

THE AMICUS

North Carolina Paralegal Association, Inc.

November, 2001

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Theresa (Terry) Irvin, CLA
(704) 388-7030 (w)
theresa.irvin@bankofamerica.com

Highlights of the recent NCPA Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting, held in Boone on September 21, 2001, are noted throughout this issue of THE AMICUS.

Teresa Nichols Smith and Kerri M. Hale have been appointed as Annual Seminar



Welcome Fall & Holiday Season!

Co-Chairs for the 2002 Annual Meeting and Seminar to be held March 14–16, 2002, at the Sheraton Grand in New Bern. Teresa will be responsible for the Exhibitors and Sponsors, and Kerri will be responsible for the speakers and agenda. If you have any companies that you work with that will benefit from exhibiting, please call Teresa at (910) 509-9778, or email tns@cshlaw.com. Interim First Vice President, Angela (Angie) S. Elliott, CLA, Teresa and Kerri, are hard at work planning this event. As you know, Angie was co-chair for the 2001 Annual, so 2002 promises to be a successful event. Plan to attend today!

The Mid-Year Seminar and CLA Review Course were well

attended and the reviews came back overwhelmingly positive! Look for the article in the next issue of the NCPA FORUM announcing winners of the door prizes, as well as exhibitors, sponsors and volunteers. Thanks to everyone who made these events possible and well worth attending!

The Long Range Planning Meeting was a huge success and a very fun meeting! Chair Anita Wing lead the group in several resourceful exercises. One of which involved writing a press release for the year 2030 when NCPA celebrates its 50th anniversary! How would your press release read?

You're welcome to join the Executive Committee and

COMING EVENTS:

CLA/CLAS Exam
November 30 – December 1, 2001

Application deadline for March 2002 CLA/CLAS Exam
January 15, 2002

Deadline for submission of Student School Scholarship Essays to Student-School Relations Chair
January 31, 2002

Annual Meeting and Seminar, Sheraton Grand, New Bern
March 14 – 16, 2002

CLA/CLAS Exam
March 22 – 23, 2002

Application deadline for July CLA/CLAS Exam
May 15, 2002

NALA Annual Convention, Savannah, Georgia
July 10 – 14, 2002

NEW POSTING

Mid-Year Seminar & CLA Review Course, Holiday Inn Sunspree, Asheville

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Barbara A. Booker, CLA
(336) 373-1600 ext. 212
bbooker@triad.rr.com

On behalf of the NCPA Board of Directors and Executive Committee, I offer my most sincere sympathy to any of NCPA's members and supporters who may have suffered a personal loss as a result of the September 11th tragedy. Within this issue, you

will see resources available addressing those events.

I regret that I missed the Mid-Year Seminar and CLA Review Course in Boone – trust me, I would rather have been present than at home combating strep throat! I understand the seminar was a

great success!

I hope you have given serious thought as to the role you can play in NCPA's leadership in the coming year. Be prepared to respond to the Nomination & Elections Committee in the months ahead!

Highlights -

Congratulations to Belinda T. Pruitt, CLAS, Second Vice President, and Mary F. Haggerty, CLA, NCPA Coordinator, for their diligent recruitment efforts this year! As of September 21st, NCPA had a record 518 members, up 63 members over last year!

The 2001-2002 Membership Directory has been mailed to the membership. If you have not received your copy, contact Mary F. Haggerty, CLA, at 1-800-479-1905, (704) 535-3363, or info@ncparalegal.org.

Teresa Nichols Smith, Job Bank Chair, reports that she is receiving 2 to 3 inquiries per week and posts job vacancies di-

rectly to the Job Bank Bulletin Board on the NCPA website. Check it out at www.ncparalegal.org!

Parliamentarian Mary Willard, CLAS undertook a thorough review of NCPA's bylaws and standing rules and presented amendments to both. The standing rule amendments were passed at the recent Executive Committee and Board of Directors



meeting in September. Proposed bylaw amendments will be presented at the Annual Meeting in March, 2002. If you wish to see an advance copy, please contact Mary at (704) 597-5737 or mew091254@aol.com.

