

# CHAIRMAN'S *Report*

by Belinda T. Pruitt, CLAS



Vacation time is in full swing and I want to share a story with you. My entire family (my husband, son and daughter-in-law, Dad, Mom, my sisters and their husbands) went to

Long Beach in June. This is an annual trip and we carry enough food to feed an army and books for everyone to read!! As you are aware, the rest of the state was hot and dry and there were terrible forest fires out west. Guess what happened at Long Beach? It rained. I don't mean just a little rain, but buckets of rain. The roads flooded, the sewage in the house backed up and everything was damp or completely wet! When we prepared to leave on Sunday, however, the sun came out beautifully. (Doesn't that just figure??)

You know, this brings to mind another trip I took last year with my husband and my son and his wife. We gave them a ski trip to Boone for Christmas. When we arrived in Boone (this was the end of January) it was raining. By morning the temperature was a little above 60 degrees and the rain was pouring. We could not believe it!! This went on for two days. The last two days we were there the temperature fell to 13 degrees and it started snowing. The ski lodge folks started making snow and my son and his wife finally were able to ski.

So goes the story of my time off. There is a reason for my rambling however. There are lots of things in life that we have no control over and the weather is one of them.

However, even when strange things happen (like on vacations) we can make the best of what we are dealt. This is true of our daily work as paralegals. I have seen some tough days when it is hard to see anything good coming out of what we are doing, but we strive on to be the best that we can be. In the last few months as Chairman of the Board, I have watched some incredible people at work. Your President, Terry Irvin, CLA, must have a brain that works 24 hours a day. She is on top of most everything. If she does not understand or know something, just give her a little time and she will research until she does! Sharon L. Wall, CLAS, is just as amazing. I watched her speak eloquently before the Ad Hoc Committee on Real Estate Closings with the State Bar. I was SO very proud of her and the way NCPA was represented. We should be proud to be given the opportunity to state an opinion on this issue and to have such a powerful voice to do it for us. Anita Wing has been working with her Committee Chairs on what looks to be a tremendous program for the Mid Year Seminar in September. There have been several emails where the speakers have canceled and even though Anita is in a spot, she is able to retain her sense of humor. Michelle Gauffreau has tirelessly worked on the directory the last few weeks struggling to meet deadlines. She has poured herself into making this a valuable tool for NCPA. Mary Haggerty, CLA, has been cranking out the work from Charlotte and is always willing to help us while at the same time looking for ways to save NCPA money! There are more and more folks who work so hard to make a difference. You should be proud of all those who work behind the scenes to make NCPA a success!



## *Calendar* OF EVENTS

### September 13-14, 2002

NCPA Mid-Year Seminar  
and CLA Review Course  
Asheville, NC

### September 21, 2002

District IV Meet & Greet  
Burlington

### October 19, 2002

District I Meet & Greet  
Jacksonville

### November 2, 2002

NCPA EC/Board Meeting  
Raleigh

### November 16, 2002

District V Meet & Greet  
Charlotte

### January 11, 2003

NCPA EC/Board Meeting  
Burlington

### March 20-22, 2003

NCPA's 23rd Annual Meeting & Seminar  
Wrightsville Beach, NC

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