

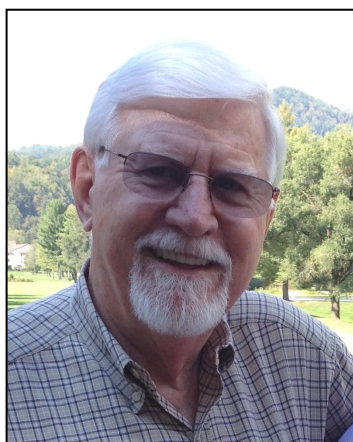
ARF NOTES

PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY
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WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.CSUN.EDU/ARF](http://www.csun.edu/arf)



**President's
Message:
Ron McIntyre**

Welcome to my second "President's Message."

I hope you've all renewed your **ARF** memberships and returned your information forms. The **ARF** membership roster will be printed in November based on the renewals and information we've then received. Preparing and mailing the renewal and recruitment letters and information forms (personalized for each recipient), and processing the information returned, are huge tasks. I thank Membership Chair Diane Schwartz, Database Manager Larry Caretto, and Treasurer Dan Blake for doing these jobs so well.

We ask for your help in recruiting new **ARF** members. Please tell your retired colleagues about **ARF** and, if they're interested, direct them to our website and ask Diane Schwartz for further information. Also bear in mind that **ARF** is more inclusive than you may have realized. In addition to retired CSUN full-time faculty (including those in FERP) and retired CSUN part-time faculty with PERS benefits, others with faculty associations, including retired CSUN administrators and staff and retired faculty from other colleges and universities may, with approval of the **ARF** Board, be invited to join. **ARF** has many valued members from these additional categories, and the Board would appreciate your help in identifying prospective members; please contact any Board member with your suggestions.

There have been two changes to the **ARF** Board membership. Max Lupul, due to health complications, has had to resign his Board position as Webmaster. This is a tremendous blow to **ARF**, which has been dependent on Max for many things and for many years. He served as Treasurer from 1999-2011, doing double-duty as database creator and manager, and has been our masterful Webmaster since 2011. He's also been **ARF**'s unofficial photographer; most of the photos on the website and many in the newsletters were taken by Max. Our greatest concern, of course, is for Max himself. We hope his health improves and we wish him and Ruth all the best.

Dorena Knepper had to resign her member-at-large position due to an unresolvable conflict with the Board meeting schedule. Fortunately, Karen Robinette has agreed to complete the first year of this two-year position, with the second year to be filled by election in the spring.

My last "Message" noted that the Faculty Senate was considering revisions to the sections of the CSUN *Administrative Manual* regarding "Emeritus Rights and Privileges." I'm pleased to report that the revised policy adopted by the Senate incorporates all of **ARF**'s suggestions; you'll find it on p. 2 in this newsletter.

In September, our Wednesday speaker series featured an engaging talk by CSUN faculty emerita Elyce Wakerman, and our October speaker was Robin Abcarian, well-known columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*.

Reports on these programs may be found on page 4 of the newsletter. Next up is Amir Hussain, former CSUN Religious Studies professor, now at Loyola Marymount University, on "Muslims in America" (November 9th). I hope to see you there!

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NEWS FROM CSUN

CSUN Marketing Professors Launch Campaign to Teach Elementary and Middle Schoolers About Online Privacy

The Youth-Driven Information Privacy Education Campaign (YDIPEC) was launched in August to help young people and their parents learn to safeguard their privacy online. The campaign is the culmination of a year-long grant awarded to California State University, Northridge marketing professors Kristen Walker and Tina Kiesler.

CSUN Marine Biology Team Joins NASA-Funded Global Initiative to Study Coral Reefs of the Pacific



California State University, Northridge marine biology professor Bob Carpenter is among a team of 20 international researchers and engineers who are taking NASA on a voyage to the depths of the ocean as part of a \$15 million, three-year project to go where no NASA technology has gone before. Carpenter explained that the project, known as the Coral Reef Airborne Laboratory (CORAL), could have momentous effects on the way Earth's oceans are explored in the future. CORAL uses spectrometers created by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena that are generally used on the Mars Rovers. Spectrometers are placed on a plane to take aerial photos of the reefs while a dozen scientists are scuba diving at the same location and making measurements of the coral ecosystems. Carpenter explained the project is expected to provide more coverage of coral reefs than any other project he has ever done.

