

MCPA TODAY

The official Publication of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association

February 2008

www.montcoparalegals.org

Editor: Tracey L. Barnes, RP

If a man will begin with certainties, he shall end in doubts; but if he will be content to begin with doubts he shall end in certainties.

Sir Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)

Believe it or not - Daylight Saving Time begins on March 9th and that means Spring is just around the corner! Another year has flown by. Welcome back to our returning members and a warm welcome to our new members!

To our student members – we are excited to have you as a part of MCPA! We are committed to helping the paralegal profession grow and we hope you will benefit from our organization and utilize the resources we offer. We welcome your questions and comments. If there is a particular field of law you would like to know more about – just ask. Please feel free to call or e-mail any board member.

MCPA's 2008 Board of Directors was sworn in by The Honorable David A. Keightly, Magisterial District Judge, in January and your committees are in full swing. We have brand new seminars planned beginning with the contract law CLE seminar on February 21st. Our third annual Saturday Breakfast Meeting is scheduled for March 15th at Otto's. There is more information about these upcoming seminars listed throughout this newsletter and on our website.

If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to please consider renewing your membership with MCPA. While we realize it is difficult for a lot of us who pay for our dues out of our own pocket, it is our hope that the seminars, outreach activities and camaraderie this organization has to offer will help you in some small way. MCPA's committees are working very diligently, behind the scenes, to do whatever needs to be done to promote the paralegal profession. We strive to provide you with support and information about the profession, networking opportunities and educational seminars to enable you to advance your career.

On another note, if any of you have looked at the latest edition of the National Paralegal Reporter, you will see articles about paralegal regulation around the country and the ever changing role of the paralegal. I'm sure you are all aware that Florida's Registered Paralegal program begins on March 1, 2008. Stay tuned. . .there's much more to come.

Again, please keep in mind we are always looking for new members too! If you know a paralegal that does not belong to MCPA (they don't have to work or live in Montgomery County) encourage them to come with you to our next meeting and refer them to our website. We have a lot to offer!

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SAVE THE DATE!!

February 21, 2007 at O'Brien & Ryan

March 15, 2007 Breakfast at Otto's

Welcome New Members

Mary Ann Cannito

Carole Moffo

Holly Korpics

Jeninne Hunt

Judy Moore

Shawn Yoder

Amy Diliberto

Louise Pio

Kevin Dwyer

Linda Gunning

Yuliya Hayes

Susan Mirarchi





Board Meeting Highlights January 2, 2008 and February 6, 2008

New responsibilities were defined for the First Vice President and Second Vice President to help alleviate some of the workload of the President. The First Vice President will now be in charge of marketing and the marketing committee; a committee chair will be appointed if necessary. The Second Vice President will be responsible for notifying committee chairs of due dates for reports and seeing that the Committee Reports are distributed at the board meetings.

We still need a sponsor for May's general membership meeting.

An effort will be made in 2008 to get more advanced notice out to members regarding upcoming meetings and events.

An effort will be made to be more organized in our annual budget planning. Committees will be asked to submit projected budgets for the year.

There was general agreement that the issue of regulation needs to be demystified for our members. In an effort to achieve this, we are hoping to present a workshop to our members in September. We also think regular updates from Keystone should be published in the newsletter.

NFPA updates should also be included in each newsletter.

Board highlights should be published in the newsletter to keep our members informed about Association activities, etc.

NOTICE TO MCPA MEMBERS: You need not to be a board member to attend board meetings – members are always welcome to attend. Please feel free to contact a board member at any time to confirm the date, time and location of the next board meeting.





SPONSORS WANTED!

As we all know, without sponsors/sponsorship, our members continue to have to pay for our seminars, etc. We would love to offer our seminars and conferences free to our members in an effort to also increase attendance at these events.

Please take a moment to send to me the names and addresses of any vendors that you may know or use that I can add to our marketing list. If you have a contact name, that helps enormously.

Thank you in advance for your help!!

***Kathleen M. Zamorski
Elliott Greenleaf & Siedzikowski
Union Meeting Corporate Center V
925 Harvest Drive
Suite 300
Blue Bell, PA 19422
Direct Dial: 215-977-1034
Fax: 215-977-1099
E-mail: kmz@elliottgreenleaf.com***



Meghan prefers substance over hype.

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SCHEDULE

Education Conference Postponed until 2009

The MCPA Board of Directors and the Education Conference Committee regret to advise that the decision has been made to postpone our Education Conference until 2009. Unfortunately, sponsorship has not reached an adequate level to offset the potential financial risk to our organization, and we must act in accordance with the best interests of our membership.

While we are disappointed that this Education Conference will not take place in 2008, we feel that our efforts have provided us with a better comprehension of what our needs will be as we plan for 2009. We have expanded our knowledge base as well as our support network and resources, promising a more firm foundation on which to build our 2009 Conference.

We appreciate the support and encouragement we have received from the membership in pursuing this endeavor. We were also greatly encouraged by the response from potential speakers as well as from the legal community in general. We look forward to working with these professionals as we plan for 2009.

As always, if you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact a member of the Education Conference Committee.

