

# MCPA TODAY

The Official Publication of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association

October 2009

[www.montcoparalegals.org](http://www.montcoparalegals.org)

Editor: Tracey L. Barnes, RP, Pa. C.P.

## Message from the President

Welcome to the Election Edition of *MCPA Today*! It's hard to believe it's that time of year again already. It has been a productive year thus far, and there is more to be done before we rest up for 2010.

At present, there are seven open positions on the Board of Directors. Please take the time to read the candidates' bios in this issue so you can select the candidates you think will best serve the interests of the MCPA. As you are aware, this year's election will be held in conjunction with our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on October 22, 2009. If you are unable to attend this event, be sure to use the Proxy Ballot, also available in this issue, to cast your votes. Remember to select seven candidates from the ballot.

If you have not yet done that "one thing" to put your mark on the MCPA in 2009, here is your chance! We still need a few volunteers to help out at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Options include setting up, registration table, MCPA merchandise sales, 50/50 ticket sales, elections, and clean up. Please contact Shelly Geib at [sgeib@wispearl.com](mailto:sgeib@wispearl.com) if you would like to take part. The more help we have, the more smoothly this event will flow.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank the Gala Committee – Shelly Geib, Tracey Barnes, and Diane Budman – for all their hard work on this event. This will be a special night for the MCPA, and it promises to be full of cheer and camaraderie thanks to the dedication of these three individuals. Whether or not you are able to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, be sure to send each of them your own personal "thank you" for their efforts on behalf of your Association. Their e-mail addresses are listed in the "Contacts" section at the end of this newsletter.

*Deborah A. Long, Pa. C.P.*  
President

## Board of Directors-2009

*Officers*

**Deborah A. Long, Pa. C.P.**

President

**Deborah Arbuckle**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Harry Reichner**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice

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**Ro Fedorka**

Treasurer

**Nancy Aiken**

Treasurer

*Board Members*

**Linda Brearey**

**Christine Horace**

\*\*\*\*\*

## SAVE THE DATE!!

October 22, 2009—10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Gala and Election Meeting

November 17, 2009 – E-Discovery  
Seminar with Pam Tobin,  
Esquire

## Welcome New Members

*Cindy R. Bickel*

*Lisa M. Bugda*

*Mary Jo Giagnacova*

*Christina Gilson*

*Deborah Howard*

*Diane B. Roach*

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## **"YOU COULD BE THE NEXT STUDENT LIAISON"**

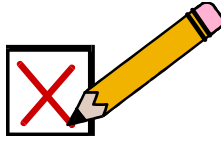
By: Lisa M. LaPenna, Pa. C.P.,  
Chair of Mentoring Committee

The one year term of our paralegal student liaisons is coming to a close at the end of the year. Please take this time to consider becoming our next student liaison. In order to become a candidate, you must be a student member of the MCPA enrolled in a paralegal course of study. The liaison's role will include attending the monthly Board Meetings and passing along the MCPA event and association information to their paralegal program director as well as to their fellow students. You will also help coordinate speaking events and informational sessions between the MCPA and your respective school. This is a non-voting position, but a great networking opportunity.

If you think you could be the next student liaison to serve on our Board of Directors, please submit your resume or short bio to me by fax 610-684-2114 or e-mail [llapenna@kaplaw.com](mailto:llapenna@kaplaw.com) no later than November 12<sup>th</sup>. Please include the name of your school, year of graduation, job (if you have one), any legal experience, clubs you may be associated with, and why you should be selected by the Board. If you have any questions, please call me at 610-941-2523. The 2010 Student Liaisons will be announced at the Holiday Social on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors, we would like to thank Monique Rucker who represented Pierce College and Sheila Kees-Hayden and Ellyn Caplan Klein who represented Lansdale School of Business in 2009 for their time, dedication, and "fresh ideas" to the MCPA.





