

# DIXIE DIGEST



[www.alabama-als.org](http://www.alabama-als.org)

August 2023

## ***A Message from our President***

*Melissa Cooper, CAP, BW, HR, OM, PM, RM/PLS*



I hope everyone is having a great summer and keeping cool! A big thank you to each of you for all you do for the association! I'm enjoying learning the ins and outs of being the AALS president and am looking forward to attending the NALS Conference in Houston later this month. I will report on the meeting at the AALS Fall Board meeting in September.

Thank you to BLSA for hosting the Fall Board Meeting. I know BLSA is hard at work to make it a great meeting. We have a wonderful location near the Galleria Mall in Hoover and already have several interesting speakers lined up.

As always, if there is anything you need from me, or if you have any questions, let me know! I look forward to seeing you all at the AALS Fall Board Meeting in September.

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## **PRESIDENT ELECT**

*Sonia Smith, CLP*



I trust everyone is surviving this southern heat wave! I hope some of you are gearing up to head to the NALS Conference in a few weeks. Houston, TX here AALS comes! The CLE topics are spot on with today's legal professionals' needs. And this year we have two keynote speakers! An even better treat!!

If you are plugged into FaceBook you need to follow the NALS FB Page. Our trusted President, Amylyn Riedling is doing a fantastic job of keeping us updated and encouraged when it comes to this year's conference!

As far as this year's AALS Charity, I heard from our precious contact at Service Dogs of Alabama, Caroline Sease. This is what she reported:

Callie had 13 puppies – all three colors but only 1 was chocolate! This is our “K” litter- all names start with K. Half of this litter is in puppy raising homes gaining great home life exposure & the other half is in our prison training program getting their first basic training from the inmate trainers.

Cora had 3 very LARGE puppies. They are all 3 chocolate, very rare! This is our “L” litter. It took these pups a while to get moving because they were so big it was hard to learn how to make those legs work. Once they figured it out, they were on the go! This is proving to be a litter full of energy.

[Pictures of the pups are at the end of the DD report. Too many to put here on this page. You are going to fall in love with all of them!]

How about that news, AALS? Isn't it exciting! I hope each of our Chapters can assist SDA in some form or fashion. I know that Kristi Skipper wrote an article in *The Pintala Ledger* July 1, 2023 issue.

Thank you for spreading the word, Kristi!

I encourage you to visit the NALS website for other upcoming events that are hosted by other state chapters. Be a GEM and get plugged in!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Fall Board. Again, I am sure you have heard me say it more than once, if you have never been to a state meeting, you truly are missing out!!

Til then, let me know if you have any questions, and most importantly remember we are all GEMS!



## **VICE PRESIDENT**

*Julie Nims*

I cannot believe it is August already!! Where did the Summer go?

Do not forget if you sponsor a new member, email me a copy of their application, and let me know you sponsored them and get into the drawings!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Board Meeting. Hope you all have a blessed and safe Summer! If you have any questions, suggestions, comments, and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

## **SECRETARY**

*Judy Whigham, PP, PLS*



This officer is happy to report that since my June report, I had the opportunity and pleasure to join MLPA for their July meeting as part of the EC's Chapter Visitation. It was great to see the Mobile members and hear Mobile County Probate Judge Don Davis give a presentation on the new Alabama Probate Law taking effect on September 1<sup>st</sup>. I also attended two "Game Night" events at Babs DeKeyser's house along with several MLPA members and had a lot of fun, good food and great fellowship. I'm really enjoying Game Night and mentioned to BCALP members we should consider having a similar activity in our own chapter. Of course, it's great when we get together for meetings and CLE, but, I find it's really therapeutic to get together just for fun! I have not yet had a chance to visit the with the Dallas chapter but hope to work that out in the coming months.

I have not received any correspondence since the First Board of Governors Meeting in April. Having received suggested revisions from the EC, I am finalizing the Minutes of the First Board of Governors Meeting and expect to send them to the Governors in the coming weeks, in advance of the Fall Board of Governors Meeting. As for the Fall meeting, I will also be sending out the 30-Day Notice in the coming weeks. I also want to remind everyone that I have AALS Logo stationery available to send electronically to anyone who makes a request. My email is [jwhigham@joneswalker.com](mailto:jwhigham@joneswalker.com).

