

The Official Publication of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association

March 2012

www.montcoparalegals.org

Editor: Heidi Reiss-Tait, Pa. C.P.

A Message from the President:

As we had announced at our January Kick-off and Induction Meeting, MCPA and the Montgomery Bar Association will be working together in 2012. A new and exciting addition this year is the montcoparalegals listserve through the Montgomery County Bar Association. Our membership information list has been shared with the Bar Association so that the listserve can be launched this month.

Every member of the MCPA who has provided their email address will be receiving an email within the next week or two. As first time users, we will all need to register our accounts. The email provided with your MCPA Membership Renewal or Application will serve as your User ID. You will be directed to the Montgomery Bar website for sign-in with instructions. Your email inbox will then receive a confirmation link so that you can set up your password and begin accessing the "Members Only" information on the MBA website.

As a Registered MCPA Member you will be able to:

- Register yourself and your firm attorneys for CLE's and other MBA events. *(Please note: There is now a "Paralegal" category for registration. If the "Paralegal" radio button does not appear on the page, this means that you are not eligible to register for that event).*
- Securely make payments by credit card (VISA, MC, Discover or AMEX) or by using the new "Bill me later" option. *(You will receive an invoice in the mail for payment by check)*
- Obtain free access to searchable and published [Montgomery County Court Opinions](#) since 1995.
- Purchase products for your attorneys and take advantage of their member discounts.
- View and download the weekly Montgomery County Law Reporter, Sheriff Sales Supplement, Tax Sale and Unclaimed Property listings on Friday's after 4 pm for the following week's issue.
- Receive important *Court Announcements, CLE Notifications* and *Special Event Reminders* from the MBA.
- Access nearly 200 area suppliers via our new, *Legal Marketplace Section* *(many of whom will offer preferred discounts to MBA members and their staff!);*
- You will be able to access our Online Member Photo Directory and the Lawyer To Lawyer Networking Section and the ability to pay your attorneys' dues online.

We will continue our efforts to ensure a smooth transition for the listserve and look forward to working closely with the Montgomery County Bar Association!

Annette M. Long, CRP

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SAVE THE DATE...

April 5th

Board Meeting

Location:

Elliott Greenleaf & Siedzikowski
925 Harvest Drive, Suite 300
Blue Bell, PA

April 17th

General Membership Meeting

Speaker: Sondra Miller-Wein, Esq.

Topic: Immigration Law

Location:

Streamlight, Inc.
30 Eagleville Road
Eagleville, PA

Mark your calendar now.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Sharon Doleva DelPorte
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MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION



**THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BREAKFAST MEETING**

When:	March 17, 2012 10:00 a.m.
Where:	Zoto's 1100 Bethlehem Pike Line Lexington, PA
Topic:	Taxation and Life Insurance Planning presented by E. Elizabeth Staber, JD <i>Approved by NFPA and Keystone Alliance for 1.0 CLE Credits (substantive)</i>
Cost:	\$5.00 for members \$20.00 for non-members Checks payable to MCPA
Menu (Choice of One):	FRENCH TOAST (3 slices) with CRISP BACON AND SAUSAGE (or) SCRAMBLED EGGS (2) with CRISP BACON AND SAUSAGE, Home Fries and Buttered Toast (or) CREAMED CHIPPED BEEF on Toast Points with Home Fries All choices served with Juice and Coffee or Tea
Collection:	Monetary contributions for breakfast bags for Aid for Friends Aid For Friends' mission is to serve needy, isolated shut-ins, primarily the frail elderly, in the 5 county Greater Philadelphia area, with free daily home-cooked meals delivered weekly by empathetic volunteer visitors, and also to provide shut-ins with free outreach services. The goal is to help our homebound "client/friends" maintain their cherished independence by supporting their determination to remain in their own homes for as long as possible and to enhance their quality of life.
RSVP:	Tracey Barnes, RP, Pa C.P. (tbarnes@dischellbartle.com) By March 14, 2012 with menu choice

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NFPA News – Scholarships and Awards

Theresa A. Prater, RP, NFPA Vice President & Director of Profession Development announces:

Celebrate the Stars -- NFPA 2012 Awards and Scholarships

It's that time again -- award season for NFPA! Nominations are now open and all nominations and applications must be postmarked on or before July 1, 2012. **Scholarships and awards** will be given out on Saturday, September 29, 2012 in Anchorage, Alaska at the Awards Luncheon held during Convention.

The **awards page provides information on all of NFPA's awards:**

<http://paralegals.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=804>, and also contains the link to the application for your student members who may be interested in applying for the **2012 Thomson-Reuters scholarships**. Thomson-Reuters provides two scholarships in the amounts of \$3000 and \$2000 to students in paralegal programs, as well as a travel stipend for the winners to attend the 2012 NFPA Annual Convention. All applications for the scholarships must be postmarked on or before July 1, 2012; winners will be notified on August 17, 2012. (Information on the winners will not be made available generally until the NFPA awards luncheon.)

The **information brochure outlining all the awards** may be accessed at the following link:

http://paralegals.org/associations/2270/files/2011content/2012_Awards_Brochure.pdf

The **procedures for the awards** may be accessed at the following link:

http://paralegals.org/associations/2270/files/2011content/Award_Procedures_20110331.pdf

2011 saw a record number of nominations for NFPA's awards and more than 65 applicants for the Thomson-Reuter's scholarships. We hope to have a great response again in 2012. At this time, NFPA is actively seeking sponsors for all awards and the PACE Scholarship. If you are aware of a company or foundation that may be interested in sponsoring any NFPA award, please contact NFPA's Managing Director, Dana Murphy-Love at dana@paralegals.org. Should you or anyone in your association have questions regarding the 2012 awards and/or scholarships, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience (VPPD@paralegals.org).

