

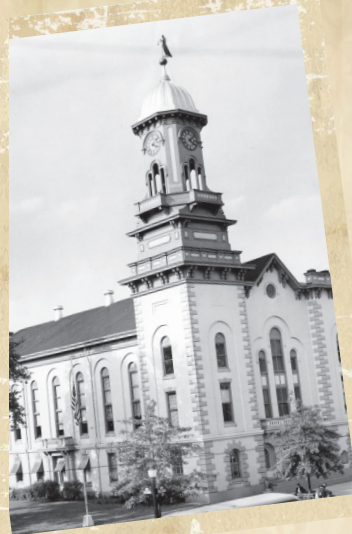
THE LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION:

# *Celebrating 150 Years*



**LYCOMING**  
LAW ASSOCIATION









*The Lycoming Law  
Association:  
Celebrating 150 Years*



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*The Lycoming Law Association thanks and acknowledges The Taber Museum and The Williamsport Sun Gazette for furnishing some of the content contained in this publication.*

*Printed by: Clare Printing, [clareprint.com](http://clareprint.com)*

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*ISBN: 978-1-7923-5730-5*





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*Penn Tower, built in 1913, houses the Lycoming Law Association*







*“May the hardships endured by some of our brethren in their efforts to become lawyers serve as an inspiration to those others who may aspire to our calling. Remember always that the law is a jealous mistress and demands undivided attention and loyalty.”*

***“Historical Sketches of the Bench and Bar of  
Lycoming County, 1795-1960”***

***Marshall R. Anspach,  
February, 1961***



# INTRODUCTION

*The Lycoming Law Association (LLA) is proud to celebrate its 150th anniversary. On December 1, 1869, lawyers practicing in Lycoming County petitioned the Court to incorporate the LLA. The petition was granted on January 25, 1870 by Judge Gamble, the first elected judge of the 29th Judicial District. Currently, the LLA is going strong, serving more than 200 lawyers.*

*Through the years, the LLA members have extended themselves beyond the profession and facilitated many positive changes in the community, offering their time and skills to a multitude of religious and charitable pursuits.*

*Our early members – both judges and lawyers – were instrumental in the development of Lycoming County. Our departed members established a tradition of professional excellence that was as equally important as community service. Our current members carry forward this commitment to the legal profession and to the public.*





*With this book, we remember our past, we celebrate our achievements,  
and we encourage those who will write the next chapter of LLA history.*

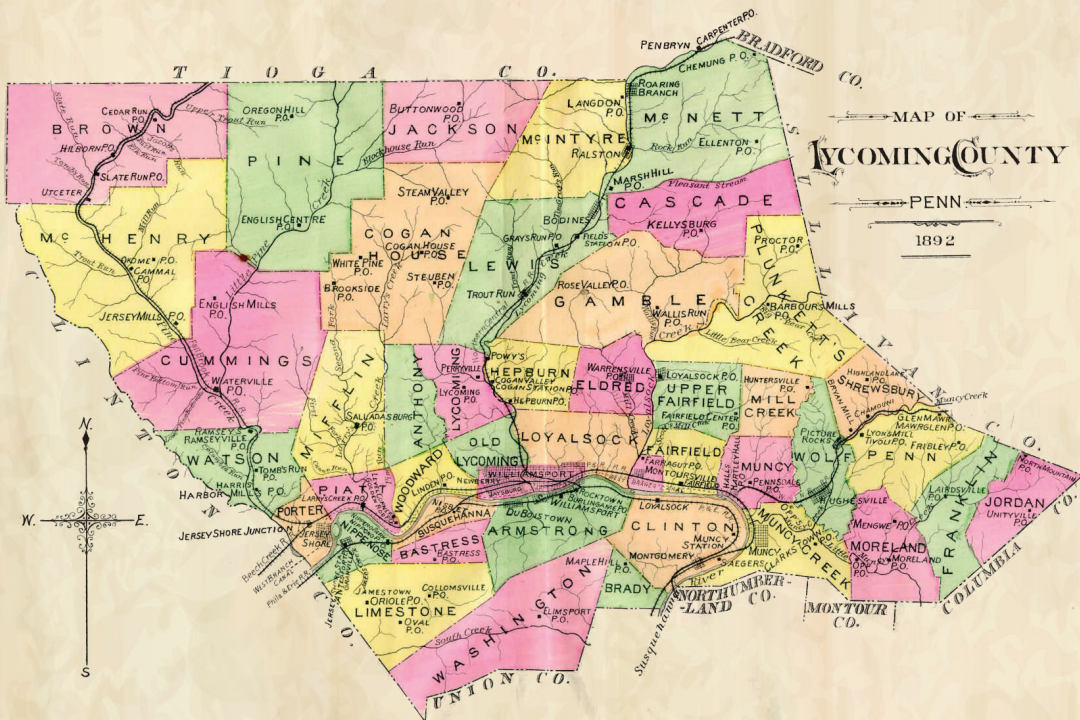
## The LLA Bar History Committee

*Charles F. Greevy, III, Chair  
Warren R. Baldys, Jr.  
Patricia L. Bowman  
William P. Carlucci  
Robert Cronin  
Robert B. Elion  
Jennifer L. Heverly*

*Paul A. Roman  
J. David Smith  
Tammy L. Taylor  
Ryan M. Tira  
Kevin H. Way  
Gary L. Weber  
Michele S. Frey, LLA Executive Director*











## *Lycoming County*

*Lycoming County was founded on April 13, 1795. It is the largest county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, covering roughly 1228 square miles, a size that is larger than the state of Rhode Island. The county was formed from a part of Northumberland County and was named for the creek running through the area. Lycoming is an Indian word that means sandy or gravelly creek.*

*The west branch of the Susquehanna River runs through Lycoming County and its name comes from the Susquehannock Indians who lived nearby. In their native language, Susquehannock means “from the smooth flowing stream.”*



After the county was created, the Governor appointed Commissioners to select a site for the county seat. Many people were in favor of Jaysburg, the land west of Lycoming Creek (in present day Newberry) where many temporary county offices were located. William Hepburn, a state senator who was appointed as the president judge of the new county, preferred to have the county seat east of Lycoming Creek, where he owned land. He joined forces with Michael Ross, who was contemplating laying out a town with land he owned in what is now the central part of Williamsport. Hepburn convinced Ross to offer the commissioners lots for county buildings. He did so – 2 lots for the courthouse and 2 lots for the jail – and Williamsport became the county seat.





*The lumber industry played an important part in the development of Williamsport and Lycoming County. At one time, Lycoming County was covered with white pine and hemlock trees.*



*In 1838, the first sawmill began operating in Williamsport. In 1849, construction of the Susquehanna Boom began. The Boom was a corral for holding the floating logs and later moving them down the river. Prior to becoming a judge in Lycoming County, Harvey W. Whitehead worked in the woods, in the sawmills, and on the Boom.*

*The owners of the larger sawmills were called lumber barons and some of them became wealthy. At one point during the late 1800s, when Williamsport was the lumber capital of the world, the city had more millionaires per capita than any other city in the United States. The millionaires built extravagant homes in Williamsport, many on West Fourth Street from the 400 block to the 1100 block, now known as Millionaires Row. One lumber baron, Peter Herdic, was responsible for building several of the structures on West Fourth Street, including the grand Herdic Hotel. The high percentage of millionaires in Williamsport during this timeframe inspired the school to select “millionaires” as its mascot.*



*Herdic, who later became the mayor of Williamsport from 1869 to 1870, was also responsible for persuading the Pennsylvania legislature to set Lycoming County apart as a separate judicial district.*

*At the time Lycoming County was created in 1795, it became part of the third judicial district. In 1806, the state was divided into new judicial districts and Lycoming was in the eighth district, along with Northumberland and Luzerne. It was not until February 28, 1868, that Lycoming County became a separate judicial district, known as the twenty-ninth judicial district.*



***The seal of Lycoming County, located on the front of the courthouse.***







Lycoming County is also the birthplace of Little League baseball. Carl Stotz founded Little League in 1939. Further west on Fourth Street from Millionaire's Row is the site of the first Little League game. Many members of the LLA enjoyed playing Little League as children and some continue to be involved in Little League as coaches.

In 2014, a "Bases Loaded" monument, celebrating the 75th anniversary of Little League Baseball, was dedicated in Market Square in Williamsport. Bill Nichols, 1988 LLA President, sponsored the batter, who represents the present and future. The McNerney Page Vanderlin & Hall law firm sponsored the manager statue, depicting Little League founder Carl E. Stotz sitting on a bench.









## ***The Courthouses of Lycoming County***

*“I congratulate you, the members of the bar, the officers of this court, and all who have business to transact in court, in the pleasant change from a small, inconvenient, unhealthy courtroom, to a permanent, beautiful and convenient building; a building alike creditable to the citizens of Lycoming County, to the gentlemen who projected it, to the architect who planned it, the commissioners who contracted for it, and the mechanics who faithfully labored in its construction and completion.”*

***Spoken by Judge Alexander Jordan during the first court session in March of 1861 held in the newly erected courthouse.***





## *The Russell Inn*

*Prior to the erection of a permanent courthouse on West Third Street in Williamsport, court was held in several temporary locations. The first sessions of court were believed to have been held in Jaysburg, a section of present day Newberry. Later, court proceedings were moved to a barn or a house owned by Eleanor Winter, most likely located at the corner of Fourth and Rose Streets. From 1797 to 1799, court was held at the Russell Inn, a double log house at the corner of East Third and Mulberry Streets. Court was also held at the Rising Sun Inn, which was located on East Third Street. Eventually the court moved to a log building near its present location.*







The first actual courthouse was built on East Third Street beginning in 1801 and was completed and in use by 1804.

### ***1804 - 1860***

*The first courthouse was patterned after the courthouse that existed in Dauphin County. When the court outgrew this facility, plans were made to construct an addition, but it was determined that a whole new building was necessary.*



**1861 - 1969**

*In March, 1861, the  
second courthouse was  
ready for occupancy.*



Construction of a new courthouse began in 1860.





*The sycamore trees, which can be seen on the west side of the courthouse, are still present today and are well over one hundred years old.*



An addition was added to the courthouse in 1903.



The second courthouse had a grand courtroom on the second floor.



*The courthouse built in 1860 was demolished in 1969, and the current courthouse was erected on the same site.*





*This May 1969 photo is from the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the current courthouse. More than 500 people were in attendance for the event. The featured speaker was Judge Charles F. Greevy, Jr. (at the podium). Also in attendance were Judge Thomas Wood (second from left) and Assemblyman and LLA President, Robert C. Wise (third from left). In front of the podium is a special three handled shovel that was used for the groundbreaking by the commissioners who were seated to the right of the podium.*



*While the courthouse was under construction, court was held in the post office building on West Fourth Street, which also housed the federal court and later became city hall. On January 11, 1971, the LLA held its annual meeting in the post office building.*



*In 1804, the Lycoming County commissioners spent \$444 on a bronze bell and a weathervane depicting Lady Justice and her scales. These items were purchased in Harrisburg and a local man traveled in a wagon with a team of horses to pick them up and deliver them to the courthouse. Because the first bell was entirely too small, it was returned. A second bell was obtained in Philadelphia. It is inscribed "George Hedderly made me in Philadelphia, Anno. D1. 1804"*



*On top of the second courthouse, a tower was built to house the bell and the weathervane.*





*Today, the weathervane is preserved on the Pine Street side of the present courthouse.*



*A special tower was constructed to preserve the bell, which now hangs beneath the courthouse clock.*

*A statue stood high above the bench in the main courtroom of the second courthouse from 1860 to 1969.*







*The figure seated on the left was broken as it was being moved prior to the demolition of the building. A Williamsport Area High School art instructor, Robert H. Schuler, reconstructed the figure and restored the statue.*



*The statue has been preserved and is now located in the current courthouse, on the second floor between two courtrooms and adjacent to the elevator so that all those who enter the floor can view it. The figures symbolize, from left to right, the petitioner, justice, and justice's verdict.*

*The original prison was built between 1799 and 1801 at the corner of West Third and William Streets. In 1867 it was damaged by fire and a new prison was constructed.*







*In 1980, Judges Greevy and Raup appointed a committee to study the need for a new county prison.*

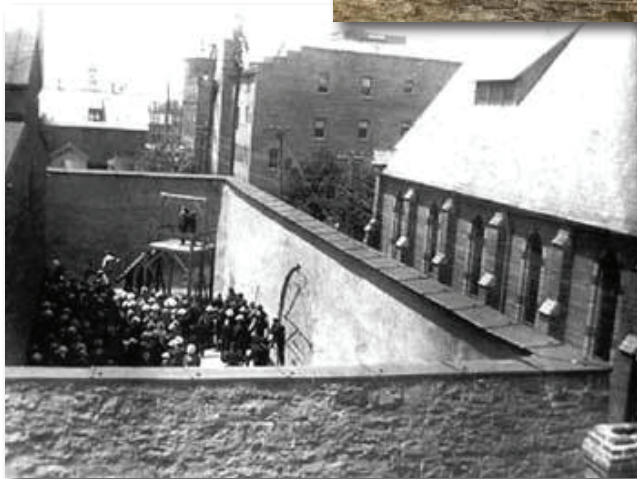
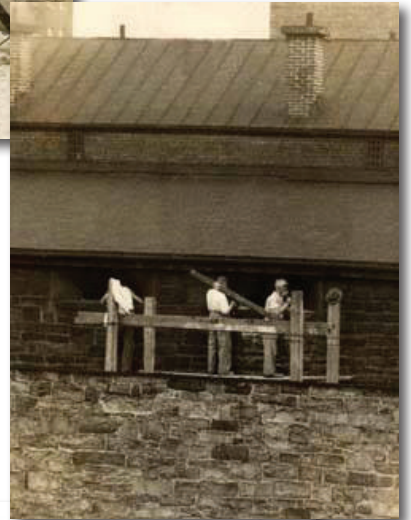
*In 1982 the county commissioners approved the construction of a new prison on the corner of West Third and Hepburn Streets. The doors opened January 19, 1986.*



*In the early 1800s, gallows were built in the courtyard at the prison.*

*From 1836 to 1914, 10 men and 1 woman were put to death by hanging in Lycoming County.*

*The first hanging occurred on May 24, 1836 and was of a man who poisoned his wife and was represented at trial by Robert Fleming, a charter member of the LLA and its first President. The fourth hanging occurred on December 4, 1866. The following day, Benjamin Stuart Bentley, also a charter member of the LLA and son of the first appointed Judge of the 29th Judicial District, wrote in a letter to his wife: "A man was hung here yesterday for the murder of his wife. I could have been a spectator of the scene had I desired, but my desires don't run that way, there were a good many people in town although the execution was private."*





*The United States District and Circuit Courts used the county Courthouse until 1891 when space for the federal court was provided in the post office building on West Fourth Street, which later became Williamsport's city hall.*



*Robert Jarvis C. Walker, an early member of the bar, was elected a Representative to Congress in 1880. During his term, a bill was passed to authorize the construction of a United States Government Building in Williamsport.*

*The current Federal Building was built in 1976. It was named for Herman T. Schneebeli, a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1960 to 1977. Upon Schneebeli's retirement, Allen E. Ertel, a member of the LLA, was elected to the position.*

## 72

The position of the  
congressmen of south, that they  
of many laws created for the  
"American Law Association," and  
in the process one amendment of  
law, it is education and how to  
in the City of Philadelphia or how  
have prepared an instrument of  
to object, orders, corrections and  
which they have recognized, and how  
to this court, they thought they got  
to have instruments, one of the object  
of it was to continue to advise  
the community, that the court will  
be the same as is created by the  
state and provide one of no different  
than the best will come, and custom  
owing to the articles and corrections  
are continuing, there will be a  
have commenced by the govern-  
ment province and action, and  
to H. Garrison  
and T. McGowan  
Charles B. Francis  
J. O. Saxe  
J. C. Parker

[illegible]

Per Guaranty  
James C. Smith P. S.

