

The CSB Inn of Court News

News For and About the Craig S. Barnard Inn

September 20, 2011



Inn-terview: Jeffrey Lampert and Misty Taylor Chaves



Five of us huddle in a back room at a local pub/eatery. This year, Amy Fanzlaw begins her interview career... let the good times roll!

Michelle Azar: Jeff, we've tried to interview you for years. Why are you so reclusive?

Jeffrey Lampert: Hey, I'm out there, Michelle, mostly time-traveling back and forth across the decades using my "bridge across time" theory. Do you realize that fifteen years ago, when I had long hair and a full beard, you didn't even want to interview me?

Amy Fanzlaw: I'm sure that is not true. So, how about you, Misty? Did you ever have a beard?

Judge John Phillips: Amy, this being your first Inn-terview and all, I've got to tell you that gender-inappropriate questions are usually not good...

Misty Taylor Chaves: No worries, Amy. I've never had a beard, but I have spent plenty of time around old bearded know-it-alls in my work doing medical malpractice and PI defense work! You wouldn't believe how crusty some of my opponents have been.

Jeff: I know what you mean, Misty. Even before I had a beard, I had some old crusty computer equipment...which I still use, by the way! Have you ever heard of a DOS operating system? No one can hack it because all the computer hackers were born long after DOS was obsolete! It's genius, I tell you!!!

Misty: Jeff, I could swear I've seen you in photos at my law school alma mater, UF. You know, my husband and I are "double Gators," with undergrad and law degrees from UF.

Jeff: Why yes, I am proud to be a law school Gator, but you need to know that my undergrad degree is from Florida State.

(Misty, Amy and Michelle explode into defensive Gator-chomp gesticulations. The waiter hovers nervously.)

Amy: Ahem. Did both of you always want to be lawyers?

Jeff: My plan was to promote peace and love throughout the world as a teacher. But a job at the postal service after undergraduate school, swinging heavy mailbags and loading trucks and airplanes, convinced me of the need for a more radical approach to letting out hostility. I learned how to go postal, which laid the groundwork to become a collection attorney.

Michelle: Geez, this Inn-terview is going nowhere. What are you two really like? Come on, we don't have all night... What's going on in your lives outside the law?

Misty: Well, I'm a Tampa native, I'm married to a Uruguayan attorney with whom I have a young daughter, and I'm now in the process of learning Spanish! I know my husband is saying sweet things to me in Spanish (most of the time), but I want to be sure. He's usually a very romantic, action-type dude. Our first date was a wild soirée in Stiltsville in Biscayne Bay---where, by the way, I had to go all guerilla on some Miami Dolphin cheerleader trying to hit on my man. Nobody gets between me and my man!

Jeff: Wow, I am a lot more boring than that! When I'm not practicing in the areas of bankruptcy and collections law, for me, a fun time is listening to an entire morning of talk show radio (yes, radio!) while reading an actual

newspaper (made from real paper!), and then driving to a museum using an actual map (made from real paper!), followed by a good law or crime show on TV.

Judge: Hey, Jeff, I never figured you for the talk show type.

Jeff: Sure, I got hooked listening to the old talk shows while I drove 55 miles an hour from Miami Beach to Tallahassee for my undergraduate work. Long, slow, lonely drives like that cause your mind to go to strange places...

Misty: You must have been in Miami Beach when it was run down and seedy, huh? Was Jackie Gleason still down there then?

Jeff: Oh yeah, it was pretty decrepit. I remember how the Versace mansion of today was the old fleabag Amsterdam Palace right on Ocean Drive. Go figure----about the time I left Miami Beach, they started to clean it up! I really think about these things, you see. Using my "bridge across time" theory, I see that the place started to turn around because of the confluence of these cosmic coincidences: (1) I leave town; (2) Jackie Gleason goes away (so to speak); (3) the BeeGees move to Miami Beach on the strength of their "Stayin' Alive" falsetto disco music; and (4) Madonna, Gloria Estefan, and Vanilla Ice all become South Beach residents.

Amy: Huh. Wow. You, uh, think a lot. (to JP and MA, on the side) Are all Inn-terviews like this...? Seriously, I don't think I can keep up. And who is Jackie Gleason anyway?

*Disclaimer: The foregoing is not a verbatim transcript. It is designed to demonstrate that we law types are not boring, career-addled drones. So much more than just a JD!

Hearsay

The year started off with a bang at the New Member Orientation on September 13, 2011, led by President John Moran. The event was well-attended and served as an inspiring reminder of what the Inn of Court is all about.

The Craig S. Barnard Inn of Court has again won the Platinum Level Achieving Excellence Award! This is a highly coveted prestigious award for high achievement among Inns, earned by only 19 of the 300 or so Inns. Congratulations to outgoing President Judge Leonard Hanser for getting us there, and to previous Presidents Amy Fanzlaw, Judge John Phillips and their predecessors for helping to develop the tradition. As a result, CSB Inn directors are eligible to attend the black-tie reception and dinner at the U.S. Supreme Court (now sold out). Also, Judge Hanser was invited, along with the other 19 winning presidents and national Inn of Court Trustees, to view the Inns of Court and British court system in London, and to have tea at the home of the US Ambassador to England.

President-Elect Jessica Callow and Membership Committee Co-Chair W Mason are tying the knot on October 22! And, Treasurer Christopher Bruce is now engaged to marry former Inn member, Ashley Dillon. Thus the Inns of Court engenders not only civility and good practice, but also LOVE. (Just kidding, they met elsewhere.)

Matrix Mediation, of which Rodney Romano is a member, has just opened a new office in Boca Raton, to add to their main offices in Stuart and WPB. For more information, see www.MatrixMediation.com.

Congratulations to Board member Jani Maurer, Professor at Nova Law School, for publication of the second edition of a textbook she co-authored, Florida Wills, Trusts and Estates Cases and Materials, and for her article, Use and Disposition of Life Insurance in Dissolution of Marriage, published at 16 Barry L. Rev. 56 (2011).

If you have news or trivia to share about you or another member, please contact **Michelle L. Azar** at azarlaw@msn.com or 561-832-5566. CSB News is a joint product of the Newsletter Committee which includes Co-Chairs **Michelle Azar**, **Judge John Phillips** and **Amy Fanzlaw**.