



Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

June 2023

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NEXT MEETING
Friday, June 23
12 Noon
at Marina Jack

Please note that this program is on the penultimate Friday in June.



June Program: "War Stories: Tales From The Legal Trenches"

The June program is entitled "War Stores: Tales From The Legal Trenches" a program of riveting narratives told by some of our own retired attorneys as they share some of their favorite experiences from their years of practicing law. The speakers and their topics are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| John Alexander | "Maddie and LaShawn and The Downfall of Lawyer Fatass" |
| James Bennett | "Buying Indonesian Land Without a Contract and No Gold" |
| Richard Weingarten | "Funny Times In The Courtroom" |

June Speakers

ABOUT JIM BENNETT:

Born, raised, and public schooled in Montclair, New Jersey, Jim Bennett graduated from Princeton University and Stanford Law School, going on to clerk for the Hon. John J. Francis of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. After several years in private practice in Newark, NJ, he went in-house as international corporate counsel for twenty years at a number of Fortune 500 companies until his final position as Vice President and International Counsel of the Revlon Health Care Group was eliminated by acquisition. He then went out on his own ultimately acting as outside general counsel for a number of corporate clients and individuals, before serving as Interim Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Southern New England. Moving to Florida in 2006, he retained his position as EVP, General Counsel and Secretary for Palladium USA, Inc., the local subsidiary of a European real estate developer, now engaged in tax-credit housing in Texas. He is on the board of WEDU, the Tampa-based public TV/streaming media company under the PBS system, and was a member of the Venice City Council from 2009 to 2015, serving as its representative to the Sarasota-Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization, and its chair for the 2014-15 term.

ABOUT JOHN ALEXANDER:

John is a graduate of Ohio State and Case Western Reserve University, where he was a member of the law review. He clerked for a federal district court and then engaged in general practice in Ohio.

ABOUT RICHARD WEINGARTEN:

Richard received his BA and JD from St. John's University. He has held a variety of legal and executive positions including City Judge in Yonkers, NY, Executive Director of the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency and Adjunct Professor at Long Island Graduate School of Community Health and Health Administration. He also served as a lieutenant colonel in the US Air Force Reserves.

Amicus Personae - GORDON "TOBY" HURD

Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Toby Hurd grew up in Milton, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston, attending Milton Academy. Graduating in 1965, he went to Harvard College where he majored in theater. Unfortunately, it was not an accredited major so he received a BA in English, 1969. For the next five years he diligently pursued an acting career in Los Angeles, while paying the bills with a job at CBS.

In 1974 he got married which brought to an end his thespian pursuits, and a return to the East Coast. Attending Suffolk University, he graduated in 1979 and passed the bar in 1980. As his hearing worsened, he changed the focus of his practice away from adversarial trial work to real estate, and eventually probate practice, representing nursing homes which focused on guardianships and conservatorships.

On the home front, married for the second time, he and his wife raised four wonderful children who thrived despite us. Both sons live in Chicago with their exceptional wives. Both daughters and their spouses have given us four grandchildren. The grandsons and their parents live in Manchester, Vermont, while my granddaughters and their parents live in Scituate, Massachusetts.

Directory Update

You should have received your copy of the 2023-24 Directory in the mail at the address listed for you.

Please reply if you have not received it.

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.retiredattorneysarasota.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, Florida 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, June 23
Friday, September 22
Friday, October 27
Monday, November 27
Monday, December 18

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

SAVE THE DATE

The 12th Judicial Circuit's Pro Bono Committee is sponsoring a Wills Day in Newtown to draft simple Wills for individuals and to ensure residents have clear title to the family home. The program will be held on September 30, 2023 at Newtown Library all day. Florida licensed (or emeritus) attorneys are needed to help draft wills, and volunteers are needed to conduct title searches and help coordinate intake and scheduling. Training will be available before the event. Further information including contacts will be in the September newsletter.

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