

BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF NALS OF MICHIGAN

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Chapter Spotlight Grand Traverse Area Legal Professionals (GTALP)

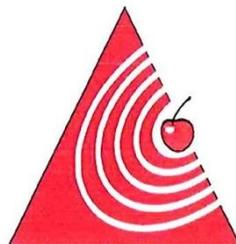


Did you know...

GTALP had its organizational meeting in December 1970 and received its charter in 1971. There were 21 charter members.

In 2004, Donielle M. Rikli, PP, as GTALP's incoming president, was asked to attend a number of meetings at the request of then Family Court Judge, David Stowe. During those meetings discussion was had as to how the legal community could help litigants who were in pro per navigate the divorce process. From those meetings the "Divorce Clinic" was born. Monthly clinics began in 2004 and another clinic was started in Gaylord in 2012. Many of the GTALP members have made themselves available for the clinic when they were needed.

Donielle sums it up best: "I have no doubt that all the members of GTALP are proud of this accomplishment and the assistance we are helping to provide in our county. We plan to stay involved for many, many years to come."



Member Spotlight

Leigh A. Pearson



Leigh A. Pearson is one of the newest members of NALS of Lansing, having joined NALS in the spring of 2018. In January 2013 she began working as a legal assistant to attorney Keldon K. Scott at Mallory, Lapka, Scott & Selin, PLLC in Lansing. In 2016 she was promoted to paralegal.

When asked what she loves most about her current job she responded by saying:

“Family law can be very frustrating and emotional. I have quite a bit of interaction with our clients and am often times the listening ear for the good and bad throughout the process. I figure it’s “just my job”, but there’s nothing like hearing from a client afterwards what a positive impact you have made during a difficult process. I enjoy knowing I’m making a difference.”

Leigh’s dream job would be to work at the City Rescue Mission of Lansing again. She was able to work there for a short time on a part-time basis. When she was asked why that was her dream job, she responded by saying:

“The experience was a true blessing. From the minute you walk in the door, you can literally feel the love in the air. I began as a volunteer thinking that I was going to be helping those in need; but I was the one that ended up being blessed by each guest that I was fortunate enough to interact with. I looked forward to going there on every scheduled day. Someday I hope to be able to return there.”

Leigh joined NALS for the education and to have a network of other legal professionals to interact with to improve her knowledge, skills and abilities by learning from others with much more experience than herself. She has not been able to participate in any events since joining, but is hoping to be more active in 2019. Her goal for the New Year is to obtain the CLP certification and begin working toward the PP certification.

She went on to say that anyone that is an administrative legal professional should become a member. She believes that by becoming a member you’re representing to your employer and others in the profession of your commitment to your position and your desire to continue to learn and improve.

Leigh loves to travel and see new places and experience new things. She was recently blessed with her first grandson and he is her “hobby”. She said “he is the light of my life and I enjoy spending as much time with him as I can.”

Please take the time to reach out to Leigh and welcome her to this wonderful organization.

Please Welcome our New Members

Debra Guilbeaux (NALS of Detroit)
Shawn F. Brew (NALS of Greater Kalamazoo)

From your Board of Directors

Heidi Hopper, PP, PLS
Treasurer

Now that we are in the New Year, it is time to evaluate your commitments. I want to encourage you to participate in NALS activities at all levels. Volunteering at the state level can be as easy as being on a committee, chairing a committee, or running for a position on the board of directors. It is up to you where this Association goes; make the most of it and, hopefully, we will see you actively take a role within NALS.

Nominations for the 2019-2020 Board of Directors

It is that time of year when the nomination process begins for the upcoming fiscal year. Nominations will be accepted for the positions of:

- President
- Vice President of Membership & Marketing
- Vice President of Education & Certification
- Executive Secretary
- Treasurer

This is an excellent opportunity to get more involved in the organization and be a part of its future success.

If you are interested in serving on the 2019-2020 Board of Directors, please reach out to Michelle Spiker, PP, PLS (mospiker@deltadentalmi.com).

Save the Date

September 21, 2019	NALS of Lansing's 4 th Annual September Swing Golf Outing
September 26-28, 2019	NALS 68 th Annual Education and Networking Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas
April 23-26, 2020	NALS of Michigan's 2020 Annual Meeting in Detroit

2019 Annual Meeting

The 58th NALS of Michigan Annual Meeting will be held on April 25-28, 2019 at the Delta Marriott (fka Holiday Inn West), 2747 South 11th Street, Kalamazoo, MI.

Exhibitor and Vendor booths will be displayed on Friday, April 26, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Are you interested in being an exhibitor or vendor or do you know a firm or individual who might be interested? If so, see registration form attached. It is not too early to reserve your space at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

The next planning meeting will be held on January 8th at 5:30 p.m. at Miller Canfield in Kalamazoo.

