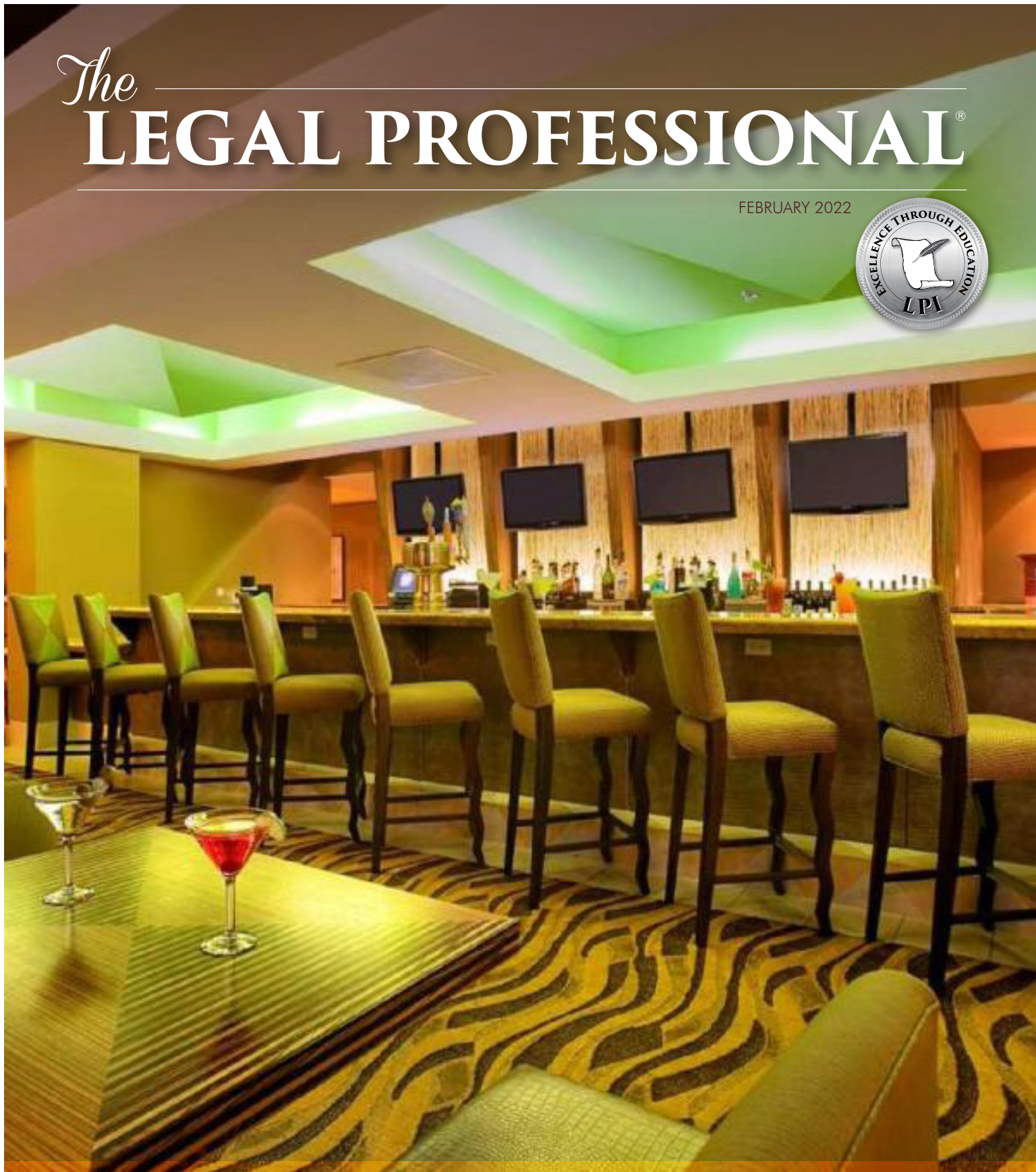


# *The* LEGAL PROFESSIONAL®

FEBRUARY 2022



## LPI'S "PASSPORT TO EDUCATION" JOURNEY CONTINUES TO THE CARNIVAL IN SOUTH AMERICA!

By LPI Executive Committee  
Page 14



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# TABLE of CONTENTS

## THE LEGAL PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE

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It shall be the duty of each member of Legal Professionals, Incorporated, to observe all laws, rules, and regulations now or hereafter in effect relating to confidentiality and privileged communication, acting with loyalty, integrity, competence and diplomacy, in accordance with the highest standards of professional conduct.

*Dedicated to LSI Past President,  
Joan M. Moore, PLS, CCLS*

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## FEATURES

- 2** President's Message  
By Lynne Prescott, CCLS
- 5** The Legacy Project –  
Spotlight on Orange County Legal  
Professionals Association  
By Heather Edwards
- 9** Meet June Hunter –  
LPI's New Technology Trainer
- 11** Becoming a CCLS  
By Corinne Patera, CCLS
- 14** LPI's "Passport to Education" Cruise  
Continues to Carnival in South America  
By LPI Executive Committee
- 16** Lunching with Lynne –  
It's All About The Climb  
By Marci Frazier
- 20** Ideas for Getting New Members to Join  
and Current Members to Stay  
By Carol Romo
- 24** A Look at the Journey of  
California's New Judicial Holiday –  
Native American Day  
By Kate Cochran and Francie Skaggs,  
CCLS

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 8** Eye on LPI – 2022 Continuing Education  
(3/31/22 - 6:30 p.m.)
- 23** LPI Webinar – Microsoft Office Table of  
Contents/Table of Authorities  
(2/23/22 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.)
- 32** Northwestern Mutual (LPI Benefit  
Provider) Webinar – Life Insurance...  
It's more than just a death benefit  
(2/17/22 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

## MISCELLANEOUS

- 4** Congratulations to Additional New  
CCLS's
- 5** Application to Take CCLS Exam
- 12** Photos of 2nd Quarterly Conference  
Board of Governors Meeting (November  
2021)
- 18** Save the Date – LPI's 88th Annual  
Conference of Delegates and Board of  
Governors Meeting
- 19** Hotel Registration for LPI's 88th Annual  
Conference of Delegates and Board of  
Governors Meeting
- 22** Dates to Remember in 2022
- 25** CCLS Quiz:  
The Redbook Worksheets - Grammar
- 26** CCLS Quiz Answer Key
- 33** Legal Specialization Sections 2022  
Membership Info.
- 34** 2021-2022 LPI Roster
- 36** LPI Benefits

## ADVERTISERS

- IFC** Macro Pro
- 9** Knox Services
- 10** Rhino Investigation and  
Process Serving LLC
- 15** Barkley Court Reporters
- 24** Saylor Legal Service
- 26** WebEditor Design Services
- 27** The Rutter Group
- 30** Redroman Creative
- 31** Direct Legal Support
- IBC** First Legal Network
- BC** Janney & Janney



### LYNNE PRESCOTT, CCLS,

is LPI's President, and a member of Sacramento Legal Secretaries Association. She first became a member of LPI in 1990 while working as a legal secretary in Fairfield, CA. She currently works at the office of Messing Adam & Jasmine in Sacramento. Lynne is a two-time past president of both Solano County LSA and Sacramento LSA, and obtained her CCLS certification in 2013. She resides in Yuba City with her husband, Randy, and four fur-babies, and is a proud mother and grandmother.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### 2021 Proved that LPI is Unstoppable

BY LYNNE PRESCOTT, CCLS

The year 2021 proved that LPI is unstoppable. Still in the throes of the COVID pandemic, we were not deterred. The wheels of justice still turn, courts are still open, and the legal community is still serving clients. Because of that, and because the very nature of legal professionals requires constant flexibility, adjustment, and the ability to shift priorities, we made the necessary adjustments and powered through it.

You recognized that changes in the law don't stop for a pandemic and many of you held virtual Day in Court events in the early part of 2021. Your commitment to keeping your members informed and in touch really paid off. Some of these online events were more well-attended than past live events.

Neither could a pandemic prevent the business of LPI from going forward. In February, we held our first completely virtual conference and Board of Governors meeting, where we successfully conducted the business of the Corporation in one day.

Our CCLS Certifying Board was hard at work all year long creating a new, more accessible platform for applicants to sit for the California Certified Legal Secretary Exam. In September, the first online CCLS exam was administered to 24 individuals throughout the state, and I am thrilled to say that we now have 13 new CCLSs! The CCLS Chair, Rita Burnett, played a huge role in the success of these new CCLSs, holding the first free online CCLS Study Group for more than 50 people. She has also successfully updated the CCLS Study Guide and the Mock Exam.

