

THE SCRIPTUM

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Special points of interest:

- CSI—The Scene Speaks Sgt. Scottie R. Frier regarding “Blood Spatter Analysis”
- Volunteers Needed: Court Appointed Special Advocate (C.A.S.A)
- Minutes NALS of Atlanta “CLE After Hours” 44th Anniversary Celebration July 19th at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Sunshine Committee’s Report for July and August

FROM THE PRESIDENT

“Time for some R & R”

By: Sadie M. Bispham, PP, PLS

The July 44th anniversary of NALS of Atlanta was a wonderful success, thanks to your support and involvement. The anniversary celebration provided an opportunity to reflect back on our beginnings and to look forward to our future.

We were kept fairly busy during the month of July. It is now time for a little relaxation and recuperation (R&R). It’s time to pull out the lawn chairs, fire up the grills, take a dip in the pool, and/or kick back and read the e-Scriptum. I could not resist that.

NALS of Atlanta is taking a small break from meetings in August. On Saturday, August 20, 2005, is the “Pool Party.” Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS and husband, Walter have gra-



ciously agreed to open their home and pool to us. Bring your favorite dish, a swimsuit, and an attitude to have fun and enjoy yourself. After we rest up in August, it will be time to continue on our pursuit of higher obtainment, explore ways to make NALS of Atlanta more visible in the community, and increase our treasury

(Continued on page 7)

“What’s behind the (Ethics) Screen Door

Next months “CLE After Hours” guest speaker is George E. Hibbs who will speak about “What’s behind the (Ethics) Screen Door”. Mr. Hibbs is a partner in the firm’s Environmental Group. His primary practice area involves regulatory, permitting, remediation, insurance and other environmental issues typically associated with business and commer-

cial real estate transactions and financing on behalf of developers, owners and lenders throughout the United States. In addition, Mr. Hibbs serves as the firm’s advisor on legal ethics and professional responsibility and represents individual attorneys and law firms in resolving ethical disputes. Mr. Hibbs speaks fre-

(Continued on page 5)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September 2005

- **Date:** September 1st - @ Law Magazine mailed NALS Membership
- **Date:** September 8th - Special Planning Meeting re: November Education Conference
- **Date:** September 13th - Executive Committee Meeting Business/Planning
- **Date:** September 20th - "CLE After Hours" Guest Speaker George E. Hibbs, Esq., Morris, Manning & Martin "What's Behind the (Ethics) Screen Door?"
- **Date:** September 24th - National ALS/PLS/PP Exams

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-------------------------|-----|---|-----|---------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 @ Law Publication Mailed to Members | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Planning Meeting Nov. Conference | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 EC Meeting | 14 | 15 September Scriptum Published online | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 "CLE After Hours" | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 National ALS/PLS/PP Exams |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

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.



Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, on the Capital steps with President George Bush.

CSI – THE SCENE SPEAKS: SGT. SCOTTIE R. FRIER REGARDING; BLOOD SPATTER ANALYSIS

During the Region 4 Conference held in Charleston, SC this past month July, members of NALS were treated to what one might imagine would be a very grim subject—“Blood Spatter Analysis.” Sgt. Scottie Frier, who first introduced his wife and whose first PowerPoint slide showed his 18-month old daughter, to “aaaahhs” from the audience, gave the seminar. We then fastened our seatbelts for a crash course in crime scene investigation with emphasis on patterns of blood resulting from trauma to a victim.

Among the many interesting things we learned were the following facts:

- ❑ Blood spatter can confirm or dispute what a witness or suspect tells police;
- ❑ You can interpret bloodstain evidence using the laws of physics and math, and the principles of fluids in motion and these laws do not vary;
- ❑ Blood exposed to the external environment as a result of trauma will behave in a consistent and predictable manner, and
- ❑ There are various types of blood spatter, and each one has a different meaning and tells a story of what happened and what caused it.

Sgt. Frier had several props he shared with the members, including jeans from a crime scene that proved suicide over the theory that the victim had been murdered by her boyfriend. Sgt. Frier stated that while it is a prime directive to put

away the guilty, what bothers him most is the idea that an innocent person could be convicted of something he or she did not do, unless the crime scene is worked efficiently. Another very effective prop was a corner devoted to a replica of actual stain patterns from a crime scene. Members were asked to help determine what weapon had been used (a wrench), how many times the victim had been struck (five times), the position the victim had been in when killed (prostrate on the floor), what else had happened to the body

Members were also invited to participate in demonstrations (thankfully, only play-acting!) and our own Monica Murack played a jealous wife who insisted her husband (Sgt. Frier) kill his lover, played by Susan Turner, PLS, outside the doorway of her house. We learned that it would probably be best not to become entangled in such a dreadful situation, so we wouldn’t have to explain to police how the void of the handprint got on the door, or blood stains got on the jealous wife’s slacks!

