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Denton County Paralegal Association

Legal Directory

The Legal Directory will be going to print soon. To make each Legal Directory the most updated resource to have on hand, members must participate and encourage others to do so as well. There are advertising pages still available. Attached is the 2014 Legal Directory Order Form for your convenience. For additional information please contact Michele George at (940) 387-3518 or mgeorge@hbwvlaw.com.

Valentine's Day Grams Update

By Jennifer Stout, Fundraising Committee Chair

This year's Valentine fundraiser was a success! We exceeded our goal, Yippee!!!!!! Valentine Grams sold - over 200

I want to thank our members who volunteered their time to help assemble the Valentine Grams on Monday evening. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! Your help was greatly needed and deeply appreciated. Thank you Melody & Angela for your all day help on Tuesday; it couldn't have been done without you. I especially want to thank Joyce, Bara and Rosa. These ladies spent the majority of the day on Tuesday helping finish the Kabobs, they aren't members, they are great friends!!! Also, a thank you to Gina Gotti for helping with the delivery of the Kaboos. A shout out & big, big, big, thank you to 13 of our members, Randy Stout, Tim Powers, Stephen Wohr, Kelsey, Kelsey & Hickey, and Party City for their candy, other products and money donations for our Valentine Grams. As a result, no budgeted funds were needed or used.

The breakdown of the funds:

\$350.00 cash donations received from 4 law firms - Randy Stout, Stephen Wohr, Timothy Powers & Kelsey, Kelsey & Hickey; \$161.00 candy donations from Party City; \$100.00 candy donations from DCPA members. Expenses - approximately \$550.00. Total Revenue \$1,070.00.

Meeting Notice

The Denton County Paralegal Association's next Luncheon will be on Thursday, **February 27, 2014** at noon at Oakmont Country Club, 1901 Oakmont Drive, Corinth, Texas.

The all-inclusive cost of lunch is \$14.00 payable when you sign in. We cannot accept debit or credit cards, or make change, so please bring **exact** amount of cash or a check made payable to DCPA.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and can be made via e-mail to kim.guertler@dentoncounty.com. **The Deadline for making your reservation is 5:00 P.M. on Friday, February 21, 2014.**

Notice: We must notify Oakmont of the number attending prior to the meeting for preparation of adequate food and seating arrangements. Those that have RSVP'd will get served and seated first. We cannot guarantee that you will have seating or food if you do not RSVP. Please note we are also required to bill those individuals who make reservations and do not attend.

Directions to Oakmont

Oakmont Country Club is located in Corinth off I-35 East between Lewisville and Denton.

- Exit 461 – Shady Grove Road/Post Oak Drive
- Turn west onto Post Oak Drive
- Turn right (west) onto Robinson Road at stop sign
- Turn left (south) onto Oakmont Drive – you will see an Oakmont sign in the median
- Turn right into Oakmont Country Club (second right)

2014 Officers

Kim Guertler, President
Kim.guertler@dentoncounty.com

Cheryl Cooper, President-Elect
mlj@steelelawfirm.com

Melody Brackeen, Secretary/Parliamentarian
mbrackeen@dentontexaslawyers.com

Lisa Pittman, Treasurer
lpittman@hbwvlaw.com

Sunnie Palmer, Historian
sunnie@zellmerlaw.com

2014 Committee Chairs

CLE, Michelle Beecher
mbeecher@dentonlaw.com

Fundraising, Jennifer Stout
jennifer.stout@dentoncounty.com

Legal Directory, Michele George
mgeorge@hbwvlaw.com

Membership, Gina Elliot
gottigina@yahoo.com

Newsletter, Lisa Pittman
lpittman@hbwvlaw.com

Social, Priscilla Brooks
priscilla.brooks@dentoncounty.com

TAPA, Jennifer Stout
jennifer.stout@dentoncounty.com

Ad Hoc Scholarship,
Wanda Woodworth
wandawoodworth@dentoncounty.com

AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY MEETING

Date: February 27, 2014
Place: Oakmont Country Club
1901 Oakmont Drive
Corinth, Texas 76210
Time: Noon

1. **Welcome members and guests**
2. **Old Business**
 - a. Approve December, 2013, and January, 2014, Treasurer's Reports
 - b. Approve January, 2014, meeting minutes
3. **New Business**
 - a. Fundraising Committee chair, Jennifer Stout, to give report on Valentine's fundraiser
 - b. Floor open for other committee chairs to give updates on their committees
 - c. Advise members they're still encouraged to sign up for committees
 - d. Update on DCPA's new website
 - e. Announcement about new DCPA member t-shirts
4. **Speaker:** Carol Wolfram – speaker on the “Pitfalls of Preparing Chapter 7 Schedules.”
(Thank you prize given to speaker, with Certificate of Appreciation)
5. **Door Prize and Announcements**
6. **Adjournment**

CLE GUEST SPEAKER



Our speaker will be Carol Wolfram and she will be speaking on the “Pitfalls of Preparing Chapter 7 Schedules.” Her discussion will also include how Chapter 7 bankruptcy effects divorce cases.

President's Message

By: Kim Guertler

Dear Valued DCPA members,

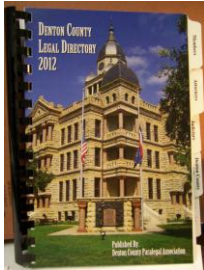
2014 is off to a great start! Our CLE committee provided us with some great information in January by lining up Sam Burke to inform us of the new Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. At our luncheon next week, we will hear from Carol Wolfram who will speak to us on the "Pitfalls of Chapter 7 Scheduling" and will also discuss how Chapter 7 effects divorce cases. Lots of great information so be sure and attend our luncheon!