Legacy Project Curator and Chair, Heather Edwards, has continued to build the content and contributions for our first-ever "Legacy Room," which will be open and on display at the May 2022 Annual Conference in Santa Clara. She has done a wonderful job working with the LSI Past Presidents and the local associations in procuring items for this project and creating the framework for preserving our legacy.

The Legal Specialization Sections continued to hold "Day of Education" workshops, providing ten online presentations between February and August. And last month, to everyone's joy, the Sections resumed live programs at the Quarterly Conference in San Diego and held six educational seminars!

The Publications Revision Committee has done a phenomenal job of editing and updating our publications, and the royalties reflect their success. We are thrilled with the *Legal Professionals Handbook* being available in an online platform through Westlaw, and we just got the great news last month that the *Law Office Procedures Manual* will be going softbound!

The Continuing Education Council has had a big job this year updating the platform for the online Beginning Legal Secretary Training ("BLST") and Discovery Courses, as well as updating the content for those courses. They have also been hard at work updating the *Legal Secretary's Reference Guide*, which is used as the text for the online BLST course. The CEC's Webinar Team continues to present a huge array of online webinars (some of them free), as well as in-person seminars at conferences. Last month the CEC added a new trainer to the LPI family,

Continued on page 3 ➔



← Continued from page 2

June Hunter, who will begin offering legal technology training classes in the next few weeks. They have also created a new series of webinars in the On-Demand Library called “LPI 101,” which contains pre-recorded workshops conducted by LPI officers and chairmen on subjects of interest to local officers, chairs, and members.

In May of 2021, LPI held its Annual Conference in a hybrid platform, from the Hilton Arden West in Sacramento. Again, we were able to conduct the business of the corporation, greet delegates virtually and in-person, and conducted the Annual Installation of Officers. It was a small, but significant step towards the return to “business as usual.”

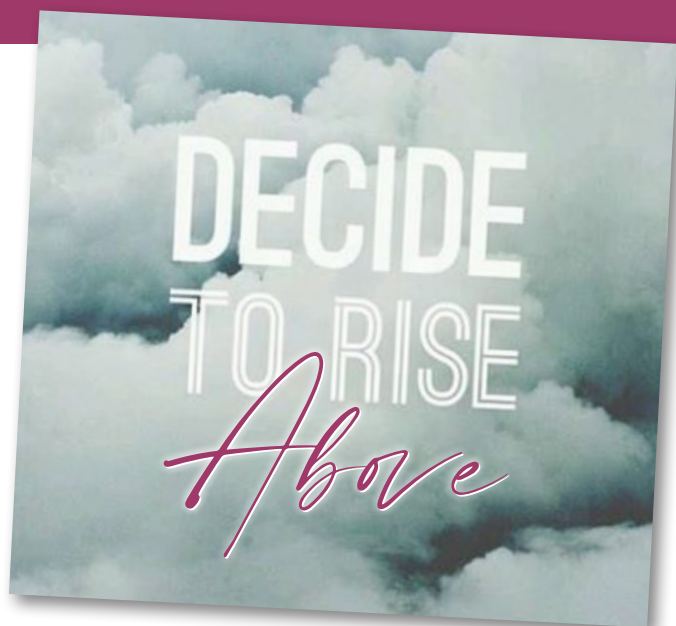
Both *The Legal Professional* magazine and *The Podium* legal blog continue to offer excellent content to the legal community. Every edition of each is more enticing and engaging than the last, and I am extremely proud of the work by both Barbara Barregar and Larry McGrew.

In August, LPI held its first all in-person Conference and Board of Governors meeting in more than two years. Santa Clara County LPA hosted this conference and kicked off the “Passport to Education” cruise theme for this year. We started our transatlantic journey aboard the “S.S. LPI” by traveling to the Mexican Riviera. And even though we still observed COVID protocols and wore masks, safely distanced, conducted wellness checks, etc., it was SO GOOD to hug the necks of so many people we had not seen for so long. We were able to live stream the conference so that those who were not able to attend in person could still observe. We also approved a one-year joint venture partnership with First Legal, who provided a \$5,000 sponsorship gift to LPI.

Speaking of partnerships, LPI launched a new “Conference Partnering” program to enable local associations who wish to co-host or “partner” with LPI to do so when LPI must host a conference due to no local association bids to host a conference. Last month, San Diego LSA, in conjunction with its 90th Anniversary Celebration, co-hosted the November 2021 Second Quarterly Conference with LPI at the Town & Country Resort in San Diego. This was the second stop on our educational cruise, where we “traveled” to the United Kingdom, and was the second all in-person conference for the year. Again, we were able to live stream the conference for those who could not attend in person.

San Diego LSA did an amazing job as co-hosts and partners. For the first time in two-and-a-half years, it truly felt like the conferences of old. There was so much laughter, so many smiles, lots and lots of hugs, great entertainment, fabulous sponsors and vendors, amazing door prizes and silent auction items, wonderful educational seminars, fun decorations and souvenirs, and inspiration at every turn. We can’t thank San Diego LSA enough for the love, sweat, and energy they brought to this conference!

Career Promotion/Scholarship Chair, Sylvia Marsh, successfully brought a motion to amend several of LPI’s bylaws at the November Conference which allows LPI active members, student members, associate members, and Members-at-Large to be eligible for the Eula Mae Jett Scholarship funds. This is one more way LPI is benefitting our members directly in the pursuit of their educational objectives.



The LPI Store really took off this year, thanks to the efforts of our Advertising Chair, Ron Ackland, and our Vice President, Rod Cardinale. We now have a true “store,” with lots and lots of LPI-branded merchandise to choose from to show our support and get LPI’s brand out there. Recently added to the store is our latest item - a motivational calendar for 2022 designed specifically for the legal professional. It contains court closure dates, holidays, LPI deadlines and event dates, and more.

Our social media presence exploded in 2021! The wheels of creativity and ingenuity are always turning with Social Media Chair Erika Garduño, as evidenced by the episodes of Facebook Live, countless social media posts, and the hugely successful “Eye on LPI” video series. Erika has truly grown her position to the point where it has taken on a life of its own and is bigger than just one person can manage. Fortunately, she has had tremendous support and assistance from Ron Ackland, Rod Cardinale, Heather Nowak, Marci Frazier, Renee Evans, Vivian Shreve, Dawn Forgeur, Patty Miller, Mary Lou Floyd and the Specialization Section Leaders, and Larry McGrew, just to name a few.

Continued on page 4 →

← Continued from page 3

We have made amazing strides and done incredible things during a time when so much of the world came to a standstill and simply folded in on itself. In 2022, you can expect to see more innovation and ground-breaking strides that will make this corporation more efficient, offer more resources at the local association level, and continue the high standard of education and professionalism we are known for.

Our first conference for 2022 will take place at the Stockton Hilton, February 25-27, in Stockton, California. This is again, an all in-person conference,

and live streaming will be available for those who are unable to attend. The destination for this third leg of our Passport to Education Cruise is South America, where we will be celebrating "Carnival." I hope to see you all there!

In May 2022, LPI will install the very first male president of this corporation, Rod Cardinale, Jr., of Santa Clara County LPA, at our 88th Annual Conference in Santa Clara. We all know that Rod is an outside-the-box thinker with a huge passion for the members of this organization. We look forward to welcoming Rod and his team as they

continue the legacy that was started 88 years ago and can't wait to see where the journey will lead us.

Keep on moving. Keep climbing. Keep the faith. Elevate. It's all about the climb!

Warmly,



## CONGRATULATIONS



### CONGRATULATIONS TO LPI'S ADDITIONAL NEWEST CALIFORNIA CERTIFIED LEGAL SECRETARIES!

The CCLS Certifying Board, CCLS Chair and LPI Executive Committee are so proud of the following ladies who passed the September 2021 California Certified Legal Secretaries exam:

CARLA CLARK, CCLS  
LISA JACKSON, CCLS  
CHERON MCALEECE, CCLS

MICHELLE MITCHELL, CCLS  
KAREN MOBERG, CCLS  
TERRI REILLY, CCLS

*\*We apologize to these ladies for the glitch with tallying exam results\**







California Certified Legal  
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## APPLICATION TO TAKE CCLS® EXAM

Mail Application, copy of LPI Membership Card (if applicable), and fees to:  
**Vivian L. Shreve, CCLS, c/o WSGR, 650 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304**

(Select one)

☐

**Saturday, March 19, 2022**

☐

**Saturday, September 17, 2022**

- **Deadline:** Applications must be received **60 days** prior to the examination date.
- **Late Application:** Late Fees apply when Applications are received less than **60 days** (but not less than 30 days) prior to the examination date, and accepted only if space is available.
- **Deferral:** Requests to defer to the next exam must be received at least **30 days** prior to the exam date.

