

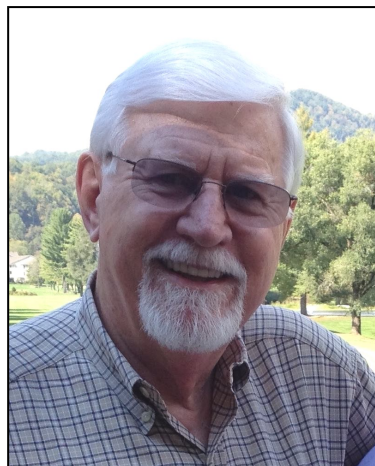
ARF NOTES

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

Our annual “Thank God the Holidays are Over” banquet was a huge success. We all enjoyed conversing with our friends and colleagues over a delicious dinner served by the Orange Grove Bistro. Our entertainment was provided by a three-piece jazz ensemble and vocalist – all students in the CSUN Music program – and had everyone talking about the talents of the musicians and how much we enjoyed the performance. The Program Committee, led by Alyce Akers, deserves thanks and praise for putting together such a great evening. NeedleARF conducted its usual silent auction prior to the program, featuring artistic creations by its members and others. I’m told that the auction raised a record amount (\$1200) for the Memorial Graduate Project Awards fund (previously designated the “scholarship” fund).

Note: **ARF** “Graduate Project Awards” is a new name for what we have traditionally called **ARF** “Scholarships.” We have learned that CSUN deducts awards called “scholarships” from other student aid awards and so these awards do not at all improve a student’s financial situation. The intent of our awards is to provide additional support for graduate student research over and above whatever

is available from any other sources. Hence, our new name – and the importance of your support. (**Please save this date:** The awards luncheon, honoring the recipients, will be on Saturday, May 13th.)

Our own Heidemarie Lundblad (Professor *emeritus*, Accounting and Information Systems) was our Wednesday afternoon speaker for February. She gave an engaging and immensely informative talk about her experiences as ombudsman for Ventura County assisted-living facilities. Hers was a timely talk for all of us, as we face our own uncertain futures and those of our loved ones.

Like Heidemarie, our upcoming March speakers demonstrate that “retired” faculty does not mean retired from community and academic involvement. On March 8th, James Allen and Eugene Turner (Professors *emeriti*, Geography) will describe the update of their award-winning 1997 book, *The Ethnic Quilt*. Come early for this presentation and have lunch with us at the Bistro if you can.

Let me remind you, too, of the ARF field trip on Thursday, April 6th, to the Nethercutt Museum in Sylmar, <http://www.nethercuttcollection.org>. Details

about lunch and transportation will be forthcoming.

ARF will be electing officers at the June 3rd general meeting and picnic. Our Nominating Committee consists of Patrick Nicholson, Diane Schwartz, and Cathy Jeppson. Please let any of them know if you would like to run for a position.

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NEWS FROM CSUN

President Dianne Harrison and Provost Li Yi dig in during the groundbreaking for Research Building 1

New CSUN Research Building:

When California State University, Northridge formalized research as one of the University's seven priorities in 2012, even the most optimistic member of the campus community could hardly have imagined the impact. In 2016, the journal *Nature* named CSUN a Top 25 Rising Star for scientific research, along with Stanford, Carnegie Mellon and NASA. CSUN was the only public university in California on the list. On Feb. 7th, CSUN took the first step toward even greater research success with the groundbreaking of the 10,000-square-foot Research Building 1.

Sited adjacent to Laurel Hall and slated to provide dedicated flexible and reconfigurable research space, Research 1 will enable and encourage multidisciplinary research teams of faculty and students to collaborate on a wide variety of projects. It will be the home for faculty from research clusters focused on materials science and health disparities.

New Associate Vice President:

Dr. Daisy Lemus has been appointed to the position of Associate Vice President, Faculty Affairs, effective immediately. Dr. Lemus is a Professor in the Department of Communication Studies and has been at CSUN since 2005. She has served on a wide variety of campus committees, including the Educational Policies Committee, Educational Equity Committee, Honorary Degree Committee, NCAA Accreditation Governance and Compliance Committee, WASC Subcommittee, CAMC Academic Council, and was Associate Chair of her Department. In 2014, Dr. Lemus was appointed Senior Director for Academic Personnel, Faculty Affairs, and served in that position until February, 2016 when she was appointed Interim Associate Vice President, Faculty Affairs. In her position, Daisy brings extensive experience, expertise, and energy to

the Office of Faculty Affairs in our service to all faculty members at CSUN, and in furthering the mission and goals of the University.

