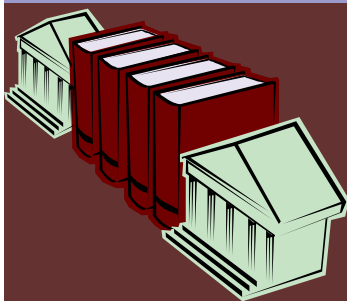


1st Quarter

March 2005



# Roanoke Valley Paralegal Association

## Message From The President

The first quarter of 2005 is over, New Year's resolutions have either been abandoned or we're thinking that Spring will make it easier to do all those things we promised we'd do in 2005. RVPA is keeping its resolution to provide another year of interesting and informative speakers. I hope you have had the opportunity to attend our meetings and enjoy John Perry and his Aussie buddy speak about criminal profiling, Rhona Levine giving us great information about Elder Law, and Patricia Nelms, Chief Deputy Clerk, USDC WDVA, taking time to discuss electronic filing procedures in federal court. Check the calendar within this newsletter for information on speakers at future meetings.

Speaking of upcoming meetings, please don't miss our April meeting! NALA Region II Director

Sharon Robertson, CLAS, will talk to us about our membership in NALA and the CLA exam. Please bring your questions or comments regarding NALA for Ms. Robertson - she will be happy to address them.



Now that you have finished your tax returns (or at least you've gathered your information together to get them done), are you thinking about doing some Spring cleaning and tossing? Have we got an idea for you! RVPA will hold a yard/book sale on Saturday, April 23, at Kathy Ward's home. We are especially interested in collecting books and audio books but welcome gently used quality items to sell. (By quality items I mean if YOU wouldn't pay at

least a couple of dollars for it, please don't donate it to us.) All money made at the sale goes to RVPA to help cover 2005 budget items, including NALA and VAPA expenses, our donations to Roanoke Bar Association for Law Day and year-end donations to charitable organizations. Even if you are unable to donate items to the yard/book sale, please stop by Kathy's house on April 23 and buy a few books to read on vacation. We'll give you a great deal!

I hope I will see you at our next meeting. Please encourage every Roanoke Valley paralegal you know to join RVPA and come to our meetings. Take the time, just once a month, to get to know someone new, ask questions of "veteran" paralegals, learn something new from our speaker, and have a great meal. It's worth it!

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## CLE Opportunities

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- 04/06/2005 **"Meeting the Challenges of Virginia Real Estate Titles and Title Insurance"**  
Full day seminar at Clarion Hotel, Roanoke. Approved for CLE credit for both NALA & NFPA. Contact NBI at 1-800-930-6182
- 04/12/2005 **"23rd Annual Business Law Seminar: Virginia Business Torts Update - 2005"**  
Half day seminar. Omni Richmond Hotel. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-8253
- 04/13/2003 **"48 Important Issues in Handling Personal Injury Cases"**  
Half day seminar at Wyndham Roanoke Hotel. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-8253
- 04/13/2005 **"Elder Care in Virginia: Legal and Financial Issues"**  
Full day seminar at Wyndham Roanoke Hotel. Contact NBI at 1-800-930-6182
- 04/21/2005 **"Avoiding Legal Pitfalls During Employee Selection and Termination in Virginia"**  
Full day seminar at Radisson Hotel, Richmond. Contact NBI at 1-800-930-6182
- 04/26/2005 **"Finding It Free and Fast on the Net: Advanced Internet Strategies for the Virginia Legal Professional"**  
Full day seminar at Radisson Hotel, Richmond. Approved for CLE credit for both NALA & NFPA. Contact NBI at 1-800-930-6182
- 04/28/2005 **"Succeeding in Federal Court: What You Need to Know About Rules and Procedures"**  
Full day seminar at Richmond Marriott West. Contact NBI at 1-800-930-6182
- 04/29/2005 **"3rd Annual Advanced Consumer Bankruptcy Conference"**  
Full day conference at Richmond Marriott West. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-8253
- 05/04/2005 **"23rd Annual Real Estate Practice Seminar"**  
Full day seminar Wyndham Roanoke Hotel. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-825
- 05/05/2005 **"Internet for Lawyers"**  
Full day seminar at Richmond Marriott West. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-8253
- 05/06/2005 **"21st Annual Family Law Seminar"**  
Schedule TBA. The Jefferson Hotel, Richmond. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-8253
- 05/24/2005 **"A Day at the Races: The 14th Annual Employment Law Update"**  
Schedule TBA. Omni Richmond Hotel. Contact Virginia CLE at 1-800-979-8253

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# NALA Report by Kathy Ward

Hello, from the National Association of Legal Assistants, your professional association!