(Note: a couple of the links above are full color brochures (large files) and take a long time to download.)



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NFPA News – New CLE Benefit for Members

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- Register, enroll, and gain certification with support from Cognistar.

NFPA News –
2012 NFPA Joint Conference

The 2012 Joint Conference is free to NFPA Members. The Regulation Conference is open to Non-Members at a cost of \$75 per person.

The deadline to register is April 13, 2012
Register Online Now!



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Reservations
Identify yourself
with the NFPA Joint
Conference

**Join us in "Music City - USA"
and hit all the right notes!**

The third annual NFPA Joint Leadership/Regulation and Certification Ambassadors' Conference is definitely not the same old song and dance. As many paralegal professionals are continuing to recover from the changing times, many individuals are determined to restore growth and re-embark on a positive mission of expansion. Attendees will have the opportunity to share and network with professionals regarding association leadership, the PACE and PCC exams, and regulation within the paralegal profession.

Network with other attendees during lunch on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. \$25 per person/per day

Friday, April 20 Regulation Conference

9:00am - 5:00pm

The Regulation Conference will cover lobbying, the history and operations of the North Carolina Certified Paralegal Program, regulating non-lawyers in a legal profession, a workshop on legislation/proposal drafting and statewide alliances. [Click here for the Regulation Conference Agenda.](#)

Saturday, April 21 Leadership Conference

8:30am - 6:00pm

The Leadership Conference will help local leaders deal with day-to-day operations. Topics at this year's conference include how to develop your leadership styles, building consensus, commitment and cooperation, learning skills to become an effective leader, tips on leading productive meetings, and how to motivate others to step up to leadership roles. [Click here for the Leadership Conference Agenda.](#)

Sunday, April 22 and Monday, April 23

Certification Ambassadors' Conference

8:30am - 5:00pm/Sunday and 8:30am - Noon/Monday

Certification Ambassadors will be provided with the necessary resources and information to guide and mentor RPs and CRPs, as well as the duties of the PACE and PCC Ambassadors. Items for discussion will include marketing of the exams, studying for certification exams, tips on how to navigate through the renewal process, budgeting for review courses and/or study groups, webinars and scholarships, and much more. [Click here for the Certification Ambassadors' Conference Agenda.](#)

NFPA News - Article by Cindy Welch, NFPA Region II Director

WHAT MAKES A GOOD LEADER?

We can all name several people, locally or nationally, who we admire for their leadership qualities, and it always interests me how they acquired those skills. Unfortunately, there's no exact recipe; 1 tablespoon of intelligence, ¼ teaspoon of wit, ½ cup of respect, because none of us come to the table a blank slate. We have both personal and professional life experiences in our history so we are left to figure out what we need more of and in what quantity! Oh, yes, *that'll be easy... What I can offer is some suggestions of the "ingredients" needed – the quantities will be up to you.*

- **THE ABILITY TO LISTEN.** When someone says something, it isn't just the words they are sharing; it's a feeling or a passion or even a lack of passion. If you're unsure what the other person really means by their comments, repeat their statement back to them in your own words to see if you've got it.
- **THE ABILITY TO "NOT SPEAK."** What? While serving as a member of my local association and as a current member of the NFPA board, I've watched observed leaders "not speaking." This not only creates more opportunities for others to voice their opinion but it gives everyone a moment to reflect on previous discussion.
- **THE ABILITY TO SHARE.** No one person makes up a board or committee so when your goal is reached or the event is a success, share the accolades with the others on your team. Maybe even incorporate the royal "we" into your vocabulary now and then.
- **TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.** Whether you are the committee chair or the president of your board, if a project fails, take responsibility. Everyone knows that typically it's not just one person's fault when an action is unsuccessful, so the members of your team will respect the fact that you are willing to step up and not point fingers at others. You and your team can dissect the situation in private so you can do a better job next time.
- **BE OPEN TO IDEAS.** Just because you didn't think of it first doesn't mean it isn't a great idea. Consider the new team member who makes a suggestion and three or four of the long-time members immediately shut it down "because we tried that and it didn't work." Talk it out while it may not have been successful many years ago, that same idea might work now if tweaked a little.
- **LEARN ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION.** While I had been a member of my local association for over a dozen years before I became president, I was truly surprised at how much I *didn't* know about it. I made a point of visiting specialty sections I hadn't attended before, welcoming each new member (via email,) meeting the attendees as they arrived for meetings, reading and re-reading the procedures and the bylaws and helping our executive director with registration.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD LEADER? (continued)

- **TRUST IN THE OTHERS ON YOUR TEAM.** Trust that since they volunteered for that job or position, that they feel they can handle their duties. Give them a chance to succeed – they might surprise you. If you feel they need some assistance, give them a “buddy” on the board. Likewise, find yourself a buddy or mentor if you need help in a specific area.
- **RESPECT OTHERS.** There is no rule that says you have to be best friends with those on your team – or even like them - but you do need to respect them. Respect their ideas, their commitment to the board, and their time and efforts.
- **LEAD BY EXAMPLE.** Just as children learn this way, so do adults. Your respect and trust of others will be reciprocated. If you expect your team members to finish their assignments on time, then you need to do the same. The supervisors that I respected the most always got in the trenches with their employees.

Try tackling one of these attributes every month and even ask for some suggestions from your group. Make it a safe place for them to speak their mind and for you to shine as a leader.


