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State of the Association

Your News Bulletin for the
Colorado Association of Legal Support Staff

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WHAT CALSS COULD TEACH OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

As I write this, the U.S. Government is less than a week away from defaulting on its debts. Our elected leaders have been warned of repercussions ranging from having our nation downgraded by the credit rating agencies to worldwide financial collapse. We'll know soon enough how all this works out. If only our elected government officials were more like CALSS.

1) They would plan ahead. One of the joys I've experienced being on the Executive Committee (EC) the past two years and serving as president this year is to see how well we anticipate what is coming up and plan for it. Whether it is identifying hot legal topics and learning about those or arranging for an awesome place to be together, we plan ahead.

2) They would put others ahead of themselves. Every time our Executive Committee meets we put the needs and interests of others ahead of our own desires and agendas. All of us as CALSS members, serving in our supporting roles are truly gifted at putting the needs of others ahead of our own. The selflessness and service that comes from an outlook like this is truly inspiring.

3) They would acknowledge their great colleagues. In none of the discussions coming out of Washington have I heard much politeness or civility. This is one of the places where we support each other at a superb level. CALSS members consistently bring out the best in each

other, acknowledging our combined talents, strengths and dedication.

4) They would recognize that service is a life-long commitment, not a one-shot term. As CALSS members we collaborate, share, give and take, all knowing that we are part of an organization bigger than ourselves. Service lasts a lifetime, not just for a set amount of time.

While it may sound presumptuous to compare CALSS with the Federal Government, the organizations we take part in are a reflection of ourselves.

As CALSS members we are part of an organization offering support, collegiality, networking, education and growth in our chosen profession. As we celebrate our fifteenth anniversary as an organization at our Annual Meeting on September 16 and 17, I challenge us all to be involved in making sure that CALSS remains an organization which reflects our very best traits. If you haven't been able to participate at the level you would like, I invite you to make that a priority. Not only do we miss you, but you are missing out.

I remain truly gratefully and extremely humble to have had the tremendous opportunities of being our president-elect and president over the past two years. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you.

Mark Donovan
CALSS President

PRESIDENT-ELECT

I heard it said recently, "Dare to be a leader." While it was in a different context than our organization, I was struck at how powerful those five small words really are and how much they apply to our organization and to our lives. We are in need of members to lead our organization next year – as both officers and committee chairmen. Working for our organization is rewarding, fun, and you meet and work with people that you might not otherwise have contact with. Please give serious consideration to the future of CALSS and dare to be a leader!

Audrey Brekel
CALSS President Elect

CALSS NEWS

Mark your calendars to attend Diamonds & Denim, the CALSS Fifteenth Annual Meeting and Educational Conference, on September 16-17, 2011, at the Embassy Suites in Fort Collins. More information forthcoming!

OUTSTANDING MEMBER

Well, the time has run and we will be choosing a 2010-2011 Outstanding Member very soon. Remember the new winner will not be announced until the Annual Meeting in September. Be on the lookout for the voting ballot and be sure to vote.

Ginny Lee
Chairman



MEMBER NEWS

Wishing a speedy recovery to Ann Salek following her recent emergency appendectomy!

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And from Ann Salek: Thank you for your good wishes for my recovery from my appendectomy on July 10. One of my doctors and my husband said, "Aren't you a little old for this?" Surgery does take a lot out of one at my age! I am doing my best to get back my energy – what there is of it, anyway! I am now back at work and hope to be at full speed soon.



SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship committee will be conducting another raffle at the upcoming annual meeting to help generate additional revenue for the scholarship fund. It's never too early to start your Christmas shopping or perhaps grab a gift for yourself! Some of the items to be included in the raffle: a beautiful, handmade afghan by our own Audrey Brekel; \$25 gift card to Barnes & Noble; a rolling Eddie Bauer carry-on and Vera Bradley travel organizer. Any other donations will be gladly accepted.

Hope to see all of you in September.

Joyce Beach, PLS
Chairman

MEMBER NEWS

Our sympathy to Sherill Mullins on the recent loss of her father.

MEET THE MEMBERS!

MEET PAULI INGWERSEN

Pauli Ingwersen is a member-at-large and currently serves as CALSS Parliamentarian.

How long a CALSS member: Only 22 years.

How long in the legal profession: Too long! (Almost 30 years)

My family consists of: A bunch of crazies – husband Jim, daughter Chelsea & her husband Aaron, our pure joy granddaughter Sophie, son Ryan and his wife Nicole; our short bus Golden Retriever Nelson, and the cat that won't die Oreo (she's 21 years old).

In my spare time I like to: Bicycle, run, golf, read, travel, eat, drink and be merry, snowshoe, hang out with family and friends.

My favorite place on the planet is: In my jammies on the living room sofa.

My favorite music/song is: 70's stuff mostly, but enjoy variety.

My favorite TV show is: Mad Men (also like Grey's Anatomy, The Practice, Brothers & Sisters).

My favorite movie is: Pride & Prejudice (most chick flicks).

My favorite actress is: Julia Roberts (also like Diane Keaton, Sally Field, Helen Mirren and Michelle Pfeiffer).

