

ASU Prime Times

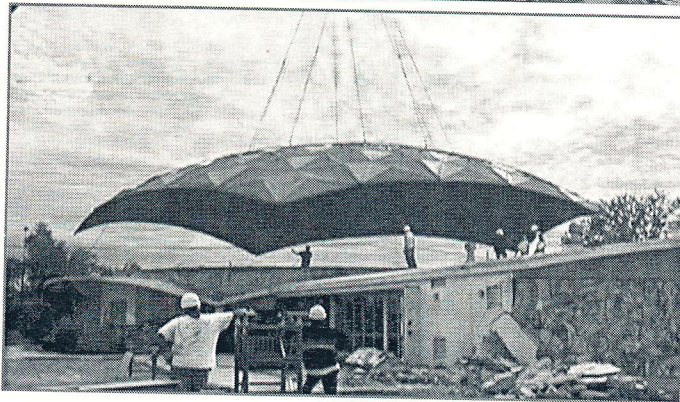
Fall 2008

Arizona State University Retirees Association Newsletter

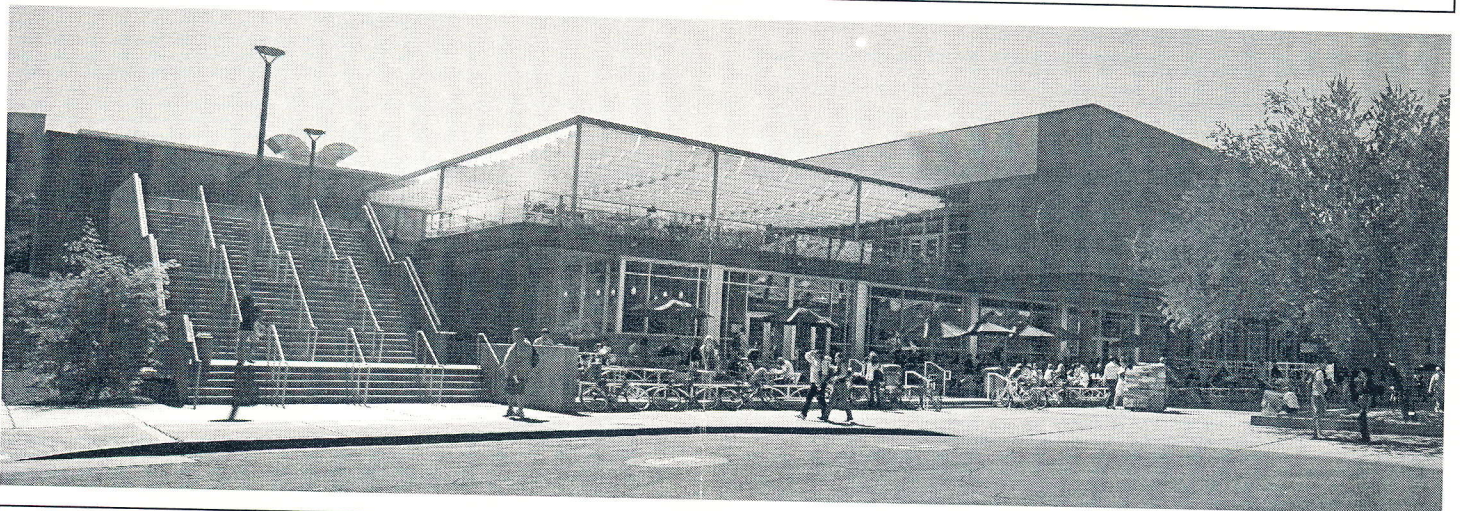
Images from Campus – October 2008



Above: Photo taken at Apache and Rural looking west. Site of ASURA's former "home" in the ASU Visitor Information Center is now dormitories for the Barrett Honors College..



At left: The Geodesic dome is removed from the ASU Visitor Information Center in September 2007. The structure was built by Valley National Bank in 1960 as a branch bank.



A \$53 million dollar renovation of the memorial Union has now been completed after a November 2007 fire. Reconfigured and new stairways are an obvious result of the fire, but you will be particularly impressed with what has happened to the second floor Maricopa Dining Room. This is now called the Starlight Terrace and the Eco-Fresh Café. "Awesome" is an adjective overused by the current generation of students, but for retirees who ate many lunches in the Maricopa Room, that term may come close to describing your first impression. Don't miss an opportunity to tour the second floor. After 50 years, the MU has started a second life.

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Kathy Sweeney
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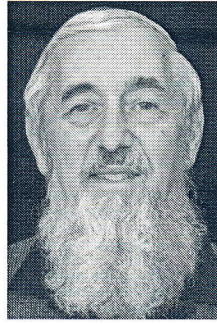
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Travel Committee Presents

Coming Attractions

The travel committee of ASURA has put together some adventures for ASURA members and guests providing opportunities for camaraderie and fun times while exploring the treasures, sights and sounds of Arizona.

Our first trip which you already received a mailer on will be Cosanti/El Chorro/Taliesin West for Nov. 6th. If you missed this trip we will give you a follow up report in the next Prime Times.



Chair of Travel Committee – Bill Stasi

The plans for upcoming trips will be Prescott, AZ Dec. 11th, We Love ASU Collections Feb. 16th and Canyon de Chelly Apr. 13, 14, & 15th. Additional information will be available on the ASURA Web Site and you will also receive a separate mailer for each event.

PRESCOTT

The Prescott trip also called the "Western Victorian City" will include round trip bus from Tempe Public Library, lunch at the Prescott Brewing Company (they also serve good food) and a 60 minute guided tour at the Sharlot Hall Museum. Additionally you will have two hours free time to browse the unique shops and antique stores. The world's Largest Gingerbread Village will be on display as well as many other holiday decorations. Cost is \$55.00.