Chapter Happenings

NALS of West Michigan

January 10, 2019 at 12:00 noon; University Club
Speaker: Catherine H. Jacobs
Topic: Elder Law/Elder Care
(See flyer attached for more information)

NALS of Greater Kalamazoo

January 22, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.; Miller Johnson
Speaker: Blake Padget
Topic: Passage of Proposal 1

NALS of Jackson County

January 22, 2019 at 12:00 noon; Judge Rappleye's Jury Room
Speaker: Alfred P. Brandt
Topic: Legal Marijuana: What's next?
(See flyer attached for more information)

NALS in the Community

When: Saturday, February 16, 2019
What: Big Brothers Big Sisters
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Address: Revel & Roll West
4500 Stadium Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
Cost: BBBS suggests a fundraising goal of \$60 per person

B  **OWL**
FOR KIDS' SAKE

WE'RE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL!! Defending every child's potential is important to us. NALS of Greater Kalamazoo is creating teams for this year's BBBS Bowl for Kids' Sake. Bowl for Kids' Sake is a fun and easy way for you and your colleagues to support the life-changing work of Big Brothers Big Sisters. If you care about kids and can spare a little time

to have fun with your colleagues, then Bowl for Kids' Sake is for you! - No special skills are needed. Join us at the bowling lanes to have fun and celebrate your fundraising success!!

Sign up to bowl at: <https://amplify.netdonor.net/7222/bfks2019/46707/nals-of-greater-kalamazoo> If the current team fills up, email Michele Guyman: mightymmo@sbcglobal.net and she will be happy to create another team!!

Certification

Paula Steffey, PP, CLP-SC, CWCP

Is your new year's resolution to get one of the NALS certifications? Or maybe get ahead on your CLE so you can recertify? Or maybe you would just like to participate in more CLE opportunities? If you answered yes to any of these questions, below is some information to help you reach your goals.

NALS of Michigan's 2019 Annual Meeting will be held April 25-28, 2019, with Friday, April 26th being dedicated to CLE!

Check out all of the local chapters within Michigan as they each offer CLE opportunities throughout the year. Like their Facebook page or check out their website for more information.

Check out the new NALS Virtual Legal Training Course (VLTC). This is an online-only course that will help you prepare for any of the certification exams. For more information go to: <https://www.nals.org/page/LTC>

Check out the social feed on the NALS.org website for other CLE opportunities—such as the monthly quizzes that are posted.

Take the quiz that is offered within each of the @Law issues for an opportunity to earn CLE credit.

Earn CLE by Volunteering on one of the national teams such as the S.A.G.E.S. Task Force, the Manuals Task Force, the Certifying Board, or the Editorial+Marketing Board, just to name a few. The time you spend volunteering will also count for CLE credits.

And lastly, remember to regularly check out the NALS.org Event page (https://www.nals.org/events/event_list.asp) for any CLE opportunities and other events offered at the national level.

If anyone has any questions about any of the NALS certifications, please reach out to me. My email address is westernmom40@gmail.com and my phone is (269) 377-9341.

Finance Committee

Benefit fundraising program

www.benefit-mobile.com

All you need to do is download the App (for I-phone or Android), select “NALS of Michigan” as the beneficiary, purchase a gift card and a portion of the proceeds goes to NALS of Michigan. You don’t need to purchase gift cards just to give as gifts – you can purchase a gift card for yourself prior to going shopping or out to dinner. You’ll be spending that same amount of money anyway so why not help our organization at the same time. A few examples are participating retailers are Applebees, Bath & Body Works, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Burger King, K-Mart, Lowes, Old Navy, Panera, Petco, Starbucks, Target, Staples, Walmart, Home Depot, Whole Foods, Zappos and many more.

Logo Items for Sale

<p>List Pads 2/\$1.00</p> 	<p>Greeting Cards \$1.00 each</p> <p>(Perfect for sending to your NALS PALS)</p> 
<p>T-Shirts \$10.00 each</p> 	<p>Blue Tooth Speakers \$15.00 each</p> 
<p>Mugs \$15.00 each</p> 	<p>Fidget Spinners \$6.00 each</p> 



Fleece Jackets (full zip and half zip)
\$35.00 each

We are taking pre-orders for the Fleece Vests and Jackets. Sizes up to 4X.

To place your order, contact Tonya Mashue at TMashue@wnj.com.



Fleece Vest
\$30.00 each



To order a logo item, please contact any member of NALS of West Michigan.

