Massacre in Norway

Per Aannestad, director of The Emeritus College Academy for Continued Learning, and his wife Bente were present when the national tragedy unfolded in Norway on July 22, 2011. They wrote, “There was continuous television and radio coverage all day long for weeks. Shown were interviews with survivors, broadcasts of church and memorial services, background information about the culprit and a lot of soul-searching about our naive, trusting, democratic style. We don’t expect anyone to want to hurt us, and especially not one who has grown up here and knows our peaceful philosophy.”

Anders Behring Breivik has been charged with the twin massacres which included a car bomb explosion in Oslo within the Regjeringskvartalet, Norway’s executive government quarter, and a subsequent attack outside the city at a youth camp on the island of Utøy, in Tyrifjorden. The camp was organized by the youth division of the Norwegian Labour Party. Disguised as a policeman, Breivik opened fire on the campers, while the Aannestads were staying in a town a few miles away.

See Massacre on p. 2

An Open Letter from Dean Dick Jacob

September 28, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

A quarter of a year into this term as Dean of your Emeritus College seems a good time to write to you again. Since my last letter, an unbelievable flurry of activity has consumed our time here at the Emeritus Center, and we are just now entering the busy season. I know you have received the publicity flyers regarding the Emeritus College Colloquium Series, as well as frequent E-Cards publicizing many other events and activities. The fall edition of the Emeritus College Newsletter is being prepared for printing in the near future, and the 8th issue of Emeritus Voices, our acclaimed journal, is now being printed; it is a knock-out! Response to the Emeritus Voices subscription campaign has been gratifying, and submissions to the editor are backed up clear to issue number 10.

Emeritus College initiatives are progressing, but I’ll just mention a few. A Steering Committee for the new EC Faculty for the Humanities is being organized under co-chairs Alleen and Don Nilsen. An organizational meeting for an EC Faculty for Scientific Literacy and Humorists Join the Emeritus College

Humorists Don L. F. Nilsen and Alleen Nilsen retired in spring 2011 and joined the Emeritus College. This well-known couple from the ASU English department will entertain members of the College as the short talk speakers at its November 15 luncheon in the Karsten clubhouse. They are experts in the field of Humor and Aging, subjects presumably of keen interest to our membership. Currently, they are planning to write a book on the interactional nature of today’s humor, i.e., the involvement of people in creating their own jokes on the internet or when interacting with others. They welcome examples from College members who have participated in, or seen others participate in, the development of group jokes.

This busy pair cofounded the International Society for Humor Studies some 30 years ago and were the Banquet Speakers for its July 2011 meeting at Boston University. Their other activities for 2011 include presentations for the Arizona Humanities Council, Arizona English Teachers Association Convention, Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, National Council of Teachers of English, and for the American Name Society. In addition, the Nilsens have appeared on the PBS program “Inside Creative Minds.” An interview of them for Inside Creative Minds can be accessed at http://www.phoenixartspace.com/video/23/

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College Leadership Retreat

Future Emeritus College (EC) goals were discussed at a leadership retreat on Sept. 19. Participants included Dean Dick Jacob, Associate Dean Elmer Gooding (chair of the retreat-organizing committee), EC Council members, publications personnel and committee chairs. Several questions were addressed. What is the EC doing well? What could be improved? What discontinued? What new initiatives pursued? How can the EC better serve its members, ASU and the community?

In describing EC history, Jacob called it “an opportunity brokerage.” The shared vision has been to provide members a means for continued development of “intellect and creativity.” Per Aannestad tallied the courses and lectures given through the EC Academy for Continued Learning last year. Forty-eight lectures and 35 courses were offered by 28 EC emeriti.

The most highly appreciated EC assets discussed were its publications, art collection, annual symposia, short talk lunches and colloquia. A lively discussion ensued on ways to improve current programs, to build a better sense of community and how better

See Retreat on p. 10

Brown Bag Readings

The monthly first Friday Brown Bag lunch meetings began in September on a new schedule that starts at 12:15 p.m. and ends at 1:45. The conference room at the Emeritus Center provides an informal, friendly atmosphere for authors and musicians to try out new works before an audience composed of their peers and friends. Presentations vary from short stories, novel excerpts, memoir chapters, essays, poems, piano pieces — to what have you?

All members of the College are welcome to present their works on a first-come, first-served basis, provided they sign up in advance (480-965-0002). The time limit for each presentation is 15 minutes. Non-performers are encouraged to be part of an appreciative audience. Refreshments are served at each Brown Bag meeting.

Massacre (from p. 1)

Bente’s nephew, a policeman who was one of the two first responders on the island, talked far into the night with the Aannestads about what had happened. He had worked two 18-hour shifts, with only three hours of sleep and was exhausted. For two days he had done nothing except pick up dead bodies, finding few victims who were still alive. Per wrote, “...we were amazed that he managed, through his good training, to see this as a job and carry it through.”

2011 Symposium Reminder

“Arizona in 2020,” the sixth Annual Emeritus College Symposium, will be held in the Memorial Union, Tempe campus, on Sat., Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Guest speakers will be: the Honorable Harry Mitchell; Roc Arnett, president of East Valley Partnership; and Fred DuVal, chair of the Arizona Board of Regents. Papers contributed by 18 College members will fill three sets of parallel sessions.