## MEET THE CANDIDATES!!

### **Sherry Barag**

My first law firm experience was with a boutique firm specializing in intellectual property (patents and trademarks). After leaving that firm, I began a 28+ year employment with Seidel Gonda, another IP boutique firm, handling such diverse positions as secretary, word processing specialist, network co-administrator, WordPerfect specialist, form documents and letters creator, computer trainer, paralegal and senior billing coordinator.

I then worked as an IP paralegal for a short time at Saul Ewing before joining the Intellectual Property Department of Fox Rothschild as the firm's first IP paralegal. In February 2008 after working for over 37 years in Center City, I threw away my R5 train schedule for good and transferred to our Montgomery County office (previously located in Lansdale and now located in Blue Bell) and came to embrace both living and working in the suburbs.

I was very active in the Philadelphia Association of Paralegals and its Intellectual Property Group subcommittee in particular, where I served as co-chair of the IP Group for the last few years I worked in the city, with an emphasis on obtaining speakers for our monthly meetings. I was also the recipient three times of PAP's Special Recognition and Achievement Award for my work with the IP Group. I also served two years on the planning committee for PAP's annual Education Conference. And even though I am no longer a member of PAP, I obtained three speakers for this year's Education Conference.

On a personal note, I grew up in Overbrook Park (in west Philadelphia) and attended the main campus of Penn State University for a short time. I am the divorced mother of Mandy and grandmother of 2 year old Lexi and live a somewhat quiet existence in Blue Bell.

### **Terri Hall**

Terri is a paralegal for the Office of General Counsel at Streamlight, Inc located in Eagleville, PA. Her paralegal duties concentrate on trademark/patent law. She received her paralegal certificate from Peirce College in 2008.

She is a member of National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. and the Montgomery County Paralegal Association where she recently joined the Community Outreach committee.

Terri lives in West Chester, PA where she serves on her condominium association board as the secretary.

## **Annette M. Rolon**

Annette M. Rolón, is a Paralegal at the Norristown law firm of Kane, Pugh, Knoell, Troy & Kramer for senior partner, William H. Pugh, V specializing in medical malpractice defense. Having received her paralegal certification in 1993, Annette left the workforce to homeschool her three children (now ages 21, 15 and 12). In addition to homeschooling, she also ran a business as a Creative Memories Consultant, teaching people to organize and preserve their memories in scrapbooks and digital photo albums. Annette resides in Lansdale, PA and enjoys doing activities with her children, using computers, photography, music and reading.

## **Deborah L. Arbuckle**

Debbie Arbuckle has been employed with Kaplin Stewart since 1999, for the last three and a half years as a paralegal in the Land Use Department. She has almost 35 years of combined legal experience as a secretary and paralegal having earned her paralegal certification from Penn State University in 1994. She has a background in many areas of the law, including personal injury, domestic relations, general litigation and land use/zoning.

Debbie joined the MCPA in 2003 and has been active on the Community Outreach Committee since that time. She was elected to the Board of Directors in 2007 and currently serves as First Vice President, chairperson of the Community Outreach Committee, co-chair of the Marketing Committee, and is MCPA's Primary Delegate to the National Federation of Paralegal Associations.

She is a long time Abington resident, residing there with her grown daughter.

## **Deborah A. Long**

Deborah A. Long is currently employed by the law offices of Dischell, Bartle, Yanoff & Dooley (DBYD) as a family law paralegal. Debbie has been employed with DBYD since 1998.

Debbie earned her Paralegal Certificate at Bucks County Community College in May 2005. She joined MCPA as a student member in 2002, at which time she joined the Newsletter Committee. Shortly thereafter, she became the Newsletter Editor and served in that capacity through 2005. Debbie was elected to the Board of Directors for the 2008/2009 term and is currently serving as President. She is also Co-chair of the Marketing Committee.

Debbie lives in Chalfont, Pennsylvania with her husband, two children, and their yellow lab.

## **Harry A. Reichner**

Harry A. Reichner is a real estate paralegal at the firm of Mitchell Campbell, LLC, counsel for O'Neill Properties Group located in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. Mr. Reichner focuses on real estate, corporate and transactional matters relating to O'Neill's various business interests as well as administration of the firm.

