keep connected!*

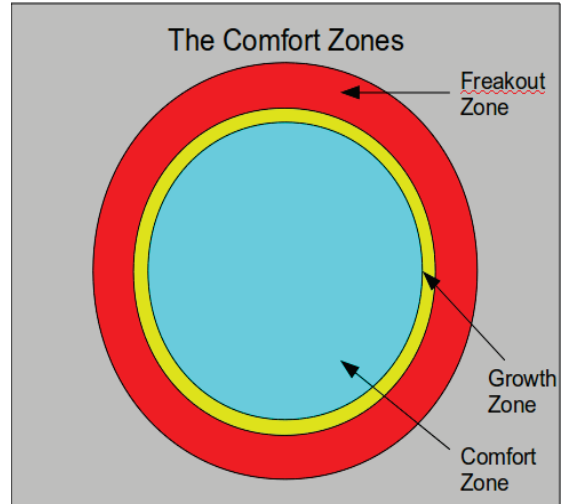
Changed your—
preferred e-mail address? mailing address? telephone number? name?
Have a new employer?
Passed a certification exam?



Then notify—

Helene L. Wood, PP, PLS-SC, TSC-RE • communications@talp.org

WHAT'S YOUR COMFORT ZONE?



Is it affecting your professional development?

At the start of any new job we naturally put forth every effort to present the best version of ourselves. But as months and years have passed and you've found your comfort zone, have you started to emerge into a different person? Have you become complacent?

- ? Do you still strive to do your best, or have you started just doing enough to get by?
- ? Are you staying up to date in your field? When was the last time you took a course or attended a conference?
- ? Do you seek or take advantage of new opportunities, or have you become stale? Have you become invisible in your position?
- ? Do you stay connected with a network of contacts?
- ? Do you voice your opinion, or do people assume you don't have one?
- ? Have you lost your motivation to compete?
- ? Are you just doing your job well, playing the political game, smiling, and getting your check?

Is this what it is all about? Is your career about being complacent, just settling down, and staying that way forever? Is mediocrity all you want for yourself, or do you want to go back to being exceptional?

How can Texas ALP help encourage you with your professional development? How can you encourage others?

*By Anne Hoover, PP, PLS
2015-16 Professional Development Chair*

STAYING HEALTHY AND WORKING

LONG HOURS—IS THAT AN OXYMORON?

Does this photograph look familiar? At some point in our career, we will all work long hours. Fewer hours in our day means less time to prepare and eat healthy food. But with a little planning and a couple of handy apps, you can sustain yourself and avoid developing unhealthy habits.



Focus on saving calories, not money

Everyone is on a constant quest to derive the best value for every dollar we spend. But cost-saving initiatives may not apply to purchase decisions if you eat out frequently. Carefully engineered (and manipulative) menu pricing steers buyers to larger portion sizes at restaurants, whether it's a quick-serve establishment or a fine dining restaurant. Reject the idea that getting the least expensive price on a per ounce basis is the optimal choice in terms of eating well.

Davis Liu, M.D., family physician and author of *Stay Healthy, Live Longer, Spend Wisely: Making Intelligent Choices in America's Healthcare System*, says choosing right-sized portions saves time (and money): "Yes, it [the foot-long compared to the six-inch sub] might be cheaper, but the cost to your health (with the added calories) and the time you don't have to burn it off (that is why you are working long hours, right?) is saved with a smaller portion size."

And, as most people are aware, portions have grown larger over time, contributing to an obesity epidemic in the United States. Dr. Liu points to "Portion Distortion" as a way to see just how much our sense of the right portions may be skewed. For example, there are 615 more calories in today's version of a coffee and muffin than those served 20 years ago, requiring more than a couple of hours of moderate activity to burn the extra caloric fuel.

Embrace the predictable

Innovation drives success in any profession. But predictability and consistency—yes, those boring, same-old, same-old choices—are beneficial and conducive to eating well during long workweeks. Dr. Liu uses **Jared of Subway** as an example. This now-famous dieter ate the same lunch and same dinner for months as a simple way to lose weight.

