



Annual Report from the Board 2015-2016



ASURA Members at the ASU Day at the Capitol – February 16, 2016

This report is for distribution at the Annual Meeting
April 16, 2016, 11:30 a.m.
ASU Tempe Campus, Memorial Union Alumni Lounge

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ASURA BOARD AND OFFICERS

2015-2016 (outgoing)

Officers

Jim Fordemwalt, President
Jo Madonna, Past President
Barbara White, Vice President
Bev Buddee, Secretary
Barry Bruns, Treasurer

Board Members (term expires)

Barry Bruns (4/2018)
Bev Buddee (4/2018)
Larry Carlson (4/2017)
Joyce Hartman Diaz (4/2017)
Jim Fordemwalt (4/2017)
Bob Francis (4/2018)
Karen Hammann (4/2016)
Glenn Irvin (4/2016)
Ruth Kingsley (4/2017, resigned 2/2016,
replaced by Barry McNeill)
Jo Madonna (4/2016)
Larry Mankin (4/2018)
Trudy Perez (4/2017)
Jan Thompson (4/2016)
Jeannette Robson (4/2017)
Barbara White (4/2018)
Hal White (4/2016)

Ex-officio Members

Sheree Barron, Human Resources
Jim Fordemwalt, University Club
Elmer Gooding, Emeritus College
Rhonda McClintock, Alumni Assoc.
TBD, University Senate
Abby Polito, University Affairs
Barbara Shaw-Snyder, Community &
Municipal Relations
Katie Aguilar, University Staff Council

2016-2017 (incoming)

Officers

Barbara White, President
Jim Fordemwalt, Past President
TBD, Vice President
Bev Buddee, Secretary
Barry Bruns, Treasurer

Board Members (term expires)

Anthony Brazel (4/2019)
Barry Bruns (4/2018)
Bev Buddee (4/2018)
Jay Q. Butler (4/2019)
Larry Carlson (4/2017)
Joyce Hartman Diaz (4/2017)
Jim Fordemwalt (4/2017)
Bob Francis (4/2018)
Larry Mankin (4/2018)
Barry McNeill (4/2017)
Jeri Meeks (4/2019)
Trudy Perez (4/2017)
Jeannette Robson (4/2017)
Tara Fuchs Roesler (4/2019)
David Schwalm (4/2019)
Barbara White (4/2018)

Ex-officio Members

TBD, Human Resources
Jim Fordemwalt, University Club
TBD, Emeritus College
Rhonda McClintock, Alumni Assoc.
TBD, University Senate
Abby Polito, University Affairs
Barbara Shaw-Snyder, Community &
Municipal Relations
Katie Aguilar, University Staff Council

ASURA OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone (480) 965-7668

FAX: 480-965-7807

Address: P.O. Box 873308, Tempe, AZ 85287-3308

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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It seems hard to believe that a whole year has passed since Jo Madonna passed the gavel to me, and I was the President of ASURA, but the time has come and soon I will be handing the gavel over to our new President, Barbara White!

It has been an interesting year, and I think it has been a good year. One of the significant issues that came to light this year was the proposal by the University administration to phase out ASU's participation in the Arizona State Retirement System, which is a "defined benefit" system and instead focus on participation by all new employees in a "defined contribution" system such as TIAA. This, of course, resulted in a considerable amount of concern on the part of a number of the members of the ASURA Board, since none of us knew just how this might affect us and present and future ASU retirees.

In order to address these concerns, the Board's Government Liaison Committee invited speakers to address the Board about this issue. The first group were Steve Ramos and Linda Somo, from the Arizona Education Association (AEA), who discussed the pros and cons of the two systems. They were clearly in favor of retaining the present defined benefit system, but also pointed out the advantages, especially to the University, of the defined contribution system.

The second address was by Kevin Salcido, ASU Vice President of HR and Chief Human Resources Officer. Kevin began his presentation with a brief tutorial on the present defined benefits program (ASRS) and the proposed Optional Retirement Program (ORP). He went through the pros and cons of these programs, both for the retiree and the University. He pointed out that industry has been moving away from defined benefit programs. However, the Arizona State Legislature must approve any change, and he gave the bill about a 30% chance of passing this year.

Finally, our third presentation was by Patrick M. Klein, Assistant Director, External Affairs, Arizona State Retirement System. He reported that no legislative house or senate bill has been proposed regarding ASU's desire to become more entrepreneurial and depart from state oversight. He went into some detail about how this move might impact ASU retirees, as well as UA and NAU retirees, as well as impacting the other Arizona retirees, such as, for example, the Public Safety Personnel Retirement system.

ASURA will continue to monitor this matter, and will make our voice heard on any concrete proposal that is made by the administration or in the legislature.

On a more personal level, Beth & I have just returned from the most exciting & fascinating tour I have ever been on. It was two weeks in Egypt, touring the antiquities, pyramids, ancient temples, pharaonic tombs, the Nile River, and museums. What made it extra-special was that it was led by Dr. Zahi Hawass, former Director of Antiquities for the Egyptian Government, who made it possible for us to go places ordinary tourists could not go, such as into the Kings Tomb Chamber in the Great Pyramid of Giza, Seti I's tomb, King Tut's tomb & other such special places!

Finally, I want to say a special thanks to all of the ASURA officers & staff who have been a great help to me this past year, especially Jo Madonna, Barry Bruns, Bev Buddee, and all of the others who have made my life easier!