I This Association shall be known and styled as the "Young  
Lays Association."  
II The object thereof an the mutual benefit of its best and Poor  
in having a well selected Lay Library maintained and accessible  
to all the members of the association, in forming among the  
members thereof, benevolent and fraternal professional Courtesy,  
and courtesy, and an acquiring legal knowledge and conduct.  
Specifically one of its corporate members shall be Bernard Robert  
Graham, Roscoe H. Maynard, Kenneth Benjamin S. Bentley,  
John William R. Montgomery,  
Benjamin S. Bentley, J. B. George, Robert P. Hall,  
J. Parker and Wm. McDonald and each of them or either of  
them shall be the President and Vice President of the associ-  
ation.  
III The Officers of this Association shall consist of President, Vice President,  
Treasurer, Secretary, and one Executive Committee of seven mem-  
bers of whom shall be the President and Vice President of the associ-  
ation.  
IV It shall be the duty of the President to preside at meetings of  
the association, enforce present laws in his absence the Vice  
President shall preside. Of the Treasurer to collect all moneys  
due and pay out all to the association and to pay out all the same  
on demand he is obliged by the President and an attested by the  
Secretary. One of the Executive committee to collect all dues  
from the members. One of the Executive committee to collect all per-  
sonal dues from the members. One of the Executive committee to provide for  
any of the By-laws that shall hereafter be made.  
V The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive  
Committee shall have their respective offices for the term  
of one year, and until their successors are elected. A qualified  
majority vote for misconduct by the vote of at least two thirds  
of the members of the association at some stated meeting there-  
of no such officer shall be so removed unless he has at  
least thirty days notice in writing from some member of  
the association of an intention to submit a resolution to  
remove him.  
VI At the first Meetings of the Association on the time and manner  
of holding officers shall be provided for in the by laws hereafter  
to be made by the association.  
VII The members shall hereafter be admitted to membership and shall  
be persons of good conduct and behavior, and a member of the  
law, who applications to enter and communicate information  
to the executive Committee and show recommendation by  
majority of the vote of a majority of all the members of the  
Association nor their explicit upon payment to the Treasurer  
of such sum or sums of money as shall hereafter be provided  
for in the By-laws for such admission.  
VIII The Vice President in the absence of the President shall  
perform all the duties of the President as provided for  
in the Minutes or that may be provided for in the

[illegible]

X. No Member shall be expelled except upon the vote of two thirds of the members of the association, but in all other cases, except as hereinafter provided for all questions shall be determined by a majority present at any regular meeting of the association.

[illegible]

XII In case of death, resignation, or inability, <sup>of</sup> any officer or upon his removal from the County or from Office for any cause a successor shall be selected to fill out his term of Office at such time and in such manner as may hereafter be provided in the By Laws.







## *The Lycoming County Law Association*

*The mission of the Lycoming Law Association is to promote the practice of law using the highest ethical standards and to advance the public image of our profession. We accomplish this by communicating within our profession and throughout our community, providing continuing legal education, encouraging collegiality among attorneys and the court, providing pro bono legal assistance, and through community involvement.*



On December 1, 1869, a group of prominent Lycoming County attorneys, recognizing the need to maintain a “well-selected law library convenient and accessible to all the members”, and to promote among the members “kind and social relations, professional courtesy and urbanity,” and to assist its members “in acquiring legal knowledge and correct practice,” petitioned the county court to incorporate the LLA. The petition was granted on January 25, 1870, by Judge Gamble. The first president of the LLA was Robert Fleming.

Today, a physical library, where lawyers congregate to prepare their case by researching issues of law, using case books, digests and treatises, is an anachronism. Instead, we rely on the vast resources of the internet.

In 1869, LLA members paid a fee of \$2.50 annually which was used to defray expenses and replenish the library. The LLA began purchasing books and, according to a newspaper article that appeared in the *Pennsylvania Grit* in 1883, the LLA had the most complete law library in northern Pennsylvania.

The LLA Executive Committee initially held quarterly meetings in the library room and continued a commitment to the library by electing a librarian.

The Lycoming law association, which comprises the active members of the local bar, has just expended \$587 for new books. The association has now the most complete library in northern Pennsylvania.





The LLA's minute books from the 1940s (now housed at the Taber Museum) reveal that the law library was still an essential tool for the practitioner, and the LLA continued its responsibility for stocking, staffing and operating the county law library.

In July 1942, the LLA Executive Committee named Harry Fithian, Jr. as librarian with the pay of \$20 per month. When Fithian entered the Navy, Harry Swank Philips was hired to replace him with a pay of \$300 a year. These librarians went on to become LLA Presidents, Philips in 1944 and Fithian in 1955. Robert J. Wollet, who later became a county judge, served as the law librarian from 1958-1963.

Lycoming County provided an allotment to the LLA to operate the law library, which in 1942 was \$2,000; however, the operation of the library was exclusively a function of the LLA. The librarian was a regular participant in Executive Committee meetings, recommending volumes for purchase for their approval. At the July 1942 meeting, a salesman from West Publishing offered the "new" Federal Digest for \$450, with a \$135 credit for returning the old volumes.

This obligation to provide access to library materials was the impetus for the establishment of a local reporter to publish local court opinions.

**Law Association Held Meeting**  
The Lycoming Law Association held its annual meeting in the law library of the Court house Monday afternoon. Officers were elected as follows: President, George B. M. Metzger; vice president, Frank P. Cummings; secretary, Harry C. Fithian; treasurer and librarian, Elbert A. Porter.



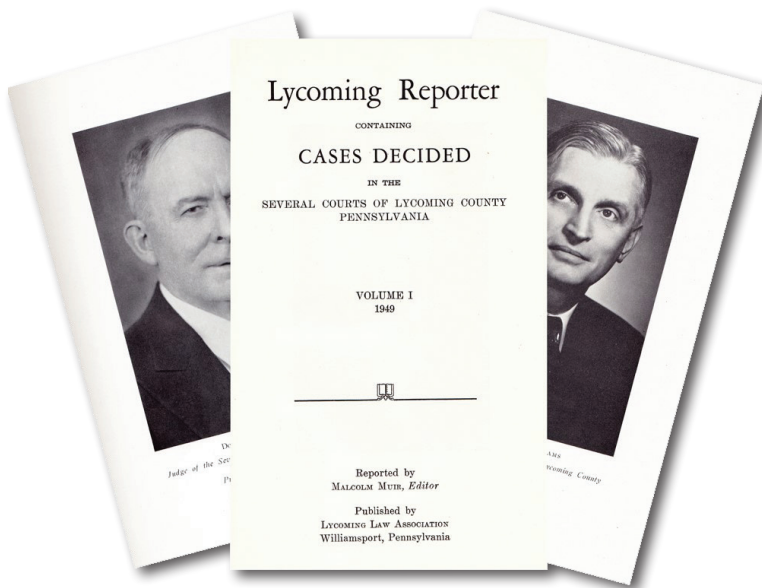
**Fun Fact:** In 1973 the LLA President, Paul Reeder, appointed a committee to visit each law office to determine if any misplaced law library books could be found.



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The Lycoming Reporter celebrated its 70th birthday on April 1, 2019.

## ***Lycoming Reporter***

*Although formally established as the official Lycoming County legal journal in 1949, the publication's roots are older. In 1941, a committee of the LLA was appointed to look into establishing a legal journal, but apparently no action was taken.*

*On March 21, 1946, Malcolm Muir, a member of the LLA Executive Committee, moved for the establishment of a committee to look into ways to publish local opinions to make them available to the members of the bar. A Mimeograph machine was secured and Muir began circulating to members of the bar copies of opinions, with headnotes, mimeographed in his office at his own expense.*

*Then in 1949, an LLA committee consisting of Malcolm Muir, Charles F. Greevy, Jr. and Nathan W. Stuart was appointed. They recommended that the Executive Committee proceed to publish a legal journal to be called the Lycoming Reporter. The court approved, and the date of the first publication was April 1, 1949.*

*The first editor was Malcolm Muir, who served 20 years until 1969. He was replaced by William Nichols, who served for 8 years. William Knecht became editor in 1977, and served for 34 years until 2011. Gary Weber, 2003 LLA President, has been the editor since 2011.*





*The first business manager of the Lycoming Reporter was Edna A. Kitchen. She was replaced by Annabel Miller, who served for 44 years, until 2004. In 2005, William Knecht, presented Annabel with an LLA service award.*

*In 2004, the responsibilities of the business manager were assumed by the newly established position of LLA executive director: then Jessica Engel and presently Michele Frey.*

*The role of the Reporter has changed since 1949. The emphasis on publication of court opinions faded with the onset of the internet and the LLA website, [www.lycolaw.org](http://www.lycolaw.org). Annually, the Reporter included approximately 22 opinions. In 2004, the LLA stopped publishing opinions in the Reporter. However, on its website, the LLA has published over 5,200 opinions since 2000.*

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**LYCOMING**  
LAW ASSOCIATION

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## History of Lycoming County Pennsylvania

edited by John F. Meginness ©1892

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**CHAPTER XVII.**

THE BENCH AND BAR.

WHERE THE EARLY COURTS WERE HELD - EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS SHOWING SOME OF THE FIRST CASES TRIED - THE COURT MOVES FROM JAYSBURG - AMUSING INCIDENTS AT THE RUSSELL INN AND THE RISING SUN - PRESIDENT JUDGES OF THE LYCOMING COURTS - UNITED STATES AND DISTRICT COURTS - ASSOCIATE JUDGES - DISTRICT ATTORNEYS - FIRST ATTORNEYS - THE LAWYERS OF A LATER DATE - THE BAR OF TODAY - ATTORNEYS LIVING ABROAD - LYCOMING BAR ASSOCIATION.

THE first courts of Lycoming county were held at Jaysburg. The details of organization have been given in a preceding chapter. The first meeting was probably at the house of Thomas Caldwell. The court had a prothonotary, but no other officers, Little,







Executive Director Jessica Engel was with the LLA from 2004 to 2014.

## ***LLA Executive Director***

*The president of the LLA changes every year, but the one constant to our organization since 2004 has been our Executive Director.*

*At the annual meeting in January 2004, the LLA membership approved the creation of an Executive Director position. At that time, the management of the LLA was somewhat haphazard. LLA initiatives changed from year to year with the new president. The LLA office was housed in a small, cluttered room in a building on Pine Street which few members had seen and which resembled more of a closet than a functional facility. In approving the new position, the membership sought to professionalize the LLA office and to provide more educational, social, and professional opportunities for members.*

*In April 2004, the LLA hired Jessica Engel and she got right to work, moving our organization forward.*

*In 2008, the LLA moved into office space in 25 West Third Street, known as Penn Tower.*



*Under Jessica's leadership, the LLA became an accredited provider of continuing legal education (CLE). Jessica worked hard with the newly formed LLA Education Committee to develop an educational program with live, local presentations occurring monthly. To this day, Lycoming County attorneys are able to obtain all of their CLE credits at the LLA office.*



In 1964 the LLA held a one-day seminar on the Uniform Commercial Code presented by the PBA's committee on continuing legal education and included Professor Louis F. Del Duca (seated far right) as a speaker. He is shown here with Clyde E. Williamson, 1945 LLA President (seated, center) and others.



In 2014, the LLA office moved to space on the 8th floor of Penn Tower with a bigger area to accommodate CLE programs and other LLA activities.







*In 2014, Jessica announced that she would be leaving us and heading south to a warmer climate. The LLA began the search for a new Executive Director with the same talent and dedication that Jessica gave to the organization for a decade. After reviewing applications and interviewing a number of applicants, the search committee found the best qualified candidate to be Michele Frey, wife of Christian Frey, 2019 LLA President. Michele was hired, began working on November 10, 2014, and is continuing to lead our organization into the future. She has been instrumental in the planning and organizing of our 150th anniversary celebration.*



## *The Minimum Fee Bill*

*In this day of lawyer advertising and wide-open competition among lawyers for business, it is probably surprising to some that the LLA at one time kept tight control of the minimum fees that members of the bar could charge for services. Until this practice*

*was discouraged by a series of anti-trust cases in the 1970s, the “Lycoming Law Association Minimum Fee Bill” played a prominent role in the business of local attorneys.*

*Attempts to adjust fees were taken quite seriously, and generated significant discussion. An early 1946 note in the minutes of the Executive Committee provides an example. W. Dorland Rouse urged the LLA to raise the minimum fee for title searches to \$50.00. He pointed out that certain financial institutions were demanding fee concessions in return for a volume of work. The fee increase could not be considered until the banks were brought into line. A special meeting of the LLA was set for May 1946, at which the title search issue was considered. The members refused to raise the minimum fee to \$50, but did approve an increase to \$35.*

### LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION MINIMUM FEE BILL Effective March 1, 1969

#### PREFACE

The following Fee Bill is a schedule of minimum fees adopted by the Lycoming Law Association.

Charges below fair compensatory rates for careful and considerate work usually result in careless or slighted work and ill-considered conclusions. The Association is of the opinion that charges below the fees set forth in this schedule can tend to create a demoralizing price-cutting atmosphere within our profession, resulting in an ultimate disservice to the client.

The Association recognizes the right and even the ethical duty to charge a fee less than these minimums where the poverty of a client, the interest of a brother lawyer, or his widow and children or other ethical considerations demand such action.

The Association, on the other hand, also is of the opinion that the practice of habitually and notoriously offering to perform legal services for less than the fees set forth in this schedule is a form of solicitation, is degrading to the honor of the profession, is an indirect effort to encroach upon the business of other lawyers and would, therefore, be an appropriate subject for consideration by the Ethics Committee of the Association.

