

ASURA President's Message

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



I am excited that it is October because I am encouraged that doing all the things we are doing, i.e., wearing our masks, observing social distancing, washing hands, and keeping surfaces clean are making a difference. Are they easy? No, not always. Have there been hiccups? Oh yes there have. Are we going to get through it together? Absolutely!

On behalf of the ASURA Board and Office Staff, I want to express our admiration for your outstanding ASU spirit amid the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Of all the lessons learned this year, flexibility, patience and perseverance arguably mark the ASU experience as never before.

It is no doubt an opportune time for unity and agility in responding to the myriad of challenges before us. Our ASURA seminars serve as an example as we explore meaningful ways to engage our retirees during this new normal. Our Events Committee Coordinator and her committee have been hard at work lining up new educational opportunities. Make sure to stay active with your membership and leverage these exclusive opportunities to help bring greater value to your retirement.

How will we ensure safely regrouping? Until there is a vaccine, few places in the world will be coronavirus-free. And any number of reasons – ranging from personal safety to University and State of Arizona public health directives and the potential for a coronavirus resurgence – may necessitate other options. In this light, the Board agreed to cancel the combined Fall 2020 Meet & Greet Pizza Party and our Spring 2020 Annual Meeting which had already been postponed from April 17. Despite the disappointment of this decision, our virtual meetings via Zoom have been a great success. ASURA will continue to send out E-News to keep members updated.

Studies have shown that the effects of isolation and loneliness can have negative impacts on the health of older adults. Our leadership and flexibility with programming and outreach efforts can certainly make a difference in ensuring our retirees remain highly engaged. We all need to be reaching out to others offering support and empathy.






I want to again thank all our members for hanging in there as we all adjust to this ever-changing situation. The road ahead still has its challenges, and ASURA will remain there alongside of you to help – as we have been for nearly three decades.



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ASURA Executive Board

				
President Carl Cross	Vice President Larry Edmonds	Past President Jan Thompson	Secretary Jane Carey	Treasurer

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
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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 Simin Levinson Jared Vibbert
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Committees

<p><u>Community Outreach</u></p> <p>Adopt-A-Family: Ginny Sylvester</p> <p>Scholarship: Joy Shearman & Barbara Fargotstein</p> <p>Video History Project: Barry McNeill</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Events</u></p> <p>Events Committee Chair: Trudy Perez</p> <p>Luncheons/Special Events: Trudy Perez</p>	<p>Seminars: Beverly Buddee</p> <p>Pre-retirement Seminars: Trudy Perez & Liz Badalmenti</p> <p>Travel: John Brock</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Finance & Fundraising</u></p> <p>Finance: Jill Massara & Carolyn Minner</p> <p>Book Donations: Mary Stevens</p>	<p>Fund Raising: <i>to be determined</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Government & Health Insurance Liaisons</u></p> <p>Government Liaisons: Legislative - Jeri Meeks, Tara Fuchs-Roesler, & Pat Schneider</p> <p>ASRS - Dick Jacob ADOA - Larry Carlson</p> <p>Health Insurance Liaisons: ASRS - Dick Jacob ADOA - Larry Carlson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Membership & Communications</u></p> <p>E-News: Barry McNeill</p> <p>Membership: David Schwalm</p> <p>Obituaries: Becky Reiss</p> <p>Prime Times Newsletter: Jeannette Robson</p> <p>Website and Database: Connie McNeill</p>
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Office Staff

<p>Office Staff Coordinators - Linda Van Scoy/Nancy Lesko</p> <p>Business Operations Manager - Carolyn Minner Technology Manager - Connie McNeill</p> <p>Phone: (480) 965-7668 (<i>best to call beforehand</i>) Fax: (480) 965-7807</p> <p>Substitutes: Dorothy Meunier & Helen Seaton</p>	<p>Fall 2020 Office Hours</p> <p>Tuesday & Wednesday: 10:00am - 4:00pm Thursday: 9:00am - 3:00pm</p> <p>Monday <i>Closed All Day</i> Tuesday: Nancy Lesko & Linda Van Scoy Wednesday: Beverly Buddee & Jeannette Robson Thursday: Bonnie Scheall & Sharon Wielert Friday <i>Closed All Day</i></p>
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Welcome New ASURA Members