WE LOVE ASU COLLECTIONS

Next on the list will be We Love ASU Collections special tour with an in depth look selected from a rich treasure trove of Museums and Galleries on the Tempe Campus, some only available by special appointment. We will start at Old Main and explore and discover various collections with presentations by docents. This will include a box lunch and happen on Feb. 16th.

CANYON de CHELLY

The feature presentation of our program will be in the Spring of 2009 on April 13, 14, & 15 to Canyon de Chelly and will be a three day two night trip. This will include round trip bus from Tempe Public Library, lunch at the recently restored La Posada Inn in Winslow. La Posada is a historic lodge, designed by the famous architect, Mary Colter. The lodge was built by the Santa Fe Railroad for their railroad travelers. It was staffed by the "Harvey Girls" (I am not sure if any still will be there to visit with). Following lunch will be a tour and time to visit the gift shop. Next stop is the famous Hubbell Trading Post on the Navajo reservation with tour and a bit of time for shopping.



Pat Moore

We will check-in at the Holiday Inn in Chinle, AZ with dinner at Hotel Restaurant including a special presentation by a speaker on Canyon de Chelly/Navajo Culture.

The following morning after breakfast we'll take a tour of Canyon de Chelly's South Rim and in the afternoon a Navajo guided jeep tour into the Canyon. On the third day we'll make a stop at the Hopi Cultural Museum, have a guided tour of the 1000 year old village of Walpi, lunch at the Museum and head back to Tempe, arriving at the Library about 6:30pm.

Cost \$395.00 based on double occupancy with single occupancy an extra \$70.00.

Price Includes: All transportation, entrance fees and field trips, two nights accommodations at Holiday Inn, all meals and all tour guide fees/lectures. Look for registration flyer in the mail shortly.

Plan to join your fellow ASURA friends, meet new ones and enjoy some good memories as the world opens up to some great experiences. Do not forget your camera to capture these events. For more information on any trips check the ASURA web site or e-mail wstasi@asu.edu.

Chair, Canyon de Chelly tour --Pat Moore

Adopt-A-Family Program.

ASURA is still very much involved in the Adopt-A-Family Program. Joan Laird works with Tempe Schools to select a needy family and she also found a needy ASU family. Our program will provide them food for Thanksgiving and December Holidays, and also give each person clothing and toys in December, then answer their needs at Valentines and once in the Spring.

Wonderful thank you letters, some with drawings have been received from each member of these families. They let us know how much they appreciate our help, especially at holiday times. One mother wrote, "although it has been years since Santa provided gifts in our household, my children truly appreciate Christmas now more than ever thanks to your generosity."

Your contributions for this program may be sent to:

Adopt-a-Family
ASU Retirees Association
PO Box 873308
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308

The check should be written to *ASU Foundation (ASURA)*.

For more information please call Joan Leard at 480 947 6119.



Joan Laird

The Arizona State Retirement System

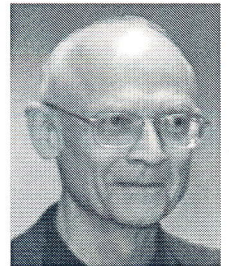
A headline in the September 19, 2008, *Arizona Republic* declared: "Wall Street Problem Costs State Retirees." On September 22nd, Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) Director Paul Matson replied with a letter in the ASRS website, www.azasrs.gov. He stated, "I believe the most important point for our members—active and retired—is to know that your retirement benefits are secure. . . . The ASRS fund used to pay current and future benefits is ample and sufficient to meet our guaranteed obligations." Despite the dramatic and continued drop in the US stock market in the weeks following Director Matson's letter, I believe his reassurance is valid.

Article 29 of the Arizona State Constitution declares that "the assets of the public retirement systems . . . are separate and independent trust funds . . . administered and distributed by law solely in the interest of the members and beneficiaries of the public retirement system." The ASRS fund cannot be "raided" or diverted from its designated purpose. Article 29 also declares that "membership in a public retirement system is a contractual relationship" the benefits of which "shall not be diminished or impaired." Retirees and surviving-spouse beneficiaries are guaranteed their contractual benefits. For members in the Defined Benefit Plan (most of the 84,000 now receiving benefits), the entire annuity now being received is guaranteed. For those in the defined-contribution plan which closed to new members in 1971 (called "the System), the basic annuity is guaranteed, while the "supplementary" portion may vary.

The ASRS fund does seem, as Director Matson says, "ample and sufficient to meet [ASRS] guaranteed obligations" despite recent losses. It is a huge fund. Its market value was \$28.6 billion on June 30, 2007, \$25.76 billion on June 30, 2008, and \$24.91 billion on September 19, 2008, when Director Matson wrote his letter of reassurance. The continued support of the fund comes not only from returns on

investments but also from regular contributions by the 225,000 active (employed) ASRS members and their employers. What is called the ASRS's "funding ratio" is currently in the mid-80% range. This is the ratio of the assets the ASRS has and expects to take in during the coming thirty years compared to the amount of money it expects to be obligated to pay out during the same period. According to Alice H. Munell of the Center for Retirement Research, 80% is considered "acceptable for public plans." Other sources for confidence in the ASRS fund are that it is well balanced between US stocks (45%), international stocks (18%), US fixed-income vehicles (bonds; 26%), real estate (6%), and private equities (5%) and that it is managed for long-term security. It is also encouraging that the ASRS has received national awards for plan design and administration and for excellence in financial reporting and was recently rated a "Top Performer" in a nationwide study of pension plans by the Pew Charitable Trust.

