“Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November, February has twenty-eight alone, All the rest have thirty-one; Excepting leap year, that’s the time When February’s days are twenty-nine.”

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WINTER LUNCHEON at Tanque Verde Ranch, January 28, 2016

Once again, we look forward to this favorite event in January! Please mark your calendar and plan to join us at the rustic ranch for another delightful buffet with mouthwatering desserts! A reservation form is on page 2.

Nominations for New UARA Officers

The Nominating Committee is considering nominees for six members to comprise the Executive Committee for the 2016-2017 year. The offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will be selected from the members of the Executive Committee. UARA members are encouraged to submit nominations for the Executive Committee. If you have suggestions for nominees, please leave a message for Rose Perrill, Nominating Committee Chair, at 626-6936, or email uara@arizona.edu by January 29. Ballots for the election will be in the Spring Newsletter.

Bylaws Revision

Also on the ballot will be a potential revision to the Bylaws under Article #3: members, to add an additional paragraph to section 1: member eligibility. It will open the membership to UA employees who have two years left until their retirement date. This will provide an additional source of future members and benefit these potential retirees with a better understanding of the purpose and goals of UARA. You will have a chance to vote on this change.

UA Tech Park Tour February 4th

Please join us for a tour of the UA Tech Park on Thursday, February 4, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The UA Science and Technology Park is one of the nation’s premier university research parks. It links cutting-edge technology companies with the resources of the UA, creating an environment in which companies innovate, grow and succeed. It’s located on a 1,345-acre campus on Tucson’s southeast side, with easy access from I-10.

Tech Parks Arizona recruits companies in technology sectors that reflect the research strengths of the UA, as well as local industry sectors. The site is home to more than 40 companies including IBM, Raytheon and United Health Group/OptumRx.

There is no charge for the tour or parking, but you must register by contacting UARA’s office no later than Friday, Jan. 22, (contact information on back page). Attendees will be given directions to the facility. We are considering going to lunch afterwards (Dutch treat) at a restaurant nearby the Tech Park. You will receive more information about that when you register. We hope you can attend this event!
UARA WINTER LUNCHEON
Thursday, January 28, 2016
Tanque Verde Ranch
14301 East Speedway

Doors open at 11:30 a.m.
Buffet service starts at Noon

Enjoy a scrumptious buffet in the Kiva Dining Room.

Includes Vegetarian and Traditional Entrée Selections,
Fresh Salad Bar, Medley of Vegetables, Variety of Rolls,
Huge Dessert Table Full of an Assortment of Homemade Pies, Cakes and Cookies.
Served with Iced Tea, Coffee, Lemonade, and Fountain Sodas

Cost: $25.00 per person, all inclusive.

Directions:
Drive east on Speedway all the way to the end. Follow the signs to the Ranch.

Complete and return the reservation form below

UARA WINTER LUNCHEON RESERVATION
Thursday, JANUARY 28, 2016
Tanque Verde Ranch

Please print names as you would like them to appear on nametags:

Retiree/Surviving Spouse _____________________________________________________

Former Department _________________________________________________________

Telephone: ________________________Email: ___________________________________

Guest’s Name _____________________________________________________________

Guest’s Name _____________________________________________________________

Enclosed is my check in the amount of $_____ made payable to UARA ($25.00 per person).

Mail check and this form to: UARA, PO Box 42391, Tucson AZ 85733 by January 22, latest.
Your cancelled check guarantees your reservation.
No portion of this cost is tax deductible.
No refund is possible unless the cancellation request is received by January 25.

Questions: Contact Trudy Jacobson, 982-7813.
We look forward to seeing you!
Happy New Year 2016!

ADVISORY COUNCIL (AC) MEETINGS will be held at the Habitat for Humanity facility, 3501 N. Mountain Avenue (just south of Prince Road) from 10:00 to noon on the second Tuesday of the month, on the following dates: January 12, February 9, March 8, April 12.