<b>EXAMINATION FEES</b> (Select Payment Type)		<b>Check</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Payable to "LPI" Mail to above address	<b>PayPal</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Email exam application to <a href="mailto:CCLSCertifyingBoard@gmail.com">CCLSCertifyingBoard@gmail.com</a> . Payment link will be provided upon confirmation of eligibility to sit for exam.
<b><u>LPI Members</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/>		<b><u>Non-LPI Members</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
On Time Registration Fee	\$ 25.00	On Time Registration Fee	\$ 75.00
Examination Fee*	100.00	Examination Fee*	100.00
Late Fee (if applicable)	45.00	Late Fee (if applicable)	45.00
<b>TOTAL DUE w/o Late Fee:</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>	<b>TOTAL DUE w/o Late Fee:</b>	<b>\$175.00</b>

### Personal Information

Name: _____	
Mailing Address: _____	
Last 4 digits of SSN: _____	Email: _____
Phone (Day): _____	Phone (Evening): _____
LPI Member: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (enclose copy of LPI Membership Card) <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Name of Local LPI Association: _____	

### Employment Information

Provide your legal secretarial employment information beginning with your most recent (or current) employment in order to confirm that you have at least two years' experience. Attach a supplemental page if you have not been in your current position for two years.	
Position: _____	Dates of Employment: _____
Employer: _____ (name and address)	
Supervisor: _____	Supervisor's Phone: _____
	Supervisor's Email: _____
Summary of Duties: _____	

I certify that I have completed this application truthfully. I understand that a false statement may result in the rejection of this application or revocation of my certification. I understand and agree that the contents of the examination are confidential and not to be discussed with anyone, and that my employment record will be verified by a member of the California Certified Legal Secretary Certifying Board.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*Fees subject to change without notice.

# THE LEGACY PROJECT - SPOTLIGHT ON ORANGE COUNTY LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

BY HEATHER EDWARDS, LSI/LPI PAST PRESIDENT 2018-2020 AND LPI LEGACY PROJECT CURATOR/CHAIR

Aside from the opening of Disneyland which made Orange County an international tourist destination, the other most famous event in the year of 1955 was Orange County Legal Secretaries Association's (OCLSA) Charter with the National Association of Legal Secretaries on November 6, 1955.

Chartered with Legal Secretaries, Incorporated in 1949, OCLSA, now Orange County Legal Professionals Association, Inc. (OCLPA), is a non-profit organization made up of legal secretaries, paralegals, and other legal professionals who live and work in or near Orange County, California. The association is dedicated to a variety of purposes, which includes lifelong learning, networking opportunities, and a spirit of friendship and common interest among its members. OCLPA offers its members important opportunities for education and development, as well as regular, affordable, and convenient educational programs featuring distinguished speakers on issues of law and interest to legal professionals.

## **The following are just a few of OCLSA/OCLPA highlights in LSI/LPI history and things the association is known for:**

The First Seminar Cruise sailed on April 1997 and continued for 12 years. OCLSA sailed on Princess and Carnival Cruises with attorneys, judges, paralegals, and LSI members. The 2005 cruise included familiar passengers: Deanna Pepe, PLS, CCLS (LSI Past President 1996-1998); Kay Thornburg (LSI Past President

2002-2004), Michelle Rodgers, Denise Wardlow, Cynthia Lee, Margaret and Sophia Tovar, Dee Johnson, Patti Mires, Barbara Barregar, and Deborah Schmidt.

Annual "live" auctions were held for 15 years, and all proceeds were donated to Crittenton Services (shelter for women and children). OCLSA supported Crittenton in many other events, golf tournaments, Christmas stocking collections, school backpacks and supplies, etc. Due to their continued support, Crittenton named a room in one of their shelter houses after OCLSA. A Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition was presented to the association on June 28, 2002. Congressman Ed Royce bestowed a Spirit Award to OCLSA in recognition of outstanding and invaluable service to the community for its work with Crittenton Services for Children and Families. What an honor!

OCLSA was instrumental in promoting the development of a syllabus entitled "The Beginning Legal Secretary." In 1996 the name of the syllabus was changed to the "Legal Secretary's Reference Guide" (LSRG) which is currently used by LPI as a study guide designed to assist local associations in conducting a training class. It is also used as a reference when studying for the California Certified Legal Secretary Exam.

## **OCLPA Members mentioned in LPI History:**

In 1979, Suzanne Allen, as president of LSI, instituted a tradition of giving a President's Award to an LSI member who, during the course of the

previous year, had made a significant contribution, in the president's opinion alone, to the president, to LSI or both. The criteria was to give the award to someone other than an LSI elected officer since the elected officers' obligations to LSI are mandated by virtue of their office. The prestigious award was bestowed upon:

- 2003 and 2011 - Deborah Rickert (Schmidt), CCLS, Editor of The Legal Secretary and
- 2019 – Barbara Barregar, Editor of The Legal Secretary.

Several members of OCLPA currently serve or have served several Past LSI/LPI Presidents. The following individuals listed below currently serve LPI President, Lynne Prescott, CCLS since her term began in 2020:

- Barbara Barregar, Editor of The Legal Professional magazine (Marketing Committee);
- Norma Marquez, Assistant Editor, Publications Revision Committee;
- Sylvia Marsh, Career Promotion/Scholarship (Marketing Committee); and
- Heather Nowak, Professional Liaison/Day in Court (Marketing Committee).

As you can see, OCLPA has been a significant part of LSI/LPI history. We are proud to spotlight OCLPA and hope you enjoy looking at the photos included with this article which were taken from OCLPA historical memorabilia.

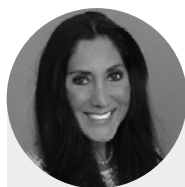
Continued on page 7 ➔



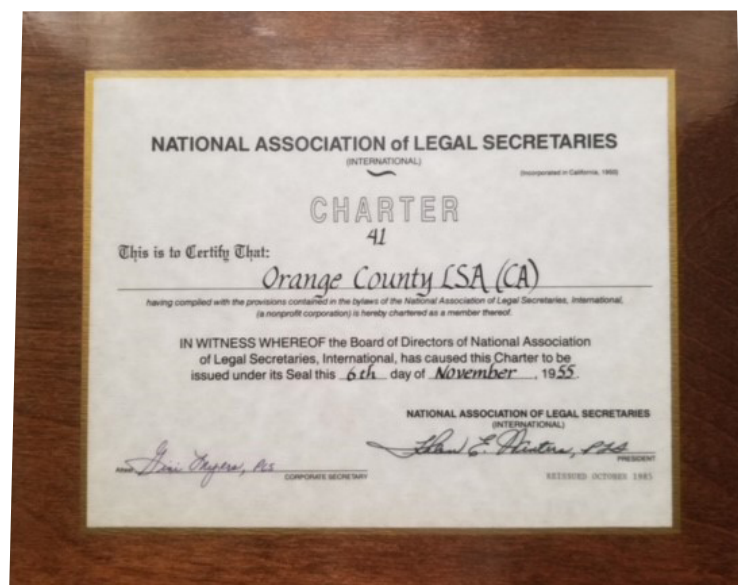
# THE LEGACY PROJECT - SPOTLIGHT ON OCLP

← Continued from page 6

Please join us at our Inaugural Legacy Room at the May 2022 Annual Conference the weekend of May 20-22, 2022, in Santa Clara, California at the Santa Clara Marriott. Within the walls of this first ever Legacy Room, you will be able to see, feel, and touch LSI history. OCLPA's historical artifacts and memorabilia will be on display. We hope you will join us for this special event in LSI/LPI history. YOU are our legacy!