#### COMMITTEE

Sidney A. Simon, Chairman  
Walter R. Rice, Jr.  
George M. Hess, Jr.  
Charles A. Szybist  
O. William Vanderlin  
W. Dorland Rouse  
Frederick Y. Dietrick  
Alfred Jackson





## MINIMUM FEE SCHEDULE

### CHARTERS

See Corporations.

### CHattel Mortgage

See Secured Transactions

### COLLECTIONS OF MONEY

Same as Commercial Law

League rates in force at time of collection. Present rates: 18% on the first \$100.00 15% up to \$1,000.00 10% over \$1,000.00 (minimum \$18.00) Suit Fees: The above rates do not include suit fees (for suit fees see Common Pleas).

### COMMON PLEAS

#### 1. Arguments:

(a) Preparation of Brief and Oral Argument .....

..... at least \$100.00

#### 2. Assumpsit and Trespass

(all subject to modification in final fee):

(a) Preparing and Filing Praecipe .....

..... at least \$100.00

(b) Entry of Appearance .....

..... at least \$15.00

(c) Any written motion .....

..... at least \$25.00

(d) Any Pleading .....

..... at least \$50.00

#### 3. Attachment:

Praecipe, affidavit, bond and directions to Sheriff .....

..... at least \$100.00

#### 4. Case Started, including Brief & Argument

..... at least \$100.00

#### 5. Certiorari:

Certiorari to Justices of the Peace, including allocatur, if required bond, affidavit, and exceptions .....

..... at least \$50.00

#### 6. Commissions:

See Depositions.

#### 7. Debtors:

(a) Oral examination and proceedings — .....

..... at least \$50.00

#### 8. Declaratory Judgment proceedings —

..... at least \$100.00

#### 9. Depositions:

(a) Securing rule to take and taking in county— .....

..... at least \$50.00

(b) Securing rule to take, and taking out of county in addition to expenses— .....

..... at least \$100.00

(c) Cross Examination—in county .....

..... at least \$50.00

(d) Cross Examination—out of county .....

..... at least \$100.00

(e) Rule for commission to take testimony, including preparation of interrogatories— .....

..... at least \$75.00

(f) Cross interrogatories .....

..... at least \$35.00

(g) Letters rogatory .....

..... at least \$50.00

#### 10. Divorce:

See Divorce and Annulments.

#### 11. Exceptions:

(a) Not otherwise provided for preparing and Filing— .....

..... at least \$50.00

#### 12. Femme Sole Trader (uncontested):

(a) Proceedings to declare .....

..... at least \$100.00

#### 13. Habeas Corpus:

(a) For custody, including one hearing, either side— .....

..... at least \$100.00

#### 14. Interpleader proceedings:

See Execution.

#### 15. Letters Rogatory:

See Common Pleas—Depositions.

16. Lunatics, weak-minded persons and habitual drunkards: See Incompetents.

17. Trial—at least \$150.00 per day or major part thereof

Except arbitration involving

(a) Up to \$500.00 .....

(b) \$501.00 to \$1,000.00 .....

..... \$75.00

### CONDITIONAL SALES

See Secured Transactions

### CONSULTATION

See Advice or Counsel

### CONVEYANCING

See Real Estate & Conveyancing.

### CORPORATIONS

#### 1. Non-Profit Corporations

(a) Formation & Organization (including By-Laws) .....

..... —at least \$250.00

(b) Amendment of Charter .....

..... —at least \$125.00

(c) Dissolution .....

..... —at least \$200.00

#### 2. Business Corporations

(a) Formation and Organization .....

..... —at least \$250.00

(b) Amendment of Charter .....

..... —at least \$125.00

(c) Increase or Decrease of Capital Stock or indebtedness .....

..... —at least \$100.00

*In April 1951, a special meeting of the LLA was called to discuss various matters, including a proposed new minimum fee bill. "Considerable discussion and comment" ensued. The topic of a new fee bill was then considered at a second special meeting on May 21, 1951, where a committee recommended fee changes. The proposed fees were discussed "line-by-line" until agreement was obtained on all the fees. The Minimum Fee Bill was approved along with a strong statement against fee cutting or requiring a lawyer to accept a fee that is "not fair and reasonable" because of "the stress of competition." Attorneys who "habitually and notoriously" worked for less than the minimum, could be subjected to ethics charges.*

The Minimum Fee Bill of March 1, 1969.





## *Office Hours*

*Amazingly, as recently as the 1950's, the LLA was involved in setting office hours for local law offices. On July 10, 1946, a special meeting was held to discuss summer hours. The LLA agreed that, in August, all law offices would close at 4 PM.*

*On May 7, 1952, the LLA's Executive Committee was unable to agree on the position that the LLA should take concerning summer office hours. A special meeting was held the following week, where after an extensive discussion, the LLA members voted to close law offices on Saturdays for the summer.*

*This vote did not resolve the issue. Discussions continued throughout the summer, including a survey of the membership. In September of 1952 the LLA members agreed that law offices be closed on Saturdays permanently.*





## *Committees of the LLA*

*The LLA has a dedicated group of committee chairs, who manage more than a dozen committees.*



On January 15, 2013 the LLA Committee Chairs were honored at our Annual Banquet.



Each year the LLA Committee Chairs meet to plan events and activities for members.



## *Admission to the County Bar*

*Admission to the bar of Pennsylvania did not always entitle a lawyer to appear before the several courts of Lycoming County. Local rules throughout the Commonwealth, including Lycoming County, required an attorney to be admitted to practice by the local court.*

*During World War II, local regulation of admissions was viewed as a way to protect the business of lawyers serving in the military. In September 1942, at a special meeting, the LLA passed a resolution requesting the court to issue a rule limiting admissions to the bar.*

*At the annual meeting in January*

*1943, Judge Samuel Humes explained that “it was not meant to bar people from coming into the county, but to stop anybody from coming in and living off the leavings of the members of the Association going to war.” Thereafter, a resolution was passed requesting the court to adopt a rule to refuse any admissions for the duration of the war.*







After the war, it became clear by its actions that the LLA strongly supported the ongoing bar admission limits. In December 1945, the LLA was successful in convincing the court to issue a rule requiring that any attorney seeking admission to the Bar, “present satisfactory proof that he or she has been a bona fide resident of the County of Lycoming for a continuous period of two years immediately prior to his or her application...”

Although admission to practice in the county courts can no longer be required by local rules, Lycoming County has continued the tradition of an admission ceremony, where the admittees are introduced to the judges and other members of the bar.



## *Law Day*

*On April 1, 1961, Congress passed a joint resolution designating May 1 as Law Day. The Congressional resolution states:*

*The first day of May of each year is hereby designated as Law Day, U.S.A. It is set aside as a special day of celebration by the American people in appreciation of their liberties and the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States of America; of their rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other as well as with other nations; and for the cultivation of that respect for law that is so vital to the democratic way of life.*



Members of the LLA stand for the pledge of allegiance prior to the start of the annual Law Day ceremony.

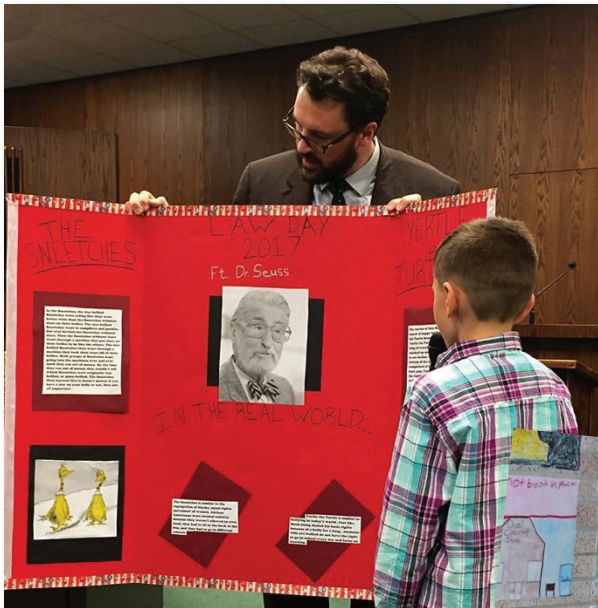


The “Law Day Singers” included LLA members Benjamin Landon and L. Craig Harris.





*The members of the LLA believe that the annual Law Day events help to further the lofty goals proclaimed by Congress. With an essay and art work contest for area schools, the students are encouraged to think about their freedoms, and the constitutional system that guarantees the rights they enjoy.*





*Seated: President Judge Thomas C. Raup (1974-1995); Standing left to right: Judges William S. Kieser (1991-2009), Clinton W. Smith (1981-2003), and Kenneth D. Brown (1988-2011).*







## *The Bench of Lycoming County*

*Lycoming County has been fortunate to have been served by well-respected jurists. The 29th Judicial District initially had one elected judge and today has five judges. In the next several pages we pay tribute to our judges, for their unselfish service to the county.*



## *Our Early Judges*

*When Lycoming County was created, it was placed in the Third Judicial District. Jacob Rush was the President Judge.*

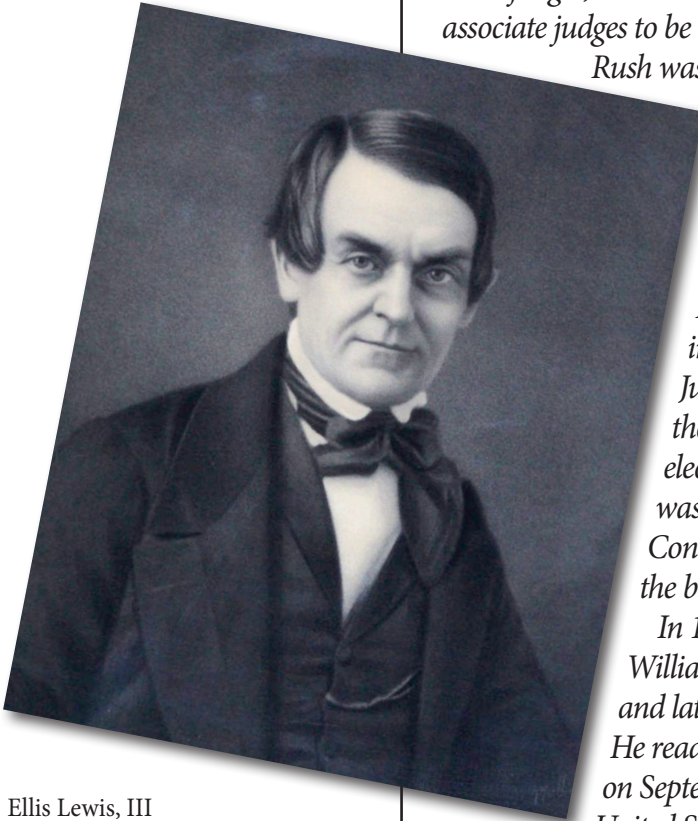
*The governor appointed associate judges who were not learned in the law to assist the President Judge. One of those judges, William Hepburn, was elected by the other associate judges to be the local president judge when Judge*

*Rush was absent. Judge Hepburn continued*

*as an associate judge until he died in 1821. The last associate judge, elected prior to the Constitution of 1873 which abolished the office, was Judge Hepburn's youngest son, Huston Hepburn. He was learned in the law, having studied law under Judge Gamble. He was admitted to the Lycoming County bar in 1827, was elected a state senator in 1836 and 1839, was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and joined Judge Gamble on the bench as an associate judge in 1871.*

*In 1819, Ellis Lewis came to Williamsport and became employed by, and later owned, the Lycoming Gazette. He read law and was admitted to the bar on September 2, 1822. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives and*

*took his seat in December, 1832. He also served as Attorney General, beginning January 31, 1833. He was appointed judge to the 8th Judicial District, which then included Lycoming, Northumberland, Union and Snyder counties, and served from October 14, 1833 to January, 1843. In 1850 he was elected to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court where he served until 1857.*



Ellis Lewis, III  
President Judge 8th District  
1833-1843





## Portrait of Judge H. W. Whitehead Accepted at Ceremonies by County

A PORTRAIT of Judge Harvey W. Whitehead, who died Jan. 31, 1934, was officially accepted by representatives of Lycoming County at ceremonies held in the court house, Tuesday morning. The picture will be hung beside those of Judge Whitehead's predecessors in Court Room No. 1.

The portrait was presented to the Lycoming County Law Association by members of Judge Whitehead's family, and the bar association, in turn, presented it to the county. Mortimer C. Rhone, a member of the bar, made a presentation

speech, following an introductory speech by W. W. Champion, president of the Lycoming County Law Association. Oliver J. Decker, another member of the bar, made a speech of acceptance.

About 100 persons attended the ceremonies. The portrait was painted several years ago by J. W. Vale, of Pittsburgh. After the ceremonies Judge Don M. Larrabee opened a short session of court, and Judge G. B. M. Metzger slated that a proper order accepting the picture from the family and the bar association will be made and filed.

## Judges of the 29th Judicial District

In 1868, Lycoming County became a separate judicial district – the 29th Judicial District.

The LLA was the moving force in creating or preserving judicial portraits of every judge who sat on the bench in the 29th Judicial District. Some of the early portraits were given to the LLA by family members of deceased judges.

In December 1963, upon the passing of Judge Spencer Hill, the LLA agreed to expend \$500 for the painting of his portrait. In 1966, after the passing of Judge Charles Williams, the LLA made plans to secure his portrait. On November 14, 1966, the LLA executive committee passed a motion to assume responsibility for securing and paying the cost of painting and framing portraits of judges while the judges are living.

Celebrating 150 Years



53



At one time, the existing portraits hung in the courtroom.

### MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 1966 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION

(Held at: Village Tea Room)

Present: J. Frederick Gehr  
William Askey  
Frederick Detrick  
William Nichols  
George E. Orwig, III  
Paul W. Wertman

In the absence of the secretary, Mr. George Orwig read the minutes of the October 10, 1966 meeting. They were approved as read.

There was discussion regarding the invitation by the Tioga County Bar to attend a dinner on November 22. Mr. Gehr read a letter which he had received as President of the Association, and the letter will be printed in the Lycoming Reporter this Friday as a reminder. Mr. Gehr's letter indicated there would be no cost at all to those our Bar attending.

There was a considerable amount of discussion concerning trying to establish a policy about paintings of deceased Judges. Mr. Gehr gave a report on some discussions he had with Clyde Williamson about Judge Williams' painting and this, in turn, led to discussion of policy about paintings in general. After considerable discussion, there was a motion by Frederick Detrick, seconded by William Askey, consisting of the following three parts:

- (1) That the Association will assume responsibility for the cost of paintings and framing in the future, including that of Judge Williams.
- (2) That the Association will proceed to secure portraits of judges while they are living.
- (3) That the Association will give due consideration to the wishes of the Judge and/or his family in the selection of an artist to do the portrait.