"If you go out a lot to restaurants, pick a few options that you are familiar with so you aren't always faced with trying to figure out if an option is healthy or not," he advises. This approach "takes the stress out of deciding" and reduces the possibility of making an "emotional or hunger purchase."

Before you begin marathon workdays, check out menus online or ask about healthy options at local restaurants, and then decide on a few items to eat on a regular basis.

Follow a game plan

Plan for the week so that the morning rush does not thwart your intentions to eat well. Develop a plan and stock supplies for breakfasts, snacks, and lunches.

Breakfast

- **Fruit smoothies.** Keep frozen fruit, yogurt, and orange juice on hand as well as add-ins such as flax seed and peanut butter; blend together in the morning for a quick breakfast.
- **Oatmeal.** Stock oatmeal and add-ins such as dried fruit and nuts as well as butter or a healthy butter substitute, along with spoons and microwavable bowls; prepare at home or at your workplace.
- **DIY egg sandwich.** Use basic food pantry supplies such as eggs, bread (or bagels), milk, and cheese to prepare a hearty breakfast sandwich.

Snacks

- **Fruit.** Buy ready-to-eat fruit and/or prepare a batch for the week, such as bananas and oranges that require no preparation; apples and grapes that simply need washing; pineapple and kiwi that can be peeled, chopped, and stored for easy access
- **Trail mix.** Make your own and create reasonable daily portions of healthy nuts and dried fruit.
- **Vegetables.** Prepare raw vegetables and dip, such as hummus or a yogurt-based recipe.

Lunch

- **Homemade one-dish meals.** Develop a repertoire of home-cooked meals that reheat well; take a large portion and divide into individual meals throughout the week.
- **Soup.** Make vegetable and bean soups; take jars of soup for the week.
- **Supplies.** Keep staples and kitchen supplies on hand, such as salad dressing, bread, and peanut butter, as well as plates, cups and utensils.

Use healthy food-related apps

If long hours mean that you don't have time to plan and prepare meals, apps may help you to quickly find and evaluate sources of healthy food. [Restaurant Nutrition](#) offers nutritional stats on common meals at restaurant chains. [Fooducate](#) provides nutritional information by scanning bar codes on packaged food.

*Adapted from an article by Julie Rains,
Senior Freelance Writer, Killer Aces Media, May 2011*

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS WINNER 2014-2015 FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

By Cheryl A. Wenzel, PP, PLS, 2014-2015 Awards Chair



Theresa Ann Alba is currently serving a second term as the President of Austin Legal Professionals Association, Inc., d/b/a Austin LPA. Theresa Ann has been a member of Austin LPA, Inc., since 1990 and has worn many hats over the years. Since becoming a member, Theresa Ann has been involved in NALS, Texas ALP, and Austin LPA since Julie Abernathy recruited her to run for office and/or chair a committee. She currently works for Husch Blackwell LLP, formerly Brown McCarroll, LLP. She has worked for these firms for a total of 14 years. She was born and raised in Austin, Texas, and currently lives in Southwest Austin. She has a daughter named Stefanie and a son-in-law named Joe Christopher, who have two beautiful daughters: Zoey, age 6 ½, and Sofia, age 2 ½. Her granddaughters keep her on her toes. She is also a member of St. Ignatius Catholic Church and is very active in her parish. At the age of 50, she graduated with honors with an associate's degree from Austin Community College. Theresa Ann chose "HAND IN HAND—WE ARE ONE" as her theme for Austin LPA this year. As President of Austin LPA and a member of Texas ALP, she would like for all members to work hand in hand to make our Associations ones of professionalism, knowledge of the law, and networking among all areas of the law.

Her employer had this to say: Theresa Ann is one of those people who does whatever she can to help those around her. So many people focus on getting to work, getting their specific job done, and then going home. These people often ignore others in need or ignore opportunities to help, because it is not in their "job description." Theresa Ann could not be further from this stereotype. She is the consummate team player who not only does her job very well, but when she is done, she immediately looks around for ways that she can help others. She has become the "go-to" person in the Healthcare Section with regard to special projects or anything large in scope that has to get done. She is valued for her work ethic, her professionalism, her team work, and her great attitude. It would be hard to imagine working without her.

