

Annual Report from the Board 2017-2018



2018 Health Insurance Open Enrollment Seminar

This report is for distribution at the Annual Meeting April 24, 2018, 11:30 a.m. Singer Hall – Phoenix Art Museum Page left blank on purpose



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ASURA BOARD AND OFFICERS

2017-2018 (outgoing) Officers President - Jeri Meeks Vice President - Tara Fuchs Roesler Past President – Vacant Secretary - Betty Landon Treasurer - Bill Moor

Board Members (term expires)

Anthony Brazel (4/2019)Barry Bruns (4/2018)Bev Buddee (4/2018)Jay Q. Butler (4/2019)Bob Francis (4/2018)Betty Landon (4/2020)Larry Mankin (4/2018)Connie McNeill (4/2018)Jeri Meeks (4/2019)Bill Moor (4/2020)Don Nilsen (4/2020)Kathleen Renshaw (4/2020)Tara Fuchs Roesler (4/2019)Pat Schneider (4/2019)

Ex-officio Members

Judith Cato, Human Resources Tara Fuchs Roesler, University Club Don Nilsen, Emeritus College Rhonda McClintock, Alumni Assoc. Tom Schildgen, University Senate Stephanie Salazar, University Affairs Katie Aguilar, University Staff Council

ASURA OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone (480) 965-7668 FAX: 480-965-7807 Address: P.O. Box 873308, Tempe, AZ 85287-3308 Website: <u>http://asura.asu.edu</u> 2018-2019 (incoming) Officers President - Tara Fuchs Roesler Vice President - Jan Thompson Past President - Jeri Meeks Secretary - Pat Schneider Treasurer - Bill Moor

Board Members (term expires) Anthony Brazel (4/2019) Jay Q. Butler (4/2019) Jeffrey Chapman (4/2021) Jean Duncan (4/2021) Jo Faldtz (4/2021) Jo Madonna (4/2021) Barry McNeill (replacing Betty Landon who resigned 3/15/2018) (4/2020) Jeri Meeks (4/2019) Jan Meyer Thompson (4/2021) Bill Moor (4/2020) Don Nilsen (4/2020) Kathleen Renshaw (4/2020) Tara Fuchs Roesler (4/2019) Pat Schneider (4/2020) David Schwalm (4/2019)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Submitted by Jeri Meeks



As this year's ASURA President I am pleased to present the 2017-2018 Annual Report. I am always impressed by the investment of volunteer time and talent within this organization, which translates into outstanding programs, seminars and events. As you review this document I believe your will share my appreciation for what our members have accomplished through their individual and collaborative efforts and within their chosen committees.

We are encouraged by a stable membership and continue to look for ways to attract more retirees to our organization. In response to member requests, our outreach activities were focused on health, planning and mindfulness and our Annual Meeting presentation speaks to pursuing personal happiness through fun, socially rewarding activities. ASURA representatives provided an information table at three ASU BBQ days and ASU Capital day, increasing our organization's visibility and accessibility. Our website continues to evolve, offering comprehensive organizational information as well as links to relevant resources and affiliated organizations. The *Prime Times* newsletter keeps everyone current on ASURA happenings and our *E-News* blasts provide our membership with timely relevant news and opportunities for involvement.

Our committees have been active! This year the Video History Project is coordinating with the ASU Library to make ASURA oral histories available on a web-based platform. Our Luncheon and Special Events Committee did a wonderful job creating enjoyable networking opportunities for our community this year. Our Travel Committee continues to offer outstanding international, statewide and local trips. ASURA Adopt-a-Family and Scholarship service projects utilize this organization's time and talent for the best possible reason – to help others. The families we help every year are uplifted by our efforts.

Our Government and Health Insurance Liaisons continue to do the herculean job of tracking and reporting on legislative bills and insurance plan changes that could affect retirees. Although there were no bills directly affecting the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) this year, legislation defining the parameters for an entity to withdraw from ASRS is moving through the 53rd Legislative Session as this report is being written. There's a lot to watch and we appreciate their efforts.

This year's Board stepped up to all challenges and opportunities, accepting new responsibilities as our membership evolved. We were pleased to complete our current year Board with the mid-term election of Barry McNeill. Ex-Officio Board Liaison positions were filled by University Liaison Stephanie Salazar and Tom Schildgen from the University Senate. As we welcome next year's new board members Jeff Chapman, Jean Duncan, Jo Faldtz, Jo Madonna and Jan Meyer Thompson I would like to thank outgoing Board members Barry Bruns, Bev Buddee, Bob Francis, Larry Mankin and Connie McNeill. Their contributions were many and I appreciate them greatly.

As I handover the ASURA Presidency to the very capable Tara Roesler I would like to thank the Executive Committee, Board members, Committee and Sub Committee Chairs and Ex-Officio members for their service this year. I am pleased to be counted among this intelligent and fun group of active volunteers. If you'd like to join us there are many volunteer opportunities and we would love to have you - please contact our new President Tara Roesler at troes7718@msn.com to get started!

Jeri Meeks ASURA President e-mail: jeri.meeks@asu.edu



OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

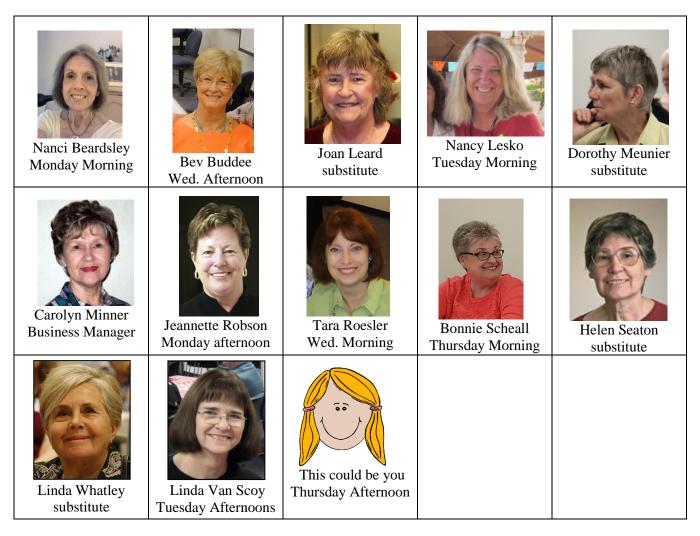
Submitted by Linda Van Scoy and Nancy Lesko

ASURA is fortunate to have an amazing staff of volunteers who keep our organization running smoothly. We currently have 7 regular staff and 4 substitute volunteers who handle the day to day office operations. The staff work closely with our Business Manager, Carolyn Minner, who insures business transactions are handled through the ASU Foundation. Carolyn takes care of all purchasing, ASURA mailings and maintains the membership data base and e mail distributions lists. We couldn't be efficient without the help of Barry McNeill who updates the web site with upcoming events and keeps us current on utilizing Wild Apricot to manage event registrations.

