



# INTER ALIA

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

NEWSLETTER OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## Mary and Dana Go to the Supreme Court

By: Mary R. Hawk, Esq.



I shook hands with U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Twice. On a beautiful early November evening, colleague Dana Gerling, Esq. and I attended the American Inns of Court's 2016 Celebration of Excellence at the Supreme Court building in Washington D.C. As membership chair and past-president respectively, of the Manatee American Inn of Court (AIC), Dana and I were honored to attend this grand gathering. Only 92 Inns nationwide earned the "Platinum" level "Achieving Excellence" status from the National American Inns of Court. My 2015-16 Executive Committee and I worked hard to earn the status, retaining the Platinum status earned by the Manatee AIC in its preceding, inaugural year under the tutelage of Judge Diana Moreland.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Inns of Court, my favorite quote to describe it is: "An American Inn of Court is not a fraternal order, a social club, a course in continuing legal education, a lecture series, an apprenticeship system, or an adjunct of a law school's program. It is some of each of these."

In 1977, the late Chief Justice Warren Burger and other leaders of the American legal profession (one of whom was honored at the Supreme Court dinner this year), visited the Inns in London and were impressed with the competency, civility, and professionalism fostered by them. The English Inns began in 1292 when King Edward I directed his chief justice to implement a plan to enhance the skills of advocates before the Royal Court of Westminster. The system evolved to foster mentorships and teach aspiring barristers the standards of competency and ethics required of advocates. One of the time-tested components of an Inn is the importance of "breaking bread" with colleagues to foster civility among the Bar. The first American Inn was founded in Utah. Today there are over 300 American Inns of Court.



Mary and Dana at the steps

This year, each of the 92 Platinum Inns received two tickets to the  
(Continued on Pg. 2)

## HOLIDAY PARTY 2016

**WHO:** All members of the Bench and Bar and their spouse/guest are invited to attend!

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 1st ~ 5:30 - 8:30

**WHAT:** Hosted Bar and Cocktail Buffet catered by enRich Bistro

**DRESS:** Business/Festive Attire

**WHERE:** ArtCenter Manatee  
209 Ninth Street West, Bradenton

Stroll through the galleries with a variety of exhibits featuring local artists.  
Be sure to visit the Artist Market gallery boutique!

**COST:** There is no cost for M.C.B.A. members to attend. Cost for spouses/guests is \$25.

**BRING:** In the giving spirit of the season, MCBA members are encouraged to bring gently used, or new, men's denim jeans, sizes 32 – 38 to benefit TURNING POINTS. Turning Points mission is to offer help and hope for men, women, and children who are at risk of homelessness or who are homeless. Checks and cash donations are always appreciated.

Holiday Party sponsored by:  
The WM Milestone Group  
**Morgan Stanley**



(Mary and Dana continued from page 1)

Supreme Court dinner. Of the 92 Platinum Inns invited, 23 were from Florida! We met Florida people right and left, making me proud of the Inn of Court commitment in Florida. The dinner also honored five national award winners in the Supreme Court chamber. They were all chosen for providing distinguished service and leadership to the Bar, whether an AIC member or not. What struck me the most in listening to the award recipients' speeches, was how each remembered a mentor from their past – even seasoned federal court judges honored and remembered their mentors from when they were young lawyers. Mentoring is an important part of the AIC concept, and we hope to continue to build upon and grow the Manatee AIC mentoring program.

The dinner began with a cocktail reception in the "East and West Conference Rooms" of the Supreme Court. Each conference room opens to a lovely outdoor garden space with tables, chairs, fountains and plenty of Supreme Court splendor. Dana and I wondered if the Justices ever came out to these serene surroundings to ponder their decisions, and decided they probably do not, but their clerks might. We will skip the part where my shoe heel got stuck in the grate going from the indoor to the outdoor space, necessitating me taking off my shoe and gracefully (I hope) extracting my shoe from the grate. But I digress. Back to Justice Sotomayor. We encountered her at the cocktail party and there was, expectedly, quite a crowd around her. Dana had just mentioned to me how her second-grade daughter was currently reading the book "Sonia Goes to the Supreme Court." So I introduced myself to the Justice, shook her hand, introduced her to Dana, and told the Justice about the book Dana's daughter was reading. After the dinner, we saw Justice Sotomayor again on her way out and shook hands again. Unfortunately, we were not able to snap a picture with the Justice, but we retain an extremely exciting and inspiring memory of our encounters with her. Afterward, we were like two teenagers who had just met a rock star, and in our own way, I guess we had.