From the nominating member: I first met Theresa Ann in 1996 when she encouraged me to attend a meeting. She not only took the time to e-mail an invitation to me, but also picked up the telephone to introduce herself and encourage me to come to the luncheon. Theresa Ann made me feel very welcome at that first meeting. She then went on gently to persuade me to work on a committee. The next year she nominated me for an office. Since I have known Theresa Ann, I have watched her continue to network extensively and seek potential new members to invite them to our Association meetings. She is always nurturing younger members to work on a committee or run for office by making them feel they have the ability and will have lots of support from fellow members. Even with her continued involvement with the Association, she has continued her education by attending college to work on her degree by taking courses in the evenings or on weekends. In short, Theresa Ann is an individual who is always available to help no matter your stature in life. She is someone who is a true friend to everyone.

Theresa Ann, congratulations on being named Texas ALP's 2014-2015 Legal Professional of the Year!!

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS WINNER 2014-2015 SCHOLARSHIP

By Cheryl A. Wenzel, PP, PLS, 2014-2015 Awards Chair



Alejandra Dominguez has been named as the winner of the Texas ALP 2014-2015 Scholarship. Alejandra is graduating from John Jay High School in San Antonio, Texas. She is planning on attending San Antonio College and her course of study will be Paralegal Studies.

Her dream has been to work as a paralegal for a very long time. She first became interested in this career choice because of her mother's boss, who works as a paralegal. She would hear the stories she had to tell of the types of cases they worked on, and Alejandra found them extremely interesting.

Alejandra has been told by many others that she is trustworthy, responsible, and has a good heart. All of these things mean a lot to her and give her a strong positive feeling and also boost up her confidence in

succeeding in life. The Head Counselor at John Jay High School comments "Alejandra has chosen the field of law. This would be a perfect fit due to her passion for helping others." Her mentor comments that "Alejandra sadly has had little time for extracurricular activities because she goes home after school to care for her elderly grandparents who live next door. Her grandmother, who is 86, takes dialysis three times a week; and her grandfather, who is 90, is suffering from confusion. As a result, Alejandra's extra time is spent taking care of them."

Alejandra states that without the help of the scholarship, she would not be able to attend college and to obtain her dream degree. We can all feel truly blessed that we had a hand in helping her to achieve her goals. Having had the opportunity to meet Alejandra and her mother, I know that she is the reason that we give out a scholarship to deserving students who are in need. She will do our association proud.

MEET THE NEW CLERK FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Jeannette Clack was recently selected as the Clerk of Court for the Western District of Texas, when William Putnicki retired after 20 years of dedicated service. Ms. Clack is a San Antonio native and graduated from Texas State University with a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Interdisciplinary Management. She also obtained a Master's Degree in Managerial Science from Amberton University (Garland, Texas). During her impressive federal court career, Ms. Clack worked in the Training Center for the Western District of Texas as an Applications Training Specialist for five years. Thereafter, travels took her from Texas to California, where she was the Deputy in Charge of the Los Angeles Division for the Central District of California Bankruptcy Court. However, realizing she missed her native state, Ms. Clack returned to Texas and became the Chief Deputy Clerk for the Northern

District of Texas Bankruptcy Court--a position she then held for 17 years. She now joins the Western District of Texas and brings with her a wealth of experience and leadership skills. Throughout her career, Ms. Clack has demonstrated a passion for employee development and organizational improvement. Her accomplishments in these areas are numerous, but when asked about her achievements Ms. Clack's humble response only focuses on the individuals who have inspired her to develop others. When Ms. Clack has spare time, she enjoys a good round of golf, numerous outdoor activities, and relaxing at home with her family and friends.





