



THE CONDUIT



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Award Winning Members

John Campbell — “If you want to get something done....”

We all know that **John Campbell** is a constant blur of positive motion. He travels the state to deliver AEA-Retired’s message to our chapters and to active associations. He serves as Vice President of the Arizona chapter of the Alliance



John, along with Kathy and their sons Chris (l), and Kevin (r) at the AEA Awards Banquet

Retired Americans, keeping up on legislation and opportunities for seniors to better their lot in life. And his loving volunteer service with newborns at risk at Thunderbird Hospital is the stuff of urban legends.

So it was indeed fitting that John was recognized and honored not just once, but twice this spring. First, John was the cover boy for NEA-Retired’s publication, *This Active Life*, as a result of his participation in AEA-Retired’s Intergenerational Mentoring Program. John, and his mentee Stephanie, who is

now a first year teacher in Mesa, not only appeared on the cover, but were mentioned prominently in the accompanying article. For most folks, an honor like that comes along once in a lifetime, but John wasn’t quite done yet.

John was also honored as the third recipient of the Les Reynolds Distinguished Senior Service Award. John was this year’s recipient for his service to public education, seniors, children and his community.

The award was presented by **Bertha Myers**, last year’s recipient, along with nominators **Connie Wittig** and **Frank Bing**.

What’s next for John? Who knows? But we can be sure he won’t rest on his laurels — he’s hard-wired to be a blur of positive motion.

Bertha Myers and Mary Bishop receive 2007 AEA Human Civil Rights Award

AEA-Retired’s **Mary Bishop** and **Bertha Myers** were selected to receive AEA’s 2007 Human and Civil Rights Award for their commitment to promoting reforms in this area in the Phoenix Elementary District and nationwide. Bertha and Mary began their activism by working to end segregation in the 1950’s and 1960’s. They have served AEA in many capacities and both have served on the NEA Resolutions Committee where they advocated for HCR issues for the inclusion



Mary Bishop of all members.

Bertha managed a program to encourage and support pregnant students in Phoenix Elementary with the purpose of keeping them in school. Bertha advocated for Native American students to qualify for gifted programs and for feeding all students in the Federal Food Program. While on the NEA Resolutions Committee, she advocated for the inclusion of full-

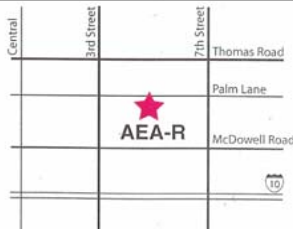


Bertha Myers

partner rights for insurance programs for gay, lesbian, and non-married couples. She also helped organize the Juneteenth Celebration in Phoenix. Mary taught for a year at ASU as a visiting professor and later worked on the Head Start Program at Sacaton. At one point she supported a rent strike by some of the parents of her students. She served on the NEA HCR Committee and helped organize the AEA Black Caucus in the early 1970’s.

Congratulations to our friends Bertha and Mary for this well-deserved recognition.

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



AEA-Retired

Calendar of Events

June 25-29 - NEA-Retired Annual Meeting; NEA Retirement and Benefits Forum

June 30 -July 5 - NEA Representative Assembly

July 10-12- AEA Leaders’ Conference (note change)

July 11— AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting/Retreat



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY JULIE RIVERA-HORWIN,
AEA-RETIRED LEGISLATIVE CHAIR



The AEA-Retired members on the ASRS Committee (**Art Cutting, Bob Bloom, Mike Swinford, Joanne Lynch, Linda Somo**) have met monthly with the officers of the Arizona State Retirement System. They extend the invitation to all AEA-Retired to join them at any of their meetings.

At the Mesa Chapter meeting in May, Arizona State Retirement Executive Director, Paul Matson reported that the system is doing really well on its rate of return. As of May, the system has grown 15.3% in this fiscal year. The AEA-Retired Legislative Committee has also followed ASRS activities at the Arizona Legislature.

