

Presidents Message  
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You hear a lot about all the policy work WILG does, but that is only a small part of your membership with WILG. WILG also works hard to build tangible benefits that will help you grow your practice. Here are just a few:

Earlier this month, WILG released its fully updated website at [www.wilg.org](http://www.wilg.org). It's now easier than ever to access all of the electronic content you need from WILG. Once you sign in, you can access members-only materials. Some of the great content includes all of WILG's amicus briefs, white papers on policy issues, constitutional challenge materials from around the country, email addresses for all your fellow members, practice specific forms and much more. One of my favorites is the listserv archive, which allows you to search through prior listserv discussions (it even includes state trial bar listservs if they use Trialsmith). Please take a look around.

One of WILG's goals is to provide resources helping workers' compensation attorneys manage their practices. WILG is working hard to build in practice management topics at each of our CLEs. Just this last weekend at the WILG Southeast Regional Conference in Atlanta, our CLE chairs helped arrange for topics on building a strong brand and computer security. Similar topics will be offered at next weekend's WILG Northwest Regional and the Longshore Conference the week after. However, we know that not everyone can travel to one of these events, so we are bringing the CLEs to your office. David Nomberg kicked off WILG's Practice Management Roundtable Webinars with a discussion on running an efficient law office and reducing overhead. These are hour long discussions on Practice Management topics, where attorneys around the country can share ideas and get inspired. WILG is in the process of scheduling topics on the paperless office and human resources for your law firm.

If your office is anything like mine, your staff is the most essential part of your practice. Over the last year and a half, WILG is reinvigorating its paralegal and legal staff section. For \$100 a year, you can have your legal staff join WILG. They have access to their own listserv where they discuss technology, find experts and share ideas. Once a quarter, WILG puts on a free telephone conference on a legal topic helpful to legal staff, where a WILG lawyer facilitates a conversation allowing paralegals and staff from around the country to share ideas and information. Each conference also includes written materials. Past teleconference topics include time management, labor market survey reviews and managing paper. By joining this section, your staff also gets reduced rates to attend WILG CLEs and receives a copy of Workers First Watch. You can get more information or have your staff join [WILG's Paralegal Section here](#). If you have ideas for other ways WILG can help your staff, please let me know at [amie@bluewaterlegal.com](mailto:amie@bluewaterlegal.com).

WILG also works hard to help connect workers' advocates and share ideas. WILG is active in social media, with busy accounts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Through these accounts, WILG shares articles about workers' compensation, information on CLE offers and other information connecting our members around the country. Please take a few minutes and 'like' or 'join' our online communities. On WILG's blog, we share member blog posts around the country. To have your blog post featured by WILG please email a link to [kaleigh@wilg.org](mailto:kaleigh@wilg.org). And of course, WILG offers CLEs with great networking opportunities. Over the next two months, we have the [Northwest Regional Conference](#) (March 8-10 in Whitefish), the [Annual Longshore Conference](#) (March 16-17 in New Orleans, LA) and the [Constitutional Summit Conference and Lobby Day](#) (April 17 & 18 in Washington DC). Please be a part of WILG's connections and join your fellow members at a live event or even online.

WILG has just completed a firm survey, where we spoke with workers' compensation firms around the country about what benefits they need to help their firms run more efficient and effectively. In the coming months, we'll be using this survey and other member ideas to keep expanding member benefits. For example, WILG members asked for an economical option for providing health benefits to our employees. As a result, WILG is working with one of our affinity partners, Ametros, to help our members negotiate lower medical costs for member firms and their staff. We'll be rolling out more details on this benefit soon. If you have other ideas, please let Executive Director Jennifer Comer know at [jennifer@wilg.org](mailto:jennifer@wilg.org).

Please take a moment to pass this e-newsletter on to a fellow workers' compensation attorney who is not yet a member. WILG is only as strong as its members. Thank you for being part of an amazing group of advocates standing up for workers' rights.