TEXAS ALP IS PROUD TO PRESENT

2015 March Pass List

Ione Mixon, PP (NALS of Amarillo)

Emily Olson, PP (Austin LPA)

SHINING LIKE DIAMONDS

in • spire | in' spīr |

1 fill (someone) with the urge or ability to do or feel something, esp. to do something creative : [trans.] *His passion for justice inspired him to advance his career as a paralegal with NALS.*

- create (a feeling, esp. a positive one) in a person : *Their enthusiasm inspires those around them.*
- (inspire someone with) animate someone with (such a feeling) : *She inspired her co-workers to become certified with NALS.*
- give rise to : *The conference was successful enough to inspire people to register for the next one.*

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engage
inspire
enhance
promote

**"OKAY, HOUSTON, [DID] WE HAVE A PROBLEM HERE?"
NO, WE DID NOT! "HOUSTON, WE HAVE LIFT OFF"**

*(Quotations by John Swigert, Jr. and James Lovell, aboard Apollo 13;
and NASA official announcing successful launch.)*

If you were unable to attend the Texas ALP 60th Annual Educational Conference in Houston held April 16 through 18, let me briefly share with you some of what I consider our best times. We had a "cozy" (*i.e., members we missed you!*) number of attendees, consisting of a lot of friends we were all excited to reacquaint with, and we also had first-timers who quickly became our new friends. There were a lot of smiles and laughter along with the occasional "warm and happy" tears. We learned more about the prior 2014-2015 term from our officers and chairmen at the Annual Board Meeting and, judging by the reports, WOW did everyone work hard, especially the Houston ALP team. We gained knowledge from our excellent speakers (two of whom I will highlight in this article with more to come in future articles), and thoroughly enjoyed meeting, accepting goodies from, and buying fun things from our exhibitors. Our raffle was amazing, thanks to Scotti Beam of Austin LPA and all the members who made very generous donations to it. Last, but certainly not least, we transformed from Super Stars under the leadership of President Samantha to Shining Like Diamonds under the Leadership of President Marty.

The two speakers I wish to highlight in this article are **Judge Reece Rondon**, who spoke at our Professional Development Luncheon on the topic "Leadership = Shine." Judge Reece began by asking us to take a moment of silent introspection to look inside ourselves and focus on what leadership means to us. He also invited us to kneel and meditate, but thankfully for some of us, was just kidding. Judge Reece shared some practical tips about day-to-day life that lend themselves to being effective at not only leading, but really doing anything. One tip he suggested is to do a self-check periodically, as that process aids us in reminding ourselves of how we are leaders and how we may improve. Judge Reece further shared a list of Top 10 Traits of Effective Leaders that he read in a *Forbes* article, but

reminded us these are not definitive and it is not necessary for us to be all of these all the time. Those traits include:

1. **Honesty and Ethics**: Like a chain, the integrity of your team is measured by the least ethical person on that team. It is important to remain honest about how you deal with each other.
2. **Ability to Delegate**: If you have four people on a team for a project, but only one person that you trust to do the work, then you really only have a team of one, not four, and that one person will be stretched thin and become less effective as a result. To effectively delegate you have to identify who does what best, which means getting to know those working with you.
3. **Communicate**: It is incumbent on a leader to determine how best to communicate with team members, and remember that each of those methods may be different for each team member. Like a chain, the integrity of your team is measured by the least ethical person on that team. It is important to remain honest about how you deal with each other.
4. **Humor**: We all know someone who is "all business," but all work and no play makes a leader less effective. The morale of a team directly affects its productivity. Morale is largely driven from the leadership of that team.
5. **Confidence**: Stated another way—don't panic. Oxen will end up in ditches, trains will go off tracks, and problems will arise. As a leader of a team, it's important to convey a sense that everything will be okay despite a mistake or setback, and there will be a way to fix things or to deal with things and to march forward. Stay calm and carry on.

6. Commitment: Commitment means not only seeing a project through to the end (even if there are personal sacrifices to be made), but caring about the result. Team members won't be committed if the leader of the team is not committed. The team needs to see commitment if they are going to be committed. Roll up your sleeves and start rowing.
7. Positivity: The importance of morale cannot be overstated. The greater the morale, the greater the energy level. The more energy, the more productivity and better productivity. As with a sense of humor, do not sacrifice the seriousness of the endeavor for playfulness. Find the balance that works for your team, wherever that balance may be.
8. Creativity: Many of us are or work with rigid planners, task masters, road mappers; but not everything can be planned or predicted. Sometimes the road takes an unexpected curve or a roadblock you couldn't foresee coming into play. Be creative, think outside the box, don't always go with the first or easy answer. Think of different ways to work around issues. There are ways to improve creative ability or exercises to undertake if that doesn't come naturally to you.
9. Intuition: You can't always rely on past experience or the advice of others to determine what is right. Sometimes you have to trust yourself and go with your gut.

