



# THE CONDUIT



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**City of Brotherly Love hosts NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, Retirement and Benefits Forum and NEA-RA; AEA-Retired well represented**

Philadelphia was the scene this year for the annual meetings of NEA and NEA-Retired. AEA-Retired was well-represented at the NEA-R meeting by (l. to r. above) **John Campbell, Barbara Matteson, Bernadette Presloid, Linda Somo, Steve Ramos, Mike Aicone, Kathy Campbell and Frank Bing.** NEA-R dealt with retiree issues connected to the NEA-RA and offered a number of workshops designed to improve the skills of attendees in working with constituents back home and with the politicians who make the laws that affect our retirements.



Several of our members participated in Outreach to Teach, a project of NEA-R and the NEA Student program, in which NEA members physically refurbish a needy school in the conference city.

After the NEA-R Annual Meeting, a number of our members attended the NEA Retirement and Benefits Forum where we learned about nationwide trends in retirement systems and benefits afforded retirees. Good news! Arizona's system (ASRS) is in very good shape compared with many other places. We're well-funded and have a director who is a firm believer in Defined Benefit plans. Watch for a series of articles in this year's AEA Advocate comparing Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution plans. It's an eye opener.

Perhaps the highlight of this year's NEA-RA was the appearance by no less than 8 presidential contenders who came to present their visions for public education to the delegates. You can view the speeches at <http://www.nea.org/annualmeeting/raaction/index.html> In addition you can view President **Reg Weaver's** speech and view slide shows of the RA. (see more photos on pages 4-5)

**AEA-Past President John Campbell selected as NAU Alumnus of the Year**

**John Campbell**, recipient of last year's Les Reynolds Award from AEA-Retired, has been selected as this year's winner of the NAUAA Dwight Patterson Alumnus/ Alumna of the Year Award.



The award is presented to a graduate who has achieved "outstanding success in his/ her professional career."

John reacted in his typically humble way. "It is an extreme honor to be recognized for one's efforts in the field of education."

The award will be presented during NAU's homecoming weekend on October 27.

Congratulations John!

**Wanted: Memories of the first 20 Years of AEA-Retired**

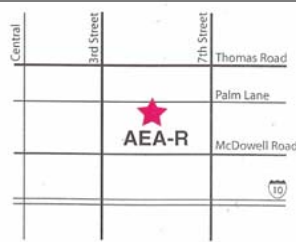
At the AEA-Retired Annual Meeting on April 24, 2008, we will be celebrating our 20th year as an organization. And we want your involvement!

Do you have stories about your experiences in AEA-Retired that you'd love to share? Were you there 20 years ago? 15 years ago? 10 years ago? 5 years ago? Tell us a "founding member" story or a leadership moment. Where and when did you meet? Who was there with you? What were the issues you discussed? Please take a moment to write a note - long or short, we want it!

**PICTURES ARE WORTH 1000 WORDS!**

If you have photos from AEA-Retired events in the past, please write a short description and send them to **Julie Horwin**, 7670 East La Junta Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85255 or [jhorwin@mac.com](mailto:jhorwin@mac.com).

The New Address for AEA-Retired  
 345 E. Palm Lane  
 Phoenix, AZ 85004-1532



**AEA-Retired**

**Calendar of Events**

- Sept. 12 — AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting (a change)
- Sept. 23-Oct. 1 — NEA-Retired Executive Bd./Advisory Council
- Oct. 9— AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
- Oct. 20 — AEA Committee Day
- Nov. 7-9 — NEA Retirement and Benefits Forum

**1988-2008**

**AEA-Retired Factoid  
Did you know?**

The first president of AEA-Retired was **Les Reynolds** who served from 1988 to 1994.



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY JULIE RIVERA-HORWIN,  
AEA-RETIRED LEGISLATIVE CHAIR



The AEA-Retired Legislative Committee continues to monitor legislative issues. The Committee's tasks are to facilitate the determination of topics, concerns, and issues that affect AEA-Retired members and Active members and then take these topics to the AEA-Retired Board for discussion and approval or disapproval. The Committee will submit any approved issues to the AEA Legislative Task Force for inclusion in the AEA Legislative Agenda each year.