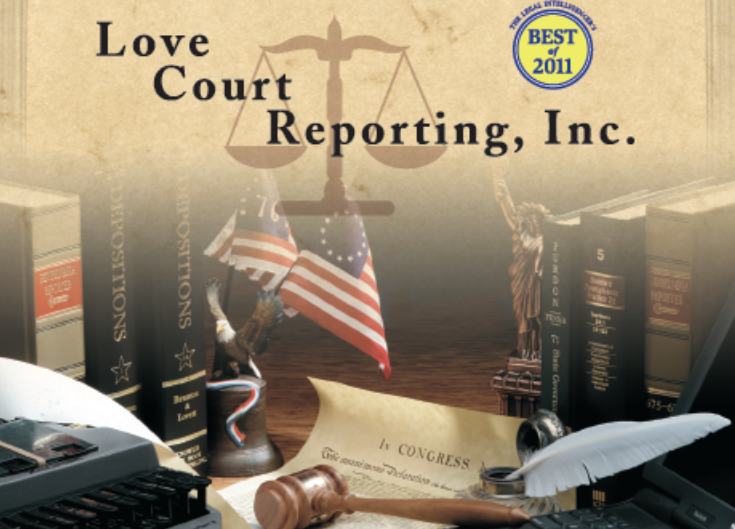

Cindy Welch is NFPA's Region II Director. If you find yourself wondering about her role in the NFPA, check out the Board Profile page of the NFPA website:

<http://www.paralegals.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=1095>

MCPA is part of which region? Click on this link to find out:

<http://www.paralegals.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=1030>



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NFPA News - Pro Bono Webinar - March 29, 2012

NFPA's Pro Bono Co-Coordinator, Christine Flynn and Judith Bardsley, are pleased to announce that attorney **Michael Alder** of Philadelphia, who is very involved in pro bono projects, **will present a webinar entitled "Meaningful Giving: The Benefits of Helping Others While Networking Through Pro Bono Work" on March 29, 2012, commencing at 1:00 p.m. Eastern.** Mr. Adler will speak about the ten reasons you can get something in return by "giving back" in a meaningful way through pro bono work.

This live presentation will be done via the website GoToMeeting. Registration is through the NFPA website at <http://paralegals.org/displayemailforms.cfm?emailformnbr=175366> **There is no charge for NFPA members;** you are welcome to invite non-NFPA members to attend by sending this link, however, non-members will pay a \$10 fee for the webinar. The webinar link and password will be provided to all registrants 48 hours prior to webinar, with instructions on how to participate.

The NFPA Pro Bono Co-Coordinator and the Pro Bono Committee are providing this webinar to assist you in your pro bono efforts and to introduce potential areas where you may find opportunities to volunteer in your community. It is NFPA policy that every paralegal contribute 24 hours of pro bono work annually. RPs are able to convert pro bono hours into CLE hours upon application.

NFPA News - Self-Reporting of Pro Bono Hours by NFPA members

The NFPA Pro Bono Team has established an easy way for individual members to report both pro bono and community service hours electronically. Individuals simply send an email to nfpaprobono@gmail.com to request the electronic form. For first requests, the individual should indicate whether they are a member of a local paralegal association or an NFPA individual sustaining member. Note that a new request/separate form is needed for acts of service for: 1) each different agency/organization during a calendar year; and 2) pro bono or community service (they cannot be reported together).

An example is volunteering for an agency where medical records were reviewed in 2011 over three non-consecutive days, as well as serving on the organization's annual fund raiser committee. The three days of pro bono service to review and summarize the medical records may be reported on the same form since it was for the same agency; the community service portion for the same agency would need to be reported on a separate form.

Please contribute to pro bono and community projects in your area. If you'd like to share information on the pro bono projects you are working on, please send the information to probono@paralegals.org.

Editors' note: see *Wills for Heroes* local Pro Bono opportunity in this issue.

Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations – Dates/Events

Harry Reichner, MCPA's Keystone Alliance Primary Delegate reported theses upcoming events:

- Spring Meeting on Saturday, **April 21, 2012** at Villanova University.
- The Keystone Alliance plans to hold an Educational Summit on Saturday, **October 13, 2012**. The Lancaster campus of Harrisburg Area Community College was chosen as the venue this year. The agenda, speaker list and CLE credit applications are in progress.

Interested in these events? Ask Harry (Hreichner@groundworklaw.com).

Follow MCPA at our new location on Facebook!:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Montgomery-County-Paralegal-Association/268109046565145>

Don't forget to



US and.....

Check back for photo, news, and announcement updates!

Meeting and Event News – January 2012 Events

January Kick-off Meeting

by Nancy E. Piechota, Pa. C.P.

On January 17, 2012, MCPA kicked off a new year at Chadwick's. What a great turnout. The evening started with our President, Annette Long, welcoming our special guests, Susan Gibson from the Young Lawyers Association, George Cardanas from the Montgomery Bar Association and the current Montgomery County Bar President, Donald J. Martin, Esq.

Ms. Long then introduced Mr. Martin, who spoke shortly about his new position as President and how the past President, the Honorable Carolyn Tornetta Carluccio, left him with tough shoes to fill, as they were high and pointy. Mr. Martin, who is a past speaker at MCPA events, said "without paralegals, the legal profession couldn't function." And that the Bar Association is looking to work closely with the MCPA this year and for years to come. Mr. Martin then introduced our guest speaker and the immediate past President, Judge Carluccio.

