

LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION

Executive Director's Report - 2023

Every year, the LLA offers its members many professional development and networking opportunities. In 2023 the LLA conducted a Judicial Qualification Survey, had over twenty committee meetings, and nearly twenty live CLE offerings. Additionally, the LLA was represented at several Pennsylvania Bar Association events, including two House of Delegates meetings, the Conference of County Bar Leaders, and the Young Lawyer's Summit.

Many members believe that the social component of membership in the LLA is as important as the professional development component. This year, in addition to the LLA's Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony, held at Le Jeune Chef, the LLA offered its members opportunities to socialize at a Crosscutters game, and, in conjunction with the PBA, an outing to Knoebel's Grove. Also, the LLA had an amazing Annual Picnic at Nomad Distillery along with happy hour receptions after the Law Day Ceremony and the New Attorney Admission Ceremony.

The LLA again offered its members several opportunities to participate in community service. In addition to serving as jurors/scorekeepers for high school mock trial competitions, and coordinating a county-wide Law Day Competition, the LLA held a blanket collection, through Project Linus, to benefit children receiving services from either Lycoming County Children and Youth or Susquehanna Valley CASA. The Annual Angel Tree collection was held to benefit both the Salvation Army and Susquehanna Valley CASA. A significant amount of work was performed in 2023 to bring a Wills for Heroes event back to Lycoming County, and it is anticipated that the event will take place in 2024.

It is important to note the leadership and guidance offered to the association by 2023 LLA President, Elizabeth White. Liz approached each challenge with thoughtfulness and careful consideration. She also organized an inaugural event highlighting the importance of women trailblazers inside the legal profession. The event, named after the first woman president of the LLA, Katherine Smith Carpenter, will continue on an annual basis. At the end of 2023, Liz welcomed eleven new (and new to the area) attorneys to the LLA.

Incorporated in 1870, the Lycoming Law Association has many roles, and means different things to different people. As I changed the calendars to reflect the new year, I realized that I came to the LLA ten years ago (November of 2014). The Executive Director is a mere blip on the radar of LLA history. However, there have been some significant milestones and accomplishments in the last ten years that I am pleased to have assisted the organization with, including new branding for the LLA, launching a new website, reorganizing the foundation, as well as a year of celebratory activities for the association's 150th Anniversary.

There is no question that the LLA has strong and competent leaders in its past presidents, future presidents, and committee chairs. The association's continued success depends not only on its leadership, but also its membership at-large.

Sincerely,
LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION



Michele S. Frey, Executive Director