Prior to Mitchell Campbell, LLC, Mr. Reichner was a paralegal with the firm of Kaplin Stewart Meloff Reiter and Stein, P.C. in its Land Use, Zoning & Development and Real Estate Transactions Departments. Mr. Reichner focused in the areas of commercial real estate and the formation of business entities.

Mr. Reichner received his Bachelor of Arts in German and his Master of Arts in Central and Eastern European Studies and Economics from LaSalle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Reichner is an adjunct faculty member at Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, Pennsylvania and Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Reichner also devotes his time to the Montgomery County Paralegal Association where he serves on the Board of Directors, administrates the Association's website and serves as Montgomery County Paralegal Association's primary delegate to the Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations.

Additionally, Mr. Reichner has developed foreign language skills in German, Russian and Japanese and is a practicing Calligrapher.

Mr. Reichner lives in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

## **Nancy C. Aiken, Pa. C.P.**

### ***Education:***

**Harcum College**, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, 19010,  
Major: Business Courses; **Associate of Science Degree;**

**The Pennsylvania State University**, Abington Campus, Abington, Pennsylvania,  
**Major:** Paralegal Studies, **Paralegal Certificate;** and

**Eastern University, School of Professional Studies**, St. Davids, Pennsylvania,  
**Major:** Organizational Management, **Bachelor of Arts Degree.**

Ms. Aiken joined O'Brien & Ryan, LLP as a Paralegal in March, 2007. Prior to O'Brien & Ryan, LLP, Ms. Aiken was employed with Kaplin Stewart Meloff Reiter & Stein, P.C. in its Commercial Litigation Department. Ms. Aiken has 28 years experience in the legal field involving various types of law. Ms. Aiken has been a notary public for 25 years. She has been actively involved as a paralegal in the areas of commercial and construction litigation, corporate, estate, bankruptcy, real estate and medical malpractice

for years. She has experience in assisting attorneys in state and federal civil actions in all stages of the litigation process and in the defense of complex medical malpractice claims ranging from inception through settlement and/or trial.

Ms. Aiken resides in Fort Washington with her husband, daughter and two West Highland Terriers.

## **Roberta (Ro) Fedorka**

Ms. Fedorka is currently a paralegal at O'Brien & Ryan, LLP. Since joining the firm in 2003, she has been responsible for assisting attorneys in the defense of complex medical malpractice claims. This includes preparing pleadings and discovery and case workup from inception through settlement, mediation and/or trial. Ms. Fedorka's previous legal experience includes preparing deposition transcripts for a court reporter and working for a national shopping center development and management company (19 years) dealing with everything from operating agreements and leases between tenants and landlords to enforcing compliance with lease terms.

Ms. Fedorka is currently serving on the Board of Directors of MCPA as treasurer and is also the chairperson of the Planning Committee.

Ms. Fedorka is a graduate of Norristown Area High School and took additional courses in accounting and paralegal studies at Montgomery County Community College.

Ms. Fedorka resides in West Norriton with her husband.

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# Proxy Ballot

*If you are unable to attend the election meeting, as per MCPA's Bylaws at Article VIII, Section 3, "... a voting member may vote by proxy executed in writing by said member or his agent. The proxy must be filed with the Secretary of the Association before the meeting. The proxy must be signed and dated." Kindly cast your vote via the proxy ballot, and forward it to the Nominating Committee as per the directions on the ballot.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that I am a current voting member of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association (hereinafter MCPA) and that I freely cast my vote of my own will for the following individuals to the position of Board of Director of the MCPA.

