

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SERVICE

The members of the Bar of Franklin County, Va. met at the Court House Chambers, Va. May 23rd 1899 at 4 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of forming a Bar Association -

Present: Judge Row, H. Lohr, D. O. Lohr, Samuel Lohr, W. W. Brewer, W. K. Sharpe, J. K. Sharpe, J. D. Ludwig, J. A. Fite, W. V. (Prochairs), J. R. Rutherford, Charles Hatten, John D. Rice, H. H. Spangler, Horace Beveler, J. C. Rankin, H. O. Nicholas, Howard F. Noble, J. W. Rodenhafes, W. R. Gilliam, Arthur W. Gilliam, J. E. Fletcher, S. C. Stover, Isaac J. Kruger, W. B. Orr, G. W. Truesdell, Linn Harland, J. M. McDowell, J. G. Winchast, E. E. Frost, S. F. Huber, Geo. W. Atherton, William Alexander, A. S. Bonebrake, W. R. Davison, Irvin C. Elder, H. J. Cunnawake, A. G. Mc Lanehard, Geo. A. Kyles, W. R. Keefer, John H. Hoke, H. S. Bremer and Lorent Gulp -

On motion Hon. D. W. Row was elected Chairman by acclamation -

On motion Lorent Gulp was elected Secretary by acclamation -

J. D. Ludwig Esq. offered the following resolution -

Resolved That: That a Bar Association be organized by the members of the Franklin County, Va. -
Second - That the Chairman appoint a Committee of seven members of the Bar to draft Constitution, By Laws and Rules for the government and management of the proposed Bar Association, that the Committee so appointed shall make a report on the Thursday following the next June O'phaus' Court at 2 o'clock P.M. and that the Chairman of this meeting be Ex. Officio a member of this Committee -

After discussion which was taken part in by H. Lohr, W. R. Gilliam, J. D. Ludwig, W. K. Sharpe, William Alexander and Judge Row the resolution was unanimously adopted and the following Committee appointed by the Chairman: J. D. Ludwig, H. Lohr, C. B. Bonds, W. R. Gilliam, W. W. Brewer, W. K. Sharpe and H. J. Cunnawake

On motion adjourned to meet Thursday June 29th at 2 P.M.

Attest.

Lorent Gulp
Secretary

D. Watson Rowe
Chairman



A Century of Service

Franklin County Bar Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is indeed an honor to serve as President of the Franklin County Bar Association in its Centennial year. From an initial membership of 43 visionary attorneys, it has grown to an organization of 110 members dedicated to the practice of law. Our profession has evolved from being one with a primary focus on the practice of law to one that integrates the principles of business and the responsibility of service while maintaining a high degree of professionalism. It is on this idea of community service that the FCBA has chosen to focus in celebrating its 100th anniversary.

While continuing many service projects including the Law Day celebration and the "Stepping Out" program, we introduced new initiatives in the area of public service. Monthly columns were written for area newspapers on topics of interest to the general public, a series of legal books was donated to the Coyle Free Library for use in the county-wide library system, attorneys volunteered in the soup kitchen at the Salvation Army, hours of pro bono service were provided to the local Legal Services office to assist clients in a variety of matters, trees are being planted in the four major Boroughs of the County, and Downey Benedict, Esquire, the only member of our Association having died in active military service, will be honored in the public ceremony planned for May 21, 1999. Our gift to the County of Franklin in honor of our anniversary will also be presented at this celebration of our past.

The Centennial Celebration has provided an opportunity to reflect upon our solid past and to preserve those memories through the production of a videotape and publication of a commemorative booklet detailing our history and looking forward to our vibrant future.

Although many have participated in this effort, I especially want to thank Phil Cosentino, Esquire, Chairman of the Centennial Celebration, for his dedication to the coordination of these efforts. A special thanks also to Lynn MacBride, Esquire for her work in producing the video.

May we never forget the accomplishments of our first 100 years and may we provide reason for celebration by those who follow.

Carol L. Van Horn, Esquire

Carol L. Van Horn

President

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Hoskinson & Wenger
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•

J. McDowell Sharpe

Treasurer

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•

Philip S. Cosentino

Secretary

DiLoreto, Cosentino & Bolinger
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•

Bonnie W. Martin

Executive Director

Franklin County Bar Association
P.O. Box 542
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Phone: 888-237-9948
Fax: 717-762-4838



Early History of the Franklin County Bar

While settlement began in Franklin County in 1730, real settlement didn't begin until after the French and Indian War and Pontiac's uprising in 1766, when Ben Chambers, having laid out the town of Chambersburg in 1764, began to promote the area and sell lots. Prior to that time, Franklin County was on the frontier of America with only the outposts at Fort Bedford, Fort Ligonier, and Fort Pitt extending farther west.

Franklin County was established in 1784 - five years before Washington took office as the first President in 1789. It was in the 4th Judicial District with Bedford, Huntingdon, and Mifflin Counties, Thomas Smith being the first President Judge. The first court of the local bar was held September 15, 1784, on the second floor of the John Jack Tavern on the northwest corner of the Diamond in Chambersburg, formerly the site of Palmer's Drugstore.

The Franklin County Bar began its long and illustrious history that day. Approximately 370 lawyers signed the Admission Register from 1784 to September of 1886, near the 100th anniversary of the bar. It should be pointed out, though, that not all lawyers who were admitted lived or were born in Franklin County, since some lawyers tried cases here but resided elsewhere. James Buchanan signed the book in 1813, and both he and Thaddeus Stevens appeared in court here, probably in occasional opposition to each other. Stevens' last appearance here was in 1859.

Many great and distinguished lawyers practiced who were born and resided in Franklin County. William Bradford was admitted in 1785 and became an Attorney General of the United States under George Washington. Thomas Hartley Crawford was admitted in 1807, became a Judge of the Criminal Court of the District of Columbia, and presided over the murder trial of Daniel Sickles, who had shot and killed his wife's lover. Sickles was acquitted and later lost his leg as a General in the Civil War at the battle of Gettysburg, when he pushed out his defense line so far that he nearly caused a Union defeat.

James Dunlap (1817) moved to Pittsburgh and was the author of Dunlap's Digest of Laws, thought by some to be superior to Purdon's. Robert McClellan (1831) and Conrad Baker, products of local legal training, moved west, McClellan becoming Governor of Michigan and Baker Governor of Indiana. Thomas A. Hendricks studied law under Judge Thomson and became Governor and U.S. Senator in Indiana and Vice President of the United States during Grover Cleveland's first term. Thomas Bard McFarland was admitted in 1849 and became a Justice of the Supreme Court of California.

The first President Judge from Franklin County was Judge James Riddle. He was a learned man, well-schooled in the classics. He owned Coldbrook, the mansion house at the end of Coldbrook Avenue, now owned by the Richards family. Having built an addition to accommodate students, he operated a "law school" in his home.

He served as President Judge from 1794 to 1806, when he resigned and resumed law practice.

Judge Thomas Cooper of Carlisle then became President Judge. Emigrating from England where he had studied chemistry, natural science, law and medicine at Oxford, Judge Cooper was referred to by Thomas Jefferson as "the greatest man in America in the powers of his mind and acquired information without a single exception". Later becoming President Judge in Northumberland, Lycoming and Luzerne Counties, he was discharged after a hearing found him unjust, due to his imposing fines for disciplinary infractions in his courtroom. He later became Professor of Chemistry at Dickinson College and wrote prolifically, attracting the Dupont sons as students. Following his tenure as Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy at the University of Pennsylvania, he was persuaded by Jefferson to become Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy, Natural Philosophy and Law at the University of Virginia. Later he became President of the University of South Carolina.

It should be noted that the study of law was under the tutelage of other lawyers and judges, a practice which continued for many years after the first law schools came into existence. There was an attempt to sponsor a law school in the 1830's through Marshall College in Mercersburg with classes held in Chambersburg Academy, now the site of Old Central High School in Chambersburg. Other Judges of note were George Chambers, who served as Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and Alexander Thomson, formerly of Bedford, later of Chambersburg. Judge Thomson was President Judge from 1827 to 1842 and was the father of Frank Thomson of Chambersburg, who became President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and after whom Thomson Hall at Wilson College was named. A beautiful stained glass window situated on the left at the front of the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring in Chambersburg memorializes Judge Thomson and his family. D. Watson Rowe was President Judge in 1874 and remained so as Franklin County was designated as the thirty-ninth judicial district.

