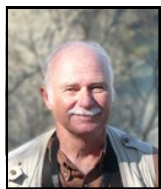


19th Annual Retirees Day - 2012

Barry McNeill



The 19th ASURA Retirees Day will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held on the second floor of the Memorial Union, ASU Tempe Campus, and features two one hour sessions each with four concurrent presentations. A luncheon follows the presentations featuring Marshall Trimble who will help us celebrate our state's Centennial.

To register for this event please visit our website at <http://asura.asu.edu/>. There you can download the registration form. After you complete it, please mail it with your check to the ASURA office by Friday, February 17. If you do not have access to a computer then phone the ASURA office at (480) 965-7668 and request a registration form be mailed to you. Following is a condensed version of the ASURA Retirees Day Program:

REGISTRATION and WELCOME

8:45 a.m. Registration and Morning Refreshments – Cochise 228
9:30 a.m. Welcome / Announcements / Orientation – Cochise 228

FIRST CONCURRENT SESSION - 1: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Presentation 1A: *Reconstructing the View: Photography, Time and Historic Places* by Professor Mark Klett



Mark Klett, both a photographer and a geologist, studies the intersection of culture, landscape and time using a technique called "rephotography." He takes a photo from an earlier time period, goes back to where the photo was made originally, and creates a new photo of that exact spot today. Klett's talk will focus on Arizona images such as the Grand Canyon and the Phoenix canal systems.

Presentation 1B: *Arizona's Political Pulse* by Dr. Bruce Merrill



The Arizona's presidential primary will be held three days after this presentation. What role will independents play in the Republican Primary? What changes have and will occur because of the successful Russell Pierce recall? These are just a few of the "hot" topics Dr. Merrill will discuss.

Presentation 1C: *The Business of Solar Energy: Today and Tomorrow* by Russ Patzer



The entire annual world energy consumption is about what the sun supplies to the earth in 30 minutes. While the potential is high the impact is still low. Russ will discuss the business of solar energy today and where it is headed. Russ Patzer is CEO of Sun Valley Solar Solutions.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Presentation 1D: *Algae-based Fuels and Products: An Opportunity for Arizona* by Dr. Milton Sommerfeld



Algae are considered to be a promising alternative or supplemental feedstock for production of liquid transportation fuels (diesel, gasoline, aviation fuel), food/feed, and nutraceuticals. This presentation will summarize (1) current information related to the production of fuels and other products from algae, (2) on-going activities and challenges associated with developing sustainable algae production systems, and (3) why Arizona is a desirable location for the algae industry.

SECOND CONCURRENT SESSION - 2: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presentation 2A: *Adventurous Spirits: Arizona's Women Artists, 1900-1950* by Dr. Betsy Fahlman



The early resident art community of Arizona was comprised mostly of women and this talk explores the varied careers of five of these independent and talented artists: Kate Cory (1905), Marjorie Thomas (1909), Lillian Wilhelm Smith (1913), Jessie Benton Evans (1923), and Mary-Russell Ferrell Colton (1920s).

Presentation 2B: *Real Estate and Economic Outlook* by Dr. Jay Q. Butler



The session will address the sales activity and affordability of homes in the Phoenix metropolitan area, construction activity throughout Arizona, and an analysis of home values in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

Presentation 2C: *What do we want? With recent health reform, are we on track to get it?* by Robert Smoldt



The national debt, budget deficits, ObamaCare, Medicare are all topics in the news that have an impact on healthcare. Robert Smoldt will discuss the type of healthcare we desire and then the promoters and barriers to actually achieving this result.

Presentation 2D: *The World Within: Visualizing the Biology of Cells* by Dr. Robby Roberson



Cells are made up of thousands of biomaterials that have evolved to work together for a common goal: life. Roberson's series of 12 to 15 light and electron micrographs will demonstrate the "art of science." His images show the complexity and simplicity of cells and their networks.

LUNCHEON PROGRAM

12:30 p.m. Luncheon in Ventana Ballroom

12:45-1:30 p.m. Luncheon Program

In recognition of Arizona's Centennial on February 14, 2012, the luncheon program features Arizona's official historian, Marshall Trimble. Trimble has written more than twenty books on Arizona and the West. He has been called the "Will Rogers of Arizona." Marshall Trimble will help us celebrate our state's Centennial during lunch, which follows the morning's presentations.