Historically the performance of the stock market and the US economy is cyclical. After good returns in the late 1990s the ASRS fund suffered losses in fiscal years 2001 and 2002 and then rebounded until the subprime mortgage crisis erupted in 2007 and precipitated the serious global banking and credit problems of the present time. Pundits predict more hard times but also an eventual recovery.



Alan Johnson

ASURA Representative to the ASRS

This report is based material available at www.azasrs.gov and on Alice H. Munell *et al.*, "The Miracle of Funding by State and Local Pension Plans," Center for Retirement Research, Boston College.

OPEN ENROLLMENT:

For Health and Dental Programs

By now all retired members who had elected Schaller Anderson for their health coverage should have elected an alternate plan to provide health insurance protection during the period of October 1 through December 31, 2008. These retired members will also be eligible to participate in the Open Enrollment period to be held from October 1 thru October 31, 2008. **A Benefits Options Brochure should have been distributed to retirees who retained health or dental coverage or both. If you had health or dental insurance coverage through an ADOA plan during 2008 and have not received a Benefits Options Brochure – call the Benefits Office (602-542-5008 or 1-800-304-3687) and request a Guide. You may also Fax them at 602-542-4744.**

Significant changes have been made to the health and dental plans provided by ADOA for policy year 2009. Schaller Anderson is no longer offered and dental plans offered have been reduced from four to two. Retired members are

encouraged to review the Benefits Options Brochure very carefully and to attend meetings scheduled by the Benefits Office. ADOA will hold meetings on October 7 and October 14, 2008 in the lobby of building located at 100 North 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ. Check the Brochure to confirm dates and location. If you desire to make any addition or change for any of your current plans, you will have to submit a new enrollment form which indicates your selected health and dental plan.

Dick Murra is willing to accept telephone calls for any questions concerning the open enrollment process and program changes. Telephone number: 480 821 0124 or call the ASOA or ASRS telephone numbers given in the Open Enrollment Brochures sent out by each of the two agencies.

Health Insurance Advisory Committee:

Any subscriber to the ASRS Health Insurance Program willing to examine its effectiveness please call: 480 965 7668.

UNDERSTANDING BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The recent Open Enrollment period for the benefit programs offered through the Benefits Office of the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) pointed out the confusion that exists concerning **who** offers **what** and **who** administers **what**. Hopefully this article will shed some light on the subject for retirees.

First, the ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY RETIREE ASSOCIATION does not offer any health, dental, or vision programs. While we do not offer the programs we do offer assistance to our members in understanding the Open Enrollment process and the programs offered by both the ADOA and the ASRS. It should also be pointed out that ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, as an agency of the STATE, offers the programs contracted for by the ADOA since these programs are offered to all eligible employees of the State.

At the time of retirement a State employee has the option of retaining membership in the benefit plans offered by the Benefits Office, ADOA. If so elected, ADOA retains the retiree in their system and administers the program. ADOA arranges for the ASRS to collect the premium from the retiree's retirement pay as adjusted by the application of any subsidies for which the retiree is eligible.

In their Administration of the Benefit Program, the Benefit Office negotiates new contracts, holds Open Enrollment Periods, etc. The contracts for the several benefit programs for which retirees are eligible normally run from January 1. This year all retirees who had Schaller Anderson as their health insurance carrier were required to select a new health insurance carrier since Schaller Anderson was terminated as of September 30, 2008. The selection made will be in force from October 1, 2008 until December 31, 2008. These members will be eligible to participate in the open enrollment period to be held by ADOA from October 1 through October 31, 2008. All retirees who retained health and or dental coverage in ADOA benefit program will be eligible to participate in the open enrollment period. Retirees enrolled in ASRS programs will not receive the Open Enrollment Brochure issued by ADOA.

Each year the Benefits Office of ADOA sets the rules governing the Open Enrollment process and provides the information to each of the State's retirees who elected to retain their benefit programs with the Benefits Office, ADOA. Retirees who elected to leave the Benefit Programs of ADOA and enroll in the programs offered to retirees by the ARIZONA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM are not eligible to participate in ADOA programs after the retiree has transferred membership. If the retiree retained membership in ADOA health and or Dental insurance, the retiree will be eligible to participate in the ADOA open enrollment.

At the time of retirement or during any subsequent Open Enrollment period held by the ARIZONA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM, the retiree of the STATE (including the Universities) has the option of enrolling in the benefit programs contracted for by the Arizona State Retirement

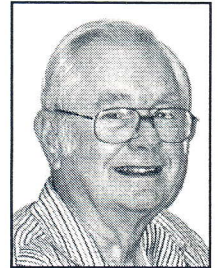
System (ASRS). These programs are separate and apart from the programs contracted for by the ADOA. Again, once the retiree elects to leave **all** of the ADOA programs and enroll in the ASRS programs, the retiree cannot return to enrollment in the ADOA programs.

The Arizona State Retirement System negotiates benefit contracts, holds Open Enrollment periods and administers the contracts. These contracts provide coverage from January 1 through December 31st of each year. The ASRS will send Open Enrollment packets to all eligible retirees in their system including those retirees who elected to retain their Benefit Programs under the plans offered by ADOA.

The fact that Open Enrollment packets are also sent to the ADOA retirees leads to confusion. What the ASRS open enrollment opportunity means to ADOA retirees is that they now have the choice of remaining with their ADOA plans or in joining the plans covered in the ASRS Open Enrollment. If the retiree does not want to leave the ADOA plans, then the retiree does not participate in the ASRS Open Enrollment. If the retiree likes a plan under ASRS better than the plan in which enrolled in ADOA, the retiree may fill out the ASRS open enrollment forms and transfer to the programs of ASRS. Since the start date for ASRS plans is January 1, the retiree should retain the ADOA coverage through December 31 so as to provide continuous coverage. The retiree would have coverage through December 31 under their ADOA and coverage from January 1 forward under the ASRS plans.

