

Legal Assistants of Wyoming

“April showers bring May flowers”or more snow storms if you live in Wyoming!



Annual Meeting & Spring Seminar

By Tammy Wuertley, ACP

The Annual Meeting and Spring Seminar are right around the corner, and I have been very busy getting all the last minute details done. It will be a great time with different topics this year, including presentations by a BLM ranger, an oil and gas law attorney, a prosecutor, an employment law attorney, and a fun review of our grammar skills. (Mary has indicated there will be prizes of some sort involved.) Melissa Klimpel is the Region VI Director of NALA and she will be traveling from North Dakota to tell us about all the benefits of a NALA membership.

This is also the time of the year when we choose our next Board for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, and we will also honor the recipient of LAW's "Outstanding Student" award. If you have not reserved your spot, there is still plenty of time. Brochures were mailed out a few weeks ago, but you can also access a PDF copy online at www.lawyo.com. Just click on the "events" tab. You are also able to register for the seminar online as well.

On Friday night, we will take a curator-led tour of the Museum of Natural History to 6:00 p.m., followed by a welcoming reception, which includes a sandwich bar, fruit and no-host cocktails. This will be a fun event and a great icebreaker. The seminar and annual meeting will take place on Saturday.

I am looking forward to it...I have never been to the Buffalo Bill Historical Museum. I am excited by the variety of speakers and I hope to see you there.

Index

- Annual Meeting & Spring Seminar by Tammy Wuertley, ACP ~ Pg. 1
- 2013 Annual Meeting Agenda ~ Pg. 2
- Get to Know the Slate of Candidates for the 2013-2014 Elections ~ Pg. 3
- NALA Annual Meeting & Convention ~ Pg. 6
- It's Not Just Networking, It's Working!! By Rhonda Hoadley ~ Pg. 7
- NALA Campus Live! ~ Pg. 7
- NALA News Press Release – Real Estate ACP ~ Pg. 8
- Communication Connection ~ Pg. 9
- 2nd Annual Membership Drive & Renewal Party ~ Pg. 9
- NALA Award Opportunities – Pg. 10

Board of Directors:

President: Amanda Nelson, ACP
 President Elect: Rhonda Hoadley
 1st Vice President: Tammy Wuertley, ACP
 2nd Vice President : Kristi Fields, ACP
 Treasurer – Mark Robbins
 Secretary: Sarah Finn
 NALA Liaison: Shannon Rezanina, ACP
 Region 2 Director: Sarah Pugh, ACP
 Region 3 Director: Jessica Duty, CLA
 Region 4 Director: Susan Lewis, CLA

2013 Annual Meeting & Spring Seminar

April 26 – 27, 2013

Program Agenda

Friday, April 26th

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. “A Night at the Museum” & Early Bird Registration

Buffalo Bill Historical Center

LAW will be collecting donations for the Cody area

A curator-led tour of the museum followed by a welcoming reception in the museum’s HUB. Attendees may also register for the seminar at the reception.

Humane Society at the Spring Seminar. Items needed are:

Cat Litter
Dog Treats

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

8:45 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.

9:35 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 27th

Registration

“NALA Membership and Benefits” – Melissa Klimpel, ACP

“BLM and Its Role in Law Enforcement” – Aaron Kania, BLM Ranger

Morning Break

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

“Prosecuting the Juvenile Offender” – William “Billy” Struemke, Esq.

Lunch (On Your Own)

“Grammar and Writing Skills Workshop” – Mary Kubichek, J.D.

“Oil and Gas Law” – Patrick Tolley, Esq.

Afternoon Break

“Employment Law” – Michael LaBazzo, Esq.

*This seminar has been approved for
4.83hrs of CLE through NALA*

David & Mary Kubichek
For the Casper College
Paralegal Program

Gold Level Sponsor

Legal Assistants of Wyoming (LAW) is a nonprofit organization established in 1990 to promote continuing education, professionalism and networking for paralegals in Wyoming and the surrounding areas. LAW is registered with the Wyoming Secretary of State and operates under Bylaws adopted by its members. LAW has also adopted and is governed by the National Association of Legal Assistants Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility. To learn more about LAW, visit our website at www.lawyo.com.

LAW is an affiliate member of The National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA). NALA is the leading professional association for paralegals/legal assistants, with over 18,000 members. To find out more about NALA, visit their website at www.nala.org.

