

SNAP SHOT



Presidential Ramblings

The season is definitely changing, and our days of warm weather clothing are drawing to a close.

With the changing of the seasons comes the return of the holidays. Thanksgiving will be here in a few weeks! Where has 2013 gone?

For me, Thanksgiving is for family – the family you are born into, the family you marry into, and the friendships you cultivate to “make” your extended family. For a successful relationship, you need communication. You have to be able to communicate effectively with your family so disagreements do not turn into long-term battles or festering resentments. And, good communication is vital in the legal profession. You cannot effectively communicate without listening. Here are some tools to help you be an active listener.

1. Some of the most common barriers to listening include:

•Focusing on a personal agenda. When we spend our listening time formulating our next response, we cannot be fully attentive to what the speaker is saying

•Experiencing information overload. Too much stimulation or information can make it very difficult to listen with full attention. Try to focus on the relevant information, and the central points that are being conveyed.

•Criticizing the speaker. Do not be distracted by critical evaluations of the speaker. Focus on what they are saying – the message – rather than the messenger.

•Getting distracted by emotional noise. We react emotionally to certain words, concepts and ideas, and to a myriad of other cues from speakers (appearance, non-verbal cues). Make a conscious effort to quiet your own emotional reactions so that you can listen.

•Experiencing physical difficulty. Feeling unwell, or experiencing pain can make it very difficult to listen effectively. You may wish to communicate that this is not a good time, and reschedule the discussion. Otherwise, you may just need to concentrate even more on the task of listening.

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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

November 19, 2013:

Speaker: Mark Schopper
Topic: Internet/Online Gaming

December 17, 2013:

Speaker: Debora McDermid, Ph.D
Topic: Bridges Out of Poverty

Officers and Chairpersons

President: Amy Hodgson, ACP
1st VP/Education: Susan Davis
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
Public Relations: Anna Buchner
Activities/Social Chair: Jessica Bradshaw
Newsletter & Web Site Editor: Lynda Traves
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/154903284632632/>

2. Some strategies for effective listening include:

•Stop. Focus on the other person, their thoughts and feelings. Consciously focus on quieting your own internal commentary, and step away from your own concerns to think about those of the speaker. Give your full attention to the speaker.

•Look. Pay attention to non-verbal messages, without letting yourself be distracted. Notice body language and non-verbal cues to allow for a richer understanding of the speaker's point. However, avoid getting distracted from the verbal message.

•Listen. Listen for the essence of the speaker's thoughts: details, major ideas and their meanings. Seek an overall understanding of what the speaker is trying to communicate, rather than reacting to the individual words or terms they use to express themselves.

•Be empathetic. Imagine how you would feel in their circumstances. Be empathetic to the feelings of the speaker, while maintaining a calm center within yourself. You need not be drawn into all of their problems or issues, as long as you acknowledge what they are experiencing.

•Ask questions. Use questions to clarify your understanding, as well as to demonstrate interest in what is being said.

One of the first things a previous employer taught me was when taking a message, or needing to relay information to the attorney handling a case, let the client say what they need to say, and then repeat it back to them. Not word for

word, but a brief synopsis of your understanding of the conversation. That shows the client you were paying attention, and also gives them an opportunity to clarify once you have recited back the information the client wanted relayed. In doing this, I find I center my attention on my client. And, I believe they know my attention is centered on them, helping to form a good working relationship. They understand they can call me with any issue, and I will not make them feel that it is unimportant, or that I am brushing them off. I never allow myself to think about my to-do list, or pending deadlines, as I do not



want my client to ever feel that I am rushing them along. Hopefully, some of these tips will remind you how to be an active listener and allow you to more effectively communicate, be it with family, clients, coworkers, or your employers.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy S. Hodgson, ACP
President

**Minutes of the
Executive Committee Meeting
Sierra Nevada Association of
Paralegals (SNAP)
Will be in the next newsletter**

**General Meeting Minutes
Of the
Sierra Nevada Association of
Paralegals (SNAP)
Will be in the next newsletter**

Study Group

In January 2014, Erin Tieslau, CP, is putting together a study group to prepare for the May and September 2014 exams. Currently there are five people who are interested in a study group, and we are hoping for at least five more people to make the study group beneficial for everyone.

If you are interested in joining the study group please email me at erin@lge.net. Please provide me with your contact information and days of the week you would be available to get together. Also, feel free to email me if you have any questions about the exam or what you would need to prepare for the exam.

Erin Tieslau
NALA Liaison

(Any submissions, articles, recipes, hot tips, et cetera, that are not actual minutes of the organization, are not necessarily the opinion of the organization.)



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

Starting for the December newsletter, any member who sends the Editor an article, a joke, a recipe, a hot tip, or any other interesting tidbit (such as a biography), will receive a gift card at the General Meeting as a token of our appreciation.

This is your newsletter and we want it to be informative and fun for everyone.