Rojann Alpers	Carrie Finke	Richard Kiehl	Graeme Rankine
Linda Anderson	Amy Fitzgerald	Wendy King	Margo Rivera-Wilson
Charlotte Armbruster	Michele Flanagan	Richard Kinnier	Lynda Root
Rick Bauer	Mary Fonow	Sharon Kurpius	Diane Rowley
Scott Bingham	Sally Forney	Betty Lee	Pamela Scala
Craig Birtcher	Jacques Giard	Katheryn Lehman	Linda Shupe
Lora Borup	John Gilkeson Jr	Daniel Linck	Jeffrey Smith
Mark Bradshaw	Arthur Glenberg	Timothy Lindquist	Hal Smith
Julie Bucho-Gonzalez	Peter Goguen	Heather Lineberry	Robert St Louis
Robert Burton	William Griffin	Denise Link	Mary Stokrocki
Christopher Callahan	Jeanne Hanrahan	Mark Lodato	Charlotte Strayhorne
Carlos Castillo-Chavez	Cathy Harrison	Brian Macfie	Katherine Sullivan
Julie Castro	Richard Herrera	Gregory Maday	Patrick Thompson
Jack Chisum	Donald Herring	Chris Martin	Jeffrey Thomson
Allen Clark	Paul Hirt	Joy Muir	James Tyburczy
Lynn Clinton Van Patter	J Hoffmeister	Gordon Murphy	David Valentine
Lynne Cody	Sandra Houston	Randolph Nesse	Donald Veitch
Aimee Colmery	Emmett Howard	Thomas Oberlin	Crissy Wells
James Contes	Joan Hughes	Miles Orchinik	Stephen West
Natalia Dounskaia	Lisa Jackson	David Pijawka	Shirley Whitehouse
Diane Eckley	Mark Janda	Steven Pivalal	Emily Winslow
Tina Esquerra	Nancy Jurik	Dianne Price	Gregg Zachary

ASURA Board Nominations Due January 15, 2021

submitted by Jan Thompson — Chair, ASURA Board Nominating Committee & Past President, ASURA Board

Each year ASURA holds a February election for five new members of the ASURA Board of Directors. The Board manages the affairs of the Association and establishes policies as needed to carry out its mission. Members of the Board are elected for a term of three years and meet monthly during the academic year.

We welcome members to offer the name of a current ASURA member or your own name as a potential board member by notifying the Nominating Committee chair of your nomination. To be sure that your nominee's name gets on the ballot, you can (as mandated by ASURA Bylaws) submit a petition of nomination bearing the signatures of at least ten current ASURA members. All nominating petitions must be received by January 15, 2021.

Send names and/or nominating petitions to:

Jan Thompson, Chair
2021 ASURA Board Nominating Committee
P.O. Box 873308
Tempe, AZ 85287-3308
Email: jmt6000@gmail.com



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
- **Video History Project:** Volunteers needed to view collection interviews then update with abstracts, table of contents, etc. **Contact** — Barry McNeill, barry.mcneill@outlook.com
- **Technology/Website Committee:** Needs help to maintain ASURA's technology infrastructure.
Contact — Connie McNeill, connie.mcneill@outlook.com

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 **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.

Video History Project Update — Fall 2020

submitted by Barry McNeill — Chair, Video History Project

The final editing of two interviews, Robert (Coach) Fleming & David Schwalm, were completed over the summer and uploaded to the ASU's Digital Repository. Both interviews are very interesting and very different. I encourage you to take a break and listen to one or both of these interviews.



- Coach Fleming was the Director of the Marching band for 28 years and his interview is full of a host of wonderful band related memories and activities. You cannot listen to the interview and fail to appreciate his love of the band and the band's reciprocal respect for Coach.

(The interview was conducted in 2011 and is available at <https://repository.asu.edu/items/57453>.)

- Dave Schwalm came to ASU as Director of Composition and retired as Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at the Polytechnic Campus. The interview traces Dave's steadily expanding responsibilities from English Composition to General Studies and finally to Campus Academic Programs. The history of the development of the Academic Programs at the Polytechnic campus is fascinating.

(The interview was conducted in 2015 and is available at <https://repository.asu.edu/items/57499>.)

ASURA Office Updates

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

In the *Prime Times* summer issue the ASURA office had been closed due to COVID 19 but we were hopeful it would be reopened by the time the summer issue was published. Sadly, that was not the case and the building remained closed all summer. The building reopened on August 20 but our office did not open until September 8 ... initially now for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Our Monday staffers will be away for a time taking care of family obligations and recovering from a knee injury.