**HEATHER EDWARDS** is LSI/LPI Past-President (2018-2020), is currently serving as LPI Executive Advisor, LPI Nominations & Elections Chair and The Legacy Project Curator/Chair and is a member of San Fernando Valley Legal Secretaries Association since 1991, the same year she joined the legal field. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree from California State University Northridge. In May 2006, LSI President Mary S. Rocca presented Heather with the President's Award. Heather resides in Northridge, California with her husband of 30 years Ernie, and their 4 children, Kennedy, Koree, Kaden and Kamden





ERIKA

# EYE ON LPI

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MARCI



# MEET JUNE HUNTER – LPI'S NEW LEGAL TECHNOLOGY TRAINER



June Hunter is a Technical Enablement Specialist for legal software company, DISCO, where she works daily to train individuals on legal technology. Prior to joining DISCO, June worked as a paralegal/IT services provider/eDiscovery Specialist at CGS3, LLP, a boutique real estate firm in San Diego. She is equipped with a powerful combination of IT systems expertise and legal experience and has a unique capability for recognizing and resolving the complex technology issues encountered in a law firm environment.

A graduate of the ABA-approved Paralegal Studies program at UC San Diego, June has worked in the legal field for 30+ years in roles such as legal secretary, paralegal, litigation support, and computer software trainer. Her industry experience and talent has made her a go-to provider of clear, hands-on training for other legal professionals in how to effectively use legal software.

We are proud to welcome June to the LPI family as one of our Continuing Education Council partners.

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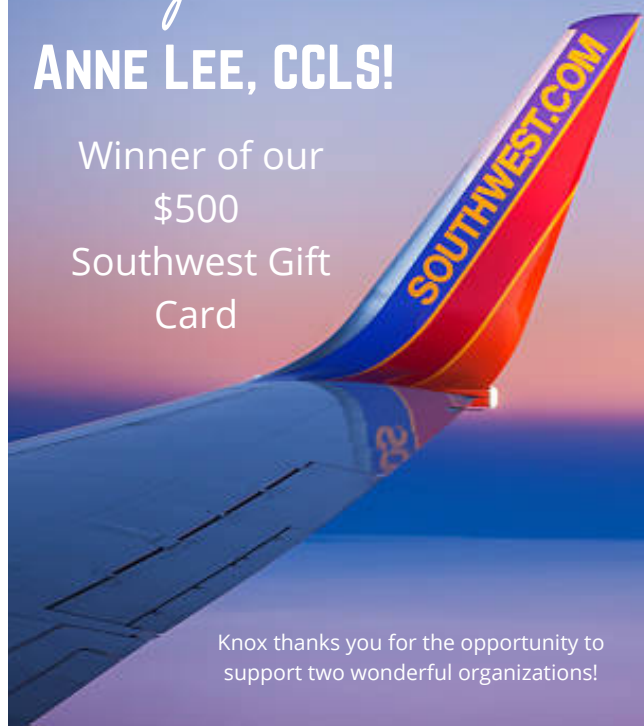


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# BECOMING A CCLS

BY CORINNE PATERA, CCLS - SUBMITTED BY SAN GABRIEL VALLEY LSA

Honestly, I never thought I would even try for this. It is something that I thought was only for the people who worked in small offices and had lots of experience or people who were smarter than me.

Then, LPI offered a free CCLS Study Group this summer. I thought why not just take the class. At least I would learn lots of information and sharpen my skills. So I signed up.

My sister (Laura Pumerville, CCLS) was always encouraging me and telling me I should try. She was always in my corner. My children also encouraged me. They all made me feel like perhaps this was the time. Maybe I could do it. I just never thought that I would be able to pass.

About half-way through the study group, they announced that we needed to sign up if we were going to take the Exam. Again, I was doubting my chances but I thought, "you only fail if you fail to try." So, I sent in my application and I took a deep breath. Rita Burnett, CCLS was hard at work sending us lots of information and helping to guide us through this mountain of materials! Thanks Rita!

This year was the first ever on-line CCLS Exam. We would all be doing this for the first time and that gave me courage to keep after it. I studied harder than I had studied for a long time. I learned things

that were new and I remembered things that I thought that I had forgotten.

The night before the Exam I had a small crisis when I realized that somehow, I had deleted/lost/moved the link to the test itself. I was starting to panic. Then, I called Vivian Shreve, CCLS the CCLS Certifying Board Chair and she was able to resend the link. Whew! Thanks again Vivian!

In the CCLS study materials, it said not to stay up all night stressing out about the test. So I took the night off and thought, "I can only do my best."

Then came the day of the Exam. It is a long Exam. I had my water and a pencil and blank paper. I was as ready as I was going to be. The on-line format was easy to follow. Since I did not have to travel, I could do this from the comfort of my home office, which made it a bit less stressful. Each section was a challenge but I got through it.

After the Exam, I felt somewhat confident. However, the more I thought about it, the more I was freaking out. I hoped that I had passed at least four of the sections so I would only have to re-take the sections I did not pass. I prayed for that. Waiting for the results would take 6-10 weeks. The waiting was hard. I was so sure that I had not passed.

I got the email on my birthday, October 31. I did not open it until the next morning just in case I did not pass. I PASSED! The first time! Called my sisters, emailed my children and jumped up and down. A few tears later and with a lot of relief, I still can't believe it!

I realize now that I probably should have done this a while ago. You never know what you can do until you try. It is in the testing of ourselves that we find our strengths.

Thanks again to Vivian Shreve, CCLS and her team and to Rita Burnett, CCLS.



**CORINNE  
PATERA, CCLS**

is a long-standing member and current president of San Gabriel Valley LSA. She's been employed at Paul Hastings, LLP for 33 years. She lives in Covina, California and has three children, Charles, Samantha and Christine. She enjoys biking, walking and gardening.

NOVEMBER 19-21, 2021 | SAN DIEGO, CA

# LPI'S 2ND QUARTERLY CONFERENCE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING





We embarked on the second leg of the "S.S. LPI" cruise where we continued our educational journey to the historic United Kingdom at LPI's Second Quarterly Conference Board of Governors Meeting which was held at the Town & Country Resort in San Diego, California on November 19-21, 2021. LPI and San Diego LSA did an amazing job! It was great to once again be at a normal scheduled conference with a wonderful "Dickens Holiday" themed welcome reception, conducted business of the corporation at the Board of Governors meeting, were able to attend six educational Legal Specialization Section seminars, attended a "Royal Banquet" with stellar entertainment and ended the weekend at a lovely Celtic brunch with an amazing guest speaker, HK Evans-Peterson, who inspired us with a Spoken Word poem that was written and spoken from their heart.





# CARNIVAL IN SOUTH AMERICA

## LPI's Passport to Education Cruise Continues

LPI and Stockton-San Joaquin County LPA are delighted to welcome you aboard the S.S. LPI for the third leg of our transatlantic "Passport to Education" cruise. Join us at the Stockton Hilton, February 25-27, 2022, as we journey to exotic South America for Carnival! It just so happens that Carnival in Rio de Janeiro this year begins on the same day as LPI's Third Quarterly Conference, Friday, February 25.

Brazil Carnival week happens before Lent and is considered the last all-out celebration before everyone enters into a state of penitence. The locals and tourists of Rio all participate in this extravagant affair filled with groovy samba music, addictive dance moves, and the most magnificent costumes you will ever lay eyes on.

We kick off the conference on Friday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., with a joint Q&A Forum presented by the CCLS Chair and Certifying Board, which includes a demonstration on legal computations. At 5:15 p.m., be sure to attend the Continuing Education Council's panel discussion on "The Great Resignation and the Effects on the Legal Community," featuring panelists who are experts in the legal employment field. This seminar is free to all conference attendees with registration and offers one hour of MCLE and CCLS credit.

After the CEC Seminar, it's time to show off your most festive South American attire - - skirts, dresses, blouses, shirts, wraps, hats, slacks, shoes, necklaces, etc. - - at the Welcome Reception. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., enjoy the South American-themed appetizers and the company of our wonderful vendors and exhibitors, and maybe learn a few samba moves!

Governors are invited to attend the Heart-to-Heart get-together hosted by Executive Secretary Donna Day at 7:30 p.m. on Friday in the President's Suite.

The Board of Governors Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and will recess mid-morning for a coffee break and the first two Legal Specialization Section seminars. After the morning seminars, the Presidents Luncheon, Governors Luncheon, and Open Luncheon will take place from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. The second session of the Board of Governors Meeting will resume at 1:30 p.m., with the second set of Legal Specialization Section seminars starting at 3:00 p.m., and the third set of LSS seminars starting at 4:30 p.m.