Send all submissions to: webmaster@snapreno.com



11/12/13

Traffic stop brings 3 enemas, 2 X-rays and 1 colonoscopy in cops' fruitless drug search, suit says

Civil Rights**Traffic stop brings 3 enemas, 2 X-rays and 1 colonoscopy in cops' fruitless drug search, suit says**

Posted Nov 5, 2013 12:48 PM CST

By [Debra Cassens Weiss](#)

A New Mexico man claims in a federal lawsuit that he was forced to submit to three enemas, a colonoscopy, two X-rays and several cavity searches after he was pulled over for failing to yield for a stop sign while exiting a Wal-Mart parking lot.

The suit by David Eckert says that, despite the persistence of medical personnel, no drugs were ever found. [KOB4](#) reviewed the lawsuit, medical records and police reports surrounding the plight of David Eckert of Lordsburg, who was pulled over Jan. 2.

Eckert's [federal suit](#) says the Deming police officer who pulled him over on Jan. 2 patted him down, and began to question him. Other responding officers used a drug dog to sniff Eckert's vehicle, which allegedly alerted to drugs, and then seized the car. Eckert and the officers differ over whether consent was given for the vehicle search.

No drugs were found in the vehicle, according to the suit.

The suit says the officer was suspicious because Eckert held his legs together after exiting the vehicle, while Eckert's lawyer, Shannon Kennedy, told KOB4 that the officer was suspicious because Eckert appeared to be clenching his buttocks.

The officer obtained a search warrant that authorized an anal cavity search and transported Eckert to the emergency room in Deming, where the attending physician refused to do the procedure. Eckert was then taken to a second hospital, the Gila Regional Medical Center in Silver City, where the lawsuit says the enemas, X-rays, colonoscopy and cavity searches were performed.

The hospital billed Eckert for the services, the suit says.

"This is like something out of a science fiction film, anal probing by government officials and public employees," Kennedy told KOB4. The lawyer says the search warrant was issued without probable cause, was too broad, was invalid in the county where the second hospital was located, and had expired before the colonoscopy was performed.

Deming Police Chief Brandon Gigante told the broadcast station that "we follow the law in every aspect and we follow policies and protocols that we have in place."

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Grammar Corner

Commas are not needed after *ordinary introductory adverbs* or *short introductory phrases* that answer such questions as:

WHEN:	tomorrow, yesterday, recently, early next week, in the morning
HOW OFTEN:	Occasionally, often, frequently, once in awhile
WHERE:	Here, in this case, at the meeting
WHY:	For that reason, because of this situation

For example:

In the morning things may look better. (Short prepositional phrase telling *when*; no comma needed.)

In the first place, they don't have sufficient capital. (Transitional expression; followed by a comma)

Recently we had a request for information on school trends. (Introductory adverb telling *when*; no comma needed.)

Source: Gregg Reference Manual, 11th Edition, Rule 124b.

Submitted by:

**LEMONS,
GRUNDY &
EISENBERG**
experience • results

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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(s) This Month

It's Official! Paralegal CLE by NALA is now available on iTunes for the iPad!

Through this app, you may register or access previously purchased NALA Campus Self-Study programs and Advanced Paralegal Certification courses. Today, there are 32 self-study programs offered by NALA through web-based educational programs. These include seven programs for preparation for the Certified Paralegal examination, three general education programs and 22 Advanced Paralegal Certification programs!

A press release, with details of the new app, is attached. We hope you will be able to include this information in your association newsletter and/or web site.

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions!

Now Available at the APP Store

Continuing Legal Education


General • Advanced • Exam Preparation

Paralegal CLE by NALA is now available for your iPad! Through this app, you may register or access previously purchased NALA Campus Self-Study programs and Advanced Paralegal Certification courses. Today, there are 32 self-study courses, web based programs offered by NALA. These include:

- 7 Certified Paralegal examination prep courses
- 3 general education courses
- 22 Advanced Paralegal Certification courses



For users of other non-Apple tablets and operating systems, NALA Campus Self-Study courses are on the internet at www.nala.org/onlineed.aspx. All web-based courses will run on all tablets using the tablet's internet browser

Paralegal continuing education at your fingertips, 24/7!

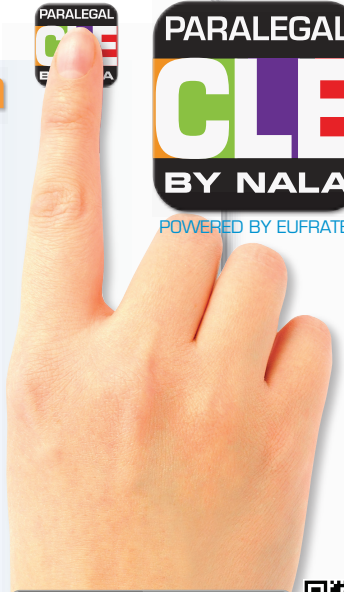




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POWERED BY EUFRATES





Mark and I took a 4x4, off-road trip from Reno to Costa Mesa for a birthday party. The picture above is the first night camping spot. *Fish Lake Valley Hot Well*. The “pond” in the background is a hot springs. There is even an actual pool built there. However, we froze — literally — we woke up and there was ice on the one of the bushes where the water bubbled up. Lesson 1: bring more blankets. It was a beautiful location. We then headed to Titus Canyon. <http://www.everytrail.com/guide/titus-canyon-4x4-road/map>