ASRS Director Matson says that currently the ASRS has about 487,000 members, including 78,000 retirees who are



Arizona State Capitol Building

receiving benefits in excess of \$1.5 billion annually from the ASRS investment fund of more than \$26 billion. *Three separate audits* have found the ASRS to be sound and well-run. The annual rate of return on the ASRS funds invested in the calendar year 2006 was 14% . The “industry benchmark” and the minimum target for the ASRS is 8%. Matson notes that independent reports rank ASRS benefits to retirees “among the best of all public pension plans in the country.”

Like most retirement funds in the U.S. , the ASRS experienced a decrease in its funding ratio since the year 2001. ASRS documents also stress the role of past increases in benefits (i.e. the graded multiplier legislated in 2001), the historically low rates for contributions to the fund by active employees and their employers during the 90’s, and demographic changes, particularly the increase in life expectancies for recent and future retirees.

What this means is an increase in the amount of money that the non-retirees and the employers who match the employees contributions put into the ASRS fund each month. Now the contribution rate is 9.1%, but it is expected to reach about 10% by 2012 and then decrease a little. For retirees, the result has been a suspension of the Permanent Benefit Increase (PBI) for the past several years. Although retirees had grown used to receiving these increases each July, law does not tie the PBI to inflation or the federal Cost of Living Index. It is calculated each year and depends upon “excess” earnings from ASRS investments. Be rest assured that retirees will not see any decrease in their monthly premium.

A bill going forward as I write this is HB2147 which may become law by the end of this legislative session. Its major change to current law is

that it increases the foreign investment cap from 20% to 30%.

If you would like more information on any Retirement Bills in the State Legislature, please go to www.azasrs.gov and click on ASRS Bill Tracker.

At the end of the session, the ASRS will publish on the web a summary of this sessions bills that impact the Arizona State Retirement System.

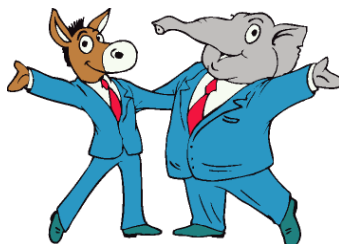
The AEA-Retired Legislative Committee stays up-to-date with Legislative movements that may affect AEA-Retired members and active members. I urge you to help our efforts. Please sign up to read the AEA Action Alerts. You can do this by logging onto www.arizonaaea.org and clicking on POLITICS AND LEGISLATION and then on the left hand side, click “Legislative

Updates” or you can simply email Julie Horwin at jhorwin@mindspring.com. Get involved and stay informed by joining 6,000 other public education supporters who receive the weekly Legislative Update and take action on behalf of our schools and AEA-Retired issues.

We need your help: join the AEA-Retired Legislative Committee; email jhorwin@mindspring.com; support the efforts of our lobbyists.

One of the best ways to make our voices heard loudly and clearly regarding political action initiatives is by joining the NEA Fund for Children. It is the easiest and one of the most effective ways you can make certain that AEA will continue to be a strong presence. Log on to www.neafund.org and click on “Make a Contribution.” It is expensive to lobby – let’s make certain our AEA-Retired voices are heard by being the largest group of donators in Arizona! It is easy and one of the most important investments you will ever make!

Note: As we go to press, the Arizona legislature is about to begin the process of reconciling the House and Senate versions of the budget. In a nutshell, the senate version is much more education-friendly. The house version provides more huge tax breaks for business.



AEA-Retired Annual Meeting and Delegate Assembly news

At this year’s Annual Meeting, we elected some new officers and some new (and continuing) Board of Directors’ members. We also passed a constitutional change which will extend officers’ and board members’ terms from two (2) to three (3) years with no more than six (6) consecutive years in the same office.

Our Keynote speaker was Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice **Ruth McGregor**, who spoke on NCLB and Civics education. She was introduced by her brother, NEA Vice President **Dennis Van Roekel**.