Ample free parking is available in the Habitat lot, or on E. Greenlee Road which is immediately south of the building. AC members are encouraged to participate, and guests are always welcome. If you are a UA retiree and not yet a UARA member, we hope you will consider joining us.

Future UARA Luncheons
Our luncheon venues for Spring and Fall 2016:

Lodge on the Desert, March 24
You will receive a postcard invitation in early March.

Skyline Country Club, October 20
Skyline is now under new management.

Fall 2015 Luncheon Recap

The UA Old Main Silver and Sage Room was the setting for UARA’s Fall luncheon in October. Ninety UARA members and guests attended an enjoyable lunch as part of UARA’s 35th Anniversary. Ruth Eskesen, UARA’s President and Emcee, introduced guest speaker, Corky Poster, UA Alumnus and Coordinator of the Old Main renovation project.

Mr. Poster’s presentation was excellent, accompanied by interesting slides of the endeavor to restore the landmark built in 1887. Special guest, Wilma Wildcat, surprised us with a visit.

There was a happy vibe in the room with lots of chatter. Arizona Catering and Facilities Management did a great job preparing the menu, and the room. Beautiful centerpieces arranged by Inglis Florists were displayed on the tables, and later distributed as door prizes. The event wrapped up with tours of the facility.

Thanks to all who helped organize this event!

UARA SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Webmaster
What does the webmaster do?
The webmaster maintains content on the UARA website. Other aspects of the website such as keeping the software up to date or maintaining security are done by UA Information Technology Services. The website content evolved over time as user feedback was incorporated into its design. Critical components are announcements relating to UARA activities, UARA goals and objectives, reports, membership details and organizational information such as officers, office locations and hours, and items of interest to retirees.

What experience is needed and how much time does it take?
The website makes use of the UA “site-in-a-box” software so it is easy to make changes in content. The current webmaster prepared an “instruction manual” that covers the broad scope of the website content and operational details on how to make changes. For example, to change the home page takes three steps: 1) log in and open the website through your web browser, 2) click “edit” on the page to be changed and make the changes – just like you would in a word processor, and 3) save the file and view it as a user just to make sure everything worked. The current webmaster will assist the new webmaster in getting started.

Updates are made at the beginning of the year and several times throughout the year. Overall the time investment is about an hour every couple of months. Any extensive changes to the website format or additions of new types of information would require additional time, but this is not required very often. Long items like book reviews or UARA goals and objectives can be done on a word processor, the file uploaded to the website, and the appropriate link made on the website. For further information contact the current Webmaster, Roger Caldwell, at roger.caldwell@cox.net

Luncheon Coordinator
Reliable person is needed to facilitate and enhance the UARA luncheon program. Duties include contacting venue representatives, obtaining pricing, choosing menu selections, and finalizing contracts. Minimal time required, three luncheons per year. For more information, contact the current Coordinator, Jane Dugas, at duggie23@gmail.com

The 2016 Tucson Festival of Books will take place on Saturday, March 12 and Sunday, March 13, on the UA campus Mall. Admission and parking are free. Because the UA will be on spring break, Festival participants and spectators won’t be competing with students for parking. Net proceeds from the Festival go to fund critical literacy programs in So. Arizona.

UARA luncheon guests Marianne Anderson and Ben Fisher enjoy a visit from Wilma Wildcat at the Fall Luncheon.

The 2016 Tucson Festival of Books will take place on Saturday, March 12 and Sunday, March 13, on the UA campus Mall. Admission and parking are free. Because the UA will be on spring break, Festival participants and spectators won’t be competing with students for parking. Net proceeds from the Festival go to fund critical literacy programs in So. Arizona.
**Live and Learn!**

**An Unexpected Retirement**

*by Jacquie Brailey*

My retirement, over two years ago, was not planned. While working as a research biologist in a biochemistry lab, I was paid through grant funding. When the money dried up, so did my job. I was unable to find another position in a timely fashion, so with over 80 points and 35 years at the UA, I took the plunge into retirement.