CSUN-al Gardening Class: Container Vegetable Gardening:

On Saturday, March 25th, 9 - 11 a.m., popular garden designer Steve Gerischer will share his favorite methods and strategies of growing vegetables in containers. Along with enlightening us on his preferred container vegetables, Steve will provide details on container types, soil preparation, site selection, and seasonal variation. Registration for the free class begins Saturday, February 25th, and is required. E-mail botanicgarden@csun.edu to request a space in the class or for more information. Driving and parking instructions, as well as the class meeting location, will be sent upon registration.

Student Needs:

A Chancellor's Office study, reported in the *LA Times* last June, found that 10% of CSU students were homeless and that 20% had food insecurity. In response, CSUN has opened two food pantries to help students. One is run by the Matador Involvement Center and is located **behind the Campus Bookstore on Lindley/East Campus Drive**. The other is located at the **Women's Center on Halstead**. Both pantries aim to provide students with nutritious food as well as personal care items. A needs/wish list includes tuna, mac and cheese, apple sauce, oatmeal, peanut butter, nuts, etc. and also personal care items. If you'd like to make a monetary gift, the website is:

<https://givetostudentaffairs.csun.edu/>

Potential volunteers for the Matador Involvement Center food pantry can call Jerry De Felice at 818-677-3935, or email jd@csun.edu, or check out the website at <http://www.csun.edu/mic/csun-food-pantry>. For the Woman's Research and Resource Center food pantry, you can call Shira Brown at 818-677-2780 or email her at shira.brown@csun.edu for donation and volunteer information.

We ARF members have devoted much of our lives to improving the well-being of our students, and we know the many challenges they have had to overcome. Let's not let hunger be yet another barrier to CSUN students' success.

Alumni Scholarships:

Kenya Lopez is the CSUN AS Vice President and past recipient of the Dianne F. Harrison Leadership Award. She's also a Dreamer, a term given to students



in the U.S. with undocumented status. Kenya has excelled academically, and is one of many Dreamers who receive scholarships to help them fulfill their dreams of graduating from college. Photo by Lee Choo.

CSUN alumni have recognized the need to help these students achieve the American dream of graduating from college, working professionally and finding success. One example is Omar Velasco '00 (Journalism), who with his wife Argelia form the morning-radio tandem on K-LOVE 107.5 FM, *Omar y Argelia*, the top-rated morning show in Los Angeles in the Nielsen ratings for the past three consecutive months. Velasco's father had come to the United States as a part of the Bracero Program in the 1950s, which gave rights to farm workers in the country illegally. Velasco was born in Jalisco, Mexico, before coming to his new homeland as a teenager. He enrolled in San Fernando High School and came to CSUN after graduation. He's a U.S. citizen now and can empathize with the plight of the Dreamers. For the full article in *CSUN Today*, see the web site <http://csunshinetoday.csun.edu/university-news/living-the-american-dream/>

Proposed Speaker Series:

A group of Faculty is trying to start a speaker series that draws large audiences at CSUN. The idea is that a diversity of speakers will address topics of wide concern with visions for positive paths forward. Click here <https://sites.google.com/view/speakingupatsun/home> to view a list of potential speakers for whom we have pledges of partial support. Additional pledges of money or promises to otherwise make an event into a big success are needed: email paul.wilson@csun.edu. Retired faculty have been major supporters of past events, and if several such donors could band together, we could launch something very successful. *Paul Wilson, Biology.*

REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS PROGRAMS

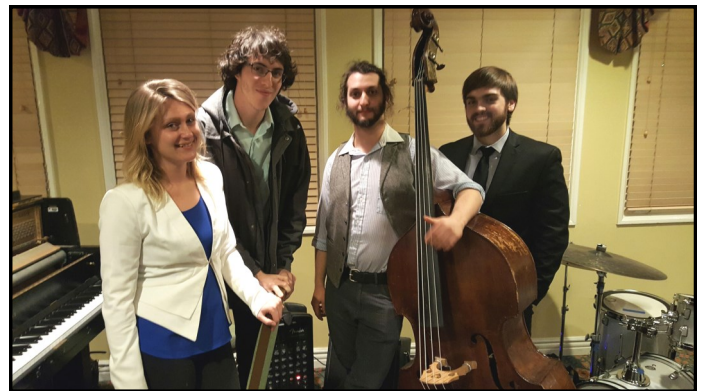
January Banquet, Saturday 14th

Sixty plus members and guests celebrated the end of the holiday season at the annual "Thank God the Holidays Are Over Banquet" on January 14th, 2017 at the Orange Grove Bistro.



