



# Amicus Curiae

The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

[www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org](http://www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org)

January 2025

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### New Members

Mark Costello  
Philip W. Leber

## NEXT MEETING

**Friday, January 31**

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

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## January Program:

## Hurricanes and Sarasota

The causes of climate change and what the implications are for the Gulf Coast and the Sarasota area in particular.

## **About Our Speaker – Ric Kearbey**

### **Senior Scientist, Climate Adaptation Center, Inc.**

Ric Kearbey is a veteran meteorologist who has spent the last two decades informing and educating the public about weather and climate issues on local and network television. His television work has been recognized as the best in the market on multiple occasions, as voted by local television viewers. His scientific work has been seen nationally on Good Morning America, ABC's World News Tonight and in major television markets including Tampa, Florida and St. Louis, Missouri.

Ric has provided important game forecasts for the NFL's Super Bowl and the PGA's Masters Tournament. He has written and contributed to many climate and weather related stories for television and print media, including the Tampa Bay Times. His work has been featured on radio stations all over the country.

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## **Notice of Annual Meeting of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota**

The annual meeting of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota will be held at twelve o'clock noon on January 31, 2025 at Marina Jacks in the upstairs function room. At that time, elections will be held for vacant board seats and the president will report on the status of the organization.

## **Amicus Personae – Geraldine A. Roberts**

### **Member of the Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota**

Gerri was born in Newington, CT to Irish immigrant parents. After graduating from Mt. St. Joseph Academy, she attended St. Joseph College (now known as the University of St. Joseph) in West Hartford, CT where she majored in History with a minor in Political Science. After college Gerri began her career with the State of Connecticut and became the Assistant Personnel Administrator for the Connecticut State Police Department. During that time, she also attended the University of Hartford where she received an M.P.A in Public Administration with a concentration in Labor Relations. Subsequently, she decided to attend law school and graduated from Western New England University School of Law in 1982. Gerri then began her employment with the Connecticut Department of Mental Health where she served as a Senior Executive Service Manager.

She believes in the importance public service and giving back to one's community, so she became involved local politics, and was appointed to various town boards and commissions. She was elected to the Wethersfield Town Council where she served several terms. She also was elected to the Wethersfield Board of Education, becoming the Chairperson twice.

Gerri played a prominent role in women's issues in Connecticut, beginning with her appointment to the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women. During her 16 tenure, including 2 terms as Chairperson, many important pieces of legislation were enacted, including the nation's first Family and Medical Leave Act in 1987. She has served as the Secretary of the National Association of Women's Commissions. Gerri was appointed to the Chief Justice's Task Force on Gender, Justice and the Courts which examined bias and discrimination in the Connecticut judicial system and recommended strategies to make the system more just.

After a 36-year career in Personnel Management and Human Resources in various state agencies, Gerri retired and has pursued many interests, such as watercolor painting, joining book clubs, learning to speak Italian as well as playing the bagpipes. She is serving her third term on the University of St. Joseph Board of Trustees. She and her husband, retired Police Chief Ed Brymer, have been snowbirds since 2014 and love living at Stoneybrook Golf and Country Club. They have 2 adult children, and 3 wonderful grandchildren. Last year they were blessed with the addition of their first great-granddaughter, Hadley, who is the light of their lives!

Gerri is grateful that her Stoneybrook neighbors, Judge Janet Dugan and the late Howard Gorham, encouraged her to join the Association of Retired Attorneys!

## **Michael Krasnow**

Mike's many friends at the Retired Attorneys of Sarasota were very shocked to learn of his untimely passing. He was a valued member of our organization for many years, rising to the position of Secretary. He was a friend and colleague to many of us and will be missed.

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## **Luncheon & Dues Payments**

**Please note that the dues for 2025 are now payable and have increased to \$65.  
Also, the cost of the luncheon has increased to \$35.**

You may make 2025 payments on our website at the bottom of the page:  
\$35 for lunch and/or \$65 for dues using PayPal at  
[www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org](http://www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org)

Or you may mail a check for the luncheon payment of \$35 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, January 31, 2025  
Friday, February 28, 2025  
Friday, March 28, 2025  
Friday, April 25, 2025  
Friday, May 30, 2025  
Friday, June 27, 2025

## **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](mailto:hpzabin@aol.com) or Jim Case at [JamesWCase1968@gmail.com](mailto:JamesWCase1968@gmail.com) .

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

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## **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](mailto:retiredattorneysofsarasota@gmail.com)

We look forward to hearing from you!

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## **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

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

Steve Berry @ [sberry@berryplc.com](mailto:sberry@berryplc.com)