

prime times @ ASU

Arizona State University Retirees Association Newsletter

SUMMER 2020

ASURA President's Message

submitted by Carl J. Cross — ASURA President, 2020-2021

To say that it has been an interesting year would certainly be an understatement. When I accepted the challenge of becoming the Vice President last spring, little did I know that by the September Meet and Greet Pizza Party I would be the one welcoming everyone to another year of ASURA activities for all of us to enjoy when Jan needed to be with her family in Wisconsin.



Fast forward to March of this year and again our world as we knew it was challenged with the Coronavirus. The Board met on March 10 and the decision was made to cancel the April 17 Annual Meeting, following university guidelines.

As concerns grew, ASU students were challenged to take their courses online. ASURA had already started using ZOOM to present its February seminar on Elder Law and Preparing for Passing. Our pre-retirement seminars can also be attended in person or via ZOOM. This allows persons across all four campuses to be better prepared for retirement.

ASURA is fortunate to have a group of volunteers who work in the office and are always there to take our calls. When the university decided to close down non-essential buildings, it was probably the first time that our office was closed. Members were redirected to our website and kept informed via extra issues of our E-News.

Our government liaisons continue to monitor the legislature and keep us all informed of bills that could affect seniors and our retirement years. Watch your E-News for articles about important bills. Members are reminded they must not use an "asu.edu" email address when they contact their representatives.

The Board met again on May 12 (via ZOOM) and, in the best interest and health of our members, voted to cancel plans for the September 8 combined Annual Meeting/Meet and Greet Pizza Party. You will be notified once this event has been rescheduled.

Until we meet again, be safe, stay healthy and keep cool.

Volunteers Needed

Office staff/substitutes

Contact: Linda Van Scoy, lvs@asu.edu or Nancy Lesko, nclesko@asu.edu

Prime Times Editor/Publisher

Contact: Jeannette Robson, jrobson@asu.edu

ASURA Committee members

Contact: Carl Cross, carl.cross@asu.edu

Technology/Website Committee needs help to maintain ASURA's technology infrastructure.

Contact: Connie McNeill, connie.mcneill@outlook.com

Video History Project volunteers needed to view collection interviews then update with abstracts, table of contents, etc. **Contact:** Barry McNeill, barry_mcneill@outlook.com

Inside This Issue

ASURA Board Members/other volunteers	2
Welcome New Members	3
2020-2021 ASURA Scholarship Recipient	3
ASURA Office Update	4
Video History Update	4
ASURA Needs Your Old Books!	5
Tech Tools & Tips: Passwords - How Secure are Yours?	5-6
Government Liaison's Report - Spring 2020	7-8
Governor's Council on Aging - Spring 2020	8-10
ASURA "Virtual" Annual Meeting - Spring 2020	10-11
John Denver Tribute - February 3, 2020	12
Elder Law & Preparing for Passing	12-13
Calendar of Events: Fall 2020	13
Obituary Notifications	14-15
New ASRS Dental Insurance Plans for 2021	16

ASURA Executive Board



President
Carl Cross



Vice President
Larry Edmonds



Past President
Jan Thompson



Secretary
Jane Carey



Treasurer
Jill Massara

Board of Directors

**Terms Expire
April 2021**

Jeff Chapman
Jean Duncan
Jo Madonna
Connie McNeill
Jan Thompson

**Terms Expire
April 2022**

Jane Carey
Larry Carlson
Evelyn Cesarotti
Carl Cross
Frank Koonce

**Terms Expire
April 2023**

Larry Edmonds
Kathy Gunn
Mark Henderson
Jill Massara
Trudy Perez

Board Ex-Officio Members

Alumni Association
Emeritus College Liaison
Human Resources
University Club Liaison
University Affairs
University Senate
University Staff Council

John Davis
Don Nilsen
Judith Cato
Carl Cross
Kendra Burton
to be determined
to be determined

Committees

Community Outreach

Adopt-A-Family:
Ginny Sylvester

Scholarship:
Joy Shearman &
Barbara Fargotstein

Video History Project:
Barry McNeill

Events

Events Committee Chair:
Trudy Perez

Luncheons/Special Events:
Trudy Perez

Seminars:

Beverly Buddee

Pre-retirement Seminars:

Trudy Perez &
Liz Badalmenti

Travel:

John Brock

Finance & Fundraising

Finance:

Jill Massara

Book Donations:

Mary Stevens

Fund Raising:

to be determined

Government & Health Insurance Liaisons

Government Liaisons:

Legislative - Jeri Meeks,
Pat Schneider, Suzanne
Bias & Tara Roesler.

ASRS - Dick Jacob

ADOA - Larry Carlson

Health Insurance Liaisons:

ASRS - Dick Jacob

ADOA - Larry Carlson

Membership & Communications

E-News:

Barry McNeill

Membership:

David Schwalm

Obituaries:

Becky Reiss

Prime Times Newsletter:

Jeannette Robson

Website and Database:

Connie McNeill

Office Staff

Office Staff Coordinators - Linda Van Scoy/Nancy Lesko
Business Operations Manager - Carolyn Minner
Technology Manager - Connie McNeill

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

Substitutes: Gail Horney, Dorothy Meunier,
Helen Seaton & Jan Thompson

Summer 2020 Office Hours
June 1-August 31 — Monday-Thursday
10:00am -1:00pm

Monday	Nanci Beardsley
Tuesday	Nancy Lesko
Wednesday:	Linda Van Scoy ... June and July; Bev Buddee ... August
Thursday:	Sharon Wielert
Friday	Closed All Day

Welcome New ASURA Members

Ackroyd, William
Ballard, Patricia
Blackwell, Marie
Boehm, Gregory
Clifton, Cathy
Copeland, Suzanne
Covey, Colleen
Cox, Deborah
Davidson, Jacqueline
Davidson, Stephen
Denson, Deborah
DuBois, Scott
Fachman, Mary
Faircloth, Maria
Feldhaus, Anne
Gay, William
Gee, James