Staff duties include greeting the public in person and on the phone, assisting board members and committee chairs with scheduling meetings, reserving rooms, handling event registrations, overseeing the book donations and pick up, processing membership renewals and payments. The office staff is regularly called upon to direct retirees to proper sources of information within ASU and to outside agencies, when appropriate.

Our office hours are 9-12 and 1-4 Monday through Wednesday and 9-12 Thursday, CLOSED Fridays. At this time the office is covered for all shifts **except** Thursday afternoon. We hope to have that filled soon, so if you are interested in this time slot please let us know. Or you can also sign up to be a substitute to cover for regular volunteers when needed.

Below is a pictorial listing of our dedicated volunteers. Also, check out the website to view a brief bio on each of our office staff. <u>https://asura.asu.edu/OfficeStaff</u>.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Community Outreach Committee identifies and promotes opportunities for members to donate or volunteer resources to better our community. It also oversees outreach programs designated by the Board. The committee currently oversees three projects and coordinates with and supports activities of two other ASU organizations. The projects are: Adopt-a-Family, Video History Project, and Scholarship. The organizations with whom we coordinate are the Emeritus College and the University Club. Reports from the chairs of these outreach efforts follow.

Adopt-a-Family Program

Submitted by Joan Leard



A special thank you to the ASURA Board for budgeting funds for the Adopt-A-Family program again this year. As in previous years we have adopted two families: one chosen by a Tempe School System social worker and one chosen from ASU returning students.

The Tempe family is a mother, father, a 14-year old girl and a 13-year old special needs boy living in a one-bedroom apartment in Tempe. The father suffers from Muscular Dystrophy (MD) so he is not currently working. One request was a juice extractor so healthy juices could be made for the

father.

The ASU family consists of a full-time college student who aged out of a group home at 18 and claimed her siblings. She is now 21 obtaining a double bachelors ... Psychology and Family & Human Development ... while responsible for two males, 4- and 14-years old, and a 17-year old female. The student said I just hope I can give the kids something for Christmas because they deserve it.

With the appropriated funds we were able to buy clothing, school supplies, toys, food cards for holiday meals and other items as requested by the families.

I never get an opportunity to meet these families but do receive many thanks from the social worker and ASU employee that distributes the gifts. I am continually told that our effort does make a big difference in the lives we touch.

We also owe a special thanks to JC Penney at Tempe Marketplace since they have been allowing us a 15% discount on everything we buy for this program.

Joan R Leard ASURA Adopt-A-Family Chair e-mail: joan.leard@gmail.com

Video History Project

Submitted by David Scheatzle



Interview Progress: Since the 2017 Annual Report, no new interviews have been conducted. The number remains the same at 120 persons. To date, the Video History Project has completed 120 interviews, 72 of which have been done in house. Those who have been interviewed are listed on the ASURA Website <u>https://asura.asu.edu/videohistoryinterviews</u> under Projects/Video History. Of these interviews, 63 have been edited and uploaded to the ASU Library Repository where the Retirees Association has a "Collection." You can watch any of these 63 interviews by clicking on the (full video) link (in red). to the full interview that have been uploaded to the

Library Repository. Also, 99 of the interviews have short clips from the interview. These are generally 2 to 3 minutes where the person has told an interesting story during their interview. To view, click the (video clip) link (in red).



Donations: We are very happy to have received \$545 in donations for the Video History Project in the past year

Computer Hardware and Software. We've had computer repairs that have caused a loss of material and slowed our progress. Both of our computers were in the "shop" at the same time. At first, the older (seven-year old) computer was diagnosed as un-serviceable, so we purchased a new one. We would lose valuable editing work in progress. Just before the older computer was to be sent to salvage, a second diagnosis revealed that a new graphics card would solve the problem. Good news! We weren't as lucky with the second, and newer computer. It needed a new hard drive and we did lose project material. So, we've ended up with a new, third computer that can be put to use to solve our editing backlog. **Software:** We now pay a rental fee for the use of Adobe video editing software (for Windows operating systems). This will be an on-going expense since the software can no longer be purchased.

Library Repository. We continue to transfer our edited video files to the ASU Library Repository; so far, 63 interviews have been transferred. To directly access these videos, you need to go to the following address on your web browser: <u>https://repository.asu.edu/collections/199</u>. This opens a page entitled "Arizona State University Retirees Association Video History Interview Collection." In the Search this collection box, enter the interviewee's name in which you are interested (last name will do), and hit return. In the generated list of interviews, click on the one of interest. A new page will open showing that person's name in the heading. Click on the "play" selection (in red, on the right hand side). An image will open, then just click on the forward arrow and the video will begin to play.

Metadata: Significant committee efforts have been related to developing guidelines for the metadata related to interviews stored in the ASU Library Digital Repository. Barry McNeill has spearheaded this effort with valuable input from Carl Cross. With well-conceived guidelines, the interviews will be easier to browse and search for topics of interest.

Selection Committee: It has been two years since our selection committee nominated 28 individuals for interview. We are now collecting nominations for the next round. Within the next month we should have a new group of nominees. We will be taking a close look at retired Regents Professors. If you would like to suggest persons to be considered, please use the email in my signature block below.

The Video Crew/Committee: The video crew volunteers their time to conduct and edit the interviews. Becky Reiss, who had been scheduling the interviews for the past 4 years, recently stepped down. Becky did a masterful job of scheduling the interviewee, the interviewer and the camera crew. This was an important job, and we thank her for her patience and persistence; Thanks, goes to Linda Van Scoy, Roger Carter, John McIntosh, me. We also receive technical support from Connie McNeill and administrative support from Carolyn Minner.

