



TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS MARCH, 2019 NEWSLETTER

President's Message
Jo Ruth Hancock, CP

Dear TAALP Members:

Spring is just around the corner, as evidenced by turning our clocks forward 1 hour this past weekend. I'm excited to be leaving work with some much needed extra daylight at the end of my work day! The down side to that is that we now get up in the dark once again for a while. I don't know about you, but I am ready for warmer, sunnier days ahead!

Join us Thursday, March 14, 2019, for our noon meeting at the HUB, 304 E. Ferguson, Tyler, TX. You will not want to miss this meeting! Our speaker this will be District Attorney, Jacob Putman. He will be a very interesting speaker. THANK YOU Deposition Resources for sponsoring our meeting this month!!

Things you will want to remember:

- * Half-price membership for new and renewing members for the remainder of our 2018-19 year (Jan. 1 – June 30). Be sure to share this with friends and co-workers, and invite them to join TAALP!
- * April 11, 2019, evening membership meeting and happy hour and membership social.
- * Law Day is Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at TJC Rogers Student Center. Mark your calendars, and make plans to attend! I love that TAALP always has a good representation at these meetings!

Elections for next year's board is approaching fast. We will be taking nominations in May, and our June meeting is Election Day. We would love to have you serve on the Board. If you are interested in serving and have questions, please reach out to any of our current Board members. Their names, position and contact information are on the last page of this newsletter. Active members, remember that in order to be nominated for an office and for active voting members, your active membership status must be in good standing. In order to ensure that you remain in good standing, you cannot miss attendance at one meeting (either regular or board) per month for three (3) consecutive months during any fiscal year. If a member misses attendance at one meeting (either regular or board) per month for three (3) consecutive months during any fiscal year, then the member will be placed on "associate" status, without refund of dues, for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the violation occurred or until the said member has attended one meeting (either regular or board) per month for two (2) consecutive months, at which time the member may be reinstated as an active member. So to paraphrase that, just make sure you don't miss attending meetings 3 months in a row! If you have, then please attend the two monthly meetings in a row before May 1st to reinstate your active status. If you have any questions or concerns about your attendance and current active status, please contact Lisa Betts, lisa@sscfirm.com, regarding your attendance/active status.

Thank you Cindy Kirby for the outstanding job you do serving as our Sunshine Committee chairperson. Cindy, we cannot thank you enough for remembering everyone on their birthdays with a little extra special birthday treat! If you know of a member who is sick, facing surgery, death of a family member, or any other crisis, please let us know. We care! Cindy has a new email address. It is ckirbytexas@yahoo.com.

See you Thursday!
Jo Ruth

TAALP can help get your name out to our members!

Just email me at:
melissa.wallace@burtonoil.com for more information.

Transcript Ad Rates (Per Month):

Business Card -	\$10.00
Quarter Page -	\$20.00
Half Page -	\$30.00
Full Page -	\$50.00

NOTICES:

The price of lunch is \$15.00, which covers an hour of CLE and a full course meal; salad, entrée, drink and dessert. Feel free to bring your own lunch with you should you chose not to eat the catered meal.

When responding to your evite, please note whether you will attend and whether or not you will eat so an accurate count can be provided to the caterer. If an RSVP is made with a notation that a meal will be paid for and you do not attend the meeting, you will still be responsible for the cost of that meal. Those with extenuating circumstances will be taken under advisement.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the next meeting!

Jacob Putman, Smith County District Attorney, will be the guest speaker at this month's meeting. His topics will range from prosecuting felony cases to fighting human trafficking in our community.





At the Fall Board of Directors meeting, the NALA board decided to sunset the NALA CLA and CLAS trademarks. The CLAS trademark has since expired and the CLA trademark will not be renewed. You may choose to continue to use the CLA and CLAS designation, but for tracking purposes, your NALA record in the NALA database will be listed as a CP for CLA, and ACP for CLAS. This change will be reflected in your NALA account soon.



TAALP had a SWEET noon membership meeting on February 14, 2019 at the HUB, downtown Tyler, Texas.

The February speaker was Penny Clarkston, Smith County District Clerk and she interestingly spoke on the new e-filing changes and some family law filing issues along with a few more issues and innovative ideas for the Smith County District Clerk's office.

