

**MCLEAN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA**

Thursday, June 17, 2021

**Epiphany Farms Estate
23676 E 800 North Rd.
Downs, Illinois
Venue Website [LINK](#)**

- I. Welcome and Call to Order
- II. Memorials for 2019, 2020 and 2021 acknowledgements
 - The Resolutions will be presented at a later date
 - H. Wayne Carmichael – October 7, 2019
 - Ron Dozier – February 3, 2020
 - Stephen E. Larkin – April 17, 2020
 - John Luedtke – March 20, 2020
 - George F. “Bud” Taseff – April 2, 2021
 - Louis F. Ulbrich – September 14, 2020
- III. Minutes from the 2020 Annual Meeting
- IV. Young Lawyer of the Year Awards
 - i. 2020 - Emily Petri
 - ii. 2021 – Bradly Rigdon
- V. Lincoln Award Winners for 2020 and 2021 (Honorable Judge Robb, Ret.)
- VI. Nominations Committee Report / Open Board Positions (Katy Kraft & Gina Wood)
- VII. Committee Reports – Please see the Annual Meeting Packet
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report – Respectfully Submitted by Nathan Ihnes – See the Annual Meeting Packet
- IX. Foundation Report – (Ryan Gammelgard)
- X. Remarks Outgoing President (George Wood)
- XI. Remarks Incoming President (Julia Davis)
- XII. Adjournment

MCLEAN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 14, 2020
Via Zoom at 12:00 p.m.

- I. Welcome and Call to Order – Called to Order by Joseph Foley at 12:00 p.m.
- II. Memorial Resolutions will be read at a later date.
- II. Approval of 2019 Annual Minutes – Motion by Frank Hoffman, seconded by Todd Miller to waive reading and approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- III. Young Lawyer of the Year Award will be presented to Emily Petri at a later date.
- V. Nominations Committee Report/ Open Board Positions report given by Katy Kraft. Slate of candidates submitted for approval are:
- President: Gorge Wood
First Vice President: Julia Davis
Second Vice President: Katy Kraft
Secretary: Jenna Finegan
Treasurer: Nathan Ihnes
Board of Governors: Peter Brandt
- Motion by Adam Grist, seconded by John Pratt to approve slate of candidates by nomination committee. No other candidates submitted for election. Motion carries.
- VI. Committee Reports: included with agenda packet for annual meeting were Bench-Bar Committee, By Laws Committee, CLE, Consumer Law, Corporate Counsel, Criminal Law, Family Law, History/Memorials, Law Day, Lawyers in the Classroom, Mock Trial, Pro Bono, Real Estate, Scholarship, Social, Underwood, YLD. No motions
- VII. Treasure’s Report presented by Nathan Ihnes. No motion.
- IX. Remarks outgoing President by Joseph Foley.
- X. Remarks by Incoming President George Wood.
- XI. Adjournment to meeting – Motion by Joe Foley, seconded by George Wood. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

NOTICE

Pursuant to §9.2(a) of Article IX of the By-Laws of the McLean County Bar Association, the following have been slated as nominees for the below-named offices of the McLean County Bar Association for the 2021-2022 term:

President:	Julia Davis
First Vice-President:	Kathleen M. Kraft
Second Vice President:	Nathan B. Hinch
Secretary:	Nargis Khokhar
Member, Board of Governors Term Expiring 2025	Michael G. Butts
Member, Board of Governors Term Expiring 2024	Brendan Bukalski

The above-named nominees will be formally placed in nomination at the **annual meeting** of the Association on **June 17, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. at Epiphany Farms Estate at Moraine View, 23676 East 800 North Road, Downs, Illinois 61736.**

All members should plan to attend and cast their ballots as aforesaid.

All members are further notified that pursuant to §9.2(b) of Article IX of the McLean County Bar Association By-Laws, not less than ten **members may nominate other candidates** for any office or offices described above. Such nominations shall be in writing, signed by the nominators, and shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association not less than fifteen days preceding the date of the annual meeting as aforesaid.

Dated this 7th day of May 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Nominating Committee of McLean County Bar Association

Gina L. Wood, Co-Chair
Kathleen M. Kraft, Co-Chair
Julia Davis
Tom Hundman
George C. Wood
Erin Donaldson
Michael G. Butts
Rachel Brandt
Nargis Khokhar

2021 Annual Committee Reports

Bench-Bar Committee

Bench/Bar relations continue to operate smoothly. With the cooperation of the Chief Judge's Office, the judiciary, as a whole, and the Office of the Trial Court Administrator, McLean County has commenced a series of "listen & learn sessions." These sessions afford the bar an opportunity to meet informally with the judiciary and discuss non-case specific matters of import to both entities. It is anticipated that these meetings will continue on at least a quarterly basis. The first such session was held in March and was well received by both the bench and the bar.