Please remember to send any updates to the AALS chapter officer rosters to NALS, with a copy to me, as well as President Melissa Cooper and President Elect Sonia Smith, as soon as possible so that updated rosters can be distributed to the governors. It is critically important that NALS has the current officer rosters for each AALS Chapter.

In that regard, if anyone needs a copy of the AALS EC and/or Chapter Officer rosters, please let me know and I can email/mail or fax them to you, and can also send you an electronic Outlook contact for either of these groups upon request. Looking forward to seeing you in the Fall.

## **TREASURER**

Ed Clark, PP-SC



If you need to be paid for an expense, please submit your form for payment. If you need a copy of the expense form, please contact me at [ebc@phm-law.com](mailto:ebc@phm-law.com).

I look forward to seeing AALS members in Houston and at the Fall Board meeting in Birmingham.

## **PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Babs DeKeyser, PP, PLS



Attached to this report are proposed changes to both our bylaws and standing rules. President Melissa tasked me with making major changes to these documents – cleaning them up, modifying them. The changes are in red underneath the current paragraph and then a very short explanation in blue about the change. Please read these carefully – probably will need to read through them more than once. I know I went through these documents multiple times and made many changes and undid a few changes and then made more changes.

Please contact me if you have any questions. I expect there to be questions before we vote at the fall board meeting. If you see other changes you think should be made, let me know or write it down so we can discuss it at fall. If some of my changes aren't worded the best, please feel free to let me know or send me suggestions for correcting the wording. Trust me – I won't be offended because I want these rules to be clear so if I didn't make the meanings clear, then help me fix it.



Webpage: [www.alabama-als.org](http://www.alabama-als.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/aalsalabama](https://www.facebook.com/aalsalabama)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aalsinfo>

## CHAPLAIN

Alison Schemmer, PP, PLS



I hope this finds you all well and safe this summer! I think about all of you daily because I pray for AALS daily. Because of that it brings to mind the scripture that Jesus gave us in Luke 10:27; Matthew 22:36–40; Mark 12:28–31. I am choosing to share with you the Matthew scripture as follows:

### The Great Commandment

<sup>28</sup> <sup>u</sup>And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The most important is, <sup>v</sup>Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, <sup>w</sup>the Lord is one. <sup>30</sup> And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup> <sup>x</sup>The second is this: <sup>y</sup>You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment <sup>z</sup>greater than these.”

The first of these commandments originally comes from God through Moses to Israel in Deuteronomy 6:5 and I commend the reading of that to you along with Chapters 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Deuteronomy – showing just how much God loves His chosen people.

The second of these commandments comes from God through Jesus to us.

As I have walked with all of you through the years in chapter meetings and activities and State Board Meetings and education/certification endeavors, I have been uplifted and inspired and encouraged by the example that you have set for each other and those who come in contact with AALS along the way. You have each loved your neighbor as yourself in more ways than I can count. I believe you keep the second commandment because you do the first commandment. You are all truly gems loved by God and valued by each other as God’s gift to each other! I love you all and I thank God for each and every one of you every day! Numbers 6:24-26 - The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.



Webpage      [www.nals.org](http://www.nals.org)  
Facebook      [www.facebook.com/NALSpace](https://www.facebook.com/NALSpace)  
Twitter      [twitter.com/NALStweet](https://twitter.com/NALStweet)

### NALS Mission

engage | inspire | enhance | promote

**Engage** legal professionals on their terms.

**Inspire** legal professionals to want more.

**Enhance** the careers of legal professionals.

**Promote** legal professionals and the legal support industry.

## FUNDING

Marva Dean Little, PP, PLS  
Deborah Rutherford, Co-Chairmen



Fall Board meeting is quickly approaching and so are the holidays. The theme for the Chinese Auction is **“WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY?”** *Halloween, Thanksgiving or Christmas?*



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## CERTIFICATION

Kristi Skipper, PP-SC

Obtaining a NALS certification demonstrates career commitment, builds credibility, showcases skills, and opens the doors of opportunity to enhance your career in the legal industry. NALS offers three unique certifications and four legal designations dedicated to the legal services profession.



