Retirement Reception
The Honorable A.B. Majeed

Left: The Honorable Charles Roberts and The Honorable A. B. Majeed

Below: BCBA Past Presidents, Ashley Hardee and Jay Fowler; current BCBA Secretary, Phil Zies

Right: BCBA President, Bryan Lober and the Honorable A.B. Majeed

Right: Left to right, Shirley Johnson; The Honorable A.B. Majeed; and the Honorable Clarence Johnson, BCBA Past President.

Left: Guna Ose, The Honorable Cathleen Clarke and Tom Yardley.

Right: The Honorable David Silverman
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the Ex Parte is a monthly publication for the members of the Brevard County Bar Association. the Ex Parte encourages unsolicited submission of articles, comments, photographs and notes of interest to Brevard County Bar Association members.

Publishing and editorial decisions are based on the editor’s judgment of the quality of the writing, timeliness of the article and potential interest to the readers. Occasionally, the Ex Parte may publish articles dealing with controversial issues.

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The President’s Message  
*By Bryan A. Lober*

The President’s Message is typically used to inform members about recent and upcoming events as well as to timely address topics of interest to the membership. This month, I must ask for your assistance.

Updating technology and cutting ongoing costs has been a core priority this year. While the Association has saved thousands of dollars and is now less reliant on third party providers than it has been in recent memory, I have taken steps to ensure that the Association will have a smooth transition into the next fiscal year. Some of these steps involved implementing cost effective and sustainable backup and data redundancy.

Ironically, in the process of transitioning to greater redundancy, a number of member directory photos were irretrievably lost. All photos taken by the BCBA’s contracted photographer on or since 2012 are still in our possession. The files lost consist exclusively of photographs taken prior to 2012 as well as those provided by a source other than the BCBA’s photographer. If you have not had your photo taken, at the law library, in 2012 or thereafter, there are two options. The first option is to email bcba@brevardbar.org with a photo along with your name and bar number. The alternative is to have a new photo taken by the BCBA’s contracted photographer.

Our photographer, Victoria, will be at the law library, in Viera, on Monday, March 6th through Friday, March 10th. If you had your photo taken in 2012 or thereafter and wish to have an updated photo, you are more than welcome to have a new one taken. Victoria is not charging the BCBA for this service as she offers members the option of purchasing the rights to the images above and beyond their usage in the BCBA membership directory. We sincerely regret any inconvenience this situation may have caused and thank you for your understanding.

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**Brevard County Legal Aid Gala**

It is with great pleasure that Brevard County Legal Aid welcomes Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara J. Pariente as our special guest speaker for this year’s Annual Pro Bono Awards and Recognition Gala.

Justice Pariente’s legal and judicial career has spanned over 40 years. She has been a Justice since 1997 and served as Chief Justice from 2004 through 2006. Her distinguished career has been characterized by her steadfast commitment to access to justice issues. She has worked to improve methods for handling cases involving families and children in the courts serving as the Chief-Justice’s designee to the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet and the Department of Children and Families’ Child Protection Transformation Advisory Board.

Justice Pariente will present awards to local attorneys who have gone above and beyond in their pro bono contributions.

---

**Brevard County Legal Aid cordially invites you and your guests to attend**

**Pro Bono Awards and Recognition Gala**

*Awards to be presented by our special guest*

**The Honorable Barbara J. Pariente**

*Justice, Florida Supreme Court*

**Friday Evening, March 3**th, 2017

*Suntree County Club*

*One Country Club Drive, Melbourne, Florida*

*Cocktails 6:00 p.m. ♦ Dinner 7:00 p.m. Choice of Prime Rib of Beef or Chicken Marsala*

*$45.00 per person*

*To register for this event, please call Brevard County Legal Aid 321-631-2500 Extension 514*
The Brevard Bar Foundation is enjoying a busy 2017. The Space Coast Community Law School resumed sessions in late January and will continue to meet and educate the public about a variety of legal topics every Thursday through March 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 in the jury assembly room at the Moore Justice Center. The Brevard Bar Foundation’s best ever golf tournament will be held on February 11, 2017 at Baytree Golf Course. Finally, our annual dinner honoring community leader of the year Rob Johnson will be held on April 6, 2017 at Eau Gallie Yacht Club. Everybody is welcome at these events and we hope you all can attend.

In January, we had the pleasure of donating to Welcome Home Vets, Inc., a non-profit organization established in Melbourne in 2006 by three military veterans, Col. (R) Nathan Thomas, Lt. Col. (R) Scott Fairchild, and Lt. Col. Judith Mathewson. The founders have worked hard to care for vets in various capacities.