One of the most famous and accomplished lawyers of Franklin County was Jeremiah S. Black, great-grandfather of the late George S. Black, a prominent member of the bar until recent years. Judge Black was originally from Somerset and was President Judge from 1842 until 1852 when he served as Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. He then became Attorney General of the United States under James Buchanan, arguing many cases before the United States Supreme Court during a most-trying time in our nation's history immediately before the Civil War. His ability was remarkable, and he later became Secretary of State (it might be noted that Daniel Sickles, immediately after shooting his wife's lover rushed to see Judge Black, who assisted him in getting legal counsel). Jeremiah moved to York after his tenure in Washington and became a noted and much-sought-after constitutional lawyer. Living in York allowed him convenient access to Washington, where he appeared many, many times before the United States Supreme Court to argue cases. His success became legendary, having the ability to argue cases for hours without a note. He once received a fee of \$180,000.00 for a case. He was a personal friend of Andrew

Johnson (who sought to retain him in his impeachment trial, but Judge Black opted out at the last moment) and President James Garfield. Perhaps some of his talents and ability were inherited by his great grandson, George S. Black.

Judge John Stewart was President Judge in 1899 when the Franklin County Bar Association was founded. Judge Stewart was born in Shippensburg in 1839, graduated from Princeton, and became President Judge in 1888, about twenty-seven years after he began practice in 1861. He resigned in 1905 when he became Associate Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Judge Stewart was considered by many to be one of the best Common Pleas Judges in Pennsylvania.

There were many noted lawyers in Franklin County who were recognized in the state as outstanding in the bar's early years, among them being J. McDowell Sharpe, Oliver Cromwell Bowers, and A.J. White Hutton.

A.J. White Hutton was new to the bar in 1899. He previously studied under Thaddeus M. Mahon, but graduated from Harvard Law School in 1902. He was recommended by the Dean of Harvard Law School to the Dean of Dickinson School of Law, becoming a Professor of Law, teaching wills from 1902 to 1951, and writing Hutton on the Law of Wills in 1933.

The county seat of Chambersburg was bisected by two major roads and it was easy to board a wagon going west. Therefore Franklin County saw many members of the early bar and their family members move west and achieve major leadership roles in western states and cities and in Pittsburgh. The Pomeroy's, the Poffenbergers, the McGees, and other prominent Pittsburgh families had their roots in Franklin County.

John Cooper, a local journalist who died in the early 1900's offered a challenge (which was enlarged upon by John Graham Palmer in vol. xiii of the Kittochtinny Historical Society in 1953). He challenged any other county in the United States to name more natives of their county who had achieved exalted stations and filled high positions than Franklin County. The challenge, as far as we know, was never met.

SOURCES

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5. He was There - The Story of Theodore McGowan, Esq. Charles R. Nicklas. vol. xv. The Kittochtinny Historical Society. (1963-1970).
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11. Epitaphs and Other Matters of Local Interest. A.J. White Hutton, Esq. vol. xiv. The Kittochtinny Historical Society (October 1957 to April 1963).
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13. William Rush Gellan, Teacher - Lawyer - Jurist. A.J. White Hutton. vol. xi. The Kittochtinny Historical Society (February 1928 to June 1939).
14. David Watson Rowe, Lawyer - Solder - Jurist. A.J. White Hutton, Esq. The Kittochtinny Historical Society vol. xi (Feb. 1928 to June 1939).
15. The Judiciary of Franklin County. Judge Williams Rush Gillan. vol. 7. The Kittochtinny Historical Society. (1910 - 1912).
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18. Reminiscences of Jeremiah Sullivan Black. Mary Black Clayton and Christian Publishing Company. (1887).
19. A. J. White Hutton, Lawyer - Teacher - Historian. Charles R. Nicklas. vol. xiv. The Kittochtinny Historical Society. (October 1957 to April 1963).

The Franklin County Bar Association wishes to acknowledge the outstanding contribution made by Richard K. Hoskinson, Esquire, a member and Past President of the Association, in the preparation of this article.

Families That Have Practiced Law in Franklin County

J. Glenn Benedict, District Attorney
Jay L. Benedict, District Attorney,
his nephew

William C. Cramer
Kathleen W. Cramer, husband and wife

Paul M. Crider
Thomas H. Crider, his son

The Honorable Watson R. Davison
Charles H. Davison, his son
William R. Davison, his cousin

Todd A. Dorsett
Julie G. Dorsett, brother and sister

David M. Duguay
Kimberly Duguay, husband and wife

Thomas J. Finucane
Eileen C. Finucane
Michael B. Finucane, brothers and sister

The Honorable W. Rush Gillan
Garnet W. Gillan, his son

Courtney J. Graham
Robert E. Graham, Jr., brothers

N.F. Keller
The Honorable John W. Keller, his son
John N. Keller, his grandson
David S. Keller, his grandson

Daniel Edward Long, District Attorney
Daniel W. Long, his nephew

Thomas J. MacBride
Lynn Y. MacBride, his daughter

LeRoy S. Maxwell, District Attorney
LeRoy S. Maxwell, Jr., his son

Shawn D. Meyers
Nancy H. Meyers, husband and wife

W.L. Minick
H. Blair Minick, his son

Patrick J. Redding
Carol Anne Redding, husband and wife

John McDowell Sharpe
Walter King Sharpe, his son
J. McDowell Sharpe, his grandson
John McD. Sharpe, his great-grandson
J. McDowell Sharpe, his great-great-grandson
Joshua Wilson Sharpe, cousin of
John McDowell Sharpe

Thomas B. Steiger
Thomas B. Steiger, Jr., his son

J. A. Strite
Albert Strite
Edwin D. Strite
James A. Strite, sons of J.A. Strite
Edwin D. Strite, Jr., grandson of J.A. Strite

Millard C. Ullman
Thomas M. Painter, his son-in-law

The Honorable John R. Walker
Martha B. Walker, husband and wife

George E. Wenger
George E. Wenger, Jr., his son

Rudolf M. Wertime, District Attorney
David C. Wertime, his son

The Honorable Edmund C. Wingerd
Edmund C. Wingerd, Jr., his son

Lawrence C. Zeger
Dennis A. Zeger, his son
Heather L. Zeger, his granddaughter



FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION OFFICERS - 1999 - 2000

George E. Wenger, Jr., Vice President; Carol L. Van Horn, President; Jack Sharpe, Treasurer and Philip S. Cosentino, Secretary (left to right)

Presidents of the Franklin County Bar Association

1899 - 1905	Hon. D. Watson Rowe	1977 - 1978	Thomas B. Steiger, Sr.
1905 - 1929	O.C. Bowers	1979 - 1980	Thomas H. Humelsine
1929 - 1937	J.A. Strite	1981 - 1984	John McD. Sharpe, Jr.
1937 - 1945	Edmund C. Wingerd	1985 - 1986	LeRoy S. Maxwell, Jr.
1946 - 1951	Edwin D. Strite	1987 - 1988	Richard K. Hoskinson
1951 - 1956	J. McD. Sharpe	1989 - 1990	Martha B. Walker
1956 - 1960	J. Glenn Benedict	1991 - 1992	Thomas B. Finucane
1961 - 1966	Daniel W. Long	1993 - 1994	Denis M. DiLoreto
1967 - 1970	Charles H. Davison	1995 - 1996	Richard K. Walsh
1971 - 1972	Rudolf M. Wertime	1997 - 1998	William F. Kaminski
1973 - 1974	George S. Black	1999 - 2000	Carol L. Van Horn
1975 - 1976	George S. Glen		

**Franklin County Bar Association
Bonnie W. Martin, Executive Director**

1999 Standing Committees

American Citizenship/Law Day

Jeffrey S. Evans, Chairperson
Julie G. Dorsett
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Robert E. Graham
Anne S. Johnson
John F. Nelson
James K. Reed
Anne M. Shepard
John Venskus
The Hon. John R. Walker, P.J.
Eric J. Weisbrod
Timothy Wilmot