***If you have not already obtained a NALS certification, I would encourage you to seriously consider working toward this goal.*** NALS certification exams provide a standardized assessment of your knowledge and abilities. Obtaining certification builds confidence and improves comprehension. Certification will give you an enhanced opportunity for employment. Recertification helps keep legal support professionals updated on trends in the legal industry. NALS certifications are a great way to advance in the legal field. Earning a nationally recognized credential is a sound investment and a great way for legal support professionals to distinguish themselves within the legal support industry.

Please let me know if you have any questions about certification. I am happy to help you find the

**GEMS** of certification!



# DIXIE DIGEST PATRONS

## 2023 - 2024



Marva Dean Little, PP, PLS	BCALP
Gina Harbison, PP, PLS	BCALP
Judy Whigham, PP, PLS	BCALP
Myra Beckham, PP, PLS	BLSA
Melissa Cooper, CAP, BW, HR, OM, PM, RM/PLS	BLSA
Debby Holmes, PP, PLS	BLSA
Teresa Moore, PP, PLC	BLSA
Harriet Piper	DCLSA
Barb Hanley	MALS
Kristi Skipper, PP	MALS
Danielle Baker, ACP	MLPA
Amy Bennett	MLPA
Babs DeKeyser, PP, PLS	MLPA
Janet C. Mosley, PP, PLS	MLPA
Alison Schemmer, PP, PLS	MLPA
Talley Brathovd, PP, PLS	NOCA
Susan Turner, PLS	NOCA

Barbara Malone, PP, PLS  
In Memorium

MALS Members

Lee Owen d/b/a 440 Investigations

Veritext Legal Solutions



**FINDING GEMS FOR AALS**  
**Gathering (Networking), Education**  
**& Membership Strategies**

**2023-2024 AALS DIXIE DIGEST PATRON AD**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name on Ad**  
**(if different):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:**      **Work:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ext.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Alt. E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use a separate form for each ad; however, one check may be used for multiple ads if mailed together in the same envelope. Make check payable to AALS (\$10 per ad) and send with form to:**

**Debby Holmes, PP, PLS**  
**c/o Duke Law Firm**  
**1572 Montgomery Highway**  
**Suite 205**  
**Birmingham, AL 35216-4520**



# CHAPTER REPORTS

## BCALP - Baldwin County

Deborah Rutherford



**EVERYONE, PLEASE WELCOME KYLIE MILLION AS OUR NEWEST BCALP MEMBER. KYLIE WORKS FOR KING & KING ATTORNEYS IN FOLEY, ALABAMA.**

Unfortunately, we were unable to meet in June due to several members vacationing and some were sick.

BCALP members met on July 27 at the Original Oyster House on the Causeway. Lee Owen with 440 Investigations told us all about his *dirty* little secrets which has made him an excellent investigator and process server. Lee is the boyfriend of Janet Mosley, member of MLPA. Some of you will remember Lee as he was an exhibitor at Annual Meeting in Saraland. He is a great speaker and his stories were very entertaining.

It has been a very hot summer and I know we are all looking forward to cooler weather, football and of course the Fall Board Meeting. I look forward to seeing my AALS PALS in September.

## BLSA – Birmingham

Myra Beckham, PP, PLS



It is indeed the pleasure of BLSA to host the upcoming Fall Board Meeting on September 29 and 30. Please note the registration and hotel deadlines listed on the registration form included in this edition of the *Dixie Digest*. The Hyatt Place nightly rate of \$139 includes breakfast, parking, and Wi-Fi. An updated speaker schedule will be circulated when it is finalized.

Governors, please bring five door prizes to the meeting.

We hope that all of you plan to attend the conference. We look forward to absorbing great legal education and having fun fellowship with you.

## MALS – Montgomery

Kristi Skipper, PP-SC, PLS



The members of MALS took a break from meeting this summer, and we are looking forward to getting back together. We have plans to engage with the students in the law program at Booker T. Washington Magnet High School in Montgomery this school year and hope to hold a meeting in conjunction with the classes.

On a fun note, Montgomery Whitewater has opened for business! If you're looking for an exhilarating day of whitewater rafting or kayaking, Montgomery Whitewater is the place to be! If you're more into relaxing, come and grab a meal or a drink and watch. Eventually there are plans for a hotel and meeting facility, and the MALS members will be checking out the pricing and details because it sounds like an exciting meeting spot!