During the Open enrollment period a frequently asked question is "what is the best plan?" The best plan is the plan that best meets your requirements at a price that you can afford. What is important is different for each retiree. There is not one size fits all when it comes to selecting your benefit plans. Whether you think a plan is good or bad depends to a large extent, upon your relationship with your Doctor or Dentist. If you have a good rapport then you normally will have little to complain about. Having the opportunity to select from comprehensive programs offered by nationally recognized firms and sponsored through State agencies provides a level of stability that is hard to beat. Work with your programs and your programs will work with you.

Dick Murra, Arizona State University Retiree Association, Health Committee (note: I am a retiree just like you who enjoys trying to assist our members with their benefit programs.) 480-821-0124



Dick Murra

***'Some cause happiness wherever they go;
others, whenever they go.'* - Oscar Wilde**

***'I've had a perfectly wonderful evening but
this wasn't it.'* - Groucho Marx**

In the Legislature

In the first six months of this year the Arizona Legislature struggled long and hard and finally crafted a budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year which would meet the challenge of a significant decline in state revenues and would avoid a veto by Governor Napolitano. The 2008 Legislative session ended on June 27, 2008. Finally the outcome of bills which were discussed in this column in the Summer 2008 *Primes Times* can be definitively reported. One of these bills was SB1040, an attempt to exempt from Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) membership anyone of at least age 62 employed by a school district as a substitute teacher. This bill died after its "first reading" in the Senate. Another was HB2043, an attempt to declare a State hiring moratorium. This passed in the Legislature but was vetoed by the Governor. Several bills of special interest to ASURA aimed to monitor and restrict state investment in companies with certain business operations in "rogue" nations, notably Iran (its petroleum industry), Sudan, and countries designated by the US State Department as "State Sponsors of Terrorism." These bills—HB2151 and 2705 and SB1489—passed quickly and overwhelmingly and were signed into law by the Governor. They appear to be crafted so as to have minimal negative effect on the returns from state investments while at the same time withholding support from the "rogue" states identified in the legislation.

Of particular interest to the ASURA Board of Directors was a group of bills which aimed to improve the financial soundness of the ASRS by making a number of changes in the formulas and calculations leading to normal retirement. Three of the proposed reforms have been controversial, especially among advocacy groups representing "active" (working) ASRS members: changing the Average Monthly

Nominations are Welcome for the ASURA Board

I know you are all probably not in the mood to think about any kind of elections right now, but I do want you to know that next March we'll be holding elections for five members of the ASURA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors manages the affairs of the Association and establishes policies as needed to carry out its mission. Members of the Board are elected for a term of three years. The Board meets monthly during the academic year.

You would be most welcome to offer your own name or the name of another current ASURA member as a potential Board member. If you want to be sure that your nominee's name gets on the ballot you can submit a petition of nomination bearing the signatures of at least ten current ASURA members. Nominating petitions must be received by *February 10, 2009*. Send names and/or nominating petitions to:

Doug Johnson, Chair
ASURA Board Nominating Committee 2009
PO Box 873308
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308
Email: doug.johnson@asu.edu

Compensation in the retirement-benefit calculation from the average of the retiring employee's highest 36 months to the average of the highest 60 months; changing the qualification for "normal" retirement from 80 points (age + years of service) to 85 (requiring 2½ additional years of service); and limiting the amount of employer contributions that could be withdrawn from the ASRS fund by a terminating employee who chooses to end his/her ASRS membership. The 36-to-60 change was proposed in HB2060 ("Strike Everything" version) and 2062. All three changes were proposed in SB1290. All three bills failed, receiving negative votes from members of both political parties. At the June 2008 meeting of the ASRS Board of Directors, ASRS staff estimated that together the three proposed changes could lower the contribution rate paid into the ASRS fund by active members and their employers by .86%. These reforms are likely to be proposed in the Legislature again.

Among several other bills which aimed to improve the financial soundness of the ASRS, one—HB2127—was of particular interest to ASURA. This bill failed but its contents were put into SB1407, which was passed by the Legislature and signed into law. The material from HB2127 exempts the ASRS from statutory procedures for handling unclaimed property and enables it, after due diligence, to retain "unclaimed" accounts in the ASRS fund rather than giving up the funds in such an account to the State Treasury. For a complete account of bills affecting the ASRS, see the ASRS "Bill Tracker" and "Summary of 2008 Retirement Legislation" at www.azasrs.gov.

Alan Johnson/Legislative Liaison Council

Check out the ASURA Web site at <http://asura.asu.edu/>

Would you like to know who's running the ASU Retiree's Association, or see what events the Association is planning for its members? Do you need to find a registration form for an upcoming event, or a membership enrollment form for a colleague who would like to join? How about wanting to find out what advice the ASURA Health Committee has for health insurance open enrollment?

On our Web site you can do these things and more. For example, you can find contact information for the ASURA and its officers, Board members, and committee chairs; photos of ASURA events and people; and information about community travel, education, and volunteer activities. We even have lists of past officers going back to ASURA's 1991 founding.

So, check out the ASURA Web site, <http://asura.asu.edu>. It's there to make it easy for you to take advantage of everything the Association has to offer. And, if you have suggestions for the site or for the ASURA you can use the site's contact form to share them with us.

