

# PARA SIGHT

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## ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

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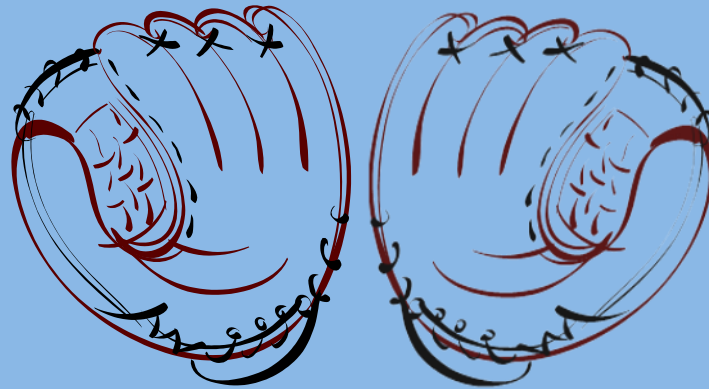
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Your Parasight publishing team—Cyndy Adams, Suzanna Cowan, Peggy Hallman and Kelley Walker



Catawba Valley  
Paralegal Association

Post Office Box 3068  
Hickory, North Carolina 28603



### Message From the President - "Throwing Something Back"

As I near the end of my 4<sup>th</sup> term as Catawba Valley Paralegal Association president, I am reminded of a favorite quote by the late Dr. Maya Angelou. "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." I interpret this to mean: step out of your comfort zone, become pro-active and truly become involved in your organization, not just on a superficial level.



Continued on next page

I notice that a small number of CVPA members are leaders, a few more are followers, but the majority don't fully realize the benefits of membership through consistent and pro-active participation. Of our current membership, roughly one-third serve as board, officers or committee members. As CVPA members, how can we "throw something back" and be a part of improving our organization? Don't just receive, take and consume the assets of our group. *Get involved and do something to reciprocate.*

When you read a post on the website asking, inviting or requesting participation in a project, consider a positive reaction beyond just reading. When we need committee members or solicit help with community outreach, raise your hand, place your name on a list, and then follow-through and keep your commitment. When a board member sends you an e-mail and asking for a response, don't just hit "delete" -- **RESPOND!** Have you ever submitted a story, a favorite link, a joke, a book review or a picture for publication in the ParaSight? Sadly, the answer is likely "NO". My question is: Why not?

One of the main accomplishments of CVPA is hosting two CPE's each quarter at no cost to the membership. What is your level of involvement in a CPE? Have you approached your boss or firm about sponsoring or presenting a CPE? Will you commit to inviting a co-worker to an upcoming CPE?

At our July social, of the seven people attended, one was a non-member. Regardless of whether two or 22 people attend, the same amount of work and thought and time go into planning a social. Six members out of 49 – not a good return on our investment! It begs the question, "Why bother?" When asked to help in planning an event, if you can't do "this," then offer to do "that," as an alternative. Perhaps you are able to help with the holiday social, but not the summer event. Throw it back to us and let us catch your offer.

I commend, give praise for and say "thank you" to our current board members, officers, and committee members. I appreciate and gratefully acknowledge the CVPA membership, CPE presenters and friends, attorneys, CVCC, WPCC students and faculty, CPE sponsors, media, and others. I am proud of meeting our goals and accomplishments achieved this year.

My sincere wish for CVPA going forward is to improve, expand our membership base, and continue to effectively meet our goals. Only when we challenge ourselves, when one of our catcher's mitts is removed, and we increase our level of involvement will these goals be realized. Dare to reach beyond your usual limits and strive to achieve new objectives through participation and interest. Throw something back by accepting a pro-active role as a member of the Catawba Valley Paralegal Association.

~Cyndy Adams, NCCP  
President, CVPA  
September 2014



## **CVPA Objectives and purposes:**

- Encourage the highest order of ethical and professional conduct in the paralegal profession.
- Further education and encourage exchange of information, ideas, experience and forms among members of the legal profession.
- Establish good fellowship among the CVPA members, North Carolina Paralegal Association and members of the legal community.
- Promote the paralegal profession through community service activities.
- Benefits to members: networking, CPE credits, job bank, professional and personal growth.