AALS Fall Board Meeting will be here before we know it, and we are excited to see what BLSA has planned for us! We hope to see you there!



## DCLSA - DALLAS COUNTY

*Harriett Piper, Governor Pro Tem*

DCLSA has survived the summer heat and, as we go about our everyday lives, we can still see the drastic damage and continuing cleanup that has altered, and is continuing to alter, the face of our fair city. And seeing Selma's new landscape emerging, I know we are blessed for surviving, not only the heat, but the devastation and trauma of January's tornado. The heat – the wind – isn't it odd that both are "gifts" from Mother Nature. Is she trying to tell us something?

Enough philosophizing!

The heat has kept me indoors and working on my summer projects of writing names on the backs of pictures (Who were those people?) and cleaning out everything – files! drawers! closets! – then I put it all back in! BUT – I did find another puzzle from a past DCLSA meeting that I would like to share with you (**see page 11**). I'll tell you also that the answers aren't on the back and the meeting was so long ago that I don't remember the answers. That is, if I ever knew them!

I do remember one answer because I got it right and I'll share it to give you a boot-up. In the upper right hand corner I wrote: Harriet Piper, and it was correct! I know I got that answer and I know you can do better but don't use my answer. Go ahead, solve the puzzle and please, please save the answers!

## MLPA – Mobile

*Alison Schemmer, PP, PLS*



Hot! Hot! Hot! Get your Red Hots right here! It's Summertime and the living is easy!

Happy belated Fourth of July to you all and Happy Summer! Lots of fun things going on in AALS land, I hope!

MLPA got focused in June on how to invest in our future(s). Janet Hayes from Leavell Investments came back to talk to us about looking down the road toward retirement and how to get there with grace and some funds in the bank! We will keep getting Janet back – especially as things in the investment world keep changing!

July brought us a very real job related topic – Judge Don Davis, Mobile County Probate Judge brought us the straight story on the new Notary Public Law. This topic brought out a lot of folks who wanted to hear on this matter – so you might want to think about getting someone in for your chapter as well.

Our members and EC got busy and scheduled speakers through January, 2024 – Hallelujah! Our local bar really steps up when asked – we appreciate them!

We are looking forward to seeing you all at Fall Board Meeting in September! Until then, stay cool and hydrated and look for that shady spot with a tall one in hand – pink parasol on top!

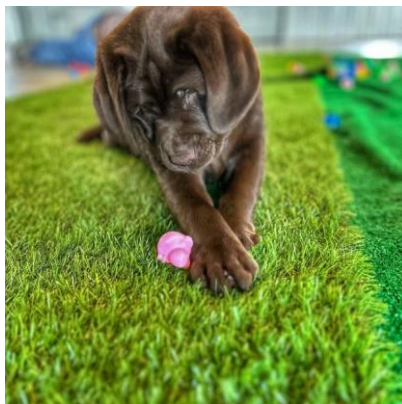
# NALS OF CENTRAL ALABAMA

*Talley Brathovd, PP, PLS*

NALS of Central Alabama is looking forward to the Fall Board Meeting in Birmingham in late September. We hope to see you there.

One of our speakers at the Fall Board Meeting on Saturday, September 30, will be Michelle Riley from Notaries for Alabama. Michelle will be discussing the many changes to the Notary Law that goes into effect on September 1, 2023. If you are a Notary, you won't want to miss this presentation.

Safe travels for the AALS members traveling to Houston to the NALS conference later this month.



# TRANSCRIPTION TEST

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**OBJECTIVE: Transcribe at least 15 of the following items in 3 minutes with 100% accuracy.**