The next set of pictures are taken at Titus Canyon. We then did some gem hunting. LOL we found some interesting looking rocks but not sure any are what we were looking for. The book we used was gem trails of southern California. We thought we followed the trails but not sure the book or our mileage counting was correct. We did find petroglyphs after about a 2 mile hike. Why/how the petroglyphs were put on a rock cliff is anyone’s guess but it was spectacular to see. They

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



Entrance to Titus Canyon



Our Jeep and sign for the ghost town in Titus Canyon



Petroglyphs



were deep in a canyon, no water visible nor any sort of wildlife for food. Lesson 2: remember to bring a lighter of some sort. We had to search but eventually found one. Lesson 3: appreciate your Jeep or off-road vehicle. We had many washboard roads and big boulders to overcome. This was an awesome trip. We bought the Jeep for this purpose and we can't wait for our next off-road excursion.

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Meet the SNAP Board



Susan Davis
1st VP/Education



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



Anna Buchner
Public Relations



Erin Tieslau, CP
NALA Liaison



Amy Hodgson, ACP
President



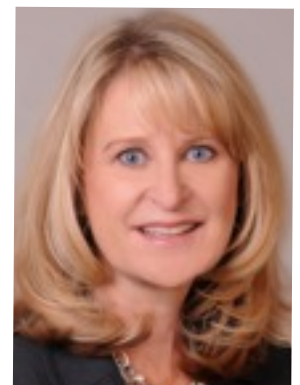
Crystal Huss
Treasurer



Christine Lamia
Secretary



Lynda Traves
**Newsletter &
Web Site Editor**



Susan Sunday, CP
Parliamentarian



Vacant
Student Liaison

Jessica Bradshaw
Social Activities



Speakers

November:

Mark Schopper on Internet/Online Gaming.



Mark Schopper, Esq.

Mark is licensed attorney in Nevada and California. He appears frequently in the media as a legal expert on issues involving entertainment and gaming, Internet law, Internet gambling, professional sports, and other topics. He has appeared on numerous national and international television and radio programs such as CNN, ABC, and National Public Radio (NPR), and he has been quoted by nearly every major news outlet in America, including the Washington Post, L.A. Times, New York Times, Chicago Tribune, CNN, USA Today, Fox News, ABC News, ESPN and Sports Illustrated. He is the author and co-author of numerous books and articles on subjects such as Internet law, gaming law, Internet gambling, electronic

cash, and money laundering. Mark is a co-author of the Internet Gambling Report—the definitive book on the subject. His legal writings have been cited in GAO Reports to the United States Congress and in legislative reports to the governments of Canada, England and Australia.

Mark is a fifth-generation Nevadan, who enjoys the outdoors with his wife Lorna and dog Piper. He is currently writing a book on the Cowboys & Indians of early Nevada.

Speakers

December:

Debora McDermed, Ph. D speaking on Bridges out of Poverty.



Debora is currently Director of Community Engagement for the Bridges To A Thriving Nevada Initiative in Northern Nevada. As of June 2013, Deb has trained over 1000 participants in the Bridges out of Poverty Day 1 and Day 2 curriculum. In 2013-2014, Debora will be traveling to Southern Nevada to assist in kicking off the Bridges movement there.

Debora has been a Transformational Leadership Consultant to the fortune 500 for over 15 years. Her clients included IBM, ATT, Hallmark Cards and many others. Her specialty is in the field of human development and what fosters and sustains human change.

She devotes her time to building strong community by building strong individuals from all walks of life. She is the author of the workshop – Leading from the Heart and Making an Impact through Dynamic Presentations.

Effective October, 2013- Debora is Vice President of the National Board on Advancing Bridges.

A 501C3 dedicated to bringing national attention to the power of the Bridges model for ending poverty.

Debora McDermed will be speaking on Bridges Out of Poverty; more specifically on the topic Hidden Rules as it relates to people's perception of impoverished individuals, and how these Rules apply to paralegals and our involvement to assist with our attorneys and clients.

P.S. This is NOT sappy stuff (bleeding heart), or a request for a donation. Instead, it has to do with how we in the legal community perceive impoverished individuals. For example, think if the Erin Brockovich movie and you'll get a better understanding. What if Erin (Brockovich not Tieslau) walked into your office dressed the way she did? What if that person thought they were dressed very well, and we thought they were street walkers – or someone else? This is just to give you some idea of the direction our speaker will be going in.

SNAP General Meeting Luncheon Tuesday, November 19 at Noon

SPEAKER: Mark Schopper

TOPIC: Internet/Online Gaming

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, November 15, 2013**

**RSVP via
Email to meeting@snapreno.com OR Evite**

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

