



The Texas Docket

www.texasalp.org

December 2019/January 2020
Volume 17, Issue 3

MAKE YOUR PLANS

TALP ANNUAL MEETING AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE

April 24-25, 2020
San Marcos, Texas



Editor

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The Texas Docket

Contents

**DECEMBER 2019/JANUARY 2020
VOLUME 17 ■ ISSUE 3**

Texas ALP

- Chapter Anniversaries..... 5
- Communications 4
- History of Law Series..... 26
- Hugs 6
- Membership Campaign 11
- Mini Roster..... 20
- NALS Convention Pictures 28
- Networking News 12
 - Waco LPA 13
 - Lubbock LPA..... 14
 - Austin LPA..... 15
 - Houston LPA..... 16
- Note from Editor..... 36
- President’s Message..... 3
- Professional Development..... 7
- Texas ALP Fall Education Conference
 - Speaker Highlights..... 19
- TALP Fall Education Conference Pictures..... 21
- That Ain’t Not Right 17
- Texas Docket* Advertising..... 36

Events

- CLE 10
- Texas ALP Annual Education Conference 31
 - Schedule..... 32
 - President’s Banquet..... 33
 - San Marcos 34
- Registration 31

Ads

- Express Records 8
- EZ Venue 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday! It is truly amazing to me how remarkable the past year has been and how quickly it has gone. Both conferences for 2019 have come and gone, and we look forward to what 2020 brings us with education, networking, and friendship.

Austin LPA, again thank you for your hard work and dedication to making the Fall Conference a wonderful event!

As I look at what that the holidays mean and all the festive lights and decorations, it makes me think of the warmth and glow of friendship and family. Over the past year, you have seen my family grow and it continues to grow with the birth of Konner. I am extremely blessed to have each of you to share those joys with. As with the blessings, this year has also brought sorrow for some. I want us all to remember our friends through the year and reach out to them. I will admit, I am the worst at picking up the phone and calling someone and I need to be better about that. I do send out a lot of cards because I am a card person.



At the conference in Austin, I challenged each person in attendance to bring someone new or one who has not been to a conference in many years to the 2020 Annual Meeting and Education Conference in San Marcos. Network with your co-workers or visit with your friends and invite them to attend.

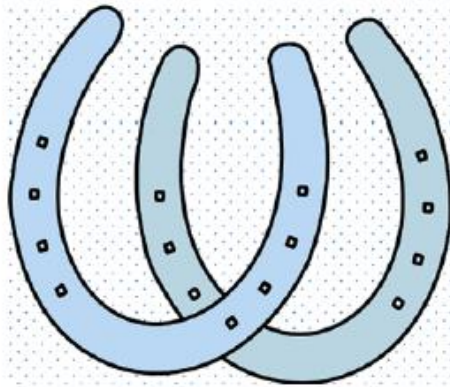
I also want to remind everyone that the webinar will be coming up and information will be distributed on that. Promote it in your areas and let's see how many we can get to attend. We are very fortunate that our association has this ability to put on webinars for members to continue to obtain their CLE credits needed for certification. If you have questions about it, please ask Education Chair Marty Olson, PP, PLS, TSC-RE.

Certification. that brings me to THE next exciting bit of information. If you are a member and you have obtained any level of certification since May 2019 and you attend the 2020 meeting in San Marcos, you will receive an incentive. Look for additional information regarding this incentive from our Certification Chair Sondra Heugatter, PP, PLS, TSC-CL-RE!

Who doesn't love incentives? There is another one coming too! In San Marcos, we will have a Leadership Session that will allow those in attendance a chance to win \$25! Who couldn't use \$25 at a conference? I know we all would enjoy that and probably spend it while at the conference.

As this year is coming to an end, I cannot help but think of how much this association has changed my life. I would never have thought to network, get my certification, or even become friends with anyone outside my own office if it had not been for this association. How has it changed your own life?

Andrea D. Griffin, PP, PLS
2019-2020 Texas ALP President



Uniquely United



CHANGE OF ADDRESS, EMAIL, PHONE

Notify:

Helene L. Wood, PP, PLS, TSC-RE
Texas ALP Communications Chair
713-651-3713 • helene.wood@nortonrosefulbright.com



Happy Anniversary

Houston ALP received its charter on January 25, 1956.

Lubbock LPA received its charter on March 1, 1958.

NALS of Amarillo received its charter on March 30, 1957.

"Every time you have to speak, you are auditioning for leadership."—*James Humes*

"You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget the errand."—*Woodrow Wilson*

"A good leader leads the people from above them. A great leader leads the people from within them."—*M. D. Arnold*

"Don't follow the crowd, let the crowd follow you."—*Margaret Thatcher*

"We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful about what we pretend to be."—*Kurt Vonnegut*

TALP HUGS

The word “exchange” can be defined as give and take. Sounds a lot like sharing, doesn’t it? According to Wikipedia, sharing is the process of dividing and distributing. It is “a basic component of human interaction, and is responsible for strengthening social ties and ensuring a person’s well-being.”