At a recent ASURA Luncheon, Rob Spindler, the University Archivist congratulated ASURA on the Video History Project and stressed it's importance to the history of the University.

Personal note: I have been involved with the video history project since 2004. It is time to relinquish my responsibilities as Chair. So, let this be notice that I will step down as Chair by December 31st, 2018 (unless a new volunteer appears sooner). I am happy to continue on the committee to assist/advise.

Dave Scheatzle, Chair, ASURA Video History Project P. O. Box 873308 Tempe, AZ 85287-3308 Or e-mail to <u>scheatzle@asu.edu</u>



Scholarship Committee

Submitted by Joy Shearman



The Scholarship Committee is chaired by Joy Shearman with Sue Blumer as Co-chair. Considerable revision and details have been done this year, to make the process clear for anyone in the future to take the position of Chair. The committee, comprised of ASU retirees along with chairs, met in April and selected Stephani Renay Watson as the 2017-18 Scholarship Recipient to receive \$5000.00. Ms Watson is from Folsom, CA, and had an ASU GPA of 4.14. She has a double major in Political Science and Interdisciplinary Studies, with a focus on Justice Studies and Sociology. Her goal and desires are to "make a difference." She will be speaking at our

Annual Meeting in April 2018.

Serving on the committee allows members to participate in the lives of current students in all our campuses and to see what unusual and diverse life stories these students bring to the university. Since they are reentry students, these students face extra challenges in completing their undergraduate degrees and graduate studies. The scholarship, funded by contributions from our members for that purpose, from book sales, from earnings on the scholarship endowment fund, and from the operations budget, will provide \$10,000 for the next academic year of 2018-19.

Scholarship Committee members review applications each year, seriously considering all the scholarship requirements of academic achievements, community involvement, professional goals and need. Volunteering to be a member of this committee gives members the unique opportunity to be a part of making a difference in the lives of students. That, from the beginning, is the purpose of this ASURA Scholarship.

Joy Shearman ASURA Scholarship Committee Co-Chair e-mail: joyrn@cox.net

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Barry McNeill



The Events Committee was chaired by Barry McNeill. The committee is an "umbrella" committee made up of the chairs of the various event subcommittees and its purpose is to provide for the coordination of dates and activities between these subcommittees. These committees and the chairs are: Travel – John Brock; Seminars – Bev Buddee; Luncheons and Special Events – Bonnie Scheall; Pre-retirement Seminar – Trudy Perez.

Coordination of Calendar of Events

During the late spring of 2017, the various committee chairs were asked to determine a tentative schedule for the events that the committees planned to offer during 2016-2018. The committees were asked to spread the events throughout the year and to keep in mind the already established dates for some events, such as the Meet & Greet and Annual Meeting. The Events Committee chair reviewed the dates and plans in order to identify and resolve possible scheduling conflicts. This information was shared with the various committee chairs and the activity calendar of activities was established.

Promotion of Events

Eighty-three percent of our members requested and received email notifications for all ASURA organized events which is up slightly from last year. All events were published on the ASURA events website and any member with an internet connection could register online by visiting this website. Further, past event stories continued to be added to the ASURA website (https://asura.asu.edu). We continued to advertise activities not organized by ASURA but which might be of interest to our members, e.g., Emeritus College Colloquia.



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For the seventeen percent of our members who do not want or cannot receive email event notification an upcoming calendar of activities was published in each issue of *Prime Times*. In addition to the calendar *Prime Times* carried past event stories and promotional material for upcoming events.

Barry McNeill ASURA Events Committee Chair barry_mcneill@outlook.com

Luncheons and Special Events

Submitted by Bonnie Scheall



The Luncheon and Special Events Committee organized the following four events this past year: two spring luncheons, the Meet and Greet Pizza Party, and the Holiday Potluck and Bake Sale.

2017 Spring Luncheon (April 26, 2017)

Sixty ASU retirees and guests enjoyed a delicious meal and entertainment at the 2017 ASURA Spring Luncheon. The event took place at Shalimar Country Club with excellent entertainment provided by Marshall Trimble, the Official State Historian.

Meet and Greet Pizza Party (September 12, 2017)

The first event of the year, the Meet and Greet Pizza Party, was well attended with over sixty attendees. The preparty seminar, "What I Wished I Had Known Before I Retired" featured a panel consisting of Larry Carlson, Ruth Jones, and Bev Buddee, who discussed lessons learned about being retired.

Holiday Potluck and Bake Sale (December 14, 2017)

ASURA Holiday Potluck and Bake Sale was a rousing success with approximately 65 in attendance. The abundance of wonderful food and renewed friendships was enjoyed by all. The Bake Sale table, graciously coordinated by Trudy Perez, was a huge success, raising nearly \$230 for our association. Many thanks to the helpers who were there to set-up and break-down this annual event.

2018 Spring Luncheon (March 20, 2018)

"The Future of ASU's Past" was the theme of the first luncheon event of the new year on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at Shalimar Restaurant in Tempe. The speaker was Rob Spindler, University Archivist at ASU Library. Rob brought the 32 attendees up-to-date on changes he has experienced over his 29 years with ASU and what to expect in the future. He discussed the challenges of documenting President Crow's presidency, along with collecting papers of university faculty, incorporating the archival program started at Thunderbird and preserving on-line newspapers and university publications and much more.

The Luncheons and Special Events Committee is still searching for interested members. As the chair, I solicited 13 individuals via e-mail to participate; only 3 showed any interest. Still looking!

Bonnie Scheall ASURA Luncheons and Special Events Committee Chair e-mail: bjscheall@gmail.com



Seminars

Submitted by Beverly Buddee



Seven seminars were presented during the 2017-2018 year by the Seminar Committee, co-chaired by Beverly Buddee and Trudy Perez. Committee members were Jay Q. Butler, Ruth Jones, and Patricia Schneider.

September 12, 2017

Things I Wish I Had Known When I Retired

This panel discussion for recently retired members on lessons learned during the retirement process was led by Larry Carlson, with significant contributions by Ruth Jones and Bev Buddee. The session was held in conjunction with the annual Meet & Greet Pizza Party.

