

prime times @ ASU

Arizona State University Retirees Association Newsletter

SUMMER 2019

ASURA President's Message

submitted by Jan Thompson — 2019-2020 ASURA President

With this summer edition of Prime Times, we bring a fantastically successful year for ASURA to a close and turn the page to new leadership and renewed energies for 2019-2020. Heartiest congratulations to our outgoing President, Tara Roesler, for her dedicated service and great accomplishments of this past year and also to retiring board members Tony Brazil, Jay Butler, Jo Faldtz, Jeri Meeks, and David Schwalm for jobs well done. A warm welcome to our five new board members — Jane Carey, Larry Carlson, Evelyn Cessaroti, Carl Cross, and Frank Koonce — and a special thanks to Carl for agreeing to serve on the Executive Committee as Vice-President this next year. I look forward to working with all of you as ASURA continues to grow and thrive!

As I take on this new role as your President, I've been rereading "A Decade of Success," Dean Smith's wonderful book on the founding and early history of ASURA, 1991-2000. I am struck by the vision, wisdom, and collegial collaboration of the small group of staff, faculty and administrators who were able to "work across the aisle" to bring about the birth of ASURA—an organization that furthers the interests of ASU and ALL of its retirees ... faculty, staff, administrators and all who work for ASU. I believe that today, 28 years after our founding, a big part of the strength and success of ASURA still comes from that "across the aisle" approach. ASURA is ALL of ASU ... technology experts, researchers, librarians, support staff, deans, piano technicians, professors and many more ... learning, interacting, socializing, and reinforcing the

common bond of our long histories at ASU. It's what I enjoy most about ASURA: the opportunity to make new friendships and renew old ones, celebrating our retirements and working together toward common goals.

To begin this next year, I propose a theme born in 1992 and borrowed from the title of this newsletter. I look forward to "**Celebrate Prime Times**" with all of you! Retirement is truly worth celebrating and ASURA does it well and in so many ways. I hope you'll help us build on our strong history as we strive to increase the visibility and strength of ASURA across all four campuses this next year. Spread the good word by recruiting new retirees and almost-retirees that you know. Consider joining the legislative advocacy or luncheon/special events committee, assisting our Adopt-A-Family or Scholarship efforts, attending a seminar of interest, traveling on one of our local, state or international trips, or volunteering your time for a half day in the ASURA office. There's something for EVERYONE to do! Therefore, I encourage each of you to email me at jmt6000@gmail.com with your ideas and offers to get involved. We are an association of volunteers and it takes ALL of us to keep ASURA strong, healthy and thriving in 2019-2020.

I can't wait to get to know more of you this next year as we "**Celebrate Prime Times**" together. Meanwhile, enjoy your summer activities with family and friends, keep cool and safe, and save some energy for ASURA this fall. See you in September!



Inside This Issue

| | |
|---|-----|
| ASURA Board Members/Committees/Office Staff | 2 |
| Welcome New ASURA Members | 3 |
| ASU President Michael Crow "Thank You Letter" | 3 |
| ASURA Annual Meeting | 4-5 |
| ASRS Retirees with Deceased Beneficiaries | 5 |
| Francis Romero: 2019-20 Scholarship Recipient | 6 |
| ASURA Office Updates | 6 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| ASURA Needs Your Old Books | 7 |
| Report on the ASRS | 7-8 |
| Government Liaison's Report | 8-9 |
| Ice Cream Social | 10 |
| Rhythm Cats Dinner & Show | 10 |
| Southern Arizona Trip | 11 |
| Re-organizing & De-Cluttering | 11 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Estate Planning, Elder Law, Special Needs Planning | 12 |
| Meet & Greet Pizza Party is Moving | 12 |
| Fall 2019 Calendar of Events | 13 |
| ASURA Volunteers Needed | 13 |
| Obituary Notification | 13-15 |
| Service Directory | 16 |

ASURA Executive Board



(top, left to right)

President: Jan Thompson
Vice President: Carl Cross
Past President: Tara Roesler
Secretary: Pat Schneider
Treasurer: Barry Bruns

ASURA Office Staff

Office Staff Coordinators - Linda Van Scoy & Nancy Lesko

Business Operations Manager - Carolyn Minner
Technology Manager - Connie McNeill

Phone: (480) 965-7668 **best to call beforehand*
Fax: (480) 965-7807

Summer 2019 Office Hours: 10am-1pm

Monday: Nanci Beardsley (June)
 Tara Roesler (July/August)

Tuesday: Linda VanScoy (June)
 Nancy Lesko (July/August)

Wednesday: Jeannette Robson (June-August)

Thursday: Bonnie Scheall (June-August)

Friday: **Closed All Day**

Subs: Beverly Buddee, Gail Horney,
 Dorothy Meunier, Helen Seaton

ASURA Board of Directors

Terms Expire April 2020

Barry Bruns
 Barry McNeill
 Don Nilsen
 Tara Roesler
 Pat Schneider
 Bill Stasi

Terms Expire April 2021

Jeff Chapman
 Jean Duncan
 Jo Madonna
 Connie McNeill
 Jan Thompson

Terms Expire April 2022

Jane Carey
 Larry Carlson
 Evelyn Cesarotti
 Carl Cross
 Frank Koonce

ASURA Board Ex-Officio Members

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Alumni Association | John Davis |
| Emeritus College Liaison | Don Nilsen |
| Human Resources | Judith Cato |
| University Affairs Liaison | Cody Conrad |
| University Club Liaison | Carl Cross |
| University Senate | Phil Vandermeer |
| University Staff Council | Katie Aguilar |