*Mary R. Hawk, Esq. is a principal and shareholder in the law firm of Porges, Hamlin, Knowles & Hawk, PA. She is immediate past-president of the Manatee American Inn of Court, and a current director on the Manatee County Bar Association Board of Directors. She concentrates her practice in condominium and homeowner association law, mobile home law, and real property litigation.*

## Section Event

### Solo/Small Firm - Brown Bag Networking Session

Solo? It's time to meet someone just like you, or in a different area of practice. Network with your fellow Solo/Small firm members!

**Thursday, December 8th, 2016**  
**First Floor Conference Room – MCJC**

Noon – 1:00 p.m.  
 Bring your lunch and join us!

### BOYER & BOYER, P.A. PARTNER CERTIFIED BY FLORIDA BAR IN ELDER LAW



Boyer and Boyer, P.A. is proud to announce that Andrew R. Boyer, Esq. has become Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Elder Law.

Boyer & Boyer, P.A. is an Elder Law firm dedicated to the needs of people who are aging, individuals with disabilities, and their families. Founded in 1995, the firm now includes four attorneys and a staff of highly experienced support personnel, all of whom are committed to the needs of clients. Practice areas focus on Estate Planning and Probate, Trust Administration, Guardianship and Medicaid and Long Term Care Counseling. Andrew Boyer is a partner at Boyer and Boyer, P.A.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

THE MCBA would like to thank  
 Jeffcoat Blueprint for their print work  
 regarding the luncheon and dinner brochures  
 for Sue Revell's retirement events.

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## SHERIFF ANNOUNCES NEW SCREENING PROCEDURES AT THE MCJC and HISTORIC COURT HOUSE

Starting December 1, 2016 there will be a change to the security screening procedures at the Manatee County Judicial Center and Historic Courthouse in regards to the screening of attorneys and State Attorneys.

### **Current Procedure:**

An attorney/State Attorney enters the Judicial Center and or the Historic Courthouse puts anything that they are carrying like a briefcase, computer case, or purse through the x-ray machine. Next, they show the deputies their Florida Bar Card and or State Attorney ID and they are allowed to walk through 1st floor security without having to empty their pockets or being scanned when they walk through the magnetometer.

### **New Procedure:**

All attorneys will go through the same security screening as the public. This screening includes: putting anything they are carrying through the x-ray machine, emptying their pockets, and walking through the magnetometer. If the magnetometer beeps when they walk through, a deputy will manually scan them.

Exception to procedure; A State Attorney enters the Judicial Center and or the Historic Courthouse puts anything that they are carrying like a briefcase, computer case, or purse through the x-ray machine. Next, they show the deputies their State Attorney ID and they are allowed to walk through 1st floor security without having to empty their pockets or walk through the magnetometer. ***If a State Attorney enters either the Judicial Center or Historic Courthouse for personal business they will have to adhere to the same security screening procedures as the public does.***

We understand that it might take an attorney a couple of extra seconds to get through security and we will make every effort to expedite this wait time. However, it is our responsibility to ensure the security and safety of everyone in the Judicial Center and Historic Courthouse which includes ensuring that weapons and/or other contraband is not brought in. We believe by making this change we will be able to better achieve our goal.

