

prime times @ ASU

Arizona State University Retirees Association Newsletter

Summer 2015

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ASURA Summer Office Hours

Monday & Tuesday: 9-12 & 1-4
 Wednesday & Thursday: 9-12
 2nd Wednesday each month: 1-4
 Fridays: **CLOSED**

President's Message

Jim Fordemwalt, 2015-2016 ASURA President

Well, another great year for ASURA! We are well started into ASURA's "Third Decade of Success".

Thank you, Jo Madonna, for a year well done! And a special "thank you" to the outgoing members of the Board of Directors — Elmer Gooding, Gary Kleemann, Barry McNeill, Connie McNeill and Bill Stasi. You have contributed a great deal of time, effort and hard work to ASURA, and I am looking forward to working with you as volunteer committee members and chairpersons this coming year. Also, welcome to our incoming Board Members — Barry Bruns, Bev Buddee, Bob Francis, Larry Mankin and Barbara White. I am also looking forward to working with you this coming year on our membership and finance challenges, while we focus on having fun!

While this past year has definitely been a success, we continue to have challenges. Membership declined again, in spite of efforts to increase it. Barry McNeill did an excellent study and questionnaire about what things ASURA should do to make the organization more attractive to new retirees. We have had a deficit in our finances this past year and had hoped that the Human Resources department at ASU would be able to increase their allotment for this coming year. But, the budget cuts to ASU seem to have adversely affected that. ASURA has so much to offer its retirees. We need to continue to work to make ASU retirees aware of the benefits of membership in ASURA. I won't go into them but I'm sure all of you reading this are aware of those benefits and I encourage you to point them out to your friends who are ASU retirees but not yet members of ASURA.

One last word of encouragement to those of you who are members but not presently volunteering in one of ASURA's committees or ex-officio commissions. We would welcome you and appreciate your help and inputs. ASURA is a totally volunteer organization, from the office staff to the Board of Directors and committee members. It's a great way to meet people and make new friends!

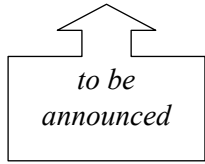


ASURA Board Officers

President
Jim Fordemwalt



Vice President



Past President
Jo Madonna



Secretary
Bev Buddee



Treasurer
Barry Bruns



ASURA Board of Directors & Ex-Officio Members

Terms Expire
April 2016

Karen Hammann
Glenn Irvin
Jo Madonna
Jan Thompson
Hal White

Terms Expire
April 2017

Larry Carlson
Joyce Hartman Diaz
Jim Fordemwalt
Ruth Kingsley
Trudy Perez
Jeannette Robson

Terms Expire
April 2018

Barry Bruns
Bev Buddee
Bob Francis
Larry Mankin
Barbara White

Ex-Officio Members

Alumni Association - Rhonda McClintock
Emeritus College Liaison - Elmer Gooding
Human Resources - Sheree Barron/designee
University Liaison - Barbara Shaw-Snyder
& Abby Polito
University Club Liaison - Jim Fordemwalt
University Senate - *to be announced*
University Staff Council - *to be announced*

Committees & Liaisons

Adopt-A-Family:
Joan Leard

Book Donations:
Mary Stevens

Events Coordinator:
Barry McNeill

Finance:
Barry Bruns

Government Liaison (ASRS):
Larry Carlson

Government Liaison (State Legislature):
Hal White

Health Insurance Liaisons (ASRS/ADOA):
Larry Carlson, Joyce Hartman Diaz

Luncheons/Special Events:
Barbara Bradford Eschbach
Joyce Hartman Diaz

Membership:
David Schwalm

Obituaries:
Becky Reiss

Prime Times Newsletter:
Jeannette Robson (*Designer*)
Wilma Mathews (*Editor*)

Scholarship:
Sue Blumer, Joy Shearman

Seminars:
Jan Thompson

Seminars (pre-retirement):
Trudy Perez

Travel:
John Brock

Video History Project:
David Scheatzle

Website & Data Base:
Connie McNeill

ASURA Office Staff

Phone: (480) 965-7668 **
Fax: (480) 965-7807
Website: <http://asura.asu.edu/>
Location: Community Services Building
200 East Curry Road, Room 201B
Tempe, Arizona

**** Best to call beforehand**

Business Operations Mgr. - Carolyn Minner
Coordinators, Office Staff - Linda Van Scoy, Nancy Lesko

Monday:	9am-noon	Carol Berg
	1pm-4pm	Jeannette Robson
Tuesday:	9am-noon	Carol Moore
	1pm-4pm	Linda Van Scoy
Wednesday:	9am-noon	Nancy Lesko
	1pm-4pm	Bev Buddee
Thursday:	9am-noon	Bonnie Scheall
	1pm-4pm	Help Wanted
Friday:	am & pm	Help Wanted,
		(Sept.-June)

Subs: Joan Leard Dorothy Meunier
Helen Seaton Maxine LaRoux

ASURA Needs Your Old Books!