I joined the Southern Arizona Hiking Club and started hiking twice a week. The experience was invigorating and so was the exercise. I continued with my pottery class, and added a happy hour with my sister. Slowly, I explored different art forms by joining classes at the city and county Parks and Recreation. I am now up to four classes. I also took weekend workshops to learn how to sculpture the human head. I have been happy in my retirement because I am doing activities that are enriching my life, and that I never had time for before.

This past summer, my husband and I took a trip to Europe to visit Budapest, Vienna and Prague. Our adult son was with us, so we had a blast! It was just before the migrant crisis so Budapest was very peaceful. The architecture was gorgeous. The trip became a tour of the Hapsburg monarchy. In Vienna we saw their palaces and museum, and in Prague their castles.

We drank lots of beer in Prague which is known for its Pilsner beer. I look forward to more adventures!

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**Shakin It Up!**

*by Judy Doan*

What are Judy Doan and her husband José Uzcategui (1980) up to these days? We are taking Rueda Salsa dance classes with the UA Ritmos Latinos sports club two nights a week. It’s loads of fun, and at the end of every semester we perform at the Student Union with our fellow students. We also enjoy a catered buffet the night of the performance, all for $40 per semester! You can’t beat that.

The classes (held every semester) are open to anyone in the community, and you don’t need a partner to join. To see if you might like the classes, you can check them out for free during the first night. The location is yet to be determined, please call me at 520-397-2140 for more information. Join us for some challenging fun!

To watch a Beginner’s performance from summer 2015, go to YouTube at [youtu.be/6_bqQX-B8j8](https://youtu.be/6_bqQX-B8j8).

You can also check out the UA Ritmos Latinos website for more information.

**ASU Retirees Invite You on an Adventure!**

The ASU Retirees Association (ASURA) is extending an invitation to UARA members to join them on a trip to Cuba this spring. The 13-day People-to-People program, entitled: Cuba Revealed: Cultural Pathways from Camaguey to Havana, begins on March 5. Cost of the all-inclusive trip will be $6,095 which includes airfare from Phoenix. Attendees will be placed in small groups of no more than 12-20 participants. The trip will focus on the arts and culture of Cuba.

If you are interested, contact Gary Kleeman (ASURA) at gary@asu.edu, or 480-839-8190. If you would like to see the trip brochure, contact the UARA office (contact info on back page).

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**We’d like to know what you’re doing!**

*Please send us your story, one that we’d like to hear about! We’ll highlight a story or two in every Newsletter. Send two-three paragraphs to Trudy Jacobson.*
Behind the Scenes at Reid Park Zoo
by Trudy Jacobson, Editor

A group of 26 enthralled UARA members and guests enjoyed a “behind the scenes” tour of the Reid Park Zoo on Nov. 9. The knowledgeable and passionate tour guide, Jed Dodds, the Reid Park Zoo’s Education Coordinator, was both informative and entertaining. Guests visited the food preparation area, the night cages, and other areas not normally open to the public.

Nandi, the one-year old elephant, was a big hit as were all the beautiful animals, including tigers, monkeys, camels, giraffes, peacocks, tortoises, a vulture and more.

One special highlight was being able to pet and interact with a 42-year old female rhinoceros named Yebonga. Jed attracted her attention by shaking a container with food, and she readily came over to visit the group. She happily accepted ear scratches! Living a long time is one of the perks of residing in a zoo, said Jed. The animals receive proper food, great health care and protection from the elements and predators.

Jed informed the group that 96 elephants are killed daily for the ivory, mostly in Africa. Efforts are being made by the US Government to restrict ivory imports. Although it is illegal to import ivory, it is legal to sell it once it is in the country. For more information, please visit 96elephants.com.