ASURA Committees

Community Outreach

Adopt-A-Family:
 Ginny Sylvester

Scholarship:
 Joy Shearman

Video History Project:
 Barry McNeill

Events

Events Committee Chair:
 Jo Madonna

Luncheons/Special Events:
 Jean Duncan

Seminars:
 Beverly Buddee

Pre-retirement Seminars:
 Trudy Perez

Travel:
 John Brock

Finance and Fundraising

Finance:
 Barry Bruns

Book Donations:
 Mary Stevens

Fund Raising:
to be determined

Government and Health Insurance Liaisons

Government Liaisons:
 Legislative - Jeri Meeks,
 Tara Roesler, Pat Schneider
 ASRS - Dick Jacob
 ADOA - Larry Carlson

Health Insurance Liaisons:
 ADOA - Larry Carlson
 ASRS - Dick Jacob

Membership and Communications

E-News:
 Barry McNeill

Membership:
 David Schwalm

Obituaries:
 Becky Reiss

Prime Times Newsletter:
 Jeannette Robson

Web Site and Database:
 Connie McNeill

Welcome New ASURA Members

Kenneth Abbott
Maria Ahumada
Jody Arganbright
Beate Arndt
Christopher Baier
Teresa Bales
Jacqueline Benard
Donna Benson
Robert Bolin
Jane Bortness
Richard Boyle
Lori Briese
Lynn Broadstone
Hazel Caldera
Ronald Chaffee
Thomas Davis

Wanda Decrow
James DeMars
Dianne Douglas
Roy Erickson
Gregory Esser
Kenneth Felthouse
Cynthia Glidden-Tracey
Nancy Gomez
Nancy Graf
Karen Gregorski
Suzanne Guery
Kathleen Gunn
Susan Henderson
Irene Hesch
Rhonda Howman
Chungchi Hsu

Wendy Hultsman
Tara Iffland
Rodney Ito
Cynthia Jewett
Lissa Kelley
Kristin Koptiuch
Pattie Lengel
Sandra Losoya
Deborah Medlock
Cynthia Milberger
Nancy Moore
James Muscara
Joseph Nadeau
Glen Nelson
Robert Page
Dannol Patton

Roberta Perpich
Stephen Pyne
Iwonna Rzanek
James Salvanon
Wilhelmina Savenye
Carmen Scales
Paul Schmidtke
John Soli
Nancy Southgate
Juliet Stromberg
J. Sweeney
Suzanne Vaughan
Mary Wheeler

Special Thanks from ASU President Michael M. Crow

Dr. Crow's letter submitted by Jan Thompson — 2019-2020 ASURA President



Michael M. Crow
Professor of S&T Policy
President

May 3, 2019

Jan Thompson
President
ASU Retirees Association
PO Box 873308
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308

Dear Jan:

Thank you for sharing the 2018–19 ASU Retirees Association Annual Report. This is a terrific overview of your many excellent efforts to advocate for the ASU family and generate meaningful social impact. I continue to be impressed by the ongoing commitment and productivity of our amazing retirees. Your work is not only advancing ASU and its mission but also creating opportunity for others, building meaningful connections, enriching our communities, and providing empowering learning experiences. I appreciate your outstanding endeavors. Please keep up the good work, and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Crow
President

ASURA Annual Meeting - April 4, 2019

submitted by Patricia Schneider — ASURA Secretary

Tara welcomed everyone to the annual meeting. She thanked the Board for their much appreciated participation and also the committee and sub-committee chairs for their work coordinating efforts within the various committees. Last, but not least, she thanked the office volunteers for their work.

Guest Speaker:

Tara then introduced our speaker for the event ... Dean Christopher Callahan. Dean Callahan is the founding dean of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University as well as vice provost of the Downtown Phoenix Campus. He is also the CEO of Arizona PBS. More information on Dean Callahan's background and achievements can be found at <https://cronkite.asu.edu/about/faculty-and-leadership/faculty/callahanbio>.

Dean Callahan began his presentation by giving a brief overview of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. He mentioned that the location of the school, being in the 5th largest city in the U.S., provides many opportunities for the students to work on stories that are relevant to the Arizona and the Phoenix communities. He likened the school to a "journalistic teaching hospital", designed to not only provide a working education to the students but to also provide an unbelievable service back to the community. Students actually "do news", not just learn how to do it. They work on stories very different than what we find on the regular local news networks. Their stories focus on stories that are of concern to the Arizona community.

Dean Callahan mentioned that the current faculty consists of five (5) Pulitzer Prize winners in journalism. Different from other schools, the faculty spend time not doing research, but actually "doing news" by working alongside the students in the news room or on location. He stressed several times that the purpose of the school is to teach students and to provide service to the community. He also indicated that the students are the best part of the school ... students who are smart, passionate and dedicated to learning.

Some of the questions that were asked during the Q/A session were:

- How do we protect ourselves from the lack of credible news sources?
- ◇ Dean Callahan responded that credibility in the news

media has eroded over the past 15 years, primarily due to the introduction of cable news networks and the internet. Cable news networks are on 24 hours a day and have lots of time slots that need to be filled, so they fill them with "talking heads" that basically argue and shout at each other. The internet is a fast and cheap way to spread news. In the past, you needed licenses, buildings, equipment, staff, etc. to operate a broadcast news agency or a print news agency (newspaper). Now all someone needs is a \$100 computer and access to the internet. This makes it harder for us as consumers to determine what is real and what is not.