Jim Fordemwalt

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Submitted by Linda Van Scoy and Nancy Lesko

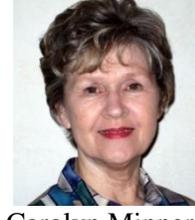
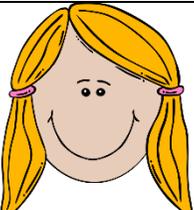
The ASU Retirees volunteer staff and substitutes do a great job in keeping the organization moving forward.

Our 8 regular staff and 4 substitute volunteers work together to make sure ASURA operations run smoothly. The office is staffed Monday through Thursday 9-12 and 1-4 (closed on Fridays). Staff duties include greeting the public in person and on the phone, assisting board members and committee chairs with scheduling meetings, reserving rooms, handling event registrations, processing membership renewals and payments. The office staff is regularly called upon to direct retirees to proper sources of information within ASU and to outside agencies, when appropriate.

The staff work closely with our Business Manager, Carolyn Minner, who insures business transactions are handled through the ASU Foundation. Carolyn takes care of all purchasing, ASURA mailings and maintains the membership data base and e mail distributions lists.

We currently have the office covered for all shifts save one, Thursday from 1-4. If you are interested in helping out and have that time available, please let us know. Also if you would like to sign up to be a substitute we would welcome that as well.

Below is a pictorial listing of our hard working volunteers:

				
Carol Berg Monday morning	Bev Buddee Second 2 nd Wed. Afternoon	Maxine LaRoux substitute	Joan Leard substitute	Nancy Lesko Wednesday Mornings
				
Dorothy Meunier substitute	Carolyn Minner Business Manager	Carol Moore Tuesday Morning	Jeannette Robson Monday afternoon	Tara Roesler Wednesday Afternoons except 2 nd Wed
				
Bonnie Scheall Thursday morning	Helen Seaton substitute	Linda Van Scoy Tuesday Afternoons	This Could Be YOU - Volunteer	

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

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

Adopt-a-Family Program

Submitted by Joan Leard



Your Adopt-A-Family dollars are still at work helping two families each year. This school year we have adopted a mother, father and five boys from the Tempe school system and a mother, father and two girls from ASU.

The Tempe schools' social worker says, "I have a great family. The father works hard in landscaping to support his family and the mom stays at home to care for the children and takes the two oldest to school every day – excellent attendance."

The ASU coordinator says, "Father was active duty Air Force as an avionics technician on F-22 and F-16 aircraft, separated in 2014 and began to pursue a bachelor's degree at ASU in electrical engineering. The father is now serving an internship at NASA and the mother is a Nursing Assistant." The girls are 11 and 16 years old and do well in school taking advanced classes.

Before the Christmas holiday we had a call from the manager of Springleaf Financial Services in Tempe. His company with local offices wanted to donate to our program. We accepted their offer and added their funds to ours to make for very generous gifts for all eleven of our recipients including clothing, toys and grocery cards for food.

As in other years we helped these families in the Fall, at Christmas and in the Spring.

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

Video History Project

Submitted by David Scheatzle



Interview Progress: To date, the Video History Project has completed 114 interviews, 66 of which have been done in house. Interviews done since the last Annual Report are: Dick Peck, Susan Dolbert, Jim Odenkirk, Sam Kirkpatrick, Harry Lundgren, Harold White, Chuck Corbin and Warren Fry. Those who have been interviewed are listed on the ASURA website under Projects/Video History.

Video History Website: We have added over 32 video clips to the ASURA website since last year, for a total of 84 clips.

Interview Studio: Our interview studio space in CSB 203 has continued to improve. We have replaced the incandescent lamps with LED lamps. They produce 1/5th the heat and will not overwhelm the A/C system. We also have obtained a black backdrop which seems to have improved the beauty of the talent in front of the camera.

Donations: We are very happy to have received \$1,220 in donations for the Video History Project, reported in the 6/30/15 financial report.

Library Repository: We are now transferring our video files to the ASU Library Repository. With the help of Carolyn Minner and John McIntosh, 46 interviews have been transferred to the Library's server. You can view the following interviews: Lattie Coor, Troy Crowder, Susan Dolbert, Don Dotts, Roy Doyle, John Edwards, Bob Ellis, James Elmore, Darel Eschbach, Harold Fearon, Marvin Fisher, Margaret Gisolo, Elmer Gooding, Len Gordon, Betty Greathouse, William Huizingh, Ted Humphery, Dick Jacob, Bill Kajikawa, Denis Kigin, Frank Kush, Beth Lessard, Eugene Lombardi, Harry Lundgren, Bruce Mason, Alan Matheson, Gerry McSheffrey, John Meunier, Victor Miller, Carlton Moore, George Morrell, Dick Murra, Russ Nelson, Lonnie Ostrom Bonnie Peplow, Anne Pittman, Ross Rice, Frank Sackton, Nick Salerno, Wilma Schwada, Leon Shell, Rudy Turk, George Umberson, Linda VanScoy, and Hal White. Also included is a panel interview with Russ Nelson, Frank Sackton and Brent Brown.

To access these videos, you need to go to the following address on your web browser: <https://repository.asu.edu/collections/199>. In the upper right hand corner of that page, there is a "sign in." Do this, using your ASURITE account and password. If you don't use your ASURITE account and password, all of the available interviews will not be visible/viewable. Click on the person's name whose interview you want to view. A new page will open showing that person's name in red. Click on that person's name, not the play button. You will get a higher quality viewing by doing this.