Revised Policy on Emeriti Rights and Privileges Approved by Faculty Senate

650.3 Emeritus Status.

5. Rights and Privileges. When University resources

permit, faculty members gaining Emeritus status at California State University, Northridge, will continue to enjoy the rights and perquisites of members of the faculty that are allowed by University and State regulations. Basic rights and privileges accorded to Emeritus Faculty will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- A. An Emeritus Faculty identification card issued by the President of the University.
- B. A library card allowing full use of the University Library, including interlibrary loans, and any special faculty facilities in the Library, including study carrels.
- C. A lifetime courtesy campus parking permit.
- D. Complimentary or discounted admission to University-sponsored cultural events and ticketed regular season home athletic events, subject to availability.
- E. Notification about major public ceremonies of the University, such as commencement, dedications, open houses, convocations, and the like, and the right to participate, subject to availability.
- F. Complimentary subscriptions to selected publications of the University.
- G. Courtesy membership or access to University recreational facilities.
- H. Listing in the campus telephone directory and the University Catalog. Individuals who wish to opt out of being listed should contact the Office of Faculty Affairs for information on the opt-out process.
- I. The right to administer grants, contracts, or other research projects funded by resources outside the CSU System. Office and/or laboratory space allocated by Colleges or individual Departments after all space needs of their active faculty members have been met.
- J. Access to University electronic mail and University computing facilities and information technology resources.
- K. Upon request, and after the needs of the Department's active faculty have been met, a Department faculty mailbox. The mailbox will be used in accordance with the rules and procedures established by individual departments,

President of the University, Associated Students, and/or other individuals and agencies.

650.4 Rights and Privileges Extended to Surviving Life Partners.

The University extends to surviving life partners of Emeritus Faculty those rights and privileges listed in Sections 650.3.5.a through 650.3.5.g and in Section 650.3.5.m in the Administrative Manual.

Barbara Swerkes' Faculty Senate Report to the ARF Executive Board – October 19, 2016, selected items.

Active Shooter Awareness Website and Video
Chief Anne Glavin provided the first main report to the senate. She reported that a new Active Shooter website and short video is now available on the DPS website. Faculty were encouraged to show the short video in their classes. The objective is to help people learn to protect themselves.

Selections from President Harrison's Report:

CSUN has 9,000 new students: 4,500 freshmen and 4,500 transfer students. Total enrollment is about 40,000. With impaction in place for Fall 2016 we overshot our target for lowering enrollment by about 3,000, and will have to back off of some of the impaction. Also noted, there are a few hundred fewer international students enrolled which results in a loss to the campus of about \$1 million for every 100 down.

The campus is working with Metro on public transportation. Metro is offering a Metro U-Pass discount for students, which is considerably less than what students have paid in the past. It has tripled ridership in the first three weeks. Metro is also offering more busses with schedules later in the evening.

Auditors are monitoring financial aid. Campuses have been asked to share how they ensure whether or not students are actually attending classes. If this issue is not resolved, it could result in campuses having to give back a substantial amount of money.



EMERITI NEWS

Don Cameron (University Administration) and his wife Cathy have moved to University Village, a retirement com-

munity in Thousand Oaks.

Roger Carraso (Political Science) published a book, *Letters the New York Times Did Not Publish*, available at Amazon.com

Mary Ann Danin (Art) is enjoying the cool northern California weather in Marin County, and expecting to have a cooler winter. Everything is still green with patches of yellow.

Aurelio de la Vega (Music) has continued to receive international accolades celebrating his 90 years, and his seven decades of continuous musical creativity. His compositions have been played the world over by major symphony orchestras, chamber music ensembles, instrumentalists, and singers. During the 2015-2016 concert season, concerts in his honor featuring his music have taken place in Los Angeles, New York, Miami, Barcelona, Dresden and Buenos Aires. On October 9th at CSUN a major concert featured his music. Besides six of his works, the concert included works by past students and a colleague written in his honor.

Joseph (Tony) Gardner (Library) toured China in July with Legends of China, a group sponsored by the University of California. In August he attended a workshop on an al-Andalusian Islamic binding in Montefiascone, Italy.

Ellen Mayer (Counseling) continues to lead exciting trips throughout Asia. Find out about upcoming trips at www.asian-odysseys.com or email Ellen at asiano-dysseys@gmail.com. She and a group just returned from Borneo, Malaysia, and Bali. An upcoming trip to India is booking now.

Jim McMartin (Psychology) published the second edition of his textbook *Personality Psychology: a Student-Centered Approach*. After reading a review of it on amazon.com, the publisher (SAGE, Thousand Oaks) recommends that this book be read by everyone with a personality.

Steven Oppenheimer (Biology) is a U.S. Presidential Award Recipient, a Fellow of AAAS, editor of *Acta Histochemica* (Elsevier), a CSU System Trustees Outstanding Professor, and Director of the Center for Cancer and Developmental Biology. His wife Carolyn is a bird watch leader, and they both enjoy swimming daily.