Even though we were closed, many routine activities were still carried out. First and foremost, was processing the membership renewals. With the building closed the mail was rerouted to the central campus mail services on Rural Road. Mail could be picked up only by appointment. Kudos go out to two of our member volunteers, Nancy Lesko, and Carolyn Minner who went above and beyond to keep the wheels moving along. Nancy volunteered to pick up the mail several times a week and process the renewals (from home) before sending them on to Carolyn at the West campus for collecting and depositing them with the Foundation. So some of you may have experienced a delay in notification that your donation was received or may have received a second notice to renew your membership. We are sorry about that but you can see by the process we were operating under why it may have taken a couple of weeks to process your renewals.

Another member who went above and beyond is Mary Stevens, our Book Donation chair. Members and faculty had several book donations for us over the summer and

Mary was able to meet the donors at the CSB building along with a staff member from Facilities Management who would open and close the building for each donation. This then resulted in a need to have Friends of Phoenix Library schedule visits to pick up the book donations that were piling up. (Kind of a good thing.) But all of this was complicated by the building lock down. However, after several requests for someone to open the building we were issued a master key to the building allowing us to meet our donors' delivery schedules.

Phone messages left at the office were checked from home and answered or redirected. So we managed to keep the office moving along (more like limping). The office volunteers are anxious to return to the office and some semblance of normalcy. Of course we will be following all of the standard protocols to keep the office clean and the staff protected. We have a great advantage in that our building is kind of an island with few tenants and/or visitors.

We look forward to a future face-to-face gathering at some point ... Holiday Pot Luck perhaps? Fingers crossed.

Fall 2020 Office Schedule

Monday: **CLOSED Temporarily**
Tuesday, **10am-4pm:** Nancy Lesko/Linda Van Scoy
Wednesday, **10am-4pm:** Bev Buddee/Jeannette Robson
Thursday, **9am-3pm:** Bonnie Scheall/Sharon Wielert
Friday: **CLOSED Year Round**



Donate to ASURA

Would you like to support the ASU Retirees Association or one of our projects? You can do so any time ... you don't have to wait for our annual membership drive. We are very grateful for any support you can provide.

In addition to providing direct financial support to the funds listed at <https://asura.asu.edu/donate>, you can help support us by [donating your used books](#).

If you would like to include ASURA in your estate plans, please [contact the ASU Foundation](#).

Gifts in support of ASU may be considered a charitable contribution. Please consult your tax adviser regarding the deductibility of charitable contributions.



Government Liaison's Report - Fall 2020

submitted by the Legislative Liaison Committee: Jeri Meeks (Lobbyist), Tara Roesler (Lobbyist), Patricia Schneider, William Stasi & Larry Carlson

The 54th Legislature Second Regular Session adjourned Sine Die May 26, 2020, although much of this session's work came to a halt in the middle of March when the Governor released his first COVID-19 executive order. This on-again-off-again legislative session had the House and Senate working at different times, resulting in hundreds of bills left wanting. The Congress and Governor did push through a bare bones FY21 budget. There was talk of the Governor calling the Arizona Congress back for summer sessions, but as the pandemic escalated and a factionalized Republican caucus disagreed, those sessions have not happened. Although nothing is written in stone, I would say most of the legislative business is holding for the 55th Legislature First Session starting in January 2021.

The focus this fall is voting! Arizona election officers face an unprecedented challenge - conducting an election amid a global pandemic. How is the state preparing for the primary and general elections? How will officials ensure voters are safe from the highly contagious COVID-19? What about poll workers and staffers? Masks? Hand Sanitizers? Plexiglass at the voting booth? Presidential election years typically bring out more voters - what will that mean for voting precincts? As people turn to mail-in ballots, how will officers ensure the counting is fast and secure?

The Capital Times addressed these questions in a town hall type discussion this past June. Speakers included Gina Roberts (Voter Education Director), Scott Jarrett (Director of Election Day and Emergency Voting, Maricopa) and Patty Hansen (Coconino County Recorder). The discussion started with some relevant statistics; in the 2016 presidential election 2.7 million voters turned out – with 80% voting by mail. As of July 2019, there are 3.87 million active registered voters in Arizona, dramatically increasing the expected volume of mail-in voting. In response, changes for the November 2020 election include voting centers instead of precincts, expanded early voting, expanded print, radio, social media outreach and COVID-19 safety measures.

Maricopa County is moving to a Voting Center model – replacing the Voting Precincts. Voting Centers will process ballots from any Maricopa County resident. There were 100 Voting Centers open for the August Primary voting and will be more in November, as needed. Voting centers will be open 27 days before the voting deadline, with evening and weekend hours. Voters can access a list of Drop Boxes and Voting Center locations, hours and wait times at <https://recorder.maricopa.gov/pollingplace/> (Locations.Maricopa.Vote).