10. Ability to inspire: Would you rather work FOR someone or WITH someone? You have to be part of a team and treat each other as important members of that team. Different roles, different tasks, but all important to reach the end goal. That philosophy will inspire people—and they will go through walls or over mountains for you because they respect you.

A second speaker I would like to highlight was **John B. Alvarez**, CCPS, of CLSS Online, Inc., who spoke to us on "Discovery: Foreign Subpoenas." For all of us who work doing litigation, John's presentation was most informative. I know I have been in a position where service of a subpoena on an out-of-state witness was needed quickly, and I had no clue who to turn to for help. John shared with us a way to determine what the requirements are from the trial state in order to domesticate a subpoena in the discovery state. John explained that, although many states have enacted "Uniform Laws," there is nothing "uniform" about it as each state, each county, and even each clerk has their own interpretation of the enacted laws. John reassured us that service can be completed in even the most rural areas.

More to come in next time's article. In the meantime, if you have an educational need or suggestion, please let me know.

*By Anne Hoover, PP, PLS
2015-16 Education Chair*

ONCE AGAIN, THANKS HOUSTON ALP FOR A FABULOUS RIDE!



CHAPTER ANNIVERSARIES

Midland ALP received its charter on September 8, 1961.

El Paso County LSA received its charter on September 19, 1968.

Waco LPA received its charter on September 22, 1956.





Membership Triathlon - Texas ALP Style!

The 2015-16 Membership Campaign is underway, let the games begin.
As of May 1, 2015, the Texas ALP **m e m b e r s h i p** was 378 athletes strong.
Let's achieve our **g o a l** of at least 500 team athletes.

Member Campaign

2 points

for each new "Athlete" you sponsor

15 points

for every 5 new "Athletes" you sponsor

20 points

for sponsoring the 500th "Athlete"



Member Campaign Prizes

1st Place — \$100 • 2nd Place — \$50

Chapter Campaign Prizes

1st Place — \$200 • 2nd Place — \$100

NOTE – Due to the change in the NALS website, each "sponsor" must be accountable for getting his or her "athlete" sponsor information to the Membership Chair!

Chapter Campaign

50 points

for holding a membership drive between August and October 2015

2 points

for each new "Athlete" added as a result of a membership drive

50 points

for most new "Athletes" added as a result of a membership drive

20 points

for having an "Athlete" of your local chapter win the Texas ALP "Spotlight Piece"

1 point

for every "Athlete" your local chapter adds from May 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016

20 points

for securing the 500th "Athlete"

CHAPTER BONUS:

100 points

for 100% retention of your "Athletes" as of March 31, 2016

Submit information to:

Andrea D. Griffin Darland, PP, PLS Texas ALP
Membership Chair andrea.talp@gmail.com

Save the Date

09.18.15

Austin LPA
cordially invites you to attend the
2015 Texas ALP Fall Conference

Be sure to look for registration form
found in this issue of
The Texas Docket

The members of Austin LPA will also be conducting a separate raffle to support "Threads of Love," which provides clothing, blankets, and other handmade articles for tiny, premature, and sick infants, or by helping a parent who is faced with the death of an infant through miscarriage, infant death, or stillbirth. "Threads of Love" reaches out to them by silently saying "you are loved" with a packet containing a bonnet, dress, blanket, and a prayer for healing a broken heart. Just locate any of the Austin LPA members to purchase your tickets for this worthwhile organization.



Texas Docket Advertising

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Note from the Editor:

Have you read an article you think other members might be interested in reading? If so, you can share it for others to read in *The Texas Docket*.