October 26, 2017 – 124 attendees

Health Care Seminar: Medicare-ADOA-ASRS Open Enrollment

Jerry Watterworth, AARP Community Educator Program Volunteer, presented overviews of Medicare, Medicare Advantage and supplemental plans, and prescription drug plans with clarity, enthusiasm, and good humor. Open enrollment managers Elizabeth Schafer, ADOA, and Julie Lockwood, ASRS, presented information on their respective plans and addressed attendees' questions.

January 11, 2018 – 25 attendees

Stress Reduction in Retirement

Shelly Christy of the ASU Employee Assistance program gave a very informative presentation. Though not largely attended, there was lots of lively conversation. Shelly touched on 5 lifestyle habits that are beneficial: exercise and activity, adequate sleep, cultivate spiritual life, nurture relationships, and care for physical bodies. She also gave some anxiety reduction specific techniques including a breathing technique, the "what if" challenge, and control the thoughts. Other tips were shared by Shelly and the audience alike.

February 15, 2018 – 42 attendees

Scams and Frauds

Rob Foster, a volunteer Community Educator with AARP, spoke about the techniques used by scam artists and current scams of which to be aware. Rob talked about the 13 ways con artists can steal your money via identity theft, investment fraud, and other common scams. He then covered some prevention tips which included change your password often, shred everything, protect your personal information, social security number and mail. Terri Alexon, Investor Education Coordinator for the Securities Division of the Arizona Corporation Commission, spoke to common tactics used in investment fraud. These include the "Phantom Riches" tactic, "Source Credibility" tactic, "Social Consensus" tactic, "Reciprocity" tactic, and "Scarcity" tactic. Terri also talked about how to protect yourself from investment fraud: End the conversation – hang up the phone; turn the tables and ask questions, i.e. "Are you a licensed broker?" or "Is that investment registered?"; talk to someone else – family or trusted financial advisor – before making the investment. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably isn't!

March 15, 2018 – 10 attendees

Emergency Preparedness

Dawn Hermanson and Ernie Paquette, co-leaders of the Tempe Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program, and Brent Olsen, Manager of the City of Scottsdale's Office of Emergency Preparedness, shared about how the CERT program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills. Seminar attendees were encouraged to attend the next CERT training program, offered by the City of Scottsdale, in Spring 2019. Interested folks can sign up through the www.scottsdaleaz.gov/emergency website. In lieu of the training program, the CERT training manual can be reviewed at the FEMA website.

The major disaster threats to Arizona include power outages, water/flooding, and fire. The speakers spoke about a communication plan and what a disaster preparedness pack could contain to best prepare you and your loved ones in an emergency situation.

April 13, 2018 – future seminar

Caregivers

The Caregivers Seminar presentation will provide tips for preparation for caregivers, points on assembling a care team, things to consider during caregiving, care for the caregiver, and plenty of tips and resources. An AARP Community Education volunteer will speak to this important topic.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Buddee, Co-Chair, Seminar Committee

e-mail: <u>buddee@asu.edu</u>

Travel

Submitted by John Brock



The Travel Committee organized the following five travel adventures, three local and two international

Local Events

- November 3, 2017 Tour of Polytechnic Campus
- April 6, 2018 Tour of Tovrea Castle
- April 17, 2018 Lunch at Tortilla Flat and Dolly Steamboat Cruise on Canyon Lake

International Trips

- September 8-22 England, Scotland, Wales
- March 4-20, 2018 Chile & Argentina: The Andes to Patagonia

John Brock ASURA Travel Committee Chair e-mail: john.brock@asu.edu

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Submitted by Bill Moor



At the December Board Meeting the committee presented the results of its annual review of expenditures. The committee found that revenues and expenditures were reasonable and consistent with the budget and in agreement with applicable ASU Foundation records. The full report is included with the December minutes.

The recommended \$5,000 scholarship for the 2017-2018 fi8scal year was implemented with Board approval. The review of this recommendation will be undertaken each year based on the previous year's financial performance.

A review of the Friends of Phoenix Library book sale program showed a steady but rather small income being provided for the ASURA Scholarship and Video History project.

Identifying and recommending methods of implementing new approaches for improving financial activities of the Board was deferred to the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Bill Moor ASURA Finance Committee Chair e-mail: <u>william.moor@asu.edu</u>



Book Sale Submitted by Mary Stevens



In 2011, the ASU Foundation/ASURA entered into an agreement with a local non-profit organization, Friends of the Phoenix Public Library ("Friends"). Per the agreement, Friends sell books donated by our members, other ASU retirees and anyone else who wishes to donate. Friends sells the donated books on-line, retains a 15% commission and splits the sales proceeds with ASURA every quarter. Friends started selling ASURA-donated books in July 2011. Donors deliver their books to the ASURA office and sign a gift donation form, which is forwarded to the ASU Foundation. The Foundation sends each donor a gift receipt/ thank-you letter.

When he was the Chair of the ASURA Membership Chair, Elmer Gooding made an arrangement with the ASU Human Resources Department to have a representative of ASURA attend meetings of ASU employees who are retiring within a few months. During the meetings, attendees receive information about the donated book sales program and a form to complete if they have books to donate. David Schwalm meets with imminent retirees at this time.

Mary Stevens is the ASURA contact for donors to arrange for receipt of their books. In 2014, Linda Van Scoy arranged for the use of the Community Services Building room 257 as a storage room for donations. Board member and office volunteer, Jeannette Robson, arranged with Alpha Graphics to provide free, empty boxes to ASURA for our books. At this time, Linda Van Scoy notifies Friends when boxes are needed and Friends delivers the boxes when the books are picked up.

In 2013, the Board approved a suggestion from Connie McNeill, Chair of the ASURA Website and Database Committee, to enclose a book donation form with new and renewal applications to notify more people about the program.

In 2017, Friends asked ASURA to notify donors to avoid overloading boxes with books and to leave sufficient room to cover or close each box. We also wanted to notify donors that they could get empty boxes from the office. Connie McNeill revised the book donation form on-line and in print and the ASURA web page to include this language.