THANK YOU Lexitas for sponsoring our February meeting!



The Executive Board of TAALP would like to thank all of the following for your membership:

Aaron, Liz	Dillon, Candice	Jackson, Laura	Rex, Renda
Anderson, Katrina	Discovery Records	Holmes, Cayce	Rivers, Amy
Assunto, Kimberly	Dixon, Renee	Jobe, Baily	Robison, Rhonda
Baker, Michele	DuBois, Cindy	Johnson, Brittany	Rowe, Krystal
Barron, Jennifer	Dunn, Becky	Johnson, Javan	Sepmoree, Tina
Bass, Nancy	Earls, Kristen	Johnson, Sandy	Sherrill, Sharon
Beasterfield, Elizabeth	Eichelberger, Carla	King, Carrie	Shoemaker, Sarah
Beck, Karen	Evans, Karen S.	Kirby, Cindy	Skeen, Barbara
Betts, Lisa	Fidler, Kerri	Kirby, Hailey	Smith, Jennifer
Black, Alexandra	Finley, Gaye	Knighton, Tina	Snowden, Kim
Blubonnet Process Service	Flowers, Marilyn	Koch, Helen	Sorrells, Kristen
Brooks, Bonnie	Flynn, Meghan	Kopech, Leatha	Sosa, Yecenia
Brotherton-Pyatt, Margaret	Forbey, Lauren	Kuhn, Ann	Sparks, Rhonda
Brownlow, Laura	Franklin, Katrina	Lexitas f/k/a Depo Texas	Starcher, Darcy
Buchanan, Ann	Freeman, Tabitha	Liska, Rhonda	Stewart, Clothilda
Burgess, Ginny	Fulkerson, Chris	Liston, Lisa	Taylor, Vickie
Chavez, Karina	Godwin, Carol	Lollar, Melinda	Tekell, Amanda
Clarkston, Penny	Goley, Carol	Marshall, Tracy	Thomas, Deborah
Collins Investigations	Hall, Carrie	May, Tamara	Toon, Kristine
Connor, Sarah	Hancock, Jo Ruth	Mayfield, Tammye	Turchi, Brandi
Coplan, Patricia	Hanks, Julie	Murphy, Julie	Walker, Aryn
Crawford, Melani	Hankins, Melanie	Newman, Kristen	Wallace, Melissa
Crim, Nancy	Harvey, Terri	Nichols, James	Ward, Dana
Deck, Mary	Hays, Sarah	Parker, Nancy	Watson, Christy
Deposition Resources	Hemphill, Carla	Pilcher, Laney	White, April
	Hesse, Wendy	Power, Kerri	Wimberley, Suzanne

Our purpose of TAALP is:

- ✦ To establish good fellowship among association members, national and state legal associations, and members of the legal community.
- ✦ To encourage a high order of ethical and professional attainment.
- ✦ To advance high standards of integrity and professionalism for legal professionals to the end that the public and the legal profession may be better served.
- ✦ To further education among members of the legal profession.
- ✦ To cooperate with state and local bar associations.
- ✦ To further the interests of legal support staff and professionals through this Association.
- ✦ To support and carry out the programs, purposes, aims and goals of the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc.

The benefits you will have with TAALP are:

- ✦ CLE approved programs and seminars.
- ✦ Discounts to TAALP seminars.
- ✦ Access to job bank.
- ✦ Subscription to monthly newsletter - The Transcript.
- ✦ Great network to other legal professionals.

TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS



2018-2019 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND/OR RENEWAL

1/2 PRICE MEMBERSHIP 1/1/19 – 6/30/19

*****PRICES BELOW ARE THE HALF PRICE FEE...DO NOT HALF
THE FEES REFLECTED!**

*****Please see attached Membership Definitions for further details*****

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check One):

- RENEWAL
 NEW MEMBER

CHECK HERE IF APPLICABLE:

- NAME/EMAIL/ADDRESS CHANGE

MEMBERSHIP RATES (Check One):

- \$25.00 ACTIVE – ½ Price
 \$20.00 ASSOCIATE – ½ Price
 \$12.50 GOVERNMENT / COURTHOUSE
ACTIVE/ ASSOCIATE)
 \$12.50 STUDENT (ASSOCIATE) ID req – ½
Price

NAME: _____

SPECIALTY AREA (if any): _____

EMPLOYER: _____

POSITION: _____ HOW LONG: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY & ZIP CODE: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY & ZIP CODE: _____

HOME/CELL PHONE: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

(Month/Day)

I PREFER TO RECEIVE MAIL AT: HOME WORK

LEGAL TRAINING: _____

PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION(S): _____
(i.e., CLA, CP, CLAS, PLS, CPS, TBLS)

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP FOR WHICH I AM APPLYING (see Bylaws). I AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE BYLAWS AND CODE OF ETHICS AS ADOPTED BY THE TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS (TAALP).

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

COMMITTEES

THE REAL WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION IS PERFORMED THROUGH ITS COMMITTEES.
ON WHICH COMMITTEES WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEMBERSHIP | <input type="checkbox"/> SCHOLARSHIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEWSLETTER | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY SERVICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW DAY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JOINT LUNCHEON | <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WAYS & MEANS | <input type="checkbox"/> AUDIT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HANDBOOK | <input type="checkbox"/> PROCEDURES MANUAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOMINATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> HISTORY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROFESSIONAL ETHICS | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LONG RANGE PLANNING/ BYLAWS & STANDING RULES | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CLE | |

PLEASE MAIL YOUR APPLICATION WITH PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES TO:

(PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO TAALP)

TAALP 1ST VICE PRESIDENT
LISA BETTS

110 N. COLLEGE AVE. SUITE 1700
TYLER TEXAS 75702

****The membership period runs from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. ****

MEMBERSHIP

Membership levels are as follows:

➤ **Active Membership**

- (1) Any individual who has been engaged as a legal secretary, law office administrator, legal assistant, stenographer, typist or clerk in any law office or any person employed in the Court, the trust department of banks or trust companies, or in any public or private institution or office directly engaged in work of a legal nature, including, the public offices of the US Government, states, cities, counties or municipalities for a period of more than 1 year;
- (2) Any individual who has successfully completed a curriculum or full course of studies from an ABA approved or institutionally accredited school or a curriculum or full course of studies specifically prescribed for training as a legal professional from a non-ABA approved non-institutionally accredited school; or
- (3) Any individual who has successfully completed the voluntary certification examination given by NALA, who shall prove that certification or certification renewal by providing documentation of the same to the membership committee and is entitled to the use of the designation “CLA” or “CP”; or
- (4) Any individual who has successfully completed the voluntary certification examination given by the Professional Legal Secretary Association who shall prove that certification or certification renewal by providing documentation of the same to the membership committee and is entitled to the use of the designation “PLS”; or
- (5) Any individual who has been a member in good standing of any organized legal professional association for a period of one (1) year or more.

➤ **Associate Membership**

- (1) Any educator, judge, attorney or a university or college student in good standing who has interest in the legal profession.
- (2) Any individual who has been engaged as a legal secretary, law office administrator, legal assistant, stenographer, typist or clerk in any law office or any person employed in the Court, the trust department of banks or trust companies, or in any public or private institution or office directly engaged in work of a legal nature, including, the public offices of the US Government, states, cities, counties or municipalities for a period of less than 1 year; or
- (3) Any individual who is employed in some type of legal capacity and who is interested in supporting the profession but who may not otherwise qualify at present as an active member or may elect to join as an Associate rather than an Active member.

➤ **Sustaining Membership**

Will be granted to any individual, firm or organization who has rendered some special or distinguished service to this Association and who is not a member of this Association or who subscribes to the goals of this Association and shares the common interest of promoting the legal professional and in addition contributes annually to the Association an amount equal to or in excess of the current annual active membership dues.

