

# prime times @ ASU

Arizona State University Retirees Association Newsletter

SPRING 2017

## Reminder: ASURA Election

During March of 2017, the ASURA will be holding elections for five 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. For more information on the duties of the Board and on the Board election procedure, view our Bylaws at <https://asura.asu.edu/charter>.

All nominating petitions **must be received by January 31, 2017**. Email [jfordemwalt@cox.net](mailto:jfordemwalt@cox.net) or mail names and/or nominating petitions to the ASURA Office, c/o Jim Fordemwalt, 2017 ASURA Board Nominating Committee, PO Box 873308, Tempe AZ 85287-3308.

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## President's Message

It's good to be with you in 2017, my hopes and best wishes for a happy and healthy new year for all of us!

ASURA has a wonderfully full schedule this year with luncheons, special events, health and pre-retirement seminars, instate trips and international travel opportunities aplenty. We continue our community outreach through the ASURA Scholarship, Video History project and Adopt-A-Family program. We've taken pro-active steps to increase our membership and provide current useful information to our community via our excellent website. My compliments to our Board, Committee Chairs and Volunteers for all of their hard work ... our community thanks you!

ASURA Legislative and Health Insurance Liaisons are actively working with the ASU University Relations Liaisons as well as Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) and Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) contacts to track upcoming legislative actions that could affect retirees. We have also connected with sister university and teacher retiree associations to hear their concerns. The annual Tri-University meeting was held November 21<sup>st</sup>; I was pleased to meet with University of Arizona Retiree Association (UARA) President Bob Perrill and Northern Arizona University Retiree Association (NAURA) President Toni Fox to discuss our common organizational and legislative concerns.






We have some very interesting speakers for the ASURA Annual Meeting this year! This year's event will be held on Saturday April 1, 2017 in the Memorial Union Alumni Lounge – and I understand parking on campus will be free. This year's topic is the university-based retirement community planned for the corner of University and Mill. University Realty CEO and Managing Director Randy Levin and Pacific Retirement EVP Paul Riepma will speak about ASU's affiliation and partnership on this project. We look forward to hearing about the thought process behind this project, successes and pitfalls from similar projects and how this community might partner with Mayo, Osher Lifelong Learning and ASU Nursing, Health Innovation, Nutrition Arts and Design teaching programs.

I hope that you will visit our web site often ... <https://asura.asu.edu> ... to keep current on seminars, events, travel and initiatives. We are just a click away!



Jeri Meeks,  
ASURA President

## ASURA Board Officers

<u><b>President</b></u> Jeri Meeks 	<u><b>Vice President</b></u> Tara Fuchs Roesler 	<u><b>Past President</b></u> Jim Fordemwalt 	<u><b>Secretary</b></u> Bev Buddee 	<u><b>Treasurer</b></u> Barry Bruns 
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## ASURA Board of Directors & Ex-Officio Members

<u><b>Terms Expire</b></u> <u><b>April 2017</b></u>  Larry Carlson Joyce Hartman Diaz Jim Fordemwalt Barry McNeill Trudy Perez Jeannette Robson	<u><b>Terms Expire</b></u> <u><b>April 2018</b></u>  Barry Bruns Bev Buddee Bob Francis Larry Mankin Connie McNeill	<u><b>Terms Expire</b></u> <u><b>April 2019</b></u>  Tony Brazil Jay Q. Butler Jeri Meeks Tara Fuchs Roesler David Schwalm	<u><b>Ex-Officio Members</b></u>  <b>Alumni Association:</b> Rhonda McClintock <b>Emeritus College Liaison:</b> Don Nilsen <b>Human Resources:</b> Judy Cato <b>University Club Liaison:</b> Jim Fordemwalt <b>University Liaison:</b> Barbara Shaw-Snyder & Abby Polito <b>University Senate:</b> Chuck Elliott <b>University Staff Council:</b> Katie Aguilar
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## Committees & Liaisons

<b>Adopt-A-Family</b> Joan Leard  <b>Book Donations</b> Mary Stevens  <b>E-News</b> Jo Madonna  <b>Events Coordinator</b> Barry McNeill  <b>Finance</b> Barry Bruns  <b>Government Liaison (ASRS)</b> Larry Carlson  <b>Government Liaisons (State Legislature)</b> Jeri Meeks, Tara Fuchs Roesler, Larry Mankin	<b>Health Insurance Liaison (ADOA)</b> Larry Carlson  <b>Health Insurance Liaison (ASRS)</b> Tara Fuchs Roesler  <b>Luncheons/Special Events</b> Joyce Hartman Diaz  <b>Membership</b> David Schwalm  <b>Obituaries</b> Becky Reiss  <b>Prime Times Newsletter</b> Jeannette Robson	<b>Scholarship</b> Sue Blumer, Joy Shearman  <b>Seminars</b> Bev Buddee, Trudy Perez  <b>Seminars (pre-retirement)</b> Trudy Perez  <b>Travel</b> John Brock  <b>Video History Project</b> David Scheatzle  <b>Website &amp; Data Base</b> Connie McNeill
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## ASURA Office Staff

<b>Phone:</b> (480) 965-7668 *** <b>Fax:</b> (480) 965-7807 <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://asura.asu.edu/">https://asura.asu.edu/</a> <b>Location:</b> Community Services Building, 200 East Curry Road, Room 201B, Tempe, Arizona *** Best to call beforehand
<b>Business Operations Manager:</b> Carolyn Minner <b>Office Staff Coordinators:</b> Linda Van Scoy & Nancy Lesko <b>Technology Manager:</b> Connie McNeill
<u><b>Office Hours - Fall 2016 &amp; Spring 2017</b></u>
<b>Monday:</b> 9:00 am-noon Jeannette Robson 1:00-4:00 pm Mena Bell <b>Tuesday:</b> 9:00 am-noon Nancy Lesko 1:00-4:00 pm Linda Van Scoy <b>Wednesday:</b> 9:00 am-noon Tara Roesler 1:00-4:00 pm Beverly Buddee <b>Thursday:</b> 9:00 am-noon Bonnie Scheall 1:00-4:00 pm Linda Whatley <b>Friday:</b> Closed All Day
<b>Subs:</b> Joan Leard Dorothy Meunier Helen Seaton Maxine LaRoux