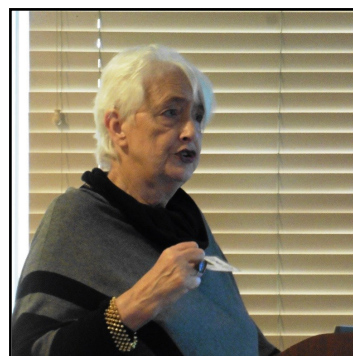
Nancy and Jim Allen, Bonnie Ericson, Dan Blake

The evening started with wine, conversation and perusal of NeedleARF silent auction items. Thanks to our very talented ARF artists, the silent auction earned \$1200 for our Memorial Awards. After a lovely dinner the members and guests were entertained by our remarkably talented CSUN Jazz students, *The Adam Hersh Trio* – Adam on piano, Jonathan Kirsh on bass, and Shaun Valentine on drums - and vocalist Kayla Somerville. The group performed such favorites as "It Could Happen to You," "All to Myself," "Angel Eyes"



and many others. They were just terrific!

One sad note: This may be the last ARF "Thank God the Holidays Are Over Banquet" to be held at the Orange Grove Bistro, which is scheduled to be closed sometime after October 2017. *Alyce Akers.*



ARF Program, Wednesday, February 8th

Heidemarie Lundblad delivered a very interesting and thought provoking talk entitled "Long Term

Care Ombudsman – Joys and Tribulations.” She has been a Long Term Care Ombudsman with the Ventura County Program for the past six years. As in the announcement, her presentation discussed ombudsman training and certification, and she shared many illustrations of the “joys and tribulations” she’s encountered during her visits to various facilities. Heidemarie did an excellent job explaining the differences between Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing facilities. As an ombudsman she addresses concerns about quality of care in Skilled Care Nursing facilities in Ventura County. These include possible financial abuse; and suspected physical, mental or emotional abuse of residents in these facilities. The Ombudsman service can provide: information on choosing a nursing home, assistance in receiving quality care, an advocate for you or your loved one’s rights within the facility, or someone to investigate and resolve your complaints within the facility.

One thing that Heidemarie emphasized was that Advanced Health Care Directives may not get the patient the results that were intended, so you must carefully write the directive, and have a family member or representative make sure the Directive is carried out as written. She stated that sometimes an emergency room doctor does not follow the directive, and thus may start procedures that cannot be stopped once begun and cause financial and personal burden to the patient and family.

Both Medicare and Medicaid fund Long Term Care. Heidemarie also explained how to beat the system when Medicare funding runs out and the skilled nursing facility no longer keeps the patient. Why does this happen? Because Medicaid pays a lower rate per patient, the facilities don’t want to keep the patient. It all about money! A patient must be readmitted to a hospital, and stay for at least 3 days for Medicare to resume coverage for the patient’s care.

So my question to you is: Are you looking for something to do during your retirement years? Well, maybe you should think about “volunteering” to be an Ombudsman, because there is no funding or pay for this Federal and State mandated program. However, somebody has to do it! Talk to Heidemarie, as she finds the experience to be fun, satisfying and always educational. Sometimes we exist in such a bubble, and she found it amazing what new things you can learn in these facilities by interacting and problem-solving with residents, families and staff. *Karen Robinette.*

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 8th Wednesday Program

On March 8th, 2:00 p.m. at the CSUN Orange Grove Bistro, Northridge Room, James Allen and Eugene Turner will

describe the recent online update of their award-winning 1997 book, *The Ethnic Quilt*. This new publication covers the 34 largest ethnic and racial groups in Los Angeles County and its surrounding four counties. Jim and Gene used 2010 data from the U.S. census to map group distributions and numerical changes over the preceding two decades, and to analyze certain characteristics. Local audiences have found their maps and other results both original and very interesting, helping people appreciate the wider context of their own lives. Professors Allen and Turner received their PhDs from Syracuse University and the University of Washington, respectively, and each taught for over thirty years in CSUN’s Geography Department.

