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PROFESSIONAL BULLETIN FOR THE BELL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PARALEGALS

MEMBERSHIP - 71 MEMBERS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

This year seems to be going by fast, the holidays are approaching. I will be attending TAPS next week and will not be in attendance for the October General Meeting. I have appointed Cathy Beaman to preside over the meeting during my absence.

Once again we will be ordering lunch from McAlister's Deli for the price of \$6.25. Please email your lunch preference to Cathy Beaman at graeflaw@embarqmail.com. She will need your selection by Tuesday, October 13th at noon.

I was approached by a member who requested that I address her concern about members talking during a speaker's presentation. During the August General Meeting some of our members were attempting to listen to the speaker, however they were unable to hear him due to other members talking among themselves. I would appreciate us showing our speakers some common courtesy in not talking during their presentation. The speakers do this on their own time and do not get paid by the Paralegal Association for speaking. So please try to remember to be courteous when our speakers are talking.

Please remember your secret pals. If you can send them a card just to let them know you are thinking about them, I'm sure they would appreciate it. If any of you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Cindi Enetta



In this Halloween greeting card from 1904, *divination is depicted; the young woman looking into a mirror in a darkened room hopes to catch a glimpse of the face of her future husband.

*Divination is the attempt to gain insight into a question or situation by way of a standardized process or ritual.

TEXAS PARALEGAL DAY OCTOBER 23

Did you know that the State Bar of Texas was the first bar association in the United States to create a separate division for paralegals? What was originally "the Legal Assistants Division" and is now "The Paralegal Division" of the State Bar of Texas (the "Division") was created on October 23, 1981. The members of the division thought we were worth recognizing, so with their encouragement, on April 5, 1993, Texas Senate Concurrent Resolution 69 was signed by the President of the Senate, Bob Bullock, and the Speaker of the House, Pete Laney, commending the Division and the legal assistants of the State of Texas, and resolving the 73rd Legislature of the State of Texas had declared October 23 as Texas Legal Assistants Day.

Beginning in 2005, the Texas House of Representatives signed proclamations acknowledging October 23 as "Paralegal Day" (as a result of the Paralegal Division's formal name change), for one or two years at a time. However on January 22, 2009, the Texas Senate issued Proclamation No. 1144, declaring October 23 to be Texas Paralegal Day indefinitely.

Taken from Alamo Area Paralegal Association, Inc. website.

CELEBRATING PARALEGALS

There are days dedicated to mothers, fathers, grandparents, bosses and secretaries. There are days dedicated to the earth, to veterans, to the American Flag, and to the planting of trees. From National Popcorn Day on January 19 to Take Your Dog to Work Day on June 23, special holidays call our attention to things and/or people we may take for granted in everyday life.

For this reason, many states are creating paralegal days on which to honor paralegals and highlight the valuable work they do the legal field every day. Often working behind the scenes, paralegals deserve to be recognized for their abilities; and having a specific day dedicated to paralegals is a great way to make both attorneys and the public appreciate them.

Although paralegal days differ from state to state, the theme of appreciation that inspires them is the same. Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm declared May 3, 2006, Legal Assistant/Paralegal Day in the state of Michigan. One of Granholm's reasons for creating the special holiday was the contributions paralegals have made to the legal profession over the years by taking on a large amount of legal work previously done only by attorneys. This, in turn, has helped the legal profession both in Michigan and across the Nation.

In addition, Granholm stated on her website that "the Bench and Bar have been able to respond to the dramatic increase in court caseload in recent years as a result of the evolution of the paralegal profession" and the "the citizens of Michigan are better able to afford quality legal services because of the evolution of the legal profession."

Connecticut, which created its paralegal day in 1994, celebrates paralegals each year the first Friday of June. On this day, the Connecticut Alliance of Paralegal Associations hosts seminars, a luncheon, and guest speakers. Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal and former Connecticut Chief State's Attorney John Bailey have addressed the association in the past.

