

THE SCRIPTUM

VOL. 51, FEBRUARY ISSUE

FEBRUARY 17, 2006

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JUST A MEAL**
- **SPRING MEMBERSHIP
QUIZ**
- **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FUTURE LEADERSHIP

At the January CLE After Hours, guest speaker, Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS, NALS President, spoke about ensuring the future leadership of NALS and what the local chapter and individual member could do. Mary Jo, the 35th NALS President, not only talks the talk but walks the walk when it comes to leadership. Being inspired by Mary Jo's presentation, I choose to continue on the topic of leadership with an emphasis on the individual member's contribution. I believe each member has talents and strengths that will enable them to become the future leaders for the chapter.

Member involvement is critical for developing leaders. The in-



Sadie Bispham, PP, PLS
President, NALS of Atlanta

volvement does not have to be major. Start with small tasks and take on more responsibility as your interest and schedule will permit. For example, calling or sending an email to a fellow member reminding them of the CLE After Hours may not take much

(Continued on page 7)

The Name Game Revisited

A few years ago I wrote an article about acronyms and how helpful they can be. I decided to revisit my article and give it an update. My apologies to anyone who remembers the old article, but I think you will find this one interesting.

I recently looked up "acronym" in my dictionary and it gave the description as a pronounceable word formed from the initial letter or letters of the words

such as RADAR (Radio Detection And Ranging) or SCUBA (Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus). That is fine but what about the acronyms we don't pronounce, the ones where we say the actual letter such as LED (Light Emitting Diode), LCD (Liquid Crystal Diode), and CRT (Cathode Ray Tube). That made me wonder if there was a descriptive

(Continued on page 14)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March 2006

- **Date:** March 1st – @ Law Magazine mailed NALS Membership
- **Date:** March 3rd – Deadline to Submit Articles for the Scriptum
- **Date:** March 4th – Certification Exam Administered (ALS, PLS, PP)
- **Date:** March 4th – NALS Participation in “Open Hands Atlanta”
- **Date:** March 9th through March 11th NALS Professional Development and Education Conference, Tulsa OK
- **Date:** March 17th – Scriptum Published
- **Date:** March 21st CLE After Hours – Election of Officers

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 Articles Submitted to Scriptum	4
5 Certification Exam ALS, PLS, PP	6	7	8	9 NALS Professional Development	10 and Education Conference	11 Tulsa, OK
12	13	14 Executive Committee Meeting	15	16	17 Scriptum Published	18
19	20	21 CLE After Hours Elect Officers	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

NALS CODE OF ETHICS

Members of the NALS are bound by the objectives of this association and the legal standards of conduct required of the legal profession.

Every member shall:

- Encourage respect for the law and the administration of justice.
- Observe rules governing privileged communications and confidential information.
- Promote and exemplify high standards of loyalty, cooperation, and courtesy.
- Perform all duties of the profession with integrity and competence.
- Pursue a high order of professional attainment.



Valentine almost 100 years old

NALS OF ATLANTA MINUTES CLE AFTER HOURS AND MEMBER APPRECIATION JANUARY 17, 2006

Welcome

The January "CLE After Hours" was held at the Law Offices of Morris, Manning & Martin, LLC, 3343 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President, Sadie Bispham. Present at this meeting were: Sadie Bispham, PP, PLS, President; Lovette Bennett, Immediate Past President; Kim Noble, PP, PLS, Vice President; Lynne Gehrke, Secretary; Kathy Saint, PP, PLS, Treasurer; Anita Aaron; Mary Alice Bancroft; Cecile Campbell; Terry Cohea; Charley Denham, PP, PLS (Chairman - NALS of Atlanta Certification); Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS, 2005-2006 NALS President; Tressey DePratto-Campbell, PP, PLS; Belinda Ellerby; Melita Ellington (Chairman - History Committee); Pat Gilbert, PLS (Chairman - Ways and Means Committee); Sheryl Harris-Bogans, PP, PLS; Marge Jones; Nancy M-

kacevich, PLS (Chairman - Elections Committee); Sally Stenger, PP, PLS; Susan Weaver, PLS (Chairman - Sunshine Committee); and Brad Wilson from The Norcross Group. President Bispham was pleased to welcome Brenda Howard, our guest from Arnall, Golden and Gregory, LLP and to acknowledge and thank Morris, Manning & Martin for allowing us to meet in their board room; to Kasey Binder and Melissa Miller from Cambridge Professional Group for being our Spotlight Vendor for this month, as well as offering two wonderful door prizes; and to Dean Pallas from Capitol Services for providing the delicious dinner from "On the Border".