- How do we change the economic model to promote discussion and not the "talking heads yelling at each other"?
- ◇ Stop watching those shows! If people didn't watch them, they wouldn't be on TV. Also, new media leadership needs to change their focus and get rid of the "talking heads". Dean Callahan stressed over-and-over again that PBS is ranked as the most trusted and reliable source of U.S. news.
- Is it appropriate to regulate internet content?
- ◇ The Dean's opinion is that it is dangerous to regulate content. He commented that our country was built on freedom of speech and the marketplace of ideas.
- Will we ever see another Don Bolles?
- ◇ Dean Callahan talked about how after Bolles was killed, journalists from around the country came together in Arizona to continue Don's work, known as the Arizona Project. He said there are many Don Bolles out there and many in the Cronkite school.
- Other topics addressed were the border journalism program, media at political rallies, and connections between the White House and Fox News.

Business Portion:

Tara again thanked the Board and recognized the outgoing Board members – Tony Brazel, Jay Butler, Jeri Meeks, and David Schwalm. After thanking Barry McNeill for compiling the annual report, she passed the gavel on to Jan Thompson, the President for the 2019-2020 term.

Jan thanked Tara for her work as President. She introduced the executive board for the 2019-2020 term: Carl Cross, Vice-President; Tara Roesler, Past President; Pat Schneider, Secretary; and Barry Bruns, Treasurer. She then introduced the new Board members ... Jane Carey,

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Carl Cross, Larry Carlson, Evelyn Cesarotti and Frank Koonce. She also introduced Connie McNeill who is filling the term vacated by a recent resignation. The committee chairs were also introduced. Jan also acknowledged the office staff.

Jan then outlined her three main goals she hopes to accomplish as President:

- 1) Increase the visibility of the ASURA on all campuses along with increasing retention of members, especially those who became members as part of their retirement;
- 2) Recruit more members to be involved in committee work;
- 3) Have fun with the group.

Jan indicated that the theme for her Presidency is “*Enjoying our prime times!*”

Joy Shearman mentioned that our scholarship recipient, Jennifer Pelloni, was unable to attend in person. However, she did send a video which was played for the group. Jennifer works with the deaf and hard of hearing community. Her goal is to open a childcare facility that will be operated by deaf adults, to serve the deaf and hard of hearing children.

Dave Scheatzle presented a 20-minute compilation of some of the interviews captured as part of the video history project.

Tara brought the meeting to a close and then directed those who were staying to take part in the facility tour to meet up with our tour guides.

(for more photos, visit the [ASURA Photo Gallery](#))



— Dean Christopher Callahan —
founding dean, Walter Cronkite
School of Journalism and Mass
Communication at ASU & Vice
Provost, Downtown Phoenix Campus



Roy Miller and George Seperich



Connie & Barry McNeill



Bonnie Scheall, Jane Carey
and Tom & Janet Poole



Linda Van Scoy, Kathleen Church and
Matt Madonna



Joy Shearman and Elmer Gooding



Jan Thompson, 2019-2020 ASURA
President signals her goal for the year
- enjoy the prime times



- Cronkite News Desk -
John McIntosh

ASRS Retirees with Deceased Beneficiaries

If you are an Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) retiree who chose what is referred to as a “Joint and Survivor” pension option that provided your beneficiary (spouse or some other person) with a pension after your death, and if that beneficiary precedes you in death, you may find it advantageous to take one of the following actions:

- 1) **Choose to ‘rescind’ the elected Joint and Survivor option in favor of the Straight Life Annuity option, which would likely increase your monthly pension. Or,**
- 2) **Name another beneficiary under the elected Joint and Survivor option.**

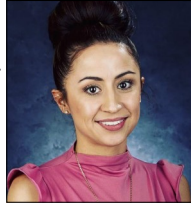
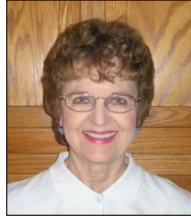
It is important to note that it is up to **you** ... as the member ... to notify ASRS in writing of the death of your beneficiary and to make one of the amendments above. By State statute, no retroactive increases to your monthly pension benefits can be made to you if you delay this process.

(NOTE: more detailed information on this topic can be found in Dick Jacob’s article on page 7 of this newsletter.)

Francis Marie Romero: 2019-2020 ASURA Scholarship Recipient

submitted by Joy Shearman — ASURA Scholarship Committee Chair

The Scholarship Committee, retiree volunteers, and Chair Joy Shearman, met on April 16 to determine who would be the next ASURA Scholarship recipient. Prior to this meeting each volunteer had individually reviewed all eleven of the applications that met the criteria. After careful consideration and discussion, the decision was made. Francis Marie Romero was selected to be the recipient of the 2019-2020 ASURA Re-entry Scholarship Award of \$10,000.00, with equal payments to be made at the beginning of each semester.



Ms. Romero resides in Casa Grande, AZ, is a single mom of two young boys, nine and seven, will be a full-time senior student at ASU Downtown Campus, while working full time. After graduating from high school at Casa Grande she began working as a Medical Assistant in a large Oncology Practice and taking classes at a local Community College. She completed her AA in Health Infor-

mation Technology and her interest was sparked in data analytic and investigatory tasks. During this time, she has elevated her career at the Oncology Practice from medical assistant to Quality Management Coordinator.