In October 2005, South Carolina Governor Mark Stanford recognized October 28 as paralegal day in that state. The proclamation issued by the governor stated that paralegals should be honored for making the legal system more cost-efficient and accessible to the public, while conforming to a strict code of ethics.

"The American Bar Association and a number of court decisions have endorsed the use of paralegals for years, and now Gov. Stanford has validated the many contributions paralegals in South Carolina make to the legal profession," Yvonne Harper, Director of Spartanburg Methodist College's paralegal program, said in a statement on the college's website. "I echo his words and encourage all legal offices, departments, government agencies, and fellow South Carolinians to honor the paralegals they know and work with..."

In Utah, the third Thursday in May is paralegal day. The Utah Bar Association celebrates the day by hosting an event with special speakers.

"The utilization of paralegals in rendering legal services has been recognized and promulgated by the American Bar Association and other professional societies," a statement on the Utah Bar Association's website said. "Attorneys who use paralegals have achieved unparalleled success in providing clients with high-quality service. Utilizing qualified paralegals helps attorneys deliver better service and more value, while increasing law firm profits. As a result, paralegals have gained widespread acceptance and have become essential contributors in the delivery of legal services."

Texas, which celebrates paralegal day on October 23, originally declared the holiday in 1993 and labeled it Texas Legal Assistants Day. However, soon thereafter, the Legal Assistants Division of the State Bar of Texas changed its name to the Paralegal Division, and in April 2005, the Texas House of Representatives changed the name of the holiday to Texas Paralegal Day to reflect the division's name change.

As paralegals are an integral part of the legal field, paralegal days will continue to become even more commonplace.

(Continued on next page)

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Karen Woodward, a paralegal in Denver, Colorado, and a member of the Colorado Association of Professional Paralegals and Legal Assistants (CAPPLA), helped found CAPPLA when she moved to Denver. Woodward said the biggest problem she faced when moving to the state of Colorado was the misconception that legal assistants and paralegals weren't one and the same. Since then, she has worked at educating the public on the fact that legal assistants are not merely secretaries but trained professionals.

One way that Woodward called attention to this was by helping to bring about the dedication of Colorado's paralegal day, May 4, through CAPPLA. She thinks the holiday is important because it brings recognition to the paralegal profession.

"It makes the law firms aware of what we do for them, and it also makes the general public aware," she said.

By Charisse Dengler
LawCrossing

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

TINA BECKER
TARA CRAVEN
MELISSA GARZA
EVA LOTT
JOANNA MENJIVAR
KATIE MEYER
SUSAN MONTGOMERY
FRANCES MORGAN
COURTNEY MULLINS
MICHELLE NICOLAUS
IRENE SALAZAR
JESSICA SANDLIN
GWENDA THOMPSON
KELLIE WEAVER

Congratulations to
Brenda Colvin
TAPS Scholarship Recipient

NATIONAL BOSS DAY OCTOBER 16

National Boss Day was started in 1958 when Patricia Bays Haroski, then an employee of State Farm Insurance Company in Deerfield, Illinois, registered the holiday with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. She designated October 16 as the special day because it was her father's birthday. Ms. Haroski's purpose was to designate a day to show appreciation for her boss and other bosses. She also hoped to improve the relationship between employees and supervisors. She believed young employees often do not realize the challenges bosses face in running a business. Four years later, Governor of Illinois, Otto Kerner, welcomed the proposal of observing National Boss Day and officially proclaimed the day in 1962. The idea became popular across the country and soon, even England, Australia and South Africa started celebrating Boss Day.

TEXAS NOTARY LAW AND PROCEDURE WORKSHOP

A State Notary Commission instructor will teach current and prospective notaries how to take acknowledgements; administer oaths; comply with state record keeping requirements and follow new legislations. You'll get answers to your notary public questions. Current, new and non-notary participants who would like to apply for a notary public commission, will benefit from this three hour workshop being offered this fall.

