



# ***SMPA TODAY***

*A monthly publication of the Smoky Mountain Paralegal Association*

February 2006

## **MEETING REMINDER**

**Meeting Date:**

*February 9, 2006*

**Meeting Time:**

*12:00 noon*

**Location:**

*Club LeConte*

**Meeting Speaker:**

*John B. Dupree, Esquire*

**Topic:**

*Trial Preparation  
The Paralegal's Role*

The next meeting of the Smoky Mountain Paralegal Association will be on Thursday, February 9, 2006 at Club LeConte. We will have a short introduction of attendees just a few minutes before noon. The CLE portion of the meeting will be from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Our speaker will be John B. Dupree, Esq. and his topic will be *Trial Preparation - The Paralegal's Role*.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*\*I want to officially welcome Glenda "Susie" Delozier, CP, as Parliamentarian of SMPA. I look forward to working with Susie and know that she will be a valuable asset to the association.

### **Lunch Buffet**

In order to give Club LeConte a firm number of attendees for this meeting, please e-mail Tracie Livesay, CLAS at [president@smparalegal.org](mailto:president@smparalegal.org) by Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> to confirm your attendance.

\*\*Our committees are now up and running! I want to thank all of the committee chairs and members for their hard work thus far. We are still in need of volunteers for our Mentor Program. I **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** all SMPA members with over 3 years experience to volunteer for this program. We need everyone's assistance to make the Mentor Program a success. As mentors, we can offer students academic or career guidance, networking opportunities and insights into the working world. Please contact Kathy S. Moore, CP, Educational Institution Committee Chair, at [kmoore@bvblaw.com](mailto:kmoore@bvblaw.com) to sign up today!

Visit our website often for current *SMPA Today* news

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

\*\*I want to extend a special **CONGRATULATIONS** to SMPA members Ashli E. Wright, CLA, and Jennifer A. Fritts, CLA, for passing the CLA exam given in December. Great Job, Ashli and Jennifer! We're all very proud of you!

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*\*I have heard from several SMPA members who are planning to take the CLA exam in December of this year. A few of those members are interested in starting a study group to get a head start on preparing for the exam. Anyone interested in joining the study group or receiving more information, please contact Gina Locke at *locke@wmbac.com*. In addition, any previous exam-takers willing to loan out or sell their CLA Review Manual, please also get in touch with Gina.

\*\*I have had several discussions with SMPA members regarding the price of our meals at Club LeConte. I want to let everyone know that we are in the process of completing the required (and very extensive) paperwork for our association to become tax-exempt. Once that happens, the meal price will decrease.

\*\*The SMPA Executive Committee was recently made aware that the Serenity Shelter (operated by Knox Area Rescue Ministries) is in desperate need of lice kits, as they had a recent outbreak of lice. Unfortunately, this is one item that the health department does not provide for the shelter. The SMPA Executive Committee voted to donate \$200 toward the purchase of these kits. The Serenity Shelter is extremely grateful for our assistance.

\*\*I apologize for not calling everyone's attention to the Mobile Meals sign-up sheet at the January meeting. Our association has committed to run a Mobile Meals route on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month. I recently participated in our first meal run with a veteran Mobile Meals volunteer. Our Knoxville Bar Association contact and I agreed that our members should participate in a "volunteer chain." Therefore, next month I will go again and show another member the route. The following month, that member will take another member, etc. This will require each member to participate for 2 months. However, please remember that the time commitment for each person will only be a little over two hours for the whole year. I found this to be a simple, but very rewarding experience and I think all of our membership will agree. Any member interested in participating please contact me at *president@smparalegal.org*.

\*\*Our Spring Seminar brochures have been mailed out. Everyone should have received one by now. Our First Vice President, Shelia Williams, CLA, has done a wonderful job putting this seminar together and scheduling some great speakers. We have a wide range of topics that should be of interest to everyone. Remember to remit your registration form by February 27, 2006, and spread the word to other paralegals in (or outside) the community. We want to make sure this seminar is a huge success!

Tracie L. Livesay, CLAS