


GDPA Newsletter
January 2009

www.gdpa.org
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President's Message

GDPA's 2008 year ended with a bang! A special "THANK YOU" to the Holiday Committee for making the Holiday Party a great success! I'm pleased to announce the Holiday Party raffle generated \$415.00 toward GDPA's scholarship fund. Many thanks to all participants. The raffle winners received the following: movie tickets (Steve Smith), popcorn tin (Jennifer Blessing), shop vac (Jennifer Blessing), Ready Set Dance (Susie Dugan), Value City Furniture gift card (D.J. Shade), Don Pablo's gift card (Susie Dugan), Lia Sophia jewelry (Rima Davidson), floor jack (Barbara Furman-Ashby), Texas Roadhouse gift card (D.J. Shade), Pampered Chef (Trish Colegrove), Speedway gas cards (Donna Middlebrook, Ann Bryant, Steve Smith), Dewey's Pizza gift cards (Mary Mitchell, Trish Colegrove), Cheesecake Factory gift card (Rima Davidson), Deer Creek overnight package (Dean Boerger), Funny Bone (Barbara Furman-Ashby, Dean Boerger), The Greene gift card (Steve Smith), Victoria Theatre "Spelling Bee" (Pauline Olon), Massage gift cards (Teresa Dale, Stephanie Tracy), Ohio State gift basket (Jennifer Blessing), and Regal gift baskets (Pauline Olon, Lois Hollon).

GDPA has an exciting year ahead! Don't miss Rita Keller's presentation on "Managing Generational Differences" at February's membership meeting. The Board is also excited to announce its participation in "Wills for Heroes" and "Operation Iraqi Children," and encourages the membership's participation. Please go to www.gdpa.org for more information.

The Board has completed a proposed draft of GDPA's Mission Statement for submission to membership for review and vote. Details and instructions will follow before April's membership meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at the membership meeting on February 11, 2009.

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." – Henry Ford

Welcome New Members

Student Members

James Courter
Brooke Kuhns
Kelly Lane
Alexis Webb

Active Members

Eileen Gerson

Sustaining Members

Dionne Carpenter

UPCOMING EVENTS

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"

May 13, 2009

ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Location: Kettering Tower, 13th Floor Conference Room

June 10, 2009

INDUCTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

Location: To Be Announced

GDPA BOARD MEMBERS

Rima Davidson, President: rdavidson@ssdlaw.com

Stephanie Tracy, VP: stephanie_tracy@yahoo.com

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

Jennifer Blessing, Secretary: jablessing@ssallc.com

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

Donna Middlebrook, Trustee: dmiddlebrook@yandalaw.com

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS



Statewide

Krista Smith, Primary Representative

Cincinnati will be hosting the 2009 Spring Statewide, and all members are welcome to attend. Statewide is scheduled for April 18, 2009 at Bengamin, Yocum & Heather, 300 Pike Street, Suite 500, Cincinnati, OH 45202. More details to come.

Holiday Committee

If you think the Holiday Committee did a FABULOUS job with the Holiday Party, you won't want to miss the 25th Anniversary Celebration in June. Stay tuned as details will be announced in the March newsletter.

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. The next clinic dates are **January 29th** and **February 26th**. 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

All records have been collected from GDPA's Historian, Susan Witherspoon, to inventory and electronically archive. Updates will be provided throughout the year.

Job Bank *Barbara Furman-Ashby, 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 Barbara Furman-Ashby at bjashby@ssallc.com.

Membership *Krista Smith, Chair*

GDPA currently has 48 active members, 7 associate members, 11 student members, and 3 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.

JOIN THE BOARD

The Board has a Trustee vacancy for the 2008-2010 term. Be part of this rewarding experience in serving GDPA's membership, and contact a Board Member for more information.