

ROANOKE VALLEY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

June, 2016

Message From The President

Special points of interest:

- * VAPA has implemented the Virginia Registered Paralegal Program
- * Guest speakers for the August meeting
- * Two conferences to choose from.

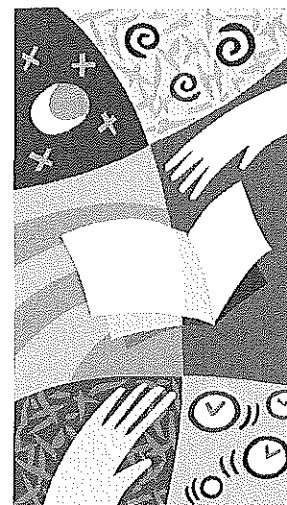
"Half way through 2016, and summer vacation is upon us! I hope everyone has had a great first half of the year both personally and professionally.

As many of you know, this is my first year as President of the RVPA. My goal is to continue the tradition of hard work of my predecessor, Kathie Coulson. I have had the pleasure of working with a great group of women on the Board who have refreshing ideas to further our organization's presence in the Roanoke Valley, and ways to help our community.

My plan for the remainder of this year is to continue inviting dynamic speakers with exciting topics to our membership meetings, providing more opportunities to our members to succeed professionally, and giving back to our beloved Roanoke. As always, I welcome your feedback, insights, or suggestions (just don't throw rotten vegetables).

I look forward to what the rest of the year holds for RVPA."

John



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DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.RVPA.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

"Building a Better Paralegal"

American National University, formerly National Business College, offers the only ABA approved Paralegal program in Southwest Virginia. ANU offers an Associate Degree in Paralegal studies and a Certificate in Paralegal Studies for those who already earned an associate or bachelor's degree. Our students are looking to build their resumes while attending college; they are interested in volunteer work in a legal setting. Whether it is for one day to shadow an attorney or paralegal or spending hours helping with a special project that requires extra hands, but not necessarily extra employees. Please consider opportunities for our students to volunteer and build their knowledge base. If you are interested or simply want more information, please contact Jayne Atkins, Program Administrator, at jatkins@an.edu or 540-461-0442.

VAPA APPROVES VOLUNTARY PARALEGAL CREDENTIALING SYSTEM

In recognition of the growing need to establish a benchmark to determine qualified paralegals, on November 7, 2015, the Virginia Alliance of Paralegal Associations (VAPA) adopted a Policy on Paralegal Regulation by approving the **Virginia Registered Paralegal (VARP™)** program, a voluntary paralegal credentialing system.

Under this new program, a paralegal applying for the VARP™ credential must be a voting member of any VAPA member association in good standing and/or an area liaison, and meet certain minimum standards relating to education/CLEs and experience. A paralegal with a VARP™ designation is required to complete a minimum of twelve hours of CLE credits including two hours of ethics every two years and provide proof of completion of the requisite CLE hours to VAPA in order to maintain her/his VARP™ credential.

Formed in 1989 by a small group of paralegals, VAPA is best known for its biennial multi-day CLE conferences and the establishment/procurement of Paralegals' Week every October. VAPA is a non-profit organization representing thirteen paralegal associations and individual area liaisons located in and around the Commonwealth of Virginia. Each paralegal association is comprised of paralegals, paralegal students, and entities that support the paralegal profession in Virginia. Consistent with VAPA's mission to *advance, foster, and promote the paralegal profession by providing a statewide voice for paralegals*, a portion of the proceeds from the VARP™ program will be used to provide assistance to paralegals wishing to further their goals by attaining national certification.

In September 1994, VAPA developed and adopted the Educational Standards and Professional Responsibility Guidelines for Paralegals. In March 1995, the standards were recommended by the Virginia State Bar Standing Committee on Unauthorized Practice of Law by resolution. These standards serve as the basis for the development of the VARP™ program.

Additional information regarding VAPA and the VARP™ program, including links to all VAPA member associations and liaisons, information about our upcoming statewide conference, Paralegals' Week, as well as a current list of VARP™ credentialed paralegals and VARP™ application forms, may be obtained by contacting:

Virginia Alliance of Paralegal Associations
2715 Huntington Avenue
Newport News, Virginia 23607
Or visiting our website at www.vaparalegalalliance.org

Virginia Registered Paralegal Program
PO Box 537
Warrenton, Virginia 20188
Email: VARP@vaparalegalalliance.org

SAVE THE DATE!!
RVPA AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thursday, August 11, 2017
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Roanoke Country Club
3360 Country Club Drive, NW
Roanoke, VA 24017

We are proud to present Dr. Michael Aamodt and Jaye Koch, NALA representative!



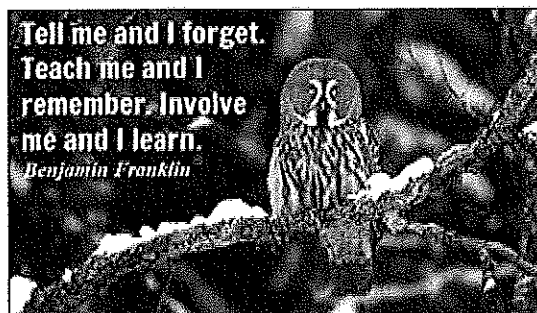
Dr. Michael Aamodt is a professor emeritus of psychology at Radford University. He is now a full-time consultant with DCI Consulting. Dr. Aamodt will be speaking to RVPA on the psychological mind of a serial killer.



Jaye L. Koch, ACP is the Region 2 Director of NALA. She will be speaking to RVPA about NALA and her experience as a paralegal.