Are your bookshelves too full? Are you downsizing your office or your home and don't have space for all of your books?

Donate your used books to us, and we will work with our partner, Friends of the Phoenix Public Library, to sell them. We'll use proceeds of the sale to support our programs. The ASU Foundation, a separate nonprofit organization that exists to support ASU, will provide you with a gift receipt for tax purposes.

Half of the proceeds will be invested in our endowed scholarship fund, and half will be used for our Video History project. Earnings from the endowed scholarship fund are earmarked for our ASURA Scholarship.

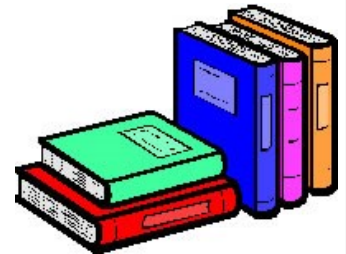
If you have books you can donate, please visit our web site at <https://asura.asu.edu/BookDrive> and print our donation form. Complete the form and either scan and fax or email to Mary Stevens, chair of the Book Drive project or mail it directly to the ASURA office.



For more information contact:

Mary Stevens, (602) 758-3750,
marystevens0@gmail.com

Bill Moor, (480) 838-8348,
william.moor@asu.edu



HELP WANTED

Help Wanted For Luncheons & Special Events Committee!

*Do you enjoy going out for lunch?
Do you enjoy planning events?*

*Do you enjoy socializing among long-time and new friends?
Do you have creative ideas for events other than luncheons?*

If any or all of these questions sound like a 'yes' to you ASURA is looking for folks to join and participate on the Luncheons & Special Events Committee!

This committee plans a Fall pizza party to re-connect with former friends/colleagues and to meet and welcome new members. There is an established December Holiday Potluck, and a Spring luncheon. Events other than luncheons are fun to plan too. For example, fashion shows and musical jam sessions and wine tastings. We truly welcome new ideas!

If you would be interested in planning these events with others, or have further questions, please contact Barbara Bradford Eschbach at barbara.eschbach@asu.edu or Joyce Hartman Diaz at joyceh_diaz@hotmail.com. Or call the ASURA office (480) 965-7668 and leave your name, email and/or phone number. We will contact you.

Office Volunteers Needed

We are in need of a few more volunteers ... permanent or temporary ... to staff the ASURA office. Unfortunately, several of our regular volunteer office staff, or a family member, are recovering from various health issues leaving us without coverage on Friday mornings and afternoons. Shifts are 9-noon and 1-4 p.m. If you can help out or know of someone who might lend a hand, let us know. Please contact Linda Van Scoy at lvs@asu.edu.

Call for Conference Volunteers - ASU Center for Social Dynamics & Complexity (CSDC)

CSDC is hosting the Conference on Complex Systems (CCS'15), September 28 – October 2, 2015 at the Fiesta Inn in Tempe (<http://ccs2015.org>). This is the first time that the conference has been held in North America ... and only one other time held outside Europe in 15 years.

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The conference has a full schedule, 8:00am – 5:30pm, Monday-Friday and is expected to attract around 800 visitors worldwide. The Event Coordinator, Lyn Mowafy, hopes that ASU Retirees would be interested in "working" the conference with them. Most of the positions are on a volunteer basis but if someone would like to be paid, special arrangements could be made, but the salary would be at the basic student wages ... *i.e.*, \$8.50-\$10.00 per hour.

Please contact Lyn Mowafy at (480) 727-9746 or lyn.mowafy@asu.edu for further information.

Seeking a Few for On-Call Assistance

ASURA has an agreement with the Friends of the Phoenix Public Library ("Friends") and per this agreement their organization sells books donated by our members, other ASU retirees and anyone else who donates their books to ASURA. "Friends" retains a 15% commission and splits the sales proceeds with ASURA. ASURA uses the proceeds to support our Scholarship program and the Living History Video Project.

On occasion, individuals who wish to donate books for this program need someone to transport their books to the ASURA office. We are now looking for members who would be willing to help out. If you are willing to pick up the books and bring them to the ASURA office, please contact the program coordinator, Mary Stevens, at (602) 758-3750 or marystevens0@gmail.com.

Did you know that non-fiction books, especially academic-type books, have a much greater value than the most popular fiction books?

Fall 2015 Meet & Greet Pizza Party with Pre-party Seminar for Recent Retirees

submitted by Barry McNeill

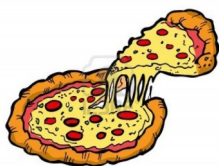
The first event of the ASURA year, co-hosted by the Luncheon & Special Events and Seminar Committees, is our annual Meet & Greet Party with Free Pizza! It is a chance to welcome our New Retirees and reconnect with former colleagues and long-time friends. Members of the ASURA Board, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons will be present and will announce events that are already planned for 2015/2016. This is also an opportunity to express your interest in volunteering to participate on one of the various committees.

