

ALA Region 2 Newsletter



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Association of Legal Administrators, Region 2

2010-2011 Region 2 Management Team

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Knoxville Chapter

The Knoxville Chapter (KALA) has been busy with its Community Challenge Projects for 2010. In the Spring the Chapter partnered with Knoxville Bar Association (KBA) to help build a Habitat for Humanity Home for a single mom and her two children. Members spent time painting the interior of the home.



In late Summer the Chapter held a drive to collect linens, toilet-ries, and food items to

donate to the Downtown Knoxville YWCA's Transitional Housing Program. This program assists women in becoming responsible and independent members of the community by offering low-cost housing and various support opportunities. Its participants are often victims of domestic violence or are participating in substance abuse treatment programs. The drive was very successful and the Chapter presented the YWCA with an abundance of items for the residents.

The Chapter plans two additional events for Autumn. We plan to assist the Knoxville Bar Association's Unmet Legal Needs of Children Committee by collecting items to stuff activity bags to give to children accompanying family members to the courthouse for legal proceedings. Members will shop for and donate age appropriate items that will help comfort and entertain children who

are waiting while their parents are in legal proceedings. These activity bags will be a welcome distraction for the children to help pass their time more quickly.

We also plan to continue our tradition of providing administrative support to the John T. O'Connor Senior Center with its Flu Shot Friday. Members will assist seniors in registering for the event, completing insurance forms, and giving directions. This activity is a hands-on activity and one Members have always enjoyed.

The Knoxville Chapter has a history of successful events and we look forward to additional projects and organizations we can assist in 2011.

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Capital Chapter



The ALA Capital Chapter Foundation Announces the Recipient of the \$15,000 Toni K. Allen Scholarship.

Malaika Nicholas, a graduate of Benjamin Banneker High School will be attending Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and hopes to become a forensic pathologist and ultimately a medical examiner. The selection committee was impressed with Malaika's GPA of 3.82, SAT score of 1750, and extensive list of leadership positions and activities. Malaika's volunteer work included the Make-A-Wish Foundation Kid's Triathlon, and DC Health Services for Special Needs Kids which she found very fulfilling; she described it as life changing to help someone realize they can in fact do something that others thought they could not; to help change the stereotypes and stigmas attached to children with disabilities.

She was Captain of the Soccer team and the Youth Representative for the City Football Club. Malaika is a member of the Urban Soccer Collaborative Youth Advisory Board that promotes soccer programs around the world; there is a trip to South Africa this summer to help children learn about soccer. Malaika overcame her shyness by "stepping

outside of her comfort zone," and being a leader by volunteering as a tutor, teacher's assistant and informal mentor to the students at Shepherd Elementary School. Malaika is very passionate about her career choice, she has a real gift for investigation and a desire to understand how/why the human body functions as it does. Malaika says she was inspired by her Father's death and wants to leave a lasting imprint on the world — her goal is to be the inventor of the first functional artificial liver, to give others a second opportunity at life that her father could not embrace. Malaika is a gifted young woman and well deserving of our scholarship.

Mentoring Today selected as Chapter Charity

Our charity for the 2010/2011 Chapter year is Mentoring Today. The mission of Mentoring Today is to serve youth both before and after their release from incarceration and to support their successful reintegration into their families and community. The three areas they focus on are:

Mentoring

They match youth with a one-on-one volunteer mentor. The mentor offers critical support during the youth's stay in the juvenile facility and throughout his

re-entry into the community.

Mentoring Today is now partnering with American University's [Washington College of Law](#) to provide youth at New Beginnings Youth Development Center with caring, committed mentors. Our mentors are members of Students United for Youth Justice, a student organization that recruits law students dedicated to serving the youth in DC's juvenile justice system.

Advocacy

Mentoring Today's staff attorneys advocate for mentees to receive the education, employment, housing, and mental health services they need, while also fighting instances of systemic injustice.

Family Engagement

Behind every mentee is a family, and Mentoring Today strives to incorporate that family into all of our services. We reach out to the families of our youth to help caregivers understand the re-entry process and better participate in their child's re-entry services. We look forward to working with Mentoring Today.

Maryland Chapter

The Maryland Chapter has had a busy quarter and is gearing up for another amazing one. July saw the implementation of a Virtual Food Drive sponsored by the Maryland Chapter and the Maryland Food Bank. This food drive is all online and runs through October 2010. Kudos to Vicki Cavey of Fishbein & Fishbein, P.A. and her Community Challenge Committee for such a modern approach to a much needed service. July was also the chapter Board Retreat where the planning for the upcoming educational year took place. Hosted at the Hotel Monaco in downtown, Baltimore, the retreat had a theme of "You are a Superhero", complete with superhero decorations, superhero notebooks, superhero goodie bags and a rousing superhero teambuilding game in which board members were assigned characters and were required to solve problems using



their superhero powers! President,

Eric Hightower, CLM, SPHR, of Ingerman & Horwitz, LLP furthered the atmosphere by dressing up as Clark Kent!