## Upcoming MCBA Monthly Meetings!

### Sheriff Elect Rick Wells to Speak at January MCBA Luncheon

Sheriff Elect Rick Wells takes office on January 1, 2017 as the new Manatee County Sheriff. He follows in the footsteps of his father, Charley Wells who served as Sheriff from 1984 until 2007. Sheriff Elect Wells has served in law enforcement for over 32 years; 23 years with the Florida Highway Patrol, 5 years as Chief of Police of Palmetto and 4 years with the Manatee County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Elect Wells will be the speaker at the MCBA luncheon on January 25, 2017 at Pier 22. We look forward to learning how the Manatee County Sheriff's Department will continue to provide solid law enforcement for Manatee County.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Professor Mary Adkins to speak at MCBA February 2017 Luncheon!

When the voters of Florida approved a new Constitution in 1885, Florida was a much different state. Most of Florida was a frontier with the majority of the population residing in north Florida. There were no highways or automobiles, and the main mode of transportation was by foot or horse across the Florida wilderness. Those folks from other states, who wanted to relocate to Florida, would have traveled by railroad or boat.

Pine Level was the county seat of Manatee County and residents of the towns of Manatee, Palmetto and Sarasota were forced to travel 40 miles across forests, swamps and rivers to vote or appear in court. Braidentown was just a village with less than 200 residents.

As Florida's population grew, many of the new residents disagreed with the policies in this southern state controlled by the infamous "Pork Chop Gang". Several governors attempted to break the control of the Legislature and its appropriations but failed. In 1965, however after pressure from the Federal courts and many outspoken citizens, the Legislature authorized a Constitutional Revision Commission, which changed the course of Florida's history. In 1966, Governor Hayden Burns appointed an impressive group of young leaders as members to the Constitutional Revision Commission to revise the 1885 Constitution. This commission modernized Florida government with a new Constitution which was approved by the voters on November 5, 1968. It took another three years to reach an agreement on the revision of Article V to modernize the judiciary, which was finally approved by the Florida voters on March 14, 1972.

Professor Mary Adkins, who teaches Advocacy and Legal Writing at the University of Florida - Levin, College of Law brings the commission and its members to life in her new book *Making Modern Florida*. On February 22, 2017, Professor Adkins will be the speaker at the MCBA luncheon and will tell us why the 1966 Constitutional Revision Commission modernized Florida.



*The MCBA would like  
to wish you a  
wonderful holiday season!  
See you in 2017!*

## *Thanks for the Memories*

by Sue Revell

To my dearest of colleagues and members of the Manatee County Bar Association...please accept my heartfelt appreciation for the most spectacular of sendoffs to retirement. I will be eternally grateful to each and every one of you that herded cats, e-mailed, coordinated, volunteered, got recruited or roped in, gathered photos, showed up, shared kind words, acted, danced, dressed up and out, contributed and/or otherwise participated in my retirement soirées. Both events, from the G-rated general membership luncheon meeting in October (which can be seen on METV's YouTube channel) to the PG-14 dinner party at IMG in November were beyond my wildest dreams and all combined have given me the priceless parting gift of good laughter, genuine smiles and tender tears. The "Dancing Sues" are forever etched in my memory, and to have a film entitled "The Sue Revell Movie", well...it's just over the top!

Your most generous gift of a travel fund will be reinvested in the economy both here and abroad. I shall raise a glass and toast the MCBA from my beach chair and upon arrival in each destination thereafter!

To each and every MCBA President, Board member, Section and Committee Chair with whom I have served these past 25.9 years...I say thank you for your integrity and professionalism, your guidance, humor and support. Each of you represents the best of this association and its' members. This journey with you has been wonderful and each of you taught me much.

Serving as your "Bar-tender" has been an honor and privilege. In retirement and beyond, I will remain proud and fiercely defensive of this organization, respectful of our fine judiciary and of your chosen profession. Thank you for the memories but mostly for your treasured friendships. Life is short...eat the cake...buy the shoes...take the trip. And I shall!