This correspondence is a message on NALA Campus LIVE, Annual Convention and Member information.

## NALA Campus LIVE!

*April Brings More than Showers*



variety of preferences.

The NALA Campus LIVE! Winter Session will be winding down in April with five presentations offering CLE appealing to a

*Two hot topics in April are:*

### April 20: Noon - 2:00 p.m. (Central Time)

Evictions will be presented by Glenn A. Leier, an attorney in Portland, OR, who focuses on real estate, landlord-tenant matters, business, employment and management, and wills and probate.

He has also taught Real Property Law for 15 years. The presentation covers Forcible Entry and Detainer proceedings, along with a review of common law leasehold estates, basic evictions procedures, remedies sought by landlords, defenses raised by tenants, types of hearings in FED court, and what paralegals may do for FED cases.

### April 22: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (Central Time)

Cheryl M. Snider, CLAS will present Employment Discrimination. Ms. Snider is an employment/labor paralegal with Dana Corporation in Toledo, OH.

Paralegals will find this a particularly informative presentation covering a broad spectrum of employment discrimination issues. The administrative process, witness interviewing, conducting an investigation (including investigation techniques), and preparing the position statement are all topics that legal assistants in this area of specialty will find helpful.

*Other presentations in April are:*

**April 4:** Discovery Investigation, by Bradley J. Beehler, Attorney

**April 13:** Estate Administration (Part II), by Edward L. Armstrong, Attorney

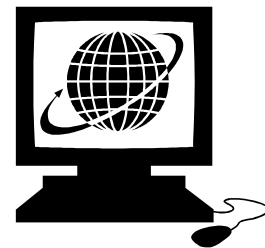
**April 28:** Trial Preparation, by Karen Sanders-West, CLAS, JD

Each hour of NALA Campus LIVE! instruction earns .1 CLE credit, and the maximum course length is two hours.

Visit <http://www.nalacampus.com> for the latest and most complete list of courses, information on presenters, and details on how to participate in this synchronous CLE program.

## Member News!

Director newsletters are on the web for NALA Members! Please visit the NALA members page of the web site (<http://www.nala.org/mbrnotices.htm>). This page offers a terrific source of information for members. This month, the page features newsletters from each of the NALA Regional Directors, and a great article about the 2005 Member Awards Program. Information about the 2005 elections is also included.



## Annual Meeting News

Some important deadlines are upon us regarding the 2005 elections. April 1 is the deadline for the declaration of candidacy forms for directors of NALA regions 2, 3 and 4. Elected from the members of each region, the director serves on the NALA Board of Directors for a two year term. Details and forms may be found on the NALA members page, and on the forms page of the web site.

See you in Kansas City - July 13-16, 2005 - for NALA's 30th Anniversary Celebration!

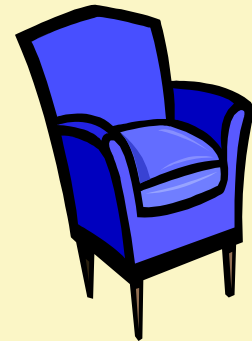


## Financial Development Committee by Susan Albert

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The Financial Development Committee will be holding a yard sale and "Beach Book Bazaar" on **Saturday, April 23, 2005**. The Committee is asking for donations of books (paper, hard back or audiobooks, including childrens') as well as gently-used quality items to be donated.



**Location:** Kathy Ward's Home  
5912 Penguin Drive, SW, Roanoke  
(Penn Forest area)

**Drop Off Items:** Wednesday, April 20 - Friday, April 22 after 6:00 p.m.  
Call Kathy for information/directions at  
983-7517 (work) or 774-4017 (home)

**Mark your calendars today!!!!**

### Changes, Announcements, etc.

If you have any changes, announcements or suggestions regarding the Newsletter, please contact Vicki Shrewsbury at Woods Rogers PLC at 540.983.7695 (Phone) or 540.983.7711 (Fax) or by e-mail at shrewsbu@woodsrogers.com

### Disclaimer

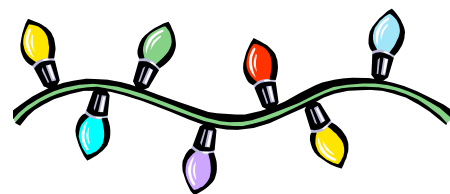
The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Roanoke Valley Paralegal Association (RVPA). Information published is based solely on materials submitted in writing. RVPA assumes no responsibility for verification of the information submitted.