The party program starts with a panel of recently retired ASURA members discussing "*Things I Wish I Had Known When I Retired*". While this panel is intended to help the very recently retired, all members are invited to attend and share their experiences with the attendees. Past sessions have been lively, interactive and very helpful. The informal setting provides good opportunities for networking and meeting new friends.

Spouses/partners/friends are welcome. If you know of retirees who have not yet joined ASURA please invite them; the more the merrier!

Meet and Greet Pizza Party & Seminar Program - Wednesday, September 9, 2015

- ◆ **10:45 - 11:30** Panel of ASURA Members discussing: "*Things I Wish I had Known When I Retired*";
- ◆ **11:30 - 12:40** Socializing and eating pizza;
- ◆ **12:40 - 1:00** Welcome by ASURA President, Jim Fordemwalt, followed by short presentations of events and activities that have been scheduled for the remainder of the 2014-2015 year.



ADOA & ASRS Health Insurances Overview

submitted by Larry Carlson & Joyce Hartman Diaz, ASRS/ADOA Health Insurance Liaisons

ASURA retirees have options when it comes to retirement health care coverage. Two of these options are offered by state agencies: the Department of Administration (ADOA) and Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS). Both offer retirees comprehensive medical and dental coverage. Retirees may change plans during the annual open enrollment which takes place late October, early November each year.

To help you decide which plan best meets your needs, ADOA provides information fairs and ASRS sets up meetings to present the information to you. Study the open enrollment materials provided to you by ADOA and ASRS and/or attend the ASURA October Health Seminar.

After you review and compare the retiree insurance information options and decide which plan best meets your needs, you will then need to follow the enrollment procedures as described in the enrollment packet of the plan(s) that you select.

Should you opt to change from an ADOA plan to an ASRS plan, or *vice versa*, you will also need to notify the plan that you want to discontinue and include the effective date of the change. Please keep in mind that once you elect to enroll in ASRS vs ADOA benefit plans, you may no longer be eligible for ADOA coverage in the future unless you continue in the ADOA dental plan. Once enrolled with ASRS, if you leave after a year or after many years, you may return to ASRS coverage in the future.

Retirees can choose medical coverage with one agency and dental coverage with a different agency. Both ADOA and ASRS open enrollment starts and ends on the same dates.

If you are Medicare eligible, in addition to those insurance plans offered by ASRS and ADOA, other Medicare Advantage plans and Medicare Supplements are available from a number of sources. Costs for these plans vary and it is advantageous to begin researching plans early and thinking about your needs so that when open enrollment begins in the fall decision making will be easier.

Alzheimer Brain Seminar - Spring 2015

submitted by Barry McNeill

This is a report based on a talk given by Dr. Woodruff of the Mayo Clinic; the slides for the entire talk are available at: <https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/alzheimerseminarslides.pdf>

Memory is not perfect and memory lapses are a normal part of life. Forgetting why you entered a room or the name of the actor are not by themselves red flags for dementia. More concerning would be:

- ◆ Frequent repetition, not just for emphasis,
- ◆ Lack of awareness of memory difficulties,
- ◆ Medication errors,
- ◆ Disorientation in familiar areas, and
- ◆ Trouble doing cognitively demanding tasks that were previously done without difficulty.

The cognitive spectrum ranges from “sharp as a tack” to age-associated cognitive changes to mild cognitive impairment (MCI), and finally to dementia.

There are a number of dementia subtypes but Alzheimer’s disease is the most prevalent. More than 5 million

Americans are living with Alzheimer’s disease and a new case develops every 67 seconds. In 2013, 15.5 million caregivers provided 17.7 billion hours of unpaid care valued at \$220 Billion.

Establishing a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease requires a multi-prong approach. Since memory loss is involved it is critical to have a reliable informant. The clinical history of a patient would include looking at:

- ◆ Cognitive symptoms – memory language, etc.,
- ◆ Functional status – hygiene, finance errors, medication management, etc.,
- ◆ Behavioral symptoms – impaired insight & judgment, agitation & irritability, etc.,
- ◆ Safety concerns – medication errors, driving, wandering, etc., and
- ◆ Contributing medical factors – psychiatric illness, sleep disturbance, etc.

The examination might also include a variety of neurological examinations, mental as well as physical along with some diagnostic studies, e.g., thyroid, B12, brain imaging using a variety of scanning technologies.

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Two current treatments are acetylcholinesterase inhibitors and glutamate antagonists

Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors

“Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors work by increasing levels of acetylcholine, a chemical messenger involved in memory, judgment and other thought processes. Here’s how they work: Certain brain cells release acetylcholine, which helps deliver messages to other cells. After a message reaches the receiving cell, various other chemicals, including an enzyme called acetylcholinesterase, break acetylcholine down so it can be recycled.