Many of us have discovered over the years that working together has resulted in our forming strong bonds of friendship. We have shared not only our professional lives but our personal lives as well. In reflecting upon what friendship truly means, I found the following quotes on the Shutterfly website:



A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become and still gently allows you to grow. William Shakespeare

Friends are those rare people who ask how we are and then wait to hear the answer. Ed Cunningham

Many people will walk in and out of your life but only true friends leave footprints in your heart. Eleanor Roosevelt

Wishing to be friends is quick work, but friendship is a slow-ripening fruit. Aristotle

I get by with a little help from my friends. The Beatles

(I know those of us who are a certain age will definitely remember these words.) 😊

Friends listen to what you say. Best friends listen to what you don't say. Unknown

Friendship is a sheltering tree. Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Friends are people who know you really well and like you anyway. Greg Tamblyn

A friend is one of the nicest things you can have, and one of the best things you can be.

Douglas Pagels

(I have this quote on my wall at home. It is one of my favorites.)

A sweet friendship refreshes the soul. Proverbs

So, in the spirit of friendship, let’s reach out to each other to share our happiness and sorrow and be a source of love and support when needed. If you know of someone who needs a hug, please let me know by sending an email to hugs@talp.org. Let’s be friends and share a hug. It will make us all feel good.

Mary D. Teague, PP, PLS
Chair, TALP HUGS

Professional Development
Cheryl A. Wenzel, PP, PLS, Chair

Getting Comfortable In Public Speaking Situations

This is not a favorite topic of most people but it will help you now and in the future if you are placed in a situation where you need to make a presentation at a meeting or at work. I can probably tell you every situation—horrifying situation—I had in school when I had to make a presentation in front of class. I was not comfortable with myself at all and lacked a great deal of self-confidence. Not that I am totally different now than I was back then but hopefully I am a little better at it now. My local association and Texas ALP have helped me tremendously with pushing me and getting me to present myself better. These groups have done so much for me and my self-confidence over the years, it is truly amazing. Self-doubts from childhood and lots of taunts from boys have left many scars over the years that don't go away but they do tend to fade with the new layers of confidence that I have found with the wonderful group called Texas ALP.

Here are some tips for getting ready to speak or make a presentation to a group.

1. Know your audience. Know the group to whom you are going to make your presentation. Make sure that your presentation will be informative to that group. You don't want to present a topic on basic math to a group of scientists, you will lose them right away.
2. Rehearse. Make sure you go over your notes or pages numerous times getting more and more comfortable with the information you are going to present. You don't want to stumble over words or use too many "umms" or "ahhs" throughout the speech. You want to make it perfectly natural for the audience but, most importantly, you want it to be perfectly natural for you.
3. Practice with distractions. Well, in my house there are numerous cats running around or getting into fights that need to be broken up occasionally, but they can definitely be a distraction. Even this little face can be a distraction.





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Stop filing cases in the wrong court venue. Incorrect filing leads to a decrease in productivity and lost revenue.

EZ Venue is your business solution to locating and identifying the correct court venue or court jurisdiction for your cases.



Efficiency

The EZ Venue Team is here to simplify the time consuming and costly methods of locating and selecting the correct court venue for your cases.

Support Staff

Our system is operated and maintained by full-time staff. Support is not outsourced to other companies.

You can always contact the EZ Venue Team for assistance.

Current Data

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The Single Search tool provides a visible pinned map of the address for the user, indicating the physical location within the jurisdictional boundary of the venue and the correct court venue name.

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Needing to process large numbers of cases? Our system can process thousands of addresses or geocoded data points in a single data upload.

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The EZ Venue system supports API calls for you to process files electronically. Visit our API documentation online to learn more.

Contact

For questions, product information, and to schedule an online demonstration, please contact:

Bobby Kubin
EZ Venue Product Manager
info@ezvenue.app
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GOT CLE?



The
Texas Association of Legal Professionals
Does!



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

2/22/20 - 9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M., CT

COME LEARN AND EARN 4.0 HOURS OF CLE CREDIT.

AREA OF LAW

Intellectual Property (2/22/20)
(topics have not been finalized)

Check With Your Local Association:

LIVE:

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT
1301 McKinney, Suite 5000
Houston, Texas 77010

Visit www.texasalp.org for registration form and more information.

2019-2020 Membership Campaign

Theme: Uniquely United

Goal: Get as many horseshoes as you can to win the grand prize

Rules: Each association starts out with 1 horseshoe to fill up, for every **Point** you get you get a “peg” on the horseshoe. The chapter or member with the most complete horseshoes by **April 15, 2020** wins. Each horseshoe will have 5 pegs to fill.