Inspiration

Mary Alice Bancroft gave the Inspiration on the types of resolutions we should make each year and her remarks were from "The Bottom Line". She said that it is recommended to make resolutions to learn about things in which you are interested - but not good at; to stay true to your priorities; travel to interesting places before they change; and lastly, make memories.

Spotlight Vendor - Cambridge Professional Group

President Bispham had the pleasure of sharing information on services offered by Cambridge Professional Group. Cambridge is celebrating its 20th year of legal service.

(Continued on page 3)

Cambridge Staff - specializes in temporary and permanent staffing

"...make resolutions to learn about things in which you are interested - but not good at; to stay true to your priorities; travel to interesting places before they change; and lastly, make memories."



how can I grow
without increasing
fixed costs?
we need to improve profits

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NALS OF ATLANTA MINUTES CLE AFTER HOURS AND MEMBER APPRECIATION JANUARY 17, 2006

services to help law firms and corporations hire legal and office support staff, including temp-to-perm or direct hire arrangements and retained or contingency based searches.

Cambridge Technical - specializes in temporary and permanent staffing services for technology professionals, including temp to perm or direct hire arrangement and retained or contingency based searches.

Cambridge Financial - this is a new division of Cambridge Professional Group. Cambridge is creating the same high quality temporary and permanent services with a focus on financial professionals.

Cambridge shows you the money with its referral bonus plan of \$250 - if they place a candidate that you have referred.

Kasey Binder and Melissa Miller were introduced as follows:



Kasey Binder - Sr. Recruiter with Cambridge, has been in legal recruiting since 1996 and with Cambridge since 1999. Kasey entered the legal profession as a paralegal in Louisville, Kentucky. She relocated to Atlanta with her family and continued her career as a litigation paralegal. Kasey draws upon her 10 successful years as a paralegal to inform her and work as a legal recruiter. Also, dur-

ing the past 10 years of her career as a legal recruiter, she has been involved with and supported NALS. Kasey says she has thoroughly enjoyed her years with NALS and thinks the members are some of the most dedicated professionals she has met.

With her extensive knowledge of law firms and her keen people skills, she is able to provide outstanding service to her clients and candidates. Kasey's continuing success relies on her extensive network of relationships built and maintained during her decade as a recruiter. Today, Kasey concentrates on staffing law firms and corporations, legal secretaries, Paralegals and Human Resource Department personnel.

Melissa Miller - Joined Cambridge in 2005 to work on the temps and permanent legal secretaries placements with Kasey. Melissa was a recruiter at Randstad. Additionally, Melissa has worked for a civil engineering firm as a recruiter and human resources generalist. She has enjoyed success as a recruiter for an international company. Melissa's clients benefit from her ability to communicate clearly and to develop a deep understanding of her clients' needs.

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Nancy Mikacevich had the honor of introducing our guest speaker for the evening, Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS. Mary Jo is NALS President and is a life member. She previously served as NALS President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Marketing Director, Region 4 Director (two terms), and worked on NALS Professional Development Committee. As state president, Mary Jo helped NALS of Georgia rid itself of many sacred cows and streamline its governance. She has been an active member of the Atlanta chapter for over 25 years, and was previously an active member in Texas for several years. Mary Jo has over 30 years legal experience, and has been employed as a Legal Assistant for Smith, Bassett, Purcell & Koenig since moving to Atlanta in 1977. Mary Jo received her PP certification in 2003 and her PLS certification in 1999. *(Continued on page 5)*

Speaker Presentation

Mary Jo had a Power Point presentation on "Keys to Safeguarding Our Future". She began by outlining

NALS OF ATLANTA MINUTES CLE AFTER HOURS AND MEMBER APPRECIATION JANUARY 17, 2006

the three areas that help to grow our future leaders: NALS (national), our chapter, and individual members.