**PLEASE MARK SEVEN BOXES**

- SHERRI BARAG**
- TERESA HALL**
- DEBORAH A. LONG**
- DEBBIE ARBUCKLE**
- HARRY A. REICHNER**
- ANNETTE ROLON**
- ROBERTA (RO) FEDORKA**
- NANCY C. AIKEN**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

**Mail Ballots to:** Tracey L. Barnes, RP, Pa. C.P., Nominating Committee  
1800 Pennbrook Parkway, Suite 200  
Lansdale, PA 19446-0107

**Or fax to:** 215-362-6722

**Or E-Mail to:** tbarnes@dbyd.com





## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community Outreach Committee needs your help! We have again registered MCPA as a group to volunteer at the Special Olympics held at Villanova University. Pending confirmation from the volunteer committee at Villanova, we opted for the time slot of Saturday afternoon, November 7, 2009 from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m.

The Special Olympics held at Villanova is the largest student-run program in the world! Those who have volunteered in years past know what a special afternoon this can be. We will be assigned wherever we are needed – in the past we have been assigned as event “cheerleaders” to encourage these awesome athletes in their chosen sport.

This is a rain or shine event. Please e-mail COC Chair, Debbie Arbuckle at [darbuckle@kaplaw.com](mailto:darbuckle@kaplaw.com) to confirm your attendance. We need definite commitments so the student volunteer committee knows where we can best help.

Remember, while this is a Community Outreach Committee sponsored event, it is not limited to COC members! All MCPA members, spouses, children, friends and family are welcome to participate. If you have already contacted me, thank you - no need to contact me again.

Did I mention the free volunteer T-shirt???

**AT OUR HOLIDAY SOCIAL**, scheduled for December 3, 2009, Community Outreach Committee will have available for purchase jewelry created by BeadforLife. These are unique, one-of-a-kind pieces, no two alike! BeadforLife helps women in Uganda and other parts of the world learn a skill and a living. These beads are handmade from recycled paper and are then lightly coated with an eco-friendly sealant. We hope to have a video available so you can learn more about this worthwhile organization. In the meantime, please visit their website - [beadforlife.org](http://beadforlife.org). All proceeds benefit BeadforLife and merchandise is available that night to take home - just in time for holiday gift giving!



## *MCPA APPAREL, MUGS and TOTES*

MCPA long-sleeved t-shirts and short-sleeved polo shirts are still available. The long-sleeve shirts are \$10 and the short-sleeve shirts are \$20. Show your MCPA spirit by purchasing a shirt (or two).

***NEW FOR 2009*** – Now available for purchase are MCPA coffee (or tea, or hot chocolate) mugs and re-usable MCPA Totes! Each at a low cost of \$5. Show off your MCPA spirit in the office with a new mug and in the community with a tote bag or two.

All MCPA spirit items will be available at the general membership meetings or you may contact Christine Horace at [chorace@good-lawyer.com](mailto:chorace@good-lawyer.com).



## **CYBER HELP**

Suggestions for helpful websites always needed. Please submit to Tracey Barnes at [tbarnes@dbyd.com](mailto:tbarnes@dbyd.com).

# Attention Student Members

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION 2010 SCHOLARSHIPS

TO: Paralegal Students  
Lansdale School of Business, Manor College, Pierce College

FROM: Montgomery County Paralegal Association, Scholarship Committee

DATE: October 7, 2009

RE: APPLICATION FOR MCPA'S 2010 SCHOLARSHIPS

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The Montgomery County Paralegal Association is pleased to announce that it will award a \$250 Scholarship to one student from each of the following schools:

### **Lansdale School of Business, Manor College and Pierce College**

In order to be eligible, a student must submit a written essay along with the attached application and Certification of Attendance and Academic Record **no later than October 31, 2009.**

The applications and essays will be first screened and reviewed by the MCPA Scholarship Committee. All personal identifying information about the student applicant will be removed before the applications and essays are submitted to the MCPA Board of Directors. The Board members will not know who the applicants are during the evaluation process. The Board of Directors will then read and score the essays.

The three (3) Scholarship awards will be given to one student from each school who receives the highest score. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final.

The Scholarship recipients will be notified by the Committee no later than December 1, 2009. The Scholarships will be awarded at the annual Holiday Social on Thursday, December 3. A check in the amount of \$250 will be provided payable to the student and school where he or she is enrolled.

