

Scribae Legis

A Publication of NALS of Jackson County

July 2015

2015-2016 Officers

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A message from Marion, the NALS of Jackson County President and Editor.....

It was a great 4th of July weekend but now the cold has hit again. I hope summer weather comes back as I enjoy being out on the lake. Hope everyone has a great summer. No meeting or publication in August.

I have included an article from the NALS Docket that I found very informative. I hope you enjoy it.

Marion R. Stone, PP, PLS

JULY BIRTHDAYS Marion Stone, July 12 Coletta Crews, July 15



Minutes of the June 16 Meeting

OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NALS OF JACKSON COUNTY

The monthly meeting of NALS of Jackson County was held Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at the Food Pantry on Wilkins Street, Jackson, MI. President, Marion R. Stone, PP PLS, called the meeting to order.

Jennifer Meade, CER, Recording Secretary, took the roll call of all members present. There were nine members, including new member Kelsee Bearinger and Mary Steinmetz from the Legal News as our guest.

VICE PRESIDENT: Christine Kloack - No report.

TREASURER: LeeAnna Kloack, PLS - The financial report for May was distributed for review. There were no corrections to the report. It is filed subject to review. No invoices were presented for payment. The proposed budget was reviewed. A motion was made by LeeAnna Kloack, PLS to approve the budget, seconded by Julie Wartella. The budget was approved.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Jennifer Meade, CER - The minutes of the May meeting were published. There were no additions or corrections. The minutes were approved as published.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Cierra Sowle - Report e-mailed to members.

DIRECTOR: Erin Carr, PP, PLS - The director's report from the June 13th Meeting will be sent out by e-mail and published.

NALS OF JACKSON

Committees:

Finance - Jennifer Meade / Cierra Sowle: - nothing discussed at this time.

Program/Reservation - Robyn Winneroski: next meeting is 7/21/15 at noon, Concord Chief of Police and his canine
DIRECT EXAMINATION.

Website - Mary Jo Skojec: nothing discussed at this time.

Newsletter - Marion Stone: deadline the 1st of the month.

Sunshine Raffle - Tickets are \$1.00 each.

NEW BUSINESS

A donation to the Food Pantry by NALS of Jackson County -- \$25.00

NALS OF MICHIGAN

We will ask NALS of Michigan officer Vice President Diane Berry to attend our September meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NALS of Jackson County Board Meeting - July 8, 2015 at noon, Courthouse

NALS of Jackson County - July 21, noon, Courthouse

NALS of Michigan - September 19, 2015 - Lansing, MI

NALS of 64rd Annual Education Conference, October 8-10, Las Vegas, Nevada

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Meade, CER

2014-2015 Committees

<i>Finance</i>	Jennifer Meade and Cierra Sowle
<i>Raffles</i>	Patti Clark
<i>Program & Reservations</i>	Robyn Winneroski, Eva Paluck, Julie Wartella
<i>Publication</i>	Marion Stone
<i>Scholarship</i>	Janette Carras
<i>Christmas Basket</i>	LeeAnna Kloack
<i>Nominations</i>	Mary Jo Skojec
<i>Public Relations</i>	Nancy Sunday
<i>Law Day</i>	Christine Kloack
<i>Court Observance</i>	Jodi Snyder
<i>Web Site</i>	Mary Jo Skojec

GRAMMAR NUGGETS

By Kathy Sieckman, PP, PLS-SC, ACP

Plurals, Possessives, and Surnames Oh My!

Continuing with an article that appeared in last month's *the NALS docket*, we will talk specifically about using apostrophes with surnames (a person's last name).

The first rule—the most important thing to remember when working with surnames—is DO NOT EVER change a person's name. You cannot add an apostrophe before an "s" when the surname ends in "s." For instance, do not make the name "Andrews" possessive by putting the apostrophe between the "w" and the "s" (Andrew's). That is changing the spelling of "Andrews." A person's name is the most personal thing they have. Do not mess that up! Here are some tips for making surnames plural and possessive.

To make most surnames plural, add an "s."

- The Smiths went to the Halloween party dressed as dice.

That means more than one Smith went to the party. Where the surname ends in *s*, *x*, *ch*, *sh*, or *z*, add *es* to make the name plural.

- The Lopezes have been married for 50 years.

However, if adding *es* makes the name hard to pronounce, just use the *s*.

- The Hastings went to the park for a picnic. (In this case *Hastingses* would be difficult to pronounce, so *Hastings* is better.)

When it comes to showing possession, to make most surnames possessive, simply add an apostrophe and an "s."

- Mr. Smith's car was repossessed.

For showing family possession with surnames that are plural and possessive, make the name plural first by adding an "s" and then add an apostrophe to make them possessive.

- The Smiths' car was parked illegally. (The car belonged to Mr. and Mrs. Smith.)

Where surnames end in "s," to make them possessive, pronounce the word. If you say the extra "s," add apostrophe and "s."

- Shirley Jones's son flunked algebra.

You would pronounce it "Joneses," so you add the apostrophe and "s." Where the surname ends in "s" and making it plural adds an extra syllable that makes it awkward to pronounce, add only the apostrophe.

- Mr. Andrews' house was broken into.

It is difficult to pronounce it "Andrewses," so you only add the apostrophe. Where you are talking about a surname that ends in "s" and you want it plural and possessive,

make it plural first and then follow the rules on making it possessive.

- The Joneses' house was for sale.

You make *Jones* plural by adding "es" because it ends in "s," but adding apostrophe and "s" after that would make it difficult to pronounce (*Joneseses*) so you just add the apostrophe.

Again, the main thing to remember is not to change the basic spelling of a person's name. Start with their name spelled correctly and then figure out how to make it plural and/or possessive.

Do not upset a person by misspelling their most precious possession—their name. Possessives and plurals are not difficult if you think about the base word you are trying to change and work from there.

Kathy Sieckman, PP, PLS-SC, ACP, has been a member of NALS for over 25 years and is currently serving as Co-Chair of the 2015 Las Vegas Conference Task Force. Kathy has a blog on proofreading tips at <http://proofthatblog.com>. If you have specific grammar issues you would like covered in future issues, please send them to Kathy at proofthatblog@gmail.com.

**JACKSON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
AND
NALS OF JACKSON COUNTY**

**ONGOING BOOK DRIVE
SHARE WITH CO-WORKERS, FRIENDS AND
FAMILY**

**WE ARE COLLECTING NEW AND USED
PAPERBACK BOOKS TO DONATE TO
THE JACKSON COUNTY JAIL LIBRARY.
DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO JUDGE
MAZUR OR JENNIFER MEADE.
WE WILL TAKE CARE OF GETTING THEM
OVER TO THE JAIL.**



NALS OF JACKSON COUNTY

**MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2015
12 NOON**

**Judge Rappleye's Jury Room
4th Floor
312 South Jackson Street
Jackson, MI 49201**

**LUNCH: Coneys, chips, pop, and
dessert -- \$5.00**

**PROGRAM:
Donald Munster, Chief of Police,
and Dax
Concord Township Police
Department**



**FOR RESERVATIONS CALL:
Robyn Winneroski (517) 788-6290
Or email robyn.girodatmariefeldlaw@comcast.net
(Permanent reservation members-
Please call if you are unable to attend)**