NALS has strategic planning sessions wherein "mega-issues" are discussed that will impact the association for the next 10 to 20 years. NALS' core

values are: Re-



spect, Loyalty, Cooperation, Courtesy, Professionalism, Competence and Integrity. NALS core purpose is to improve the individual performance of legal professionals. This is accomplished by the package "sold" to the members through their dues each year: Certification, Education, Networking, Ethics, Membership and Leadership. This package is delivered to the members through: Recognition and Expertise, Knowledge, Mentoring, Credibility, Career Advancement and Self-Confidence. Further, NALS core values are expressed in the NALS Code of Ethics & Professional Responsibility -- the "oath" we all take when we join our NALS Chapter. NALS stated vision is: NALS the association for legal professionals is the trendsetter for providing information and education through its worldwide partnership with all related professional associations. NALS is dedicated to enhancing the competencies of members in the legal services profession. It accomplishes its mission and supports the public interest through: - Continuing legal education and resource materials; - Networking opportunities at the local, state, regional and national levels; - Commitment to a Code of Ethics & Professional Responsibility; - Profes-

sion-

sional certification programs and designations.

This is the NALS Mission Statement.

What can NALS of Atlanta do to grow future leaders? One, move to a governance structure wherein there is a president-elect as well as a president. This will assure that the leadership of the chapter is never in doubt and there is a continuance and flow from one leader to the next.

Two, NALS of Atlanta can also start strategic planning sessions, which will cover the goals and direction of the chapter for the next year or two.

What can each member do? Participate, Volunteer to Help, Speak Up, Formulate Goals, Write an Article, Introduce a Speaker, Deliver an Inspiration, Take Tiny Steps. In this way, both the individual and the chapter benefit.

Door Prize Drawing

Members' names were put in one of four groups depending on their years with NALS: One year and under; One to Five Years, Five Years to Ten Years, and Over Ten Years. One name was drawn from each of these groups and each won a \$25 gift certificate from Target courtesy of the NALS of Atlanta Chapter. The winners were: Sally Stenger, Lovette Bennett, Susan Weaver and Marge Jones. Winners of the \$100 American Express Gift Cards donated by Cambridge Professional Group were Anita Aaron and Marge Jones. Winner of a Crockpot Cookbook was Belinda Ellerby.

Adjournment

There being no additional items left on the Agenda, the CLE After Hours and Member Appreciation was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. by President Bispham.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne L. Gehrke
Secretary



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RECOGNIZING A STROKE - Read and Learn!

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

***Ask the individual to SMILE.**

***Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.**

***Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE.**

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. They presented their conclusions at the American Stroke Association's annual meeting last February. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage.

A cardiologist says if everyone who gets this e-mail sends it to 10 people, you can bet that at least one life will be saved.

BE A FRIEND AND SHARE THIS ARTICLE WITH AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE. could save their lives!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT'D)

FUTURE LEADERSHIP

(Continued from page 1)

effort but it is involvement. This very gesture could motivate another member to participate and contribute to chapter activities. Volunteering to introduce a guest speaker can be the start of gaining confidence speaking in front of an audience. Being an effective and confident communicator is a necessary and valuable trait for a leader. Leaders also need to be able to communicate effectively in writing. Writing an article for our monthly publication, the Scriptum, is still another form of involvement. I was not able to attend the NALS 54th Educational Conference in Buffalo, New York, but after reading the articles contributed by Merlita Ellington, Kim Noble, and Nancy Mikacevich, I felt as if I was there. Their individual articles helped me to learn and feel apart of the experience.

No one person has all the answers. However, feedback and suggestions from the members can provide the answers. A member that takes the time to question why things are done a particular way is making a contribution and getting involved. The asking of the question could be the spark the chapter needs to explore alternative solutions. Still another way a member may be involved is through sharing their NAL membership experience with their employer, co-workers and friends. Word of mouth is an effective way to assist with marketing NALS in the community and gaining support for the endeavors of NALS.

Perhaps you have figured out where I am going with all of this. If

not, plainly stated I calling your attention to the upcoming election of officers for 2006-2007, which will be held in March 2006. Nancy Mikacevich, PLS, Nomination Chair. has announced the call for nominations. Your involvement is critical for this election. First, we need a slate of candidates. Who will answer the call? Why not you? Please submit your nominations for candidates to Nancy. Next, be present at the elections on March 21, 2006 and cast your vote. Lastly, support the newly elected officers. Few leaders are born but many members have become fine leaders.

