



Key Note



Volume 78

Northeast Texas Association of Paralegals, Inc.
An Affiliate of the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc.
Editor, Mona Hart Tucker, ACP

June 2011

From the Hart

A suburban mother's role is to deliver children obstetrically once, and by car forever after.

~ Peter De Vries



A paralegal friend recently told me that she is on "kid duty" right now, using her lunch breaks to shuffle her girls to different camps.

My attorney's wife was out of town for a few days to attend a funeral, so he was in charge of getting the kiddos where they needed to be when they needed to be there.

My daughter-in-law has considered cloning herself so she can get the grandsons to baseball practice and games at different places at the same time.

When my Becca was in 8th grade, she thought it was okay if she got a failing grade. Until she realized that all her friends were going on to high school and she wasn't. She had to go to summer school, so I got to use every lunch hour for six weeks to cart her back and forth.

Can you identify? Kid duty will wear you out and frazzle your nerves. Send you to bed exhausted and/or in tears. Sometimes you think it will never end.

And it doesn't. It just changes. My kids are all grown now, so I don't have the every-single-day duties that I once did. My role now is more that of counselor, comforter, and sometimes referee. I'm supposed to be the all-wise one, medicine woman, financial advisor.

But what sweeter reward than those tiny fingers gripping one of your larger ones? Sticky kisses? Bedtime prayers? A grown-up child finally considering you may have been right after all?

Keep the faith. School will be starting up again before you know it!

Mona Hart Tucker, ACP
President



2011 Executive Committee

President – Mona H. Tucker, ACP
1st Vice President – Ginger D. Gage, ACP
2nd Vice President – Sandi Clarke, CP
Secretary – Sandi Clarke, CP
Treasurer – Elisha Calhoon, CP
NALA Liaison – Javan Johnson, ACP

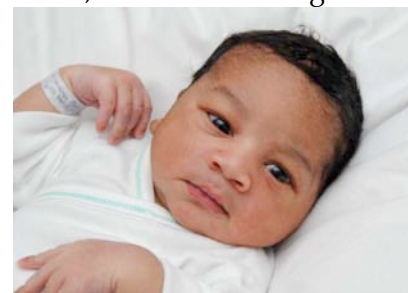
2011 Chairpersons

Parliamentarian – Javan Johnson, ACP
Employment – Andrea Brunson, CP
Auditor – Andrea Brunson, CP
Scholarship – Javan Johnson, ACP
Technology – Elisha Calhoon, CP
Publicity – Gail Love, CP
Hospitality – Ginger Gage, ACP; Sandi Clarke, CP; & Javan Johnson, ACP



It's a Boy!

Nadriette and Marlon Hardeman are the proud parents of a little boy, J'Kyron Dmar Harvey Hardeman, born on Memorial Day. He weighed in at 8 lb. 11 oz, and was 21" long.



J'Kyron Dmar Harvey Hardeman

Northeast Texas Association of Paralegals, Inc.
Minutes of the Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 18, 2011

The monthly membership meeting of the Northeast Texas Association of Paralegals was held at the Longview Community Center on Wednesday, May 18, 2011.

Those in attendance were Mona Tucker, Sandi Clarke, Elisha Calhoon, Javan Johnson, Ginger Gage, Lori Campbell, Shannon Qualls, Ranita Shows, and Lacy Miles.

Guest in attendance was speaker Chad Newman.

President Tucker welcomed members and guests and called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Reports:

Secretary – President Tucker announced that the minutes from the April membership meeting were printed in the *Key Note* and distributed on the tables and asked the membership for approval of same. Ginger Gage made a motion to approve the minutes; Sandi Clarke seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer – Elisha Calhoon provided a Financial Report for April 2011. After reviewing the report, Sandi Clarke made a motion to accept the April report; Shannon Qualls seconded the motion and the report was approved, pending audit.

Membership – Sandi Clarke announced that she has two new applications for active membership – those of Holly Trest and Lacy Miles. Sandi advised the membership that both applicants met the criteria for active membership. Ginger Gage made a motion to accept both applications for membership; Elisha Calhoon seconded the motion and Holly Trest and Lacy Miles were approved for new, active, membership to NTAP.

