

Spring 2015

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### President's Message

by Jo Madonna  
2014-2015 ASURA President



Hopefully 2015 is treating you well so far. I do indeed wish everyone a Happy New Year. Those of us who still live in the lower desert celebrate the beautiful days that we are graced with this time of year.

I grew up in a fairly large family, at least by today's standards. I was oldest of 5 kids and there was always something going on in our house. When that something was some sort of minor calamity such as milk being left out on the counter, the back door being left open so that a pet escaped, or a knick knack getting broken, etc., my Pop would gather us together and ask "who did it?" More often than not, the response from each of us was "not me." He would then say, "Well, do you think that Yahooodie did it?" We all knew that Yahooodie was the little man that wasn't there. In more serious situations blaming it on Yahooodie wasn't likely to happen but for minor ones Yahooodie often got us off the hook with a just a good lecture meant to make it a teachable moment.

The above reminiscence from my childhood is to explain who Yahooodie is to those of you who haven't heard of him before. I bring this up to point out that ASURA isn't blessed with a Yahooodie on our list of members. The work and activities that ASURA carries out on behalf of both our members and ASU retirees in general are possible because of the work of our members and not by Yahooodie, a fantasy person who works on our behalf.

Because Yahooodie isn't an option, I ask you to consider getting involved in one of our committees so that ASURA can remain vital and effective in meeting the needs and expectations of our members. The following pages are full of information about some of what is going on in ASURA. So, keep your skills honed and, now that you are retired, stay connected and get involved in something that you enjoy. If you just have an hour here or there or if you are looking for something to sink your teeth into, ASURA wants and needs you.

Please contact me at [jomadonna@cox.net](mailto:jomadonna@cox.net) if you have any questions about what would be involved.

## ASURA Board Officers

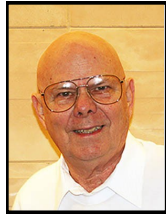
### President

Jo Madonna



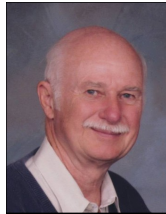
### Vice President

Jim Fordemwalt



### Past President

Barry McNeill



### Secretary

Glenn Irvin



### Treasurer

Connie McNeill



## ASURA Board of Directors & Ex-Officio Members

### Terms Expire April 2015

Elmer Gooding  
Gary Kleemann  
Barry McNeill  
Connie McNeill  
Bill Stasi

### Terms Expire April 2016

Karen Hammann  
Glenn Irvin  
Jo Madonna  
Jan Thompson  
Hal White

### Terms Expire April 2017

Larry Carlson  
Joyce Hartman Diaz  
Jim Fordemwalt  
Ruth Kingsley  
Trudy Perez

### Ex-Officio Members

**Alumni Association** - Rhonda McClintock  
**Emeritus College Liaison** - Elmer Gooding  
**Human Resources** - Sheree Barron  
**University Affairs** - Barbara Shaw-Snyder  
& Abby Polito  
**University Club Liaison** - Jim Fordemwalt  
**University Senate** - Helene Ossipov  
**University Staff Council** - Sharon Young

## Committees & Liaisons

**Adopt-A-Family** -  
Joan Leard

**Book Donations** -  
Mary Stevens

**Events** - Barry McNeill

**Finance** - Connie McNeill

**Government Liaison (ASRS)**  
- Larry Carlson

**Government Liaison (State  
Legislature)** - Hal White

**Health Insurance (ASRS/  
ADOA) Liaisons** -  
Art Ashton, Larry Carlson,  
Joyce Hartman Diaz

**Luncheons/Special Events** -  
Barbara Bradford Eschbach

**Membership** -  
David Schwalm

**Obituaries** - Becky Reiss

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

**Scholarship** - Sue Blumer

**Seminars** - Jan Thompson

**Seminars (pre-retirement)** -  
Trudy Perez

**Travel** - Gary Anderson

**Video History Project** -  
David Scheatzle

**Website & Data Base** -  
Connie McNeill

## ASURA Office Staff

**Phone:** 480-965-7668 \*\*

**Fax:** 480-965-7807

**Website:** <http://asura.asu.edu/>

**Location:** Community Services Building  
200 East Curry Road, Room 201B  
Tempe, Arizona

**\*\* Best to call beforehand**

**Business Operations Manager** - Carolyn Minner  
**Coordinator, Office Staff** - Carol Moore

<b>Monday</b> -	morning	Carol Berg
	afternoon	Jeannette Robson
<b>Tuesday</b> -	morning	Carol Moore
	afternoon	Linda Van Scoy
<b>Wednesday</b> -	morning	Nancy Lesko
	afternoon	Bev Buddee
<b>Thursday</b> -	morning	Bonnie Scheall
	afternoon	Mary Williams
<b>Friday</b> -	morning	<b>Need volunteer</b>
	afternoon	<b>Need volunteer</b>