The motion was passed.

*Today, the older portraits adorn the walls of the LLA office and the more recent portraits can be viewed in the jury assembly room at the county courthouse.*







In 1989, David A. McGarvey of B & S Picture Frames restored many of the old portraits.



On May 4, 2018, Judge Linhardt unveiled his portrait at the Law Day celebration. The portrait, by photographer Whitney Hart, wife of LLA Member Brandon Schemery, was presented by the 2018 LLA President Jennifer Heverly.

*Judge Benjamin Bentley  
Feb. 1868 – Jan. 1869*

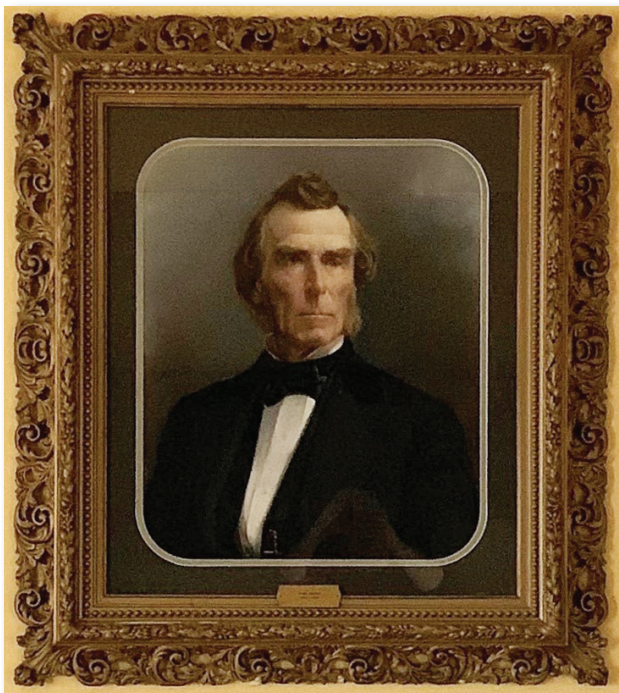
*When Lycoming County became the 29th Judicial District in 1868, Benjamin Speeze Bentley was appointed to be the first judge. He and his son, Benjamin Stuart Bentley, were charter members of the LLA. The Judge's great-grandson, Harry Roman Gibson, was president of the LLA in 1946. Gibson is reported to have had a "tireless devotion to the growth of the community" and was particularly interested in advancing the Williamsport Hospital. The Gibson Rehabilitation Center is named for him.*



Harry R. Gibson (left), is shown here with his brother, Dr. Stuart Gibson, who is showing his skill at tying a sheepshank knot to two boy scouts. The Gibson brothers were charter members of Boy Scout Troop 8, Trinity Episcopal Parish.







*Judge James Gamble  
1869-1879*

*Judge Gamble was the first elected judge of the 29th Judicial District. Prior to becoming a judge, he served in the state legislature and in the United States Congress. His son, James M. Gamble, became a member of this bar in 1870. It is reported that the Judge's son "was an active member of the community and took a deep interest in whatever was calculated to improve and benefit the City of Williamsport."*



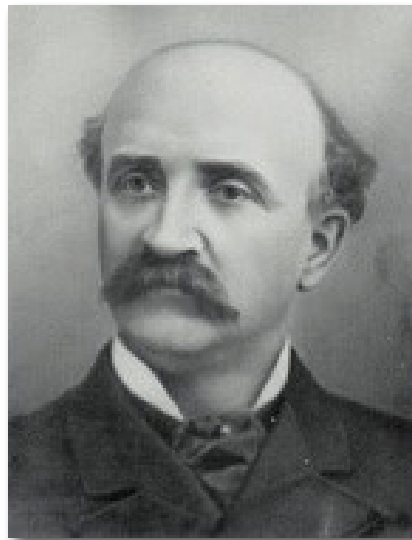
*Judge Hugh H. Cummin  
1879-1889*

*Judge Cummin is credited with forming a relief committee to aid Williamsport in recovering from the 1889 flood.*

*Following his death in August of 1889, the bar met and adopted appropriate resolutions, a custom that has continued to this day upon the death of every member.*

*Many of the memorial resolutions for our members who have passed away are available on the LLA website.*

*Judge Cummin's Humanitarian  
Role in Flood of 1889 Nearly  
Outshone Leading Work as Jurist*



*Judge John J. Metzger  
1889-1900*

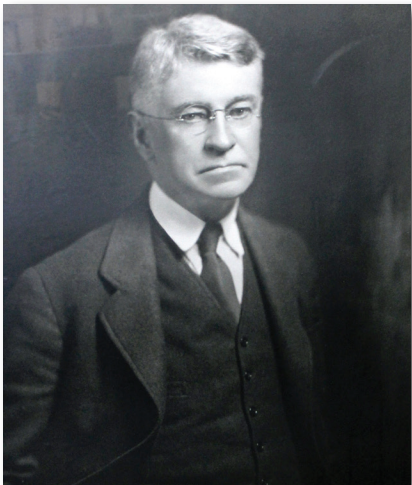
*Judge John J. Metzger was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1873 which formed the state constitution. Before taking the bench, he also served as a member of the Williamsport City Council and the Williamsport School Board.*



*Judge Max L. Mitchell  
1900-1902*

*Judge Mitchell was interested in the Lycoming County Historical Society and served as its president for a number of years.*

*He served as the LLA president in 1913. The Judge's step-grandson, J. Neafie Mitchell, became a member of the Lycoming County bar in 1946 and served as the LLA president in 1959. Neafie's son, C. Edward S. Mitchell, became a member of the bar in 1972 and served as the LLA president in 1990. He is still an active member of the LLA.*



*The Williamsport Sun, Wedn*  
*Reviewing 155 Years of the Lycoming Judiciary (11)*  
**Max L. Mitchell Served as Judge  
By Appointment Until Democrats  
Elected William W. Hart in 1901**







*Judge William W. Hart  
1902-1912*

*Judge Hart was elected to the state senate in 1882, and served one term. He was elected to the Lycoming County bench by defeating Judge Mitchell in the 1901 general election.*



*Judge Harvey W. Whitehead  
1912-1932*

*Judge Whitehead was the first judge of the 29th Judicial District to serve two full terms. He was a member of several fraternal organizations and took a keen interest in preventing pollution of the Susquehanna River.*

\* \* \*

**DURING HIS DAILY** walk across the Market Street Bridge from his South Williamsport home to the Court House, he always studied the Susquehanna River with keen interest. This interest developed into a crusade that led to prevent pollution of the river.

He was a past exalted ruler of the Elks, and a member of the Odd Fellows, Rotary and Izaak Walton League.

A yearly tradition that can be remembered by older members of the bar was open house at Judge Whitehead's home every New Year's Day. All members of the county bar as well as lawyers from area counties were invited, and attendance was always good.

\* \* \*





Judge George Brinton  
McClellan Metzger  
1932-1938



Judge Don M. Larrabee  
1932-1952

The 1931 session of the state legislature created a second judgeship for Lycoming County. George Metzger and Don M. Larrabee were elected. To determine who would be President Judge, the judges cut a deck of cards. Judge Metzger drew the higher card and won the position. When they took the bench, the LLA presented a resolution to favor the adoption by the judges of the practice of wearing robes while on the bench.

Judge Metzger died during his term in 1938 and Judge Larrabee assumed the position of President Judge. Judge Larrabee's son, Don L. Larrabee, was president of the LLA in 1951.







*Judge Mortimer C. Rhone  
1938-1939*

*Judge Rhone was civic minded and a leader in bar association matters. He is credited with the increase in interest taken by the local bar in the activities of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He was appointed to the bench in 1938 to fill the unexpired term of Judge Metzger.*

*Judge Samuel H. Humes  
1940-1943*

*Judge Humes was a member of the executive committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. His work with the Boy Scouts of America led to his election as the President of the West Branch Council. It is said that "there was no phase of civic or community life that did not know his touch and the influence of his guiding hand and understanding heart."*



*Reviewing 155 Years of the Lycoming Judiciary (16)*  
**Variety of Interests Added Color  
To Brief But Remarkable Career  
Of Popular Judge Samuel Humes**



***Spencer Hill, One of Few Men  
In State to Reach Bench Before  
35, Appointed in March, 1943***



*Judge Spencer W. Hill  
1943*

*The Willamsport Sun summed up editorially his judicial services after he had completed his judicial appointment as follows:*

*“Although unsuccessful in his quest for election, Judge Hill has every right to feel as he returns to private practice, that his record on the bench has been excellent and that those in a position to judge hold his official record in high regard. It should be further said of Judge Hill that he has made a fine impression by the manner in which he has accepted the verdict of the voters, even though it contained disappointment for him.”*

*Judge Charles S. Williams  
1944-1964*

*Judge Charles S. Williams devoted much time to charitable and fraternal organizations. As chairman of the Red Cross drive in 1944, he led the largest money-raising campaign in the county up to that time. Three generations of the Williams family have practiced in Lycoming County. The Judge’s son, Scott A. Williams, became a member of this bar in 1966 and was the president of the LLA in 1996. The Judge’s grandson, Christopher M. Williams, is a former member of this bar.*





*Judge Charles F. Greevy, Jr.  
1952-1982*

*Judge Greevy served for three terms, retiring in 1982. He retained his robes as a senior judge for an additional 20 years. His last official case was an adoption hearing in December 2002. Judge Greevy's stature in office was matched by his unselfish contributions of his talent and leadership to religious, educational, fraternal and civic interests.*

*It was during Judge Greevy's tenure that law clerks were added to assist judges with their work. One of his early clerks, E. Eugene Yaw, held the position from December 1973 to January 1975. Mr. Yaw is still a member of our bar and holds a seat in the Pennsylvania State Senate, having been elected in 2008.*



In April 1947, Judge Greevy (seated third from the left) was installed as the esteemed loyal knight of Williamsport Lodge No 173, B.P.O. Elks.



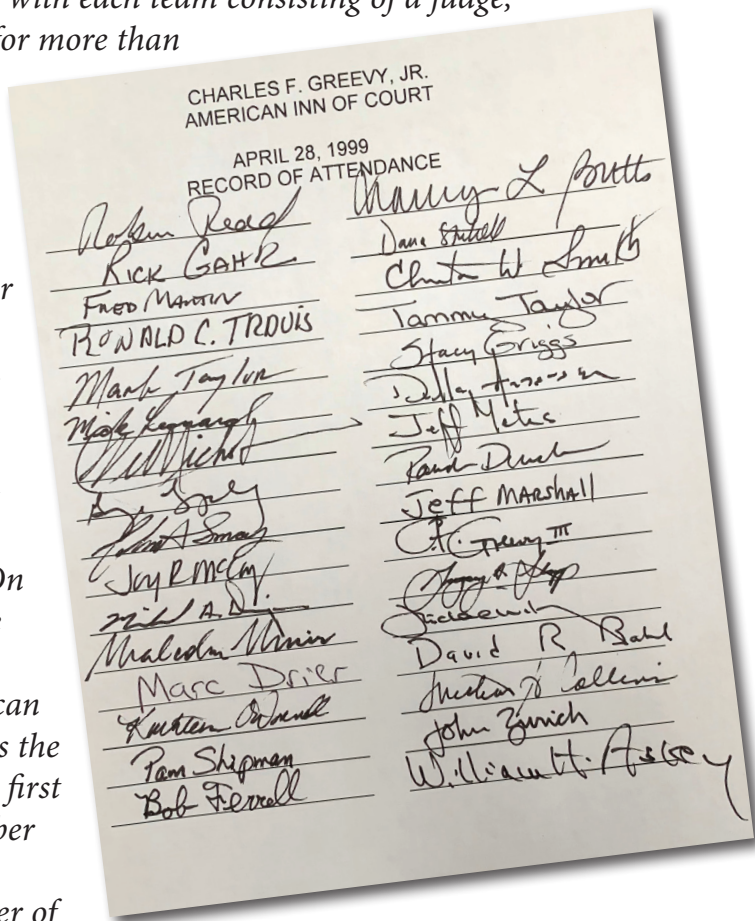
In 1963, Judge Greevy was the president of the Williamsport Kiwanis club. He is shown here (second from right) during a presentation of the charter for the Lycoming College chapter of Circle K, a Kiwanis-sponsored youth service group.



## *The Charles F. Greevy, Jr., American Inn of Court*

The American Inn of Court was originally founded to foster civility and professionalism among lawyers with a focus on mentoring. Each local chapter is divided into pupillage teams, with each team consisting of a judge, attorney-masters practicing for more than 20 years, attorney-barristers practicing between 10 and 20 years and attorney-associates practicing less than 10 years.

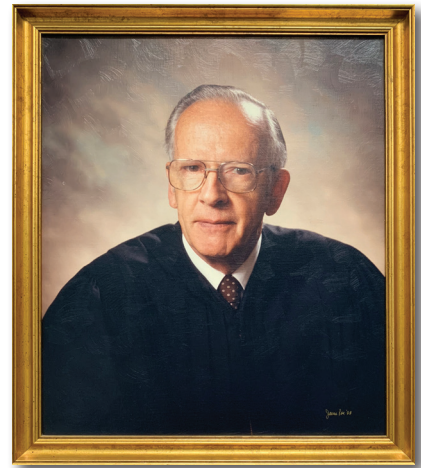
The idea for a local chapter was proposed by the bench in 1997. Judge Clinton Smith requested that Judge Nancy Butts spearhead the project. She formed a committee that decided to name the local chapter after Judge Greevy. On June 18, 1998, the committee obtained a charter for the Charles F. Greevy, Jr., American Inn of Court. Judge Butts was the first president of the Inn. The first meeting was held on September 23, 1998. In 2001, the Inn became an accredited provider of continuing legal education credits. Throughout its 20-year history, our local chapter has enjoyed a solid membership of county and federal judges and a combination of masters, barristers and associates of our local bar.





