



Amicus Curiae

The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

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New Members

Judith Barzilay
 Joseph Carlucci
 Paul Eklund
 Ellen Greenberger
 Alvin Guttman
 Charles R. Slade
 Ros Stovall
 Hollis R. Weisman

In Memoriam

_Martin Fried

February 2026

NEXT MEETING

Friday, February 27

12 Noon
 At the Varsity Club
 University Park CC

Officers

James Case, President
 Benjamin I. Berman, Treasurer
 Milly Collins, Secretary

Directors

Benjamin I. Berman
 James Case
 Milly Collins
 David Goldrich
 Chris Heckman
 Joel Helmrich
 Ronald Levine
 Stephen Sturm
 Harold M. Zabin

Newsletter Editor

David Goldrich

Association Photographer

Diana Lynn

Administrative Assistant

Frank Sharpe

February Program:

How Sarasota Memorial Health Care System
 confronts the challenges posed by artificial
 intelligence; privacy requirements; technology;
 behavioral health & growth

About Our Speaker – R. DAVID EVANS, ESQ.

R. David Evans, Esq., was named the Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel for the Sarasota Memorial Health Care System (SMH) in January of 2025. Previously, he has served as Hendrick Health's General Counsel and SMH's Associate Chief Legal Officer, advising clinical and business leaders on all aspects of health care operations, legal, regulatory and real estate matters and business transactions. Throughout his various posts, he has been responsible for legal services, government relations, governance matters, risk management, compliance, contract management/procurement and patient experience. Prior to his in-house work, he was in private practice in Florida and Nashville, Tennessee, as outside counsel to several health care companies and hospital systems. David received his bachelor's degree from Wake Forest University, his law degree from the University of Florida and his Master of Health Services Administration degree from the University of Michigan. David is a board-certified health law lawyer in Florida.

Amicus Personae

PAUL DAVID EKLUND - New Member of ARAS

After graduating from Case Western Reserve University Law School Paul began his career in 1978 as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio in its Antitrust Division. A year later, after his first federal court trial, he joined Davis & Young, primarily an insurance defense litigation firm in Columbus, Ohio. Although Paul's primary focus was on insurance defense cases, he tried a number of felony cases; civil rights and police misconduct matters, and matters involving municipal liability, international banking fraud, contracts, construction liability and personal injury. During the last 10 years with Davis & Young most of Paul's cases involved wrongful death liability.

After four years with Davis & Young as an associate Paul became an equity partner in 1983. During his 36 years with the firm he helped it grow from 4 to 36 attorneys.

In 2015, with five of his partners, Paul left Davis & Young to found the firm of Collins, Roche, Utley & Garner. During his eight years with that firm it grew to 21 attorneys with offices in Cleveland, Akron and Columbus.

Over the course of his career Paul, who is a member of the bar of the United States Supreme Court, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Northern and Southern District Courts, as well as the Ohio Supreme Court, argued cases before the latter and appeals in state and federal courts. From 2004-2022 Paul was listed in both Best Lawyers in America and Ohio Super Lawyers magazine. He served as the president of the Cleveland Association of Civil Trial Attorneys in 1995.

Paul and Claudia, his wife of 47 years, have two married children and five grandchildren. They split their time between Cleveland and Sarasota.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of ARAS was held on January 30, 2026 at the Varsity Club, University Park Country Club. James Case, President, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., a quorum of members being present. Ben Berman, Treasurer, gave his report of 2025 income and expenses. Thereafter, Stephen Strum, Chair of the Election Committee, reported that the committee recommended that Jim Case, Milly Collins and Ben Berman be reelected as Directors and that Chris Heckman and Ronald Levine be elected as Directors, all for two year terms. A motion to approve the election of the nominees was seconded and, on a voice vote, the motion was approved unanimously. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and carried at 12:15 p.m.

JANUARY REGULAR MEETING NOTES

ARAS's first monthly luncheon at the Varsity Club at University Park Country Club was an outstanding success. Some 45 attendees, including eight new members, were treated to a compelling and informative presentation from one of those new members, Judge Judith Barzilay, who is currently an inactive Senior Judge of the United States Court of International Trade. Judge Barzilay, who will be assisting ARAS's Program Committee in developing programs for future meetings, addressed past and current issues, including tariffs, affecting international trade.

CHRISTINA SCHWINN

As we go to press we regret to announce that due to travel, business and personal issues, Christina Schwinn has resigned as a Director of ARAS, although she will continue as a member. During her time as a Director Christina made significant contributions to ARAS membership and program development.

Luncheon & Dues Payments

On February 27th luncheon selections are a California chicken sandwich with house made chips, or a salad with salmon. The dessert will be carrot cake.

You may make 2026 payments on our website at the bottom of the [Events](#) page: \$32 for lunch and/or \$65 for dues using PayPal at www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

Or you may mail a check for the luncheon payment of \$32 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 and luncheon selection 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.

Future Programs

Please note the following dates for the next luncheons.

In 2026 we will meet at the Varsity Club at University Park Country Club (UPCC). We are able to reduce the charge for our luncheons held at UPCC from \$35 to \$32. Luncheon selections for February will be either a salad with salmon or a California chicken sandwich with house made chips, which will be accompanied by carrot cake as dessert. If you plan to attend, please let Ben Berman know your preference. Attached is a map showing the location of the Varsity Club at UPCC. Turn right at the second stop sign after the gate house. - There is ample parking; however, for those needing assistance there will be valet service when you stop at the bag drop near the entrance to the Varsity Club.

Our schedule for "The Varsity Club" at University Park Country is as follows:

Friday, March 27, 2026	Rick Dakan	Ringling Professor, AI Expert
Friday, April 24, 2026	Gayle Lewis	Adj. Prof. at Rutgers Law School
Friday, May 29, 2026	TBD	
Friday, September 25, 2026	TBD	
Friday, October 30, 2026	TBD	
Friday, November 20, 2026	TBD	
Friday, December 18, 2026	TBD	

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.

What Do Retired Attorneys Do?

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

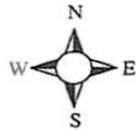
We look forward to hearing from you!

Amicus Submissions

If you have items of interest to the members, please forward them to David Goldrich at petsdad@aol.com



UNIVERSITY PARK



University Parkway
 Front GATE — ASK FOR DIRECTIONS AT GATE HOUSE