Annual UA Shakespeare Competition
by Richard Demers, UARA Member and Distinguished Professor of Linguistics, Emeritus

Do you want an educational/service opportunity that will bring you closer to the genius of Shakespeare? Be a volunteer at the 2016 Shakespeare Competition on March 5th!

For the past 31 years, a Shakespeare oratory competition has been held at the UA in cooperation with the School of Theatre, Film and Television. The judges in the past have consisted of UA faculty and professional actors from the Rogue Theatre. The competitors consist of students from regional high schools and have been selected based on a competition held at each school. The winner of the regional Tucson competition is awarded an expense paid trip to New York to compete on the national level. The Tucson competition is sponsored by the ESU (English Speaking Union of the United States) and organized in Tucson by Friends of Shakespeare, a group of mostly retired Tucson high school teachers.

If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer in the Tucson competition, and possible membership in Friends of Shakespeare, please contact me at 520-795-4855, or email demers@email.arizona.edu.

Put Travel on Your Retirement Bucket List!

The UARA program committee is planning to organize one or more small lunch groups during spring 2016 to explore travel during retirement. Participation will be open to all interested UARA members and their guest(s) – from seasoned traveler to hesitant novice. The goal of the meeting(s) is to provide a forum for the sharing of travel information, tips, experiences and resources of potential use to the retired traveler.

It is often said that in addition to good health, travel is one of the best gifts retirees can give to themselves. Travel enriches retirement life by providing novelty, enjoyment and stimulation not encountered in one’s everyday environment and routine when retired. In addition, travel is a fantastic teacher. Regardless of where your travels take you, you will always learn something new and broaden your knowledge of the world. You might choose to remain close to home and ‘discover’ your own state and local community, or travel to foreign places may be one of your goals.

The first step in the committee’s planning process is to identify UARA members interested in learning more about travel and/or sharing personal travel experiences that can provide useful information to others. If you need further details and/or are interested in participating, send your email address and/or telephone number to Trudy Jacobson at uara@arizona.edu or by leaving a voice message at 520-982-7813 NO LATER THAN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016. Please indicate that you are to be added to the travel lunch group. Once the group is formed the meeting date, time and place will be arranged to be as convenient as possible to each group member. All lunches will be ‘Dutch treat’ selected by the individual participant from the restaurant menu.

Yebonga
Scholarships

Irving Yall Book Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded for the purchase of books to an undergraduate student with demonstrated

Van Ort UARA Undergraduate Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to an upper division undergraduate student who is currently enrolled full
time in a health-related major and who has a career focus on healthy adult aging.

The UARA T. R. Rehm Graduate Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded to a graduate student who is admitted to a graduate program and who is pursuing
Donations qualify as charitable contributions and are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law (checks
must be made out to the UA Foundation). Retirees are encouraged to make contributions to any or all of the
funds. Assisting students in their endeavors to pursue undergraduate and graduate study is a positive way to
have a continuing impact on the institution with which we, as retirees, were and continue to be associated.
Your contribution could be made in honor or memory of a loved one.

Please make checks payable to The University of Arizona Foundation, specifying the UARA Irving Yall
Book Scholarship Endowment, the Van Ort UARA Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment or the UARA
T. R. Rehm Graduate Scholarship Endowment. Complete the form below and mail with your gift to:

UARA Treasurer
University of Arizona Retirees Association
P.O. Box 42391, Tucson, AZ 85733

Gifts may also be made online at http://uafoundation.org/ Click on “Find a Gift Opportunity,” then click on
"Giving Search," then type YALL, VAN ORT or REHM, in the designation space, then complete the form.

UARA Scholarship Contribution Form

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip ______________________________________________________
Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Irving Yall Book Scholarship, Amount: $ __________________________________
Van Ort Undergraduate Scholarship, Amount: $ __________________________
T. R. Rehm Graduate Scholarship, Amount: $ ___________________________
In Memory or Honor of: ________________________________________________
**Legislative Update**

*by Ruth Eskesen, Legislative Chair*

The second regular session of the 52nd Arizona Legislature will convene on Monday, January 11, 2016. The last day for introduction of bills will be February 1st in the Senate and February 8th in the House.

