

Michigan Lawyers Alliance: Open for Membership

By Timothy Eagle

As the newly installed 53rd president of the Michigan Lawyers Alliance (MLA), formerly the Michigan Lawyers Auxiliary, Linda Eagle has been given the gavel to preside over the group's meetings. I believe it could not be in better hands. Born and raised in Belding, Michigan, Linda is already better known to many members of the judiciary and the bar than her attorney husband because of her many community volunteer activities.

Membership is open, and Linda personally invites your spouse or significant other to be part of the MLA, an organization dedicated to supporting the legal profession for more than 53 years. Participation can range from paying nominal annual dues to helping with a program designed to create greater citizen awareness of the law. Linda's mission is to increase participation, and she would love to have you on board.

Linda earned an associate's degree in legal secretarial studies and a bachelor's degree in marketing and international business from Davenport University in Grand Rapids. She has worked as a market analyst with Readi-Bake Foods and an account executive for LaVene Inc., a Grand Rapids-based distributor of Herman Miller office furniture.

In the mid-1990s, however, Linda found her calling as a community volunteer, allocating more time to help at Kentwood Public Schools. She served as a special projects administrator for The Dove Foundation, a Grand Rapids-based, not-for-profit organization dedicated to increasing the availability of family-friendly entertainment choices. She was instrumental in fundraising for and launching a statewide multi-year media literacy initiative that included state executive branch leaders, members of the judiciary, media representatives, public health leaders, public educators, and others.



Linda Eagle in Masada, Israel

Her volunteer efforts have focused on enhancing the lives of young people, particularly by encouraging young women. Linda was a co-leader of a successful high school girls' youth group for more than 10 years, and she continues to mentor graduates of that program, many of whom are now young mothers.

Linda served as a publicity chair for Junior League and, more recently, as a youth leader and administrator for groups rang-

ing in age from elementary to high school with Bible Study Fellowship, an international organization based in San Antonio, Texas. She currently leads a women's group and coaches leaders at Ada Bible Church.

She has cherished the opportunity to work with volunteers and participants in Law Day and other legal education and teacher recognition programs promoted by MLA because those programs combine her passion for supporting young people with her mission of promoting the legal profession.

With a father from the judiciary and an attorney husband, Linda is committed to supporting the legal profession through the special-purpose organizations associated with the bar. Before being installed as president, she served as MLA treasurer. She has been a delegate to the American Lawyers' Alliance, the national organization with which the MLA is affiliated. She also has served as co-president of the Grand Rapids Lawyers Auxiliary.

Linda's father is a retired probate court judge and she is no stranger to his colleagues, having for many years attended (and acted as unofficial photographer for) meetings of the Michigan Retired Probate Judges Association.

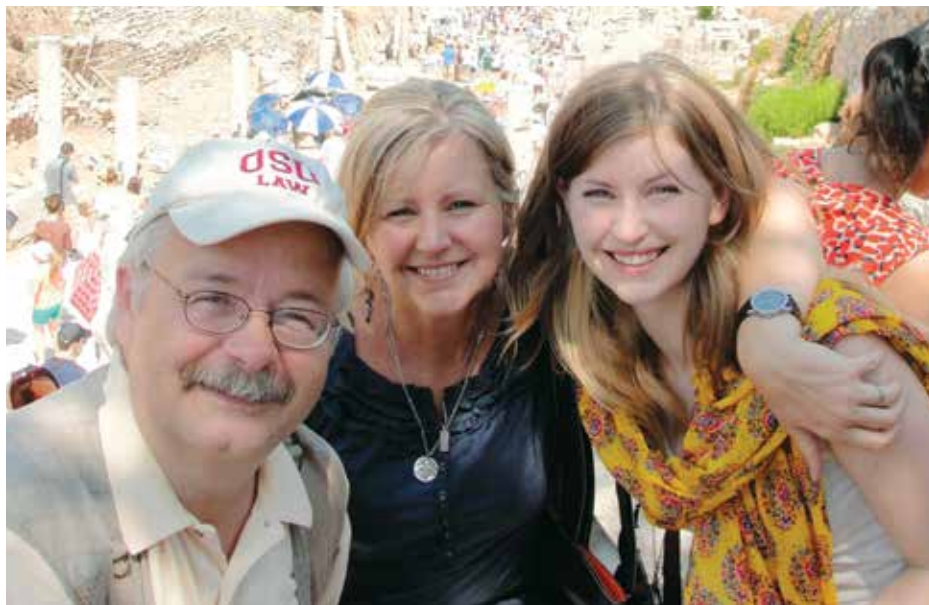
When not serving as a community volunteer, Linda loves to hike and travel. Most recently, she explored cultures in Asia, Israel, and Ephesus and Cappadocia in Turkey. Her favorite trips, however, are car trips with

Membership is open, and Linda personally invites your spouse or significant other to be part of the MLA.

no fixed destination, simply exploring the back roads of America and, of course, color tours in beautiful Michigan.

Linda passed her love of travel along to our daughter, Sara. A graduate of East

When not serving as a community volunteer, Linda loves to hike and travel.



Tim, Linda, and Sara Eagle in Ephesus, Turkey

Kentwood High School and Western Michigan University, Sara has taught English in Andong, South Korea for the past four years, including two years at Andong National University.

The Michigan Lawyers Alliance, like many service organizations, faces the challenge of competing with many other demands for the time and attention of members and potential members. With her background in community service, marketing, and media

literacy, Linda is well-suited to tackle those challenges. More importantly, I can attest that she has the ability to wield the MLA gavel as its 53rd president with the good humor and contagious enthusiasm she brings to all of her volunteer endeavors.

For more information about this important group, please contact Linda at linda.eagle@comcast.net or visit the MLA web-

site at <http://www.michbar.org/localbars/mla/home.html>. ■

Timothy Eagle, Linda's husband and biggest supporter, practices with Varnum LLP. Tim and Linda live in Ada with their two dogs, Kodewa and Ani, and look forward to visits from their daughter, Sara, who lives in South Korea.