**Suzanne H. Beatty, PP,PLS**

**Houston Association of Legal Professionals**

**Incoming President Speech Information**

**THEME:** “Unleash Your Extraordinary Potential!” “Why Be a Stone When You Can Be a Gem”

**PERSONAL HISTORY:** I moved to Houston, Texas in the late 70s and worked as a medical transcriptionist at Texas Childrens/Texas Heart Institute/ St. Lukes Hospital the working night shift. I was given a job opportunity working for a lawyer who said he would train me. I did not quit my night job but accepted my first position as a legal secretary and believing that I would get training. I received very little training and didn’t know the difference between Default Judgment, Interlocutory Judgment or Summary Judgment when I opened the mail. I took my chances and asked a secretary on the other side of one of our case what they meant. Her name was Margie Wright, who was an officer for Greater Houston Association of Legal Secretaries now known as HALP. She saved my life. She instructed me to enroll in the Certification Program so I did immediately. I received my certification which opened the door to start my new career. Through the certification process, I was given the foundation and basis upon which to grow as a legal professional. I have been a floater at large law firms having the knowledge to function as a secretary in most areas of law. I have held legal secretarial positions in corporate, bankruptcy, insurance defense, litigation, medical malpractice, employment and personal injury . As I grew to be a very experienced legal secretary, my passion also grew for litigation. My love for litigation landed me in positions with a couple of “Super Lawyers” and as a paralegal on the trial team for several high profile cases.

HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I would like to incorporate my theme and hopefully you can make me sound like a GEM!

I am also forwarding you a copy of the back of our CLE program so you can read about our organization and know the audience.

 I NEED A GREAT ATTENTION GRABING OPEN, THANK YOU TO PAST OFFICERS, HISTORY AND GREAT CONCLUSION. SHOULD THERE BE MORE THAT I NEED, PLEASE DO IT. I WOULD LIKE TO INSPIRE OUR GROUP TO WANT TO GET INVOLVED OR INSPIRE THEM ON A PERSONAL NOTE TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.