Thursday, November 12
Temple College
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
\$130.00 Fee
Course Code: CE6830

For additional information:
254.298.8625
www.templejc.edu
(click on "Community Education")

New laws went into effect
for Notary Publics in September 2009



The Senate of The State of Texas

SENATE PROCLAMATION NO. 1144

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to honor paralegals in Austin and across the state and recognize October 23 as Texas Paralegal Day; and

WHEREAS, Paralegals are vital resources in law firms, governmental entities, and private corporations and businesses; they perform valuable services for and under the direction of an attorney, and their work requires a thorough knowledge of legal concepts and facts; and

WHEREAS, October 23 marks the anniversary of the founding of the Paralegal Division of the State Bar of Texas; the division was established to promote high standards of conduct, professional ethics, and responsibility through continuing legal education and cooperation with the State Bar of Texas; and

WHEREAS, The goals of the Paralegal Division are to achieve more economical and improved legal services throughout the state, to focus on benefits for its members and the paralegal profession, and to develop opportunities, incentives, and recognition for legal education; and

WHEREAS, Through their exceptional talents and expertise, paralegals provide valuable services that contribute significantly to the efficient functioning of the judicial system in the Lone Star State, and they are indeed worthy of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

PROCLAIMED, That the Senate of the State of Texas hereby commend the paralegals of this state for their important services and recognize October 23 as Texas Paralegal Day; and, be it further

PROCLAIMED, That a copy of this Proclamation be prepared as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Watson



Thurk Watson

Member, Texas Senate

I hereby certify that the above Proclamation was adopted.

Letsy Spaw

Secretary of the Senate

BILLY SUE SCALES

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I am the “forever bride” of Attorney David Scales. My life’s journey can perhaps be most simply described in two phases: “before David” and “after David.” Before David, I grew up in North Dallas, loved my parents, my sister, my friends, and church family. I attended college at Tyler Junior College. Then I attended University of New Mexico. I am a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority and like being a “rent a sister”. I was married to a physician in North Dallas and gave birth to two sons, Taylor and Trey who have always been perfect for me. After nine years of marriage, I divorced and began my life as a working mother, raising my boys to adulthood. Taylor and Trey grew up in Salado with honors and responsibilities beyond their years. Taylor attended University of Western Washington on a football scholarship where he had a 4.0 in Mathematics. Taylor and his wife Alicia, with their daughter, Lilly, live in Redmond, WA and we miss them very much. Trey attended Texas State in San Marcus where he received his BA and a Masters, then became a Professor. He is now pursuing the profession of being a Firefighter in Dallas. He has a beautiful girlfriend in San Antonio and they are precious together.

My first job after getting divorced and beginning to provide for my children was in Salado being a manager for a gift boutique. I then worked part time so I could be Taylor and Trey’s room mother, Soccer Mom, etc. Then, I started working at Scott and White when they got into Jr. High School. After Taylor and Trey went to college I began working weekends and landed a fun job at Hidden Springs Land Development Co. in Salado. After a few months, the Hidden Springs office offered me a full-time position as their office manager. By this time my nest was empty so I acquired my precious puppy dog, Prince, a Maltese, from Fuzzy Face Rescue and he became my constant companion. Then, I met David in 2003. We fell in love and married on October 2, 2004....and he too became my “forever groom,” best friend, and constant companion.

Now we come to the “after David” part of this story. Shortly after David and I married he retired from the Department of Veterans Affairs as the General Counsel after 25 years and Hidden Springs had sold all of our properties, so where were we going? David started his law practice after I went to work at an Orthopedics Office in Georgetown. In May of 2006, David started his private practice, and in very short order he found it difficult to keep up with both the “practice of law” and the management of a law office. In January of 2007, David suggested my leaving Georgetown Orthopedics and joining him as his office manager. So I did.

I do not possess the credentials of a paralegal, but I once again am able to live a life of leisure in that: I wake each morning only when I am ready, get to the office when I choose, and get to work closely with David each work day. Our law practice consists of a general practice. David handles almost all types of the law and loves learning more and teaching me. We work well together and have a great time. We also, have an employee that we treasure. We appreciate our clients and very much put our whole hearts into each case. Philippians 4:13.