Alzheimer’s disease damages or destroys cells that produce and use acetylcholine, thereby reducing the amount available to carry messages. An acetylcholinesterase Inhibitor slows the breakdown of acetylcholine by blocking the activity of acetylcholinesterase. By maintaining acetylcholine levels, the drug may help compensate for the loss of functioning brain cells.”

Glutamate Antagonist

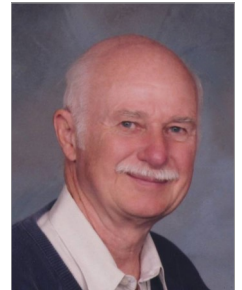
“Glutamate antagonists appears to work by regulating the activity of glutamate, a chemical involved in information processing, storage, and retrieval. Glutamate plays an essential role in learning and memory by triggering NMDA receptors to let a controlled amount of calcium into a nerve cell. The calcium helps create the chemical environment required for information storage. Excess glutamate, on the other hand, overstimulates NMDA receptors so that they allow too much calcium

into nerve cells. That leads to disruption and death of cells. These antagonists may protect cells against excess glutamate by partial blocking NMDA receptors.”¹

Alzheimer’s drugs offer one strategy to help manage memory loss, thinking and reasoning problems, and day-to-day function. Unfortunately, Alzheimer’s drugs don’t work for everyone, and they can’t cure the disease or stop its progression. Over time, their effects wear off. Further while any of the three FDA approve acetylcholinesterase inhibitors, on average, work about equally well, in individuals, one acetylcholinesterase inhibitor may work better or produce fewer side effects than does another

Alzheimer’s pathophysiology i.e., understanding what is going on to create the brain pathology observed is an ongoing research area. Studies of Alzheimer’s brains reveal several pathological problems including: accumulation of abnormal proteins so called plaques and tangles, gliosis, impaired synaptic transmission, neuronal loss, and abnormal brain metabolism. Initiating treatment at the MCI stage may be too late; there is evidence to suggest that there is already a significant neurological damage especially the creation of plaques.

The best advice is to have a healthy diet and keep physically, socially, and mental active.



¹FDA-Approve Treatments for Alzheimer’s, 2012 Alzheimer’s Association at http://www.alz.org/national/documents/topicsheet_treatments.pdf

Spring 2015 Volunteer Luncheon



Jo Madonna presents an appreciation gift to Carol Moore who stepped down as Office Staff Coordinator.



Dave Schwalm, Gary Anderson, Bill Moor, Larry Carlson, Jim Fordemwalt.

It's Time to Renew Your ASURA Membership

While renewal has the obvious benefit of allowing you to continue receiving Prime Times, ASU-related obituary notifications and event notifications, if you so choose, renewal also gives the Association negotiating power. The recent member survey showed that working to further the welfare of retirees by advocating with the university, the legislature, the Arizona State Retirement System, and with health insurance groups was the most important thing ASURA does. The more members we have the greater our influence.

Membership dues are \$30 and will cover the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. To renew visit our web site at <https://asura.asu.edu/MembershipRenewals> and do one of the following:

- Pay with your credit card on-line. If you choose this method, you will receive e-mail confirmation both from the ASU Foundation (our banker) and from the Association itself. Your confirmation notice from ASURA will list the information we have on file for you, and will provide instructions for making any updates to your contact information and your volunteer interests.
- If you wish to pay by check, print and complete the Membership Renewal & Update form. Instructions for making out the check and for mailing are on the form. Please look at the back of the form closely to see whether there are volunteer areas that might interest you. We would welcome your participation.
- If you do not have access to a computer please phone the ASURA office at (480) 965-7668 to enroll by phone.

Your enrollment also offers the opportunity for you to provide extra financial support for our projects and for our operational costs. The projects include: the ASURA Endowed Scholarship, which is awarded annually to an ASU student; our Video History project, which captures interviews with people who've had a significant impact on ASU; our Adopt-a-Family project, which helps out needy ASU and Tempe School District families. Please visit <https://asura.asu.edu> for more information on these projects.

ASU Day at the Capitol February 17, 2015



above: Bob Mings, John Brock, Jeri Meeks, Hal White, Sparky, Brenda Shears.



above: Hal White, Sparky, Jeri Meeks, Brenda Shears, Bob Mings, John Brock.

below: State Senator Ed Ableser Dist. 26, Bob Mings, Hal White



Video History Summer 2015 Report

submitted by Dave Scheatzle, Chair

At the end of the 2014/15 interview season we can count 15 new interviews bringing the overall total to 111. Interviews since our last Prime Times Report are Doug Anderson, Vladimir Borovan-sky, Susan Clouse Dolbert, Bob Francis, Sam Kirkpatrick, Jim Odenkirk and Dick Peck.

The Video History Crew consists of Roger Clark, John McIntosh, Becky Reiss, Dave Scheatzle and Linda Van Scoy. Gary Krahenbuhl has become a “fixture” as an interviewer, doing three of the last seven interviews.