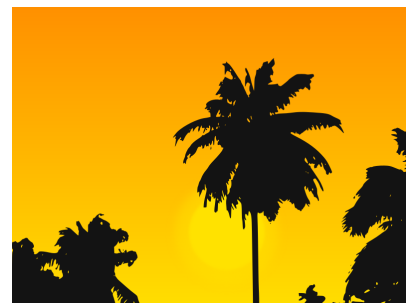
April 6th Thursday Field Trip

For our annual Field Trip we will be visiting the Nethercutt Museum and Collection in San Fernando. The Nethercutt is one of the top five automobile museums in the United States and has an outstanding collection of musical instruments as well. Meet the bus at the corner parking lot on Lassen and Lindley at 10:45 am. Lunch will be at El Presidente Restaurant on Sepulveda Blvd and Rinaldi at members' expense. Entrance to the museum is free, and the Docent led tour is at 1:30 pm.

May 13th Saturday Memorial Luncheon. ARF Memorial Graduate Projects Awards luncheon. Honor our students and hear about their incredible research.

June 3rd Saturday Picnic

ARF Picnic and General Meeting, always a good time to meet with old friends and colleagues, and vote for the slate of officers for the coming year.



IN
MEMORI-
AM

Abe Feinberg (Systems and Operations Management). Vicki Feinberg has informed us

that Abe died on Friday, Jan 20th. He was a valuable and effective member of his department, the faculty, and of the Faculty Senate, especially in his role on the Personnel Planning and Review Committee. His funeral was held on January 23rd at Mt. Sinai Memorial Park in Simi Valley.

Carol Kelly (Child and Adolescent Development).

Carol's sister informed us that she passed away in the evening of Friday, February 10th after a brief illness. She had fluid in her lungs and may have also have had congestive heart failure, but that is not confirmed. Carol began her CSUN career in 1969, and provided key leadership in developing and implementing the interdisciplinary program in child development, working across and beyond campus to strengthen the program — which later became the Department of Child and Adolescent Development. Having established a legacy through her teaching, she continued to mentor students and alumni as a professor emeritus. Last year, she received the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award from the Association for Child and Youth Care Practice at the 33rd FICE (International Federation of Educative Communities) Congress in Vienna in August.

The scheduled Feb. 25th Child and Adolescent Development Professional Development Workshop was changed into the "CADV Alumni Gathering in Remembrance of Dr. Carol Kelly." She will be cremated and probably interred in Ohio where she is from.

Irene Thorsell (Library) passed away on December 2nd, 2016. She primarily worked as a cataloger, and received her B.A. in 1952 from the University of Illinois, and her M.L.S. in 1961 from the University of Southern California. She started at CSUN (then San Fernando Valley State College) in 1961, and continued working here until her retirement in 1993.

Donald Lund Raun (Accounting and Information Systems) died on December 3rd, 2016 at the age of 94. He was born in 1922 in Oakland, Calif., and after attending UCLA he entered the service during World War II, hoping to be a pilot. Having failed the eye exam, he became an instructor in radio repair for the rest of his military career. Towards the end of the war he met and married Carol, and completed his MBA at Stanford University. Beginning his teaching career at Washington State University, he was in 1953 offered a position at the predecessor of San Fernando Valley State College, and remained here until his retirement. Roles at CSUN included serving as Department Chair of Business and

Economics, spearheading the development of the first Computer Center in the CSU system, and writing many articles and textbooks. During tax season each year Don would keep busy in his spare time servicing clients as a CPA, and in the summers would spend time in Yosemite, hiking and rafting. Don is survived by his wife or close to 70 years, Carol, 3 children, 13 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

Ruth Schrier (Art). A celebration of the life of Ruth Schrier will be held on Saturday, March 4th from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Studio City 12355 Moorpark Street, Studio City.