Feel free to e-mail the article to me at alexismontgomery@austin.rr.com

TEXAS ALP 2015 FALL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Austin, Texas ♦ September 18-19, 2015

Registration Deadline is August 15, 2015

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Telephone _____

Email _____

Certifications

- ALP ○ PLS ○ PP ○ CLA/CP
○ ACP ○ TSC ○ RP ○ Other _____

Local Chapter _____

Current Texas ALP Position Held _____

Current Local Position Held _____

- NALS Life Member
○ Texas ALP Past President
○ This is my FIRST Texas ALP meeting!
○ I want to be a Texas ALP Pal
○ Special dietary request (contact Registration Chair)

REGISTRATION FEES

The Regular and Late fees include ALL events

Regular - postmarked on or before August 15, 2015

- Texas ALP Member \$110
○ Texas ALP Chairman \$60*
○ Nonmember \$125
○ Full-Time Student..... \$75

Late - postmarked after August 15, 2015 Add \$25

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- Education only (member; no meals)..... \$60
○ Education only (nonmember; no meals) \$85
○ Education only (full-time student; no meals)..... \$25
○ Friday Welcome Lunch \$30
○ Saturday Professional Development Lunch \$30
○ Pizza / Game Night..... FREE

GUEST REGISTRATION

- Welcome Lunch \$30
○ Professional Development Lunch..... \$30

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark each event you will attend:

Note: CLE topics are subject to change

Friday, September 18, 2015

- 9:30 am - 10:30 am Open Forum
○ 10:45 am - 11:45 am CLE
○ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Welcome Lunch
○ 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm CLE
○ 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm CLE
○ 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm Credentials Check-In/Break
○ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Business Meeting
○ 6:00 pm - Dinner on your own

Saturday, September 19, 2015

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am CLE
○ 10:15 am - 11:15 am CLE
○ 11:30 am - 1:00 pm Professional Development Lunch
○ 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm Break / Vendor door prizes
○ 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm CLE
○ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm CLE
○ 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm CLE
○ 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Pizza and Game Night

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total Due: \$_____ (due with registration form)
*\$60 to be paid by Chairman and \$50 to be paid by Texas ALP

Please make check payable to:

Austin LPA Special Meeting Account (Tax ID: 75-3006562)

- A \$30 fee will be assessed for returned checks.
• Refunds requested and confirmed in writing will be made until September 1, 2015 (less a \$25 fee).

If you have any questions, please contact the Meeting Chair:
Patti Heaney 512-225-2841 / pattitalp@gmail.com

Mail Registration Form and payment to:
Marlena Johnson, PLS
Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.
816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900
Austin, Texas 78701
mjohnson@lglawfirm.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

Reservations should be made directly with Wyndham Garden Hotel, 3401 South IH 35, Austin, Texas 78741 (512-448-2444)

The room block is held under Texas Association of Legal Professionals. www.wyndham.com/hotels/AUSWC

Room rates: \$115 (single/double) ♦ \$125 (Executive King) ♦ \$135 (Casita)

QUOTED ROOM RATES AVAILABLE UNTIL AUGUST 27, 2015

Texas ALP Fall Educational Conference
September 18-19, 2015
Austin, Texas

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, September 18, 2015

8:00 am	-	5:00 pm	Registration
9:30 am	-	10:30 am	Open Forum
10:45 am	-	11:45 am	CLE
12:00 pm	-	1:00 pm	Welcome Lunch
1:15 pm	-	2:15 pm	CLE
2:30 pm	-	3:30 pm	<i>Ethics</i>
3:30 pm	-	4:00 pm	Credentials Check-in / Break
4:00 pm	-	6:00 pm	Business Meeting
6:00 pm			Dinner on your own

Saturday, September 19, 2015

8:00 am	-	12:00 pm	Registration
9:00 am	-	10:00 am	<i>Labor/Employment</i>
10:15 am	-	11:15 am	<i>U.S. District Clerk – Philip Devin</i>
11:30 am	-	1:00 pm	Professional Development Lunch
1:00 pm	-	1:30 pm	Break / Vendor door prizes
1:45 pm	-	2:45 pm	CLE
3:00 pm	-	4:00 pm	CLE
4:15 pm	-	5:15 pm	CLE
6:30 pm	-	9:30 pm	Pizza and Game Night

TEXAS ALP 2015-2016 ROSTER OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, AND DIRECTORS

Elected Officers

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2016

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