

## 2010 PRESIDENT'S REPORT LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION

Officers and members of the Lycoming Law Association in 2010 were as follows:

**President, Michael H. Collins; President-Elect, Brian J. Bluth; Secretary, J. Michael Wiley; Treasurer, Julie Steinbacher; Past President, Jonathan E. Butterfield; Members at Large: Thomas Waffenschmidt, Patricia L. Bowman, Robert Cronin, Joseph Musto.**

The officers and committee were able to perform its tasks thanks to the commendable service of our Executive Director, Jessica Engel.

These officers and committee members were elected at the annual meeting, convened on January 11, 2010, followed by a banquet at 33 East. The banquet honored retiring President Judge Kenneth Brown as well as retired Judge William Kieser. There were a number of speakers including Judge Dudley Anderson. Presents were presented to both judges on behalf of the Lycoming Law Association. Judge Marc F. Lovecchio was presented with the second annual Honorable Thomas Wood Equal Access to Justice Award. Attorney Henry Perciballi was presented with a 50-year LLA membership award.

On January 18, 2010, the Executive Committee held a half day board retreat at the Pennsylvania College of Technology Professional Development Center.

In February, your President, President-Elect Brian Bluth and Executive Director Jessica Engel, along with Lycoming Reporter Editor William L. Knecht, attended the Conference of County Bar Leaders in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, gaining valuable insights into the conduct of business by other county bar associations.

On April 30, 2010, the LLA celebrated Law Day with gratifying participation by local students and assistance from the Lycoming Paralegal Association.

A mortgage diversification program was instituted in Lycoming County, spearheaded by Judges Gray and Anderson with the help of STEP and North Penn Legal Services. This program, like several other programs throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, allows for defendants in mortgage foreclosure actions to request settlement conferences before the local courts. The training for the local bar was held on June 24, 2010 at the Ross Club. Attorney Jennifer Heverly of North Penn Legal Services conducted the training. A number of members of the Association responded to the Association's request for pro bono attorneys for representation at such conferences before the court. The settlement conference is to insure that the lenders involved in foreclosure proceedings have afforded the defendants the opportunity of applying for a number of programs available to assist those defendants in modifying their mortgages. Consistent with their representation for pro bono service several members of the Association provided such pro bono service to those clients. In addition, the pro bono activity of a large number of LLA members continued throughout the year 2010 by accepting referrals from North Penn Legal Services.

Social Hours were held twice this year, once at the law firm of Steinbacher & Stahl, on Friday, March 19, 2010, and once at the law firm of Raup, Wiley & Sholder, on Friday, June 18, 2010. An enjoyable time was had by all who attended. The annual picnic took place in July at Gray's Run and was a success. In August, the LLA hosted a night at the Williamsport Crosscutters.

Over the course of the year, progress continued in the production of a video documentary of the life of the Honorable Malcolm Muir, a project funded in part by the LLA.

The composite of the LLA was completed after a fifteen (15) year hiatus and will be available for purchase in early 2011.

The Eat and Earn CLE lunches at the Ross Club continue to attract substantial attendance for LLA members, providing a convenient, inexpensive, and reasonable method of securing CLEs. In addition, the LLA continues to gain rental income by making its office available to PBI for presentation of video CLE seminars, as well as to other lawyers/organizations who require space. The PBI seminars are administrated by our Executive Director Jessica Engel.

Thanks to the initiative of our President-Elect and Executive Director a Board Retreat will take place in January, 2011, facilitated by the Executive Director of the Allegheny County Bar Association. He conducts similar retreats for the ABA and is doing so with no fee to the LLA.

On December 17, 2010, LLA hosted a reception for nine (9) new members of the Bar as well as the LLA, at the Old Corner Hotel, following a ceremony in the courthouse. This brought LLA membership to 210.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael H. Collins  
President