



2019-2020  
September 2019

## **INN The Know**

**The Craig S. Barnard American Inn of Court LIV**

**Our Vision:** A legal profession and judiciary dedicated to professionalism, ethics, civility, and excellence.

**Our Mission:** The American Inns of Court inspire the legal community to advance the rule of law by achieving the highest level of professionalism through example, education, and mentoring.

### **MEET YOUR PRESIDENT 2019-2020**

I have been practicing Marital and Family Law for 20 of the past 21 years. While I was born in New York, my family moved to Broward County, Florida before my third birthday. I lived in Gainesville while attending UF; St. Pete during my time at



Stetson University College of Law; and Tampa for a short time thereafter. Since 2002 I have resided in Palm Beach County. I am married to Rick Rhodes and a step-mom to his three, now adult, children. I have been a member of this Inn since 2009 and served as a pupillage group leader for two years and mentoring chair for four years. If I were stranded on a desert island, I would need both eggplant parmesan and ice cream to survive. Favorite movie is

“Hair” and you can find me heading off on cruises for my favorite type of vacation. Most people would not guess that my guilty pleasure is watching every episode of “Judge Judy.” In my free time, I enjoy yoga, horse-back riding, reading, and play time with my dog, Ooly. It is my honor and privilege to serve as your president this year.

### **2019-2020 Meeting Dates**

- \*August 20, 2019  
(new member orientation)
- \*September 17, 2019
- \*October 15, 2019
- \*November 19, 2019
- \*January 21, 2019
- \*February 18, 2019
- \*March 17, 2019
- \*April 21, 2019
- \*May 19, 2019  
(Inny Cup Gala)

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# WELCOME TO THE 2019-2020 INN YEAR

## PUPILLAGE GROUPS and THE INNY CUP

The Inn is divided into six pupillage groups. Sign in online to download the Inn handbook, and determine your pupillage group. Each month, one pupillage group will present a one hour CLE program that fosters the Inns of Court goals. The presentations are scored by other members of the Inn, and each group earns "points." Your group also earns points through mentoring, outreach, providing interviews for this newsletter, and bringing guests. The pupillage group with the most points wins the "Inny Cup" to be presented at years end.

## A Privilege of Membership: Visit an Inn

### English and Irish Inn Visits

The American Inns of Court has reciprocal visitation agreements with the four Inns of Court in London, England, and King's Inns in Dublin, Ireland. Members of the American Inns of Court, with a letter of introduction from the national office, can visit, tour, and dine at any of the London Inns. King's Inns in Dublin is a working law school with visits arranged around the school schedule. Our visitation agreements are reciprocal and English or Irish barristers visiting the United States may attend American Inns of Court meetings.



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### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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August 2019  
New Member Orientation



Tami L. Augen Rhodes



Dominique Torsiello, Web Administrator



(Ret.) Judge Jack S. Cox



Sandra Wallace and Rebecca McFayden  
socialize with new members



New members enjoying our new catering

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Tami L. Augen Rhodes



As we commence the 2019-2020 Inn year, I have taken some time to contemplate where I am in my career and what got me here. It has not been a straight and narrow path—in fact, I often feel as though I had gone through a period of time as a wind up toy who kept running into walls, hitting them, and then turning around to see what was next. However, along the way to where I am now, I have sought out mentors. Many of the best mentoring relationships I have had came about organically at the time when I most needed them. Additionally, as I reflect upon these individuals, I am not absolutely sure that they know just how important they are to me and my personal and professional development.

To this day, I strive to emulate one of my early marital and family law employers. I channel his voice when he said, “I do not play games with scheduling.” I admire his cool and calm demeanor in, and out, of the courtroom, and always have it in the back of my mind during my practice. The professionalism of that statement set me on a course of knowing that you coordinate, you schedule, you do not play games—period. You trust your employees and assistants and you give them the authority to schedule your calendar when you are available.