Thanks,
Connie McNeill

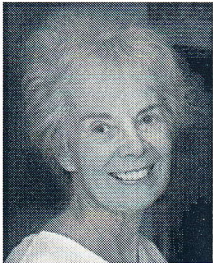
Who is minding the Store?

Carol Moore is coordinating the office staff and has added some new faces to the schedule.

- Carol Berg (Monday a.m.) Betty Norris (Monday p.m.)
- Linda Van Scoy (Tuesday p.m.)
- Kathy Sweeney (Thursday p.m.)
- Anna-Marie Shivers and Linda Howard (Friday a.m.)

In addition, the following regulars return:

- Carol Moore (Tuesday a.m.) ; Helen Seaton sub
- Bob Beeman and Ed Scannell on Wednesday morning;
- Maxine Laroux, (Thursday a.m.)



Carol Berg



Betty Norris



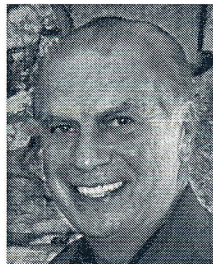
Carol Moore



Linda VanScoy



Bob Beeman



Ed Scannell



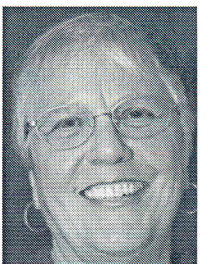
Maxine LaRoux



Linda Howard



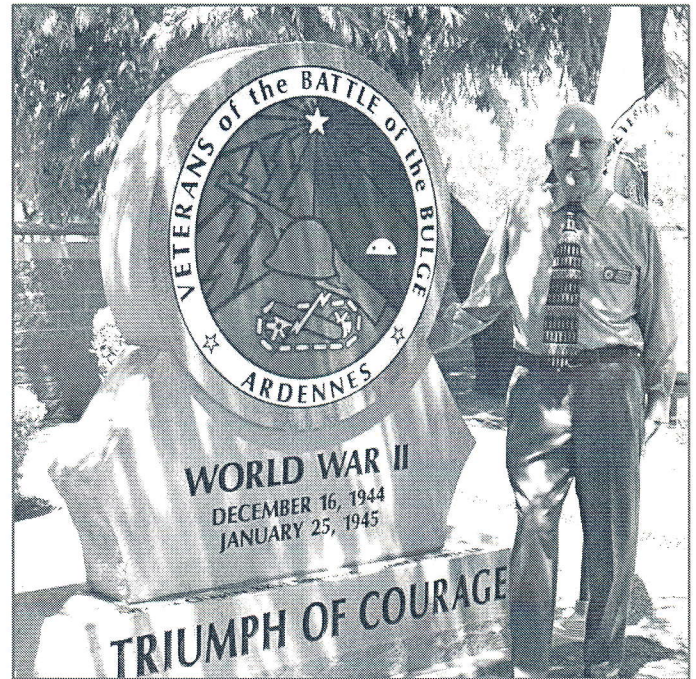
Anna-Marie Shivers



Kathy Sweeney



Helen Seaton



Above: Zeke Prust at the newly dedicated Battle of the Bulge Memorial at Capital Plaza.

Zeke Prust, one of our members, is a survivor of World War II's Battle of the Bulge. He played a significant part in the construction of a monument at Arizona's Capital Plaza, "taking it from the drawing board to reality." It was dedicated on October 5. The Battle of the Bulge was fought by the U.S. Army in the heavily forested Ardennes region of eastern Belgium and Northern Luxembourg from December 16, 1944 through January 25, 1945. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, called it "The greatest American battle of the second world war." Five hundred thousand Americans fought in bitter cold and snow; 81,000 were casualties; 19,000 of these died. The victory over Germany was a turning point in the war.

Golf is harder than baseball. In golf, you have to play your foul balls.

'I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure.'
Clarence Darrow

October Luncheon



Rob Spindler
University Archivist



The October 28th ASURA Luncheon at the Karsten Golf Clubhouse facility was attended by 50 persons. Rob Spindler, the University Archivist led the group through the 122 year history of the University with photos from the Library's archives.

Credit Card Surprises

With offers of an additional 10% off your purchase or free merchandise, it's tempting to apply for credit cards from your favorite retail stores. Think twice, however, before signing up. If you don't pay the bill in full at the end of the month, you could end up paying much more than you originally would have saved.

That's because interest rates on retail cards average about 12 percentage points higher than credit union credit cards. That puts most retail card rates at about 21%.

Here are some ways you could be paying more - unknowingly - for your credit cards than you need to:

1. **Retro rate hikes.** Teaser rates are low in the beginning and rising after six months or so. They are a popular way for card issuers to attract new cardholders. Did you know, though, that often, when the low rate expires, any balance you have on the card jumps to the new rate, not just new purchases? In addition, any late credit card payments trigger additional interest rate increase.
2. **Costly cash advances.** Often, there's both a finance charge (interest) and a transaction fee for cash advances - even if the ads say "no finance charges." You owe interest from the day you take

the advance - no grace period—and the transaction fee may be as high as 2% to 5%.

3. **Phantom fringes.** Cards offering benefits like percentage discounts, rebates, or purchase protection have been cutting back on those benefits—often without notice.
4. **Grace is iffy.** Grace period is the number of days you have to pay your bill in full without triggering a finance charge. The grace period usually applies only to new purchases. Most credit cards do not give a grace period for such cash advances and balance transfers. So if you are counting on a grace period, pay your bill in full each month. The typical grace period is 25 days, but some issuers are closing the window between your purchase date and when interest applies.
5. **Interest gotcha.** It's not uncommon for a card issuer to charge interest from the day it posts your purchase to your account. But some now actually charge from the day of your purchase - meaning they charge you even before paying the merchant for you.
6. **Bi-cycle billing.** Two-cycle billing means the card issuer charges two month's interest the first month you don't pay your full balance. This occurs only when you've formerly paid in full and then carry a balance.