CONGRATULATIONS to Angela S. Elliott, CLA, who was recently appointed as NCPA's Interim First Vice President!

District I News - Beaufort, Brunswick, Carteret, Dare, Craven, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Tyrrell and Washington

Director, N. Kennail Humphrey-Wilkerson reports that District I currently has 30 members.

There has been some discussion within the district as to forming a study group or local association. Please contact Kennail to share your ideas and suggestions at (252) 638-6666 (w), or email at nkh@hscw.com. She would love to hear from members within her district!

CONGRATULATIONS to Brenda Mareski, CLA, the recipient of the 2001 Meredith R. Pollette CLA/CLAS Scholarship Award! Be sure to read her winning essay in the upcoming issue of the NCPA FORUM. This award is equal to the specialty exam fee. Brenda plans to sit for the Corporate and Business Law specialty exam in March 2002. GOOD LUCK BRENDA!

District II News - Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake and Warren Counties

Director Sarah M. Hutchins, CLA, reports that District II currently has 150 members.

Sarah taught the CLA Review Course this fall at Meredith College. As part of the course, Sarah organized a panel discussion to discuss the CLA exam.

Marisa Campbell, Director of the

Meredith College Paralegal Program, has added a link to the NCPA website on Meredith's web page, so that students can quickly access NCPA information.

Contact Sarah at (919) 474-9137 (w), or shutchins@bankslawfirm.com.



Spread the news of the benefits of being a member of NCPA!

More Highlights -

NCPA has shifted its document storage to Parker Lincoln Info-Management, LLC in Raleigh. This has resulted in a tremendous cost savings. Thanks to Treasurer Brenda Mareski, CLA, for effectuating this transfer. If you have any NCPA documents lurking around your home or office, please contact President Terry Irvin, CLA at (704) 388-7030, or theresa.irvin@bankofamerica.com.

APPS is going full force with meetings scheduled every other month, as well as "regional" meetings in Char-

lotte, Greensboro and Raleigh. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact RTF Chair/APPS Chair Sherri Wall, CLAS, at (919) 875-6786, or sherri.wall@highwoods.com.

NALA President Pat Elliott, CLAS, will be speaking at the CLA Breakfast in March, 2002, at the Annual Meeting and Seminar in New Bern. Plan to attend to learn of the

events occurring nationally in your profession.

Effective July, 2001, the CLA exam daily testing schedule was revised. Be sure to see the schedule that was made available in the Fall 2001 issue of the NCPA FORUM.



NCPA OBJECTIVE - To form a fraternity among paralegals in North Carolina.

District III News - Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Moore, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson and Scotland Counties

Director Trudy Rutherford reports that there are currently 30 members in District III, including a new member in Sampson County, as well as Columbus County! Continue to encourage paralegals and legal assistants in your communities to join NCPA!

Contact Trudy at (910) 485-5171 (w), or emr0128@aol.com.

If you would like to solicit a company for membership as a Patron or Sustaining Member of NCPA, please contact Patron & Sustaining Membership Chair, Patti Clapper, CLA, at (919) 929-0386, or lglduck@aol.com.

District IV News - Alamance, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Guilford, Randolph and Rockingham Counties

Director Barbara A. Booker, CLA, reports that as of September 6th, there were 76 members in District IV. Welcome new members - Mary L. Clausen, CLA, of Greensboro; Chesley June Holt of Graham; Gina Surratt of Greensboro; and Therese M. Burton of Burlington!

Take note that there is a new Paralegal Certificate Program being offered at

Rockingham Community College. For information, contact Anne Lanning, Coordinator Occupation Extension, at (336) 342-4261 ext. 2145, or lanning@rcc.cc.nc.us.

The Greensboro Paralegal Association hosted its Annual Social on June 13th at the White Oak Restaurant. It was a successful and well-attended event!

Check out GPA's web page at www.thedepot.com/groups-gpa!

Contact Barbara at (336) 373-1600 ext. 212, or bbooker@triad.rr.com.



NCPA OBJECTIVE - Ethical and professional attainment.