EMPLOYMENT – March, 2019

*Contact: Lisa Betts
TAALP Job Bank Coordinator
903.534.0200 or lisa@sscfirm.com*

Position	Practice Areas/Job Description	Location
1. Receptionist	Temporary receptionist position for a local Tyler law firm. Position could be part or full-time on an hourly basis. Would begin around end of March and last through mid-to-end of May. Duties include: answering the business telephone, greeting clients, and filing	Tyler
2. File Clerk	Part-time File Clerk needed. Must have a great work ethic, dress professionally, and have a great attitude.	Tyler
3. Legal Asst/paralegal	Tyler Plaintiff firm is looking for 2 paralegals for growing practice. Requires 5 plus years of experience as a paralegal; personal injury preferred. See email from 2-7-19	Tyler
4. (2) Legal Assistants	Vacancy announcements for the above-mentioned position are available at: https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/524874000 – Delegated Examining (DE) https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/524874600 – Merit Staffing (MS) Title: Legal Assistant (Office Automation) Series, Grade: GS-986-6/7 No. of Positions Available: Multiple Location: Tyler and Plano, Texas Opening Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 (both announcements) Closing Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 (DE) Tuesday, March 5, 2019 (MS) Who May Be Considered: DE – United States Citizens *Must apply online*	Tyler
5. Paralegal	Highly distinguished law firm in Tyler looking for a highly motivated and organized individual to work in the ins. Defense dept. Must be experienced in all aspects of ins. Def. litigation. Must have strong computer skills. Health Ins. And 401k provided. See my email from 2-28-19 with more details	Tyler
6. Legal Asst.	Trust, Estate Planning, Probate and Business formation looking for office admin experience req., legal assistant experience preferred but not necessary, attn. to detail a must; health and dental offered, and 401k	Tyler
7. Bilingual Immigration Asst.	Looking for a bilingual immigration assistant who can answer phones, attend clients, respond to mail, data entry, draft provisional waivers and assist attorney. We need someone who is fluent in Spanish, as in they must speak, read and write Spanish. We are looking for a full time employee who can work Monday-Friday from 8:30-5:00 and must be able to work one Saturday a month, minimum. We are looking for someone who is a fast learner, can easily comprehend direction, pays attention to detail and has good writing skills. We offer medical, dental, vision and supplemental insurance after a 3 months probationary period. We offer vacation pay and have a bonus structure, also.	Tyler

TAALP
MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2019 BOARD MEETING
By: Helen G. Koch, Recording Secretary

The Executive Board met at JACK RYAN's on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, for the monthly meeting. The following board members were present: Jo Ruth Hancock, President; Leatha Kopech, President-Elect; Lisa Betts, 1st Vice President; Penny Clarkston, 2nd Vice President; Carrie King, Treasurer; Helen G. Koch, Recording Secretary; Melissa Wallace, Corresponding Secretary; Bonnie Brooks, Parliamentarian, and Ann Kuhn, Executive Advisor.

Also attending was Sarah Connor, Joint Luncheon Committee Chairman.

Jo Ruth Hancock called the meeting to Order at 12:10 pm

JO RUTH HANCOCK, President:

Old Business:

- 2018-19 Renewal Membership total to date 101
- February meeting attendance

New Business:

- Half-price membership
- Looking forward - 2019-20 Executive Board
- Helen Koch reports that she is in the middle of Law Day Mock Trial plans right now and has only had three schools participating so far.
- Law Day Luncheon is May 1, 2019, at TJC Rogers Student Center
- May Board Meeting is moved to April 30th due to conflict with Law Day Luncheon on Wednesday May 1st.
- Membership Social/evening meeting – April 11th - Don Juan's is reserved. Will work with the manager on the menu and to try and negotiate the room fee down a little when he returns from vacation this week.
- TAPA 2019 Conference CLE event and meeting this year is April 12-13, 2019, in Longview Texas. Begins at 12:30 on Friday and ends Saturday at 3:00 p.m. It would be great if one or more of the Board members would like to attend and present our annual report in person. I attended 3 years ago, and really enjoyed it, but I will be unable to attend due to a conflict. D/L to register is March 28th.
- June elections - Likely Coyote Sam's. Confirmation pending.

LEATHA KOPECH, President-Elect

- Annual Report due June 1, 2019

LISA BETTS, 1st Vice President:

- Membership Renewals - ½ price membership
- Evite for March meeting - send evite after board meeting and send reminder the following Monday.