*My best,  
~Sue Revell  
Ph. (941) 650-7656*



*Sue and Past Presidents: Dave Dietrich, Lori Dorman, Steele Williams, Tim Knowles, Bart Ray, Cliff Walters, Gilbert Smith, Jr., Jeff Goethe, Mary LeVine, Bill Lisch, Mickey Palmer, Mark Nelson, Kim Bald, Tom Flynn, Bob Blalock. In attendance but not pictured: Hugh McGuire, John Manson, Scott Brownell & Larry Coleman*



*Emcees Lori Dorman and Judge Robert Farrance*



*The Dancing Sues:  
L to R: Nelon Kirkland, Steele Williams, Tim Knowles, Scott Rieth, Sue, James Lynch, Fred Moore & Bart Ray*



*Sue and Marauders Jersey*

## JAVA WITH THE JUDGES

The Young Lawyers Division of the MCBA hosted JAVA WITH THE JUDGES on November 1st, 2016 at the MCJC. Approximately 45 attendees arrived bright and early to feast on donuts, breakfast casseroles, fresh fruit, and of course, freshly brewed coffee to get their day started. YLD members were delighted to share the start of their day with both County and Circuit Judges, their Judicial Assistants and staff. Judge Scott Brownell expressed that although he would be retiring shortly, he would like to see the worthwhile event continue. The event was enjoyed by all and many are already inquiring about the next one!



*Judge Gilbert Smith, Executive Director Sue Revell, Court Administrator Walt Smith, Chief Judge Charles Williams*



*Judge Susan Maulucci, Trevor Quinlan, Aaron Crittenden, Judge Hunter Carroll*



*Judge Scott Brownell, and Chief Judge Charles Williams*



*YLD Vice-President Bryony Swift, Judicial Assistant Donna McCammond, Kristina Cucinotta*

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## WILL SEARCH

**CRAIG MILTON COSSER**, born appx. 1954 in New York State. Died, Fall of 2016 but is believed to have been working with a local attorney. His known relatives live in New York State and have been unsuccessful in finding his Last Will and Testament. On behalf of the family members, I am searching for a Will and/or attorney.

Please contact: Walter Kramer at 941-778-3920, or 941-778-5542 (cell). Please speak to me personally, as my answering service is unreliable. Thank you so much

## INVESTITURE:



**Judge Elect: Lon Arend**

Friday, December 30th  
4 pm

*R.B. "Chips" Shore Historical Courtroom & Museum  
Manatee County Historic Courthouse*

**THERE WILL BE  
NO MCBA  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING – NOV and DEC**

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- Capital University Law School, J.D., cum laude, 1986
- Harvard Law School Mediation Program

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- ◇ MANATEE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ◇
- ◇ BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU OF MANATEE COUNTY ◇

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

- December 1, 2016 MCBA Holiday Party, ArtsCenter Manatee
- December 8, 2016 Solo/Small Firms – Brown Bag Networking  
1st floor Conference Room - MCJC
- December 28, 2016 Retirement, Honorable Scott M. Brownell,  
Manatee County Historic Courthouse
- December 30, 2016 Investiture, Judge Elect Lon Arend  
Manatee County Historic Courthouse
- January 25, 2017 General Membership Meeting  
11:45 am – Pier 22  
Program: Sheriff Rick Wells
- February 9, 2017 Diversity & Inclusion Symposium  
11:45 am – 1:30 pm  
Jury Assembly Room - MCJC
- February 22, 2017 General Membership Meeting  
11:45 am – Pier 22  
Program: Mary Adkins, Constitutional  
Revision Commission

## Welcome New Members

**WILLIAM WARD** - University of South Florida, (1994); J.D. Barry University College of Law (2013). Admitted to The Florida Bar 2014. Mr. Ward is a Managing Partner with The William Ward Law Group, PLLC and practices in the areas of Civil Litigation, Administrative, Environmental and Maritime Law.

