

February 2008

The Monthly E-Publication of the
Smoky Mountain Paralegal Association

SMPA Today



Meeting Reminder

The next meeting of the Smoky Mountain Paralegal Association will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 12:00 p.m. in the Main Conference Room of the United States Attorney's Office.

Our February speaker will be Monty Walton, Esquire presenting the topic of *Preparation and Presentation of Evidence in Arbitration*.

For members who have not previously attended the monthly meetings, the United States Attorney's Office is located in the West corner (Main Street entrance) of the Howard Baker U.S. Federal Courthouse (which is across from the City-County Building). The meeting is held in the Main Conference Room on the second floor. You should inform the Federal Officers that you are going to the SMPA meeting in the Main Conference Room, so that the officer can enter the correct security code for the elevator (the elevator does not stop on the 2nd floor without the correct code).

Our meetings are catered by Courthouse Café. We will have a buffet set up outside our meeting room that includes lunch, a dessert, and beverage for \$10.00 per person.

Ms. Mildred Taylor, who caters our lunch, is no longer at the CourtTop Cafe and will now cater our buffet from her home. Because of this change, she requires a week's notice on our attendance count. I apologize for the short notice this month, but it is imperative that you respond to president@smparalegal.org by the end of the day Thursday, February 7, 2008, and let me know if you will be attending the meeting **and** if you will be eating lunch. Please also remember that we are obligated to pay for the number we give her. If we count you as eating lunch and you do not attend, our association loses money. On the other hand, if you do not let us know you will be eating lunch, there may not be enough food for everyone. I think we all agree that our lunches have been superb. We want to continue our good relationship with Ms. Taylor.

Announcements

REMINDER! Don't let your SMPA membership benefits lapse. Pay your dues before March 1, 2008. You may also complete the renewal application on our website at www.smparalegal.org, print it, and mail it in with your membership fee to SMPA, Second Vice President, Post Office Box 445, Knoxville, Tennessee.



Announcements

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee meeting previously scheduled in January had to be rescheduled. We are meeting February 5, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop. SMPA members are welcome to attend.

Mobile Meals

We have done a great job in filling our mobile meals calendar! Thank you to all who have volunteered. We still have September 26 and November 28 open. If you would like to volunteer for one of those dates, please email me at president@smparalegal.org.

Salary Survey

I have received a few calls and emails regarding the salary survey. The Executive Committee will review the entire survey results at its meeting tonight. Once the survey results have been reviewed, they will be made available on our website.

Pellissippi State

SMPA has been invited to participate in Pellissippi State's Paralegal Career Exploration Fair on February 27, 2008. We will have a table displaying information about SMPA. We look forward to talking with students about SMPA and the paralegal profession. We would like to thank PSTCC for this opportunity.

Mentor Program

If you have not volunteered to mentor a student member but would like to, please email me at president@smparalegal.org. I will pass your name on to the Chair of the Mentor Program Committee.

Annual Seminar

Our annual seminar will be held this year on July 18 and 19, 2008 at the Carnegie Hotel & Spa in Johnson City, Tennessee. Take a minute to check our their website at www.carnegiehotel.com. We are looking forward to getting to know our members in the Tri-Cities area and working with them on the seminar. Put the dates on your calendar and don't miss out on this fun filled, educational seminar that is ALL ABOUT YOU!!

Respectfully submitted,

Shelia L. Williams, CLA - SMPA President