John Campbell was honored with the Les Reynolds Award. Also honored with the 2007 AEA Human and Civil Rights Award were **Mary Bishop** and **Bertha Myers** (see stories, page 1).

Our main influence at the Delegate Assembly was when we passed a new membership level for retired members called the Honorary Membership. This awards free dues to those members who reach age 90. Believe it or not, 36 members fall into that new category this Fall!

Linda Somo was re-elected as AEA-Retired representative on the AEA Board of Directors.

Membership Doesn't Cost, It Pays!

Membership Renewal Information

Membership renewal letters will be sent out in June for those who are not on automatic dues deduct through their state retirement checks. Remember, this renewal is for the membership year beginning on September 1, 2007 and ending on August 31, 2008. If you have any questions, or if you’d like to use automatic dues deduction, contact our membership chair, **Daina Swinford**, at (602) 696-2458.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY KATHY CAMPBELL

As I come to the end of my third year as your president, let's reflect on your association's activities for the past year.

We now have established six AEA-Retired Chapters: Glendale, Mesa, Tucson, White Mountains, Prescott Valley, Phoenix and Yuma. Paradise Valley and Flagstaff have also expressed interest in starting chapters. Each chapter has a designee at the monthly Executive Board meetings who takes information to the chapter meeting. To start a chapter, contact **Gary Mehok**, Chair of the Chapters Task Force, at LOJO40@cox.net.

AEA-Retired constantly monitors the legislature and ASRS and worked diligently on behalf of pro public education candidates. AEA-Retired was well represented at AEA Education Day at the Capitol thanks to almost 30 AEA-Retired members.

Our Presentation Committee has been busy. Their Power Point pre-retirement presentation has been viewed by over 200 people this year and 2400 since its inception. Other presentations on Medicare Part D, Social Security, the Mentoring Program and the new Five Wishes are available for chapter meetings.

There were many honors received this year. The Les Reynolds Senior Service Award went to **John Campbell** who stands proudly with the previous two recipients, **Bob Bloom** and **Bertha Myers**. Congratulations to **Bertha Myers** and **Mary Bishop** for receiving the 2007 Human and Civil Rights Award from AEA. Thanks also go to **Julie Horwin** for updating our website. Kudos go to **Suzan Austin** for receiving an AEA 2006 School Bell Award for *The Conduit*. And thanks to **Frank Bing** for becoming co-editor this year. I'm sure there will be more awards, too.

Our membership now surpasses 1900, but **Daina Swinford**, Membership Chair, still needs your help. If you know someone who is not a member, call and ask them to join.

Due to our increase in membership, AEA-Retired is able to send three elected members to the 2007 NEA-RA. **John Campbell**, **Frank Bing** and I (**Kathy Campbell**) will represent you at the RA this summer. We appreciate your votes.

I would like to personally thank **Frank Bing** and **Billie Fugate** for stepping in and taking on the work of the association after two openings on the board occurred last summer.

AnnJi Craig-Wooten, **Billie Fugate** and **Jo Cosentino** and their committee planned another very successful Annual Meeting and would welcome suggestions for the 20th an-

niversary celebration next year.

Dorothy Rowley has created the beautiful quilts we use for our drawings the past several years. Thanks to her, we have raised almost \$3000. You can support this year's AEA-Retired fundraising efforts by purchasing and selling tickets. Contact Fundraising Chair **Aurora Aber** at TheAbersd@cox.net or 520-721-7547, for tickets. The quilt winner will be announced at the Wigwam in July. We will honor Dorothy for her many hours of service by paying her membership dues in AEA and AEA-Retired for the rest of her life.

Elections continued to run smoothly with **Art Cutting** and **Ralph Lara** as chairs and with the help of **Steve Ramos**. Next year the elections will be part of the Vice President's job description, so **Linda Somo** will be in charge of elections and **Steve Ramos** will assist her.