Points: To get **Points** you must do one of the following things:

1 Point: Send the name and contact information for your membership chair to Carrie Nevarez at Carrie@affiliatedtaxsolutions.com

1 Point: Send Carrie the names/birthdays/contact information for your chapter

1 Point: For every new member the chapter or member brings into the association

1 Point: For bringing back a past member to the association

1 Point: Sharing a TALP social media post using your association page (Carrie is excluded); for example. LLPA shares a TALP post to its page

1 Point: For every member who obtains certification (new certifications only)

1 Point: For every member who re-certifies and sends Carrie proof of the recertification.

1 Point: For each member the local membership or welfare chair sends a birthday, sympathy, or get-well card to, and lets Carrie know about it

1 Point: For each member who gets a NALS specialty certificate

2 Points: For holding a charity event or volunteering with a charitable organization where 5 or more members attend

2 Points: Holding a CLE event with a minimum of 4 hours of CLE

2 Points: Sending something in for *The Docket* and cc'ing Carrie (*The Docket* Chair will be excluded)

2 Points: For giving a presentation to the local high school/college/paralegal organizations about TALP (and sending Carrie proof, i.e., pictures, post, something)

2 Points: Sending something to Rachel Scott for Marketing in postable form, so a picture format, or ability to post on the Facebook page (Rachel and Carrie are excluded from this)

5 Points (that's a whole Horseshoe): Hold a membership drive



WANTED

Networking News

(aka “It Ain’t Braggin’ If It’s True!”)

**Share your local association news!
Just send your stories and brags to
lgentry@hkwwlaw.com**

REWARD: **Points in the
Membership Campaign**

SHEETS

Looking to the Future

Waco Legal Professionals Association is excited to report that we have gained a new student member as a result of our membership drive held at McLennan Community College in October. The five WLPA members shown below discussed the value of being a part of the tri-level association as well as the benefits of joining the association while a student rather than waiting until they enter the legal field. As four of these ladies graduated from the paralegal (or legal secretary) program at MCC, the students were receptive to their presentation.

WLPA welcomes our new student member, Alexis Sibila!



Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS; Anel Tapia; Laura DeLeon; Mary Teague, PP, PLS; Olivia Johnson, PLS, CP

Submitted by
Mary D. Teague, PP, PLS
WLPA Functional Director Membership



Lubbock Legal Professionals Association Fall and Winter



Real Estate Webinar September 14, 2019

LLPA partnered up with the West Texas Paralegal Association at the Texas Tech School of Law to watch the CLE webinar.



Annual Day In Court “Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society” October 12, 2019



Gary Bellair—*Constitutional Ethics*.
Rusty Gunter—*Constitutional Law of
Criminal Cases*.
Kristen Vander-Plas-- *Texas Anti-
Slapp Update*
Matthew Harris—*First Amendment,
Freedom of Speech*

Rusty is always entertaining!

This year we have chosen to collect toiletry items for the residents of Lakeridge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. We are collecting the items until our Christmas party and then the committee will get together and deliver the items to the nursing home along with a Christmas card signed by the membership. We love spreading good cheer to those who need it the most.

Christmas Welfare Project Lakeridge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center December 2019



AUSTIN

Austin Legal Professionals Association, Inc. (“Austin LPA”) hosted the Texas ALP Fall Conference in Austin on October 18-19, 2019, at the Wyndham Garden Austin. As many of you know, each chapter may choose a charity of its choice and Austin LPA chose ANY BABY CAN as the charitable recipient for the Fall conference.

Austin LPA partnered with YETI and we were able to offer a YETI Tundra to raise funds along with items such as diapers, baby wipes, children’s books, both in English and/or Spanish. Members who made a monetary donation were placed in a drawing for the YETI Tundra.



On Saturday afternoon, Austin LPA’s President, Patricia Nuhn, PLS, announced Diane Stanley as the winner of the YETI Tundra!

The big winner is ANY BABY CAN! Austin LPA and the members of Texas ALP raised \$1,000 in monetary donations, as well as collecting items that were requested.

On Monday, October 28th, Austin LPA’s President, Patricia Nuhn, shared the good news with ANY BABY CAN’s President and Chief Executive Officer, Veronda L. Durden, MS and Eric Maxon, Chief Development Officer.



On behalf of Austin LPA, Inc. “THANK YOU/GRACIAS” for your generosity. Below, you will find some information on ANY BABY CAN:

ANY BABY CAN strengthens families, so children succeed. With services that meet clients where they are – at home, work or school – ANY BABY CAN provides in-home therapy, parent education, mental health counseling, medical case management, resource navigation and other support services.

If you would like to learn more about ANY BABY CAN or make a donation, please visit its website at www.anybabycan.org.

**HOUSTON ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
DENISE STANLEY-VANGILS
MASTER OF EDUCATION, EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**



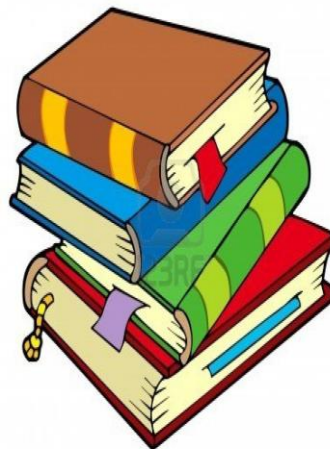
The Houston ALP Board would like to congratulate Denise Stanley-VanGils on obtaining her Master of Education Degree from the University of Saint Thomas, Houston, Texas, in August of this year.

Denise is a member of NALS, Texas ALP, and Houston ALP. Denise is employed by Aldine Senior High School, Houston, Texas, where she has taught for the past twenty years as Director of Dance and Fine Arts Director.