Welcome Home Vets, Inc. not only welcomes our troops back home to Florida, they also honor and assist our military personnel from all wars, recognized conflicts, peacekeeping or humanitarian actions and peace time missions, raise funds for the care and support of Florida veterans and their families, and connect vets with community services, financial assistance, job opportunities, medical and educational opportunities, and guide them to programs in the VA system. All funds are used for the sole purpose of helping veterans “re-unite” with the civilian community.

If you have a suggestion for one of our monthly donations, please let any of our board members know. Donations are voted on by the Brevard Bar Foundation board and priority is given to donations suggested by Foundation members.

You can also support the work of the Brevard Bar Foundation by becoming a member. Members provide financial support of varying levels and are not required to attend meetings or otherwise volunteer their time, though that is always welcomed, too. You may join as a lifetime member for $1,000 or an annual member for $100. Membership applications may be requested from any of our board members.
I would like to share with you a recent accomplishment of our YLD.

As you may recall from last month’s YLD update, Shane Smith mentioned that I was scheduled in January to attend the statewide Affiliate Outreach Conference in Orlando. I spoke at this conference to present the BCBA YLD application for Public Service Project of the Year Award. At this conference, the various YLD entities or “affiliates” throughout the state meet to share ideas to help each YLD organization grow and better serve its young lawyers. Also, each affiliate may present its public service project for consideration as Public Service Project of the Year. In addition, each may seek a Florida Bar grant to fund future projects. There were many fantastic projects that helped a wide array of people in need all throughout the state. Of the many impressive projects, I am so proud to share that our YLD received the Public Service Project of the Year Award.

Your YLD’s award winning service project was a Veterans Estate Planning Seminar. At this event, our Brevard County YLD, with the help of various local practitioners and Brevard County Legal Aid, provided free simple wills and other minor estate planning products to both veterans and their spouses. The Disabled American Veterans organization also participated in this event. The DAV got the word out about the many End of Life benefits available to veterans and their surviving spouses.

Last year’s YLD Veteran’s Estate Planning Seminar took place on May 31, 2016, which was the Tuesday after Memorial Day. We hope to host this event every year on this day. Given that our event received the Service Project of the Year Award, we are hopeful that our grant request will be approved. We are very optimistic that this event will grow and many more veterans will be served.
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the Ex Parte
RIPPED JEANS BY CALVIN KLEIN
Ripped jeans are still the rage. Nothing like paying more money for less fabric. Yet I have heard that people who buy ripped jeans sometimes throw them out when they accidentally rip the jeans themselves. Or they return them if the parts that are not ripped, rip too easily. I guess they have to be ripped the right way. Apparently, there is an art to ripping jeans. At Fashion shows, Models model jeans made from some of the best Fashion Designer rippers in the world. Calvin Klein has some of the best rippers in the business. I prefer Calvin Klein, “because nothing comes between me and my ripped jeans from Calvin Klein, except for unauthorized rips.”

LAWYER-CLIENT CONVERSATIONS

CLIENT: Why are they holding my prior record against me. I did my time. I paid for my crime. Isn't that double jeopardy?

LAWYER: Well, no.

CLIENT: Why not?

LAWYER: Well, doesn’t it make sense that someone without a prior record should be treated differently than someone who has a prior record?

CLIENT: Not really. I should start with a clean slate now that I did my time.

LAWYER: But don’t you remember when we met for your very first crime, and you asked me why they were being so hard on you when you didn’t have a prior record and there were people you knew who had records and they were getting better deals than you?

CLIENT: Yeah, I got screwed then too.

LAWYER: Well, you did choose a serious crime for your first one.

CLIENT: You know what they say, ‘Go big or go home.”

LAWYER: Well, you did go to the ‘Big House.’

YOU CANNOT BUY CAT LITTER WITHOUT PRODUCING YOUR I.D. AND SIGNING YOUR NAME

First, you couldn’t buy Advil Cold Medicine without signing your name and showing your I.D. because it could be used to make Meth. Then it was Sudafed because that too could be used to make Meth. And now it’s Cat Litter. Why? Because some police officers use a drug test that turns Cat Litter into Meth. At least that’s what happened when they arrested a man for possessing Meth because the Field Test results on his Cat Litter came back positive for Meth. So now you don’t have to buy Sudafed or Advil Cold to make Meth, you can just by Cat Litter, which already is Meth. No more need for Meth Labs. And if you ever get a chance to see the Play, “Cats,” there is a new Cat called, “Meth.” I prefer “Yesterday’s News,” the purest form of Cat Litter Meth on the market today.

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(Atticus Finch in To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee)

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