## Volunteers Needed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technology and Website Committee needs volunteers to help maintain ASURA's technology infrastructure. <b>Contact</b> Connie McNeill, <a href="mailto:mcneill@cox.net">mcneill@cox.net</a>.</li> <li>Chair and committee members needed for the Seminars Committee. <b>Contact</b> Jeri Meeks, <a href="mailto:jeri.meeks@asu.edu">jeri.meeks@asu.edu</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video History Project ... tech savvy people with ability to be video editors, use iMovie or Adobe Premiere. <b>Contact</b> Dave Scheatzle, <a href="mailto:david.scheatzle@asu.edu">david.scheatzle@asu.edu</a>.</li> <li>Legislative Liaison group needs volunteers. <b>Contact</b> Jeri Meeks, <a href="mailto:jeri.meeks@asu.edu">jeri.meeks@asu.edu</a>.</li> </ul>
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## 2017 ASURA Annual Meeting - Save the Date!

Please come and celebrate 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ASU Retirees Association! This is our chance to discuss the past year's activities and recognize the accomplishments of the organization and the contributions of our members. Copies of the ASURA Annual Report, summarizing our activities for the year, will be available. We will have a light lunch and carrot cake - of course!

**DATE:** Saturday April 1, 2017  
**TIME:** 11:30am-2:30pm

**PLACE:** ASU Alumni Lounge  
**COST:** Free!

We have a special set of speakers this year; Mr. Randall Levin, CEO and Managing Director of University Reality and Mr. Paul Reimpa, EVP with Pacific Retirement Services will be speaking about the proposed university-based retirement community project - Mirabella at ASU. We will hear about how this community will partner with Mayo, Osher and ASU Nursing, Health Innovation, Nutrition Arts and Design and how this project will create a lifelong learning center for seniors.



*Jeri Meeks,  
ASURA President*

Please watch our website for event details: <https://asura.asu.edu>

## ASU E-mail Changes

If you are using the same e-mail/calendaring/contacts system as you used when you were employed at ASU, you are most likely affected by a change that ASU has been making. For several weeks, the University Technology Office has been moving Exchange/Outlook accounts to "the cloud" – in this case, the Microsoft cloud. Many retirees accounts were migrated on January 23 and January 25, so you may well have already experienced the change. The rest of the accounts will be migrated over the next few weeks.

You will know you are affected if you can no longer log in to your ASU e-mail account. Note that no changes are being made to ASU Gmail accounts.

If you are affected, here is a short summary of what you need to know:

Very large e-mails – over 150MB, caused by large attachments – were not or will not be moved. If your account has not yet been moved and you think you might have a very large e-mail that you want to keep, follow directions at [https://asu.col.qualtrics.com/jfe5/form/SV\\_6A9qkSwPaPEUz2d](https://asu.col.qualtrics.com/jfe5/form/SV_6A9qkSwPaPEUz2d) to find the large item(s) and remove/save attachments.

Your e-mail address, i.e., [you@asu.edu](mailto:you@asu.edu), does not change. Behind-the-scenes changes to your Electronic Post Office entry are made for you so that your mail goes to the right new place.

You will have to know your ASURITE UserID and password. Most of you do, since you use it now to access your e-mail. If you are not sure, see [https://asura.asu.edu/technology/Q\\_ASURITEID](https://asura.asu.edu/technology/Q_ASURITEID) for assistance.

Once your account is moved, you will have to make some changes to access it. The changes to make are outlined by device type – computer, phone, tablet -- at [https://asu.col.qualtrics.com/jfe5/form/SV\\_6A9qkSwPaPEUz2d](https://asu.col.qualtrics.com/jfe5/form/SV_6A9qkSwPaPEUz2d). Scroll to the bottom of the first page of that article and click on the "Next" button. On the next page, click on the type of device you use to access your e-mail, and again scroll to the bottom and click on the "Next" button. Then follow instructions for that type of device. You can go back and select another device if you are accessing your e-mail from more than one device – select only one type at a time. Note: if you are accessing your mail via a browser such as Chrome, Windows Explorer, or Firefox choose the appropriate "Desktop or Laptop" instructions and scroll to the bottom where instructions beginning "After the migration is complete, web access..." are located. You will want to change any bookmarks in your browser from <https://ex2010.asu.edu> to <https://outlook.com/asu.edu>.



*Connie McNeill  
ASURA Technology  
Volunteer*

- ◆ **NEED HELP?** The telephone Help Center at 844-849-9057 or one of ASU's campus walk-in Tech Studios – locations listed at <https://uto.asu.edu/techstudio> - are best options. There is no help available at the ASURA office, nor can I provide individual assistance.
- ◆ **NOTE:** There are some people who are not using ASU Exchange/Outlook for their e-mail, calendaring and contacts but still exist in that system and have a mail-redirecting rule set there. Those people will need to log in to the new system at <https://outlook.com/asu.edu> and set a new redirecting rule. If you don't know whether this applies to you, you can wait to see if there are people at ASU who are sending you e-mails that you are not receiving. If that happens, you need to set the rule.

## 2016 Tri-University Retirees Association Meeting

On November 21, Presidents and representatives from the Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and University of Arizona Retirees Associations met in Tempe to discuss organizational accomplishments as well as legislative and membership concerns. The meeting was held in ASU's Decision Theater in downtown Tempe.