Another welcome development in 2017 was the offer from current ASURA Vice President Tara Roesler and her husband and Larry Carlson, former ASURA Board member and current Health Insurance Liaison to pick up books when a donor is physically unable to deliver books to the ASURA office. Our gratitude to these volunteers for offering this very valuable service.

Proceeds from book sales are transferred to the ASURA Special Projects account and are used to support ASURA's annual scholarship and the Living History Video Project. With Business Manager, Carolyn Miner's able assistance, the proceeds realized for each fiscal year since the Program began (rounded) are shown in the table on the following page.

Many thanks to Connie McNeill, Carolyn Minner, Linda Van Scoy and Jeannette Robson for their continuing assistance with the program.



Year	Amount
7/-12/2011	\$72
2012	\$1,092
2013	\$468
2014	\$718
2015	\$1,486
2016	\$1,297
2017	\$877
Total 2011-2017	\$6,010

Mary Stevens ASURA Book Donations Chair e-mail: <u>marystevens0@gmail.com</u>

GOVERNMENT LIAISONS

The Government Liaison Committee acts as an agent of the Board to provide advocacy in relation to the Arizona State Legislature, the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) and such other agencies as the Board may designate. Per the ASURA Bylaws, the Committee is charged to exert influence on targeted agencies as approved by the ASURA Board and in consultation with the Arizona State University Retirees Association (ASURA) Officers.

Legislative Liaison Committee

Submitted by Jeri Meeks, Larry Carlson, Tara Roesler and Dick Jacob







Government Liaisons Jeri Meeks, Tara Roesler, Dick Jacob and Larry Carlson work collaboratively with stakeholders to keep our membership informed of any potential changes to their retirement programs and/or insurance options. This year we attended ASRS Board and Operations, Audit and Legislative Committee

meetings as well as several ASU legislative-centric functions. Also, we met with ASU Vice President of Government Affairs Matt Salmon in the fall to talk about ASU's priorities for the 53rd Legislature Second Session.

We were pleased to coordinate the Tri-University Retirees Association meeting again this year, which was held October 2017 at the ASU Decision Theater in Tempe. ASURA President Jeri Meeks, Vice President Tara Roesler, ADOA Liaison Larry Carlson and ASRS Liaison Dick Jacob met with NAURA President Norm Bertram and UARA President Alison Hughes. This year's conversations included retiree association organizational structure, university support and recruitment strategies as well as Arizona Board of Regent's (ABOR) legislative priorities. ASRS Liaison Dave Canella and ASU Executive Director of Community Relations Stephanie Salazar spoke to the group in the second half of the meeting. Dave announced that the employee contribution to ASRS would be going up again this year, to over 12%. He also stated that ASRS would not be introducing any significant legislation in the upcoming session. Stephanie said that ASU would be concentrating on this year's budget request and a possible reclassification of "part time" employees from 20 to 30 hours a week. The meeting ended with a wonderful lunch at El Hefe, a promise to keep in touch and an agreement to meet again next year. ASURA will be sponsoring the Tri-University meeting in 2018.

The ASURA Government Liaisons started 2018 by attending Alumni's Legislative Breakfast in January and ASU Capital Day in February. In a TED Talk-style *Conversation with Dr. Crow* event in March, President Crow laid



out ASU's legislative priorities for the year. As always the state budget was at the top of the list, with a requested increase in state funds for the per-resident-student funding model and an occasional "two miles of freeway" or the equivalent in state funds to build research buildings. And a maximum amount of administrative autonomy. This year's narrative also focused on the University as a "national service university" prototype, creating and promoting a life-long learning model using developing technology, that starts at K-12 and moves forward into adulthood and retirement age. Dr. Crow stated that "Sixty-five percent of children entering primary school today will ultimately end up working in completely new job types that don't exist yet." That's something to think about.

The 53 Legislature Second Regular Season started in January 2018. As our ASRS Liaison Dave Canella stated there were no significant bills affecting the retirement system. That said, *SB1054 ASRS; Nonparticipating Employers*, which defines the process for employers who are "no longer enrolling new employees in ASRS or no longer contributing to ASRS on behalf of current employees who would other-wise be eligible for ASRS membership" caught our attention. This bill defines the calculation methodology and mechanisms for the newly non-participating employer to fund the "actuarial accrued liability and designated asset amount" which will make ASRS whole for the current retiree defined benefit payments. It has moved through the Senate and is currently in the House. I expect this bill will be approved and Arizona Revised Statue 38-751 will be amended to include this language.

A special thank you to Larry Mankin and the many members of the Board who participated in this year's discussions. Your input is invaluable.

Jeri Meeks Legislative Liaison Committee Chair and Registered Arizona Lobbyist e-mail: jeri.meeks@asu.edu

Tara Roesler Legislative Liaison & Registered Lobbyist e-mail: troes7718@msn.com

Larry Carlson Legislative Liaison e-mail: <u>lcarlson@thuderbird.asu.edu</u> Dick Jacob ASRS Legislative Liaison e-mail: rjjacob@cox.net

ASRS / ADOA Health Insurance

Submitted Tara Fuchs Roesler



The ASRS retiree health insurance program open enrollment period ran from Wednesday, November 1 - Thursday, November 30, 2017 with plan changes going into effect on January 1, 2018. This years' enrollment remained a passive enrollment requiring enrollees to do nothing if they were satisfied with their current plans.

UnitedHealthcare continues to be the sole provider through the Arizona State Retirement System. **Medicare Plans:** While the Medicare Advantage HMO plan benefits remained the same, there was

a copay change to Specialist for the Senior Supplement plan and premiums increased. **Non-Medicare Plans:** Lower-cost premium options with slightly reduced benefits were continued thus giving non-Medicare retirees a total of six in-state plans and one out-of-state plan to choose from that best suited their needs and budget.

