

SNAP SHOT



Presidential Ramblings

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over. I know, you are thinking "Almost over?! But it's only August. There is still plenty of warm weather and fun activities left before the end of summer!" I say the end of summer because that's my daughter's sentiment. She attends school in Washoe County, and with the new "balanced calendar", summer for her IS at an end. Her first day of class is August 12 -- mere days after Hot August Nights ends.

A balanced calendar is an alternative way of constructing a school calendar year. In traditional calendars, students attend school for nine months (180 days) and then have a three month summer vacation (90 days). A balanced calendar breaks up instruction time into segments, with total instruction time still 180 days. Normal holiday breaks are incorporated into the calendar.

This year's calendar has a one week fall break; three week winter break; and two week spring break, in addition to the normal holidays (i.e. President's Day, Thanksgiving, Memorial Day, etc.). School ends on June 13, and 60 days later school resumes for the next calendar year. Why move to a balanced calendar? Washoe County School District ("WCSD") previously operated within a 9-month calendar. The 9-month calendar was originally designed for two major reasons. The first was to benefit 85% of Americans who were involved in agriculture. Parents needed their children to help work the family farms during harvest season. The second was that it was not feasible to operate school in the summer when air conditioning was not available in schools. Today, only 3% of Americans depend on agriculture to make their living, and air conditioning makes it possible for schools to be in session year round. Nevertheless, the 9-month school year remains the standard.

The current version of the Washoe County Balanced Calendar is, as of now, a 1-year trial, which makes a family law paralegal's job much more difficult. How do you structure the division of holidays? As the winter break has increased by a week, how exactly do you divide the break so that each parent gets Christmas Eve/Christmas/New Year's Eve/New Year's with his or her children? (Including weekends, the winter break is 23 days.) Most importantly, how can you have language for a "final" custody/

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GENERAL MEETING **SNAP Calendar 2013**

**SNAP General Meetings Every Third Tuesday
at Noon (see flyer)**

ZoZo's Restaurant @ 3446 Lakeside Drive

August 20, 2013: Elections

Speaker: Amy Hodgson & Erin Tieslau

Topic: 30 Apps in 30 Minutes

Membership Dues: August 20 **Officers and Chairpersons**

President: Amy Hodgson, ACP

1st VP/Education: Vacant

2nd Vice President/

Membership/Job Bank: Kate Cline, ACP

Treasurer: Crystal Huss

Parliamentarian: Susan Sunday, ACP

Secretary: Christine Lamia

NALA Liaison: Erin Tieslau, CP

Student Liaison: Vacant

Activities/Social Chair: Vacant

Newsletter & Web Site Editor: Lynda Traves

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/154903284632632/>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

This section is designated for those job opportunities in the legal field.

SNAP welcomes all firms and businesses employing paralegals to list their opening(s) in the SNAPShot or on our Web site (www.snapreno.com) free of charge.

Advertisements will run for one month on the Web site and appear in a single issue of the newsletter, or until the position is filled. If you would like the ad to continue for an additional month, or the position has been filled, please let us know.

If you are interested in receiving email notifications of Job Bank opportunities, please email Kate Cline (see Officers page on the Web site: www.snapreno.com)

No Job Opportunities at this time



Anna M. Buchner

Sierra Nevada Association of Paralegals (SNAP)

The Sierra Nevada Association of Paralegals (SNAP) is proud to nominate Anna Buchner for the 2013 NALA Affiliate Award. Anna has been an actively involved member of SNAP since joining as a Student Member in 1998. She currently serves as the NALA Liaison, a SNAP board position, and she has also served as Student Liaison, NALA Liaison, First Vice President, and two separate terms as President.

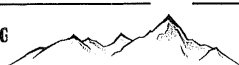
Anna has a "heart" for students studying in the paralegal program at Truckee Meadows Community College an ABA-approved paralegal program. Anna consistently volunteers to speak to the paralegal classes at TMCC and other legal educational opportunities, whether or not that was a duty of the SNAP position she held. She inspires students to continue with their education, including discussing the benefits of membership in SNAP and NALA, and she encourages students to join both organizations. Anna also organized a CP study group this year as a method to encourage SNAP student members and active members "on the CP exam fence" to take the exam. For the CP study group sponsored by SNAP this

year, Anna exhibited insight and astuteness to increase current member involvement and participation by vigorously recruiting existing members who have attained the CP designation to lead the various exam sections.