Denise is also the daughter of Houston ALP President and Texas ALP Secretary Diane Stanley, a very proud Mom!

Please join us in congratulating Denise on this accomplishment.

Houston ALP Board



That Ain't Not Right--The Use and Abuse of the English Language.

'Preventive' or 'Preventative'?

Here's something you rarely read relative to English word usage:

There is NO DIFFERENCE between preventive and preventative.

They are both adjectives that mean:

"Used to stop something bad from happening."

Both words are commonly used in contexts concerning health care, as in "preventive/preventative medicine."

Even though the English language is rich with variation, we often find ourselves uncomfortable when encountering two forms of a word which are just a touch different yet mean the same thing.

When this happens with a pair of fairly obscure words (such as dialectical and dialectal) it often fails to draw much notice. (Except on Twitter.)

However, when the words veer closer to common use and attract attention, we often find one of them is condemned. Such is the case with preventive and preventative.

The words co-existed for 200 years before complaints on 'preventative' began in the late 18th century.

The shorter word, preventive, has additional meanings, such as:

"Something that prevents," when used as a noun, and

"Devoted to or concerned with prevention," when used as an adjective.

Preventative means the same thing.

The question facing you and me as to which one to choose depends much on our appetite for nit-pickery. Y'all Enjoy!!!

FEWER/LESS

According to traditional usage rules, fewer is only to be used when discussing countable things, while less is used for singular mass nouns.

For example, you can have: Fewer ingredients, dollars, people, or puppies.

While you have: Less salt, money, honesty, or love.

When you can count it, go for fewer.

However, since the time when Old English was spoken, less has been used in the same way that fewer is currently used. This long history of usage accounts for supermarkets posting the words “10 Items or Less” over the express lanes, when “10 Items or Fewer” is the grammatically correct option.

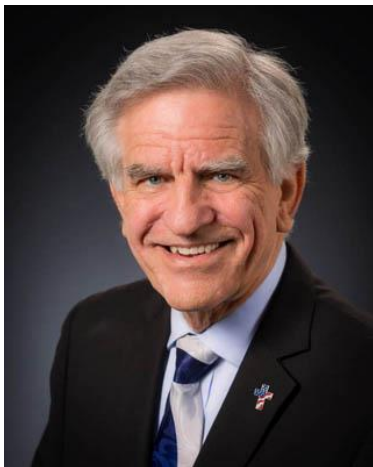
Here’s another rule that covers some of the exceptions to the traditional rule.

The difference between fewer and less is straightforward:

The traditional advice is that: fewer is for things you count, and less is for things you don’t count.

You can count M&Ms, glasses of water, and potatoes—so you eat fewer M&Ms, serve fewer glasses of water, and buy fewer potatoes for the salad.

And since you are unable to count candy, water, or potato salad—you eat less candy, observe that the lake has less water, and make less potato salad for the next potluck.



This material is provided by Hiett Ives, speaker, consultant, and author of **That Ain’t Not Right—The Use and Abuse of the English Language**.

Reach him at Hiett@HiettIves.com or 832-372-6900.

Thanks, Kip Hall, for forwarding, being in contact with Mr. Ives, and getting permission for the use of his work!

TEXAS ALP FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

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

Friday morning (October 18, 2019) Annie Spilman with National Federation of Independent Businesses started our education conference by informing us about Texas legislative updates. The Texas legislature meets every two years and bills can only be filed in the first two months that the legislature is in session. This past year over 7,000 bills were proposed but only 1,200 were actually passed. Ms. Spilman's company is an advocate for the small business owner, which is any company that employs 100 employees or less. Small business owners employ over 3 million people in Texas.

At the Friday luncheon, Bill Hopkins, Theresa Ann Alba's boss, spoke on "Volunteerism." What a great speaker! From the many points he covered, I would like to mention these two: (1) do something that you are passionate about; and (2) if people only know you for what you did for a living, then you wasted your life. Are you wasting your life?

After lunch, Natalya Sheddan spoke on construction law. Did you realize that before land is bought and a building is constructed a soil sample SHOULD be taken? Will the soil be able to hold a 40-story building? If there is a problem with the construction/building, the builder's insurance carrier should be given notice as soon as possible.

Immigration Law was presented by Karen Crawford. Immigration law has increased in complexity since many of our ancestors came to the United States. Did you see her handout: The Immigration Roadmap—Find your way to a green card? What a maze! Today it is taking the U.S. government two years to process an application for someone who wants to immigrate to the U.S.

Saturday morning Velva Price, the District Clerk of Travis County, was our first speaker of the day. Ms. Price explained that district clerks in Texas must have 20 hours of CLE a year. There are 254 counties in Texas with each county doing its own thing when it comes to filing (e-filing or paper) with the courts. Effective January 1, 2020, there will be mandatory e-filing for civil and criminal lawsuits in all 254 counties in Texas. There are three things that cannot be e-filed: (1) administrative (government agencies) recordings, (2) sealed files, and (3) original wills. Ms. Price gave the following tips for e-filing:

- include attorney's e-mail address on pleadings,
- case information sheet is not required,
- no cover letter with proposed order, and
- attorneys are responsible for redacting.