Bar Association History

Thomas B. Steiger, Jr., Chairperson
Thomas H. Humelsine
LeRoy S. Maxwell, Sr.
Rudolf M. Wertime

Community Service

a) Law & You/Publicity/Public Speakers

Shawn D. Meyers, Co-Chairperson
Larry K. Meminger, Co-Chairperson
Carrie M. Bowmaster
Michael B. Finucane
Charles E. Ganley
Kimberly S. Gray
Bradley L. Griffie
Mark B. Hammond
Anne Johnson
Jack Sharpe
Heather L. Zeger

b) Stepping Out

Lynn MacBride, Co-Chairperson
Anne S. Johnson, Co-Chairperson
J. Dennis Guyer
Janice M. Hawbaker
Norma J. Lukacs
Anne M. Shepard
Sandra Small
Thomas B. Steiger, Jr.
Barbara B. Townsend
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Eric Weisbrod
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George E. Wenger, Jr., Vice Chairperson
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Denis M. DiLoreto
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Kenneth E. Hankins, Jr.
Janice M. Hawbaker
William F. Kaminski
Lynn Y. MacBride
Shawn D. Meyers
Jack Sharpe, Treasurer.
Thomas B. Steiger, Jr.
Martha B. Walker
The Hon. Richard J. Walsh

Legal Education

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Michael B. Finucane
Deborah Hoff
J. McD. Sharpe
Edward I. Steckel
Michael J. Toms
David R. Yoder

Legal Journal

Kenneth E. Hankins, Jr., Co-Chairperson, Editor
Denis M. DiLoreto, Co-Chairperson
Julie G. Dorsett, Assistant Editor
Deborah Hoff
Richard K. Hoskinson
Mahesh Rao
Michael J. Toms
George E. Wenger, Jr.
Joel R. Zullinger

Lunch & Learn

Eileen C. Finucane, Chairperson
Bradley R. Bolinger
Rebecca S. Dempsey
Julie G. Dorsett
John N. Keller
Gregory L. Kiersz
Timothy W. Misner
Martha B. Walker

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 David C. Cleaver
 Julie G. Dorsett
 Bradley L. Griffie
 Robert E. Graham, Jr.
 Mark B. Hammond
 Stephen D. Kulla
 Timothy W. Misner
 Sandra Small

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 Richard K. Hoskinson
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 William F. Kaminski, Co-Chairperson
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 Shawn D. Meyers
 Thomas M. Painter
 David C. Wertime
 Rudolf M. Wertime

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 William R. Davis, Jr.
 Courtney J. Graham
 The Hon. Douglas W. Herman
 Keith Noll
 Robert C. Schollaert
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 Philip S. Cosentino
 William S. Dick
 Bradley L. Griffie
 Anne S. Johnson
 John N. Keller
 Stephen Kulla
 Larry K. Meminger
 James Schall
 The Hon. Richard J. Walsh
 Timothy D. Wilmot

Pro Bono

Janice Hawbaker, Chairperson
 Laurri C. Boyler
 Michelle R. Calvert
 Rebecca S. Dempsey
 Lynn Y. MacBride
 Carol A. Redding
 Christopher Sheffield
 Anne M. Shepard
 Barbara B. Townsend

Centennial Celebration

Philip S. Cosentino, Chairperson
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 Richard K. Hoskinson
 The Hon. John W. Keller
 Lynn Y. MacBride
 LeRoy S. Maxwell, Sr.
 LeRoy S. Maxwell, Jr.
 Timothy W. Misner
 David W. Rahausser
 Carol A. Redding
 Marilyn A. Ross
 Jack Sharpe
 J. McD. Sharpe
 Thomas B. Steiger, Jr.
 Martha B. Walker
 Rudolf M. Wertime

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 Joseph L. Doyle
 Courtney J. Graham
 Timothy W. Misner
 D. Lloyd Reichard, II
 Douglas Roeder
 Robert C. Schollaert
 Timothy Sponseller

Website

George E. Wenger, Jr., Chairperson
 Denis M. DiLoreto
 Forest N. Myers
 Keith Noll
 Mahesh Rao
 D. Lloyd Reichard, II
 Barbara B. Townsend
 The Hon. Richard J. Walsh

MEMBERSHIP OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION 1899 - 1999

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Admission</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Admission</u>
D. Watson Rowe	May 23, 1899	William Alexander	May 23, 1899
H. Gehr	May 23, 1899	N. L. Bonebrake	May 23, 1899
D. O. Gehr	May 23, 1899	W. R. Davison	May 23, 1899
Garnet Gehr	May 23, 1899	Irvin C. Elder	May 23, 1899
W. U. Brewer	May 23, 1899	W. T. Omwake	May 23, 1899
W. K. Sharpe	May 23, 1899	A. G. McLanahan	May 23, 1899
Joshua W. Sharpe	May 23, 1899	George A. Kyner	May 23, 1899
J. D. Ludwig	May 23, 1899	W. R. Keefer	May 23, 1899
J. A. Strite	May 23, 1899	John W. Hoke	May 23, 1899
W. J. Zacharias	May 23, 1899	W. S. Hoerner	May 23, 1899
J. R. Ruthrauff	May 23, 1899	Loren A. Culp	May 23, 1899
Charles Walter	May 23, 1899	W. F. Holler	June 29, 1899
John D. Rice	May 23, 1899	P. E. Taylor	June 29, 1899
H. H. Spangler	May 23, 1899	O. C. Bowers	June 29, 1899
Horace Bender	May 23, 1899	D. Edward Long	September 13, 1899
J. C. Rankin	May 23, 1899	Jeremiah H. Light	1899
W. O. Nicklas	May 23, 1899	A. J. White Hutton	1899
Howard F. Noble	May 23, 1899	W. L. Minick	1902
J. W. Rodenhafer	May 23, 1899	Charles W. High	1902
W. R. Gillan	May 23, 1899	Charles H. Clippinger	1905
Arthur W. Gillan	May 23, 1899	William J. Patton	1906
J. G. Fletcher	May 23, 1899	Walter B. Gilmore	
S. B. S. Stover	May 23, 1899	William R. Johnston	
Isaac I. Wingert	May 23, 1899	H. Blair Minick	
W. B. Orr	May 23, 1899	William R. Davison	
C. W. Suessenott	May 23, 1899	Henry P. Fletcher	
Linn Harbaugh	May 23, 1899	John A. Smarsh	
J. M. McDowell	May 23, 1899	Edmund C. Wingerd	1910
T. Z. Minehart	May 23, 1899	Thomas K. Scheller	1913
E. E. Foust	May 23, 1899	Edwin D. Strite, Jr.	1914
S. F. Huber	May 23, 1899	N. F. Keller	April 23, 1917
George W. Atherton	May 23, 1899	Albert Strite	September 23, 1919

