This year marks the 50th anniversary of *The Arkansas Lawyer* Magazine. To celebrate, we have compiled highlights from the past 50 years. Our hope for our seasoned members: that you enjoy this trip down memory lane. For newer members: that this gives you a sense of the full history and development of the bar.

From its inception the magazine has relied upon volunteer attorneys for its success. The magazine has an Editorial Advisory Board of 12 members who plan the issues and work with volunteer attorneys to write the articles. The first Editorial Committee consisted of James W. Moore, Philip E. Dixon and LeRoy B. Gaston. The first editor, who also served as Executive Director, was Colonel C. E. Ransick. The longest tenured board members still actively serving on the board are: Jim Julian, Philip Kaplan, Drake Mann, Gordan Rather and David H. Williams. Anton L. Janik is currently serving his second year as the chair.

The first issue in June 1967 included congratulatory letters from both Governor Winthrop Rockefeller and Association President Maurice Cathey:
The second issue in September 1967 included a Membership Directory; this tradition continued until April 1984, when the Membership Directory became its own stand-alone publication. The Membership Directory is currently available to all ArkBar members online, in a searchable format.

Throughout the years, *The Arkansas Lawyer* has touted membership benefits. The outside back cover of the March 1968 issue featured one of our first member benefits ad: “You Should Belong to the Arkansas Bar Association. You will receive every issue of *The Arkansas Lawyer* which will bring you interesting information articles about law, lawyers, court decisions, legal literature, meeting schedules, and news of developments of value in your practice.” Wow, how technology has changed through the years; see our current membership benefits ad on page 44 of this issue.

The Justice Building of the State of Arkansas was featured on the cover of the September 1969 issue. This issue included the Petition and Brief for the Reorganization of the Arkansas Bar to a Unified Bar (an obviously unsuccessful endeavor; the Association remains to this day a voluntary bar association).

The January 1971 issue was dedicated to Edward L. Wright of Little Rock who served as the American Bar Association President from 1970-1971. He was the second of three Arkansas Bar Association members who served as ABA president. U.M. Rose served in 1901-1902 and Phil Anderson served in 1998-1999.

In honor of the 150th anniversary of Little Rock as the Capital City, the cover story for the July 1971 issue was “The Arkansas Capitol” by Dr. John L. Ferguson. The State Capitol has been featured on the cover in multiple other issues as well, most recently Spring 2017.

The March 1973 issue was dedicated to the Oil and Gas Industries of Arkansas, and was largely prepared by members of the Oil and Gas Institute. 2018 will mark the 57th year for the Natural Resources Institute. The Natural Resource Section of the Association was originally the Oil and Gas Section.

A tribute to the new Arkansas Bar Center and a history of the Arkansas Bar Foundation was the focus of the January 1974 issue. “May [the new Arkansas Bar Center] ever serve to improve legal education, the legal profession, the administration of justice.”—James E. West, Association President 1973-1974. This beautiful building served the Arkansas Bar Association well until it moved into its new home on Cottondale Lane in 2007. (See Spring 2007 cover on page 18)

Elsijane Trimble Roy, the first woman to serve as a justice on the Arkansas Supreme Court, was featured in the January 1976 cover story. Judge Roy was a woman of firsts; the year after this article was published, she became the first female judge for the U.S. District Courts of Arkansas, serving in her father’s old courtroom. Prior to that, she had served as the first female judge on the Arkansas Court of Appeals. She was also an avid Razorback fan, well known for stopping to call the hogs wherever she went.

The July 1976 cover story featured the new Arkansas Supreme Courtroom at the Justice Building in Little Rock, which was dedicated on January 9, 1976.

The January 1979 cover story featured a dedication to the renovation of the Old Federal Building in Little Rock. For years this housed the law school and currently is the U.S. Bankruptcy Courthouse.

The January 1982 issue includes an article by Bernard Sternin on “Word Processing: Its Myths and Mythconceptions.” “Trying to picture and prepare for the office of the future is serious business for those of us who will have to live there.”

“Arkansas’ County Courthouses in the Mainstream of Preservation Efforts” by Jacalyn Carfagno was the cover story featured in the April 1984 issue. This issue also featured a new look for the masthead.