The student recipients awarded this scholarship will be ineligible to reapply for this scholarship at any other time.

Please direct any questions to Beth Breckenridge at [bbreckenridge@highswartz.com](mailto:bbreckenridge@highswartz.com) or Kathy Zamorski at [kmz@elliottgreenleaf.com](mailto:kmz@elliottgreenleaf.com).

## **THREE \$250 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PARALEGAL STUDIES STUDENTS**

Scholarship application packets are available at MCPA's website located at [www.montcoparalegals.org](http://www.montcoparalegals.org) or from your Paralegal Studies Program Director.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students must be **members** of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association;
2. Applicants must be currently enrolled full-time or part-time in a **Paralegal Studies Program** either in a Bachelor Degree program, Associate Degree program or Paralegal Certificate program;
3. The application must include basic personal information, education information, and extracurricular activities along with any other pertinent information;
4. The application must contain completed application, completed essay questions and Certificate of Attendance and Academic Record; and,
5. Completed scholarship applications must be postmarked to MCPA, Student Scholarship Committee no later than October 31, 2009, and mailed to: P.O. Box 1765, Blue Bell, PA 19422.





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## **The Public Relations Committee needs your help!**

Here is your opportunity to help your Association grow.

The Public Relations Committee is looking for volunteers to help promote the MCPA in the legal and general communities. This will involve such tasks as distributing brochures, generating press releases relative to upcoming events, and posting flyers at local coffee shops, etc.

You can spend as much or as little time as you have available in supporting this committee. Even a commitment of one hour each month can make a difference!

Some of the specific areas where help is needed are as follows:

- Ideas, ideas, ideas
- Deliver flyers of upcoming events to colleges and libraries
- Drop off MCPA brochures to attorney offices, libraries, courthouse
- Reach out to Paralegals that you know or come in contact with in your job
- Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper
- Draft a press release to a newspaper or radio station
- Ask if flyers can be hung up in Starbucks or
- Did I mention...ideas?

As you can see, there are lots of “little ways” that you can help. It doesn’t have to cost you a lot of time, and you have the satisfaction of knowing that you have done your part to promote your Association.

By increasing our membership, we are able to share more knowledge, expertise and networking opportunities so that we can grow in our profession.

If you are interested in helping, please email me [linda\\_gunning@merck.com](mailto:linda_gunning@merck.com),  
You can also contact me in the evenings at 215-453-0241.

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Questions?

Contact [Christinehorace@hotmail.com](mailto:Christinehorace@hotmail.com)

# **BECOMING A PENNSYLVANIA CERTIFIED PARALEGAL (Pa.C.P.)**

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

**To become a Pennsylvania Certified Paralegal you must fulfill the following qualifications and grandfathering or the educational requirements set forth below:**

1. Applicant must be a member in good standing of a Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations member association;
2. Applicant must be a legal resident of the United States of America;
3. Applicant must satisfy Education/Experience or Grandfathering requirements;
4. Applicant must submit declarations from one (1) attorney in good standing with the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania who will attest to his/her direct knowledge of the Applicant's skill level and his/her work as a Paralegal;
5. A Paralegal making application under work experience only must submit declarations from two (2) attorneys; and
6. Certified copy of Applicant's official transcript(s) from the educational institution(s) attended OR a letter from the education institution(s) attended indicating the dates of the Applicant's attendance and the date(s) of the Applicant's graduation OR a copy of the Diploma/Certificate received by the Applicant from the education's institution(s) attended. Certified Legal Assistants ("CLA"), Certified Paralegals ("CP"), Registered Paralegals ("RP"), or Paralegals holding another Paralegal credential approved and recognized by the Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations need only submit a copy of their original credential certification and their current letter of good standing. Applicants who are making application for certification under work experience only, do not need to submit transcripts or Diplomas/Certificates.