The Voting Centers will have in-person inside and drive-up voting along with outside drop boxes for mail-in ballots. Maricopa County will not require voters to have and wear a mask, but will supply masks, gloves and one-time use pens. Coconino County will require masks along with all the other coronavirus safeguards. Coconino County Recorder Patty Hansen said extra language assistance and physical access considerations are being made to accommodate the tribes.

Poll workers will be required to wear face shields and gloves and the State has selected large venues to accommodate social distancing. Surface sanitizing will happen throughout the day. The State will encourage voters to bring their



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completed sample ballot to limit the time spent in the voting booth.

Voter Education Director Gina Roberts addressed the national concern of falsified mail-in ballots. She described a several step process for voter identity confirmation and an electronic adjudication system for smudged indeterminate marks on ballots. She assured Arizonans that votes would not be counted until that confirmation happened.

Lastly, Arizonans need to manage their expectations for a quick vote count. Arizona has instituted a new process of tabulating mail-in votes starting 14 days prior to the election day, but again all votes need to be confirmed. The Media is always looking for a quick answer and is willing to project an election result, but the State must do the work before announcing the winner.



So, stay informed, stay safe and VOTE!

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging - Fall 2020 Report

submitted by Jeri Meeks, Legislative Liaison (Lobbyist)

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) is authorized by legislation and was created to advise the Governor, Legislature and all State Departments on all necessary matters and issues relating to aging, including the administration of the *State Plan on Aging*. GACA members are appointed by the Governor with a mission to enhance the quality of life for older Arizonans. GACA moved to the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family in 2020.



GACA gathers and assesses information about seniors' needs and aging trends by monitoring and raising awareness about programs and policies that affect older adults. The Council also provides support in planning for Arizona's future through the Aging 2020 initiative and the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force. GACA has been instrumental in providing training and awareness programs concerning vital aging issues. The Council strives to offer training or aging awareness events each year. Some of the Council's recent work has included older driver safety, fall prevention, oral health, hearing loss, caregiving and certification of mature-worker-friendly employers. Past endeavors have included kinship care, energy and utilities assistance, affordable housing, rural transportation, guardian and conservatorship issues, and medication misuse. Here's a quick recap of this Summer's GACA meetings:

May 19, 2020: COVID-19 Testing.

Representatives from University of Arizona, Arizona Health Care Association, Nod (Medical) Specialists and the Arizona Health Care Association discussed the statewide testing of health professionals and first responders, telemedicine, delivery of care initiatives and staffing and equipment deficits related to this epidemic.

The Governor's office is partnering with the University of Arizona Center for Rural Health (*AzCRH*) to administer 250,000 antibody tests to health professionals and first responders. AzCRH will be tracking the results to learn more about community exposure, assist in making decisions about how to protect our citizens and help "create a roadmap to recovery." There are currently 30 participating cities and 10,000 scheduled tests. The State will provide \$3.5 million dollars for this antibody screening. AzCRH Director Dan Derksen also discussed the differences between the types of tests and their veracity. He stated that both the diagnostic PCR (nasal swab) test for current infection and the blood test for antibodies are improving as far as accuracy.

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Dr. Kevin Stephen addressed the evolution and effectiveness of telemedicine. He spoke about doctor office visit challenges such as long wait times in the lobby or exam room and the fear of cross contamination. Dr. Stephen did acknowledge computer availability and technology challenges for some seniors. Phone calls with a doctor are also available, but he acknowledged that a large percentage of communication is non-verbal, so a visual meeting is best.

Dave Voepel from the AZ Health Care Association echoed the state's health care and first responder testing initiative goals and stated that both types of testing could be widely available in senior care facilities soon. As he stated at last month's meeting, senior care facilities struggle to maintain permanent staffing during this epidemic as well as acquiring sufficient PPE and testing materials. COVID-19 spreads quickly within care facilities, with Dementia and Alzheimer's patients especially vulnerable. Staff must be hyper-aware of evolving symptoms and isolate immediately to prevent "super infections." Adequate and consistent testing is essential. But there are challenges to testing in care facilities. Residents, or their legal advocates, must give permission for testing. Also, insurance may not pay for the test.

To meet the caregiver shortage in Arizona, Governor Ducey signed an executive order last month allowing on-the-job training for caregiver certification. This order allows potential caregivers to complete 62 hours of supervised training in a paid work environment, before taking the Arizona Board of Nursing Care examination to become certified.