January Kick-off Meeting (continued)

Judge Carluccio was a federal prosecutor in the United States Attorney's office for 9 years prosecuting large scale drug dealers, white-collar fraud and health care crimes. She became the first woman Chief Public Defender for Montgomery County. She also served as Chief Deputy Solicitor for the County. She represented the county in litigation over the Barnes Foundation art gallery and negotiated the purchase of a \$27 million dollar building, saving taxpayers over a million dollars in broker and legal fees. Judge Carluccio has trained both attorneys and law enforcement personnel in topics including drug interdiction, asset forfeiture, money laundering white color crime, family law issues and trial advocacy. In November of 2009 she was elected to the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. She sat for 2 years on the Family Court Bench and was transferred to the Civil Division for 2012.

Judge Carluccio spoke about being professional and respectful in our careers. Judge Carluccio has noticed a lack of respect for the Court, as well as a lack of respect by attorneys for one another, explaining how disrespectful some attorneys have been to her as well as to other counsel in her Court. Judge Carluccio stressed the importance of raising the level of professionalism. Some keys points she brought up regarding professionalism were: a) dress for where you want to be and not for where you are; b) your hair should be neat and professional; c) answering the phone professionally says much about you as well as your firm and d) if your e-mail or voicemail messages aren't professional this speaks loudly as to you as a paralegal.

Judge Carluccio provided some common sense advice to paralegals. Your communications with clients should be in plain English and you should provide them with realistic expectations and not over-promise and under-deliver. You are a big asset to your firm if you are willing to adapt to change such as learning about e-discovery and new technology. No attorney or paralegal wants to miss an important deadline or court date. She pointed out how important it is to double check dates. You don't want to have to appear in an attorney's office and inform them that a deadline date has been missed and it was crucial to the case.

Judge Carluccio spoke on how important professional development is, and that you have taken the first step by joining MCPA - networking, mentoring and meeting new friends. She concluded by speaking of the unauthorized practice of law by paralegals. We think we are only talking to the clients and giving commonsense answers, but in fact we are actually giving them legal advice. We must be very careful with this as it most definitely can get us, as well as our attorneys, in trouble. Let the attorney give the legal advice.

We would like to thank Judge Carluccio for taking time from her busy schedule to come and give us valuable tools necessary as a paralegal. Her advice and experiences are truly enlightening.

We would also like to thank President Martin for joining us, as well as our special guests, Ms. Gibson and Mr. Cardanas.

Special thanks go out to Love Court Reporting, Inc. and a new sponsor, CETRA Language Solutions, for sponsoring our evening. CETRA Language Solutions assists with interpreters and language work. Both sponsors are a valuable tool to our jobs as paralegals.

Finally, thank you to Chadwick's for a truly wonderful dinner. It was fantastic as always.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

January Kick-off Meeting – Photo Gallery



January Kick-off Meeting – Photo Gallery (continued)



January Kick-off Meeting – Photo Gallery (continued)



January Kick-off Meeting – Photo Gallery (continued)





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Meeting and Event News – February 2012 Events

Mary C. Pugh, Esquire Enlightens MCPA Members Regarding Montgomery Child Advocacy Project (MCAP)

by Pat Marburger, Lansdale School of Business Student Liaison

On Wednesday, February 15, 2012, the MCPA held its general membership meeting at the Giant Conference Center, Willow Grove. President Annette Long presided over the meeting. Annette briefly reviewed topics of interest such as the March 17 breakfast meeting to be held at Zoto's and the upcoming Yankee Candle Sale. She also reported that in order to sign-up for CLEs through the Bar Association, MCPA members must register by phone; the online option is not working correctly for our members at this time.

Having dispensed with the announcements, Annette then turned the spotlight over to Mary C. Pugh, Esquire and Sharon Jones, Esquire. Mary is the Executive Director of Montgomery Child Advocacy Project (MCAP), a 501 (c)(3) organization. Mary has been recognized for her work with abused children. Sharon also works with MCAP; Annette reminded the group that Sharon was a founding member and first President of MCPA.

Mary shared the purpose of MCAP: to provide legal services to abused and at risk children in Montgomery County. One hundred forty attorneys provide pro bono services to speak on behalf of the 800 to 850 children represented by an MCAP guardian ad litem in all Montgomery County courts each year. Montgomery County is the only county in the Commonwealth to provide this level of representation to their children. Of interest, once a child is appointed a guardian ad litem in any court proceeding, only the court is able to dismiss the guardian ad litem, this is a non-waivable appointment. Mary also shared that in some cases, a parent will name a child in a petition for a Protection From Abuse Order. Once a child is named in the petition, a guardian ad litem is appointed and the parent is unable to withdraw the petition; only the court is able to dismiss the petition after an investigation. In some cases, the MCAP advocate is the only person who believes the child.



Mary and Sharon shared stories about some of the cases they have handled. While these stories were heartbreaking, there is hope. Through the use of MCAP advocate/attorneys, the children have an adult who will make sure their voices are heard. Mary has maintained relationships with some of her clients after the cases were over. By the end of the evening, there was discussion about ways that MCPA members might be able to assist MCAP in their important work. There is a wealth of information on the MCAP website: www.mcapkids.org.

The MCPA is grateful to Mary Pugh and Sharon Jones for enlightening the group and, more importantly, for the many ways that MCAP helps the children of Montgomery County.

Interested in supporting MCAP? See next page for a list of dates and events.