Another mentoring relationship I developed was with a well known family law mediator. Over the past almost two decades, he has seen my development and has been generous with his praise. He has been on grievance committees within our circuit and has an excellent sense of substantive law as well as professionalism. I have turned to him so many times for advice in dealing with clients and other counsel. He has always been just a phone call or email away and I treasure his point of view.

Next, (Ret.) Judge Jack Cox, a Former President of our Inn, had such a big impact on me when he sat on the family law bench. He recognized something in me and did not hesitate to “catch me doing something good,” and point it out. With every decision I make, I endeavor to live up to the highest ethical and professional standards demonstrated by Judge Cox. He has fielded numerous questions from me in regard to how to handle those grey area issues that accompany many family law cases.

Finally, another organically formed mentoring relationship was with someone whom I first encountered as an opposing counsel in a matter. She is strong, straightforward, and no-nonsense. Her own demonstration of professionalism and ethics led her to be named President of the local Family Law Inn of Court. Over the years, I have been able to reach out to her for professional advice and guidance. She was instrumental in her assistance in one of the more difficult cases that I have had in my career.

I do not know if any of the individuals know how much they mean to me. In reflecting upon their mentorship, I know that I am going to make an effort to let each of them know of the impact that they have made in my life.

We have all joined the Craig S. Barnard American Inn of Court LIV for different reasons—some want to network, some want to socialize, some want CLE credits. However what you will get is much more, it transcends any single reason you may have for joining an Inn of Court. You will have an opportunity to meet people who you otherwise may never have run across. You will have formal and informal mentoring opportunities. You will get to see the very best of our profession at their best. And, you will be sought out as a mentor to some members and seek out mentoring from others. Creating this meaningful relationship is easy and I encourage all of you to remain open to it. You never know when a conversation, invitation, word, or deed will resonate within someone and create a lifelong professional relationship.

I invite you to take advantage of everything the Inn has to offer during the 2019-2020 year. You will have the opportunity to create lifelong relationships; actively participate in your pupillage group and skit; travel to Washington, DC to be sworn in to The Supreme Court of the United States; Judge Oral Arguments at the NSU Shepard Broad College of Law; contribute to INN the Know newsletter; volunteer with our community partner; attend Mentoring programming; and many other unique opportunities offer by our Inn.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you personally throughout this year.



## **NEWS FROM NATIONALS**

Here's what's happening at the American Inns of Court national office as part of your member benefits and some ways for you to get involved:

**Save-the-Date**—The **National Conversation on Civility** will be held Saturday, October 26 in Washington D.C. Details will be available at [home.innsofcourt.org](http://home.innsofcourt.org) soon.

**Write for *The Bencher***—The theme for the January/February issue is "Women in the Legal Profession". The submission deadline is October 1. Visit [home.innsofcourt.org/Bencher](http://home.innsofcourt.org/Bencher) for details.

**Apply for a Pegasus Scholarship**—Associate members with two to seven years of experience are encouraged to apply for a 2020 Pegasus Scholarship. Applications are due January 17, 2020 and can be found at [home.innsofcourt.org/PegasusScholarships](http://home.innsofcourt.org/PegasusScholarships).

**Update your Member Profile**—Login in to [home.innsofcourt.org](http://home.innsofcourt.org) and ensure your contact information is correct and access the member-only content. Features include the [Online Program Library](#), [Member Directory](#), and [The Bencher](#) magazine archive.

Further details about these opportunities can be found on the American Inns of Court website at [home.innsofcourt.org](http://home.innsofcourt.org) or ask a member of the Inn's executive committee for more details.

# MEET YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD

President-Elect/Counselor

Hon. Luis Delgado



An Inn member prior to becoming a Judge, the Honorable Luis Delgado joined the Inn in 2013. He is in the Juvenile Division which handles both delinquency and dependency along with a heavy family docket. - "I LOVE what I do. There is so much law between the substantive criminal law, dependency law, and family law, with different procedural rules and evidentiary standards. It's a great academic exercise because it stretches the mind in every direction over the week." Judge Delgado's desert island meal is a combo pizza from Costco, at 800 calories, it comes with a free Diet Coke! You can find him laughing at the movies and avoiding horror movies; he'll never turn off "Top Gun" when it comes on TV. He loves food, museums, and the metro so his favorite vacation destination is Paris. You would never guess that he was an EMT ("for about 15 minutes"). Judge Delgado's favorite thing about the Inn is talking to attorneys before and after our presentations. "Barry Cohen once told me he really liked attorneys - I think all of us in the Inn do. But I have a different understanding and appreciation for what he meant now that I am a judge."