I am blessed to have the privilege of getting to know everyone in our organization and gaining knowledge and wisdom from this experience. It is a privilege for me to share my life’s adventures and I look forward to hearing about everybody else’s life.



Pictured left -
Bob Odom,
Assistant District
Attorney - Guest
speaker at the Fall
Bench Bar Confer-
ence.



FALL BENCH BAR CONFERENCE

On Thursday, September 17, the Bell County Bar Association hosted its annual Fall Bench Bar Conference. The 90+ attorneys and paralegals from Bell County and the surrounding area, received 5 hrs. participatory credit, including 2.9 hours of ethics credit. Local Assistant District Attorney Bob Odom provided information on recent legislative updates to criminal law. Ellen Pitluk, ethics attorney with the State Bar of Texas in Austin spoke on lawyer's ethics and the grievance system, and Gene Major, Director of Advertising Rules with the State Bar provided information about attorney advertising rules. Following a box lunch from McAlisters, Wayne Schiess, UT Professor for the Legal Writing Program gave tips and tricks about legal writing ... what to do and what NOT to do. The event, held in the Courtroom for the 146th Judicial District, was moderated by Judge Rick Morris.

The Bell County Bar Association sponsors a Spring and a Fall Bench Bar Conference every year, which provide free CLE to paid members of the Bar and the BCBA Paralegals. Attorneys and paralegals who are not paid members of either organization can attend by paying the required dues and joining the appropriate organization.

If you or your attorney have never attended a Bench Bar Conference, we encourage you to try the next event. Local quality CLE, no travel or hotel expense ... it's a bargain!!

Courtesy of Cynthia Champion

BELL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Annual Dove BBQ & Golf Tournament

Join us on Friday, October 23, 2009, for the Annual Dove BBQ & Golf Tournament. This tournament is being held at Wildflower Country Club in Temple, TX, shotgun start at 1 p.m. Come out for a fun-filled day of golf followed by a hamburger dinner at Wildflower. Prizes will be awarded during dinner.

Golf is limited to attorneys and paralegals and their immediate family, and persons with jobs in associated law fields.

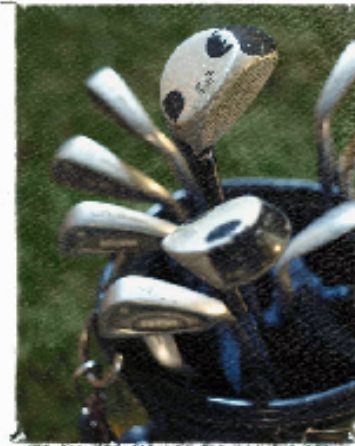
Everyone is invited for dinner!

Please fill out and return the registration below, including your payment (make checks payable to BCBA) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 19, 2009. You may choose to play golf only (\$60/person, includes two mulligans), have dinner only (\$15/person) or both (\$75/person).

If you or your Firm wish to sponsor a hole on the course, please indicate below and pay accordingly.