*Judge Thomas Wood Jr.  
1964-1974*

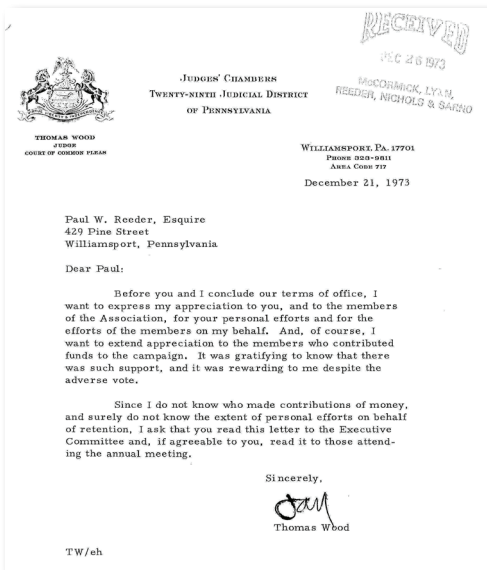
*In 1941, Judge Wood joined his father, Thomas Wood, Sr., (1940 LLA President), and his older brother, William, in forming the Williamsport-Muncy law firm of Wood and Wood. Prior to his election to the bench, he served as an Assistant United States Attorney and a Deputy Attorney General. He was also the President of the LLA in 1956 and the chair of the LLA committee responsible for the establishment of the legal aid program beginning in 1957.*



*Each year at the annual banquet the LLA presents the Honorable Thomas Wood Jr. Equal Access to Justice Award to an attorney in recognition of his or her extraordinary volunteer work that demonstrates outstanding achievement and commitment to equal justice for the poor.*

*Judge Wood filed for retention to a second term in 1973, and he was strongly endorsed by this Bar. This new yes-no-retention-vote system had recently been incorporated into the Pennsylvania constitution. Immediately prior to that election, Judge Wood handled several volatile cases including a challenge to the proposed new fluoridation of public water and a taxpayer's action challenging the proposed new Williamsport Area High School. The groups, disappointed by the outcomes of those suits, actively opposed the Judge's retention.*

*Further increasing the challenge of a retention election was a murder of a young lady in South Williamsport by a suspect who was falsely identified as being on probation at the time. The Judge lost the retention vote. Statewide, judges seeking retention took note of the lesson of Judge Wood's retention effort – avoid obviously controversial cases immediately before the election.*

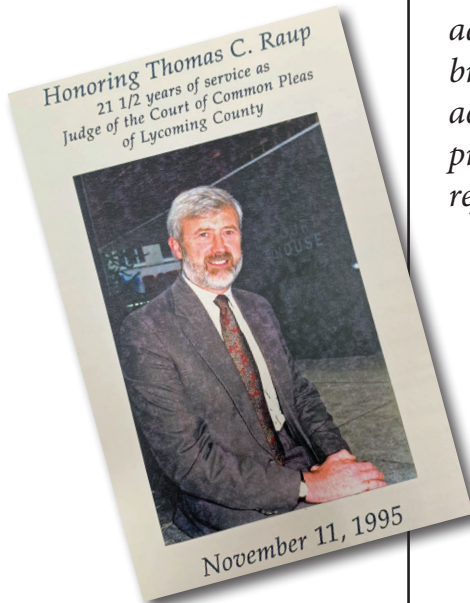
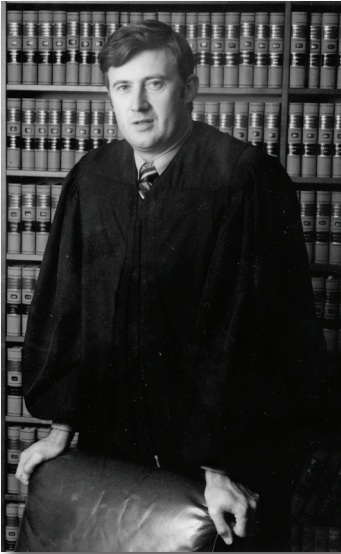


*Judge Thomas C. Raup  
1974-1995*

*Judge Raup was appointed to the bench at age 35. In 1975, he was elected without opposition to his first 10-year term. He served as a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Criminal Procedural Rules Committee from 1983 to 1992 and chaired the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Ad Hoc Committee on Evidence, the work of which culminated with the adoption of Pennsylvania's first Rules of Evidence.*

*Upon Judge Greevy's retirement in January of 1982, Judge Raup became the President Judge and served in that capacity until his own retirement in 1995.*

*During his first term, Judge Raup together with Joseph L. Rider, 1976 LLA President, promoted the concept of a Bench-Bar Committee, which was approved by Judge Greevy and the LLA. This committee, consisting of all judges, the court administrator, others designated by the court, and a broad representation of the bar, continues to be an active LLA committee. It meets quarterly, handles problems of common concern and has achieved many refinements in local procedures.*

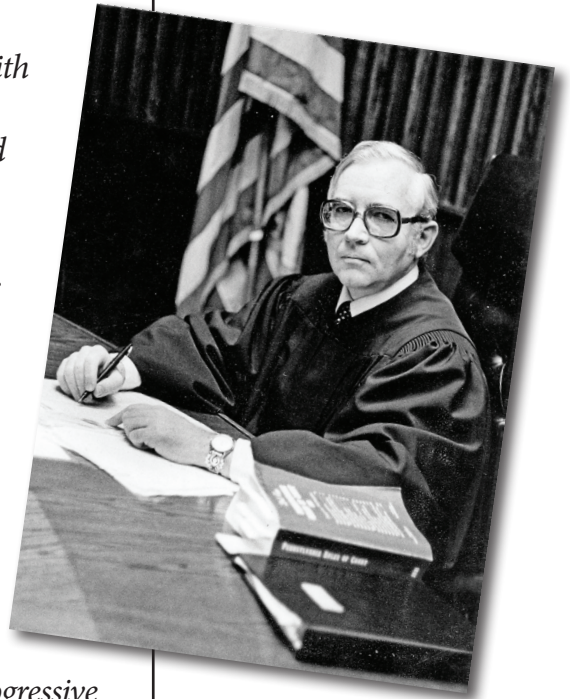




*Judge Clinton W. Smith  
1981-2003*

*After the Pennsylvania legislature created a third judgeship for Lycoming County, Judge Smith obtained the appointment and was sworn in on May 27, 1981. He began his first 10-year elected term in January, 1982. In 1991 he was retained for a second term and became President Judge in January, 1996, upon Judge Raup's retirement. In 2001, he was retained for a third term and retired on December 31, 2003, because he had reached the mandatory retirement age of 70. Throughout his career, Judge Smith was very active in civic, social and charitable activities, serving on many area boards.*

*During his three terms, Judge Smith had a total of ten law clerks. Thomas L. Peeler, IV, his law clerk from 1990 through 1992, passed away in 2001 at the age of 35 from a progressive neurological condition. The other nine clerks have remained in the Williamsport area and gathered for a luncheon with the Judge, his wife, Mary, and other staff members in November, 2016, a month before he died.*



*Judge Robert J. Wollet  
1982-1988*

*At the age of 17, Wollet joined the Air Force Enlisted Reserves Corps, was trained as a weather forecaster, and was discharged from service with the rank of technical sergeant in 1948. During the Korean War, he was recalled to duty as a chief weather forecaster with a final discharge in 1951. Judge Wollet began his judicial career in 1982, when the bench of Lycoming County formally expanded to three members.*



*Judge Kenneth D. Brown  
1988-2011*

*Judge Brown worked as an assistant public defender in Lycoming County. In 1977, he became an assistant district attorney under future Judge Kieser. In 1979, he was elected to a 4-year term as district attorney, which was a part-time position at that time.*

*In 1988, at the age of 39, Judge Brown was appointed to the bench to replace Judge Wollet. He became the President Judge in 2004 upon Judge Smith's retirement.*



*Judge William S. Kieser  
1991-2009*

*After having served the county as District Attorney, Judge Kieser was elected to the bench in 1991, when the fourth Lycoming County judgeship was established. He was awarded the 2004 Community Award by the Lycoming County Health Improvement Coalition, a voluntary collaboration of 37 board members and over 50 Task Force Team volunteers representing various sectors of the community.*

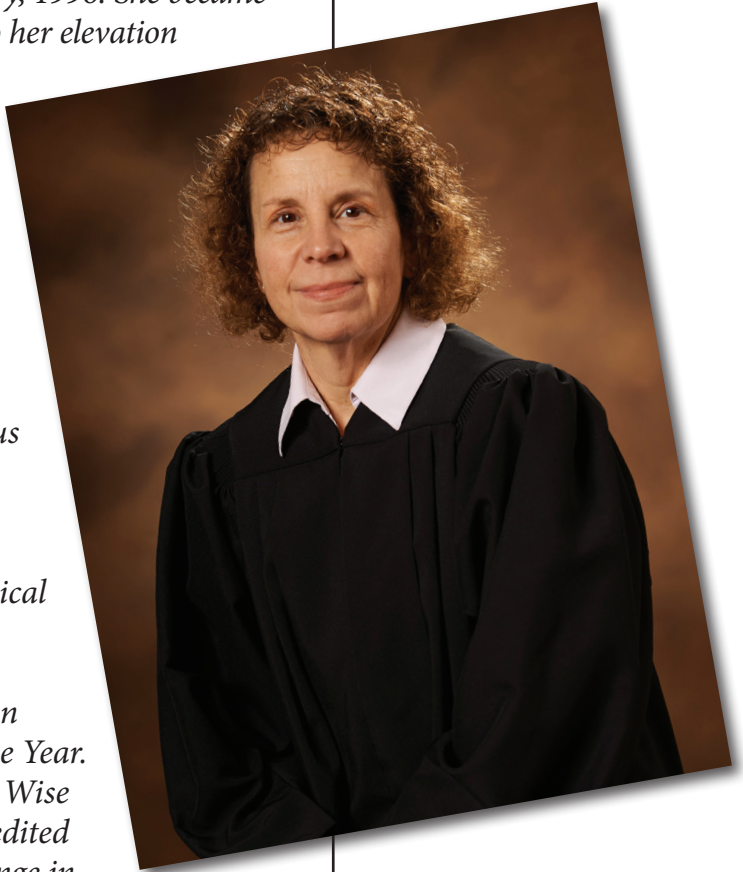


*Judge Nancy L. Butts  
1996-present*

*Lycoming County's first female judge was elected in 1995 and took her seat in January, 1996. She became President Judge in 2010. Prior to her elevation to the bench, Nancy L. Butts was an assistant district attorney, an assistant public defender, and a law clerk to the Honorable Clinton W. Smith. She also worked in private practice in Lycoming County.*

*Her dedication to the law and her community are evident from her participation in various causes and organizations. She is an adjunct professor at the Pennsylvania College of Technology, an Emergency Medical Technician and is active in the Community Theater League.*

*In 2013, the Williamsport Sun Gazette named her Person of the Year. In 2014, the YWCA named her Wise Woman of the Year. She was credited with implementing positive change in the community, including founding the Lycoming County Drug Court program and the Mental Health Court program. Judge Butts accepted the award saying "I try to live my life remembering that it's not so much what I do here today, it's about what I can do for the future, for my community."*





*Judge Dudley N. Anderson  
1997-2017*

*Prior to entering law school, Judge Anderson spent two years in the Army special services, including serving in Vietnam. He has been an active member of the Williamsport community, having served a term on the Williamsport City Council.*



*Judge Richard A. Gray  
2004-2018*

*In 2008, Judge Gray implemented the Lycoming County Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program to deal with the record number of foreclosures occurring in the county at that time. The LLA awarded him the Honorable Thomas Wood, Jr. Equal Access to Justice Award for his work on this program.*



*County Judges 2019*

In front: President Judge Nancy L. Butts  
(Judge 1996-2009; President Judge 2010-present)

Left to right:

Senior Judge Dudley N. Anderson (1997-2017);

Judge Marc F. Lovecchio (2010-present);

Judge Eric Linhardt (2018-present);

Judge Joy Reynolds McCoy (2010-present);

Senior Judge Kenneth D. Brown (1988-2011);

Senior Judge Richard A. Gray (2004-2018).



*The Lycoming Law Association*

*Often the federal bench joins the county bench on Law Day.*



Federal Judges James F. McClure, Jr., and Malcolm Muir attending the Lycoming County Law Day Ceremony in 2008.

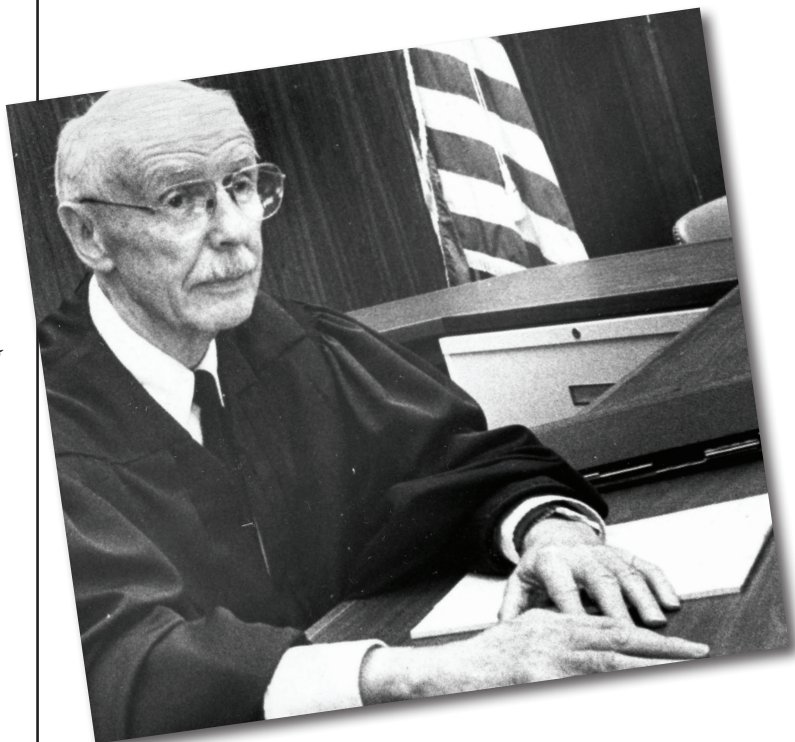


Judge Joy McCoy addresses those in attendance for Law Day 2013 with Judge Richard Gray, United States District Judge Matthew T. Brann and United States Magistrate Judge William I. Arbuckle seated with her on the bench.

*Judge Malcolm Muir  
1970-2011*

*Judge Muir enjoyed a long and distinguished career on the bench of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.*

*Malcolm Muir was admitted to the Lycoming County bar in 1938. In 1942, he enlisted in the United States Navy and achieved the rank of Lieutenant. He served as an officer in charge of 20-30 Navy gunners whose duty was to provide protection to Merchant Marine vessels. At the end of World War II, he returned to Williamsport and resumed his law practice.*







He was active in the LLA, serving as its president in 1954. He led the effort to establish a forum for dissemination of local court opinions, and his efforts culminated in the establishment of the Lycoming Reporter in 1946, as the official legal journal of Lycoming County. He served as the Editor of the Lycoming Reporter until his elevation to the federal bench.



He was invested as a United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania on November 6, 1970. He remained active in the LLA, attending, with few exceptions, every LLA annual dinner and picnic until his death in 2011.