Each of us can play an important role in the future direction of the chapter's leadership.

Sadie Bispham, PP, PLS
President
NALS of Atlanta



“...Who will answer the call? Why not you? Please submit your nominations for candidates to Nancy. Next, be present at the elections on March 21, 2006 and cast your vote. Lastly, support the newly elected officers. Few leaders are born but many members have become fine leaders.”

NALS OF ATLANTA 2005 - 2006 OFFICERS / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		
President	Sadie Bispham, PP, PLS bispham@dekalb-law.com	404-377-9254
Vice President	Kim Noble, PP, PLS kyn@mmmlaw.com	404-233-7000
Secretary	Lynn Gehrke Lynne.Gehrke@bellsouth.com	770 986-1725
Treasurer	Kathy J. Saint, PP, PLS ksaint@burr.com	404-685-4289
Immediate Past President	Lovette Bennett lovette.bennett@sablaw.com	404-853-8609
Publication Chair	Ronald Rymut ronaldrymut@earthlink.net	
Parliamentarian	(Vacant)	
Advertising	Ronald Rymut ronaldrymut@earthlink.net	
Auditor	Susan Weaver, PLS Sweaver@wcsr.com	404-888-7385
Award of Excellence	Melita J. Ellington Mellington@mmmlaw.com	404-504-5436
Bar Liaison/PR	Vacant	
Certification/Education	Charley Denham, PP, PLS cdenham@mmmlaw.com	404-504-3642
Day In Court	MaryKathryn Largent (co-chair) Marykathryn.Largent@sablaw.com	404-853-8652
	Lovette Bennett (co-chair) lovette.bennett@sablaw.com	404-853-8609
Historian	Melita Ellington mellington@mmmlaw.com	404-504-5436
Holiday Party	Virginia Kane vkane@burr.com	404-685-4318
Member of the Year	Kathy J. Saint, PLS ksaint@burr.com	404-685-4289
Membership	Kim Noble, PP, PLS kyn@mmmlaw.com	404-233-7000
NALS of Georgia Representative #1 (Through 6/06)	Patricia A. Gilbert, PLS Gpatdjoe@aol.com	
NALS of Georgia Representative #2 (Through 6/07)	Nancy Mikacevich, PLS nmikacevich@kilpatrickstockton.com	404-815-6558
Programs	Executive Committee Call any officer with a suggestion.	
Scholarship Planning	Vacant	
Sunshine Committee	Anita Aaron (co-chair) aaaron@wcsr.com	404-962-7518
Sunshine Committee	Susan L. Weaver (co-chair) sweaver@wcsr.com	404-888-7385
Technology	Kathy J. Saint, PP, PLS ksaint@burr.com	404-685-4289
Ways & Means	Patricia A. Gilbert, PLS Gpatdjoe@aol.com	
Webmaster	Sam & Miche Boles, PP, PLS mboles@mmmlaw.com	404-504-5432



March 9-11, 2006

NALS Professional Development &
Education Conference
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Doubletree Warren Place
Room Reservations: 1-918-495-1000

To Register online or print out a registration form go to www.nals.org or click on the link below
<https://secure.tulsaconnect.com/nals/registrations/tulsaregis.html>

**MAXIMIZING YOUR POTENTIAL
NALS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION CONFERENCE
TULSA, OKLAHOMA MARCH 9-11, 2006**

ITINERARY

EDUCATION

Friday

○ 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Loss Prevention

Saturday

○ 8:45 – 10:30 a.m.
Leaving on a Jet Plane...
Airport Security
○ 11:00 a.m. – Noon
Who Are You Really?
○ 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Nuts & Bolts of PowerPoint
○ 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Minding Your P's and Q's
○ 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Avery Solutions
○ 3:00 - 4:00p.m.
Court Reporters International

**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

Friday

○ 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Toot Your Own Horn or They
Won't Know You're Coming

Saturday

○ 8:45 – 10:30 a.m.
Public Speaking
○ 11:00 a.m. – Noon
Juggling Act? Is That Really My
○ 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Professionalism with an
ATTITUDE

LEADERSHIP

Friday

○ 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Local/State Membership
Chairs

○ 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Local/State Presidents
Leadership Training

Saturday

○ 8:45 – 2:30 p.m.
Local/State Membership
Chairs Continued
○ 8:45 – 2:30 p.m.
Local/State Presidents
Leadership Training
Continued

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@Law – Winter 2005-6

THE TOP 10 REASONS WHY CERTIFICATION ISN'T FOR ME – OR IS IT?