## **GRANDFATHERING PROVISION:**

**Prior to June 30, 2012, Applicant must meet one (1) of the following criteria:**

1. Bachelor's Degree in Paralegal Studies from an ABA-approved Paralegal Program AND one (1) year of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
2. Bachelor's Degree in any discipline from an accredited institution AND a Certificate/Associate's Degree from an ABA-approved Paralegal Program AND one (1) year of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
3. Bachelor's Degree in any discipline from an accredited institution AND three (3) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
4. Associate's Degree in Paralegal Studies AND three (3) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
5. Certificate from an ABA-approved Paralegal Program AND three (3) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
6. Associate's Degree in any discipline from an accredited institution AND five (5) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
7. Certificate from a non-ABA-approved Paralegal Program AND five (5) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
8. Seven (7) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
9. Designation of CLA, CP or RP or other Paralegal credential approved and recognized by the Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations AND two (2) years of substantive Paralegal experience.



## **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

**After July 1, 2012, Applicant must meet one (1) of the following criteria:**

1. Bachelor's Degree in Paralegal Studies from an ABA-approved Paralegal Program AND one (1) year of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
2. Bachelor's Degree in any discipline from an accredited institution AND a Certificate/Associate's Degree from an ABA-approved Paralegal Program AND one (1) year of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
3. Bachelor's Degree in any discipline from an accredited institution AND three (3) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
4. Associate's Degree in Paralegal Studies from a Paralegal Program AND five (5) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
5. Certificate from a Paralegal Program AND five (5) years of substantive Paralegal experience; OR
6. Designation of CLA, CP or RP or other Paralegal credential approved and recognized by the Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations AND two (2) years of substantive Paralegal experience.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Requirements – Twelve (12) hours with two (2) hours being in ethics for every two (2) years' renewal.
- Examination – No exam at this time.
- Fees – Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars non-refundable Processing Fee for initial two (2) year period. Twenty-Five (\$25.00) Dollars non-refundable Processing Fee for each renewal period of two (2) years. Fees subject to change.

**Visit [www.keystoneparalegals.org](http://www.keystoneparalegals.org) for forms and additional information**





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Why Take PACE®?

## **Paralegals receive two major benefits by taking PACE. The exam**

( [www.paralegals.org](http://www.paralegals.org) -- NFPA's Official Website)

- 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.

Lexis-Nexis has sponsored a twenty minute presentation on paralegals which highlights PACE and can be ordered from the [PACE Merchandise](#) page. For more information on Lexis-Nexis newsletter [click here](#).



# VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MCPA

Below are the names and contact information for the Chairpersons of the various MCPA committees. If you have an idea or would like to volunteer, please contact a Chairperson! The Fundraising and Public Relations Committees are newly formed and are actively seeking new committee members.

## **Membership**

Coordinate membership drives and membership matters

-

Tracey L. Barnes, RP  
[Traceyb@dbyd.com](mailto:Traceyb@dbyd.com)

## **Newsletter**

Solicit and write articles; layout and editing for the bi-monthly newsletter, MCPA Today

-

Tracey L. Barnes, RP, Editor  
[Traceyb@dbyd.com](mailto:Traceyb@dbyd.com)

## **Job Bank**

Solicit, accumulate, and distribute current job postings to the general membership

-

Stephanie Dise  
[sad@elliottgreenleaf.com](mailto:sad@elliottgreenleaf.com)

## **Marketing**

Solicit sponsors and advertisers for MCPA

-

Deborah A. Long,  
[debbiel@dbyd.com](mailto:debbiel@dbyd.com)  
Deborah A. Arbuckle,  
[darbuckle@kaplaw.com](mailto:darbuckle@kaplaw.com)

## **Public Relations**

Promote the MCPA in the legal and general Community

-

Linda Gunning  
[Linda\\_gunning@Merck.com](mailto:Linda_gunning@Merck.com)

## **Planning**

Plan and schedule upcoming MCPA presentations, meetings and social events

-

Roberta Fedorka  
[rfedorka@obrlaw.com](mailto:rfedorka@obrlaw.com)