YAKKITY YAK - NCPA'S DISCUSSION BOARD -

If you want to discuss topics with your peers, post your questions and concerns on the "Discussion Board" found on NCPA's website at www.ncparalegal.org. The Technology Committee is hoping the Discussion Board can be used as the springboard to a listserv for NCPA members and other interested persons. They invite you to use the Discussion Board when you have questions or want to share information with other members. If you are not sure how to use it, look in the Summer issue of the NCPA FORUM – it gives you step-by-step instructions on posting a topic and answer. Please give the Technology Committee feedback on

how you like the Discussion Board.

The Technology Committee, which oversees NCPA's website, invites you to join them! They are always looking for new ideas, and are especially looking for someone experienced with "html" and FrontPage, or its equivalent. If you are interested in public relations, advertising or just want to find out more about NCPA, this may be the committee for you! Contact either Jann Lund at jlund@brookspierce.com; Virginia Burrows, CLAS at vburrows@mindspring.com; or Dennis Embo at embod@raleigh-nc.org.



NCPA OBJECTIVE - Further education among members of the paralegal profession.

District V News - Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Stanly and Union Counties

Director Mary E. Willard, CLAS reports that there are currently 114 members, including 13 new members, in District V!

Contact Mary at (704) 597-5757 (h), or mew091254@aol.com.

The Metrolina Paralegal Association co-sponsored a half-day seminar with the Mecklenburg County Bar Association on November 8th, entitled "Paperless: The Status of Electronic Filing in North Carolina". I hope that you were able to attend!

NCPA is proud to recognize our Sustaining Members:

Chicago Title Insurance Company

Griffin Professional Staffing

Staffing Resources of the Triad

Stewart Title Insurance Co.

District VI News - Alexander, Alleghany, Davie, Forsyth, Iredell, Rowan, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes and Yadkin Counties

Director Martha K. Aldridge reports that there are currently 40 members in District VI.

Congratulations to Martha on her recent new employment with Thomas C. Ruff and Associates in Charlotte!

Contact Martha at (704) 549-9200 (w), or paralegaleye@juno.com.



NCPA OBJECTIVE - Establish good fellowship in legal community.

Ethics & Practice News -

An ethics course will soon be available, if not already, on NALAcampus.com, authored by Therese A. Cannon, Esq. Cannon has been teaching ethics courses for over 20 years and spoke on this topic at a recent NCBA LAD meeting.

The State Bar recently adopted 2000 FEO 10 which does not permit a non-lawyer to answer the calendar call, but instead, allows the non-lawyer to deliver a message to the court regarding the lawyer's where-

abouts. The non-lawyer may not argue or request that the court take a particular action with regard to the matter at hand. This rule can only be used when absolutely necessary and is not a UPL violation. The non-lawyer must wear proper attire and must comply with court rules.

Be sure to review the North Carolina General Assembly House Bill 439, amending the rules for service in civil actions!



NCPA OBJECTIVE – Promote the organization of local associations throughout North Carolina.

District VII News - Buncombe, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Swain and Transylvania Counties

Director Sandra G. Carter reports that there are currently 14 members in District VII.

Take note that the Asheville-Buncombe Technical College has started a paralegal program.

Contact Sandy at (828) 252-6600 (w), or scarter@roberts-stevens.com.



District VIII News - Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Wayne and Wilson Counties

Director Carol Woodall (formerly Carol Carroll) reports that there are currently 26 members in District VIII.

Congratulations Carol on your recent marriage!

The Pitt County Paralegal Association recently been formed! For information, contact Treasurer Tracy L. Malan in Winterville at tmalan@colomboandkitchin.com.

Contact Carol at (252) 243-3136 (w), or cbc@cobra2.com.



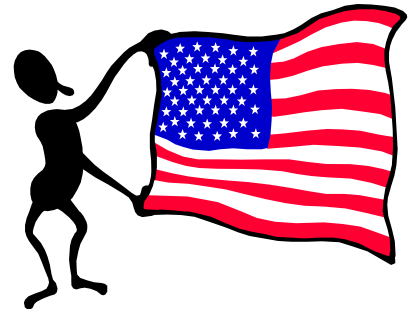
NCPA OBJECTIVE – Support and carry out NCPA goals.

