

**Special Interest
Articles:**

Yoga Class – March
Fundraiser

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Denton County Paralegal Association

Fundraising Committee

By Holly McDuffie, President



Our Valentines Day fundraiser was a huge success as well as the joint happy hour sponsored by Vicki and Bruce Isaacks.

Krystal Novas will be putting on March 2020 DCPA Fundraiser. A one-hour YOGA class to teach us how to balance Mind, Body, and Soul. Suggested donations for the class are \$10, \$15, or \$20, and all proceeds go to DCPA!! Space is limited to the first 12 registrants. This will be an exhilarating and fun experience doing good for YOUR body, mind, and soul, AND the DCPA! Registration is open until March 19th or the class fills up, whichever comes first so register now!!



Fundraising committee will be holding a meeting to discuss setting up fundraisers for the next quarter. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas for future fundraisers. Please send any ideas to holly@cmloveless.com.

The Denton County Paralegal Association's Luncheons are held on the third Thursday of month, except April & December, at noon at Oakmont Country Club, 1200 Clubhouse Drive, Corinth, Texas.

2020 Officers

Holly McDuffie, President
holly@cmloveless.com

Carla Pressly, President-Elect
Carla@youngbergfamilylaw.com

Sharron Dowdle,
Secretary/Parliamentarian
sharron@littlefamilylawfirm.com

Lisa Pittman, Treasurer
lpittman@hbwwlaw.com

Jennifer Earhart, Historian
jearhart@hbwwlaw.com

Did you know...

We have streamlined the online registration process! Go to the DCPA website at <http://dentonparalegals.org/>. Under the Upcoming Events blue bar click the Monthly Luncheon & CLE link, then click the Register tab and provide the requested information. When registering online, you must indicate whether you plan to attend the CLE and pay for lunch, or will attend the CLE only. We encourage you to make the buffet lunch payment online. If you prefer to pay at the door, you can choose to receive an invoice during the registration process.

Online Registration Is Required! The deadline to register for each month's meeting is the Monday prior to the meeting. Be sure to complete the registration sequence to notify us that you will either attend the CLE and purchase lunch, or will attend the CLE only. That will help us ensure Oakmont is prepared for the number of guests who will go through the buffet line, and that we provide adequate seating for those attending CLE only. **Please note we must bill individuals who register for lunch even if they are unable to attend.**

2020 Committee Chairs

CLE, Kimberly Spivey
kim.spivey@hotmail.com

Fundraising, Vacant

Legal Directory, Lisa Pittman
lpittman@hbwwlaw.com

Membership, Jodi Moss
jodi@nelsonlawgroup.com

Newsletter, Lisa Pittman
lpittman@hbwwlaw.com

Scholarship, Laura Powers
Laura.powers@abdhlaw.com

Social, Carla Pressly
carla@youngbergfamilylaw.com

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)

President's Message

By: Holly McDuffie

2020 has begun at an exceptional pace. DCPA has exceeded expectations with increased participation for monthly luncheons, events and fundraisers. Guests participation and member renewals are on the rise as well. Let's keep this momentum going.

I understand with change there will be some growing pains, so I am appreciative of your patience and understanding with myself and our new committee chairs. Thanks to everyone for sharing our posts and encouraging your colleagues to join DCPA and attend our events.

We are still looking for volunteers to serve on our various committees. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Holly McDuffie at holly@cmloveless.com or the committee chair directly.

In the next few quarters we have scheduled social/networking events, fundraisers and an incredible lineup of CLE speakers. We have partnered with a new nonprofit organization and are currently working on initiatives to give back to our veterans.

Thank you for your continued support and efforts in helping DCPA grow to its full potential.



Members Birthdays

Our members with April, May and June Birthdays are:

April

Cathryn Monique Hill (4/1)

Miranda Miller (4/12)

May

Natalie Newlin (5/2)

Jennifer Cline (5/4)

Alice Hawes (5/4)

Linda Lewis (5/20)

Ali Silva (5/20)

Dara Warren (5/24)

Daphina Park (5/25)

June

Alicia Spencer (6/17)

We hope each of you have a very **Happy Birthday!**



Committee News

Scholarship Committee

By Laura L. Powers, CP, Chair

D CPA awards a \$500 scholarship each October toward certification through a State Bar of Texas, Paralegal Division approved school, NALA, NFPA, and/or TBLS?

Applications are accepted from September 1-15th of each year. Simply visit the D CPA website at <http://www.dentonparalegals.org>, click on the Resources tab, scroll down to Certification Scholarship and follow the link to download the application form and instructions.

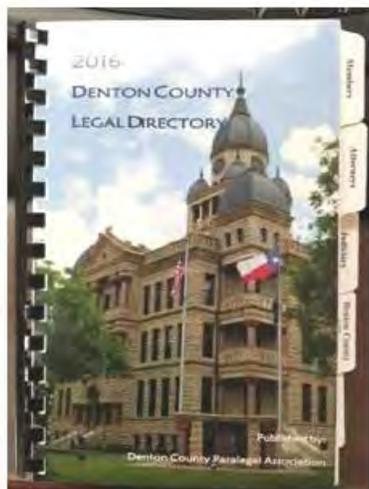
We encourage members who are taking exams to apply! E-mail laura.powers@abdhlaw.com if you have any questions.



Texas Board of Legal Specialization
BOARD CERTIFIED PARALEGAL



Legal Directory



The Legal Directory Committee of the Denton County Paralegal Association has copies of our Denton County Legal Directory available!

There are two options: a bound hard copy or a digital copy of the directory contained on a flash drive. We are very pleased with the finished product and are certain you will be also!