Francis knew that she wanted to further her education and when she researched ASU's Compliance and Regulations program, she knew it was a fit for her. Her plan is to graduate from ASU in summer of 2020 and then become a Certified Health Data Analyst. Working in a large community hospital or clinic in a Data Analytic position, with a focus on care regulations and protocols in both rural areas and smaller health care facilities, is her immediate goal. Her long-term career goal is to work for Medicare as a recovery audit contractor (RAC), allow her to identify health care fraud, abuse and misuse to control health care costs.

Francis grew up in a home where both parents were mentally disabled with 6th grade educations, surviving on various forms of welfare. She has been driven to see herself on the other side of those benefits. In her words, "I want to demonstrate to my two young boys that it is possible to be a contributing member of society, no matter the circumstances given."

ASURA Office Updates

submitted by Linda Van Scoy and Nancy Lesko — ASURA Office Coordinators

Summer is upon us which means many of our retirees will be escaping the heat and heading for cooler surroundings. Consequently, we will transition to standard summer hours for the office which are mornings only Monday through Thursday, beginning June 3 and ending August 30. We continue to be closed on Fridays, year-round.

The hours will be from **10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Monday – Thursday**. Below are the members who will be staffing the office this summer. If you plan to visit the office, it is always a good idea to call first, 480-965-7668, to be sure someone will be there.

ASURA Office Schedule, Summer 2019:

- **MONDAYS:** June - Nanci Beardsley
July and August - Tara Roessler
- **TUESDAYS:** June--- Linda Van Scoy
July and August - Nancy Lesko
- **WEDNESDAYS:** June through August - Jeannette Robson
- **THURSDAYS:** June through August - Bonnie Scheall
- **FRIDAYS:** **CLOSED**



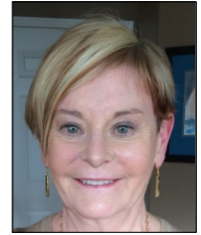
We are mostly full staffed during the academic year, although we will need someone to cover Thursday afternoons starting in the fall. And, we can always use volunteers to serve as substitutes for intermittent vacancies. If interested, please contact Linda Van Scoy, lvs@asu.edu or Nancy Lesko, nclesko@asu.edu.

Just a reminder that summer is a good time to clear out any books you want to donate to the ASURA Book Donation program. We have boxes, if you need them, as well as hand carts. Have a good summer everyone!

ASURA Needs Your Old Books!

submitted by Mary Stevens — Book Donations

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. Half of the proceeds will be used for our **ASURA scholarship** that goes to an ASU student, and half will be used for our **Video History project**. The ASU Foundation, a separate nonprofit organization that exists to support ASU, will provide you with a gift receipt for tax purposes.



If you have books to donate, first box them up. If you need boxes, you can pick some up from our office. Be sure to call before coming to make sure we have boxes on hand and a volunteer in the office. **When boxing your books, please do not overfill the boxes and leave sufficient room to cover or close each box.**

When the books are in boxes: For books that are on an ASU campus, ask Facilities Management to pick them up and deliver them to us. To accomplish this, your department assistant can complete and submit a [FACMAN service request](#) on an on-line form. Facilities will schedule a pickup date with the office assistant. Advise the office assistant to provide your name and department to the FACMAN representative who picks up the books; **OR** bring the boxes of books to [our office](#). Parking is readily available by the building. We have a dolly you can use. There is a ramp into the building, and an elevator to the 2nd floor.

If you cannot box your books on your own or cannot bring them to us, please contact Mary Stevens, 602-758-3750 or marystevens0@gmail.com, or [contact our office](#). Provide your *name, e-mail address* (if you have one), *phone number* and the *approximate number of books* you would like to donate. Mary or another ASURA volunteer will work with you to get the books transferred.



Report on the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) - March 29, 2019

submitted by Richard J. Jacob - Health Insurance Liaison, ASRS

The Board of Trustees of the Arizona State Retirement System met at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room on the above date. Membership of the Board still stands at 7, with 2 vacancies yet to be filled.

Other than matters of internal operation, only the following items are noteworthy to retired members of ASRS:

- 1) Fund Performance: The total Fund value tracks closely with the investment market indicators and is currently at about \$38,000,000,000. Annualized return so far this fiscal year is about 2.6%, to be compared with the ASRS benchmark's performance of about 1.0%.
- 2) ASRS legislative initiatives for the current session were housekeeping measures only. Of those that are have passed or are still active, none bear on possible situations or choices of current retired membership. There are also no legislative initiatives in the current cycle that would materially change the nature of the agency and its policies.

No other public business was conducted.

I wish to take this opportunity, due to a recent case that came to my attention, to remind ASRS members of the ASRS policy involving deceased beneficiaries. If a retired ASRS member selected a pension plan that would continue to pay benefits after the member's death to a designated beneficiary (spouse or other person), and if the designated beneficiary predeceases the member, then the member has essentially three options:



- 1) Do nothing (not advised);
- 2) Designate another beneficiary. (If the new beneficiary is younger than the previous one, there may be some adjustment downward in the member's monthly benefits);

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

- 3) “Bump up” the member’s monthly benefit by converting the pension to a life-time annuity. This could result in a significant increase in the monthly benefit.