Get to know the Slate of Candidates for the 2013-2014 Elections:

President-Elect:

Shannon Rezanina, ACP
Tammy Wuertley, ACP

1st Vice President:

No nominations accepted

2nd Vice President:

Sarah Finn
Jessica Keith

Secretary:

Sarah Finn
Jessica Keith

Treasurer:

Jodi Borino
Mark Robbins

NALA Liaison:

Susan Lewis, CLA
Amanda Nelson, ACP
Shannon Rezanina, ACP

Region 3 Director:

Jessica Keith
Amanda Nelson, ACP
Marcia Neumiller
Tammy Wuertley, ACP



Tammy Wuertley, ACP

My name is Tammy Wuertley. I graduated with an Associates degree in Paralegal Studies, as well as a Bachelor's in Business Leadership. I have worked in the paralegal field for several years, and currently work at Chapman Valdez as a personal injury/litigation paralegal. I believe I would be an effective leader for our organization. That is why I am encouraging you to vote for me as President-Elect. My membership in L.A.W., and my past positions on the board as NALA liaison and First Vice-President were very fulfilling because of the incredible people I met, the experience I gained, and the networking and educational opportunities. As a NALA Liaison, I was able to attend a convention in Texas and meet several other paralegals. The institutes at the seminar were very informative, and because of my attendance I was able to prepare and finish my ACP in automobile accidents. I still have my study sheets and book that I received during the personal injury institute and refer to them quite often.

In my current position as 1st Vice President, I am responsible for planning and organizing our two yearly seminars. Finding speakers and topics that are of interest to everyone can be a bit challenging, but after everything is said and done, we usually have a good turnout and learn a lot! The seminars also give you an opportunity to meet other Wyoming paralegals.

There are a lot of students who will soon be paralegals. I see our organization as a place where these students can meet with other students and paralegals of all experiences and discuss work-related issues, homework, or just meet for a cup of coffee or a drink and socialize. Amanda Nelson implemented the "Paralegal Pal" program and I would like to see that continue. I am focused on increasing our membership and am open to ideas from our current members on what needs to be done to improve L.A.W. I think our Board this past year has done a wonderful job, and I would like to continue to be a part of it.

Jodi Borino

Hello, my name is Jodi Borino. I am a legal secretary for Williams, Porter, Day & Neville. I graduated from the Paralegal Program in May 2010. I am in the process of taking my CLA Exam. I have been a member of LAW since 2012. I have never sat for a board but I would be proud to serve as the LAW Treasurer. I know I will do a great job and I am excited for the upcoming LAW year. I am honored I was nominated.

Jessica Keith

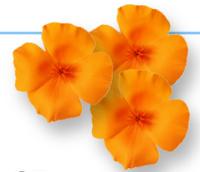
I am Jessica Keith. I attended the University of Wyoming for three years majoring in Criminal Justice. I returned to Casper and joined the Paralegal program. I worked for Chapin & Dixon for a year, the Evansville Court for a year and am now a Paralegal for Ken Barbe at Welborn Sullivan Meck and Tooley. I will be with the firm a year in May. Ken's practice is primarily corporate and estate planning. I am married and have three children; sixteen, three and eight months old. I am on the Board of Directors for Legal Aid of Wyoming. I serve on the personnel committee and finance committee. I have been a part of LAW for a little under a year. I graduate from the Paralegal program May of 2013 and will take my CLA at the end of that month.

I would love to serve on the board for LAW because I want to continue to help others the way the board has helped me. I have grown so much through the program and through this organization professionally and have made so many wonderful friendships. I want to help LAW continue to build membership and further the education in our field. Thank you for considering me to serve on the board of LAW.

Mark Robbins

I am employed by Casper Law Office and work exclusively in family law. I am a 1994 graduate of the University of Wyoming, where I earned by BA in Elementary Education, and a 2012 graduate of the Casper College Paralegal Program. In the course of my paralegal studies, I was honored with the Legal Assistants of Wyoming Outstanding Student Award for 2011.

I currently serve as the LAW Treasurer and have learned so much through the last year. I would be honored to serve on the LAW board again.

