

ARF NOTES

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

**CATHY
JEPPSON**

On behalf of the **ARF** Executive Board, I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope you have renewed your **ARF** memberships and returned your information forms. The **ARF** Membership Roster will be printed in early November based on the renewals and information we've received. This is a herculean task and a huge thank you goes to Membership chair Diane Schwartz, Database manager Larry Caretto and Treasurer Dan Blake for doing their jobs so well.

Our Wednesday Speakers' Series is off to a wonderful start. Our September speaker, Antonio Gallo, Esq., a Lecturer in Chicana/o Studies, gave a talk entitled "*Dreamers, DACA, and Immigration.*" The audience was deeply engaged with this colleague and immigration lawyer; they asked so many questions that the talk ran over for twenty minutes. In October, former Provost Harry Hellenbrand introduced our speaker Cynthia Rawitch, CSUN Professor Emeritus and journalist, who discussed "*'Fake News' and Other Issues in Journalism.*" The presentation and dialogue were simultaneously humorous and sobering.

Our speaker at 2:00 pm on November 14th will be Harold Goldwhite, Executive Director of CSU-ERFSA and Professor Emeritus, Chemistry, CSULA. His talk is titled "*Under the Microscope: Forensic Science in Mystery Fiction.*" Prior to Harold's presentation, **ARF** will hold its silent auction to

benefit the Memorial Graduate Student Awards, beginning at Noon and closing promptly at 2:00 p.m. This auction is one of the major ways that we fund our Student Awards. If you are not staying for the speaker, you may pick up your items after the auction ends or do so after the speaker finishes. I hope to see you there.

CSU-ERFSA, the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association, is the only organization that lobbies for us retired faculty at CalPERS, the Chancellor's office, the CSU Trustees and the Legislature. If you are not a member, **I urge you to join ERFSA.** This Association protects us, but there are many other membership benefits. One that I especially appreciate is their newsletter about constantly changing retirement rules, CSU policies that affect us retirees, and relevant legislative developments. The friendly, helpful state headquarters for ERFSA is on our CSUN campus in the CSU Retiree Center, Santa Susana Hall, First Floor. Phone: 818 677 6522. (Csu-erfa@csun.edu.) The Executive Director is Harold Goldwhite, emeritus CSULA, and our November speaker. The Office Manager is Melanie Mamakos. The office is open Monday through Wednesday 9:00 to 3:00, and Thursday 9:00 to 4:00. Call or email Melanie and she will answer questions, get you signed up as a full-fledged CSU ERFSA member, and send you important information and contacts about your retirement issues.

Enjoy your Fall Season!

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**NEWS
FROM
CSUN**

CSUN Professor Discovers Evidence for Ancient American Coastal Migration

An international team of archaeologists, including California State University, Northridge anthropology professor Matthew Des Lauriers, received a grant from National Geographic for efforts in unearthing evidence that dates the arrival of Ancestral Native Americans to at least 13,000 years ago, off the coast of Baja California, Mexico. What began as Des Lauriers' dissertation research is now providing insight into an area locals call "El Piedron" (The Rock), formally known as Cedros Island.

CSUN Diversity Award

California State University, Northridge has received the 2018 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. As a recipient of the annual HEED Award — a national honor recognizing United States colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion — CSUN will be featured, along with 95 other recipients, in the November 2018 issue of the magazine. This is the third year in a row that CSUN has been named a HEED Award recipient. There are a number of programs that demonstrate the University's commitment to diversity and inclusion, from CSUN's nearly 30-year-old Maximizing Access to Research Careers Undergrad Science Training and Academic Research (MARC U-STAR) program, which provides support to underrepresented undergraduate students who are interested in the biomedical sciences; to more recent programs such as Bridge to the Future, which provides a four-year, tuition-free education to 25 students from Canoga Park High School annually; and BUILD PODER (Building Infrastructure to Diversity and Promoting Opportunities for Diversity in Education and Research), which aims to increase diversity in biomedical research fields and prepare participants for Ph.D. programs.