Helen Saltman (widow of Ben Saltman, English). Thirty-two previously unpublished poems by Benjamin Saltman, professor emeritus from CSUN (d.1999)

are included in a new edition of *The Book of Moss* published by Nicholas Campbell at Garden St. Press. Nick found these poems in letters that Ben had sent him.

David Serle is still living at Sun Lakes, Banning, California.



IN MEMORIAM

Joan Baca (wife of **Al Baca**, **Modern and Classical Languages and Literature**) passed away on September 18th, 2016. Joan earned an M.A. in Education from CSUN in 1958 and married Al in the same year. She taught for many years in the Burbank school system and was a highly effective principal at the George Washington School. She also taught at CSUN in the Department of Elementary Education. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Doctors Without Borders or Best Friends Animal Sanctuary located in Utah.

Francis Camilleri (Sociology) died on Feb 29th, 2016. His wife Barbara notified us of his death, and plans to remain active in **ARF**. We urge you to offer her your condolences and encouragement.

Ruth Horgan (Computer Science) passed away in her sleep on September 2nd, 2016 at the age of 93. She initially taught mathematics at CSUN, but joined the Computer Science Department in 1975 as one of the first faculty members of that new department, and retired in 1991. Ruth also served in the Marines, and worked at UCLA coding an early digital computer (SWAC) of the National Bureau of Standards. She requested no public services or events.

Joseph Schieffer (Secondary Education) passed away on April 20th, 2016 in San Diego. He was born on October 9th, 1927 in Connecticut. Joseph earned his M.A. from Columbia and his Ph.D. from

Arizona. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Schieffer (Shirleyschieffer@gmail.com). Please offer her your condolences.

REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS PROGRAMS

September 14th, Elyce Wakerman

On September 14th, retired CSUN English faculty member **Elyce Wakerman** discussed her latest book *A Tale of Two Citizens*. A work of fiction, the book is based at least in part on Elyce's own family and their emigration experience in the 1930s. While reading us passages from her novel, Elyce added facts from the true story of her own family. Research of her family history had led her to Poland and the discovery of the Christian family who shared home and hearth with her Jewish ancestors before they left for America. It is a fascinating story about the trials of immigrants in troubling times. The suffering and confusion of migrants were also reflected in responses by **ARF** members present who themselves have left the "old world." Elyce is a strong and engaging writer. Several members had her autograph their copies of her book. *Alyce Akers*.

October 19th, Robin Abcarian

ARF members who couldn't attend **Robin Abcarian's** presentation on Wednesday, October 19th missed a dynamite presentation on journalism, the role of women professionals in the press, the future of print media, stories from the three presidential elections she's covered, and the workings of the "back room" of America's second largest newspaper.

Her eloquence and wit enchanted the participants. Her quick and open honesty disarmed us. This was what we expect in an **ARF** presentation: fresh, important information, strong answers to questions, and intense fun. Abcarian currently writes the "California Journal" section for the *Los Angeles Times*, where she has served as a columnist, reporter and editor. Still youthful and in the prime of her remarkable career, she has worked for the *Detroit Free Press*, for radio, and (many years) for the *Los Angeles Times*. In response to her energy, knowledge and humor the room echoed with laughter and cheers. *Patrick Nichelson*.

Note: Robin is the daughter of Richard Abcarian, Faculty Emeritus in the CSUN English Dept.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

November 9th, Amir Hussain

Dr. Amir Hussain is our speaker for November 9th. Amir taught at CSUN from 1997 to 2005, and he returns to talk about his latest book, *Muslims and the Making of America* (Baylor U. Press). In the national election, a key issue has been the place of the American Muslim community. The book examines the long history of Muslims in our country, and discusses the contributions that Muslims have made to America. Dr. Hussein is now a Professor, Department of Theological Studies, Loyola Marymount, and from 2011 to 2015, was the editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (Oxford U. Press), the premier scholarly journal for the study of religion. To hear a dynamic recent interview with Amir on KPCC FM's 'Second Take' go to this URL:

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/take-two/2016/10/17/52729/amir-hussain-on-muslims-and-the-making-of-america/>

January Banquet

Our annual banquet will be held on January 14th, 2017 in the Orange Grove Bistro. Entertainment is to be announced; watch for emails and postcards about the event. The banquet always provides a good venue for meeting with friends, partaking of a delicious meal, and enjoying the after dinner entertainment. NeedleArf (our sewing and craft interest group) will also be displaying lovely handmade items for sale. We hope to see you there!