FILM GROUPS

The Monday Film

Group met on December 19th at the home of Peggy Steiner to discuss *Moonlight* and *Doctor Strange*. *Moonlight* follows the journey of Chiron, a gentle young black man as he comes of age in the rough environment of the Miami ghettos. The film treats three distinct periods in Chiron's life and uses three different actors to portray him. The group felt that the casting was excellent and that Alex Hibbert, who played the withdrawn Chiron as a child, did an excellent job. The role of Juan, Chiron's childhood mentor, was played by Mahershala Ali and was exceptional. Also, the role of Chiron's abusive drug addict mother, Paula, was very well played by Naomi Harris. This coming of age story was filmed on a small budget and as a result some of the filming seemed a little "choppy" but the emotional power of the film more than made up for these minor technical weaknesses. The dialogue seemed very realistic and there was little criticism of the script except to note that transitions between the three phases of the film were somewhat abrupt. Although the majority of the club members liked the film it was given an overall rating of 7.4 out of 10.

We also discussed *Doctor Strange*, a SciFi/Fantasy film from Marvel Studios. Benedict Cumberbatch as Dr. Stephen Strange had the central role in the film as an eminent surgeon who loses all agility in his fingers in a car accident and seeks healing from "The Ancient

One” played by Tilda Swinton. Under her tutelage Dr. Strange develops in to a powerful wizard and becomes involved in the eternal struggle between good and evil.

The group generally felt that the film was well acted and technically excellent. In particular the computer graphics, showing a world with topsy-turvy geometry, where walls become floors was viewed as very well done. The plot was complex and somewhat difficult to follow for club members not well versed in the SciFi/Fantasy genre. Once Dr. Strange obtains his “powers” the action becomes “cartoonish” in that great violence did not always have realistic consequences. The club member reactions to this film were somewhat polarized. The club gave the film an overall rating of 7.2 out of 10. *David Schwartz*

The **Second Tuesday Film Group** met on January 10th at 2:00 p.m. at Elizabeth Schneider’s home. We discussed *La La Land*, and overall the group rated the movie at a 9.5 out of 10. The movie was really a Love Letter to Los Angeles and Hollywood. The director, Damian Chazelle, researched musical and dance comedy through the Hollywood past. He listened to and watched *Singing in the Rain* to get the beat of dance, comedy and music. He took his cues from Fred Astaire to Jacques Demy bringing energy and life to the film. Set in Los Angeles as the backdrop for the movie, the story focuses on two aspiring young people in love and following their dreams. Emma Stone (Mia) is an aspiring young actress hoping to become a star and Ryan Gosling is a dedicated jazz musician chasing his dream. The location shot of the dancing on the cars was taken on the 405 Freeway, shut down for this particular sequence! In spite of the fact that the romance falls by the wayside, movie goers will go away with tears in their eyes and a song in their hearts. *Christine Smith*.

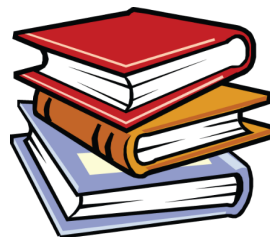


SCCARF REPORT

On November 13th, the SCCARF group spent a delightful evening at the *CF Food Kitchen* in Granada Hills. Edwing Flores, the eatery’s owner and chef, was trained at the Culinary Institute of America and his menu selections reflected a mastery of his craft. The

filet mignon steaks and seared scallops received rave reviews and folks who ordered the Cajun fried catfish reported it an outstanding entree. In contrast, one attendee who opted for the breaded and fried alligator said, “...another menu item would likely be my choice...” on a future visit. All entrees included an appetizer and dessert, with many selections among them, and were moderately priced. Most of those in attendance rated the food quality and service as excellent, a rarity for a small, non-descript restaurant tucked into the corner of a strip mall. (*Sandy Jewett*)

Did you miss it? Too bad! *The Great Greek* in Sherman Oaks—SCCARF’s December culinary target of choice—provided a fantastic outing. With seven years on the dining circuit and untried Valley eateries few and far between, we elected a repeat visit to an old favorite. And it proved a memorable choice. As before, the food was authentic and excellently prepared, the ambiance historically interesting, and the service prompt and personal. And there was music! “The entertainment was great,” said one attendee, “but by evening’s end those seated near the musicians were suffering a bit of tinnitus.” Best of all, said one diner, “the camaraderie was extraordinary and the conversation delightful.” Indeed, said another, the evening was “just plain fun!” (Oh, check out the photo of three members of this gastronomic excursion published in January’s *ARF Notes*; though this write up was delayed by our involvement in too many holiday events, the photo, at least, was published in a timely manner.) (*Rich and Brenda Ruggiero*)



BOOK GROUPS

On February 1st the **Wednesday Book Group** discussed *David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants*, by Malcolm Gladwell. On March 1st, the group will meet at Chris Smith’s house at 1:30 to discuss *Rabbit is Rich*, by John Updike. Please contact Linda Jones if you are interested in attending this group. *Linda Jones*.