PENNY CLARKSTON, 2nd Vice President:

March Speaker	District Attorney, Jacob Putnam - Topic to be announced
April Speaker (evening)	_____
May Speaker	<u>Judge Taylor Heaton - Topic to be announced</u>
June	<u>Elections</u>
July Speaker	_____

HELEN KOCH, Recording Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes

Helen Koch moved that the Minutes of the February 2019, board meeting be approved, as reported in the Transcript. The motion was seconded by Carrie King, and it carried.

MELISSA WALLACE, Corresponding Secretary:

- Publish the newsletter by Wednesday, March 13, 2019. **Deadline** to get your information to Melissa is **Friday, March 8, 2019, by 5:00 pm.**
- March spotlight member: Amy Rivers

CARRIE KING, Treasurer:

- Treasurer's Report

Carrie King moved that the Treasurer's Report for February 2019, be approved and filed for audit. The motion was seconded by Helen Koch and it carried.

Carrie King will cause the Franchise Tax reports to be filed by May 15, 2019.

ANN KUHN, Executive Advisor:

BONNIE BROOKS, Parliamentarian:

Next Regular Meeting:	March 14, 2019 - The Hub
Next Board Meeting:	April 3, 2019 - Jack Ryan's

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm.

2018-2019 TAALP COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

COMMITTEE	VOLUNTEERS
MEMBERSHIP	Lisa Betts – Chairman Christine Hudson Susan Miller Tabitha Freeman Aryn Walker Lauren Forbey Alexandra Black
NEWSLETTER	Melissa Wallace – Chairman Susan Miller Brandi Turchi
EMPLOYMENT	Lisa Betts – Chairman Tabitha Freeman Carla Eichelberger
JOINT LUNCHEON	Tabitha Freeman Ann Buchanan Bonnie Brooks Sandy Johnson Sarah Connor - Chairman Brandi Turchi Laura Brownlow
WAYS & MEANS	
HANDBOOK	
NOMINATIONS	Sandy Johnson Sarah Connor
PROFESSIONAL ETHICS	Brandi Turchi Penny Clarkston
LONG RANGE PLANNING/BYLAWS & STANDING RULES	Ann Buchanan Sarah Connor
LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR	Sandy Johnson Aryn Walker Barbara Skeen – Chairman
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CLE	Carrie King - Chairman Jo Ruth Hancock – Chairman

	Penny Clarkston Tracy Marshall Leatha Kopech
SCHOLARSHIP	Sandy Johnson Barbara Skeen – Chairman
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Cindy Kirby – Chairman Cayce Holmes Lauren Forbey Katrina Franklin Sarah Hays
LAW DAY	Ann Buchanan Sandy Johnson Helen Koch – chairman Brandi Turchi Cayce Holmes Laura Brownlow Lauren Forbey Kristen Earls Alexandra Black
FINANCE	Carrie King
AUDIT	
PROCEDURES MANUEL	
HISTORY	
SUNSHINE	Cindy Kirby
ANY/ALL	Tina Sepmoree

TAALP

TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION
OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS



Office of: Barbara Skeen, CP, Chairman
TAALP Scholarship Committee
c/o Mewbourne Oil Company
3620 Old Bullard Road
Tyler, Texas 75701
(903) 534-7643 (Direct line)
Email: bskeen@mewbourne.com

SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

- SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT:** Three scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each. One scholarship is designated for an Applicant in a Paralegal program.
- APPLICATIONS:** Applications must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2019. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNER:** The winners of the scholarships will be announced at a regular meeting of the Association; however, the winners will be advised immediately upon selection.
- SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:** A scholarship certificate will be presented to the recipient at a future TAALP meeting.
- PAYABLE:** Each scholarship is payable in one installment to the recipient and presented with the certificate.
- ELIGIBILITY:**
- (1) Applicant must be a high school senior or currently enrolled in a school of advanced education, i.e. junior college or four-year college and working toward a career in the legal field;
 - (2) Applicant must have a **grade point average of 3.0** or higher; and
 - (3) Applicant be enrolled in or intending to enroll in a field of study relating to the legal profession.