This year Anna was one of three members on SNAP's Bylaws committee which tackled a much needed major update to SNAP's Bylaws. The task was so thoroughly accomplished that SNAP's general membership voted and approved the proposed Bylaws without additional revisions, and NALA also accepted them as presented. Anna was a speaker at SNAP's May seminar and presented *Going Paperless in the Law Office*. Her presentation discussed the benefits and pitfalls of going paperless, in addition to policies and procedures necessary to implement change. Anna will present *Going Paperless in the Law Office* during the Member Exchange program at NALA's 2013 convention. SNAP is grateful for the work she has done to further the paralegal profession and SNAP.



NALA 2013 PORTLAND ANNUAL MEETING





Washoe County Law Library

75 Court Street, Room 101, Reno, NV

(775) 328-3250

<http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/lawlib/hoursloc.htm>

Nevada Legal Resources

Class at Washoe County Law Library

http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/index/display_outreach.html~details=8895

Washoe Legal Services

299 South Arlington Avenue
Reno, NV 89501

Telephone: (775) 329-2727

Fax: (775) 324-5509

Free legal services in Washoe County, Nevada

<http://washoelegalservices.com/>

State of Nevada Bar

<http://www.nvbar.org/>

US Bankruptcy Court

http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov/downloads/bugle-newsletters/2013/2013_03.pdf



2013-2014 Balanced Calendar

July 2013							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 0							January 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 14						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	J	M	T	W	TH	F	S	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	2	3	4	5	6									1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13								13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20								19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27								26	27	28	29	30	31								
28	29	30	31																								

August 2013							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 15							February 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 19						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
					1	2	1																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					
25	26	27	28	29	30																						

August 12 - First Day of School

September 2013							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 20							March 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 20						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1																				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
29	30						23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31												

September 2-Labor Day
September 6-Count Day

October 2013							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 17							April 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 13						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
					1	2	1																				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
27	28	29	30	31			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31												

October 8 - End of Grading Period
October 14-18 - Fall Break
October 25 - Nevada Day

November 2013							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 17							May 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 21						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
					1	2	1																				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31												

November 11-Veterans Day
Nov. 27-District Professional Development Day
November 28-29- Thanksgiving Break

December 2013							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 14							June 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 10						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1																				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
29	30	31					23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30													

December 19 - End of Grading Period
December 20 - Teacher Work Day
December 23-January 10 - Winter Break

January 2014							No School on Shaded Days # of School Days = 10																														
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30															
							22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30																						
							29	30																													

June 13 - Last Day of School/End of Grading Period
June 17, 18, 19 - Contingency Days

Number of Days per Quarter	41	42	48	49	180
Number of Days per Semester	83	97	180		

Tidbits of the Month

Tips is a column in which paralegals submit practical advice and suggestions to other paralegals. We encourage each of you to submit your "hot tips" on a regular or irregular basis. Many of us have acquired skills over the years that have made our jobs easier, and we encourage you to share that knowledge with your fellow paralegals. You are welcome to include your name or not.

Hot Tip from Carmen Luna:

"It Takes a Village"

Recently, I had to lean on several people to help me execute daycare for my son along with his scheduled activities. I call these people "My Village" and without them I would not be able to successfully execute my work/life balance smoothly. I believe in the African proverb, "it takes a village to raise a child." I am pretty sure the original quote wasn't intended for the purposes of time management but, in my hectic world, it fits.

I believe that statement to be true in my legal professional work as well. I am a new paralegal in a law firm with well seasoned legal minds. I am constantly seeking the rhymes and reasons behind the motions and replies, learning which clients are high maintenance and which attorney prefers sweet snacks over salty ones. The office team is my "village" and I am the "child." They feed me with information, guide me through processes and give me constructive feedback needed to succeed.

To add to my village, I have found several internet and paralegal social media resources for help and guidance. A personal favorite forum of mine is "*The Paralegal Society*" at theparalegalsociety.wordpress.com. There are topics from litigation to wardrobe and office melt-downs to legal software. There are many paralegal blogs to follow as well as the social networking, LinkedIn. Avenues like these help guide me through the legalese of the legal world and achieve growth professionally.

Villages are communities in which we live. Whether you're a seasoned paralegal or a new paralegal create, embrace and lean on your "village." You will find daily inspiration, insight and motivation to be a better you every day.

Written by Carmen L. Luna, Paralegal at Silverman, Decaria & Kattelman, Chtd

Joke of the Month

We were scheduling a time for our client to come in, meet with the attorney and a court reporter, to give a statement of facts (basically a chronology of the case). The client asked why there would be a court reporter -- was she going to be on the news?

