



The Gavel



Newsletter of the Lycoming County Paralegal Association

2015 Officers and Board of Directors

President – Nicole Oeler – noeler@dingeswaltz.com

Vice President – Rebecca Hovenstine – rhovenstine@dingeswaltz.com

Treasurer – Rachael Lepley Joy – rachaelj@lepleylaw.com

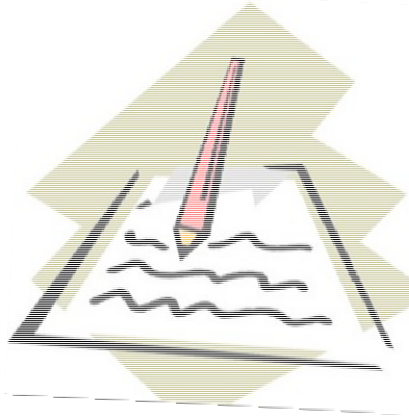
**Secretary – Shelby Weber – sweber@paelderlaw.com or
shelby699@comcast.net**

Director – Pam Toseki – ptoseki@comcast.net

Director – Sue Jones – sajones4@comcast.net

Director – Stephanie Tempesco – stephanie@maleelawfirm.com

The purpose of the LCPA is to promote the paralegal profession and encourage interaction with the local attorneys and other paralegals.



**HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION YET? IT'S DUE NOW! IF YOU NEED AN APPLICATION, CONTACT REBECCA AT:
rhovenstine@dingeswaltz.com**

2014 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Many members of the LCPA are animal lovers! Members voted and chose to make monetary donations, as well as donations in kind, to the Lycoming County SPCA last December. The LCPA made a monetary donation in the amount of \$550 and also donated items such as: bleach, laundry detergent, treats, dog and cat food, and cat litter. To become involved in the 2015 Community Service Project, please contact any of our board members.



A Special Thanks to All Who Donated:

**Professor Kevin Derr
Sue Jones
Michele Frey
Pam Toseki
Kiley Myers
Nicole Oeler**

**Shelby Weber
Sarah Heintzelman
Rachael Lepley Joy
Rebecca Hovenstine
Kathy Rooker (Rebecca Hovenstine's mother)**

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Director, Emeritus
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December 8, 2014

Lycoming County Paralegal Assoc.
C/O Michelle Stone
140 East Third Street
Williamsport, PA 17701

Dear Michelle:

Thank you for your generous donation of \$500.00, dog food, cat litter, bleach, and treats. It is because of donors like you that we are able to provide services to homeless, abandoned, sick, injured, or mistreated animals. Only thirteen to fourteen percent of our income is raised through fee for services. The remainder is raised through donations, fundraising efforts, grants, and bequests.

We are mindful of our mission to protect all domestic animals by: providing shelter, emergency treatment, investigation, and prosecution of cruelty or abuse complaints; adoption and counseling; education programs; and humane care throughout Lycoming County. With our mission in mind, we are happy to report that we have increased adoptions and spaying or neutering, decreased euthanasia, and continued to investigate every call we receive alleging cruelty. We look forward to ending the year on a positive note with improvements in every part of our work.

As we strive to continuously improve our services, we know that we could not do this without your generous donations. Please accept our gratitude for having you as a supporter of our mission.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures are shown. The first is a cursive signature, likely Victoria Stryker, and the second is a cursive signature, likely Mindee Lyon.

Victoria Stryker
Executive Director

Mindee Lyon
Development Director

The official registration and financial information for the Lycoming County SPCA may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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Phone: 570-322-4646 • Fax: 570-322-6886
Email: lycospca@lycomingspca.org
www.lycomingspca.org

NEW MEMBER

The LCPA extends a warm welcome to Jennifer West! Jennifer West is currently the paralegal at Susquehanna Law Group, has recently been promoted to office manager, and is also a notary. Jenn has been with Susquehanna Law Group for 3 years. Jenn is also actively involved with the CASA program where she has been a CASA volunteer since 2009. Jenn also enjoys singing in her church choir, spending time with her 3 kids and hockey. GO FLYERS!



**Next meeting will be held on April 9, 2015 at 12:00 at Tower Café.
All members are invited to come!
Meetings are usually held the 2nd Thursday of each month.**



MEETING

2015 PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

In January, February, and March, high school students statewide participated in the Mock Trial Competition at the Federal Courthouse in Williamsport. This year the trials were criminal cases; last year they were civil cases. The students are required to follow the Rules of Conduct and Rules of Evidence. The trial is held before an actual judge and the students conduct themselves just like real attorneys in the courtroom. Many of the students' presentations this year were very impressive.



The trials usually last 2-3 hours. Jurors are asked to score the students and choose the winning team. Local attorneys, paralegals, and paralegal students are needed to serve as mock jurors for these competitions. Please consider volunteering to serve as a juror for the 2016 Mock Trial Competition.



Recent CLE Events:

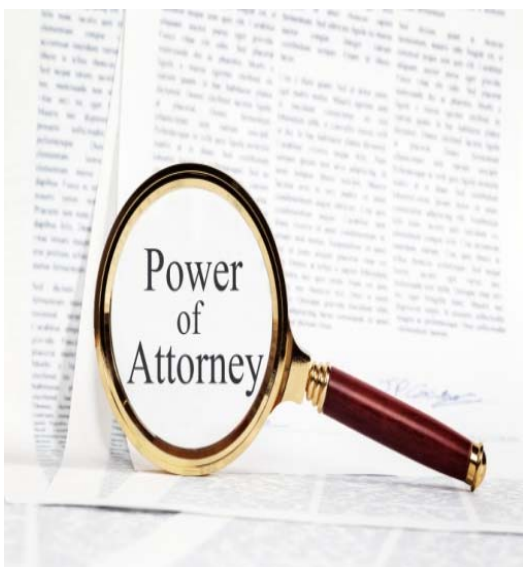
Thank you for hosting a Lunch & Learn!



On January 27th, Judge Nancy Butts and First Assistant Public Defender, Nicole Spring hosted a Lunch and Learn event about Treatment Court, with an emphasis on ethical issues that often arise.

Treatment Court Applications can be obtained from Judge Butts' office or from any of the MDJ's offices.

Judge Butts and Nicole Spring invite anyone who is interested in learning more about this topic to sit in and observe during Treatment Court, which is currently held on Wednesdays.



On March 18th, Attorney Elizabeth White hosted a Lunch and Learn event about the Act 95 Changes to a Financial Power of Attorney. These changes were enacted in order to protect people from abuse and to protect 3rd parties from liability.

Attorney White provided information regarding questions to ask the principal before drafting a POA, the changes in execution requirements, form changes, duties of the agent, "Hot Powers" which must be expressly granted, waiver of duties, and more.



Watch your email for announcements regarding the 2015 Lunch and Learn schedule. Remind the lawyers that you know that the LCPA offers 2 free CLE credits to the attorneys that host our Lunch and Learn events.

Volunteers Needed for LYCOMING COUNTY LAW DAY!



Volunteers are needed to come to the Lycoming Law Association on April 8th at 12:00 to judge the students' projects for LAW DAY.

The reception to honor the winners will be held on May 1st at 4:00 in Courtroom #1 at the Lycoming County Courthouse. The LCPA sponsors this reception. Volunteers are needed to serve soda, pizza, and cake. Anyone willing to help out should contact Nicole or Rebecca at (570) 279-4763.

Please consider joining a committee when you renew your membership!



Committees: Membership, NFPA, Continuing Education, Job Bank, Service Project, Finance, Newsletter.

The LCPA has a facebook page!

Please “like us” on Facebook and you will receive updates on the LCPA lunch and learn schedule as well as membership news and events.



The 2015 editor of *The Gavel* is Rebecca Hovenstine. Please submit any articles or contributions to Rebecca at rhovenstine@dingeswartz.com