However, it is neither ASRS’s legal responsibility nor right to make this choice for the member. Thus, it is up to the member to notify ASRS as soon as possible after the beneficiary’s death. Option #3 will go into effect only when the member requests it (and does the necessary paperwork). There are no retroactive benefit increases.

Unfortunately, some members have lost considerable amounts of money by delaying this option.

I would suggest as well that members of other pension and retirement plans check their policies regarding deceased beneficiaries.

Government Liaison’s Report - Summer 2019

submitted by Jeri Meeks (Lobbyist), Tara Roesler (Lobbyist), Pat Schnieder

We are done with May and the Arizona Legislature is still running strong – they are well past their 100-day session goal. It has been a long hard session this year with many big issues such as tax reform, a multi-state drought plan and supplementing the state’s rainy-day fund. At this point most of the bills introduced in the 54th Legislature First Regular Session have been heard, moved through the system or sit derelict. Now the Governor, House and Senate begin to arm wrestle over the budget.



The Arizona Board of Regents recurring ask for State support equaling 50% of the average instate tuition, a raise from the current 34%, seems unrealized again this year. But the appropriation process is not finished. Per a May 20th AZ Capital Times article Senate Democrats presented a spending plan that includes \$34M in ongoing university funding – but the GOP spending plan offers \$35M in one-time spending. There was no legislative action in this session regarding the university’s ability to select its own health care plan providers, independent of the state systems, or changes to the retirement system.

Most interesting this year was ASURA’s inclusion in the Community and Legislative Partners in Aging (a.k.a. Senior Caucus) meetings at the Arizona Capitol. Sponsored by the Governor’s Council on Aging, these meetings bring together a caucus of Arizona Senators, Representatives and community partners to discuss challenges facing Arizona’s seniors. Here’s a quick recap:

The January meeting addressed *Detecting, Preventing and Addressing Abuse in Residential Care Facilities*. This discussion was in direct response to the Hacienda Healthcare story in which a comatose woman was sexually assaulted by a caregiver and ultimately gave birth. In response to this discussion, two bills went forward requiring consistent Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) approved caregiver training in (senior and disabled persons) assisted living facilities.

The February meeting addressed *Honoring Healthcare Wishes in Arizona*. This was an informative discussion between lawmakers, police, fireman, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) representatives and nonprofit health information exchange (HIE) panelists. All were in agreement that these professionals are relying on relatives to provide Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) or end-of-life wishes and that it would be very beneficial for responders to have those documented wishes, along with medical records, available before they met the patient. Efforts are being made to make this information available to responders through a health information exchange database.

In March the Caucus discussed the importance of *Lifelong Learning*. Panelists from the Rio Salado College, AARP

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

Arizona and the ASU Office of the President, Opportunity Initiatives Studies spoke about how continuing education classes – whether fun non-credit classes or retraining for work – are important not only as personal development opportunities but also provide social interaction and cognitive enhancement. These three organizations spoke about how best to deliver these classes and challenges they had to overcome, such as transportation issues, cost, technology acumen, family inclusion and what would be of interest in each community.

April's Senior Caucus addressed the services and interconnectivity between *State Agencies and the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)*. On the state side we heard from the Assistant Director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services at the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES). The DES Long-Term Care Ombudsman partners with AAAs - public or nonprofit private agencies that help older Arizonans – by region. The speaker for the AAA's was the President and CEO of the Pima Council on Aging – one of the eight AAA regions designated by the State. The need for home and community-based services (HCBS) was the focus of this talk. Both the State and the public/private partners recognize the funding and service needs of the ever-growing senior community. Discussed were the Commodity Food Programs, Adult Protection programs (nationally mandated by not federally funded) and efforts to decrease waiting lists for services. The AAA's have two funding requests; an additional \$1M in FY19-20 to begin increasing staffing to meet Institute of Medicine's staffing recommendations and for the AZ Legislature to support the Governor's budget request of \$3.8M in additional state planned Social Services Block Grants to the Area Agencies on Aging to reduce the waiting list for HCBS services.

Lastly, May's Community and Legislative Partners in Aging meeting focused on *Affordable Housing and Housing Services*. There were some staggering statistics thrown out this meeting; there has been a 22% increase in homelessness since 2018 and a 214% increase since 2014. Over 50% of homeless people are over 55 years old and of that population 70% have never been homeless before. Causes for this homelessness are rising rents, medical expenditures and fraud. There is over a two-year waiting period for subsidized permanent housing. Temporary housing – supplied by the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) or multiple non-profits – have waiting lists in the hundreds. These services are being overwhelmed by the “silver tsunami” of seniors on fixed incomes. Solutions include the ADOH Eviction Prevention Pilot Program, designed to stop evictions before they reach a courtroom and reinstatement of the Arizona State Housing Trust Fund. The Trust Fund is one of the Senate Democrats funding priorities this legislative season.

As always, I would like to thank my team of volunteer legislative watch dogs, our ASU University Liaison Cody Conrad and the ASURA members and Board who ask the important questions. Would you like to be an ASURA legislative watchdog? If so, please contact me at jeri.meeks@asu.edu. Thank you!

Works Cited

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Ice Cream Social - March 6, 2019

submitted by Jean Duncan — Coordinator, Luncheons & Special Events
(photos by Elmer Gooding)

The 2019 Spring Event was our very first ever Ice Cream Social. Approximately 40 attendees added assorted delicious toppings to ice cream to create their favorite sundae. **Rita's on Mill** did a fantastic job of supplying our guests with all the goodies.