Shannon Rezanina, ACP

Hello, my name is Shannon Rezanina, ACP. I am a certified paralegal with 3 ACP's in Discovery, Trail Practice and Personal Injury. I currently work for Williams, Porter, Day & Neville, P.C. I have been a member of LAW since 2003. I have sat on the Board in several different positions through the years. I served 2 years as Treasurer, 2 years as 1st Vice President, and 1 year as 2nd Vice President. I am currently running for the positions of NALA Liaison and President-Elect. I would be proud to serve in either one of these positions.

I am currently serving as your NALA Liaison. I attended the NALA Convention in Omaha, Nebraska last year. I attended the workshops for CLE as well as attending the National Meeting and placing LAW's vote for each NALA board member. I also attended the affiliates meeting where I learned a ton of new and exciting stuff to use in LAW, in my job and in life.

The NALA convention is in Portland, OR this year. I would be proud to serve as your NALA Liaison once again, so I can bring back some great ideas to share with members of LAW.

If I am elected to either position, NALA Liaison or President-Elect, I will do a great job for the members of LAW. I am proud to be a member and I am excited for new and exciting things to come for LAW in the future!

Douglas R. McLaughlin
Law Office of Douglas R. McLaughlin
1924 East 1st Street
Casper, Wyoming 82601
(307) 577-5151

Diamond Level Sponsor



Sarah Finn

I am Sarah Finn. I am a Paralegal/Office Manager in the area of Estate Planning and Administration, Business Entity Formations, Asset Protection, and Real Estate Sales. I graduated from Casper College with an Associate's in Paralegal Studies. I am currently employed by Douglas McLaughlin in Casper, Wyoming.

I am your LAW Secretary and have learned a tremendous amount during the past year. I would love to continue to serve on the Board of Directors of LAW as either the 2nd Vice President or the Secretary.

Marcia Neumiller

I received my paralegal degree from Casper College in May of 2012. I attended the University of Wyoming from 1993-1997, but did not receive a degree. I am a mother of 3 children, ages 12, 7 and 4. I work at Casper Law Office, focusing mainly on family law. I would like to be on the LAW board so I can continue to meet more of the great paralegals in Wyoming and become more involved.

*Williams, Porter, Day &
Neville, P.C.*

*159 N. Wolcott, Suite 400
Casper, WY 82601
(307) 265-0700*

Platinum Level Sponsor

Susan Lewis, CLA

I graduated from LCCC Legal Assistant's Program in 1998 and received my CLA in 1999 (I wasn't as smart as Cherry Kildow ☺). I was a NALA LEAP (Leadership Enhancement and Preparation) participant in 2007-2008, and was part of the first class and the first 13 participants.

I have served as the previous LAW Treasurer, NALA Liaison, Second Vice President, President-Elect and President.

Every opportunity that is given to me, I tell the people of Wyoming about the wonderful professional organization of LAW. This is because I am proud to be a CLA and a member of LAW. In the last two years this Board has worked very hard to tell students and other law office staff the opportunities LAW has for them and for Wyoming communities. I would appreciate the opportunity to be an officer of LAW for the 2013-2014 year and be a part of the leadership of this organization.

I am married and we will celebrate our 20th wedding anniversary in July. I have 3 grown children and 4 granddaughters. My granddaughters do not live in Wyoming so I try and go to see them at every opportunity that is presented to me. I spend a lot of time in my craft room with my scissors, paint, crayons and paper. My husband says I am still in kindergarten!

Amanda Nelson, ACP

My name is Amanda Nelson, and many of you know me already. I am your current LAW president, prior president-elect, secretary, and 1st Vice President. I love this organization and have worked very hard to increase our membership in all areas of Wyoming. I am honored to be nominated for a position on the board of directors again. I would love the opportunity to represent LAW at the NALA conference this year and am confident I can bring back a substantial amount of information to further our organization.

I truly think LAW is a special organization that has a very needed purpose in Wyoming. I hope you will let me continue to be a part of that!

PORTLAND

NALA IN THE GREAT NORTHWEST

JULY 2013



**38th Annual Convention,
Institutes & Exhibition
July 10-12, 2013 • Portland, OR**



**THE ASSOCIATION OF
LEGAL ASSISTANTS • PARALEGALS**

1516 South Boston Avenue, Suite 200 • Tulsa, OK 74119 • www.nala.org

It's not just networking, *It's working!!!*

By: Rhonda Hoadley

Welcome to LAW!!!

New Active Members:

Robin Martin
Region 1

Brandi Morris
Region 4

Shannon Persoma
Out of State

Imagine my surprise when I got a call from a potential client who needed a divorce. Well, that really isn't unusual; after all, I *do* work for a family law attorney. My attorney and I were stumped with no idea what to say when he asked, "how does this divorce affect my wife's immigration status? I'm sponsoring her into the U.S." He went further to explain that they did all the immigration proceedings pro se, so we didn't have "you'll have to call your immigration attorney" to fall back on. He could have asked a number of other questions that we may have been able to answer, but I knew that my attorney had no clue as to what the man needed to know. My attorney said, "we'll have to figure that out." Then, I remembered, I worked with a LAW member at the Fall Seminar in Laramie, and she worked for an immigration attorney at the time. So, I politely said, "I know a member in Legal Assistants of Wyoming that works in immigration, let me give her a call." I must say that member saved the day! We were able to set up the conference call between the two attorneys for later the same day and my attorney was given some guidance on what needed to be done. I know I would have never been able to help our client without being a member of LAW. Just another great example of how our organization works and how lucky we are to be able to help each other. Thanks
LAW!

NALA Campus Live!

- Commercial Real Estate Closings ~ April 17th
- Ethics and Technology ~ April 18th
- Blue Book Review of Citing ~ April 19th
- Advances in Courtroom Technology ~ April 22nd
- American Legal System: Part 1 ~ April 23rd
- Patent Prosecution ~ April 24th
- American Legal System: Part 2 ~ April 25th
- Judgment and Legal Analysis ~ April 26th
- Basic Business Organizations – April 30th
- iPad for Paralegals ~ May 3rd
- Ethics & Movies: What We Learn from *A Civil Action* ~ May 6th
- Freedom of Information Act ~ May 7th
- Elder Law Intermediate ~ May 8th
- Advanced Ethics ~ May 9th
- QDROs for Dummies or the Insane ~ May 10th



Murane & Bostwick

*201 N. Wolcott
Casper, WY 82601
(307) 234-9345*

Platinum Level Sponsor



THE ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL ASSISTANTS • PARALEGALS

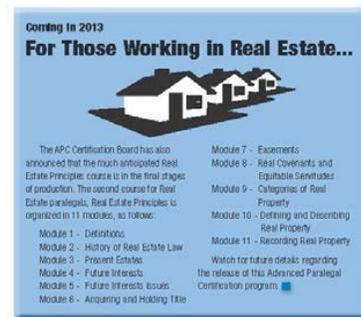
1516 SOUTH BOSTON AVENUE, SUITE 200 • TULSA, OK 74119 • 918.587.6828

For Immediate Release ...

The NALA Advanced Paralegal Certification Board has released the much anticipated *Real Estate Principles* course! Real Estate Principles is now available online. To access the course description and to enroll, visit the NALA web site/Certification/Advanced Paralegal Certification.

The second advanced course for Real Estate paralegals, *Real Estate Principles* presents fundamental concepts related to acquisition, possession, use, and transfer of real property. Real Estate Principles is organized in 11 modules, as follows:

- 1 Definitions
- 2 History of Real Estate Law
- 3 Present Estates
- 4 Future Interests
- 5 Future Interests Issues
- 6 Acquiring and Holding Title
- 7 Easements
- 8 Real Covenants and Equitable Servitudes
- 9 Categories of Real Property
- 10 Defining and Describing Real Property
- 11 Recording Real Property



Advanced Paralegal Certifications are now available in 20 practice areas for paralegals. The courses are developed by the Advanced Paralegal Certification board composed of experienced paralegals, paralegal educators and attorneys, with input from certified paralegals. The APC board also works with experienced technical writers in the production of the on-line, curriculum based courses.

Through this program, Certified Paralegals may achieved advanced certification to enhance their developing careers, or for advanced instruction in practice areas in which they are unfamiliar. The APC program has been growing in popularity since its introduction in 2006. As of March 2013, nearly 3,000 paralegals have achieved advanced certification status.

Access to the Advanced Paralegal Certification courses is also available to those without the Certified Paralegal credential as an advanced CLE program. Paralegals without the CP credential will receive a certificate of completion from NALA upon fulfilling all course requirements.