AEA-Retired and ASRS Coalition Committee members and/or Coalition members work to get legislation written and find sponsors to support or introduce any bills from the above list of issues.

What else do we do? We lobby the State Legislature in support of, or in opposition to, bills that impact AEA-Retired members and/or AEA Active members by using email/ telephone trees and attendance at the State Legislature.

Other on-going jobs for our committee include monitoring legislative bills and any ballot initiatives that may impact AEA-Retired members. We also work to elect AEA/NEA recommended candidates and to support or oppose ballot initiatives.

Some of the upcoming discussions center around the following AEA-Retired topics:

**Graded multiplier.** In 2001 the legislature enacted a bill which gave a higher multiplier (the percentage multiplier of pension received for each year of service) to people who retired after May 8 of 2001. Persons who retired before that time did not receive the benefit. A bill was introduced last year, and the year before, that would grant the same multiplier to persons who retired before the above date thereby restoring fairness and equity to the system. The bill did not receive favorable treatment during the hearings and, as a result, did not get out of the committees. Discussion will center on options for taking this issue forward.

**ASRS benefit changes.** This year a bill was introduced to alleviate the burden of the current contribution rates. The bill would not affect current active or retired members but would affect new hires beginning in

2008. The major parts of this bill included: 1. Using the average of the highest five years of compensation out of the last ten to calculate a member's retirement benefits. Presently it is the highest three years of the last ten. This change will make "spiking" the salary in the last few years of employment harder. 2. The normal retirement condition (age + years of service) goes back to 85 points (where it used to be) from the present 80 points. This is in response to the longer life expectancy of retirees based on actuarial tables. The bill did not pass this year. Our discussion will center on the AEA-Retired stance, if any (monitor/support/oppose/no stance), on any bills like this which may come up at the next Legislative Session.



**Julie Rivera-Horwin**

**Permanent Benefit Increase.** The PBI provides for an annual increase to retirees' pension checks. Funds for the PBI are generated by excess earnings on the ASRS fund, as determined by the ASRS actuary. Although the PBI helps mitigate inflation, it is not tied to the federal Cost of Living Index and is not guaranteed to be distributed every year. However, once granted, the PBI cannot be taken away. Because we do not receive this each year, we will discuss legislative possibilities that can help AEA retirees better meet the yearly cost of living increases.

If you would like to give input on any of the above issues or become part of our team, please contact **Julie Horwin**, (480) 419-0332, [jhorwin@mindspring.com](mailto:jhorwin@mindspring.com), or any of the AEA-Retired Legislative Committee Members: **Bob Bloom, John Campbell, Rose Dickerson, Barbara Matteson, Marion Pickens, Steve Ramos, Linda Somo, Jan Stevenson and Dick Van Dyne.**



## ASRS improves services to members

by Steve Ramos  
Chairman, ASRS Committee

The Arizona State Retirement System Board took a break in June but is now back to their regular monthly meetings on the third Friday of each month. Items of interest to AEA-Retired members at the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting included a review of bills enacted during the last legislative session. HB 2311 extended the rural health insurance subsidy for two more years but failed to make it permanent. HB 2781 was an appropriations bill that will fund the ASRS at about 94% of the Board's actual budget request. Some of the money will be used by the ASRS to increase employee salaries, upgrade the phones, enhance security, and add a member advocate position and four additional staff. The Board also announced that our retirement fund is now worth a record 28 billion dollars!

## AEA Summer Leaders' Conference

On July 11-12 a group of 12 AEA-Retired members attended the annual AEA Leaders' Conference at the Wigwam Resort. Members participated in various sessions designed to make associations stronger and leaders more skilled.

Many had attended the AEA-Retired July Board meeting (23 members were in attendance) held the previous day at which committees updated their job descriptions and made plans for the coming year.

## Membership Reminder

The membership year starts Sept. 1, 2007. If you have not returned your renewal form with your annual dues, please do so immediately.

Want a better way to renew? Contact Membership Chair **Daina Swinford** at 602-696-2458 or 602-881-4019 and sign up for Dues Deduct.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## BY KATHY CAMPBELL

Another association year is beginning and AEA-Retired will be actively working on your behalf addressing challenges facing retirees and keeping you informed on issues important to seniors.