The October 1984 issue featured a series of articles on “100 Years of History: Arkansas Women in Law” by Frances Mitchell Ross, Ruth Brunson, Jacqueline Wright and Ruth Lindsey. Ross’ article utilizes the case of Bradwell v. Illinois to showcase the plight of pioneering Arkansas women lawyers, who were precluded by statute from entering the Arkansas Bar until 1917.

“On June 6, 1985, W. Harold Flowers was honored as a fifty-year member of the Arkansas Bar Association at the annual meeting of the association in Hot Springs. Harold Flowers, often referred to as the Dean of the black bar in Arkansas, has been admitted to the practice of law in Arkansas longer than any other black attorney in the state.” This is from the July 1985 issue, by Andree Roaf.

The October 1985 cover story featured a new look for the masthead. The cover story was “Filling the Chair: What Judicial Selection Method Works Best?” by Ann Henry and Elizabeth Cocker. This issue also included an article by W. Russell Meeks, III on “Mandatory CLE in Arkansas: On the Cutting Edge” (mandatory CLE was implemented three years later).

Automating the Law Office by Charles A. Morgan was the cover story featured in the April 1988 issue. “In the law office of the future, today’s technology must be mastered if we are to be efficient, profitable.” Fast-forward to 1990, and the Arkansas Bar Association became one of the first bars to offer mandatory CLE, the registration for this annual meeting was just about double that of previous meetings!

The April 1988 issue included an announcement about the first Joint Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Bar Association and the Arkansas Judicial Council. “A Partnership Spirit...Among Lawyers and with the Bench.” Since this was also the first year that Arkansas lawyers were required to have mandatory CLE, the registration for this annual meeting was just about double that of previous meetings!

The April 1989 cover story featured an article on “Campaign Finance in Judicial Elections” by James D. Gingerich. This theme has continued over time, with the latest article published in the Winter 2015 issue with an article by Tim Cullen: “Judicial Campaign Finance: Can the Independence, Integrity and Impartiality of the Judiciary Survive Unlimited Stealth PAC Expenditures in Judicial Elections?”

This later changed to 3.5” disks, and then later to CDs, then jump drives.] In 2014, the bar converted to ArkBar Docs, taking its computer processing efforts to the next level.

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The masthead takes on a new look with the cover of the October 1989 issue.
The October 1991 cover story featured a series of articles on “Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights” by Wiley A. Branton, Jr., John Wesley Hall, Philip E. Kaplan, Nancy Bellhouse May and Wm. R. Wilson, Jr.

The Arkansas Lawyer cover for the January 1992 issue featured the 25th Anniversary of the magazine. In honor of the anniversary of the magazine, a Maurice Cathey award was established “to recognize his great foresight and to express appreciation for his outstanding contribution.” Cathey was posthumously named the first recipient of the award. This issue also included the results of a women-in-the-law survey. “These, and a host of other results, call for all of us to find ways to reduce the gender gap in the legal profession.”

The April 1992 issue (not pictured) included the results of a minorities-in-the-law survey. “The figures in the survey confirm our gut feelings that we have a long way to go in making the legal profession fully open and rewarding to minority lawyers.”

The Winter 1993 cover story featured “The Clintons Go To Washington” by David R. Matthews, after Association member Bill Clinton was elected the 42nd president of the United States on November 3, 1992. Beginning with this issue of the magazine, the issues were named according to season versus the month.

The masthead takes on a new look with the cover of the Winter 1994 issue.

The Summer 1995 cover story featured Carolyn Witherspoon, the first female Arkansas Bar Association president. Since Carolyn’s term, other female presidents have included: Sandra Cherry (2001-2002), Rosalind Mouser (2008-2009), Donna Petrus (2009-2010), Denise Hoggard (2016-2017). This issue also included an article by Jacqueline Wright on “The Internet—Resource for Arkansas Lawyers.” “The most important thing about the Internet, at least to those of us who enjoy thinking about possibilities, is that it creates new opportunities for solving problems that concern larger issues.” Who could have imagined, back then, how the internet would change our daily lives, including the practice of law?

