July 31, 2017

FINAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As my term as President of the AADC draws to a close, I wanted to provide an update to all members concerning the state of the organization. The good news is I have nothing but good news to report.

Membership remains at an all time high. Our treasury does as well. Our revamped, improved website is up and running smoothly. Our membership directory is up-to-date and useful. Members graciously volunteered their time and efforts toward 52 newsletters Tracey has sent out over the past year, educating us all on an array of interesting topics. Our Listserv is functioning as envisioned, with members seeking and receiving advice on experts, judges, venues, verdicts and more. Vendors/sponsors continue to contact us about opportunities to help fund the annual meeting and provide us with "goodies" at it. Our Legislative Committee performed an outstanding job while the Legislature was in session. Our members stepped up and are now serving multiple positions within the Arkansas Bar Association, including on the Board of Governors and in the House of Delegates. In fact, just today Wayne Young advised me President Hilliard appointed him to the at-large position on the Board of Governors, which he has accepted. Our standing in the legal community continues to grow. I could not be more pleased.

As you are aware, our annual meeting, scheduled for August 4 and 5, is fast approaching. It will take place atop beautiful Petit Jean Mountain in Morrilton at the Rockefeller Institute. If you have not been there before, it is absolutely stunning with breathtaking views. It has miles of trails for walking and hiking, with wildlife galore. Culinary classes are available both Friday and Saturday for members, their spouses, significant others, children and guests. In that regard, please bring the family - they are welcome to attend all but the CLE portion of the weekend. We are very family (and dog - Frodo will once again make an appearance!) friendly. A block of rooms is reserved at the Rockefeller Institute, but if they are all gone by the time you register, another block is available at the Mather Lodge just down

the road. This year, there will be dinner included in your registration fee both Friday and Saturday nights, as well as a band at President Elect Rebecca Hattabaugh's cocktail reception Friday night. Consequently, you get more than ever before for the same price! The CLE has all been approved by the Supreme Court and is top notch with great local and nationwide speakers. The annual meeting is the one time a year the majority of our membership is in the same place at the same time and can socialize with each other and discuss AADC business. I hope you will make it a point to attend this year.

My term as President can now be counted in not months or weeks, but days. That thought fills me with a sense of unimaginable joy. No, in all seriousness it's been a great year. Thank you all again for allowing me to serve as your President. I hope you will welcome President Elect Rebecca Hattabaugh and wish her luck in term as President.

The AADC wishes to thank Michael McCarty Harrison for all she has accomplished during her term as its President!



We welcome your articles and thoughts for future editions.

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