606 Riviera Dunes Way, Suite 505  
Palmetto, FL 34221  
(727) 638-8316  
wwlg.william@gmail.com

**DUSTIN S. WAGNER** - BA, University of Florida, (2007; J.D. Nova Southeastern (2012). Admitted to The Florida Bar 2012. Mr. Wagner is an Associate Attorney with Lutz, Bobo, & Telfair, P.A., and practices in the areas of Medical Malpractice, Products Liability, and Personal Injury.

2 N Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
(941) 951-1800  
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## DID YOU PAY YOUR DUES?

Please don't let this be your last issue. If you didn't pay your dues for 2016-17, you are now delinquent! You will no longer receive other communications from the MCBA.



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**Kristina Hager Snyderman, Esq.**  
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### CITY OF BRADENTON BEACH, FLORIDA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 2016-03 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SPECIAL MASTER

The City of Bradenton Beach solicits responses from qualified and experienced firms or Attorney's to provide legal services to the City of Bradenton Beach on a Standard Contractor/Professional Services Contract as a secondary Special Master. The City has already retained a Special Master and seeks to add an additional Special Master(s) for Code Enforcement and Land Development –related matters on an as-needed basis. It is anticipated that one or more qualified individual(s) or firm(s) will be awarded a one-year renewable contract, with an option to renew annually, hereinafter referred to as "Contractor" or "Proposer." Sealed proposals are due by 10 a.m. on December 21, 2016. Sealed proposals may be hand delivered to the receptionist, bids must be submitted with seven copies, using the form of proposal as specified, or mailed by traceable means to the City of Bradenton Beach, City Hall, at 107 Gulf Drive North, Bradenton Beach, FL. 34217. All proposals must be clearly marked on the outside with the following: RFP 2016-03 Independent Contractor Special Master.

The City reserves the right to refuse any and all proposals and to waive any technicalities and formalities.

To receive this RFP with the proposed scope of work and other requirements, or for information concerning this request for proposals, please visit the City's web site at: [cityofbradentonbeach.com](http://cityofbradentonbeach.com).

Proposals will be received and opened at City Hall on December 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. A list of respondents will be available for information purposes only. No cost information will be made public until after a contract has been awarded.

This solicitation does not commit the City to award a contract or to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation of proposals, or to procure or contract for any articles of goods or services.

Bids may be withdrawn by 10:00 am on December 27, 2016.

The City does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex religion, age or disability in employment or in the provision of goods and services.

City of Bradenton Beach  
Terri Sanclemente, City Clerk

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Steve Heintz and David Becker are in the less than 1% of Florida lawyers that are board certified by the Florida Bar. Less than 1/2 of 1% are board certified by the National Board. Steve is certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.





After 30 years of service to the  
12th Judicial Circuit Court  
and the people of Florida,

**The HONORABLE  
SCOTT M. BROWNELL**

is retiring.

All are invited to a  
Farewell Reception  
to honor and celebrate his  
long and distinguished judicial career.



Wednesday - December 28th, 2016

2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

The R.B. “Chips” Shore Historical Courtroom & Museum  
in the Manatee County Historic Courthouse

1115 Manatee Avenue West

Bradenton, Florida 34205



Remarks and unveiling of his  
official judicial portrait at 3:00 p.m.



Light refreshments will be served.

- No Gifts Please -

# MANATEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

## PROFESSIONALISM • FELLOWSHIP • SERVICE

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**Website: [www.MANATEEBAR.com](http://www.MANATEEBAR.com)**



**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 796,  
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## Advertising in the Inter Alia

If you are interested in advertising in the *Inter Alia*, (circulation 385), please contact Graceann Frederico at (941) 741-4091 or at [MCBA@ManateeBar.com](mailto:MCBA@ManateeBar.com)

Copy deadline is approximately the 10th of the month. Payment is expected at time of publication. Checks may be made payable to MCBA, P.O. Box 796, Bradenton, FL 34206.

Ad rates are as follows:

Business card	\$40.00
1/4 page	\$60.00
1/2 page	\$90.00
Full page	\$150.00
Ad Layout	\$25.00



**Manatee County Bar Association**  
**P.O. Box 796**  
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