Each Association President presented a synopsis of their organization's structure which included membership numbers, board construct, committees, initiatives and budget. Common concerns are Board and membership recruitment, engaging the general membership with seminars and events and, as always, funding. Here's a quick summary:

- ◆ Arizona State University Retirees Association (ASURA) has a current membership of over 500 with a seventeen member board and ex-officio board members from the ASU Alumni Association, Emeritus College, ASU Human Resources, University Club, University Liaison, University Senate and ASU Staff Council. ASURA has standing committees for outreach, which include Adopt-A-Family, Used Book Sales, Scholarship and Video History. Our Events and Seminar committees are very active, presenting seminars on Nutrition and Physical Therapy, Hearing and Financially Surviving Surgery and Rehabilitation in Spring 2017. Pre-retirement meetings are held monthly. The ASURA Travel committee serves the membership well with local events, day trips, overnight state travel and international travel. ASURA has a very active Government Liaison group and ASRS and ADOA Insurance Liaisons which report to the Board monthly. ASU supports ASURA with space, connectivity and a small yearly budget. Annual membership is \$30 a year and the first year is free. The ASURA newsletter is the *Prime Times*.
- ◆ Northern Arizona University Retirees Association (NAURA) has a membership of approximately 800 with 200 active members. NAURA just became an Organization with a Board of Directors. The Board meets twice a year, with the Executive Board meeting more often. NAURA hosts luncheons in July and December. They continue to work on their organization to create participation. As of this year NAURA has an office on campus, making them more visible and accessible to pre-retirees. Annual membership is \$15 a year or a lifetime membership of \$225. The NAURA newsletter is the *Flash*.
- ◆ University of Arizona (UARA) has a membership of 630 with 20-30 active members. The UARA currently functions with an Executive Committee and an Advisory Council and is supported by the UA Government and Community and Relations department. UARA holds three luncheons a year with special seminars in the fall and spring and collaborates with the Alumni Association for travel. UARA annually offers 3-4 scholarships to undergraduate students studying the aging process. Annual membership is \$20 a year or \$80 for five years. The UARA newsletter is the *UA Retiree News*.

A common concern for all organizations is state legislative actions that directly affects pre-retirees, retirees and the Arizona State Retirement System. To that end Pat Klein, ASRS Assistant Director, External Affairs and Nick Ponder ASRS Government Relations Officer attended the second half of the meeting to discuss the upcoming legislative season and answer questions.

The group walked to Z'Tejas for lunch, which was enjoyed by all. Thanks to NAURA President Toni Fox and UARA President Bob Perrill for traveling to Tempe for this annual event. It was a lively and intelligent discussion and everyone walked away with new ideas to improve their organization.



Jeri Meeks,  
ASURA President/  
Government Liaison

## Welcome New ASURA Members

Barbara Aarestad  
Marcia Anderson  
Christine Austin  
Joan Bahamonde  
Carol Bear  
David Bernick  
Margaret Black  
Thomas Bradshaw  
Jane Burnett  
Allan Chasey  
Jean Duncan  
Apostolos Fafitis  
Deg Farrelly

Robert Fidler  
Jody Flores  
Donna Geary  
Elliott Goldstein  
Patricia Grogg  
Linda Guerry  
Diane Hagner  
Karen Honeycutt  
John Horan  
Laura James  
John Johnson  
Kristine Johnson  
Sally Kenney

Carol Kubota  
Catherine Lebihan  
Jeffrey Luth  
DebbieMaciejewski  
Barbara Markley  
Dee Marsh  
Walter McConnell  
Julian Moran  
Polly Pinney  
John Polchow  
Michele Reeves  
Laura Reilly  
Jodi Sarda

Melinda Schermerhorn  
Patricia Schneider  
Carol Schulte  
Judith Schultz  
Jagdey Sharma  
Nelma Shearer  
Kimberle Sisson  
Joyce Smitheran  
Nadine Urista  
Ajay Vinze  
Diane White  
Mel White  
Charles Williams

## ASURA Office Updates

The ASURA office is running smoothly, fully staffed with volunteers. However we often need substitutes to fill in when staff are away on planned or unexpected absences. So if you are interested in being an “on call” office substitute we welcome you to do that. Training is minimal and generally takes about an hour. Please contact Nancy Lesko ([nlesko@asu.edu](mailto:nlesko@asu.edu)) if you would like to become a substitute.

Many of the office staff recently participated in a Wild Apricot training/refresher session to learn how we use the program to track registrations/payments etc. for our events. We thank Barry McNeill for leading us through the steps and always being there to answer our questions.

Remember our office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9-12 and 1-4 PM and our phone number is (480) 965-7668. The office is CLOSED Fridays. Stop by for a visit some time.

Happy New Year from Nancy Lesko and Linda Van Scoy, Office Coordinators.



Nancy Lesko



Linda Van Scoy

## 2017 Legislative Breakfast

### Summary of Key Facts and Points from Dr. Michael Crow's January 10, 2017 Presentation on: Growth, Innovation and the Future of the Arizona Economy\*

**FACTS:** Arizona's Gross Domestic Product in 2016 had finally returned to the level it was in 2006 before the great recession. The largest Economic Outputs in Metro areas of the State are: Government and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing. 2015 Arizona Capita GDP is lower than many states including California, Texas, Colorado, Oregon and Utah. 2015 Per Capita Income in Phoenix Metro is even lower than Detroit Metro. Arizona's 2015 Bachelor's Degree attainment for 25 years and older is lower than many states including Colorado, Washington, California, Oregon, Utah and Texas. Only New Hampshire has a lower Per Capita State Support for Higher Education.

**POINTS:** There is a **correlation between Bachelor Degree attainment and Per Capita GDP**. In 2014 Arizona's Net Job Creation (Job Creation minus Job Destruction) was **essentially zero**. **The major threat to jobs in the coming years is automation**. Arizona Employment by Occupation, Minimum Education Required and Probability of Job Loss Due to Automation shows **SIGNIFICANT** probability of job loss due to automation for those with less than a high school diploma, a high school diploma and an associates or credential. (See Dr. Crow's full presentation, including his chart, on the ASURA Website.)