Lovette Bennett, PP, PLS
Former President of NALS of Atlanta



“Sgt. Frier had several props he shared with the members, including jeans from a crime scene that proved suicide over the theory that the victim had been murdered by her boyfriend.”

MINUTES OF NALS OF ATLANTA: "CLE AFTER HOURS" AND 44TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION JULY 19TH, 2005

• Welcome

The July 44th Anniversary Celebration was held at Mary Mac's Tea Room, 224 W. Ponce de Leon, Atlanta, GA and was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Present 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; Nancy Mikacevich, PLS; Ronald Rymut; Pat Gilbert, PLS; Becky Ragusa; Susan Weaver, PLS; Sheryl Harris-Bogans, PP, PLS; Sally Stenger, PP, PLS; Tasha Jones; Sheri Knox; Donna Fuller; Delphia Brown; Aleta J. Renney; Arlene Sheete; Mary Alice Bancroft; Janine Lattimore; Debra Staples, PP PLS; Teri Lovvorn; Anita Aaron; Cynthia Jordan; Harold Phipps of the Norcross Group; Jeff Ingram of Brown Court Reporting; Marlisa Spencer and Anita Wages, PLS. President Bispham said she was happy to see so many attending tonight to celebrate NALS of Atlanta's 44th Anniversary Celebration.

• Inspiration

Debra Staples, PP, gave the Inspiration PLS who read a poem written by Mother Teresa regarding giving your best no matter what the obstacles.

• Speaker Presentation

Lynne Gehrke was proud to introduce her supervisor, Mr. John T. Tyler, Senior State Operations Counsel of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., who spoke on his pro bono work with Truancy Intervention Project: Kids in Need of Dreams.

• Initiation of New Members

Kim Noble, PP, PLS initiated the following new members from the law firm of Morris Manning & Martin:

Janine Lattimore, Tasha Jones, Mary Alice Bancroft, Amy Sudduth, Donna Fuller and Teri Lovvorn. Our sincere congratulations and we know you all will be an asset to the NALS – Atlanta Chapter!

New Members Sworn in



• Future Raffle Activity

Kim Noble, PP, PLS announced a raffle to raise money for the Chapter. The tickets will be \$2 each and will be available in September. The raffle drawing will be held at the November meeting. There was a discussion regarding prizes and the membership was asked to see if their firms would consider donating event tickets or other valuable items.

• Upcoming August Activity

President Bispham indicated that there would be no regular monthly meeting in August, and that Mary Jo Denman, President of NALS has invited the membership to her home Saturday, August 20 for a pool party, cookout, networking and socializing. Spouses and significant others are included. There will be more details on this event through e-mails to the membership.

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“Kim Noble, PP, PLS initiated the following new members from the law firm of Morris Manning & Martin: Janine Lattimore, Tasha Jones, Mary Alice Bancroft, Amy Sudduth, Donna Fuller and Teri Lovvorn.”

“What’s behind the (Ethics) Screen Door”

(Continued from page 1)

quently on environmental and professional responsibility topics. From 1982 until entering private practice in 1991, Mr. Hibbs served as an assistant general counsel, legislative counsel and lobbyist for the State Bar of Georgia. He also formerly served in the U.S. Army JAG at Ft. Bragg (1979-

82) and is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Law (J.D. 1978) and Miami University (A.B. 1975). Mr. Hibbs is a member of the State Bar of Georgia Environmental Law Section and the Environmental and Toxic Section of the Atlanta Bar Association.



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SUNSHINE COMMITTEE'S REPORT: NALS MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS - JULY AND AUGUST

On behalf of NALS of Atlanta wishing everyone listed below a Belated or Happy Birthday!

Shirley Wilson - July 15
 Lovette P. Bennett – July 20
 Pat Gilbert – July 23
 Shirley Rogers – July 26
 Lynne Gehrke – July 31
 Michel Boles – August 6

Charlene Denham – August 20
 Sheri McCurdy-Knox – August 21
 Susan Weaver – August 24
 Sue Dyer – August 26
 Kathy Saint – August 30
 Becky Ragusa – August 31

If you know of anyone who is not on the list but should be, please let us know. Everyone should feel special on their birthday!

If you know anyone who might need a little “Sunshine” in their life for other things that may have come their way, please drop us a note or give us a call.

Anita Aaron and Susan Weaver,
Your Sunshine Committee

Note from the editor: In July's issue of the Scriptum I neglected to post the birthdays of NALS members for the month of July. I apologize to all the NALS members, especially those who had a birthday in July and to the Sunshine Committee who works so hard to see that everyone's birthday is recognized.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Time For Some R & R

(Continued from page 1)

through ways and means activities.