The Phoenicians Chorus was also scheduled to sing a few songs and educate us about this unique vocal musical style but unfortunately, due to sickness, they were unable to attend.

Hopefully the "Ice Cream Social" will become an annual event to be enjoyed by all.



Courtney from **Rita's on Mill**



Brenda Scheatzle, Joan Taylor,
Arlene Westgard



Liz Badalamenti



Roger Lurie

(for more photos, visit the [ASURA Photo Gallery](#))

Rhythm Cats Dinner and Show (Malt Shop Oldies) - March 23, 2019

Article & Photos submitted by Joyce Hartman Diaz

On Saturday, March 23rd, 20 ASURA members and their guests enjoyed the very entertaining Rhythm Cats at the Silver Star Theater ... one of the East Valley's premier dinner and show venues.

After enjoying a hearty buffet including several entrees and sides, a variety of salads and a chocolate cake, with chocolate buttercream filling, the huge audience was ready to enjoy the show.

The Rhythm Cats preformed the "Malt Shop Oldies" from the '60s and '70s. This was indeed a variety show to be enjoyed. I overheard one woman comment, "I can't remember what I ate for breakfast, but I remembered the words to all those songs from the 60s!" Yes, there was also plenty of singing from the audience and a bit of dancing as well.

Intermission included a stop for ice cream. The show lasted well over two hours and was heartily enjoyed by all ... judging from the standing ovation. For additional information on upcoming shows, etc., please check the SilverStarTheater.com website or google Rhythm Cats AZ.



Joyce Hartman Diaz



Matt & Jo Madonna,
Leanne & Mike Nash



Dorothy & Norm Perrill and guests

(for more photos, visit the [ASURA Photo Gallery](#))

Southern Arizona Road Trip - May 8-9, 2019

submitted by John Brock - Chair, Travel Committee
(photos by Tara Roesler & Ken Casebolt)

Detours, a local Tempe tour group, provided transportation and guided tours around southern Arizona for 12 of our ASURA members on a two-day excursion in May.

On Wednesday, our first stop was the **San Xavier del Bac** historic mission south of Tucson. We were told that del Bac is a term that translates to “the local people”.

Further south and next on our agenda was the **Titan Missile Museum**, a National Monument. The guides were quite knowledgeable of the facility and we were able to essentially relive the cold war. Considering that the missile base was built in the 1960's, it is a marvel of construction. The security and safety features are very impressive.

We had a great lunch of “Sonoran hot dogs” at a café in south Tucson and then it was on to the **Pima Air and Space Museum**. Many of us had no idea of the number of vintage aircraft on display at the museum.

We overnighted in Benson and on Thursday went to **Kartchner Caverns**. Although some of us had been there before, the guide was so well-informed that we all felt like it was a first visit experience. We did not get to tour all of

the caverns as the summer resident bats are habituating a portion of the cave.

After lunch in Sonoita, we then toured three vineyards and wineries for a little taste-testing of the local product. Actually, we did not tour a vineyard, as the winery tasting of their products turned out to be the most desired event.

All of us were very pleased with the quality of the **Detours** vehicle and the driver/tour leader.



Tara & Al Roesler, Bev & Rudy Buddee, Sarah Auffret, Phyllis Heltsley, Cathleen & John Brock, Katherine & Larry Hallock, Ken & Peggy Casebolt

(for more photos, visit the [ASURA Photo Gallery](#))

Re-organizing and De-cluttering Seminar - February 21, 2019

submitted by Beverly Buddee - Seminars

Valerie Preuss, owner of A Place in Time, LLC, a company specializing in senior move management, shared some tips to downsizing and de-cluttering or, as she preferred ... *rightsizing* and *repurposing*.



- **So, first things first:** Make a list of all possessions that are to be rightsized or repurposed. Send the list to those family members to whom you would like to gift and ask them to choose what they would like to have. Most importantly, **KEEP** what is most dear to you, preserving the fondest and happiest memories. If you're not done “loving it”, then keep it. It will be passed along later.
- **Tools to be used:** Cardboard boxes and flexible **black** plastic bags.
- **The process:** Create a staging area for the items that are being gathered and organized. Start simple...with one drawer, one closet, or one cupboard or work just 10 minutes, 30 minutes, but no more than 1 hour the first day. It is an emotional trip down memory lane and can be exhausting. Make a list of all items for tax

purposes. Label the boxes and bags – **Sell, Donate, Ship, Storage, Shred**, etc.

- **Options:** Gift it, consign it, estate-sale it, auction it, liquidate it, donate it.
- **Tips:**
Old photographs and movies ... Library of Congress may have an interest; interior designers may purchase for model home decorating; or digitize — AZ Digital Transfers, www.azdigitaltransfers.com, 602-548-8493.

Document shredding ... Watch your documents being shredded; don't leave the box with anyone to be shredded later. Check the (1) [Trip/Savvy](#) website for finding free shredding services in the Phoenix area; (2) your bank — some offer free shredding services; (3) office supply stores — some will shred documents; (4) AARP for dates of twice annual shred-a-thon.

