



President's Message
Jo Ruth Hancock, CP

TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

Dear TAALP Members:

Don't you just love it that we are already seeing glimpses of spring? Everything is blooming and budding. We are so blessed living in East Texas. We have the opportunity to enjoy all four seasons, and I think this may just be one of my favorites! Daylight savings is just around the corner when we will move our clocks forward one hour and enjoy an extra hour of daylight in the evenings when we get home from work! Don't forget to move yours forward Sunday, March 13th at 2:00 a.m.

We have a tremendous spring line up ahead and hope you plan to be a part of it. Here's a list of activities we have planned for you: Join us Thursday, **March 10, 2015, at noon**, at The Hub for our March membership CLE meeting. We are excited to welcome Jim Huggler, who will be speaking to us about competency to stand trial. Our vendor for this meeting will be **Deposition Resources**. A big thanks in advance to Deposition Resources.

Tuesday, **March 22, 2016**, we will be hosting our third annual NBC (Next Best Candidate) reception to meet and greet potential nominees for the upcoming TAALP Board election. If you are an active member in good standing eligible to be nominated, you will receive an invitation to attend.

Thursday, **April 14, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.**, at **Don Juan's on the Square**, we will have our **April membership evening meeting**. Our speaker will be Rosemary Jones.

We have lined up a great CLE event for both members and non-members on **April 22, 2016, at The Hubb**. You will be getting information about registering for this event soon. If you are needing CLE credits, mark your calendars!

May 4, 2016, is Law Day, and you will want to attend this event! Formal invitations will be coming soon. TAALP announced our 2016 Legal Professional of the Year recently, and she will be honored and recognized at the Law Day luncheon. A big Congratulations to Jan Seal, TAALP's 2016 Legal Professional of the Year! Thank you so much **Barbara Skeen** for your role as Legal Professional of the Year Committee Chairperson. Your hard work is so very much appreciated.

May is the time we seek nominations for our new TAALP officers.

Our Annual Membership Social is scheduled for May 19th. This is the big event that you don't want to miss, so mark your calendars now! Once plans are finalized, we will provide you with details.

Election of the TAALP 2015-2016 Board is in June!

Contact our Sunshine Committee chairperson **Cindy Kirby** 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! If you are enjoying receiving your birthday and the special birthday treat let Cindy know. Cindy can be contacted at cindy@sscfirm.com.

I hope many of you will be able to attend our March meeting!

A big thanks to ALL OUR VENDORS! You so generously support TAALP, and we appreciate you all so much!

See you Thursday!

Jo Ruth

NOTICE:

The recipient of the 2016 Legal Professional of the Year Award goes to Jan Seal who works for Ron Vickery. The press release is attached to this [newsletter](#). Sending you a huge congratulations, Jan Seal!! You are awesome! Keep up the good work!!

TAALP can help get your name out to our members.

**Just email me at:
brandi.williams@hotmail.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

Sunshine Notices:

Do you know of some news about our members that should be shared with our members?

Please send any submissions to Cindy Kirby

at cindy@sscfirm.com.

❖ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ❖

March 22, 2016	NBC Party, Location TBD
April 13-23, 2016	"Paralegal Fly to Tuscany, Italy"
April 14, 2016	TAALP Membership meeting, 5:30 at Don Juan's
April 22, 2016	TAALP CLE Event, Chamber of Commerce
May 4, 2016	Law Day
May 19, 2016	TAALP Membership Social

The Executive Board of TAALP would like to thank all following new members:

**Ashley McIntyre
Renda Rowe
Melissa Poire
Cecilia J. Green
Sunshine Barrett
Teresa Doffer
Kayla Maxey
Lori Colley**

The Executive Board would also like to thank all of our awesome returning members, as follows:

Arscott, Cristy Baker, Emily Barrett, Sheri Barron, Jennifer Becker, Beverly Betts, Lisa Blubonnet Processing Service Bonnie, Brooks Brownlow, Laura Bryan, Joy Buchanan, Ann Burgess, Ginny Campbell, Kristi Cash, Lanell Clayton, Catherine Connor, Sarah Coplan, Patricia Crawford, Melani Crim, Nancy Crutchfield, Charlotte Deck, Amanda Deck, Mary Depoma, David Deposition Resources Sunblett Dickey, Lisa Dieringer, Mary Dillon, Candice "Candy" Discovery Records Dixon, Renee Dow, Katie Eargle, Kristen Espinosa, Debbie Evans, Karen	Express Personnel Finley, Gay Flowers, Marilyn Foster, Codi Gable, Amanda Galvan, Jasmin Gaddis, Chelsea Godwin, Carol Goley, Carol Gray, Melissa Hall, Carrie Hancock, Jo Ruth Harris, Melissa Harvey, Terri Hays, Sara Hebron, Lucy Hembrough, Samantha Hemphill, Carla Henry, Donna Hesse, Wendy Hill, Keesia Hudson, Christine Hudson, June Hurst, Jessica Jackson, Laura Kay, Vicki Kim Tindall & Assoc. King, Carrie Kirby, Cindy Koch, Helen Kopech, Leatha Knighton, Tina KTS Quest Kuhn, Ann	Lennon, Molly Lollar, Melinda Maxwell, Emily May, Tamara Mayfield, Tammye McCaa, Leslie R. McGinnis, Lynn McKinney, Patty McLaughlin, Suzanne McLen, Kerri Moore, Natashea Ellan Molina, Rocio Morris, Mechele Moylan, Carla Murphy, Julie Neel, Lesley Oden, Rachel Oliver, Susan Penner, Amber Peters, Michael Rhodes, Lora Roberts, Vicki Robison, Rhonda Rogers, Kassi Retano, Rosario Rongel, Maria Sherrill, Sharon Skeen, Barbara Smalley, Heather Smith, Jennifer Sparks, Rhonda Stewart, Clo	Taylor, Vickie Tekell, Amanda Thedford, Kimberly Toon, Kristine Tucker (Ortiz), Kim Wallace, Mellissa Waller, Jennifer Williams, Brandi Wright, Strickland Janet
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TAALP
MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2016 BOARD MEETING
By: Ann Kuhn, Recording Secretary

The Executive Board met at STARR SCHOENBRUN & COMTE, PLLC on Wednesday, March 2, 2016, for the monthly meeting. The following board members were present: Jo Ruth Hancock, President; Catherine Clayton, President-Elect; Leatha Kopech, 1st Vice President; Chelsea Gaddis, 2nd Vice President; Brandi Williams, Corresponding Secretary; Suzanne Wimberley, Treasurer; Bonnie Brooks, Parliamentarian; Carrie King, Executive Advisor

JO RUTH HANCOCK, President:

Jo Ruth presented the calendar of upcoming events, and they were discussed by the board members.

Old Business:

- 2015-2016 Renewal membership total to date – 129
- January meeting attendance - 36
- Average meeting attendance – 38

New Business:

- Half price membership.
- NBC party March 22, 2016 at the Cork.
- Membership Social May 19, 2016.
- Food catering for meetings
- Nominations solicitation in May
- Elections in June

CATHERINE CLAYTON, President-Elect:

- CLE Event

LETHA KOPECH, 1st Vice President:

- Membership Renewals – 126 renewals to date. Membership is 6 below last year. If you are interested in joining TAALP, please send in your application.
- ½ price membership renewals for the remainder of the membership year ending June, 2016.
- The Evite for the monthly meeting was sent out Thursday, March 3rd with a reminder on March 7th.
- May membership social location.

CHELSEA GADDIS, 2nd Vice President:

- March Speaker: Jim Huggler – Competency to Stand Trial – Mental Health Issues
- April Speaker – Rosemary Jones
- May Speaker: Robert Bailes
- June: Elections
- July Speaker: Bobby Lamb – Electronic Filing in Federal Court

ANN KUHN, Recording Secretary:

- Moved that the Minutes of the February, 2016 board meeting be approved, as reported in the Transcript. Catherine Clayton seconded the motion and it carried.

BRANDI WILLIAMS, Corresponding Secretary:

- March Spotlight Member: Heather Smalley

SUZANNE WIMBERLEY, Treasurer:

- Suzanne presented the Treasurer's Report and moved the report be filed for audit. Catherine Clayton seconded the motion and it carried.

CARRIE KING, Executive Advisor

BONNIE BROOKS, CP, Parliamentarian

Next Regular Meeting: March 10, 2016 - The Hub

Next Board Meeting: April 6, 2016 – Noon - STARR SCHOENBRUN & COMTE, PLLC

There being no further business, Jo Ruth adjourned the meeting at 12:56

JO RUTH HANCOCK, President

ANN KUHN, Recording Secretary

Please know that the Board strives to keep the membership happy. We are trying new food vendors for our monthly meetings and would love feedback. If you have a suggestion, please email me at: brandi.williams@hotmail.com.



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March

Breahan Gonzales	1
Natashea Ellen Moore	1
Carol Godwin	4
Jennifer Waller	7
Katie Dow	18
Melissa Gray	18
Julie S. Murphy	19
Tina Knighton	26

April

Buddy Rutherford	3
Patricia Hight	8
Lisa Betts	12
Ann Kuhn	25



TAALP would like to extend a

BIG "THANK YOU"

to DAIRY QUEEN and
BRIAN KELLY,
General Manager,

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

Be Sure To Frequent Your Local
DAIRY QUEEN!

TAALP would like to extend a
BIG "THANK YOU"
to Andy's Frozen Custard
for donating the nice TREATS
members are finding in their
birthday cards!!
Be Sure To Frequent Your Local
Andy's Frozen Custard!

