



AAPI Brief

a monthly publication of The Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc.

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3
MARCH 2023

“DON’T LET NOTHIN’ STAND IN YOUR WAY” COME CHECK US OUT !

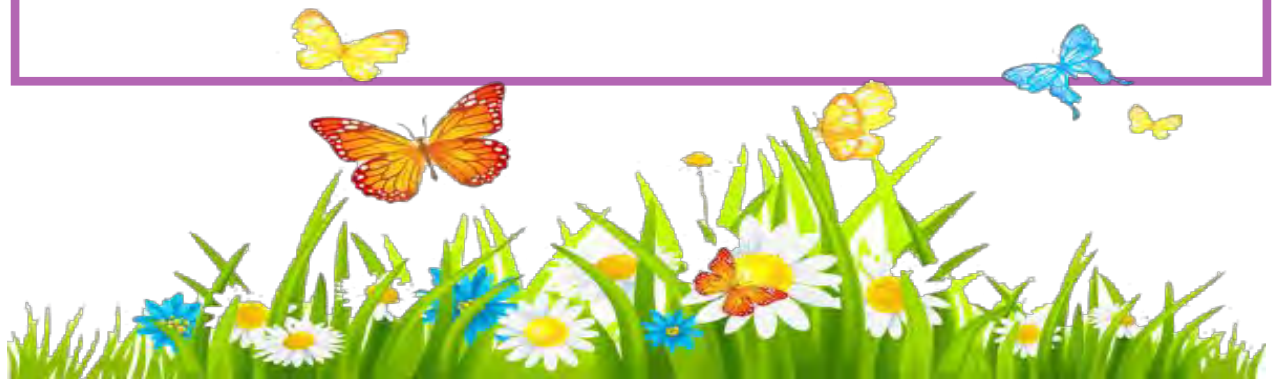
MARCH

- 1 Student of the Year Nominations due to NALA
- 4 Winter Seminar — Guntersville State Park Lodge
- 6 Student Essay Contest begins
- 22 Region 3 Luncheon—TP Crockmiers, Mobile, AL*
- 27 Region 1 Changed Life Christian Center Volunteer Opportunity*
- 29 Region 2 Luncheon—79a, Montgomery, AL *

Upcoming in April

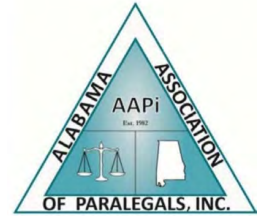
- 6 Region 1—Meet n Greet—Los Amigos, Birmingham, AL*
- 12 ALL Regions ZOOM meeting 12:00 pm*
- 15 Career Fair—Faulkner University Dinner Theater, Montgomery

**more information on page 8*



“Listen to every word I say . . .”

March is Women’s History Month



Since 1980, the US has celebrated women’s impact on society during the month of March. Formerly known as Women’s History Week, the celebration was expanded to a month in 1987 by Congress. As a member of the Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc. “AAPi”, we are aware that our organization is predominantly comprised of women, but AAPi is proud to include a large male membership as well.

So, what makes this month so important that women should receive extra attention? Why are women not celebrated every day during the year? In conducting research on this topic, I repeatedly came across President Carter’s 1980 proclamation on the subject,

“From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.

As Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted, “Women’s History is Women’s Right.” – It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision.”

I ask my fellow Americans to recognize this heritage with appropriate activities during National Women’s History Week, March 2-8, 1980.

I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who struggled for equality – Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul. Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people.

This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that “Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.”

My message this month is to be grateful for the advancements of all women to advance our society. I am proud of our AAPi founders for taking those first steps in creating the incorporation of this association. Without their foresight, I’m not sure AAPi would be in existence. And although we are celebrating Women’s History month, AAPi celebrates **ALL** of our members and their accomplishments to continuing our association from inception to present and towards its future.

Ain’t no stoppin’ us now, AAPi’s on the move!

~Adrienne

AAPI WINTER SEMINAR—A GRAND EVENT !!