*This picture of the bar was taken in May, 1969, in front of the 1860 courthouse and just prior to its demolition. James Humes, son of Judge Samuel Humes, a special assistant to President Nixon and a former member of the LLA, was the principal speaker at Law Day.*

*Standing from left to right in the front row: John C. Youngman, Jr., J. Neafie Mitchell, John C. Gault, Harry R. Gibson, Lester Greevy, Jr., William H. Askey. Second row: Daniel F. Knittle, John C. Youngman, Sr., Clyde E. Williamson, Don L. Larrabee, William E. Nichols, Don M. Larrabee, II. Third row: John Felix, Malcolm Muir, John Hill, Henry G. Hager, III, James Humes.*





## *The Bar of Lycoming County*

*In 1795 three lawyers moved to the newly created Lycoming County and formed the Bar; John Kidd, Charles Huston and Robert McClure. Soon thereafter, Kidd became the first officer. He was tasked to “open the books and organize the machinery of Lycoming County.” Kidd swore in Judge William Hepburn. McClure married a daughter of Judge Hepburn and his son, Hepburn McClure also became a member of this bar.*

*In 2019 there are more than two hundred members of the Lycoming County Bar. From the very early days and at any given time throughout our history, the Bar of Lycoming County has included many combinations of members from the same family: parents and children, siblings, and spouses.*





# The First Woman Lawyer

On January 14, 1924, Louise Lazelere Chatham became the first woman admitted to the Lycoming County bar.

She was active in many women's organizations. She also was active in the LLA. The LLA minutes indicate that on February 25, 1937, she was authorized to inform the PBA that the LLA would be willing to have a representative come and explain the purpose of legal aid. A PBA representative came to the meeting on April 14, 1937.

## Louise Larzelere Chatham: The first woman lawyer in Lycoming County



**WilliamSPORT Women**

Louise Larzelere (Mrs. Newton C.) Chatham and Oct. 1911 Lycoming County Fair in Hughesville on female candidate for the Williamsport School Board, was What the Farmer's Wife Should Know About Suffrage.

Although Chatham lost her bid for a seat on the school board, both of these women remained active in the women's suffrage movement. Chatham served as chair of the city and the county women's suffrage committee. After the 19th amendment passed in 1920, Louise Larzelere was born in Lycoming County, Pa., the daughter of Henry R. and Josephine (Larzelere) Larzelere. Chatham, an older brother, was a mechanical engineer, and Josephine was a homemaker. Chatham and her brother, Josephine, and their son, Josephine, were all graduates of Williamsport High School. Chatham moved to her home in 1888.

From her very youth it was the desire of Mrs. Chatham to study law, but she was unable to take up the profession until her graduation from high school. In 1908, she became a student at the Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, Law School. Her first year was a success—a career that had been long in the making. She was the first woman to graduate from the law school in 1911. She was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

### Marriage

On June 24, 1897, 25-year-old Louise married Newton C. Chatham. The nuptials were held in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Lycoming County. The bride was the daughter of Henry R. and Josephine (Larzelere) Larzelere. The groom was the son of William C. and Mary (Larzelere) Chatham. The couple had three children: a son, Newton C. Chatham, Jr., and two daughters, Louise and Mary. Louise was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

Newton was the son of Walter and Jennie (Carbourn) Chatham, originally from Lock Haven. He held a variety of positions, including that of Penn. Commissioner of 10 W. Third Street. The store continued today as Ott's Bookstore. The store was founded by Newton and his wife, Mary. Louise was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

Newton was devoted to education. Louise was active in the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors, especially in the area of education. She was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

She served the county as a member of the board of the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors. She was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

She was a member of the Clio Club and the Business and Professional Women's Club. She was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

She was the first woman to be admitted to the bar in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924. She was the first woman to be elected to the Lycoming County Board of Supervisors in 1924.

Shown in the above left photo from the Lycoming County Historical Society, is Louise Larzelere Chatham. Above right is the Jo-Jane Lodge — the home of Louise and Newton Chatham at Chatham Maples along Lycoming Creek.

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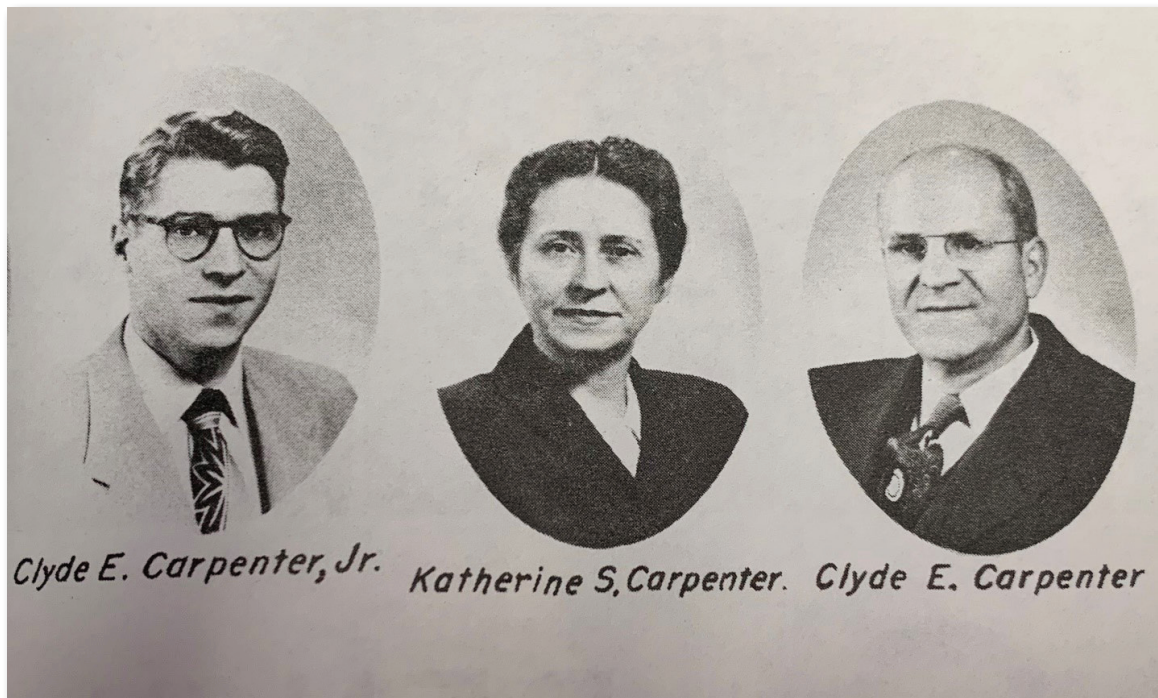
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Simonski is a retired librarian and manager of the Lycoming County Women's History Collection. Her column is published the second Sunday of each month and she can be reached at lwchamanager@gmail.com.



*Clyde E. Carpenter, Jr.*

*Katherine S. Carpenter.*

*Clyde E. Carpenter*

### ***The First Spouses***

*Clyde E. Carpenter, Sr. began practicing law in Jersey Shore in 1928. He married Mary Katherine Smith who obtained her law degree after their marriage. On May 36, 1938, upon motion of her husband, Katherine Carpenter became a member of the bar. The couple had an active law practice under the firm name of Carpenter and Carpenter. Their son, Clyde Carpenter, Jr., was admitted to the bar in 1951. All three members of the Carpenter family served as presidents of the LLA: Clyde Sr. in 1947, Katherine in 1958 as the first female president, and Clyde Jr. in 1975.*







In 1996 the firm officially became known as the McCormick Law Firm. Since 1974, the firm has occupied a building at 835 West Fourth Street. This grand Victorian mansion was built in 1888 as a wedding gift for Mary White Gamble, who was the widow of James M. Gamble, a member of this bar and the son of Judge James Gamble, the first elected judge of the 29th Judicial District.

## *The McCormicks*

*McCormick has been a prominent name in the bar of Lycoming County since before the LLA was formed. In fact, two men bearing the name of McCormick were among those responsible for forming the LLA.*

*Seth T. McCormick was admitted to the bar in 1863. He was the father of eight children; three sons became lawyers. In 1867, Seth T. associated himself with his oldest son, Henry Clay McCormick, forming the firm S.T. & H.C. McCormick. In 1870, they became charter members of the LLA. Henry Clay McCormick was a congressman and served as the Attorney General for Pennsylvania. Upon his return to Lycoming County, he served as the president of the LLA from 1899 through 1901.*

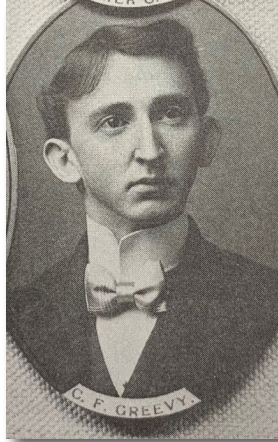


LLA members from the McCormick Law Firm at the 2011 Annual Banquet.



## The Greevys

*For more than 100 years, a Greevy has been practicing law in Lycoming County and has been a member of the LLA. Charles F. Greevy, Sr. was admitted to the Lycoming County bar on February 11, 1900, he served as District Attorney from 1916 to 1920, as president of the LLA in 1927, and continued in active practice until his death in 1936. He had three children, Evelyn Greevy Finster Hand, Charles F. Greevy, Jr. and Lester L. Greevy, Sr., all of whom became lawyers.*



Picture of Greevy Sr. from a composite.

*Charles F. Greevy, Jr. was admitted to the bar in 1939 and served as a judge for three terms from 1952 to 1982. His son, Charles F. "Skip" Greevy, III, was admitted to the bar in 1969, served as president of the LLA in 1997, and continues to practice law in Lycoming County.*

*Lester L. Greevy, Sr. was admitted to the bar in 1946 and served as president of the LLA in 1963. His son, Lester L. "Bud" Greevy, Jr., was admitted to the bar in 1968 and served as president of the LLA in 1980. Bud's daughter, Julieanne E. Steinbacher, was admitted to the bar in 2000. She served as president of the LLA in 2013, 50 years after her grandfather held the position, and remains an active member of the bar.*



At the annual LLA banquet in 2014, Skip received the William E. Nichols Community Service Award.



Julie is also an active member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA). She received the PBA Special Achievement Award in May, 2015, for her service as chair of the PBA Quality of Life/ Balance Committee.





## *The Campanas*

*Brothers Ambrose R. and John P. were admitted to the bar in 1953 and 1954 respectively. They practiced law together at 339 Market Street under the firm name of Campana & Campana. Ambrose served as the president of the LLA in 1986.*

*Ambrose's son Peter was admitted to the Lycoming County bar in 1972 and his daughter, Angela, was admitted in 1987, along with her husband, Marc F. Lovecchio, a future member of the bench of Lycoming County. From 1987 until his death in 1993, Ambrose practiced law with his son, his daughter and his son-in-law. In 2014, in recognition of her pro bono work, Angela received the Honorable Thomas Wood Jr. Equal Access to Justice Award. Peter received the same honors in 2018.*



Angela Campana Lovecchio, 2020 LLA President, is seen here with the award she received in 2014.



Peter Campana (middle) with representatives from PBA and 2018 LLA President Jennifer Heverly (far right), accepting his pro bono award in 2018.

## *United States Magistrate Judges*

*William Hartman Askey served as a United States Magistrate Judge in the Middle District of Pennsylvania from 1964 through 2007, when he retired after more than 43 years of service to the federal judiciary.*

*Bill Askey was a true gentleman. He was also a dedicated and active member of the county bar for his entire career, serving as the president of the LLA in 1968. At the LLA's annual banquet in 2004, he received the LLA's Equal Access to Justice Award in recognition of his extraordinary volunteer work. Askey demonstrated outstanding achievement and commitment to equal justice for the poor.*

*Following Askey's retirement, William I. "Skip" Arbuckle was appointed to the position as the part-time federal Magistrate Judge sitting in Williamsport. When the position became full-time, Magistrate Judge Arbuckle moved to Williamsport and immediately joined the LLA.*



William Hartman Askey



Skip Arbuckle  
surrounded by  
members of the LLA.







### ***Court Administrators***

*LLA Member Kevin Way served the County as Court Administrator for 24 years. He took the position in November, 1991, and retired in December 2015. He is shown here with his successor, LLA member, Adrienne Stahl.*



## ***Our Members in the Legislative Branch***

*The members of our bar who have served in the legislative branch of government are far too numerous to mention them all here. Many of our members held seats in both houses of Congress and in Pennsylvania's General Assembly. Judge Gamble served in the state legislature and in Congress. Robert McClure, one of the first lawyers to move to Lycoming County, served in the state legislature. The first president of the LLA, Robert Fleming, was a member of the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention and was elected twice to the State Senate. One of our early members, Robert Reeder, was elected to the state legislature in 1885 at the age of 27, one of the youngest members ever elected from Lycoming County.*

*In 1916, LLA member Charles Franklin Bidelspacher was elected to the state legislature and was re-elected for seven successive terms, serving 16 years until 1931. He was responsible for introducing legislation which transferred 20,000 miles of rural dirt roads to the state highway system. Upon his death an editorial in the local newspaper commented, "Few Lycoming Countians have matched his influence in the halls of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives." His son, Charles R. Bidelspacher, served as LLA President in 1967.*



Charles R. Bidelspacher is shown here on the far right in 1966, when he became vice president, along with LLA President J. Frederick Gehr (left), a speaker at the annual banquet and Frederick Y. Dietrick, outgoing president.





Robert C. Wise served in the Pennsylvania legislature from 1965 to 1974 and during that time, he also served as president of the LLA in 1969. He is shown here on the far right at the annual LLA meeting where he became president, along with Judge Charles F. Greevy, Jr. and Judge Charles G. Sweet, president judge of Washington County who was a guest.

*Allen Ertel became the first Democrat to represent the 17th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the 20th century when he won the 1976 election to the 95th Congress. He was subsequently re-elected to the 96th and 97th Congresses.*





## Our Members in the Military

Many of our attorneys served in the military prior to their admission to the bar in Lycoming County, and some have interrupted their practice of law to serve our nation. At least one early bar member from 1798, Jonathan Hoge Walker, served in the Revolutionary War and later became the first Judge of the United States Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

James Wood, who moved to Williamsport in 1862 to practice law, served as Major of the thirty-seventh regiment during the Civil War composed largely of men from Lycoming County. Upon his return to Lycoming County, he was elected the first mayor of Williamsport when it became a city in 1866.

Arthur H. McKean, who was associated with Judge Charles Williams before entering the Navy, was the only member of this bar to be killed in World War II while on active duty.

In December 1943, the LLA honored service members with a plaque.

December 12, 1943

### TO HONOR SERVICE MEN

#### Lycoming Law Association Plans Plaque for 14 Members

With 14 members in the armed forces, the Lycoming Law Association will dedicate a plaque to them at a special service tomorrow at 2:30 p. m.

The name of Arthur H. McKean, of the navy, reported missing in action, will be marked by a gold star. Other names to be inscribed are John Decker, Norman Kocher, Harry Gibson, Lee B. Lansberry, Albert W. Johnson, Jr., Fred Y. Dietrick, Thomas Wood, Jr., Malcolm Muir, Harry C. Fithian, Jr., Alfred Jackson, Don L. Larrabee, Sidney A. Simon, and Charles F. Greevy.