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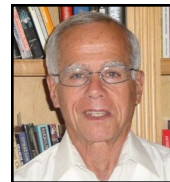
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For Your Information

ASU's "policy on lobbying" can be viewed at <http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd205-01.html>

— submitted by Richard J. (Dick) Jacob, ASURA Government Liaison Council

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ASURA Travel Adventures

Bill Stasi



Our first ASURA trip of 2012 was a journey, for some, to visit spots we all knew were out there but never found time to visit. For others, it may have been the time to see these sites in more depth. This provided the opportunity for 43 of the 99%ers to see how some of the 1%ers lived their lives in the Valley.

Arriving early at the Carreta Chocolate Factory, and having never been there, we were a little befuddled as to when the tour would start. I know now I should have made numerous trips to check it out and try all the different chocolates, but I probably would have gained 10 pounds in the process.

I do not think they were prepared for the vast number of curious people so interested in seeing how chocolate was made. This did give us time to check out the sweet treats and taste a few samples before the tour. I think almost everyone left with their sweet tooth satisfied and a few extra pieces to snack on later. Two individuals – Walt Seaton and Betty Ludlow – were hired on the spot to display their chocolate making skills. They now know how to keep busy in their retirement years.

From there we took the scenic route to the Wrigley Mansion through the grounds of the Biltmore Resort. We enjoyed lunch in Mr. Wrigley's bedroom which was large enough to fit all of us in, and then toured from the opulent entranceway to the servants' quarters. The Wrigleys lived there only for about six weeks a year as this was their smallest home and was not air conditioned.

The bathrooms still display the beautiful Catalina Island ceramic tile custom-made for them. Wrigley owned 99% of Catalina Island and needed to find employment for the one percent of the individuals still living in the small village that he did not own. He started a ceramics factory there to help the economy flourish.

The mansion passed through many hands before the Hormel family, famous for meat packing, purchased it and turned it into a private club. Membership is only \$10 per year, donated to charity, thus making it open for all to enjoy. Their heirs still own and keep this treasure in our backyard in magnificent condition with most of the original woodwork and fixtures in place.

Accompanying our visit were the sweet sounds of George Gershwin music being played on a beautiful Steinway in the living room of the Mansion. This was the same piano that Liberace once offered a blank check to Hormel to sell. Hormel refused, saying this was part of the history of the mansion and would forever stay in this favorite resting spot.



Australia and New Zealand 2011

by Gary Anderson



Eighteen ASURA Boomerangs spent about 24 days exploring Australia and New Zealand, covering nearly 25,000 air miles as we moved from Melbourne and Adelaide in the south to Alice Springs in the center and Cairns and Cape Tribulation in the north, finishing at Sydney in the east. It was then on to New Zealand with visits to Christchurch, Queenstown and Auckland.

We figure we could make it as shearers and drovers, if really put to the test, but it was good to come back. Just like a boomerang. We learned about Australian and New Zealand history, geography, culture and wildlife. Some snorkeled in the waters of the Great Barrier Reef, zip-lined in the jungle rain forest, slept under the squawking flying foxes, petted kangas, and cuddled koalas. And, we learned how to throw boomerangs! Visits to the iconic Uluru (Ayers Rock) in the desolate Outback and the very cosmopolitan Sydney landmarks of the Opera House, the Quay, the



Rocks and Bondi Beach stretched the mind. One Boomerang, after extensive research, claims to have discovered Australia's finest beer: Carlton Lager.

One hiccup occurred when weather prevented a flight out of Queenstown, NZ, but all turned out very well, actually extending the trip by one day.

It was a great trip, and all the Boomerangs came back.

Australia has wildlife like no other continent and the Boomerangs had lots of opportunity to see it up close. Every day's a school day. So much learning, so many adventures, so much enjoyment with colleagues and travel friends. So much to talk about: an echidna? the flying foxes? the fruit bats? a cassowary? a salt water croc?



The Boomerangs had a wonderful last several days in Australia visiting the very cosmopolitan, clean and friendly city of Sydney. Tour experiences included a cruise on Sydney Harbor, a visit to the Opera House, a walk on Bondi Beach, shopping and lunch in The Rocks, site of one of the original penal colonies, and a walk around the Royal Botanical Gardens.



Spring Luncheon 2012



Save the date! On March 14, ASU Retirees Association will hold a Spring Luncheon at the Karsten Golf Club in Tempe, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Program speakers Don and Alleen Nilsen are presently co-chairs of ASU's Emeritus College Humanities Faculty, and formerly professors in the Department of English at ASU. Their topic will be about humor: the features, functions and subjects of humor.

Alleen and Don Nilsen are co-founders of the International Society for Humor Studies, and their publications include *The Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century American Humor* and *Names and Naming in Young Adult Literature*. They currently are working on a new book about the changing aspects of humor.

More details, including menu and cost, will be coming to you soon.

