

TEXAS ROUNDUP

January 2009

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And the Answer Is...



Addition By Subtraction

Leslie Stokes, PP, PLS, TSC

Happy New Year Everybody! Let's start 2009 right by adding to Texas ALP by subtracting from Texas ALP. Sound confusing? Well, let me explain.

Let us add to Texas ALP's membership numbers by subtracting the "I don't know how to recruit new members" line of thinking. (Solution: Contact Betty Wells, Membership Chairman)

Let us add more Texas ALP members who are certified by subtracting the "Why should I become certified?" mentality. (Solution: Contact Tina Hurley, Certification Chair)

Let us add more Texas ALP volunteers by subtracting the "I don't have any time to give" excuse. Surely we all can afford at least one hour? (Solution: Contact Mary Smith, President-elect)

Let us add to Texas ALP's presence in the legal community by subtracting the "I don't know anything about marketing" statements. (Solution: Contact Jorie Licking, Marketing Chair)

Let us add to Texas ALP's leadership by subtracting the "How will professional development training help me?" questions. (Solution: Contact Samantha Tandy, Professional Development Chair).

Let us add to Texas ALP's excellence in education by subtracting the reasons "Why I can't attend the February 21 educational conference." (Solution: Contact Sylvia Vela, Education Chair – or simply complete the registration form included with this Roundup).

Just think how much can be added to Texas ALP by all of us subtracting our reluctance to become involved!

Dates to Remember

TEXAS ALP

February 1	Postmark deadline to submit LPY/scholarship nominations to Awards Chair
February 21	CLE Seminar – Austin, Texas
February 20	Deadline to submit article for March issue of the <i>Texas Roundup</i> to Mary Smith
March 1	Postmark deadline to return ballots for election of officers
March 3	Deadline to submit proposed Bylaw and Standing Rule amendments to B/SR Chair



NALS

March 12-14 NALS Professional Development and Educational Conference
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Check out www.nals.org for dates and times for the Online Learning Center and Online Study Group Sessions

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

January 25 Congratulations to Houston ALP on your 53rd Anniversary
March 1 Congratulations to Lubbock LPA on your 51st Anniversary



Destination Success: From Sea to Shining Sea

Brenda Atteberry

Waco LPA is continuing our arrangements for the 2009 Annual meeting here in Waco on May 1-2. We know that all TALP members and visitors will have a wonderful and informative time while attending.

We are continually meeting with all committee chairmen and will be meeting again in January to start locking down the plans and getting everything ready for your visit to Waco in May. Be sure to bring your Mardi Gras masks for the dinner Friday and your Hawaiian clothes for the Saturday evening President's Reception and Banquet.

We know that this meeting will be one that everyone will enjoy and we look forward to seeing everyone there!

Scholarship Award Legal Professional of the Year Award

Becky Holland, PLS, TSC



Each year, two very important awards are presented at the Annual Meeting. The applications, official guidelines, checklist, forms, and rules and regulations are updated and now available on the Web site.

A **Texas Association of Legal Professionals Scholarship** is available to high school seniors or those enrolled in a school of advanced education, such as junior colleges, community colleges, four-year colleges, universities, or business schools. Each local chapter may submit

one applicant. All chapters are encouraged to submit an applicant who is studying to enter our profession, as a legal secretary, paralegal, or other legal support personnel.

Scholarship applications must be completed in accordance with the Texas ALP Standing Rules, and the deadline for submission is **February 1, 2009**.

Any member in good standing who has at least five years of legal experience is eligible to compete for the ***Legal Professional of the Year*** award. Each nominee is judged on the basis of (1) legal skills and experience; (2) service to the local, state, and national associations; and (3) personal, private interview with the judges, who consider the nominee's neatness of appearance, poise, personality, and ability to converse. The finalist receiving the highest overall rating will be selected as the Legal Professional of the Year.

Each local chapter has the privilege of sponsoring any Texas ALP member, who may or may not be the current winner of that chapter's Legal Professional of the Year award. Additionally, each member in good standing may nominate one member as Legal Professional of the Year. The deadline for submission is **February 1, 2009**.

If you have any questions about the forms, please contact me by e-mail at either beckyholland@tarrantcounty.com or rg holland@hotmail.com.



Proposed Amendments

Donna K. Dendy, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC

A request for any proposed amendments to the Bylaws or Standing Rules will be sent by January 31st. The deadline for submitting these proposed amendments to me is March 3, 2009. The proposed amendments will be voted on at the annual meeting in Waco.