<b>Subs</b> -	Joan Leard	Dorothy Meunier
	Helen Seaton	Maxine LaRoux

## Updating Contact Information

If you are an ASURA member and you have changed your address, phone, or e-mail address, please let us know through one of the following methods:

### 1. Log in to our Membership and Events site:

- A. Follow our directions at <http://asura.wildapricot.org/Login> if you've never logged in to our Membership and Events site before.
- B. Go directly to a **log-in form** at <http://asura.wildapricot.org/sys/Login> if you're an old hand at using our Membership and Events site. There's a link to use there if you've forgotten your password.

**Once logged in**, you can update your information (your profile) by clicking on the "View Profile" link, which is in the upper right corner of the screen in the gold stripe. **OR**

### 2. Contact the ASURA Office to provide us with current information. **OR**

3. **Print and Complete a new Membership Enrollment form** at <http://asura.wildapricot.org/Resources/Forms/MembershipApplication.pdf> and send it to us. Please include a note explaining that this is an update of your contact information.

## Seminar: The Healthy Brain - The Alzheimer Brain



by Jan Thompson

Two outstanding speakers will highlight our February 12, 10 a.m. seminar on "The Brain" in CSB 330. ASU Professor Emeritus of Psychology Dr. Jay Braun will focus on the Healthy Brain for the first hour, while Mayo Clinic physician and Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium researcher Dr. Bryan Woodruff will speak on the Alzheimer's Brain during the second hour. A capacity audience is expected for this timely and informative topic of interest to all.

## Spring 2015 Luncheon & "Educational" Wine Tasting

by Barbara Bradford Eschbach

Get prepared to register for our 2<sup>nd</sup> ASURA Luncheon & Wine Tasting event on Thursday, March 5, 2015. This luncheon will be held at the Chandler location of the Dvine Wine Bar & Bistro.

The owner of this establishment, Robert Coulson, promises another memorable luncheon. More importantly, we will have a sommelier (i.e. "wine professor") who will educate the attending oenophiles (i.e. "winos") about various wines during our luncheon, including dessert wine! All of this comes at the remarkable price of \$30/person, which includes tax and tip. One of the attendees last May 2014 remarked, "It's the best \$30 I ever spent!"

Dvine in Chandler is located at the northwest corner of Alma School and Ocotillo. In preparation for the class you might want to visit [www.DvineWineBarChandler.com](http://www.DvineWineBarChandler.com) to check out their great "educational" videos and even greater menu.

Questions? Contact Barbara Bradford Eschbach at [Barbara.Eschbach@asu.edu](mailto:Barbara.Eschbach@asu.edu).



## ASU Technology Self-help Problems for Retirees

by Connie McNeill, ASURA Technology Officer

On July 1, 2014, ASU's University Technology Office implemented a new service for faculty and staff. The service, called "ServiceNow", was supposed to improve our ability to find articles in the IT Knowledge Base and to submit a service request if needed.



Unfortunately, the new system is not available to retirees. I am told by John Rome, Deputy Chief Information Officer of the University Technology Office that this was unintentional – "with a shortened timeline for bringing up the new helpdesk by 7/1, some of the existing functionality didn't transfer to the new environment." John indicates that my request that this functionality be restored is among 50+ requests being handled by the "ServiceNow" team, and he has asked for assistance from senior ASU personnel for prioritizing that request.

So – it may be a while before our service is restored, but it will eventually be restored. It may be that the ability to search the knowledge base will be restored before the ability to submit a service request is.

If you are impacted by this, I urge you to write on your own to John at [JohnRome@asu.edu](mailto:JohnRome@asu.edu). If he hears from more people, he may be able to escalate the fix for us.

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## Special Parking Permit Prices for ASURA Members

by Connie McNeill, ASURA Technology Officer

Did you know that ASURA members are entitled to purchase a retiree/Gold Permit for parking at ASU? The cost is \$280, and it allows parking in the Rural Road Structure, Packard Drive South Structure, the Stadium Structure, and at Gammage on the Tempe campus; at the University Center garage Downtown, and better reciprocal parking at West and Polytechnic.

This price and the parking locations are quite favorable when compared to what is available to employees. Employees are limited to just one parking location and pay \$430 for the Rural Road or Stadium garage and \$470 for the downtown University Center Garage, if indeed permits are available for them to purchase in those locations.