FILM GROUPS

Seven members of the **Monday Film Group** gathered at the home of Mary Corcoran in September to discuss *Jason Bourne*, the fifth in the action spy thriller series,

and *Cafe Society*, Woody Allen's latest film.

The reviews on *Jason Bourne* were mixed, as some enjoyed all of the action, while others lamented the endless car chases and the high decibel sound. Generally, the consensus was that the movie was okay, but not great. Some members thought it was confusing in parts, and had difficulty distinguishing the good guys from the bad. Others liked all of the special effects--noting in particular a spectacular (if not particularly believable), heart-pounding car chase and smash-up that takes place on the Las Vegas Strip.

The acting was also praised--Matt Damon as Bourne has the role down pat now--and Tommy Lee Jones, as the evil and corrupt CIA Director Richard Dewey, perfectly embodied those qualities. One member thought Alicia Vikander was at the top of her form in displaying the nuances and layers of internal conflict between her loyalty to Dewey and the Agency and her dedication to what's right and just, while another member thought her character was manipulative and not well-defined by the actress. Most members who had seen earlier Bourne films thought that they were better than this latest one--causing one member to wonder if the series wasn't getting a little long in the tooth. Members ranked this film at 7.0.

Cafe Society was described as a poignant comedy, not one of Woody Allen's top 10 best films, but not one of his worst either. Although Allen doesn't appear in the movie, his fingerprints are all over it--and his voice is heard as the narrator. The film takes place in the 1930s, with half of the action in Hollywood and the other half in New York, following the fortunes of Bobby Dorfman (a superb Jesse Eisenberg), a New York Jew who moves to California to follow his dream of being involved in some way with Hollywood and the movies. Members thought both locations (and sets) were captured well and believably depicted. Of special note was the opening scene, poolside at a Beverly Hills mansion, which members thought accurately reflected the Hollywood look and sound of the era. One member commented on the contrast between the New York row houses, filmed in subdued tones, and the Beverly Hills mansions, filmed in very bright light. Several members mentioned the music, fabulous as always. Praise was also given to the 1930s cars and clothes, with some members recalling that look as youngsters. The only criticism was a bizarre episode involving the main

character's brother--a mobster who murders as though it was just a regular day job. He is ultimately caught and gets the electric chair (which is pictured), a development which several members felt did not fit with the rest of the movie. Allen directed the film and wrote the script, and several members observed that the dialogue was--"quintessential Woody," both funny and clever. One member particularly liked a line that is uttered by Allen in his usual whiny, cynical tone at the end of the film, "Live each day as though it will be your last, and one day it will be." Members gave this film an 8.4 rating. *Dorena Knepper*.

Editor's note: Dorena will be resigning as reporter for the Monday Film Group as of this issue. I would like to thank her for her contributions over the years, providing prompt, entertaining, and insightful reviews.



BOOK GROUPS

For the months of August and September the **Tuesday Book Group** read Robert A. Caro's long and wonderful book, *Master of the Senate*, the third volume (published in 2002) in the biography, *The Years of Lyndon Johnson*. It has won many prizes and is well worth the time if you want to recall and put into context the people and events of those early years of our own political awareness. Caro's prodigious research, involving interviews with most everyone who knew Johnson as well as a vast number of printed sources, enabled him to flesh out vividly and subtly the complex characters of Johnson, Lady Bird, Eisenhower, Nixon, Stevenson, Richard Russell, Hubert Humphrey and numerous others.

The first part of the book is a history of the Senate, with great vignettes of its high point before the Civil War and its depths of corruption in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Senate was created by the framers with a mind to protect the minority from "the tyranny of the majority." However, it became an effective forum for the South to continue to resist according equal rights to black Americans fol-

lowing the Civil War.

While not the focus of this book, there is a review of LBJ's earlier life. His father, a consistent failure, inspired his son's ambitions. As a young man LBJ was a teacher and showed great compassion for poor Mexicans and blacks. As he grew older he entered politics and even in those early years he expressed clearly a goal of someday becoming President of the United States. He lost his first race because his opponent stuffed the ballots more. That did not happen again. He also acquired the lucrative backing of Brown & Root, a Texas energy and construction company that he would effectively serve to further the monopolies of big power companies.