Education Conference Committee:

- Beth Breckenridge - bbreckenridge@highswartz.com
- Karen Garcia - Karen.Garcia@us.henkel.com
- Debbie Long - debbiel@dbyd.com
- Debbie Arbuckle - darbuckle@kaplaw.com





UPCOMING EVENTS FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The MS walk will take place on May 4, 2008. (See details next page). We have moved the location from the Elmwood Park Zoo to Valley Forge for a more challenging walk (5 miles).

The Wissahickon Valley Watershed cleanup is Saturday, April 26, 2008 starting at 9:00 a.m. and goes until about 1:00 p.m. We will meet at the Gwynedd Valley Train Station on Plymouth Road and walk down the road to our cleanup location. Volunteers should wear old clothes and boots and bring gloves. Lunch will be provided afterwards for all volunteers.

We will again collect monetary donations to purchase food to assemble breakfast bags for Aid for Friends. Members can give their donations to Debbie Arbuckle, Joyce O'Brien, or Maureen Stankiewicz at our general membership meetings. We will collect at a few meetings and then assemble the bags for delivery to Aid for Friends.

We have suspended our collection of cell phones and eyeglasses. We have had a wonderful response, but figured we had exhausted our members' supplies for the time being. We may resume these collections some time in the future. However, we will turn no donations away if they come in!

A big thank you to all our members for their continued support!



walk



walk to
create a world
free of MS

Welcome to **Walk MS 2008!** Registration is now open.

For 20 years, the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter has called on our community to walk to create a world free of MS. For 20 years, you've responded.

This year, we hope to raise our highest-ever total - \$3 million - to fund research and comprehensive programs and services for 11,000 people living with MS in the Greater Delaware Valley.

But to reach our goal, we need your help. Join the movement on **Sunday, April 27** or **Sunday, May 4** by starting a team, walking, volunteering or donating to Walk MS at one of 17 sites throughout the region. Registration starts at 9 a.m. and the Walk MS events start at 10 a.m.

When you join a Walk MS event, you become part of the powerful movement that will end MS forever.

To register for a Walk MS location near you, click your site below:

Sunday, April 27, 2008

[Easton, PA](#)

[Sellersville, PA](#)

[Moorestown, NJ](#)

[Washington Township, NJ](#)

[West Goshen, PA](#)

[Gilbert, PA](#)

[Norristown, PA](#)

Sunday, May 4, 2008

[Philadelphia, PA](#)

[Newtown, PA](#)

[Lansdale, PA](#)

[Media, PA](#)

[Valley Forge, PA](#)

[Reading, PA](#)

[Allentown, PA](#)

[Voorhees, NJ](#)

[Ocean City, NJ](#)

[Vineland, NJ](#)



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THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

<i>When:</i>	February 21, 2008 6:00 P.M.
<i>Where:</i>	O'Brien & Ryan 2250 Hickory Road, Suite 300 Plymouth Meeting, PA
<i>Special Guest:</i>	<i>Anthony DiMichele, Esquire to speak regarding contracts</i>
<i>Menu:</i>	Pizza and beverages
<i>Cost:</i>	Free for members
<i>RSVP:</i>	By Monday, February 18, 2008 To Tracey L. Barnes, RP, at Traceyb@dbyd.com

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW AND LET US KNOW THAT WE WILL SEE
YOU ON THE 21st!**

RENEWALS DUE NOW!!!!

MCPA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

I would like to renew my membership for 2008 as follows:

_____ Voting Member (\$70.00) _____ Associate Member (\$55.00)
Full benefits, voting privileges No voting privileges

_____ Student Member (\$25.00)
Full benefits, no voting privileges

If you have moved, changed phone numbers, have a new e-mail address or changed jobs, please let us know so we can update your records.

If you are interested in joining or gathering further information on any of MCPA's Committees, please circle any of the following and the Committee Chair will contact you to discuss. In particular, the Planning, Marketing and Community Outreach Committees greatly need your assistance.

Membership Planning Fundraising Newsletter Marketing Community Mentoring
Outreach

Please give us your comments and suggestions so that we can work towards making 2008 another great year.

Check here if you do not want your contact information available to other vendors and/or companies besides the Montgomery County Paralegal Association and the National Federation of Paralegal Associations.

I authorize investigation of all statements contained in this application. I understand that misrepresentation or omission of facts requested is cause for the disqualification for membership in the Montgomery County Paralegal Association. Renewal dues are payable annually. Membership status may be changed to reflect current employment. I will notify MCPA of any change in my employment status and any change of my mailing address.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Current email address at work: _____

Current email address at home: _____

Please mail application and check to:

Montgomery County Paralegal Association
PO Box 1765
Blue Bell, PA 19422

*Please make checks payable to "Montgomery County Paralegal Association"

LEGAL FORMS

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You can never find the one you need when you need it! The perfect legal form, that is. We have compiled a list of links to free forms on the internet so you don't have to spend time searching. Still can't find what you're looking for? Try swapping forms with a fellow Paralegal using the "[Connect](#)" section of the Gateway.