## Law Update

The General Assembly of North Carolina approved an amendment to the law that imposes residential restrictions on sex offenders. The amendment, Session Law 2014-21, House Bill 777, changed the law to make the term “child care center” to include the permanent locations of organized clubs of Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Sex Offenders registering after the law took effect, June 24, 2014, cannot reside within one thousand feet of a site where a Boys and Girls Club of America is located.

Submitted by: Phebe McClellan

Some funnies to brighten your day.  
Submitted by: Cyndy Adams



Do you want to talk to the attorney or to the paralegal who knows what is really going on?

Submitted by: Suzanna Cowan

Stu's Views

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PARALEGALS NAVIGATING PERILOUS WATERS

2015



PARALEGAL CRUISE

DATES: JANUARY 30, 2015

TO

FEBRUARY 2, 2015

SHIP DEPARTS PORT MIAMI

MIAMI, FLORIDA

AT 11:00 AM

RETURNS

AT 8:00 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION YOU CAN CHECK IT OUT AND MAKE RESERVATIONS

AT <http://paralegalcruise.com>

# Catawba Valley Paralegal Association



## UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC EDUCATION

**PRESENTED BY:  
CRYSTAL A. DAVIS,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

**Tuesday, September 9, 2014  
@ 6:00 p.m.**

**Catawba Valley Community College  
Auditorium**

1.0 General CPE credit has been applied for.

There is no charge for CVPA members in good standing to attend.

Anyone is welcome to attend at no cost for no CPE credit and non-members may pay \$25.00 for CPE credit, or join CVPA to receive all membership benefits.

- I. A Massive Operation
  - Operations
  - Finance
  - Human Resources
  - Technology
  - Curriculum & Instruction
- II. The Role of a Public School Board Attorney
- III. Public vs. Private/Charter Schools
- IV. Interplay of Education Law and Civil and Criminal Litigation
- V. Interesting Scenarios

[www.catawbavalleyparalegalassoc.org](http://www.catawbavalleyparalegalassoc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/catawbavalley.paralegalassn](https://www.facebook.com/catawbavalley.paralegalassn)



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**COLLEGE OFFICIALS**

Jim W. Burnett  
President

Atticus Simpson  
Vice President for  
Student Development  
& Executive Director

June 18, 2014

Law Offices of Blair E. Cody, III  
ATTN Ms. Cyndy Adams  
PO Box 2391  
Hickory, NC 28603

Dear Ms. Adams,

Thank you for Catawba Valley Paralegal Association's gift to the Western Piedmont Foundation. Your donation will go directly to the CVPA Lynn Price Memorial Scholarship.

Western Piedmont Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the information at the bottom of this letter will serve as your receipt for tax purposes.

Again, thank you for your generous gift and your support of the Western Piedmont Foundation.

Sincerely,

Atticus Simpson  
Executive Director, Western Piedmont Foundation

Receipt	
June 18, 2014	
<b>Donor Name:</b>	Catawba Valley Paralegal Association
<b>Description:</b>	CVPA Lynn Price Memorial Scholarship
<b>Payment Received:</b>	\$500.00 Check #1236

*\* Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your financial donation.*

Another scholarship will soon be awarded to a deserving WPCC Paralegal student. To make a donation to the CVPA Lynn Price Memorial Scholarship at WPCC, forward your check payable to: CVPA with a notation in the memo section. Our mailing address is: PO Box 3068, Hickory, NC 28603.

## IS IT TIME TO BRING THE MUCKRAKERS BACK?

The muckrakers were a group of reporters, men and women, in the early 1900's who shone the spotlight on the political corruption and wrong doing of their day. The first to strike was LINCOLN STEFFENS. In 1902, he published an article in *MCCLURE'S* magazine called "TWEED DAYS IN ST. LOUIS." Steffens exposed how city officials worked in league with big business to maintain power while corrupting the public treasury. More and more articles followed, and soon Steffens published the collection as a book entitled *THE SHAME OF THE CITIES*. Soon public outcry demanded reform of city government and gave strength to the progressive ideas of a city commission or city manager system.

