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PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2014

2014 was a year where the organization underwent significant and unprecedented changes.

First off we moved into a brand new and much larger office space. On February 17, 2014 the move to our new office on the 8th floor of Penn Tower was completed. The new office features a large seminar room with a seating capacity of close to 50 people. The new seminar room features state of the art audio and video equipment for the speakers and presenters to utilize. As a result we were able to hold all our CLEs in house thereby significantly reducing our costs as compared to using an outside facility. As a result, CLE income and room rental income has been higher this year than in any other year. In fact, CLE and rental income exceeded the amount of rent that had to be paid for the year. In addition to the large seminar room we also have a new Board Room where the Executive Committee and other committees hold their meetings. This room has also been rented out and used by members and other organizations. The new office also features a brand new kitchen/reception area as well as a spacious office for the Executive Director. There is also an extra room for storage of files and records..

We celebrated the opening of the new office with a house warming party on April 11, 2014 and membership seems generally excited about our new offices.

When the excitement over our new office started to fade we learned the sad news that our Executive Director, Jessica Engel, would be leaving us later in the year. Her decision to leave the organization was purely personal as she did not want to go through another Pennsylvania winter and decided to relocate to Charlotte, NC. Because Jessica was kind enough to give us plenty of advance notice of her decision to relocate we were able to start the search for her replacement in July 2014. I appointed a search committee to fill the position consisting of Angela Lovecchio, Jack Humphrey, Gary Weber, Robert Cronin, Jessica Engel and myself. The position was advertised in the local paper as well as on the web site. We received approximately 20 applications from very well qualified individuals to fill the position. The Executive Director Search Committee reviewed all applications and decided to interview five of the candidates. After the interview process was completed the Executive Director Search Committee unanimously voted to offer the position to Michele Frey, who as you all know, also accepted the position. Michele started working as the new Executive Director on November 10, 2014. In order to assure a smooth transition Jessica Engel continued to work for the organization until the end of November and taught Michele the various aspects of her job from budgeting to recordkeeping, scheduling CLE's, organizing meetings etc. As a result the transition went extremely smooth and uncomplicated.

This year's annual banquet was held on January 13, 2014 at Le Jeune Chef. Woodlands Bank graciously agreed to become a sponsor for the event which allowed us to have an open bar for beer and wine and also have wine with dinner. The food, and in particular the appetizers, was outstanding and if you have not been to Le Jeune Chef you are missing out on a culinary gem in our area. The designated speaker was our Ambassador Designate to Norway, George Tsunis who unfortunately had to cancel at the last minute in order to attend meetings in Washington DC relative to his confirmation, which we all know he has now withdrawn. PBA President Forest Myers was kind enough to pinch hit in the last minute and be our keynote speaker. Danna Rich-Collins was awarded the associations Public Service Award in recognition of her service to the indigent in our community. Skip Greevy received the Third Annual "William E Nichols Community Service Award" for outstanding commitment to community service outside the practice of law.

As always John Pietrovito and Danna Rich-Collins made the annual pro-bono presentations to law firms and individual lawyers who provided legal service to the community at no charge. Angela Lovecchio received

the 2013 "Honorable Thomas Wood Jr. Equal Access to Justice Award" in recognition of her volunteer efforts at the legal services office where she spends time serving clients without pay.

Our annual visit to the Cross Cutters game took place on August 3, 2014 but was poorly attended. As a result the Board is considering canceling the event altogether in 2015. If you believe the event should be continued please make sure to let a Board member know before a decision is made in that regard.

As in the past few years, our summer picnic consisted of a lovely boat ride with dinner and drinks on the Hiawatha on September 3, 2014. FindLaw agreed to be the sponsor for the event which allowed us to reduce costs and provide an open bar for beer and wine. For the first time the event was catered by Chef Hosch and everybody attending enjoyed the wide variety of appetizers along with prime rib and shrimp for dinner. Cost for young lawyers was reduced and as a result we were pleased to see a good turnout from younger members of the bar.

The LLA also hosted its traditional community events in 2014. The mock trial competition and the Law Day Art and Essay competitions attracted again a high quality of students from the area all of whom showed a great deal of interest in the law and whose work product continued to be of high caliber as always. Members are strongly encouraged to support each of these events in the years ahead.

A documentary film, "Malcolm Muir: A Pioneer in the Efficient Administration of Justice" premiered on October 20, 2014, the hundredth anniversary of Judge Muir's birthday. The project was funded by the Lycoming Law Foundation and produced by former President John Humphrey who also served as the narrator. The event was so well attended that it had to be moved from our new offices to a facility on Lycoming College. The showing was followed by a reception. DVD's are available for resale with all proceeds going to the LLA Foundation. The first batch of DVD's that was ordered already sold out, so if anybody else wishes to purchase another copy please contact our Executive Director Michelle Frey.

In December the LLA foundation awarded \$7,500.00 to the Lycoming County Historical Society and the Thomas Taber Museum. The grant will be used to fund the abstracting, indexing and preserving of legal documents in the museum's archive that are related to Lycoming County spanning the 18th through the early 20th century.

On December 8, 2014 the Lycoming County Court of Common Pleas sat for a special session of court at which time six new attorneys were admitted to practice within the county. After the swearing in ceremony the new admittees had an opportunity to mingle with the rest of us old timers during a social gathering at the Old Corner.

The association remains financially stable. The Reporter remains the primary source of income and Gary Weber continues to deserve all the credit for that. Please thank him for his tireless efforts for which he is way undercompensated, not only in connection with the Reporter but also for his outstanding work in maintaining and updating the Lycolaw.org website. Frankly, I do not know what we would do without Gary! Although we've had additional expenses associated with the move to bigger offices and the purchase of furniture and equipment we were able to offset these costs primarily though increased income from CLE's and office rentals.

And while I started this year as the only "Alien" President ever of the Lycoming Law Association, I was pleased to have so many of you join me in my citizenship ceremony before the Honorable Judge Matthew Brann on May 30, 2014.

I also wish to express my thanks and gratitude for all the hard work and leadership that Julie Steinbacher has provided to this organization over the past several years of her service. She will be rotated off the Executive Committee. I am also excited and look forward to another successful year for the organization under the leadership of Tammy Weber.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as the association President in 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Waffenschmidt, President