Please cut and mail completed form below to:
 Jina Boydston
 Secrest Law Firm
 3600 Birdcreek Plaza
 Temple, TX 76502

~~~ PAYMENT IS DUE WITH REGISTRATION ~~~



### Tournament Options / Pricing

| Sign up for:                                                                 | Price    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf & Dinner                                       | \$75.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Only                                           | \$60.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner only                                         | \$15.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional dinner(s)<br>_____ x \$15                | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hole Sponsorship (please<br>indicate name for sign) | \$50.00  |

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed Payable to BCBA

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone / Email

Select your team: (if you do not have a complete foursome, you will be matched at the tournament)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# ***PARALEGAL DIVISION***

## **STATE BAR OF TEXAS**



### **NEW PARALEGAL DEFINITION AND STANDARDS** **ADOPTED BY THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS**

In 2005, the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors, and the Paralegal Division of the State Bar of Texas, adopted a new definition for "Paralegal:"

*A paralegal is a person, qualified through various combinations of education, training, or work experience, who is employed or engaged by a lawyer, law office, governmental agency, or other entity in a capacity or function which involves the performance, under the ultimate direction and supervision of a licensed attorney, of specifically delegated substantive legal work, which work, for the most part, requires a sufficient knowledge of legal principles and procedures that, absent such person, an attorney would be required to perform the task.*

On April 21, 2006, the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors approved amending this definition by including the following standards, which are intended to assist the public in obtaining quality legal services, assist attorneys in their utilization of paralegals, and assist judges in determining whether paralegal work is a reimbursable cost when granting attorney fees:

#### **A. Support for Education, Training, and Work Experience:**

1. Attorneys are encouraged to promote:

- a. paralegal attendance at continuing legal education programs;
- b. paralegal board certification through the Texas Board of Legal Specialization (TBLS);
- c. certification through a national paralegal organization such as the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) or the National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA); and
- d. membership in the Paralegal Division of the State Bar and/or local paralegal organizations.

2. In hiring paralegals and determining whether they possess the requisite education, attorneys are encouraged to consider the following:

- a. A specialty certification conferred by TBLS; or
- b. A CLA/CP certification conferred by NALA.; or
- c. A PACE certification conferred by NFPA; or

- d. A bachelor's or higher degree in any field together with a minimum of one (1) year of employment experience performing substantive legal work under the direct supervision of a duly licensed attorney AND completion of 15 hours of Continuing Legal Education within that year; or
- e. A certificate of completion from an ABA-approved program of education and training for paralegals; or
- f. A certificate of completion from a paralegal program administered by any college or university accredited or approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or its equivalent in another state.

3. Although it is desirable that an employer hire a paralegal who has received legal instruction from a formal education program, the State Bar recognizes that some paralegals are nevertheless qualified if they received their training through previous work experience. In the event an applicant does not meet the educational criteria, it is suggested that only those applicants who have obtained a minimum of four (4) years previous work experience in performing substantive legal work, as that term is defined below, be considered a paralegal.

**B. Delegation of Substantive Legal Work:**

"Substantive legal work" includes, but is not limited to, the following: conducting client interviews and maintaining general contact with the client; locating and interviewing witnesses; conducting investigations and statistical and documentary research; drafting documents, correspondence, and pleadings; summarizing depositions, interrogatories, and testimony; and attending executions of wills, real estate closings, depositions, court or administrative hearings, and trials with an attorney.

"Substantive legal work" does not include clerical or administrative work. Accordingly, a court may refuse to provide recovery of paralegal time for such nonsubstantive work. *Gill Sav. Ass'n v. Int'l Supply Co., Inc.*, 759 S.W.2d 697, 705 (Tex. App. Dallas 1988, writ denied).