**THE WAY FORWARD FOR ARIZONA IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS:** **Objective** – Change the Mindset – Human Capital-Based Economic Development; **Strategy** – Launch World Class Engineering School; and **Tactics** – Build Investment Strategy, Change Brand, and Unify Business Community. **BROAD PUBLIC SUPPORT EXISTS FOR HUMAN CAPITAL-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

**Note:** The full presentation on: Growth, Innovation and the Future of the Arizona Economy is available to view on the ASURA Website.

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### Synopsis of Arizona's Public University System – 2017 Legislative Priorities

**Resident Student Funding Model:** The goal of this request is to achieve a State Funding level for resident students of 50% of the cost to educate a resident student. The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) will be employing a three year “phase in” strategy for achieving this goal. **The FY 2018 Operating Budget Request is: ASU \$45.7M, NAU \$19.9M and UA \$20.7 M.**

**Capital Needs:** The goal of this request is to solve the current capital crisis at the universities for building renewal (maintenance). ABOR's strategy for achieving this goal is to request funding for high priority capital items such as fire alarms, roofs and asbestos abatement and for capital needs related to increasing enrollment and expanded research missions. **The 2018 Capital Request is: ASU \$12.2M, NAU, \$5.7M and UA \$12.2 M for a total of \$30.1M.**

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**Employee Health Insurance:** The goal of this request is to establish a tri-university health insurance plan or individual insurance plans by university. A report commissioned by ADOA and the universities showed that ASU and UA could save approximately \$30 million per year by separating from the ADOA plan.

For 2018, ABOR and the Universities are seeking legislation to allow the university system to seek a strategically planned transition from the State health benefits plan to a tri-university health insurance plan or individual insurance plans by university to take effect at the conclusion of the State's current health insurance contract which concludes December 31, 2019.

**Benefits Eligibility Status:** The goal of this request is to raise the benefits eligibility trigger up to 30 hours per week from the current 20 hours per week. ABOR and the Universities believe "the state is over-regulating and stymieing university operations by essentially mandating benefits be provided for half-time employees." "The federal government requires employers to offer benefits to full-time employees; full-time employees are defined as working 30 hours per week." The universities also believe this will likely save several million dollars per year.

For 2018, ABOR and the Universities are seeking legislation setting the minimum hours worked per week to trigger benefits eligibility at 30 hours per week. (Note: Universities will seek ability to grandfather current employees at their current benefits eligibility threshold.)

**ASU Budget Unit Consolidation:** The goal of this request is to achieve a single budget unit appropriation for ASU. Since ASU operates as a single university with multiple campuses, it is felt that isolating revenues by campus is overregulation and hinders efficiency and innovation. For FY 2018, ABOR and ASU are requesting appropriation of ASU's budget as a single budget unit instead of the current three units (ASU Tempe & Downtown, ASU East and ASU West).



Tara Fuchs Roesler,  
Government Liaison,  
(State Legislature)

## Adopt-a-Family Program Update

The ASURA board budgeted funds for the Adopt-A-Family program for 2016-2017. As in previous years we have adopted a family chosen by a Tempe School System social worker and also a family chosen from ASU returning students.

The Tempe family is a mother with boys ages 12 and 14 and the ASU family is a mother with children ages 11, 7, 4 and 2 studying Native American Law in the College of Law.

With the appropriated funds we were able to buy clothing, school supplies, toys, food cards for holiday meals and other items as requested. Unusual this year was a request for a desk top computer for the 12 and 14 year old boys so they can do their homework. We were able to fulfill this wish for a very grateful mother who requested nothing for herself.

I have never personally met our adopted families but receive many thanks from the social worker and the ASU employee that distribute the gifts. I am also told over and over again that our effort makes a difference in the lives we touch.



Joan Leard

## Showcasing ASURA



Submitted by Barry McNeill

ASURA has been staffing a table at the various University Staff Council "Staff BBQ's" for many years, with the goal of increasing the awareness of our association within the ASU staff and faculty community. Our table does not attract a large number of attendees but several of those who have stopped by say they were not aware of our association.

Barry McNeill, Jeri Meeks, and Larry Carlson (pictured) attended the latest event in January for the downtown campus of ASURA.

## ASURA Board Adopts New Policy on Introductory Memberships

Submitted by *Connie McNeill and Tara Fuchs Roesler*

Effective January 1, 2017, all new retirees automatically become Introductory Members of the Arizona State University Retirees Association. Through this new policy, the ASURA Board of Directors expects to reach a broader number of new retirees and provide them helpful information about our organization and the benefits of membership. These Introductory Memberships will run from date of retirement through June of the next year unless the retiree chooses to opt out of membership.

Upon notification from ASU Human Resources of a new retiree, a welcome letter or e-mail will be sent to the retiree describing what membership means as well as how to go online to register for events, update their profile or access our online membership directory. Recognizing that many new retirees may be trying to decide what to do with books they no longer need, the letter or e-mail will also provide them with a link to the ASURA Used Book Drive Project.

## ASRS Health Insurance Important Notice

Submitted by *Tara Fuchs Roesler*

### University Optional Retirement Plan Retirees are Eligible for ASRS Retiree Health Insurance Plans

University employees (ASU, UA, and NAU) who retired and who participated in the University Optional Retirement Plans (UORP) are eligible to enroll in the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) retiree health insurance program.

Though you have eligibility to continue your enrollment in the Arizona Department of Administration's (ADOA) Benefit Options health insurance plans, you also may consider enrollment in the ASRS's retiree plans.

You are encouraged to review the ASRS benefit provisions of the plans for which you may be eligible (both Medicare and non-Medicare) on the ASRS website, [www.azasrs.gov](http://www.azasrs.gov), under the Retirees tab, then select Healthcare for additional details.

Please note that while the official open enrollment has closed, representatives of ASRS indicated in a meeting with representatives of ASURA that retirees falling into this category could still opt to change to an ASRS Plan before December 31, 2016.

## Medicare at Risk in 2017 - Fact Sheet from Alliance for Retired Americans

(The following fact sheet was published by **Alliance for Retired Americans** (<https://retiredamericans.org/medicare-risk-2017/>) and submitted by Tara Fuchs Roesler as an information item for ASURA members.)