**Potential 2016 ASRS Legislation.**

Proposed changes to state statutes governing ASRS are rather minor for the upcoming session compared to previous years. While specific bills are still in the drafting phase, nine changes are suggested by ASRS and may emerge from Legislative Council as one or several bills. ASRS legislative suggestions are as follows.

### Administrative changes

- Proposes the requirements for ASRS rulemaking relative to actuarial methods and assumptions be deleted from procurement policy since this is already specified in the Arizona Constitution.
- Similar to changes proposed in HB2340 of 2015 which was not approved. Will protect ASRS from ‘bad faith’ claims against the long term disability program (LTD), relating to the denial of benefits. As reintroduced language will be more conforming to language in the 1974 Employment Retirement Income Security Act.
- Proposes modifying appeals process and establishing a committee of the ASRS Board with authority to take legal action on appeals.

### Membership Reinstatement; Purchase of Service

- Would amend reinstatement statutes regarding purchase of forfeited service by clarifying that a member redeposits the amount of contributions ‘the ASRS paid’ at the time of the member’s separation – not the amount ‘the member received.’ In some circumstances the amount a member received is less than ASRS paid.
- Would clarify that a person who has forfeited ASRS membership but returns to work for as ASRS employer cannot request a Contributions Not Withheld for any employment period before his/her most recent date of membership.
- Proposes to limit the purchase of credited service by accepting only rollovers from qualifying plans. Indirect rollovers would not be accepted because they can present tax issues for participants and could cause double taxation.
- Would clarify that ASRS members who are retired, inactive or on long term disability can only purchase Contributions Not Withheld service with an after tax check.

### Other

- Proposed Session Law required by IRS to resolve issue created by passage of HB2050 during 2014 legislative session. HB2050 eliminated the ASRS eligibility requirement that employees must be covered by an employer’s Social Security §218 Agreement.
- Would codify in stature ASRS current practice related to employer credit for overpayment of contributions.

### Other Potential Proposals that Could Impact ASRS.

While having no direct effects on retired ASRS members, two recurring state legislative issues could have serious impact on the state retirement system:

1. replacing the defined benefits system with defined contribution and/or hybrid retirement plans, and/or
2. the withdrawal of current ASRS employers from ASRS.

During the 2015 legislative session, SB1379: ASU; Public Enterprise University was introduced and referred to the Senate Education and Finance Committees. Arizona State University would have been designated “Arizona Public Enterprise University” (defined) and the Arizona Board of Regents would be directed to modify the governing structure of ASU to reestablish it as an autonomous, quasi-public, non-profit corporate entity.

Under this new structure, ASU Administration would be authorized to establish its own personnel system and retirement/health insurance plans for employees. Under this new structure, ASU Administration could implement its own employee health insurance and retirement plans. While the bill was never heard by a Senate committees, the House Government and Higher Education Committee held a hearing on January 29, 2015, during which ASU President Crow expressed his support for the concept outlined in SB1379 because it would reduce state regulation of the university. He specifically addressed the need to replace the ASRS defined benefit retirement plan to a defined contribution program. The video of the House hearing is available on line in the House video archives (AzLeg.gov).

### Federal Legislation of Interest

S.192: Older Americans Act, Reauthorization Act of 2015 sponsored by U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander (R-Tennessee) was introduced into Congress in late January, 2015. S.192 covers wide and diverse issues of importance to seniors including but not limited to elder abuse, neglect and exploitation in long-term care; community-based services for the elderly; nutrition services; disease prevention and health promotion; and family caregiver support. The bill passed the U.S. Senate without amendment on July 16, 2015 (by voice vote only). Following its referral to the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration, S.192 was assigned to the House Education and Workforce Committee. That committee is chaired by Representative John Kline (R-Minnesota). There has been no further action.