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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
WESTMORELAND BAR ASSOCIATION  
SPECIAL EDITION  
MARCH 2015

# Nominations Announced for 2015–2016 Board, Committees



*Maria  
Soohy*



*John M.  
Noble*



*Timothy C.  
Andrews*



*Margaret Maloy  
Tremba*



*Jeffrey D.  
Monzo*



*John N.  
Ward*

The Nominating Committee, comprised of Dara A. DeCourcy (Chair), John Greiner, Maria Soohy, Samuel R. Coury, Terrance C. Ferguson, Michael J. Stewart II, and Charles R. Conway, met in January to review applications submitted for openings on the Board of Directors, the Membership Committee, and the Building Committee. The committee's charge, as outlined in the bylaws, is to recommend to the Board the names of at least one prospective candidate for each office to be filled at the annual meeting.

For the April 6, 2015, Annual Membership Meeting, the openings will be as such:

- One opening on the Board of Directors for President-Elect. One-year term.
- One opening on the Board of Directors for Vice President. One-year term.
- One opening on the Board of Directors. Three-year term.

- One opening on the Membership Committee. Five-year term.
- One opening on the Building Committee. Five-year term.

At the annual meeting, participating members of the WBA will vote to fill each of the openings. Recent bylaw changes, approved at the January 2015

Quarterly Meeting, resulted in the following:

- One Director will be elected each year rather than two (Article VII, Section 1).
- The President-Elect will be elected because of the vacant Vice President position (Article VI, Section 7).
- Nominations for any open position may be made from the floor, provided that the member has given the Executive Director written notice of his/her intent to seek election at least two weeks prior to the meeting. In such case, the Executive Director shall immediately notify the members of the Association via electronic means (Article IV, Section 8).

The WBA bylaws can be viewed online at [www.westbar.org/bylaws](http://www.westbar.org/bylaws).

The committee's recommended candidates are:

- **John M. Noble**, President-Elect
- **Timothy C. Andrews**, Vice President

Your invitation is on the back page of this Special Edition. Return the enclosed reply card by Monday, March 30, 2015.

WESTMORELAND  
BAR FOUNDATION

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

WESTMORELAND  
BAR ASSOCIATION

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2015  
RIZZO'S BANQUET HALL,  
CRABTREE, PA

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# Nominations Announced for 2015–2016 Board, Committees

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- **Margaret Maloy Tremba**, Board of Directors
- **Jeffrey D. Monzo**, Membership Committee
- **John N. Ward**, Building Committee

At the conclusion of the annual meeting, **Maria E. Soohy** will assume the Bar presidency.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT: JOHN M. NOBLE



*The President-Elect ensures that the WBA's mission, services, policies, and programs are carried out. One one-year term open.*

### Professional Background:

Westmoreland Mediation Academy, est. 2014; noblemediation, LLC, 2009–present; with Meyer Darragh–29½ years: Senior Partner/ Managing Partner/Marketing Director; Joined WBA in 1983; Admitted to practice in 1982; Graduated from Duquesne University School of Law.

**WBA Activities:** Chair and/or Co-Chair–ADR Committee; WBA Board of Directors; Bench/Bar; BarFlies; CLE Presenter; Mock Trial Juror/Judge, 20 years; various committees.

### Other Professional Information:

Member, Allegheny County Bar Association (1982–present); Mediator/ Arbitrator/Early Neutral Evaluator, District Court of the Western District of Pennsylvania (2006–present); PBA Professional Liability Committee Malpractice Avoidance Program; Contributing author, *The Pennsylvania Lawyer* (2007–2008).

**Vision for WBA:** When tasked to address the WBA “vision” for the future, I looked to “where we’ve been” via our outstanding WBA webpage and, in particular, the past on-line issues of *the sidebar* dating back to Diane Murphy’s Presidency in 2000. (can it be 15 years?!)

Our Westmoreland Bar Association certainly has an incredibly impressive history, perhaps unmatched by any other—anywhere. Without question, significant praise goes to *the sidebar* editorial staff—and, in particular, David Millstein—for the outstanding continuing “time capsule” that preserves the story of our clearly unique, multi-talented and widely diverse membership. As chronicled by *the sidebar*, the many, many, MANY local and state-wide efforts, commitments and achievements within our Association have truly been a dynasty of riches. The “good” certainly has been very good. “Where we’ve been” is one great read—think about seeking out those many WBA leaders who got us “where we are” and thank them—profusely.

As for the future, to so many across the Commonwealth with whom I have conversed over the past several years, it feels like “where we’re going” has never been more uncertain. Disrespect for the law and law enforcement is commonplace, while public dissatisfaction with lawyers and the courts continues to manifest itself by way of the increasing number of “self-represented litigants,” smart phone legal “apps” (no lawyers necessary) and on-line “self-help” legal instructional forms and “kits.” The demand for our “professional” services has clearly devolved and we must be evermore thoughtful, if not creative, in our response—or continue toward possible irrelevancy.