The call for nominations for elected office was previously noticed by Executive Advisor Heather Edwards, and those whose names have been submitted will be included in the slate of nominees announced at February Conference. Additionally, Executive Secretary Donna Day has issued a Call for Bids to Host a Quarterly/Annual Conference, with bids to be received by the LPI President (by hand) no later than 9:00 a.m., on Saturday, February 26. Bids for the following conferences are being accepted: November 2023 Quarterly; February 2024 Quarterly; May 2024 Annual; and, August 2024 Quarterly. All bids received will be announced at the Sunday morning session of the Board of Governors Meeting.

Please be sure to support our vendor partners and exhibitors and visit them over the weekend. They are always so happy to see us and love catching up. We truly appreciate the support we



receive from these longtime (and new) friends! Also, you won't want to miss the opportunity to get your tickets for all the fabulous door prize items!

The Carnival festivities begin with the Pre-Banquet Reception Saturday evening. Dress fancy, dress festive, dress colorful! Headdresses, masquerade masks, feather boas, beads, glamorous headbands, hats, and costumes are all encouraged. Who knows? You could be crowned Carnival King or Queen! Banquet should prove to be a lively affair with so much color and frivolity!

Sunday morning, we will enjoy a delicious brunch and complete the business of the corporation. Hopefully, everyone will continue the festive spirit of Carnival from the night before and carry all the fun memories of the weekend for many weeks to come!

Continued on page 15 ➔

## CARNIVAL IN SOUTH AMERICA

← Continued from page 14

Remember to get your passport stamped at the registration desk. All fully stamped passports (August 2021-Mexican Riviera; November 2021-United Kingdom; February 2022-South America; and May 2022-Italy) will be entered into a special drawing at the May 2022 Annual Conference in Santa Clara for the chance to win a vacation package at The Silver Legacy in Reno.

We look forward to seeing you, participating in the educational seminars together, taking care of the business of the corporation, and celebrating Carnival!



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# LUNCHING WITH LYNNE IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CLIMB

BY MARCI FRAZIER – SUBMITTED BY SACRAMENTO LSA

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon on September 11, 2021, twenty-eight members of Legal Professionals, Incorporated gathered together at an outside venue in Sacramento to celebrate and toast the President of LPI, Lynne Prescott, CCLS. As significant a day as 9/11 has come to be in the minds and hearts of so many as representing a day of loss, this day was also significant in the hearts of many of us as a day of love, laughter . . . and lunch.

Sacramento Legal Secretaries Association (SLSA) had the honor of hosting the luncheon for President Lynne. Brenda Bracy CCLS, a member of LPI's CCLS Certifying Board, SLSA

Executive Advisor and Curator of the event, chose an auspicious location in the heart of downtown Sacramento, Sourced Restaurant. The food menu consisted of chicken, pork, mac and cheese, salad and dessert. The people menu consisted of smiles, laughter, hugs and some happy tears.

Corene Rodder, LPI Historian and SLSA Governor, was the Master of Ceremonies of the event. Corene's speech to the group so embodied the loving atmosphere of the celebration that I was moved to ask her permission to place her speech here in this article so that everyone can understand why this celebration was so amazing:

”

*“Good afternoon, I would like to take just a few moments of silence for the people who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.*

*Usually, I get up here and act silly, play a song, wear a funny hat, and try to make everyone laugh. Today, if you will indulge me for a few moments, my heart is full of all the things that I want to tell you about my friend Lynne.*

*Let me start with your bag of goodies. We tried to make each item a symbol of some of the things that are important to those that climb mountains:*

*Flyer – it tells us who, what, where, when - like a map;*

*Compass with a carabiner - you need to know the direction and a way to not lose it.*

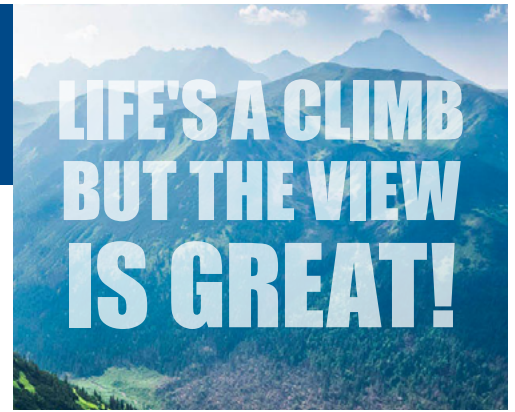
*Rope bracelet - sometimes you need just a bit of rope to hang on;*

*Sticker - a memory of where you have been. Many hikers and climbers have walking sticks that are peppered with medallions and stickers of each conquest;*

*Blue Bracelet - your theme/tag line. The thing that you chant to yourself to motivate you to put one foot in front of the other.*

*Just like Dori gave us in Finding Nemo: “Just keep swimming, just keep swimming, what do we do? We swim, swim, swim.” Lynne gives us:*

*Elevate the purpose, the people, the profession; So that the world may know;  
Elevate, Part II; It's all about the climb; When life gives you lemons, make*



Continued on page 17 ➔





*lemonade; Every cloud has a silver lining; and Think outside the box.*

*At every turn of each of the events in her presidency, Lynne has inspired us to "just keep swimming."*

*Lynne is the reason I am here. Not just as a member of SLSA and LPI. Although she is the one that put that membership application on my desk, badgered me until I signed up for my first dinner meeting, and brought me in and sat me down next to Debbie Frias who told me what a CCLS was and why SLSA was a good place to be for a legal professional.*

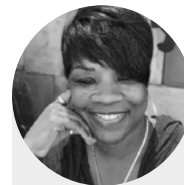
*Lynne is literally the reason I am standing here. She saved my life. The particulars of the event are not nearly as important as why Lynne was the one that stepped forward, put her arm around me and said, "I am here to help." Lynne cares so very much about the people in her life, in that moment, she couldn't help but notice that I was in trouble and offered her assistance.*

*Just like that day, it was vital that Lynne became the President of this corporation. Her inspiration and level of commitment is exactly what was needed. Her life's journey has brought her here. You don't need the details of Lynne's journey to know that she belongs right here right now. You know the sorrow that she has felt by her level of compassion. You know the wrongs she has endured by her commitment to justice. You can tell the heartbreak that has touched Lynne by the depth of her love for all of us. You can tell that there have been times that Lynne has lost faith because of how her faith in all of us has inspired us to keep putting one foot in front of the other. To keep climbing.*

*I am very proud to honor Lynne Prescott, CCLS - President of Legal Professionals Incorporated."*



Just as Corene so lovingly articulated in her speech, I believe I speak for every member of LPI when I say we are very proud to honor you, Lynne Prescott, CCLS, President of Legal Professionals, Incorporated.



**MARCI FRAZIER** is

a civil and bankruptcy litigation secretary at

Downey Brand LLP. She has worked in the legal field for 30+ years, and throughout her career, she has held several positions including Paralegal, Office Manager and Legal Secretary. She has been a member of Sacramento Legal Secretaries Association since her move from Chicago to California in 2015, and has had the honor of serving as Treasurer, Vice President and is now their current President.



# SAVE<sup>THE</sup> DATE

LPI'S 88TH ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES &  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING



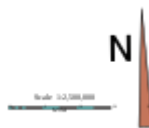
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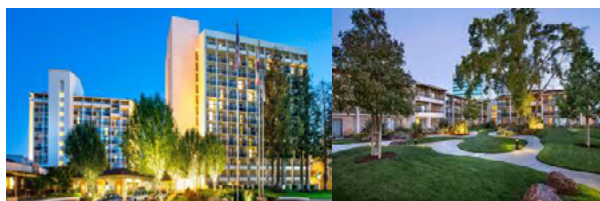
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**<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sjcga-santa-clara-marriott>**



**HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**BOOK EARLY! DEADLINE TO RESERVE ROOMS: April 27, 2022**

For reservations, please contact hotel directly at 1-408-998-1500 or online at:

<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1641937129106&key=GRP>

**Check in:** 4:00 p.m. - **Check out:** 11:00 a.m.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** (plus applicable taxes and resort fee\*): **\$149** per night, single/double\*\*

**TRANSPORTATION:**

**Airport:** The San Jose International Airport (SJC) is approximately 7.5 miles from the hotel and a 12-15 minute drive by car/taxi.