Our September social/CLE, which will be referred to from hereafter as "CLE after Hours" is scheduled for September 20, 2005. Our speaker will be Attorney George E. Hibbs, Esq., Morris Manning & Martin. Mr. Hibbs will speak on the topic, "What's Behind the (Ethics) Screen Door? The September - CLE after Hours will be held at Mary Mac's Tea Room. Also, during September and October, we will be making preparation to conduct our fall educational conference to be held in November.



Your active involvement is needed with the preparation for the conference. We will need a location, identify topics, obtain speakers, and get the word out about the conference. This is no small task, but one that can easily be accomplished with assistance from the membership. Please let me know which area(s) you would be interested in helping out.

Many thanks for your interest and involvement in the contest to come up with a name for what was formerly referred to as

"General Membership Meeting." Over 20 entries were submitted to the judge for a decision. Our judge, Cathy Hankins, PP, PLS, had a challenge before her, but she rose to the occasion. After narrowing the submissions down to four, the winning entry was identified, "CLE after Hours." Congratulations to Mary Jo Denman, PP, PLS for submitting the winning entry. Mary Jo declined receiving the prize for winning the contest, dinner for one at Mary Mac's Tea Room. A drawing will be held at the pool party on August 20 to award the contest prize. The name of each person that submitted an entry for the contest will be placed in the drawing. The name that is drawn will be awarded the prize.

This month the Scriptum will be available online. Making the Scriptum available online became a reality due to the efforts of our web masters Miche and Sam Boles, our Scriptum Editor, Ron Rymut, and the Technology Committee, chaired by Kathy Saint, PP, PLS. To Miche, Sam, Ron and Kathy, thank you so very much for your time, commitment and efforts to the "e-Scriptum."

Enjoy the summer. "Live and let live."

By: Sadie M. Bispham, PP, PLS

President of NALS of Atlanta

"CLE after Hours" is scheduled for September 20, 2005. Our speaker will be Attorney George E. Hibbs, Esq., Morris Manning & Martin. Mr. Hibbs will speak on the topic, "What's Behind the (Ethics) Screen Door?"

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MINUTES OF NALS OF ATLANTA: "CLE AFTER HOURS" AND 44TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION JULY 19TH, 2005

(Continued from page 4)

- **Cake Cutting Event**

A large (and delicious!) cake was cut in honor of the 44th Anniversary Celebration of NALS of Atlanta. Nancy Mikacevich as the member with the longest membership with NALS and Tasha Jones, our newest member, ceremoniously cut the first piece of cake.

- **Announcements**

NALS of Atlanta will be selling the Skills Builder at the Swap Meet - Region 4 Education Conference, July 29-31, 2005.

There was a drawing for the door prizes, which included a basket of soft drinks and snacks offered by Georgia Break Room.

There being no additional items left on the Agenda, the Celebration was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by President Bispham.

Provided by
Lynne L. Gehrke, Secretary

Volunteers Needed; The Court Appointed Special Advocate (C.A.S.A.)

As an officer of NALS of Atlanta, I was involved in the process of deciding which worthy cause should receive our annual donation to the legal community's efforts in 2002. One of our members suggested making the donation to C.A.S.A. I was curious about C.A.S.A.'s purpose and work, so our chapter president that year, Sally Stenger, PLS, and I attended the reception in Fulton County honoring those volunteers who had served as Court Appointed Special Advocates. We met the Fulton County Juvenile Court judges, and we heard the stories of the children in Fulton County who had received the benefit of having a C.A.S.A. appointed in their cases. I was deeply moved by what I saw and heard. Following that event, I contacted Georgia C.A.S.A. via its website, www.gacasa.org and was put in touch with the organization in my county of Clayton. Thereafter, I took classes in the evening for eight weeks, and was sworn in as a C.A.S.A. for Clayton County in May of 2002 by Judge Steven Teske.

Since May of 2002, I have overseen five cases for Clayton County involving children ranging in age from birth to five years. Of those five cases, three children have subsequently been adopted by their foster families, one is currently on the adoption track, and the fifth child may soon be able to return to her natural family.

Two things have impressed me from the very beginning of my experience as a C.A.S.A. One is how dedicated the C.A.S.A. staff and vol-

unteers are, and secondly, the respect which the Court has for the representation the C.A.S.A. gives via reports and volunteer work. The fact that the Court takes my recommendations very seriously causes me to be extremely careful that my reports reflect the facts of the situations in which I am involved, and that I remain completely dedicated to, and make objective assessments of, the best interests of the children.

