

## MCPA TODAY NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association

#### October 2018

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Nancy Piechota, Pa. C.P.



Are you asking fellow paralegals from other firms in Montgomery County if they are members of MCPA?.

You are busy working on a case and you need to reach out to another paralegal from a different firm and you notice their firm is located in Montgomery County. Make a note and double check with them in a few days to see if they are a member. If not, send them the link to our website and tell them what MCPA is about and ask them to consider joining. Don't bother then while you are on the client's time. Send an e-mail in the evening or even at lunch time.

How important is it to bring new members in? Very important. Talk with other paralegals in your firm or within your contacts at work and, get them to join in. Networking with other members is a great opportunity to learn new ideas and to share your ideas with them as well. Let me tell you, when I first joined I was very shy and would sit and listen to the members and their ideas for doing certain projects or handling certain tasks. I learned a lot and was then quite comfortable in joining in and sharing my ideas as well.

Being a part of MCPA is truly a wonderful experience and the members we have are great. I am certainly glad to be a part of this organization and I make sure that everyone knows what a pleasure it is to interact with other paralegals in all varieties of the legal field at our events.



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



MCPA is looking for 2 new committee chairs:

# HOSPITALITY & EVENTS PLANNING Second Delegate to Keystone Alliance

If interested in either of these positions, please contact President, Nancy Piechota at npiechota@mannionprior.com.



# MCPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The MCPA's board are seeking to appoint two new members to ensure we have the capacity and skills to oversee the Association. Board members are expected to attend all board meetings, but also to participate in the life of the organization between board meetings, CLE meetings and acting in an ambassadorial role for the MCPA. Board meetings are currently held the first Tuesday of each month at the offices of Mannion Prior in King of Prussia. Positions are held for a two year term.

The MCPA Board of Directors consists of nine members that serve for a two year term. The Board's activities are determined by the powers, duties, and responsibilities delegated to it or conferred on it by an authority outside itself and are detailed in the bylaws.

The MCPA Board of Directors hold monthly meetings usually the first Thursday of each month. All are welcome to attend. If you've ever wondered what the MCPA Board is doing on behalf of all of its members, attend one of these meetings. For information regarding where the next meeting will be held, please contact any of the Officers listed at the end of this newsletter.

If you are interested in becoming a candidate for this position, please email a short bio and headshot of yourself to President Nancy Piechota at <u>npiechota@mannionprior.com</u>. Your submission must be received no later than October 31st to be eligible for this year's election in November.

Voting takes place in November!



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*Wills for Heroes* programs provide essential legal documents free of charge to our nation's first responders, including wills, living wills, and powers of attorney. By helping first responders plan now, they ensure their family's legal affairs are in order before a tragedy hits.

On November 3, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the Arcadia University, notaries, witnesses, and paralegals

are needed to assist the attorneys in drafting the documents.

If you are able to give your time to these heroes, please email Deb Arbuckle at <u>darbuckle@kaplaw.com</u> or visit <u>www.willsforheroes.org</u>.



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# **Exploratory Committee**

The Keystone Alliance is forming an Exploratory Committee (to be chaired by Bob Hrouda) to Review ABA Resolution 105 and Possible Legislation on Certification/Licensure of Paralegals in PA.

The Alliance is requesting that each Member Association have a representative on this Committee so that each Association has a voice. The representative does not have to be a Keystone delegate. If you would like more information or would like to be part of this committee, please contact Deb Long at deblong420@gmail.com.

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# Sheraton Valley Forge 480 North Gulph Road King of Prussia, PA

The Delaware Valley Legal Expo is a joint production of the Montgomery Bar Association and the Association of Legal Administrators, Independence Chapter. This landmark event provides a rare opportunity to network with others and witness the latest and greatest products and services available to the legal community today. This perennial favorite has been referred to as the one yearly event where the entire legal community can congregate, share ideas and gain knowledge and information necessary for running a large firm or a small/solo practice efficiently and effectively.

Be sure to register early and bring your co-workers, friends and colleagues. All attorneys, administrators and staff are encouraged to attend.

To register, visit

www.montgomerybar.org

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# **SPECIAL OLYMPICS NOVEMBER 3, 2018**

Each year, MCPA supports the athletes at the Special Olympics Pennsylvania Fall Festival by cheering for the athletes who are participating. The Special Olympics Pennsylvania Fall Festival, hosted and organized by Villanova University students is the largest annual student-run Special Olympics event in the world.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) provides year-round sports training and competition for more than 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities. The organization offers over 260 local and sectional events and four major statewide events - Winter Games, Summer Games, State Floor Hockey Tournament, and Fall Festival - in 23 sports with the opportunity for athletes to advance to regional and international competition.

Please help MCPA support this worthy event by volunteering to be a "Fan in the Stands" for the Volleyball-Champions League on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at 10:00 am. If interested, please contact Debbie Arbuckle at darbuckle@kaplaw.com.