IDA TARBELL struck next. One month after Lincoln Steffens launched his assault on urban politics, Tarbell began her *McClure's* series entitled "HISTORY OF THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY." She outlined and documented the cutthroat business practices behind John Rockefeller's meteoric rise. Tarbell's motives may also have been personal: her own father had been driven out of business by Rockefeller.

Though not a muckraker, Ida B. Bell, became a reporter after she refused to give up her seat on a train. Many papers wanted to hear about the experiences of the 25-year-old school teacher who stood up against white supremacy. Her writing career blossomed in papers geared to African American and Christian audiences. In 1889 Wells became a partner in the *Free Speech and Headlight*. The paper was also owned by Rev. R. Nightingale-- the pastor of Beale Street Baptist Church. He "counseled" his large congregation to subscribe to the paper and it flourished, allowing her to leave her position as an educator.

In 1892 three of her friends were lynched. Thomas Moss, Calvin McDowell, and Henry Stewart. These three men were owners of People's Grocery Company, and their small grocery had taken away customers from competing white businesses. A group of angry white men thought they would "eliminate" the competition so they attacked People's grocery, but the owners fought back, shooting one of the attackers. The owners of People's Grocery were arrested, but a lynch-mob broke into the jail, dragged them away from town, and brutally murdered all three. Again, this atrocity galvanized her mettle. She wrote in *The Free Speech*

“The city of Memphis has demonstrated that neither character nor standing avails the Negro if he dares to protect himself against the white man or become his rival. There is nothing we can do about the lynching now, as we are out-numbered and without arms. The white mob could help itself to ammunition without pay, but the order is rigidly enforced against the selling of guns to Negroes. There is therefore only one thing left to do; save our money and leave a town which will neither protect our lives and property, nor give us a fair trial in the courts, but takes us out and murders us in cold blood when accused by white persons.” Remind any one of Ferguson?

Submitted by Kelley Walker

Author: ushistory.org

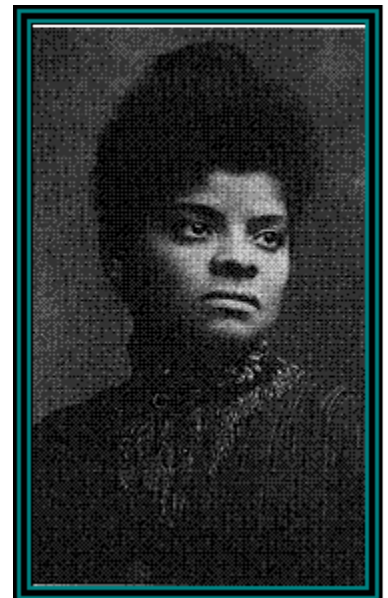
Title of Page: Muckrakers

Title of Program: US History Online Textbook

Url of Page: <http://www.ushistory.org/us/42b.asp>

Date of Access: Friday, September 5, 2014

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

CVPA Treasurer's Report: June 2014

Date	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Reason	Checks Paid	Ending Balance
	\$1,739.51				
6/24/2014		\$45.00	Dues		
6/27/2014			Deposit slips	\$39.49	
6/4/2014			CPE Application June 2014	\$75.00	
6/30/2014			WPCC Foundation	\$500.00	
6/24/2014			Neal Bevens honorarium	\$25.00	
6/23/2014			Auto-Owners Insurance	\$290.00	
6/27/2014			Stamps	\$9.80	
<b>Totals</b>		\$45.00		\$939.29	
					\$845.22

CVPA Treasurer's Report: July 2014

Date	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Reason	Checks Paid	Ending Balance
	\$845.22				
7/17/2014		\$118.00	Cody sponsorship		
<b>Totals</b>		\$118.00		\$0.00	
					\$963.22

“The Verdict”

Paul Newman stars as Frank Galvin, a Boston lawyer in the 1982 courtroom drama, “The Verdict.” A graduate of Boston Law School, once employed by a famous local law firm, his love for the drink has driven his reputation as a successful attorney to the gutter. In the last 3 years, he has taken to ambulance chasing, but has lost all 4 of his last cases. When a once-in-a-lifetime chance comes along to redeem himself, he reluctantly accepts the challenge. Mickey (Jack Warden) is Frank’s most able paralegal (“assistant,” back in the day) who pushes and pulls his boss, even smacks him around a little, to get Frank back in the game. After all, Frank was once a great attorney, and Mickey believes that Frank has one last chance to win ‘the big one.’ Down on his luck, having nowhere to go but up, Frank decides to give the medical malpractice case a shot.