Valerie closed the seminar by exhorting us to start using the items that we typically save for others, i.e., your good china, your sterling silver pieces, those linens, etc. **If you love it, use it and enjoy it!**

(Please note: a more detailed version of this article can be found at <https://asura.asu.edu/2019Seminar2>)

Estate Planning, Elder Law & Special Needs Planning - March 2019

submitted by Jay Butler - Seminar Committee

Ms. Stephanie A. Bivens is principal attorney at Bivens & Associates P.L.L.C. that specializes exclusively in Estate Planning, Elder Law and Special Needs Planning. Ms. Bivens is a Certified Elder Law Attorney accredited by the State Bar of Arizona. She based her presentation on 10 Common Mistakes in Estate Planning – Avoid the Pitfalls.



- **Mistake 1: Procrastination and Failure to plan at All** - She discussed that everyone over age 18 should have an Estate Plan based on the key document including Health Care Power of Attorney, Living Will, Financial Power of Attorney, and Last Will and Testament or Trust.
- **Mistake 2: Do it Yourself Planning** - You should not consider preparing your own documents. Often times, mistakes are discovered too late and could result in unnecessary legal proceedings and/or litigation.
- **Mistake 3: Failure to Update Estate Planning Documents** - Because conditions can change, you need to review and update any of your documents.
- **Mistake 4: Failure to Coordinate Non-Probate Assets with the Overall Plan** - It is important to identify how assets will be distributed whether by Will, joint ownership or beneficiary designation.
- **Mistake 5: Failure to Properly Fund Your Trust** - A Trust can only manage assets owned by the Trust.
- **Mistake 6: Failure to Plan for Contingencies, such as**

People Dying “Out of Order”

- **Mistake 7: Failure to Deal with Blended Family Issues and Potential Contests**
- **Mistake 8: Failure to Plan for Potential Incapacity** - Proper planning is for both life (incapacitation) and death planning. Documents can be used to carry out the wishes of an incapacitated person in such areas as financial affairs and medical care.
- **Mistake 9: Failure to Consider Using a Trust** - A Trust is not necessarily based on how much you have, but how you handle what you have.
- **Mistake 10: Failure to Leave the “Bread Crumbs”** - It is important to provide a list of assets, particularly digital assets and passwords.

Ms. Bivens concluded her presentation with a brief review of ways to provide for long-term care. These included long-term policies, annuities, and government programs.



(Please note that this summary is based on Ms. Bivens’ power point presentation and handouts referenced below.)

1. Presentation [Slides](https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PastEvents/2019estateplanningpresentation.pdf)
<https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PastEvents/2019estateplanningpresentation.pdf>
2. Presentation [Handouts](https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PastEvents/presentationhandouts.pdf)
<https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PastEvents/presentationhandouts.pdf>
3. Ms. Bivens’ Bio [Stephanie Bivens Bio 2019](https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PastEvents/stephaniebivensbio2019.pdf)
<https://asura.asu.edu/sites/default/files/PastEvents/stephaniebivensbio2019.pdf>

September 2019 Meet & Greet Pizza Party is Moving

Both the September Pizza Party and December Holiday Potluck have outgrown the rooms in our Community Services Building and are moving to a nearby location this fall. The **Ability360 Center** is a large and attractive facility with a very pleasant and open atmosphere and has an adjoining café. It is located at 5031 E. Washington St. (south side of Washington off 50th St.), directly in front of a light rail stop. Their conference room will accommodate up to 150 attendees and also provide plenty of free covered parking.

Suggested routes are:

- **light rail** - there is a stop directly in front of Ability 360 at 50th St. and Washington.
- **by car:**
 - ◇ from the North: 44th St south to Washington. Left to 50th St.
 - ◇ from the South: 143 (Hohokam) to Washington, turn right to 50th St.
 - ◇ from the West: I-10, to 202, to 143 South to Washington. Left to 50th St.

- ◇ from the East: Take your usual route to Curry Road; pass the driveway to CSB and stay on Curry, going west. Cross over Mill Ave and continue west. Curry becomes Washington at this point. Turn left at the stoplight onto 51st St., heading for the rear entrance of Ability360. Follow 51st St. about 1 block, then turn right at Madison.

The sign and entrance to **Ability360** are on your right. As you drive in, the covered parking structure is on the right. The conference center is directly across from the parking structure.



Fall 2019 Calendar of Events

| Event | Date |
|--|--|
| Social Event: ASURA Meet & Greet Pizza Party | Tuesday, September 10 |
| Seminar: Healthcare Open Enrollment and Medicare | Thursday, October 3 |
| Social Event: Fall Luncheon with Speaker | TBD: late October or early November |
| Social Event: Holiday Potluck Bake Sale | Friday, December 6 |

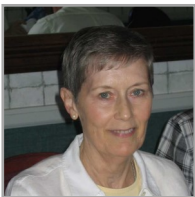
Please put these dates on your calendars. As the events get closer, additional information will be available on our website, <https://asura.asu.edu>, and you will be able to register for the events. As we get more into the Spring and as new events are added, email notifications will be sent and updates noted in the monthly E-News.

As a reminder, we are always open to any suggestions from our ASURA members as to what events or travel (local and international) you would like ASURA to consider.

Volunteers Needed

- Office staff & substitutes needed. **Contact:** Linda Van Scoy, lvs@asu.edu or Nancy Lesko, nclesko@asu.edu.
- Prime Times Editor/Publisher needed. **Contact:** Jeannette Robson, jrobson_az@yahoo.com.
- Committee members needed for various ASURA Committees. **Contact:** Jan Thompson, jmt6000@gmail.com.
- Technology and Website Committee needs volunteers to help maintain ASURA's technology infrastructure. **Contact:** Connie McNeill, ConnieMcNeill@outlook.com.