John R. Jackson	1920	Kenneth F. Lee	January 5 1961
Paul M. Crider	February 7, 1921	Thomas M. Painter	January 30, 1961
Benjamin L. Heefner	September 25, 1923	William R. Davis	March 28, 1963
John McDowell Sharpe	September 25, 1923	Kenneth E. Hankins, Jr.	October 9, 1964
John R. Lashley, Jr.	May 2, 1927	Ernest N. Votaw	November 10, 1964
J. Glenn Benedict, Jr.	August 27, 1927	R. Harry Bittle	January 18, 1965
George E. Wenger	April 28, 1930	LeRoy S. Maxwell, Jr.	November 25, 1966
James A. Strite	September 23, 1931	Carson V. Brown	January 13, 1967
Stenger Diehl	November 28, 1932	David Charles Cleaver	November 22, 1967
George S. Black	November 27, 1933	David Lloyd Reichard	November 22, 1967
William C. Hazlett	May 28, 1935	Thomas J. Finucane	November 20, 1968
John D. Benedict	November 25, 1935	David Steele Dickey	December 30, 1968
Daniel W. Long	November 25, 1935	Joseph L. Doyle	September 3, 1969
Rudolf M. Wertime	October 12, 1936	John R. Walker	January 7, 1969
Millard C. Ullman	February 1, 1937	Edwin S. Newlin	December 16, 1970
Chauncey M. Depuy	November 29, 1937	Alan J. Stone	April 30, 1971
J. Stewart Glen, Jr.	January 6, 1940	Richard K. Hoskinson	December 8, 1971
LeRoy S. Maxwell	January 6, 1940	Stephen E. Patterson	December 8, 1971
Charles H. Davison	December 6, 1941	Robert C. Schollaert	December 8, 1971
Edmund C. Wingerd, Jr.	August 29, 1942	Jan G. Sulcove	December 8, 1971
Lawrence C. Zeger	July 11, 1942	Denis M. DiLoreto	November 16, 1972
Edwin D. Strite, Jr.	December 5, 1942	J. Dennis Guyer	November 16, 1972
Thomas B. Steiger	April 27, 1946	William H. Kaye	November 16, 1972
Roy S. F. Angle	May 9, 1947	Robert E. Graham, Jr.	November 16, 1972
George C. Eppinger	September 27, 1949	William Kaminski	November 16, 1972
Robert P. Shoemaker	November 28, 1949	Welton J. Fischer	May 16, 1973
Thomas J. MacBride	January 3, 1950	E. Franklin Martin	May 30, 1973
Thomas H. Humelsine	January 5, 1951	J. Edward Beck, Jr.	October 17, 1973
Anson B. Good	January 18, 1952	Dennis A. Zeger	November 21, 1973
John W. Keller	March 25, 1952	Thomas B. Steiger, Jr.	November 21, 1973
Paul F. Mower	June 20, 1952	Joel L. Zullinger	November 21, 1973
Thomas H. Crider	October 27, 1953	Martha Baum Walker	February 6, 1974
John McD. Sharpe, Jr.	March 20, 1956	George S. Glen	November 27, 1974
Jay L. Benedict, Jr.	December 28, 1956	George Franklin Wright	November 27, 1974
Blake Edwin Martin	May 12, 1958	Donald L. Kornfield	November 27, 1974
Harvey C. Bridges, Jr.	June 26, 1959	George E. Wenger, Jr.	November 27, 1974

Timothy S. Sponseller	December 3, 1975	David C. Wertime	December 14, 1984
Timothy W. Misner	December 3, 1975	Kenneth M. Dillon	December 14, 1984
Gregory L. Kiersz	January 5, 1976	Carol L. Van Horn	December 14, 1984
Edward I. Steckel	March 17, 1976	Rebecca S. Dempsey	December 14, 1984
William S. Dick	January 6, 1977	Janice H. Muller	December 14, 1984
John A. Ayres	January 6, 1977	James F. Abbott	March 14, 1985
Barbara B. Townsend	January 6, 1977	Beth Anne Gabler	December 11, 1985
Michael Barry Finucane	January 6, 1977	John McDowell Sharpe	December 11, 1985
Courtney Graham	January 6, 1977	Bradley R. Bolinger	December 11, 1985
William C. Cramer	January 6, 1977	JoAnn Smith Dittman	February 25, 1986
David W. Rahausser	May 18, 1977	John W. Frey	May 7, 1986
Jay H. Gingrich	February 8, 1978	John M. Lisko	September 23, 1987
John F. Nelson	February 8, 1978	T. A. Dorsett	September 23, 1987
Frederic G. Antoun, Jr.	February 8, 1978	Carolyn Carter	September 23, 1987
Kathleen Walsh Cramer	February 8, 1978	Michael J. Toms	September 23, 1987
J. Edgar Wine	August 30, 1978	Jonathan A. Fenton	September 23, 1987
John N. Keller	August 30, 1978	Theodore R. Hinckley	December 23, 1987
Thomas D. Singer	August 30, 1978	Jacqueline Corforti	May 6, 1988
Deborah K. Hoff	August 30, 1978	Timothy S. Gordon	August 31, 1988
Douglas W. Herman	December 20, 1978	Lynn Y. MacBride	December 1, 1988
Richard L. Shoap	December 20, 1978	Katrine L. Dunderdale	December 6, 1989
Patrick J. Redding	December 20, 1978	Jeffrey S. Evans	December 6, 1989
Philip S. Cosentino	March 6, 1980	Anthony T. McBeth	December 6, 1989
Mark H. Pettegrew	March 6, 1980	Joseph A. Macaluso	December 6, 1990
Barbara J. Johnson	January 29, 1981	Stephen D. Kulla	December 6, 1990
Harry S. Geller	May 7, 1981	David R. Breschi	December 6, 1990
David R. Woodward	May 7, 1981	Charles R. Ganley	November 7, 1991
Richard J. Walsh	January 19, 1983	Jacqueline A. Chadwick	November 7, 1991
Jill A. McCracken	January 19, 1983	Mahesh K. Rao	November 7, 1991
Eileen C. Finucane	January 19, 1983	James K. Reed	April 1, 1993
Melinda N. Finucane	January 19, 1983	Colleen K. Rettig	April 1, 1993
Richard Lewis Bushman	January 19, 1983	Todd R. Williams, Jr.	April 1, 1993
Merle W. Helsel	January 19, 1983	David M. Duguay	April 1, 1993
Forest N. Myers	April 6, 1983	Tyrone Johnson	October 7, 1993
David S. Keller	December 14, 1983	Kimberly Duguay	October 17, 1993
Evelyn W. Bradford	December 14, 1983	Shawn D. Meyers	January 6, 1993

Patricia A. Shoap	September 7, 1994	Anne M. Shepard	February 6, 1997
Paul T. Dean	September 7, 1994	Steven J. Koehler	March 30, 1998
Julie Gray Dorsett	September 7, 1994	Laurri C. Boyler	March 30, 1998
Robert J. Trambley	September 7, 1994	Michael W. Davis	March 30, 1998
Richard Thomas Murphy	November 22, 1994	Melanie Zampini	March 30, 1998
George Kominos	December 13, 1994	Larry Meminger	March 30, 1998
Kimberly Gray	December 13, 1994	Heather Leigh Zeger	March 30, 1998
Cassandra Weiner	December 13, 1994	Thomas S. Diehl	March 30, 1998
David Yoder	March 4, 1996	Eric J. Weisbrod	March 30, 1998
Timothy David Wilmot	March 4, 1996	Norma J. Kukacs	March 30, 1998
Ann F. DePaulis	June 17, 1996	Keith A. Noll	December 11, 1998
G. Bryan Salzman	June 17, 1996	Douglas Roeder	December 11, 1998
Anne Sheller Johnson	February 6, 1997	Christopher E. Sheffield	December 11, 1998
Bradley R. Griffie	February 6, 1997	Sandra G. Small	December 11, 1998
Ann L. K. Hammond	February 6, 1997	John W. Venskus	December 11, 1998
Carrie Bowmaster	February 6, 1997	Carol A. Redding	December 11, 1998
Michelle R. Calvert	February 6, 1997	Nancy H. Meyers	May 21, 1999
		Kristen G. Donsen	May 21, 1999



SIDEBARS

Senior Judge John W. Keller submitted the following two anecdotes. While Judge Keller cannot verify the truth of the first, he remembers the story being told at every summer bar meeting by Benjamin L. Heefner. He can, however, readily attest to the authenticity of the second in that he and Thomas J. MacBride, were the two “unfortunate” young attorneys.

The Marriage

The young couple appeared before the judge to be married. He asked for their petition to be married and they said they didn’t know they needed one. He directed them to go back to the Clerk of Courts and have a proper petition prepared. Down the steps they went to explain their problem to Mac, the Clerk. He prepared the petition and order; had them sign the petition; completed their acknowledgment attaching the great seal of Franklin County and sent them back up the steps to the judge’s chambers. They were admitted after a proper wait, and the judge examined the petition and order and acknowledged it was in proper shape - now, did they have their marriage license or a proper waiver? Again the couple looked dumbfounded and said they didn’t know what the judge wanted. Once again down the steps to the Clerk’s office to get whatever it was the judge wanted. Mac, the Clerk, pulled the necessary strings to get the youngsters the necessary waiver so the license could be legally, properly and expeditiously issued.