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December 1, 2016

### Medicare at Risk in 2017 – Fact Sheet

**On January 3, 2017, Senator Mike Enzi, chair of the Senate Budget Committee, filed legislation to begin to dismantle our health care system.** This is the first part of the Republican plan to radically alter our health care programs, including Medicare and Medicaid.

**In November, 2016, House Speaker Paul Ryan told Fox News that he would push legislation in early 2017 that would in effect end Medicare's guaranteed health care benefits.** For years Ryan has worked to replace Medicare with a voucher or coupon for seniors to use to purchase their health insurance. This threat to our earned health care benefits became even more serious when President-elect Donald Trump nominated Rep. Tom Price to be the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Like Ryan, Price has vowed to privatize, cut and change Medicare to a voucher program.

*(Continued on page 8)*

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Speaker Ryan said he would bury the Medicare changes in the legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. This strategy is an effort to confuse and distract Americans who overwhelmingly support and depend on Medicare and wish to see it strengthened, not destroyed. **This is not the first time Speaker Ryan has tried to dismantle Medicare** and his plans are available on his website. They include:

**End Medicare's Guaranteed Benefits  
Raise the Medicare Eligibility Age from 65 to 67.**

This would deny nearly 5 million seniors insurance starting in 2020. By 67, most Americans have at least one chronic medical condition that would make the purchase of private insurance prohibitively expensive and difficult to obtain.

**Vouchers or Coupon-care:** Instead of a Medicare card which provides access to health care, seniors would receive a limited voucher or coupon. These coupons would contribute toward the purchasing of a traditional Medicare plan or a private insurance policy and would require beneficiaries to pay significantly more out-of-pocket.

**Medigap Plans Will Cover Less:** Today Medigap insurance plans are allowed to cover most of a beneficiary's co-payments. The Ryan Coupon-Care Voucher Plan would change the rules and Medigap policies would no longer be able to cover deductibles. Medigap plans would also be limited in how much of the difference between the deductible and the out of pocket cap could be covered.

**Costs Shifted to Seniors:** Speaker Ryan's Coupon-Care Voucher Plan would double hospital stay copayments and would substantially increase all deductibles.

**Gutting Medicaid**

Medicaid pays the long-term care costs for millions of seniors and provides health care services to people with disabilities and low-income Americans.

Ryan and Price's vision includes drastic changes to states' Medicaid programs as well as 25% cuts in funding. States would be forced to cut benefits to their most vulnerable people or increase state taxes to make up the difference.

**Fall 2016 Luncheon - October 11, 2016**

Article submitted by Joyce Hartman Diaz, Chair, Luncheon/Special Events Committee - photos by Don Nilsen

On Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> around 50 folks enjoyed socializing, lunch, and listening to an engaging talk by Pat McMahon at Karsten Golf Course.

Pat has been in the valley for some 60 years. Not only is he well known for his over 100 characters in 'The Wallace and Ladmo show', but for his commentaries on the Arizona Morning News and his talk shows on both radio and TV. He shared some interesting vignettes about his early life, as well as some fascinating stories about his record and movie experiences, as well as some of the interesting people he has interviewed.



Besides being well known outside of radio, he has had a multi-faceted career as an actor, producer, recording artist, writer, and broadcaster. He has earned 7 Emmy's, major National and International radio awards as well as numerous civic, educational, religious, and humanitarian awards.

He was also a recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Ottawa University and the Arizona Broadcasters Lifetime Achievement Award. It was the Arizona State University Retirees Association's pleasure to present him as our featured speaker.



Gary & Mary Swaty



Gretchen Hirni, Joyce Hartman Diaz



Dave Scheatzle & Co.

## ASURA Fall 2016 Luncheon (More Great Photos)

*Right: Alleen Nilsen, Charles Elliott*



*Below: Vina Kleemann, Karen Schwalm*



*Below: Ruth Jones, Marilyn Wurzbarger*



*Above: Hal White, Gary Swaty*



*Above: Carleton & Diane Moore*



*Above: Alan & Tara Roesler*



*Left: Judy & Grant Smith, Jill DeMichelle*

## 2016 Rhythm Cats

*Article submitted by John Brock - photos by Joyce Hartman Diaz, Chair*

In November, 2016 approximately 21 members and guests met at the Silver Star theatre to attend a dinner buffet and to enjoy the Rhythm Cats musical show. After the unlimited dinner selections at the buffet, the show began.

George Staerkel (best known as one of the Tokens in the 1960s - i.e.: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight", among other recordings) led his group, The Rhythm Cats, in show stopping entertainment. The six entertainers played a variety of instruments, and sang songs from the 50s and 60s ... to the delight of the audience.

It was amazing to hear the many different instruments that these fellows have mastered, along with their vocals, to take the audience back to high school and college days. The group has been a valley favorite for many years; the latest show was no exception. The show ended with the audience twisting in the aisles. The group offers different shows to include Rock'n Roll Oldies, 70s Rock'n Roll, Country Classics, John Denver and Willie Nelson tributes, and many other special shows. The Travel Committee may consider this an annual event as everyone attending enjoyed the evening.



*Wilma Walsh, Nancy Lesko, Nanci Beardsley, Nancy Leach*



More about this group can be found on their website - <http://silverstartheater.com/>. Also, for a few more photos, please visit the ASURA Photo Gallery - <http://asura.zenfolio.com/>.



*Jerry Snyder, Bev & Rudy Buddee, Joy Shearman, Elmer Gooding*

## 2016 Holiday Potluck and Bake Sale

Article submitted by Joyce Hartman Diaz, Chair, Luncheon/Special Events Committee - photos by Elmer Gooding

On Friday December 16, 45 members and their guests enjoyed a variety of marvelous food provided by our members. As usual, we enjoyed socializing and 'breaking bread' with old and new friends.

A huge 'Thank You' to those of you who came early to help set up and/or stayed a bit late to help clean up. These helpers included Mena and Mike Bell, Elmer Gooding, Linda Van Scoy, Barbara Eschbach, Dave Schwalm, Alan Johnson, Malcolm Comeaux, and any other elves I may have overlooked.