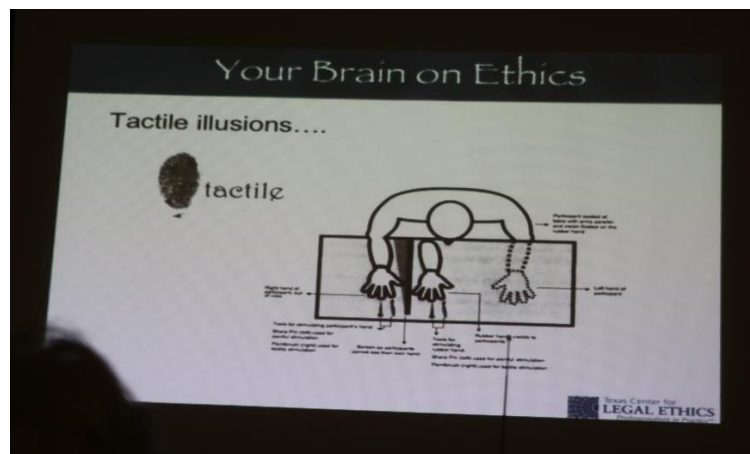
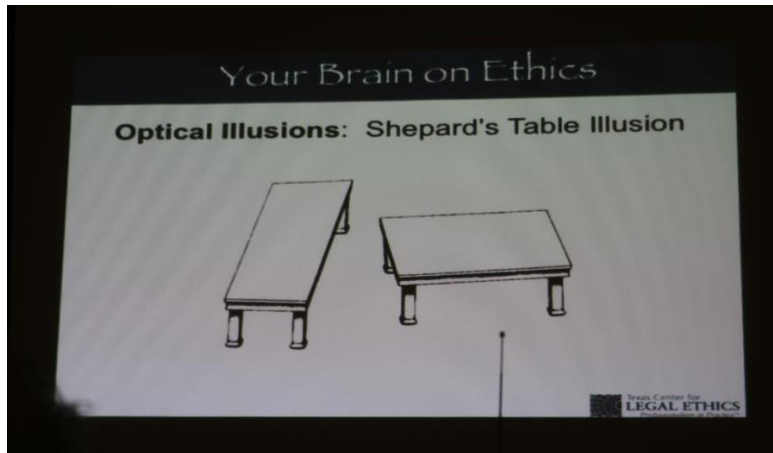
On September 1, 2019, the Texas legislature passed CPRC 17.033, which allows substituted service through social media presence. This new rule will become effective on June 1, 2020.

Annette French, the Divisional Office Manager of the United States District Court, Western Division, spoke on e-filing with the federal government. The following tips were given:

- When working online in a fillable document and the document is showing purple, this means the document is NOT finished,
- Originals must be kept for one year after resolution, and

- Federal documents need cover sheets or supplemental cover sheets.

Jonathan Smaby with the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Kevin Dubose with Alexander Dubose & Jefferson presented “Your Brain on Ethics—How That Thing Between Your Ears Can Lead You Astray.” A short clip was shown where the person said “BAA” and then “FAA.” Watching the clip you saw how each “word” was pronounced and how your lips formed. Then the person said “BAA” but his lips were formed like he was saying “FAA.” By looking at the man, your brain saw and heard “FAA.” (I would have sworn on a stack of *Bibles* that I heard “FAA” but I was wrong!) There are four areas in which your brain can fool you: auditory, optical, tactile, and moral.



Jim Freeman spoke on scooter liability. A scooter is considered a vehicle. Who knew! Some of the things he pointed out were a scooter’s headlamp is a bicycle lamp, so you might not want to use a scooter at night. If you rent a scooter then have an accident you might have a problem preserving your evidence, as there may be a problem in the chain of custody.

Phillip Vanden with Tyler Technology spoke on reSearch Texas. His company works only with filings in civil cases, the charge is \$0.10 a page, and the maximum is \$6 per document.

Thank you Austin ALA for great educational speakers!

TALP FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE



Happy Birthday President Andrea!



The first speaker on Friday, Annie Spilman
Natalya Sheddan--spoke on construction law
Karen Crawford--spoke on immigration





Express Records (Rachel Scott) hands out wine!

First Timer!



Diane Stanley wins the Yeti Cooler.



Velva Price and Annette French





Chapter recognitions!

VENDORS





Where is Rachel?

**HISTORY OF LAW SERIES
PART I
“ORIGIN OF THE NOBLE COURT”**

DIANE M. STANLEY, HOUSTON ALP

Join me as I walk through the history of our legal system. Sometimes I think it is good to stop and reflect on our heritage almost like when the world began, so did the inception of our legal system today.