Selection Committee: During January and February, a selection committee of 18 persons nominated and voted on a list of 92 possible candidates for interview. Most of the committee work was accomplished by e-mail. At our single meeting, 28 names rose to the top. Becky Reiss is working on scheduling these persons for interview. We anticipate that we might be successful in scheduling half of these persons for interview during the coming interview season.

The Video Crew: The video crew and the committee work very hard volunteering their time to schedule, conduct and edit the interviews and the success of the Video History Project rests on their shoulders. So thanks go to Linda Van Scoy, Roger Carter, Elmer Gooding, John McIntosh, Carolyn Minner, Ann Patterson, Becky Reiss and Dave Scheatzle.

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

Scholarship Committee

Submitted by Sue Blumer



Sue Blumer and Joy Shearman are co-chairs of the Scholarship Committee, which last April selected Kazuko Nimi as the recipient of the 2015-16 ASURA scholarship. Ms. Nimi, a chemical engineering student, had a superb academic record transferring from Chandler-Gilbert Community College and presented enthusiastic recommendations from faculty at that college. She fits the definition of a reentry student perfectly, with two children and working to help support her family.

Ms. Nimi expressed her thanks and appreciation to ASURA for her award: "Words cannot express how much I appreciate, and it makes me feel proud to have been selected for this scholarship. Thank you again for your generosity and Support." She hopes to become a chemical engineer in the energy field and related how the Fukushima nuclear disaster made her think about the future of energy and the importance of sustainable energy.

ASURA members are able to meet each year's scholarship student at our annual meeting in the spring, where the student gives a short talk about his or her experiences and interests. Last year our members enjoyed meeting Tara Pryts, our 2014-15 scholarship student, whose interest in interior design also led her to the field

of sustainability and non-toxic materials. Over the years, these scholarship students show what outstanding students are attending ASU on all of its campuses, colleges, schools, and departments.

Students are selected on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, academic and career goals, and other factors. The personal statements reflect ambitious and diverse goals. Recipients of the award must have experienced at least five years since high school graduation and cannot have completed more than one semester at ASU. Members of the committee review all applications, personal statements, and recommendations before meeting to select each year's student. We thank all of these hard-working members for their excellent work.

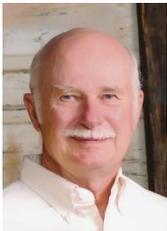
Sue Blumer

Co-Chair, ASURA Scholarship Committee

e-mail: sueblu@asu.edu

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Barry McNeill



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

Coordination of Calendar of Events

During the late spring of 2015, the various committee chairs were asked to determine a tentative schedule for the events that the committees planned to offer during 2015-2016. The committees were asked to spread the events throughout the year and to keep in mind the already established dates for some events, such as the Meet & Greet and Annual Meeting. The Events Committee chair reviewed the dates and plans in order to identify and resolve possible scheduling conflicts. This information was shared with the various committee chairs and the activity calendar of activities was established.

Promotion of Events

Seventy percent of our members requested and received email notifications for all ASURA organized events. All events were published on the ASURA events website and any member with an internet connection could register online by visiting this website. Further, past events stories are available on the ASURA website. We continued to advertise activities not organized by ASURA but which might be of interest to our members, e.g., Emeritus College Colloquia.

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

Barry McNeill

Chair ASURA Events Committee

Barry_mcnell@cox.net

Luncheons and Special Events

Submitted by Joyce Hartman Diaz



The Luncheon and Special Events Committee put on four events this past year. The committee is chaired by Joyce Hartman Diaz with Beth Fordenwalt and Gretchen Hirni as the other members.

September, Meet and Greet Pizza Party

The annual meet and greet party was held in early September, it allowed the Board and committee chairs an opportunity to meet [and greet] new and returning members. The event

was an opportunity to ‘showcase’ various ASURA activities, including educational, social, and travel opportunities. The new Board and committee chair members were introduced. The various committee chairs had an opportunity to speak about their plans for the upcoming year. About 40 members, current and new, attended. Pizza, beverages, and sweets were served.

Fall Luncheon

The Fall luncheon was held at the Shalimar Country Club on November 13th. Fifty-four retirees and guests enjoyed a sit-down luncheon and entertainment by Mike Chamberlin (local television news personality, now retired). Mike performed songs from WWII in honor of Veteran’s Day, Christmas songs, and old favorites along with his ever-interesting stories. Many members purchased some of his CDs. There was a small profit of \$34.00 for the Association.

December 2015 Holiday Potluck

Forty-three ASU retirees and guests attended the annual ASURA Holiday Potluck on Friday, December 18th. Guests brought a large variety of delicious holiday food and treats. This annual event consistently includes much delightful food, and quite a bit of socializing-enjoyed by all. The annual bake sale netted \$164.06 for the Association.

Spring Luncheon

Sixty people attended the Spring Luncheon on Monday, March 28 at the ASU Karsten Golf Course. The speaker, Dr. Randy Cerveny, President’s Professor of Geographical Sciences, spoke on world weather extremes. The title of his talk was "Who decides the Hottest and Coldest?" Dr. Cerveny is the United Nations/World Meteorological Organization’s Rapporteur of Weather and Climate Extremes. He is in charge of verifying world weather extremes, such as the world’s hottest and coldest temperatures, strongest tornadoes and hurricanes and even largest hailstones. Guest comments on the topic and the food were very positive.