Supreme Court Case that John Routsis mentioned.

http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/12pdf/11-1425_cb8e.pdf MISSOURI v. MCNEELY

Here is the BK Bugle for the month of June for the next newsletter.

http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov/downloads/bugle-newsletters/2013/2013_06.pdf

DUES ARE DUE!

It is renewal time again. Please complete the flyer and mail in your cheque for the appropriate amount.

Deadline to receive the \$5 discount is Monday, August 19, 2012. You may bring your renewal to our General Meeting on August 20 but no further extensions will be permitted past that noon meeting time.

Kate Cline, ACP
Second Vice President

As a reminder, membership applications are to be received no later than the meeting (8/20) in order to receive the \$5.00 discount. Please visit the website (www.snapreno.com) to access the updated Membership Application. As stated in late June when the application was sent out, if anyone uses the old renewal form, you will be asked to resubmit your application on the updated application form.

Also, I have received questions at times during my tenure last year as First Vice President concerning under which membership category one would qualify. I reviewed the approved and adopted Amended and Restated Bylaws ("Bylaws") and pondered some examples which may be of assistance to some members who were new last year. I have added emphasis just to bring out certain terms/clarifications. In accordance with Article 4 of the Bylaws, I offer the following:

Active Member: This is self-explanatory in general; however, clarification has been requested at times, so a few examples I thought of are: (i) If you meet any one of the definitions of Active Member pursuant to the Bylaws and are or have ever worked as a paralegal, whether or not your position/title is paralegal, you **are** classified as an Active Member. (ii) If you are currently attending the UNR or TMCC paralegal program and if you meet any of the Active membership classification requirements, you **are** classified as an Active Member (see below in re Student Member classification requirements. (iii) If you are employed as a legal secretary (or any other similar law office position) yet have attained the CP/ACP designation and/or graduated from a college paralegal program (or meet any of the other Active Member requirements), you **are** classified as an Active member.

Student Member: Per the Bylaws, a Student Member is any individual, who is not nor has ever been qualified as an active, retired or associate member, who is currently enrolled in an educational program which includes legal courses. Both the TMCC and UNR programs qualify for the student membership category. That being said, once a person graduates from the program, he/she is then qualified for Active membership; TMCC graduates qualify under Category 2 and UNR graduates qualify under Category 3 of the Active Membership categories. Please note: just because a potential member (or renewing member) is enrolled in the UNR or TMCC program does not automatically qualify one for Student membership (see Active Member classification requirements above).

Associate Member: This is self-explanatory. An example of a person who would join as an Associate Member is a person with a Library Sciences degree and works as a law firm librarian. Such person has no experience, education or training as a paralegal but is in a law-related field.

Sustaining Member: The Bylaws contain good examples for this category.

Retired Member: Again, self-explanatory. A good example for this category (*for those who have been around a few years*) is Laura Carlson CLA. (Congrats for being my example!) ☺

If at any time you have questions, please feel free to contact me at kcline.snapreno@gmail.com.

Meet the SNAP Board



Vacant
1st VP/Education



Kate Cline, ACP
2nd Vice
President/
Membership/Job
Bank



Christine Lamia
Secretary



Erin Tieslau, CP
NALA Liaison



Amy Hodgson, ACP
President



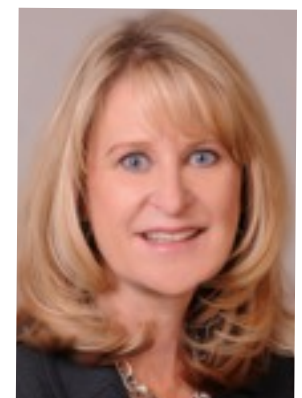
Crystal Huss
Treasurer



Vacant
Student Liaison



Vacant
Social Activities



Susan Sunday, CP
Parliamentarian

Lynda Traves
Newsletter &
Web Site Editor

SNAP General Meeting Luncheon Tuesday, August 20 at Noon

SPEAKER: Amy Hodgson & Erin Tieslau

TOPIC: 30 APPs in 30 Minutes

PLACE: ZoZo's
3446 Lakeside Drive
Reno NV

COST: \$18.00 – Members & Guests \$15.00 – Student Members

Name: _____

Office: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Member

Student

Guest

Menu - Italian Family Style

**Please mail your reservation form and payment to:
SNAP, P.O. Box 2832, Reno, NV 89505-2832**

**ALL RESERVATIONS WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED
BY FRIDAY, August 16, 2013**

RSVP via

**Email to Christine Lamia christinelamia@kernltd.com
Or meeting@snapreno.com OR Evite**

**If you make a reservation, you are responsible for the
payment, even if you do not show.**