TAALP

TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ Alternate Telephone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Soc. Sec. No.: _____

Parent(s) or Guardian's Name, Address and Telephone Number:

High School Attended or Attending: _____

College/University/Program Planning to Attend or Attending: _____

Grade Point Average (High School): _____

Grade Point Average (College or University): _____

Projected Graduation Date (High School): _____

Projected Graduation Date (College or University): _____

What are your interests and hobbies? _____

Will it be possible for you to continue your advanced education without financial assistance? _____

Explain briefly:

List extracurricular activities in which you have participated, such as athletics, clubs, etc.; include any offices held:

List any awards you have received or significant accomplishments during the past four (4) years:

List community, civic, or church activities in which you participated:

Name, address, and phone number of two (2) character references:

Please attach the following:

1. Official transcript of grades to substantiate at least a 3.0 (or “B”) average.
2. Your resume.
3. At least one reference letter from a teacher or someone who has known you for at least the past two (2) years.
4. An essay setting forth your reasons for having chosen the legal profession as a field of study. Please include the areas of law or the legal profession which most interests you at this time (minimum of 100 words).

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

RETURN THIS APPLICATION WITH REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS TO:

**Barbara Skeen, CP
TAALP Scholarship Committee Chairman
c/o Mewbourne Oil Company
Tyler, Texas 75701
(903) 534-7643 (Direct Line)
Email: bskeen@mewbourne.com**

NOTE: Application Deadline: March 15, 2019

YOU MAY INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER MARCH 15, 2019 WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**



MARCH BIRTHDAYS		APRIL BIRTHDAYS	
Laney Pilcher	3	Lisa Betts	12
Carol Godwin	4	Hailey Kirby	18
Chris Fulkerson	6	Ann Kuhn	25
Julie Murphy	19		
Cayce Holmes	21		
Amy Rivers	23		
Tina Knighton	26		
Darcy Starcher	28		

TAALP
would like to extend a

BIG "THANK YOU"

to **DAIRY QUEEN OF TYLER,**

for donating the nice **TREATS** members are finding in their birthday cards!!

Be Sure To Frequent Your Local **DAIRY QUEEN!**

SPOTLIGHT MEMBER

Amy Rivers



My name is Amy Rivers and I am honored to have been chosen as the TAALP spotlight member this month.

My husband, Shaun and I have been married for 8 years this May and currently live in Whitehouse, Texas where we have been raising our family. We do not have any children together but we have 8 children between the two of us. I have a daughter and 3 sons from a previous marriage and he also has a daughter and 3 sons. Their ages range from 9 to 23 years old. Needless to say, we are always busy, on-the-go, and there is never a dull moment in our lives.

From 2004 until 2015 I worked for an oil field company, Baker Hughes Incorporated. I knew that the oil field was about to take a crash so I started exploring options for a career change in the event that it plummeted (which it did). In 2012 I added more craziness into our lives when I decided to go back to school while still working a full-time job and raising our "Brady Bunch". In 2014, I graduated from AIU Online with a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice. A few months later I decided I wanted to go on step further and add a paralegal certification to my background so I enrolled into another online program. In 2015, I got my paralegal certification from the Center for Advanced Legal Studies.

My first job as a paralegal was in 2016 working for Moak & Kesler Law Office in Jacksonville, Texas. Mr. Kesler was willing to take a chance on me although I had no legal experience prior to this. I was so grateful he gave me that opportunity to grow my experience in the legal field. It was a small firm but stayed busy enough for me to get some good experience and knowledge. The main areas of practice there were real estate transactions, civil litigation, estate planning, probate cases, and business formations.

In 2017, I was offered a position as an assistant to the paralegal (Kerri) with Clark & McCrea here in Tyler, Texas where I am currently employed. Kerri has not only been an amazing mentor but has become one of my best friends. On a day to day basis we handle many types of cases. These types of cases include catastrophic personal injury such as mining, oil field, workplace and construction injuries, wrongful death cases and medical malpractice. In the short time I have been with Clark & McCrea, I have expanded my experience so much and look forward to learning even more. I absolutely love working with our clients and it brings me great joy knowing that I am helping them through what is probably a very difficult time in their lives. I love my job and have an amazing team of people to work with.