A young woman who was hospitalized for childbirth in a large Catholic hospital ended up in a coma. Frank visited his client in the hospital, was deeply touched and became emotionally attached to her. Foolishly, Frank turned down a generous monetary offer to settle, thinking he could do more and better for the family of the girl (while proving that he still has the ability to really win a case) but he failed to bring the offer to the family before refusing to settle!

The doctor who was to testify for Frank mysteriously left town the week of the trial, and was unreachable by phone or other means. Which meant that now Frank would be facing the trial of his life – against the Archdiocese of Boston and the multiple lawyers lined up for the defense, led by Newman (Jack Mason), without a viable medical professional to support the Plaintiff’s case. In addition, a critical witness had seemingly disappeared, so Frank was in hot pursuit of a lost witness as well as a medical professional to testify at this medical malpractice trial. The Judge (who really didn’t like trying cases and had chastised Frank, in front of the defense counsel, for his refusal to accept the settlement offer) refused to grant a one-week continuance!

Add to the mix a beautiful lady, Laura, (Charlotte Rampling) whom Frank just happened to meet at his local bar. Laura has an unusual past, never says no to a drink, and is more than willing to spend time with Frank as he prepares for trial.

The stage is set for a dramatic, edge of your seat trial with countless twists and turns on the way to the courtroom conclusion.

“The Verdict” is based on the book by Barry Reed. The movie was nominated for 5 Academy Awards, including Best Actor in a Leading Role (Paul Newman), Best Actor in a Supporting Role (James Mason), Best Director (Sidney Lumet), Best Picture and Best Screenplay Based on Material from Another Medium (David Mamet).

This was one of the best movies I’ve seen lately, and I recommend you search it out and watch for yourself. It certainly contains some unbelievable parts, such as: why wasn’t Frank disbarred for not taking the offer to settle to his clients? But in the end, much truth is told in this story. Alcohol (addiction) can and has led to the untimely demise of many a reputation and life. A beautiful woman (i.e., distraction) can often spell T-R-O-U-B-L-E when a man (anyone) doesn’t stay focused on the task at hand. Most important: a competent, qualified (sometimes outspoken) paralegal is vital in the life of any attorney!

~ Cyndy Adams

<http://youtu.be/hetHGGIUgBE>—This is a link to the famous courtroom speech.



Crockpot Potato Soup for Weight Watchers® Only 2 Points per cup, easy, and very filling! Makes 8-10 cup servings WW Pts+: 3.5 per cup  
Ingredients: 1 26-30 ounce bag frozen hash browns (plain) 2 14 ounce cans non-fat chicken broth 1 10-3/4 can 98% fat free cream of chicken soup 1/4 cup chopped onion 1/4 tsp pepper 1 - 8 ounce pkg lowfat (1/3 less fat) cream cheese 1 cup fat free milk  
Directions: Add first 5 ingredients to crockpot and cook on high for an hour Stir and then turn to low for another hour. Add cream cheese, and cook another 1/2 hour or until cheese can be stirred into mixture. Add milk and cook 10 - 15 minutes longer.  
Optional: Garnish with chopped green onion and bacon bits. (Add 1 pt for garnish) Variation: Use frozen Country potatoes or Potatoes O'Brien in place of the hash browns.



Submitted by: Cyndy Adams



Like Peanut Butter Pie but hate the calories? Here is a quick, easy and low calorie version. Mix 2 cups of Cool Whip (you can use the fat or sugar free ); 3 tbsp. peanut butter and 3 tbsp. unsweetened cocoa powder. Whip with a fork or whisk until well blended. You can let it sit in the refrigerator for a bit or eat immediately. Delicious and about 1/3 the calories of traditional peanut butter pie.

Submitted by: Kelley Walker