How it all began:

Between the reign of William I in the eleventh century and Elizabeth I in the sixteenth century, the government of England was transformed into a constitutional monarchy grounded on the rule of law. Although the Roman Empire had conquered much of the island of Britain, their civil law system did not leave the lasting influence that it did on the continent of Europe. Instead, until 1066, English legal institutions were influenced more by the customary traditions of the Germanic Angle and Saxon tribes. Consequently, unlike the civil law nations, the parliamentary code was not a prominent source of law in precolonial England. Rather than being written down in comprehensive code, English law was the accumulation of legal customs and traditions. This law became known as “common law” because it became common throughout England. The mechanism that produced the common law was the rule of stare decisis (*Latin, “let the decision stand”*), which informally requires judges to follow past decisions on the same questions of law and fact. Stare decisis encouraged both uniformity and flexibility in the law as judges followed precedent, or carved out distinctions from those precedents, when issuing rulings. Over time the common law developed into a complex system of rules and principles that could only be understood after considerable study and experience in court. The men who became knowledgeable in the common law and represented individuals with legal problems in English courts became known as “**lawyers**.”

Here comes the jury:

In 1066 William the Conqueror, a Norman, invaded England and began a new age in English history. William greatly enhanced royal political authority during his reign. He created and collected a national tax and insisted that all feudal lords owed their ultimate allegiance to the king. *If you ever wondered who was responsible for the IRS, now you know!* William also diminished the legal authority of the feudal lords by encroaching on the jurisdiction of the manorial courts (**court** through which a lord exercised jurisdiction over his tenants; present day - tax courts). He retained the Anglo-Saxon jurisdictional framework of shires that English kings had devised in the eleventh century. Under the shire system administrative and legal authority was held by a royal officer called the shire reeve (*sheriff*). William also integrated the jury into English justice. Under the jury system a royal minister or justice, who was usually a clergyman, would go out into the country to determine the wealth of the manorial estates for the purpose of taxation. The minister summoned a group of twelve free men together and asked them to testify under oath about the value of each estate (*taxation by representation*). This assembly of free men was called a “**jury**.” Eventually the jury also became the body responsible for finding facts and issuing verdicts in civil and criminal cases. While the Continental nations continued to follow the inquisitorial method of justice, the English gradually developed an adversarial system. Under the adversarial process the parties to a dispute argued their cases in front of a judge and a jury of their peers. During the early centuries of the jury system the judge and jury were actively involved in looking for evidence. The jury could even ask questions of the parties and witnesses in a trial. Gradually, however, the judge and jury became more independent and left trial strategy and the location of evidence to the parties and their lawyers. The judge took on the role of an umpire who decided questions of law.

The jury became primarily responsible for deciding factual questions. In the twelfth century Henry II expanded the use of the jury to identify and indict persons suspected of committing criminal acts. The king required these “**grand juries**,” which were comprised of several members of the community, to report every case of robbery, murder, and arson that had occurred since their last meeting with the circuit justice.

“WE THE PEOPLE”

The rise of a democracy:

By the thirteenth century the monarchy had seized a considerable amount of political and legal power from the feudal lords and transferred it to royal courts (*High Court of Justice, comprised of three divisions: Chancery, King’s/Queen’s Bench, and Family*) and councils. Henry I, for example, established a permanent council called the Court of the Exchequer. This group of royal advisors was responsible for collecting taxes, paying for the expenses of government, and auditing the minor officials who handled the nation’s money. The Court of Exchequer was the first of several special councils or departments created to deal with specific affairs of the state; today we have the Department of State, Department of the Treasury, for example. During the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries several groups began to chafe at the trend toward centralized monarchical authority. In 1215 nobles, clergymen, and commoners rose up against King John and forced him to accept and seal what has come to be known as the “**Magna Carta**” (*Great Charter*). In this agreement John promised that he and his successors would follow the rule of law in dealing with their vassals and subjects. The Magna Carta implied that there was a law higher than that of the king’s will and that the nobility had a legal right to force the king to abide by the law of the nation. Article 39 of the charter also established the principle of **due process**, the idea that the state cannot take away an individual’s property or freedom without a fair and impartial hearing. The English would come to conceive of the Magna Carta as the foundation of liberty and constitutional government.

The great divide:

By the time of Edward I, English legal jurisdiction was divided into several separate courts with special areas of jurisdiction. The Court of Common Pleas was responsible for hearing civil cases between commoners. The Court of King’s/Queen’s Bench was responsible for trying civil and criminal cases and became the highest court of appeal in the nation. The Court of Exchequer handled the financial affairs of the nation and had exclusive jurisdiction over the cases involving unpaid taxes. Edward I also established the Court of Chancery to take over the civil cases in equity (*cases that involved disputes outside of the established common law*) so that the king’s council could devote its time to purely administrative and governmental affairs. During this same period a new judicial office emerged at the local level to handle civil functions and minor criminal offenses. This official was called the “**justice of the peace.**” The justices were usually large landowners or knights who had acquired popular respect and prominence among their communities. By 1600 the English judicial system had reached its modern form; and when English men and women began coming to settle in America, they brought with them the traditions of constitutionalism and the English common law.



The rest is history!