2012 Holiday Potluck/Arts & Crafts Sale

Connie McNeill/Barbara Eschbach

On Thursday, December 15, about 45 of us enjoyed a convivial and tasty potluck lunch in the Community Services Building. The room was made festive by the for-sale quilting products provided by Sarah Lesperance and by Christmas decorations from our own office and from the event organizers, Barbara Eschbach and Pat Nay.

Barbara and Pat also entertained us with live keyboard music during the event. There was a delicious array of food supplied by attendees, including main dishes, salads and other side dishes, and wonderful seasonal desserts. Most especially this was a great chance to relax and chat with old friends and colleagues and to meet new friends with whom we can share memories of working at ASU and discuss current interests.

We highly recommend this very enjoyable annual event to everyone!



Facebook Seminar Report



The third in this year's ASURA's seminar series, *Staying in Touch with Facebook*, was presented by Dr. Carrie Cohill on November 19. There were around forty attendees most of whom said they used e-mail and a bit over twenty-five percent had or were currently using Facebook.

Technical difficulties hampered the presentation. However Dr. Cohill was still able to deliver an informative talk which started with a quick overview of what social media are and their current impact on the way many people in the world now communicate (e.g., "if Facebook were a country it would be the third largest country in the world"). A video created by ABC 15 news showed residents of the Pebble Creek Retirement Community in Goodyear using Facebook to stay in touch with friends and family.

The presentation then focused on using Facebook and showed several how-to tutorials on: getting an account established, creating a profile, sharing with friends, finding friends, and uploading pictures and video. The material on sharing with friends was perhaps the most interesting showing a variety of ways to enhance your postings (e.g., links, pictures, question feedback, and social plugins). The audience asked several questions during the presentation. (Note: The presentation, including all the tutorials, is available at tinyurl.com/bp8d7ze.)

ASURA Video History Project (VHP) Report

Linda Van Scoy



Four new interviews were completed this fall: Bob “Coach” Fleming, Zeke Prust, James Rapp and Victor Zafra, and one newly edited interview – Jack Kinsinger – was added.

The VHP intends to edit about a dozen of the recent interviews this year, and also to make available on the ASURA website short video clips of a number of interviews. You can view the pilot clip from James Elmore’s interview at <http://asura.asu.edu/VideoHistory> and click on “video clip” following his name in the listing.

There are more than 50 “extremely interesting and entertaining” DVDs available for viewing.

The ASURA Video History Committee this year includes Roger Carter, Elmer Gooding, Richard Haefer, John McIntosh, Dave Scheatzle and Linda Van Scoy. If you have an interest in this project – particularly in editing – we invite you to join the committee.

We welcome and encourage nominations of retired ASU employees for inclusion in the Video History Project. Send your recommendations to either lvs@asu.edu or:

ASU Retirees Association
Video History Project
P. O. Box 873308
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308

To request a DVD by mail, you may call, e-mail or write to the VHP Project team who will mail it to you. Enclosed with each DVD is a mailing label with the ASURA return address on it. After viewing the DVD, please return it in the mailer in which you received it; affix the new label to the front (cover your address), add postage and drop it in the mail. You may also continue to drop by the office and borrow DVDs for viewing.

The following interviews have been completed and are currently available to view or borrow from the ASU Retirees Association Office. (**Note:** Those with an asterisk are being edited and are not yet available.)

Backus, Charles	Fisher, Marvin	Kush, Frank	Oliver, Robert	Turk, Rudy
Bardwyck, Loretta	Fleming, Robert	Land, Floyd *	Ostrom, Lonnie	Umberson, George
Barnhill, Robert *	"Coach" *	Lessard, Beth	Parker, Clyde	Van Scoy, Linda
Betz, Mat	Glick, Milton	Lewis, William *	Penley, Larry *	Weigend, Guido *
Branstetter, Ellamae	Gisolo, Margaret	Lombardi, Eugene	Peplow, Bonnie	Weschler, Louis *
Brown, Brent	Gooding, Elmer	Mason, Bruce	Pittman, Anne M.	Winkles, Bobby
Burgess, Hugh *	Gordon, Leonard	Matheson, Alan	Prust, Zeke *	Wright, Madelyn *
Campbell, Rudy	Greathouse, Betty	McHenry, Al *	Rapp, James *	Zafra, Victor *
Coor, Lattie	Grigsby, Eugene	McSheffrey, Gerry	Rice, Ross	
Crowder, Troy	Hardt, Ann *	Metha, Arlene	Richards, Gale	Roundtable
Dotts, Don	Hastings, Vernon *	Miller, Victor J.	Sackton, Frank	discussion:
Doyle, Roy	Harrison, Mernoy *	Moore, Carleton	Salerno, Nick	Brent Brown,
Edwards, John	Huizingh, William	Morrell, George	Schabacker, Joseph *	Russell Nelson &
Ellis, Bob	Kajikawa, Bill	Mulhollan, Paige	Schwada, Wilma	Frank Sackton
Elmore, James W.	Kigin, Denis	Murra, Dick	Shell, Leon	
Fearon, Hal	Kinsinger, Jack	Nelson, Russell	Smith, Dean	