As your president, I am committed to working for an increase in membership. This is a role in which **YOU** play an important part. It is up to **YOU** to continue to recruit members to AEA-Retired. Remember, people don't join unless they are asked, and then asked again. Find at least two people who retired when you did and ask them to join. When you recruit someone new, encourage the new member to sign up for dues deduction directly from their pension check; it saves us a huge amount of paper-work. **Daina Swinford**, Membership Chair, continues to do an outstanding job, but *your help* is needed.



**Kathy Campbell**

AEA-Retired chapters continue to grow. However, I would like to see more of you involved in a chapter in your community. Currently, we have chapters in Glendale, Phoenix, Mesa, Tucson, White Mountains, and Prescott. Yuma and Paradise Valley have scheduled their first meetings. If you live in one of these communities, get involved. If we don't have a chapter in your community, start one. **Gary Mehok**, Chair of the Chapter Task Force, LO-JO40@cox.net, will be more than happy to assist you.

In addition, I encourage you to attend an AEA-Retired Board Meeting this year. Get to know your organization better and contribute to its growth. Our meeting dates are published in *The Conduit*; meetings take place at the AEA-Retired offices in the AEA Building, 345 E. Palm Lane, Phoenix. Please contact **Kathy Campbell** at (602) 574-1473 if you are attending so we will have an accurate lunch count.

This year our Intergenerational Mentoring Program will expand to the Tucson area as well as continuing in the Phoenix area. We need mentors for this program. If you are interested, contact **Paula Grigsby**, Mentoring Chair, at (928) 535-4353 for more information.

Our presentation committee is getting geared up for another year under the direction of chair **Frank Bing**. Presentations currently available are: pre-retirement seminars (for active associations), Social Security/ Medicare, 5 Wishes (Living Will preparation),

and mentoring. Please contact **Frank** at frankbcta@aol.com if you are interested in scheduling any of these presentations. Please use *AEA-Retired presentation* in the e-mail message box. We also have a contact in the Attorney General's Office for senior issue presentations.

You were well-represented at the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, the NEA Representative Assembly, and the NEA Retirement and Benefits Forum this summer. Those who attended

part or all of the activities include: **John Campbell**,

**Frank Bing, Barbara Matteson, Linda Somo, Steve Ramos, Bertha Myers, Arblee and Mary Bishop, Rebecca Dawkins, Bernadette Presloid and Kathy Campbell**. We also had a great turnout for our AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting and Leaders' Conference at the Wigwam. Thanks to all who participated.

The Legislative Committee is busy planning activities for the next session. The Coalition will be meeting sometime at the end of October or first of November. If you are interested in participating in anything legislatively, contact **Julie Horwin** for more information.

I want to thank **Brenda Pierce** and **Ken Freed** for filling vacated Representative-at-Large positions on the AEA-Retired Executive Board. They were both kind enough to fill the positions until the next voting in April 2008.

Finally, I want to encourage you to save the date April 24, 2008, to attend the next annual meeting. It will be the 20th Anniversary of AEA-Retired, 1988-2008. **AnnJi Craig Wooten** and **Julie Horwin** and their respective committees promise us an exciting and historical 20th Annual Meeting.

Have a healthy, productive year.

## DOVE Program

An AEA-endorsed provider since 2001

Discounts On Vehicles for Educators, Support Professionals, and Retirees

**Larry Green**, AEA member and former car salesman, has created a way to take all of the hassle out of buying a new or used vehicle. Larry does all the work, but you reap the savings.



Visit <http://doveprogram.org> to view member testimonials, or call Larry at 602.290.6212 or 1.800.881.3683 to get more information or to request a free quote.

DOVE, quality service since 2001 to teachers, support professionals, and retirees.

## A Good Reason to Join AEA-Retired



Who: **AnnJi Craig-Wooten**, Annual Meetings Co-Chair

What: Not only has AnnJi made sure everything is picture perfect at our Annual Meetings for 5+ years, but she is already hard at work on the 20th Year Celebration at the 2008 Annual Meeting. What a gal!