Will it ever be as good as it was? Can it be better than it is now? That is the task before our Association and the current WBA Board—the vision—to which we collectively must commit. Can we evolve with the swiftly changing times and improve our product? Will we move beyond the complacency of merely repeating the comfortable past? Will novel

“problem-solving” courts (veterans and drug courts, for example) prove to be successful? The many issues are in no way unique to us, confronting Bar Associations all across Pennsylvania and beyond. I look forward to the challenges ahead and invite each of you to be an active voice—as, together, we work to make “where we’re going” worth writing about. 🐾

## VICE PRESIDENT: TIMOTHY C. ANDREWS



*The Vice President ensures that the WBA's mission, services, policies, and programs are carried out. One one-year term open.*

### Professional Background:

Solo practitioner; Joined WBA in 1985; Admitted to practice in 1984; Graduated from Capital University Law School, Columbus, Ohio.

**WBA Activities:** Chair, Criminal Law Committee; Board of Directors; Family Law Committee.

**Other Professional Information:** Top 100 Trial Lawyers.

**Leadership and Vision:** If I am elected, I plan to continue with outreach programs to draw additional members into the Westmoreland Bar Association.

Perhaps of equal if not a greater goal is to increase substantially the participation of the membership. I’m hopeful this can be accomplished through numerous avenues including better communication to the members regarding the benefits, including to your law practice, of being involved in bar activities.

I believe reaching out to the members for suggestions and ideas on how to improve the bar association is also crucial.

I will investigate various ways to accomplish this including soliciting ideas and suggestions through questionnaires or other means. 🐾

## DIRECTOR: MARGARET MALOY TREMBA



*The Director ensures that the WBA's mission, services, policies, and programs are carried out. One three-year term open.*

**Professional Background:** Founder and Managing Partner, Tremba, Jelley & Kinney, LLC (present); Associate, Mansmann Cindrich & Titus, Pittsburgh, PA (1986–1991); Adjunct Professor of Business Law, Penn State, New Kensington and McKeesport, PA (1989–1993); Duquesne University School of Law (1986); Seton Hill College (1983); Joined WBA in 1991; Admitted to practice in 1986.

**WBA Activities:** Chair, Membership Committee; Chair and Co-Chair, Bench/Bar Committee; ADR Committee; Co-Chair, Law Practice Management Committee; Family Law Committee; Planning Committee.

**Other Professional Information:** Ned J. Nakles Inn of Court, Master; Westmoreland Academy of Trial Lawyers; Founding Member of Westmoreland Mediation Academy; Creator of Westmoreland Mediation Orientation Program; Member Women Presidents' Organization (WPO) Seton Hill Chapter.

**Reason for Interest:** Honor the past, serve the present, and prepare for the future. 🌿

## MEMBERSHIP: JEFFREY D. MONZO



*The Membership Committee is the first point of contact most applicants have with the WBA. One five-year term open.*

**Professional Background:** Galloway•Monzo, P.C., October 2008–present, founding Partner; Belden Law, March 1998–October 2008, elected Partner 2001; Berk Whitehead, Associate Attorney, January 1996–March 1998; Westmoreland County Public Defender's Office, March

1993–January 1998; Tremba Jelley, Associate Attorney, December 1992–January 1994; Ohio Northern University College of Law, 1992; Dickinson College, 1989.

**WBA Activities:** Member since 1992; Young Lawyers Committee; Bench/Bar Committee; Inns of Court; Westmoreland Academy of Trial Lawyers.

**Other Professional Information:** Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, Rising Star–2006; Best Lawyers in America (Criminal Defense) 2008–present; Adjunct Professor, Seton Hill University, 1999–2002; Dickinson College Admissions Volunteer Society.

**Reason for Interest:** I have been practicing law in Westmoreland County for over 23 years. During that time, I have had the good fortune of practicing alongside and being partners with attorneys, who were not only dedicated to the practice of law, but also committed to the advancement of the Westmoreland Bar Association. The excellence of the Westmoreland Bar Association is the result of great leadership and hard work over the course of time. I respectfully submit that I am now in a position in my professional and personal life to take on a leadership role within the WBA.

I feel privileged to practice in a county with such a strong legacy of excellence in its bar association's leadership. I believe, to continue our success, we must support and encourage the young lawyers of our county, while promoting our association and persuading attorneys in Westmoreland County who are not members of our bar to become members. I also strongly support the WBA taking a leadership role with other associations in Pennsylvania. As a member of the membership committee, I welcome the opportunity to serve the WBA by increasing our membership, serving the young lawyers of our bar association and maintaining our reputation as an outstanding bar association across Pennsylvania. 🌿

## BUILDING: JOHN N. WARD



*The Building Committee is responsible for maintaining the management and upkeep of Bar Headquarters. One five-year term open.*

**Professional Background:** Ward & Christner, P.C., 2000–present; Costello, Marsh, Ward & Christner, 1997–2000; Costello, Marsh & Ward, 1987–1997; Costello & Berk, 1977–1987 and O'Connell, Silvis & Godlewski, 1974–1977. Graduated from Washington & Jefferson College with a B.A. having majored in Political Science in 1969, graduated from Duquesne University School of Law with a J.D. in 1972.