George, Floyd
Gillis, Kristin
Graham, Roselda
Haanes, Hal
Hawkey, Diane
Homa, Donald
Hoyle, Pamela
Huffman, Michele
Jasker, Mary
Jensen, Bruce
Karam, Lina
Kintigh, Keith
Krzys, Katherine
Lanning, Patricia
Lawrence, Marie
Linder, Katherine
Luthar, Suniya

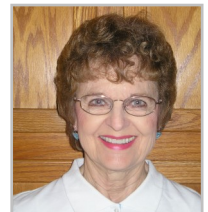
Markiw, Michael
Marriaga, Alfredo
McAdams, Cynthia
Miller, Paul
Nixon, Michael
Ploughe, Laura
Potter, Timothy
Ramirez, Maria-Theresa
Ritchie, Lily
Sawrey, Gloria
Shelton, Stacia
Sushka, Marie
Vales, Michael
Weidle, Edward
White, Joy
White, Mary
Xu, Wendy

ASURA 2020-2021 Scholarship Recipient

submitted by Joy Shearman — ASURA Scholarship Chair

The Scholarship Committee consisted of Chair Joy Shearman and Co-Chair Barbara Fargotstein along with five very dedicated ASURA volunteers ... Jan Shore, Jane Humble, Ginny Sylvester, Lester Hendrickson and Jay Braun. A special thank you to this committee for their time and effort committed to checking on emails during our two-week selection process. You are so appreciated!!

We had eight applicants for the scholarship that we all needed to review. This year, due to the Coronavirus, the whole process was done electronically. Reaching a consensus and negotiating to choose the recipient, all online, was challenging. After two weeks of sharing our critiques, we agreed to select Monique Rodriguez to be the recipient of the 2020-2021 ASURA Re-entry Scholarship Award of \$10,000 ... with equal payments to be made at the beginning of each semester.

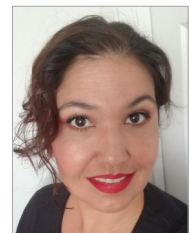


Ms. Rodriguez lives in Laveen, Arizona and is a single mom raising six children since her husband passed away a few years ago. Two of her children are attending college and all are working at least part time to reduce their family burdens and to help keep the household running.

Monique will be a Junior this fall, attending Phoenix Downtown Campus and majoring in Social Work with a goal to earn an MSW. She brings with her a 4.0 GPA that she has maintained throughout her years at Community College. She previously worked 15 years for a bank but was laid off when employees were being cut. This prompted her to reassess her life and the future support of herself and her children and to also allow her to fulfill a long-time dream of being in a profession of helping others. She wants to help improve the lives of those families who have gone through trauma, as she has, and ultimately open a group home for children.

Letters of Recommendations for Monique were filled with high words of praise. From a Professor and her Academic Advisor, these are their words:

- ◆ “Monique not only pays her own way but routinely earns the highest grades and has proved she can handle academic rigor at the highest levels.”
- ◆ “Monique seems to effortlessly manage her responsibilities to school and family with a unique kind of energy and joy. She embraces her life with a sense of appreciation and looks for what is good, always giving 110 percent, and never settles for less.”



ASURA Office Updates

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

We hope you all are well. These are interesting times and the ASURA Office has been closed for many weeks due to COVID-19, but hopefully by the time you are reading this we will be back to work.



As we all have been self-quarantining, there is not a lot to report about our office functions. Our membership renewal period is coming up soon and we are looking forward to receiving your renewals and processing those checks!



We are pleased to announce that Sharon Wielert will be joining the ASURA volunteer staff, working the front desk on Thursdays. Sharon retired in December 2019 and worked at the Downtown campus in Counseling. With the addition of Sharon, the office is now fully staffed.

While the ASURA office is currently closed we hope to transition to our summer hours ... **June 1 through August 31, Monday through Thursday, 10:00am - 1:00pm and (closed on Friday)**. By the way, we have plenty of empty boxes if you need them for packing or for our book donation.

Below are the member volunteers who will be staffing the office this summer. If you plan to visit the office it is always a good idea to call first to be sure someone will be there ... 480-965-7668. Also, if you need to visit the office and mornings don't work for you just give us a call and we can arrange to meet your schedule.

SUMMER 2020 SCHEDULE

Monday:	Nanci Beardsley
Tuesday:	Nancy Lesko
Wednesday:	Linda Van Scoy ... June and July; Bev Buddee ... August
Thursday:	Sharon Wielert
Friday:	CLOSED

Video History Project Update

submitted by Barry McNeill — Chair, Video History Project

There are currently 92 edited interviews in the ASU Digital Repository (<https://repository.asu.edu/collections/199>) and 34 interviews awaiting a final editing. The coronavirus put a crimp in the Video History Project's efforts but it has not stifled them.

Dave Scheatzle, with input and help from others on the VHP Committee, prepared an application for the "AROHE HERO Innovation Award". AROHE, the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education, have tentatively planned their 10th Biennial Conference, sponsored by the ASU Emeritus College, to take place in Phoenix next fall. If the Video History Project is not innovative, then I don't know what is. This was a herculean effort and we owe Dave a big thank you.

Following is a summary of Video History Project activities that occurred during Spring 2020:

- The scheduled March interview was postponed.
- Our project's video editors continue to edit interviews to get them ready for the Digital Repository.

- The Quentin Bogart interview, conducted in June 2013, was edited and uploaded to the Digital Repository. (<https://repository.asu.edu/items/56061>)
- Pat Schneider continued adding Abstracts and Table of Contents to the interviews, including Lattie Coor, Susan Dolbert, Don Dotts, Roy Doyle, John Edwards, Bob Edwards, and Milt Glick.