New cost-saving features for both the Choice and Navigate plans were introduced:

- Choice Plans Premium Program Tier 1 Choice plans offered a new tiered benefit plan design. A tiered plan design offered the option of picking the contracted doctors of your choice, while giving the option of paying a lower copayment when utilizing a Premium designated provider.
- Choice & Navigate Plans: Service Providers Program



Provided an option of using freestanding facilities for certain services for additional cost savings. Choice and Navigate members were encouraged to choose more cost-effective, freestanding network health care facilities (outpatient facility, diagnostic or ambulatory center, physician office or independent laboratory), instead of hospitals, for: • Outpatient diagnostic services, • X-rays, • Independent lab work, • Scopic procedures, • Surgery

Of note was that an additional co-payment or co-insurance would apply if a network hospital was used for the aforementioned services in place of a freestanding facility

Dental Plans: Sun Life Financial continues to be the sole dental plan provider offering two Indemnity plans and three Prepaid plan options. The <u>plan benefits remain the same</u> for all plan options. The premiums increased slightly for the Indemnity and remained the same for the Prepaid plans.

2018 Medical Plan Premiums UnitedHealthcare Premiums -RETIREE-ONLY COVERAGE

The chart to the right shows the single coverage monthly premiums, effective January 1, 2018. Note that most health insurance premiums increased for the 2018 calendar year, which is a reflection of the increased severity of claims and overall health care price inflation that has been experienced.

The complete listing of the monthly medical premiums can be found in the Retiree Group Health Insurance Enrollment Guides on the ASRS website Healthcare page.

NON-MEDICARE PLANS

Plan Name	2018 Monthly Premiums		
	RETIREE ONLY		
UHC Choice Plan 1	\$933.00		
UHC Navigate 1	\$877.00		
UHC Choice Plan 2	\$893.00		
UHC Navigate 2	\$827.00		
UHC Choice Plan 3	\$811.00		
UHC Navigate 3	\$753.00		
UHC Choice Plus PPO (out of state)	\$1,339.00		

MEDICARE PLANS

Plan Name	2018 Monthly Premiums		
	RETIREE ONLY		
Senior Supplement + PDP	\$351.00		
Medicare Advantage HMO	\$222.00		

The ADOA retiree health insurance program

open enrollment ran from Monday, October 30 - Friday, November 17, 2017 with the changes taking effect on January 1, 2018. Unlike previous years, this years' enrollment was an active enrollment requiring all participants to complete a new registration.

What changed:

- **Premiums increased:** For the first time since 2011, there was an increase in premiums.
- **Copays increased:** No copay changes had occurred since 2009. Increased copays for medical visits and prescriptions were needed due to higher costs. ADOA indicated these costs can be managed by using generic drugs, visiting a primary care physician first instead of a specialist, and using urgent care instead of the emergency room when appropriate.
- **Routine preventive care will be available at no cost**: The plan changes included providing preventive care with no copay. This includes routine wellness exams, a wide range of screening tests, immunizations and preventive care medications.
- Why were the increases necessary? Rising healthcare costs have been a reality for the past decade. The state is self-insured, which means that employees, retirees and the State pay into the plan to cover the claims. This year, costs reached the point where it was necessary to ask employees and retirees to share more of the costs to meet the plan's expenses.

The good news:

• **Dental:** Delta Dental remains as the PPO dental provider at the same rates and same coverage. The pre-paid



dental plan moved to Cigna with reduced rates.

What stayed the same:

- Medical coverage and carriers: All medical carriers and coverage plans are staying the same.
- Vision: The coverage for this benefit remained the same.
- Hearing aids: The coverage for this benefit remained the same.
- **Health insurance subsidy:** There is no impact to subsidies from the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) or the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSRPS).

Tara Roesler ASRS Health Insurance Liaison e-mail: troes7718@msn.com

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Membership and Communications Committee, chaired by Dave Schwalm is an "umbrella" committee made up of the chairs of five subcommittees. The sub-committees and their chairs are: Membership, Dave Schwalm, E-News, Barry McNeill, Prime Times, Jeannette Robson, Obituaries, Becky Reiss, and Database, Website & Technology, Connie McNeill. Dave Schwalm chaired the committee.

Membership

Submitted by Dave Schwalm



Over the last year-and-a-half we have been implementing and adjusting new membership processes designed to increase our membership or at least to stabilize it at a time when all nearly all voluntary organizations are struggling. Past procedures have included live presentations at pre-retirement sessions held by Human Resources, creation and distribution of a tri-fold information flyer about ASURA and its activities, and judicious use of mail and email letters sent at appropriate time to new retirees. The major recent addition has been an experiment with automatically providing all eligible retirees with a free trial membership for the first year. We

then keep them informed of all ASURA activities and events for the trial year by mail or email and send them copies or our publication Prime Times, and encourage them to participate. We are, at the same time, working to offer more and more attractive activities and events for all of our members. We try to maintain a level of communication that is informative without becoming annoying

This coming year will give us some evidence of whether our efforts are bearing fruit. The attached monthly membership report indicates that our total membership has increased significantly since this time last year and participation in ASURA activities is also up. We will need another year of data to tell with any certainty how many of the free memberships are converting into paying memberships. We are also hoping to further increase member participation ASURA activities. We are also going to continue our efforts to find new activities and services that will encourage greater participation.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Carolyn Minner for preparing these monthly reports that are so critical to monitoring our membership.

Dave Schwalm Membership Committee Chair e-mail: <u>David.Schwalm@asu.edu</u>



E-News Submitted by Barry McNeill



The E-News editor is part of the Membership and Communications Committee. Jo Madonna handed over editorship of E-News to Barry McNeill. Seventy-five percent of the membership receive the monthly email which is sent shortly after each Board meeting, September through May. The goal of E-News is to keep members apprised of current, time sensitive items, e.g., topics from latest Board meeting, calendar of upcoming events, the need for volunteers for a research project, etc. In the October issue a proposal to use E-news to help facilitate the formation of small groups of members interested in a similar activity was presented. Nobody responded.

Barry McNeill E-News Editor e-mail: <u>barry_mcneill@outlook.com</u>

Prime Times Newsletter

Submitted by Jeannette Robson



The ASURA newsletter, *Prime Times*, is published three times a year and contains news and photographs about ASURA activities and people as well as information articles of general interest to its members.