## **Community Outreach**

Plan and schedule MCPA charitable and community events

-

Deborah Arbuckle  
[darbuckle@kaplaw.com](mailto:darbuckle@kaplaw.com)

## **Fundraising**

Organize and hold fundraisers for the Association and/or charitable organizations

-

Christine Horace  
[chorace@good-lawyer.com](mailto:chorace@good-lawyer.com)

## **Mentoring**

Provide a range of services and support to students interested in a paralegal career

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Lisa LaPenna  
[llpenna@kaplaw.com](mailto:llpenna@kaplaw.com)

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

*Theodore Roosevelt*

# Medical Records Stacking up on you? We Can Help.



## Alliance Medical Legal Consulting

*"Working together for your Success"*

- Certified Nurse Life Care Planners
- Legal Nurse Consultants
- Medicare Set-Aside Consultants

Plaintiff ~ or ~ Defense

- Develop or critique life care plans.
- Medical cost projections.
- Review and analyze medical records.
- Identify standard of care deviations.
- Develop narrative reports and chronologies to highlight significant medical events.
- Locate expert witnesses.
- Develop demonstrative evidence exhibits.
- Assist with discovery and trial preparation.
- Attend and report on independent medical exams (IME).
- Develop MSA reports for workers' compensation cases.
- Any case with medical related issues.

- *Personal Injury* • *Nursing Home* • *Auto* • *Criminal*
- *Medical Malpractice* • *Nursing Malpractice* • *Elder Law*
- *Wrongful Death* • *Product Liability* • *Workers' Comp*

## Alliance Medical Legal Consulting Blue Bell, PA

Ph: 267-446-3997 Fax: 267-657-1311  
[info@alliancemedicallegal.com](mailto:info@alliancemedicallegal.com)  
[www.alliancemedicallegal.com](http://www.alliancemedicallegal.com)

*Your legal expertise and our knowledge of healthcare combine for your success*



## *And now a word from our sponsors...*

Actually, a word *about* our sponsors. The relationship between the MCPA and its sponsors offers mutual benefits.

### **Benefits to the MCPA**

The support we receive from our sponsors allows us to carry out Association functions, offer free CLE's, and participate in the development of the paralegal profession not only locally, but also at the statewide and national levels. Additionally, we have a pool of expert resources readily available if, for instance, we need to obtain a Certificate of Merit, develop a Life Care Plan, schedule a deposition, or suggest a resource for assistance with legal staffing.

### **Benefits to Our Sponsors**

Sponsors of the MCPA have a direct link to the legal community. Information distributed at our general membership meetings can be shared with attorneys, office managers, and coworkers who may have a need for the specific services offered. Direct advertising is available through *MCPA Today*, and sponsor and vendor links are readily accessible through our website.

### **What Can You Do?**

Check the MCPA website on a regular basis so that you know who our sponsors are. Then, share this information – as well as information you receive at our general membership meetings – with those in your office who have a need for these services. Be sure to have them mention the MCPA when they call so that the provider knows the work came through us and will be likely to renew their sponsorship next year.

Don't see one of your office's service providers on our website? Could this service provider benefit from a relationship with the MCPA? Let us know! Send an e-mail to Debbie Long at [debbiel@dbyd.com](mailto:debbiel@dbyd.com) or Debbie Arbuckle at [darbuckle@kaplaw.com](mailto:darbuckle@kaplaw.com). If the service provider becomes a sponsor of the MCPA, you will receive a \$25 debit card!

*“This is your organization. The more involved you are, the more you will benefit from your membership.” Sharon Jones, founding President of MCPA, 1999*

The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals'



*Education  
Conference*

**Paralegals Succeeding in the  
Current Economic Climate**

Friday, November 13, 2009 • 8 AM to 5 PM

Pennsylvania Convention Center  
1101 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA



### **NFPA News of Note**

Deborah Arbuckle, MCPA's Primary Delegate to the NFPA, will be attending the NFPA Conference beginning on October 29, 2009, in Portland, Oregon.