**WBA Activities:** Having been a member of the Westmoreland Bar Association since September 1974, I have been a member of the Real Estate Committee, past co-chair of the Real Estate Committee, Orphans' Court/Elder Law Committee, past member of the Municipal Law Committee, member of the Planning Committee and presently ending my first term as a member of the Building Committee. Currently, a member of the Inns of Court.

**Other Professional Information:** Past Chair and Member of United Way of Westmoreland County; Past Chair and present Member of the Westmoreland County Parks & Recreation Citizens Advisory Board and present member of the Westmoreland Land Trust.

**Reason for Interest:** To continue serving on the Committee so I can participate in working on those recommendations which are extremely important concerning the present and future use of our building, determining what options we might recommend to the Board of Directors concerning repairing, maintaining, renovating, and evaluating what we should do with the current building which would be in the best interests of the Westmoreland Bar Association so our fiduciary responsibility can be properly served as an elected Committee of this Association. 🌿

ANNUAL MEETING

WESTMORELAND BAR FOUNDATION



In accordance with the bylaws of the Westmoreland Bar Foundation, notice is hereby given that the Annual Membership Meeting of the Westmoreland Bar Foundation will be held on Monday, April 6, 2015, at Rizzo's Banquet Hall, 126 Rizzo Rd., Crabtree, Pa.

Please note: The meeting will begin promptly at 4:30 pm and conclude at 5 pm.

Agenda

- I. State of the Foundation Bruce C. Tobin, Chair
II. Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award
III. Elections Jack L. Bergstein, Trustee
IV. Adjournment

\* As stated in the bylaws of the Westmoreland Bar Association Article IX Section 3.Q The Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Board at its regular meeting held at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, names of at least one prospective candidate for each office to be filled at the annual meeting.

WESTMORELAND BAR ASSOCIATION



In accordance with the bylaws of the Westmoreland Bar Association, notice is hereby given that the Annual Membership Meeting of the Westmoreland Bar Association will be held on Monday, April 6, 2015, at Rizzo's Banquet Hall, 126 Rizzo Rd., Crabtree, Pa.

Please note: The meeting will begin promptly at 5 pm and will conclude at 6 pm. A reception will be held from 6 pm to 6:45 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:45 pm.

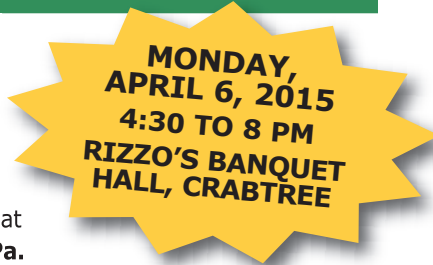
Dinner sponsored by



Agenda

- I. Call to Order
II. Introduction of Dinner Sponsors...USI Affinity Representatives Sandy Niespodzianski, Bob Cagna
III. Approval of Minutes of April 2014 Annual Meeting
IV. State of the Bar ...Joseph W. Lazzaro, President
V. Report of Treasurer ...L. Christian DeDiana, Treasurer
VI. Elections...Dara A. DeCourcy
VII. Presentation of Awards/Recognition
VIII. Outgoing President Lazzaro turns gavel over to President Maria E. Soohy
IX. Gift Presentation
X. Adjournment

Note: Bar will open at the conclusion of the business meeting.



Recent WBA bylaw changes, approved in January 2015, resulted in the following changes:

- Electing one Director rather than two—Article VII Section 1. Three Directors, who shall be either Participating or Life Members, shall be elected to the Board to serve for a three-year term.
Filling the opening on the board for the President-elect—Article VI Section 7. Except when a vacancy in any executive board position is filled by automatic succession as outlined by the bylaws, an election shall be held at the next scheduled meeting of the association consistent with Article IV - Meetings of Members - with the election of the highest office to occur first.
Allowing nominations from the floor—Article IV Section 8. Members put forth by the Nominating Committee shall automatically be placed on the ballot. Nominations may also be made from the floor, provided that the member has given the Executive Director written notice of his/her intent to seek election at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

To register, return the enclosed reply card to the WBA via fax (724-834-6855), e-mail (westbar.org@westbar.org), or mail (129 N Pennsylvania Ave, Greensburg, PA 15601-2311), register online at www.westbar.org, or call the WBA at 724-834-6730.

WESTMORELAND BAR FOUNDATION

# ANNUAL MEETING

WESTMORELAND BAR ASSOCIATION

***Please complete and return  
by Monday, March 30, 2015.***

Send to:

Westmoreland Bar Association  
129 N Pennsylvania Ave  
Greensburg PA 15601-2311

Fax: 724.834.6855

E-mail: [westbar.org@westbar.org](mailto:westbar.org@westbar.org)

Register online at [www.westbar.org](http://www.westbar.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- I will attend the meeting ONLY.
- I will attend the meeting AND dinner.

**MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2015 • 4:30 PM  
RIZZO'S BANQUET HALL, CRABTREE, PA**