June 16, 2020: Community and Legislative Partners in Aging Round Table.

The conversation began with Dave Voepel, Executive Director of the Arizona Health Care Association, who addressed the rise in numbers of COVID-19 cases and voiced concerns over hospital capacity and for discharged patients who still need 24-hour care and a place to go. He believes skilled homes have a better handle now on how to deal with COVID-19, with an improved supply chain for PPE and testing. He agreed that hiring and retaining qualified caregivers is an ongoing challenge. There was a question as to whether direct care employees are being asked to take precautions outside of the work place to keep them safe for themselves and also for the people they come in contact with at work. The providers present indicated that they have given their employees suggested guidelines. It was suggested that more discussion needs to take place on a strategic, long term plan for dealing with the virus in 2021-22. The virus isn't going away and it will be a while before an effective vaccine is in place. The Legislative representatives present were urged to make sure this was happening, or going to be happening very soon. In response, GACA has put together a Long-Term Task Force.

August 18, 2020: Long Term Care Task Force.

To date, visitation at long-term care facilities has been limited to help protect residents from potential exposure to COVID-19. That said, contact with loved-ones is important to the residents and family members. Governor Ducey has established a Task Force on Long Term Care to develop recommendations and benchmarks for the gradual re-opening for visitation and to ensure proper protocols are put into place. Members of the task force include operators of a variety of facility types, family members, advocates, and government officials.

The Task Force plan will define guidelines for "companionate care visitation", which will include a negative COVID-19 test result less than 48 hours old and a signed attestation from the visitor. Resident cohorts and designated visitation rooms are an option. Medical guidance, contamination metrics and mitigation are being discussed. There was a recognition that one policy would not fit all Long-Term Care (LTC) facility situations. The committee meets again later today (August 18) to complete the "gating criteria" plan draft and give the committee members two weeks to read and digest.

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LTC family members were firm that they should be part of this discussion and that these facilities need to start reopening now. It's been 23 weeks since they have seen their loved ones and they are ready to be reunited. They stated that family members are no more of an infection risk than an LTC staffer that leaves the facility at the end of the day. Family members play an essential role in physical, mental and emotional care. Family enhances communication, especially if the resident is hard of hearing or deaf. Family also humanizes the resident to the LTC staff and provides an extra set of eyes and ears, ensuring the best treatment for their loved one.

Lastly, there was a concern about the logistics of resident voting. Representative Longdon will look into drop boxes or other solutions.

(NOTE: All the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging reports are also available on the ASURA website at <https://asura.asu.edu/GovernorsCouncilOnAging>)

References:

- ASU Retirees Association Governor's Advisory Council on Aging page: <https://asura.asu.edu/GovernorsCouncilOnAging>
- Area Agency on Aging News: <https://www.aaaphx.org/news/>
- Governor's Advisory Council on Aging: <https://goyff.az.gov/councils-commissions/governors-advisory-council-aging>
- Governor's Advisory Council on Aging Long Term Care Taskforce: <https://goyff.az.gov/news/governor-ducey-announces-task-force-long-term-care>
August 26, 2020 KJZZ Article: *Arizona Families Will soon Be Allowed Back Inside Long-Term Care Facilities.* <https://kjzz.org/content/1612810/arizona-families-will-soon-be-allowed-back-inside-long-term-care-facilities>

AROHE Idea Exchange Webinar: Wellness & Social Connections

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

Relationships play a significant role in one's overall sense of wellbeing. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, these social supports are affecting people more significantly than ever before. The result is a trend of increasing social isolation and feelings of disconnection that are detrimental to an individual at any stage of life. Join a conversation related to the importance of social supports to one's individual and collective wellbeing and explore the opportunities and roles institutions and retirement organizations may provide to enhance the wellbeing of their members, communities, and institutions. Register at <https://www.arohe.org/event-3947939>



Presenter: Dr. Jilliam McManus, LCSW, DBH, is the Executive Director of Workforce Development and Health in the Office of Human Resources at Arizona State University. She provides oversight to Leadership and Workforce Development, Employee Assistance and Employee Wellness. Dr. McManus has a BA in Psychology, a Masters in Social Work and a Doctorate in Behavior Health. Her clinical expertise includes individual and family counseling, health management/health psychology, training, workplace behavior consultations, and managing transitions utilizing a holistic approach to intervention.