The Gold Permit is not available to all retirees – just to those who are currently members of ASURA or of the Emeritus College. It has been the practice of the Emeritus College to cover the cost of this permit for their eligible

members who apply for it with them. ASURA cannot extend the same offer, but we are happy to confirm membership for those of you who may wish to purchase the permit.

This arrangement was worked out with Parking Services 4 years ago by then ASURA Vice President Sheila Stokes. We have tried periodically to get the cost reduced to \$0 on the basis that retirees would use permits only infrequently. We tried again recently, with help from Ray Jensen, and received this informative response from John Riley:

"Parking is not in a position to offer free parking permits. We currently have 24,790 parking spaces: 17,210 at Tempe, 3,100 at Polytechnic, 3,400 at West, and 1,080 at Downtown. We have 82,060 students (13,000 of which are in our online programs) and 9,425 employees. So, we have one parking space for every 3.1 people.

"At the Tempe Campus, this will get significantly worse with the loss of spaces for the Omni Hotel/USA Basketball project, and with the Athletic Facilities District development.

"Since FY07, we have lost 5,041 spaces, or 17% of our spaces, while the number of students has increased by 39%. We have been able to meet the demand through subsidized light rail and bus passes, free intercampus shuttles, and free transportation to off-campus locations like the Mayo Clinic and the Chandler Innovation Center. Further, at the request of our respective student governments, we have expanded intercampus transportation to nights and weekends.

"At present, Parking pays \$5,709,100 for transportation, and transfers \$3.4 million to other University programs. Finally, we are currently upgrading our parking management system."

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## Discount Programs for ASU Retirees and for Seniors

by Connie McNeill, ASURA Technology Officer

Did you know that there is a long list of discounts on attractions, goods and services that are available to ASU employees – and ASU retirees? These discounts are available in many cases just by using promotional codes. In some cases, you must show your ASU ID.

If you don't have an ASU ID (SunCard) to use for this purpose, you can get one at one of the SunCard offices – there is one on each campus. The one on the Tempe campus is in the MU lower level. You will need a photo ID and you will need to know your 10-digit ASU ID number. If this is a problem for you, you might try calling the ASU Help Desk at 1-855-ASU-5080 for assistance: identify yourself as a retiree and say you need to know your 10-digit ASU ID number. You can look the number up if you

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can log in to *myASU* (using your ASURITE UserID and password) – <http://www.asu.edu/myasu>. The ASU ID is listed under Profile, Account Details, View My IDs.

Goods and services categories in the ASU discount list include florists, food, health, hotels/resorts, home improvement, security, moving services, telephone/TV/Internet and others. Attractions are listed for Arizona, Florida, and California, and include the Dolly Steamboat on Canyon Lake, Rawhide at Wild Horse Pass, the Arizona Diamondbacks, the ASU Karsten Golf Course, Gammage Auditorium and others.

There is a link from our ASURA website, <https://asura.asu.edu>, to the lists of discounts, which includes instructions for taking advantage of each offer. Our link appears under “Membership”.

In addition to ASU-related discounts, there are many discounts available to seniors. The eligibility age varies from 50 (AARP members) to over 60. Often just showing a driver’s license or other identification will allow you a senior discount. In some places you need to register to get a card. Here are a very few examples. I picked these examples because I’ve personally taken advantage of most of them:

- Applebee’s: 15% off with Golden Apple Card (60+)
- Burger King: 10% off (60+)
- Dunkin Donuts – free donut with an order of a cup of coffee (55+)
- Village Inn: 10% off (60+)
- Wendy’s: check with the restaurant as senior age discounts vary
- Hallmark: 10% off one day a week (date varies by location)
- Fry’s Supermarket: free Fry’s VIP Club Membership & 10% off every Monday (55+)
- Marriott Hotels: 15% off (62+)
- Southwest Airlines: various discounts for ages 65 and up
- Verizon Wireless: Verizon Nationwide 65 Plus Plan \$29.99/month (65+)
- AMC theaters: discounts vary (60+)
- AARP has negotiated a wide variety of discounts on behalf of members. You need an AARP membership to take advantage.

My very favorite is the *America the Beautiful* senior pass. For people age 62 and older, \$10 will get you a life-time pass that provides you and up to three other adults free admission to more than 2,000 national parks and federal

recreation sites. I am sure using this has saved my husband and me well over \$300 in the past few years. See <http://www.doi.gov/tourists/get-a-pass.cfm> for more information. There is a list of where passes are issued at <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/PassIssuanceList.pdf>. We got ours at the Bureau of Land Management office on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Phoenix. You can also order it on-line, but then it costs \$20.