February 20, 1944

#### Lawyers Add Two to Honor Roll

Two names were added last week to the honor roll erected by the Lycoming County Law Association in the county court house. They are Lt. Nathan W. Stuart and Lt. (j. g.) William H. Wood. Lt. Stuart is serving with the coast artillery of the army near Philadelphia, and Lt. Wood with the navy at Washington.



More recently, the LLA honored its military members at the 2015 annual banquet.

Robert Cronin, 2016 LLA President, joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in September, 2014. He deferred his year as LLA President to undertake basic combat training during the winter of 2015. In 2018, he deployed with the 28th Infantry Division in support of Operation Spartan Shield, serving in the position of Trial Counsel. He achieved the rank of Captain.





Allen Ertel (shown here being admitted to the bar in 1966) was sworn in as District Attorney in 1968. He served until 1977.

## ***Our District Attorneys***

*We have had a distinguished list of lawyers serve as the Lycoming County District Attorney throughout our county's history.*

*In 1850, the office of DA became an elected position, with the first being George F. Boal, who previously served in the Pennsylvania legislature. It is reported that he "was a lover of a free and easy life and never studied more law than became necessary in the preparation of his cases." He served as DA until 1853 and in 1854 he became the prothonotary of the county.*

*The first DA to be elected to a four-year term was Ira Franklin Smith, having been elected in 1907. He later became the 1925 LLA President. Charles F. Greevy, Sr. served as DA from 1916 to 1919 and he became the 1927 LLA President.*

*In 1923, William K. Bastian was elected DA and convinced the County Commissioners to provide him with an office in the courthouse. His successor was Henry Cheston Hicks, who had previously served as the secretary of the LLA in 1923 when his father, Thomas Hicks, was the LLA president.*

*In 1996, Thomas A. Marino became Lycoming County's first full-time DA. He was re-elected twice without opposition.*

*Our prior District Attorneys who have later been elected to the bench of Lycoming County include William Kieser (1977-1979), Kenneth D. Brown (1979-1983) and Eric Linhardt (2007-2017).*





## County Public Defenders

*The Lycoming County Public Defender's Office came much later in the county's history.*

*In 1963, the United States Supreme Court, in Gideon v. Wainwright, established the right to counsel in criminal cases, but it was several years later when the first county-funded public defender office was opened.*

*The minutes of a regular meeting of the LLA on August 12, 1968, note that the county is to have a Public Defender's Office. In 1969, future judge Thomas C. Raup became the first lawyer to hold the position of chief public defender for Lycoming County, a position he held until mid-1971.*



John C. Youngman, Jr. (left) appears with a defendant (back to the camera) at an arraignment before Judge Charles F. Greevy, Jr. Also present is District Attorney Paul Reeder (far right) who served as DA from 1960 to 1963.



## *Legal Aid*

In 1940, the LLA formed a committee to address the need for legal aid for the poor. The following year, the Legal Aid Society was formed with its purpose being to screen and refer indigent people to pro bono attorneys. In 1949, a Legal Referral Service was also created, for persons of "moderate means." However, it was not until 1959 that a committee, chaired by future judge Thomas Wood, Jr., secured funding for the Legal Service Office, located in Room 415 of Penn Tower (25 West Third Street), the same building that houses the LLA office today. The room was rented at \$45 per month and was to be staffed by lawyers' wives to handle the applications for services.





George Orwig (center) shown here in 1970 as treasurer of the LLA with LLA President Sidney A. Simon (left) and LLA secretary Joseph L. Rider (right).

*After the county-funded public defender office was established, the Legal Service Office was closed in 1969. George Orwig agreed to operate the pro bono referral program for civil legal aid and lawyer referral service. In 1971, he reported 900 contacts to his office, which was a 50% increase from the prior year.*

*In 1974, Central Susquehanna Valley Legal Services, located in Sunbury, expanded to include Lycoming County, opening an office in Williamsport. Thomas Wood, Jr., served as an early director for legal aid. Paul Reeder, 1973 LLA President, was the first President of the Board of Directors, serving from 1973 to 1981.*

*This agency was renamed Susquehanna Legal Services in 1975, and in 2001, it became North Penn Legal Services, serving a region of 20 counties that includes Lycoming County.*

*A reduction for funding created a renewed need for pro bono service, and in 1985, Judge Thomas Raup convinced all of the attorneys practicing in Lycoming County to make a commitment to accept three pro bono cases each year or make a financial contribution in lieu of service. Richard Roesgen, 1987 LLA President, created a panel of pro bono attorneys to represent plaintiffs in Protection from Abuse cases. This panel continues to handle 75% of the civil abuse cases in Lycoming County.*

*A similar panel was created in 2010 by Judge Richard Gray, at the height of the mortgage foreclosure crisis, to represent defendants. The Bar's commitment to pro bono service has earned Lycoming County a reputation, statewide, as a leader in pro bono service and resulted in the LLA receiving the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation's Louis J. Goffman Award in 2004 and Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network's Excellence Award in 2013.*



Jennifer Heverly, 2018 LLA President, is an attorney with North Penn Legal Services.





## ***The Pennsylvania Bar Association***

*Many members of our bar have been active with the Pennsylvania Bar Association. C. LaRue Munson served as PBA President in 1902. Judge Samuel Humes served as a member on the Executive Committee of the PBA. The Honorable Malcolm Muir was elected Vice President of the PBA and at the time of his appointment to the federal bench was the President-Elect; however, he renounced the presidency to devote his full attention to the judgeship. From May 2005 to May 2006, William Carlucci served as the 111th President of the PBA. Traditionally, the PBA has conducted “bar-storming” meetings, in order to permit county bar association officers to meet with PBA officers. While valuable, those meetings include only a handful of PBA members. During Bill’s year, he decided to personally attend dozens of county bar functions, all across the Commonwealth. At the close of his term, PBA Past President Michael Reed stated that Bill had likely personally greeted more PBA members than any PBA President in history.*

*Bill continues to be active in the PBA. Many other LLA members are also active in the PBA.*





Members of the LLA attend a PBA House of Delegates meeting bi-annually.



## ***Our Bar Historians***

*The LLA is extremely grateful to two men, Marshall R. Anspach and Gary Weber, who have worked tirelessly to preserve our history and who are responsible for the majority of the information contained in these pages.*

*Marshall R. Anspach was admitted to the Lycoming County bar in 1923. He was a veteran of World War I. He was active in the LLA, serving as president in 1933. Of all his accomplishments, his legacy in the LLA will forever live on in a book that he wrote entitled "Historical Sketches of the Bench and Bar of Lycoming County, 1796-1960." His manuscript of almost 350 pages was published in 1961. He died on April 26, 1962, on his way to participate in a taping of a radio presentation for Law Day. The program which he prepared for the radio panel was used in his honor. The other radio panelists were Paul W. Reeder, John P. Campana and Henry G. Hager, III. By way of a memorial to Anspach, the Law Association purchased books as a gift for the James V. Brown Library.*





*In his Historical Sketches, Anspach wrote about his admiration for the practice of law:*

**Ever since delivering my grammar school oration in 1910, on the *Value of the Lawyer*, I have yielded to no person in my admiration for the legal profession. Of course we too have our faults, but we stand along side of the ministry and the medical profession, at least in my humble opinion, as rendering the most needed and useful service to our fellow man.**

*At a meeting of the Executive Committee in February 1975, John C. Youngman Jr. was appointed to head a committee to bring the history of the county lawyers up to date. In April, 1976, the Bar History Committee sent a questionnaire to all members of the LLA to gather updated information.*

QUESTIONNAIRE TO ALL MEMBERS OF LYCOMING COUNTY BAR, APRIL 1976  
FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BAR HISTORY

IT HAS BEEN SIXTEEN YEARS SINCE MARSHALL R. ANSPACH'S MASTERFUL BAR HISTORY WAS PUBLISHED. SINCE THAT TIME TWENTY MEMBERS HAVE DIED, AND NEARLY FORTY NEW MEMBERS HAVE BEGUN PRACTISE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THEREFORE IS CONSIDERING THE PUBLICATION OF A REVISED OR UPDATED HISTORY OF OUR BAR, AS PART OF THE AREA BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITY.

IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO BROADEN THE SCOPE OF THE QUESTIONS ASKED, SO THAT THE AVAILABLE BIOGRAPHICAL DATA WILL BE MUCH MORE MEANINGFUL. PLEASE RETURN THIS SHEET, COMPLETELY FILLED OUT, TO JOHN C. DECKER, ESQ., 143 WEST FOURTH ST., WILLIAMSPORT, PA., 17701 PLEASE DO THIS AT EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

*On May 1, 1989, the Bar History Committee updated the Anspach volume to include information about attorneys from 1960 to 1989.*

*In 1987, Gary Weber began writing the headnotes for the Lycoming Reporter. He read all of the court opinions and provided headnotes to Editor Bill Knecht for publication. He also kept statistics. With only 29 of 295 opinions published in 1999, it was evident that most of the court's opinions were not available to the bar. After Gary sent a letter to the bench with the opinion statistics, Judge Kieser mentioned that he would be supportive of a more widespread publication using the internet. Gary began to research the possibility of establishing an LLA website. He presented a proposal to the Executive Committee. On April 11, 2000, the domain name, "lycolaw.org" was registered at a cost of \$95.00. Gary had the website live just before Law Day 2000, and announced at the Law Day Celebration that the student presentations would be posted on the new website.*



*In 2002, Gary started taking pictures of LLA events with a new digital camera and displaying the photographs with web articles. He has continued to take pictures at every LLA event and posts articles almost simultaneously with the event. Gary served the LLA as president in 2003 but he has served the organization every day of every year since then by maintaining an extraordinary website with up to date information about every facet of the organization. Because of Gary's unwavering dedication to the LLA, there is a permanent web archive that LLA members and the public will appreciate far into the future.*



## *Traditions and Comradery* *The LLA Annual Banquet and Dinners*

*Every year the LLA members gather on the second Monday in January for the Annual Banquet. Awards are distributed and members are recognized for their contributions to the LLA and community.*



### **LLA Annual Banquet 1964**

Left to right: Charles R. Bidlespacher, executive committee member, William S. Livengood, former state secretary of internal affairs (guest speaker) George E. Orwig, treasurer, M. Edward Toner, President, Sidney A. Simon, secretary, Frederick Y. Dietrick, vice president.



**November 10, 1929**  
**CHIEF JUSTICE HONOR GUEST**  
Will Be Principal Speaker at Lycoming Bar Dinner on Nov. 19.  
Robert Von Moschizaker, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, will be the honor guest and the chief speaker at the dinner of the LYCOMING Law Association, to be given at the Williamsport Country Club on Tuesday evening, Nov. 19.  
Charles F. Bidelspacher, president of the association, received his acceptance of the invitation on Friday. In his letter to Mr. Bidelspacher Justice Moschizaker said the subject of his address would be "Pennsylvania, Her Bench and Bar."  
The committee of arrangements for the dinner consists of Clarence E. Sprout, chairman; Max L. Mitchell, Marshall R. Anspach, Carl W. Herdic, Harry Alvin Baird and Robert T. Reeder.



1932 LLA dinner honoring the retirement of Judge Harvey Whitehead.







July 10, 1932

## ATTORNEYS HAVE OUTING

Lycoming Bar Association Members Attend Annual Picnic

### PROMINENT MEN GUESTS

Tioga County Leaders and Clinton Prosecutor Present at Highland Lake Club Where Barristers Enjoy Dinner and Sports

With a number of prominent attorneys and political figures from outside the county as its guests, the Lycoming County Law Association has its annual outing at the Highland Lake Clubhouse yesterday afternoon and last evening.

Among the guests were Thomas A. Crichton, who recently was elected chairman of the Tioga County Republican Committee; G. Mason Owlett, Republican candidate for the state senate; Andrew B. Dunsmore, United States District Attorney; Chester H. Ashton, and Frank B. Gross, district attorney of Clinton County.

Mr. Crichton, Mr. Owlett, and Mr. Dunsmore are from Wellboro; Mr. Ashton, from Knoxville, and Mr. Gross, from Lock Haven.

### CHICKEN DINNER SERVED

Mr. C. Rhone, president of the law association, said yesterday that nothing of a business nature was considered at the outing but that it took the form of a day of recreation for the barristers and their guests, about 50 in all. A program of sports was enjoyed during the day and a chicken dinner was served last evening.

The club where the outing was held is located on Highland Lake, Shrewsbury Township.

Members of the committee in charge of the program yesterday were Mr. J. Maggio, Ira P. Smith, Carl W. Herdic, John T. Hyatt, and Robert K. Reeder.

## Annual Picnic

The LLA gathers each summer for an annual picnic. The early picnics were all day affairs. The members generally gathered for lunch and dinner. Sometimes there was singing, and usually a friendly game of poker. As early as the 1960s the picnic was held at Gray's Run Hunting Club where several LLA members were also members. At that location members played horseshoes, volleyball, cards and relaxed on the front porch.



SUN-GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

Lycoming County lawyers hosted state bar officials at Highland Lake in July 1936. Relaxing outside a cabin are, from left, seated, Judge G.B.M. Metzger; Judge Don M. Larrabee; former Judge Max L. Mitchell; Sterling McNeas, president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association; and Gilber H. Burrows, Lycoming County court reporter; standing in center, Frank P. Cummings, attorney and city solicitor of Williamsport; Rogers K. Foster, attorney; and Maj. John M. Smith, secretary of the state association. Names were not provided for the two men at far left or the ones behind the pillars.









