

LYCOMING LAW ASSOCIATION
President's Report
2023

It was an honor to serve as the LLA President in 2023. Thank you to the members for your continued commitment to the association and the community at large. Every month of 2023 was busy for the association, whether it be through hosting events, attending conferences, facilitating charitable drives, or conducting CLE courses. There were numerous ways for members to be involved, substantively, charitably, and socially.

In January, the annual banquet was well attended at Le Jeune Chef at Penn College. This was the first banquet since 2020 held on the traditional January date. Corey Mowrey was recognized as Past-President at the banquet. The Thomas Wood Equal Access to the Law Awards were presented by John Pietrovito and Jennifer Heverly, with John Person receiving this honor for 2021 and Corey Mowrey accepting the award for 2022. One fifty-year member, Norm Lubin, was celebrated as he was presented his recognition by Lee Roberts. Finally, I had the honor as President of awarding the William Nichols Public Service Award to U.S. Magistrate Judge William Arbuckle. Judge Arbuckle selected the LLA Foundation to receive the charitable donation that accompanies the Nichols Award.

In February, the Executive Committee gathered for its annual retreat, where, among other agenda items, the group brainstormed ways to continue to foster involvement of its members in the LLA and its committees, particularly amongst young lawyer members.

March brought the 57th Annual Seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders in Hershey. I attended along with our Executive Director, Michele Frey, and we accepted on behalf of the association recognition from the PBA for our projects to improve the legal profession, justice system and community. The projects recognized by the PBA included the Law Day Competition, Lycoming Law Association Foundation, the Project Linus blanket drive, and the Angel Tree Toy Drive.

Also in March, the high school regional mock trial competition was held at the Federal Courthouse, where Lycoming Law Association members volunteered their time and talents as jurors and scorekeepers.

In April the LLA met to review entries and choose the 2023 Law Day Art and Essay Contest winners. It also conducted its traditional LLA Judicial Survey and published the results.

The month of May saw another successful Project Linus blanket drive sponsored by the Young Lawyers. Over 50 blankets were collected and earmarked to benefit Lycoming County Children and Youth Services and local children in the Susquehanna Valley CASA program.

Law Day 2023 was celebrated on May 12, 2023, with winners in the art and essay categories from local middle and high schools. Attendees were rewarded with a diverse presentation from the art entry winners, including live music, poems, and even cake!

Nomad Distilling Co. served as the perfect LLA annual summer picnic location in July, with members enjoying conversation, lawn games, and of course, delicious food and drink. The association sent a young lawyer, Stephen Hartley, to the YLD Summer Summit in State College this month as well.

August served as the month for an inaugural event of the LLA, the Katherine Smith Carpenter Luncheon. The past women LLA Presidents gathered for lunch to celebrate the role of women in the LLA's history, in the profession at-large, and community. Attendees shared stories and laughter. The event was named after the first woman president of the association, Katherine Smith Carpenter, who served in 1958. Past Presidents, Robin Read, Andrea Bower, Tammy Taylor, Julieanne Steinbacher and Angela Lovecchio attended. I also attended as current President, along with President-elect, Joy Reynolds-McCoy, President Judge Nancy Butts, and Michele Frey.

In October the LLA sponsored a free pumpkin to its members at Carpenter's Pumpkin Farm.

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

To close out the year in December a record number of lawyers were sworn-in at the new attorney admission ceremony. Ten new attorneys were admitted in Lycoming County: Riane Gabriel Aichner, Jessica Halina Eckrote, Frederick Patrick Santucci, Alyssa Fenroy, Edward Reeves, Adrian Masaki Lee, Peter Campana Lovecchio, Korrin Abreal Moon, Lindsay Katherine Sweeley, and Noah F. Roux.

Sadly, the association mourned the loss of five of its members this year: Garth Everett, Larkin Elizabeth Rutkowski Hayman, Christian John Kalas, John A. Gummo, and William E. Nichols, Sr.

Throughout the year, the LLA continued to offer high-quality CLES, with 17 programs being offered. Particularly popular were CLE presentations related to the new civil electronic filing system.

I had the privilege of attending the PBA House of Delegates in person in both May in Philadelphia and in November in Hershey, which allowed me to meet bar leaders and bar executives from around the state and share the ideas, challenges, and accomplishments of our respective associations.

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. White, Esquire
2023 LLA President