Arizona Trivia

Lillico: Sometimes He Broke the Rules

From the moment when he fell into an open man-hole while turning to wave his ever-present cigar at a friend, flamboyant Tom Lillico was known as "Blind Tom." The first sports recruiter ever hired by Arizona State Teachers College at Tempe (now ASU), he turned the lackluster Bulldog football program around and assembled a razzle-dazzle team that went to the Sun Bowl in 1940 and 1941. Tom was never

From Library Archives



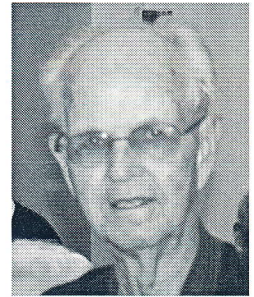
Tom Lillico in his campus office in 1939

one to abide strictly by the rules, either written or unwritten. He brought the first Black player to Tempe in 1937 – ignoring the tacit law of the Border Conference against such effrontery -- and soon thereafter he snatched three prize recruits from the grasp of rival University of Arizona (the UA was so irked by that piracy they refused to play ASTC for the next four years). Most of his recruiting triumphs were legal, but he did stray on occasion – like the time he brought Jep Shamblee to play for Tempe. The fact that Jep had played for Alabama along with Dixie Howell in the 1935 Rose Bowl game and was strictly ineligible didn't bother him a great deal. And old Bulldog fans recall with glee how Tom rushed to the timer's table in a basketball game against New Mexico at Albuquerque and fired a gun ending the game. Nobody complained much, because the home-town timer had been trying to extend the game until New Mexico got the lead.



"Wake up. The cat's got your teeth."

When Dixie Howell came to coach the Tempe football team in 1938, he and Tom became close friends. Howell was a national hero in his day, but he was shy about speaking in public and turned down invitations to address Arizona high school sports banquets. One evening Lillico tricked him into attending Chandler High School's football banquet, and informed him after they arrived that he was to be the featured speaker. Dixie was flabbergasted, but he had no choice but to mount the podium. Once there, talking about football, he found himself enjoying the limelight. Basking in the glow of adoring fans after the dinner he grabbed Tom and asked "Where do you want me to speak next?" It was the start of a new career for Dixie, who later made his living in public relations.



By Dean Smith

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"I'm going to order a broiled skinless chicken breast, but I want you to bring me lasagna and garlic bread by mistake."

Calendar of Events

- Homecoming Block Party** Sat., Nov. 15
- ASURA Holiday Social** Tues., Dec. 2, 11:30 AM
- MU Holiday Coffee** Tues., Dec. 2, 9:00 AM
- Retirees Day** Sat., Feb. 21
- Annual Meeting** Sat., Apr. 8, 2009

Prime Times

Issued three or four times annually by the Arizona State University Retirees Association with special editions as needed. Articles welcome, subject to Board approval. Contact: ASU Prime Times, ASU Retirees Association, PO Box 873308, Tempe, Arizona.

Arizona State University Retirees Association

ASURA has a volunteer-staffed office in the Community Service Building, 200 E. Curry Rd., Room 201B in Tempe, Arizona. Office hours are generally Monday through Friday, 9 AM to noon. Phone: 480-965-7668; Fax: 480-965-7807. It is best to call before you stop by the office to insure that it will be open and staffed. ASURA Website: <http://asura.asu.edu>

Obits

Volunteers Becky Reiss and Patty Kelley, regularly read obituary notices in the two local newspapers looking for items about retirees, their spouses, current ASU employees and ASU affiliates. Some may be missed because ASU is not mentioned in the article. Please call or write to us if you know of someone whose death should be reported in Prime Times. We would like to have name, age, city of residence, date of death, and ASU department and title. Notices in this issue include all of those received since the last issue, through October 23, 2008. Check local newspapers for complete obituaries.



Becky Reiss



Patty Kelley

Diana Lynn Bailey, passed away September 6. She served tirelessly at Grady Gammage Auditorium. She is survived by her husband, Tom Bailey, two siblings, four sons, 11 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren as well as numerous extended family members. Donations -- Sunshine Acres Children's Home.

Alfred Cavis Barnes, 86, passed away on July 28. Survived by his wife, Leona Walters Barnes, two children, 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Served in the Air Force during World War II and Korean War. Highest honors – the Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf clusters. He completed Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at ASU, earning varsity letters in football and baseball. He coached coaches and taught at several high schools, at Phoenix College, and taught part-time at ASU. He left to teach at Northern Iowa University and to complete a Doctorate at Indiana University. Returning to Arizona, he was a researcher and trainer at Aviation Crash Injury Research, then joined the Arizona State Department of Health. He also taught at San Diego State University where he retired in 1980, then joining Air Research as a safety engineer, retiring in 1989. His residence was in California.

Lloyd H. Blowers, 81, died September 27. Survivors include his wife, Dixie L. Blowers (ASU staff), three daughters, four sisters, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Lloyd was predeceased by a son, two brothers and his parents. Memorials: the Queen Creek 4-H Club.

