

The Verdict

Denton County Paralegal Association

BINGO NIGHT – JUNE 17, 2015

By Christy Rodgers

On behalf of the DCPA Fundraising and Social Committees, we want to inform you about our upcoming event - 3rd Annual Bingo Night at Bridgemoor!

Last year the Social and Fundraising Committees chose to change things up a bit and decided to target a demographic from our community that might have an increased interest in Bingo - our seniors. AND it was a success and definitely fun! Bridgemoor of Denton has graciously allowed us to host the event at their clubhouse Bistro again this year! We have invited Bridgemoor residents to attend and Melody Brackeen is working with The Vintage to bus folks over that evening.

If you were not able to attend last year's Bingo Night at Bridgemoor, please mark it on your calendar for this year to attend the fun and even play a Bingo game or ten!

Here are the particulars regarding the 3rd Annual Bingo Night at Bridgemoor:

When: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Bridgemoor at Denton, located at 2801 Spencer Road, Denton, TX 76208 (Next to Lowe's off Loop 288)

Benefiting: The profits from this year's event will again be split between DCPA and Denton County Friends of the Family (our chosen charity).

Who can attend: DCPA members, Bridgemoor residents and The Vintage residents

Price to play: \$10.00 for 10 bingo games, \$1.00 for each additional bingo card

Prizes: One prize per game. Social and Fundraising Committees have done a great job securing donations for prizes.

Special Interest Articles:

- Bingo Night
- Birthdays
- Member Suggestion Contest

Individual Highlights:

Meeting Notice	3
Meeting Agenda	4
CLE Speaker	4
President's Message	5-6
Birthdays	7
Sustaining Members	8
Minutes	9

BINGO NIGHT Con't

Snacks/Drinks: Carol Pelzel has secured donations from Kroger again this year for sandwich trays, fruit trays, cookies, drinks, plates, napkins and plastic ware. DCPA will also be popping popcorn in the old tyme popcorn machine that Bridgemoor is allowing us to use.

Vendors: Vendor Spots will be sold to Vendors (Zeal, Scentsy, Handmade Jewelry, Handmade Soap, etc.) for \$50.00 each to sell their wares at Bingo at Bridgemoor. Vendors will supply their own tables and supplies and set up in the Commons area at Bridgemoor. Vendors shout outs will be announced between bingo games.

If you know of anyone that may be interested, please have them contact either Melody Brackeen, Fundraising Committee Chair at mbrackeen@dentontexaslawyers.com or Christy Rodgers, Social Committee member and Bingo Chair at cpowell@csplaw.net

A big thank you to the Social and Fundraising Committees for their hard work, individually and collectively, to ensure that this Bingo event will be a successful and enjoyable time for everyone involved.



Meeting Notice

The Denton County Paralegal Association's next Luncheon will be on Thursday, **May 28, 2015** 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.

2015 Officers

Cheryl Cooper, President
mlj@steelelawfirm.com

Melody Brackeen, President-Elect
mbrackeen@dentontexaslawyers.com

Pamela Snavely, Secretary/Parliamentarian
psnavely@hbwwlaw.com

Lisa Pittman, Treasurer
lpittman@hbwwlaw.com

Kim Guertler, Historian
Kim.guertler@dentoncounty.com

2015 Committee Chairs

CLE, Michelle Beecher
mbeecher@dentonlaw.com

Fundraising, Melody Brackeen
mbrackeen@dentontexaslawyers.com

Legal Directory, Brandi Hunter
BHunter410@gmail.com

Membership, Sunnie Palmer
sunnie@zellmerlaw.com

Newsletter, Lisa Pittman
lpittman@hbwwlaw.com

Social, Heather Walker
heather.walker@dentoncounty.com

Ad Hoc Scholarship,
Wanda Woodworth
wandawoodworth@dentoncounty.com

Did you know...

Payments for the CLE Luncheon can now be made online. For more information and online registration see Events/CLE Luncheon at www.dentonparalegals.org.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and can be made via e-mail to Cheryl Cooper@mlj@steelelawfirm.com. The deadline to RSVP is May 22, 2015.

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)

AGENDA FOR MEETING

Date: May 28, 2015
Place: Oakmont Country Club
1901 Oakmont Drive
Corinth, Texas 76210
Time: Noon

- 1. Welcome members and guests**
- 2. Old Business**
 - a. Approve April meeting Minutes
 - b. Approve April Treasurer's Report
- 3. New Business**
 - a. Social Committee – announce upcoming socials
 - b. Social & Fundraising Committees – announce Bingo event
 - c. DCPA Member in the Spotlight
 - d. Reminder to renew memberships and update contact information
- 4. Introduction of Speaker**

Speaker - Curtis Loveless of Loveless & Loveless
- 5. Announcements and Door Prize**
- 6. Adjournment**

CLE GUEST SPEAKER



Our speaker will be Curtis Loveless, with Loveless & Loveless. Mr. Loveless will be speaking on “Ethics for Dealing with Pro Se Parties and Difficult Clients.”

President's Message

By: Cheryl Cooper



May brings many changes...Get ready for summer!

It's May which brings eventful changes to most families. May Day kicks off the month, moms have been honored, Cinco de Mayo celebrated, final exams are being taken, graduations ceremonies are taking place, and school is about to be out for summer! Teachers everywhere are celebrating, and parents are wondering what to do to keep their little ones busy over the next few months. We've seen eventful rainfall and even dodged a few tornados. For now, it seems the long drought is over. I, for one, was happy to see the sunshine again though. Remind me of that when we're sweltering in the heat in a few weeks.