Dick Peck (left in photo) being interviewed by Gary Krahenbuhl.



Susan Clouse Dolbert was our last interview of the 2014-15 season. Leon Shell was her interviewer.

Linda Van Scoy continues to develop YouTube clips for the ASURA website. You might find these entertaining and provide trivia for your conversations about ASU history. Go to <https://asura.asu.edu/VideoHistoryInterviews> Here you will find a complete list of the 111 interviews to date. At the end of a person’s name, if you see the words “(video clip)” underlined and in red, you can put your cursor on this red underlined phrase and left click with your mouse. The video clip will start to play.

We have upgraded our small interview studio, which is located adjacent to the ASURA offices in the Community Services Building. Crew member Roger Carter, our BBC and Channel 8 trained video and audio technician, suggested that the lighting of the “talent” being interviewed should be upgraded with the purchase of LED lamps. Our original light fixtures used halogen lamps and produced considerable heat. They over-taxed the capacity of the air conditioning system. LED lamps produce the same amount of light for 20% of the power (and heat output).

The committee hopes to use the summertime to catch up on editing and file management. It is time to start using the server capacity of the Library Repository to store our interviews and make interviews available on-line.

ASURA Annual Meeting - April 18, 2015

Prior to the beginning of the formal meeting, members in attendance enjoyed time for casual conversation and light refreshments.

Welcome and Association Overview – Jo Madonna

President Jo Madonna opened the formal meeting at 1:15 by welcoming everyone and recognizing and thanking Board officers and members, committee chairs, and the many volunteers who support the Association and carry out its functions.

Remarks by Scholarship Recipient Tara Pryts

Scholarship Committee Chair Sue Blumer thanked the organization and the members of the Scholarship Committee for making the scholarship possible. Sue introduced Tara Pryts, 2014-15 Scholarship recipient.

Tara, a senior in the School of Sustainability, thanked the Association for providing the scholarship, which she feels privileged to receive. Tara is from a small town in Southern Oregon. When she was 22 years old, she left a successful career in retail and came to Arizona, studying at Scottsdale Community College. While there, she determined to change from her initial study in interior design to sustainability. Tara explained the nature and structure of Sustainability as an academic discipline, it’s importance to the environment, and her commitment to its principles. She is looking forward to beginning her career in sustainability, with particular interest in cities, in designing sustainable products, and implementing sustainable urban policies.

Video History Project Interview Clips

Project Committee Chair Dave Scheatzle noted that the Video History Project began as an effort to record the

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history of ASU's development through the people who were part of it and has continued that process. He showed clips from recent interviews to give the audience a sense of the Project and the interview process.

Remarks by Ray Anderson, ASU Vice President for University Athletics and Athletic Director

Jo Madonna introduced Ray Anderson and noted that when she asked the Board for suggestions for speakers, they indicated that they wanted Ray Anderson, and when she contacted him about the possibility of his speaking at the Annual Meeting, he quickly indicated his enthusiasm for doing so.

Anderson discussed the process that brought him to ASU, and the critical role of President Crow and his vision for the university and the Athletic Department. He indicated the enthusiasm and energy of the student athletes and the opportunity to work with them has been tremendously rewarding. Anderson offered several examples of how the athletic program is forwarding the mission that President Crow has established for ASU. For example, the football stadium is being reconfigured into a resource accessible to the community for a range of activities, rather than being used only for a few games each year. ASU Athletics is going to be run more like a business so it can achieve financial independence and sustainability. At the same time, the mission of the student-athlete will be at the forefront. The commitments are to have student athletes graduate, to compete for championships, to compete within the rules, and to bring the athletic mission into the community. Anderson indicated that ASU wants to compete in every sport – he noted recent additions of men's hockey and women's lacrosse, and the lack of a men's soccer team and a men's tennis team, sports the Athletic Department will be pursuing. New people have been joining the Athletic Department in order to form staff that can move forward in a creative and energetic way. In addition, the coaching staff is being upgraded so the student athletes receive the finest training from enthusiastic and competitive coaches. They are trying to build student-athletes who are champions while here and champions in life when they leave ASU. The Athletic Department is seeking partners who value the ASU brand and will support its development and advancement. Questions from the audience included inquiries about the commitment to the athletes' education, academic support, and the move to pay student-athletes. Anderson indicated that the athletic programs ASU are interested in emulating are Stanford and Wisconsin, where athletes come to participate until they graduate. At ASU, academic support is being strengthened. He believes that athletes should be supported more fully but in a reasonable manner.