PRESS RELEASE – 2016 TAALP LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

The Tyler Area Association of Legal Professionals (TAALP) announce the recipient of the 2016 Legal Professional of the Year award. This award is being presented to Jan Seal. Jan has worked in the legal profession for over 25 years and started her legal career in 1989 with the law firm of Ramey & Flock, P.C. in Tyler. Jan worked as a legal assistant for Ramey & Flock, P.C. for 20 years and subsequently worked for Martin Walker, P.C. She is currently employed with Ron Vickery of the Vickery Law Firm in Tyler.

Jan has been actively involved in the local Whitehouse community, where she volunteered at Whitehouse High School when her children attended school there. She is also an active member of Flint Baptist Church.

Jan has been married to Ben Seal for over 28 years and they have two children, William Seal and Leslie Seal.



SPOTLIGHT TAALP MEMBER

Heather Smalley



Thank you so much for choosing me to be TAALP's Spotlight Member this month! I grew up in the small East Texas town of Pickton where I went to the same school from kindergarten through graduation. Needless to say, when I came to Tyler to start college at TJC I was in a bit of culture shock. Soon I started a full time job working for Smith County in the Clerk's office and college got put on the back-burner for a while. The Clerk's office is where my passion for the legal field began. I really enjoyed working with the attorneys and judges on a daily basis and started to love civil litigation while filing in new lawsuits for the County Courts at Law. I learned a lot about the requirements of the documents that are filed in and what happens next in the process of a lawsuit from the Court's side of things. I feel like that background has really helped me as a paralegal.

After getting married and having my first son, Zachary, I decided to go back to school to obtain my Associate's degree in paralegal studies. So, when my son was two I was going to school full time again at TJC and working for Vance Hendrix PC part time as his legal assistant. I learned so much when I worked for Vance because he was really working on a large range of cases. We had everything from probate to divorces to adoptions and even a little bit of criminal! Soon I was pregnant with my second son, Ethan, who coincidentally enough, was born on my graduation day! That Friday the 13th in 2013 will always be a day to remember! When Ethan was six weeks old I started working full time for the Law Office of Kevin Ferrier where I learned Probate law from one of the very best! Not long after that, I got a job offer I couldn't refuse and started working for the amazing team at Freeman Mills PC where we work primarily with Oil & Gas litigation as well as title opinions. We have four offices across Texas and much like moving from a small town to a large town, it was quite an adjustment going from an office with one attorney to almost thirty! I love learning all different kinds of law and feel blessed to have learned so much in the few short years I've been doing this.

As for my life outside of work, I love being a boy-mom to my two adorable sons. They keep life interesting for sure! Lots of rough-housing and boo boos at my house. Zachary is now in Kindergarten and loves basketball. Ethan is two and loves puppies and playing with his brother. When time permits, I love to read, decorate (or just watch HGTV), and try new restaurants with my sweet husband, Kyle.



EMPLOYMENT – MARCH/APRIL 2016

*Contact: Nancy Crim, CP
TAALP Job Bank Coordinator
(903) 561-1600 or
nancy@icklawn.com*

Position	Practice Areas	Location
Paralegal Assistant/Secretary	Estate Planning, Probate, Corporate Transitions and Real Estate	Tyler
Legal Assistant	Family Law; Proficient in WordPerfect, ProDoc, Microsoft Excel; Send application to: alicia@aliciacashell.com	Tyler
Legal Assistant	Family law	Tyler
Legal Assistant - Bilingual	Personal injury, business transactions, estate planning, family law, probate and business disputes	Tyler
Legal Assistant	Business, Family, Dispute Resolution	Tyler

Legal Assistant	Personal Injury – Dobbs & Tittle, PC Minimum 2 yrs PI experience Full-time position w/benefit package Contact: Deborah@davidedobbs.com	Tyler
Legal Assistant - Bilingual	Family law	Tyler
Legal Assistant (20-30 hrs per week)	Probate, estate planning, guardianship, family law, real estate, transactional work	Tyler
Legal Assistant	Estate planning and probate law	Frankston **
Legal Assistant	Personal injury and civil trial law Contact: Wanda Purcell wpurcell@charleswnicholslaw.com Charlie Nichols cnichols@charleswnicholslaw.com	Palestine**
Legal Assistant	Litigation/Insurance defense Summarizing records & schedules	Tyler
File Clerk, data entry,	No experience necessary answer telephones (Part-time 8:00 am–1:30 pm)	Tyler
Receptionist/Secretary	Family Law, IRS litigation; personal injury	Tyler

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description)**

Tyler

**** PLEASE NOTE: If you are interested in positions that are located outside of Tyler, please let me know that you want your resume submitted for those positions specifically.**

2015-2016 TAALP EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



TAALP EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016



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TYLER AREA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

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