ASURA members may not be aware of all the organization's activities and, through the *Prime Times* as well as the ASURA website and E-News blasts, are kept updated on the many opportunities allotted its membership:

- Adopt-a-family, Video History, ASURA Scholarship, and Book Donation projects;
- international and regional travel opportunities;
- luncheons, seminars, and workshops; and
- monitoring of activities related to Arizona legislation and the ASRS and ADOA retirement benefits.

Current information on the ASURA board members, committee chairs, and its great office staff is also included in each issue. Articles of past and upcoming activities and events sponsored by the ASURA are special features of the newsletter along with information on upcoming travel and other events for our member's consideration.

Through very informative articles and updates on the various legislative and health insurance/Medicare issues, ASURA Government and Health Insurance Liaison volunteers have done an exceptional job relating what's going on in Arizona and how it pertains to retirees. We always encourage our members to suggest other items of interest they would like to have covered in the *Prime Times*.

The Spring 2017 issue premiered it's first "Advertisement" section which offers home computer services, housing services, living support services, insurance, financial and estate planning services, etc., that includes at least a 5% discount off the total cost for ASURA members.

Past Prime Times issues from fall 2010 through spring 2018 are available on-line at

<u>https://asura.asu.edu/PrimeTimes</u>. Beginning with the summer 2015 issue, those members who had signed up to receive association e-mail notifications are also being sent the monthly "ASURA E-News" email that includes an easy link to the on-line **color** version of the *Prime Times* newsletter. Black & white paper copies continue to be mailed through ASU Mail Services.

Jeannette Robson *Prime Times* Designer/Editor e-mail: jrobson@asu.edu



Obituaries

Submitted by Becky Reiss



ASURA e-mails edited obituary notices of people who were at some time ASU employees, spouses or partners of employees, or people who had a significant (non-student) connection to ASU. The notices are also posted on the ASURA website and a list of those who have passed away, date of death and affiliation with ASU is published in the next issue of the ASURA newsletter Prime Times. If the deceased was a member of ASURA, a letter of condolence is sent to the deceased member's surviving spouse or partner stating that the deceased member's ASURA membership rolls over to the surviving spouse or partner. The ASURA President and Membership Chair are also given the opportunity to add any comments of their own.

Becky Reiss Obituary Notifications Volunteer e-mail: <u>rrreiss@gmail.com</u>

Database, Website and Office Technology Report

Submitted by Connie McNeill



Our technology team consists of Barry McNeill and me. We are helped with both our website software and our office and meeting technology by very professional and supportive people from the University Technology Office (the UTO).

Website

Routine changes to the underlying software used for our website were made by the UTO, and I applied these on a regular basis to keep our site up to date.

Linda Van Scoy maintained the Video History pages, Carolyn Minner the obituaries, Barry McNeill the past events, Bev Buddee the Board meeting minutes, and Barry and I the rest of the pages. Barry and I made some minor changes to instructions that people use because sometimes routine and required updates of the software that we install on our website make things look a little different or operate a little differently.

Photo Gallery Maintenance

During the year Barry and I added event photos and volunteer portrait-type photos to the ASURA photo gallery, which can be reached from our website. The photos were taken by Elmer Gooding, Dave Scheatzle, Don Nilsen, Barry McNeill and others. We thank all those who send us photos, so we can have this pictorial record of our activities and volunteers. The *Prime Times* designer/editor uses photos from the gallery in preparing each issue, and we use them on our website.

Membership & Events Database

There was not much activity in this area this past year. No major changes in policy or in the underlying software were implemented.

There was a problem that cropped up when upgrading the software we use for our web contact form – a problem that required a visit to the UTO offices, to get help during their office hours. The help was very professional and the problem was taken care of. A problem also developed with the software that we use to send messages to our members – event notices, e-News, membership renewal notices, and so forth. The messages were being rejected by the receiving servers – especially ASU's electronic post office. Although we worked with both Wild Apricot and ASU to solve the problem, it hasn't been a complete fix, so each e-mail that goes out has to be checked and resent if necessary. It is hard to remember to do this.

Connie McNeill Web & Database Committee Chair e-mail: mcneill@cox.net



TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Bill Moor



Table 1in the Annual Report Appendix shows the current fiscal year budget and operating expenditures for ASURA through February 2018. As has been true for previous years Carolyn Minner, the ASURA Business Manager, has done an excellent job of keeping track of our expenditures and incomes and has prepared this report for each month.

The overall budget picture for ASURA remains somewhat tight but is looser than in the previous two years. The main operating account began the new year with a \$28,933carry forward balance providing a reasonable cushion for fiscal 2017-2018. The 2017-2018 budget was developed during the summer of 2017 with input from various Board members with the objective of preserving as much of the carry forward as possible and was approved at the first Board meeting in September. This budget projects a yearend balance of \$35,661, thus maintaining a reasonable carry forward into the 2018-2019 budget year.

ASURA continues to receive excellent support from ASU in the form of financial resources (\$7,000) and office and meeting space. This critical support allows ASURA to better service its many ongoing projects.

The scholarship endowment began the year with \$62,519. These funds are invested on behalf of ASURA by the ASU Foundation, with the primary goal being long-term growth. While growth is our desired goal, due to current financial conditions, the Board has approved the use of a portion of endowment earnings to help fund current scholarship expenses until the Board's financial situation improves.

While our financial situation remains somewhat tight, ASURA continues to remain in good financial condition. With the varied support from ASU and our totally volunteer staff, ASURA will be able to continue to offer its many excellent programs and services.