Reports from Previous ARF Programs

ARF Program, Wednesday September 12th

The 2018-2019 ARF Guest Lecture Series was inaugu-

rated with a talk presented by our colleague from Chicana/Chicano Studies, Antonio Gallo. An active lawyer and member of both the campus and statewide chapter of CFA, Professor Gallo is the CFA AAUP representative for Southern California. Current events demanded that Professor Gallo address a range of issues, particularly those associated with immigration. Although he had originally planned to focus on the DACA issues that affect so many of our own students, Antonio turned his attention to the acute problems related to the separation of children from their parents, and the profoundly disturbing state of affairs regarding programs to locate the children and their parents and to reunite them. As of October 18th, the *Washington Post* reported that 245 children remained in the USA, and that 175 of these children had parents that were already deported.

In his talk, Professor Gallo observed that historically, the first generation of immigrants lays the foundation for successive generations. He noted his being part of a second generation, and that the quality of the public education system and institutional support at that time made it possible for him to reach his goal of being a practicing attorney, also active in the community with a number of organizations, including the Proyecto Pastoral at Dolores Mission and the successful Homeboy Industries. Gallo's law practice, in fact, provides advocacy for individuals and families whose civil rights are jeopardized—either in the public sector or the private sector. In fact, he'd noted that so much of what fuels the anti-immigrant sentiment—the perception that new immigrants were taking jobs from citizens—is wholly inaccurate. Data indicated that the jobs taken by immigrants—documented or not—are those that citizens will not pursue. And he joked that it was the offspring of immigrants, those who achieved the goals their parents had for them, who were "taking those jobs" It was "folks like me." The audience chuckled, clearly understanding that Professor Gallo had taken no one else's job; his perspective and acumen are not likely to be easily duplicated.

As informative and engaging the lecture was, the questions and conversation that it engendered almost eclipsed the talk itself, extending well-beyond the half hour point following it, and ranging over such topics as immigration, civil rights, the consequences that assaults on constitutional protections can have for minoritized populations, and, importantly, what the public can do. The final question came in the form of a request that Professor Gallo return for further discussion—sooner than later, and to that question, he answered "yes!" *Sharon Klein*

ARF Program, Wednesday October 10th

Harry Hellenbrand, retired Provost and English Professor at CSUN, introduced our presenter with some hilarious fake-news quips, starting with a reference to "UC Northridge." The Bistro's Northridge Room was filled to

capacity with Cynthia Rawitch's colleagues who were eager to hear about her investigations into "Fake News and Other Issues in Journalism." As she pointed out, Donald Trump had been President of the USA for almost two years and had effectively re-defined "fake news" as whatever he did not like. "Real news" was whatever he or Fox News reported. Fox had become a veritable State Medium. At the time of this ARF Presentation, variations of a frightening slogan from Twentieth and Twenty-First Century dictators, "Enemies of the People," were coming from our President's mouth and his Tweets. So the participants in the Northridge Room were *focused*. In the event they certainly were not disappointed. Cynthia is an engaging and winning speaker. Her erudition, the deep study she had given this subject over the past year, her decades of experience as a journalist, editor, professor and University administrator were all manifest. Cynthia's conclusions about the multiple causes of the present crisis (for example, the loss of newspaper readership, the growth of sarcasm on social media as the sole source of news) plus her suggested antidotes to the plague of "fake-news" (for example, critical -- **verify-it** -- thinking) helped produce a great ARF Presentation. After the session several participants remarked that they wished an audio record of her talk and the subsequent conversation had been made. Some participants had taken several pages of handwritten notes. Great gratitude to Cynthia for accepting this assignment and doing a splendid job with it!

Patrick Nichelson

Upcoming Programs

Good Chemistry! Wednesday November 14th Program, 2:00 pm, Orange Grove Bistro

Harold Goldwhite, professor emeritus of chemistry at Cal. State, Los Angeles where he continues to teach his popular history of chemistry course, will be guiding us through the investigative paths of scientific detectives in mystery fiction. Professor Goldwhite served as chair of his campus senate and was chair of the Academic Senate of the CSU. He also served as the Faculty Trustee on the Board of Trustees of the CSU for 5 years. He is currently executive Director of CSU ERFSA. His professional interest in the applications of science in the solving of crimes has led to his giving talks on scientific detectives in mystery fiction. Members are invited to begin questioning at lunch in the Orange Grove Bistro at 12:30 (*and see below, too!*)

The ARF Memorial Graduate Project Awards (MGPA) Program's annual Silent Auction is BACK!

Remember that this is a crucial fund-raising opportunity for the MGPA program, which itself is a major contribution of ARF to CSUN students, whom we celebrate at the May Brunch (We mark our calendars for the Brunch on May 11th, 2019--still at the Orange Grove Bistro.).

BUT! the Silent Auction doesn't only provide a service, it's also fun, and this year, it provides a wonderful opportunity

both to support the fund and to secure some extraordinary and unique gifts for the holiday season; we have a wonderful selection—crafts, jewelry, art pieces, and other gifts. **Bidding will begin at noon**, and bidders are welcome to lunch at the Bistro as they check on the bidding progress of their "objects of interest." **Bidding will end promptly at 2:00 pm, so final bids will need to be recorded before then.** Winning bidders who are unable to stay for Dr. Goldwhite's talk will be able to claim their items at 2:15. Other winning bidders can claim theirs immediately following the talk and discussion. As always, for successful bidders' loot, **ARF will accept personal check or cash (but no credit cards) at the auction's end.** Sharon Klein



In Memoriam

Van Dyk Buchanan (Elementary Education)

passed away in Santa Barbara, California on January 20th, 2018 at the age of ninety-six. He received his EDD from the University of California, Los Angeles in elementary education in 1966. Dr. Buchanan began his teaching career at CSUN (then San Fernando Valley State College) in 1969 in the Elementary Education Department. He retired from CSUN in 1983.

Joyce Hagen (Special Education) passed away on February 11th, 2018 at the age of 87. She received her B.A. in 1952 from Stanford, her M.A. in 1976 and Ph.D. in 1979 from UCLA...Joyce began teaching at CSUN (then San Fernando Valley State College) in 1970 in the Special Education Department, where she also served as Department Chair. She was preceded in death by her husband Richard and survived by 3 children, 4 stepchildren, 16 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Joseph J. Launie (Finance and Insurance) died on December 28th, 2017 at home in Santa Barbara following complications from smoke inhalation during a two-week evacuation associated with the Thomas Fire. Prof. Launie joined the business faculty of San Fernando Valley State College in September, 1965. Shortly after, he completed his Ph.D. in finance from UCLA.

Joe was a national leader in insurance research and education and for decades was one of the leading scholars in the College of Business and Economics. Author of numerous books and journal articles and a frequent speaker at academic and industry events, he was also the editor of the *Journal of Insurance Issues*, a member of the prestigious Risk Theory Seminar, and co-recipient of a Lohman Grant award applying chaos theory to the insurance underwriting cycle. Well known as a sailboat enthusiast and supporter of CSUN sailing activities, he

actively raced well into his retirement years. He received his emeritus status in June, 2002. Joe is survived by his wife Gillian.



Jerry Luadders (Music) passed away following a massive heart attack on Friday Oct. 5th.

Trained at the University of Michigan, Indiana University, Harvard University and the Paris Conservatory, Luadders first won critical national acclaim for his premier performances with the Minnesota Orchestra of Ricer-cari Notturmi, a concerto written for him by Stanislaw Srowaczewski. A subsequent performance at the Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C., won a Kennedy Center Friedheim Award. Exceptionally active as a saxophone soloist and recitalist, he performed extensively on five of the six major continents, and throughout the United States, and was featured on six compact discs as saxophone soloist or conductor.

His advocacy of new music and the world premieres of works written for him by Robert Coburn, George Huessenstamm, Liviu Marinescu, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, and David Whitwell, earned him the honor of being named a Distinguished Soloist from the American Hemisphere by Harry Gee in his book *Saxophone Soloists and Their Music 1844-1985*.

Early in his career he committed to uniquely combining a successful career as a university professor and academic administrator with his life-long commitment to the art of teaching, while simultaneously demonstrating through his own performance that which he taught. Highly regarded as a teacher, his students, consistent winners of state, national, and international competitions, now occupy important university and professional positions in classical, jazz, and pop music. Mr. Luadders was named to the "World's Who's Who of Musicians", was twice listed in the "Outstanding Educators of America" and was selected for the 2003 and 2004 editions of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Jerry served as Assistant Provost at California State University, Northridge where he also served as Chair of the Department of Music for over 17 years. Since 1974, he was an active chair or member of on-site visitation teams for the National Association of Schools and regularly serves as a consultant to institutions. In addition to his administrative and teaching responsibilities, Jerry Luadders remained an active performer, speaker, and writer.

James Sefton (History) passed away on October 4th, 2018. Despite poor health, he continued to be active until the end, including leading this year's discussion at CSUN's annual Constitution Day on September 15th.

Dr. Sefton taught American military and naval history, World War II, constitutional history, and his specialty,



Civil War and Reconstruction. But Sefton himself was an historic institution, marking 50 years of teaching at California State University, Northridge this year. Sefton, known as "Doc" by the hundreds of scholars he mentored,

estimated that he has taught 11,000 students over five decades at CSUN. "When I got to be about 60, people asked me when I was going to retire," said Sefton, 75. "I said, 'I'm not going to retire until all the people who want me to retire already have.' I've pretty much cleared out the original roster." "How do you make 50 years? Well, you have to start early," Sefton said. "Being a young Ph.D. helps — I was 25. You have to insulate yourself against departmental and university politics. Create a personnel file so strong that if your friends are on the committee, they won't be embarrassed to vote for you, and if your enemies are on it, they'll look foolish if they vote against you. Known for his straight-shooting candor, humor and unceasing demand for excellence, Sefton served as a mentor and counselor to students since he set foot on the campus of then-San Fernando Valley State College in 1965.

"He taught me the true meaning of intellectual curiosity," said retired Navy Capt. Dallas Bethea, who earned his bachelor's degree in history from Valley State College in 1969. "And that when you make a statement of fact, make sure it is absolutely correct — it served me well during my years in the Navy and the Pentagon." Bethea met Sefton in 1966 when he talked his way into the young professor's full class on Civil War history.

"My ancestors fought for the Confederacy, so I did add some diversity [to the class]!" said Bethea, who lives in Virginia. "I'm proud to say I earned an A." The former student and longtime friend said he plans to establish a \$25,000 scholarship fund in Sefton's name at CSUN.

CSUN Provost Harry Hellenbrand hailed Sefton and the contributions he made to the university. "Friend, guide and teacher are the words used a lot to describe Jim Sefton," Hellenbrand said. "It's very rare that you come across a professor who can fill those roles. He played an incredibly important role for me as provost, as one of the three or four people at the institution whom I can trust to say what they think — and not mince words. He was one of the North Stars of this campus."

Sefton was born in San Francisco and grew up in Marin County before moving to the Los Angeles area. He graduated from Hollywood High School and went on to earn a bachelor's degree (1961) and Ph.D. (1965) in history at UCLA. He wrote his dissertation on the role of the U.S. Army as an occupying force in the

South during Reconstruction, later published as a book in 1967.

A visitor to his office once called “Doc” a “strange hybrid — part of you is Mr. Chips and part a Marine drill instructor,” Sefton recalled, referencing the famous literary character and schoolteacher Mr. Chipping in James Hilton’s novella “Goodbye, Mr. Chips”. Sefton liked this description, but he thinks colleges now lean toward Mr. Chips, he said. In fact, most students do need the drill instructor to teach responsibility and consequences, as they did 40 years ago. But he added, “The kids who are good today would have been good 40 years ago.” Sefton had no children of his own, but hundreds of former students consider him a father figure, a mentor, a rock.

Beyond the history department, Sefton devoted himself to decades of Matador student-athletes. He served as faculty representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association from 1981-90. An ardent supporter of college sports, Sefton has channeled his lifelong passion and talent for photography into capturing some 600 CSUN games and athletic events. Had he pursued sports photography instead of teaching, Sefton quipped, he “could have shot covers for Sports Illustrated — at a lot more money.” His study of Midwestern landscapes, “Remote Roads: Photographs Along the Way,” also has been exhibited in various California venues. Sefton photographed football games and created slideshows for annual team banquets, even traveling with the team for many years.

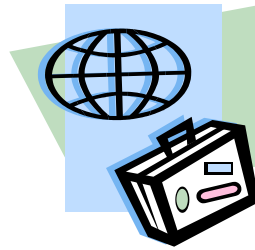
We will celebrate the life and share stories of our friend, colleague and mentor **on Saturday, November 17th, 2018, at 2:00pm – 4:00pm, at the Orange Grove Bistro, California State University Northridge. Please RSVP to the Department of History office at 818-677-3566**

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to the James Sefton Scholarship Endowment to benefit students in CSUN’s Department of History. Contributions can be made through the CSUN website: givenow.csun.edu, with a notation of Sefton Scholarship Endowment in the notes, or by check payable to: CSUN Foundation FBO Sefton Scholarship Endowment, 18111 Nordhoff Street Northridge, CA 91330-8296 .



Nora Weckler (Psychology) died this year at the age of 103. Nora came from Los Angeles State College (now CSU-LA) to Northridge to be the founder and first chair of the Psychology Department -- before CSUN was even “San Fernando Valley State College.” For decades she was an effective and beloved presence on our campus. A popular teacher, a mentor to countless faculty within and beyond

her department, and a wonderful wit. Nora could bring unanimous mirth to the most solemn of professorial conversations. Everyone who worked with Nora remembers her own contagious laughter. On and off campus she was a supporter and organizer of groups dedicated to the common good. She was a trailblazing woman on a campus which was then overwhelmingly male in the leadership of its administration, faculty and staff. She was active in the pre-collective-bargaining local of the United Professors of California, and was an early supporter of the California Faculty Association after CFA won the statewide union election in 1983. Our hats off to Nora and our sympathy and gratitude to her family.



Emeriti News

David Aks (Music). My first semester of full retirement (after FERP) have me conducting the CSUN Symphony Orchestra and playing Celtic cello at various pubs

around town. Off to the Galapagos Islands in November.

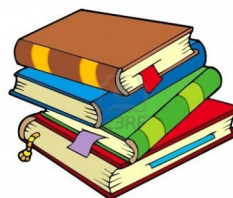
Judy Davidson (Business). I am the President of Sage Society, which is an organization under the auspices of Tseng College.

Daniel Kessner (Music). Still continuing my career as a classical composer, flutist and conductor, usually spending 1-2 months each year in Europe.

Thomas Potter (Elementary Education) Jackie and I were married on June 9, 2018 in Santa Monica. Our honeymoon in Alaska in July was the best and we are doing well considering we are 75 and 80 years old. (I am the wiser by 5 years!). Our “pre-honeymoon” was 10 days in Bangkok (we had to get our wedding rings somewhere!) O.K., wanderlust is one of our “issues”. We spend our time in Big Bear (last week) and in Carlsbad (next month). Believe it or not we are a stay-at-home couple. Jackie is a quilter, so she spends hours in her “do not disturb” sewing room.

John Schulte (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies). My wife Joan died on 4-15-18. Our love affair began at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, 1948. Our wedding was in the Naval Air Station Chapel in Norfolk, VA. We were married for 63 years.

Eugene Turner (Geography). Gitta Ruivenkamp and I were married May 18th in Burbank. A week later we spent a month visiting relatives in Germany and taking a honeymoon Baltic cruise.



Book Groups

In June the **Wednesday Book Group’s** reading was *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann. The author

writes for *The New Yorker*, and in this 2017 book he demonstrates his patience and doggedness as a researcher. The book is actually a historical account of a series of murders that end up being related. Here's the situation that led to the murders.

In the 1870s the Osage Indians were forced to leave Kansas and settle in what then seemed a worthless part of Indian Territory. In 1907 what had been Indian Territory became a major part of the new state of Oklahoma. The federal government created policies designed to assimilate Indians, such as the division of tribal lands into allotments -- individually owned land parcels, which could then be sold to anyone. In the 1906 negotiations regarding Osage allotments, attorneys for the tribe managed to include a provision that retained for the Osage as a whole all the subsurface mineral rights. All revenues would be divided equally among tribal members. Neither the tribe nor its members could sell these headrights; they could only be inherited.

Statehood ushered in widespread oil exploration, with large reserves found under Osage land. Members of the tribe came to pocket huge profits, and the fact of many wealthy Indians was highly publicized nationally. Oil drew many whites to Oklahoma, and in Osage County many whites married Indians in order to benefit from their headrights. There was widespread exploitation of guardianships for Indians conveniently labeled incompetent and finally the killing of Indians married to whites who would then inherit the spouse's headright. Although this was not obvious at the time, sometimes several Indians would be killed in order to pass their headrights on to a later-to-be-killed Indian with a white spouse -- a startling combination of greed and disdain for human life.

Thanks to a web of corruption, local officials did not identify the murderers, and many Osage were living in dread that they might be next. In 1923 the tribe officially asked the federal government to investigate the murders and to do this without using any agents with connections to Oklahoma. In 1925, under the leadership of J. Edgar Hoover of what soon was called the FBI, an ex-Texas Ranger named Tom White was appointed to take charge of an exceedingly complex investigation. Aided by undercover agents, the new technology of finger printing, and calm persistence, White gathered enough evidence to send several killers and the ostensible ringleader (a wealthy rancher and pillar of the community) to prison.

Our group enjoyed the book, mostly because we were learning aspects of American history that we had never been aware of. But we did not consider it a great read. The many shifts of characters and time made the book a bit disjointed, and with our having a sense early on as to the ringleader's identity the book didn't have quite the suspense we had hoped for.

For July our group discussed *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee. It

is the multi-generational saga of a Korean family in Japan and is the first English language novel to describe the mistreatment of Koreans by the Japanese in modern times.

The story begins in a Korean fishing village during the Japanese annexation in 1910. A peasant girl, Sunja, becomes romantically involved with a charming local hustler. After she becomes pregnant she learns he is already married and refuses to see him. An idealistic young Japanese pastor decides to rescue her by marrying her and taking her to Japan where the baby is born. The family and its descendants struggle to make a living, to be educated and to find respectability in society. Unable to work in traditional occupations, they ultimately find success in running Pachinko parlors, essentially gambling casinos centered on a slot machine like an arcade game. Pachinko parlors generate more money than the auto industry in Japan but they are suspected of being run by the Yakuza, Japanese organized crime. The family prospers but they are *Zainichi*, a derisive term that indicates any ethnic Korean living in Japan even though they may have been in Japan for many generations, and may even be Japanese citizens.

Through the experiences and feelings of her characters, the author incisively examines poverty, marriage, aging, religion, beauty in Asia and western society, options for women and foreigners, etc. We all liked the book for its story, writing and subject matter and highly recommend it. *Joel Zeitlin and Jim Allen*

The **Science Book Group** did not meet in October. On November 28th the Group will discuss *Who We Are and How We Got Here: Ancient DNA and the New Science of the Human Past*, by David Reich, 2018. We will meet in the library at 2:30 pm. For the December 19th meeting we will discuss *Homo Deus* by Yuval Noah Harari, and on January 16th *Fly Girls* by Keith O'Brien. *Heidemarie Lundblad*.



Film Group

The **Monday Film Group** met on August 27th, at the home of Elizabeth Schneider. The Group discussed the films *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again* and *Mission Impossible - Fallout*.

Mama Mia-Here We Go Again was really enjoyed by our group and we were all particularly surprised by the length of our discussion about it. This sequel/prequel to the original *Mamma Mia* production was just plain fun. The film depicted both the events in the life of Donna, the central character in the first production, that lead up to the original film and a series of events that occurred in the life of her daughter Sophie

that occurred after the original production. The young Donna was well played by Lily James while Sophie was well played by Amanda Seyfried. The “three fathers” played by Colin Firth, Pierce Brosnan and Stellan Skarsgård were a bit awkward as dancers but they added so much fun to the film that it did not really matter. The group thought that this film was even better than the first production. The film was a joyful experience which had superb production values. For some of our group, the fact that the music was largely based on songs originally recorded by the group Abba was very nostalgic. The overall rating by club members of *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again* was 8.9/10.