Employment – Job Bank Chair Andrea Linton-Brunson was not in attendance but President Tucker reported that there were no new jobs in the job bank; none of the members knew of openings.

Education – Ginger Gage provided a brief update on the progress of NTAP's August 6, 2011 seminar and also reported that she has lined up all but one speaker for the seminar. Ginger also

announced that next month's speaker will be Dr. Gary Lipkin.

Old Business – There was no old business.

New Business – There was no new business.

President Tucker announced that the deadline to submit articles for the *Key Note* is June 10, 2011.

Speaker – Javan Johnson introduced Chad Newman, who presented a very informative speech on general litigation issues, dealing with clients, and tort reform.

Winners – Cindy VanBlaricom won the free lunch and Javan Johnson won the door prize.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandi Clarke, CP
Secretary



**Proxy Forms and
Instructions to Proxy Holders!**

If you are an active member of NALA and cannot attend the NALA annual meeting, you may designate another NALA member to carry your vote to the meeting. A designation of proxy form can be accessed on the NALA website at www.nala.org/right.aspx.

The designation of proxy form should be in the hands of the NALA Secretary and Credentials Chair by June 29, 2011. The form may also be filed online.



June Meeting

Dr. Gary Lipkin, of Longview Chiropractic Clinic, will be the speaker at our June 15th meeting.

The menu calls for Angelwood's chicken salad sandwiches, pasta salad, and fruit. Please RSVP to Sandi Clarke if you plan to attend: sandi.clarke@boonlaw.com. The cost is \$5 per person.



36th Annual NALA Convention & Exhibition

Dallas/Plano Marriott
at Legacy Town Center

The 2011 Convention Program

This is NALA's first "All Institute" convention and will feature seven institutes:

- Corporate
- Personal Injury
- Essential Skills
- Real Estate
- Estate Planning/
Administration
- Social Security
- Litigation/Technology

The special NALA guest room rate of \$119/day is available three days before and three days after the meeting dates. Contact the Dallas/Plano Marriott directly at (800) 228-9290 or (972) 473-6444. (Be sure to invoke the special NALA rates.) Reservations must be made by Tuesday, July 5, 2011 for the special rates to apply.

July 27-30, 2011

Check the NALA website for costs and
registration information – www.nala.org



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See www.txpd.org in June 2011 for complete registration packet.



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CLE Calendar

For additional information about CLE across the State see the SBOT - PD web site at www.txpd.org. Also, don't forget that the PD and NALA both offer on-line CLE.

(Dallas/Plano) NALA 36th Annual Convention, July 27-30, 2011, Marriott at Legacy Town Center. It isn't too early to make plans. Go to <http://nala.org/convention.aspx> for details.

(Online) Texas Bar CLE free online seminar. TexasBarCLE offers a complimentary half hour of participatory MCLE credit. You will find a new topic available every other month. The current topic is "The Practice of Law in the Information Age: How to Survive and Flourish." www.texasbarcle.com.

Check out the **Ten Minute Mentor** on www.texasbar.com. These instructional video presentations are from leading lawyers in their areas of expertise. Each presentation is typically short (around 10 minutes or less), practical, and free. Viewing presentations qualifies for MCLE self-study credit only. Topics available include Daubert challenges, petitions for review, bankruptcy issues, and many more.

(Online) NALA Campus Live! has many topics to choose from, and the Texas Board of Legal Specialization has approved certain programs for certification and re-certification. More information is available at www.nala.org.

(Online) Free Webinars sponsored by Litigation Solution, Inc. Contact Todd Kelly at KTS Litigation Support, mtkelly@ktslitigationsupport.com, for a schedule and to register.

Articles published herein do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Northeast Texas Association of Paralegals.
Calendar listings and seminars should not be considered as endorsement of any such program or seminar.

NTAP EMPLOYMENT REFERRALS

One of the benefits of your membership is NTAP's employment referral service. We receive calls from firms offering employment opportunities. If you are seeking a position or considering a change, we encourage you to use NTAP's employment referral service. If your firm is searching for qualified paralegals, ask your attorney or firm administrator to let us know about current openings.

If you are interested in being listed with the service, mail a current resume and contact information to:

Andrea Brunson, CP
AndreaB@NixLawFirm.com
NTAP, P.O. Box 2284, Longview, Texas 75601