Sources: An Introduction to English Legal History, third edition (London: Butterworths, 1990);
Origins of the Common Law (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1966)

NALS CONVENTION LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



The gang from Texas



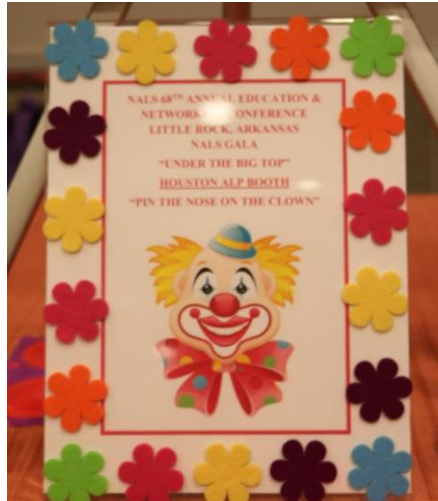
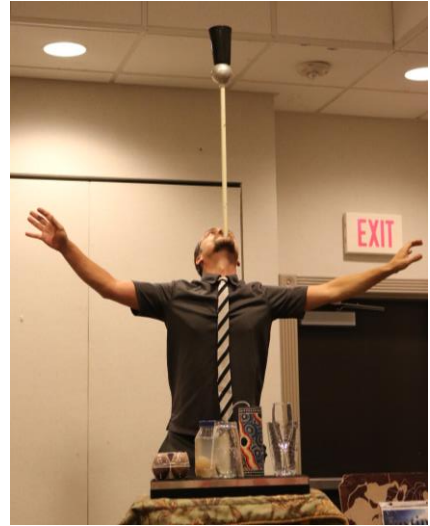
Recognition Lunch—Past Presidents



NALS Award of Excellence winner



Helene Wood—NALS Mentoring Member Award
(first time NALS has ever given this award)



Jamie Perkins (HALP Member) with magician

Helene Wood and Marty Olson



Diane Stanley from Texas with Deborah Waters and Peggy Darling 2 women from Florida dressed as clowns.



Rachel Scott representing Express Records



TEXAS ALP 65th ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

San Marcos, Texas ☆ April 24-25, 2020
REGISTRATION DEADLINE—APRIL 2, 2020

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/ST/ZIP _____

Daytime/Mobile Phone _____

E-mail _____

Certifications (circle if a choice)

ALP PLS/CLP PP SC _____
 CLA/CP ACP RP TSC _____
 Other _____

Local Chapter _____

Current Texas ALP Position Held _____

Current Local Position Held _____

Current NALS Position Held _____

NALS Life Member
 Texas ALP Past President (Year: _____)
 This is my first Texas ALP meeting
 I want to be a Texas ALP PAL
 Special dietary request (contact Registration Chair)

FULL REGISTRATION FEES (includes all events)

Texas ALP Member* \$135
 Texas ALP Chair \$ 85
 Nonmember \$165
 Student \$ 85

INDIVIDUAL EVENT REGISTRATION FEES

Education Only—Nonmember (no meals) \$ 75
 Education Only—Student (no meals) \$ 50
 Professional Development Luncheon (nonmember/student) \$ 25
 Recognition Luncheon (nonmember/student) \$ 25
 Presidents' Banquet (Saturday) \$ 50

MEMBER'S GUEST REGISTRATION

Professional Development Luncheon (Friday) \$ 25
 Recognition Luncheon (Saturday) \$ 25
 Presidents' Banquet (Saturday) \$ 50

Late Fee (postmarked after April 2, 2020) \$ 25

Guest Name(s) _____

*Per Standing Rule No. 22, members are required to pay the full registration fee.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (please mark each event you will attend)

Friday, April 24, 2020

8:45 am – 9:30 am Chance to Win \$25
 9:45 am – 10:45 am CLE—Elder Law
 10:45 am – 11:45 am CLE—Multidistrict Litigation
 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm Professional Development Luncheon
 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm CLE—Family Law
 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm CLE—Appellate Law
 4:00 pm – 4:15 pm Credentials Check-In
 4:15 pm – 6:00 pm Texas ALP Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020

9:00 am –10:00 am CLE—*To Be Announced*
 10:15 am –11:15 am CLE—*To Be Announced*
 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Recognition Luncheon
 1:15 pm –2:15 pm CLE—That's Entertainment
 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm CLE—*To Be Announced*
 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm TALP FUNdraising Raffle
 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm Incoming President's Reception
 7:30 pm – Presidents' Banquet

PAYMENT INFORMATION (due with registration form)

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Please make check payable to:
 Houston ALP Special Meeting Account
 (Federal Tax ID No. 75-6061378)

Notices:
 (1) A \$30 fee will be assessed for returned checks.
 (2) Refunds requested and confirmed in writing (less a \$25 processing fee) will be made until April 2, 2020.

Conference Chair:
 Cheryl A. Wenzel, PP, PLS
 San Antonio LSA
 cherylalp@gmail.com

Mail registration form and payment to:
 Helene L. Wood, PP, PLS, TSC-RE
 Registration Chair
 c/o Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP
 1301 McKinney, Suite 5100
 Houston, Texas 77010-3095

For questions about registration, contact:
 Helene L. Wood, PP, PLS, TSC-RE
 713.651.3713 • helene.wood@nortonrosefulbright.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

Reservations should be made with the Embassy Suites San Marcos Hotel, Spa & Conference Center (1001 E. McCarty Lane, San Marcos, Texas 78666, US). The discounted room rate is \$139 standard two-queen-bed suite (plus 15% tax). For the discounted room rate, book your reservation no later than **March 28, 2020**, through online reservations at <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/S/SNMESES-ALP-20200423/index.jhtml>. If making your reservation by phone, please call 512.392.6450 or 512.805.5345 and identify yourself with the Texas ALP conference by the code ALP to receive the discounted room rate, which is available until **March 28, 2020**.