On March 4, paralegals from across the state gathered at the beautiful Lake Guntersville State Park to further their skills and gain legal knowledge. The topics included Probate, Financial Planning and a spirited discussion with members of the AAPI Board!

Be sure to put the Summer Conference/Annual Meeting on your calendars for August 4 & 5, 2023. The Hampton Inn in Orange Beach will be the place to be that weekend! Stay tuned and watch your mail for the lineup! This conference is going to be you do NOT want to miss AND the Road Race will finish!

AAPI ROAD RACE is off and running...

Gentlemen, Start your engines! Yes, AAPI members who attended the Winter Seminar have done just that. Contests included identifying “distorted” photos and attending sessions to collect road cards. The race tracks have been started and the cars are speeding toward the finish line. Current leaders are: Brian Snow, Cindy Walker, Stacey Mosley, Beth Trees, and Dana Nail.

The Road Race will continue at the Summer Conference and the winner will be decided on Saturday August 5, 2023 at the Hampton Inn in Orange Beach, Alabama.



Be sure to mark your calendars and join us at the beach for the Summer Conference and 41st Annual Meeting.

We will have more racing, a POKER RUN and an AMAZING AAPI RACE.

THE FIRST ONE TO THE FINISH LINE WINS!!

STUDENTS

\$5 STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

When you join the Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc. through May 15, 2023

1

Scholarships

AAPL provides scholarship opportunities to deserving students.

2

Networking, Mentorships, & CLE's

Network with some of the best paralegals in the industry, and/or even be mentored by one! Receive discounted CLE's throughout the year.

3

Jobs

AAPL provides a job bank that is continuously updated.

4

CP Study Groups

Thinking about taking the NALA CP exam? AAPL offers opportunities to help prepare you.

Sign up at www.alabamaparalegals.net

STUDENTS

THE ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF
PARALEGALS, INC.
PROUDLY PRESENTS
THE JANIS DAVIDSON MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP FUND



QUALIFICATIONS

1. You must be a resident of the state of Alabama;
2. You must be a Student Member of AAPI;
3. You must show proof of current enrollment in a paralegal studies program of a junior college, college, or university which is within the state of Alabama and which has been accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and
4. You must submit a copy of your transcript which shows that you have a 3.0 or better average on a 4.0 scale and at least 15 semester hours of paralegal course work (or its equivalent in quarter hours).

RULES

- The essay must be original and the work of the student and the student must be willing to attest to its originality;
- The student(s) receiving the scholarship(s) must agree to allow AAPI to publish the essay in the NOVUS; and all essays and qualifying paperwork must be mailed to: Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc., Attn: Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 1834, Birmingham, AL 35201;
- Essays must be postmarked by no later than May 15, 2023. Essays cannot be emailed or handed to a Board Member;
- All scholarship proceeds will be made payable to your school and will be placed in your account to be used for tuition expenses; and
- The scholarships will be awarded during the awards ceremony at AAPI's 2023 Paralegal Conference, which will convene August 4-5, 2023, in Orange Beach Alabama.

AAPI Student Members

To apply for these scholarships you must submit an essay (minimum 300 words) on one of the following topics:

1. What is your favorite type of law and why?
2. Do you believe that the media portrays the role of paralegals/legal professionals in movies/tv shows accurately, why or why not?
3. What do you hope to accomplish in your paralegal career?

Each year, (1) \$1,000 and (1) \$500 scholarships will be awarded to AAPI Student Members.

The AAPI Board hopes you will take advantage of this opportunity to apply for one of these scholarships. To apply for membership or to find out more about AAPI, check out the website at www.alabamaparalegals.net

AAPI 2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Submission date _____
 Student Name _____
 Student Address _____

 Telephone no. _____
 Email _____
 School Info _____
 Address _____
 Telephone no. _____
 Program Director _____
 Email _____

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Undersigned AAPI student member hereby acknowledges, affirms and attests:

- a. That he/she meets all of the qualifications to apply for a Janis Davidson Scholarship;
- b. That the essay attached is his/her original work, not copied from the Internet and was prepared by the student; and
- c. That he/she understands that AAPI has the right to post the Essay with the student's name and photo in the Association's newsletter (the NOVUS), on its website and social media as it deems necessary.

