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PARA SIGHT

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

JULY 2012

CVPA Community Outreach 2012 The Corner Table

By: Cari Burns, NCCP



Each year, we select an organization as the focus of our Community Outreach. The Corner Table, located in downtown Newton, is this year's beneficiary. On behalf of the association, I delivered supplies and a \$600 check to Manager, Debbie Leatherman on July 12, 2012.

During our visit, I asked Debbie to tell me a little about The Corner Table. Its leadership team is very successful at operating on a shoe-string budget of financial resources and manpower. Their mission is to provide nutritious meals in a comfortable environment for any man, woman, or child who is in need. They serve single parents, the

homeless population, the unemployed, seniors trying to make it on a fixed income, and anyone else who walks through its doors.

Since The Corner Table relies primarily on donations and volunteers within the community in order to operate, I asked Debbie how she man-

(Continued on page 2)





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(Continued from page 1)

ages day after day when the food and supplies become scarce. Debbie smiled and said, “The good Lord knows what we need and He provides.” She went on to add that there have been many times when supplies were so low that she had no idea what to prepare for the daily meal when all of a sudden she would hear a knock on the door. “*Someone* would be there with the *something* we needed. It’s scary,” she said.

The atmosphere of The Corner Table is one of humility, generosity, and compassion. On the surface the staff is diverse. On a deeper level, however, they share many of the same goals,

values, and attitudes. Their leadership is driven by servant-hood and is truly motivated by concern for the welfare of others. Under the direction of their leader, Debbie Leatherman, the staff functions as a surrogate family for many of their clients. In addition to providing for basic nutritional needs, they celebrate birthdays, spend time teaching children to read, and provide for clients' spiritual needs.

On a final note, we are planning a “CVPA volunteer day” at The Corner Table. This will most likely be in late September or early October. If you are interested in volunteering individually, Debbie would love to have your help. You can contact The Corner Table at (828) 464-0355 for further information.



BRING A FRIEND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

CVPA BRING A FRIEND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTINUES. INVITE A FRIEND AS A GUEST OF CVPA. GIVE YOUR FRIENDS THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT ALL THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A MEMBER OF CVPA. MEMBERS GET AN ADDITIONAL CHANCE TO WIN THE DOOR PRIZE DRAWING FOR EACH GUEST THEY BRING.

(A GUEST MAY ATTEND ONE MEETING AT NO COST and WITHOUT RECEIVING CPE CREDIT.)

The Value of Paralegal Association Membership

BY PATTI CLAPPER

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Patti Clapper is a paralegal at Levine & Stewart in Chapel Hill. She is a past-president of the North Carolina Paralegal Association and serves on the Certification Committee of the North Carolina State Bar Board of Paralegal Certification. You can visit her blog at lglduck.blogspot.com

Times are tough for everyone right now, including law firms. You or your employer might be looking for ways to tighten the budget. You may even be looking for a job. Unfortunately, this may mean that you are not able to join or renew your dues to your favorite paralegal association. But during tough times, the value of belonging to a paralegal association is greater than ever before.

Networking. If you are unemployed, you need to understand the importance of this word. Get your name and face out there. Belonging to a paralegal association gives you access to hundreds of potential leads. I receive two or three emails a week with job listings that I forward on to unemployed paralegals I met at a networking function of one of the associations to which I belong.

Job postings. Some associations offer a job bank on their web-

site. Some even allow you to post your resume for potential employers to view.

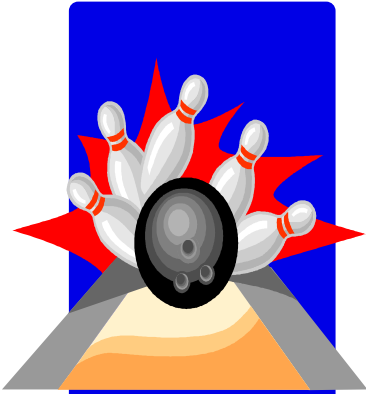
Out of county help. If you work in Wake County and need a copy of a document in Ashe County, normally you would have to call the Ashe County Clerk's Office to see how much it will cost to have them send it to you, and then wait a week for it to arrive. With a network of fellow association members to tap, you can make one phone call to someone in that area and have them get the document for you. This is also a great referral tool for clients who have problems in other counties. The website of one association I belong to allows me to search our member database by county and area of practice, making it very easy to find the help I need.

A database of legal information. I believe one of the most valuable benefits of belonging to an association is the database of legal information you have at your disposal. If you need a form pleading, chances are someone has one they are willing to share with you. If you need a

copy of a federal case and do not have federal access with your research software, chances are someone else does and is willing to help. If my boss asks me to draft something and I do not have it in my forms already, or if he needs an attorney in another county, he will say, "Can't you ask your people?" Yes, my people are very valuable to me!