1. **I already make too much money and I enjoy having a tight budget, clipping coupons, and buying all my clothing from consignment shops.** Even Donald Trump wants to make more money. Unfortunately, most employees go to work, only do what is asked of them and no more, and then go home. Few employees work hard to become more valuable to their employers. Bosses reward employees who are exceptional. By “maximizing your potential” through increased education, you will maximize your earning potential as well.

2. **My boss would never retire before me, my firm will never down size, my job will be here as long as I want it, and I will have this job forever.** Are you confident that your current job is the one you will have when you retire? Everyday we hear about another company filing bankruptcy, moving to another city or facing massive lay-offs. If your firm has to make tough staffing decisions, you want to be sure your name is not considered for elimination. Certification will set you apart from others. Education opens the door to endless possibilities.

3. **My boss won't care if I never improve and won't notice if I do.** Employers notice knowledge and efficiency. Employers care if their staff understands ethics, legal terms and procedures. Even the busiest employer notices professional legal writing, skills and efficiency. Bosses care that things are done correctly in a timely matter by employees who care enough to do thing the right way. Employers notice – and they do care.

4. **I enjoy the same old grind every day and if I pass my boss will probably expect more of me.** It is true that we become very comfortable with our routines, but law is ever changing and things DO NOT stay the same. The charter members of many chapters began their careers with manual typewriters, carbon paper, and mimeograph machines. Today eve-

rything is computerized, E-filed, and sent Fed Ex. Tasks once performed by associates are now done by paralegals. The day of one lawyers for one staff person is over. If you become certified your boss will probably expect more from you. As the demand to get more work done with less staff increases, your boss will probably expect more from you anyway. If you attend a study group and become certified, you will be able to meet those demands.

5. **My family can't do anything without me.** If that is the case -- then sister, it is time that you joined a study group and your family learned how much they can do for themselves. As wives and mother we find time to bake cookies for the PTA and attend soccer games. We make time to “watch” football with out spouse. We give and give -- but we never make time to improve our job skills. We owe it to ourselves and our families to be the best possible employee we can be. Do this for yourself. Your family won't fall apart if you commit to certification, and they might learn independence.

6. **I can't see how it would benefit me.** We work in a competitive world and in a competitive profession. We must move ahead or be left behind. Certification will show an employer you have the skills necessary to get the job done right. Several states are considering mandatory certification or licensing for legal assistants whose time is to be billed. Certification now may put you ahead of the game if certification becomes mandatory. As an added bonus, if you become certified you get to use some pretty cool initials behind your name.

7. **I am afraid of failing so I only attempt things that I am sure I will succeed at.** If that was true, you would never inter-

continued on page 11)

THE TOP 10 REASONS WHY CERTIFICATION ISN'T FOR ME – OR IS IT?

(Continued from page 10)

view for a job, enter into a relationship, have children or drive a car. If you are afraid of failing you picked the wrong profession! Everyday we are faced with obstacles we are not sure we can overcome; yet everyday we get out of bed and conquer whatever life hands us. So what if you fail – at least you will have learned something you didn't know before you began. To date 7,965 have achieved certification. Knowledge is power that lasts forever. Don't sell yourself short before you even begin. What if you succeed?

8. **I am too old.** Rubbish. Did you know the median age of a college freshman is 36? Did you know it took some members of this association 30 years to earn their associates degree? Every year people in their 80's and 90's graduate from college, get married and learn to sky dive. You never stop learning in life – and you are never too old to improve or take a risk. Who knows, you might even teach the younger members a thing or two.

9. **I am too new.** That is why NALS offers 3 different exams. The ALS exam is perfect for those who are new to the legal profession or feeling just a bit overwhelmed. The ALS exam will help you develop the basic skills and knowledge necessary to become an effective legal professional. The PLS exam is for those with three or more years of experience. This broad exam will sharpen your grammar skills, teach you the proper citation formats, increase your legal terminology and equip you with the skills to become one of the best legal professionals in your area. Many who have mastered the PLS exam become regarded as irreplaceable. The PP exam is for those with five or more years' experience who have been performing advanced paralegal tasks un-

der the supervision of an attorney that require independent judgment and a high skill level. There is an exam for every legal professional. One of them is sure to fit you.