Haymon Harrelson Boggs, II 72, of Glendale, AZ passed away on October 6. "Hal" was born in Glenville, West Virginia on October 15, 1935 and was an avid hunter and fisherman. A 1959 West Point Academy graduate who earned the nickname "Blaze" for his shooting prowess, he served in the Vietnam War and achieved the rank of Captain. Following his Army service, Blaze went to work for Winchester and shot trap and skeet professionally. His love of knowledge brought him and his family to Tempe, AZ in 1973 where he became a professor of business at Arizona State University. Three years later, the Boggs family moved to Glendale where Hal taught business at the Thunderbird School of Global Management. After leaving the teaching profession, he and his wife, Mary, started their

business, Rehabilitation Specialists Group, Inc., of which Hal served as the CFO. While their children attended Glendale High School and went on to college, Hal and Mary became active members in the Glendale Sister Cities program, of which Hal served as treasurer, and they opened their home to a number of high school exchange students from around the world. Hal is survived by Mary, his wife of 43 years, son William Boggs (Elaine), and daughter Cathy Turner (Brian), and 6 grandchildren. Contributions: National Alzheimer's Association, Desert Southwest Chapter of Arizona.

John David Clark, 68, died September 14. He worked as a baker at ASU for over 20 years. Survived by his wife, a daughter, granddaughter, and three siblings.

Lawrence Farina, 75, passed away on July 24. After serving in the Navy, he graduated with honors with a BS in Metallurgical Engineering from General Motors Institute. Larry's career began at General Motors where he was proud of designing the tail light on the 57 Bel Air. Then he went into aerospace working on the Gemini Space Program with Aero Jet in Sacramento, onto GE in Cincinnati, and finally 28 years with Garrett Air Research in Phoenix. He also taught a Metallurgical Engineering course at ASU. Larry was a long time Football Referee. He was the first member inducted into the Big Sky Conference Football Officials Hall of Fame. He is survived by his wife, Joanne; five sons, eleven grandchildren

James (Jim) Austin Fausel, 74, husband of Diane, father of Jim Fausel, Jr. and Paul Bernardo, grandfather of Noah Bernardo and brother of Dr. Donald Fausel, died October 18. Jim attended Niagara University and St. Jerome's College in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. He dedicated his life to community and was honored for his work in substance abuse prevention in Glens Falls, NY where he established and led CYO programs including the AMEN program and hotline and The Karma Center serving Warren County. In 1972, the Mayor of Glens Falls proclaimed James Fausel Day as a testimony to Jim's work. Jim completed 20 years in Arizona Department of Health Services where he was Bureau Chief for the Department of Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health and later served the Office of Women and Children's Health. Additionally, Jim was President and founder of The Conference Connection and recently expanded and established Global Conference Associates in association with Jim, Jr. and other partners. His proudest association was his position as teacher/educator in ASU's College of Public Programs where he taught Meeting and Conference Management. A scholarship is being established in Jim's memory at ASU College of Public Programs for students entering the Hospitality field.

Robert Leo Hennington, 78, husband of Dr. Jo Ann Hennington, died July 22. Jo Ann Hennington retired as a faculty member and administrator in the School of Business at ASU. There were no services in Arizona, only graveside services were held in mid-August in Hereford, Texas. Contributions may be sent to Copper Basin Bible Camp, 5225 East Camelback Road, Phoenix, AZ 85018.

Fred Kramer, 88, passed away on May 23. Fred retired from ASU as an electrician after 20 years. He is survived by a sister and several nieces and nephews. Fred was preceded in death by his parents and six siblings. Memorials may be sent to Disabled Veterans, 38 W. Dunlap Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

Donna McEwen, 78, passed away on June 6. She had lived in Phoenix for the past 39 years. She was preceded in death (in 2003) by her husband Douglas McEwen, retired professor in

ASU's School of Music and conductor of Choral Union. She is survived by three children, six grandchildren and two sisters.

Mack Alexander Ralston, 93, died Saturday, July 12. Dr. Ralston served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. Mack received his BA & MA from Indiana State University and his Doctorate from Indiana University. He taught in Indiana for 20 years. He was a professor at ASU until retirement in 1985. His wife preceded him in death in 2006. Survivors include three children, seven grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Dr. Kenneth L. Rowe, 77, died June 15. Dr. Rowe served with the US Army in Korea from 1952 - 1954. He received his BA in 1956 and his M. A. in 1960, both from the University of Northern Iowa. He completed his Ph. D. in 1969 at Michigan State University. After teaching in high school in Iowa, he moved to Phoenix, AZ where he became a Professor of Marketing at ASU in 1964 for nearly forty years. He served as Chair of the ASU Marketing Department and was honored with Teaching Excellence awards in 1975 and again in 1989. Dr. Rowe served on many university, community and national advisory boards. He was highly involved as an advisor for the national high school marketing and sales educational program, DECA, and was the faculty advisor for the national professional business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi. Kenn was a master teacher and mentor. He guided many students into successful careers and remained engaged with them long after graduation. Dr. Rowe is survived by three brothers. Two brothers preceded him in death. Memorials: the Kenn Rowe Scholarship at the ASU Foundation, or to further Parkinson's research at the Barrow Neurological Foundation (Muhammad Ali Parkinson's Center) in tribute to Kenneth L. Rowe.

