

Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.



www.retiredattorneysarasota.org

March 2022

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NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 29 at 12 Noon

at Marina Jack's

Please note changed meeting day.

The ARAS Board of Directors has voted to return to Marina Jack's for our March meeting. We invite all fully vaccinated members and guests, and those who have recently received a negative PCR test to join us. If you choose to remain masked during the meeting you may ask your server to box your lunch to be given to you at the end of the meeting. We strongly suggest that you add extra time to your drive to Marina Jack due to construction on US 41 both in front of the restaurant and a bit north of it. Payment information is on Page 3.

Officers

Stephen Sturm,
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Richard Bruning,
Vice President
Benjamin I. Berman,
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Michael Krasnow,
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Judy Dean

March Speaker: Robert F. Klueger

Topic: The Failure of the Treaty of Versailles... And What it Portends for Right Now

In January 1919, the three most brilliant and accomplished men of their age – Woodrow Wilson, Britain's Prime Minister David Lloyd George, and France's Georges Clemenceau - met in Paris to hammer out the treaty that would end "the war to end all wars." It did not, and the vindictive and counterproductive disaster that these intelligent men produced may well have paved the way for the Second World War.

How did it happen? How did three statesmen - who knew better - allow themselves to be so misguided? How could foreign policy fail so grievously?

In his recent book *Wilson, Clemenceau, Lloyd George and the Roads to Paris*, Mr. Klueger explored the personal histories of the principals and temperaments of the nations they led, in order to find the answers. The Peace Conference that culminated in the Treaty of Versailles is an object lesson in the failure of statesmanship. Its lessons resonate today. Mr. Klueger will provide a slide presentation of the participants at the Peace Conference to accompany his presentation.

Robert F. Klueger spent most of his career as a tax lawyer in Los Angeles. He obtained a B.A. in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania (1967), a J.D. from Fordham Law School in 1973, and an M.A. in Taxation from the University of Denver Graduate Tax Program (1980). Sandwiched in between, he was a communications officer in the United States Navy. The highlight of his career as a tax lawyer was arguing *Brockamp v. United States* before the United States Supreme Court, a case that resulted in a change in the Tax Code. Mr. Klueger authored a number of legal texts before *Roads to Paris*, including *Buying and Selling a Business*, *Mergers and Acquisitions: a Step-by-Step Guide*, and *The Guide to Asset Protection*. Mr. Klueger turned to the study of history upon his retirement from the practice of law in 2016. Robert Klueger is a valued member of ARAS.

Because of the wealth of talent and interesting lives led by our very diverse membership, we continue our series of stories focusing on the lives of our members. It is our hope to eventually cover every member.

“Amicus Personae” – James A. Prozzi
Member of The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Jim Prozzi has spent the past forty-five years first studying, then practicing, and now teaching labor and employment law.

In 1976, during his third year at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, he was the research assistant to the professor who had taught labor law for many years. He took that labor law class, as well as a class on employment discrimination and a seminar on labor arbitration. He knew that this was the only area of law in which he wanted to practice.

Jim was fortunate enough to follow that passion for the next forty-three years. He spent his entire legal career, from 1977 until 2020, practicing labor and employment law on behalf of management. He started with an experienced sole practitioner in Pittsburgh, and after ten years, he joined the Pittsburgh office of Jackson Lewis, the country's second largest labor and employment "boutique" law firm. During these years of active practice, Jim's labor law work included union negotiations and arbitrations, as well as National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) elections and hearings. His employment law practice during these years included numerous trials (both jury and non-jury), as well as a sub-specialty of advice and litigation in the area of federal wage and hour law.

Both aspects of his practice involved significant appellate work: he has argued more than 30 cases before the U.S. Courts of Appeal for the Second, Third, Fourth, Sixth and Eighth Circuits.

During his years of active practice, Jim regularly published articles on labor and employment law. (He has an article which is to be published in next few months in the *ABA Journal of Labor & Employment Law* about the Pitt Law professor who became the first Chairman of the NLRB in 1935). But he was always interested in the possibility of teaching in this specialty and giving something back to a profession which he loves. In 2013, he was able to do that when he began teaching labor law at Pitt Law as an adjunct professor, the same course which he took as a third-year student many years before.

Jim retired from his firm in early 2020, and he and his wife, Margaret Bryant (also an attorney and a new member of ARAS) became full-time residents of Sarasota, having been part-time residents since 2005. Teaching at Pitt Law was no longer possible with his retirement, but Jim was fortunate to be asked to teach employment law at Stetson University College of Law in Gulfport as an adjunct professor. He is now beginning his third year of teaching employment law at Stetson.

Jim always likes to tell his students what Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once said, which is that "life is action and passion ... and a person should therefore try to share the passion and action of their time". Even though Jim's "action" years of practice are behind him, his "passion" for teaching the next generation of labor and employment lawyers continues.

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HOW TO PAY FOR LUNCHEONS AND 2022 DUES

It's that time of year again. 2022 annual dues are due. We have been able to maintain the same \$55 amount for the past 7 years.

Please mail your dues payment of \$55 payable to the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc. to Benjamin Berman, Esq., 4223 MacKay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, Florida 34243. We are pleased to accept your payment by check or through our online payment option.

***Make payments on our website: \$23 for lunch and \$55 dues using PayPal or your credit/debit card.
To make online payments at www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org***

Congratulations to our Board and Officers

Congratulations to the following members who have been elected by the Board of Directors to be the 2022-2023 Officers:

President	Stephen Sturm
Vice President	Dick Bruning
Secretary	Michael Krasnow
Treasurer	Ben Berman

Ideas for Future Programs?

The Program Committee is always receptive to ideas for future programs. If any member has a topic or a speaker to suggest, please contact Judith Starr at jrstarr@tampabay.rr.com. Any member interested in participating in the Program Committee should notify Judith Starr, Chair of the committee. Her contact information is in our Directory.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have items of interest to the members, please forward them to

Millie Collins at milly4747@live.com or

Joel Helmrich at jhelmrich1@gmail.com