Up the steps to the chambers again. Another proper wait and at last admission to present the license. After a judicious review of all paperwork, it was declared satisfactorily completed and the ceremony could commence. Then for the first time the judge observed the young lad of about four years with the couple. In response to his inquiry, the couple explained he was their son and one of the reasons they thought they should be married.

Judge grumped “well you know he is a technical bastard.” The couple smiled happily and said, “Oh thank you! The clerk said that’s what you are!”

Young Attorneys

Another young attorney and I had appointments to meet with the judge in chambers to present our petitions for incompetency hearings. Neither of us had ever handled one of these proceedings, and the then effective Incompetency Act left much to be desired as to what should be presented at the hearings. While we cooled our heels, we discussed the evidence we had in our respective cases. The one very unanswered question was whether we should each secure the services of a psychiatrist to testify as to the mental condition of the alleged incompetent.

My friend was called before the altar of justice first because he had been admitted to the bar before me. He very kindly left the door slightly ajar so I could hear and be forewarned what to expect. After a lengthy discussion on the inadequacies and shortcomings of the petition presented, my friend inquired whether his honor wished to hear the testimony of a psychiatrist. His honor roared, "Counselor what are you trying to do, bankrupt the incompetent's estate? You make out your case with the testimony of lay witnesses!" The order scheduling the hearing was signed, and my friend beat a hasty retreat.

Now it was my turn. I presented my petition and was lectured on its deficiencies and shortcomings. Then I brightly said, "I assume your honor does not wish to hear the testimony of a psychiatrist because of the substantial expense to the alleged incompetent's estate." His honor roared, "Counselor, it's not your money; it should not be your concern! Of course this Court expects to have the benefit of a psychiatrist's testimony!" The order scheduling the hearing was signed, and I too beat a hasty retreat!

Sidebar of Rudolf M. Wertime, Esquire, Senior Member of the Franklin County Bar Association; Past President of the Franklin County Bar Association (1971-1972)

My admission to the Franklin County Bar took place before President Judge Watson R. Davison on Columbus Day, October 12, 1936, the first day of the Fall Civil Term. There were no cases for Trial list but Judge Davison had Charlie Yocum, the Court House Custodian, ring the Court House Bell, the custom of those days, publicly announcing the opening of Court in my honor. Following the swearing-in ceremony, Jacob Shank, former Principal of the pre-Civil War King Street Elementary School in Chambersburg, where I was in the last Junior High School in 1922-23, then the Court Crier sitting on a high stool at the entrance of the bar, announced my admission to the Franklin County Bar for which I gave him a tip on one (\$1.00) dollar.

Upon my admission to the Bar on Columbus Day, 1936, I discovered the Criminal Courts had no officers except the District Attorney, who had a secretary and the Clerk of Courts with limited staff. There was no parole officer, no probation officer except for juveniles and no collection officer. The idea of a Public Defender was many years in the future. The primitive system of legal defense for indigent criminal defendants was developed by the Judge. With the traverse jury panel present in the courtroom, the District Attorney called each criminal case in sequence. Most of the indigent defendants were in the custody of the Sheriff having been brought to the Court from the jail. If the defendant had no lawyer, Judge Davison directed one of us young lawyers who happened to be in the Courtroom, or if not there, summoned to the Bench, where the Judge directed the young attorney to represent the defendant. In order to keep the cases moving Court was recessed for 10 to 15 minutes to enable us to take our "client" to the Law Library for a quick interview following which we were expected to return with a plea of guilty, not guilty or with allowance "nolo contendere". If the plea was not guilty, selection of a jury then issued with a trial following. This system continued into the 1970's when the Public Defenders system took over. If a prisoner wanted to be released on parole, the police chief was generally named as his parole officer. Installment payments of fees and

restitution as well as from domestic relations orders, became the responsibility of the District Attorney's office. The District Attorney was also expected to give the Judge a pre-sentence background about each defendant entering guilty pleas in the weekly court sessions held on Saturday mornings.

In my eight years as District Attorney from 1948 to 1956, with the work load of the office increasing greatly, there evolved primitive developments of parole and probation offices and the first collection officer in 1953. During the entire eight years it was still my responsibility to serve each week as a pre-sentence reporter to the Judge. This report relates only to Franklin County, Pennsylvania, Fulton County having been added to the Judicial District in the late 1960's.



John F. Nelson
1986-

John R. Walker
1972-86

Jay L. Benedict
1960-72

George C. Eppinger
1956-60

Rudolf M. Wertime
1948-56

LeRoy S. Maxwell
1944-48

J. Glenn Benedict
1930-44



District Attorneys

Franklin County 1930-1987 Pennsylvania



In 1987, seven members of the Franklin County Bar Association gathered in Courtroom One for a group photograph, their common bond being the Office of District Attorney for Franklin County. At that time, the seven members represented the occupants of that office for the preceding 57 year. John F. Nelson has continued as the Franklin County District Attorney since that time, raising the tenure of the members shown in the photograph to 70 years of service to the citizens of Franklin County.

Sidebar of William F. Kaminski, Esquire, Past President of the Franklin County Bar Association (1997-1998)

Rounding the Buoy

In October of 1972, the Dallas Cowboys were preparing to defend their Superbowl championship, Oakland was in the process of edging Cincinnati in the Series, and a botched burglary on the banks of the Potomac had not yet captured public imagination.

"Nights in White Satin" by the Moody Blues was topping the charts, long hair and platform shoes were in, and on October 2nd of that year, five young men sought admission to the Bar in a simple ceremony in the old Courthouse.

A large crowd turned out that cold and damp October morning - after all, throughout the 60's the Bar had remained relatively static, with the one or two admittees per year barely serving to replace those lost to retirement and death.

So in one day we went from 47 to 52 and Denis DiLoreto, Rob Graham, Bill Kaye, Denny Guyer and I started our careers.

I confess to having a tender spot for these guys. We've come up together, three of us served as Public Defenders, all made important contributions to the Franklin County Bar Association, one became a Common Pleas Judge and two were elected as President of our Association.

Time has worked its inexorable wonders on us -- it's blessed us with irreplaceable experiences, wonderful memories, and most importantly, our families. However, because all bills ultimately come due, we've also faced our rounds of college expenses, expenses for our children, mortgages that don't seem to go down and, unfortunately, the illness and disease that accompanies middle age.

Together, we've rounded the buoy and we're on our downwind career leg -- we're older, wiser, more experienced -- the things we've all seen in the last 27 years.

Best yet, however, is that to the man we remember our common beginning, our shared tribulations, and both relish and realize the fact that there's still some good work to be done out there.



Sidebar of Martha B. Walker, Esquire, Past President of the Franklin County Bar Association (1989-1990)

It was always said as if I were a curiosity. "She's the first woman admitted to the Local Bar." I never felt that way, although the fact is true. On February 6, 1974, I was indeed the first woman admitted to the Bar of the Franklin County Court. It's hard to believe that from 1899 to 1974 (75 years!), I was the only woman admitted. And, here we are 100 years old and we now have 28 women.

I prefer to think of myself as just a lawyer who wasn't treated any differently over the years than my male colleagues.

But, remember the days of having to be screened by the Local Bar Admission Committee before your admittance? For those whose admission post dates 1975, I'd best explain. A committee of senior attorneys was appointed by the Court to review the character, credentials and worthiness to practice law in Franklin County before one could be officially "admitted" to the Bar of the Court.

No matter that you had successfully completed college, law school, passed the Pennsylvania Bar, etc., you still had to be checked out by the committee.

The committee consisted of only the most senior members of the Bar. Back then, it was chaired by J. Glenn Benedict and included Charles Davison, George S. Black, Daniel Long, Millard Ullman, Rudolf Wertime and LeRoy Maxwell. I can still see the room in J. Glenn's office -- everyone was sitting around a table looking at me. This, our first woman!

I recall being annoyed that this process was required as the Pennsylvania Supreme Court had just months before issued a Rule that such local requirements were abolished in the wake of a unified court system. No matter . . . Judge Eppinger said we were still going to have this process anyway until he reviewed the new Rule and decreed otherwise. So . . . being a young lawyer, new in the County and having just opened a practice with my husband, I needed those Divorce Master and arbitration appointments

to pay the office rent. What choice, but to go along with it and get it done so I could be official and be the recipient of those huge Court-appointed fees.