Fall 2008 Docket Quiz

Tina Hurley, PP, PLS

Are you running out of time to earn continuing legal education ("CLE") to recertify one or more of your certifications? Need an easy one hour CLE? In an effort to provide additional opportunities to obtain CLE, the Texas ALP Certification Committee has created the following quiz based on the articles on the latest Docket (Fall 2008). You may obtain one hour of certification point/CLE credit by correctly answering at least 75% of the questions and mailing your answer to the Texas ALP Certification Committee (c/o Tina Hurley, PP, PLS, Haynes and Boone LLP, 2323 Victory Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75219). You may also e-mail your answers to tina.hurley@haynesboone.com. There is no charge for members; however, nonmembers need to include a check for \$5 with the quiz. The Texas ALP Certification Committee will issue the certificates for correctly completed quizzes submitted.



Fall 2008 Docket Quiz

A) Texas House Bill 1355

1. Is House Bill 1355 breed specific?
2. Define serious bodily injury as used for House Bill 1355.
3. Must a person be criminally negligent for this law to apply?

B) Legal Process Outsourcing (LPO)

4. List five key examples of legal support services appropriate for outsourcing.
5. What county is where many LPO industries are located?
6. Who does using an LPO benefit in the law firm setting?

C) Fairness – The American Tie That Binds Us All

7. List the branch offices where there is an Equal Justice Volunteer Program.
8. What is the number of attorneys enrolled to do pro bono work in 2007 and how many actively participated?
9. How many lay volunteers were active in 2007?
10. How many hours did the lay volunteers contribute in 2007 and what was the dollar value?

CLE Live from the Capital of Texas

Sylvia Vela, PLS, TSC



Save the date: **February 21, 2009**. Join us for a day of education and earn six hours of continuing legal education. The registration form and a flyer are attached to this newsletter, so register early. See you there!



Multi-Year Membership Campaign Awarded NALS Jett Award

Elizabeth G. Wells, PP, PLS, TSC

THANK YOU TEXAS ALP MEMBERS! The two-year Texas ALP membership campaign recently learned it received a NALS 2009 Keystone Award. You may remember Mary Smith encouraged members to “Come Fly With Me” during the 2007-08 campaign. This year Texas members have been encouraged to board the “Texas ALP Train to Tomorrow.”

The immediate past and current membership chairs submitted the application as a state campaign under the membership development category. An Awards Committee reviewed the application and evaluated the need for the campaign, the planning and design, logistics, budget, marketing, and promotion. The chairs were excited when they learned the multi-year membership campaign won a first place Keystone Award and will receive special recognition at the NALS Professional Development Conference in Tulsa in March.

The Jett Awards are sponsored by the NALS Foundation and recognize the “best of the best” programs throughout NALS while providing a resource of proven successful program guidelines for other states and chapters to adapt for their own use. If your chapter is struggling to come up with a new program or idea you should visit the Jett Awards library of successful programs. There is a catalog available on-line and you can request forms by visiting this link: <http://www.nals.org/foundation/downloads/JettOrderForm.pdf>.

The application process was relatively painless. You’ve done all the hard work in developing and maintaining programs in your local chapters. Visit the NALS Foundation page on the NALS Web site to figure out how you can share your successful programs with fellow members of NALS.



Order Now!

Kathie Keys, PP, PLS, and
Sheryl A. Mann, PP, PLS

Now that Christmas is over, everyone should be experts at ordering by mail. Check out the order form included with this *Roundup*, and purchase the Texas ALP logo items you didn’t receive for Christmas. It’s simple—print out the form; fill it out; write a check; send it to Kathie Jean; Kathie Jean fills your order; she mails it back to you; and --- you have your Texas ALP logo item! If you don’t want to order by mail, the Finance table will be set up on February 21 during the one-day CLE session being sponsored by Texas ALP. Items still available---logo lapel pins, logo bookmarks, logo padfolios, Christmas coasters and photo CDs of the 2008 Annual Meeting. We hope to have T-shirts available, too!