The masthead takes on a new look with the cover of the Spring 1996 issue. In this issue, Claudia Driver announced that the Bar Association “has established a homepage on the World Wide Web.”

The Winter 1998 cover story featured U.M. Rose, the first president of the Arkansas Bar Association in 1898-1899 and president of the American Bar Association in 1901-1902. The statue of Rose pictured on the cover stands in the rotunda of the United States Capitol. This issue also included an article by Todd Greer on the Y2K Crisis, “January 1, 2000: Just Another Day in the Office?”

Association member Philip S. Anderson served as the American Bar Association president from 1998-1999 and was featured on the Fall 1998 cover.

In 1998, a special centennial issue was added that year in honor of the centennial year of the Arkansas Bar Association. John P. Gill and Christopher L. Travis were special guest editors; Cathy Underwood served as editor. “For almost a third of this century The Arkansas Lawyer has published hundreds of excellent articles on the law and the legal profession. They have been serious and witty, and typically Arkansas lawyer.” This issue also covered the Barrister’s Ball, a formal gala held in honor of the bar’s Centennial, and included a “snapshot in time”: all current members of the Arkansas Bar were listed in the margins of the pages, including law school members.
The **Spring 2000** issue featured a new look for the masthead.

The **Spring 2002** issue featured a new look for the masthead that remains in today's publication.

The **Spring 2004** cover story featured the new Arkansas VersusLaw, the Association's first online legal research tool for members. Pictured on the cover is the late Winslow Drummond, “widely known for favoring traditional means of practicing law, checking out the ultimate member benefit.” The issue included an article by Tom Daily, “Let's do some Arkansas VersusLaw? (new tricks for us older dogs).” The Association has continued to provide an online legal research tool as a free member benefit since that date, switching to Fastcase in 2010.

After 30 plus years, the Arkansas Bar Association decided to move to a new Arkansas Bar Center, pictured on the cover of the **Spring 2007** issue.

“Judith Ryan Gray loved lawyers and dedicated virtually all of her professional life to promoting the legal profession. She served the Arkansas Bar Association for forty years—officially as our Associate Executive Director, but in fact, as our anchor, program planner, promoter, recruiter, and ambassador extraordinaire.” No one could have stated this more aptly than Judge Beth Deere and Judge David M. “Mac” Glover in the **Fall 2009** cover story, a tribute to the late Judith Gray.

The **Fall 2013** issue was dedicated to veterans law issues with a special feature recognizing members who have served. “To our active and former military personnel: How can we ever thank you adequately for your service? Words fail. You are our heroes. Thank you for the ways that you guard and protect us.”

“Diversity in the Legal Profession—A Time of Challenge,” was the featured article in the **Winter 2014** issue, based on a transcript from a panel discussion. Panelists included Cory Childs, Milton DeJesus, Harold Evans, Denise Hoggard, Phil Kaplan, Marie-Bernarde Miller, Lawrence Orta, Emily Runyon and Angela Schnuerle. “Diversity is something that we have to want. We have to choose it and then we have to be proactive about achieving it. So if diversity is a value in a law firm, then I think that we have to actually set about achieving it.” A similar panel discussion on Women in the Law is included in this issue.

Eddie H. Walker, Jr., was the Association’s 118th president and had the distinction of serving as the first black president of the Arkansas Bar Association. His inspiring story is the cover story for the **Summer 2015** issue.

The **Winter 2016** issue featured an accolade to Colonel William A. Martin (pictured with his wife Mary Lou), former executive director of the Arkansas Bar Association and Arkansas Bar Foundation and longtime Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. Martin received an award of Excellence from the National Conference of Bar Foundations in recognition of outstanding contributions to law-related philanthropy by an individual.

The Arkansas High School Mock Trial Competition has been a tremendous outreach program of the Arkansas Bar. This is the feature of the **Spring 2016** cover story, with an article by Anthony McMullen. “Volunteering [in the mock trial competition] allows attorneys the chance to help provide civics education to the next generation of Arkansas citizens. They may even influence an aspiring lawyer.” See page 7 for details on how you can volunteer to continue this tradition.