To my surprise, the interview was actually enjoyable. Here were the sage, older men of the Bar almost tongue-tied as to what to ask me. But the conversation got going about the practice of law in Franklin County and pretty soon we got around to the obvious questions that were on everyone's minds. Since I was married a year previous and had a weekend marriage for eight months (I had kept my job as a lawyer with a firm in Lancaster -- ironically the same one I now am a senior partner in) and had just moved to Chambersburg in October of 1973, the question was, did I intend to practice law here and for how long? (It was clear that carpetbaggers would be unwelcome). The other "woman question" was put very bluntly; did I intend to have a family and how would I then practice law? I think someone said, "You're not supposed to ask her that" . . . but too late, there it was out there with everyone all ears for the answer. I think I said I don't know and if I did I'd figure it out when it happened.

The other amusing question was, "Do you have any problem with your drink?" My husband, having gone through this process several years before and having warned me of this question advised I should answer as he had "No, I can drink with the best of them." But I answered frankly that I had no alcohol problem.

At any rate the conversation ended up being delightful simply because all of those men were complete gentlemen, especially with a lady in their presence. And, upon reflection, it's almost too bad such a process has gone by the wayside, as at least it imbued in the new young lawyer a sense of belonging, a taste of Local Bar history and a chance to know personally at least the then leaders of the bar and community -- the politically incorrect questions, notwithstanding!

MEMBERS OF BAR HONOR MEMORY OF LT. J. D. BENEDICT

Warm Tribute Is Paid to Memory of Young Officer Killed in France

Tribute was paid to the memory of First Lt. John Downey Benedict, Waynesboro, the first member of the Franklin County bar to lose his life while serving with the armed forces of his country, in formal resolutions and in seconding remarks by six members of the bar at a meeting yesterday afternoon of the Franklin County Bar Association, held in the courtroom. Attorney Edmund C. Wingerd, president of the association, presided.

Lieutenant Benedict was killed in action in France on August 25, 1944, while serving as intelligence officer with an armored field artillery battalion.

Attorney N. F. Keller, of Waynesboro, partner of Lieutenant Benedict in the practice of law, read a comment which the officer had written on March 18, 1944, on the fly leaves of a booklet of cartoons of the AEF in Italy.

In part the message read:

"When you're up there you pray and wish you were home. Sometimes you can't sleep for shells falling around. Sometimes you cry. Sometimes a buddy gets hit and you think it's not worth it."

"Then you come back and are so proud you don't know what to do. We are all darned glad to be here. It is a very profound experience and one we will never forget, but I hope to God we can prevent its happening again."

"In the rear, in rest areas (and we do get back frequently) we have a grand time — shows, movies, good food, singing — and best of all, good fellowship. We've learned to enjoy the simple things. The other night we nearly shook the tent down playing ghost. We tell stories, play poker, read and argue. We argue and make bets on anything from spelling to the length of Betty Grable's nose."

The resolution, prepared and presented by a committee composed of Attorneys J. McDowell, Sharpe, Sharpe, Chambersburg, chairman; N. F. Keller, John R. Lashley Jr., H. Blair, Minick and Charles W.

MEMBERS OF BAR HONOR MEMORY OF LT. J. D. BENEDICT

(Continued from page one.)

High, all of Waynesboro, reviewed the military life of Lieutenant Benedict, stating he had first volunteered for service about June 1, 1941 but was refused because he was over the age limit at that time. He again volunteered shortly after Pearl Harbor and was inducted as a private on February 11, 1942. His preliminary training was received at Fort Meade and at Camp Chaffee, Ark. He was promoted to the rank of corporal and sergeant and then, qualifying for Officers' Candidate School, he was commissioned at Fort Sill, Okla. Later he received further training at other camps, including Camp Ritchie, returning from there to Camp Chaffee.

In August of 1943, the resolution pointed out, he was sent overseas and was first stationed in North Africa. From Africa he went into frontline service in Italy. On August 15, he participated in the landing operations in southern France.

"It was no spirit of aggressiveness or desire for glory which prompted Mr. Benedict to enter the United States Army," the resolution stated. "His innate sense of justice and of right made him feel that it was his solemn duty to do his part as a soldier in this most awful conflict of all times. To him it was not a matter of defending the United States or even a war of liberation. It was a crusade against the forces of evil against that spirit of oppression and intolerance which over the centuries has brought so much sorrow and misery to mankind. It was with this conviction that he entered the active military service of the United States."

The resolution recounted Lieutenant Benedict's early life and schooling in Waynesboro and his business, civic and social relationships in that community, and pointed to his personal attributes, his "great charm and attractiveness." He was described as a "lawyer of ability and great promise."

"In the death of Lieutenant Benedict we have lost a loyal friend, a happy and most entertaining companion and a good lawyer," the res-

olution concluded. "None of us realizes even now how much we shall miss him. He was a gallant knight and a gallant gentleman."

President Wingerd, opening the meeting and stating its purpose, said that this was "the first time in the history of the Franklin County Bar Association has been called together because one of its members had lost his life in action while serving with the armed forces of his country."

"The news that Downey Benedict had been killed brought to us as individuals the reality and fearfulness of war that is being waged in Europe as other events could not do and probably had not done. It is only when news is received of someone known by you is killed or wounded that we fully come to realize a little of what is actually taking place. His community was better for the fact that he had lived."

Judge Watson R. Davison, in the first seconding remarks, said, "I do so with considerable emotion and with a very great sorrow in my heart." The speaker pointed out that he had known Lieutenant Benedict from the time he was born and observed with interest his boyhood and manhood.

In speaking of Lieutenant Benedict's desire to enter the armed forces, Judge Davison said he "wanted to receive an officer's commission only after he had shown he was entitled to it." "I know of no man who had higher ideals, and he lived up to them."

Other attorneys who spoke in appreciation of Lieutenant Benedict's qualities as a man and a lawyer were Edwin D. Strite, N. F. Keller, H. Blair Minick, A. J. White Hutton and J. Glenn Benedict.

Public Opinion
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
September 22, 1944



IN MEMORY OF JOHN DOWNEY BENEDICT, ESQUIRE

On August 25, 1944, First Lt. John Downey Benedict, 35, of Waynesboro and a member of the Franklin County Bar Association, was killed in action in Southern France, survived by his wife, Mary, and son, Thomas. He was an intelligence officer with an armored field artillery battalion and, earlier in that same year, had been awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. A second Bronze Star was awarded posthumously for his bravery in action on the date of his death.

On September 21, 1944, our predecessors met in Courtroom One of the Franklin County Courthouse to pay warm tribute to John Downey Benedict's memory. It is only fitting that nearly 55 years later on the occasion of the centennial celebration of the Franklin County Bar Association, John Downey Benedict's ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom be recognized and a permanent plaque be placed at the entrance to the Courtrooms, reminding all that the rights and liberties so zealously guarded by our Courts are not to be taken for granted with the ultimate price for those liberties having been paid by one of our own.