If you, or someone you know, would like to purchase one of these directories, please contact Lisa Pittman at (940) 387-3518.

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, with advance notice to Lisa Pittman, Treasurer at (940) 387-3518 or lpittman@hbwvlaw.com.

Checks should be made payable to Denton County Paralegal Association and mailed to P.O. Box 2641, Denton, Texas 76202.

January Meeting Minutes

As Approved by the Membership on February 20, 2020

President Holly McDuffie called the meeting held on this date to order at 12:21 p.m. at Oakmont Country Club in Corinth. President welcomed 12 members and 1 guest.

OLD BUSINESS

A Motion to accept the November Minutes was approved by Jenna Earhart and seconded by Jodi Moss. All Approved, None Opposed.

A Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was approved by Daphina Park and seconded by Laura Powers. All Approved, None Opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. President McDuffie introduced herself as the new DCPA 2020 President. She announced the recent meeting with the Executive Committee and the incoming committee chairs met to go over the 2020 Plan regarding changes.
2. President McDuffie announced the DCPA was raising the annual dues from \$35.00 to \$40.00 for all levels except students which will remain at \$25.00.
3. President McDuffie brought attention to the flyer on the table announcing we would be supporting a new non-profit organization entitled Next Steps instead of Friends of the Family.
4. President McDuffie announced we are looking at supporting the Military and their families in the near future. This idea is still in the early stages but as soon as we have something to propose we will share that information.
5. President McDuffie announced Jared Julian will be our February Speaker.
6. President McDuffie announced the CLE committee is looking for speakers so please talk to your boss and see if him/her would like to be a speaker in the coming days. If someone you know is interested, please let Kim Spivey, CLE Chair, know.
7. Diana Dillinger and Krystal Novas were asked by the President to come before the group and discuss the Fundraising Committee. Diana discussed the Valentine Gram. She said if you couldn't open the Valentine Gram online before, the glitch has been fixed so please try again. Diana asked that you pay for a Valentine Gram online on the DCPA website. Diana stated this year's Valentine box would be well filled with delicious treats unlike last year when the DCPA received numerous complaints that the boxes were not adequately filled.

January Meeting Minutes Con't

Diana is asking that if you would like to assist the Fundraising Committee with assembling these Valentine Gram boxes to please come to the law firm of Hayes Berry White Vanzant on February 12, 2020 at 4 p.m. They would *love* for you to help. Diana also stated she would bring a snack for nourishment for those filling the boxes. Krystal added to please get involved with their fundraising through Facebook and word of mouth with your friends. If you have any questions to email them, which is on the flyer. And to please Spread the Word!

8. President Holly asked Diana if they would consider having the Dove Chocolate Tasting again. Diana responded the DCPA profited \$150.00 which she believed was pretty good considering there was short notice. One example Diana gave of their product was a chocolate martini. Krystal commented everything they served/sold was infused with chocolate. Diana said it was fun.
9. Krystal Novas said she contacted the County Judge Assistant, Sheryl Knight, to inquire as to a fundraising option of doing Yoga class on the square in downtown Denton. She is waiting on a response.
10. Jodi Moss, Membership Chair, stated she believed Membership awareness has gotten lost in the shuffle. She stated she believes we are in agreement we are a Professional Association and thus we need to get out attorney's involved. Membership chair, Jodi Moss, believes we need to be involved with organizations so our membership will increase. She stated we are all on the same team so what are the tools we need to accomplish this and get others excited to want to join. We need to increase interest and participation. Knowledge is power. And it takes all of us to make this work.
11. Laura Powers stated to Membership Chair, Moss, she would be willing to help this committee.
12. Diana Dillinger stated she felt it would be great if we could get students to participate. Perhaps have a cocktail reception for the students. We could have students meet paralegals once a semester
13. Jodi Moss stated Brent Nelson has finished remodeling and is now currently looking for an attorney to join their firm. Email Jodi if you know of an attorney who might be interested.
14. Carla Pressly, Social Committee Chair, introduced Sharron as her Social Committee Member for 2020. Carla stated she has already started on the Christmas Social for next year. Dropping hints like *you may gnome it or you may have to crack the nut to figure it out!* Also, Carla stated she has an appointment with Briarwood Retreat Center next week to take a tour of their facilities again. Carla also is thinking about doing something different for Paralegal Day~stay tuned!
15. Laura Powers, Scholarship Committee Chair, stated she has been here a year and is looking forward to being in the DCPA. Laura asked the members to email her should they be interested in a Scholarship.
16. President Holly McDuffie stated to the members how excited she gets when she sees the enthusiasm of people when she walks into the room. President McDuffie wanted to thank everyone for trusting in her this year!

January Meeting Minutes Con't

17. Historian, Jenna Earhart, wanted to add plans are in the works for a Spring Seminar. If you know of any attorney who would like to speak, please let us know. So far we only have enough speakers to fill a half a day. The Spring Seminar is April 3, 2020. The jury room has already been reserved.
18. Daphina Park stated she has a forensics investigator that she could see if she would speak at the Spring Seminar.
19. Neal Ashmore is looking for a family law paralegal.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President McDuffie adjourned the meeting at 1:03 pm.

DOOR PRIZE

Carla Pressly won the January 2020 DCPA prize of Ghirardelli Chocolate Coffee, Dark Chocolate Hot Chocolate and Milk Chocolate Hot Chocolate and a beautiful Ghirardelli mug.

Denton County
Paralegals Association

Mailing Address:

PO Box 2641
Denton, TX 76201

Visit us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Denton-County-Paralegal-Association>

Visit our Website:

<https://www.dentonparalegals.org>

Visit us on LinkedIn:

Our group name is
DCPA - Denton County
Paralegal Association

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12045395>