The **Science Book Group** met at in the Oviatt

library's conference room on January 18th. In attendance were Phyllis Russell; Sandy Jewett; Bill Hosek; Adam Gifford; Elzbieta Trybus; and Heidemarie Lundblad.

We discussed *The Invention of Nature: The Adventures of Alexander Von Humboldt, the Lost Hero of Science* by Andrea Wulf (2016). We agreed that the book is a very readable and useful reminder of the many areas of science and even politics touched by Humboldt's discoveries and insights. Humboldt attempted to demonstrate the interconnectedness of all life on earth and illustrated this in his "Naturgemaelde" also known as the Chimborazo Map which includes a cross section of the volcano and detailed data on plants at all altitudes. Once again, it became obvious that certain books lose some of their impact when read in paperback or e-book format. Some of the illustrations were simply not available and/or not clear enough. The author discussed at length Humboldt's influence on scientists like Darwin, philosophers (Thoreau) politician, revolutionary Bolivar, and influential naturalist Muir to illustrate the breadth of Humboldt's integrative approach.

At our next meeting on February 15th, 2017 we will discuss: *The Pentagon's Brain: An Uncensored History of DARPA, America's Top-Secret Military Research Agency*, by Annie Jacobsen.

For the March 15th meeting we selected: *The Drunkard's Walk: How Randomness Rules Our Lives*, by Leonard Mlodinow, and on April 19th we will discuss *The Social Conquest of Earth*, by Edward O. Wilson, Both are available in hardcover, paperback, kindle, and audio. *Heidemarie Lundblad*.

The **Tuesday Book Group** met in February to discuss *Alexander Hamilton*, a biography by Ron Chernow. Chernow has created a vivid and compelling portrait of Hamilton's life in the larger context of his time. The reader gets a gripping sense of the major political and economic issues alive from the time of the American Revolution to 1804, when he finally died at age forty-nine after being shot by Aaron Burr in their famous duel. The book has over 700 pages, but Chernow's thorough research and clear writing made it a fascinating story.

In his early adult years Hamilton was a military captain in the Revolutionary War and an esteemed advisor to George Washington. Washington valued Hamilton's talents so much that he kept him as his only consultant, deputy and ghostwriter until late in the war and only

then finally gave him the commission that Hamilton had lobbied for over and over. After the war Hamilton became an attorney and ultimately Secretary of the Treasury, showing a propensity for leadership and argument that made him indispensable in the formative years of our country. His writing and speaking skills outshone those of other early national leaders like Jefferson and Adams, adding to their resentment of his ideas. Indeed, Hamilton's fatal flaw was his inability to resist an argument or ignore a slight.

While not ever being president, Hamilton had more influence on the actual form of our government than any other person. He campaigned for a constitutional convention after we had won the Revolutionary War but were "losing the peace". The states were not paying their debts and were becoming more self-interested and separate—the union was falling apart. He wrote the majority of the Federalist Papers, which effectively argued for the ratification of the new constitution and provided the authoritative explanation and justification for many contested aspects. He championed a strong central government that could overrule states, federal assumption of states' wartime debts so that soldiers could finally be paid, and creation of a national army. He argued convincingly for creation of a central bank which would collect duties on foreign goods, provide credit to American businesses, and encourage American economic competition with the British. He saw the mistake in remaining a predominantly agricultural nation while continuing to import manufactured goods from Britain.

Hamilton married a loving woman from a wealthy Hudson Valley family, Eliza, who bore him eight children, was a fine wife and mother, and ended up living a half century after his death. Hamilton never seemed to us to have received from later generations the appreciation and respect that we, and many others, feel he deserved. This book will, we think, help to elevate his reputation appropriately.

The book inspired the Tony award winning musical *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda. An 11-minute video of Chernow talking about his involvement with that production can be seen at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1IO70ETmxwM>.

Joel Zeitlin and Jim Allen

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ARF NOTES

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

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NORTHRIDGE, CA 91328