Some businesses clearly list senior discounts on their websites or post them in the store. Many museums, movie theaters, restaurants and retailers also clearly post senior rates. Many stores provide discounts only to seniors who ask for them. Wherever you are doing business, ask whether there is a senior discount available.

So – take advantage of all these great discounts, and find more on line. Just search (“Google”) on “senior discounts” and you’ll find lots of lists.

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## ASURA Office Updates

by Linda Van Scoy (Photo by Dave Scheatzle)

### The Chair Arrived!

The ASURA office staff is pleased to report that we received our new office chair donated by Goodman’s Interior Structures. This is a Herman Miller design chair and is extremely comfortable, adjustable and 99% recyclable (Should that time ever come!).

Thanks go to Wael Soliman, an employee of Goodman’s who learned of ASURA from Dave Scheatzle ... his father-in-law.



Jo Madonna &  
Linda Van Scoy

### Office Volunteers Needed

We are in need of a few more volunteers, permanent or temporary, to staff the ASURA office. Unfortunately, several of our regular volunteer office staff, or a family member, are recovering from various health issues leaving us without coverage on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons and also Friday morning. Shifts are 9-noon and 1-4 p.m. If you can help out or know of someone who might lend a hand, let us know. Please contact Carol Moore at [carollinneamoore@cox.net](mailto:carollinneamoore@cox.net).

## Adopt-a-family Program

by Joan Leard, Committee Chair

The ASURA Adopt-A-Family program was established during the 6<sup>th</sup> year under President Don Gieschen. He wrote a letter to his board of directors: "I think we should go beyond self-interest and pocketbook issues and serve a broad range of interests". Among other suggestions he mentioned the Adopt-A-Family program. Thus the program began.



During the early years the volunteers accepted donations of clothing, household items and non-perishable food. They stored these items at their homes for later distribution. They also solicited items from Tempe merchants including movie tickets. They did not ask the association for any funds. When I was asked to take over the program eight years ago I announced to the board that I believed ASURA should pay for the program instead of asking for donated goods. I also exclaimed I am a big spender. The program has now advanced and has a sizeable annual budget from the association for the purchase of goods and food. I personally wanted to have the program make a difference in the lives of the families chosen.

ASURA is able to adopt two families each year. One needy family chosen by a social worker from the Tempe school system; and a returning student family from the ASU Adopt-A-Family Program. The ASU student must be working towards a degree, have a part-time job and have children.

Deliveries are made in the Fall at Thanksgiving, at Christmas and in the Spring just before Easter. The families are surveyed for their individual needs that include clothing, household goods and toys.

In the Fall I choose hoodies for each member of the families, flashlights for each and household items requested as well as a gift card from a grocery store of their choice for holiday food. I find beautiful baskets at thrift stores in which to pack these items.

At Christmas we are able to purchase an entire outfit for each person, toys for each child, various household items and a grocery card for food. Each item is presented wrapped in Holiday paper.

In the Spring ASURA is able to purchase more clothing and requested items as well as a card for holiday food. Again the gifts are delivered in baskets.

One time we were requested to pay to have the utilities

turned on for a family, one time we were able to find and pay for a dentist for a family member, we purchased tickets to a rock concert, we bought a sewing machine, many school and art supplies, etc. One time a family requested a TV so my daughters, who help me with this, picked up the one in my den and said, "this will do".

These families express their gratitude with letters, cards and drawings from the children. I have asked the social worker if this really made a difference in the lives of these people and she always assures me it did.

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## ASURA Needs your Old Books!

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

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

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

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

### **For more information contact:**

Mary Stevens - [marystevens0@gmail.com](mailto:marystevens0@gmail.com) (602-758-3750)

Bill Moor - [william.moor@asu.edu](mailto:william.moor@asu.edu) (480-838-8348)



# Disability Benefits 101

working with a disability in Arizona



## Disability Benefits 101

<http://az.db101.org/>

These words are often uttered by individuals who receive Social Security benefits when asked about returning to the workforce.

*“How much can I earn and keep my eligibility for Social Security disability benefits?”*

*“It took me forever to get my SSDI check. I am not working and messing with that.”*

*“I would love to work, but I cannot afford to lose my healthcare.”*

If you are receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and live in the state of Arizona, you are in luck!! Arizona has a resource at its fingertips that only 2 other states in the country have... a comprehensive, state-specific online resource that will allow you to see what will happen to your income, benefits, and health coverage if you gain employment.

The Arizona Disability Benefits 101 (DB101) is a user-friendly online tool that helps work through the myths and confusion of Social Security benefits, healthcare, and employment. DB101 online tools support individuals with disabilities to make informed decisions when thinking about gaining employment, or when accepting a job offer, by educating on how work and benefits (cash, medical, etc...) go together. These tools help support individuals with disabilities to maximize their earnings by utilizing available work incentives. Use the “Benefits and Work” calculator to find out how a job may affect your total income and your health coverage. Get started by watching the 90-second introduction video on the home page.