1. Sand \_\_\_\_\_

12. He's/Himself \_\_\_\_\_

2. R E A D I N G \_\_\_\_\_

13. Knee  
Light \_\_\_\_\_

3. Man  
Board \_\_\_\_\_

14. DICE  
DICE \_\_\_\_\_

4. Stand  
I \_\_\_\_\_

15. iii iii  
o o \_\_\_\_\_

5. Wear  
Long \_\_\_\_\_

16. Death/Life \_\_\_\_\_

6. R  
ROAD  
A  
D \_\_\_\_\_

17. GROUND  
Feet  
Feet  
Feet  
Feet  
Feet  
Feet  
Feet \_\_\_\_\_

7. CYCLE  
CYCLE  
CYCLE \_\_\_\_\_

18. Wind  
Matter \_\_\_\_\_

8. T  
O  
W  
N \_\_\_\_\_

19. ecnalg \_\_\_\_\_

9. L E  
VEL \_\_\_\_\_

20. G. I.  
CCCC \_\_\_\_\_

10. O  
BS - MA – PhD \_\_\_\_\_

21. PUNISHMENT \_\_\_\_\_

11. N  
I  
p \_\_\_\_\_

22. T  
O  
U  
C  
H \_\_\_\_\_

23. **CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

**AALS Fall Board Meeting and Education Conference  
September 29-30, 2023  
Hyatt Place Hoover  
2980 John Hawkins Parkway, Hoover, Alabama**

**Registration (circle option):**

**A      B      C      D      E      F      G      H      I**

**MEMBERS:**

A.	Full (both days)	\$ 0 (breaks and lunch Friday included)
B.	Friday only	\$ 0 (break and lunch included)
C.	Saturday only	\$ 0
D.	Saturday Board Meeting	\$ 0
E.	ZOOM attendance (full)	\$ 0

**NON-MEMBERS:**

F.	Full (both days)	\$ 0 (breaks and lunch Friday included)
G.	Friday only	\$ 0 (break and lunch included)
H.	Saturday only	\$ 0
I.	Saturday Board Meeting	\$ 0

Attending Friday night Pizza & Games Party      \$ 0      Yes \_\_\_\_\_      No \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS IS A NO COST MEETING. WE JUST NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY ATTENDEES TO PLAN FOR. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN BIRMINGHAM!**

**HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2023**

Room rate is \$139 plus tax per night. Reservations: 1-888-492-8847—Group Code G-aals

**MEETING REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Certification(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or mail registration to:

Myra Beckham, PP, PLS

AALS Legal Education Chair

1118 Highland Lakes Circle

Birmingham, AL 35242

205-999-7493 / [myrabeckham@bellsouth.net](mailto:myrabeckham@bellsouth.net)

**AALS Educational Conference  
and Fall Board Meeting  
September 29-30, 2023  
Hoover, Alabama**

**CLE AWARDED 7.0 hours**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023**

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Registration

10:30 – 12:00 p.m. **TOPIC**  
Speaker

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. ***The Working of Appellate Courts***  
Judge Thomas A. Woodall, Denton Sirote, PC

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. **TOPIC**  
David R. Busby

3:30 – 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 – 5:30 p.m. **TOPIC**  
Speaker

6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Pizza and Games

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 – 10:30 a.m. **NOTARY UPDATE**  
Michelle Riley

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 – until Fall Board of Governors Meeting







# **AALS Strategic 2023-2024 Plan Strategies to Accomplish AALS Goals**

## **I. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT GOAL**

AALS will provide the opportunity for continuing legal education, certification, information, and training.

- Develop products and education programs to meet the needs of members and the legal community.
- Establish a technology plan to provide more efficient delivery of services to members.
- Explore and develop the use of the latest technological media for delivery of education, certification, information, and training.
- Provide training and information to assist state and local associations in offering quality educational programs.

## **II. PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY GOAL:**

AALS will be an inclusive and accessible association adapting to changes in the best interest of its diverse membership, the legal profession, and the public. AALS Members will serve the public interest by their adherence to a Code of Ethics and professional standards.

- Develop methods to involve members, chapters, and states in creating an awareness of the need for educated, competent, and skilled legal professionals.
- Develop methods of communicating the benefits of AALS membership to current members, former members, and potential members and their employers.
- Market to all members the value of one association with multi-level benefits and connections.
- Promote the AALS Code of Ethics and Code of Professional Responsibility through membership awareness and enforcement.
- Identify images and perceptions of NALS and the legal services profession within the legal community and create strategies to improve negative images and reinforce positive images.
- Develop methods to promote bar relations and recognition within the legal community.
- Develop methods to promote relationships with paralegal students.
- Broaden the diversity of AALS membership.
- Develop a more comprehensive member recognition program to reflect member involvement on the local, state, and national levels.