2012 Special MCAP Dates

Saks Fifth Avenue Makeover/Cocktails~March 28, 2012

5:00-8:00PM Saks Fifth Avenue,
Bala Cynwyd - Philadelphia
2 Bala Plaza
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Night at the Races~May 3, 2012

5:00-8:00PM Montgomery Bar Building
100 West Airy Street
Norristown, PA 19404

Run for the Hill of It~July 28, 2012

8:30AM SHARP 5 Mile Run & 1 Mile Fun Walk
Northwestern Avenue & Forbidden Drive
Fairmount Park
Chestnut Hill, PA 19118

Second Annual Salute to Heroes Dinner Dance~ December 1, 2012

Marriott Philadelphia West Conshohocken
Crawford Ave
West Conshohocken, PA 19428

For details check out: www.mcapkids.org

Mary C. Pugh, Esquire speaking about MCAP



Committee News - FUNDRAISER

**YANKEE CANDLE FUNDRAISER
SALE DATES: 3/17/12 TO 4/13/12**

Our Yankee Candle Fundraiser is underway. Please support MCPA by offering the candles to family, friends and co-workers. Mother's Day is approaching and the Yankee Candle products would make a wonderful gift.

The Yankee packets will be available at the Breakfast Meeting on March 17, 2012. If anyone would like to get a jump start on selling, you can contact Noreen Messmer-nmessmer@fordbuckman.com-215-628-9000 or Jennifer Castiglia jcastiglia@fordbuckman.com-215-628-9000 and we will get packets to you.



If you did not receive a packet, please contact us and we will make arrangements to get a few to you.

Note - all orders must be placed by April 13, 2012 in order to receive the products in time for Mother's Day. If you are unable to return the orders by the 13th, we will be available to make arrangements to pick them up. Orders can also be delivered to any Board Member if that is a convenient option.

Also, since we are a non-profit organization, we are not responsible for Pennsylvania sales tax so you do not need to collect any sales tax on any items you sell.

Thanks to everyone in advance for your participation. Let's make our second Yankee Fundraiser a success!



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Committee News - NEWSLETTER

30 Paralegals Pick 30 Books Every Paralegal Should Read



The *ABA Journal* recently published an article entitled, 30 Lawyers Pick 30 Books Every Lawyer Should Read.

The Editor of the *MCPA TODAY* is intrigued by the idea and challenges our members to create a book list that would be enlightening, inspiring, or just plain helpful to paralegals. Email your suggestions to hrt33@comcast.net. Include the name of the book, the author, and a few sentences describing the book and why it is recommended reading for paralegals.

Use the format provided below. Fiction and non-fiction books are welcome.

Here are two books by the same author for our list:

Author:	John Grisham
Fiction/Nonfiction:	Fiction
First Title:	<u>The King of Torts</u>
Reasons to Recommend:	I like this book because it features a very human protagonist (lawyer) who gets involved in a tort system that is larger than life. I learned quite a bit about torts, which is helpful in my position. Pharmaceutical companies are also involved in this intriguing plot, and this is another interest of mine in my career. Best of all, it was interesting!
Second Title:	<u>The Testament</u>
Reasons to Recommend:	This is an even more interesting, involved book featuring a very scarred main character (also a lawyer, of course) who finds adventure, a high level love, and redemption. It is really good!
Submitted by:	Victoria France Stavish, M.A., Account Executive Love Court Reporting, Inc.

30 Books Every Paralegal Should Read

1. Chambermaid by Saira Rao
2. The Art of War by Sun Tzu
3. John Grisham's
 - a. The King of Torts
 - b. The Testament

Let's keep the list going...

Take a few minutes and email your suggestion today!



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Committee News – NEWSLETTER (continued)

Is there an APP for that?

These days, it seems that everywhere you look, people are writing about apps! For example, the September/ October 2011 issue of *The Pennsylvania Lawyer* featured an article written by David Narkiewicz that was packed with lists of handy apps for iPhone, Blackberry, and Android. (Look around the office of your firm...maybe that issue is still lying around. If not, I can lend you a copy.)

And then just the other day, the latest issue of Vicki Voisin's e-zine, *The Paralegal Mentor*, arrived in my email inbox. The feature article was "Cool Smart Phone Applications and Websites" by Robert "Bob" Jullens, CP, LCP, LSPA Technology Chair. The article was originally printed in the February 2012 issue of *The Advocate*, the quarterly newsletter of the Louisiana State Paralegal Association (LSPA). If you're interested in reading the article, send an email to hrt33@comcast.net, and I'll forward it to you. (Vicki encourages subscribers to share her newsletter with people who might enjoy it.) And after you read the "Apps" article, think about subscribing to *The Paralegal Mentor*; it's a helpful, inspirational, and FREE electronic resource for paralegals.

One of MCPA's Student Liaisons, Kate Capanear, also mentioned apps in her electronic newsletter, *The LSB paraLEGAL BRIEF*. Kate gave us permission to reprint her article:

They say you can't take it with you...

... But now you can! If you have an iPhone, Android or other device with Smart technology that can download apps, you must find the Paralegal Pocket Guide. This \$2.99 app may be one of the best investments I've made in the last year. The Paralegal Pocket Guide has multiple choice quizzes, a legal glossary, flashcards and a dictionary of terms.

Is there an APP for that? (continued)

This app is great for those of you who have difficulty remembering terms or get confused by legalese. I've also enjoyed using it because my law classes are now finished and I still have three terms in school. It keeps me brushed up on key words that will become a part of my everyday language once in the field.



Another fun app is the Docket in your Pocket. This is a PA-specific app where you can look up different individuals or companies to see if they have anything on their public records. This app is definitely more useful if you currently work in a law office, but it is entertaining regardless.