Research and Creativity
Grants Program for 2012

The Research and Creativity Grants Committee, composed of Peter Killeen (chair), David Berliner and Mary Marzke, is accepting proposals for projects to be funded in 2012. Proposals are invited from all Emeritus College members, including affiliate and associate members, who have affirmed their active status during the 2011 membership contribution campaign or before October 21, 2011. Projects will be judged on a competitive basis. They should enhance the scholarly or creative lives of award recipients and benefit the College and ASU either directly or indirectly by association.

A request for proposals was mailed to College members in October 2011. It describes program rules for preparation and submission of RFPs and the review procedure. Grants usually range from $500 to $2,000. They will be announced early in 2012. The program is depicted on the EC web site (http://emerituscollege.asu.edu) under Member’s Information. Follow the link to Request for Proposals: 2011/2012.

Proposals should be sent by e-mail to Peter.Killeen@asu.edu, or to emerituscollege@asu.edu. Authors without internet access should mail six paper copies of their proposals to the Emeritus College, c/o Carolyn Ellis, Arizona State University, PO Box 873002, Tempe, AZ 85287-3002.

The deadline for submission of proposals is Fri., Dec. 2, 2011.

Centers Renamed (from p. 1)

Searle, liaison between the College and the office of the provost, requested that ‘center’ be removed from the names of all College divisions. The issue was presented to the College Council by Dean Jacob for discussion, and a new nomenclature was agreed upon. It will require changes in the College bylaws and in new publications. The renamed units are:

- The Emeritus College Academy for Writing
- The Emeritus College Faculty for the Arts
- The Emeritus College Faculty in Primary and Secondary Education
- The Emeritus College Program in ASU History and Tradition.

Mexican Gravestone

“A remembrance from all your sons (except Ricardo, who contributed nothing)”
A pall hangs over Cairo. It is not just the smog that stains every building with pollution and coats the lungs of the locals. The pall is the uncertainty of Egypt’s future. Egyptians think the revolution is over and was a success because Mubarak is now on trial.

Crowds still gather nightly in Tahrir Square to celebrate the power of the people in overthrowing a corrupt head of government, his corrupt wife and sons. The only fires burning then were the hot coals of street vendors selling grilled corncobs, falafel (pulverized vegetables) and hummus (ground chick peas). The large crowd that congregated there the night of July 28, 2011, was vociferously in favor of an Islamic way of life for Egypt’s future, a troubling sign of how difficult it will be for the country to keep its secular status.

Egypt has 83 million people, and growing. Cairo is 17 million, one of the world’s most populous metropolises. The nation’s resources are overtaxed, its soil is becoming desertified and the living conditions of the majority of its citizens are extremely poor. Agriculture accounts for about a third of its economy, and services about half. Light manufacturing is less than 20 percent. Literacy is about 70 percent, and life expectancy is 72 years. Goggles of young men stand around street corners unable to find work.

The grimy urban apartment buildings are all cheap cement and cinder block construction, many unfinished at the roof with stabilizing iron rods sticking in the air. The masonry construction shows careless workmanship. My friend Samir said, “Egyptian workers are crazy, crazy ….” He should know as he employs more than a hundred of them. The architecture in Cairo and Alexandria is dreary and unappealing, though vestiges of its colonial past are occasionally visible in decaying neighborhoods.

Taxi drivers and passengers talk about politics, about Nasser, Sadat, Mubarak, with neighborhoods. are occasionally visible in decaying Alexandria is dreary and unappealing, as he employs more than a hundred of them. The architecture in Cairo and construction, many unfinished at the roof with stabilizing iron rods sticking in the air. The masonry construc- tion shows careless workmanship. My in the air. The masonry construc- tion shows careless workmanship. My tion shows careless workmanship. My in the air. The masonry construction shows careless workmanship. My

College Mentoring Center
Teams Up with UASP
Emeritus College members with experience and interest in admission to graduate programs are invited to participate in a joint ASU initiative sponsored by the College’s Mentoring Center and the University Academic Success Program (UASP). Emeriti will serve as mentors to advanced undergraduate students interested in graduate studies leading to professional degrees, by advising on the preparation of documents required by graduate programs, such as applications and personal goals/interest statements.

UASP is administered through the office of the executive vice president and provost of the University. College members interested in this outreach program should notify Amanda Meyers or Carolyn Ellis at the Emeritus Center in Old Main as soon as possible.

Metz Music: Save the Date
Professor Emeritus John Metz and his wife Barbara will return to the Tempe campus once again. Their program, “For Old Times’ Sake,” will feature works by Marin Marais, J.S. Bach and Jacques-Martin Hottettere. Baroque flutist Kiann Robinson Mapes will join the harpsichord/viola da gamba duo in a program dedicated to the memory of the late Wallace Rave, ASU professor of music and former President of the Phoenix Early Music Society. Sponsors of the event are the Emeritus College, ASU School of Music and Phoenix Early Music Society. The recital will be held in Organ Hall on Sat., Jan. 21, 2012, at 7:30 p.m.
Language Police
Lin Powell

I had heard of the Language Police before, from my high school days. All the English teachers had told us that if we misspokework or miswrote, we would get found out sooner or later and be taken to court. Of course, we all laughed and figured they were just trying to scare us into getting better grades or something. We had no idea that they meant it. Geez, how could there be a language police? No way they could catch everybody. I knew a couple of cops, but they handled tough stuff, like murders or shootings, not fluffy puffball stuff, like language abuse. I mean, really.

Admittedly, because of Facebook, Twitter, emailing, tweeting and texting, the English language was disintegrating so rapidly that only young people could understand such messages as: “wht u at?” or “lol @ troll n chtrm.” The President of the United States and the heads of the other English-speaking countries had all gotten together five years ago at a summit meeting in London and demanded stringent reforms be put into effect before the language found itself at the bottom of a dumpster behind a hotdog stand in Hoboken.

