

**Special Interest  
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- Valentine's Day Grams
- SBOT-PD Brown Bag  
CLE Seminar
- Membership Drive  
Contest
- Trivia Night Pictures

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*Denton County Paralegal Association*

## 2017 Valentine's Day Grams

By Daphina Park, Fundraising Committee Chair

### Now Available!

Our Annual Fundraiser is underway and Valentine's Day Grams are available for order at only \$5.00 each! "S'mores in a jar" comes in a cute 8 oz. Mason jar with a tasty mix of graham cracker gold fish, mini marshmallows, and Valentine's M&Ms. You can customize your message for each special person on your list. These fun Valentines are a great gift idea for friends, co-workers, family members, employers, and employees. See the attached form and place your order today!

**Deadline for order submission is Friday, February 10, 2017.**

**Valentine Grams Production Line** - We will get together to prepare the mix for the Valentine's Grams jars and add finishing touches at the office of Fundraising Chair, Daphina Park, on Friday evening, February 10, 2017. Please let Daphina know if you and any guests plan to help on the production line by emailing her at [daphina.park@dentoncounty.com](mailto:daphina.park@dentoncounty.com). Plan to arrive at the DA's annex located at 1500 E. McKinney Street at 5:30 p.m. so we can make quick work of this task! Valentine M&M's donations can be dropped off at the same location by 5:00 p.m. that day.

## Meeting Notice

The Denton County Paralegal Association's next Luncheon will be on Thursday, **February 16, 2017** at noon at Oakmont Country Club, 1200 Clubhouse 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 the **exact** amount of cash or a check made payable to DCPA. You can also pay online prior to the meeting at [www.dentonparalegals.org](http://www.dentonparalegals.org).

### 2017 Officers

Pamela Snavelly, President  
psnavelly@hbwvlaw.com

Daphina Park, President-Elect  
Daphina.Park@dentoncounty.com

Martha Gallegos,  
Secretary/Parliamentarian  
Martha.gallegos@dentoncounty.com

Lisa Pittman, Treasurer  
lpittman@hbwvlaw.com

Heather Walker, Historian  
heather.walker@dentoncounty.com

### 2017 Committee Chairs

CLE, Debbie Nyarangi  
Deborah@bowen-law.com

Fundraising, Daphina Park  
daphina.park@dentoncounty.com

Legal Directory, Cheryl Cooper  
ccooper@dentonlaw.com

Membership, Vicki Schmidt  
vicki.dcpa@gmail.com

Newsletter, Lisa Pittman  
lpittman@hbwvlaw.com

Social, open

Scholarship, Jenna Earhart  
jearhart@hbwvlaw.com

## Did you know...

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and can be made via e-mail to Lisa Pittman at [lpittman@hbwvlaw.com](mailto:lpittman@hbwvlaw.com). The deadline to RSVP is February 10, 2017 by 3:00 p.m. for your attendance and whether you will purchase lunch. That will help Oakmont ensure the hot buffet is freshly prepared and ready shortly after you arrive for the meeting.**

**Notice: We must notify Oakmont of the number attending prior to the meeting for preparation of food and adequate seating arrangements. Please note we are also required to bill those individuals who make reservations to purchase lunch 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 Clubhouse Drive (second right)

## **AGENDA FOR MEETING**

Date: February 16, 2017  
Place: Oakmont Country Club  
1901 Oakmont Drive  
Corinth, Texas 76210  
Time: Noon

- 1. Welcome Members and Guests**
- 2. Old Business**
  - a. Approve January Minutes
  - b. Approve January Treasurer's Report
- 3. New Business**
- 4. Guest Speaker: William Scazero**
- 5. Announcements**
  - Valentine Gram Fundraiser
  - Membership Contest & Prize Details
  - Volunteers for Committees and Chair Opening
  - Legal Directory Available
  - Upcoming CLE Opportunities & Seminar
- 6. Door Prize**
- 7. Adjournment**

## CLE GUEST SPEAKER



.Our February Luncheon & CLE will be held at noon on **February 16, 2017** at Oakmont Country Club in Corinth. Our guest speaker will be William V. Scazzero, Associate Attorney at Hayes, Berry, White & Vanzant, LLP. Mr. Scazzero will present “Preparing for Jury Trial; what Paralegals should Anticipate.”