Introduction of New Board Members and Officers by 2015-16 ASURA President Jim Fordemwalt

Jo Madonna introduced the new Board officers and members and continuing members, and introduced Jim Fordemwalt, the incoming President of the Association. Jim welcomed the new and continuing Board members and remarked on issues to be addressed in the coming year, particularly membership and finances. He noted events that the Association is sponsoring, for example, travel opportunities and seminars. Jim concluded the meeting and invited participants to spend a few minutes visiting with one another and partaking of the refreshments.



left: Tara Pryts, ASURA 2014-2015 Scholarship Recipient

right: Marilyn Wurzburger, Joyce Hartman Diaz, Joan Leard



left: Bev Buddee, Glenn Irvin, Matt Madonna

right: Larry Mankin, Gary Swaty



Taxing Matters Seminar - March 19, 2015

submitted by Barry McNeill

The final seminar for Spring 2015, “Taxing Matters – strategies for effective estate and tax planning”, was presented by Christine Kolm, Director Wealth Planning Strategies, TIAA CREF in front of 40 attendees. Following is a cliff notes version of the talk; if you want you can review the presentation slides at https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PDF_Files/asurataxingseminar.pdf

Christine began with a disclaimer: “the material is for educational benefit only and should not be relied on as tax or legal advice.” She then moved on with an overview of the presentation and right into the first topic.

Income tax planning: Christine reviewed with examples the variety of taxes that come into play, including taxes associated with the Patient Protections and Affordable Care Act, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, unearned income, personal exemptions, and the 2015 tax brackets.

Estate tax planning and considerations: The talk gave a quick overview of estate taxes and then discussed at length the impact of portability¹. The current federal estate tax exemption is \$5,430,000 per taxpayer. While portability simplifies planning and provides flexibility for married couples there are some caveats – remarrying may impact portability.

Basic estate planning considerations. The final part of the seminar addressed planning for incapacity:

- what would happen to you and/or your assets,
- medical matters
- money matters

Christine reviewed several documents that everyone should consider. At the conclusion of the talk Christine took a number of questions from the audience. The evaluations completed by the seminar participants indicated that they found the seminar very valuable and helpful.

We wish to thank Nestor Montoya, Christine Kolm and TIAA-CREF for putting on this seminar for us.



¹“In simple terms, portability of the federal estate tax exemption between married couples means that if the first spouse dies and the value of the estate does not require the use of all the deceased spouse's federal exemption from estate taxes, then the amount of the exemption that was not used for the deceased spouse's estate may be transferred to the surviving spouse's exemption so that he or she can use the deceased spouse's unused exemption plus his or her own exemption when the surviving spouse later dies”.
(taken from <http://wills.about.com/od/understandingestatetaxes/qt/What-Is-Portability-Of-The-Estate-Tax-Exemption.htm>).

2015 Spring Luncheon

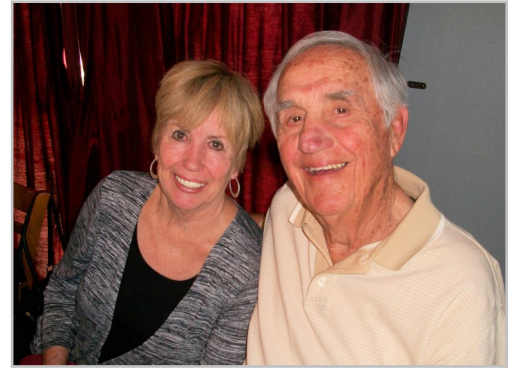
story by Barbara Bradford Eschbach; pictures by Joyce Hartman Diaz

The final luncheon for 2014/15 was a luncheon and wine tasting with a professional sommelier provided by our host venue: Dvine Bistro & Wine Bar in Chandler.

This event was held on Thursday, March 5, 2015, and was attended by 18 members and their guests. Because this second wine tasting event was held in March vs. May (prior year event was held Thursday, May 15, 2014, which was late in the year and conflicted with other ASURA travel events), the attendance improved by 50 percent! The wine tasting portion of this luncheon was very well received and definitely educational!



above: Joy Shearman, Phyllis Heltsley;
below: Joann DeMassa, Larry Kentura



Canyon de Chelly, Monument Valley, Antelope Canyon Trip - Spring 2015

submitted by John Brock

Twenty-three people left the Tempe Public Library parking lot at about 8 am on Wednesday the 22nd of April. That day we had lunch at Romo's Café in Holbrook and later viewed Canyon de Chelly from the south canyon walls. The primary views include Spider Rock and the Whitehouse overlook. Our overnight accommodations were at the Canyon de Chelly Inn (Best Western).

On Thursday morning we left Chinle, AZ and headed to Monument Valley. There we visited a typical Navajo hogan, and boarded small trucks for a tour of the Valley. We enjoyed the views (and the little dust storm) and had lunch at Goulding's. We arrived in the late afternoon at Page, where we did a short visit to Glenn Canyon Dam and looked at Lake Powell (yes it is low in water). That evening our hotel was the Courtyard by Marriott.

Friday morning we were treated to a Navajo hoop dance and then headed out for Antelope Canyon. This is one of the famous slot canyons of the Colorado Plateau. After viewing the canyon we stopped for a photo opportunity at Horseshoe bend of the Colorado River. Our next stop included some shopping at the Cameron Trading Post. We arrived in Flagstaff amid rain showers for lunch at Josephine's then returned to Tempe about 6 pm on Friday evening.