10. **No one ever asked me about certification.** You no longer have that excuse. **I am asking every member of NALS of Michigan to take the plunge.** Go on-line and participate in free learning. Join your chapter study group, or the study group of another chapter. If your chapter does not have a study group and you don't know where to get help, I will help you. I believe in certification so much, I will personally tutor anyone for the March 2006 exam who wants to certify but doesn't have a study group. If you do have a study group, I will answer any question you might have or help you organize your study time.

The time is now. Unwrap the gift of education and see what NALS has to offer. Become the best you can be. If you take the plunge, I will be waiting right there to shake your hand at the NALS of Michigan Certification Luncheon in April 2006.

Article Courtesy of
Ruth M. Schaub, PP, PLS
NALS of Michigan 2nd Vice-President

“The time is now. Unwrap the gift of education and see what NALS has to offer. Become the best you can be. If you take the plunge...”

**NALS OF ATLANTA
2005-2006
JANUARY- MAY 2006
ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE
(AS OF FEBRUARY 17, 2006)**

FEBRUARY 2006

FEBRUARY 03 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES TO SCRIPTUM
FEBRUARY 17 SCRIPTUM PUBLISHED
FEBRUARY 13 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS/PLANNING MEETING
FEBRUARY 21 CLE AFTER HOURS

GUEST SPEAKER: KIRK W. WATKINS, ESQ.
TOPIC: TRIAL PRESENTATION
LOCATION: WOMBLE & CARLYLE AND SANDRIDGE

SPECIAL EVENTS:

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - SLATE OF OFFICERS (2006-2007)
SECOND PAYMENT DUE - REGION 4 CRUISE (\$100)

MARCH 2006

MARCH 03 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES TO SCRIPTUM
MARCH 04 CERTIFICATION EXAM ADMINISTERED (ALS, PLS, PP)
MARCH 09 -11 NALS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION CONFERENCE - TULSA, OK
MARCH 14 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS/PLANNING MEETING
MARCH 17 SCRIPTUM PUBLISHED
MARCH 21 CLE AFTER HOURS & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

GUEST SPEAKER: DEBBIE HAMPTON, ESQ.
TOPIC: SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
LOCATION: HASIGUCHI JR. (JAPANESE RESTAURANT)
(SEE BACK PAGE)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (2006-2007)
COMMUNITY CHARITABLE EVENT PARTICIPATION: MARCH 04, 2006 - OPEN HANDS ATLANTA
COMMUNITY CHARITABLE EVENT PARTICIPATION: MARCH 12, 2006 - HUNGER WALK

**NALS OF ATLANTA
2005-2006
JANUARY- MAY 2006
ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE
(AS OF FEBRUARY 17, 2006)**

(Continued from page 12)

APRIL 2006

APRIL 07 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN SCRIPTUM
 APRIL 11 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS/PLANNING MEETING – ANNUAL REPORTS DUE
 APRIL 17 SCRIPTUM PUBLISHED
 APRIL 18 CLE AFTER HOURS
 GUEST SPEAKER: LAURIE DUGONITHS, ESQ. (FELLOWS JOHNSON & LA BRIOLA,
 LLP)
 TOPIC: MARITIME LAW AND THE ROLE OF THE LEGAL SUPPORT STAFF
 LOCATION: LAW FIRM OF BURR & FORMAN
 APRIL 26 ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

SPECIAL EVENTS:

ELECTION MEMBER OF THE YEAR (MOY)
 BOSS OF THE YEAR (BOY) - NOMINATIONS
 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE - NOMINATIONS
 COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORTS DUE TO PRESIDENT AT EC MEETING ON APRIL 11, 2006

MAY 2006

MAY 5 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN SCRIPTUM
 MAY 9 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS/PLANNING MEETING
 MAY 15 SCRIPTUM PUBLISHED
 MAY 16 BOSSES NIGHT APPRECIATION/INSTALLATION
 OF OFFICERS - MAGGIANO'S IN BUCKHEAD
 MAY 17 2006-2007 BUSINESS YEAR BEGINS

SPECIAL EVENTS:

LAW DAY



Continued from page 1 The Name Game Revisited

word for those types of acronyms.