Mr. Scazzero received his law degree from Southern Methodist University in 2010. His practice areas include civil litigation, business law, construction law, real estate, condemnation, complex commercial litigation, and oil and gas. He has received the Client Distinction Award from Martindale-Hubbell, been selected as a Texas Super Lawyer Rising Star in 2015, 2016, and 2017, and received the Excellence in Practice Award for 2016 by Texas Monthly.

William Scazzero is a lively and engaging speaker that you won't want to miss! Please RSVP to Lisa Pittman\_ [lisa@hbvwlaw.com](mailto:lisa@hbvwlaw.com) by noon on Friday 2/10 to make your reservation for this free one hour CLE opportunity. If you choose to purchase lunch, the cost of the hot buffet is \$14.00 and may be paid online or at the door. Our Membership Drive is going strong, so bring a guest eligible to join DCPA to receive 5 points in the Membership Drive Contest!

## Christmas Social Donation Correction

Many thanks to Fred Bowles of County Process Service for his generous door prize donations for our Annual Christmas Party! We inadvertently left his name off the list of sponsors, and apologize for the error. DCPA appreciates Fred's support as a sustaining member of the association and sponsor of our events throughout the year!



## **President's Message**

By: Pamela Snavelly, ACP



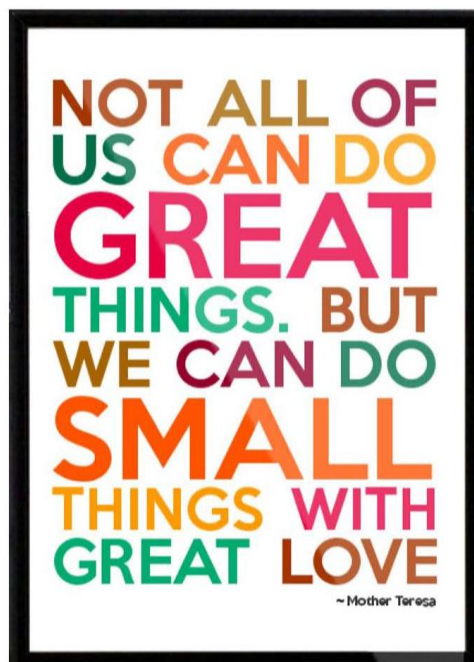
February 14th, the annual celebration of love for your significant other, also presents an opportunity to reach out and express affection and appreciation to the other special people in your life. It may be friends, family members, co-workers, professional colleagues, teachers, employers, or employees; someone that has gone the extra mile, shown support for an idea or objective, extended a helping hand in time of need, or returned a smile that made your day. Give a token of your appreciation in return by ordering a DCPA Valentine Day Gram for the Galentines or Palentines that make a difference in your life! The deadline to place your order is Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and an order form is attached.

As we have in the past, the net funds earned from the Valentine's Day Grams will be shared with Denton County Friends of the Family. This non-profit organization provides compassionate, comprehensive services to members of the community that are impacted by assault, abuse, and domestic violence. They provide aid to people in a time of crisis and are dedicated to promoting safety, healing, and prevention. Our association's fundraisers provide a small measure of financial assistance and in-kind donations, such as school supplies, to Friends of the Family in hope of making a difference.

## President's Message Con't

This year DCPA is going to embark on a new community service project for the benefit of the children and youth that stay in the Friends of the Family shelter. We intend to make colorful, cozy fleece blankets to cheer and comfort kids displaced from their homes. Members who wish to participate and become a part of the Blanket Brigade will be asked to donate or solicit donations of materials or funds for their own project. The cozy no-sew fleece blankets are easy enough for beginners to tackle and do not require any sewing experience. We will schedule various times within the next several months to work on our projects in a group setting to learn and enjoy the process together. Members are also welcome to work on their own individual project at home at their leisure. Details regarding measurements, type of fleece, and kid-friendly print will be provided. Our goal is to complete 25 blankets for presentation to Friends of the Family by DCPA's October meeting.

This is a great opportunity to reach out and offer an extra bit of warmth, comfort, and security to kids who find themselves in difficult circumstances. It is my hope that DCPA's act of kindness and caring by making special blankets for these children has a positive impact on their well-being now and on their vision of the future.



~ Mother Teresa

## **Standing Committees of DCPA**

Submitted by President, Pamela Snavely, ACP

DCPA is an all-volunteer organization. We depend on our fellow members to serve in different capacities to ensure we meet our goals and continue to move our association forward. Program and event operations are accomplished through various standing committees, whose duties are generally as follows:

**Continuing Legal Education** – Procure interesting and knowledgeable speakers for one hour of CLE at majority of monthly luncheons. Organize and produce the annual half-day CLE seminar in the Spring.