Tragedy Relief Efforts -

Operation Legal Eagle is seeking volunteers to help JAG officers in the state handle legal matters for military personnel and their families, who will be or have been deployed to assist with the campaign against terrorism. If you'd like to volunteer your efforts, check out www.ncbar.org/legal_prof/probono/volunteer_index.asp.

See www.disasterrelief.org for disaster news updates, assistance to victims, volunteer opportunities, and more.

A good site to help children understand and cope with the trauma of the recent tragic events, and for handling difficult situations of all kinds in the future, is www.aol.drspock.com.



*God Bless
The USA!*

Continuing Legal Education News -

Grace Ward, Chair of the NCBA Legal Assistants Division (LAD) recently reported that the NCBA Board of Governors approved a CLE tuition reduction for LAD members. Effective January 1, 2002, NCBA LAD members will receive a 50% reduction in the tuition for NCBA-sponsored CLE events.

Check out NCBA CLE course offerings and registration information at www.ncbar.org/cle.

CONGRATULATIONS to Valerie Chaffin, CLA, REM, runner-up for LEGAL ASSISTANT TODAY'S 2001 Paralegal of the Year Award! Read of her accomplishments in the September/October 2001 issue of LEGAL ASSISTANT TODAY.

District IX News - Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Lincoln, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Watauga and Yancey Counties

Director At-Large Marsha L. Johnson, CLAS reports that there are currently 18 members in District IX.

On September 6th, Sharon Robertson, CLAS spoke to the paralegal students at Western Piedmont.

Contact Marsha at (910) 892-7858 (w), or marshaj@intrstar.net.



**NCPA OBJECTIVE -
Cooperate with Bar
Associations.**

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR THE COMING YEAR?

Where can your talents and skills best be utilized in NCPA?

What are your interests?

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

First Vice-President (*education*)

Second Vice-President (*membership*)

Secretary

Treasurer

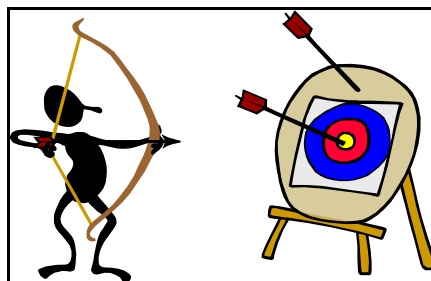
Parliamentarian

NALA Liaison

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District Directors

Bar Liaison



COMMITTEES

Audit (*audit NCPA's books following close of fiscal year*)

Annual Seminar Sub-Committee (*supervise, plan and present Annual Seminar with First Vice President*)

Mid-Year Seminar Sub-Committee (*supervise, plan and present Mid-Year Seminar with First Vice President*)

CLA Review Course Chair (*coordinate, plan and present review course with NALA Liaison*)

Registration Chair (*coordinate and attend to registration for seminar events*)

Convention Coordinator (*negotiate prospective seminar sites*)

Ethics (*research ethical questions*)

Historian (*photographic and written history of activities of NCPA*)

Job Bank (*maintain confidential record of applicants' resumes and potential employer's job descriptions*)

Long Range Planning (*recommend activities to achieve NCPA's long range goals*)

Nominations and Elections (*responsible for call for candidates for office and nominations for directorships*)

Patron & Sustaining (*assist Second Vice President in obtaining Patron and Sustaining Members*)

Regulation Task Force (*paralegal regulation*)

Student/School Relations (*maintain contact with paralegal program coordinators*)

Survey (*annual survey relating to paralegal profession in NC*)

Technology (*NCPA website*)

PUBLIC RELATIONS – NCPA FORUM

Senior Editor

Articles Editor

Association News Editor

Advertising Editor

Public Relations Editor



*Have a Happy
Holiday Season!*

**North Carolina Paralegal
Association, Inc.**

P. O. Box 36264
Charlotte, NC 28236-6264
1-800-479-1905
Info@ncparalegal.org

**We're on the Web!
www.ncparalegal.org**

