

August 1, 2013



*Legal Assistants of Wyoming*

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*FROM THE PRESIDENT - Rhonda Hoadley*

Hello everyone!

It is hard to believe that summer is almost gone. Where did the time go? We just had our annual meeting in Cody, and the next thing I knew I was packing for the NALA Convention in Portland. Now I am getting ready to head to Riverton this fall. I'm glad I've always

liked to travel.

That is the best thing about our profession - we have the ability to network, and to see some amazing things. I am looking so forward to this year as your LAW President. We have a new goal of increasing our membership to 100 people, and the new Board is inviting

all committee chairpersons to our monthly meetings as a non-voting guests. It is so easy to get involved with LAW and the benefits are there for you. If you would like to be more involved, please contact any of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors. We would love to have your input

**From the First Vice President  
Tammy Wuertley, ACP**

**SAVE THE  
DATE!!**

The 2013 Fall Seminar is just around the corner! Please save the afternoon of Friday, September 13, and the morning of Saturday, September 14, 2013, to attend our fall seminar. This year, our seminar will be located in Riverton at the Central Wyoming College. We have speakers lined up who will discuss family law, the

Wyoming death penalty, administrative law and the unauthorized practice of law. In addition, a fun workshop (with prizes) is planned! This one will be a toughy and a good review of our legal terminology knowledge.

After the seminar on Friday night, we will be hosting "Casino Night" at the Wind River Casino, which

includes dinner, desert, and a fun night of slots and gaming. It just may be your lucky night!!

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Riverton Holiday Inn and Convention Center at a reduced rate for all attendees. Keep a look-out for the brochure and registration information, which will be mailed in early August. I hope to see all of you there!!!



## Congratulations to Amanda Nelson on her "Member Making a Difference"

NALA members work every day to support their associations, continue their education, help students, and mentor those who wish to know more about the paralegal profession. In addition, members individually and through their association help in their communities through volunteering in law-related community programs, and other non-profit community support programs. The NALA 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.

Be sure to check out the November/December issue of *Facts & Findings*, where Amanda will be honored in an article about how she has made a difference for the paralegals of Wyoming and people in her community through her involvement in Legal Assistants of Wyoming.

### WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR SPONSORS

*Keep a look-out for the Fall Seminar brochure and registration information, which will be mailed in early August!."*

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*If you are in the Cheyenne area and are interested in taking the CLA Exam, please contact Susan Lewis or Rhonda Hoadley to get information for the Cheyenne area study group.*

## Portland, NALA, Friends & Great Food! By Amanda Nelson, ACP

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual NALA Convention was held July 10-12, 2013 in Portland, Oregon and boy was it a blast! As your NALA Liaison, I was privileged to attend this conference, along with several fellow LAW Members. In total, LAW had 5 representatives in attendance! As usual with NALA Conventions, it consisted of three (3) jam-packed days of education, inspiration and business. I attended the e-discovery institute, which was full of valuable information, but maybe not anything my tiny one-attorney firm deals with. If nothing else, I will not be complaining about my discovery requirements in the near future! I also attended an Affiliate Exchange on “Going Paperless in the Law Office.” Many offices in Wyoming are in the beginning stages of going paperless, so this was a very useful and helpful program. We had the traditional business

meetings and affiliate meetings, along with a fantastic affiliate exchange presentation on “The Leaders of Today, The Innovators of Tomorrow: Creating Dynamic Leaders and Taking Your Association to the Next Level and Beyond” by Kristine Custodio, ACP from the San Diego Paralegal Association. Once again, I am geared up and ready to serve LAW this year!

In addition to attending the meetings, receiving education and hosting a table for the Affiliate Associations Exhibits, I was honored to receive the “Making a Difference Award.” I would like to thank the Board of Directors and any other individuals who may have been involved in nominating me for this award. It truly is an honor and I am very proud to represent our organization this way. There will be an article published regarding this award

in the November/December edition of *Facts & Findings*. I hope you keep your eyes out for it!

One of the most exciting aspects of attending the NALA Convention is the ability to travel. I had never been to Portland and was very excited to finally visit! One thing Portland is known for is their phenomenal cuisine. Portland has several culinary arts schools in the area so there are numerous up and coming chefs. I love food and choosing a restaurant each night was a difficult decision! Next year the conference will be held in Charleston, South Carolina! I would encourage all of you to begin preparing to attend. It is a phenomenal conference and so much fun! I would also encourage you to begin thinking about running for the NALA Liaison position for the 2014-2015 term. Now is the time to get involved!!!



## Membership Opportunities

LAW has a great Board of Directors every year that keeps the organization running smoothly. However, they could not do it without the help of the committees that help with every aspect of the organization.

How can I help? It's very simple, sign up to volunteer on a committee. There are many to choose

from and the time commitment is not as demanding as you would think. You can participate in activities that range from helping do the on-line shopping for LAW Memorabilia; to communicating with our State Bar; to checking numbers for our audits; to help plan an event; you could even assist in writing this awesome newsletter.

If you interested in becoming active with our Board, it is a great way to get started. The best part is Committee Chairpersons will be invited to our monthly Board of Directors Meetings as non-voting guests. Please visit our website or contact any of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors for additional information.

### LAW COMMITTEES

BY-LAWS  
EDUCATION  
MEMBERSHIP  
NEWSLETTER  
FINANCE / Audit  
MEMORABILIA  
NOMINATIONS &  
ELECTIONS  
AWARDS  
BAR LIAISON  
PUBLIC RELATIONS  
WEBSITE

### *Did You Know - 10 Tidbits From NALA Convention*

10. Paralegals from North Carolina go on a bus tour?
9. A "hurricane in the brain" is a great alternative way to brainstorm.
8. Nebraska Paralegal Association conducts a complete interview presentation for graduating paralegal students?
7. Strunk and White's *Elements of Style* is the go-to book for the Texas Bar Review Manual, which is the go-to book for the rest of the Bar examiners.
6. The Paralegals from Kentucky sell cookbooks as a fundraiser?
5. Paralegals from Miami are a blast to hang out with?
4. The U.S. Virgin Islands has a walking group that hikes for 27 miles, AND stops for doughnuts?
3. Wisconsin has great cheese, good beer and a huge Kimberly Clark operation?
2. Paralegals from North Dakota volunteer with their Drug Court to provide a picnic and summer outing in a safe healthy environment to people who have had to go through the Drug Court Program?
1. Shannon Rezanina has been accepted into the 2014 LEAP Program!

***Congratulations Shannon!***

## SPOTLIGHT MEMBER

1. What is your name? Shannon Rezanina
2. Do you have a certification designation? ACP
3. If so, when were you certified and what area(s) are you specialized in? Trial Practice, Discovery, and Personal Injury
4. Who are you currently employed by? Williams, Porter, Day & Neville, PC
5. If you would like your contact information published as well, please provide the address, etc. you would like included. 159 N. Wolcott St. Suite, 400, Casper, WY 82601
6. If you would like your email published, please provide your preferred email address.  
srezanina@wpcdn.net
7. What area(s) of law does your firm specialize in? Insurance Defense, medical malpractice defense are the main areas I work in.
8. How long have you been a member of LAW? I have been a member of LAW since 2003, at that time I was a student member.
9. What is your educational background? I graduated from Newcastle High School in 1990 and graduated from Casper College in 2006 with an Associates of Science in Paralegal Studies.
10. How long have you been employed as a paralegal? I have been employed as a paralegal for eight years. And seven of them with WPDN. ☺
11. Please tell me about your family? Are you married, do you have children, do you have pets, what are their names and ages, etc. My husband is Jim Rezanina and we have been married for 21 years. I have 3 kids. Branden is 18 and starting Casper College in the fall. McKenna is 15 and she is a sophomore at Natrona County HS. Hunter is 15 and she is a sophomore at Natrona County HS. Colby is my

miniature schnauzer. Missy is McKenna's dog and she is a pit bull mix. Lilo is Hunter's cat..and she is naughty. ☺

12. What are your favorite hobbies? I like to scrapbook. I love catching up with friends on Facebook, and currently am addicted to Candy Crush and Pinterest. My favorite thing to do is spend time with my family whether it's camping, or just family dinners.
13. What is your favorite color? Pink, purple, and black
14. If you could work in any area of law, what area of law would you choose and why? I currently work in insurance defense and medical malpractice defense. I really enjoy working with my attorneys helping to defend truck drivers and their companies, and well as physicians.
15. If you were an animal, what would you be and why? I would be a cat. Cats get to sleep all day, and be out all night.
16. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you live and why? I am boring, but I think I live in the best state. I love it in Wyoming. I love the small towns, and the beauty each part of Wyoming has to offer. I will just stick with traveling to different places. Maybe one day I will visit somewhere I might want to live. But as of now. I have found the place I want to be.
17. Is there anything else about you that you would like to share? I love Mickey Mouse!

If you would like to be recognized in our Member Spotlight please contact:

Newsletter Chair  
Legal Assistants of Wyoming  
P.O. Box 155  
Casper, WY 82602

or

[legalassistantsofwyoming@gmail.com](mailto:legalassistantsofwyoming@gmail.com)

Thank You!