**Shuttle:** The hotel is located near the freeway and easily accessible from US 101 and is only about five or six miles – about a 10-minute drive from San Jose International Airport. San Francisco and Oakland Airports also service the area and are only about an hour away and either could be used for some added sight-seeing! The hotel does not offer an airport shuttle; however, bus service to/from airport is approximately \$8 each way, and taxis are available for approximately \$30 each way. There are also a handful of third-party shuttle services available for on-demand services. Please check the SJC website (<https://www.flysanjose.com/door-door>)

**Parking:** Self-parking garage and valet parking are both available. The hotel has discounted the parking rate to \$5.00/day

**Driving:** The Santa Clara Marriott is a resort-style hotel located across from California's Great America and Levi's Stadium. The Santa Clara Marriott is easily accessible from Highway 101 and Highway 237.

*For additional information contact:*

Vivian Shreve/M'Liss Bounds

2022 88th Annual Conference Co-Chairs

Email: [vshreve@wsgr.com](mailto:vshreve@wsgr.com) / [mliiss.bounds@gmail.com](mailto:mliiss.bounds@gmail.com)





# IDEAS FOR GETTING NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN AND CURRENT MEMBERS TO STAY

BY CAROL ROMO – SUBMITTED BY SAN MATEO COUNTY LPA

As we come back out into the world and start conducting membership meetings in person, we have a unique opportunity to use this time to focus on membership drives and reintroduce our Associations to local legal and business communities in the process. The following ideas derive from my own experience, are tried and true, and hopefully may spark an idea or two for you to use to help your Association build its membership number up.

First and foremost, this is a great time for Association Presidents to personally reach out to each of their members individually and thank them for their continued membership. They should also personally reach out to those who did not renew their membership post-Covid time and ask them to come back. An email is better than nothing, but an old fashioned handwritten note card sent by U.S. mail carries more sincerity and charm. Either way, if you are on the receiving end, you know how especially nice it is to get a personal note from the Association President.

Next, for your next Membership meeting, put *Membership Drive* on the agenda. Have a discussion with your members using any one of the following suggestions as a possible means for building interest among peers and co-workers outside of your Association.

- **MARKETING BROCHURE** – This is an essential tool used to describe your Association which is especially useful when introducing your Association to outside entities. It is perfect for including with outgoing printed correspondence, like inviting guest speakers, requesting contributions and donations for fundraisers, or recruiting possible new members. Here are some pointers for creating or updating your Association brochure.

- Seek out a member(s) who has good writing and Word formatting skills to create or update a single page two-sided brochure that describes your Association and what it does; marketing your Association's goals.

- Be sure to include your Association's logo, a couple pictures of your Association in action, and contact information.

- Post the brochure on your Association website, make them available for members to give to interested parties or potential members. The President can use them to introduce the Association to local legal entities such as the Association of Legal Administrators, local legal city offices, law firms, etc.

- **OPEN HOUSE** – This is an excellent event because it brings in new members while providing a platform to introduce or re-introduce your Association to important local legal entities that can promote and provide ongoing support for your membership. Here is what is involved in conducting an Open House event:

- This requires a space large enough to set several tables out which will serve as kiosks for each of your Association Committees and 2-3 local retail shops. We invited Sephora who gave quick makeovers and free makeup bags to all in attendance. Likewise, a local nail shop and a local gym who also provided giveaways for the attendees in exchange for a table at the event in which to market their products to our legal professionals.

- Appetizers, beverages, background music, and decorations focusing on each of your committees is a great backdrop for this event. There must be no cost to attend but you must RSVP to get in.

- Well before the event, send out fliers and personal invitations to local law firms, the Association of Legal

Administrators, and ask your members to invite co-workers, etc. Get the word out to as many law firms as possible in order to get candidates for membership.

- Section off an area with chairs facing a projection screen for a 20 minute presentation by your president and an LPI representative to explain about the history of the organization and what your Vice President/Membership Chair at a table with printed applications to take in or to take contact information from those that are interested in joining later.

- **ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS (ALA)**

- Contact and build a rapport.

- Association Presidents can reach out to the President of the local ALA by writing an introductory letter in which you can describe interest in marketing your Association by asking the ALA to place your education schedules and fliers on their monthly newsletter and invite them to a membership meeting as your personal guest.

- The ALA is also an excellent resource for career opportunities. Develop a rapport with a contact person at your local ALA and invite them to send job postings to your career chair's attention so that information gets out to your members. There is no better way to find a good or better job than by referral.

- **LAW FIRM MAILING LIST**

- Ask your Association Secretary or a volunteer to start a list of law firms in your Association's city range. If possible create a spreadsheet that includes the name of the legal administrator, the size of the law firm; etc.

- Reach out to the Legal Administrators of each law firm asking them if it is okay to email event fliers to them to share with their support staff. Include your Association brochure and try to develop a rapport with the Legal Administrators

Continued on page 21 ➔

← Continued from page 20

who respond to your letter.

- **VENDORS** – Create mutually beneficial relationships. Reach out to all the legal vendors in your Association's jurisdiction.
  - Vendors have access to law firm support staff throughout your entire business community and they can promote joining your Association to their clients in exchange for sales support from your members. Presidents need to encourage members to support the vendors that support your Association and extend equal opportunity to all the vendors in your area. Be sure to acknowledge their contributions to the members and encourage members to show their appreciation by trying them out at least once if they can.
  - Throughout my extensive experience working with vendors, I found vendors welcomed the opportunity to present their services to the members in exchange for the cost of dinner at the membership meetings. In fact, most vendors told me that they prefer picking up the tab for a membership dinner meeting than they do paying dues for reasons that should be obvious. The hosting vendor has no problem giving their presentation while your group is eating so as not to add time to your meeting. This is a win-win situation for both your members and vendors.<sup>1</sup>
- **INCENTIVES** - For members who bring in new members:
  - Gift card from Association for \$20 (Amazon, Starbucks, etc.) or a free pass to an upcoming Association related event. Be sure to introduce new members along with their sponsors at the initiation meetings to show appreciation to those who sponsor new members.
- **WELCOMING AND KEEPING NEW MEMBERS INTERESTED**
  - Orientation Luncheons – paid for by the Association and attended solely by the Association Vice President/ Membership Chair and the newest members few days to a week after their initiation. This is a great way

to build a bond between your Association and its newest members. It allows the Vice President to lay out the goals and describe annual and upcoming events; giving the new members the perfect opportunity to ask questions and get involved. A sandwich and soft drink at a local deli is a small price to pay for folding new members into the Association.

- Incorporate a new standing rule wherein Sponsors are responsible for getting their new members to their first membership meeting/initiation. Sponsors not only accompany them to the meeting, but also sit next to them throughout the entire meeting to quietly explain what is going on and answer questions. Sponsors should also introduce the new members to the Association and give a one-sentence background on the new member. The goal is to ensure the newer members aren't made to feel like outsiders but not to embarrass them in the process either.
- Association Presidents may want to personally introduce themselves to the new members before the meeting starts, making them feel welcome and special.
- Mock Trials – are fun and memorable for new and veteran members alike. They create a topic for discussion within the Association as well as outside the workplace and promote interest in your Association in the process.
- Fun Fundraisers - that include family and friends like Bingo, trivia night over Happy Hour at a local Bar & Grill, casino bus trips, crab feeds, etc. will bring in money for your Association and get the word out more about your Association.
- **LPI CONFERENCES AND ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES AND ELECTIONS**
  - Make a point to enlighten new members about Legal Professionals Incorporated conferences, i.e., explaining the difference between quarterly and annual, and introducing them to sister Associations in the

process. Beware of always using acronyms like "LPI" and "CCLS" around new members because this is a sure way of making them feel like outsiders. (As legal professionals, we really should be in tune with this more often.)

- Have fundraiser specifically earmarked to offset the cost to send all interested members to conferences with expenses paid partially or in full. Getting more members to attend Conferences builds comradery and sharing rooms gets members acquainted. At the conference, throw a small private party for your members in the Association President's hotel room right before the banquet to acquaint members with their Association officers and to go to banquet together – as a united Association.
- Officers should reach out to newer members and encourage them to be part of a committee or run for an office that the officer thinks the member would be good at. This helps get new names on election ballots, which helps preserve your Association's future.<sup>2</sup>
- **BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER**
  - Highlight and introduce the new members with a bio and a photo in issues directly following their initiation. Also consider featuring a member of the month which also includes a bio and a photo and acknowledges their contribution.

- **PERKS FOR MEMBERS** - An Association must invest in their members in order to get the most out of their membership.
  - As stated above, set a goal to raise enough money to offset the cost for any of your members who wish to attend a conference. This is another item you may want to incorporate into your Association's Standing Rules for the all the reasons listed above. Having to pay travel and registration expenses is the biggest reason most members do not attend. Even partial payment by the Association helps.