During August, Past President, Amanda Vlangas Albright, PHR, of Tydyings & Rosenberg LLP gave birth to Hudson Levi Albright on August 4, 2010.



Meanwhile the Maryland Chapter held a Business Partner Event, which boasted an attendance list of 108 people. This successful event was spearheaded by co-chairs, Jan Mahar of Brown, Goldstein and Levy, LLP and Nancy Robinson of Wright, Constable & Skeen, LLP and their Business Partner Relations Committee. Finally, to end the Summer and start the Fall, the chapter held a members only Social at Sullivan's Steak House in the Inner Harbor of Baltimore, MD.

Upcoming events for September, October and November include a webinar, an educational lunch, celebration of PLMW, a day with Habitat

for Humanity, a collection of hygiene items for Paul's Place and a managing partner luncheon. Also during November the Maryland Chapter will have a booth at the Maryland State Bar Association Annual Solo and Small Firm Conference, at which time, Bar Liaison, Renee Lane-Kunz, Esq. and President, Eric Hightower, CLM, SPHR will be part of a panel discussion for the conference.



ALA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2010

- 4-8 Professional Legal Management Week
- 8-10 ALA—Community Challenge Weekend
- 22-23 ALA Region 2 Conference, Miami Beach, Florida

19 NOVEMBER 2010

- 5-6 ALA Board of Directors Meeting
- 20 ALA Association Nominating Committee Meeting
- 25-26 Thanksgiving Holiday—ALA Headquarters Closed

DECEMBER 2010

- 24 Christmas Observance, ALA Headquarters Closed



International
Professional Legal
Management WeekSM

October 4 - 8, 2010

*Your connection
to knowledge, resources and networking*



Mississippi Chapter



Raise the bar.....
B e c o m e A
C e r t i f i e d L e g a l
M a n a g e r

From personal satisfaction to increased professional mobility to savings on liability insurance, becoming a Certified Legal Manager (CLM)SM is your path to success.

*We raised \$10,000
from sponsorships
for 2011.*



On August 24, 2010, the Mississippi chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators held its annual Business Partner Exhibition and Chapter Meeting. Bill Wallace, chair of the committee, did his usual exemplary job of finding the perfect venue for the exhibition, the right group of enthusiastic business partners to sponsor the exhibition, and, most importantly, the right member of the committee to select the restaurateur who would provide the post-exhibition meal!

Mona Sheridan, chapter member and legal administrator for Southern Farm Bureau, volunteered the use of her company's building, resources and large conference room for the chapter to use. The chapter provided water, ice, tables and chair, internet access and other necessary items at a minimal cost. Bill worked with Mona, the staff at Southern Farm Bureau, and the business

partners to make the event a success.

The chapter was able to raise over \$10,000 from sponsorships for the use of the chapter in 2011. The chapter uses the vendor exhibition to raise money for these uses during the following year: \$2,500 scholarship to a deserving law student at the Mississippi College School of Law; philanthropic contributions to deserving charities as well as reimbursing chapter members for travel, registration and expenses to attend ALA regional and national educational events. We've made an effort to send chapter members from smaller chapters whose attorneys might not fund their educational needs.

Many of the same business partners return year after year to the event. Many have confided that they appreciate being able to meet chapter members who might not grant

them an interview during normal working hours. Several new business partners exhibit their services each year. New sponsors are often the most enthusiastic sponsors as they hope to get their "foot in the door" with chapter members. It is obviously worth their while to spend money from their marketing budgets for two and a half hours of "face time" with chapter members and be able to get on a first-name basis with many of the decision-makers for the law firms who are customers in their industry.

Both the chapter members and the business partners find this on-going symbiotic relationship to be of value and service. The chapter members can raise funds for the use of the chapter. The business partners may derive some new or additional business from the new relationships they make at the exhibition, as well as solidifying old relationships with people whom they already know. Everybody wins.



It's almost time to pack your bags and attend our Region 2 Conference in Miami Beach, Florida, at the gorgeous Edon Roc Hotel, a wonderful example of Art Deco architecture that can be found in Miami Beach. From Thursday's opening reception through our closing session on Saturday, you're sure to have fun and gain new insights into your job. Sean Carter

will open this year's conference and help you get the best from your life. There will be management sessions, marketing ideas that don't cost a dime, HR guidance, and many other topics. Learn about the law firm of the future as it relates to space; get assistance in creating your 2011 budget as former ALA President Dick Nigon presents *The Bottom Line: Building*

Beyond 2010. If you haven't already signed up for the conference, take this time to review the conference brochure to see all the educational sessions which are being offered this year. Only you can design your pathway to success! For more information, see www.alanet.org/region2

Design Your Pathway to Success



ALA Region 2 Conference & Expo

Save the Dates! **October 22-23, 2010**
Miami Beach, Florida

Design your pathway to success in Miami Beach this fall — It's your best investment this year! A cost-effective, two-day Conference close to your home with professional legal industry speakers, more than 20 educational sessions and a legal industry business Expo.

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