My main reason for joining TAALP was to become a part of a great community and get to know all of the other legal professionals in my area. I am very thankful for the friendships I have made so far and am very excited for the friendships that are to come. After joining TAALP just a few short months ago I have learned that the next step for my career is to get my CP through NALA which is what I intend to do. I guess you could say that I love to be BUSY!!

A business card for Pamela "Blu" Daniels, a Blubonnet Process Server. The card features a background image of a large tree in a field of purple flowers. The text on the card is as follows:

BLUBONNET PROCESS SERVER
*Serving Tyler-Smith County & Longview-Gregg County
& surrounding areas in East Texas*

Pamela "Blu" Daniels
903-372-2818
blondefilly@wb4me.com

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FAX 903-526-6453
mikecollins@sprintmail.com

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mikecollins@sprintmail.com



BUCKFIRE

LAW FIRM

2900 Inkster Road, Suite 150
Southfield, MI 48034

(248) 569-4646

(248) 569-6737

info@buckfirelaw.com

December 21, 2018

Tyler Area Association of Legal Professionals
PO Box 8613
Tyler, Texas 75711

RE: Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. Paralegal Scholarship Program

Dear Tyler Area Association of Legal Professionals,

Our scholarship committee is pleased to announce the first annual **Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. Paralegal Scholarship Program**.

This scholarship was established as part of our law firm's commitment to helping aspiring paralegal students who are in need of financial assistance to achieve their academic goals and professional dreams.

Our committee will be selecting one winner each year to be awarded **\$1,000.00**.

Applications are open to students who are enrolled in a paralegal education program for the 2019 spring, summer, winter or fall semester of classes. There is no fee to apply.

If you have not yet publicized this scholarship, the enclosed sheet of paper will provide you with the application criteria and information to post on your website or otherwise share with eligible students.

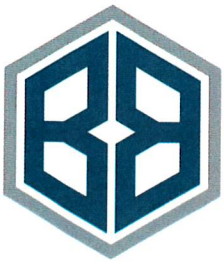
The deadline to file an application for the scholarship is **October 1, 2019**.

If you have any questions, please e-mail me at marketing@buckfirelaw.com.

Very truly yours,

James Schmehl, Scholarship Director
Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C.
www.BuckfireLaw.com

Encl.



BUCKFIRE

LAW FIRM

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Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. Paralegal Scholarship

The Paralegal Scholarship was created in 2018 as part of Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C.'s commitment to helping aspiring paralegals who are in need of financial assistance achieve their academic and professional dreams.

In order to be considered for the scholarship, the student must be enrolled in any paralegal education program for the 2019 spring, summer, winter or fall semester of classes.

The scholarship will award **\$1,000.00** to one student selected by our scholarship selection committee.

The deadline to apply is October 1, 2019. The scholarship will be awarded on November 1, 2019. Visit Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. (<https://www.buckfirelaw.com/library/scholarships.cfm>) to apply.

Paralegal Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Recipient is a U.S. citizen currently attending a paralegal education program within the United States.
- Academic achievement as reflected by a minimum 3.0 GPA and have completed at least one semester of classes at a paralegal education program.

Paralegal Scholarship Applications Requirements

In order to apply for the **2019 Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. Paralegal Scholarship Program**, an applicant must submit the following items on or before October 1, 2019:

- A completed scholarship application form.
- A 500-750 word typed essay, describing your educational career and goals. Explain how you plan to achieve these goals, and any adversity that you may face on your journey to success. Please include your degree or major, why you chose to pursue it, and how it will help you to achieve your goals.

How to Apply for the 2019 Paralegal Scholarship

If you have not yet publicized this scholarship, please publish the website below -- along with the application criteria and eligibility requirements -- on your website, or otherwise share with eligible students.

If interested in applying for the first annual **2019 Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. Paralegal Scholarship**, please complete the scholarship application found here: <https://www.buckfirelaw.com/library/scholarships.cfm>

Application materials should be mailed to:

Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C.
Attn: Paralegal Scholarship
29000 Inkster Road, Suite 150
Southfield, MI 48034



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