Joyce Hartman Diaz
Chair, ASURA Luncheons and Special Events Committee
e-mail: joyceh_diaz@hotmail.com

Seminars

Submitted by Jan Thompson



Five seminars were presented this year by the Seminar Committee, chaired by Jan Thompson. Committee members were Beverly Buddee, Karen Hammann, Joyce Hartman-Diaz, and Gary Kleemann.

September 9, 2015 –35 attendees

Things I Wish I Had Known When I Retired

This panel discussion for recently retired members on lessons learned during the retirement process was led by Jan Thompson, with significant contributions to the discussion from Jim Hardina, Jerry Poe, Bob Mings and Jay Braun. The session tripled in attendance over last year and was held in conjunction with the annual Meet & Greet Pizza Party.

October 22, 2015 -- 75 attendees

Health Care Seminar: Medicare-ADOA-ASRS Open Enrollment

Because we anticipated a large attendance for this popular seminar, this event was scheduled and took place at the Tempe History Museum—the first off-campus ASURA seminar.

David Parra, AARP’s state director for community outreach, presented overviews of Medicare, Medicare Advantage and supplement plans, and prescription drug plans with his trademark clarity, enthusiasm and good humor.

Open enrollment managers Elizabeth Shaefer, ADOA, and Pat Klein, ASRA presented information on their respective plans and addressed attendees' questions.

January 28, 2016 – 54 attendees

Sleep

A full house of 54 attendees enjoyed a varied and highly informative session on SLEEP. ASU School of Nutrition & Health Promotion professor, Dr. Matthew Buman, was joined by Professor Megan Petrov from the ASU College of Nursing & Health Innovation, along with Dr. Lois Krahn, M.D. and Professor of Psychiatry, from Mayo Clinic's Sleep Disorders Center. The trio presented their research findings on sleep and shared clinical and public health topics on improving sleep. Audience members received tips and information about the benefits of healthy sleep cycles, sleep disturbances and inhibitors, steps we can take to influence and restore healthy sleep patterns, as well as clinical aspects of sleep disorders and potential remedies.

February 18, 2016- 46 attendees

Write a Will Workshop

Practicing attorney Troy McNemar, specialist in Estate and Trust Law, and estate planner Nancy Gerald of the American Red Cross presented a well-attended and successful seminar on a variety of topics related to estate planning, wills, trusts, charitable giving, and probate issues relevant to Arizona residents. Attendees' comments indicated the seminar was worthwhile, informative, and timely.

March 17, 2016—anticipated enrollment 40

Scamming Schemes

Experts from AARP's Arizona Fraud Watch Network and the Arizona Corporation Commission will delve into the minds of thieves and scammers as they discuss various types of scamming schemes—from financial investments to identity theft—and common tactics used by scam artists.

Jan Thompson

Chair, Seminars Committee

e-mail: jmt6000@gmail.com

Pre-Retirement Seminars

Submitted by Turdy Perez



The need for a program/seminar whose purpose is to help educate current ASU employees of future retirement issues has been discussed in the past. In early May Joyce Harman Diaz, Barry McNeill, Trudy Perez (chair), and Jan Thompson met to discuss the planning of such a program / seminar. At the end of the meeting it was agreed that there should be two to three such programs per year and that they should be held during the lunch hour. Further, several advertising options and venue locations were discussed.

October 13, 2015 was picked for the first pre-retirement seminar and the Biodesign Institute Auditorium on the ASU Tempe campus was picked for the venue. Advertising to ASU employees was handled through: *Insight / Classified Staff Council Newsletter/ HR Wellness Newsletter*. The ASURA table and banner were set up in the auditorium to advertise the event, along with some give-a-ways, such as luggage tags, recycled pens, ASURA bookmarks, and *Primetimes* newsletters.

Approximately 40 current ASU employees [anticipating retirement between 3-5 years] attended to hear about health insurance choices. The program consisted of an introduction of speakers and committee, a 30-40-minute presentation on the topic of health insurance options, followed by Q &A. There was much interest shown and the evaluations were very positive.

Future pre-retirement seminar ideas include financial topics, lifestyle changes, logistic of exit orientation, and ASRS educational on-line information.

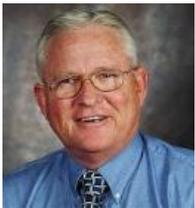
The next seminar is planned for mid to late April, 2016

The committee would welcome additional committee members

Trudy Perez
Chair Pre-Retirement Seminar
e-mail: Trudy.perez@asu.edu

Travel

Submitted by John Brock



The Travel Committee put on several events this past year. The committee is chaired by John Brock with Joyce Hartman-Diaz, Gary Kleemann, Judith Heilala, Gretchen Hirni, Helen Seaton, and Norman Perrill as the other members,

The travel committee is keeping fairly busy. We hold monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 2 PM at the Tempe Public Library. Summarizing the last 6 months, a group of ASU Retirees made a trip to the Tuscany part of Italy in September. In early December some ASURA members and guests attended the Spirit of Phoenix, men's chorus Christmas show followed by an early dinner. In January about 20 ASURA people enjoyed a day trip to discover the ASU Downtown campus and see the progress in construction of the new ASU College of Law building. In early March a small group departed for about a 2-week tour of Cuba. On April 1, we will do a tour of the popular Tovrea Castle and follow that with a "Dutch treat" lunch at the Stockyards steak house. In the immediate future we plan to do a travel survey and are planning for an in-state fall trip to either southern or central AZ.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Submitted by Barry Bruns



The members of the 2015-2016 Finance Committee were Barry Bruns, chair; Connie McNeill; Carolyn Minner Bill Moor; and Jerry Snyder.

