



## Paralegal Section Creates Scholarship Fund

*By Linda S. Jevahirian*

Against the stellar backdrop of Belle Isle, the misty skyline of Downtown Detroit, trickling water fountains, a magnificent collection of yachts, and the jazzy, vintage sounds of Brothers and Others, Paralegals of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association gathered at the Roostertail to launch a newly created Paralegal Scholarship.

'Dedication to Education' was not just an annual celebration. Funds from ticket sales and the many generous sponsors will be applied to the scholarship, expected to be awarded by the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Foundation in September 2006.

The focus on education has resulted in a special relationship between the Section and local paralegal schools and students. "Paralegal students are the next generation of law firm and corporation employees. Getting them acquainted with how the profession operates and providing the support they need to become profitable is a unique and rewarding challenge." Vanessa Lozzi is in the process of finishing her third consecutive term as chair of a multi-faceted, highly motivated Section.

Student representatives do a remarkable job of bringing new members into the organization. Dawn Malaga, President of the Baker College Paralegal Club, has found this to be a positive influence on her peers. "It is not easy to step out of the academic world and become immediately active in professional organizations. The students appreciate knowing that they are welcome, and that their association can impact their particular situation."

The DMBA has supported and fostered the growth of the Section from its inception, an element that cannot be overlooked when evaluating the tremendous strides that have been achieved. James Heimbuch, Chair of the Foundation Board of Representatives, and Lorraine Weber, Executive Director of the DMBA, addressed members with some positive comments about the leadership, follow through, and progress made by the Section.

Mostly, though, the Roostertail event was one of networking and making connections with people who make a difference. The Section is a landmark for Detroit Metropolitan Paralegals and their active participation enables the group to flourish. For additional information about the Section go to [www.detroitlawyer.org](http://www.detroitlawyer.org).

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