[FindLegalForms.com](#): Search their database of thousands of free legal forms. Their one of a kind search engine will allow you to easily find the form you are looking for. Select the database from the drop-down menu and enter your search. You can also search their State Specific "Premium Forms" database of over 20,000 non-free legal forms. To find any form, enter your search term, select the free or premium database and press "Find Forms".

[Lectric' Law Library](#): Offering free forms and also non-free premium forms.

[FindLaw.com](#): Database of State Corporate and Business forms (most of these links will redirect you to [Secretaries of State's](#) sites.)

[Internet Legal Resource Guide](#): Pretty good site with all free legal forms. Not a huge variety but, it will give you a good starting place.

[LegalWiz.com](#): Small sampling of free forms (some for purchase) and downloadable in .pdf format. Cool website name! It's the Wiz!

[MegaLaw.com](#): Free legal forms organized by subject.

[Forms From the Feds](#): You've got to love this name!! Good site with downloadable government electronic files in .pdf format.

[Hudclips](#): Looking for a HUD form? Click here and find a huge variety in .pdf format.

[WashLaw WEB](#): Cool site with links to forms all over the internet for just about any state.

[U. S. Legal Forms](#): The original and premiere site for legal forms on the Internet. Over 36,000 legal documents and forms, including wills, name change, real estate and more.

[All About Forms](#): "We have over 5000 legal forms (over 2,000 are FREE)"

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Something to think about:

Leadership is practiced not so much in words as in attitude and in actions.

Harold S. Geneen



Why Take PACE?

Paralegals receive two major benefits by taking PACE. The exam

- provides a fair evaluation of the competencies of paralegals across practice areas; and
- creates a professional level of expertise by which all paralegals can be evaluated.

PACE presents a bold opportunity to all paralegals to advance the profession. This exam provides hard facts about the competency of experienced paralegals. While PACE does not address all the issues of regulation, including certification and licensing, it does provide the legal service industry with an option to evaluate the competency level of experienced paralegals.

As members of a self-directed profession, all paralegals should consider the vital role the profession performs within the legal service industry. PACE is independently monitored and well-structured. PACE provides test results across practice areas and, possibly, state-specific laws. While the test is offered on a voluntary basis, all experienced paralegals are encouraged to sit for the exam.

NFPA is committed to ensuring the paralegal profession responds to the changing needs of the public and legal service industry. In voting to develop PACE, NFPA's membership took a bold step toward addressing the future issues facing the profession.

Interested in PACE? Contact Dawn Cinaglia at dcinaglia@nldhlaw.com.



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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 23, 2008
Cindy Byfield, NFPA Managing Director
425-967-0045
cindy@paralegals.org

**MARY MACK, CORPORATE TECHNOLOGY COUNSEL FOR FIOS, INC., TO
DELIVER KEYNOTE AT 2008 NFPA TECH INSTITUTE**

Mary Mack
Corporate Technology Counsel

Whether in response to an inquiry, a second request or class action litigation, Mary Mack brings legal and technical professionals together in a focused manner to determine a successful, cost-effective course of compliance with electronic discovery requests. As Corporate Technology Counsel for Fios, she has more than 20 years experience delivering enterprise-wide electronic discovery, managed services and software projects with legal and IT departments in publicly held companies. Mary is a hands-on strategic advisor to counsel for some of the largest products liability class actions, government investigations and intellectual property disputes. Clients include the largest law firms, pharmaceutical companies and insurance companies in the world.

A member of the Illinois Bar, ACCA and the ABA's Section on Litigation, Mary received her J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law (1982) and a B.A. from LeMoyne College in Syracuse, NY. She holds certifications in Computer Forensics and Computer Telephony.

Mary is one of the leading speakers and authors on electronic discovery issues, technology and the law. She is co-author of the popular book, "A Process of Illumination: The Practical Guide to Electronic Discovery," and hosts the blog, "Sound Evidence," featured on DiscoveryResources.org. She's is also regularly featured as an expert in the leading magazines and newspapers, such as The New York Times, Inside Counsel Magazine, Law.com, Chicago Lawyer, Compliance Week and Metropolitan Corporate Counsel Magazine.

<http://www.fiosinc.com/about/management.asp>

NFPA is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 11,000 paralegals and is headquartered in Edmonds, Washington. NFPA's core purpose is the *advancement of the paralegal profession*. NFPA promotes a global presence for the paralegal profession, and leadership in the legal community. www.paralegals.org

NFPA will hold its annual Tech Institute in Aurora, CO at the Doubletree Hotel. The Tech Institute will be held from July 25-26, 2008.

NFPA – the Leader of the Paralegal Profession™

How to Contact Us



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hreichner@berwynabstract.com

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sdise@bluebelllaw.com

Nancy Aiken (610) 834-8800
naiken@obrlaw.com

www.montcoparalegals.org



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- we obtain documents from the PA Corporation Bureau, offices at the Department of State, Departments of Insurance & Health, and Commonwealth, Superior and Supreme Courts in Harrisburg; and
- Through our network of contacts we can provide similar services in the other 49 states.

Contact Tony DiSanto, Esq. at (717) 232-9398 or at tony@esquireassist.com