Volunteer for the ASURA

ASURA is operated entirely by volunteers. If you think you might enjoy working with fellow retirees to support the organization and its activities, please look over the list of volunteer opportunities detailed on Page 2 of our Membership Application Form. If you have an interest, please contact the ASURA office.

ASRS at the Legislature

R. J. (Dick) Jacob



This year promises to be a fairly quiet one at the Arizona Legislature when it comes to the State's retirement systems. There is no lack of controversial issues; however, most of them have been relegated to a legislative study committee whose findings and recommendations aren't due until December 31 of this year. Therefore, it is not expected that bills – other than for normal housekeeping – will be submitted in the face of uncertain or anticipated committee findings.

The study committee was established in 2011 in Senate Bill 1609. It is mandated to study the feasibility of transferring state retirement system members to a “defined contribution” (DC) plan from the current “defined benefits” (DB) plan. It also will look at the feasibility of merging existing state DC plans, as well as issues involving compensation and salary “spiking” (artificially boosting these in the months prior to retirement) and other more minor items.

The Defined Contribution and Retirement Study Committee have as members, among others, the State Treasurer (Chair) and representatives from the Senate, the House and the ASRS Board. ASRS Director Paul Matson presented information to the Study Committee in 2011 and will likely continue to do so in 2012.

The big tussle will, of course, be over DC vs. DB plans. Both have their benefits and their faults; their champions and their detractors. It might almost be a toss-up which to choose if the state were just beginning to initiate employee retirement programs. But a decision to “change horses in mid-stream” could be of significant cost, not only to active (i.e., currently employed) ASRS and PSPRS members, but to the state as well, inasmuch as current retiree benefits are constitutionally required to be maintained.

In a DB, such as the current ASRS and PSPRS plans, as well as Social Security, retirement benefits can be determined by formula ahead of time. DC's are plans, such as 401(K) s and IRAs in which contributions are defined but benefits are dependent upon subsequent investment performances. Many university system faculty members have opted to go with TIAA CREF or Valic for their retirement coverage; these are DC plans.

DB plans generally have the benefits of predictability and guarantee of retirement income, placing the onus of investment decisions on plan trustees, average greater retirement equity (depending, of course, on economic history) and less administrative expense, while they are also somewhat more complex and are clearly less portable.

On the other hand, DC plans are less complex, easily portable and are more ideologically satisfying to a significant portion of the public. But they offer unknown and variable retirement benefits, require the individual employee to keep investment skills sharp and are generally more expensive per benefit level. It is this writer's opinion that the move toward switching from the DB to the DC horse at this time is motivated as much by ideological concerns as any other. It seems to carry the same attraction to some as does privatizing the Social Security system. It will be interesting to see this December how the Committee views things, but it is certain to preface a much more exciting legislative session on retirement issues in 2012.

February 28: Deadline for the ASURA Board of Directors Election

Please Vote. If you have not received the ASURA Board election ballot in your mailbox, be looking for it to arrive very soon.

There are only 5 candidates for the 5 open Board positions — there are typically fewer volunteers for these positions than there are openings. We anticipate that all who are on the ballot will be elected but feel it's important that you support these candidates through your votes — even if it may be only to show your appreciation for their willingness to serve.

ASU Retirees and E-mail Choices

Connie McNeill



If you have some or all of the following questions about your e-mail choices, you might want to look at a new article on our Web site called “E-mail and ASU Retirees”. It appears in the “Technology” topic of “News, Information” on the bottom left area of our site. The direct address is: <http://asura.asu.edu/technology/email>.

- Should I use an ASU e-mail service at all, now that I’m retired? What are the advantages of doing so, and what’s the downside?
- I am using an ASU e-mail service. I know I should not send an e-mail to my Legislator using my ASU account, but I don’t know what alternatives I have?
- I am not using an ASU e-mail service. How can I make sure that e-mail sent to me@asu.edu reaches me?
- If I stay with an ASU e-mail service, which one should I select: Outlook/Exchange – with or without installing Outlook on my computer, or Gmail for ASU?
- I am using an ASU e-mail service and a non-ASU e-mail service (e.g., Hotmail). Is there a way to simplify things so that I don’t have to log on to and manage each of the services separately?