LBJ's genius was to understand power, how to court it, build it and use it. He wooed three powerful political (and emotional) fathers: FDR, Sam Rayburn (long-time speaker of the House) and Richard Russell (leader of the South in the Senate). The support of these men and LBJ's political genius allowed him to become powerful very quickly. He was astute and ruthless; his personal charm and the stories he told won over many people; but he had no hesitation about lying and strong-arming senators to vote his way. The fact that he counted likely votes more carefully than anyone else prior to setting the timing of actual Senate voting was another reason he was so successful. While he had impulses to help the downtrodden, whenever his principles collided with his ambition and the cover he needed to serve important interests, ambition won. His personal style is well known but there are many accounts of cruelty and abuse of underlings that are still profoundly shocking. At the same time we all know that he did remarkable things: the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1965, Medicare & Medicaid, the War on Poverty, etc.

Read this book to find out the fascinating details of how this modern-day Machiavellian played his transformative role in our history. *Joel Zeitlin and Jim Allen*

The **Wednesday Book Group** met on October 5th at 1:30 to discuss *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. For November 2nd, at Joan Martin's house, we will be discussing *White Trash: The 400-year Untold History of Class in America* by Nancy Isenberg. *Linda Jones*.

The **Science Book Group** met on August 17th to discuss *Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us, from Missiles to the Moon to Mars* by Nathalia Holt. In attendance were Linda Jones, Phyllis Russell, Bill Hosek, Adam Gifford, and Heidemarie Lundblad. All of us enjoyed the book about the amazing women

who did the calculations that made space exploration possible. By following some of the women in detail, the author made clear the difficulties women experienced who insisted in combining a career with a family. As usual, the discussion may have started with the book but wandered off into a number of interesting areas, some related to current affairs. *Heidmarie Lundblad.*

The **Science Book Group** met again on September 21st at the home of Linda Jones. Those present were Verve Leps, Phyllis Russell, Bill Hosek, Adam Gifford, Mary Corcoran, Sandy Jewett and Linda Jones. The book discussed was *Finding Zero: A Mathematician's Odyssey to Uncover the Origins of Numbers* by Amir D. Aczel. Everyone enjoyed reading this book that delved into the concept for and numeral representing zero and where it came from. The zero is the most precious mathematical legacy we have from medieval times. Without it, modern mathematics would be unthinkable. In this delightful book Amir Aczel engagingly explains its importance, while recounting his search for the earliest representation of zero. *Linda Jones.*

The next meeting was October 26th at Linda's house. The date was moved due to a conflict with the **ARF** general meeting. The book for discussion at that meeting was Malcolm Gladwell's *David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants*. A report of this meeting will be in the next newsletter.

On November 16th, the group will meet at the home of Sandy Jewett to discuss *Lab Girl*, by Hope Jahren.



SCCARF
REPORT

The shaded patio at *King's Fish House* in the Calabasas Commons served as the lovely setting for twenty-five intrepid SCCARF diners on Thursday,

August 11th. Hosted by Dan Blake and Bonnie Ericson, our group was grateful for both the moderate temperatures and the free corkage. As usual, both conversation and food were most enjoyable, with the sand dabs, salmon, and macadamia nut crusted halibut among the dishes receiving strong reviews. The sixty extra dollars collected at the end of the evening (!) was contributed to the ARF Scholarship Fund. *Bonnie Ericson.*

In September the SCCARFers met at the *Odyssey Restaurant* in Granada Hills. Dining outdoors on the Skyline Patio was very enjoyable, with fine views of a sunset over the San Fernando Valley and much good conversation. The food, such as the braised short ribs, was delicious. My wife Nancy thought the jidori chicken breast was one of the best restaurant dinners she's ever had. After dark some guests got cold, but the staff tried to distribute the heat lamps as well as they could, a bit of a task considering they had not received their expected delivery of fuel. When Nancy and I left about 9 pm, one table was still very animated in conversation and, for all I know, may have closed the place down after midnight. *Jim Allen*

On October 18th twenty-four SCCARFERS enjoyed the old-fashioned American cuisine at the Smokehouse Restaurant in Burbank that was celebrating its Seventieth Anniversary. Founded in 1946, the Smokehouse is a walk back into the Post World War Two Movie and TV world, including red leather booths, celebrity photos and old movie posters. The Smokehouse is right across the street from Warner Studios. Celebrants felt that Jane Russell or Bob Hope might walk by any moment. As a tribute to the artistic and popular communities that have supported the restaurant for seven decades, the dinner menu came with seven-dollar bottles of wine and entrees at 1946 prices (or at least close). What a treat to step back into time and enjoy the companionship of our colleagues! Service and food were wonderful. Several SCCARFERS plan to bring other friends and family to the Smokehouse. *Alyce Akers and Pat Nichelson.*

The SmokeHouse Prime Rib

A Smoke House Specialty since 1946! The finest aged beef, slow roasted, served with horseradish. Regular cut, Smoke House Cut, King Cut.



ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2016—2017

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ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY

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