### **Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Associations (KAPA) News of Note**

Harry Reichner, our primary delegate, will be attending the Fall Meeting of KAPA on Saturday, October 24, 2009, in Williamsport, Pennsylvania





## **Villanova Paralegal Program graduates 64 new Paralegals**

The Office of Continuing Studies held its annual Paralegal Studies Program reception, dinner and graduation on September 24th at the Villanova Conference Center. The graduate-level Paralegal program, accredited by the American Bar Association, is considered the premiere paralegal program in the greater Philadelphia region.

After months of intense course work, many of the paralegal graduates, with their guests, attended the ceremony to receive their certificates. Twenty-four (24) graduates completed their studies over the course of a year, taking evening classes; Forty-one (41) graduates opted for the accelerated four-month program, which Villanova offers three times a year.

Guests were invited for cocktails, light hors d'oeuvres and group pictures on the Montrose Mansion patio before the ceremony. Representatives from area law firms were available to meet many of the graduates and their guests and discussed the paralegal profession and opportunities available.

Samuel A. DiLullo, coordinator of the Paralegal Education program, provided the welcome address. He congratulated the guests — graduates, family, friends, faculty and advisory board -- for their active role in the paralegal program. "We know that behind or beside every person is a special person who helped the graduates," he said.

After dinner, James Kane, Director of Continuing Studies called up each of the graduates to receive their certificate from Professor DiLullo and pose for pictures. In

addition, the Academic Excellence Awards recipients were also recognized, given to all students who achieve an A in all courses. This year's recipients included Donald Bunnell, Jamie Schairer, Cynthia Spangrud, Patricia Kirkland, Rita Hallam, Margaret Shockley, Robyn Sinclair and Sharon Weber.

Meryl Friedman and Jonathan Schiffman, Legal Writing Instructors, presented the West Legal Studies award for outstanding scholastic Achievement in Legal Writing to Donald Bunnell, Jamie Schairer, Simone Saxon, Cynthia Spangrud, Kevin Decker, Muska Nassery, Patricia Kirkland and Charles Howells.

In closing, Mr. Kane noted that all gathered were an important part of the Villanova Community both as graduates and new alumni, and represent Villanova's mission in a special way. "You're always going to be members of our community family, and welcome back always." "You are entering into the field of law where people are looking for justice" he said. "You have been prepared to work for justice and we want you to remember Villanova's values of truth, respect and community will support you along the way."

Villanova University's premiere paralegal program offers both day and evening classes. Paralegal studies continue to be an area that is growing and popular with people looking for a meaningful career change. A seminar on October 20th, as part of Villanova's Graduate Open House, will answer any questions you may have about this exciting field. Visit our website: [www.openhouse.villanova.edu](http://www.openhouse.villanova.edu) or come to Villanova on October 20th to find out more about Villanova's Paralegal Program.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 22, 2009, AS THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION WILL CELEBRATE ITS 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY! THE MCPA HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE CELEBRATION OF ITS 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SO COME OUT TO MARK THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ELECTION MEETING AT THE BEST WESTERN, KULPSVILLE WITH APPETIZERS BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. AND DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. REPRESENTATIVE CATHERINE "KATE" HARPER WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE.

*COME JOIN THE FUN AS WE CELEBRATE 10 INCREDIBLE YEARS!*



## How to Contact Us

Deborah A. Long, Pa. C.P., President (215) 362-2474  
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Harry Reichner, Vice President (610) 205-1560  
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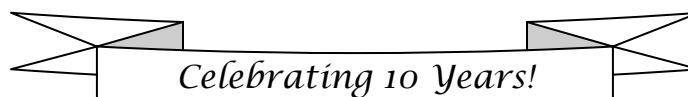
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[www.montcoparalegals.org](http://www.montcoparalegals.org)

### 2009 Gala Committee

Shelly Geib  
Diane Budman  
Tracey Barnes, RP, Pa. C.P.

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION