

LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION
President's Report
2024

It was an honor to serve as the LLA President in 2024. Thank you to the members for your continued commitment to the association and the community at large. It is the members of the LLA that make this organization successful. Thank you all for another great year of the LLA. The accomplishments of the LLA this past year are in large part due to the work of the entire leadership team. Thank you to each member of the executive committee for the work you put in this year. I also want to acknowledge all for the hard work and dedication of Michele Frey, our executive director. She, without doubt, makes serving as the President of this organization a seamless and stress-free job. Now that my presidency has ended, I look forward to continuing as a member of the LLA for the remainder of my career.

I would like to point out several of the highlights from 2024:

January 2024

The annual banquet was held at the Carriage House and catered by Chef Housh and Ann Catering. There was record attendance at the event by members as well as all sitting members of the Common Pleas judiciary along with retired Judges, members of the Federal Bench and Magistrate Judges. Liz White was recognized as Past-President at the banquet. I had the privilege of presenting the LLA Community Service Award to the Lycoming County Sheriff's Office. Retired Judge Ken Brown was honored with the 50-year membership award, which was presented by Judge Dudley Anderson. The Thomas Wood Equal Access to the Law Awards were presented by John Pietrovito, Jennifer Heverly and David Trevaskis (PBA Pro Bono Coordinator) with Lisa Glick receiving the award. The Fair Share Award recipients were announced. The LLA donated \$500 to Susquehanna Valley CASA in honor of the Fair Share Award winners. Stephen Keener, President and CEO of Little League Baseball, Incorporated was the Keynote Speaker at the event.

February 2024

In February the executive committee met for its annual retreat hosted at Little League. Discussions centered around how to increase involvement of members in activities of the LLA, and looking forward to how to maintain income streams for the LLA.

March 2024

The Wills for Heros event was held and was a huge success. About 70 estate plans were completed. Michele Frey and Jeanna Longo attended a productive and informative Conference of the County Bar Leaders in Gettysburg. Judge Gardner's portrait was unveiled at the LLA Office and hung in the courthouse.

April 2024

The PBA President Michael McDonald hosted a Zone 4 President dinner which I attended along with other Presidents from Zone 4. We discussed issues facing local bar associations.

May 2024

I had the privilege of attending the PBA House of Delegates meeting in Hershey, which allowed me to meet bar leaders and bar executives from around the state and share the ideas, challenges, and accomplishments of our respective associations. Charles (Skip) Greevy, III attended his last meeting as a house of delegates representative. A position he has held since 2008. There was another successful Project Linus blanket drive sponsored by the Young Lawyers. Numerous blankets were collected and earmarked to benefit Lycoming County Children and Youth Services and local children in the Susquehanna Valley CASA program. Law Day 2024 was celebrated on May 17, 2023, with winners in the art and essay categories from local middle and high schools. Attendees were rewarded with a diverse presentation from the art entry winners, including live music. A reception followed at the Old Corner.

June 2024

The annual picnic was held on the outdoor patio at the James restaurant. There was great food, great weather and great conversation. Approximately 45 members attended. Two awards that were not presented at the annual dinner, due to the recipients being unable to attend, were presented at the picnic. I had the honor as President of awarding the William Nichols Public Service Award to Robin Read. Robin selected the LLA Foundation to receive the \$1000 charitable donation that accompanies the Nichols Award. Michael Collins was honored with the 50-year membership award which was presented by Judge Dudley Anderson. Three members were trained as Wills for Hero Coordinators - Nicole Ippolito, Landon Hodges and Jon DeWald. Another Yoga in Park was held under the instruction of member Matt Welickovitch.

July 2024

Adrian Lee attended the PBA/YLD Summer Summit and provided a report to the membership.

August 2024

The Law Association created its first pin celebrating Little League. An outing to a Little League World Series game occurred. Those attending received a LLA pin and were treated to a visit from Dugout during the Little League game.

October 2024

The second annual Katherine Smith Carpenter Luncheon was held at the James Restaurant. Several past women LLA Presidents gathered for lunch to celebrate the role of women in the LLA's history, in the profession at-large, and community. The event is named after the first woman president of the association, Katherine Smith Carpenter, who served in 1958. In October the LLA sponsored a free pumpkin to its members at Carpenter's Pumpkin Farm.

November 2024

November kicked off the annual Angel Tree Toy Drive to benefit the Salvation Army and Susquehanna CASA. This event, that continued through mid-December, was successful as always in providing holiday gifts to children in need in our community

December 2024

To close out the year 4 new lawyers were sworn-in at the new attorney admission ceremony: Giovanna Daniele, Kallie Vento, Lauren Appolonia and David Sterngold.

Additional Highlights

Sadly, the association mourned the loss of 4 of its members this year: Robert Wise, Craig Harris, Henry Hager and Robert Ferrell. The LLA donated \$100 to the LLAF in honor of each deceased member.

The LLA faced a copyright infringement claim arising out of a CLE presentation that was published on the LLA website. The issue was resolved and as a result the LLA no longer publishes presentations on the website and created a DMCA Designated Agent Registration Account to help address any future allegations against the LLA.

Throughout the year, the LLA continued to offer high-quality CLES, with 22 live programs being offered. Particularly popular was the CLE regarding AI.

The executive committee has proposed changes to the bylaws regarding non licensed law clerk membership in the association as well as the duties of the Treasurer. The proposed changes have been submitted to the membership and will be voted on at the 2025 Annual meeting.

The Louise Larzelere Chatham Award was created commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the first female attorney in Lycoming County. The award will be presented to a female member of the LLA in 2025.

In closing, I would like to thank the chairs of the committees, the members of the Executive Committee, and importantly our Executive Director, Michele Frey, for making the success of this year possible.

Sincerely,



Joy Reynolds McCoy, Esquire
2024 LLA President