Paul Lawrence and Todd Miller, Co-Chairs

Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee has had no activity the past 12 months. *Hunt Henderson, Committee Chair*

Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee

While the situation with COVID-19 continued to cause certain logistical difficulties, the CLE Committee worked hard to continue to provide excellent programs to the Bar membership this past year.

Highlights:

- Over 424 participants served
- Over 350 CLE certificate hours recognized
- A total of 14 CLE Hours were offered including a total of 3 Professional Responsibility opportunities. And 1 PR Diversity & Inclusion
- Thank you to our local members who shared their time and talent with the Bar and presented over the last fiscal year:
 - Chief Judge Fellheimer
 - Judges Barnes, Eves, Costigan, Feeney, Goldrick, Lawrence and McFarland
 - Judge David Butler (Ret.)
 - Charlotte Alvarez, JD
 - Adrian Barr, JD
 - Brendan Bukalski, JD
 - Frank Hoffman, JD
 - Danielle Kays, JD
 - Thomas McClure, JD

The following programs were presented in fiscal year 2020:

June 16 – 1 Hr PR CLE – Managing IT Risk While Sheltering in Place – 36 participants

July 21 – 2 hours CLE – Collections - 49 participants

August 18 – 1 Hr CLE - The need for Pro Bono & a virtual way to help – 38 participants

September 15 – 1 Hr CLE - Covid-19: What every attorney needs to know to manage their firm and advise their clients – 35 participants

October 20 – 1 Hr CLE - Demystifying Cannabis in Illinois for individuals – 63 participants

November 17 – 1 Hr PR CLE - "Illinois Workplace Transparency Act - the Mandatory Employer Disclosures and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training" – 84 participants

January 19 – 1 Hr CLE – State of the Circuit – 112+ (many were viewing on 1 computer and that is the reason for the +)

February 16 – 1 Hr CLE – Immigration – 38 participants

February 24 – 1 Hr CLE – Evictions – 55 participants

March 23 – 1 Hr CLE - Navigating Juvenile Abuse/Neglect Court – 52 participants

April 20 – 1 Hr PR, D&I CLE – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the MCBA – The Path forward – 85

participants

May 4 – 1 Hr CLE – The Intersection of Bankruptcy and Divorce – 17 participants

May 18 – 1 Hr CLE – Consumer Bankruptcy – The Good, The Bad and The Ugly – 29 participants

The CLE Committee continues to be a very active committee. Many thanks to the continued hard work of the committee membership. Many thanks, too, to MCBA Admin. Assistant, Mary Sellmyer, for her organizational skills, and for facilitating the presentation of the numerous Zoom programs. Thanks, also to the guidance of outgoing Bar President, George Wood and the Board of Governors, and to the other Committees who have assisted us in our endeavor to provide quality CLE content to our Bar members. Of special note, our May 4 presentation was the first in person event in over a year. It was very well received. The CLE Committee looks forward to seeing everyone, face-to-face, in the next fiscal year.

Todd Miller, Committee Chair

Consumer Law Committee

There have been no meetings and nothing to report.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel G. Deneen, Chairman

Corporate Counsel Committee

There was no activity within this committee during this year.

Criminal Law Committee

The goal of the committee is to facilitate interaction and promote goodwill among criminal law practitioners, both in prosecution and defense, and provide continuing legal education opportunities that are unique to criminal law practitioners. In doing so, we hope to provide those practitioners more insight into substantive and procedural criminal law developments as well as the high ethical standards applicable to those working in and with our justice system.

Most recently, in the fall of 2020, a CLE concerning cannabis regulations and the criminal implications of it was offered by MCBA. Although our committee has not been as active as other committees, we are looking forward to a new year and new opportunities. We anticipate being able to meet, communicate with one another, exchange ideas, and discuss membership needs. Our committee is open to any and all suggestions or insights related to criminal law, and serving the bar membership. Please feel free to contact our Chair, whose information appears below.

Committee Chair, Brendan Bukalski

Family Law Committee

The Family Law Committee was forced to delay the semiannual Guardian ad Litem Conference. The conference is now scheduled to take place on October 27th and October 28th. Members of the Family Bar adjusted well to Zoom hearings. However, Judge McFarland, Judge Duffy and Judge Kording are gradually working toward holding contested hearings in person. At this time status hearings will continue to be conducted by Zoom. On May 4, 2021, The Family Law Committee hosted a CLE presentation for the first time since the pandemic hit last March. Firas Abunada, an attorney out of the Chicago area, presented on “The Intersection of Bankruptcy and Divorce”. The presentation was well received by those who attended. As the Covid-19 situation improves the Family Law Committee looks forward to meeting quarterly and offering regular CLE presentations as we did prior to March 2020.