We need to recognize All Aboard America travel services who arranged the majority of the trip and give special recognition to our tour leader Ann and the our bus driver Steven.



above: Canyon de Chelly - below: Monument Valley



ASURA Travel Committee Report

submitted by John Brock

Warm up your engine, we are on the road again during 2015-2016. We will be doing one-day local trips to fun, interesting places .. multi-day state and regional trips .. and some international trips. Is it warm? Your engine?

- ◆ Well, the Chopsticks, too are probably just getting back into town. On May 18th, 22 ASU retirees and their friends left for China. The 21-day trip included a cruise on the Yangtze, a visit to the panda research center in ChongQing, a walk on the Wall, a visit with the Warriors and a descent into the Ming Tombs. The time spent in Beijing also included touring the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace and a walk on Tiananmen Square. Seminars were also conducted for students at the college establish by Confucius in Qu Fu. And you bet, we can use CHOP-STICKS!
- ◆ Like spaghetti? How about joining the Meatballs (MB) for an incredible trip to Italy in September. There still could be a window seat left but you will have to hurry. The MBs leave Sept 11th for an in depth exploration of central Italy. Contact Gary Kleemann ASAP at gary@asu.edu and ask him if he can pour one more glass of wine. Sbrigati? Andiamo?
- ◆ Tuesday, October 6th, join us as we head east to Canyon Lake to cruise on Dolly Steamboat. We will stop at Tortilla Flat, an original stagecoach stop in 1904, for lunch. Our afternoon nature cruise on Dolly will also include information on the Apache Trail, the flora &

fauna of the lower Sonoran and the legend and lore of the Superstitions. Depart from Tempe Library at 10:30 am, return at about 5:30 pm. Cost of \$90 per person includes round trip bus, bottled water, lunch, cruise, a guide and all taxes and gratuities.

- ◆ Friday, April 1st, 2016 – NO FOOLING! Come with us to tour the incredible Tovrea Castle, the one along Washington St. you have always wanted to visit. You will learn of the Castles history, its development, have a riding/guided tour around the grounds and a guided tour inside. There will be two tours, one at about 8:30 AM and the second at about 10:30 AM. We can only take 13 people at each time. Following the second tour we may well go to the Stockyard Restaurant for lunch.
- ◆ Like cigars? How about a trip to Cuba to buy your own stogies? We are making preliminary plans for a trip there in spring of 2016, perhaps February, March, April. Do you remember the Cuban Missile Crisis, the stand-off, the tense fear of ICBMs off our coast? It's all over. Time to go and say hello, get to know the people and country and buy some souvenirs. This is one of the HOTTEST trips in the country right now. Watch for the details for this most special trip.

Details and registration information for all ASURA Travel activities appear on the ASURA website and can be obtained by calling the office at (480) 965-7668.

“bye” ... “ciao” ... “adios”



Fall 2015 ASURA Events Schedule

The Events Committee has been busy planning the fall's set of activities. Please put these dates on your calendars. As the events get closer additional information will be available on our website <http://asura.asu.edu/> and you will be able to register for the events.

Type	Event Name	Date	Cost
Social	Meet & Greet Pizza Party with pre-party seminar for newly retired members	Wednesday September 9	Free
Travel	Italy	September 11 – October 1	Spots still available
Seminar	Health Insurance	Thursday October 22	Free
Travel	Dolly Steam Ship	Tuesday October 6	\$90/person
Social	Luncheon	November TBD	TBD
Social	Holiday Potluck	Friday December 18	Free



Obituaries: January - June, 2015

submitted by Becky Reiss

(please note that all obituary notices and photos, when available, are on our web site at <http://asura.asu.edu/obituaries>)

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Anderson, Robert	April 18, 2015	Professor, Department affiliation unknown
Arriola, Mike "Viego" T.	December 28, 2014	Custodian
Austin, John Aaron	April 26, 2015	Professor, Industrial Engineering
Ayres, James Edward	March 10, 2015	Historical Archaeology
Barmore, Elden Gareth (E.G.)	February 7, 2015	Member of ASU New Venture Development Council & Centennial Commission
Beal, Richard Sidney, Jr.	January 29, 2015	Professor of Zoology
Benedict, Irene A.	January 16, 2015	Faculty, College of Education
Benjamin, Robert Elliot	April 13, 2015	Professor, Economics
Blaesser, Helen Ann	February 26, 2015	Wife of Willard Blesser, former professor, Department of Counselor Education and Professor Emeritus
Bragg, Mariko Sugawara	February 5, 2015	Japanese Language Teacher
Bubb, William Snowden	December 18, 2014	Husband of Marilyn Bubb, former staff member of the then Department of Anthropology
Clark-Johnson, Susan	January 28, 2015	Professor of Practice, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication; Former Executive Director, Morrison Institute for Public Policy
Cohen, William	April 11, 2015	Visiting Professor, College of Law
Coudroglou, Aliko	January 27, 2015	Professor, School of Social Work
Cox, Earl W.	April 15, 2015	Plumber
Dejarnatt, Gladys "Pal" Marie	April 30, 2015	Staff, College of Business
Dezelsky, Thomas Leroy	February 4, 2015	Emeritus Professor, Department of Exercise and Wellness