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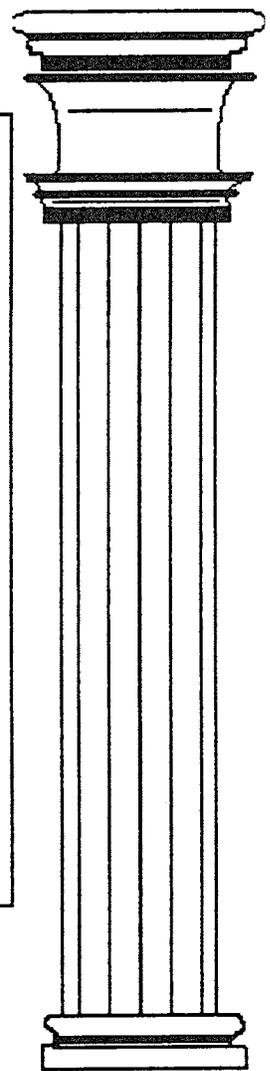
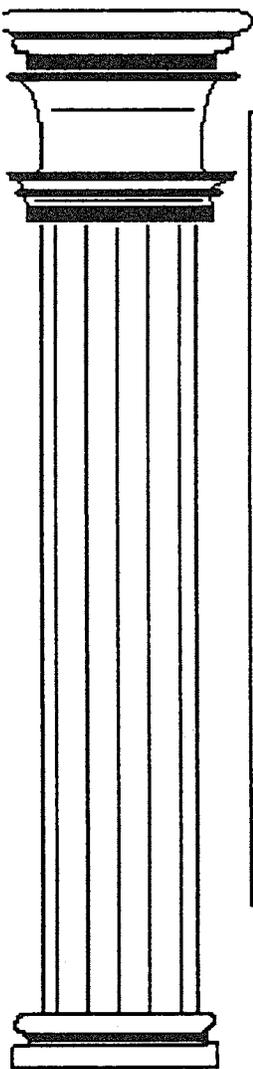
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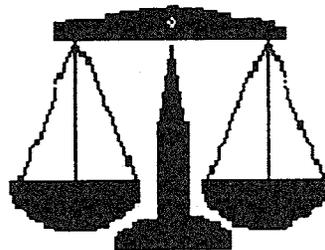
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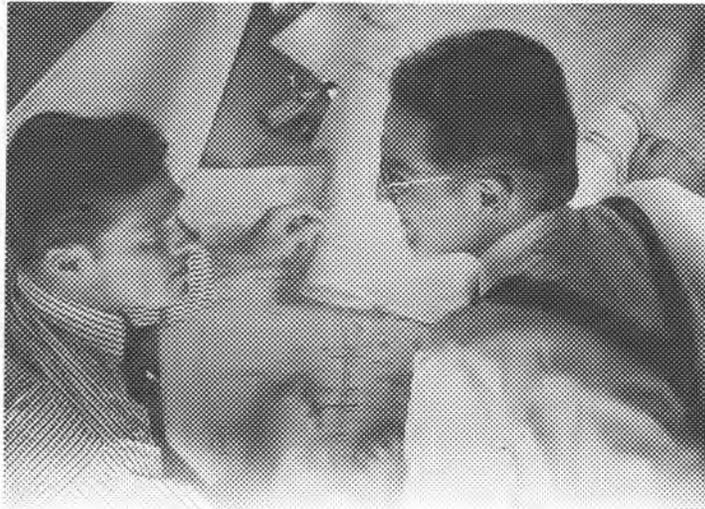


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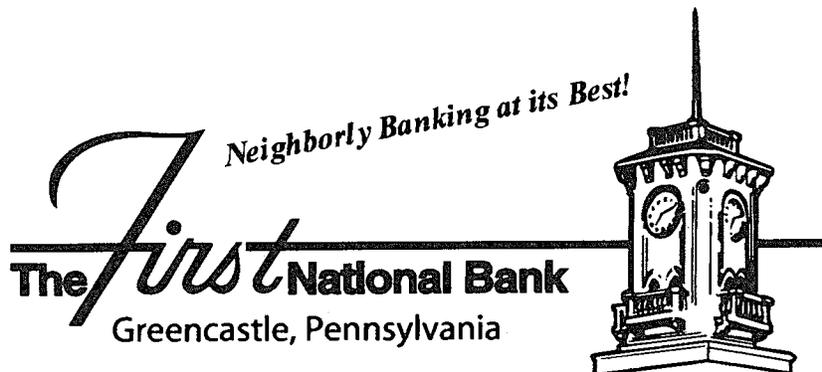
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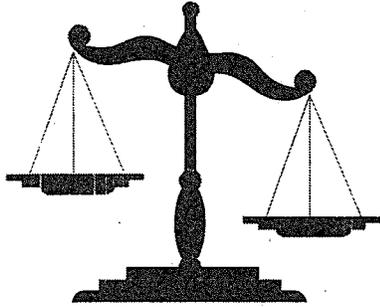
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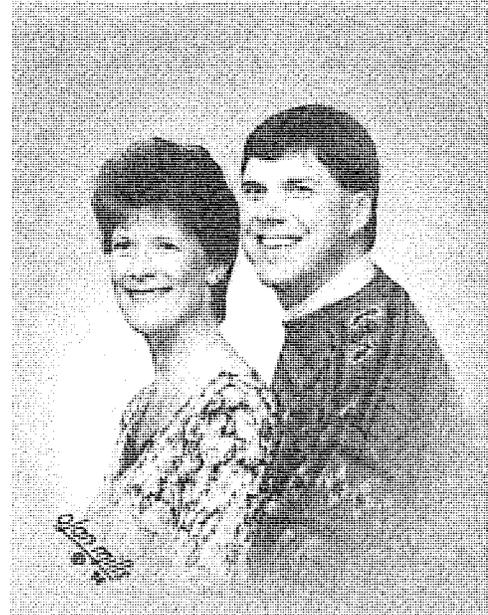
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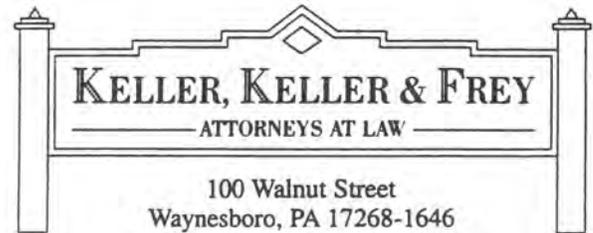
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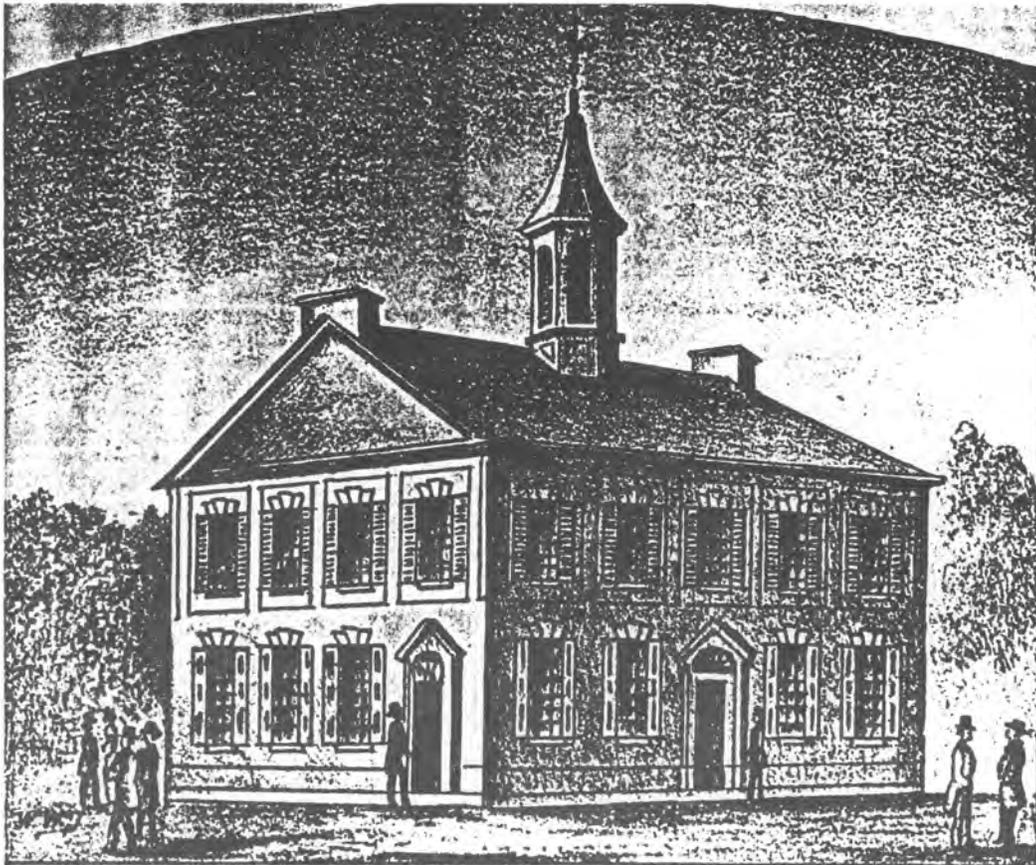
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Congratulations to the Franklin County Bar Association
as we celebrate a century of service.