If you are looking for something a little different to do during the time of the coronavirus consider visiting the Digital Repository (see web site address above) and listening to an interview. I found both the Lattie Coor and Milt Glick interviews to be quite interesting. There is an interesting snippet in the Bogart interview where he talks about working with President Crow to get ASURA affiliated with ASU.

If you would like to suggest someone to be interviewed, please contact one of the chairs of the VHP Interview Selection and Scheduling Committee:

Kathy Church, kchurch12@cox.net

Elmer Gooding, elmer.gooding@asu.edu



ASURA Needs Your Old Books!

submitted by Mary Stevens — Book Donations

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



Donate your used books to us, and we will work with our partner, Friends of the Phoenix Public Library, to sell them. We'll use proceeds of the sale to support our programs. Half of the proceeds will be used for our ASURA scholarship that goes to an ASU student, and half will be used for our Video History project. The ASU Foundation, a separate non-profit organization that exists to support ASU, will provide you with a gift receipt for tax purposes.

If you have books to donate, first box them up. If you need boxes, you can pick some up from our office. Be sure to call before coming to make sure we have boxes on hand and a volunteer in the office.

- When boxing your books, please do not overfill the boxes and leave sufficient room to cover or close each box.
- When the books are in boxes: For books that are on an ASU campus, ask Facilities Management to pick them up and deliver them to us. To accomplish this, your department assistant can complete and submit a [FACMAN service request](#) on an on-line form. Facilities will schedule a pickup date with the office assistant. Advise the office assistant to provide your name and department to the FACMAN representative who picks up the books, **or** bring your boxes of books to [our office](#). Parking is readily available by the building. We have a dolly you can use. There is a ramp into the building, and an elevator to the 2nd floor.

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



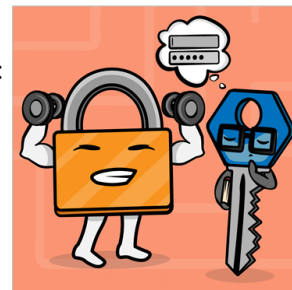
Tech Tools & Tips: Passwords - How Secure are Yours?

submitted by Connie McNeill — Website & Database



Passwords are required in today's digital life for access to so many things: your bank account, your credit card, your medical records, your photos, your shopping sites, your wireless router, your computer, etc.

Your accounts, records and devices are only as safe as your passwords are. So, what is the best practice?



Guidelines for Secure Passwords

- Protect your passwords, i.e., don't keep them where a trespasser could find them, including a burglar who steals your computer or your external hard drive.
- Use a different password for every account, site, and device.
- The longer your password is, the better – length is the single most important deterrent to password hacking. Try using a sentence (“passphrase”) about something personal.
- Complexity helps. Use a mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and special characters.
- Use multi-factor authentication when it is available and appropriate: something you know (e.g., a password), something you possess (e.g., phone), something inherent to you (e.g., fingerprint).
- If you think a password you use may have been compromised, change it immediately.

An example of a great password is “*Harry & Isabel were married 76 years!*”

- It's long.
- I can remember it (it's a normally constructed sentence about my in-laws).

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

- It would be very hard for someone else to guess.
- And, it has a suitable mix of characters.

Following these guidelines creates a major dilemma, namely, how to know what the password is for something you're trying to do. It's seemingly impossible if you have dozens of passwords and don't keep a list anywhere accessible. I personally have over 300 passwords and a very imperfect memory. Read on ...

Use a Password Manager!

The LastPass logo is a red rectangle with the text "LastPass..." in white. The ellipsis consists of three dots followed by a vertical bar.

With a password manager:

- You need to know only *one* password – the one for your password manager, called your “master password”.
- You can easily – with the click of a mouse button - create and use strong passwords that are different for every site or account.
- You do not have to store or remember the URLs (addresses) for the sites you use. You store the address for each along with your login credentials and give it a name you recognize, such as “Chase Bank”. You can search your vault on name, then launch and log in with a single click.
- Your passwords are stored in the cloud, so you can use them from any place and device.
- Your passwords are encrypted and can be accessed in decrypted form only by using your master password. Your master password is **NOT** stored in the cloud nor transmitted to a cloud server. Even the makers of the password manager cannot get into your password vault because they have no way of accessing your master password. If you want to know more about how this works, look up “Zero-Knowledge encryption”.

One other major benefit of some password managers is that they provide you with the ability to **safely share your password list** – or only some of your passwords – **with someone else**, such as your spouse, estate executor, or other trusted person who might need them to assist you.

I recommend **LastPass**, which is one of several highly rated password managers. I recommend it primarily because **LastPass Premium** is available at no cost to the entire ASU community through a yearly subscription – see <https://getprotected.asu.edu/LastPass> . **LastPass Premium** and **LastPass Families** are the two versions of **LastPass** that have secure password-sharing features. The free version of **LastPass** lacks this.

You install **LastPass** as an extension to your browser(s) such as Firefox, Safari, or Chrome, or as an app on your phone or tablet. It may take you some time to set up all of your accounts and passwords in **LastPass**, and to change to secure passwords as you go. But once it is done, you'll be kicking yourself for not having done it long ago. It saves a world of time, aggravation, and worry.

Tips for secure browsing with LastPass

- Never use “save my password”, even on your home computer. Not for **LastPass** and not for any site.
- To keep your **LastPass** vault safe, set extension preferences so that it is locked whenever you close a browser or are away from your computer for a few minutes:
- To get to extension preferences when logged in to **LastPass**, click on the **LastPass** icon in your browser, choose Account Options – Extension Preferences. Then set the following preferences.
- Log out when all browsers are closed;
- Log out after 20 minutes of inactivity (or choose another number of minutes).

Choose one or more methods for recovering your lost master password, especially if you are not using a **LastPass Families** account. See <https://support.logmeininc.com/lastpass/help/recover-your-lost-master-password-lp020010>.

If you would like help in getting started, try looking for a tutorial on YouTube. Just search “using **LastPass** on x”, where “x” is your device or browser, such as “Chrome” or “iPad”. There is a lot of helpful information out there.

Government Liaison's Report - Spring 2020

submitted by Jeri Meeks & Tara Roesler, Lobbyists; and Patricia Schneider, William Stasi & Larry Carlson



This year's 54th Legislative Session ground to a halt on March 23rd in response to Governor Ducey's *Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected* executive order, with the hopes of resuming the [legislative session](#) in May. Per the Governor's announcement at the end of April, Arizona's stay-at-home order will continue to be in effect through May 15, 2020, with another assessment of COVID-19 infection rate data at that time. At this writing, non-essential businesses are staying closed, physical distancing requirements are in place and there is no word as to when, or if, the Arizona Congress will reconvene this legislative session.

Before recessing, the Legislature passed a stripped-down \$11.8 billion state budget, containing essentially no new spending beyond the required inflation adjustments, promised raises for teachers, \$55 million from the rainy-day fund to improve health department efforts and a \$50 million spending package to help tenants, homeowners and small businesses weather the coronavirus impacts. The Governor announced \$5 million in new funding for the Rental Eviction Prevention Assistance Program under the Arizona Department of Housing, which will help families and individuals with monthly rent assistance, due to COVID-19. Governor Ducey also signed an executive order allowing pharmacists to dispense emergency refills of maintenance medications for a 90-day supply and an additional 90-day supply, if needed. Legislators expect negative repercussions in the state tax revenue and are concerned that the state's rainy-day fund will be exhausted during this health emergency. That said, the Governor states "We're going to utilize every resource we have to protect Arizonans, to make sure we're fighting this public health battle and then to make sure nobody falls through the cracks, and then, as soon as its appropriate, that we ramp that economy back up."

With no increased spending in the approved emergency FY21 state budget it's safe to say that the Arizona Board of Regents did not get the requested budget increase to fund its "New Economy Initiative: Enhancing Arizona's Competitiveness".

Under rain-heavy clouds, ASURA's Bill Stasi, Tara Roesler and Jeri Meeks hosted a table at the 34th Annual ASU Day at the Capitol on Tuesday Feb 11th at the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza. Although not as well attended as in past years, this event provided a chance to interact with our legislators, tout ASURA accomplishments and thank our local elected officials for supporting ASU in past and upcoming legislative sessions. We were very pleased when Dr. Crow stopped by to chat! And, as always, ASU colleges and departments offered a great display of current programs and innovations.

ASURA Lobbyists Tara Roesler, Jeri Meeks and new retiree Suzanne Bias are attending the Governor's Community and Legislative Partners in Aging meetings again this legislative season. Sponsored by the Governor's Council on Aging, these meetings bring together a caucus of Arizona Senators, Representatives and community partners to discuss challenges facing Arizona's seniors.

This legislative session's bills affecting the ASRS self-insurance initiative, university appropriations and adult/senior facility regulation have been left in limbo until the next legislative session. It is uncertain whether that will be this summer or next spring.

Last, but certainly not least, it's an election year. Please engage in your local, state and federal elections! Contact your current legislators and tell them what you think! Do your research and VOTE!



Bill Stasi and Jeri Meeks



Bill Stasi, Tara Roesler and ASU President Michael M. Crow

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

We are pleased to have a growing team of ASU Retiree Association Legislative Watchdogs monitoring the bills as they move through the legislative process, attending retiree related meetings and conferences and working with state and local representatives. My thanks to Tara Roesler, Pat Schneider, William Stasi, Larry Carlson, Dick Jacob, Suzanne Bias and all of our members who bring issues affecting retirees to our attention. Would you like to see what bills have been introduced? What legislative district you live in or who your Senator and Representatives are? The Arizona State Legislature website has all of that and more! Please visit <https://www.azleg.gov/>. Also, would you like to be an ASURA legislative watchdog? We would love to have you! Please contact me with your interest - jeri.meeks@asu.edu.

References and Links:

- Governor signs stripped-down \$11.8 billion budget: https://www.azfamily.com/news/continuing-coverage/coronavirus-coverage/governor-ducey-signs-stripped-down-11-8-billion-budget/article_a4e37ce4-7145-11ea-a5b8-53ab5f8d9aa6.html.
- Governor Ducey's Stay at Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected Order: <https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/stay-home-stay-healthy-stay-connected>
- Governor Ducey's Executive Orders list: <https://azgovernor.gov/executive-orders>
- Board seeks \$165 million from state in 2021 for Arizona's three universities: <https://ktar.com/story/2728495/board-seeks-165-million-from-state-in-2021-for-arizonas-three-universities/>
- Arizona 54th Legislature First Regular Session Bill Query: <https://www.azleg.gov/bills/>
- Legislative Districts by address: <https://azredistricting.org/districtlocator/>
- Contact Information for State Representatives and Senators: <https://www.azleg.gov/memberroster/>

Spring 2020 - Governor's Council on Aging

submitted by Tara Roesler, Jeri Meeks, Pat Schneider, & Suzanne Bias

The ASU Retirees Association was pleased to be invited to the Governor's Council on Aging meetings at the Capital Building again this year. These hour-long meetings, presented by a caucus of legislators, service providers and non-profit organizations, discuss social issues affecting seniors and the disabled. The presentations enable an interactive discussion with an audience of representatives from retiree organizations, service organizations, emergency service providers such as police and firefighters and concerned citizens.

