



Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

January 2024

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NEXT MEETING

Friday, January 26

12 Noon
At Marina Jack

Officers

Judith Starr, President
James Case, Vice President
Benjamin I. Berman, Treasurer
Michael Krasnow, Secretary

Directors

Benjamin I. Berman
Steven Berry
James Case
Milly Collins
Joel Helmrich
Michael Krasnow
Christina Schwinn
Judith Starr
Stephen Sturm
Harold M. Zabin

Newsletter Editors

Milly Collins/Joel Helmrich

Association Photographer

Diana Lynn

Administrative Assistant

Frank Sharpe

January Program:

AI for Lawyers (and Retired Lawyers)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is potentially the most seismic technological development to affect the practice of law. Our speaker, Christopher Hopkins, will describe what AI is, what it can and can't do, and how it is impacting the legal profession.

About Our Speaker – Christopher Hopkins

Christopher Hopkins of McDonald Hopkins in West Palm Beach has become a frequent speaker on this potentially game-changing technology that is already impacting how the written word is crafted in everything from newspapers to legal briefs. Christopher has practiced trial and appellate law for over 25 years. He has written over 100 articles including: AI: ChatGPT for Lawyers and ChatGPT for Mediators. He is admitted to practice in Florida, New York, Connecticut and D.C. In addition to his J.D. from Tulane, he has a master's degree in theology.

Appointment of Steve Berry to Board

At its December meeting, the Board appointed Steve Berry to fill out Dick Brunning's term. Steve lives in Venice and is an enthusiastic supporter of ARAS. You can read his biography in the May 2022 Amicus.

As this term expires in January, this seat will be up for a membership vote at our January Annual Meeting.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION
OF RETIRED ATTORNEYS OF SARASOTA

Notice is given that the Annual meeting of the members of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota will be held at 12:00 noon on January 26, 2024.

Election of Directors by Members.

The terms of the following Directors expire at the 2024 annual meeting:

Ben Berman
James Case
Steve Berry

Three members will be elected for two-year terms to fill these vacancies. Any of the Directors whose term is expiring may be elected for another term. The Nominating Committee will present its nomination for these Directors at the Annual Meeting.

Michael Krasnow
Secretary, ARAS

Amicus Personae – Michael D. Golden

Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Mike was born in Herkimer, NY, (up state) a small town in the middle of the state known for its “diamonds.” His father Harold was one of three town doctors and operated his practice from their family home. His father had commanded mobile hospitals throughout Europe during WWII and was away for several of Mike’s formative years. This experience would later become a big part of Mike’s years in retirement.

There was family expectation that one should become something in life, and of his 4 brothers, there are two lawyers, two physicians, and one teacher. After active-duty-for-training service with the U.S. Army, Mike made his way to Cornell University where his focus was social psychology. He married Vicki Greene in 1962 and attended law school at night at New York University Law School, where he began his lifelong friendship with David Miller, another ARAS member.

Post-graduation, Mike practiced with a small Rochester, NY firm for several years and became familiar with the ins and outs of insurance defense litigation. He relocated to the Washington, DC area after landing a position there at SEC Headquarters. Following a 3-year education in things bureaucratic, Mike went on to join the law firm of Melrod, Redman, & Gartlan. He later established Golden, Freda, and Schraub, and retired in 2004 from Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson & Hand. He spent most of his career as a corporate, tax, and securities attorney, and alongside his practice, he served as an adjunct professor at the Washington College of Law at American University. There he conducted seminars in business planning and securities regulation.

Retirement has had its highlights and lowlights. Highlights include discovering a treasure trove of letters (thousands of pages) written by his father to family members during his Dad’s war years in Europe. His second saintly spouse, Margie Auer, typed and indexed these letters, written in doctor font (all stereotypes re physician’s handwriting apply here) which took over a year of nightly dedicated keyboarding. Based upon these letters, Mike was able to research and create a history that not only honors his father but provides insights into what was once a mystery to his children.

Mike and Margie (who currently serves on the Board of Veterans’ Appeals, a part of the Department of Veterans Affairs) recently relocated to University Park from Alexandria, Virginia. He remains an active participant in life, despite several strokes and limited vision.

It's Time to Pay 2024 Dues

The Board of Directors has been able to maintain the \$55 annual amount for the past 9 years. Please mail your 2024 dues payment of \$55 and/or your luncheon payment of \$28 payable to the

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

Please send to: Ben Berman, 4223 MacKay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, FL 34243

We are pleased to accept your payment by check or through our online payment option.

Make payments on our website:
\$55 for 2024 dues using PayPal at
www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

Luncheon Payments

You may make payments on our website at the bottom of the page:
\$28 for lunch and/or \$55 for dues using PayPal at
www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

Or you may mail a check for the luncheon payment of \$28 payable to the
Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

Please send to: Ben Berman, 4223 MacKay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, FL 34243

We are pleased to accept your payment by check or through our online payment option. Please get your luncheon payment to Ben prior to Wednesday of the luncheon week. After that Wednesday, no refunds can be given since the venue will have been notified of your intention to attend.

Please note the following dates for the next luncheons:

Friday, February 22
Friday, March 23
Thursday, April 18
Friday, May 31
Friday, June 28
Friday, September 27

We look forward to seeing you at Marina Jack at noon on the above dates.

Upcoming Programs

Date	Speaker	Introducer
January 26	Chris Hopkins Fl East Coast Lawyer Expert on the use of Artificial Intelligence in the practice of law.	Chris Heckman
February 23	Hon. Diana Moreland Incoming Presiding Judge Fl 12th Judicial Circuit Court Manatee-Sarasota-DeSoto	Harold Zabin

What Do Retired Attorneys Do?

We hope you enjoyed the inaugural column by Ben Berman about his trip on Route 66. Now it's your turn! We are soliciting items, which can be as short as one paragraph if you like, talking about a past-time of yours that may be of interest to our membership. Please send your idea to retiredattorneysofsarasota@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you!

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 Harold Zabin at hpzabin@aol.com or Jim Case at JamesWCase1968@gmail.com.

Any member interested in participating in the Program Committee should contact Harold Zabin or Jim Case at the addresses above.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

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

Milly Collins at millyc054@gmail.com or
Joel Helmrich at jhelmrich1@gmail.com