← Continued from page 21

- Budget for marketing material (with your Association's logo and website), like tote bags, cell phone cases, and t-shirts. The Association should give these free of charge to its members which will in turn serve to promote your Association outside of the events and meetings. Make these items available to the members at their request should they want to use them to promote sponsorship or funding for the Association. Members can be the best marketing tool for building up your membership and getting your Association's name out there.

- Free dinner at the membership meetings just for the members as described under *Vendors* above, or at least budgeting for partially paid member dinners is a good way to gain continued support and attendance from your Association's members.

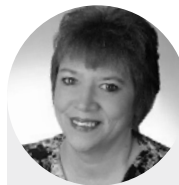
As I stated at the beginning of this article, these are tried and true ways I have found to increase interest in joining and supporting your Association, and

getting current members to renew their memberships. Much of this information resulted from feedback I got at personal meetings I had with former members during my term as Vice President/Membership Chair to find out why they had stopped their renewals. If you want more information on any of the contents above, please let me know at [carolromo1@gmail.com](mailto:carolromo1@gmail.com). And again, this is your chance to take advantage of this perfect opportunity – at the end of the Covid epidemic – to raise your Association numbers back up, like a Phoenix rising from the ashes of the Corona virus.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Non-members should pay the cost for their meal so as not to take from the perks for being a dues-paying member. This is important to the members who not only paid their dues but have to pay for their dinner out of their own pocket (unlike vendors). It also provides incentive for non-members to join.

<sup>2</sup> Robert's Rules of Order and common sense alike, point out the importance of having new faces consistently circulate through elected officials and committee chairs. Without regular turnover in leadership, Associations become stale and unable to sustain membership renewals and thrive. This is an important reason to start concentrating on bringing in new members and keeping current members interested in renewing.



**CAROL ROMO**

is a past president of San Francisco Legal Professionals Association (SFLPA) and a current member at large of LPI. Carol lives and works in her birthplace, San Francisco, where she has been a legal secretary for the past twenty years.

## Dates to Remember | 2022

**FEBRUARY 17, 2022 | 12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**LPI Benefit Provider, Northwest Mutual Webinar** – Life Insurance...It's more than just a death benefit

**FEBRUARY 23, 2022 | 12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**LPI Webinar** – Microsoft Office Table of Contents/Table of Authorities

**FEBRUARY 25-27, 2022**

**LPI's Third Quarterly Conference Board of Governors Meeting** – "Passport to Education"  
Stockton Hilton, Stockton, CA | Co-Hosted by LPI and Stock-San Joaquin County LPA

**MARCH 1, 2022**

**LPI/NextGen Legal** – Beginning Legal Secretarial Training Online Class (*commences on March 1 – April 26*)

**MARCH 1, 2022**

**LPI/NextGen Legal** – Overview of California Discovery Online Class (*commences on March 1 – April 12*)





# FEBRUARY TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

Presented By:  
June Hunter

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**February 23, 2022  
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### About the Trainer



June Hunter has worked for many mid and large-sized law firms with her experience beginning in 1990. June has worked in many different capacities during her career which has included legal secretary, Firm Wide Trainer/IT Help Desk, Litigation Support, and Paralegal. June's experience has required her to perform on multiple levels including as an eDiscovery analyst, technological trainer, as well as providing customer support through manning of the IT helpdesk and in the litigation support role during trial. June is currently a Technical Enablement Sr. Specialist at DISCO. June is an adjunct teacher at UC San Diego Extension in their ABA-approved Paralegal Studies program teaching Computer Essentials for the Legal Professional. June volunteers her time to the education of other legal professions including teaching computer classes through the San Diego Legal Secretaries Association.

**June Hunter is an affiliate of Legal Professionals, Incorporated, an approved provider, and certifies that this activity is approved for 1.0 hours of CCLS credit. This webinar does not qualify for MCLE credit.**

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*California Central Coast  
& Beyond*

# CCLS QUIZ

## THE REDBOOK WORKSHEETS GRAMMAR

DIRECTIONS: USING THE CALENDAR PROVIDED,  
DETERMINE THE LAST DAY FOR EACH ACTION BELOW.

**1. WHICH OF THESE WORDS DOES NOT HAVE AN IRREGULAR PLURAL:**

(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FROM A - E)

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ FOOT
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ LIFE
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ CHILD
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ MOUSE
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ HOUSE

**2. WHAT IS AN APPOSITIVE:**

(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FROM A - E)

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ A WORD THAT STANDS IN FOR A NOUN.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ A WORD THAT APPEARS BEFORE A PRONOUN AND THAT THE PRONOUN REFERS TO.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ A NOUN OR NOUN PHRASE THAT FURTHER IDENTIFIES OR FURTHER DESCRIBES ANOTHER NOUN OR NOUN PHRASE (ITS REFERENT).
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ AN -ING VERB FUNCTIONING AS A NOUN.
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ NONE OF THE ABOVE.

**TRUE OR FALSE:**

**3. A PRONOUN THAT REFERS TO TWO OR MORE SINGULAR ANTECEDENTS JOINED BY OR NOR IS SINGULAR.**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ TRUE
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ FALSE

**TRUE OR FALSE:**

**4. THE TERMS EITHER AND NEITHER, WHEN ACTING AS THE SUBJECT OF A SENTENCE, TAKE A PLURAL VERB.**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ TRUE
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ FALSE

**5. WHICH PARTS OF SPEECH ARE THE WHEN-, WHERE-, WHY-, AND HOW- WORDS:**

(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FROM A - E)

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ NOUNS
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ ADVERBS
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ VERBS
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ ADJECTIVES
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ PREPOSITIONS

**6. WHICH SENTENCE IS GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT:**

(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FROM A - E)

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ BOTH YOUNG LAWYERS PLAYED THE NEGOTIATIONS CLOSE TO THEIR VEST.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ EACH CANDIDATE KEPT AN EYE ON THE PRIZE.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ DESPITE A FIRM JOB OFFER, GRADUATING STUDENTS MUST KEEP THEIR NOSE TO THE GRINDSTONE.
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ THE FACULTY MEMBERS MEETS AT THE END OF EACH SEMESTER TO DISCUSS HOW THE FIRST-YEAR CLASSES PERFORMED ON FINAL EXAMS.
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ THERE WAS A NUMBER OF REASONS FOR THE FAILURE.

**7. WHICH SENTENCE CORRECTLY REFERS TO A JOINTLY OWNED PROPERTY:**  
(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FROM A - E)

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ CLARK AND BUCHANAN'S OFFICES ARE IN ALBUQUERQUE.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ CLARK'S AND BUCHANAN'S OFFICES ARE IN ALBUQUERQUE.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ CLARK'S OFFICES AND BUCHANAN'S OFFICES ARE IN ALBUQUERQUE.
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ CLARK AND BUCHANAN OFFICES ARE IN ALBUQUERQUE.
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ CLARK'S OFFICES, AS WELL AS THOSE OF BUCHANAN, ARE IN ALBUQUERQUE.



# CCLS QUIZ

## ANSWER KEY

1. E See Redbook § 11.8(a), at 199.
2. C See Redbook § 11.7(a), at 197–98.
3. A See Redbook § 11.10(d), at 202.
4. B See Redbook § 11.23(j), at 217.
5. B See Redbook § 11.40, at 230.
6. B See Redbook § 11.3, at 196.
7. A See Redbook § 11.4, at 196.