Mission Impossible-Fallout was exactly what was expected from another Mission Impossible film with Tom Cruise as the central character. Nevertheless, most of our group really enjoyed it. The plot was not unique in that it centered on the theft of materials that could be used to build a weapon of mass destruction. However, the cinematography was excellent, and the plot was quite intricate. The chase scene in Paris was both very exciting and great fun for those of us with good memories of that city. The ending scenes, involving a countdown to disaster which is mandatory for this type of film was well executed but, in some members’ opinion, a bit too long. The overall rating by the club members of *Mission Impossible – Fallout* was 7.6/10.

The **Monday Film Group** met on September 27th, 2018 at the home of Joyce Linden. The Club discussed the films *Crazy Rich Asians* and *Searching*. *Crazy Rich Asians* was really enjoyed by our group. The film was basically a version of the “Cinderella Story” set in modern day Singapore. The film follows a Chinese-American professor Rachel, played by Constance Wu, who travels to Singapore to meet the family of her boyfriend Nick, played by Henry Golding. Upon arrival she is surprised to learn that his are among the richest people in Singapore. Both lead actors did an excellent job and were well supported by the rest of the cast. The group took particular note of Michelle Yeoh’s role as Nick’s domineering mother and Awkwafina’s role as Rachel’s sometimes outrageous college friend. The film’s presentation of the implications of extreme wealth and class was entertaining, if at times a bit “over the top”. The overall rating by club members of *Crazy Rich Asians* was 8.7/10.

Searching was a quite unexpected delight for our members. This thriller film was very unusual in that the presentation was all done as either screen captures or on-screen video. This fact was not immediately obvious to all of us, but it had the effect, after a somewhat slow start, of gluing our eyes to the screen. The film follows a father David, played by John Cho, trying to find his missing 16-year-old daughter Margot, played by Michelle La, with the help of a police detective Rosemary, played by Debra Messing. All of these three main actors gave excellent realistic performances. The plot has many fascinating twists and turns and presents a series of “red herrings” that threw most of us off-track. In retrospect we all realized that the solution to the puzzle was hinted at with multiple clues that

most of us missed. Although this “missing child” is an old plot-line, it was delivered by this film in a most engaging fashion. Some of our members indicated that they planned to see the film again just to try and spot all the clues! The overall rating by the club members of *Searching* was 8.9/10.

For the month of September, the Group plans to discuss the two films: *A Star is Born* and *A Simple Favor*. David Schwartz



SCCARF Report

The dedicated diners and talkers of SCCARF met on September 12th at Paul Martin American Grill in Westlake Village. About 25 members attended, and enjoyed a very nice dinner and interesting conversation with fellow emeritus members of the CSUN faculty. Paul Martin Grill aims to “*elevate America’s classic cuisine by using only the highest quality, best tasting ingredients.*” I am not entirely certain what this means, however we enjoyed the food and excellent service. Paul Martin Grill does charge a corkage fee but it is at the low end for comparable venues. If you have not previously become acquainted with SCCARF (Seriously Committed Cuisine Aficionados – Retired Faculty), come and join us. We meet once a month, if you are interested contact Jim Dole at jim.dole@csun.edu. Jim is the dedicated leader of the group. Heidemarie Lundblad

SCCARF’s October event, scheduled for Cafe Bizou in Agoura Hills, was cancelled because a plane crash on the 101 freeway created a monstrous traffic nightmare that precluded travel from the Valley. The event will likely be rescheduled.

ARF Historian’s Report, Doris Helfer

I am very pleased to report the historical records of the Association of Retired Faculty (ARF) at Northridge will be added to the Oviatt Library’s University Archives in order to ensure the preservation of these documents. If you happen to have any documents pertaining to ARF and your time as an officer of ARF and would like to donate them to the archives, please feel free to contact Doris Helfer at doris.helfer@csun.edu or call me at (818)677-2562. You can also send them to my attention at:

California State University Northridge
Collection Access and Management Services
Oviatt Library Room 468
18111 Nordhoff St.

ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2018—2019

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