1988-2008

### AEA-Retired Factoid:

#### Did you know?

The first three winners of the *Les Reynolds Distinguished Senior Service Award*, named for the first AEA-Retired President, have been **Bob Bloom, 2005; Bertha Myers, 2006; and John Campbell, 2007.**



# Images from the NEA-RA

Counterclockwise from top left: **Linda Somo** and **Mary Bishop** chat outside of the NEA Board of Directors' meeting (note that Linda's halo is on straight); **Kathy Campbell, Frank Bing** and **Linda Somo** at the GLBT banquet; attending the Human and Civil Rights Banquet and Awards were (l. to r.) **Arblee Bishop, John Campbell, Mary Bishop, Bertha Myers, Kathy Campbell, Barbara Matteson, Linda Somo,** and **Rebecca Dawkins**; President **Kathy Campbell** joined other members of NEA's NCLB Task Force on stage for the presentation by **Becky Pringle**; **Barbara Matteson**, NEA-Retired President and **Tom Curran**, NEA-Retired Vice President, present the car sponsored by NEA-R in the daily NEA Giveaway; **Frank Bing** joined about two hundred other members on stage for a touching ceremony on July 4th as NEA honored delegates and their children who have served, or are still serving, in Afghanistan and Iraq.



**Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans:** AEA-Retired had **Steve Ramos, Gary Mehok, Suzan Austin, John Campbell** and **Frank Bing** in attendance at the biannual meeting where **John Campbell** was re-elected as Vice President of the AARA. They appear (top left) with AZ Attorney General **Terry Goddard**, the keynote speaker, and (bottom right) with Doug Hart, AARA President and Joan Service, Executive Director.



**John Campbell** and **Frank Bing** joined a march outside of John McCain's office on the 42nd "birthday" of Medicare to bring attention to needed reforms. John appears here (lower left) at the march with Doug Hart and Sue Dolphin. John and Frank were on TV news coverage of the event that evening.

For more information on the Alliance for Retired Americans, call AARA Vice President John Campbell at (602) 692-6998. Or e-mail John at [jscampbell@quest.net](mailto:jscampbell@quest.net) Please make AARA inquiry the title in the e-mail message line.



# NEA-Retired Annual Meeting Banquet and Dance

All work and no play make Jack (and John, Kathy, Barbara, Steve, Linda, Mary, Bertha, Dorothy) dull delegates. The NEA Retired Banquet had the Fralinger Mumpers String Band as the entertainment. The sound of a string band is hard to describe; it has to be heard to be appreciated. To sample the sound, visit <http://www.cafepress.com/fralinger.10817174>.

Suffice it to say that many people were heard that night remarking that this was the best entertainment ever at a retired banquet. Fralinger's has won first place in the Philadelphia Mumpers Day Parade for the past five years. Visit <http://philadelphia.about.com/od/2007mumpersparadepotos/ig/Fralinger-String-Band-2007/index.01.htm> for pics of Fralingers in the Mumpers Parade 2007.



Photos: top row– left, **John Campbell** flashes a little leg while showing off his Electric Slide prowess; right, **Barb Matteson** teaches the mumpers a thing or two about strutting; bottom row, left, Fralinger's String band performing at the banquet. The theme for the parade this year was One in Spirit; right, **Barb** goes under the limbo stick at the dance following the banquet. Student program members were invited to the post banquet dance and many showed up despite heavy thunderstorms in the area.



## Outreach to Teach—2007

Each year at the NEA-RA, the NEA-Retired and the NEA Student groups work to refurbish a needy school in or around the host city. This year, the recipient of the "makeover" was Gotwals Elementary School in Norristown, Pennsylvania. Over 300 NEA members descended on Gotwals and did many jobs, including hanging dry-wall, painting, laying sod, repairing and restoring bathrooms, and decorating hallways and classrooms.

AEA-Retired members **Barbara Matteson, Linda Somo, and Frank Bing** joined the group boarding the busses at 6 AM (yes, that's 3 AM Arizona time!) to participate in the program. First-timer **Frank Bing** was in awe of the program. "The energy and enthusiasm of all the participants was incredible. It was worth it just to see the Gotwals principal and teachers' faces as they watched the day unfold. By the way, the principal and teachers worked elbow to elbow with the volunteers."