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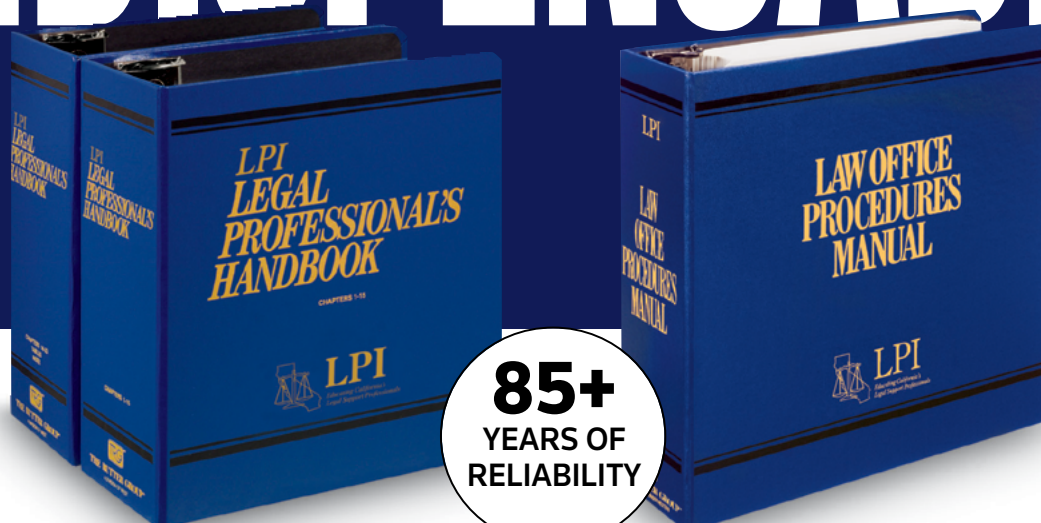
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# NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

## A Look at the Journey of California's New Judicial Holiday

BY KATE COCHRAN AND FRANCIE SKAGGS, CCLS –  
SUBMITTED BY SAN FRANCISCO LPA

In 2022, California will welcome a new judicial holiday, Native American Day. Assembly Bill 855 (AB 855), approved September 24, 2020, amends CCP § 135 to include the fourth Friday in September as a judicial holiday (or “court holiday”). At the same time, this bill which establishes Native American Day will now exclude Columbus Day from the court holidays. Columbus Day will continue to be a holiday per Government Code 7, Section 6700, but will not be a “judicial” holiday as set forth by CCP § 135. Though Columbus Day will be excluded as a judicial holiday in California, it still continues to be a holiday at the federal level. Like Cesar Chavez Day, this will be a day of which we must be mindful when working on California court cases only.

### AB 855 reads:

*This bill would remove Native American Day from the list of holidays that are excluded from designation as a judicial holiday. The bill would add Columbus Day to the list of excluded judicial holidays.*<sup>1</sup>

As with most legalese, reading the statutes can be confusing. One of the key differences between the two statutes is that Gov. Code 7, § 6700 sets forth what days are considered California holidays; and CCP § 135 states which of those holidays will be excluded and included as “judicial holidays,” or, in other words, the dates that the California state courts will be closed.

Native American Day had already existed in California for 80 years. In 1939, the California Governor at the time, Culbert Olson, declared October 1 as “Indian Day.” Then in 1968, the California Governor at that time, Ronald Reagan, declared it as “California Indian Day” and reserved

the fourth Friday of September to recognize this special day. Now, in 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom recognized this day as a judicial holiday, while removing Columbus Day as a judicial holiday for California courts.

### The History and the Changing Times

Working in the legal profession, one thing we know is that the law is always changing to adapt to the times. As attitudes change and social awareness increases, the law often takes some time to follow. This new holiday is a perfect example of that concept. Native Americans have expressed their concerns for a long time about the insensitivity of Christopher Columbus being a national hero; however, their voices were not heard broadly until recently, and they are now having a recognizable impact on the holidays we choose to recognize and celebrate.

Now, their expression of their experience has become more widely validated as others suffering from oppression have empathized and joined their cause. This is evident in the recent well-attended and diverse protests that have occurred in San Francisco.

The statue of Christopher Columbus has been a prevalent landmark at Coit Tower in San Francisco since the 1950's. In more recent years, the statue has been increasingly vandalized and defaced, reflecting the increased awareness and negative public perception of this historical figure. After the killing of George Floyd in May 2020, protests increased and the statue was defaced several times. In June of 2020, a flyer called for people to gather on June 19 (aka Juneteenth) to pull “down [the Christopher Columbus statue] and throw it over Pier 31.”<sup>2</sup>



For the Black Lives Matter movement, Christopher Columbus was a perfect example of how many European explorers forced others outside their race to live as subordinates, indentured servants, or slaves and could empathize with the Native Americans. It was at that time Mayor London Breed decided that the statue needed to be taken down and put into storage. Was this a foreshadowing of the new judicial holiday of 2022?

Along with the June 18, 2020 removal of San Francisco's Columbus statue, the Junipero Serra statue was officially removed from the State Capitol by Newsom on September 24, 2021, after being torn down by protestors in July 2020 after George Floyd's death. Junipero Serra, a Spanish missionary who forced Natives to convert to Catholicism, give up their traditional lifestyles to live on a mission and farm, and endure forced slavery, hard labor, rape, and family separation, is another example of a European conqueror who serves as a symbol of historical oppression to Native Americans.

Continued on page 29 ➔

← Continued from page 28

### Was He Such A Bad Guy?

While many of us learned in school to credit Columbus with discovering America, the fact remains that Native Americans were already here, making it a land already discovered and inhabited by people. That fact, along with the fact that the Vikings' contact with America had also preceded Columbus's contact with what is now the Bahamas by about 500 years made the validity of the claim that Columbus "discovered" the New World inaccurate, unless you dismiss and disregard other cultures besides that of the European conquerors.

This claim greatly offends many Native Americans. Many view Columbus as a symbol of oppression and see him as a representation of European conquest and imperialism over all native peoples. In his notebooks and writings, Columbus expressed his perception of the first Native American people he met, the Taíno, as potential servants.<sup>3</sup> He returned to Spain with not only goods such as gold and spices from what he believed to be Asia, but also with Natives he captured against their will with the use of violence. Columbus viewed and treated Native Americans as nothing more than a resource to exploit—he treated them as property, not people. The evidence clearly shows that this is not the type of historical figure we wish to uphold or celebrate in California, or anywhere in civilized society.

### California is Not the First, or Only, State to Recognize Native Heritage

Recognizing and honoring Native Americans with an official holiday is not exclusive to California. Many other states, such as South Dakota, Alaska and Oregon, recognize Native American Day or Indigenous Peoples' Day. Oklahoma celebrates Native American Day on the same day as Columbus Day as a day to recognize Oklahoma Native Americans. Some states recognize both days (Nebraska and Alabama). In South Dakota, these days are also judicial holidays. In Alaska and Oregon, neither Columbus Day nor Indigenous Peoples' Day are court holidays. In Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Alabama, Columbus Day is still a court holiday. The difference in the way individual states choose to recognize and honor Native Americans is interesting, and many hope that federal recognition will strengthen recognition for Native Americans across America and remove the need for a piecemeal state approach.<sup>4</sup>

### Conclusion: A Much-Anticipated and Welcomed Change for California

California's adoption of a new holiday to replace Columbus Day which specifically honors and recognizes Native culture and contributions to our great state is a long-awaited and appreciated change that has been embraced and applauded by our communities. Both in the legal and greater California community, we have become aware of the true history surrounding Columbus and other previously revered historical figures, and we aim to begin to right the wrongs of the past and celebrate those who truly deserve our respect and gratitude in the lands we now call home. Let's never forget whose home it was first.

Here are some websites where we can learn more about the culture and history of the Native American People:

- <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/nativereref.htm>
- <https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/native-americans.html>
- <https://www.history.com/topics/native-american-history/native-american-cultures>
- [http://www.nativepartnership.org/site/PageServer?pagename=pwna\\_native\\_history](http://www.nativepartnership.org/site/PageServer?pagename=pwna_native_history)
- <https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/native-americans.html>

### END NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB855](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB855)
- <sup>2</sup> <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Christopher-Columbus-statue-by-Coit-Tower-removed-15349812.php>
- <sup>3</sup> <http://blog.nativepartnership.org/california-native-american-day/>
- <sup>4</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2021/10/11/1045084634/indigenous-peoples-day-is-a-federal-holiday-now-activists-want-to-drop-columbus->

Continued on page 30 →



← Continued from page 29



**KATE COCHRAN** is a legal secretary at the law firm of Coblenz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP. She serves on the SFLPA Board as the Co-Editor of The Hearsay. Kate wears many hats and loves to host Spa Day as a beauty consultant—just one of her side hustles! Kate lives in downtown SF with her husband Eric, 6-year-old Izzy, grouchy old cat Tulip, and puppy Chase. You can usually find them taking snapshots of local graffiti art, looking for bugs at local parks, and running around Union Square at night.



**FRANCIE SKAGGS** is a Legal Secretary at Coblenz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP for almost six years. She is currently serving as President of San Francisco LPA and has served as every other officer position for SFLPA prior to that role. She also serves as a Webinar Co-Chair on the LPI CEC Committee. Francie graduated from Cal State East Bay, where she majored in English, minored in Political Science and returned to the same school years later to get her paralegal certificate. Francie's favorite things to do these days are to attend Bar Bootcamp, Pilates class and find new trails in her area where she can go on long walks.

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