Our annual bake sale was very popular ... so much so that we ran out of tasty baked goodies much too soon. Mark your 2017 calendar to attend the potluck and also bring baked goods to sell ... we don't like disappointing so many who wanted to take some delicious goodies home to enjoy.

This yearly holiday event is an enjoyable way to take some time to relax from the very busy holiday season, have a chance to chat with friends, and most certainly enjoy some home baked food. Hope to see you again this next December.

Left: Barbara Bradford Eschbach, Marigold Linton, Bob Barnhill.

Middle: Elmer Gooding, Linda Van Scoy.

Right: Matt & Jo Madonna, Audrey Dittert, Aleksandra Druzinska.



Alan Johnson, Jeri Meeks



Vlad Borovansky, Pauline Kommenich



Beth & Jim Fordemwalt



Marilyn Wurzburger, Don Dotts, Ed Scannell



Dave & Brenda Scheatzle



John Brock, Tony Brazil



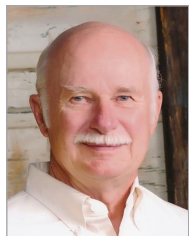
Left: Hal White, Joe Schultz.

Middle: Jeri Meeks leading Potluck Parade.

Right: Bake Sale Table.



## ASURA Spring 2017 Events



Barry McNeill,  
Events Coordinator

Event	Date	Cost
<b>Seminar</b> – Nutrition & Physical Therapy	Thursday January 19	Free
<b>Seminar</b> – Living Well with Hearing Loss	Thursday February 9	Free
<b>Board Meeting</b>	February 14	Free
<b>Seminar</b> – Financially Surviving Surgery & Rehab	March 9	Free
<b>Board Meeting</b>	March 14	Free
<b>Travel</b> – Wrigley Mansion Tour & Lunch	March 21	TBD
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	April 1	Free
<b>Seminar</b> – Senior Living	April 6	Free
<b>Travel</b> – Tovrea Castle Tour	April 8	\$15
<b>Travel</b> – SE Arizona	2 days in late April	TBD
<b>Board Meeting</b>	May 9	Free
<b>Travel</b> – Explore England, Scotland and Wales	Sept. 8 – 22	Contact: Gary Kleemann, mgary@asu.edu

### The Events

Committee has planned a full set of events for this Spring. 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.

**Note 1:** The Tovrea Castle tour has historically sold out very quickly. Those members who have previously taken the tour with ASURA are not eligible to go again this year. Those members on last year's wait list will get priority.

**Note 2:** All Board Meetings are held in Community Services Building (CSB) 203A.

### Seminar: Nutrition & Physical Therapy

**Date:** Thursday, January 19

**Time:** 9:30 to 11:30 am

**Location:** Community Services Bldg. (CSB) 330

**Cost:** Free

The seminar will be presented by ASU Professor Emeritus Linda Vaughn, the Director of the School of Nutrition and Health Promotion before her retirement and Noah Arenson, a practicing physical therapist in the Valley since 1997.

### Seminar: Living Well with Hearing Loss

**Date:** Thursday, February 9

**Time:** 9:30 to 11:30 am

**Location:** Community Services Bldg. (CSB) 330

**Cost:** Free

Stephanie L. Adamovich, Clinical Associate Professor, Audiology at the Arizona State University Audiology Clinic will present *Living Well with Hearing Loss*. The presentation will present an overview of communication difficulties that have arisen as a result of hearing loss and that may remain even after receiving hearing aids or a cochlear implant.

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### **Seminar: Financially Surviving Surgery & Rehab**

**Date:** Thursday, March 9  
**Time:** 9:30 to 11:30 am  
**Location:** Community Services Bldg. (CSB) 330  
**Cost:** Free

You will want to put this seminar on your calendar. The seminar will look into some of the insurance pitfalls to be aware off and types of medical coverage available. Registration will begin in early February.

### **Travel: Wrigley Mansion Tour and Lunch**

**Date:** Tuesday, March 21  
**Time:** TBD  
**Location:** Wrigley Mansion, Phoenix  
**Cost:** to be determined (TBD)

William Wrigley, Jr. of chewing gum and Chicago Cubs fame, purchased The Arizona Biltmore hotel during the Depression, and had the Wrigley Mansion built nearby as a 50th anniversary gift for his wife. It was used only as a winter retreat for several weeks per year, and was one of several homes that they owned. Wrigley Mansion sits atop a hill in Central Phoenix. It has 24 rooms and 12 bathrooms, as well as 11 unique fireplaces.

William Wrigley, Jr. died in the house, just one year after it was built. After William Wrigley's wife passed away in 1958, the Wrigley Mansion underwent several ownership changes. The Mansion became part of the meeting space for the nearby Arizona Biltmore Hotel. Later, Western Savings became the owner, renamed it The Mansion Club and used it as a private club. Western Savings was one of the banks taken over by the RTC during the savings and loan crisis.

In order to prevent the mansion from being razed, and to restore it and maintain its historical importance, George ("Geordie") Hormel, of the famous meat company, purchased the mansion in 1992. He renovated it, and operated it as a restaurant and lounge as well as a banquet and wedding facility. Although Mr. Hormel passed away in 2006, it is still being operated in that fashion today. It has been designated a Phoenix Point of Pride. Registration will begin mid-February.

### **Event: ASURA Annual Meeting**

**Date:** Saturday, April 1  
**Time:** 11:30 am – 1:30 pm  
**Location:** Alumni Lounge, Memorial Union on Tempe Campus  
**Cost:** Free

This year's topic is the university-based retirement community planned for the corner of University and Mill. University Realty CEO and Managing Director Randy Levin and Pacific Retirement EVP Paul Riepma will speak about ASU's affiliation and partnership on this project.

### **Seminar: Senior Living**

**Date:** Thursday, April 6  
**Time:** 9:30 to 11:30 am  
**Location:** Community Services Building CSB 330  
**Cost:** Free

Registration will begin in early March. Please check the ASURA website in February for more detailed information.