Date: Wednesday, October 21, 6:00-10:00am, Pacific Time

ASRS Health and Dental Insurance for 2021

submitted by Richard Jacob, Government Liaison, ASRS

ASRS conducted two procurement exercises this year to acquire medical and dental insurance providers. I was privileged to be a member of a four-person Advisory Committee for the medical insurance search. Contracts have been entered into with several providers as given herewith. The principal contracts are:

Dental Insurance

Delta Dental of Arizona
CIGNA Dental

Medical Care

Medicare Advantage HMO – UnitedHealthcare:

Base Premium (per insured person)	\$73
Less RRA* Funds	(\$73)
Net Retiree Premium	\$0

Medicare Advantage PPO – UnitedHealthcare:

Base Premium (per insured person)	\$108
Less RRA Funds	(\$41)
Net Retiree Premium	\$67

(Note: For those who receive a retiree's premium benefit, the net premium will be zeroed out.)

Non-Medicare – UnitedHealthcare Choice (per insured person):

Choice Premier	\$1,062
Choice Value	\$886
Choice Economy	\$775
Choice Plus PPO (out-of-state)	\$1,361

Additional contracts were let to Aetna for non-Medicare coverage, Humana for Medicare and CVS Health for pharmaceutical management. Details of these contracts will be available in the open enrollment guide.

Open Enrollment dates are November 1 through November 30. Materials will be mailed to eligible members before then. On-line seminar and information session schedules will be included.

Self-insurance options were sought from the contenders, but legislation had not reached the point where self-insurance can be considered for 2021. However, the premiums obtained obviate at the moment the motivation for ASRS moving to self-insurance.

* **RRA**: Retrospective Rate Agreement funds have been returned to ASRS by UnitedHealthcare based on experience, and returned in turn to members.

**Protect
Yourself,
Your Family,
and
Your Friends**



GET
your
FLU SHOT

ASURA Calendar of Events: Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

Event	Date/Time *
2021 Medicare-ADOA-ASRS Open Enrollment Seminar: (via Zoom)	Thursday, October 8, 2020
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, October 13, 2020
ASURA Pre- Retirement Seminar -- "Understanding Medicare: A-to-D – Choose the right path for YOU": (via Zoom)	Monday, October 19, 2020 (Noon-1:00pm)
Social Event, Seminar or Travel	<i>to be determined</i>
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020: (via Zoom)	Monday, November 9, 2020
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, November 10, 2020
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, December 8, 2020
Pre-Retirement Seminar – Fall 2020: (via Zoom)	Monday, December 14, 2020
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, January 12, 2021
ASURA Email Migration & Cyber Security Seminar: (via Zoom)	Thursday, January 14, 2021
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, February 9, 2021
Nutrition and Physical Therapy	Thursday, February 11, 2021
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, March 9, 2021
Affordable Senior Housing Options (tentative)	Thursday, March 11, 2021
ASURA Board Meeting	Tuesday, May 11, 2021

* Unless otherwise noted, all event times are **10:00am-Noon**.

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 email notifications will be sent 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 local/international travel you would like us to consider. Please share your ideas with Trudy Perez, Chair of the Events Committee at trudy.perez@asu.edu.



ASURA Seminar Committee Report - September 2020

submitted by Beverly Buddee — Chair, Seminars

The Seminar Committee has been busy planning out the seminars for the upcoming season while taking into consideration the “new normal” of Covid-19. All upcoming seminars will be offered as **Zoom** meetings and, when safe, an in-person option as well.

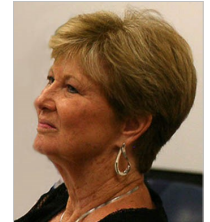
- **Thursday, October 8, 2020** – Open Enrollment Health Care Seminar – **Zoom** only. Representatives from ADOA and ASRS will speak to any insurance coverage changes that will be reflected in this year’s open enroll-

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

ment period. A Community Representative from AARP will speak about the A-B-C-D's of Medicare.

- **Thursday, January 14, 2021** – Email Migration and Cyber Security – Connie McNeill, ASURA's Technology Manager, will explain how email works, and how to use it wisely and safely. In addition, she will explain our options when it comes to using an email service provider other than ASU, including how to migrate to a different service and how to retain your @asu.edu email address after migration. This will be followed by tips on tools you can use to make your digital life a little better.
- **Thursday, February 11, 2021** – Nutrition and Physical Therapy
- **Thursday, March 11, 2021** – Senior Living – This seminar will present information on the senior living spectrum and options available in the Valley, ranging from independent living to skilled nursing facilities and everything in between. This seminar will include descriptions of each senior living category, comparisons, cost ranges, and tips on how to choose what's right for the individual.