Bill Moor ASURA Treasurer e-mail: <u>william.moor@asu.edu</u>



Table 1 – Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, as of 2/28/2018

Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount	
ASURA Operations			
ASURA Operations - Income			
Balance Forward	28,933	28,933	
Current Year Revenue			
Event Registration Fees & Donations Collected	3,450	154	
Membership Dues	14,000	5,850	
General Operations Donations	2,500	470	
Holiday Bake Sale 2017	150	229	
5% Gift Assessment	-825	-318	
Transfers from Adopt-A-Family	-825	1,036	
Total ASURA Operations Current Year Revenue	18,450	7,421	
ASURA Operations - Expenses			
Printing and Mailing Costs			
Annual Meeting	100	0	
Membership Drive	200	646	
Prime Times	400	715	
Event Costs			
Paid Events	3,000	180	
Meet & Greet (Refreshments)	400	423	
Seminars	150	0	
Holiday Potluck & Fundraiser	100	12	
Other Operations Costs			
Scholarship Award	2,177	2,177	
Business Luncheons & Service Appreciation	300	132	
Technology Services	1,245	1,418	
Office Equipment & Supplies	2,000	111	
Marketing Tools	1,000	(
Lobbyist Registration Fee	50	(
Foundation Transaction Fees	200	11	
Adopt-A-Family Project	0	1,036	
Transfer to Adopt-A-Family	400	400	
Total ASURA Operations Expenses	11,722	7,261	
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	6,728	160	
Uncommitted ASURA Operations Funds	35,661	29,094	



Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount	
Human Resources Income			
Balance Forward	449	449	
Current Year Allocation	7000	7000	
Total General University Current Year Revenue	7,449	7,449	
Expenses Charged to Allocation			
Annual Report	100	0	
Bylaws & Ballots	250	221	
Annual Meeting	800	0	
Meet & Greet Luncheon (Printing/mailing invitation)	200	0	
Office Equipment & Supplies	775	151	
Prime Times Fall/Spring/Summer	2,000	1,474	
Room Fees	100	100	
Copier/FAX Equipment Annual Lease	1,143	1,153	
Membership Drive	1,250	0	
Technology Services	259	258	
8.5% Administrative Service Charges	572	285	
Total Subsidized Expenses	7,449	3,642	
Uncommitted General University Funds For Operations	0	3,806	

Special Projects				
Special Projects - Income				
Balance Forward	238	238		
Current Year Revenue				
Friends/Phx Library Book Sale Net Income	1,500	513		
Total Special Projects Current Year Revenue	1,500	513		
Special Projects - Expenses				
Transfer out 1/2 of Book Sale Income to Scholarship	750	257		
Transfer out 1/2 of Book Sale Income to Video History	750	257		
Foundation Transaction Fees	100	26		
Total Special Projects Expenses	1,600	539		
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-100	-26		
Uncommitted Special Projects Funds 138				



Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount
Adopt-A-Family		
Adopt-a-Family - Income		
Balance Forward	703	703
Current Year Revenue		
Adopt-A-Family Donations	1,200	290
5% Gift Assessment	-60	-15
Transfer from Operations	400	400
Total Adopt-A-Family Current Year Revenue	1,540	676
Adopt-A-Family - Expenses		ł
Adopt-A-Family	2,000	1,036
Total Adopt-A-Family Expenses	2,000	1,036
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-460	-360
Uncommitted Adopt-A-Family Funds	243	343

Video History Video History - Income				
Current Year Revenue				
Video History Donations	1,200	545		
Transfer in 1/2 of Book Drive Proceeds from Spec Proj	750	257		
5% Gift Assessment	-60	-27		
Total Video History Current Year Revenue	1,890	774		
Video History - Expenses				
Office Supplies	100	3,816		
Electronic Storage Space	400	382		
Transcripts for Interviews (15 @ \$150	2,250	0		
Total Video History Expenses	2,750	4,198		
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-860	-3,424		
Uncommitted Video History	8,001	5,437		



Scholarship Endowment Fund				
Scholarship Endowment Principal (40003616)				
Balance July 1	57,759	57,759		
Invested Funds Gain (-Loss)	5,000	5,186		
Payout to Endowment Spending - FY16	-1,500	-1,872		
Current-Year Contributions	2,000	390		
Foundation Management Fees	-740	-781		
Total Scholarship Endowment Principal	62,519	60,682		
Scholarship Endowment - Spending				
Balance July 1	2,824	2,824		
Payout from Endowment Principal - FY16	1,500	1,872		
Transfer from Special Projects (Book Sale Proceeds)	750	257		
ASU Scholarship	-2,823	-2,823		
Total Scholarship Endowment Spending	2,251	2,130		
Total Scholarship Endowment	64,770	62,811		



Appendix to Annual Report 2017-2018 Table 2 ASURA Membership Totals as of March 5, 2018

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Table 2 - ASURA Membership Totals as of March 5, 2018

	As of	As of	This Yr		As of	As of	This Yr
	5/2018	3/4/2017		More Counts	3/5/2018	3/4/2017	-Last Yr
Current-year Members	700	569	131	By Former Employment Category			
Renewals from prior years (any prior year)	443	456	-13	Faculty and Faculty w/ Admin Appt	285	257	28
Introductory members	257	113	144	Academic Professional	45	33	12
Paid for the current year, now deceased	2	4	-2	Staff	184	157	27
				University Staff (Service Professional)	156	94	62
Last Year's Members - Not Renewed	96	89	7	Administrative	30	257	2
Members last year, now deceased	9	0	9				
By Retired-from Organization				Having an Arizona Address	652	527	125
Retired from ASU	678	549	N/A				
Retired from another university	2	1	N/A	Level of Activity			
Former ASU employee, retired elsewhere	3	5	N/A	Checked at least one volunteer area	125	122	3
Still employed at ASU	17	14	N/A	Attended at least one event this year	163	130	33
				Attended an event ever	311	290	21
By (Approx.) Time Since First Joining				Logged in to Members-only Site (ever)	165	134	31
Introductory Period	257	113	144	Made an additional donation this year	134	N/A	N/A
Members for 0-2 Years (exclude Intro.)	32	28	4				
Members for 3-5 Years	65	51	14	Non-members in Database			
Members for 6-10 Years	138	163	-25	Was a member at some time	167	175	-8
Members for more than 10 Years	208	214	-6	Never a member	476	621	-145
By Communications They Want to Receive ¹				² All members receive the annual Board of membership renewal notices. Those with			receive
Upcoming Event Announcements (e-mail)	589	447	142	confirmation notices (by e-mail) about rer	newal, even	t registratio	ons, and
Obituary Notices (e-mail)	299	317	-18	donations.			
Prime Times (US Post)	640	503	137			1	1
Other ASURA Communications (e-mail)	535	374	161	 Note: Since membership enrollment form processing them, with associated dues and 			
None of The Above	8	11	-3	the membership/fiscal year. Therefore, it is counts to determine the correct dollar valu current fiscal year	is not possil	ble to use t	hese