Notable Sites

Besides apps for tablets or Smart Phones, paralegals use technology in many forms. Recently, Christopher D. Gregg, Social Media Chair, recommended an internet site that he finds helpful:

The Oyez Project at Chicago-Kent College of Law – A Multi-Media Archive of the Supreme Court: <http://www.oyez.org/>

This site collects information related to the U.S. Supreme Court. While it includes some information about past and present justices and the Court's cases, its most notable content is a collection of audio recordings of oral arguments. All arguments from 1981 to the present are included, as well as those from selected earlier cases.

So, fellow paralegals, do you have a favorite app or website that you want to recommend? Email your suggestions to hrt33@comcast.net and we'll share your favorite apps and websites in future newsletters. *–Editor*

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Committee News - Pro Bono

Wills for Heroes

A program cosponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, “Wills for Heroes” provides free basic estate planning documents to first responders in Pennsylvania. “Wills for Heroes” provides police, fire and emergency medical personnel — those on the frontlines for our personal safety — the tools they need to prepare adequately for the future. Programs are staffed by lawyer volunteers and are conveniently offered to first responders at meeting halls and police and fire stations.

Listed below are upcoming WFH events. If you are able to volunteer, please contact the coordinator who is listed to volunteer.

Spring / Summer 2012 Events:

March 10th – Southampton FD – Southampton (Bucks County) - Sandra Romaszewski (SRomaszewski@foxrothschild.com)

March 31st – Manor College – Jenkintown (Montgomery County) - Lisa Shearman (attylaws@gmail.com)

April 21st – CCP – NE Philadelphia campus (Philadelphia County) - Lisa Shearman (attylaws@gmail.com)

April 28th – Flourtown FD – Flourtown (Montgomery County) - Lisa Shearman (attylaws@gmail.com)

May 5th - Cardington-Stonehurst Fire Company - Upper Darby (DE County) - Gail Copeland (Copeland@ballardspahr.com) or Valerie Borek (valerie.borek@gmail.com)

May 12 – Upper Saucon FD - (Northampton County) - Lisa Perry (lisamperry6288@yahoo.com)

May 19th - Lancaster County First Responders (Lancaster County) - Cindy Geib (cindygparalegal4@aol.com)

June 2nd - Green Ridge Fire Company (Delaware County) - Gail Copeland (Copeland@ballardspahr.com) or Valerie Borek (valerie.borek@gmail.com)

June 30th - Garrettford-Drexel Hill Fire Company (Delaware County) - Gail Copeland (Copeland@ballardspahr.com) or Valerie Borek (valerie.borek@gmail.com)



Committee News - STUDENT AFFAIRS AND MENTORING

If you are interested in mentoring a student enrolled in paralegal studies, please contact Lisa LaPenna at (610) 941-2523 or llapenna@kaplaw.com.

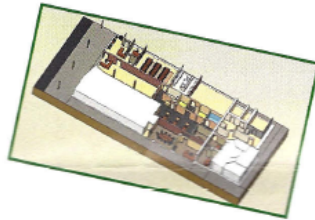
Committee News - Community Outreach

Manna on Main Street is Moving!

This spring, Manna will close its doors at 514 W. Main Street and welcome the community to our new home at 713 W. Main Street in Lansdale. As you know, hunger is growing in our region. During the past three years, food pantry use has increased by 60% and the line for our soup kitchen is often out the door! To feed and care for more families, we need a bigger home. At 713 W. Main Street, we'll offer the community 5,200 square feet for our services, as compared to current operations at 800 square feet. We'll have room to grow with you!

This opportunity is possible because of our caring community. For 30 years, you have given so generously to help the poor, the hungry and the needy. Our home has been filled with extraordinary volunteers, from Cub Scouts, faith-based groups and friendly neighbors to area businesses and non-profit teams. You have stocked our shelves and provided financial gifts to help those facing emergencies. With your support, we're able to take this big step and become a more sustainable home for those in need. During this transition, we ask for your continued support as we grow in our service to the community.

For more information regarding our move please contact Kristyn DiDominick, Manna's Development Associate, at kristyn@mannaonmain.org or 215-855-5454. Or you can visit our website, www.mannaonmain.org, to learn more. We are excited for the opportunities ahead with you!



This is your community. Reach out. Make a difference. After reading the article from the Manna on Main newsletter, were you surprised to learn that food pantry use increased by 60% during the past three years? Do you want to help? Do you feel that perhaps your contribution wouldn't be enough to make a difference? Are things a little tougher in your own household right now? Don't worry – you can still help. And you can do so without creating a hardship at home. No donation of time, food, and other items is ever too great or too small. Some food for thought:

1. Pick up 1 extra item when doing your regular shopping and set it aside for donation.
2. Maybe you have a coupon for an item or a brand that you don't use. Why not use that coupon to purchase the item for Manna?
3. BOGOs – Buy One Get One deals are awesome. You could buy one to take home and get one to donate to Manna. It's a win-win!
4. Spring Cleaning – If you come across any non-perishables that you do not need, even 1 little thing you could spare, set it aside for donation. Donating that item you're not using will leave you a space in your cupboard for something new that you will use!
5. Time - one of the most precious things we have to give. You can volunteer an hour or two per week, or just an hour or two – ever. It is all appreciated.

If you would like to volunteer, there are several ways to get involved. Here are just a few:

- Serve lunches or dinners
- Make soups, salads, or casseroles

Community Outreach -Manna on Main Street (continued)

- Sort canned goods
- Help at community holiday dinners
- Prepare healthy snack bags

Don't want to go by yourself to volunteer? The more the merrier, so grab a friend or family member, contact someone on the Community Outreach Committee and let's go together!

As Manna is moving into a larger facility to accommodate the growing need, they are looking for people to help them pack and move this month. Please visit www.mannaonmain.org for more info.