We look forward to "seeing" you this coming season.

2021 Medicare-ADOA-ASRS Open Enrollment Seminar - October 8, 2020

submitted by Beverly Buddee

You will not want to miss the ASURA Medicare-ADOA-ASRS 2021 Open Enrollment Seminar. The seminar will be virtual which means you can watch and participate from the comfort of your home. There is no need to find an acceptable background but you might want to change out of your jammies. See the material below for information on how/why to register along with a list of the activities leading up to the seminar.

The seminar is scheduled for:

- Date - Thursday, October 08, 2020
- Time - 9:50 AM to 12:30 PM
- Place - Zoom Online Seminar
- Cost - Free

With the following program agenda:

- **9:50 AM** Sign on
- **10:00 – 10:50 AM** Medicare 101. Rob Foster, AARP Community Speaker
- **10:50 - 11:00 AM** **Short break**
- **11:00 – 11:30 AM** Randi Gray, ASRS Health and Disability Plan Manager
- **11:30 – Noon** Tracie Carruthers, ADOA Plan Administrator

(Note: Noon – 12:30 Reserved in case questions run longer than noon)

Registration:

You may register for this event by either:

- Registering [online](#), or
- Calling the ASURA Office at 480-965-7668

By registering for this event you will receive, before the seminar, a link to seminar handouts along with some information about using zoom. This should help you prepare for the seminar and get your questions lined up.

Activities Leading Up to the Seminar

1. On the day before the seminar, provided you registered, look for a seminar announcement which will contain a link to handouts. The announcement will also contain information about using Zoom for those members who have not experienced a Zoom meeting.
2. On the day of the seminar look for a new seminar announcement which will include a link to the seminar.
3. Around 9:50 AM click on the link and follow the directions.
4. If you have not used Zoom before you will be directed to install the Zoom application on your device before connecting you to the seminar

Hope to "see" you at the seminar.



FREE Covid-19 Saliva Testing with Quick Results!

submitted by *Connie McNeill, Website & Database*



Free COVID-19 saliva tests are available to **anyone** through a collaboration between ASU and the Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS). You don't have to have symptoms, but you do have to schedule your test. Appointments are limited, so the place and time you want may not be available. There is no limit to the number of times you can be tested.

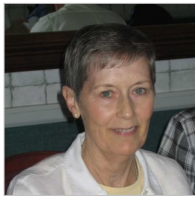
Schedule your test at the [AZDHS COVID-19 web page](https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-saliva-testing): (<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-saliva-testing>). The page contains much information and you should review it all.

The agency code you need to create your account is "SALIVATEST" for all sites (**a recent change**).

TIPS:

- Be sure you hydrate well an hour or two before taking the test, so you can produce enough spit.
- There are only 3 locations in the Phoenix Metro area for the saliva test: Tempe Diablo Stadium, Capitol Mall Parking Garage, and State Farm Stadium (where the Cardinals football team plays in Glendale).
- If you can't get scheduled for the saliva test when you need it, try finding a location for the PCR (nasal swab) test at [AZHDS's COVID Testing Locations web page](https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-testing) (<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-testing>). Then, scroll down to see a list of sites and hours.

Obituary Notifications: April 22, 2020 to September 17, 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
Abramson, Marty (Martin)	June 7, 2020	Faculty, Theater Department, Technical Director
Aubertine, Horace Edward	July 13, 2020	Professor of Education
Barido, Geraldine Dorothy	September 7, 2020	College/department affiliation unknown
Bays, George Norman	June 10, 2020	Chief of Police
Borem, Catherine Ann (Stenke)	June 10, 2020	Academic Advisor
Boyer, Don Lamar	June 19, 2020	Professor Emeritus, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Brannon, Bettye W.	September 5, 2020	Assistant Clinical Professor, Graduate School of Social Service Administration
Burns, Gary	July 6, 2020	Traffic Department
Call, Ivan Taylor	April 28, 2020	Faculty, Finance
Carrillo, Tony Sotomayor	May 9, 2020	Associate Professor, College of Education
Case, Patricia Ann	August 3, 2020	Secretary, College/department affiliation unknown