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Member since 1951

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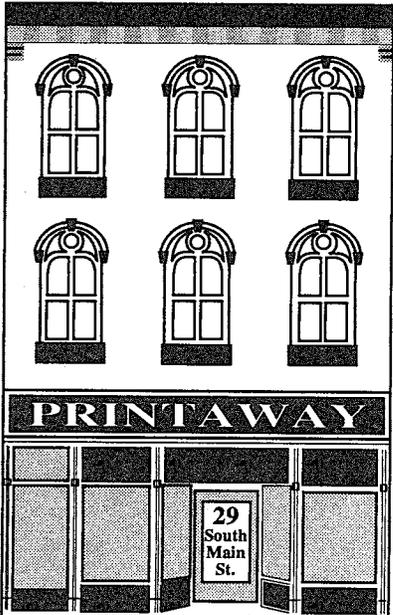
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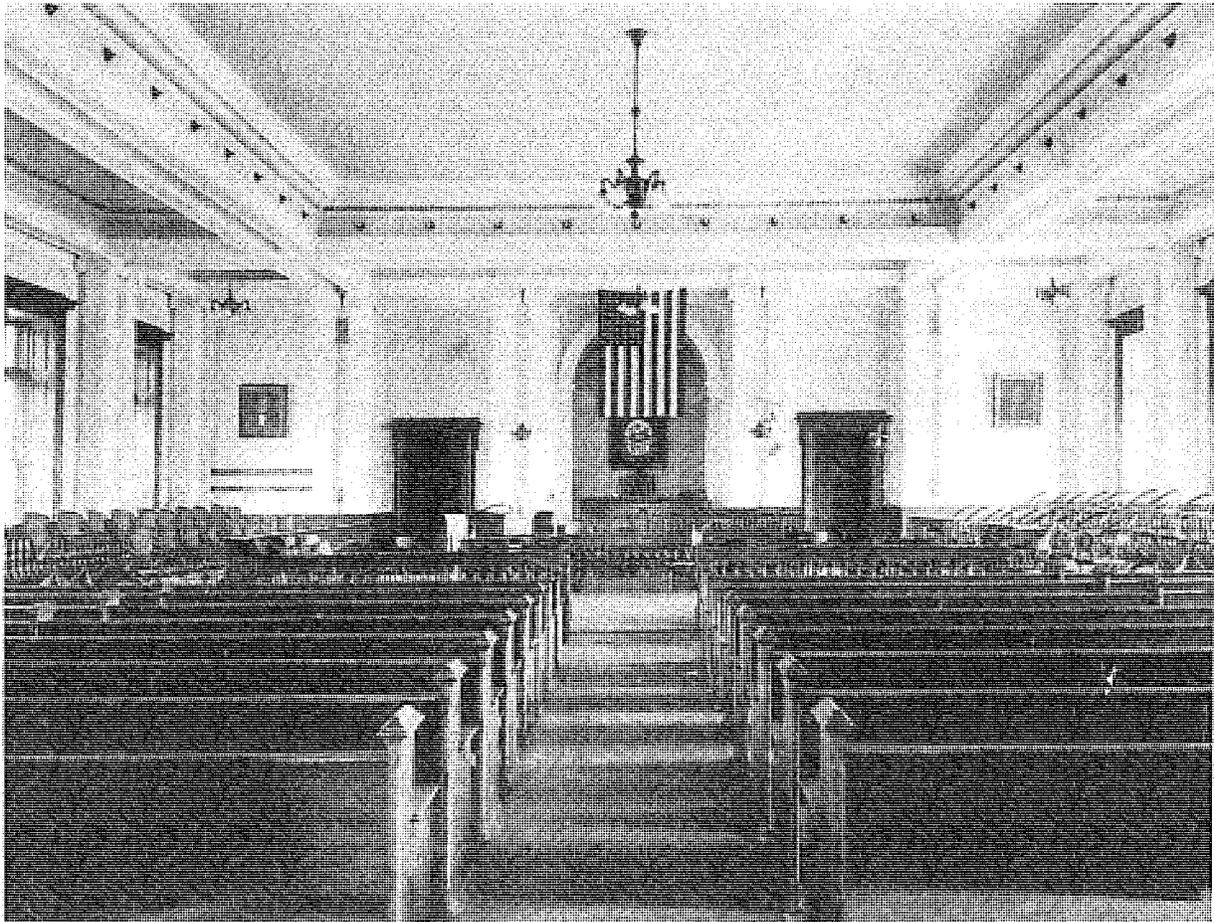
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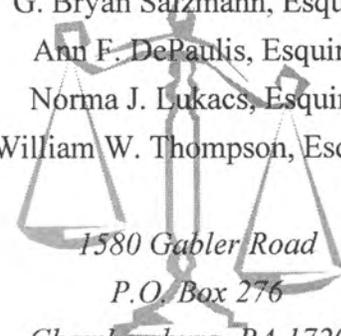


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FOR YOUR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE**



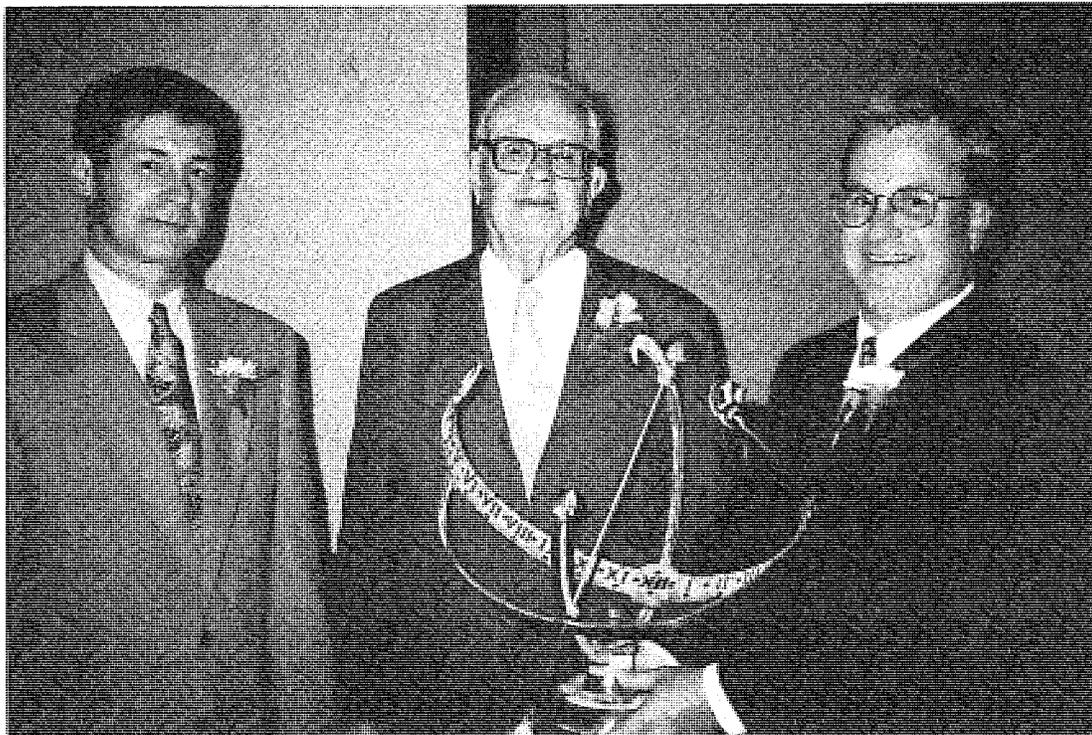
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David C. Wertime, Esquire, Presents the Franklin County Bar Association's gift to his partner and father, Rudolf M. Wertime, Esquire, on the occasion of his 60th year as a member of the Franklin County Bar Association. Joining in the presentation is J. Dennis Guyer, Esquire, Mr. Wertime's partner of 27 years.

Constitution of the Franklin County Bar Association.

The object of this association is to promote the administration of justice, to uphold the honor and dignity of the Bar, to cultivate cordial intercourse among its members, and perpetuate the memory of those deceased.

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