Besides computer communications, everyone still wrote documents, mostly of the legal or complaint variety. No one wrote letters any more, since the post office no longer existed. But we still wrote such things as accident reports, divorce claims, complaints to gas companies and the like. I have written dozens of these documents over the years.

In January, I filed an accident claim and filled out the forms for the traffic cops and, later, the insurance agent. Here is what I wrote:

The red car hit our car in the rear and sped off to the rite. The driver gave an unfriendly hand gesture at Fred and I as he raced passed in his little sports car. The affect this has had on me remains etched in my memory, but I’ll have to except the fact that he got away and left Fred and I with a damaged, unusible car in the middle of the rode.

The next day’s newspaper article filled in a lot of the details of the incident. Well, to make a long story short, within three months I received a ‘ticket’ in my email. The ticket was for ‘malpractice of the English language’, and I was to appear in court within 90 days of current importance. We have a terrific program this year, or have all my ‘A’s removed from the records of my high school English classes.

I was flabbergasted. I am absolutely certain that anyone, anyone, would know exactly what I meant in that document. Everyone writes like that.

Well, the judge gave me a scolding, all right. I was fined $50 for each transgression, and she cited eight instances of abuse. I went home completely incensed. I looked on the web for ‘language lawyers’ and sure enough I found plenty of them.

When I talked with Lawyer Joe, I told him that I counted maybe five errors at most. So, instead of $400, I should only have to pay $250. Lawyer Joe would charge me $250, but what the hay, I want my record to reflect the truth.

Then, Lawyer Joe dropped a bombshell. He said that ‘Fred and I’ was wrong. Twice.

“Fred and I. Fred and I?!” You’ve got to be kidding,” I told him. “Everyone in the universe says ‘Fred and I.’ Or ‘Susie and I’ or ‘You and I’ or some such variation. I never met a person who didn’t.”

Lawyer Joe was very patient with me. He spoke in a low, soothing voice and said, “There, there, now. Don’t have a cow. I’ll explain it all to you.” He said that sometimes ‘Fred and I’ is correct, for example, ‘Fred and I went to the movies’, but there is a neat way to check it out. Then he told me about the way he covers up parts of the phrase, like first reading: ‘gesture at Fred’ and then reading: ‘gesture at I’ and he said nobody in the universe would say, ‘gesture at I.’

I had to agree with him. Even I would say ‘gesture at me,’ it just sounds right and, besides, the prepositional phrases at/by/for/to/on/over/under/etc. need to have ‘me’ following them. My good ‘ol English class is coming back to me now.

Then, Lawyer Joe said, “So that is still eight errors, right?”

“No, it’s seven,” I said. “The newspaper article said that the driver was racing off to his daughter’s wedding. That’s a rite, isn’t it? Isn’t that right?”

Lawyer Joe smiled and said, “Write on!”

Editor’s Note: This story previews a longer article in Emeritus Voices, #9.

Dean’s Letter (from p. 1)

Numeracy will be held in the near future. I encourage anyone interested in these important public issues to plan to attend. We are taking steps to open Emeritus College activities and functions to other venues in the Valley, especially focusing on the ASU West and Polytech campuses. December’s Short Talks luncheon is scheduled to be held at Friendship Village in Tempe to provide some of our members, who cannot ordinarily attend, a chance to do so.

Of course, the principal excitement these days centers around the Annual Symposium. This is our headline event of the year — our main opportunity to come together as members of the College to socialize, share our work with each other and listen to outstanding community leaders speak on issues of current importance. We have a terrific program this year, with guest speakers ex-Congressman Harry Mitchell, East Valley Partnership President Roc Arnett and Fred Duval, chair of the Arizona Board of Regents. There is also a full, fascinating and eclectic program of papers and presentations by members of the College. We are very hopeful that attendance at this year’s Symposium will break all records. Spouses, guests and members of the public are also invited. Please do plan to attend and send in your registration form and check as soon as you can.

So here we go into quarter number 2. I may want to invade your in-box at the end of it as well, so look for me. And thank you very much for your support.

All the best,
Dick
Ron Alvarado

The Emeritus College lost one of its founders with the death of Ron Alvarado from cancer on Sept. 9, 2011. He was 77 and will be greatly missed.

Ron came to ASU in 1974. He had a distinguished research and teaching career and served as Chair of the Zoology Department, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and as President of the Faculty Senate. He responded enthusiastically to Provost Milt Glick’s invitation to serve on the Emeritus College Steering Committee, having a full appreciation of the College vision. His survey of emeritus organizations across the nation led to many of the successful ideas incorporated in our own College. Ron also served on the first College Council until he accepted commitments to serve the ASU downtown campus’s development. A celebration of Ron’s life was held at the Tempe Women’s Club on Sept. 17.

Fall Short Talks Luncheons

Mary Laner, professor emerita of sociology, gave the first Short Talk of the fall semester at the Karsten clubhouse on Sept. 13. In a presentation titled “Choosing a Partner — the Vagaries,” she discussed the results of her survey of ~400 students which indicate that we often choose partners similar to ourselves. Disappointments come when their actual characteristics are more different than those wished for. The other luncheon speaker was Stephen MacKinnon (history), who spoke on “Reflections on Modern China.”

On Oct. 11, Jeremy Rowe (computing, informatics and decision systems engineering) gave a talk on “Analyzing and Interpreting Historic Photographs: An Arizona Case Study.” The other speaker for that day was Stephen Happel (economics), whose title was “How Bad Will the Economy be Over the Next Year?”

The noted humorists Alleen and Don Nilsen (p. 1) will share the stage for the Nov. 15 lunch. The Dec. 13 lunch will be held at Friendship Village in Tempe … speakers are to be announced.

Fall Colloquium Series

“Solar Energy Technology” was the topic of the Emeritus College colloquium on Sept. 28, the first talk in the fall 2011 series. Speaking was Richard C. Powell, emeritus vice president for research and a professor of optical sciences at the University of Arizona. He discussed our need to change from fossil fuel energy sources to solar and reviewed solar projects underway at UA and ASU.

The Oct. 19 colloquium, “Arizona Weather: 2020 and Beyond,” was given by Randy Cerveny, ASU professor of geographical science and urban planning. The results of his research into weather forecasting over the next 10,000 years predict another ice age.

Coach Clint Myers will present “Greatness is a Way of Life” on Wed., Nov. 9, in the sixth floor conference room of the Fulton Center from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Myers is head coach of the highly successful Women’s Softball team at ASU. He will discuss how he prepares his student-athletes in the field and classroom.

Emeritus College Faculty for the Humanities

An organizational meeting to form a new activity unit within the Emeritus College was held on Sept. 21. The name for the member-initiated unit will be The Emeritus College Faculty for the Humanities. Alleen and Don Nilsen, professors emeriti of English, will serve as co-chairs of a steering committee to develop a proposal for the establishment of this Faculty unit.

Members of the College, regardless of their academic specializations, who would like to serve on the steering committee or participate in this new group, should contact Amanda Meyers at the Emeritus Center (480-965-0002 or Amanda.Meyers@asu.edu).

Fall 2011 Outreach Lectures and Short Courses

Four members of the Emeritus College are scheduled to give talks in the New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning program at Mesa Community College during November. They are: Jay Braun, “Brain Development and Aging” (Nov. 1); Richard Jacob, “Einstein’s Legacy” (Nov. 8); Mary Laner, “Violence between Intimates” (Nov. 15); and Marjorie Lightfoot, “Virginia Woolf’s Feminist Essay, A Room of One’s Own” (Nov. 22). On Nov. 8, Len Gordon will speak on “The Longevity Revolution: Changes in the Social Life of Seniors” at the Minderful Center in Temple Chai.

In addition, four short courses by College members are listed in the fall 2011 catalog of the ASU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. These include: Louellen Finter’s “Travel with the Ancients” (five sessions, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21, Sun City Grand) and “Grand Canyon Explorer” (four sessions, Nov. 8 to Dec. 6, ASU West campus); Richard Jacob’s “A Practical Introduction to General Relativity” (four sessions, Nov. 7 to 28, Tempe Public Library); and Jim Mitsui’s “Hybrid Creative Writing” (five sessions, Oct. 6, 20, Nov. 3, 17 and Dec. 1, Sun City Grand).

The “Sun Devil Goldies” program (summer 2011 issue of this newsletter, p. 3) was cancelled.

In Memory

Ronald H. Alvarado
Professor Emeritus of Zoology
September 9, 2011

The names of deceased Emeritus College members appear here in grateful recognition of their support.
**In my dream last night**

my grandfather roller-skated
smoothly into the kitchen
looking for my grandmother,
who was an excellent cook.
I was standing by the door
watching. Even in my dream
I knew it was not real. How could it be?
And then I turned over in bed
and the light from the window
shone on them both — grandfather
and grandmother. She was pouring
bourbon onto the tipsy cake
she made every Christmas, beginning
in November so that the whiskey
would season the cake and custard.
My grandfather, I knew suddenly,
had fled my life with the ease of a skater,
I barely knew him, but I was sad.
I knew my grandmother well; she kept on
keeping on, making cake,
pouring bourbon
that sometimes started some people in the family
drinking too much of it.

**Bettie Anne Doebler**

---

**House**

I make my own house
And live in it.

No, no, not the kind of house
made of bricks or mud.

I make my house with words—
words gathered one at a time

As each second, each minute, each hour, each day,
each week, each month, each year
holds me.

**Frances New**

---

**A Gift for Teachers**

I received a gift on the Orbit bus
today. David Allen Becklehimer
reached into his bag
of treasures and pulled
out a stone -
an ordinary rock
he said he found
on the side of the road
last night as he was walking
home. But truly the stone
was unusual. It had been
painted with a sign:
A+ Teachers are the
foundation of education -
a gift for me.

**Bettie Anne Doebler**
Emeritus Profile: Santos C. Vega

Professor Emeritus Santos C. Vega, a founding member of the Emeritus College, has lived a rich and colorful life. A native of Miami, Ariz., and the eleventh in a family of 13 children, he was taken as an infant to Sinaloa, Mexico, where his family tried farming until their crops were wiped out by locusts. Tragically, only five children survived. After his father died, the family returned to Miami. Vega was six years old and spoke only Spanish, yet he contributed to the family’s income by setting up his own shoesine business and delivering newspapers.

In high school, Vega was on the all-Eastern conference second team in football as a running back. He also played baseball and ran track. “Playing high school football gave me the idea of becoming a coach. This required attending college, a goal not usually envisioned by poor kids.” But, when he “got an ‘A’ in English,” he decided to become a writer.

After graduation from Miami High School, he served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950 to 1954. He was stationed in San Antonio and then in Ft. Worth, Texas, and finished his four-year tour of duty in Maine. While in Ft. Worth, he earned 30 credits at Texas Christian University, which enabled him to enroll as a sophomore at the University of Arizona (UA) through the G.I. Bill of Rights. Before that, however, he had been a seminarian for one year in a Maryknoll Seminary in Pennsylvania and remains to this day a lay missionary at heart.

While attending UA in 1955, Vega met Edilia (‘Lily’) Garnica, and the couple married a year later. They raised a family that grew to include nine children and 19 grandchildren. He says, “Some of the children have pursued academics to a certain degree, and the other five are in professional trades. Daughter Monica worked in registration at ASU, Vikki heads a board at Child Protective Services in Omaha, Vivian has worked in city and county governments, and Frank earned a master’s in math and computer science.” Edilia passed away in 1999 after 43 years of marriage.

Vega earned his B.A. in education in 1958 and his M.Ed. in 1959, both from the UA. He began his teaching career in Florence, Ariz., where he taught elementary school for ten years. Then he taught English and Mexican-American history at Central Arizona College and directed its continuing education program. At UA, he directed Student Support Services and taught Introduction to Public Administration. He also taught courses at St. Thomas Theological Seminary in Denver and evening classes at Phoenix College.

In 1967, Vega earned a Bachelor of Laws degree by correspondence. He received a Ford Foundation Fellowship to attend graduate school at ASU where he earned a Ph.D. in education in 1975. In 2004, he completed an M.A. in theology from San Francisco University and is now a member of the Order of Preachers Laity (OPL) at the Newman Center in Tempe.

Vega loves to teach and continues to do so in retirement. “I taught an ASU class for community adults titled ‘Mexican American History Seminar Overview’ in the Enclave program,” and he taught Mexican American History and Culture Perspectives and Traditions through the Emeritus College Academy for Continued Learning. He also presented talks for the Arizona Humanities Council Speakers Bureau for more than four years, “mostly in Ajo, Bisbee, Tucson, Miami, Tempe and Chandler.” His special topics included the History of Mexico, contemporary issues, Mexican American History and Culture, and God through a Mexican American Perspective. In addition, he directed the Community Documentation Program in the Hispanic Research Center at ASU for 14 years.

Over the years, Vega has served his community in many ways. He has been president, director, commissioner, a board member, or a volunteer in many organizations, including the Arizona Association of Chicanos for Higher Education, Braun Sacred Heart Center, Arizona Historical Society, Tempe Preservation Commission, Diocese of Phoenix Hispanic Ministry Advisory Board, Valle del Sol, the Salvation Army, and the Tempe Tardeada. The Tardeada (“afternoon recreation”) is a Mexican equivalent of the German Oktober Fest and was held this year on October 9. It awards two scholarships to Tempe high school students who have successfully competed in essay-writing contests. “We have food, artists, booths from various organizations and activities for children. I always have a booth to promote the oral history of Mexican-Americans and to sell my books on the subject. The highlights are music and dancing by groups from ASU Dance and Mexican Folkloric. The public also dances to music of several bands and orchestras.”

Vega devotes much time as a volunteer in pastoral care for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. He visits the sick at St. Luke’s Hospital in Tempe and a homebound man. “I offer prayers and give them Holy Communion.” He is the director of spiritual care for the Auxiliary Health Volunteers at Tempe Hospital.

His second wife, Josephine (‘Josie’) Ramirez, is a former travel agent. She, too, had lost her spouse of many years. They were married in 2002. Since then, they have cruised the Mediterranean, including Spain, Italy and Greece, and visited Hawaii, Mexico, the Cayman Islands and Aruba.

Vega has written poetry, short stories and non-fiction most of his life. He published a creative memoir, The Worm in My Tomato, in 2007 and Mexicans in Tempe in 2009. More recently (September 2011), his nostalgic look at the town of Miami and its inhabitants, Around Miami, was published by Arcadia Publishing. To promote sales of his books, he travels around the state giving talks and book signings.

When the Emeritus College and the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing jointly sponsored writing classes and workshops, Vega quickly signed up and has completed seven workshops. He currently participates in the College’s Writers Group and feels that the critiques he has received from other members of the group have improved his writing.

Vega received a grant from the Emeritus College to introduce Chicano authors to students in two classes in the Learning English program for non-English-speaking students at a Phoenix high school. A summary report of the project appeared in Emeritus Voices, No. 8. “The students loved the encounter and the authors did, too. In fact one of the authors still helps the teacher of a class in which he participated. The students lacked role models in their

See Vega on p. 9
Emeritus Faculty Notes

Maria Cardelle-Elawar (education) taught an educational psychology course in the master’s program at the University of Almeria, Spain, in summer 2011. It was titled “Multiple Intelligences: Implications for modeling emotional intelligence and positive psychology across the curriculum.” She presented a keynote address at Almeria on “Similarities and differences between the role of the educational psychologist and the school psychologist” to an audience from three universities in southern Spain. She also gave two graduate courses for the ASU Mary Lou Fulton College of Teacher Education titled “Learning and Instruction” and “Introduction to Research and Applied Project.”

The memoir in Emeritus Voices, No. 7, by Winifred Doane (life sciences) about her grandfather, George Ethelbert Walsh, resulted in an invitation to write a biographical sketch about him for The Island Current. This monthly periodical is published on City Island, N.Y. Her article appeared in its summer 2011 issue.

Both of her pieces had been skillfully critiqued by members of the Emeritus College Writers Group.

Doane is back as editor of this newsletter after successful heart surgery on July 20. She is especially grateful to Associate Editor Linda Stryker, who kept the summer and fall issues on track. She is also thankful for the many well-wishers from the College who visited her or sent get-well messages during her recovery.

Patricia Etter (libraries) recently rode Amtrack’s Empire Builder to Montana’s Glacier National Park and Alberta’s Waterton Lakes National Park, combined into the world’s first International Peace Park in 1932. It was later designated a world heritage site because of its extraordinary glacier-carved landscapes, biological diversity and unique cultural groups. Etter also attended the Western History Association meeting in Oakland, Calif., in mid-October, where she received a certificate and a check as second place winner for the best presentation to a Westerners International Corral in 2010. In November, she will serve on a panel that selects the “best picks” among Southwest Books of the Year for the Arizona Library Association.

Len Gordon (sociology) is active in the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) and in the Pacific Sociological Association (PSA). AROHE is revising its bylaws, and Len has drafted the Preamble to them. He is serving on a committee to establish an emeritus division within the PSA. On Aug. 17, he spoke to retired employees at the fire station in Mesa on “The Longevity Revolution: The Cultural Shifts for Those in Their 60s, 70s and Beyond.”

David Hestenes (physics education), who founded the ASU Model of Natural Science degree program and authored a paper on it, remains actively engaged in research. In the September 2011 issue of the American Journal of Physics, he and his co-workers, presented solid evidence for the effectiveness of the Modeling Instruction Program, a graduate program for high school physics and physical science teachers that has been designated as an exemplary K-12 science program by the U.S. Department of Education.

Hestenes was interviewed with other leading researchers in an NPR broadcast titled “Don’t Lecture Me: Rethinking the Way College Students Learn.” This documentary in The American RadioWorks “Tomorrow’s College” series is a podcast that was released Sept. 1, 2011, and can be accessed at http://arwpodcast.tumblr.com/post/9675982132/podcast-friday-dont-lecture-me/

Mary Laner (sociology) will give a talk on family violence at Mesa Community College in November 2011 as part of its Lifelong Learning program. She has also been invited by Or Adam congregation of Paradise Valley to speak on “Intimacy and Commitment” in January 2012.

Darwyn Linder (psychology) attended the 50-year reunion of his graduating class at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minn. He was class president and chair of the reunion planning committee.

He also presented the Class of 1961 response at the induction ceremony to the Golden Scots, the society of all alumni of Macalester who graduated 50 or more years ago. His speech may be read at http://www.macalester.edu/alumni/reunion/2011/classof1961/class-response.html/ Linder received his College’s Distinguished Citizen Award at the reunion. Linder now splits his time between his Colorado residences in Snowmass and suburban Denver. He teaches skiing in Aspen and advises the ski school on sport psychology.

Marina McIsaac (educational technology) received a Fulbright Specialist Award to work at the University of Aveiro, Portugal, for six weeks in September and October 2011. She will help organize an international conference and work with the Department of Education’s research center to examine the theory, practice and evaluation of multimedia education in public schools. She will also give doctoral seminars and faculty development workshops on integrating social networking and handheld technologies into the curriculum.

When John Metz (music) was working on his DMA Dissertation (The Fables of La Fontaine, The Juilliard School, 1980) he noticed an anonymous Noel for solo voice and basso continuo on a microfilm that also contained material he was researching. He promised to “return to that beautiful Noel someday.” Now, some thirty-one years later, he has written three verses of text, and transformed the noel from a solo piece into a SATB choral work with piano accompaniment. Response from choral directors and other musicians across the country has been enthusiastic.

You may hear the noel at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1V6wwul-wN, and you may download the free score at http://www.scoreexchange.com/scores/115172.html/

In September 2011, Shannon Perry (nursing, SFSU) attended the annual conference of the American Association for the History of Nursing in Ft. Worth, Texas, and gave a paper on nurse educators and global initiatives at the National League for Nursing Summit, in Orlando, Fla.

Perry and 39 other Christian women will start an ascent of Mt. Kilimanjaro on Jan. 11, 2012. That is the national day in the U.S. to raise awareness and funds to combat human trafficking. Information about the climbers and how to contribute to this worthy cause is on the web site www.thefreedomclimb.net/ At age 73, Perry is the oldest participant in this group of climbers.

W. Dirk Raat (history, SUNY at Fredonia) will offer five lecture-discussion sessions at the ASU West campus from Feb. 8 to March 7, 2012. They will explore the past and present of the American Indians of the Greater Southwest (Northern Mexico and the American Southwest). These non-credit sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A sixth session will be a tour of the Heard Museum in downtown Phoenix on Feb. 25, 2012, where Raat is a docent. These sessions are part of the Osher Lifelong Learning program.

See Faculty Notes on p. 10
George R. R. Martin has crafted a medieval-like world that includes extra elements such as wights and the promise of dragons. The overarching theme is that it is cold, with a winter coming that will last for decades. Liza Marklund writes about another cold place, northern Sweden. One of the attractions of these stories, in which the cold is a significant element for Phoenicians, is to imagine how people are able to deal with climates so opposite of our own.

Martin’s A Dance with Dragons (Bantam, 2011) is the fifth in his series. (Books 1-4 are among the top 20 best sellers listed in the New York Times, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011.) The books are organized so that individual chapters are told from the point of view of different characters and, in this volume, the stories of Tyrion Lannister, a dwarf from an aristocratic family and its only member with a sense of justice, and of Jon Snow, bastard son of a former Lord of the North, are particularly interesting. Many themes from modern life are contained in these stories, such as xenophobia, racial and gender prejudice, and the characters in the books handle them not much better than we do. (If you are tempted to pick up the first four books in the neat package of small books offered at COSTCO, don’t do it. Get the larger books, available nearby. Your eyes will be grateful.)

After reading the several thousand pages of Martin, I picked up Red Wolf (Washington Square Press, 2010) by Swedish author Liza Marklund, hoping for something like a Stieg Larsson or Henning Mankell story. There are elements of their writing therein, also some of the smooth writing of author Donna Leon about whom I have written in an earlier column. The heroine, Annika Bengtzon, is a fearless reporter in modern Stockholm. She reminds one of Woodward/Bernstein in All the President’s Men, but investigating stories about murders in her case — and potential scandal about the Swedish Minister of Culture — rather than about political crooks. When I read the last four pages of this book, the closing scenes of President’s Men came into my mind. You remember them: the typewriter keys clacking loudly with headline after headline ending with the resignation of Richard Nixon, perhaps the worst president of my lifetime.

Robert Barnhill

Academy for Writing

An organizational meeting for Emeritus College members interested in writing outside of their professions was held at the Emeritus Center in Old Main on Sept. 20. The goal was to restructure these creative activities under the self-contained Academy for Writing. Babs Gordon is the director.

The Academy now includes two writing groups. The original Writers Group, coordinated by Linda Stryker, has functioned as a peer critique group for two years. It met on Oct. 4 to discuss works by Stryker and Santos Vega and will continue to meet monthly on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Another Writers Group of this kind could be created to accommodate more members. Interested persons should contact Stryker (stryker@asu.edu).

The second group is a Writing Workshop, which met for the first time on Sept. 26. Although those who signed up for this group called themselves “beginning to intermediate” writers, they are anything but. According to Gordon, “They are an amazing gathering of colleagues with a common desire to write.” The meeting was facilitated by Frances New. This “cohesive and amicable group of writers” will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in the Center’s conference room. The second meeting was held on Oct. 10 at 9:30 a.m. and the third on Oct. 24. Those attending the workshop — Frances New, JoAnn Cleland, Joseph Schultz, Harvey Smith and Anthony Gully — felt that five or six persons was an adequate number for it to function well. College members who signed up for the new workshop, but did not attend its first meeting, are still encouraged to come to any Writing Workshop meeting this fall. Questions should be sent to Frances New (Fnew@aol.com).

Plans to create a poetry workshop are in the works. Please contact Babs Gordon (babsg@asu.edu) if you are interested.

Vega (from p. 7)

neighborhood, just as I did when growing up in poverty in a mining community.” Vega, along with two teachers and four authors, teamed up for a Short Talks presentation at the Karsten clubhouse recently. He has also published in several issues of Emeritus Voices.

Currently, Vega is “working on a novel about the experience of living in a barrio.” A barrio is a Mexican-American neighborhood that has its own unique cultural and social life. “But life in a barrio is actually a very American way of life, whether it is in a ghetto, suburb, city, farm or mining town.”

Since his retirement from ASU in 2004, Santos Vega has been an active supporter of the College and a participant in several of its programs.
Learning Institute at ASU (602-543-6440 or lifelonglearning@asu.edu). Registration begins in early January.

Mark Reader (political science) continues to donate his paintings to educational and eleemosynary institutions in Arizona and elsewhere in return for framing costs and secured public display. His latest collection of 25 watercolors was given to the University of Washington-Tacoma.

Jeremy Rowe (computer informatics & decision systems) lectured on “Images from the Birth of Photography” at Art Intersection Gallery in Gilbert, Ariz., on Sept. 23, 2011. On Sept. 14, he also appeared on Horizon (KAET) to discuss Historic Arizona Stereographs, a book selected to be an Arizona Centennial Legacy Project which contains his collection of images of the early days in Arizona. Photographs from his historic collection appear in “Exploring the Roots of Photography,” an exhibition shown at Gilbert’s Art Intersection Gallery from Sept. 9 to Oct. 29, 2011.

On Oct. 20, 2011, Don Sharpes (education, Weber State U.) spoke to the McCormick Ranch Women’s Group on “Islam and the West.” While in Indonesia on a Senior Fulbright assignment in June 2011, Ma Chung University appointed him permanent adjunct professor and member of the University’s Academic Advisory Board.

Robert Williams (human evolution & social change), in a co-authored paper on the gene in Pima Indians called HLA-DRB1*02(1602), reported that it is associated with increased insulin secretion, which results in its being protective for the disease. A similar association has been known for diabetes type 1 for many years, but this is the first demonstration of it being associated with age-related diabetes type 2.

Tim Wong (international letters & cultures) organized and led a tour of China from Sept. 27 to Oct. 16, 2010. It featured the Silk Road as part of a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the East-West Center in Honolulu (EWC), where Wong was a grantee from 1965 to 1968. The tour extended to Beijing, Xi’an, and Shanghai, but concentrated on places in farwestern China, including Urumqi, Turpan and Dunhuang, where Westerners made contact with the Chinese long before European maritime expansion led to the conflicts and benefits of East-West interculturalism in the 19th century.

Joseph Wytko (music) performed in an Ascendo音乐会 at the Louise Lincoln Kerr Cultural Center on Oct. 20. The Ascendo三重奏 presented works by Vivaldi, Beethoven, Satie, Poulenc and Piazzolla. In addition to Wytko, it includes pianist Timothy Lovelace and saxophonist Anna Marie Wytko.

Wytko has given concerts with Ascendo, with the Joseph Wytko Saxophone Quartet in Illinois and Indiana, and as a guest with the Kansas State University Wind Ensemble. He recently served as a jurist for the international 6th Concurso de Interpretation in Saxophone held at the oldest conservatory in North America, the Conservatorio de las Rosas in Morelia, Mexico, and conducted a master class and presentations while in residency. During Spring 2012, he will present concerts and master classes in several venues throughout Belgium and Paris.

Emeritus College Piano

The Baldwin spinet piano given to the College was noted in the previous newsletter. It is now installed in our conference room, tuned and voiced. College members are invited to play the piano during regular noon hours on a first come, first dibs basis. Musical selections may now be added to the sessions of Brown Bag Readings.

The piano will be used for College-sponsored evening events. Members may also schedule small group rehearsals during evening hours for chamber groups, combos, etc., as well as recitals and musicales. This new resource will expand opportunities for our members in the performing arts.

We are grateful to Frances New for donating this beautiful instrument to the College and thankful to other members who offered to contribute a piano.

Postcard (from p. 3)
and the Israelis. All this is in the past. I found no one discussing the possibilities for the future except the Salafists, Muslim fundamentalists. But the revolution is just beginning as Egypt seeks to form a new government. From interviews, I discovered that the army will certify the nation’s future by codifying civil rights so no religion can override minority freedoms. There will be three stages of elections in fall 2011: individuals for positions in Parliament, equitable group representation, and selected appointments.

I left Egypt and its antiquity — a country enveloped in a political and social predicament for which solutions are known but unacceptable — not as tourist but as observer. I never learned to walk like an Egyptian. But Egyptians will soon have to learn to walk to a different political drummer.

How this ancient country will develop, who will lead it, and what the new government will do for Egypt, will determine the revolution’s conclusion.
So-called “unique calendar”

August 13, 2011

Dear Editor,

I was surprised to see the currently popular urban legend concerning the uniqueness of the year 2011 published in the summer issue of the Emeritus College Newsletter. But then I decided that it was meant to be a filler puzzle, as indicated by the suggestion to “check it out.” The legend, concerning how rare years are that have Octobers with 5 Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays, is of course absolutely false. There are only 14 different calendars: 7 with 365 days and 7 with 366 days. Each recurs regularly, although not cyclically. The calendar (with the aforesaid supposedly rare occurrence) has obtained for 1910, 1921, 1927, 1938, 1949, 1955, 1966, 1977, 1983, 1994, 2005, this year and will obtain again in 2022. (The legend being circulated last year was that 2010 was unique because October had 5 Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.)

Of course, the dates mentioned are unique, but aren’t all dates? Their appearance depends upon the number system (and calendar type) being used. The little arithmetic trick works not for everyone, but only for people born before the year 2,000.

Check it out.

Dick Jacob

Volunteers Sought for ISEF

August 24, 2011

To Members of the Emeritus College,

The International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) will be held in Phoenix in 2013, 2016 and 2019. This, the largest and most successful international science fair, will bring thousands of students, teachers and experts to the area, contributing both to the economy and the intellectual luster of the state.

Emeritus College member Bill Glaunsinger (chemistry) is chair of judging and a member of the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC). He is seeking volunteers for a variety of services from the College’s membership. Details of many of these positions will be announced later. However, there is a need at this time to identify one or two international co-chairs to help recruit interpreters and to respond to the requests of student finalists during the ISEF competition. Additional duties include staffing the International Office during Fair week and providing assistance to international attendees. These are very important positions in the LAC, because about 200 interpreters speaking about 20 languages are needed. Note that a background in science or engineering is not necessary in these positions.

Anyone interested in serving the ISEF in this capacity should contact Dean Dick Jacob.

E-Card Announcement

Lecturers Sought for Minderful Center

September 25, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

I would like you to make a note about the request from John Thaxton, director of the Minderful Center. He wrote about the coming spring session: “I’m particularly interested in finding professors interested in giving a lecture or doing a course in economics, modern Chinese history, the Constitution & Bill of Rights, immigration history, aging issues (again), U.S. political party system, contemporary U.S. history, comparative religions, as a starter. I’m starting to use the lecture series from the “Great Courses” and would like to have some moderators with background in the lecture topic to lead discussion after viewing each of the 30-minute lectures seen via DVD.”

If anyone is interested in such an opportunity, please contact John [Thaxton] at john@minderful.com or Per [Aannestad] at per.aannestad@asu.edu.

Per Aannestad

Membership

The Emeritus College has 13 new members. They are: Russell Biekert (engineering), Maria Cardelle-Elawar (educational psychology), José A. Cobas (sociology), Billie J. Enz (education), Jonathan Fink (earth and space exploration), J. Richard Haefer (music), Stephen Hefner (agribusiness & resource management), Stephen Happel (economics), Donald W. Jackson, Jr. (marketing), Leanor Boulin Johnson (African & African American studies), Jerry Kingston (economics), Milton Schroeder (law) and Leslie R. Towill (life sciences).

The total membership stands at 444, including 398 regular, 41 associate and five affiliate members. Thirty-five surviving spouses of deceased member have spousal benefits.

Editor’s note: We thank Babs Gordon, Dick Jacob, Mary Laner, Carolyn Ellis and Deanna Stover for their help in editing and/or proofreading this edition of the Newsletter.
The Emeritus College Newsletter

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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