Emily Dickinson is quoted as having said:

*If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain.
If I can ease one life the aching,
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain.*

The C.A.S.A. does all of these things—helps stop the breaking of the heart of an abused or neglected child; eases the aches of life for a child; cools the pain; helps that child return to the safety of the nest of home, or find a loving alternate home. The C.A.S.A. has not lived in vain, and in fact, finds the life of serving Georgia's children very fulfilling!

Lovette Bennett
Immediate Past President, NALS of
Atlanta
Court Appointed Special Advocate
since 2002

"Since May of 2002, I have overseen five cases for Clayton County involving children ranging in age from birth to five years."

"C.A.S.A. – helps stop the breaking of the heart of an abused or neglected child; eases the aches of life for a child; cools the pain; helps that child return to the safety of the nest of home,"

NALS OF ATLANTA
2005-2006
August 2005 - May 2006
Activities at a Glance
(As of August 24, 2005)

September 2005

- 01 - @ Law publication mailed to NALS membership
- 08 - Special Planning Meeting - for November Education Conference
- 09 - Scriptum published
- 13 - Executive Committee Business/Planning Meeting
- 20 - CLE After Hours
Guest speaker: George E. Hibbs, Esq., Morris, Manning & Martin
Topic: "What's Behind the (Ethics) Screen Door?"
- 24 - National ALS/PLS/PP exams

October 2005

- 07 - Scriptum published
- 11 - Executive Committee Business/Planning Meeting
- 18 - CLE After Hours
Guest speaker: Judge Sharon Hill (Fulton County Juvenile Court)
Topic: Juvenile Justice, "Where Are the Parents?"
- * Special Events:
October is Court Observance month.
Member recruitment initiative introduced
Community Charitable event participation - "Open Hands Atlanta"
- 20-21 Paralegal SuperConference - Atlanta Hyatt Regency - NALS of Atlanta will have a vendor booth
- 20-23 - NALS 54th Annual Education Conference & National Forum, Niagara Falls, NY

November 2005

- 04 - Scriptum published
- 08 - Executive Committee Business/Planning Meeting
- 15 - CLE After Hours
Guest speakers: Brad H. Wilson, Chief of Staff, The Norcross Group
Harold W. Phipps, J.D. - VP Business Development, The Norcross Group
Topic: Computer Forensics
- 19 - NALS of Atlanta Fall Education Conference - Sutherland Asbill & Brennan

December 2005

- We are taking a holiday break.
- 13 - Holiday Social (details TBA)

| 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 | 770-992-3754 |
| Parliamentarian | Anita Wages, PLS ajw@mmmlaw.com | 404-504-5406 |
| Advertising | Anita Wages, PLS Ronald Rymut (co-chair) | 404-504-5406 770-992-3754 |
| Auditor | Susan Weaver, PLS Sweaver@wcsr.com | 404-888-7385 |
| Award of Excellence | Melita J. Ellington Mellington@mmmlaw.com | 770-401-9149 |
| 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 | 706-654-9141 |
| 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 | 706-654-9141 |
| Webmaster | Sam & Miche Boles, PP, PLS mboles@mmmlaw.com | 404-504-5432 |



NALS OF
ATLANTA
THE ASSOCIATION
FOR LEGAL
PROFESSIONALS

VIA INTERNET
EMAIL ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Mary Mac's Restaurant
Serving Classic Southern
Food Since 1945

NALS of Atlanta
"CLE After Hours"

Tuesday:
September 20, 2005
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Members and Guest Invited
224 Ponce de Leon Ave. N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

R.S.V.P. No later than
September 10th, 2005

www.marymacs.com
404-876-1800

The Myrtle Menu

Please choose one:

Chicken and Dumplings
Fried Chicken Breast
Fried Chicken Legs (3)
Country Fried Steak
Meatloaf with Tomato Sauce
Barbequed Pork with Brunswick Stew
Roast Pork with Cornbread Dressing and Gravy
Baked Turkey with Cornbread Dressing and Gravy
Vegetable Plate (please choose four from list below)

Please choose two:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cream Corn* | Macaroni and Cheese* |
| Broccoli Soufflé* | Turnip Greens |
| Fried Okra* | Fried Green Tomatoes* |
| Green Beans | Spiced Apples* |
| Sweet Potato Soufflé* | Whipped Potatoes* |
| Cheese and Vegetable Soufflé* | |

* Indicates one of our vegetarian friendly items.

Please choose one:

Banana Pudding
Georgia Peach Cobbler
Bread Pudding with Wine Sauce

Assorted Breads
Coffee, Tea, Punch



\$15.88 per person (tax and tip included). This menu will be
placed at your guests seat and they will make their choices when
they arrive.