### **Travel: Tovrea Castle Tour**

**Date:** Saturday, April 8  
**Time:** 8:30 am & 11:00 am (two tours)  
**Location:** 5025 E. Van Buren St., Phoenix, AZ  
**Cost:** \$15/person

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You've all seen the Tovrea "castle" but now how many of you know:

- ◆ anything about the Tovrea family,
- ◆ who actually built the castle,
- ◆ whose idea was the cactus garden?

Join ASURA on a tour of the castle and gardens to find out the answer to these and other interesting tidbits. The tour will begin in the visitor center with a short video highlighting the history of the Castle. Next, we will board carts and be driven around the property where we will see the unique cactus gardens and outdoor features. The carts will then take us to the Castle where you'll have an opportunity to go back in time and learn about the man inspired to build the castle and the people that made it their home. The tour will conclude in the visitor center.

The tour cannot accommodate wheel chairs or scooters.

After the 11:00 am tour there will be an optional lunch gathering at the Stockyards Restaurant, not covered by the tour fee. The lunch will be an order-from-the-menu gathering; ASURA will reserve tables for the group but you will pay for your meal. You can indicate your luncheon intentions when you register.

### Travel: Southeast Arizona

**Date:** TBD - will be two days in late April

**Time:** two-day tour

**Location:** Southeast AZ

**Cost:** TBD

Day 1 - Kartchner Caverns; Callaghan Winery visit with tasting, dinner; and overnight in Sierra Vista.

Day 2 - Pima Air & Space Museum in Tucson, then return to Tempe.

### Travel: British Isle Tours

**Date:** September 8-22 ... there are optional trips that can extend the time.

**Location:** British Isles

**Cost:** TBD

ASURA is traveling again! Join us in September of 2017 on a tour of England, Scotland and Wales and then return to the U.S. or stay on for a in-depth tour of Ireland. If you have these areas on your bucket list now is the time to sign up and travel with your colleagues. Join us for one or for both trips.

## **ASURA Visits Cuba - March 2016**

(Note: I apologize that the following article got lost somewhere in my email and did not get published in the Fall 2016 *Prime Times*. It is a very interesting and informative article and I felt it should be shared with our members even though it's almost a year since the travel took place. — Jeannette Robson, Editor, *Prime Times*.)

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Last March, six ASURA members visited Cuba for a look at this country of contradictions. We cannot say that after less than two weeks, we returned home fully understanding this place of paradoxes. Cuba with its crumbling infrastructure is still a place of some beauty. It is a third world country with a well educated population. It is a repressive Communist regime with first rate education, health care and cultural institutions accessible to all. It is a place where credit cards are not used, the Internet is difficult (at best) to access and no ATM machines are to be found. In many ways Cuba is a step back in time to the 1960's.

In many ways, Cuba can be divided into two parts: Havana and the rest of Cuba. We were able to spend seven days visiting Camaguey, Remedios, Caibarien, Santa Clara, Jovellanos, and Matanzas (the non-Havana part of Cuba) before spending the next four days in Havana. We were treated to musical and dance performances, visits to art galleries, and even a visit to the King Ranch outside of Camaguey, Cuba. We visited with everyday Cubans in their homes and talked with them in a variety of settings. We learned about the history of Cuba and its various relations with the United States. We visited some coastal cities and inland farms. We learned about the African rooted religion known as Santeria and of the Cubans love of baseball. We toured a cigar factory and visit-

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ed a Cuban university and learn how it is run. No academic freedom or tenure in Cuban universities.

We visited just a week before President Obama. The Cuban people are eager for the opening with the U.S. to occur. They are hopeful that someday a Home Depot and a Checker Auto Parts will find their way to Cuba. The entrepreneurial spirit is strong amongst the Cuban people even though Cuba is a Communist economy.

The ASURA Travel Committee will be offering an international trip to **England, Scotland and Wales** and **Ireland in Depth** in September 2017. The Travel committee is planning local events, some are presented in other parts of Prime Times. Other events include a spring 2017 overnight trip to **SE Arizona to Karchner Caverns** and sites of interest in the vicinity. On April 8, 2017 we have arranged an tour of **Tovrea Castle**. We are looking into an international trip to the **Patagonia region of South America** in early 2018. Watch for details in ASURA e-mails as these plans develop. Thanks to all of the ASURA persons who responded to the travel survey we sent out early last summer.



ASURA in Cuba: Gary and Vina Kleemann, Susana and John Johnson (top row) Ruth Jones, Marilyn Wurzburger (bottom row)

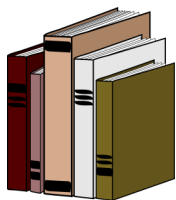
Article submitted by Gary Kleemann & John Brock

## ASURA Needs Your Old Books!

Are your bookshelves too full? Are you downsizing your office or your home and don't have space for all of your books? Donate your used books to us, and we will work with our partner, Friends of the Phoenix Public Library, to sell them. We will use proceeds of the sale to support our programs. The ASU Foundation, a separate nonprofit organization that exists to support ASU, will provide a gift receipt for tax purposes.

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.

