


GDPA Newsletter
October 2008

www.gdpa.org
gdpapresident@yahoo.com



In this issue

-  President's Message
-  Upcoming Events
-  GDPA Board Members
-  Member Updates
-  Committee Reports

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Can I make a difference? That is the question I asked myself before accepting the nomination as President of the GDPA in May. Can I be the professional leader necessary for GDPA to mentor women and men that are just starting their careers as Paralegals, as was done for me when I started Sinclair's Paralegal Program in 1985? Can GDPA provide fresh ideas, interesting speakers and continuing legal education opportunities that will serve the interests of Paralegals that have worked in Dayton's legal community for over 20+ years? **YES WE CAN!!!**

GDPA has an exciting year ahead! We have fabulous speakers lined up for membership meetings, a festive holiday party scheduled for December 5, 2008 at the Chop House Restaurant, CLE opportunities, and the event of all events, **GDPA's 25th Anniversary Celebration** in June 2009. The Board welcomes your ideas, feedback and participation in any committee. We currently have openings for committee volunteers in Fundraising, Holiday, Records, Pro Bono and Membership. Please feel free to contact any board member listed should you have questions or wish to volunteer.

I look forward to seeing you in the months ahead, and encourage you to network with Dayton's Paralegals through the GDPA.

"BE WHO YOU ARE, AND BE THAT WELL."

St. Francis de Sales

Welcome New Members

Student Members

Teresa Dale
Kenaesha Edwards
Karen Garmon
Candance Hall
Diana McCormack
Eric Payawal
Cynthia Walling

Active Members

Angie Blevins
Erica Freshwater
Nancy Hawk
Sherry Sowry
Kimberly Thomas
Nicole Wilson

Sustaining Members

RETS College

Associate Members

Robin Jones
Kenya Hoskins

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8, 2008

What: Membership Meeting

Time: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Kettering Tower, 13th Floor Conference Room

Speaker: Matt Chaves with Docuzon

Topic: Identity-Protected Document Delivery and
Electronic Signature

December 5, 2008

What: Holiday Party/Membership Meeting

Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Chop House Restaurant, Centerville

February 11, 2009

What: Membership Meeting

Time: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Kettering Tower, 13th Floor Conference Room

Speaker: Rita Keller with Keller Advisors

Topic: "Managing Generational Differences"

April 15, 2009

What: Membership Meeting

Time: 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Kettering Tower, 13th Floor Conference Room

Speaker: Paul Perdue with Attorney Computer Systems

Topic: "The PaperLESS Office"

GDPA BOARD MEMBERS

Rima Davidson, President: rdavidson@ssdlaw.com

Stephanie Tracy, VP: stephanie_tracy@yahoo.com

Krista Smith, 2nd VP: kms@crossmanmesaroslaw.com

Laura Lantrip, Secretary: laura.lantrip@dinslaw.com

Pauline Olon, Treasurer: pauline.olon@dplinc.com

Donna Middlebrook, Trustee: dmiddlebrook@yandalaw.com

Lori Meyers, Trustee: lori.meyers@dinslaw.com

Jennifer Blessing, Trustee: jablessing@ssallc.com

Barbara Furman-Ashby, Trustee: bjashby@ssallc.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS



Statewide

Krista Smith, Primary Representative

Krista Smith and Rima Davidson hosted the Fall meeting of the Ohio Paralegal Alliance on September 27, 2008. The minutes are posted on GDPA's website in the members-only section. Cincinnati will be hosting the 2009 Spring Statewide (date/time/location to be announced), and all members are welcome to attend.

Pro Bono Committee *Kathy Miller, Chair*

The Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyers Project (GDVLP) is always looking for volunteers to help with Juvenile Court Pro Se Clinics. Volunteers help provide assistance to individuals completing Juvenile Pro Se paperwork for a change in custody, parenting time, support, or to establish paternity. This **does not** require any kind of Juvenile Court experience. It **DOES** require patience, understanding, and the desire to give back to the community. This event takes place on the last Thursday of every month and starts around 5:15 p.m. Due to Halloween, this month's clinic has been moved to Wednesday, October 29th. Your commitment is usually completed by 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer, please contact Kathy Miller, GDVLP paralegal, at 461-3857 or email: Kathy@GDVLP.org.

Records Committee *Lori Meyers, Chair*

The Records Committee is working in conjunction with GDPA's Historian, Susan Witherspoon, to inventory and electronically archive all GDPA records. Updates will be provided throughout the year.

Job Bank *Laura Lantrip, Chair*

Members are encouraged to have their firms or companies post open paralegal positions on the GDPA website. This FREE service is an important benefit to our membership. Employers should be informed that the GDPA is not acting as a placement agency nor does it screen or endorse any applicant. Email job postings to Laura Lantrip at laura.lantrip@dinslaw.com.

Membership *Krista Smith, Chair*

GDPA currently has 46 active members, 7 associate members, 7 student members, and 1 sustaining member.

The Membership Committee is actively recruiting new and old members. If any current member has a prospect, please send their contact information to kms@crossmanmesaroslaw.com.

Notices/Updates/Changes

Need a Directory? Forget the "Member's Only" password for the website? Contact Krista Smith at kms@crossmanmesaroslaw.com or gdpapresident@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEER

Help is always needed on Committees.
Make a difference in GDPA.
Contact any GDPA Board Member.