Stephanie Serafin

Treasurer



Stephanie is embarking upon her eighth year in the Inn, having joined in 2011. She is an appellate and litigation support attorney. Stephanie would not be on a desert island with some delicious tacos - yum! You can find her watching comedies and she simply cannot choose a favorite. Stephanie would either be found vacationing in Lake Tahoe or across the globe in Italy. A memory that would cause anyone who was there to giggle is one of her great memories of the Inn, in her words, "A few years ago, my group had the first presentation date because I lost a game of musical chairs against my fellow pupillage group leaders. Everyone in my group worked really hard and we put together a great presentation in only 3 weeks."

Miguel Poveda

Treasurer



Miguel is in his fifth year in the Inn, having joined in 2014. He practices in the areas of criminal defense and general litigation as a sole practitioner. If Miguel were stranded on a desert island, we would need to give him a net and pole as he would love to live on seafood. You can find him watching his favorite movie "The Wind and the Lion" starring Sean Connery or vacationing in Costa Rica where the rain forest meets the beach. You would never be able to guess Miguel's secret—he used to be shy! One of his most memorable Inn moments was playing the Joker in a Batman skit: it was the first, perhaps only, time he wore a wig and make-up.



Elizabeth “Liz” Mabry  
Secretary

This is Liz’s seventh year in the Inn, having joined in 2012. Liz is a commercial transaction, M&A, and general corporate attorney. She is quite fancy and would not be on a desert island without a Croque Monsieur (she does happen to be married to a professional chef)! She loves the extended version of Lord of the Rings. Liz thinks her favorite vacation is “whatever is coming up next,” but says that her visit to India was amazing. Most people do not know that Liz has four black cats. One of her great memories in our Inn was when she welcomed the visiting barrister from England.



Tania Williams  
Secretary

Tania joined the Inn in 2016. She practices Copyright and Trademark Registration and Litigation. If Tania were stranded on a desert island, she would not want to be without Krispy Kreme Donuts. Her favorite movie is “A Few Good Men” and favorite vacation destination is Italy. Something you would never guess about Tania—probably because you did not know that such thing existed—is that she has been French kissed by a stingray! Quite recently, she played Miss Piggy for an Inn of Court skit and had a blast. Tania believes the way the idea for the skit came together with flashbacks to the 80’s with the Muppets was awesome.



The Honorable Robert M. Gross  
Immediate Past President

Judge Gross rounds out the Executive Board. Please see our special tribute to him on the last page of this INN the Know.

## GREAT NEWS

Congratulations to President-Elect, Judge Luis Delgado, on his recent engagement to be married.

Programming Chair, Brad Gies, and his wife welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Bailey Gies. We wish you tons of happiness on your new addition.

We love to boast about our membership; please email your great news to:  
[tami@tamiaugenlaw.com](mailto:tami@tamiaugenlaw.com)

# Summer 2019 Board Leadership Retreat





## Recipe of the Month: **APPLE FRANGIPANE BARS**

These delicious apple pastry bites were a huge hit at the New Member Orientation and would be a wonderful addition to any Thanksgiving Dinner:



### INGREDIENTS

#### Crust:

1 1/4 cup unbleached all-purpose flour  
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt; (or 1/4 teaspoon table salt)  
3 ounces cream cheese; softened, at room temperature  
2 ounces unsalted butter; (4 tbsp), softened, at room temperature  
1/4 teaspoon Pure vanilla extract  
1/4 cup Granulated sugar  
1/4 cup Light brown sugar  
1/3 cup almonds; finely chopped