This spring we attended three Council meetings; Utilities: Cost Saving Programs/Solutions for People on Fixed Incomes; House Ad Hoc Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults - Next steps and findings from the committee; COVID-19 and Long-Term Care Facilities. ASURA has posted the complete minutes of each meeting on our website at <https://asura.asu.edu/GovernorsCouncilOnAging>. Here is a quick recap of this spring's meetings:

January 21, 2020: [Utilities: Cost Saving Programs/Solutions for People on Fixed Incomes](#). For this information-packed discussion we had representatives from APS, SRP, SW Gas, City of Phoenix Water, Tucson Electric Power (TEP), Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans and Wildfire. Each of the power suppliers detailed their bill discount and assistance programs – which were very similar. All companies require the customer to provide a SNAP card, showing that they qualify for food assistance, or documentation demonstrating that their income is 150-200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Also, each company has “medically fragile household” and “safety net” programs, which prevent discontinued power if the bill is not paid on time but require the customer to register within their company's system. And each power company has a dedicated customer service phone line with trained counselors to assist customers and community partners for wellness checks and social services assistance.

Arizona Alliance of Retired Americans representative Dora started her talk by saying “If aging isn't your issue – it will be.” She reminded us that the average state retirement payout is \$20K annually, just slightly over the threshold that would make a retiree eligible for a power company's discount programs. Nonprofit Wildfire is an AARP partner and works with 30+ organizations to provide low income assistance through the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

When it came time for questions the Firefighters again stepped up with great questions, asking “how emergency responders could contact the power companies directly if they arrived at a house where the power had been turned off or equipment was not working.” Unfortunately, no representative rallied with a good answer. Another question pertained to data collection - “why weren’t the power companies pro-actively asking customers for personal information that would help them qualify customers for discount programs and a medically fragile classification?” The power companies all responded that they were cognizant of privacy issues and it was their policy not to ask. That said, all power company representatives acknowledged that there is low program participation due to poor communication.

February 25, 2020: [House Ad Hoc Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults - Next steps and findings from the committee.](#) With the number of Arizona seniors growing exponentially in the next decade, and in response to the 2019 Hacienda rape incident, the Governor’s Office put together an Ad Hoc Committee to study the abuse of vulnerable persons. As you can imagine this is a huge topic, so this Committee refined its study to abuse and neglect in facilities. In response to this study, several bills have been introduced this legislative session addressing licensing and oversight of care facilities.

Per the Arizona Department of Health Services (DES) there is a big bubble of seniors heading Arizona’s way between 2020-2026. DES estimates that over 30,000 additional caregivers will be needed. Policy makers are discussing how to leverage state resources to best serve and protect this population ... whether they are living alone, at home with professional or family caregivers or in licensed assisted living facilities.

The Committee acknowledged that not all “bad” or negligent care is the result of criminal activity. Some of the reported problems result from a lack of caregiver training, disproportionate caregiver to senior ratios and constant caregiver turnover due to burnout. The Committee agreed that additional appropriations for, and coordination of, training and resources for caregivers is essential. But some abuse is the result of purposeful neglect. To that end many of the policy bills this session address frequent background checks, license renewal criteria and facility monitoring and audits.

The representative from AZ Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing stated that deaf persons are the most vulnerable because they may not be able to communicate their needs. Committee members agreed that many senior complaints are ignored or considered unbelievable due to dementia. Advocates, whether family or professional, are essential. Public awareness also assists with advocacy ... the Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council representative spoke about the power of digitized survivor stories.

All Committee members agreed that the legislative focus should be on prevention and accountability but acknowledged that getting policy bills passed is a challenge. Each participating agency is actively studying inter-agency improvements and producing recommendations. They were happy for the discussion, but all agreed that what’s really needed is action.

April 28, 2020: [COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities.](#) For our first ZOOM meeting, as we practice our social distancing in compliance with “Arizona’s Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected” executive order, representatives from AARP, Arizona Area Agency on Aging, Haven of Scottsdale and Arizona Health Care Association discussed the legislative initiatives, new online and phone resources, healthcare procedure changes and staffing and equipment deficits related to this epidemic.

All organizations recognized the need for online tools to create and retain a sense of community for caregivers and seniors in assisted living homes and facilities. There is a need for new or upgraded technology to facilitate virtual visits, transparency and the use of online tools and resources. AARP, Arizona Area Agency on Aging (AAAA) and Be Connected Arizona (focused on veterans, their families and helpers) spoke about their new coronavirus-focused websites and helplines. Be Connected Arizona is focused on connecting veterans in rural areas of the state. AARP is hosting a tele-town hall every Thursday. AAAA has a long-term care ombudsman, information and referral hotline and resource directory online. And in response to the stay-at-home order, AAAA has opened a 24-hour National Friendship Hotline that will call seniors once, or once a week to check in on them.

Tangible services for seniors at home have been adapted; meal delivery has changed to a drive through grab-and-go

(Continued from page 9)

type distribution. It's not the preferred method of delivery – negating personal contact and conversation to assess possible needs - but it's a viable meal delivery method. There are concerns about COVID-19 transmission via caregivers and problems getting personal protective equipment (PPE) for these caregivers.

Haven Health of Scottsdale and Arizona Health Care Association representatives spoke about the physical restructuring of space to prevent transmission or isolate in “step down” COVID-19 only facilities, if necessary. Dave Voepel from the AZ Health Care Association stated that less than 27% of Arizona care facilities have COVID19, but once it's in the building they “burn through the PPE.” Both organizations struggle to maintain permanent staffing with back up teams and acquire sufficient PPE and testing materials. Many nurses and caregivers have been exposed to or infected with the virus, due to the lack of PPE. The Governor's office has put together a buying consortium to facilitate the purchase of PPE, but Dave was not sure if they were purchasing or just sourcing materials.

Another challenge for care facilities is coordinating messaging for reporters. The Arizona Health Care Association presents positive messaging but the media is looking for negative stories and human-interest items. Reporters are very interested in entering the facilities, which is, of course, risky for residents.

There is positive news! AARP representative Dana Kennedy spoke about the organization's legislative actions, soliciting support from Arizona Senators to ensure the \$1,200 federal stimulus checks go to social security recipients and those who haven't filed taxes. AAAA has received funds from federal programs such as Family First and CARES for COVID-19 initiatives. And, in a partnership between Governor Ducey, the Arizona Department of Health Services and health care partners across the state a “testing blitz” will occur for three weekends in May. <https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-health/2020/04/27/arizona-testing-blitz-expand-covid-19-testing-statewide-coronavirus/3036082001/>

Upcoming Meetings

- May 1, 2020 - AZ Broadband Strategic Plan – Helping Aging Arizonans, rural communities and telemedicine opportunities
- August 18, 2020 - Long term care facilities and group homes; insight from Administrators and caregivers
- November 17, 2020 – Diabetes and Insulin

ASURA “Virtual” Annual Meeting - Spring 2020

*submitted by Jan Thompson, 2019-2020 President & Carl Cross, 2020-2021 President
(as reported on the ASURA website & in the April 17, 2020 ASURA E-News)*

Today is ASURA's Annual Meeting. While we cannot meet face to face to celebrate the successes of the past year and look forward to the upcoming year, we can still hear from this year's President, Jan Thompson, as she metaphorically passes the gavel to next year's President, Carl Cross.

Jan Thompson Outgoing ASURA President

It has been a memorable year in so many ways. None of us will ever forget the difficult times that we're living through today as we close a year of ASURA activities with our “virtual” Annual Meeting in the time of coronavirus. I was so looking forward to “Celebrating Prime Times” with all of you today as I thanked everyone for their wonderful help this past year and handed the gavel off to Carl, our next President. But alas, the gavel is “socially distanced” at the ASURA office where it will remain until September when we'll hopefully reunite to launch another lively year of activities and events. I know we'll all appreciate the friendship and camaraderie that ASURA offers even more when we're able to get together again! More than anything, my year as your President has made me so appreciate the amazing number of people involved in keeping our organization healthy, vital, and



(Continued on page 11)

growing. Our officers, board members, committee chairs and members, and government/healthcare liaisons are constantly engaged in activities that keep our all-volunteer organization successful and thriving. Please be sure to read their summaries of the year's activities in our Annual Report noted below and you will appreciate the wide-ranging breadth of their accomplishments. I can't begin to thank you all enough for your contributions, suggestions, and cooperation over this past year. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you and to meet and interact with so many of our members over this past year.

Special thanks to our outgoing officers -- Treasurer Barry Bruns and Secretary Pat Schneider -- for their exemplary years of service and to outgoing board members Barry McNeill, Don Nilson and William Stasi for their ongoing dedication to ASURA. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge Barry McNeill (my original ASURA mentor) for his year-long guidance and support. Barry coordinates so many behind-the-scenes details and did a great job of keeping me on track. And both Barry and Connie's upkeep of the E-News and website and Jeannette Robson's excellent work on *Prime Times* have been invaluable, as always. Lastly, a big thank you to my friend Carl Cross for jumping into the co-Presidency last fall during my absence and for assuming the "virtual" Presidency now. Things can only get better! You'll be a steady hand and a great leader for ASURA, Carl.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your President. It has been a highlight of my retirement and a time that I will always cherish. Please be safe as we continue to work our way through the next few months. I look forward to seeing you all in a happy and healthier September!

Carl Cross Incoming ASURA President

I'd also like to thank you all for attending our unique "virtual" 29th Annual Meeting. The first General Meeting was held April 14th, 1992. A lot has happened over the decades since a small group of retirees decided to create this Association. As illustrated in the Annual Report, there are many ways to become more involved and numerous activities to take part in. I challenge each of you to be an active member this year and to have fun as you meet new people and create new friendships through ASURA.



I retired at the end of August in 2015 and attended my first ASURA Annual Meeting the following spring. It was there I volunteered to be the liaison for the University Club and began attending the monthly Board meetings. Although I was only an ex-officio member of the Board, I soon volunteered to be a part of the Video History Project, utilizing my experience with the ASU Digital Repository that I contributed to before retiring from the University Library.

In January 2019, I submitted my name to the nominating committee to be on the Board. Once the voting had taken place, Jan Thompson was busy trying to find a Vice-President before the March Board meeting. After much arm-twisting and reassurance, I agreed to serve. I have always enjoyed the comfort of being in a "support" position, rather than at the head of the table. However, with the incredible support of our Board and our wonderful volunteers, I knew that everyone was always willing to help each other. That's one of the things that makes ASURA a very special and active organization.

I know that I'll be leaning on Immediate Past President Jan Thompson, as ASURA completes its third decade in the spring of 2021. We extend a warm welcome to our five new board members – Larry Edmonds, Kathy Gunn, Mark Henderson, Jill Massara, and Trudy Perez. Our new Officers are Larry Edmonds, Vice President; Jane Carey, Secretary; and Jill Massara, Treasurer. Thank you all for your willingness to serve. I'm looking forward to a great year, filled with lots of fun and exciting events that will allow each of us to not only enjoy our retirement, but continue to be active and contributing members of the ASU family.

Annual Report

The 2019-2020 <https://asura.asu.edu/AnnualReports> is available for your review. If you are uncomfortable clicking on the link, then go to the ASURA home page, <https://asura.asu.edu>, open the Publications menu and select Annual Reports. You will see a table with all the Annual Reports including this year's edition.

John Denver Tribute - February 3, 2020

submitted by Joyce Hartman Diaz

On February 3, some 33 members and guests attended the Silver Star Theater to dine and listen to a John Denver Tribute by Brad Fitch. Brad not only looked the part but shared some little-known facts about John's life and music, as well as singing many of the beloved Denver favorites. The large turnout for this event showed their appreciation of Brad by giving him a standing ovation at the end of the first set and again at the end of his performance.



This venue included a varied buffet, with several entrees and accompaniments, as well as a full salad bar. Soda and

drinks were available for purchase and, at intermission, soft serve cones were offered for \$1.00. Beside the tasty food, the folks at Silver Star went out of their way in the name of service. The will-call area was manned by young people who, with smiling faces, gave us professional service. The wait staff was efficient, helpful, young, and also very capable. At the end of the performance, as we filed out, the young wait staff lined the wall and thanked each of us for attending. Customer service, while a dying art at some venues, was fully apparent at the Silver Star Theater.

It's quite possible that many of the favorites from the Denver Tribute were shared on our travels back home.

(To view other photos, please visit the [ASURA Photo Gallery](#))



Bente Aannestad,
Michael Thorpe



Elaine Surbeck



Nancy Lesko with
mom Nancy Leach



Roy & Mary Miller

Elder Law & Preparing for Passing - February 13, 2020

submitted by Beverly Buddee — Seminars



The speaker for this seminar was Ms. Stephanie Bivens, CELA, Esq., the principal attorney of Bivens & Associates, P.L.L.C., and a Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation, accredited by the State Bar of Arizona. Ms. Bivens is one of fewer than 600 CELA's nationwide and has been rated 2019 Southwest Super Lawyer in Elder Law; fewer than 5% of all attorneys receive this designation after professional and peer review election process. Additionally, Ms. Bivens is nationally recognized in her legal field, frequent speaker, and writer.

Ms. Bivens noted that Elder Law is best defined by who receives service rather than any specific type of legal services. The "who" includes seniors, family members of seniors, persons with disabilities, everyone! Common elder law practice areas include estate planning, post-death probate and trust administration, fiduciary representation (medical and financial), long term care asset protection

planning, Medicaid (ALTCS) and VA Aid & Attendance Pension benefits planning and applications, guardianship/conservatorship, and financial exploitation. She spoke about Elder Law myths and described the difference between an estate planning attorneys versus an Elder Law attorneys. Ms. Bivens explained the estate planning documents that are crucial to have in place and what happens when death occurs without proper estate planning in place.

Over Ms. Bivens's 20+ years of experience, she has identified these top 10 estate planning mistakes:

- Procrastination
- DIY (Do It Yourself) project.
- Failure to update documents (should be reviewed every 3-4 years).
- Beneficiary Designation problems.
- Trust not properly funded.
- No contingency planning.
- Blended family issues.
- Lack of incapacity planning.



(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12 ... ASURA Needs Your Old Books)

- Not using a Trust.
- Failure to leave breadcrumbs, i.e., markers to indicate the path you followed as you came to the decisions you have made.

Ms. Bivens' presentation then moved to Long Term Care (LTC), what it is, who will need it, the cost, and options for paying for LTC (which is not covered by Medicare). These options include private pay, long term care insurance or investment, and government benefits – Medicaid (Arizona Long Term Care System – ALTCS) and VA (VA Aid & Attendance Pension). Ms. Bivens then talked at length and in depth about the ALTCS, what it is, medical eligibility requirements, what services are covered, eligibility requirements, medical eligibility and financial eligibility. Please review the specific presentation slides for information regarding income limits, resource limits, exempt assets, and the ALTCS 5-year look-back and penalty period information.

She then spoke about Veterans Aid & Attendance Pension which is a monthly cash benefit intended to reimburse veterans and their surviving spouses for medical and care expenses. Maximum annual 2020 benefits available to single veterans is \$22,938, to a married veteran is \$27,194, and to the widow of a veteran is \$14,761. Ms. Bivens spoke to the eligibility criteria for VA Aid & Attendance Pension and covered information regarding a transfer penalty.

Three useful links:

- [PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- [Seminar Handouts](#)
- [Alternate HIPAA form](#)

ASURA Calendar of Events: Fall 2020

EVENT	DATE
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020 – (Zoom)	August 10, 2020 - (noon-1:00pm)
ASURA Board Meeting	September 8, 2020 (10:00-11:30am)
2020 Annual Meeting/Meet & Greet Pizza Party	<i>to be determined</i>
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020 – (Zoom)	September 14, 2020 – Hold the Date
Social Event, Seminar or travel	<i>to be determined</i>
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020 – (Zoom)	October 12, 2020 – Hold the Date
ASURA Board Meeting	October 13, 2020 (10:00am-noon)
Social Event, Seminar or travel	<i>to be determined</i>
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020 – (Zoom)	November 9, 2020 – Hold the Date
ASURA Board Meeting	November 10, 2020 (10:00am-noon)
ASURA Board Meeting	December 8, 2020 (10:00am-noon)
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020 – (Zoom)	December 14, 2020 – Hold the Date

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

As a reminder, we are always open to any suggestions from our ASURA members as to what events or travel (local and international) you would like ASURA to consider. Please share your ideas with Trudy Perez, Chair of the Events Committee at trudy.perez@asu.edu.