DB101 has a broad range of information, does not require any identifiable information, and is completely **FREE** to use. It is also available in Spanish at <http://az-es.db101.org/>. Although DB101 is user-friendly, technical assistance is available, so you can “Talk to an Expert” by calling the number listed on the website and someone will assist you.

DB101 can even be helpful if you are not receiving So-

cial Security benefits by explaining eligibility requirements; linking to applications and other program websites; linking to articles related to different significant life changes; and providing tips for planning for future.

DB101 is more than just employment for Social Security beneficiaries. It’s about empowerment, community inclusion, increasing self-worth, moving out of poverty, and creating a better life.

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## Legislative Breakfast - January 13, 2015



*Hal White, John Brock, Bill Stasi, President Michael Crow, Bob Mings, Jeri Meeks*

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## Video History Report

*by David Scheatzle, Chair*

Our interviewee selection committee met in December and suggested 40 new names. We also asked previous interviewees to propose names. So with these, added to the names already identified, we have about 100 possible candidates. Prioritizing, we have selected 16 persons who we hope to schedule to start off “this season.” We are always open to receiving suggested names from our members.



Four recent interviews have been—Walter Harris, Louis Olivas, Suzanne Steadman and Ted Humphrey. This brings the total of interviews to 104.

Our archives have become extensive and we will begin uploading our files to the ASU Library’s Archive server for

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(Continued from page 7)

secure backup. Our plans are to have interviews viewable on the ASU Library Archive Repository Website. This will eliminate the need to produce DVDs.

In the meantime, Connie McNeill has developed the ASURA Video History Web page, guiding us through the process to add brief clips of interviews to the web page. We have posted over 40 video clips for public viewing. See <https://asura.asu.edu/VideoHistory>.

We have an editing backlog. Anyone who has an interest and maybe a little experience in video editing is invited to visit our studio. We use the iMovie software on MAC computers; we have two workstations.



**Photo Caption:** Suzanne Steadman was interviewed by Leon Shell in June of last year. Suzanne retired as Director of the International Students Program in 2010. Suzanne tells some very interesting stories.

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## On the road again ... with the ASURA Travel Committee

### Where we've been

We've helped some members of ASURA and their friends get a bit more musical over the last couple of months. But our singing is probably still best done in the shower, with the water on full.

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, we went to the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) in north Phoenix. MIM is a collection of musical instruments from around the world and across the ages. It is really an incredible place to visit. There is the Africa room, for example, with dozens of countries and cultures represented through their instruments and music. In addition to the instruments, the displays all have video-audio presentations of the instruments in use, accompanied by singing and dancing. More than 200 countries are represented. Music has been a part of humankind, long before showers came about.

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, we went to hear the wonderful Spirit of Phoenix men's chorus perform their show called Christmas Letters. This group has been in existence in the Phoenix area for over 60 years. Their beautiful musical selections got us all in the mood for Christmas. Wonderful.

Following the matinee concert we all went off to dinner at BJ's and continued our enjoyment, accompanied by two of the singers, David Schwalm and John Brock. Hmmm. Did we enjoy the day?

*"I'm partial to barbershop harmonies and the Phoenix Chorus is among the best anywhere. This was my third year at their top notch performance." Norm Perrill*

*"A great way to start the Season and the program brought Christ into Christmas as it should be." Hal White*

### Where we're going

Details of our trips and activities are always found on the ASURA website as well as the opportunity to register for them. You can also get up to date information by calling the office.

Our plans for the coming year include some really incredible trips.

**On April 22-24, 2015** we are going to the Four Corners area. You will have an opportunity to tour Canyon de Chelly, probably see John Wayne ride around the butte in Monument Valley and view the mysterious and haunting Antelope Canyon. Call as soon as you read this to book your reservation. Details are on the website.

**On May 17<sup>th</sup>** we are going to board a plane at Sky Harbor for a visit to China. You can be a "Chopstick, too" and come with us to walk the Great Wall, visit the Forbidden City, the TerraCotta Warriors, cruise for 3 days on the Yangtze and become an expert in the use of chopsticks. Details are on the website or you can contact the office.

**Like spaghetti?** How about Italy in September? You will explore the history and culture of the Italian heartland. How about Bologna and Parma, Tuscany and Umbria? A focus will be on the culinary traditions and delights of the area. Details are available on the website and by calling the office. Information sessions planned for January 26 (1:00pm) and February 4 (10:00am) at the Tempe Public Library. Pizza, anyone?

**Tovrea Castle**, the one you see on the way to Phoenix? We are going back there in October for another tour. The dates are not yet set but watch for the next Prime Times and check the website in late spring.

There will be more local trips planned for the spring and fall. Let us know what you would like.



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## 2014 Meet & Greet Pizza Party

by Barbara Bradford Eschbach

Nearly 80 folks attended the first ASURA Luncheon/Pizza Party! The photos you see just scratch the surface with respect to how much fun all attendees had, which included previous as well as new members of the ASURA.

Aside from swapping stories of "what I did on my summer vacation," the attendees were introduced to the Board members for 2014-2015. Committee chairs spoke briefly on plans that are already in place for this year, and an invitation to all to become an active participant in the Association. Please visit our ASURA Photo Gallery for more pictures.



*Barbara - ready to feed the hungry crowd*



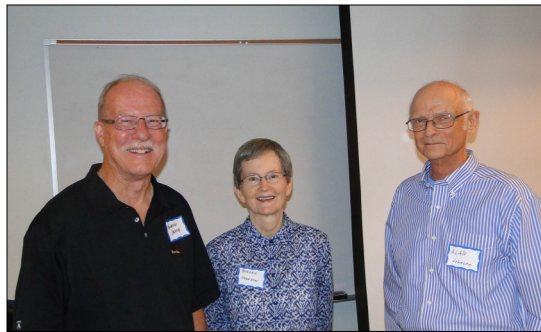
*Alleen Nilsen*



*Joe Schultz, Hal White*



*Jay Butler, Joe Schultz, Elmer Gooding, Gary Kleemann*



*Glenn Irvin, Borgny & Alan Johnson*



*Marjorie Garrity, Bev Buddee, Karen Hammann, Jeff Chapman*



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## Save the Date

The ASURA Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 1:00 – 3:00pm in the Alumni Lounge at the Memorial Union, Tempe Campus.

This year's guest speaker will be Ray Anderson, ASU's Vice President for University Athletics and Athletic Director.

## 2014 Health Insurance Seminar

by Jan Thompson (Photo by Gary Kleemann)



A record number—just over 100--- ASURA members and guests attended our first-ever DOUBLE seminar event on October 22 and went home armed with information on Medicare, ADOA and ASRS retirement health plans. The annual Health Care-Open Enrollment Seminar was booked to capacity well before the event, with a growing waiting list that couldn't be accommodated. Fortunately we were able to book our 3 excellent speakers for a second session, offered on the same afternoon, setting a precedent that will likely be followed next year for this popular annual event.

ADOA representative Elizabeth Shaefer, ASRS representative Pat Klein, and independent insurance agent Brian Bilyeu presented a wealth of information on ASU group retirement health plans, on Medicare Parts A-D, and on Medicare supplement and drug plans. Attendees had many of their questions answered and were enthusiastic about the knowledgeable speakers, friendly delivery, and quality of information conveyed.



## Spring 2015 ASURA Events Schedule

by Barry McNeill

The Events Committee has been busy planning the spring's set of activities. 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.

Type	Event Name	Date	Cost
Seminar	The Healthy Brain – The Alzheimer's Brain	Thursday – February 12	Free
Luncheon	Luncheon & Wine Tasting	Thursday – March 5	TBD
Seminar	Finances (tentative)	Thursday – March 19	Free
Meeting	Annual Meeting	Saturday – April 18	Free
Travel	Four Corners Trip	April 22 - 24	TBD
Travel	China Trip 2015	May 18-June 9	Spots still available
Travel	Bologna & Parma: Rich History & Culinary Traditions and Tuscany & Umbria: Rustic Beauty in the Italian Heartland adventure	September 11 – October 1	Spots still available

## 2014 Tovrea Castle Tour

by Gary Anderson (photos by Barry McNeill & Gary Kleemann)

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, about two dozen ASURA members and friends visited the Castle on the Hill-Tovrea Castle. It is the one we always marveled at as we passed it driving into Phoenix on Washington St. The original land was a homestead established by F.L. and Lizzie Warner in 1907. In 1928 the land, 277 acres, was sold to Alessio Carraro.

Tovrea Castle was completed in 1930 by Alessio, who built the castle to be the hotel center piece of a planned resort destination. In 1931, the Castle was purchased by E.A. Tovrea, the founder of the Arizona Packing Company. He passed away within a year but his wife, Della Tovrea lived in the Castle until her death in 1969. The City of Phoenix purchased the property in 1993 but it was not opened for tours until 2012.