Nominations And Election Dates

Amelda Perritt, PLS



I am pleased to announce that the following members have been nominated or have indicated an intention to run for office of Texas Association of Legal Professionals in the capacity opposite their names for the 2009-2010 fiscal year:

Member Name	Office
Elizabeth G. Wells, PP, PLS, TSC-RE Austin LSA, Inc.	President-elect
Kristy Turner, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-CL, TSC-RE Waco LPA	Treasurer
Jorie Licking, PP, PLS El Paso County LSA	Secretary

The following are important dates in the election process:

February 1, 2009 *Candidates' profiles will be posted on our Web site (www.texasalp.org)*

February 1, 2009 *Ballots will be distributed to all voting members*

February 15, 2009 *Deadline to request a replacement ballot*

March 1, 2009 *Deadline for all ballots to be returned to Nominations and Elections
Chairman*

March 15, 2009 *Deadline to announce voting results*

**IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH VOTING MEMBER
TO PROVIDE A VALID MAILING ADDRESS TO THE ROSTER CHAIRMAN**

I urge all voting members to show their support of these candidates by casting their ballots.

Just One Step

Mary Smith, PP, PLS



There is an old adage that says: “A journey begins with one step.”

I encourage each of you to take the step and join Texas ALP in our 2009-10 Journey to Success. You, the member, determine the success or failure of our association. You, the volunteer, are the hands and feet that move TALP forward. Without your contribution, we do not exist.

No experience is necessary; we will develop our leadership skills as we travel together. Many opportunities exist—waiting just for YOU.

So, STEP OUT!! Complete and return the committee preference sheet attached to this newsletter or click on *Leadership Opportunities* on www.texasalp.org to join your fellow members on the journey to Destination Success.

A Touch of Experience

Part 1 of 2
Samantha Tandy, ALS

The TALP Past Presidents are a unique group of individuals who have led our great Association through good times and bad. At the Fall Board Meeting in Wichita Falls, the Professional Development committee had the privilege of hosting a dinner with a panel of Past Presidents (Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS, Kathie Jean Keys, PP, PLS, and Meri Nelson, PP, PLS, TSC) who answered questions before the membership. The next two issues of the *Roundup* will feature professional development issues from that panel discussion. The first installment is below.

Question: What are some suggestions for finding speakers that are relevant with newer, fresher topics?

Use younger attorneys due to their motivation and newer perspective on topics and the law. This will also give them an introduction into our organization.

Think about what topics are important to people in a “world” perspective.

Ask members for feedback and what interests them.

Question: How do you get your current members to participate in roles outside of the local chapter, whether on the state or national level; or with community involvement?

Ask them! And then give them as much information as possible regarding community functions and the state and national organizations.

Give members small tasks with activities that the local chapter is doing.

Encourage newer members in the local chapter to attend a state meeting.

Question: To what extent should our local chapters be involved in the community?

Our local chapters should be involved in the community and to the extent that no one person is doing all of the work. Examples of organizations that chapters have worked with: SPCA, Adopt-A-Family, food pantries, Adopt-A-Soldier and Wills clinics. Give local members a chance to vote for the organization that needs the help and join with the local Bar Association's service projects. It will give your local chapter more exposure to other organizations.

Read and Ride

All members who read this issue of the *Texas Roundup*, answer the following six questions, and submit **the correct answers to all six questions** to Betty Wells, Vice President/Membership Chair at bettywe11s@austin.rr.com and Mary Smith, President-elect at mary@namanhowell.com will receive a punch on their virtual ticket to The Texas ALP Train 2008-09 to Tomorrow. The member accumulating the most virtual ticket punches will be announced at the 2009 Annual Meeting. All members, including officers and chairmen, are eligible to participate.

The questions for this issue are:

1. Which chapter is celebrating its 53rd anniversary this month?
2. What is the deadline to submit scholarship applications to the Awards Committee?
3. What is the cost to members to complete and submit to the Certification Committee the Fall 2008 *The Texas Docket Quiz* contained in this newsletter?
4. When and where will CLE Live from the Capital of Texas be held?
5. Who are the candidates for Texas ALP office for the 2009-2010 fiscal year?
6. What is the deadline to request a replacement ballot to vote for Texas ALP officer candidates?

Coming in February!!! A Day of Education!!!

CLE Live from the Capital of Texas

*For Paralegals, Legal Assistants,
Legal Secretaries, and Other Lawyer's Assistants*



SPONSORED BY:

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

Affiliated with NALS . . . the association for legal professionals

Texas ALP has answered the call of its members to offer top-notch continuing legal education. Don't miss this opportunity to earn six full hours of CLE! Register today!

Do you need to recertify? Whether you are an ALS, PLS, PP, CLA, or if you currently hold a specialty certification, you won't want to miss this chance to learn more about the following topics:

Ethics For the Non-Lawyer

***Technology: Web-based
Litigation***

Non-Profits: What is a 501(c)(3)?