**Pennsylvania Registered Agent LLC** 

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# NEXT CLE:

#### Tuesday, October 23, 2018 6:00 p.m.

ROLE OF PARALEGAL IN CRIMINAL CASES, ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION ON JUVENILE LAW AND MENTAL HEALTH LAW

Presented by J. David Farrell, Esquire

Approved for 1.0 (S) CLE by NFPA and Keystone Alliance



Kane, Pugh, Knoell, Troy & Kramer 522 Swede Street Norristown, PA 19401 610-275-2000

Free for MCPA members/\$10.00 for NFPA affiliated members (evidence required) \$20.00 for non-members

#### Light Bites and Beverages

Space is limited, please RSVP By Friday, October 19th to:

Jennifer Kuemmerle, CRP, Pa CP jkuemmerle@lutherwoods.org

Collections are being made for OPERATION GRATITUDE. See page \_\_\_\_ for more details.

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# MCPA is collecting donations for Operation Gratitude. This charity sends care packages to:

U.S. Troops =First Responders
Veterans =Military Families =Wounded Heroes & Care Givers

#### **DONATIONS BEING COLLECTED NOW ARE:**

- All Purpose Wipes (single and 30 count packs or less)
- Batteries (AA and/or AAA)
- Deodorant (travel size; non-aerosol)
- Drink Mix (individual serving packets)
- Foot Power (travel size)
- Gum
- Hand Warmers
- Jerky (individual bags)

- Lip Balm
- Pencils (mechanical preferred)
- Playing Cards
- Puzzle Books (7" x 10")
- Sewing Kits (travel size)
- Socks (men's black crew length)
- Sunscreen (travel size, non-aerosol)

Most members are sending this information to everyone in their firm. That was we can all get involved and start collecting!

To donate, simply bring your items to any board meeting, CLE event, or deliver it to any officer or board member.

Please help spread the word so that we can get all the donations possible. Tell your friends, family, firms and everyone you know about this collection!

For more information, please contact Deb Arbuckle at <u>DArbuckle@kaplaw.com</u>.





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### **OFFICERS**



#### Nancy Piechota, Pa. C.P.—President

Mannion Prior, LLP (610) 265-7800 NPiechota@mannionprior.com

Nancy is a Paralegal at the law firm of Mannion Prior, LLP in King of Prussia. Nancy also sits on the Board of Directors and also serves as Chair of the Marketing Committee. She lives in Berks County with her husband, Joe and rescue dogs.



#### Kelly Lightcap, Pa.C.P. —Vice President

Bennett, Bricklin & Saltzburg LLC (267) 654-1100 lightcap@bbs-law.com

Kelly is a Paralegal at the law firm of Bennett, Bricklin & Saltzburg LLC in its Blue Bell office. She currently serves as the Association Vice President having served as its Treasurer since 2013. She lives in Phoenixville with her husband and cat, Emmett J.

#### Christopher Gregg—Treasurer

Kane, Pugh, Knoell, Troy & Kramer (610) 275-2000 ksmith@kanepugh.com

Chris works for the law firm, Kane, Pugh, Knoell, Troy & Kramer as a Paralegal. He has been an active board member for the past 3 years and serves as its Social Media Committee Chair. Chris was born and raised in Willow Grove and still resides there with his family and their dachshund Queenie.

#### Jen Kuemmerle, CRP, Pa.C.P.—Secretary

Luther Woods Nursing & Rehabilitation Center (215) 675-5005 jkuemmerle@lutherwoods.org

Jen is the Vice President of Finance at The Luther Woods Nursing & Rehabilitation located in Hatboro. She has served on the Association's Board of Directors and was recently elected to serve as its Secretary. She lives in Hatboro with her husband and two children.





## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Noreen Messmer, Pa. C.P. (2017—2019)



Noreen is a Paralegal with the law firm of Ford & Buckman, P.C. in Blue Bell and has worked with Sarah Ford, Esquire for over 40 years. She has been a Board member since 2010 and also serves on the Hospitality/Planning Committee. Noreen lives in Blue Bell and is the mother of three and Nana to three granddaughters.



# Shari Weber Bradley, Pa. C.P. (2016—2018)

Shari works for Peter E. Bort, Esquire at Bort Law which is a general practice firm. A long time member of MCPA, she currently serves on the Board and is the Webmaster. Shari lives in Eagleville with her husband and has two grown sons and three grown stepsons.



# Michelle Calkins, Pa. C.P. (2017—2019)

Michelle is a Paralegal with Miller, Turetsky, Rule & McLennan located in Collegeville. She is an active member of the Association and currently serves as the Layout Editor of the MCPA newsletter. She lives live in Collegeville with her husband, Wes.



#### Dana Jorna, Pa. C.P. (2018—2020)

Dana has been an active member since 2013. Dana assists in the areas of Civil Defense Litigation, Medical Malpractice, Legal Malpractice and Personal Injury defense at the Kane Pugh Knoell Troy & Kramer, LLP law firm since 2013.

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