Interesting News

Do you enjoy sending letters and cards or have a need to send things via snail mail? If so, it is time to stock up on Forever stamps. On January 27th postage stamps will go up to 55¢ each. That is an increase of 5¢ per stamp. So make your way to the Post Office and get your Forever stamps, as those hold their value no matter the change in price.

NALS of Michigan 2018-2019 Officers

Teresa M. Garber, PP, PLS, President
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Lynn Philp, Parliamentarian
Phone: 616-322-5124
lphilp@wnj.com

NALS@noon

maximizing your potential over lunch!

January 10, 2019

Elder Law/Elder Care

By Catherine H. Jacobs, Esq.
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Catherine Jacobs will discuss elder law and the caring for aging family members.

Ms. Jacobs is Senior Counsel with Warner Norcross & Judd LLP and focuses her work in comprehensive estate and succession planning for individuals, families and businesses. She owned and operated her own law firm for seven years where she helped families plan for their future, provided elder law planning services in the areas of Medicaid qualification, and assisted clients with loved-ones with special needs in addition to her core trust and estate planning services. A well-respected advocate, Catherine still approaches her business the same way – with a deep understanding of clients’ needs and a plan for their future and beyond.



Ms. Jacobs regularly speaks on topics of estate and succession planning, elder law and special needs care all over the state of Michigan for associations, foundations and universities. She also devotes numerous hours and resources to serving on community boards and committees for Elder Law of Michigan, Ada Township, Senior Neighbors Grand Rapids, Caregiver Resource Network, the Council on Aging and Forest Hills Community Foundation. Ms. Jacobs was awarded the “Jerry O’Bee Award” from Caregiver Resource Network.

Location and Time:

12pm
University Club, 10th Floor
Fifth Third Bank Building
111 Lyon Street NW, 1st Floor
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Fee:

\$17.00 Members
\$19.00 Future Members
\$15.00 Students
\$10.00 Attending, no lunch

Please RSVP by January 7 to:

Lynn Philp
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP
111 Lyon Street NW #900
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
Phone: 616.752.2494
Email: lphilp@wnj.com

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID

IF YOU RSVP, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL IN TIME, OR FIND A REPLACEMENT. THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

NALS OF JACKSON COUNTY

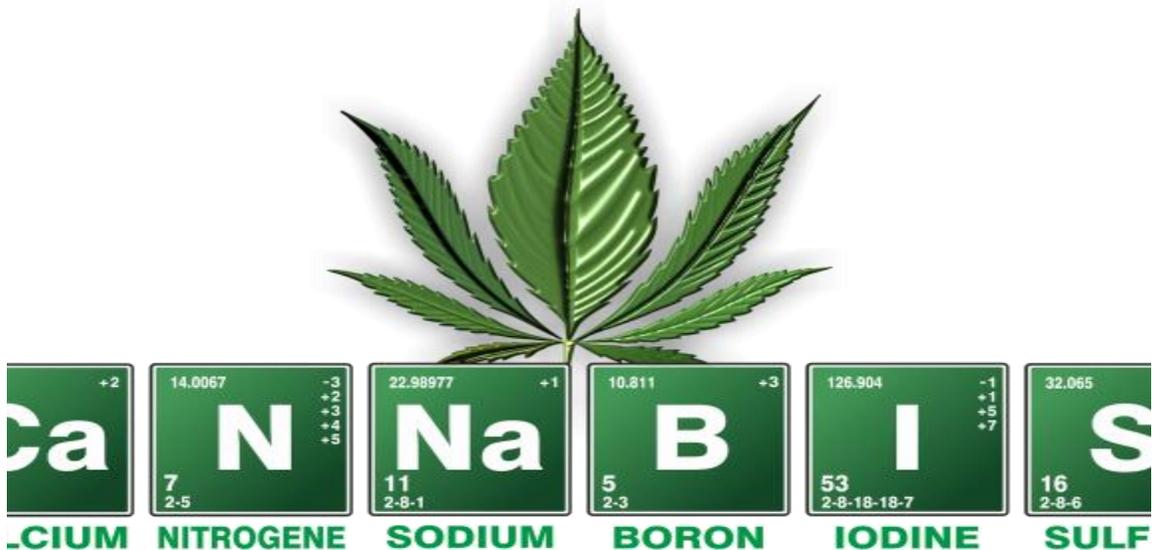
MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at noon

Judge Rappleye's Jury Room - 4th Floor

Lunch \$5.00

Bring your own beverage



ALFRED P. BRANDT
Attorney at Law
Legal Marijuana
What's next?

FOR RESERVATIONS E-MAIL OR CALL:
JENNIFER MEADE: jmeade@co.jackson.mi.us
517.768.8551

If you're not on the permanent reservation list, please RSVP

(Permanent reservation members, please call if you're unable to attend)