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

At the January Board meeting the committee recommended that ASURA suspend the \$10,000 scholarship for Fiscal year 2017 and all years thereafter, until such time as adequate cash reserves are available. The Board accepted this recommendation. The Finance Committee discussed the current financial health of ASURA. For Fiscal Year 2015, the Operations Account balance decreased from \$35,760 to \$25,548 (See Table 1 in this report's Appendix), a 30% decrease in just one year. As well, the Fiscal Year 2016 budget for the Operations Account shows a continuing significant decrease, down to a budgeted June 30, 2016 balance of only \$16,483, constituting more than a 50% decrease in the carry forward balance of the Operations Account in just two years. At

this rate of decreasing balances, ASURA will soon be insolvent. A review of the recurring annual expenses of the Operations Account shows that almost half of the annual expenses are the \$10,000 annual Scholarship award. In order for the Association to maintain its spending at a level to match its annual revenues, elimination of or a significant reduction in the annual scholarship award appears to be the only viable option. The other non-scholarship expenses are individually relatively small and are needed for ASURA to maintain its existence, such as *Prime Times*, technology services, office supplies/equipment and events.

Barry Bruns
Chair, ASURA Finance Committee
e-mail: bruns@asu.edu

Book Sale

Submitted by Mary Stevens



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

Elmer Gooding ASURA Membership Chair, made an arrangement with the ASU Human Resources Department to have a representative of ASURA attend meetings of ASU employees who are retiring within a few months. During the meetings, attendees receive information about the donated book sales program and a form to complete if they have books to donate. Mary Stevens is the ASURA contact for donors to arrange for receipt of their books. In 2014, Linda Van Scoy arranged for the use of the Community Services Building room 257 as a storage room for donations. Board member and office volunteer, Jeannette Robson, arranged with Alpha Graphics to provide free, empty boxes to ASURA for our books. Jeannette picks up and delivers the empty boxes to the storeroom regularly.

In 2013, the Board approved Connie McNeill’s suggestion to enclose a book donation form with new and renewal membership enrollment forms to notify more people about the program.

Per Business Manager Carolyn’s Minner’s able record-keeping, the proceeds realized for each fiscal year since the Program began are: (rounded)

Year	Proceeds
7/-12/2011	\$ 72
2012	\$1092
2013	\$ 468
2014	\$ 718
2015	\$1486
TOTAL	\$3836

Proceeds from book sales are transferred to the ASURA Special Projects account and are used to support ASURA's annual scholarship and the Living History Video Project.

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

Mary Stevens
Chair, ASURA Book Donations
e-mail: marystevens0@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT LIAISONS

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

Legislative Liaison Committee

Submitted by Jeri Meeks and Larry Carlson



The Government Liaisons, Jeri Meeks, Larry Carlson, Hal White and Joyce Hartman Diaz, worked collaboratively with other stakeholders to keep our membership informed of any potential changes to their retirement programs and/or insurance options. Together they attended ASRS external affairs public meetings and as many committee meetings as possible while keeping abreast of legislative bills that could / would affect retiree options and ASU.



The ASURA Government Liaison team hit the ground running this year in response to ABOR's directives to change retirement system options at the three state universities. ABOR is considering requesting permission to exclusively offer only the defined contribution retirement plan (Optional Retirement Plan, or ORP) instead of both the ASRS and ORP plans for new employees. Although these proposed changes have the possibility of significant savings for ASU, the impact to current and future retirees is still unclear.

Our season started with a very productive Tri-University Retirees Association meeting where we reconnected with UARA and NAURA retiree association government liaisons. The move from ASRS was discussed in length. To facilitate and ensure continued conversations between the retiree association representatives ASURA put together an email listserv. We have used this listserv several times during this year to forward information distributed at ASRS Council and External Affairs committees along with meetings with government officials.

Our ASURA fall meetings were spent educating the Board to proposed retirement system changes; we heard presentations from Steve Ramos and Linda Somo from Arizona Education Association - Retired, Pat Klein from ASRS and Kevin Salcido from ASU Human Resources. These presentations were very informative; presenting this issue from the perspective of the effected employee, the retirement system and the university requesting the change.

The Team also attended the ASU Alumni Legislative Advocacy Breakfast and An Evening with Dr. Crow. At both meetings the President spoke about ASU's 2016 budget priorities which are focused on a new per-resident-student state funding model and a supplemental budget request for this new model. President Crow linked the new resident-student focus to a plan to raise K-12 standards and promote Arizonans going to college and staying in state to grow our economy.

The 52nd Legislative session started January 2016 and to our surprise did not introduce any bills that would change university employee retirement options! There was a collective sigh of relief.....but whispers of this

change happening next year. We will need to be attentive. We are currently tracking several bills; HB2072 and HB2338 addressing firearms on campus, HB2548 and HB2615 addressing free speech on campus and SB1428, SB1429 and SRC1019 addressing public safety retirement system changes which will require a public vote in May 2016. There are also bills of interest; HB2771 which enables ABOR to issue commercial paper and obtain lines of credit, HB2178 establishing an Arizona silver-haired legislature to advise on policy and HB2075 establishing a Joint Desalinization Study committee utilizing university faculty as well as house and senate representatives. At this writing the 52nd Legislature is still open and bills are working their way through committee.

Special thanks to many members of the Board who participated in committee, personal and email discussions as well as past government liaison committee members Alan Johnson and Bob Mings for their guidance and mentorship. Your input is invaluable.

Jeri Meeks

Legislative Liaison Committee Chair and Registered Arizona Lobbyist

e-mail: jeri.meeks@asu.edu

Health Insurance Liaisons

Submitted by Larry Carlson



In addition to considering changes to the retirement options ABOR is looking to add flexibility to the offered health insurance plans, something other than what is currently offered through ADOA.

An unfortunate finding this year was that for each of the past 3 years the Governor and Legislature have taken \$100 million from the state insurance trust fund and transferred it to the general fund. This has an effect of artificially increasing insurance costs to ADOA health insurance participants as well as the agencies (including ASU) that contribute to employee health insurance premiums. For retirees with insurance through ADOA, you are potentially paying more than your “fair share” for your health and dental insurance. For ASRS insurance participants this has no effect on your premiums. I encourage all ASURA members when contacting their legislators to encourage them to stop the transfer of funds from the state insurance trust fund to the general fund. With the state in a better financial situation than the last few years, we are hopeful that the trust will not be raided again this year.

ASRS is in the process of gathering input for offering possible additional options for health care coverage. Current ASRS retiree insurance participants who are not Medicare eligible only have one option for insurance coverage which is relatively expensive. If this initiative progresses, the potential for choices with lower premiums may be very attractive. We will continue to monitor progress in this initiative as well as any other issues which may affect current and future ASU retirees.

Larry Carlson

ADOA Insurance Liaison

e-mail: Lawrence.carlson@asu.edu

Submitted by Joyce Harman Diaz



ASRS negotiated the dental portion of their coverage in 2015 for the 2016 calendar year. As part of the dental advisory board I was present for various meetings as the team reviewed the proposals. We collectively chose Assurant as the provider for 2016.

HELP NEEDED: The association needs an ASURA member who carries ASRS health coverage to be part of the ASRS Health Advisory Board. This person would attend a meeting from time to time and advise ASRS on health issues which affect our members. If you have an interest in making your opinions count to initiate any changes to the current

ASRS health coverage, please contact the ASURA office at 480-965-7668, leaving your name and phone number and I will contact you with additional information, or call me directly at 480-814-8249.

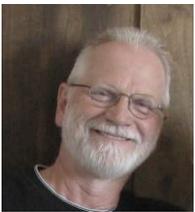
Joyce Hartman Diaz
ASRS Insurance Liaison
e-mail: joyceh_diaz@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

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

Membership

Submitted by Dave Schwalm



Membership declined again this year by about 5%, following a 7% decline last year, reflecting mostly a drop in renewals from previous years offset a bit by a small increase in introductory members. The decrease was spread evenly across all membership categories. This seems to be a general problem with volunteer organizations of all kinds. Membership participation in ASURA activities remained fairly constant, with increasing interest in seminars. This year we attracted an additional 50+ members by sending out an additional renewal reminder.

We have continued the effective practice of making a 10-minute recruiting pitch at the retirement sessions run by HR. Participants also receive our revised and updated trifold promotional flyer summarizing the purpose and activities of the organization and an application form offering free membership for the first year. Copies of *Prime Times* and other ASURA materials are available at these meetings. This is the third year offering the first year free. We have also had more time to review the member survey in search of ideas for sustaining or increasing membership, and we also hope to increase participation of our members in ASURA activities. ASURA has now become affiliated with HR rather than Public Affairs, and HR has continued to support our activities.

The attached Table 2 shows some basic data about membership as of March 4, 2016 with comparative data from the previous year.

Dave Schwalm
Chair, Membership Committee
E-mail: David.Schwalm@asu.edu

E-News

Submitted by Jo Madonna



E-News is the ASURA Monthly Electronic Newsletter and it is used to keep ASURA members abreast of current items of interest. This publication was originally discussed by the Board in the fall of 2014 as a way to communicate with ASURA members in a timely and cost effective way. Because it has proven to be successful, in March 2016 the Board voted to have a recognized E-News editor who is part of the Membership and Communications Committee.

Each month E-News briefly showcases a couple of topics that the Board thinks will be of particular interest to members. Often additional information about these topics can be found by electronically linking to more in-depth material. Also included each month is a list of up-coming ASURA events and events sponsored by other ASU affiliated groups.

Jo Madonna
E-News Editor
e-mail: jomadonna@cox.net

Prime Times Newsletter

Submitted by Jeannette Robson



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



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

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

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

With the addition of new ASURA Government Liaison volunteers, we have resumed with "Update: Legislative Issues" articles to keep our members apprised of what's going on in Arizona government and how it relates to retirees. We also encourage our members to suggest other items of interest they would like to have covered in the *Prime Times*.

Past *Prime Times* issues from fall 2010 through spring 2016 are available on-line at <https://asura.asu.edu/PrimeTimes>. Beginning with the summer 2015 issue, those members who had signed up to receive association e-mail notifications are also being sent the monthly "ASURA E-News" email that includes an easy link to the on-line color version of the *Prime Times* newsletter. Black & white paper copies continue to be mailed through ASU Mail Services.

Jeannette Robson, Designer
e-mail: jrobson@asu.edu

Wilma Mathews, Editor
e-mail: wmathews1@cox.net

Obituaries

Submitted by Becky Reiss



ASURA sends ASU employee edited obituaries by e-mail to those members who have indicated that they wish to receive them. The notices are also posted on the ASURA website and in the next issue of the ASURA newsletter *Prime Times*. Letters of condolence are sent to the deceased member's surviving partner. The ASURA membership rolls over to the surviving partner. Before the condolence letter is sent out the President and Membership Chair are asked if they know the deceased and would like to add something to the letter.