## Social Committee by Susan Albert

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The 2005 RVPA Christmas Social at the Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center has been scheduled!!

This year's Social will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2005 from 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.



## CLE Committee by Sharon Hupp

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The CLE Committee is pleased to provide the following CLE schedule for 2005. If you have any suggestions or ideas for a speaker and/or topic, please contact Sharon Hupp.

**April 7, 2005**

**Sharon Robertson - NALA**

Topic: CLA Exam and RVPA Membership  
Location: Wachovia Tower, 9th Floor

**May 5, 2005**

**Mike Allen, Reporter, The Roanoke Times**

Topic: Coverage of Roanoke court cases and legal issues for the media  
Location: SunTrust Plaza, 4th Floor

**June 2, 2005**

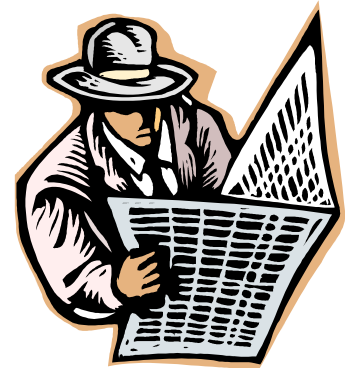
**Tom Marston, The Marston Agency**

Topic: Service of subpoenas and their website features  
Location: SunTrust Plaza, 4th Floor

and

**Anna Karbassiyoon, Sir Speedy**

Topic: Sir Speedy services  
Location: SunTrust Plaza, 4th Floor



**August 4, 2005**

**Brenda Hamilton, Clerk, Roanoke City Circuit Court**

Topic: Tips on how to make her job, as well as ours, easier!  
Location: SunTrust Plaza, 4th Floor

**October 6, 2005**

**Douglas Stark, Esquire, Crandall & Katt Law Firm**

Topic: TBA  
Location: SunTrust Plaza, 4th Floor

### Consultation fees



A lawyer's dog, running around town unleashed, heads for a butcher shop and steals a roast. The butcher goes to the lawyer's office and asks, "if a dog running unleashed steals a piece of meat from my store, do I have a right to demand payment for the meat from the dog's owner?" The lawyer answers, "Absolutely."

"Then you owe me \$8.50. Your dog was loose and stole a roast from me today."

The lawyer, without a word, writes the butcher a check for \$8.50.  
The butcher, having a feeling of satisfaction, leaves.

Three days later, the butcher finds a bill from the lawyer: \$100 due for a consultation.

Courtesy of [www.ahajokes.com](http://www.ahajokes.com)

## VAPA Report by Kathy Ward

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I attended the February 29, 2005 VAPA meeting in Charlottesville. The agenda included a presentation by Deborah Elkins from Lawyers Weekly who wants to cover legal issues not presently covered and would also like guest columns. Her website contains her e-mail address should members want to forward ideas. Every other month, Lawyers Weekly includes a Legal Professionals section which you may want to check out.

We had lengthy discussions about the October 5-7, 2006 VAPA conference which will be held in Richmond. The conference will be held in conjunction with the Local Government Paralegal Association's annual conference. You will be able to choose which days to attend, if not all. We will have better food (!) and more vendors, and will continue with great speakers.

## Calendar of Events

<b>April 7, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Membership Meeting</b> <i>Sharon Robertson, NALA</i>
<b>April 23, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Yard Sale and Beach Book Bazaar</b> Kathy Ward's home (5912 Penguin Drive, SW, Roanoke)
<b>May 5, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Membership Meeting</b> <i>Mike Allen, The Roanoke Times</i>
<b>May 7, 2005</b>	<b>VAPA Meeting</b> Keeler, Obenshain, P.C., Charlottesville, VA (All interested paralegals are welcome - contact Marilyn Hubbard or Kathy Ward)
<b>June 2, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Membership Meeting</b> <i>Tom Marston, The Marston Agency and Anna Karbassiyoon, Sir Speedy</i>
<b>August 4, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Membership Meeting</b> <i>Brenda Hamilton, Roanoke City Circuit Court</i>
<b>October 6, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Membership Meeting</b> <i>Douglas Stark, Esquire, Crandall &amp; Katt Law Firm</i>
<b>November 3, 2005</b>	<b>2006 RVPA Elections</b>
<b>December 1, 2005</b>	<b>RVPA Christmas Social</b>



## Membership Committee by Marilyn Hubbard

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The Membership Committee plans to distribute 2005 Membership Directories at the April Membership Meeting. If you have any changes to your contact information, please notify Marilyn Hubbard as soon as possible.