Long lasting friendships. One of the residual values of belonging to an association is the long-lasting friendships I have made over the last 15 years. Some of my fellow association members I only see a few times a year, but I consider them good friends. Most associations offer different levels of membership, so even if you are unemployed right now, you may still be able to join and have access to some or all of these valuable benefits of belonging to an association. Choose your association wisely, look at which association is of value to you, both in cost and benefits, and then make sure you are getting your money's worth from the association.





JULY SOCIAL AT PIN STATION

By Debbie Miles, NCCP



We had a wonderful turn out at the July social at Pin Station in Newton. There was some bowling along with lots of laughter and catching up with old and new friends.

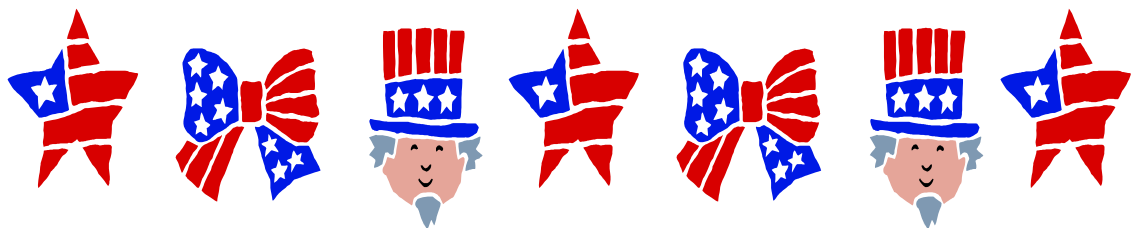
It was especially wonderful to have Lynn Price, past president of CVPA, join us. Attorneys Vanessa Hawkins and Jenni Fulkerson were also there to join in the fun. CVPA is very appreciative of their support of our organization!

Pam Hemphill and several of her co-workers at Legal Aid of North Carolina came all the way from Morganton. Thanks to them for making the trip!

Jerri Lee Craig, chair of the social committee, treated us to special cupcakes made by Joann Trieble. Many thanks go out to Jerri for organizing the event and contributing so much of her time and effort to make it a success!

Every person that you meet knows something you don't; learn from them.

Number 438 from Life's Little Instruction Book by H. Jackson Brown, Jr.





Treasurer's Report

Submitted to Board of Directors

April 1 2012 to July 1, 2012

Prepared by:

Delores Deal, Treasurer

**Account Balance as of
July 1, 2012: \$3,041.21**

Balance Forwarded from 04/01/2012: \$2,938.22

DEPOSITS:

04/06 Refund for check charge	60.87
05/10 Pampered Chef fundraiser	289.87
06/08 Erin Banks –new member dues	30.00
06/19 Susan Renfro –fundraiser proceeds	187.25
06/26 Sara Deal-new member dues	30.00

Total Deposits: \$ 597.99

DISBURSEMENTS:

NC State Bar CPE :

Eric Farr	75.00
Rachael A. LeClair	75.00
Honorariums: Eric Farr	25.00
Gift card for door prize (April, May, June)	75.00
Post Office Box Rental	120.00
Union Square Computers	125.00

Total Disbursements \$ 495.00

July 1, 2012 Balance: \$3,041.21



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ATTEND TO WIN

MONTHLY DOOR PRIZE!

\$25 Gift Card

Attendance at the CVPA monthly meeting and payment for any CPE for non-members is required for a chance to win.

You don't have to be a member for a chance to win—just your attendance is required (and payment for any CPE if you are not a CVPA member).

Congratulations to the winners!

WILL YOU BE NEXT?

Up-coming CPE's and Monthly Meetings

Mark your calendars! Plan now to attend our monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday in each month at 6:00 pm at Catawba Valley Community College Auditorium.

Door Prize drawing at each meeting for a \$25 gift card.
Bring a friend and/or a donation for The Corner Table for an additional chance at door prize.

- August 14:** "The Role of the County Attorney" by Debra Bechtel
County Attorney, Debra Bechtel, will discuss the Role of the County Attorney, Statutory Authority to Enforce Ordinances, Animal Control, Code Compliance, Economic Development, Social Services, Tax Department, and Utilities & Engineering. One hour General CPE Credit has been applied for from the NC State Bar.
- September 11:** Foreclosure Defense by Rufus Walker
October 9: **ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, AND LEGAL PROFESSION APPRECIATION EVENT**-Location TBA
- November 13:** TBA
December 11: Holiday Social—Location TBA