Becky Reiss

Coordinator, Obituary Notifications

e-mail: rreiss@gmail.com

Database, Website and Technology Equipment Report

Submitted by Connie McNeill



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

Website

In late February 2016, we changed the look of our website by switching to a theme (look) that ASU first made available in about November 2014. Changing to the more current theme (look) prompted us to review every page on the site, and this resulted in a few changes to content and organization.

The change to the newer theme has the benefit of obviating the need for special site code to get things to look the way we wanted – we had previously had to use what is called a “subtheme” of the ASU theme, which meant that we had some code of our own that customized the look to meet our needs. The new theme had all of the features we had in our old customization, so we can use it “as is” and no longer have a subtheme. This has the effect of making maintenance simpler.

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

Photo Gallery Maintenance

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

Membership & Events Database

The company that hosts our Membership and Events Database, Wild Apricot, made some upgrades to their software during the year. There are some new features that may be of some value, primarily in handling of events. The changes did require updating the instructions we have written for the volunteers who maintain our records in Wild Apricot: Carolyn Minner, Becky Reiss, some of the office staff, Barry McNeill and Jan Thompson.

In about November 2015 the Foundation switched to a new vendor for their gift management software. This meant that the feature we use to provide payment by credit card for membership dues and occasionally for events looks different. The initial conversion did not provide for voluntary donations when paying dues. That latter problem was rectified in January 2016.

Office Equipment

In July 2015, we purchased new computers for the reception and the workroom areas of our offices. The computers that were replaced were purchased in February 2008, and they could not comply with current ASU encryption requirements – encryption is part of good security. The installation of the new computers was done smoothly and efficiently by UTO technicians, and was accompanied by some upgrades to the network wiring in the reception area. The new computers have the necessary encryption installed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Barry Bruns



Table 1 in the Report Appendix shows the current budget and operating expenditures for ASURA through March 31, 2016. Carolyn Minner, the ASURA Business Manager, does an excellent job of keeping track of our expenditures and preparing this report each month.

For Fiscal Year 2015, the Operations Account balance decreased from \$35,760 to \$25,548, a 30% decrease in just one year. As well, the Fiscal Year 2016 budget for the Operations Account shows a continuing significant decrease, down to a budgeted June 30, 2016 balance of only \$16,483, constituting more than a 50% decrease in the carry forward balance of the Operations Account in just two years. As such, the Board determined that, beginning in FY 2017, the \$10,000 annual scholarship award will be suspended until such time as adequate cash reserves are available.

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

The scholarship endowment began the year with \$53,428. These funds are invested on behalf of ASURA by the ASU Foundation, with our primary goal being long-term growth. While ASURA is long way from funding a full scholarship, we are making progress.

With the suspension of the scholarship, ASURA continues to remain in good financial condition. With the varied support from ASU and our totally volunteer staff, ASURA will be able to continue to offer its many excellent program and services.

Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount
ASURA Operations		
ASURA Operations - Income		
Current Year Revenue		
Event Registration Fees & Donations Collected	2,000	2,433
Membership Dues	12,000	6,300
General Operations Donations	1,500	575
Holiday Bake Sale 2015	100	171
Transfer in from History Book	444	1,281
5% Gift Assessment	-750	-341
Total ASURA Operations Current Year Revenue	13,294	10,419
ASURA Operations - Expenses		
<i>Printing and Mailing Costs</i>		
Annual Report	100	0
Bylaws & Ballots	200	202
Member Survey Report	0	0
Membership Drive	1,000	768
Prime Times Summer	2,000	0
<i>Event Costs</i>		
Paid Events	2,000	1,289
Meet & Greet	360	417
Seminars	250	120
Annual Meeting	600	0
Holiday Potluck & Fundraiser	50	17
<i>Other Operations Costs</i>		
Scholarship Award	10,000	10,000
Business Luncheons & Service Appreciation	550	283
Technology Services	1,500	240
Office Equipment & Supplies	3,000	1,494
Marketing Tools	550	510
AROHE Membership Dues	120	0
Lobbyist Registration Fee	25	0
Foundation Transaction Fees	170	73
Adopt-A-Family purchases charged in error	0	837
Transfer to Adopt-A-Family	0	400
Total ASURA Operations Expenses	22,475	16,650
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-9,181	-6,231
Uncommitted ASURA Operations Funds	16,367	19,317

Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount
Human Resources Income		
Transfer in from Public Affairs	755	755
Current Year Allocation	7000	7000
Total Human Resources Current Year Revenue	7,755	7,755
Expenses Charged to Allocation		
Office Supplies	1,200	0
Transfer out to Public Affairs	672	672
Prime Times Fall & Spring	2,100	1,663
Room Fees	100	100
Copier/FAX Equipment Annual Lease	1,200	1,203
Membership Drive	1,883	205
8.5% Administrative Service Charges	600	270
Total Subsidized Expenses	7,755	4,113
Uncommitted HR Funds For Operations	0	3,642

Special Projects		
Special Projects - Income		
Balance Forward	1,508	1,508
Current Year Revenue		
Friends/Phx Library Book Sale Net Income	1,500	1,121
Transfer In		0
5% Gift Assessment		0
Total Special Projects Current Year Revenue	1,500	1,121
Special Projects - Expenses		
Transfer out 1/2 of Book Sale Income to Scholarship	750	1,131
Transfer out 1/2 of Book Sale Income to Video History	750	1,131
Foundation Transaction Fees		56
Total Special Projects Expenses	1,500	2,319
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	0	-1,198
Uncommitted Special Projects Funds	1,508	310

Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount
Adopt-A-Family		
Adopt-a-Family - Income		
Balance Forward	1,151	1,151
Current Year Revenue		
Adopt-A-Family Donations	1,200	635
5% Gift Assessment	-63	-32
Transfer from Operations	0	400
Transfer from Special Projects		
Total Adopt-A-Family Current Year Revenue	1,137	1,003
Adopt-A-Family - Expenses		
Adopt-A-Family	2,115	2,097
Foundation Transaction Fees	15	0
Total Adopt-A-Family Expenses	2,130	2,097
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-993	-1,093
Uncommitted Adopt-A-Family Funds	158	57

Video History		
Video History - Income		
Balance Forward	6,173	6,173
Current Year Revenue		
Video History Donations	1,200	250
Transfer in 1/2 of Book Drive Proceeds from Spec Proj	750	1,131
5% Gift Assessment	-60	-13
Total Video History Current Year Revenue	1,890	1,369
Video History - Expenses		
Production	5,600	0
Equipment	990	119
Foundation Transaction Fees	100	1
Total Video History Expenses	6,690	119
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-4,800	1,250
Uncommitted Video History	1,373	7,423

Account Categories	Budget	Actual YTD Amount
History Book		
History Book - Income		
Balance Forward	444	444
Current Year Revenue		
History Book Donations	0	0
5% Gift Assessment	0	0
Total History Book Current Year Revenue	0	0
History Book - Expenses		
Transfer out to Operations	444	444
Foundation Management Fees	0	0
Total History Book Expenses	444	444
Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance for Current Year	-444	0
Uncommitted History Book	0	0

Scholarship Endowment Fund		
Scholarship Endowment Principal (40003616)		
Balance July 1	53,428	53,428
Invested Funds Gain (-Loss)	600	-4,719
Reinvest FY15 Payout	1,785	1,785
Adjust for incorrect FY14 & FY15 Payout Reinvest	0	-440
Payout to Endowment Spending - FY16	-1,500	-1,682
Reinvest FY16 Payout	1,500	0
Current-Year Contributions	2,200	705
Transfer from Endowment Spending (Book Sale Proceeds)	750	193
Adjust for incorrect transfer (Book Sale Proceeds)	0	-193
Foundation Management Fees	-600	-672
5% Gift Assessment	-110	-35
Total Scholarship Endowment Principal	58,053	48,370
Scholarship Endowment - Spending		
Balance July 1	1,785	1,785
Reinvest FY15 Payout	-1,785	-1,785
Adjust for incorrect FY14 & FY15 Payout Reinvest	0	440
Payout from Endowment Principal - FY16	1,500	1,682
Reinvest FY16 Payout	-1,500	0
Transfer from Special Projects (Book Sale Proceeds)	750	1,131
Transfer to Endowment Principal (Book Sale Proceeds)	-750	-193
Adjust for incorrect transfer (Book Sale Proceeds)	0	193
Total Scholarship Endowment Spending	0	3,254
Total Scholarship Endowment	58,053	51,623

Counts	As of 3/4/2016	As of 3/4/2015	This Yr -Last Yr
Current-year Members	539	570	-31
Renewals from prior years (any prior year)	484	522	-38
Introductory members	55	48	7
Paid for the current year, now deceased	6	6	0
Last Year's Members - Not Renewed	109	107	2
Members last year, now deceased	1	8	-7
By Retired-from Organization			
Retired from ASU	525	550	N/A
Retired from another university	0	0	N/A
Former ASU employee, retired elsewhere	4	3	N/A
Still employed at ASU	10	17	N/A
By (Approx.) Time Since First Joining			
Members for 0-2 Years	71	72	-1
Members for 3-5 Years	86	90	-4
Members for 6-10 Years	175	192	-17
Members for more than 10 Years	207	216	-9
By Communications They Want to Receive¹			
Upcoming Event Announcements (e-mail)	402	418	-16
Obituary Notices (e-mail)	323	334	-11
Prime Times (US Post)	476	529	-53
Other ASURA Communications (e-mail)	350	387	-37
None of The Above	13	12	1

More Counts	As of 3/4/2016	As of 3/4/2015	This Yr -Last Yr
By Former Employment Category			
Faculty and Faculty w/ Admin Appt	248	266	-18
Academic Professional	33	37	-4
Staff	153	162	-9
University Staff (Service Professional)	73	76	-3
Administrative	32	29	3
Having an Arizona Address	491	521	-30
Level of Activity			
Checked at least one volunteer area	107	97	10
Attended at least one event this year	147	161	-14
Attended an event ever	288	289	-1
Logged in to Members-only Site (ever)	122	102	20
Made an additional donation this year	152	164	-12
Non-members in Database			
Was a member at some time	222	293	-71
Never a member	698	725	-27

¹All members receive the annual Board of Directors ballot, and membership renewal notices. Those with e-mail addresses also receive confirmation notices (by e-mail) about renewal, event registrations, and donations.

Note: Since membership enrollment forms are mailed in May, we begin processing them, with associated dues and donations, before the start of the membership/fiscal year. Therefore, it is not possible to use these counts to determine the correct dollar value of membership dues in the current fiscal year