 Signature of Student Member

MEMBER NEWS



CONGRATULATIONS TO REGION 3 MEMBER DEBORAH PAUL, ACP ON BEING ELECTED BY THE AAPI BOARD AS

THE 2023-2024 PRESIDENT.

BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR THE CAREER FAIR!

THERE WILL BE A RESUME REVIEW, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, MOCK INTERVIEWS, PROFESSIONAL HEAD SHOTS, MAKE UP TIPS AND PORTFOLIOS.

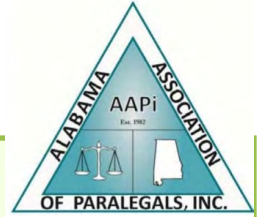
A graphic for a Career Fair. It features a teal background with various office supplies: a spiral notebook, a pen, a pencil, a paperclip, and a pushpin. In the center, there is a white card with the Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc. logo and the text "CAREER FAIR". Below the card, the text reads "JUMPSTART YOUR PARALEGAL CAREER" followed by the date, time, and location of the event.

Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc.
CAREER FAIR

JUMPSTART YOUR PARALEGAL CAREER

Saturday, April 15th
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Registration from 8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
Faulkner University
Faulkner Dinner Theatre
5346 Atlanta Hwy, Montgomery, AL 36109
For more information, please contact us at pr@alabamaparalegals.net

AAPI MARCH VIPS



MARSHA JORDAN

While attending ESCC and taking core classes to complete my Associates degree, a reading assignment in my literature class would throw me off path and into what would become my passion. Having half-heartedly read To Kill A Mockingbird in my junior high school years, I was again tasked with reading, and devouring, this classic writing

during my second year of literature class at ESCC. It was that class, that book, and that professor that sparked my interest in the legal field. Every year until Covid, I would load up my Mom and my daughter for a trip to Monroeville, Alabama to watch the local talent put on their annual To Kill A Mockingbird play at the courthouse.

I began my legal career in 1999 at the Law Office of Paul Young in Enterprise, Alabama. My then college professor in Torts was an attorney in his office at the time and suggested I interview for the Legal Assistant position. I was unlearned and lost about all things dealing with a legal office. I messed up, alot, but I had great mentors who fueled my love for the profession as much as they taught me the daily skills of it. There was so much to learn about the areas of criminal defense and domestic relations and I wanted to know it all. I wanted more though and around the time of computers and Google, I searched for local like-minded profession-

als. That's when I found AAPI! The organization has been such an instrumental part of my growth in the paralegal field and the friendships made along the way have been the icing on the cake. In 2019, I left Mr. Young's office and planned to devote my future to farm life. As fun as that was, I soon wanted so badly to be back in a law office. You can take the paralegal out of the office, but you can't take the paralegal out of the girl. On August 7, 2022, I accepted the paralegal position at the Law Office of Amy C. Marshall & Chris M. Kaminski and joined AAPI again. One of my favorite moments was when I was able to utilize the service of an AAPI vendor for out of state service. Because we don't often have this issue, I would have been on the computer and phones all day trying to locate someone to assist us but because of AAPI and our awesome sponsors, I was able to contact Josh Brakefield's sister at PDS and they handled everything for us right away.

I am grateful to AAPI for the endless benefits the organization offers and lasting friendships gained. I am again enrolled at ESCC retaking some paralegal courses and will complete the ABA approved Paralegal Studies program next semester. I will turn 50 years old this year and I cannot say it enough, "Never. Stop. Learning." I am so hAAPI to be on the move again this year with AAPI and can't wait to learn what I learn next!