### **III. MARKETPLACE RELEVANCE GOAL:**

AALS will ensure recognition of the need for educated, competent, and skilled legal professionals, as well as fostering increased networking opportunities at local, state, and national levels.

- Establish ongoing needs and trends assessment processes to drive decisions.
- Partner with common interest groups to keep abreast of trends and issues.
- Develop methods to involve members, chapters, and state associations in creating awareness of the need for educated, competent, and skilled legal professionals.
- Develop methods of communicating the benefits of AALS membership to current members, former members, and potential members and their employers.
- Market to all members the value of one association with multi-level benefits and connections.
- Identify images and perceptions of AALS members' adherence to the AALS Code of Ethics and create action plans to improve awareness within the legal community.
- Develop methods of communicating and educating the public and legal community about the adherence of our members to the AALS Code of Ethics.
- Identify images and perceptions of AALS and the legal service professionals within the legal community and create strategies to improve negative images and reinforce positive images.
- Develop methods to promote bar relations and recognition within the legal community.
- Develop methods to promote relationships with paralegal students.
- Educate the legal community and the general public about the need for educated, competent, and skilled legal professionals.

### **IV. ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS GOAL:**

AALS will be respected, well managed, and financially stable.

- Utilize effective/efficient methods of communication among leaders, members, and NALS Resource Center staff to forge a collaborative partnership.
- Establish ongoing needs and trends assessment processes to drive decisions.
- Partner with common interest groups to keep abreast of trends and issues.
- Assess governance to ensure flexible and timely decision-making processes are in place.
- Provide ongoing education for staff and volunteers to promote team effectiveness.
- Develop and provide information and training for growth and maintenance of chapter and state associations.
- Establish a technology plan to provide more efficient delivery of services to members.
- Explore and develop the use of the latest technological media for delivery of education, certification, information, and training.
- Allocate resources based on information obtained through member needs assessments and surveys.

# **AALS**

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION AWARD**

### ***Number of Required Credits***

A minimum of 30 hours in continuing education program courses is required to qualify for the Continuing Legal Education Award. Of those 30 hours, 2 hours must be in ethics. A credit hour is 60 minutes. The award shall consist of a certificate issued by the association which attests to the educational accomplishment of the member.

### ***Initial (Original) Applications***

Any member may apply for the initial award when the requirements have been completed. Application shall be made on the form approved by the association. Only continuing education courses completed during the two-year period immediately preceding the date of the application will be considered in determining whether the requirements have been met.

The award or any renewal thereof shall be issued at any Board meeting during the year of this Association. Deadline to apply is 30 days prior to the Board meeting. When the original award certificate is issued to a member, it is valid for a two-year period beginning on the date of issuance. Incentive given, if applicable, is also valid for a two-year period beginning on the date of issuance.

### ***Renewal Applications***

During the period of validity of the award, it is anticipated that the member will continue to earn the credits needed for renewal of the award. Credit hours for renewal may be earned from date of last application. A member may apply within six (6) months prior to expiration for issuance of an updated certificate for a two-year renewal. The thirty (30) day application deadline also applies for renewals.

### ***Filing Procedures***

All applications for the award shall be forwarded to the AALS Legal Education Committee Chair and approved by the AALS Legal Education Counsel, whose decision shall be final.

To apply for the initial (original) award, forward to AALS Legal Education Committee Chair, the application form, \$15.00 processing fee, and supporting documentation.

To apply for the renewal award, forward to AALS Legal Education Committee Chair, the application form, a \$10.00 processing fee, and supporting documentation.

Any member filing a false report of education activities may be subject to disciplinary proceedings for engaging in unethical conduct under the NALS Bylaws and Standing Rules.

### ***Time Prerequisites***

Credit shall be given for programs at least 30 minutes in length. Programs of less than 30 minutes' duration will not be considered for this award. In all categories, photocopies of certificates, transcripts or other verification of attendance must be attached to the application.

### ***Verification/documentation***

Copies of certificates, manuscripts, registration forms with canceled checks, articles, letters signed by chapter officers, etc., may be used for verification of attendance and must be included with the application. Send (via U. S. mail or e-mail) photocopies of documentation – **not the originals** – because the materials are not returned.

**APPLICATION FOR CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION  
AWARD OR RENEWAL**

(Read Rules and Regulations Carefully Before Completing this Application)

TYPE OR PRINT:

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Member-at-Large: \_\_\_\_\_

Application is for:

\_\_\_\_\_ Original

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal (date on last certificate: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_)

Period Covered \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

(Period covered must be within two years of application date)

I have completed the minimum credit hours of educational activities required for CLE Award or Renewal as verified by the attached documentation.

I certify that the information furnished is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate.

Dated this: \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Applicant)

RETURN FORM, ATTACHMENTS, AND FEE TO:

Myra Beckham, PP, PLS  
AALS LEGAL EDUCATION CHAIR  
1118 Highland Lakes Cir.  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
(205) 999-7493  
Myrabeckham@bellsouth.net



# FINDING GEMS FOR AALS

## Gathering (Networking), Education & Membership Strategies

We are looking forward to an amazing year and to finding GEMS for AALS with Melissa Cooper, CAP, BW, OM, PM, RM/PLS, President. With each member's help, we can retain members and add some new ones along our journey this year. We are off to finding all the special GEMS for AALS, this is one journey you do not want to miss.

### Membership Goals:

**Recruit; Retain; Recognize!!!**

**Focus:     *Reach out and interact.***

***We are only limited by our ability not to.***

### Chapter Incentives:

Fall Board Meeting	Drawing for \$15.00 among Chapters with 5% increase.
Winter Board Meeting	Drawing for \$20.00 among Chapters with 10% increase
Annual Meeting	Drawing for \$25.00 among Chapters with 15% increase

### Member Incentives:

First Timers:	Drawing for \$20.00 AALS Bucks to be used at the next board meeting on the AALS Funding Auction, drawing to be held at each board meeting.
	The member that sponsored the first timer will also receive \$20.00 AALS Bucks to be used at the next board meeting on the AALS Funding Auction. Member must be present to receive the incentive.

Membership Sponsor	For every member that you sponsor, your name will go into a drawing for one full scrip ticket (not to exceed \$135.00) to 2024 Annual Meeting. You must email me the new member's membership application to <a href="mailto:jnims@raineslawfirm.com">jnims@raineslawfirm.com</a> in order to have your name put into the drawing. The cutoff for entries into the drawing will be 10 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The winner will be drawn at the annual meeting, and they will be reimbursed for their scrip ticket to Annual Meeting (not to exceed \$135.00).
Fall Board	For every member that you sponsor from May 1, 2023, to 10 days before the Fall Board Meeting, your name will go into a drawing for a \$25.00 check to be drawn at the 2023 Fall Board Meeting. You must email me the new member's membership application to <a href="mailto:jnims@raineslawfirm.com">jnims@raineslawfirm.com</a> in order to have your name put into the drawing.
Winter Board	For every member that you sponsor from the Fall Board Meeting to 10 days before the Winter Board Meeting, your name will go into a drawing for a \$25.00 check to be drawn at the 2024 Winter Board Meeting. You must email me the new member's membership application to <a href="mailto:jnims@raineslawfirm.com">jnims@raineslawfirm.com</a> in order to have your name put into the drawing.
Annual Meeting	For every member that you sponsor from the Winter Board Meeting to 10 days before Annual Meeting, your name will go into a drawing for a \$25.00 check to be drawn at the 2024 Annual Meeting. You must email me the new member's membership application to <a href="mailto:jnims@raineslawfirm.com">jnims@raineslawfirm.com</a> in order to have your name put into the drawing.

## **Member Recognition:**

Milestone Award	5-year Membership Increment Award/Certificates – recognize members reaching 5-year membership milestones.
Attendance Award	Drawing to be held among members attending 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Board Meetings (seminars inclusive) for a \$50.00 check.

## **Attendance Award**

Member Attendance:	Drawing to be held among all chapters attending. Whichever chapter's name is drawn at each board meeting will receive \$50.00.
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# **FINDING GEMS FOR AALS**

## **Gathering (Networking), Education & Membership Strategies**

### **Things To Do**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Call, text and/or email a member that has not attended a few chapter meetings.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send a card to a member that has not attended several chapter meetings and let them know they are being thought of and missed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Display the AALS pamphlet at your office.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Talk to someone about AALS and your local chapter at least once a month.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wear your Certification Pins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Display your Certificates and Logo Items.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pray for one another.
- \_\_\_\_\_ HAVE A GREAT DAY!!



## COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2023-2024

COMMITTEE	CHAIR/CO-CHAIR	EMAIL
Annual Meeting & Educational Conf. 2024 (MALS & NOCA Hosting)	Kristi Skipper, PP-PC, PLS	<a href="mailto:kristiskipperpp@gmail.com">kristiskipperpp@gmail.com</a>
Audit Committee (2022-2023 Books)	Gina Harbison, PP, PLS Alison Schemmer, PP, PLS Talley Brathovd, PP, PLS	<a href="mailto:gharbison@pci-nsn.gov">gharbison@pci-nsn.gov</a> <a href="mailto:aks6451@aol.com">aks6451@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:dtalleyb@gmail.com">dtalleyb@gmail.com</a>
Audit Committee (2022 Annual Meeting)	Debby Holmes, PP, PLS Talley Brathovd, PP, PLS Harriet Piper	<a href="mailto:debby@assetlaw.com">debby@assetlaw.com</a> <a href="mailto:dtalleyb@gmail.com">dtalleyb@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:harrietpiper@yahoo.com">harrietpiper@yahoo.com</a>
Bar Liaison	Deborah Harper, PP	<a href="mailto:deborah.harper@alabar.org">deborah.harper@alabar.org</a>
Bylaws, Standing Rules & Procedures Manual	Babs DeKeyser, PP, PLS	<a href="mailto:babs.dekeyser@att.net">babs.dekeyser@att.net</a>
Certification	Kristi Skipper, PP-PC, PLS	<a href="mailto:kristiskipperpp@gmail.com">kristiskipperpp@gmail.com</a>
Corporate Sponsors	Ed Clark, PP-SC	<a href="mailto:ebc@phm-law.com">ebc@phm-law.com</a>
Dixie Digest Patron Ads	Debby Holmes	<a href="mailto:debby@assetlaw.com">debby@assetlaw.com</a>
Dixie Digest	Margaret Dawson, PLS	<a href="mailto:thistldome@gmail.com">thistldome@gmail.com</a>
Finance	Ed Clark, PP-SC	<a href="mailto:ebc@phm-law.com">ebc@phm-law.com</a>
Funding	Deborah Rutherford Marva Dean Little, PP, PLS	<a href="mailto:drutherford@cwalawfirm.com">drutherford@cwalawfirm.com</a> <a href="mailto:marvadean@oakhollowfarm.net">marvadean@oakhollowfarm.net</a>
Installation	BLSA Members	<a href="mailto:myrabeckham@bellsouth.net">myrabeckham@bellsouth.net</a>
Legal Education	Myra Beckham, PP, PLS	<a href="mailto:myrabeckham@bellsouth.net">myrabeckham@bellsouth.net</a>
Marketing	Sonia Smith, CLP	<a href="mailto:ssmith@mcdowellknight.net">ssmith@mcdowellknight.net</a>
Member of the Year	Debby Holmes	<a href="mailto:debby@assetlaw.com">debby@assetlaw.com</a>
Membership	Julie Nims,	<a href="mailto:jnims@raineslawfirm.com">jnims@raineslawfirm.com</a>
NALS Connection Committee	Teresa Moore, PP, PLS	<a href="mailto:tmoore@burr.com">tmoore@burr.com</a>
New Member of the Year	Rebecca Naron	
Nominations & Elections, Credentials		
Resolutions	Judy Whigham, PP, PLS	<a href="mailto:jwhigham@joneswalker.com">jwhigham@joneswalker.com</a>
Scholarship	Kayla Bassett, PLS	<a href="mailto:kjbassett55@outlook.com">kjbassett55@outlook.com</a>
Scrapbook	Sonia Smith, CLP	<a href="mailto:ssmith@mcdowellknight.com">ssmith@mcdowellknight.com</a>
Strategic Planning	Sonia Smith, CLP	<a href="mailto:ssmith@mcdowellknight.com">ssmith@mcdowellknight.com</a>
Technology	Danielle Baker	<a href="mailto:danielle@longandlong.com">danielle@longandlong.com</a>
Web Page	Margaret Dawson, PLS	<a href="mailto:thistldome@gmail.com">thistldome@gmail.com</a>