RVPA is very fortunate to have Huesby sponsoring this special evening. Buffet dinner and soft drinks/ice tea will be provided. Cash bar will be available.

Make plans to attend! More details and an "official" invitation will be forthcoming.





The Roanoke Valley Paralegal Association is proud to announce that Jaye L. Koch, ACP, NALA's Region II Director, will attend RVPA's August 11, 2016 evening meeting at the Roanoke Country Club. Ms. Koch will provide RVPA members with information regarding educational opportunities available through the National Association of Legal Assistants, as well as information regarding all aspects of the paralegal profession. She will also provide details about her attendance at the July 2016 NALA Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.*

Ms. Koch became interested in NALA in 2002 when she attended her first conference and met NALA's Second Vice President. That networking experience encouraged Jaye to take NALA's Certified Paralegal exam. Jaye's passion for the paralegal profession kept her involved with community colleges and students in her hometown of Virginia Beach, as well as within the NALA organization.

She embraces mentorship as she knows how it benefits all parties, not just the intern.

Jaye's academic credentials are as follows:

B.A., Political Science, Virginia Wesleyan College
Paralegal Certificate, Tidewater Community College
Certified Paralegal, National Association of Legal Assistants
Advanced Certified Paralegal - Trial Practice - NALA

NALA OFFERS

On-Demand
Webinars for Self-
Study

and

Webinars on many
different legal
topics.

Go to www.nala.org
for more
information.

NALA Conference
July 13 - 15, 2016
Las Vegas, Paris Hotel

Dr. Michael Aamodt

RVPA is very fortunate to have Dr. Michael Aamodt come and speak with our group at our August 11, 2016 meeting.

Dr. Michael Aamodt is professor emeritus of psychology at Radford University in Radford, Virginia. In 2009, after 26 years at RU, Dr. Aamodt took advantage of an early-retirement option and now is a full-time consultant with DCI Consulting. To fulfill his love for teaching, Dr. Aamodt continues to teach a course each year at RU and continues his writing and research program. He received his B.A. in psychology from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California and both his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas.

As a professor, Dr. Aamodt taught courses in employee selection, employee training and development, job analysis and evaluation, organizational politics, organizational influence, forensic psychology, program evaluation, and psychology of the criminal mind.

As a consultant, Dr. Aamodt has helped a wide variety of organizations deal with such issues as employee selection, performance evaluation, downsizing, organizational change, compensation, salary equity, affirmative action, and employee motivation. As a trainer, Dr. Aamodt is a frequently requested speaker and is known for his fast-paced, humorous presentations. As a researcher, Dr. Aamodt has published over 50 articles in professional journals and presented more than 120 papers at professional conferences. He is the author of *Applied Industrial/Organizational Psychology*, now in its 7th edition, *Research in Law Enforcement Selection*, *Law Enforcement Selection: Research Summaries*, *Understanding Statistics: A Guide for I/O Psychologists and Human Resource Professionals*, and the coauthor of *Human Relations in Business*. Dr. Aamodt is the associate editor of *Applied HRM Research*, the *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*, and *Criminal Justice and Behavior*. As a result of his research, Dr. Aamodt has been quoted in many media outlets and has appeared in documentaries broadcast on such television networks as the Discovery Channel, Biography Channel, and Women's Entertainment Network.

In his spare time, Dr. Aamodt likes to make lame attempts at being athletic, cook what at times turn out to be edible meals, travel, and SCUBA dive. He lives in Pulaski, Virginia with his wife Bobbie and their neurotic dog, Gretchen. Dr. Aamodt and Bobbie's son Josh is an attorney in Northern Virginia but they continue to love him anyway.

Dr. Aamodt will be speaking to RVPA on the psychological mind of a serial killer

Virginia Alliance of Paralegal Associations
TENTH BIENNIAL STATEWIDE CONFERENCE
October 7 and 8, 2016

VAPA Conference ~ Speakers and Events

Friday, October 7, 2016

- 8:00 am – 8:45 am **Registration & Vendors**
8:45 am – 9:00 am **Welcome** (The Honorable Elizabeth Lacy, Retired, Supreme Court of Virginia)
9:00 am – 10:00 am **Meghan Podolny, Esq., eDiscovery**
10:15 am – 11:15 am **Richard Schweiker, Esq., Section Chief - Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Section, "Helping and Protecting the Commonwealth's Consumers"**
11:30 am – 12:30 pm **Bruce McKechnle, Esq., "Legal Research using Westlaw and Public Access Websites."**
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm **LUNCH** *(Included in registration fee and please indicate vegetarian preference)*
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm **Kelly Faglioni, Esq., Ethics**
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm **Eva Juncker, Esq., "The Changing Faces of Family Law in our Commonwealth; Same-Sex Marriage Recognition in Virginia – a Year in Review"**
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm **RPA and VAPA Reception celebrating Paralegals' Week** *(included)*

Saturday, October 8, 2016

- 8:00 am – 9:00 am **Registration & Vendors**
9:00 am – 10:00 am **Ann Hodges, RP Emeritus, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identity Theft**
10:15 am – 11:15 am **Briana Valentino, Greater Richmond SCAN and the Child Advocacy Center**

CLE Credits (NALA, NFPA) Pending

ACCOMMODATIONS

**RICHMOND MARRIOTT SHORT PUMP
4240 DOMINION BOULEVARD
GLEN ALLEN, VIRGINIA 23060
(804) 965-9500 OR (800) 228-9290**

ROOM RATE: \$139/NIGHT + TAXES - PLEASE TELL THE RESERVATION AGENT THAT YOU ARE ATTENDING THE VAPA CONFERENCE.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Check the website at www.vaparalegalalliance.org for more information