My favorite actor is: Robert Redford, of course (also like Tom Hanks, Matt Damon and Russell Crowe).

My favorite author is: Sandra Brown; Nora Roberts.

The last great book I read is: Shantaram by Gregory David Roberts.

It drives me crazy when: The stapler runs out of staples; people don't use turn signals.

Only my very best friends know that: I'm really pretty shy.

I'd also like to share: My real hair color is

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MEET SHELLEY MCKINSTRY

Shelley McKinstry is a member of Mile High and currently serves as Credentials chairman.

How long a CALSS member: Since it was formed.

How long in the legal profession: About 25 years.

My family consists of: Husband Russ, Sons Vance & Logan, Daughter-in-Law Beth, weiner dogs Max and Sidney.

In my spare time I like to: Read or watch cooking shows.

My favorite place on the planet is: Lying on a beautiful beach with a breeze in the air, birds singing, no computers or cell phones in sight.

My favorite music/song is: "Amazing Grace," "Imagine" by John Lennon, "Don't Dream It's Over" by Crowded House, and anything by Elton John.

My favorite TV show is: The Office; Intervention.

My favorite movie is: The King's Speech; Slumdog Millionaire; Lord of the Rings.

My favorite actress is: Jodie Foster.

My favorite actor is: Anthony Hopkins, Denzel Washington, Gene Hackman.

My favorite author is: I have lots of favorites, like Connelly, Child, Coben, Crais, Kellermans, Grafton, Patterson, Baldacci and Grisham. I read lots of murder mysteries. I like series where there is a recurring character like Myron Bolitar, Elvis Cole/Joe Pike, Kinsie Milhone, Jack Reacher, Harry Bosch/Michael Haller, and Alex Delaware.

The last great book I read is: "Water For Elephants."

It drives me crazy when: People make promises they don't keep.

Only my very best friends know that: I'm going to be a grandma!

I'd also like to share: I am very grateful to have my son Vance back home from Afghanistan safe and sound. Let's keep all of our brave soldiers and their families in our thoughts. Here is one of my favorite quotes. "Peace. It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart."

TREASURER'S REPORT

I can't believe it's almost time for our annual meeting again. It's amazing how the year has flown by. I've enjoyed serving as your Treasurer and look forward to another amazing year next year. I will be putting together next year's proposed budget figures in the next few weeks. If anyone has any expenses that need reimbursed, please get those in to me soon. See you in September!

**Lisa L. Ritter, PLS
CALSS Treasurer**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Our August and September Birthdays

Deanna Staab	August 8
Laura Teter	August 26
Michael Hall	September 1
Emily Thurston-Moench	September 3
Vicki Lee	September 16
Joyce Beach	September 20
Kathleen Colson	September 24
Meg Jeffrey	September 27



VICE PRESIDENT

It's hard to realize that I'm coming to the end of my two-year term as Vice President. It has been a wonderful experience working with the EC members and the CALSS members. This past year has been phenomenal with Mark Donovan leading the Association. He has such professionalism and energy to spare!

I strongly urge you to choose to serve the Association as an officer. If you think you don't have the time to devote to the position, please reconsider. In case you didn't know and if you haven't been an officer, the EC doesn't meet once a month. There are some great times and creative brainstorming to be found at the EC meetings and the two retreats. And for those of you who have held an office before, you know the benefits of this service, both professionally and personally.

Again, thank you for supporting the Association with your membership and participation at the meetings and seminars this year. Thank you, Mark, Audrey, Cathy, Lisa and Pauli, for such a great year with the EC!

**Sherry McWethy
CALSS Vice President**

**CALSS Leadership
2010-2011**

Officers (Executive Committee):			
President:	Mark Donovan	(303) 436-9121	med@h-l-mlaw.com
President-elect:	Audrey Brekel	(303) 417-8502	audrey.brekel@hro.com
Vice-President:	Sherry McWethy	(970) 498-9229	colocode3@frii.com
Secretary:	Cathy Vlasak	(970) 498-7450	cvasak@larimer.org
Treasurer:	Lisa Ritter	(970) 482-9770	lritter@ftccolaw.com
Parliamentarian:	Pauli Ingwersen	(719) 475-6487	pingwersen@hollandhart.com

**CALSS Committee Chairs
2010-2011**

Annual Meeting	Judy Boker and Renie Shovlin Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
Audit	Ginny Lee / Sherill Mullins / Vivian Acott Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff / Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff / Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
Bulletin	Ginny Schermerhorn Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff
Continuing Legal Education	Jodi Morse Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
Credentials	Shelley McKinstry Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff
Guidelines	Peg Bell Member-at-Large
History Book	Teresa Chamberlain/Janet Knoll Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
Marketing/Professional Association Liaison	Ann Salek Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff
Membership	Laura Teter / Carol Donahue / Vivian Acott Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff / Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff / Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
Nominations	Ginny Schermerhorn / Judy Boker / Pat Thompson Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff / Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff / Member-at-Large
Outstanding Member	Ginny Lee Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff
Pro Bono	Vacant
Professional Certification	Janet Price Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff
Scholarship	Joyce Beach Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
Ways & Means	Ginny Schermerhorn Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff
Website	Carol Donahue, RP Mile High Association of Legal Support Staff