Thanks to a good friend and the wonderful on-line searches available today we came up with that word, "Initialism." Many dictionaries, speakers and writers refer to all abbreviations formed from initial letters as acronyms. However,



some still differentiate between acronyms and initialisms. Many organizations use acronyms and initialisms for terms that are frequently referenced, making the shortened forms more desirable. Frequently the correct meaning of an acronym is domain-specific. What it means in one area might well be different in another context.

I must reference a case in point. When my children were small, my son's two older sisters had a cool way to tell him he needed to check his fly. They would say "XYZ," which was the code for "eXamine Your Zipper." His younger sister, however, had a different take on this. She would simply declare, "Zam up your zipper!"

Many company initialisms are so popular we don't even stop to think of what they represent. How about KFC, AT&T, IBM, or UPS. What about the area of computers and communications? ROM, RAM, MCI, PC, IT, ASCII, VCR,

DVD and all the www.coms? Let's don't even go there. And just think, we haven't even gone to the area of politics, medical technology or accounting. How about a CD. Money or music?

Then, of course, the postal abbreviations enter the game. The abbreviations aren't too bad when you are in Ohio (OH) or Texas (TX). But what about the M states. There are ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, and MT. Go through all those without having to pause a minute to think. Another area to consider is what to call abbreviations that contain single letters, but can otherwise be pronounced as a word, such as JPEG (jay-peg), MS-DOS (em-ess-doss), or OPEC (oh-pec). These abbreviations are sometimes referred to as acronym-initialism hybrids. Ye gads! Is there no end.

Well, yes, and it's here. Last but not least, if anyone wants to RSVP, I'm at gpatdjoe@aol.com.

Article Courtesy of
Pat Gilbert, PLS



"Thanks to a good friend and the wonderful on-line searches available today we came up with that word, "Initialism."

Many dictionaries, speakers and writers refer to all abbreviations formed from initial letters as acronyms.

However, some still differentiate between acronyms and initialisms."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PROJECT OPEN HAND / ATLANTA ... MORE THAN JUST A MEAL

Please email me if you would like to volunteer! And thank you!

DRESS/HEALTH CODE REGULATIONS: Stricter food handling policies related to health code regulations for food handling now require the following:

*Head covering with all hair tucked underneath. Hairnets (which we provide) will be required if head covering is not adequate

*All tops must at least have short sleeves. Nothing sleeveless.

*Tennis shoes, sneakers, or any type of shoes fully covering the foot. No sandals or open toed shoes.

*Long pants or long shorts.

*No colds. If someone has a cold, sore throat, flu or other ailment, they should refrain from coming in. The reduced immune system of many of our clients cannot withstand further potential health problems.

Additional information and directions to their location can be found at www.projectopenhand.org under the "Volunteer Services/Preparing for your volunteer experience" tab. When the group arrives they will give first-time volunteers a brief orientation prior to volunteering.

NALS of Atlanta has a commitment with Project Open Hands Atlanta packing and delivering food to the medically disabled citizens of Atlanta.

We NEED up to 15 VOLUNTEERS to either work in the kitchen or drivers for delivering food.

Project Open Hands Atlanta's primary program provides two freshly cooked, nutritious meals and one snack daily to clients who are no longer able to prepare meals for themselves as a result of complications associated with their illnesses or disabilities.

Date: Saturday, March 4

Time: 9:30am-12:30pm

What: Food Packing Shift with a group of up to 15 people

Experience: None Needed

Location: Project Open Hand/Atlanta

**176 Ottley Drive NE
Atlanta, GA 30324
404-419-3320**

www.projectopenhand.org

“Project Open Hands Atlanta's primary program provides two freshly cooked, nutritious meals and one snack daily to clients who are no longer able to prepare meals for themselves as a result of complications associated with their illnesses or disabilities.”

NALS of Atlanta. . . the association for legal professionals

CLE AFTER HOURS

Tuesday, February 21, 2006
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC
1201 West Peachtree Street, Suite 3500
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
6 p.m.

*Please RSVP by Friday, February 17, 2006 to
kyn@mmmlaw.com or bispham@dekalb-law.com

Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC is sponsoring the evening meal. The menu for the evening is pizza, wings and salad. We need an accurate headcount to ensure we order enough pizza and to validate parking. Please submit your RSVP.

