



Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

June 2024

Table of Contents

Page	
1June Program
2About our Monthly Speaker
2Michael Krasnow
3Amicus Personae David Robinson
4Luncheon Info
5What Do Retired Attorneys Do?
5Ideas for Future Programs
5Newsletter Ideas Welcome

NEXT MEETING

Friday, June 28

12 Noon
At Marina Jack

Officers

James Case, Acting President
Benjamin I. Berman, Treasurer
Steven Berry, Secretary

Directors

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

Newsletter Editor

Steven Berry

Association Photographer

Diana Lynn

Administrative Assistant

Frank Sharpe

June Program:

Privilege for Some or Right of the Masses?

A presentation of the history of voting in America from colonial times to the present. The Founding Fathers disagreed on whether suffrage should be a privilege or a right. Beginning as a privilege during the early days of the Republic, the ability to vote was gradually expanded through Jacksonian Democracy, the Civil War amendments and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Learn about our history of voting and some facts that may surprise you during this fascinating presentation by Tom Shults.

About Our Speaker – Tom Shults

Tom grew up in St. Petersburg, Florida and attended Florida State University where he graduated with a B.S. in 1977. After serving in the Army he obtained his J.D. cum laude from Washburn University of Topeka in 1982. He began practicing law in Sarasota in 1984.

Tom is a Board-Certified Civil Trial Lawyer and is the past chairman of the Code and Rules of Evidence Committee of the Florida Bar and served on the Bar's Professional Ethics Committee. In 2013 he was nominated for the position of circuit court judge by the 12th Circuit Judicial Nominating Committee. Tom is also a Certified Arbitrator with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

He has been an instructor at the annual Emory Law School Program for Trial Techniques and volunteers at the Stetson Law School Trial Advocacy Program.

Tom is a recipient of the Distinguished Community Service Award of the Sarasota County Bar Association for his work with Mental Health Community Centers, where he served on the Board for over 10 years. He also served on the board of the Children's Guardian Fund and was appointed by the Sarasota County Commission to serve on the Sarasota County Historical Commission.

After his recent retirement Tom devotes much of his time to auto mechanics, photography and travels with his wife of 45 years, Debbie. Tom and Debbie have 2 sons who live in Tampa.

Michael Krasnow

The Board of directors wish to recognize the significant contribution made to ARAS by Michael Krasnow. Michael was a long time board member and Secretary to the Board. Michael's contributions to the board were most appreciated and will be missed.

Amicus Personae – David Robinson

Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Dave joined ARAS at the March, 2024 meeting. He and Anne, his wife, became year-round residents of Sarasota in December of 2022, moving from Portland, Maine. They previously owned a second home in Sarasota.

A native of Lexington, KY, Dave attended Yale University, where he studied European History. The second higher education degree was from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He also benefited from taking several courses at The Wharton School.

After graduating from law school, Dave practiced law for Unum, an insurance company. He served as the company's senior investment counsel in his last position, managing a team of legal professionals. His personal legal work focused on private placements and commercial real estate loans and joint ventures.

In the mid-nineties, Dave left corporate law to found a registered investment advisory firm. The firm evolved over the years into Robinson Smith Wealth Advisors, a sizable national firm and one of the largest independently owned investment firms in Maine. Dave always maintained that having "favorite" clients would be unprofessional. But if he had confessed to having some favorite clients, a significant number would admittedly have been fellow attorneys.

Anne, Dave's wife, is a practicing tax CPA. So while Dave will be enjoying the stimulating ARAS presentations, friendships and lunches at scenic Marina Jack's, Anne will be immersed in the nuances of tax planning and return preparation for individuals and other entities.

The practice of law appears to run in the family. Dave's daughter, Jessica, is a tax counsel for GE. Jessica is a Georgetown Law graduate. Dave's son-in-law Kelley, is a litigator for the Department of Justice. He graduated from American University Washington College of Law. Jessica, Kelley and the two grandchildren live in Cohasset, Massachusetts.

Dave and Anne live in Turtle Rock, a Palmer Ranch homeowner association. They enjoy golfing, walking, and dining at the area's great restaurants, especially those at dockside. They count themselves blessed to have a terrific group of friends, many of whom also have ties to Maine. Dave recently volunteered to Anne that he would take line dancing lessons, provided he could fortify himself generously with bourbon in advance. One might say that the outcome of that recreational initiative is TBD.

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, September 27, 2024
Friday, October 25, 2024
Friday, November 22, 2024
Thursday, December 19, 2024.

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

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

Steve Berry @ sberry@berryplc.com