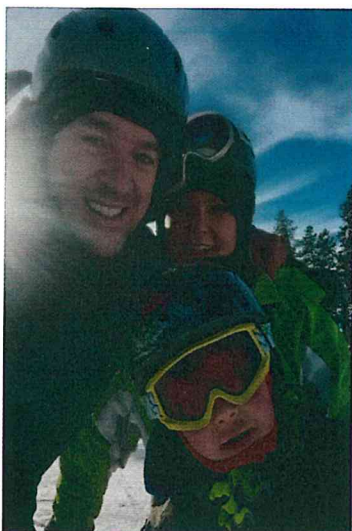


February-March 2016



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The Newsletter of the Western Montana Bar Association

President's Message from Travis Dye:

This marks the halfway point of my term as President, so I will take this opportunity to update you about the goings-on at the WMBA. First, I would like to thank everyone who attended the October, November, January and February luncheons. As a board, our goal was to increase attendance at our monthly lunches. One way we have tried to do that, other than cajoling, shaming, and begging, is to make sure that each lunch includes CLE credit to give you more bang for your lunch dollar. I'm happy to report that attendance has been better than our historical averages, and February was off the charts. Thank you! We're hoping to keep this up, so keep showing up!

Don't Miss — WMBA Monthly Luncheon— Thursday, March 17!

Judge Leslie Halligan
(invited):

Perspectives from the Bench

WMBA Luncheons are the Third Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon in the Florence Building. \$15 for WMBA members; \$20 for non-members.

We are hopeful that Judge Leslie Halligan will be our speaker on March 17. I have had several people mention that they would like to hear Judge Halligan's perspective on being a judge. Judge Halligan has a trial scheduled the same day, so at this point we can list her only as "invited." I think I speak for the entire WMBA Board, however, when I say if you are involved in the trial, we are hopeful that all differences can be resolved in a manner satisfactory to all parties. If Judge Halligan is unable to attend, we will invite her to a future luncheon and schedule a different speaker for March 17. Stay tuned.

On April 21, we will hold our annual Grace Period CLE. In the past, the WMBA's spring CLE was all about ethics. We decided last year to broaden the focus of the CLE, not because ethics are unimportant, but because the reporting requirement for ethics credits has changed, more CLEs now incorporate ethics credits, and it allows for a more diverse group of speakers and topics. This year's CLE is being organized by Vice President Hannah Stone and will focus on evidence. Details are still being finalized, but Hannah has lined up Brian Smith to talk about changes to the Federal Rules of Evidence and Professor Cynthia Ford to present interactive evidence scenarios. We are hopeful at least one Montana Supreme Court Justice will also be able to speak, as the Justices will be in Missoula for arguments in the Mountain Water case the following day.

Inside:

President's Message	1-2
Pro Bono Update	2
Announcements/Ads	3-4

May's luncheon will be the last of my term as President. On May 19, Judge Dana Christensen will update us on happenings in Montana's federal courts. If history holds true, I expect we will see many faces at this luncheon that we have not seen recently. If you would like to prove me wrong, those of you who plan to attend the May luncheon should plan to be there in March and April!

Continued on page 2

President's Message**(cont.)**

Outside of lunch and CLE presentations, we have been working to update how we contact our members. Many of you no doubt remember when the WMBA's newsletter was published in hard copy and mailed. Several years ago, the Board decided to start emailing the newsletter, a decision that made sense for many reasons. With the advent of anti-SPAM laws and more robust SPAM filters, emailing the newsletter has become more difficult and less reliable. With over 500 names on our email list, we have to send multiple emails to avoid recipient limits. Even still, we regularly receive notices that our address has been permanently blocked by firewalls. Beth Hayes, Secretary of the WMBA, is exploring services such as Mail Chimp as a means for us to send newsletters and other announcements. Not only will this allow us to send better email, as the slogan goes, it will also include an "opt in" feature, which should allow newsletters and other announcements to get through to those who want them. We hope to have more on this in the near future.

Travis Dye is a partner at Kalkstein, Johnson & Dye. Outside of work, he enjoys playing soccer, hiking, biking and hanging out with his family. He's pictured with his wife Megan and son Ciaran. Like John Denver, sunshine on his shoulders makes him happy.