Agenda

Mix and Mingle - Let's get acquainted
Welcome - Sadie M. Bispham, PP, PLS, President
Inspiration - Pat Gilbert, PLS
Dinner - Pizza, wings and salad
Spotlight Vendor Presentation - Mr. Jeff Ingram
(Brown Court Reporting)
Introduction of Guest Speaker
Guest Speaker Presentation - Kirk W. Watkins, Esquire
Topic: Trial Presentation
Pause for Cause (short break)
Call for Nominations - Nancy Mikacevich, PLS,
Nomination Chairperson
Initiation of New Members - Kim Noble, PP, PLS, Vice President
Ways & Means - Pat Gilbert, PLS
Drawing for Door Prizes
Adjournment - That's all folks

SPRING MEMBERSHIP QUIZ

1. You can find her practicing ballet on Mondays?
2. She and husband celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Feb 14, 2006.
3. This husband and wife team manages www.nalsofatlanta.org , who are they?
4. She teaches the dance form known as “Chicago Step,” who is she?
5. She teaches English as a Second Language to internationals at her church each Wednesday night. Who is she?
6. Weather permitting you can find her on the golf course, who is she?
7. This retired member is a mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, who is she?
8. She and husband left the “Windy City” to make Atlanta their home, who is she?
9. NALS 35th President, who is she?
10. This member is the Publication chair and avid hockey player, who is he?
11. When not working, this member can be found serving the community in such projects as “Open Hands Atlanta,” who is she?
12. She was introduced to NALS in Long Beach, California and received notice that she had passed the PLS exam via telegram, who is she?
13. This former Member of the Year and Award of Excellence winner keeps the treasury books in order, who is she?
14. This newly wed enjoyed her honeymoon in Buffalo, New York and described a ride in a helicopter over Niagara Falls in an article in the Scriptum, who is she?

How did you do?

Scores:

Identified 1-5: Not bad, but there is room for improvement. Participation on membership committee may help.

Identified 6-10: You are networking. Next membership chairs.

Identified 11 -14: Old School. There is no getting one over on you.

Answers:
1. Sally Stenger, PP, PLS
2. Lovette Bennett
3. Sam and Michele Boles
4. Anita Aaron
5. Terry Anita Cohea
6. Charley Denham, PP, PLS
7. Pat Gilbert, PLS
8. Lynne Gehrke
9. Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS
10. Ronald “Ron” Rymut
11. Kim Noble, PP, PLS
12. Nancy Mikacevich, PLS
13. Kathy Saint, PP, PLS
14. Merita Ellington

*On behalf of the Executive Committee and all
of the Members of NALS of Atlanta I'd
like to Give a Warm Welcome to
NALS of Atlanta's newest members:*

Angela V. Greene;
employed at Gaslowitz Frankel, LLC

Suzan D. Miller,
employed at Burr & Forman, LLP

Ricki J. Moss
employed at Baker Donelson Bearman, Caldwell
& Berkowitz, PC

*We are all Looking forward to making your
acquaintance at this months
CLE After Hours,
Sadie Bispham
President NALS of Atlanta*

SUNSHINE REPORT

Rays of Sunshine showered upon: Monica Murack -- Sympathy
Judie Haynes and son Michael – Get Well
(President, Cobb Co. Legal Secretary Association)



February Birthdays:
Haney, Barbara (Barb) J. February 1
Gunzenhauser, Lynn February 6
Tipson, Lori February 9
Bancroft, Mary Alice February 16
Tucker, Donna February 17
Denman, Mary Jo, PP, PLS February 19
Moon, Carol L. February 22



LOVE IS IN THE AIR

***Congratulations to Fred & Lovette Bennett celebrating
"40" years of marriage on February 14, 2006.***



**NALS OF ATLANTA
THE ASSOCIATION
FOR LEGAL
PROFESSIONALS**

**VIA INTERNET
EMAIL ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

**MARCH 21, 2006
CLE AFTER HOURS**

**WILL BE HELD AT HASIGUCHI JR.
(JAPANESE RESTAURANT)
3400 WOODALE DRIVE
SUITE C-520
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30326
404-841-9229**

NEXT MONTHS GUEST SPEAKER

SPEAKER: DEBBIE HAMPTON, ESQ.

**TOPIC: SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION**