Origins Initiative to Be New Neighbors

The Origins Initiative, directed by Lawrence M. Krauss, will occupy office space on the west side of Old Main, adjacent to the Emeritus College. This university-wide project will focus on foundational questions that span the entire spectrum of scholarship at ASU. Members of the Origins Executive Committee include Paul Davies and Sander van der Leeuw (co-chairs), Sid Bacon, Jim Buizer, Carol Hughes, Lawrence Krauss, Virgil Renzulli and Quentin Wheeler. Scientists on its external advisory committee — Stephen Hawking, Lord Martin Rees, Craig Venter, Steven Pinker, Richard Dawkins — include four Nobel laureates. The initiative’s program and faculty advisory committees represent all academic disciplines at ASU and its four campuses.

Dean Len Gordon expects to cultivate an ongoing relationship between the College and the Origins Initiative once it has been relocated. The precise date of its move to Old Main has not been finalized, but it will be in 2010. The mission, programs and activities of the Initiative are described on its website http://origins.asu.edu/

A Tribute to Howard Voss

The Emeritus College lost one of its most active founding member on March 30, Professor Emeritus Howard G. Voss (above). A tribute to him by “founding dean” Dick Jacob is on p 4.

Panelists Discuss Memoir Writing at Retirees Day

The 17th annual Retirees Day, sponsored by the ASU Retirees Association (ASURA), was held on Feb. 20 in the Memorial Union on the Tempe campus. The event began at 8:45 a.m. with announcements and a continental breakfast, followed by two one-hour concurrent sessions. One session was a panel discussion on “Writing Your Personal History,” which was See Retirees Day on p. 2

An abundance of wild flowers appeared on the Sonoran Desert this spring. This photograph was taken in April, midway between Florence Junction and the Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park. Among the flowers pictured are pink penstemon, yellow desert marigolds and orange globemallow.

Support Group for PSP to Form

In Arizona, about 300 people suffer from the fatal brain disease known as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), according to the national data base at the PSP Foundation in Hunt Valley, Md. Unlike many large urban areas, there is no support group specifically designated for PSP here in the Valley of the Sun. This is about to change. An organizational meeting to form a support group for central Arizona was held at the Pyle Adult Center in Tempe on May 1; another will be on July 10. Emeritus College member Ann Ludwig is the moving force behind this initiative.

A Tribute to Howard Voss

Professor Emeritus Takayori Atsumi

An all cello concert in honor of Takayori Atsumi was given on Feb. 27 by the Arizona Cello Society at the Tempe First Methodist Church on University Drive. Establishment of the Takayori Atsumi Endowed Cello Scholarship at ASU was announced at the event. Special guests included Bernard Greenhouse, Scott Klunksdahl, the Phoenix Symphony Cello Ensemble and the ASU Cello Choir.

“Taki” Atsumi, a renowned cellist, performed at the ASU Emeritus College inauguration in 2004. He is a founding member of the College, was a founding member of its Council, and also served on its Advisory Council. Donations to the scholarship fund are being accepted by the ASU Foundation, PO Box 2260, Tempe, AZ 85280-2260.

Arizona Cello Society Honors Takayori Atsumi

Desert in Bloom

Photo by Kenneth Anthony

Photo by Judith C. Shaw

Support Group for PSP to Form

See PSP on p. 2

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PSP is a neurodegenerative disease

See PSP on p. 2
Donald Sharpes Invited to Cambridge

Donald Sharpes, an associate member of the ASU Emeritus College from Weber State University, will spend three to six months in the United Kingdom during 2010 as a senior academic visitor of Wolfson College. The letter of invitation which he received from Wolfson’s President Gordon Johnson, is dated March 5. Sharpe will have, “full Fellowship rights, except for the attendance of the Governing Body.”

Wolfson College is a leading academic research institution and one of the 31 colleges that comprise the University of Cambridge. With postgraduate students and mature undergraduate students from throughout the world, Wolfson has the reputation of being the most cosmopolitan college in Cambridge.

Sanford Education Project

Emeritus College interaction with Teach for America (TFA) has been reported in this newsletter over the past three years. The College has helped advance recruiting presentations by TFA representatives in ASU classrooms and at special dinner meetings. Now, as reported in *asunews* (Jan. 25), ASU has joined forces with TFA to address the most pressing educational needs of our time. This partnership, The Sanford Education Project, will utilize TFA’s most successful tools to attract, prepare, support and retain highly effective teachers, primarily for low-income communities. An $18 million gift from philanthropist T. Denny Sanford made this possible.

TFA, a well-known national organization, has recruited, trained and placed more than 24,000 teachers since its origin in 1990. During the past three years, the number of ASU students who teach in local TFA school programs increased at first from 18 to 43, and is presently at 92. It uses traditional and non-traditional approaches to teaching. Most of the recruits do not graduate from schools of education, but are selected on the basis of academic excellence, leadership and dedication to teaching.

ASU President Michael Crow does not envisage TFA as having an official role in the University’s College of Teacher Education and Leadership (CTEL), but the CTEL will adapt TFA’s tools to develop an improved national model for teacher preparation, the goal being to produce more highly effective teachers every year.

Membership Meeting

The Annual Meeting for members of the Emeritus College was scheduled for May 11 at 2:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the College Center in Old Main. The first two items of business were election of council members to replace those whose terms were about to expire and the election of a new senator to the ASU Academic Senate to replace outgoing Senator Charles Elliott (p. 3). A slate of candidates prepared by the Nominating Committee had been approved by the College Council. This year’s committee consisted of Elmer Gooding (chair), Elizabeth Manera, Robert Barnhill, John Bell and Patricia Etter. Candidates for three-year terms on the Council were Robert Barnhill, Ann Ludwig and Linda Stryker. The recommended candidate for senator to the Academic Senate was Susan Mattson. Results of the elections will be distributed by e-card and will appear in the summer newsletter.

The Emeritus College budget was discussed by Dean Len Gordon. It was balanced for the 2009-2010 fiscal year through additional funds gained from increased membership and from contributions to the College’s Development fund. Dick Jacob, director of College Development, reported on plans for future development of the College. Dean Gordon expanded upon the range of activities in which College members are involved and the increase in its membership. Following comments from the floor, the meeting was adjourned.

Bernie Madoff’s Ponzi Scheme Unveiled

On April 14, Stuart C. Goldberg gave an eye-opening presentation on “How Bernie Madoff Did It: His $65,000,000,000 Ponzi Scheme.” His talk to a packed Board Room in the ASU Fulton Center was the fourth in the Emeritus College’s colloquium series for the spring semester.

Goldberg, a practicing attorney, has devoted four decades to the representa-
How I Became a Haiti Expert: A Cautionary Tale
Harvey A. Smith

Arizona State University provides local journalists with a list of faculty members willing to serve as sources, together with their areas of expertise. I listed strategic force posture and terrorism among my areas of expertise, since I had worked for various governmental agencies on these matters and I was often called upon by local broadcasters to appear on their news shows.

When President Bill Clinton sent U.S. troops to Haiti to restore President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power in 1994, I received a call from a local television station. Would I be willing to discuss on the air the consequences of his action? I responded that I knew absolutely nothing about Haiti, and that I was not the appropriate person to ask. (Because Haiti was in the news, I had, in fact, just read the article on Haiti in the Encyclopedia Britannica.) They said that, since I knew about force structure, would I join a panel of experts and discuss the impact of the troop deployment on our strategic posture? I told them that I didn’t think it would have an important impact on our global posture, but they asked whether I could at least appear and say that, if the matter came up with the panel. That seemed harmless enough, so I agreed.

I reported to the studio shortly before airtime, was greeted by the staff and hooked up with a microphone. I didn’t see any other panel members and grew a bit nervous about that. I repeated to the staff that I knew nothing about Haiti and was only there as a limited specialist to serve on a panel. They were vaguely reassuring, so I presumed the other members of the panel were around and would show up when needed. Suddenly I was given the signal that we were on the air and the reporter — the same woman I had spoken to originally — began asking me questions about Haiti, to which I responded as best I could, based on the encyclopedia article I’d read.

When I got home and watched a videotape of the program, I discovered that as I was talking — based on my almost complete ignorance of Haiti — the producer had put across my chest the text “Dr. Harvey Smith, Haiti expert.” The next day, colleagues and students asked, “How did you become a Haiti expert?” Now the secret is out.

Emeritus Voices Has New IT Honors Student

Lorenzo Slay (above) used his skills in information technology (IT) to help Eric vanSonnenberg publish the online version of Emeritus Voices No. 5. His work on EV will continue next fall.

Online issues of EV are free and available on the Emeritus College website (p. 12). The printed version now costs $25 per issue or $50 for a one-year subscription (two issues) and $90 for a two-year subscription (four issues). The cost increase was warranted by a doubling in the size of the journal, an increase in the number of color pages and an overall upgrade in its quality.

Chuck Elliott Leaves College

Seat in Academic Senate

Associate Dean Chuck Elliott was praised at the February meeting of the Emeritus College Council for his outstanding service on the ASU Academic Senate. As senator, he devoted untold hours to revision of ASU’s Academic Affairs Policies and Procedures Manual and more. He will leave his post as senator at the end of this academic year but will continue as associate dean and member of the Council. His successor will be announced by Dean Gordon after college elections in May.

2010 AROHE Conference

The Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) will hold its fifth biennial conference at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., from Oct. 14 to 17. The theme this year is “Purpose and Passion in Retirement.”

As a member of AROHE, the ASU Emeritus College will be represented by Dean Len Gordon and Dean Emeritus Dick Jacob, both of whom are on the program. Conference details are available in AROHE newsletters at the College Center in Old Main on ASU’s Tempe campus. College members were notified of the March 1 deadline for submission of proposals to give presentations, panels, roundtables or displays at the conference. Program information will appear in the summer issue of this newsletter.

ASU Carillon Heard Again

Emeritus College members are invited to play the ASU Carillon, which was reactivated for the Tempe campus after many years of silence. The carillon room is located next to the Emeritus College’s reception area at the entrance to Old Main 102. In order to play the carillon, members need to know how to play the piano or organ and should contact Carl Cross (480-965-2113; carl.cross@asu.edu) or Judith Smith (480-965-4821; msjps@asu.edu). The campus-wide sound can be turned off so it is heard only inside the carillon room.

New Point Person at ASU Foundation

Kirk Baughan is the new director for Estate and Gift Planning at the ASU Foundation. He is the point person to contact regarding contributions to the Emeritus College Endowment Fund, replacing Bradley Shafer. Shafer accepted the position of associate dean for advancement in the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.
Memories of Two ASU Greats

ASU lost two legendary, 97-year old men in February: Frank J. Sackton and William (Bill) Kajikawa. Their remarkable careers call for some reflection because they helped advance ASU into a major educational institution.

Frank Sackton, a member of the Emeritus College from its beginning, came to ASU in 1976 to serve as the founding dean of the College of Public Programs. He had previously had a 40-year career in the United States Army with a distinguished military service record during World War II. He led a battalion of 550 men in the Pacific theater and was promoted to lieutenant general. In that capacity he served as the primary aide to General Douglas MacArthur for much of the war. During the 1970s he served as special assistant to Arizona Governor Jack Williams. At ASU, he served as vice president for Business Affairs and director of Strategic Planning. Long after attaining emeritus faculty status, he continued to teach — until he was 96! From the time I was a young assistant professor until my mid-60s, whenever I walked by Frank’s open office door in the administration building, he would say, “Len, how are you today, young man?” He was a gentleman and a scholar.

Bill Kajikawa — or “Kaji,” as he also was called — came to ASU in the 1930s and played football with the Bulldogs for what was then Arizona State College. Later, that team became the Arizona State University Sun Devils. After his graduation in Physical Education, his prowess in football and other sports led to his becoming the head basketball coach as well as head football coach at ASU. He then served as freshman football coach until he was in his late 60s. By that time ASU had become a national football power, ranking among teams such as Michigan, Ohio State and USC. Kaji’s character at ASU was shown during World War II when he joined the all-Japanese 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The 442nd was composed primarily of Japanese-Americans who had been interned in detention camps during the war and volunteered to serve in the United States Army. The battalion fought in the European theater and became the Army’s most decorated combat unit during World War II. Kaji came back from the war and served ASU until this year.

The theme of our last Emeritus College Annual Symposium was “Advancing Midlife Identity and Experience.” These two remarkable men embodied that idea and gave new meaning to the term “midlife.”

Howard G. Voss

At a time, very early in the process which led to the founding of the Emeritus College, I was discouraged by the seeming lack of interest among ASU emeriti. But then along came Howard Voss, with whom I had shared over the years many episodes of futility and victory as we worked together in the physics department and upon whose wisdom and loyalty I had come to depend. Howard told me, “This is a good idea. I’ll help you do it.” He backed up his encouragement with hard work and, as one of the founding figures of the College, continued to contribute his service until his untimely death on March 30th.

Howard Voss came to Arizona State University as a student in 1962. Having already established an award winning physics program at Scottsdale High School, he was accepted into the Academic Year Institute, an NSF-sponsored opportunity for secondary school teachers to do graduate work. He graduated two years later with a Master of Natural Science (MNS) degree to go with his MS in physics from Purdue University. His talents were so apparent that the physics department vigorously recruited him as an instructor, the rank he assumed in 1964 without expectation of tenure or promotion.

The strength of his contributions in teaching, mentoring and service soon led, however, to Howard’s being advanced to a tenure-track assistant professor position in 1969. At the same time, he was appointed by then Chair Dick Stoner as assistant department chair, a position in which he continued to serve under Clem Kevane.

Howard was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor in 1976. By this time, he had assumed full responsibility for that portion of the Department’s curriculum which served the pre-medical and life science majors, as well as others who required introductory physics at the non-calculus level. He became a valuable mentor for pre-med students, and success in his rigorous course was a strong indicator of success in admission to medical school.

At about the same time, Howard became active in the influential American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT), first holding leadership positions in the Arizona Section, then, as time went on, becoming elected to national positions and finally, in 1994, serving as president.

Promotion to professor was considered improbable, even by some of his strongest supporters, because of the lack of a PhD degree. Medical issues of Howard’s wife, Helen, argued against their living in any other climate than Phoenix, which in those days was salubrious to respiratory health, and university rules prohibited him from earning the doctorate at ASU while holding a faculty position. But it became increasingly clear that Howard’s experience, his wise and incisive judgment, his mastery of physics teaching, his work ethic and his leadership abilities outweighed the doctoral requirement and, in a demonstration that it was mature and self-confident enough to recognize and do the right thing for its own benefit, the department in 1984 promoted Howard Voss to full professorial rank.

Howard’s service as founder and director of the Physics Service Course Facility, as chair of the (then) Department of Physics and Astronomy, advisor and mentor, lecturer (Howard never lost belief in the efficacy of a well organized and presented lecture, and he was unexcelled in the art) and in countless other University responsibilities is too extensive to detail here. His service to national scientific societies in addition to AAPT is also storied and brought him into close personal friendships with many Nobel Prize-winning physicists. Although not a research physicist himself, Howard gave valuable service to the American Institute of Physics, on its governing board, Publishing Policy Committee and many other boards and committees. He was presented the prestigious Melba Phillips Award by AAPT in 1999, particularly meaningful to him because of his close friendship with Phillips.

Howard was beloved by everyone in all his spheres of influence. But no more than by his family and close colleagues and associates. Howard Voss was first and foremost a husband, a father and grandfather, a dear and true friend and a man of deep faith. We did not expect to lose him, not so soon, not so quickly.

Len Gordon

Richard J. Jacob
GOOGLE THIS!
Edward Allan Brawley

“You mean you didn’t Google me?”
The occupant of the aisle seat in front of me was apparently astonished that his traveling companion seated across from him had failed to conduct the obligatory professional etiquette among academics preceding a face-to-face encounter. The tone was a mixture of astonishment and dismay.

“Why on earth would I Google you?” his companion replied. “I haven’t even Googled myself.”

“That’s a serious mistake,” responded the occupant of the seat in front of me. “You can be sure that others — friends and enemies alike — have Googled you and you need to know what they know about you.”

“I don’t especially care. It never occurred to me to Google people, except public figures. I use it mainly to locate products or services. The last thing I would think of doing is to Google myself.”

“Well, I really think you should. You need to know what impression is given and, more importantly, what information jumps out at people when they enter your name in that little blank space.”

“I really don’t care. Why would I care?”

“You just never know what vulnerabilities might be revealed — what questions might be provoked.”

“That’s ridiculous. My professional life is an open book.”

“Well, God bless and protect you in your innocence. I wish you well. But, not checking yourself out on Google is like not taking your credit card insurance, or checking your credit reports with Expedia, TransUnion, and the other guys — I always forget their name — on a regular basis.”

“Credit card fraud insurance is just a scare tactic by the card companies to generate a new revenue source. I refuse to be taken in.”

“You could be sorry.”

“Maybe. I do check my credit reports every year with those credit reporting services. By the way, it’s Exprier, not Expedia, TransUnion and the other guys, whatever their name is. That makes sense to me, especially since the once-a-year reports are free.”

“So is Google — and, of course, Yahoo. I just can’t believe that you would not Google yourself, if for no other reason than simple curiosity.”

“It just never occurred to me.”

“You know all those embarrassing things that show up in the media about celebrities — Paris Hilton, Britney Spears, Mark Phillips, and the like? How do you think that happens?”

“I’ve never given it much thought. Papa-razzi, cell-phone cameras, YouTube are what immediately come to mind.”

“Google.”

“Google?”

“Google and Yahoo.”

“But I’m not a celebrity.”

“You don’t have to be. You just have to have done something or written something that is embarrassing or damaging.”

“I can’t think of anything that might be.”

“Then you’ve lived an unusually blameless life. Let me ask you this. Have you ever written anything or said anything criticizing certain public policies or public officials?”

“Implicitly, I suppose.”

“Well, there you go. Let me ask you something else. Have you ever criticized your university’s administration?”

“Not, per se. I like and respect our president and his administrative team and my department chair is a close personal friend.”

“What do you mean by not per se?”

“Well I have, on occasion, voiced concerns in the Senate and elsewhere about how we are handling the budget cuts imposed by the State Legislature.”

“Exactly! What academic, aside from the chronically uninvolved, has not made multiple public and semi-public statements that could come home to roost, courtesy of Google?”

“Hm. I hadn’t thought of that.”

“Googling yourself might not be such a bad idea then?”

“You’ve convinced me. Thanks.”

“Good. But to get back to my original point — how come you didn’t Google me?”

“It just didn’t occur to me.”

“Let me get this straight. You and I were scheduled to participate on a panel at a national conference. We have not met before but we are members of closely-related disciplines and somewhat familiar with each other’s work. Right?”

“Yes. That’s true.”

“So you thought you knew all you needed to know about my work?”

“I guessed that I probably knew enough.”

“Is that right? But during the course of our panel discussion, it became obvious that you did not know about my latest book.”

“That’s true. I wasn’t aware of it. But …”

“Why do you think I was participating on that panel at that conference, if not to promote my new book? Answer me that.”

“I didn’t realize.”

“Obviously. I don’t hold it against you. I can’t think of anything that might beprovoked.”

“Really? That’s truly astonishing. I’m impressed”

“Right. If that doesn’t make me Google-worthy, I don’t know what would.”

“Gosh! Who knew?”

“So, do me a favor. Go Google yourself.”

“I will. I will.”

On that note, the two traveling companions lapsed into silence and turned their attention to their laptop computers, as a member of the plane’s cabin crew instructed everyone to turn off all electronic devices for the duration of the flight.

Reminders
May 24 is the deadline for submissions to the 2010-2011 Emeritus College Guide to Lectures, Performances and Short Courses. It is not too late to contribute your annual $30 or more to the Emeritus College. These funds are essential for several College programs and are not part of its endowment fund at the ASU Foundation.

In Memory
General Frank J. Sackton
Professor Emeritus and Founding Dean
ASU College of Public Programs
February 14, 2010

Howard G. Voss
Professor Emeritus of Physics
Founder of ASU Physics Service
Course Facility and
Chair of former Department of Physics and Astronomy
March 30, 2010

The names of deceased Emeritus College members appear here in grateful recognition of their support.
Aging and Technology

My friend called me in the car to say that her jaw was not growing rigid through Fosamax — instead good news — new bone was growing on deteriorating spine. Miracle of new growth at seventy-nine.

My bones are good, they say at the osteoporosis center (at my age tests are everywhere) but I should like to know if science could grow me a new self, no longer grieving and aging in the night.

I imagine awaking each morning to my mirror like the woman on cable — her cheeks and lines under her eyes filling out to smoothness, but the most crucial part like new bone must grow within — flesh and blood and wind and spirit, a new mind and heart.

Bettie Anne Doebler

To Give

Having to give birth to her first-born in a manger, Mary was far from busybodies who might want to give Jesus more than her guts told her the baby was ready to receive.

Having to flee to Egypt holding Jesus to her breast, Mary was able to keep him safe from rain, from wind, from sound of violence the way she shielded him during his first nine months.

Having to converse with his neighbors in a different tongue from what he used to hear when he was inside Mary’s womb, Jesus may have sensed the splendor of the kingdom of language into which no other animals can enter.

The New Testaments did not say what Jesus did before he reached thirty. Could it be that Genesis was never about God keeping secrets or about original sin? It is metaphorically about what happens when a child is not ready to face life, to perform beyond his ability. It is about human nature, about our inability to give, about our endless taking.

Did not Adam’s first child kill?

Frances New

Encounter

An old lady said “Hi” to me As I rode past her on my bike This morning. I said “Hi” back to her, And she smiled.

And I saw a dimple, coyly hidden By the wrinkles on her cheek. And I saw a sparkle glint Through the murk of her eyes. Was the dark splash in her gray forelock A testament to a prior ebony glory? Were the thin pale lips once pink and full? Did she blush a little and demurely lower her face, As she may have done for her lover, The first time she said “Yes”? Did her shoulders come back a bit And her spine straighten, And her arthritic gait stride a tad farther?

A beautiful girl said “Hi” to me As I rode past her on my bike This morning. I said “Hi” back to her, And she smiled.

R J Jacob

Shown above is the imprint for books prepared for publication by the ASU Emeritus Press. (See “WHAT ARE YOU WRITING THESE DAYS?” on page 10.)
Emeritus Profile: Bettie Anne Doebler

Bettie Anne Doebler exemplifies the motto, “You can’t retire from what you are.” An emeritus professor of English in her 14th year of retirement, she remains actively engaged in teaching, creative writing — especially her own poems — and scholarly research on Renaissance poetry and sermons from Spenser to Milton.

Professor Doebler (maiden name, Young) was born on Aug. 26, 1931. She grew up in Greenville, N.C., but was born in Atlantic City, N.J., near the summer home owned by her maternal grandmother. Her mother, a teacher, taught for five years before she chose the life of a homemaker. Her father held a degree in law but went into the family mercantile business, which owned a chain of stores within the state. After the Great Depression, only two of the stores survived and he was left with a pile of unpaid debts until World War II changed the economy.

During her childhood, Bettie Anne and her parents lived with her paternal grandparents. “I was an only child for 10 years,” she said. Then her parents adopted her baby brother Bill. She had above average grade school teachers because her school was attached to Greenville’s teacher training college. “I enjoyed my grade school … and Greenville High School was interesting in many ways.” She excelled in academics and extracurricular activities like drama and co-editing the newspaper. Writing was her favorite outlet after turning Miss Minerva and William Green Hill into a play in fifth grade. She and the son of a local doctor were the valedictorians of their high school class of 80 students at graduation.

Both of Bettie Anne’s parents had graduated from Duke University and were active in alumni affairs. She also went to Duke and majored in English literature with a minor in Spanish. Everyone said, “Don’t go there. You’ll only marry a Yankee.” But she did, and his name was John Doebler, another English major. He was a junior when they met, she was a senior. “So I stayed an extra year and we got engaged.” She completed her B.A. in 1953, magna cum laude, and they were married on Sept. 1, 1954. Her M.A. was awarded in 1955, funded by a fellowship from Duke.

The Doeblers went to the University of Wisconsin-Madison to work on doctoral degrees in the English department. She had a teaching assistantship (TA), and he got an “emergency” appointment to bypass nepotism regulations. Korean War veterans had overloaded the classrooms, and freshmen English teachers were in high demand. Then Bettie Anne was moved into the Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts Program and John could receive a regular TA in English. He later taught for three years at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Their daughter Ruth Anne was born in Madison, after they had passed comprehensive exams. Both of them received Ph.D.s from Wisconsin in 1961 and joined the faculty at Dickinson College, where they rose to the rank of associate professor of English with tenure by 1968. She taught there until 1970 — the year John joined the faculty of the English department at ASU and they moved to Arizona.

At ASU, Bettie Anne again ran into nepotism rules that blocked her from an appointment in the English department. Instead, she was appointed associate professor in the humanities program in 1971, awarded tenure the next year, and named professor of Humanities and English in 1976. Despite following her husband to ASU and having to make compromises over academic appointments, she “never felt repressed or oppressed as a feminist.” John died in 1994, and Bettie Anne retired from ASU in 1996.

The Doeblers adopted a baby boy named Mark after they moved to Arizona. Mark and his family live near Phoenix and his daughter, Hanna, was a student at Oregon State University in Portland this year. Tragically, the Doebler’s daughter died at age 22.

In 2003, Bettie Anne resumed teaching as a visiting professor of English at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix. She became active in the ASU Emeritus College and, since 2006, has taught core courses in the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies program at ASU and English courses in General Studies at the downtown Phoenix and Tempe campuses.

Bettie Anne’s research centers around English Renaissance poetry, with emphasis on the poet-preacher John Donne and the dramatic verse of Shakespeare. She has explored attitudes towards death and dying in lyric and dramatic verse, as well as in funeral sermons during the reign of King James I of England. Her first book, which stemmed from her doctoral dissertation, was published in 1974 and titled The Quickening of the Seed: Death in the Sermons of John Donne.

In the course of her studies, Bettie Anne has traveled to libraries for rare books of the 16th and 17th centuries, especially the Folger and Huntington libraries in the USA and the British Library and the Bodleian at Oxford in England. The two main focuses of her work, in historic context, are the preparation for death and comfort for the living. They represent the continuity between the ars moriendi (art of dying well) tradition and contemporary shifts to comfort, as expressed in her 1994 book, Rooted Sorrow: Dying in Early Modern England. She has continued her work on comfort over the past 15 years in collaboration with Retha M. Warnicke, a professor of history at ASU. Together they have co-edited and written scholarly introductions to nine volumes in the series Funerary Sermons Published for Women, 1601-1630, the most recent of which appeared in 2009.

Many of Bettie Anne’s original poems address grieving and comfort. “I’ve written poems all my life, but it wasn’t until after my retirement that I got really serious about it.” After John died, she had no one to talk to about the inner life, and poetry “gave me an outlet. In a way it was part of my healing process.” She now has published three books of poetry: Book of the Mermaid (2001), Nine Waves (2003, with Ralph Slotten and Jon Thiem) and Breathing between Dances (2007, a fine press chapbook). She also published the murder mystery Lost Sheep in 2007 and is working on a second one. Several of her poems have appeared in the Emeritus College Newsletter, and another chapbook of poems is in the making.

Donne and Shakespeare are Bettie Anne’s favorite authors, and she loves Virginia Woolf. Some of her favorites in the modern and post modern periods are Dorothy Sayers, Paul Scott and many others. She reads fiction for fun, and sometimes is reminded that her English literature courses may have influenced the lives of her students. One who teaches at Grinnell College in Iowa recently said to her, “Thank you so much. You saved me from dentistry, and I went into teaching after three courses with you.”

Bettie Anne enjoys music, and her favorite composer is Bach. She sings in a choir and used to play the piano, preferring to make music rather than listen to it. Not surprisingly, she loves Renaissance art and favors some Impressionists. When possible, she visits art museums here and abroad. She likes movies, TV and public radio, and her early interest in theater and acting has not waned.

Summer travel to England and Europe for research and teaching purposes became routine for the Doeblers while John was alive. They visited Paris and toured Portugal, Spain, Morocco and countries bordering the Mediterranean. Since retirement, Bettie Anne has taken several tours around southern Europe, especially the Folger and Huntington libraries in the USA and the British Library and the Bodleian at Oxford in England. The two main focuses of her work, in historic context, are the preparation for death and comfort for the living. They represent the continuity between the ars moriendi (art of dying well) tradition and contemporary shifts to comfort, as expressed in her 1994 book, Rooted Sorrow: Dying in Early Modern England. She has continued her work on comfort over the past 15 years in collaboration with Retha M. Warnicke, a professor of history at ASU. Together they have co-edited and written scholarly introductions to nine volumes in the series Funerary Sermons Published for Women, 1601-1630, the most recent of which appeared in 2009.

Many of Bettie Anne’s original poems address grieving and comfort. “I’ve written poems all my life, but it wasn’t until after my retirement that I got really serious about it.” After John died, she had no one to talk to about the inner life, and poetry “gave me an outlet. In a way it was part of my healing process.” She now has published three books of poetry: Book of the Mermaid (2001), Nine Waves (2003, with Ralph Slotten and Jon Thiem) and Breathing between Dances (2007, a fine press chapbook). She also published the murder mystery Lost Sheep in 2007 and is working on a second one. Several of her poems have appeared in the Emeritus College Newsletter, and another chapbook of poems is in the making.

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Bettie Anne thinks the Emeritus College is “wonderful,” in part because it enabled her to receive a higher stipend for courses she teaches in the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies program at ASU’s downtown campus. She wrote in the fall 2007 issue of the Department of English’s newsletter that the Emeritus College is “a meeting place for all the writers on the faculty who want to reflect upon their rich experiences. Writing and reading groups, Piper Center classes, poetry readings, and a new press are a few of the liveliest aspects of the College … With the myriad opportunities for emeriti [offered by the College], reconnecting with ASU is like coming home.”
Emeritus Faculty Notes

“Does the Academy Need a New Mission” by associate members Steve Barnett (marketing, Stetson U.) and Lee Vickers (counseling psychology, Dickinson State U.), in collaboration with Don Sparks (professor of international economics at The Citadel), was accepted for publication in the World Universities Forum Journal.

Joyotpaul (Joy) Chaudhuri (political science), former associate dean of the ASU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and acting director of the Center for Asian Studies, participated in the annual Muscogee Creek Tribal festival in Okmulgee, Okla. His son, Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri, is chief justice of the tribe’s Supreme Court and practices law in Tempe. Jonodev’s son (Joy’s grandson) was born on Feb. 24 and named Hamati Tonagaxx Chaudhuri. Hamati means leader in Creek, and Tonagaxx means bear in the Aleut (Alaska Indian) language of his mother, Marissa. Thus, his grandson is Leader Bear. Marissa, who is from St. Paul’s island in the Bering Sea, graduated from the ASU College of Law.

Dr. Chaudhuri’s poem, “My Boatman Friend,” was submitted to Emeritus Voices, No. 6. He has finished a draft of a book titled Of Topaz and Turquoise — A Passage from India to America, which is partly autobiographical but interwoven with history and philosophy. He also reprinted, through the UCLA’s American Indian Studies program, a new edition of the book he co-authored with his late wife Jean Chaudhuri, titled A Sacred Path — The Way of the Muscogee Creeks. ASU CLAS has a scholarship fund in Jean’s name. Chaudhuri continues to teach and practice Wing Chun Kung Fu, a South Chinese martial art, and has written a couple of op-ed pieces on the crises in South Asia. He remains active in the community and recently gave a talk on festivals in India to 75 second graders at Laird Elementary School.

In February, Joann Cleland (education; CTEL) presented a workshop on Readers Theater at the International Reading Association’s Regional Conference in Portland, Ore.

A new program developed by Charles Corbin (exercise & wellness) — “Fitness for Life: Elementary School” — joined the national fight against childhood obesity. It fits in with First Lady Michelle Obama’s “Let’s Move” campaign to solve this disease within one generation. Corbin’s project aims at getting children to move more and eat better foods. It is an extension of his K-12 Fitness for Life program, which was designed for middle and high school students. The need for these programs is underscored by statistics which show that two-thirds of American adults are overweight or obese and that, since 1980, obesity has been increasing among children at an even faster rate than in adults.

The movie called City Island, which was shown at the Camelview theater in Scottsdale during April, brought scenes from her childhood to Winifred Doane (life sciences). She had grown up on City Island and lived there until she went to graduate school at age 21. She is a genuine “clam digger” in the local vernacular, as opposed to a “mussel sucker,” an off-islander who moved there. This picturesque island, which has changed little over the past 80 years, encompasses roughly one square mile of Bronx County, N.Y., and is known primarily for its boating industry, yacht clubs, fishing and seafood restaurants. The movie, a comedy filmed largely on City Island, portrays a dysfunctional Italian-American family and discloses their intricate deceptions. It stars Andy Garcia and Julianna Margulies and won the Audience Award at NYC’s Tribeca Film Festival in March.

Patricia Etter (archives & special collections) attended a joint conference of the Arizona/Nevada historical societies in Laughlin, Nev., April 15 to 19. It featured the Fort Mojave Tribal Dancers, Arizona State Historian Marshall Trimble and a visit to Arizona’s historic mining town of Oatman.

On April 6, Babs Gordon (English) taught her final writing workshop in the Medical Technology Program of ASU’s School of Clinical Sciences. She has given these workshops for 15 years to graduating seniors, but now the med tech program at ASU has been discontinued — a great loss according to Babs. On April 7, she gave a New Frontiers presentation on Walt Whitman’s autopsy, the full title of which was “Walt Whitman’s Final Illness and His Surprising Autopsy Findings.” She wrote, “I had a great crowd of about 30 people, including five women from my book club. It was a fun afternoon.” Linda Stryker prepared the slides for her PowerPoint presentation.

Len Gordon (sociology) lectured on “Collective Behavior and the Mass Media” to the Humanist Society of Greater Phoenix on Jan. 10. On April 9, he presented “Institutional Agents and Institutional Culture: The Case of the Emerging Emeritus Colleges” at the Pacific Sociological Association in Oakland, Calif. He also spoke at the tribute for Taki Atsumi on Feb. 27 (p. 1).

Charles Merbs (anthropology) spoke on “Casimir Pulaski, Polish Hero of the American War for Independence” on March 26 at the Oatland Island Wildlife Center in Savannah, Ga., where much of the Pulaski story took place. He also participated in the annual meetings of the Paleopathology Association and the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in Albuquerque, N.M., April 13 to 17. A special session in honor of Christy Turner was held at the latter AAPA meeting.

Helen Nebeker (English) said she “nearly fainted” on Jan. 13 when she discovered Google had posted 29,800 references in 0.30 seconds to the second edition of her book on Jean Rhys (p. 10).

James Odenkirk (kinesiology) completed requirements for a Ph.D. degree in history from NAU by publishing a book (p. 10) about Frank J. Lausche. On March 12, he presented a paper titled “Seven – Come Eleven: The Fledgling State of Idaho and Its Unlikely Role in the Early Careers of Baseball Luminaries Walter Johnson and Branch Rickey” at the Annual NINE Spring Training Conference, Fiesta Resort Conference Center, Tempe, Ariz.

Shannon Perry (nursing; SFSU) traveled in the footsteps of Florence Nightingale in March and visited sites in and around London — St. Thomas Hospital, sites of homes where Nightingale had lived and died and her grave at St. Margaret of Antioch Church, East Wellow. She also visited Barrack Hospital in Istanbul, where Nightingale had been superintendent during the Crimean War. She saw DaVinci’s “Last Supper” in Milan, the Shroud of Turin in Torino, the Churches of St. Francis and St. Clare in Assisi, a church in Orvieto, and St. Peter’s in Rome, where she also saw the Pope.

In June, Wolfgang Preiser (architecture, U. Cincinnati) will receive the Achievement Award of the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) in Washington, D.C. He and his wife Cecilia recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a Lindblad/National Geographic cruise on the Sea of Cortez and the Baja California peninsula in Mexico.

Dick Richardson (education leadership & policy studies) is currently a professor of higher education at New York University. He celebrated his impending retirement from that institution at the NYU Torch Club on April 26 at a party attended by colleagues
The Novels of Stuart Kaminsky

Stuart Kaminsky is the author of over 70 novels. I particularly recommend three series that total about 50 books. His professional background was in film, at Northwestern and Florida State University, with a focus on biographies of film stars. One can read about his life and career at the web link http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/oct/28/stuart-kaminsky-obituary/

His first set of novels had Toby Peters as the main character, a Los Angeles private detective in the World War II era. These stories involved film stars and other celebrities well known to Emeritus College members, such as Cary Grant, W.C. Fields, Albert Einstein (yes), Salvador Dali and John Wayne. In addition to mysteries to be solved, these stories include witty dialogue, current WWII news, and interesting descriptions of everyday minutiae from that time.

Kaminsky authored a second series, the Porfiry Rostnikov novels, about the adventures of a Russian police inspector who suffered from being both clever and honest in modern-day Russia. In these novels the characters are particularly well drawn. The stories follow the pattern of three intertwined mysteries, an intricate pattern that only skilled authors can successfully manage. In this respect they resemble the Robert van Gulik books about the fictional Judge Dee, (circa 9th century A.D.), that I mentioned in this column in the spring of 2009.

Kaminsky’s Abe Lieberman mysteries follow a Chicago police detective. As the author grew up in Chicago, this series shows his familiarity with the modern mores of “the city of big shoulders” (as dubbed by Walt Whitman), including the conflicts between various cultures as reflected in gangs. Lieberman’s interactions with the head of local Latino gangs are particularly interesting.

For the exhibition, ASU joined Artink’s First Friday Art Walk to showcase more than 600 multimedia pieces. These included artwork from emeritus faculty and Barrett Honors College students and from community organizations and artists, along with live music, dancers and interactive art demonstrations. “These talented artists and community nonprofits are working together to use art to tell their stories of social change,” said Debra Friedman, University vice president and dean of the College of Public Programs.

Short talks during the event were hosted by Emeritus College members John Aguilar, Eugene Grigsby and Paul Jackson. Other members, Mark Reader and James Pile, made permanent gifts of their artwork to the College of Public Programs.

Annual Art Exhibit

The 5th Urban Gallery Exhibition, sponsored by the ASU College of Public Programs, was held at the Downtown Phoenix campus on April 2. The theme this year — action, advocacy, arts: an open mind to a canvas for change — is expressed in its poster (below). The focus was primarily on pressing social issues and often depicted the way they impact the lives of people within the Phoenix community.

Springtime Presentations

On March 3, Morris Okun, professor of psychology, gave the Emeritus College colloquium on “Giving and Getting: The Relation between Formal Volunteering and Mortality.” Okun, associate chair of the ASU Department of Psychology, evaluated claims that volunteering postpones death.

The April colloquium featured Attorney Stuart Goldberg, who spoke on “Cultural Diversity and Academic Freedom at ASU and Other Universities” on May 12.

The spring Short-Talks Luncheon on March 9 included talks by ASU Alumna Rita Ackerman, who spoke on “Gathering Genealogical Information and Writing Memoirs,” and Dr. Robert Green (professor emeritus of medicine, U. Michigan), who described “A Doctor’s Lessons from his Patients,” from his book, A Journey through Medicine.

Speakers for the April 6 luncheon were Ahren Sadoff (physics, Cornell), whose topic was “Should Intelligent Design Be Taught with Evolution in the Science Classroom?” and Dean Len Gordon, who talked about “Title IX: Conflict and Accommodation in the Advancement of Women in Sports.”

The final Short Talks were heard May 4. Charles Brownson (university libraries) described “The Development of an Active Interest in Graphic Arts,” and Jim Odenkirk (kinesiology) spoke on “Seven Come Eleven: The Fledgling State of Idaho and Its Unlikely Role in the Early Careers of Baseball Luminaries Walter Johnson and Branch Rickey.”
Recent Emeritus Faculty Publications


and former doctoral students from both ASU and NYU. In May 2009 he published a book (above) with Mario Martinez, his former doctoral student at ASU and now a faculty member at UNLV. “Screen Gems,” a cabaret performance at the Laurie Beechman Theatre in NYC and directed by JoAnn Yeoman Tongret (music), won a Bistro Award for its featured artist, Sarah Rice, a former ASU student. The program is an evening of classic film music that ran through April and will continue through May. Watch for an article by JoAnn on choreographer Agnes deMille in Emeritus Voices No. 6.

Fairlee Winfield (associate; business administration, NAU) will attend the Naropa University Summer Writing Program in Boulder, Colo., this year. She hopes to complete her third novel, Burma Shave Days and Evangelist Nights, while in Colorado. The first chapter of it is posted on her website (www.fairleewinfield.com). She would like your comments on it.

In March, Edward M. White (English, California State U., San Bernardino) received an award for Teaching and Assessing Writing (winter 2010 newsletter, p. 10). The book will be published this summer by Hampton Press.

New Path Taken by James Odenkirk
Emeritus College member James E. Odenkirk was chairperson of the ASU Physical Education Department for 15 years. In that capacity Jim led the department’s research and teaching areas of physical education and of health and wellness and what became the Kinesiology Department. While at ASU, Jim pursued an old academic love and earned a master’s degree in history. When he assumed emeritus status, he pursued a Ph.D. in history at Northern Arizona University.

At NAU, Jim completed all the course work and language requirements needed for a doctorate in history. Then his primary Ph.D. mentor, Regents’ Professor Monte Poen, suggested that Jim, who already had a Ph.D., write a book instead of a dissertation. Jim decided to do just that.

As a native of Mansfield, Ohio, he was fascinated by Ohio’s most influential political leader in the 20th Center, Frank Lausche, the subject of his book. Elected mayor of Cleveland twice, governor of Ohio for five terms and senator from Ohio for two terms, Lausche was the first politician in that state to break the political barriers facing Ohioans with Eastern European family backgrounds. Jim’s book, Frank J. Lausche: Ohio’s Great Political Maverick, is a fascinating, well-regarded historical analysis that gives many insights into American political history. It provides an understanding of how influential politicians like Ohio Senators Dennis Kucinich, George Voinovich and others came into congressional office.

Jim has had a lifelong interest in baseball. He is a charter member of the North American Society for Sport History and a member of the Society for American Baseball Research. He organized a dinner at the new Diamondback baseball stadium which featured Hall of Fame baseball player Frank Robinson as master of ceremonies.

Jim advanced women in collegiate sports while serving as chair of ASU’s physical education department and was lead host for an event on March 20, 1998, at the Diamondback’s stadium which featured “Women’s Baseball in America.” Three Hall of Fame women from the 1940s attended, among them Sophie “The Flint Flash” Kurys, who was nicknamed the Ty Cobb of women’s league baseball. Jim combines his baseball interest with that for history. His most recent article (“Seven — Come Eleven …” ) describes how the fledgling state of Idaho played an unlikely role in the early careers of baseball luminaries Walter Johnson, of Washington Senators Hall of Fame pitching prowess, and Branch Rickey. Rickey became General Manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers and brought Jackie Robinson into the major leagues to break the barrier against black people playing in them.

The success of Jim’s switch in interests from physical education and kinesiology to history is apparent in his book about Frank J. Lausche (Faculty Publications, above). He recently donated a copy of his book to the Emeritus College’s library.

Len Gordon

WHAT ARE YOU WRITING THESE DAYS?

Are you planning to use the summer months to complete a manuscript? If so, you might consider submitting it to the Emeritus Press for copy editing and digitization in preparation for its publication. Director James Schoenwetter reported that, on request, the press will offer these free services to any member of the College during the 2010-11 academic year, from Sept. 15 to May 15. See http://emerituscollege.asu.edu/emerituspress.html for details.
Mailbox

Letters to the Editor and opinions may be sent to emerituspress@mainex1.asu.edu or Winifred W. Doane, The Emeritus College, PO Box 873002, Tempe, AZ 85287-3002. Submissions longer than 200 words will be edited. We reserve the right not to print inappropriate letters. Names will be withheld upon request, but anonymous letters will not be printed.

From a Friend and Former Colleague
Feb. 8, 2010

Hi Wink!

Say, that’s a very impressive issue of the Newsletter. You obviously have an active, dynamic organization of retired professors. Ours is pretty anemic. We do have scheduled luncheon meetings once a month during the academic year, but I have yet to attend any of them — none of my colleagues are interested in going. There is quite a gap between medical school faculty and the core campus faculty — some, but not a lot of interaction. The only event we attend is the spring luncheon provided by the provost. Maybe I should move to Phoenix and become an associate member of the ASU Emeritus College. Keep up the good work!

Dave Williamson
Stony Brook University

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Only great minds can read this
To my ‘great-minded’ friends:
This is weird, but interesting! fi yuo cnna raed this, yuo hvae a graet (stragne?) mnd too. Cna yuo raed this? Olny 55 plepoe out of 100 can.

i cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclty uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, is taht it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whoituit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azamig, huh? Yaeh, and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

Anoynumus Raeedr

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Discussion group for readers of detective stories
March 2, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

I have read a lot of detective stories over the years. I’m especially fond of the old ones, from Bulwer-Lytton’s Pelham of the early 19th century through The Moonstone and The Leavenworth Case and the great classics of the early 20th century from Conan Doyle to Raymond Chandler … and on into the spy and neo-noir novels of more recent times.

I would love to re-read these books in the company of friends. If you are interested in joining an old detective novels book club, please contact me at my e-mail address, inspector@ocotilloarts.com/

If you visit my website (ocotilloarts.com), on the odds and ends page you will find the beginnings of a detectives wiki in which is a list of novels, series detectives, authors, and other information which could be used to decide on a reading list, or at least give you an idea of what I have in mind.

Charles Brownson

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Thank you from two “sun-seekers”
April 22, 2010

To The Emeritus College:
During the winter months, my wife and I greatly appreciated the collegiality and hospitality of the ASU Emeritus College and its members. The talks, concerts, and discussions were a vital part of continuing the pursuit of knowledge and sharing that we knew as active educators during our fulltime teaching years. It was doubly enjoyable to find grads of OSU and the U of M with whom to share memories.

We’ve returned to northern-central Ohio, often called Ohio’s Vacationland, near the southern-most part of the Great Lakes, just a few miles north of the Ohio Turnpike. We’d welcome the opportunity to return the favors that we enjoyed in Tempe, of guidance to intellectually stimulating entertainment and appreciation of nature. We’d especially recommend Lakeside — The Chautauqua on Lake Erie. See http://lakesideohio.com/ for information.

Thank you again,

Bob and Martha Speers
rspeers@aol.com

Outreach Lectures

Three lectures given by members of the Emeritus College which were not listed in the last newsletter include: “Collective Behavior & the Media” by Len Gordon on March 17 at Stonegate – Scottsdale Public Affairs; “Infrared Astronomy” by Per Aannestad on March 19 at the East Valley Astronomy Club; and “Northern Lights” by Per Aannestad on April 21 at the Swedish Women Educational Association.

New Members

We welcome four new members who have joined the College since the winter 2010 newsletter. They are: Laurence Golden (associate; marketing & sales, U. of Akron, OH ), Norman Levine (associate; history, U. of Maryland), William D. Raat (associate; history, SUNY, Fredonia), and George C. Ramsay (associate; art & design, Wittenberg U.).

The College now has 344 regular ASU members, 38 associate members and four affiliate members (ASU, non-emeriti). Thirty surviving spouses of deceased ASU emeritus members continue to have spousal benefits.
Mission of The Emeritus College

The purpose of the Emeritus College is to give a home and a focus to continued intellectual, creative and social engagement of retired faculty with the University. The Emeritus College fosters and promotes the scholarly and creative lives of its members, prolonging fruitful engagement with and service to the University and community. The Emeritus College provides the University a continued association with productive scientists, scholars and artists who have retired from their faculty positions but not from their disciplines.

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emerituspress@mainex1.asu.edu

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†Died March 30, 2010