*In more recent years the picnic has been held at other locations, including the Hiawatha River Boat.*





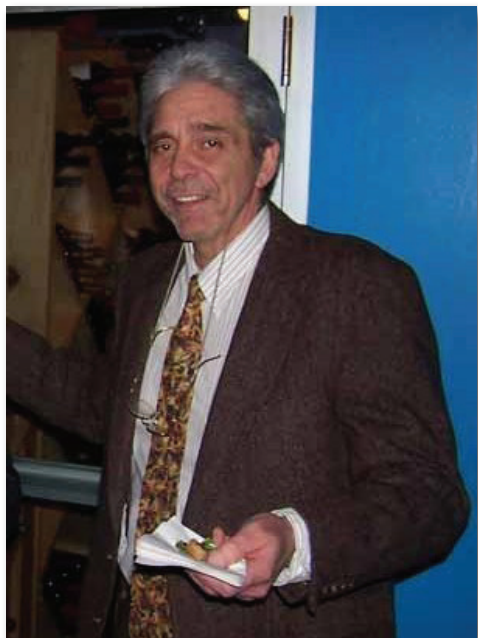


*Over the years, other social events have been enjoyed by LLA members, including happy hours, quizzo games and trips to Knoebel's Grove.*

















*Annually the Young Lawyers Division of the LLA has organized a holiday toy and clothing drive to benefit local families.*





## ***Lawyers in the Community***

*Working as volunteers, LLA members devote significant time, skills and support to area community organizations. Throughout the history of the LLA many members have shared their time and talents with the community.*



*Kristine Waltz, a Wills for Heroes Coordinator, trains attorney volunteers at a local fire hall prior to the heroes' arrival.*





## ***The Lycoming Law Association Foundation***

*The LLA Foundation is the charitable giving arm of the LLA. It is a tax-exempt not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation that offers grants for law-related activities in the community. The mission of the Foundation is to cultivate the science of jurisprudence, improve the legal and judicial system and facilitate the administration of justice for residents of Lycoming County; to promote education generally, including the cultivation of law-related education in schools of Lycoming County, the granting of scholarships, assistance to public libraries in Lycoming County and advancement of continuing legal education; and, to make such grants as are consistent with Foundation policies and guidelines.*

*Joseph L. Rider, 1976 LLA President, has served on the board of the Foundation since its beginning in 1989 and until his passing in 2020.*



The 2019 trustees of the LLA Foundation, seen here at a meeting, include (left to right), Michele Frey, Executive Director, Angela Campana Lovecchio, Fred Holland, Joe Rider, Christian Frey, Jennifer Heverly, William "Skip" Arbuckle.





At the 2006 Lawctoberfest, Judge Muir signed a bottle of wine from his private collection to be auctioned off for the benefit of the LLA Foundation.

*For many years the Young Lawyers Division (YLD) of the LLA, sponsored the Lawctoberfest to benefit the LLA Foundation. Some of the proceeds came from a silent auction.*



In 2016, the Foundation awarded a grant of \$1,500.00 to the Lycoming County Historical Society, continuing an effort started in 2014 to preserve important, local legal documents. The grant to the Thomas T. Taber Museum of the Lycoming County Historical Society was to fund the abstracting, indexing and preserving of legal documents in the Museum's archive related to Lycoming County. In 2014 the Foundation awarded \$7,500.00 to the Museum. The Museum began the project the following year. LLA member Patty Bowman was hired to do the work.





## *Wills for Heroes*

*In 2015 the LLA held its first Wills for Heroes event, drafting estate planning documents, at no cost, for veterans and first-responders. The LLA continues to hold this event annually.*

*The LLA's Wills for Heroes event has grown with each passing year. In 2019, close to seventy community members received estate planning documents.*









The Honorable Charles S. Williams was active with the BSA. He is shown here seated in the center and the young scout standing over his right shoulder is his son, Scott A. Williams, 1986 LLA President.

## *Boy Scouts*

*Perhaps the organization with the most LLA involvement over the years has been the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). The BSA is one of the largest scouting organizations worldwide, and one of the largest youth organizations in the United States.*

*Many of the members of the LLA have been scouts or adult volunteers in the scouting program. Some members have been parents of Eagle Scouts, or Eagle Scouts themselves.*

*The Honorable Don M. Larrabee volunteered with the scouts in the early 1930s as did the Honorable Samuel H. Humes in the 1940s. Don L. Larrabee, 1951 LLA President, was a scout master of the Honorable Clinton W. Smith and influenced Judge Smith's choice of profession more than any other person. Harry C. Fithian, Jr., 1955 LLA President, was actively involved with the BSA too.*



*The minutes of the LLA reflect that scouts assisted in moving the law library from the temporary courthouse to the new courthouse in 1971. In February 1972, representatives of the BSA approached the LLA regarding a program to orient boys and girls on various aspects of the legal profession. In November 1974, the BSA made a proposal to the Executive Committee of an explorer troop working with the LLA. Carl Barlett, 2000 LLA President, was one of the first advisors of the explorer troop. On October 12, 1975, the explorer scouts held their first meeting at the courthouse and the LLA provided cider and donuts.*

*Bill Carlucci, 1992 LLA President, has given more of his time to the BSA than any other LLA member. He has been active in the BSA for virtually his entire life. Bill served twice as President of the Susquehanna Council and nearly thirty years on the executive board. He has received numerous scouting awards for volunteer service, including the 1989 Silver Beaver Award.*



Two scouts are shown here with Judges Charles F. Greevy, Jr. (left) and Thomas Wood (right) on Scout Day in 1966.



Bill, shown here standing on left, is with a group of scouts at an expedition in New Mexico. He served as an adult advisor on five separate scout backpacking contingents in New Mexico between 1983 and 1999.





## ***Pro Bono Recognition***

*Our lawyers have always been willing to provide legal services to low-income people who need assistance with their civil legal issues in Lycoming County. Generally, 72% of the LLA membership take pro bono referrals from North Penn Legal Services. At our annual banquet, the LLA recognizes its members for their pro bono service each year. In the past, the LLA would purchase small mementos to award to the attorneys. Recently, the LLA has been forgoing the mementos in favor of a monetary award to a local charity, in honor of the service provided by pro bono attorneys.*



In 2017, the LLA chose Sojourner Truth Ministries to receive the annual \$500 award. Sojourner Truth Ministries provides food, comfort and fellowship to homeless and lonely of the area, from its mission church on High Street in Williamsport.



## William E. Nichols Community Service Award

The William E. Nichols Community Service Award was established by the LLA in 2012 to recognize outstanding commitment to community service beyond the practice of law. The award comes with \$1,000.00 in prize money to be donated by the LLA to the charity of the award winner's choice.

The first award was presented in 2012 to the man for whom it was named, William E. Nichols, at the LLA annual banquet by then LLA President J. Michael Wiley. Bill chose the James V. Brown Library as the recipient of the cash award. Bill served on the board of the library for 50 years.

In 2013, Bill Carlucci received the second annual William E. Nichols Community Service Award. He split the award between the Lancer Foundation of the Loyalsock School District and the Susquehanna Council of Boy Scouts.

Other William E. Nichols award recipients include: Charles Greevy, III (2014), Fred Holland (2017), Joe Rider (2018), Corey Mowrey (2019), and Gary Weber (2020).





## *Places of Worship*

*Many LLA members are active in their places of worship and more than 30% of our membership are volunteer leaders at local churches and synagogues.*



One block north of the courthouse on Pine Street sits the Pine Street United Methodist Church, shown here in this aerial view prior to a fire that destroyed the building in 1977. Several LLA members have served that particular church. Harry Fithian, Sr. was a member, as was his son, Harry Fithian, Jr., who also held various positions including chair of the Administrative Board. The Honorable Spencer W. Hill was on the Board of Trustees. The Honorable Clinton W. Smith also held various positions and was on the building committee that was instrumental in rebuilding the church after the fire.



## *Fraternal Organizations and Service Clubs*

*More than half of the LLA members are volunteer leaders in civic organizations in our community. Outside of leadership positions, more than 66% of our LLA members regularly volunteer services to non-profits.*





## *LLA PRESIDENTS*

1870 Robert Fleming	1930 Carl W. Herdic
1892-98 Henry C. Parsons	1931 John G. Candor
1899-1901 Henry Clay McCormick	1932 Hon. Mortimer C. Rhone
1904 C. Larue Munson	1933 Marshall R. Anspach
1905 Herbert T. Ames	1934 William W. Champion
1906 Seth Thomas McCormick	1935 John E. Cupp
1907 J. J. Reardon	1936 Chester E. Hall
1908 J. Artley Beeber	1937 Joseph R. Straub
1909 John T. Fredericks	1938 Rogers K. Foster
1910 Clarence E. Sprout	1939 John C. Youngman, Sr.
1911 Addison Candor	1940 Thomas Wood, Sr.
1912 Nicholas M. Edwards	1941 Harry A. Baird
1913 Hon. Max L. Mitchell	1942 Dan D. Kline
1914 James B. Krause	1943 S. Dale Furst, Jr.
1915 Charles J. Reilly	1944 Harry Swank Philips
1916 Walter G. Gilmore	1945 Clyde E. Williamson
1917-18 Hon. G. B. Metzger	1946 Harry R. Gibson
1919 J. Fred Katzmaier	1947 Clyde E. Carpenter, Sr.
1920 Harry C. Fithian, Sr.	1948 Lewis G. Shapiro
1921 John T. Hyatt	1949 Hon. Spencer W. Hill, Jr.
1922 Seth T. McCormick, Jr.	1950 Seth McCormick Lynn
1923 Thomas M. B. Hicks	1951 Don L. Larrabee
1924 Archibald M. Hoagland	1952 Alfred R. Jackson
1925 Ira F. Smith	1953 Michael J. Maggio
1926 Otto G. Kaupp	1954 Hon. Malcolm Muir
1927 Charles F. Greevy, Sr.	1955 Harry C. Fithian, Jr.
1928 Oliver J. Decker	1956 Hon. Thomas Wood, Jr.
1929 Charles F. Bidelspacher	1957 Nathan W. Stuart
	1958 Katherine S. Carpenter
	1959 J. Neafie Mitchell



## *LLA PRESIDENTS*

1960 Allen P. Page, Jr.	1991 George E. Orwig, II
1961 John M. Hill	1992 William P. Carlucci
1962 H. Clay McCormick	1993 John A. Felix
1963 Lester L. Greevy, Sr.	1994 Fred A. Holland
1964 M. Edward Toner	1995 William L. Knecht
1965 Frederick Y. Dietrick	1996 Scott A. Williams
1966 J. Frederick Gehr	1997 Charles F. Greevy, III
1967 Charles R. Bidelspacher	1998 Paul A. Roman
1968 William H. Askey	1999 Ronald C. Travis
1969 Robert C. Wise	2000 Carl Edward Barlett
1970 Sidney A. Simon	2001 Robin A. Read
1971 John C. Gault	2002 Andrea B. Bower
1972 Charles A. Szybist	2003 Gary L. Weber
1973 Paul W. Reeder	2004 John M. Humphrey
1974 Walter R. Rice, Jr.	2005 Norman M. Lubin
1975 Clyde E. Carpenter, Jr.	2006 L. Craig Harris
1976 Joseph L. Rider	2007 John P. Pietrovito
1977 John C. Decker	2008 Tammy L. Taylor
1978 Markin R. Knight	2009 Jonathan E. Butterfield
1979 Bertram S. Murphy	2010 Michael H. Collins
1980 Lester L. Greevy, Jr.	2011 Brian J. Bluth
1981 Michael J. Casale, Sr.	2012 J. Michael Wiley
1982 Charles J. McKelvey	2013 Julieanne E. Steinbacher
1983 O. William Vanderlin	2014 Thomas Waffenschmidt
1984 Thomas S. Quinn	2015 Tammy Avery Weber
1985 Gary T. Harris	2016 Robert Cronin
1986 Ambrose R. Campana	2017 Ryan M. Tira
1987 Richard H. Roesgen	2018 Jennifer L. Heverly
1988 William E. Nichols	2019 Christian D. Frey
1989 John C. Youngman, Jr.	2020 Angela Campana Lovecchio
1990 C. Edward S. Mitchell	





## *LLA PRESIDENTS*



**LLA Presidents at the 2008 Annual Banquet:** Gary Harris, Robert C. Wise, John P. Pietrovito, L. Craig Harris, William L. Knecht, Paul A. Roman, C. Edward S. Mitchell, Charles A. Szybist, Gary L. Weber, Robin A. Read, William P. Carlucci, John M. Humphrey, Carl E. Barlett, Ronald C. Travis, Charles F. Greevy, III, Joseph L. Rider, William E. Nichols.



**Presidents appearing in 2019:** William P. Carlucci, John P. Peitrovito, Robert C. Wise, Scott A. Williams, Paul A. Roman, J. Michael Wiley, Jennifer L. Heverly, Tammy L. Taylor, Brian J. Bluth, Tammy Avery Weber, Gary L. Weber, Thomas Waffenschmidt, Fred A. Holland, Michael H. Collins, Robert Cronin, Ryan M. Tira, John M. Humphry, Charles F. Greevy, III, Jonathan E. Butterfield, Norman M. Lubin, Christian D. Frey. Bob Wise served as president in 1969 and Christian Frey served in 2019 - a 50 year span of service.



## 2019 Executive Board



Left to Right: Warren “Rick” Baldys, Donald Martino, Jessica Harlow, Elizabeth White, Michele Frey, Angela Campana Lovecchio, Jennifer Heverly, Christian Frey, Gary Weber.  
Not pictured: Corey Mowrey

## 2020 Executive Board



Left to Right, starting at top: Joy Reynolds McCoy, Michele Frey, Corey Mowrey, Warren “Rick” Baldys, Christian Frey, Liz White, Ryan Gardner and Angela Campana Lovecchio.  
Not pictured: Jessica Harlow, Donald Martino and Gary Weber.





*In 1996 the Pennsylvania Bar Association's President's Award was presented to the LLA "in recognition and appreciation for outstanding volunteer participation in **THE GOOD NEIGHBOR OUTREACH PROJECT**," following the flood of January, 1996.*

*Since its receipt, LLA presidents have passed the clock to their successors each year at the annual meeting.*



**2004-2005** – John M. Humphrey  
to Norman M. Lubin



**2005-2006** – Norman M. Lubin  
to L. Craig Harris



**2006-2007** – L. Craig Harris to  
John P. Pietrovito

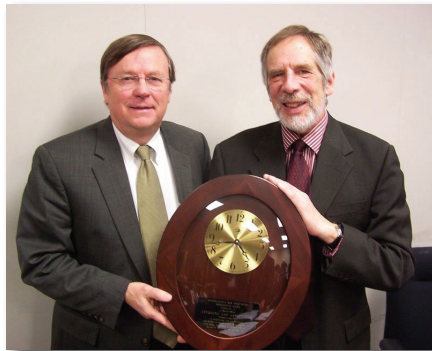


**2007-2008** – John P. Pietrovito to  
Tammy L. Taylor





**2008-2009** – Tammy L. Taylor to  
Jonathan E. Butterfield



**2009-2010** – Jonathan E.  
Butterfield to Michael H. Collins



**2010-2011** – Michael H. Collins  
to Brian J. Bluth



**2011-2012** – Brian J. Bluth to  
J. Michael Wiley



**2012-2013** – J. Michael Wiley to  
Julieanne E. Steinbacher



**2013-2014** – Julieanne E. Steinbacher  
to Thomas Waffenschmidt





**2014-2015** – Thomas Waffenschmidt to Tammy Avery Weber



**2015-2016** – Tammy Avery Weber to Robert Cronin



**2016-2017** – Robert Cronin to Ryan M. Tira



**2017-2018** – Jennifer L. Heverly



**2018-2019** – Jennifer L. Heverly to Christian D. Frey



**2019 - 2020** – Christian D. Frey to Angela Campana Lovecchio







\$27.00  
ISBN 978-1-7923-5730-5  
52700>



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