Michael Fenger, Committee Chair

Foundation Committee

The McLean County Bar Foundation continues to move forward in a number of key areas in order to begin fundraising this year. Key developments include establishing a checking account and receiving its first “seed” funds from the McLean County Bar Association. The goal is to move from making contribution of \$10,000-15,000 in the first couple of years to go well above that in the future. The Foundation also wants to expand the number of legal aid organizations we contribute to and scholarships that we offer to students. In addition, the Foundation will look to work with the Bar Association on identifying events that can help reinvigorate the social component of the Bar Association while raising money for the Foundation.

Ryan Gammelgard - President
Cathy Pratt – Pratt & Pratt - Vice President
Laurel Bingaman – Compeer Financial – Secretary
Nate Inhess – Heartland Bank – Treasurer
George Wood – Hartweg, Turner, Wood
Todd Chapman – State Farm

History Committee

The History Committee archives materials for the McLean County Bar Association in order to protect, preserve, and provide accurate records of historical information or future generations. The History Committee also compiles attorney memorials with the McLean County Circuit Clerk, the McLean County Bar Association, and the History Museum. As part of its ongoing archival project, the History Committee records lectures, events, and interviews bar members. Lectures and events frequently address historical cases and/or bar history. Interviews are conducted with members of the bar upon retirement or after several decades of practice in order to record their lives, their stories, and their work. These recordings help shed light on the practice of law in McLean County, changes to that practice, and the role individual bar members played in that history. The Committee is also working on making archival footage available through the MCBA website as part of our ongoing mission to provide our history to future generations. The Committee seeks interviewees interested in sharing their careers, backgrounds, cases, and practice in McLean County as well as interesting events that concern the practice of law in McLean County that can be recorded. Please e-mail one of the chairs of the committee if you are interested in being interviewed, or know of someone or some event that could be recorded. Most recently, we created a slideshow for the Law Day Happy Hour, focusing on the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment for Law Day 2020 and on Advancing the Rule of Law Now for Law Day 2021. Thank you to everyone who helped in the last year! Your work helps the History Committee meet our mission, and preserve the history of the McLean County Bar Association, its members, and the practice of law in McLean County!

MCBA History Committee:
Chair: Brendan Bukalski
Co-Chair: Julia Davis
Memorial Archivist and Coordinator for Annual Meeting: Dan Deneen
Deceased Attorney Funeral Coordinator: Rusty Depew
McLean County History Liaison: Robert Porter

Law Day Committee

This year's Law Day was celebrated by the MCBA's first in-person event since February of 2020. It was a casual evening spent among members and friends. A special thanks to Nargis Khokhar who created displays on the Law Day Themes and to Brendan Bukalski who added an historic slide show.

Lawyers in the Classroom (LITC) Committee

Although Covid and remote learning set our committee back quite a bit, we were able to do a couple of presentations via remote access. We are looking forward to the schools being back in session next year and hopefully having many presentations requested by us. I hope to meet with the committee in late June so we can make a plan for contacting teachers at all of the area schools.

Best regards, Jennifer Patton, Committee Chair

Mock Trial Committee

The canceled 2021 Mock Trials were a disappointment. Every school reached out to leadership and certainly understood the situation. Since our event is a favorite and many schools travel a fair distance to attend, we are hopeful that we can return to in-person in February 2022!

Matthew Koettters, Committee Chair

Pro Bono Committee

In the last year, the committee met remotely on September 21, 2020, December 9, 2020, March 4, 2021 and May 18, 2021. Due to COVID-19, the Legal Advice Fairs conducted bi-annually in previous years were not held. Due to obvious need, Prairie State has focused its efforts on providing eviction clinics to assist tenants facing eviction and to help tenants obtain available financial assistance through local municipalities, the state, and other available resources. Because of the inability for most of the year to conduct in person events, PILI has provided remote CLE and pro bono opportunities for our members, including the PILI Virtual Pro Bono CLE Series and Illinois Free Legal Answer Clinic. The Committee continues to focus its efforts on the implementation of a Remote divorces project in Logan County. The Board chair participated in the Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committees Virtual Summit on April 15, 2021. Chief Justice Burke provided remarks at the Virtual Summit and discussions were had regarding how pro bono has been impacted by COVID-19 and how to move past COVID-19.

Carrie Haas, Chair

Real Estate Committee

The Real Estate Committee has had no recent activity. Now that things are returning to more normal, we will likely look to have a meeting sometime soon.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Hundman and Brian Garwood, Committee Co-Chairs

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee met virtually on July 30, 2020 and November 19, 2020. Demand for the MCBA scholarship was high again in 2020. We received eight scholarship applications last year. We presented the 2020 MCBA Scholarship to Taylor Williams in December 2020. Ms. Taylor's name was added to the MCBA Scholarship Plaque at the McLean County Law & Justice Center. There was no formal presentation because the MCBA Holiday Luncheon was cancelled due to the pandemic. Ms. Williams grew up in Heyworth. She went to college at Illinois Wesleyan University. Ms. Williams has been serving her communities for most of her life.

She has logged over 1,000 hours of community service to non-profits and public entities in McLean County since 2015. Ms. Williams participated in two clinics at Southern Illinois University School of Law using her legal training to help children and transgender people. Ms. Williams graduated from SIU School of Law in December. She has returned to McLean County and joined Kraft, Wood & Kelly, LLC.

Adrian Barr, Chairman

Social Committee

The Social Committee was unable to organize many events in the last year due to capacity restrictions resulting from COVID-19, and much of the Bar's reluctance to gather in large groups. However, with the lightening of the restrictions and vaccine rollout we were able to put together a happy hour for Law Day that saw a fantastic turnout from the Bar. The overall mood was the bar members were happy to again be able to gather and the event was well received.

The Committee hopes to continue that momentum going into the next year in planning multiple events for the Bar to partake in, as well as diversifying the type of event put together. We want to thank Nargis Khokhar for her work on the committee as she steps down to focus on her new role on the Board of Governors and welcome Karl Bauchmoyer to the committee.

Karl Bauchmoyer and Michael Butts, Co-Chairs

Underwood Committee

The Underwood Committee on Professionalism is charged with developing programs that educate and promote professionalism within the legal committee. This past bar year the committee sponsored two CLE programs in collaboration with the CLE Committee. The first program was held in November and provided education and training compliant with the new Illinois Workplace Transparency Act. The program was conducted by Danielle M. Kays and was approved for 1.0 hours of professional responsibility credit. The second program was held in April on the topic of diversity, equity, and inclusion and featured a presentation by John Kim as well as a panel discussion including Mr. Kim, Judges Carla Barnes and Pablo Eves, and Prairie State Legal Services' Managing Attorney, Adrian Barr. This program was approved for 1.0 hours of professional responsibility/diversity and inclusion credit. Both programs were presented virtually and were well attended by MCBA members. The program on diversity & inclusion received feedback that indicated in a desire by members for the MCBA to pursue additional programs in this area. The commission thanks the presenters for sharing their time, knowledge, and experience and looks forward to providing additional programming in the coming year. Special thanks to Todd Miller and Mary Sellmyer for making sure that the Underwood Committee program materials were timely submitted so that our members could receive CLE credit.

Amelia Buragas, Chair

Young Lawyers Division

There was no report available at this time.

Bar Association of McLean County, IL

Profit and Loss

June 1, 2020 - June 7, 2021

	TOTAL
Income	
301 Dues	22,195.45
304 Golf Outing	0.00
2021 Golf Outing	373.98
Total 304 Golf Outing	373.98
310 Interest Income	3.73
311 Social Events	326.92
2021 Annual Meeting	820.53
Total 311 Social Events	1,147.45
313 CLE	291.00
2020 January CLE	20.00
Total 313 CLE	311.00
Uncategorized Income	1.12
Total Income	\$24,032.73
GROSS PROFIT	\$24,032.73
Expenses	
401 Employee Expenses	4,185.00
Mary Sellmyer Independent Contractor	4,420.00
Total 401 Employee Expenses	8,605.00
402 Insurance	1,747.00
403 P.O. Box	134.00
406 Miscellaneous	1,275.35
2019 State Registration	10.00
Bar Foundation Set Up	2,500.00
Tax Prep Fee	787.50
Total 406 Miscellaneous	4,572.85
503 CLE Expenses	713.20
601 Prairie State	10,200.00
602 Law Library	3,395.00
604 Plaques and Awards	13.50
605 Scholarships	2,500.00
608 Miscellaneous Donations	200.00
710 Computers and Software	518.94
720 Web Support	525.17
805 Social Events	4,053.43
Total Expenses	\$37,178.09
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -13,145.36
NET INCOME	\$ -13,145.36