Obituary Notifications: January 21, 2020 to April 22, 2020



submitted by Becky Reiss

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

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Bender, Judith Marie	January 30, 2020	Daughter of Gordon Bender, Professor of Zoology, Professor Emeritus of Life Sciences, deceased in 2011
Brown, Carol Gail Osman	March 6, 2020	Faculty, Journalism
Campbell, Rudy Eugene	February 3, 2020	Board of Regents Member, ASU Supporter
Canion, Robert E., Jr.	Date unknown	Basement excavator under two dorms, Physical Science building and utility tunnels
Cartsonis, Sylvia Flax	January 3, 2020	Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Social Work
Chaudhuri, Joyotpaul “Joy”	March 31, 2020	Professor Emeritus, Political Science
Coinman, Robert A.	February 2, 2020	Saga Foods
Cox, Steven R.	February 19, 2020	Professor of Economics
Davis, Avery Vanessa	March 7, 2020	Program Coordinator
Daley, John M. “Mike”	January 27, 2020	Dean, School of Social Work
Dedera, Don E.	March 3, 2020	ASU Alumni Achievement Award recipient; Walter Cronkite School of Journalism Hall of Fame Inductee
de los Santos, Jr., Alfredo G.	March 8, 2020	Professor, College of Education; Research Professor, Hispanic Research Center
Dickerson, Ruth Frederickson	February 21, 2020	Taught food classes
Edmunds, Geoffrey H.	February 7, 2020	Supporter and member of various campus and college boards; recipient of the Alumni Class Homecoming Award
Facio, Michael Anthony	March 23, 2020	Painter
Goul, Kenneth Michael	March 19, 2020	Professor, Senior Associate Dean for Faculty and Research, W.P. Carey School of Business
Greszler, Judith Elaine	March 24, 2020	Book buyer
Hammond, Larry A.	March 2, 2020	Taught law courses; founded the Arizona Justice Project, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
Harris, Dee Riddell	March 1, 2020	Faculty Associate, College of Law
Harris, Joan L.	January 6, 2020	Graduate Admission Advisor
Hingorani, Gangu Ghanshamdas	March 5, 2020	Faculty, College affiliation unknown
Horowitz, Renee Barbara	February 11, 2020	Professor of Technology, College of Technology and Innovation
Jimison, John William	April 8, 2020	Professor, College of Education

Obituaries continued on page 15

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Jones, Richard	March 5, 2020	Student Health Administrator
Jordan, Eleanor A.	March 20, 2020	Director of gifted and talented program hosted by ASU
Kilgore, Craig W.	March 3, 2020	Chef
Kirkman, Donald Wayne	February 2, 2020	Established Anna and Don Kirkman Family Scholarship in Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Kralic, James “Jim” Michael	January 13, 2020	College/department affiliation unknown
Leyba, Raul	October 24, 2019	Associate Professor, School of Social Work
Maienschein, Fred	February 3, 2020	Father of Dr. Jane Maienschein, ASU Professor of History Science; Director, Center for Biology and Society
Manuelito, Kathryn Diane	February 29, 2020	Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction
Martin, JoAnne Yvonne (Stahnke)	March 2, 2020	Daughter of Herbert Stahnke, Zoology Dept. Chair (deceased)
Maximon, Leonard Charles	January 4, 2020	Professor Emeritus; Visiting Professor, ASU Herberger Young Scholars Academy; Faculty, Barrett Honors College; Adjunct Professor, Physics Department
Miller, Ernest Lynn	March 3, 2020	Faculty Associate, Architecture
Moore, Dorothy Ann	February 7, 2020	Secretary, Football office
Northrup, Foster M.	January 28, 2020	Administrative staff; department/college affiliation unknown
O’Dell, Michael Arthur	February 14, 2020	Professor Emeritus, W.P. Carey School of Accountancy
Petty, Bob	February 18, 2020	KAET; Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication Hall of Fame (2007)
Quesada, Alicia (Alice) O.	March 8, 2020	Established Jose Franco and Francisca Ocampo Quesada Research Award Endowment
Roberts, Jr., John A.	February 17, 2020	Member of ASU Foundation; ASU president’s Club; ASU Melikian Center for Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies; Advisory Board of Center for the Study of Religion & Conflict
Shebek, Bernard Michael (Barney)	January 30, 2020	Negotiated purchases of ASU Downtown campus properties
Slatt, Roger M.	February 22, 2020	Geology Professor
Smith, Marjorie Ann Deal	April 2, 2020	ASU West, Supervising Student Teachers
Smith, Richard Lee “Dick”	March 14, 2020	Assistant Teacher, Aeronautics and Ceramics
Tao, Nongjian	March 15, 2020	Professor, Electrical Engineering; Director, Center for Bioelectronics and Biosensors in Biodesign Institute
Tamburo, Richard	February 24, 2020	Assistant Football Coach; Athletic Director
Verduzco, Rogelio “Roger” Coronado Cenizais	December 15, 2019	Professor, College affiliation unknown
Wallender, Tom	February 7, 2020	Electric Shop
Wellons, Kennard	April 13, 2020	Assistant Professor, School of Social Work

New ASRS Dental Insurance Plans for 2021

submitted by Tara Roesler — Legislative Liaison and Past President

After completion of a competitive bidding process over the last several months, the ASRS has awarded contracts to two new dental carriers, Delta Dental of Arizona and Cigna Health. The new carriers and their respective plans will be offered beginning next plan year (which begins January 1, 2021). While we are thrilled to be starting a new partnering relationships with these two firms, December 31, 2020 will formally mark the end of the long-standing relationship the ASRS has shared with Assurant/SunLife Financial. We would like to thank Barb Weber and Kristine Ehlis again for their participation and contribution to the success of the RFP.



Below are some highlights we can share now about the new plans and we will provide additional communication over the coming months and into the open enrollment season. For plan year 2021, we have decided to remain with a fully insured funding arrangement. We did establish contracts for a self-insured arrangement as well, should we decide to transition the program to a self-insured program in the coming years.

Delta Dental of Arizona - Will be offering a low and a high option PPO plan to members. The new plans will include 100% coverage for preventative services (versus the current 80% coverage on our High Option PPO) and will include dental implant coverage. The monthly premiums will be lower than the current PPO premiums.

Cigna Health - Will be offering a pre-paid DHMO plan. We will be consolidating our current pre-paid DHMO plans into a single DHMO plan offered by Cigna. The monthly premiums will be lower than our current pre-paid DHMO premiums.

Prime Times is issued three times annually by the Arizona State University Retirees Association and offers special editions, as needed. It is compiled and published by Jeannette Robson, printed by AlphaGraphics, and mailed through ASU Mail Services. Articles are always 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, Tempe, Arizona.

Phone: (480) 965-7668

Fax: (480) 965-7807

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