Photos: top left, Barb, Frank and Linda show off their spiffy Outreach to Teach t-shirts as the day begins; lower left, Amanda, a student member from Oklahoma, worked with Frank and Linda on this hallway bulletin board; top right, a local reporter interviews Barb in her capacity as NEA-R President; bottom right, Frank, Linda and Barb select materials for the task at hand. Read more about Outreach to Teach and view a slide show at <http://www.nea.org/annualmeeting/raaction/07outreach2.html>.

## AEA-Retired: News and Views You Can Use

### Intergenerational Mentoring program receives new grant

According to **Paula Grigsby**, Intergenerational Mentoring Task Force Chair, "We have been awarded a new grant to continue working with students at ASU and to expand to Tucson and Yuma." Coordinators working with Paula are **Linda Thieken**, ASU group; **Claudia Jensen**, UA group; and **Bernadette Presloid**, Yuma NAU group.

There were a planning sessions in May, and late August. **Claudia** has formed a Tucson planning team which is preparing for its first group this school year. The ASU group has had several graduates and is looking to expand this year with the help of **Linda**. **Bernadette** has made contacts with other interested retirees and anticipates starting a Yuma group with students in the second half of the year. All look forward to a year-end celebration to share successes.

Another area being researched by the Intergenerational group is working more

closely with first year teachers to aid them in their transition to the "real" classroom. More information will be coming soon about opportunities in this area.

If you have any questions about the program, or if you would like to volunteer, contact **Paula** at 928-535-4353 or [pkgigsby@frontiernet.net](mailto:pkgigsby@frontiernet.net).



### Fraud Alert from the Attorney General's Office

One of the best ways to protect yourself from Identity Theft is to remove your name and information from marketing lists.

- Sign up for the national DO NOT CALL registry for both your home and cell phones at 1-888-382-1222 or [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov).
- Tell phone companies and others with whom you do business to put you on their DO NOT CALL lists.
- Contact credit reporting agencies to opt out of unsolicited credit card offers at [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) or 1-888-567-8688.
- Call the customer service numbers for your credit cards and ask to opt out of marketing programs, including convenience

checks.

- Opt out of email and direct mail by contacting the Direct Marketing Association at [www.dmaconsumers.org/consumerassistance.html](http://www.dmaconsumers.org/consumerassistance.html) or by writing to Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 643, Carmel, NY 10512. Include any version of your name used in mailing and your complete address with a letter requesting your name be removed.
- Check your credit report regularly. Order a free credit report at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or contact Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281 or call 1-877-322-8228.

### Want to save a bundle?

Use your **AEA/Access** membership card to get a variety of great savings. Go to [www.arizonaaea.org](http://www.arizonaaea.org), click on the image of your card, enter your card's ID number in the login box and click "Go." Once again, *Membership doesn't cost, it pays!*



### Fundraising Committee successful

At Delegate Assembly, AEA-Retired collected a total of \$820 through its sale of eyeglass cleaners (they work great and some are still available), and its raffling of baskets, a throw, and a gorgeous **Dorothy Rawley** quilt. Congratulations to committee members **Aurora Aber**, **Helen Arnold**, and **Wayne Diehl**.

### Do you have something to share online?

Do you have a new address or personal or professional news that you would like to share with your fellow AEA-Retirees? Read notes that AEA-Retired members have left or submit your own news on line. (We will link this to a web page.) Contact **Julie Horwin** at 7670 East La Junta Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85255 or 480-419-0332 or [jhorwin@mac.com](mailto:jhorwin@mac.com).



*The Conduit* Co-editor **Suzan Austin** and President **Kathy Campbell** show off one of four AEA School Bell Awards.

### *The Conduit* wins BIG at AEA School Bell Awards

AEA gave four 2007 School Bell Awards to *The Conduit* co-editors **Suzan Austin** and **Frank Bing** at the Leaders' Conference on July 12. The awards were for Overall Excellence in Photography, Overall Excellence in Design and Layout, Overall Excellence in Writing, and Overall Excellence in a Newsletter.

Overall? Excellent!

### To Our Readers: A Modest Proposal

Because skyrocketing printing and mailing prices are outstripping our budget, we'd like to get an idea of how many of you would like to receive *The Conduit* by e-mail. The benefits to you are prompt delivery, full color, ability to manipulate page and type size and, if there is something you want to keep, you can print it out and save it. The benefits to AEA-Retired are that we would save money which could be used for improved communications efforts and other places in the budget.

Make no mistake, this would be a logistical nightmare for a while until we worked out all of the kinks, but in the long run, would be able to do more for you, the members.

We need to get an estimate of how many members are interested in this idea. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to [frankbaear@aol.com](mailto:frankbaear@aol.com) Use *Conduit* in the message line and include your name, address, and e-mail address in the e-mail. NONE of this info will be shared. Thanks for considering the change; if we can get 300-400 to change, it will help us immensely. We would work as quickly as possible, but don't anticipate e-mailing until at least the third issue of the year.

Let the experiment begin! E-mail today.



## Let's Go Cruisin'! AEA-Retired Trip Planned for October 2008

Have you ever wanted to see the beautiful fall colors of New England sailing on a ship from Boston? Lucky you! You're a member of AEA-Retired and have the opportunity to get a special group rate from AAA to cruise with your fellow retirees. Make plans now for October 2008.

**Cruise Line:** Royal Caribbean Cruise Line  
**Dates:** October 11-18, 2008  
**Destination:** Canada/New England  
 (Boston; Portland and Bar Harbor, Maine; St. John, New Brunswick; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and 2 days at sea)  
**Ship:** Royal Caribbean Jewel of the Seas

Price per person based on double occupancy  
 Category: Q (Inside Cabin) — 5 cabins available  
 \$640.00 Cruise Fare  
 \$669.00 Air Fare plus \$76.32 Air Tax (roundtrip Phoenix/Boston)  
 \$56.16 Taxes and \$159.00 Port fees  
 Total Per Person: \$1600.48 w/Airfare out of Phoenix (all transfers included)  
 Total Per Person: \$855.16 w/o Airfare out of Phoenix (no transfers included)

Prices per person based on double occupancy  
 Category: I (Ocean view Cabin) — 5 cabins available  
 \$1030.00 Cruise Fare  
 \$669.00 Air Fare plus \$76.32 Air Tax (roundtrip Phoenix/Boston)  
 \$56.16 Taxes and \$159.00 Port fees  
 Total Per Person: \$1990.48 w/Airfare out of Phoenix (all transfers included)  
 Total Per Person: \$1245.16 w/o Airfare out of Phoenix (no transfers included)

Prices per person based on double occupancy  
 Category: E3 (Deluxe Ocean view w/Balcony Cabin) — 5 cabins available  
 \$1040.00 Cruise Fare  
 \$669.00 Air Fare plus \$76.32 Air Tax (roundtrip Phoenix/Boston)  
 \$56.16 Taxes and \$159.00 Port fees  
 Total Per Person: \$2000.48 w/Airfare out of Phoenix (all transfers included)  
 Total Per Person: \$1255.16 w/o Airfare out of Phoenix (no transfers included)

**\*\*Prices are subject to change and are based on category and availability.\*\*  
**\*\*\*Cruise insurance is not included, but can be purchased through AAA.\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*All family members and friends are welcome to join us and enjoy our special rate.\*\*\*\*****

**A deposit of \$250 is due by Oct. 19, 2007. Final Date!!!!**

**To reserve your space and to get more info, contact our Travel Agent  
 Chico's direct line: 602.248.3730 and tell him you are part of the AEA-  
 Retired group.**

**AAA World Travel Agency  
 Attn: Chico Gillum  
 701 N. Scottsdale Road  
 Scottsdale Arizona 85257**



**Our ship: Royal Caribbean's *Jewel of the Seas***

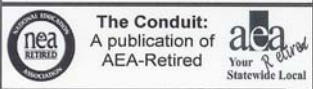


**New England fall foliage is a riot of bright colors**



**New Brunswick, Canada**

Many thanks go to coordinator **Mary Bishop** and President **Kathy Campbell** for making this trip possible. Please note that the cruise is *a year from this coming October*. Cruises fill up fast and we missed out on 2007. Book ASAP so you don't get left on the dock!