President’s Message

David Schwalm, 2011-2012 ASURA President



In the first *Prime Times* of the new year, I want to encourage you all to participate in our upcoming ASURA “big event,” Retirees Day on February 25.

Event chair Barry McNeill and his committee have put together an outstanding menu of interesting concurrent sessions culminating in a luncheon with Arizona historian Marshall Trimble as featured speaker. As this is our best-attended event, you’ll be sure to see friends and colleagues you may not have seen for a while.

We have sent registration information by mail and email and it is available as well on our web site at <http://asura.asu.edu/2112RetireesDay>. At \$30 per person, it’s a smokin’ deal!

Your Board is also working on a couple of history projects. Our major, ongoing, project is the Video History Project. Linda Van Scoy and the committee have been editing past interviews, doing new ones, and scheduling more at a rapid pace, creating a valuable and fascinating oral history of our university. I encourage you to look at the list of available interviews on the web site at <http://asura.asu.edu/VideoHistory>.

Also, the Board approved Val Peterson’s proposal to continue Dean Smith’s history of the first decade of the ASURA. Val has put together a new committee to work on documenting our second decade. The new history will be available on line, with printed copies offered as needed or desired.

We are now in the early stages of the 2012 session of the state legislature. One of the purposes of the ASURA is to promote the good of the university. Please take some time to learn about legislation that is likely to affect the university including retirement plans or health insurance, and make your opinions known to the governor and your legislators. Retirees tend to be voting people and our voices are heard.

In a couple of weeks, my spouse and I are heading out on the ASURA-sponsored Amazon cruise/Macchu Pichu tour with ASU friends and colleagues. This is our second ASURA-sponsored trip and we are really looking forward to it. Because of this trip, we will be out of town for Retirees Day. But I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Luncheon on March 14 or the Annual Meeting on April 21. Meanwhile, enjoy this most wonderful season of our year.

Obituaries: Published September 28, 2011 - January 22, 2012



Becky Reiss, Membership & Communications Committee

(Please note that all obituary notices and photos, when available, are on our web site:
[http://asura.asu.edu/obituaries.](http://asura.asu.edu/obituaries))

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Archibald, Ray Clinton	December 29, 2011	Air Conditioning and Heating Department
Atsumi, Takayori "Taki"	October 18, 2011	Professor of Cello
Bell, Janet Louise	September 24, 2011	Associate Professor, School of Social Work
Cakos, Spiro	September 28, 2011	ASU West Volunteer Department
Carpenter, Caroline	November 4, 2011	ASU Foundation
Carey, William Polk	January 2, 2012	Donator, W.P. Carey School of Business
Dollbaum, Walter Raymond Sr.	January 5, 2012	Department unknown
Engle, Jason Charles	December 27, 2011	Electrician
Greeley, Ronald	October 27, 2011	Planetary Geology Regents' Professor School of Earth and Space Exploration
Krus, David	October 12, 2011	Emeritus Professor of Educational Psychology
Magers, William Dean	November 5, 2011	Professor Emeritus of Viola
Martinez, Esther Valenzuela	December 9, 2011	Polytechnic Campus
McEndree, Linda Kathryn	September 20, 2011	ASU Law College
Morgan, Owen Wenger	December 28, 2011	Emeritus Professor of School of Social & Family Dynamics
Oliver, Joan Lee	December 29, 2011	Wife of Robert Oliver, Professor Emeritus of Architecture, deceased in 2010
Payne, June	October 27, 2011	Editor, Bureau of Publications
Quinn, Martin (Marty) William	October 31, 2011	College of Engineering
Satterthwaite, Lester Lee, Jr.	January 5, 2012	Professor Emeritus of Education
Stewart, Thomas Arthur, Sr.	October 4, 2011	Energy Manager

Important Dates to Remember — Spring 2012

- February 17:** Retirees Day Registration Deadline
- February 25:** Retirees Day, ASU Tempe Campus MU Cochise 228, 9:00am to 2:00pm
- February 28:** Ballots due for ASURA Board of Directors
- March 14:** Spring Luncheon, Karsten Golf Club, 11:30am to 1:30pm
- April 21:** Annual Meeting for **ALL** ASURA Members, ASU Tempe Campus MU, Alumni Lounge, 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Prime Times is issued three times annually by the Arizona State University Retirees Association with special editions as needed. Articles welcome, subject to Board approval.

Contact: 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. Office hours are generally Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It is best to call beforehand.

Phone: 480-965-7668

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