While all donations are appreciated, some things that are especially needed right now are:

- Frozen veggies
- Broth
- Canned fruit
- Canned meat, poultry & fish
- 100% fruit juice
- Baby diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6)

Donations will be collected at the April General Membership meeting and delivered to Manna's new home.

- Submitted by Ro Fedorka, Pa. C.P., Committee Chair



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The Student Section

MCPA welcomes contributions and news from our student members. This month we have several contributions from students. Pat Marburger, Student Liaison from Lansdale School of Business, recapped the February general membership meeting earlier in this issue. Kate Capanear, also a Student Liaison from Lansdale School of Business, continues her Top Five column. Richard MacNabb, Student Liaison from Manor College, contributed the following article:

Thurgood Marshall: Associate Justice Extraordinaire

by Richard A MacNabb

February is Black History Month. In keeping with the season, I'd like to tell you about an extraordinary man I met and talked to during my Navy corpsman days at Bethesda Naval Hospital. In 1970, while attending clinical laboratory school, I was selected with three other techs to be on a special care team that would help take care of a hospitalized Supreme Court justice. That justice was none other than Thurgood Marshall. Thank heavens for my history / civics class in high school, but I did go back and reread his biography. He was the court's 96th Justice and First African American Justice serving from October 1967 to Oct 1991.

During his short stay, I had the opportunity to sit with him on several occasions and he was very gracious in answering some of my questions about his experiences and achievements. Mr. Marshall was born on July 2, 1908, in Baltimore, Maryland. His father, a railroad porter, instilled in him the Constitution and the rule of law. Before his years on the court, he argued more cases before the Supreme Court than any other attorney, winning a most landmark case that changed human relationships; *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954). Mr. Marshall argued that the previous decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, in 1896 which allowed state sponsored segregation, was unconstitutional and in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The Warren Court's decision was unanimous, 9-0.

Mr. Marshall graduated from Lincoln University, Oxford, Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1930 and graduated first in his class from Howard University School of Law in 1933. He initially started with the NAACP, then set up private practice in 1936. He won his first major civil rights case, *Murray v. Pearson*, 169 Md. 478 (1936) which was the first to challenge the "separate but equal" doctrine which was part of the *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision. Mr. Marshall won 29 of 32 cases argued before the Supreme Court. On June 13, 1967, President Johnson nominated Marshall to the Supreme Court and confirmed by a Senate vote of 69-11 on August 30, 1967. Over the next twenty-four years, he amassed a liberal record of strong support for Constitutional protection of individual rights, especially the rights of criminal suspects.

Mr. Marshall left us on January 24, 1993, at the age of 84. He was succeeded by Associate Justice Clarence Thomas. Mr. Marshall is best remembered for his jurisprudence in civil rights and criminal justice. I will also remember him for his gracious and generous availability of his time, his jokes and funny stories, and his brilliant statesmanship. My favorite Marshall quote is "None of us got where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody - a parent, a teacher, an Ivy League crony or a few nuns - bent down and helped us pick up our boots." Although my father said that I argued like a Philadelphia lawyer, I didn't win one quarter of my arguments with my father that Mr. Marshall did with the Supreme Court. I regret not hiring him to plead my cases.

The Student Section (continued)

Top Five... Reasons why every good lawyer needs an even better paralegal:

5. We have excellent practical knowledge. A good lawyer can create an awesome game plan for getting his client out of his third DUI scot-free, but who is going to figure out the best way to fix the paper jam in the copier?

4. Two (or three or four) brains are always better than one. It is crucial for a lawyer to have someone to brainstorm with. Generally, paralegals are intelligent people with a less formal education than a lawyer. We can see the ideas that are right in front of the lawyer's face.

3. We play well with others. Whether through MCPA or other associations and opportunities, paralegals know how to network with other professionals in a down-to-earth manner. We also know how to help each other along the way. This means that if we do not know the answer to our attorney's problem, we probably know someone who does.

2. Two words: billable hours. Especially in the smaller firms, a lawyer may work fifty-plus hours per week, but only be able to bill clients for a portion of that time. A good paralegal can perform a lot of the same tasks as a lawyer; (s)he can take on the other responsibilities so the attorney can get back to focusing on those precious billable hours.

1. Every "Great" needs a right-hand person. As with any support position, we are here to help. An attorney should be able to go to his paralegal and ask for his/her help on almost any project. Most of us are clever self-starters who enjoy earning new responsibilities and mastering new tasks. We *want* to help; otherwise, we would have picked a different profession.

by Kate Capanear.

*Kate Capanear is Editor-in-Chief of a periodic newsletter via email called **The LSB paraLEGAL BRIEF**. This publication is geared toward paralegal students. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please email Kate at kate8708@hotmail.com.*



Paralegal Associations Website Resources

The **MCPA** (<http://www.montcoparalegals.org/>) is a member of state and national associations:

- the **Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations** (<http://www.keystoneparalegals.org/>) and
- the **National Federation of Paralegal Associations** (<http://www.paralegals.org/>)

Access these websites for a wealth of information and helpful resources.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MCPA

Below are the names and contact information for the Chairpersons of the various MCPA committees. If you have an idea or would like to volunteer, please contact a Chairperson! The Fundraising and Public Relations Committees are newly formed and are actively seeking new committee members.