Pro Bono Program Update:

- WMBA Pro Bono Program placed 4 full representation referrals, 1 mediation referral, and 1 limited scope representation referral in the past month.
- There are 10 clients waiting for services.
- There are 60 working and open cases placed with a pro bono attorney.
- Nine pro bono cases were closed in the past month.
- At least one case has been closed this month, and we expect more once we have caught up with our attorney updates.

WMBA Pro Bono Program Client Spotlight:

"Nancy" needs help with a parenting plan for three children. The other party is represented. For several years, the parents had a de facto parenting plan that the court never finalized but the parties followed nonetheless. Recently, however, the other party started demanding more time, even refusing to return the young children, and hired an attorney. Nancy attended a Free Family Law Advice Clinic and the volunteer recommended her for a full representation referral given her difficulty in representing herself.

Office Space Available:

- First class furnished professional office space available in beautifully restored historic Victorian Home.
- Extremely pleasant with lots of natural light.
- Located at 526 E. Front St., close to downtown and UM.
- Parking in rear.
- Details and photos on Missoula Downtown Association "properties for sale or lease" website.
- Call Bob Knight for showing (549-5952).

Check out the WMBA's
new website:

www.westernmtbar.com

Upcoming WMBA Family Law Pro Bono Clinics:

March 16, 2016

April 20, 2016

May 18, 2016

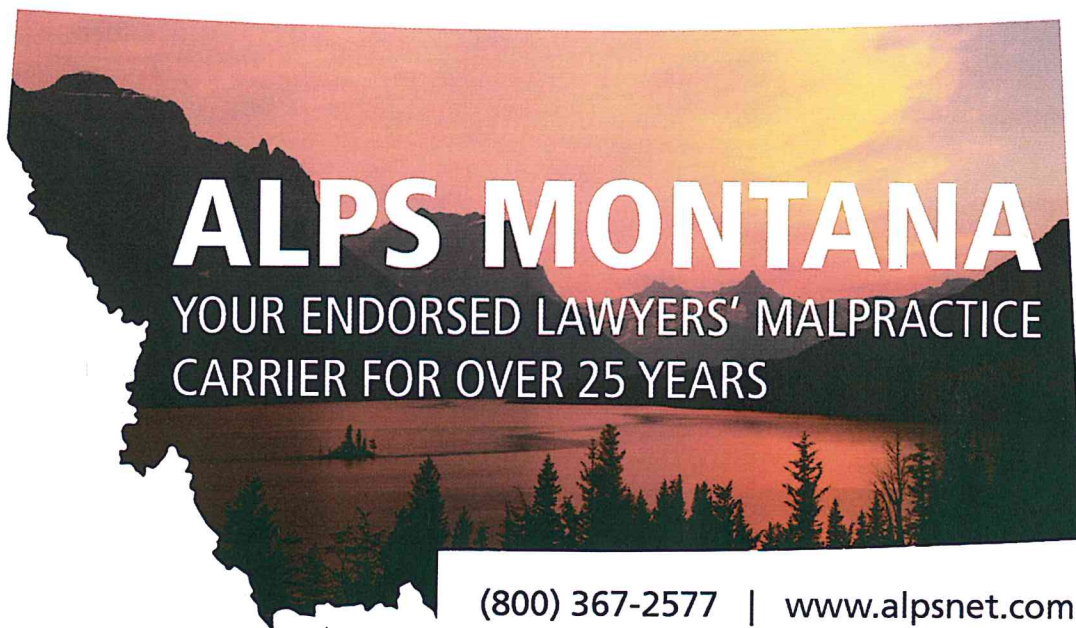
If you want to volunteer, please contact Alex Clark at coordinator.wmba.pro.bono@gmail.com or 543-8343, ext. 220

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **MARCH LUNCHEON, 3/17:**
JUDGE LESLIE HALLIGAN
(INVITED), PERSPECTIVE
ON BEING A JUDGE
- **APRIL LUNCHEON AND**
EVIDENCE GRACE PERIOD
CLE, 4/21 12:00 P.M. —
5:00 P.M.

Announcements, questions, advertising inquiries:

De Diem In Diem is published monthly by the Western Montana Bar Association. It is designed and edited by the WMBA Secretary, in conjunction with the WMBA Board. For announcements, questions and advertising inquiries, contact Beth Hayes, at secretary@westernmtbar.com. The WMBA is not responsible for the content of any announcement or advertisement. The WMBA does not support or oppose any candidate for public office or public official. For advertisements and announcements, please provide at least one week advanced notice. Thank you.



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