Obituaries continued on page 14

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Culbert, Mary Ruth	May 25, 2020	Faculty, College affiliation unknown
Davis, Rabbi David	July 7, 2020	Professor, Barrett, the Honors College; Osher Life-Long Learning
Dickerson, Rosemary Rose	June 22, 2020	Registrar's Office
Downs, Hugh	July 1, 2020	Hugh Downs School of Human Communication
Ellis, Frankie Jo	May 10, 2020	Wife of Bob Ellis, Retired General Manager of KAET; 1st President of ASURA
Fedock, Patricia Marie	June 1, 2020	Assistant Professor of Science Education, ASU West
Florence, O. Earle	March 7, 2020	Faculty, College affiliation unknown
Foster, David William	June 24, 2020	Regents Professor of Spanish and Women and Gender Studies
Gaffney, Donald L.	September 3, 2020	Adjunct Faculty, College of Law
Gardner, Cynthia	August 1, 2020	Wife of Hank Schrieber, Art Professor
Giordano, Albert G.	May 13, 2020	Professor, College affiliation unknown
Hancock, Nancy Belle Horn Hall	July 22, 2020	College/department affiliation unknown
Hardison, Jan Denise	July 15, 2020	Box Office Manager
Hogan, Shanna	September 1, 2020	Adjunct Professor, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
Johnson, Herbert Theodore	April 21, 2020	Collected Venomous Animals for Poisonous Animal Research Lab
Landy, Thomas Michael	July 10, 2020	English teacher, Osher Lifelong Learning
Keller, Gary	July 15, 2020	Regents Professor; Director, Hispanic Research Center
Larson, Joyce Foster	December 18, 2018	Professor Emerita Life Sciences; Asst. VP, Academic VP Office; Development Officer, ASU Foundation
Lindsley, Jr., Theodore "Ted" Roosevelt	July 31, 2020	Director of Development, College of Business
Luciano, Louise P.	May 2, 2020	Noble Library
Marek, Karen Dorman	June 27, 2020	Bernita 'B' Steffl Professor of Geriatric Nursing, College of Nursing and Health Innovation
Marquardt, Lewis Raymond	May 31, 2020	Professor of Humanities
Marzke, Mary Wolpole	September 3, 2020	Professor Emerita of Anthropology
McIntire, Edgar Bernell	May 2, 2020	Professor of German

Name	Date of Death	ASU Affiliation
Meza, Beatriz “Bea” Elena Valdez	June 6, 2020	State recruiter
Moore, Patricia Dorothy	May 26, 2020	Professor Emeritus, Associate Dean, College of Nursing
Nilson, Douglas C	June 5, 2020	Professor, Political Science
Onciu, Mary Kathryn (Wery)	February 28, 2020	Department of Business Research and Economic Development
Padilla, Thomas Anthony	August 27, 2020	Human Resources
Parke, Robin E.	April 13, 2020	President of Council for Design Excellence for College of Architecture and Environmental Design; Member of Board of Directors for ASU Foundation and ASU Research Park
Parker, Clyde	July 10, 2020	Technical Director, ASU Gammage
Pena, Maribel “Mickey”	July 23, 2020	Marketing & Advertising Manager
Piburn, Michael	June 22, 2020	Professor Emeritus Curriculum and Instruction
Portillo, Carmen Ybarra	April 14, 2020	Professor, College of Education
Roche, Jr., Thomas Patrick	May 3, 2020	Visiting Professor, English Literature
Santana-Melgoza, Victor	June 29, 2020	Instructor, Hugh Downs School of Human Communication
Schaeffer, Dwight	June 20, 2020	Physical Therapist, Athletic Department
Schoen, Robert Arthur	June 24, 2020	Professor Emeritus of Technology and Department Chair, Aeronautical Technology
Smith, Barbara	July 7, 2020	Wife of Ron Smith, History Professor
Smith, L. George	July 2, 2020	Professor of Marketing
Spencer, David	July 27, 2020	Elementary Education Pre-service Teachers Program
Turner, Billie Lee	May 27, 2020	Father of Billie L. Turner II, Regents Professor and Gilbert F. White Professor of Environment and Society, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, CLAS
Van Pelt, Stephen A.	June 11, 2020	Team Physician
Van Slyck, Adelaide Ann	May 19, 2020	Recipient, Outstanding Alumni Award, College of Nursing, 1985
Verbeke, Carly Theresa	September 15, 2020	Created Disability Studies Undergraduate Program
Wayner, Matthew J., Jr.	June 4, 2020	Visiting Professor, Psychology
Wilson, Twyla Jan	September 1, 2020	College/department affiliation unknown
Winkles, Bobby Brooks	April 17, 2020	Head Baseball Coach
Wolpert, Patrick “Pat”	July 18, 2020	Electrical Staff
Worth, Diane B.	April 10, 2020	Adjunct Faculty, College of Architecture, School of Design

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.

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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>