Membership

Coordinate membership drives and membership matters

- Tracey L. Barnes, RP, Pa. C.P.
TBarnes@dischellbartle.com

Newsletter

Solicit and write articles; layout and editing for the bi-monthly newsletter, MCPA Today

- Heidi Reiss-Tait, Pa. C.P., Editor
hrt33@comcast.net

Job Bank

Solicit, accumulate, and distribute current job postings to the general membership

- Stephanie Dise, Pa. C.P.
sad@elliottgreenleaf.com

Marketing

Solicit sponsors and advertisers for MCPA

- Deborah A. Long, Pa. C.P.
deblong420@gmail.com
Deborah A. Arbuckle, Pa. C.P.
darbuckle@kaplaw.com

Public Relations

Promote the MCPA in the legal and general Community

- Annette M. Long, CRP
amlong83@gmail.com

Hospitality & Events Planning

Plan and schedule upcoming MCPA presentations, meetings and social events

- Kathleen M. Zamorski, Pa. C.P.
kmz@elliottgreenleaf.com

Community Outreach & Pro Bono

Plan and schedule MCPA charitable and community events

- Roberta Fedorka, Pa. C.P.
rfedorka@obrlaw.com

Fundraising

Organize and hold fundraisers for the Association and/or charitable organizations

- TBD

Student Affairs & Mentoring

Provide a range of services and support to students interested in a paralegal career

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llapenna@kaplaw.com

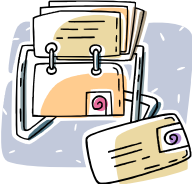
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Theodore Roosevelt



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Robert Baranowski, Esq. (New Jersey)

I found your website to be extremely user friendly. I was able to quickly and efficiently input my info, upload my documents and submit for service. The email updates along with the ability to logon and check status is a time-saving feature since it eliminates the need for follow up phone calls. My original affidavit was received promptly after service. I will continue to use your website in the future, great job!"

Valerie Clark, Paralegal (Pennsylvania)

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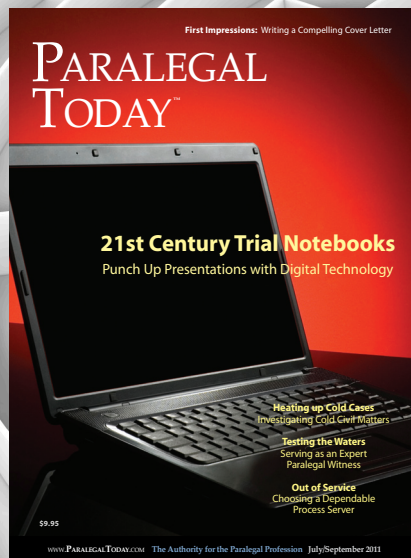
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Registration

*LAPA Members \$45.00

*Judges & Attorneys \$65.00

*Paralegals \$50.00

*Law School, Paralegal &
Criminal Justice Students \$40.00

*Other Legal Related
Professionals \$50.00

Register by March 16, 2012
& deduct \$5.00 from registration

Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

LAPA Member • Yes • No

Student Registration • Yes • No

If so, where do you attend _____

Home or Work Address (circle one)

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Make checks payable to:
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No Refunds for Cancellations

Dress is casual

Registration Deadline
April 6, 2012

Send check & registration form to:
LAPA Criminal Conference 2012
c/o Goldberg & Beyer
40 East Grant Street
Lancaster, Pa 17602

CRIME SCENE DO NOT

**The Lancaster County
Public Safety Training Center**
101 Champ Blvd. / Manheim, PA 17545

Directions from Lancaster:

- 283 West (towards Harrisburg) to Salunga exit,
- At end of exit ramp, turn right, turn right onto Champ Blvd (first immediate road on the right)
- Pass B&B Yamaha and the Public Safety Training Center is the first building on the left

Directions from Harrisburg:

- I-83 N toward Airport / Hershey
- Merge onto 283 S via Exit 46A toward I-76 / PA Turnpike / Airport / Lancaster
- Merge onto 283 E via Exit 1A toward Airport / Lancaster
- Take the exit toward Salunga
- Turn left onto Spooky Nook Rd
- Turn right onto Champ Blvd



Lancaster Area Paralegal Association
P.O. Box 593
Lancaster, PA 17608



3rd Annual CRIMINAL LAW & FORENSICS CONFERENCE

What you don't see on
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*Friday
April 20, 2012*

  
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FRIDAY
APRIL 20, 2012



The conference is being held at
**The Lancaster County
Public Safety Training Center**
101 Champ Blvd / Manheim, PA 17545

***Continental breakfast, lunch and
refreshments included!***

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:00 - 8:30	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 9:30	When Fisticuffs Lead to Handcuffs: Consequences of a School Fight Paula Knudsen Burke, Esquire and Ann L. Martin, Esquire Gibbel, Kraybill & Hess
9:45 - 10:45	Bite Your Tongue - Ethical Considerations in Trial Publicity Robert D. Beyer, Esquire Goldberg & Beyer
11:00 - 12:00	You Left the Scene Without a Care, But What We Found Will Put You There: The Importance of Cell Phone Data and Surveillance Video in Modern Criminal Investigations Detective James R. Dunlap, Philadelphia Police Department, Homicide Unit
12:00 - 12:15	Litigation Support Exhibit Creation & Display C.C.S. Litigation Support Bruce Berkley-President Andrew Schroder-GM
12:15 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:30	Who's Tellin' & What They Sellin' - The Proper Handling of a Cooperating Witness Mark S. Miller, Assistant United States Attorney, Lieutenant Michael Winters & Sergeant Nathan Nickel
2:30 - 4:00	The "Take No Prisoners" Approach To Criminal Defense Trial Preparation Marc R. Steinberg, Esquire Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg & Gifford

Register early, space is limited!!

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Any questions regarding
the conference, contact:
Lisa Driendl Miller at
lisad@goldbergbeyer.com

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