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



**For more information contact:**  
Mary Stevens, (602) 758-3750  
[marystevens0@gmail.com](mailto:marystevens0@gmail.com)



## Obituary Notifications: September, 2016 - January, 2017

Submitted by Becky Reiss

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



- Amacher, Ryan Custer** - Chair, Economics Department (deceased - November 25, 2016)
- Annan, Robert Henry "Bud"** - Solar Energy Program Resource (deceased - October 4, 2016)
- Aschaffenburg, Rayna Barroll** - Professor, Piano Performance (deceased - December 20, 2016)
- Austin, Mariam Rose** - Faculty, College/department unknown (deceased - December 3, 2016)
- Bahr, Donald Morris** - Professor Emeritus, Anthropology (deceased - October 30, 2016)
- Barr, Ronald Edward** - Associate VP for Research (deceased - October 7, 2016)

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**Birnbaum, Gary** - Faculty Associate, ASU Law School  
(deceased - November, 2016)

**Bishop, Jay Lyman** - Chemistry Professor  
(deceased - December 10, 2016)

**Blanchard, Gerald "Jerry" Frank** - College/department  
affiliation unknown (deceased - October 28, 2016)

**Bowling, Diana** - Instructor, English Department  
(deceased - October 2, 2016)

**Cale, Margaret Ruth** - Collections  
(deceased - November 26, 2016)

**Cattani, Florence Irene** - Founding Director, Psychology  
Department Child Study Lab  
(deceased - September 22, 2016)

**Dearen, Sr., Danny L.** - Professor, Healthcare Management,  
College of Business (deceased - September 25, 2016)

**DeMasi, Joseph R.** - Art Museum Security  
(deceased - October 2, 2016)

**Edwards, Marvin** - Professor, Electronic Technology  
Department (deceased - December 22, 2016)

**ElSharawy, ElBadawy** - Professor Emeritus, Electrical and  
Computer Engineering (deceased - Late October, 2016)

**Fletcher, Gretchen Anna** - Academic Advisor, American  
Indian Student Support Services  
(deceased - November 27, 2016)

**Flynn, George A.** - Professor of Journalism  
(deceased - November 4, 2016)

**Fuchs, Rachel Ginnis** - Regents' Professor and Distinguished  
Foundation Professor of History  
(deceased - October 15, 2016)

**Full, Gloria Esther** - School of Social Work  
(deceased - October 4, 2016)

**Gambrell, Jr., Carol Blake** - Chair, Industrial Engineering  
Department (deceased - November 17, 2016)

**Godsey, Mildred Irene** - Housekeeping  
(deceased - November 11, 2016)

**Goodrich, Ruth Lisette** - Faculty, Athletic Department, Track  
and Field (deceased - November 20, 2016)

**Graham, Roberta "Bobbie" Marie** - Hayden Library  
(deceased - October 30, 2016)

**Guilliams, Ronald M.** - ASU Foundation  
(deceased - November 14, 2016)

**Guinouard, Donald E.** - Emeritus Professor, Counselor  
Education (deceased - September 26, 2016)

**Gustavsson, Nora** - Associate Professor, School of Social  
Work (deceased - December 6, 2016)

**Hall, Georgia Georgallas** - Faculty, School of Social Work  
(deceased - December 4, 2016)

**Hastings, Doris** - Established the Doris Hastings Scholarship,  
ASU Critical Languages Institute  
(deceased - January 2, 2017)

**Higdon, Rita Marie** - Assistant Student Advisor, Department  
of Justice Studies (deceased - October 9, 2016)

**Howard, Charlotte C.** - Secretary, College/department  
unknown (deceased - October 4, 2016)

**Johnson, Maxine Stagg** - College/department affiliation  
unknown (deceased - November 26, 2016)

**Kigin, Helen** - Wife of Denis Kigin, Dean, Summer Sessions  
and Extension; ASURA president 1992/1993, board  
member & other ASURA positions  
(deceased - September 8, 2016)

**Lease, Jane Etta** - Hayden Library  
(deceased - October 20, 2016)

**Lombardi, Eugene** - Conductor, ASU Symphony Orchestra,  
School of Music (deceased - October 17, 2016)

**Mackey, Colonel Eugene** - College/Affiliation unknown  
(deceased - November 13, 2016)

**Mattson, Louise Alice** - Mentor Elementary Teacher  
(deceased - December 5, 2016)

**Morris, Evelyn Marie (Perkins)** - Wife of Donald Harvey  
Morris, Professor of Physical Anthropology who passed  
away in 2014 (deceased - November 14, 2016)

**Officer, Dennis T.** - Professor, Economics Department  
(deceased - November 18, 2016)

**Olson, Mary Jane Wible** - Library and Student Health  
Services (deceased - November 1, 2016)

**Ong-Sakata, Madeline** - ASU Asian Advisory Board  
(deceased - November 23, 2016)

**Osborn, Donna Mae Keller** - Opened Follett Hallmark Store  
on Campus (deceased - September 26, 2016)

**Pardini, Louis J.** - Professor Emeritus of Technology  
(deceased - October 18, 2016)

**Pesqueira, Virginia** - Professor, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers  
College of Education; wife of Eduardo Delci, former  
Academic Advisor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
(deceased - December 26, 2016)

**Prohosky, Donald E.** - College/department affiliation  
unknown (deceased - October 24, 2016)

**Rawls, Helen** - Wife of William Rawls, Physics Department  
faculty who passed away in 1996  
(deceased - October 31, 2016)

**Rosales, Francisco Arturo** - Professor Emeritus of History  
(deceased - December 22, 2016)

**Rosenzweig, Betty D.** - Betty and Newton Rosenzweig Fund  
(deceased - October 9, 2016)

**Spragins, John Diggs** - Professor, Electrical and Computer  
Engineering (deceased - December 24, 2016)

**Stiles, Philip Glenn** - Professor, Agribusiness  
(deceased - December 31, 2016)

**Sullivan, Howard J.** - Professor, College of Education  
(deceased - November 20, 2016)

**Thompson, Donald B.** - Professor, College unknown  
(deceased - December 18, 2016)

**Tillery, Bill W.** - Professor Emeritus, Physics  
(deceased - October 31, 2016)

**Vineyard, Susie** - College/department affiliation unknown  
(deceased - November 19, 2016)

**Yale, Rose Anna** - Wife of Frank Yale (deceased),  
Department of Physics and Astronomy faculty member  
(deceased - December 7, 2016)

**Young, Jr., Otis E.** - Professor of History  
(deceased - September 16, 2016)

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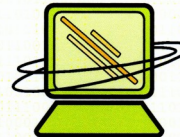
ASURA has a volunteer-staffed office in the Community Services Building, 200 E. Curry Rd., Room 201B in Tempe, Arizona.

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