Labor Law

Real Estate: Royalties & Mineral Rights

Intellectual Property

Are you interested in certifying or enhancing your career through education? You will want to see for yourself how interesting the legal field can be!

Oh, so you are not currently a member? Information will be available at this seminar about the benefits of membership with the Texas Association of Legal Professionals.

Don't wait! Register Today!

This CLE program will be videotaped courtesy of Legal Video Specialists.

tim@austinvideoworks.com



This program is made possible through a grant from the NALS Foundation

CLE Live from the Capital of Texas

For Paralegals, Legal Assistants,
Legal Secretaries, and Other Lawyer's Assistants



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TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

Affiliated with NALS . . . the association for legal professionals

AUSTIN BAR ASSOCIATION
816 CONGRESS AVENUE, SUITE 700
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701


SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE/TIME	CLE TOPIC
Saturday, February 21, 2009	
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Ethics For the Non-Lawyer
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Technology: Web-based Litigation
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Break
11:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Non-profits: What is a 501(c)(3)?
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch speaker: Labor Law
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Real Estate: Royalties & Mineral Rights
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Intellectual Property
4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Closing Comments

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____ Daytime Phone _____
Local Chapter _____ E-mail _____
Certifications: ___ ALS ___ PLS ___ PP ___ CLA ___ CLAS ___ RP
___ TSC-___ ___ CP ___ Other _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Registration Deadline is February 10, 2009	Please make check payable to: Texas ALP (Federal Tax ID No.: 75-2743465)
___ Member Registration \$60	Notice: A \$25 fee will be assessed for returned checks. Refunds requested and confirmed in writing (less a \$15 fee) will be made until February 10, 2009.
___ Student Registration \$60	Mail Registration Form to:
___ Non-Member Registration \$75	Kristy R. Turner, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-CL, TSC-RE 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 603 Waco, Texas 76710 kristyturner@clearwire.net
Total Amount Due: \$ _____ (due with registration form)	CLE sessions may be videotaped.
Registrations Received after February 10, 2009 will be assessed a late fee of \$15.00	 This program is made possible through a grant from the NALS Foundation
<u>Handouts Available Day of Event</u>	
Hardcopy/Paper handouts _____	
CD with PDF of handouts _____	
PDF sent via e-mail prior to event: _____ <i>(You will need to bring handouts with you.)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please consider the environment when making your selection	

FINANCE ITEMS

Get your Finance Items!

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Logo Lapel Pins	\$7.00		
Logo Bookmarks	\$1.00		
Logo Magnets	\$1.00		
Logo Padfolios	\$25.00		
Coasters (set of four)	\$3.00		
Photo CD of 2008 Annual Meeting	\$20.00		
Logo Picture Frame	\$10.00		
Subtotal			
Shipping and Handling (see chart below)			
TOTAL DUE:			

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____ E-mail address: _____

Please send check payable to "Texas ALP" and a completed form to:
 Kathie Jean Keys, PP, PLS, 615 N. Upper Broadway #1100, Corpus Christi, Texas
 78477

If you have any questions, call 361-888-9201 or e-mail to kathie@wbwpc.com

<i>Product Cost Total</i>	<i>Shipping Cost Regular Mail</i>	<i>Product Cost Total</i>	<i>Shipping Cost Regular Mail</i>
\$0.00-\$15.00	\$4.80	\$65.01-\$95.00	\$11.95
\$15.01-\$30.00	\$6.75	\$95.01-\$125.00	\$13.25
\$30.01-\$45.00	\$8.25	\$125.01 +	\$16.25
\$45.01-\$65.00	\$10.25		



Top 4 Reasons to Join the Texas ALP 2009-10 Leadership Team

- Strong commitment to education
- Professional certifications
- Exceptional networking connections
- Growth in professionalism

YES! I want to participate in the Journey to Success!

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (Work) _____ (Home) _____
(Cell) _____ (Fax) _____

E-mail: (Work) _____ (Home) _____

I would like to serve on the following committee(s) and/or subcommittee(s) and have designated my first, second and third choice.

Committee	1, 2 or 3	Committee	1, 2 or 3
Awards		Marketing	
Bylaws/Standing Rules		Membership	
Certification		Nominations and Elections	
Mock Exam		Credentials	
Education		Roster	
Professional Development		Strategic Planning	
Finance		<i>The Texas Docket</i>	
Financial Review			

Please return to:

Mary Smith, PP, PLS j Texas ALP President-elect
 P. O. Box 1470, Waco, Texas 76703-1470
 25477554100
mary@namahowell.com