Edith Schapira, 76 of Phoenix, passed away on October 12. She lived in Arizona since 1945 coming from Detroit, Michigan. She retired in 1994 after 25 years in the Student Advisement office at the College of Education at Arizona State University. Edith will be remembered as a "great advisor and encourager to students—a great support for teacher education." Also as a loving wife, mother and grandmother as well as a true friend to many. Her work on education and charity projects will be sorely missed. She is survived by her husband Jerry and her four children Susan Wagner (Chuck), Howard Schapira (Patti), Robin Constance, Jeffrey Schapira (Amy) and her brother Shiel Gayler (Trish) as well as her 7 grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be given to the [American Cancer Society](#). -

Connie Stafford Sherman, 57, died on October 3. She served as Vice President of Administrative Services at Glendale Community College since January 2004. She also served in several administrative positions at other institutions of higher education prior to GCC. These included positions with the University System of New Hampshire, St. Phillip's College and ASU. She came to GCC from her position as Vice Chancellor of Systems Administration for the Community Colleges of Spokane, Washington. Connie was preceded in death by her father, her late husband James Sherman, and an aunt. She is survived by a daughter, her mother, two brothers, two granddaughters and other relatives. Donations are being accepted for the Connie & James Sherman Memorial Scholarship, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation

Jean B. Stange, a resident of Mesa, Arizona, passed away on October 2. Born in Ames, Iowa in 1920, Jean received her

Bachelor of Science from Iowa State University and her Masters of Arts from the University of Minnesota. She taught at the University of Tennessee, Michigan State University and the University of Wisconsin before joining the faculty at Arizona State University. After a long and distinguished professional career, Jean retired as an Associate Professor of Decorative Arts from ASU in 1983. She remained active in the community as a member of the Arizona Designer-Craftsmen and as a docent at the Arizona State University Art Museum in Tempe. In addition to her many academic and professional achievements, perhaps Jean's greatest accomplishment was the joy she brought to the world by her tireless devotion to her many, many friends; friends whose lives were brightened by Jean's sincere and unwavering friendship. Always ready to listen and raise the spirit, Jean Stange was a beloved "point of light" in this difficult world. She will be missed. Memorial contributions may be made in Jean's name to ASU Foundation/Fine Arts Museum

William Shively, 84, died on September 16. William served in the European Theater in World War II in the U.S. Navy as a minesweeper. He worked as an engineer at ASU for 16 years. Preceded in death by his wife Esther and three children. He leaves behind four children, nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren and his very close companion "Sue" Delster and many extended family members.

Dorolis Maxine McManis Wade, 87, passed away May 31. Dorolis worked as a secretary for the OS Stapley Company in Mesa and ASU where she retired. She is preceded in death by Murlon, her husband of 52 years. She is survived by 5 children, 7 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren..

Bruce Frederick Wauters, Chief Petty Officer, US Navy, Retired, died July 5. He is survived by three sons. Bruce earned his Masters Degree at San Diego State University and later taught at ASU and South Mountain Community College. Bruce will be laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Bernadette Yellen, 61, died August 18. She held a master's degree in political science at the University of Louvaine, was Professor of French at ASU, an active member of the Woman of the Sacred Heart, and most recently a Residency Coordinator at Scottsdale Healthcare. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Ross Yellen, four children, two grandchildren, three siblings and many other kinfolk and friends.

James Paul "Bud" Younger, 84, died July 3. He was signed to a professional baseball contract upon graduation from high school. In 1948 Bud and wife, Betty, settled in Arizona. In addition to his summers playing professional baseball, Bud coached at Arizona State College, and earned bachelors and masters degrees there. After two years coaching in Casa Grande, he spent 30 years at Tempe High, teaching social studies and physical education. His greatest passion was coaching: varsity baseball and an assistant coach in football and basketball. Bud followed the ASU Sun Devils and Arizona Diamondbacks closely. His wife preceded him in death in 2006. Bud is survived by two children, four grandchildren and their families. Donations: Creighton United Methodist Church, Phoenix.

President's Message

If you are like me then you are ready for the local, state and general election to be behind us. Perhaps not that you are overly anxious to vote, but rather delighted when the political commercials on radio and TV are gone. And no more debates to bear. Or to read the newspaper and find something other than political ads and articles. Or to not have the lead articles on the Internet rehashing the previous days political events. I will just be glad when it's all over—although politics and politicians never seem to go away.

The politicians are shouting for change and sometimes change is good—depending upon the change. After such a long campaign each of us need a change in what goes on around us. And the Retirees Association has just what you need.

In my brief tenure in the association I have noted that former ASU staff and faculty involve themselves with our association for one or more of the following reasons:

1. To receive important information from ASURA on issues of importance and matters that interest retirees.
2. To participate in the events and activities of ASURA that allows for fun and entertainment in addition to rubbing shoulders with friends and former associates.
3. To perform volunteer service in behalf of ASURA for the good of its members and sponsored activities.

Consider the benefits each of these categories of activity:

Important Information We have an excellent newsletter in our Prime Times that imparts important messages of interest to the over 60 group. We have individuals who keep current on the happenings at ASU itself and the benefits available to its

former faculty and staff. In the newsletter we can find articles and information about health insurance and dental programs, legislative actions and the state's retirement system and much more. Our ASURA web site has been expanded to include a wide variety of information and group e-mails keep us informed of important events. And we must never discount the value of networking with others.

Events and Activities Lots of things are being planned now and in the future including luncheons, speakers, tours, trips, educational activities and more. These activities are being planned for you and others like you to make life more interesting and enjoyable. It's a time when you can relax and put the pressures and problems of everyday life behind you just have some good old fashioned fun. Sign up for some of these activities and you will be glad you did.

Volunteer Service I am amazed at the number of volunteers it takes to make our organization run properly. I am grateful I am for each of those individuals who give service the benefit of others. People who are retired experience many benefits from their service. The volunteer activities of older persons provide them with a purposeful role in their community and in chosen organizations they support. Volunteering provides a social network that helps alleviate stress and it also provides a greater joy in living, less depression and longer life.

All in all, belonging to ASURA provides many benefits to its members and you are encouraged to participate in those activities and events that can provide you enjoyment now and in the future.

H. Val Peterson
President 08-09



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