

Don't Blink or You'll Miss It

IT SEEMS LIKE JUST YESTERDAY

I walked my 8-year-old daughter into school for her first day of third grade. Now we are just a few weeks from finishing the school year and starting another exciting (and too short) summer vacation. People who have children in high school or college like to tell new parents to “cherish every moment” because in a blink, it is gone. I agree, particularly as I look at my 3-year-old and wonder how she got to be so big, seemingly overnight. I catch myself sometimes wanting to slow down the clock, knowing that my little one is our last and that these milestones that we are passing will not come again.

Of course, the flip side to that advice is that we cannot cherish every moment. As most parents would agree, there are definitely moments—tantrums, sleepless nights, fights—that we might want to forget.

A few weeks ago I finally gave up on an old stroller that had a broken wheel and threw it away. I cried as I dumped it into the barrel, so many memories flashing through my mind attached to both girls. I laughed at myself a bit as well, wondering what some of my friends or colleagues might think of me if they knew I was that sappy and sentimental. That stroller welcomed our first daughter, carried her through many visits to Disneyland, cruises in Europe and Mexico and daily life in our neighborhood. When her little sister arrived, the stroller was once again pressed into service for trips around Disneyland, the Caribbean and the neighborhood.

As I put it into the trash, I did not see the dirty grey fabric, stained with countless goldfish crackers or fruit gummies; I saw the toothy grins of little girls safely buckled in for a ride, or the sleeping faces of the girls crashed out after a long day. I did not see the years of dirt caked onto

the wheels, but remembered the dust and sand it had rolled through in several different parts of the world. With all of that in mind, I cried a bit as I said goodbye to their trusty steed and in a tiny way, said goodbye to another piece of their childhoods. I will say that for all of those memories, I have taken pictures (many featuring one of my girls sitting or sleeping in that stroller), and will have those to look back on. And as much as I can, I will try to keep my blinking to a minimum.

It also seems like just yesterday that I was sworn in as the President of the Santa Clarita Valley Bar. Here we are now more than halfway through my term and already almost halfway through 2014. Although I do not have a story to tell about throwing something out in relation to the Bar or sentimental memories like that, I thought that this half way point would be a good time to recap and also highlight some upcoming events.

In January, the SCVBA held our first event of the year at the Salt Creek Grille, hosting more than fifty of our members for a networking mixer sponsored by Scorpion Web Design. In February, we welcomed Professor Robert Barrett, who presented a CLE seminar titled “Avoiding


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Bar Complaints.” In March, Nicole Faudree, Chair of the Department of Paralegal Studies at College of the Canyons, spoke on the effective (and correct) use of paralegals and paralegal interns in the legal practice. Our April CLE event provided credit for substance abuse and was presented by Bob Sharits of Action Family Counseling. Last month, our members once again came together for a networking mixer. As always, it was a well-attended event.

This month, we welcome Judge Ann Jones, Supervising Judge of the North Valley District. The event will take place at the Tournament Players Club in Valencia at 6:00 p.m. on June 19. Please join us for a great dinner and one hour of CLE credit. Later this year, we will once again welcome an author of legal thriller novels to our annual Dinner with the Author (scheduled for September 18) and our Installation dinner on November 20 during which April Oliver will be sworn in as President.

Please visit our website at www.scvbar.org for information on those and other upcoming events. Contact info@scvbar.org for more information or to register for these great events. I look forward to seeing you! 

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