For more information, contact NALA, or visit www.nala.org.

Dixon & Dixon, LLP
Attorneys At Law
104 South Wolcott, Suite 600
Casper, WY 82601
(307) 234-7321

Gold Level Sponsor

Communication Connection ~
 “Guilty as Charged: *Pled* versus *Pleaded*”

Injury Law Firm
 Law Offices of R. Michael Shickich, LLC
 111 W. 2nd Street, Suite 500
 Casper, WY 82601
 (307) 266-5297

“Can you open a newspaper these days without reading about a star or politician pleading guilty to a crime? I’d guess not, given how many e-mail messages I receive asking about the correct use of the verb *to plead*!

Gold Level Sponsor

Although *pled* and *pleaded* are both in common use, language sticklers prefer *pleaded*.

Squiggly pleaded guilty to stealing the chocolate tree seeds.

Sir Fragalot pleaded guilty to shouting incomplete sentences in the town square.

A Google News search returns about six hundred entries for ‘pled guilty’ and about thirty-seven thousand entries for ‘pleaded guilty.’”

Fogarty, Mignon. *Grammar Girl’s Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing*. Mignon Fogarty, Inc. 2008, pg. 41.

Legal Assistants of
WYOMING
 EST. 1999

**2nd Annual Membership Drive & Renewal
 Party**

Please join us for a **membership drive and renewal party** at **The Wonder Bar** in Casper!
 Thursday, May 16th from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

LAW will provide Appetizers
 Members of legal age will be able to enjoy
 Happy Hour at the Wonder Bar until 7:00 pm!

NEW MEMBERS – Legal Assistants of Wyoming will waive all new member’s initiation fees (value of \$15) who join our organization at the Party!
 (Membership is not guaranteed and will be determined pursuant to the Bylaws.)

For additional information, please visit our website (lawyo.com) or feel free to contact:
 Kristi Fields, ACP, 2nd Vice President
 (307) 234-9345 or at krf@murane.com

NALA Award Opportunities

As many of you may or may not know, NALA offers several awards to recognize affiliate organizations and it's members. Is there a member you know who is deserving of special recognition? The NALA Founders Award and the NALA Presidents Award programs are a terrific option for you! In addition, the NALA Board of Directors has brought back the Making a Difference Award! Read on for details!

The first award is the *NALA Award Program and Membership Recognition Award*.

- NALA Affiliated Associations have a similar program to recognize NALA affiliated association leaders and achievers! To learn about the awards programs for NALA Affiliated Associations. Please go to the following link to make your nominations!
http://www.nala.org/aff_resources.aspx

The next award is *NALA Making a Difference Award*.

- NALA members are SPECIAL! Members are working every day to support their associations, continue their education, help students, and mentor those who wish to know more know about the paralegal profession. In addition, members individually and through their association are helping in their communities through volunteering in law-related community programs, and other non-profit community support programs. The Board of Directors has found a way to recognize members in their everyday activities, and has brought back the popular Member Making a Difference Awards! Making a Difference honorees are recognized throughout the year in Facts & Findings and through other communications programs of NALA, including the web site and newsletter. Each year at the NALA Annual Meeting, honorees present are recognized as a group for their inspiring and selfless contributions. Please go to the following link to make your nominations!
<http://www.nala.org/Upload/file/PDF-Files/2011-Convention/11-Diff-form.pdf>

The next award is the *President's Award*.

- The NALA Presidents Award recognizes outstanding accomplishments of NALA members and their contribution to the future of the paralegal profession through their leadership activities within NALA and NALA affiliated associations. Award recipients must be current NALA members, must have held membership for at least 2 years, and must have at least 5 years of experience as a paralegal. Recipients are members of NALA who have contributed greatly to the paralegal profession through their work with NALA affiliated associations, and through their volunteer work on NALA committees and task forces. Some on this list are also former presidents of NALA and are continuing their service to the paralegal profession. Please go to the following link to make your nomination.

<http://www.nala.org/Upload/file/PDF-Files/2011-Convention/11-Pres-form.pdf>

All nominations are due by May 1, 2013. I encourage everyone to make a nomination. We have some outstanding board members as well as members who deserve the recognition! The awards will be presented to the winners of the awards at the NALA convention in Portland in July.