



# Amicus Curiae

Association of Retired Attorneys of Sarasota, Inc.

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

November 2024

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## **NEXT MEETING**

**Friday, November 22**

12 Noon  
At Marina Jack

### Officers

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Benjamin I. Berman, Treasurer  
Steven Berry, Secretary

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### Newsletter Editor

Steven Berry

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Diana Lynn

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## **A Pictorial History of Lloyd's of London and the London Insurance Market: From Lloyd's Coffee House to the Crisis of Asbestos, Pollution, and Health Hazard Claims.**

Join us for an enlightening journey through the fascinating history of Lloyd's of London, tracing its evolution from insuring British ships and cargo to becoming one of the world's most influential and innovative insurers. This presentation will explore Lloyd's remarkable story of resilience and adaptability in the face of shifting global challenges.

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## **About Our Speaker – Chris Heckman**

We're pleased to announce that Chris Heckman, a seasoned insurance lawyer with decades of experience in the London Insurance Market, will be our speaker. Originally prepared for the ABA Section of Litigation, his presentation promises to educate and entertain with insights drawn from his unique experiences, including overseeing some of the largest liability insurance claims ever filed.

This program will be especially relevant to anyone holding an insurance policy and interested in the historical forces shaping today's insurance industry.

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## **Amicus Personae – Paul M. Tschirhart**

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

Paul is a native of Detroit, MI, born in 1940 to Canadian immigrants as the youngest of six children. He attended the University of Notre Dame and, after two years of active duty as an officer on a destroyer in the Pacific, returned to his roots to attend Wayne State University Law School. He was blessed with a long and varied career in government, corporations, and private practice. He also remained active in the Navy Reserve until 1986, retiring as a Captain (O-6).

Leaving Detroit right out of law school in 1968 (just as the Tigers won their first championship since the 1940s), he joined the Federal Maritime Commission in Washington, DC as a very awkward hearing counsel. This began a lengthy experience in various forms of transportation law, continuing as an associate in a regulatory law firm, then a three-year stint in the U.S. Attorney's Office (Civil Division) in Washington, followed by an 18-month tour in the Civil Division of the Department of Justice in charge of railroad litigation.

In 1977, Paul was recruited to join United Airlines in Elk Grove, IL, a Chicago suburb, as litigation counsel. After nine years at United, he was chosen to become the General Counsel of The Hertz Corporation. Anecdote: Growing up in Detroit then Dearborn, everyone's parents worked for Ford Motor Company or some other car company. Paul vowed never to work in that industry. During his first year at Hertz, guess who bought Hertz? Yup: Ford, and Paul worked indirectly for Ford's General Counsel. Make God laugh by telling him your plans.

Leaving Hertz in 1998 to go back into private practice, Paul returned to the world of transportation, practicing in maritime, aviation, and various other forms of travel law until his retirement in June 2022.

During his 54-year career, Paul appeared in numerous state and federal courts throughout the country, including three state Supreme Courts and six federal Courts of Appeals, as well as the Special Railroad Reorganization Court. In addition, he made legislative appearances before several state legislatures and well as the U.S. House of Representatives.

Paul and his wife Debbie raised three children, now scattered in South Carolina, Illinois, and Brooklyn. They became part-time residents of Sarasota in 2009, full-time in 2012, and currently live in a small home on Bird Key. He regularly takes classes at the OLLI Lifelong Learning Center and is a parishioner of Incarnation Catholic Church, where he has found purpose in this stage of his life serving as an active member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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### **Luncheon & Dues Payments**

**Please note that the dues for 2025 will increase from \$55 to \$65. The 2025 dues are payable by December 31, 2024. If payment of 2025 dues is received on or before December 31, 2024 the dues will be reduced to \$60.**

You may make current 2024 payments on our website at the bottom of the page:  
\$28 for lunch and/or \$60 for dues using PayPal at  
[www.retiredattorneyssarasota.org](http://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, November 22, 2024  
Thursday, December 19, 2024

## **Future Programs**

Date	Topic	Speaker
Friday, November 22, 2024	A Pictorial History of Lloyd's of London and the London Insurance Market	Chris Heckman
Thursday, December 19, 2024	Professor at Stetson School of Law and will speak on "Overturning the Chevron Doctrine".	Louis J. Virelli III

## **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)