**Fundraising** – Develop and pursue projects to raise funds for the association, to assist the charitable and civic organizations that we sponsor, and provide outreach to the community.

**Membership** – Review membership applications and renewals, maintain membership materials, conduct elections of officers, acknowledge and encourage members.

**Legal Directory** – Organize and update the database of Denton County Attorneys, Judiciary, and Paralegals to publish hard bound and digital versions of the directory, solicit advertisers, and handle directory sales.

**Newsletter** – Solicit information, articles, photos, and member information to create, produce, and distribute the monthly newsletter to members.

**Scholarship** – Communicate scholarship requirements and timeline to members; solicit, compile, and review scholarship applications for final review by Executive Committee.

**Social** – Plan activities and outings for participation of association members to network and enjoy the camaraderie of their colleagues. Solicit donations from sponsors and supporters to cover costs, and provide door prizes.

Serving as a committee member is excellent hands-on experience that will help you grow personally and professionally. Volunteering will enable you to forge new friendships and establish lasting connections within the legal community. Take the opportunity to lend your skills and talent to our association by emailing Pam at [psnavely@hbwvlaw.com](mailto:psnavely@hbwvlaw.com) about your interest. Whether you prefer to help behind the scenes, or be out front and center, we can help you find the committee that is right for you!



## Membership News

Membership is looking for New Members! This year we are sponsoring a membership drive to spread the word about our great organization. Here's how you can get involved. Each time you bring a potential new member to a regularly scheduled DCPA meeting, you will receive 5 points in the membership contest and if that person joins DCPA, you will get an additional 10 points. If you bring a guest to a social event, you will get 2 points. [HINT: you will get 10 points if you line up a sponsor, too – maybe your boss owes you one!]

Each month we will post the race results in the *Verdict* so you can keep tabs on your competition.

The winner will be announced at the September meeting (and you MUST be present to win). THE PRIZE will be a \$100.00 gift certificate to Hannah's Restaurant and two tickets to the Campus Theater production of "Big Fish" which is scheduled in October 2017.

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### 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

## Birthdays

Our members with March Birthdays are:

Lisa Pittman (3/14)  
Heather Collard (3/19)  
Brandi Greathouse (3/20)  
Kandis Moody (3/23)  
Lisa Bowles (3/31)

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

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## **State Bar of Texas Paralegal Division Brown Bag CLE Seminar**

The Paralegal Division of the State Bar Of Texas will be sponsoring a Brown Bag Seminar Thursday, February 9, 2017 from 12-1 pm in the conference room of Alagood Cartwright Burke, 319 W. Oak Street, Denton, Texas, 76201.

The Speaker will be Attorney Samuel B. Burke. Mr. Burke will present "***How to Obtain Evidence from Non-Party Witnesses: the Use of Depositions, Notices, and Subpoenas.***"

To register or for more information, please call Cheryl Cooper, District 12 CLE Sub-Chair at (940) 891-0003, or email: [ccooper@dentonlaw.com](mailto:ccooper@dentonlaw.com).

## **Upcoming DCPA Monthly Luncheons & CLE**

Held the Third Thursday of the Month at Oakmont Country Club in Corinth. CLE is free; the cost of lunch is \$14.00 per person and is payable online or at the door.

March 16, 2017 – Family Law (*Mediation*)

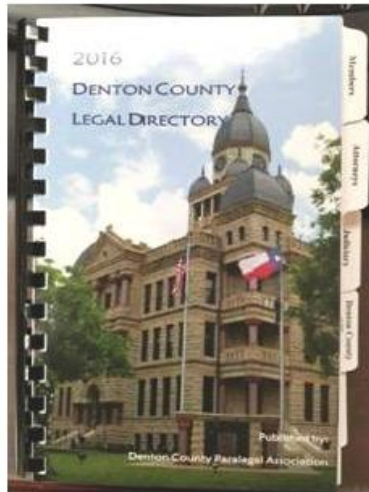
April 20, 2017 – Litigation (*Discovery*)

May 18, 2017 – Seminar

June 15, 2017 – Business Meeting

## 2016 Legal Directory

By: Cheryl Cooper, Committee Chair



The 2016 Legal Directory Committee of the Denton County Paralegal Association is pleased to report that we have published our Denton County Legal Directory.

We are providing two options for the directory this year: a bound hard copy of the directory, as well as a digital copy of the directory that is on a flash drive. This is the first time in the history of DCPA that we have offered a digital copy of the directory and we are very pleased at the way they turned out.