The tour began at the visitor center where we learned about the creation of the Tovrea Carraro Society - TCS - a non profit organization. The city had spent over \$15 million of bond funds to renovate the site but did not have the funds to open the site to the public. The TCS was formed in the summer of 2010 and worked on programs that would allow the public to tour the site.

After the introduction we boarded two trams and were driven around the castle and the cactus grounds. The Castle itself is very impressive, both inside and out, and so too is the very extensive cactus gardens surrounding the Castle. Tons and tons of rocks were hauled from the bed of the Salt River to line the walkways and accent the extensive hilltop cactus garden. Breath-taking and beautiful.

After the tour of the grounds we entered the first floor of the castle and you can imagine the oohs and aahs of our group as we FINALLY got inside the Castle to have a look. The Travel Committee is going to try to schedule another Castle tour for next fall. If you can't wait, you can book online at <http://TovreaCastleTours.com>.



*The 8:30 am Crew*



*Great Room - same artist as Orpheum Theatre*



*The 11:00 am Crew*



*Entrance to Hotel*



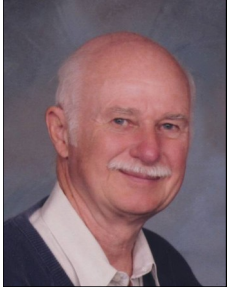
*Garden surrounding Castle*



*Della Tovrea's commissioned petroglyphs*

## 2014 Fall Luncheon

Story and photos by Barry McNeill



Again this year the fall luncheon was held at Friendship Village. Twenty-two members and three guests enjoyed a nicely served lunch and chit chat with fellow retirees.

After lunch had been eaten we had a very nice musical program given by Russ Schmidt on piano and vocalist Vicki McDermitt. The program featured songs by Cole Porter and the Gershwin brothers including: "Can't Take That Away From Me", "It's Alright With Me", "Embraceable You", "Don't Fence Me In", "Summer Time", "Not For Me", "Someone To Watch Over Me", and ending with "Our Love Is Here To Stay".

Not only did Vicki sing she also supplied us with little snippets of information about the songs. For example while Cole Porter is credited with writing "Don't Fence Me In"; he actually got the words from a poem written by a highway worker who gave Cole the poem while Cole was on a trip out west. Cole was willing to give credit but the publishing company refused thinking it would put a blemish on Cole's reputation. Vicki pointed out the enduring quality of the songs; they all over 70 years old, yet most members of the audience recognized them.



pianist Russ Schmidt



Great food, entertainment & conversation!



Jo Madonna "holding court"



vocalist Vicki McDermitt

## Spring 2015 Emeritus College Colloquiums

Wednesday February 18, 2015	<b>Emeritus College Colloquium, ASU Foundation Fulton Center, Sixth Floor Board Room, 2:00 - 3:30 pm</b> Speaker: Jeffrie G. Murphy, Regents Professor of Law, Philosophy and Religious Studies "Lost Innocence"
Wednesday March 18, 2015	<b>Emeritus College Colloquium, ASU Foundation Fulton Center, Sixth Floor Board Room, 2:00 - 3:30 pm</b> Speaker: Chouki El Hamel, ASU Professor of History "Black Morocco"
Wednesday April 15, 2015	<b>Emeritus College Colloquium, ASU Foundation Fulton Center, Sixth Floor Board Room, 2:00 - 3:30 pm</b> Speaker: Ahren Sadoff, Professor Emeritus of Physics, Cornell University "Should Intelligent Design/Creationism Be Taught in the Science Classroom?"

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A short description of the Colloquiums can be found at the following ASURA web site: <http://asura.wildapricot.org/AffiliatedEvents>.

For more information on all the Emeritus College offerings and to **RSVP** for the Colloquiums, please contact them directly:

Emeritus College  
Physical Address: Old Main 102  
Mailing Address: PO Box 873002, Tempe, AZ 85287-3002  
480-965-0002 | 480-727-3324 (fax)  
[EmeritusCollege@asu.edu](mailto:EmeritusCollege@asu.edu)

## 2014 Holiday Potluck & Bake Sale

by Barbara Bradford Eschbach (Photos by Elmer Gooding)

A group of merry, retired ASU "elves" gathered together on Thursday, December 18th. The gathering was to enjoy a potluck luncheon with lots of goodies! Also, several luncheon attendees brought even more goodies for the Bake Sale, raising some \$\$\$ for the ASURA. Live piano music set the "mood" for this jolly event, and everyone left to go home to nap and to dream of dancing with Sugar Plums! The following photos tell the story best about this Jolly event!



Joyce Hartman Diaz, Rick Wall, Barbara



Buffet is ready!