Contributions or gifts to Texas ALP are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes.

TEXAS ALP 65TH ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE
San Marcos, Texas ☆ April 24-25, 2020

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(All CLE Topics Are Subject to Change as Deemed Necessary)

Friday, April 24, 2020

8:00 a.m.	—	10:45 a.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m.	—	5:00 p.m.	Vendors
8:45 a.m.	—	9:30 a.m.	Chance to Win \$25
9:45 a.m.	—	10:45 p.m.	Elder Law Carol Bertsch, Esq. (Law Offices of Carol Bertsch) (CLE—1.0 hr.)
10:45 a.m.	—	11:45 a.m.	Multidistrict Litigation Jane Bockus, Esq. (Dykema Gossett PLLC) (CLE—1.0 hr.)
12:00 p.m.	—	1:30 p.m.	Professional Development Luncheon Vincent Michael, Executive Director of The Conservation Society of San Antonio
1:45 p.m.	—	2:45 p.m.	Family Law Matthew J. Hill, Esq. (Matthew J. Hill Law Office) (CLE—1.0 hr.)
			Break
3:00 p.m.	—	4:00 p.m.	Appellate Law Renee Yanta, Esq. (Law Office of Renee Yanta) (CLE—1.0 hr.)
4:00 p.m.	—	4:15 p.m.	Credentials Check-in
4:15 p.m.	—	6:00 p.m.	Texas ALP Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020

8:00 a.m.	to	10:45 a.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m.	to	5:00 p.m.	Vendors
9:00 a.m.	to	10:00 a.m.	<i>To Be Announced</i> (CLE—1.0 hr.)
10:15 a.m.	to	11:15 a.m.	<i>To Be Announced</i> (CLE—1.0 hr.)
11:30 p.m.	to	1:00 p.m.	Recognition Luncheon
1:15 p.m.	to	2:15 p.m.	That's Entertainment Andrew Borrego, Esq. (Moreno & Borrego) (CLE—1.0 hr.)
			Break
2:30 p.m.	to	3:30 p.m.	<i>To Be Announced</i> (CLE—1.0 hr.)
3:30 p.m.	to	4:00 p.m.	TALP FUNdraising Raffle
7:00 p.m.	to	7:30 p.m.	Incoming President's Reception
7:30 p.m.	to	Presidents' Banquet





**TEXAS ALP
65TH ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

Presidents Banquet

Location—

**Embassy Suites San Marcos Hotel,
Spa & Conference Enter
San Marcos, Texas**

When—

April 25, 2020

Incoming President's Reception—

7 to 7:30 p.m.

Presidents Banquet—

7:30 to 10 p.m.

Theme—

“Lighting the Way”

Dress Code—

Cocktail

What Does San Marcos Have To Offer? Here Goes.....



The Meadows Center Glass Bottom Boat Tours

The Meadows Center Glass Bottom Boat Tours, formerly Aquarena Center, offers interpretive and self-guided tours, historic glass bottom boat rides, wetlands boardwalk, Texas River exhibits, nature-friendly Gift Shop and much more.

Purgatory Creek Natural Area

The 570-acre Purgatory Creek Natural Area is within the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone. Portions of the natural area are generally referred to as Prospect Park, lower and upper Purgatory.



San Marcos Outlets

Go Big! San Marcos has the largest outlet shopping center in the United States. Featuring 240 designer and name brands stores spread out over 1.2 million square feet of shopping heaven. The amazing discounts at San Marcos Premium Outlets and Tanger Outlets are hard to resist.

Wimberley Glassworks

Wimberley Glassworks is known worldwide for its beautiful hand-blown glass art and lighting pieces. A visit to the gallery is unique, visitors can observe the beautiful craftsmanship of glassblowing and then shop the gallery.

Wonder World Park

Visitors have enjoyed touring the Balcones Fault Line cave for more than 105 years at Wonder World Park, the first Texas commercial show cave. Today, the park has many other attractions for family fun and educational entertainment.



Three Dudes Winery

Three Dudes Winery overlooks the crystal-clear waters of the San Marcos River and offers a great place to experience the finest of Texas wines in a relaxed, peaceful atmosphere. Our tasting room and gift shop are open 7 days a week. They also have ongoing events open to the public.

Hops & Grain

Downtown | Hops & Grain San Marcos is a craft brewery which produces clean lagers and hop-forward beers. The brewery and taproom is located in downtown San Marcos, just two blocks from the downtown square.

CabanaSMTX

CabanaSMTX provides year-round paddling instruction and equipment rentals to enjoy the San Marcos River. Experienced instructors and guides are here to outfit visitors for kayaking, fishing, stand-up paddleboarding, snorkeling, swings, slides, slack lines or just a hammock.

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Chartered July 27, 1956

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See **Annual Conference**

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