If you, or someone you know, would like to purchase one of these directories, please contact Cheryl Cooper at [ccooper@dentonlaw.com](mailto:ccooper@dentonlaw.com); Work (940) 891-0003; or Cell (979) 277-8761.

Digital directory - \$15.00 (\$2.50 Shipping Fee)

Bound directory - \$22.00 (\$4.50 Shipping Fee)

Both directories - \$35.00 (\$6.50 Shipping Fee).

If you prefer to pick up a copy at no additional cost, you may do so at Alagood Cartwright Burke P.C., 319 W. Oak Street, Denton, Texas, 76201, with advance notice.

Checks should be made payable to Denton County Paralegal Association and either hand-delivered or mailed to our address.

## **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](mailto:stewartprocess@verizon.net)

### **County Process Service**

#### **Fred Bowles**

159 Sunny Side Lane

Valley View, Texas 76272

Phone: 940-390-0914

Fax: 940-484-6054

Email – [fbowles@ntin.net](mailto:fbowles@ntin.net)

### **Stoffels & Associates, Inc.**

#### **Janel M. Stoffels**

207 W. Hickory, Suite 304

Denton, Texas 76201

Phone: 940-565-9797

Fax: 940-565-9197

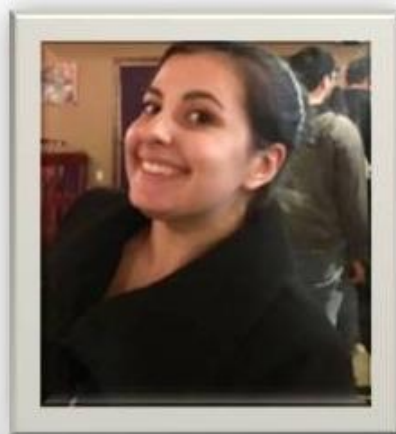
Email – [jmstoffels@aol.com](mailto:jmstoffels@aol.com)



## Trivia Night Update

Submitted by: Pamela Snavely, President, ACP

Members were invited to attend the first casual social outing of the year in January at the Mulberry Cantina in Denton for *Trivia Night!* The team held its own through the first half of the event and were tied for first place! They stumbled in the second half and tried to regain their footing by wagering all their points on the final question. Unfortunately, they were not able to place five pro sports teams that appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated in order from most to least! However, a great time was had by all, and DCPA will assemble another team again soon to take on a new Trivia challenge. All interested members and their guests are welcome to participate!



**Minutes**

1. President Pamela Snavelly called the business meeting held on January 19, 2017 to order at 12:07 p.m. at Oakmont Country Club in Denton. President Snavelly welcomed 15 attendees, 14 members and 1 guest.

**OLD BUSINESS**

2. President Snavelly asked for a vote on the November 2016 meeting minutes. A motion for approval was presented by Jennifer Earhart and seconded by Julia Christman. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
3. President Snavelly asked for a vote of approval for the November 2016 Treasurer's report. A motion for approval was presented by Adriana Sanchez and seconded by Amy Hoffee. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

4. President Snavelly recognized all who donated gifts for a successful Christmas Social and thanked all the members who attended. Lakesha Bell did a wonderful job.
5. Cheryl Cooper gave a review of the Legal Directory. Order forms are online.
6. Daphina Park gave a review on the upcoming Valentine Fundraiser. A meeting will be held on Friday, February 10, 2017 at the District Attorneys Annex Building at E. McKinney Street to help with the S'mores in a Jar.
7. President Snavelly announced all Committee Chairs. The Social Committee currently does not have a Chair. There will be casual events until someone volunteers for the position. First casual event is Trivia Night at Mulberry Cantina on January 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
8. President Snavelly discussed the importance of community outreach. She suggested making blankets for the children of Friends of the Family. Also suggested helping Denton County Sheriff's Office with the Teddy Bear Drive.
9. Vicki Schmidt gave a review of the membership Drive. The competition is on! Contest award is Date Night. Winner will receive \$100 Gift Certificate for dinner and drinks at Hannah's, and two tickets to the Campus Theatre Production "Big Fish" scheduled for October. Deadline for the Membership Drive will be September 21, 2017. Winner will be announced then.
10. BINGO Activity winner was Sharron Dowdle.
11. Cheryl Cooper was the winner of the door prize.
12. There being no further business, President Snavelly adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m.