



Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org

January 2020

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Welcome New Members

Thomas A. Dubbs
Robert F. Klueger

Annual Meeting Friday, January 31, 2020

Marina Jack
2 Marina Plaza / Bayfront Room
Sarasota, FL

*Meeting will include reports from
the Treasurer and the Nominating Committee.*

Bring a prospective member (a retired attorney).
Their first lunch is complimentary.

Valet parking available: \$1 per car plus gratuity.

Officers

Stephen Sturm,
President
Richard Bruning,
Vice President
Benjamin I. Berman,
Treasurer
Karen Mason,
Secretary

Directors

Benjamin I. Berman
Richard Bruning
James Case
Monica Cunningham
Leslie Curley
Martin Fried
Michael Krasnow
Karen Mason
Ivan Rubin
Stephen Sturm
Harold M. Zabin

Newsletter Editor

Martin Fried

Association Photographer

Ronald Mason

Administrative Assistant

Judy Dean

January Program:

“A Celebration of the Nineteenth Amendment: Winning the Vote”

Presenters: Mary Jo Cooney and Leslie Curley

Mary Jo will present some of the very interesting and lesser known aspects of the history of the 19th Amendment. Leslie will discuss some of the notable impacts of the Amendment, as well as some of the current outstanding legal issues relating to its ongoing evolution. Mary Jo received a bachelor's degree from Hunter College, a master's degree from Columbia University and her J.D. from Catholic University of America. She was admitted to the District of Columbia and Maryland bars. Her work was mainly in the administrative and regulatory spheres. Leslie received her degrees from the College of New Jersey and Suffolk University Law School. She is admitted to practice in Massachusetts.

Because of the wealth of talent and interesting lives led by our very diverse membership, we continue our series of stories focusing on the lives of our members. It is our hope to eventually cover every member.

“Amicus Personae” – James Case

Board Member of The Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota

Jim Case grew up in Chicopee, a small industrial city in western Massachusetts where he attended public schools. He graduated from Clark University in Worcester in 1968 with a degree in psychology and a plan to become a lawyer. His plans were interrupted by a two-year stint in the Army at Fort Polk, Louisiana. At the hospital, he managed the Physical Therapy Clinic, which was very busy treating patients, most of whom had been wounded in combat in Viet Nam. That work was very challenging because of the heavy patient load and the severity of the trauma patients had sustained. The work was also rewarding because the intense care the clinic was able to provide made a real difference in the recovery process. Jim was able to leverage limited staff resources but encouraged recovering patients to stay in the clinic after their own therapy sessions and help to encourage and monitor new intakes.

After the Army, Jim returned home, married his college girlfriend, and enrolled in law school at the University of Maine in Portland. Upon completion of law school, Jim successfully took the bar exam and went to work for Maine’s senior senator, Edmund Muskie. Jim supported Senator Muskie’s legislative activities across a full spectrum of policy areas, working with an extensive staff on the Senate Budget Committee which Senator Muskie chaired, and the Subcommittee on Environmental Protection, which the Senator also chaired and wrote landmark legislation in the area of clean water and clean air.

Jim was serving as legislative director and counsel when Senator Muskie left the Senate to become Secretary of State in 1980. Jim continued working in the Senate serving as Administrative Assistant to Senator Muskie’s replacement, George Mitchell. After a year with Senator Mitchell, Jim decided that time was running out for him to enter private practice, so he returned to Maine and joined a firm in Brunswick with a statewide practice representing labor unions and the Maine AFL-CIO. The work varied from individual clients with a range of concerns from a disability claim under the longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act, or state workers compensation act, or a disciplinary grievance to large multi-million-dollar arbitration cases. Jim represented unions before the US Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Board and served as counsel to the Maine AFL-CIO, the Maine Building Trades Council, the Machinists union at Bath Iron Works on a continuing basis and many other unions on a case by case basis. Jim appeared regularly before the Maine legislature on behalf of the Maine AFL-CIO and other unions. During this period, major bitter strikes occurred in Maine in the paper and shipbuilding industries, and Jim and his firm were called upon extensively for representation on numerous issues involved in the strikes.

Over time, Jim’s practice expanded to include cases involving discriminatory actions under federal and state law. Cases based on disability, gender and age became an increasing focus on the firm during the last years of Jim’s 30-year practice and came to be nationwide in scope. Individual discrimination claims were the most common, but broader collective actions were exciting and challenging. Jim enjoyed all of the elements of his professional career and feels fortunate to have had the opportunities to contribute that life presented to him.

Luncheon Price Increase

We have been paying the same amount for lunch since we started meeting at Marina Jack. Unfortunately, the restaurant has informed us that the cost to us will be going up, effective January 2020. Accordingly, the lunch cost to members will be increased to \$21 starting in January

EXPIRING BOARD TERMS

The terms of the following Board members expire this year: Ben Berman, Dick Bruning, Jim Case, Leslie Curley and Karen Mason. A Nominating Committee consisting of Chair Harold Zabin and Board members Monica Cunningham, Marty Fried and Ivan Rubin has been appointed.

It's Time to Pay 2020 Dues

It's that time of the year again. 2020 annual dues are due. We remain able to maintain the same \$55.00 amount as in the past 5 years. Please remit your dues directly to Ben Berman, or through Pay Pal on our website. A link to the website for PayPal payment may be found on page 4 of the Amicus. Your prompt payment is appreciated.

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 Dick Bruning at kayanddick66@gmail.com.


NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have items of interest to the members, please forward them to
Martin Fried at mlfried@syr.edu.

Luncheon reservations and pre-payment are required. Please mail your reservation to Benjamin Berman, Esq.
4223 MacKay Falls Terrace, Sarasota, FL 34243 by Monday, January 27, 2020. Or call Ben at 941-355-2469.
We are pleased to accept your payment by check, or through our online payment option.

***Luncheon reservations may be made only by ARAS members
for themselves and for their guests.***

Make payments on our website for \$55 dues or \$21 luncheon fees using PayPal or your credit/debit card.

To make online reservations and payments click this button. 

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Mail this reservation form by the deadline in the amount of \$21 per person
(includes dessert, gratuity, and tax)

Include your \$55 dues payment.

Please make checks payable to "Association of Retired Attorneys".

Member's Name _____ Phone # _____

Total in Party _____ Guest(s) Name(s) _____

Dues of \$55 _____ Luncheon Payment of \$21.00 _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____