**C. Consideration of Ethical Obligations** (See Note\* below):

1. Attorney. The employing attorney has the responsibility for ensuring that the conduct of the paralegal performing the services is compatible with the professional obligations of the attorney. It also remains the obligation of the employing or supervising attorney to fully inform a client as to whether a paralegal will work on the legal matter, what the paralegal's fee will be, and whether the client will be billed for any nonsubstantive work performed by the paralegal.

2. Paralegal. A paralegal is prohibited from engaging in the practice of law, providing legal advice, signing pleadings, negotiating settlement agreements, soliciting legal business on behalf of an attorney, setting a legal fee, accepting a case, or advertising or contracting with members of the general public for the performance of legal functions.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*Note: a more expansive list is included in the "General Guidelines for the Utilization of the Services of Legal Assistants by Attorneys" approved by the Board of Directors of the State Bar of Texas, May, 1993.

# BELL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PARALEGALS

## Minutes of General Membership Meeting- June 2009

**Date:** June 18, 2009

**Time:** Noon

**Place:** County Courtroom #2

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Cindi Evetts. Members and guests were welcomed and recognized.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the May meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cathy Beaman presented Treasurer's Report.

**Committee Reports:** Cindi Evetts reported that we have 22 members. Cookbook is in the works again. Bylaw Committee Report - Standing Rules were approved by the Board. Bylaws amendment will be voted on at July meeting.

**Old Business:** *Taps Scholarship* - Seminar October 14-16, League City  
*Membership Social* - July 30th at Deadfish Grill at 6:00 p.m.  
Renewing members with their paid membership who bring a new member with their paid membership will have their name put in a drawing for a \$50.00 gift card. We will be giving away 4 gift cards.

**New Business:** *Standing Rules* - Approved by Board  
*ByLaws* - Will be emailed to members and voted on at the July meeting.  
*Committees* - Need volunteers for committees - passed around sign up Sheet.

**Guest Speaker:** Jason Turk - Barringer Copies

**Announcements:** The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2009 at McAlister's Deli, in Killeen.  
The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Deadfish Grill, Belton.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Meeting Adjourned.

Mandy Cazares, Secretary

# BELL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PARALEGALS

## Minutes of General Membership Meeting- July 2009

- Date:** July 30, 2009
- Time:** 6:00 p.m.
- Place:** Dead Fish Grill
- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Cindi Evetts. Members and guests were welcomed and recognized.  
New members: Eva Lott, Jessica Yarnell & Frances Morgan
- Minutes:** The Minutes of the June meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's Report:** Cathy Beaman presented Treasurer's Report.
- Committee Reports:** Billie Sue Scales reported that we have 53 members.  
Ester Stoneburner is in charge of the cookbook
- Old Business:** Copy of Bylaws were passed out to members, voted and approved.  
\$50.00 Visa gift certificate for new members were awarded to:  
Mary Jane Serna, Billie Sue Scales & Jenny Yarnell  
  
Esther Stoneburner won the \$50.00 door prize donated by:  
Jason Turk - Barringer Copies  
Deadline for TAPS Scholarship Applications - July 31<sup>st</sup>
- New Business:** TAPS Scholarship Committee: Sue Haire & Linda Ingram - Ethics  
Need volunteers to assist Brooke  
Speaker for August: Vicki Carlson - Carlson Law Firm
- Important Dates:** Fall Bench Bar- September 17<sup>th</sup> - Judge Morris' Courtroom  
Fall Golf Tournament- October 23<sup>rd</sup> - Wildflower  
Bar Christmas Party-December 3<sup>rd</sup> - Dead Fish Grill
- Announcements:** The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at noon - McAlister's Deli in Killeen.  
The next General Meeting is scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at noon - Judge Mischtain's courtroom.
- Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Mandy Cazares, Secretary

# BELL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PARALEGALS

## Minutes of General Membership Meeting- August 2009

**Date:** August 20, 2009

**Time:** Noon

**Place:** Judge Mischtain's Courtroom

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Cindi Evetts. Members and guests were welcomed and recognized.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the July meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cathy Beaman presented Treasurer's Report.

**Committee Reports:** Billie Sue Scales reported that we have 64 members.

**Old Business:** Esther Stoneburner - Cookbook should be ready by the end of November. Committee to proofread. Presentation of cookbook to newspaper.

**New Business:** Speaker for October: Bell County Welfare Nursing Home Project - Still pending - Brenda checking for Veteran's Day.

**Important Dates:** Fall Golf Tournament- October 23<sup>rd</sup>- Wildflower Bar Christmas Party-December 3<sup>rd</sup>- Dead Fish Grill

**Announcements:** The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at noon - McAlister's Deli in Killeen. The next General Meeting is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at noon - Judge Mischtain's courtroom.

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Mandy Cazares, Secretary

## NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY NOVEMBER 16

On Monday, November 16, 2009, the Bell County Bar Association will host its first *National Adoption Day*. The program is specifically designed for children in foster care who are being adopted by their foster families, and we anticipate it being a joyous occasion for all who are involved. The theme for the day will be "There's No Place Like Home" and plans are to decorate the courtrooms with balloons and flowers, and lay out a yellow brick road for the children and families. We hope to find volunteers willing to dress the part of some of the Wizard of Oz characters, including Glenda the Good Witch, Dorothy, the Tin Man, Scarecrow & Cowardly Lion. (We felt it best to leave out the flying monkeys!!) The media will be invited to attend and help celebrate the event.

As of this writing there are approximately 40 children on the list to be processed and welcomed into their "Forever Families" on that day. We hope to have a special library set up for the kids, a place they can visit and pick out their very own book....for many, this will be the first new book "of their own" that they've ever had!! We will be collecting new books for the kids ranging in age from infant to young teens, and will also be collecting new stuffed animals and teddy bears to be given to the kids. The girls will each receive an engraved heart-locket, and the boys will be given an engraved cuff bracelet.

The Bar Association is reaching out and asking for help from the legal community, as well as the public. The Bar Association wants to make this a special day for the children who are being adopted. Plans are being made to present each adopted child and their adoptive parents with a bag of goodies and mementos to commemorate the occasion. A reception / celebration will be held throughout the day for the new "Families Forever". The Bar is soliciting cash donations from the community, and is also asking local attorneys to help prepare and file the necessary paperwork and represent the families on a *pro bono* basis. A training day will be set up in mid- to late October and all volunteer attorneys will be given paperwork and other information necessary for them to help these folks. (Continued next column)

If you or anyone from your office would like to volunteer to help the day of the event (whether at the registration table, media table, decorating, being the contact person for a specific family), if you have books or stuffed animals to donate, or if the attorneys in your firm are willing to represent one or more families, please contact Killeen attorney and Committee Member Steve Walden (254.526.5688) or one of the BCBA Executive Directors, Cynthia Champion (254.774.8333, ext. 208) or Jina Boydston (254.773.5215).

### COME HELP THE BAR ASSOCIATION CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL EVENT!!!

Full time Legal Assistant/Paralegal needed for well-established local law firm with diverse areas of practice. Experience preferred. Applicants should be proficient typists. Experience with an office calendaring system and document management system is a definite plus. Applicants must have the ability to work independently and be able to work as a team player. Good written and oral communication skills are required, and bilingual in Spanish is a plus but not required. Salary commensurate with experience. For more information, please contact:

**Mary Jane Serna at 254-690-5688**

Solo practitioner looking for paralegal or legal secretary with family law experience. Please contact Michael Miller at 520 South Main Street in Belton.

**Submit resume at [millermi@vvm.com](mailto:millermi@vvm.com)  
or fax to 254-939-3996**

# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

**BRENDA COLVIN - 4TH**

**SAMIA LEMASTER - 5TH**

**JEANIE YARNELL - 9TH**

**BROOKE JOHNSON - 20TH**

**JUDY BENSON - 20TH**

**SUSIE IVY - 20TH**

**JOANNA STATON - 27TH**

# BCBA PARALEGALS

'09-'10 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Cindi Evetts

VICE PRESIDENT – Brooke Johnson

SECRETARY – Mandy Cazares

TREASURER – Cathy Beaman

PARLIAMENTARIAN – Billie Sue Scales

[bcba\\_lad@yahoo.com](mailto:bcba_lad@yahoo.com)



**GUESS  
WHO THIS  
CUTIE PIE  
IS?**

**BOARD MEETINGS** will be held at McAllister's Deli in Killeen from noon to 1:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

**OCTOBER 8, 2009**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** are held in Judge Mischian's courtroom from noon to 1:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

**NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

**OCTOBER 15, 2009**

WishAFriend.com

# OCTOBER BORN

Clairvoyant. Nature lover. You are a born leader. People look up to you. Amiable. Honest. More emotional than practical. Rebellious at times. Totally independent. Good looker. Clever. Faithful towards family, friends and your love. You give importance where due. Dedicated and hard working.

BELL COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

# PARALEGALS

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