"A Convivial Group" (word of the day)



"Reindeer-eared" Barbara welcoming attendees



Bake Sale is ready!



Elmer Gooding, Barbara



## Obituaries: September 22, 2014 - January 14, 2015

by Becky Reiss

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

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Brumbaugh, Wayne Monroe	December 21, 2014	ASU Polytechnic Campus
Burgess, Joseph James, Jr.	November 1, 2014	Faculty, School of Art
Canright, Margaret "Peggy" Jean	October 15, 2014	Wife of Dr. James E. Canright, Emeritus Professor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, deceased in 2008
Carey, Francis J., Jr.	November 1, 2014	Chairman and CEO of W.P. Carey Foundation; instrumental in founding W.P. Carey School of Business
Cassa, Robert Lee	October 1, 2014	Served on ASU Alumni Association
Casteel, Geraldine	September 14, 2014	College of Nursing
Corder, Brice W.	December 3, 2014	Professor, Health Science; Asst. Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Founder and Director of Pre-Med Advisory Program
Davison, Barry David	December 26, 2014	Event Coordinator, Department/college unknown
Farr, Gerald D. "Jerry"	September, 2014	Father of Heather Farr, pro golfer (deceased) and Missy Farr-Kaye, ASU Associate Head Women's Golf Coach
Fechter, William (Bill) Frederick	November 26, 2014	Professor, Industrial Technology
Fesser, August Keith	August 3, 2014	Sun Devil Ticket Office
Forrester, Nancy Gale	December 3, 2014	Along with colleagues maintained a scholarship for several years, School of Engineering for promising female engineering students
Freund, Maxine	December 20, 2014	Wife of John Ernst Freund, Professor (deceased)
Green, Mary Elizabeth	December 21, 2014	Assistant Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Hoffer, Warren Wayne	November 6, 2014	Emeritus Professor, School of Music
Jones, Austin Edward	December 26, 2014 (estimated)	Professor, Department unknown
Laetz, Johann "Hans" Gottlieb	September 23, 2014	Professor of German
Lightfoot, Marjorie	September 27, 2014	Emeritus Professor, Department of English

(continued on page 11)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>	<b>ASU Affiliation</b>
Marker, Ann	September 23, 2014	Department/College Affiliation unknown
Maxwell, Doris	September 28, 2014	ASU Library
Mehrens, Gloria Marie	December 4, 2014	Mother of Dr. Christopher Mehrens, Administrator, Music Library
Morris, Donald Harvey	August 30, 2014	Professor, Anthropology and Archaeology
Murra, Richard J.	September 22, 2014	Director of Personnel
Ordini, John "Johnny", Jr.	December 6, 2014	Asst. Director, Administration, Facilities Planning & Construction
Paolino, Lt. Col. John Julian	September 10, 2014	Adjunct Professor
Prather, Elizabeth Moodie	September 17, 2014	Emeritus Professor, Speech and Hearing Science
Rewick, David Whitcomb	December 1, 2014	Member, Council of Emeritus Advisers, College of Business
Robinson, Charles	December 10, 2014	Professor, Mathematics
Ruhala, David Michael	December 7, 2014	Professor, Department unknown
St. John, Ralph E., Jr.	October 7, 2014	Computer Science Professor
Smith, Jean Holcomb	October 23, 2014	Wife of Dean Smith (Deceased), Director of Publications
Sylvester, Edward J.	November 7, 2014	Faculty, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Walsh, Rev. Thomas A.	November 21, 2014	Parish Priest, All Saints Catholic Newman Center
Welch, Doris W. "Scottie"	November 26, 2014	Wife of H. W. "Bill" Welch, Professor, Electrical Engineering (deceased)
Wittenberg, George Karl	November 8, 2014	Lecturer, Chemistry/Biochemistry; Chemical/Biological Engineering; Special Education; John Hopkins University Center
Wootten, William W.	November 22, 2014	Emeritus Professor, History



### **Remembering Bill ...**

William W. Wootten, 89, professor emeritus of history at Arizona State University from 1958 to 1994, a total of 35 years, passed away November 22, 2014 in Tempe. In his late 80s, Bill volunteered in the ASURA front office on Friday afternoons from 2011 to 2013.



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

**PRIME TIMES**

P.O. Box 873308  
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308  
P: (480) 965-7668  
F: (480) 965-7807

## Welcome New ASURA Members

Marcia Charles	Peter Horwath	Denise Hutchinson	Howard Nelson
Elizabeth Croteau	Jean Humphries	Jeri Meeks	Susan Nowak

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.

**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.

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

**Phone:** 480-965-7668  
**Fax:** 480-965-7807  
**Website:** <http://asura.asu.edu>