The Conduit:  
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Suzan Austin Frank Bing

A Note from the Co-editors

We're all in this together; send us materials for possible inclusion in *The Conduit*

A newsletter is valuable to members only if it gives you information you can use along with news.

If you have something to share that you believe would be of interest or value to your fellow retirees, send us a note at [aea.retired@arizonaaea.org](mailto:aea.retired@arizonaaea.org), or drop us a line at the address above. Use *Conduit suggestion* as your message line in e-mails.

While we can't guarantee we'll use your submission, we can guarantee that it will be considered for use when space is available.

— SA and FB

## Chapter News

### ATTEND A CHAPTER MEETING THIS FALL — You will be glad you did!

Chapters are an attempt to bring AEA-Retired closer to members. All AEA-Retired members are eligible to join a chapter where they worked or currently live. Meetings usually include an information program, business meeting, lunch or dinner, and time for socializing with friends and colleagues. The 2007-2008 Chair of the Chapters Task Force is **Gary Mehok**. Anyone interested in forming a new chapter can contact him at [LOJO40@cox.net](mailto:LOJO40@cox.net).

**Glendale Chapter:** Our chapter has approved Andrea's Closet as our community project. We will be bringing a new toy to each meeting to contribute to Banner Thunderbird Hospital. The next meeting is September 13, 2007, 4-6 pm, at the Iron Works, 17233 N. 45th Avenue, (1/4 mile north of Bell Road at the Bellair Golf Course). For information contact **Susie Sommer** at 623-931-6209 or [ssommer114@aol.com](mailto:ssommer114@aol.com).

**Mesa / East Valley Chapter:** On October 10, 2007, we will meet at 11:00 am on the 8th floor of the Mesa Bank Building, 63 E. Main St. **John Campbell** will give a presentation on "Five Wishes." For information contact **Phyllis Swan** at (480) 926-2878 or [lcswan@cox.net](mailto:lcswan@cox.net).

**Tucson Chapter:** Our first meeting will be held on September 19, 2007, at 3:00 pm at the AEA Southern Regional Office, 6873 N. Oracle Rd. Our speaker will be AEA Treasurer **Kathy Ramage-White** who will report on NCLB. Anyone interested in attending should contact **Aurora Aber** at [TheAbers@cox.net](mailto:TheAbers@cox.net) or 520-721-7547.

**Phoenix Chapter:** The first meeting (followed by lunch) will be October 18 at 10:30 am at Bishop's Family Dining, 620 W. Osborn Rd. **John Campbell** will discuss "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: The Legislative Year 2006-7" and AARA. The dates for the 2008 meetings are January 17, March 20, and May 15. For information contact **Frank Sacco** at 602-279-5196 or [fsacco1@cox.net](mailto:fsacco1@cox.net).

**White Mountain Chapter:** A meeting is planned for Nov. 15 at JB's in Show Low from 11:00 am -1:00pm. For information contact **Billie Fugate** (Lakeside) at 928-367-1493 ([bjfugate@frontiernet.net](mailto:bjfugate@frontiernet.net)) or **Paula Grigsby** (Overgaard) at 928-535-4353 ([pkgrigsby@frontiernet.net](mailto:pkgrigsby@frontiernet.net)).

**Prescott Chapter:** The next meeting is on September 13, 2007, at 11:00 am at the home of **Helga Krantz**, 7825 Prickly Pear Path, Prescott Valley. The NEA Value builder program will be discussed. Please contact Helga at 928-776-4314 or [bcdhelga@gmail.com](mailto:bcdhelga@gmail.com).

**Yuma Chapter:** The first meeting of the newest chapter will be at the AEA Western Region Office, 242 W. 28th St., Suite B, on September 18, 2007 at 10:00 am. A program is planned. Please notify **Bernadette Presloid** at 928-782-7691 or [dettep@juno.com](mailto:dettep@juno.com) if you are planning on attending.

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