In addition, our first fundraiser was a great success! Thank you to our Fundraising Committee and to those of you who volunteered by providing candy or spending time putting the treats together or by helping with the deliveries. When we all work together, we can accomplish many things!

Since February is American Heart Month, I wanted to take a moment to encourage each of you to take care of your hearts. We are all busy and work in a stressful profession, and it is important to keep up with our health matters. According to the American Heart Association, to lower our risk of heart disease we need to: 1) lose weight; 2) quit smoking and stay away from secondhand smoke; 3) control cholesterol and blood pressure; 4) drink alcohol only in moderation; and 5) eat healthy foods and exercise. I know we have heard these things many times, but if we all take small steps in taking care of our hearts, we will be amazed at the benefits we receive!

Thank you for being members of our DCPA. It is member renewal time so be sure and visit our website to either download your application or renew online. Also encourage any friends or associates who are paralegals to join us! I hope to see you all at the luncheon next Thursday, February 27. Remember when you attend our functions, you increase your chances to win a beautiful Pandora bracelet! See you next week!



**Legal Directory**

The 2012 Legal Directory is available for purchase. This latest directory has been updated to include some of the newest attorneys in Denton County. The cost of the directory is \$25.00 each. If you have an old directory, turn it in for a \$2.00 rebate on the purchase price. This is a great resource! Get yours today! For more information contact Michele George or Lisa Pittman at (940) 387-3518 or at mgeorge@hbwvlaw.com or lpittman@hbwvlaw.com.

Birthdays

Our members with March birthdays are:

Lisa Pittman (3/14)
Bruce Stewart (3/22)
Lisa Bowles (3/31)

Hope each of you will have a **Happy Birthday!**

Membership News

Please encourage those paralegals and others in the legal field, whom are not currently members, to join. If you know of anyone who would like to join, please contact Gina Gotti at gottigina@yahoo.com.

Benefits of Membership In The Denton County Paralegal Association Include:

- ❖ Receipt of the monthly issue of *The Verdict*
- ❖ *Free Accredited CLE at monthly meetings*
- ❖ *Continuing Legal Education seminars on various topics*
- ❖ *Job Bank*
- ❖ *Motivation*
- ❖ *Networking with other paralegals in Denton County*
- ❖ Professional growth through participation
- ❖ Communication and promotion of professional conduct and responsibility
- ❖ Continued individual and professional growth as paralegals

Support Our Sustaining Members

Please help support our Sustaining Members by calling them when you have a project that needs outside support. Remember it is through their continued support and generosity that DCPA is able to provide social events at a low cost.

Stewart Process Service, Inc.

Bruce G. Stewart

110 Sheraton Place
Denton, Texas 76209
Phone: 940-367-4643
Fax: 940-484-0999
Email – stewartprocess@verizon.net

The Reporting Professionals

Cheryl K. Perlich

2925 Country Club Road, Suite 104
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Email – reportingpros@sbcglobal.net

Stoffels & Associates, Inc.

Janel M. Stoffels

207 W. Hickory St., Ste. 304
Denton, Texas 76201
Phone: 940-565-9797
Fax: 940-565-9197
Email – jmstoffels@aol.com



Minutes

1. President, Kim Guertler, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Kim welcomed new member Heather Walker, and presented her with welcome gift. Welcomed any guests that were in attendance at luncheon. The meeting was held at Oakmont Country Club.
2. Kim made a motion to approve the December minutes and it was discussed that there were no December minutes, November was the last minutes presented.
3. Kim introduced the standing EC Committee as well as the Committee Chairs. Advised that the website was still under construction, but up and running if everyone would take the time to stop in and look at it.
4. Jennifer Stout – Chair of Fundraising reminded everyone of the valentine fundraiser and that the flyer should have read delivery is restricted to Denton. She also asked that everyone donate a bag of candy (chocolate) and drop them off at her office. Asked for volunteers to help assemble kabobs on 2/10, 2/11 and 2/12 at her offices.
5. Gina Gotti – Advised that Lone Star Mentor Program had contacted her to see if the DCPA would be interested in the Frisco ISD mentoring program. This could lead to potential new members in the association.
6. Kim Guertler brought to membership that she hoped we could be more visible in the community this year. Through our website there is a portal you can post comments, ideas, etc. for any events that you might like the DCPA to be involved in.
7. Michelle Beecher – CLE Chair – Advised that Sam Burke, speaker for luncheon was running late. She also advised that Carol Wolfram was next month's speaker and would be speaking on Bankruptcy Chapter 7. Advised that the ½ CLE meeting this year would be on trial preparation and Judge Bailey would be present to answer any and all questions. All speakers would be board certified.
8. Michelle introduced Sam Burke who spoke on the new rules and how they affected our day to day practices. Power point presentation would not work so he advised that we could email Michelle Beecher and she would in turn email the power point to us.
9. Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m. by Kim Guertler.

**Denton County
Paralegals Association**

PO Box 2641
Denton, TX 76206

Visit us on Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/
Denton-County-Paralegal-
Association](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Denton-County-Paralegal-Association)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.dentonparalegals.org