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Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Dunstan, Pamela	March 31, 2015	Ballet Accompanist
Furcone, Sharon Luth	February 23, 2015	Postdoctoral Fellowship
Giles, Fred Alvin	February 14, 2015	Associate Director, Physical Resources
Gordon, Leonard	March 4, 2015	Dean Emeritus and Senator
Grobe, Edwin Paul "Papoo"	January 22, 2015	Professor, French
Hansen, Mons Leslie (Les)	December 30, 2014	Taught Principles of Real Estate, College of Business
Harris, Kathryn M.	May 4, 2015	Professor Emeritus, Department of English
Hedlund, Lois Elaine (Kurth)	February 8, 2015	Program Coordinator, American Indian Program, Polytechnic Campus
Hill, Louis	January 23, 2015 (estimated)	Chair, Civil Engineering Department
Hunter, Betty Austin	April 28, 2015	Guidance Counselor, Home Economics
Kazal, Deborah	May 4, 2015	Professor of Economics
Magruder, Marshall Kelly	April 13, 2015	Sun Angel Foundation Board member
Marsh, Patricia	April 4, 2015	Manager, Surplus Property and Recycling
Matula, Arthur	April 1, 2015 (estimated)	Journalism Professor
McDaniel, Shelia O.	March 28, 2015	Taught English as a Second Language
McGary, Clarice Maurine (Calvert)	April 11, 2015	Reference Librarian
Myers, Ronald Dean	December 21, 2014	HVAC Department
Northrup, John Edwin	May 3, 2015	Physics Professor
Pendleton, Ronald K.	January 29, 2015	Research Associate, Education/Technology
Prince, Mary Martha	March 30, 2015	Librarian, ASU West
Rasmussen, Joy	March 15, 2015	Adjunct Faculty, School of Social Work
Roberts, Thomas Gene	April 12, 2015	Emeritus Professor, Department Chair, Special Education, College of Education

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Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Sargent, Charles "Chuck" Scales	February 3, 2015	Professor, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning
Shriver, Keith A.	January 27, 2015	Emeritus Professor, School of Accountancy
Skoglund, Carol Hansen	January 6, 2015	Graduate Teaching Assistant
Swarthout, Kathryn Blair	April 3, 2015	Swarthout Awards in Writing through Creative Writing/English Department
Tackett, Denise Nielsen	February 23, 2015	Research Diver, Cancer Research Institute
Taylor, Jack	May 12, 2015	Professor Emeritus, School of Art
Taylor, Nancy Jean	March 9, 2015	Purchasing Agent
Van Dyke, Deanna "Dee" Marlene	March 1, 2015	Wife of Robert Hershberger, Professor, College of Architecture
Wahl, Marilyn Louise	April 15, 2015	President's Office
Waller, Teresa Lynn	March 20, 2015	Financial Services
Warren-Findley, Jannelle "Jann" Griffin	February 4, 2015	Associate Professor of History
Wiggins, Harry B.	March 9, 2015	College of Business faculty
Wollam, DonnaKaye	March 24, 2015	Taught French; President of ASU Faculty Wives, 1972-73; Wife of Owen Wollam (deceased), Emeritus Professor, Department of Languages and Literatures
Wollam, Owen	March 8, 2015	Emeritus Professor, Department of Languages and Literatures
Young, Hewitt Hartley	February 2, 2015	Professor Emeritus of Engineering; former Department Chair

In Memory of ...

Marilyn Louise Wahl, 87, passed away on April 15, 2015. Marilyn worked at ASU from 1970 to 1989, primarily in the President's Office. She was a member of the ASURA board from 1992-1994 and served as Secretary from 1992-1993. In addition, she was a volunteer in the ASURA office for several years.



Welcome New ASURA Members

Pollie Carter
Barbara Crowe

Caryl Dubrock
Layne Stromwall

Prime Times is issued three times annually by the Arizona State University Retirees Association and may offer special editions, as needed. It is compiled and published by Jeannette Robson (designer), Wilma Mathews (editor), AlphaGraphics (printing services) and mailed through ASU Mail Services. Articles are always welcome, subject to Board approval.

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PO Box 873308
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308

Arizona State University Retirees Association:

ASURA has a volunteer-staffed office in the Community Services Building, 200 E. Curry Rd., Room 201B in Tempe, Arizona.

Office hours are generally Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (**Best to call beforehand**)

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Fax: (480) 965-7807
Website: <http://asura.asu.edu>