Obituary Notifications: January 20 to May 20, 2019



submitted by Becky Reiss

Please note that all obituary notices and photos, when available, are on our website at <https://asura.asu.edu/obituaries>.

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Date of Death</i> | <i>ASU Affiliation</i> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Abe, Paul Byrne | February 6, 2019 | Gammage Theater, Rental Coordinator |
| Adams, Anne Marie | February 16, 2019 | PBS Station, KAET |
| Ahearn, Irene Ruth (Walsh) | February 6, 2019 | Nurse, Infirmary |
| Bailey, Robert G. | January 14, 2019 | Established the Matthew G. Bailey Scholarship, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, in memory of his son, Matthew |

Obituaries continued on page 14

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Date of Death</i> | <i>ASU Affiliation</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Barde, Delphine | April 22, 2019 | College/department affiliation unknown |
| Coffey, Robert Dale | April 13, 2019 | Faculty, Art History |
| Dominguez, Manuel | May 5, 2019 | A founder of Los Diablos, official Latino chapter of ASU Alumni |
| Fairfax, Jean Emily | February 12, 2019 | Philanthropy through ASU Foundation, Recipient of ASU Martin Luther King, Jr. Servant-Leader Award |
| Farnsworth, Frederick J. | April 8, 2019 | Assistant Professor, Aeronautical Engineering |
| Fiery, Jeanne | February 16, 2019 | College of Nursing |
| Gardner, Melissa | May 4, 2019 | Researcher, Molecular and Cellular Biology |
| Gano, Steve Estil | February 21, 2019 | Associate Research Professional, School for the Future of Innovation for Society |
| Gutierrez, Frank M. | April 6, 2019 | Custodian |
| Habig, Barbara T. | April 6, 2019 | Business Administration |
| Hallett, Linda Barrett | January 14, 2019 | Daughter of Thomas Wilson Barrett, ASU Tenured Professor, deceased |
| Harris, Obadiah | March 20, 2019 | Professor of Philosophy |
| Higgins, Gloria Sue | Unknown | Wife of Norman Higgins, Professor (college/department affiliation unknown) |
| Huff, Fred | April 30, 2019 | Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication |
| Jungbluth, Michael (Mike) Lee | March 19, 2019 | Journeyman Painter |
| Kinsinger, Addie Jean | April 19, 2019 | ASU PBS Station KAET |
| Krueger, Janelle | January 4, 2019 | Dean, College of Nursing |
| Laner, Mary | December 18, 2018 | Professor Emeritus Sociology, T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics |
| Lee, Sean F. | April 1, 2019 | Father of Dr. Janet Carleton, Faculty Associate, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts, Interdisciplinary Humanities and Communication at Polytechnic Campus |

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Date of Death</i> | <i>ASU Affiliation</i> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Lundgren, Harry | January 30, 2019 | Professor Emeritus, Civil Engineering |
| Manuelito, Jr., Laurence Ray | March 27, 2019 | Executive Chef, Sodexo, ASU Athletics, Sun Devil Stadium |
| Marshall, Lauren Michelle | February 17, 2019 | Research Assistant, Bridges Program-ASU Research Institute |
| Meador, Bruce Staffel | March 19, 2019 | Professor of Education |
| Myler, Charles Edward "Chuck", Jr. | April 13, 2019 | Professor Emeritus of Real Estate, W.P. Carey School of Business |
| Nelson, Reverend Culver H. | April 12, 2019 | Founding Director, ASU Board of Advisors (Sun City) |
| Phippen, Daniel Kirby | January 27, 2019 | Summer Sessions and Extension |
| Pickens, John Louis | March 11, 2019 | Chief of Police; Executive Director of Security |
| Pilafian, Sam | April 5, 2019 | Faculty, School of Music |
| Rackowski, Harriet Barbara | January 31, 2019 | Purchasing Department |
| Reeder, Jay Olin | January 27, 2019 | Custodial Department |
| Sherman, Katherine Sue | April 6, 2019 | Mother of Erin Sherman, ASU software developer |
| Skinner, Rena Patricia | February 17, 2019 | Board of Regents Office |
| Smith, Leslie Louis IV | January 19, 2019 | Program Manager, Synthesis Center |
| Trennert, Jr., Robert Anthony | February 15, 2019 | Professor of History |
| Valdez, Guadalupe "Lupe" | January 18, 2019 | Chef |
| Venable, Gilbert T. | February 17, 2019 | College of Law |
| Verges, Linda Kay "Chan" Chandler | January 8, 2019 | Library Cataloging Assistant |
| Watson, Ariel M. | January 28, 2019 | Office of Sponsored Projects |
| Wells, Christine L. | February 20, 2019 | Professor, Health Solutions |
| Whitney, Richard H. (Dick) | March 23, 2019 | Founding chairman, ASU Art Museum Advisory Board |
| Zavaleta, Eugenia (Genie) Hopper | April 6, 2019 | Faculty Associate, College affiliation unknown |

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Mailing Address: Prime Times, ASU Retirees Association, 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.

Phone: (480) 965-7668

Fax: (480) 965-7807

Website: <https://asura.asu.edu>

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