Due to the inclement weather, the Social Committee decided to postpone the Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Social that was planned for Thursday, May 14, 2015. They will reschedule that event to a later date this year.

The Social Committee and the Fundraising Committee are working hard to plan and host our 3rd annual Bingo event. Look for details coming soon in a flyer or on our website. If you have a prize you can donate for this event, please contact me, Heather Walker (Social Committee Chair), Melody Brackeen (Fundraising Committee Chair), or Christy Rodgers who is organizing this event. Bingo will be held again this year at Bridgemoor of Denton. I am sure that it will be as much or more fun that we had last year.

In case you were not able to make our April luncheon; Brian Cartwright came to speak to us about ethics for the attorney and paralegal. This month, for our May 28th CLE luncheon, our CLE Committee Chair, Michelle Beecher, has arranged for board certified attorney, Curtis M. Loveless, to come speak to us about ***Ethics of Dealing with Pro Se Parties and Difficult Clients***. I know most of us have encountered challenges with pro se parties and difficult clients or the general public (for those who don't work in private law firms) so this CLE should not be missed. If you do plan to attend the May 28th CLE luncheon, please send me an email to: mlj@steelelawfirm.com and let me know if you plan on eating, or not. You can register and pay for the luncheon on our website too. Our website is

President's Message Con't

www.dentonparalegals.org. The deadline to RSVP or register is Friday, May 22, by noon so we can give Oakmont an accurate headcount. Again, due to the construction at Oakmont Country Club, we will be in the St. Andrew's Room located to the far left of where we have traditionally met in the past.

Blue Ice, Breidamerkursandur Black Sands, Iceland

Explore all kinds of stunning natural phenomenon at webshots.com.



Did you know that Blue Ice occurs when snow falls on a glacier, is compressed, and becomes part of a glacier that winds its way toward a body of water. During its travels, air bubbles that are trapped in the ice are squeezed out, and the size of the ice crystals increases, making it blue. In some areas, earthquakes have raised the blue ice above the ground and created formations much like large frozen waves.

I just had to share this amazing photo with all of you. It struck me that so many beautiful things are formed over long periods of time and as a result of great pressure and/or adverse conditions. Don't give up hope - those of you who struggle and strive to meet each day's challenges. You are becoming a beautiful creation in the process.

Look for a new feature on our website and Facebook page: *DCPA Member in the Spotlight*. This month our member highlight is on Priscilla Brooks. She is one inspiring and amazing lady. Take time to know her and other members a little bit better. You will be enriched by doing so.

If you're a new member who hasn't gotten plugged in to DCPA yet by serving on a committee, please email me at mlj@steelelawfirm.com, or membership chair, Sunnie Palmer at sunnie@zellmerlaw.com so we can assist you in finding the committee where your talents and interests lie. If you need to contact a DCPA member, please log into our website: www.dentonparalegals.org so you will be sure to use the most updated contact information. Sunnie has done a great job keeping that information current. Also, Denton County Clerk, Juli Luke's Power Point presentation is now uploaded to our website. Our past newsletters have also been uploaded. We try hard to keep you updated and informed. Please feel free to share any photos or information with us so we can pass them on to others in our association.

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless,
but because they're priceless." -Sherry Anderson

Birthdays

Our members with June Birthdays are:

Carolyn Ganzer (6/19)

Patty Ochoa (6/18)

Wanda Woodworth (6/28)

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

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

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 Sunnie Palmer at sunnie@zellmerlaw.com.

Member Suggestion Contest Extended!

The membership committee has extended the member suggestion contest until June 22, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. To enter, simply gather the contact information for paralegals (Name, Firm, Address, Phone Number, and Email Address) who are not members of DCPA and email it to sunnie@zellmerlaw.com. Submissions of the names of paralegals who are already DCPA members will not be eligible for the contest, but you will receive notice that the paralegal you suggested is a member. Each suggestion equals one entry into a drawing for a prize. We will announce the winner at our meeting on June 25, 2015. There is no limit on entries. 50 paralegal suggestions - 50 entries to win! Please email Sunnie Palmer at sunnie@zellmerlaw.com with questions and entries.

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

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

The Reporting Professionals

Cheryl K. Perlich

2925 Country Club Road, Suite 104
Denton, Texas 76210
Phone: 940-484-6053
Fax: 940-484-6054
Email – reportingpros@sbcglobal.net

County Process Service

Fred Bowles

159 Sunny Side Lane
Valley View, Texas 76272
Phone: 940.-390-0914
Email - fbowles@ntin.net



Minutes

1. President Cheryl Cooper called the business meeting of April 23, 2015 to order at 12:15 at Oakmont Country Club. President Cooper welcomed 21 attendees, consisting of 19 members and 2 guests.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. President Cooper asked for a vote on the March 2015 meeting minutes. A motion for approval was presented by Christine Piott and seconded by Heather Walker. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
3. President Cooper asked for a vote of approval for the February 2015 Treasurer's report. A motion for approval was presented by Michelle Beecher and seconded by Melody Brackeen. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

4. President Cooper discussed the TAPA Leadership conference in detail with the members, and thanked the TAPA committee and volunteers for their hard work in putting the program together.
5. Heather Walker, Social Committee Chair, reminded the members of the upcoming Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Social on May 14, Bingo Night on June 17, and Painting with a Twist on a date to be determined in August.
6. President Cooper introduced guest speaker Brian Cartwright. Mr. Cartwright presented an Ethics CLE program to the association.
7. Members' names were placed in a drawing for the attendance door prize. Heather Walker was the winner of the drawing for the monthly luncheon door prize, ear buds and an iTunes gift card, provided by Compex.
8. There being no further business, President Cooper adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p. m.

**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)