PDS

Josh Brakefield and his company, Process Delivery Service, have done an excellent job serving papers for me. It's so important to know you can rely on someone to do the job right the first time.

The first time I hired Josh to serve papers for me, it was a super rush.

We were involved in the case as local counsel and our lead counsel in another state had informed us that the papers needed to be served the very same day we became involved in the case. I reached out to Josh, and he was on standby waiting for me to give him the call to come and pick up the papers. It's not surprising that we had a delay in filing the documents and I reached out to Josh to let him

know that we would need him to be available the next day instead of today. Of course, Josh said okay, no problem. Josh was able to serve the defendant at his home even though the defendant initially represented himself to be someone else other than the party we were attempting to serve. He said he was just there to feed the animals, but Josh got him to cave, and he successfully served the defendant that day, the same day the documents were filed with the Court. He made us look good!

The next service involved dangerous dogs....

Josh served some papers again for me last week. I will always support Josh and Process Delivery Service and I appreciate and thank him for the support he has provided to AAPI for many years.

- Susan Conger

AAPI STATE OF AFFAIRS

Financial News as of March 1, 2023

Bank Accounts

Checking	25,852.69
Savings (Scholarship)	6,886.04
Reserve	15,511.93
TOTAL	\$48,250.66

AAPI TIDBITS

MEMBERSHIP

(as of 3/01/2023)

Active	117
Associate	11
Student	20
Distinguished	2
Patron	4
TOTAL	154

ROUND THE WATER COOLER

March Birthdays

Jeanie Johnson
 Jeremy Holley
 Deborah Paul
 Donna Robinson
 Kim Mulder



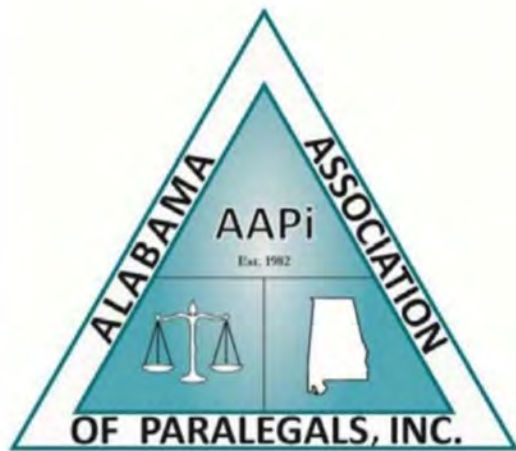
Region 1	88
Region 2	31
Region 3	24
Region 4	11

March 2023

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Winter Seminar
5	6 Student Scholarship Essay Contest Begins	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 	18
19	20 	21	22 Region 3 Luncheon	23	24	25
26	27 Region 1 Volunteer Opportunity	28	29 Region 2 Luncheon	30	31	

To submit materials for publication or to advertise, please contact our Editorial Staff at communications@alabamaparalegals.net.

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MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the paralegal profession through awareness and education.

VISION STATEMENT

Advancing Alabama paralegals through education and career development.

UPCOMING EVENTS. . .

STATEWIDE

Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser Through April 7

https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/AAPi_2023_Spring_Fundraiser

April 12, 2023 12:00 pm—1:00 pm

“Taking advantage of technology & trials: remote and In-Person”

Brad Wickard

ZOOM MEETING

To Register: see website

REGION 1

AAPi Volunteers Serving a Meal

March 27, 2023 5:15 pm — ?

Changed Lives Christian Center

1308 26th Avenue N, Birmingham, AL

Meet n Greet—5pm-6:30 pm

April 6, 2023

Los Amigos, Birmingham, AL

REGION 2

Lunch Bunch @ 79a

March 29, 2023 12:00 pm —1:00 pm

To RSVP:

region2@alabamaparalegals.net or online

REGION 3

Luncheon

Federal Civil Practice

March 22, 2023 12:00 pm—1:00 pm

To RSVP:

region3@alabamaparalegals.net or online

REGION 4

TBA—Check AAPi website for additional information!