#### Topping:

2/3 cup reserved crust mixture  
2 tablespoons unbleached all-purpose flour  
2 tablespoons Granulated sugar  
2 tablespoons Light brown sugar  
1/4 cup almonds; coarsely chopped

#### Filling:

5 ounces cream cheese; softened, at room temperature  
1/2 cup granulated sugar; as required  
1 large Egg  
1 tablespoon lemon juice; freshly squeezed  
1/4 teaspoon pure almond extract  
1 pinch of Salt  
2 Cans Apple Pie Filling

### PREPARATION

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Butter a 9x9-inch square baking pan, line with parchment, and butter the parchment.

To make the crust: Sift together the flour and salt, and set aside.

In the bowl of a stand mixer, beat the cream cheese and butter on medium speed until smooth, about 1-2 minutes. Add the vanilla extract and beat on medium until smooth, about 1 minute. Add the granulated and brown sugars and beat on medium speed until blended, scraping down the sides of the bowl once or twice.

On low speed, mix in the flour-salt mixture and the 1/3 cup of finely chopped almonds just until the dough comes together. It should be crumbly.

Reserve about 2/3 cup of the crust mixture (for the topping). Press the remaining dough evenly into the bottom of the prepared pan. Prick the dough all over with a fork. Blind bake until light golden, about 16-18 minutes. Remove crust from the oven.

To make the topping: While the crust bakes, make the topping by adding the flour, granulated and brown sugars to the reserved dough. Mix until well combined. It should be crumbly. Set aside topping and 1/4 cup coarsely chopped almonds while you make the filling.

To make the filling: In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Beat in the egg, lemon juice, Almond Extract and salt until well mixed.

To assemble: Pour the apple pie filling over your baked crust. Pour the cream cheese filling over the apples and gently spread the filling to cover. Crumble the topping over the filling. Sprinkle with the almonds (optional).

Bake until light golden brown, about 45-50 minutes. Let the bars cool in the pan for about 30 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely on a cooling rack before cutting.

Makes one 9x9-inch square pan, or twelve 2 1/4 x 3-inch bars.

Courtesy of Lilly Catering and Events

**THANK YOU TO PAST PRESIDENT**  
**THE HONORABLE ROBERT M. GROSS**

The entire membership extends a heartfelt thank you to 2018-2019 Inn President, The Honorable Robert M. Gross. Judge Gross presided over a successful year where our Inn once again achieved Platinum Status. Judge Gross was instrumental in creating mentoring and educational opportunities via the newly established "Fridays at the Fourth" program. Thank you for your dedication and leadership.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

All active members are expected to attend and actively participate in the Inn's meetings. **Two unexcused absences** during a program year will be deemed to be a resignation unless the executive board waives the provision for good cause. Persons who are unable to attend a particular meeting must inform the secretaries prior to the meeting the reason for their absence. Absences without advanced notice are considered to be unexcused.



Excerpt of Remarks of Warren E. Berger, Chief Justice of the United States:

In their highest role, lawyers should be the healers of conflicts and, as such, should help the diverse parts of a complex, pluralistic social order function with a minimum of friction. Lawsuits ought to be the last resort - like war. Learned Hand once said that except for death or serious illness, he most would fear a lawsuit. President Abraham Lincoln likewise counseled: Discourage litigation. Persuade your neighbors to compromise whenever you can. Point out to them how the nominal winner is often a real loser - in fees, expenses, and waste of time. As a peace-maker the lawyer has a superior opportunity of being a good man.

<https://scholarship.law.nd.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://www.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=2368&context=ndlr>

**SAVE THE DATE:**

1. Beginning of the year IceBreaker Social: 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday, September 10, 2019; Grato, 1901 S. Dixie Hwy, WPB
2. Washington, DC: join the Foundation Chairs to be sworn in as a member of The Supreme Court of The United States; Tuesday, March 3, 2020
3. Dues are due: Please remit your dues payment by September 17, 2019. Dues are considered late if paid after October 11, 2019 and will incur a \$25 late fee.