An association continues to be strong not only through membership count but through leadership, history, and the commitment of the volunteers who serve. We elected the following this year: **Linda Somo**, Vice President; **Julie Horwin**, Secretary; **Helen Arnold**, **Frank Bing**, **AnnJi Craig-Wooten**, **Paula Grigsby**, **Marion Pickens**, **Steve Ramos** and **Jean Stephenson**, Representatives-at-Large. At the May Executive Board Meeting, I appointed **Brenda Pierce** to fill an at-Large position until the next election.

Our AEA-Retired Constitution (Terms of Office) was changed to match AEA and NEA. Now you can serve up to two consecutive three-year terms.

We are in the second year of our current NEA-Retired grant. Chair **Paula Grigsby** will be applying for another grant to extend the Intergenerational Mentoring Program. This is the third grant we have received from NEA-Retired. The Pre-retirement Seminar and Chapter Grants were the two previous ones. Our thanks go to AEA for donating in-kind services after the grant moneys were gone so we could continue these programs.

NEA's top issue this year is the ESEA Campaign. NEA's Positive Agenda for ESEA Reauthorization asks Congress for three fundamental changes in the NCLB law: 1) use more than test scores to measure student learning and school performances; 2) reduce class size; and 3) increase the number of highly qualified teachers. You can help by contacting your members of Congress demanding these common-sense changes.



Kathy Campbell

You have a great AEA-Retired Executive Board that represents you. Remember you are always welcome to attend our meetings.

This year we moved into our new office at the AEA building thanks to **Julie Horwin**, **Connie** and **Larry Wittig**, and **John Campbell**. If you haven't visited the new building or your office, please stop by.

I encourage you to plan on attending next year's annual meeting, April 24, 2008 to celebrate 20 years of our organization. Also plan to join us as we cruise in October 2008. (See page 7.) If you would like to volunteer in any capacity in our organization, please call me at 602-574-1473.

In closing, I appreciate all of you who have supported me and your organization the past three years.

A Good Reason to Join AEA-Retired



Who: Ralph Lara, Elections Co-chair
What: Ralph has been a member of AEA-Retired since its inception 19 years ago. He also has served as historian. We appreciate his many years of service and his dedication to the organization.

AEA Day at the Capitol

AEA-Retired had the second largest contingent (27!) at AEA Day at the Capitol. Members met with legislators to discuss issues relevant to retirement and education.



NEA President **Barbara Matteson** visits AZ NEA Directors **Annie Crego** and **Janie Hydrick** during the NEA Board of Directors meeting in May. (below)



AEA-Retired members (l. to r.) **Connie Wittig**, **Susan Austin**, **Frank Sacco**, **Kathy Campbell**, **Marion Pickens** and **Brenda Pierce** discuss what's next on the agenda at AEA Day at the Capitol.

NEA-Retired West Regional meeting, Austin TX, April 20-22 (see article in this issue)



Frank Bing and **Linda Somo** meet with NEA Executive Committee member **Becky Pringle** during her visit to the AEA Board of Directors.

AEA-Retired Annual Meeting and AEA Delegate Assembly



John Campbell celebrates with **Mary Bishop** and **Bertha Myers**, winners of the 2007 AEA Human and Civil Rights Award. **Frank Bing** and **Connie Wittig** (also pictured) nominated John for the Les Reynolds Award.

John Campbell holds the Les Reynolds Distinguished Service Award. With John are his wife, AEA-Retired President **Kathy Campbell**, Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice **Ruth McGregor**, and her brother, NEA Vice President **Dennis Van Roekel**.



AZ Supreme Court Chief Justice **Ruth McGregor** delivered the keynote address at the AEA-Retired Annual Meeting luncheon.



NEA-Retired President **Barbara Matteson** with **Ruth McGregor** and NEA Vice President **Dennis Van Roekel**. That's a lot of power in a small space!



Many AEA-Retired members attended AEA's *Salute to Excellence* dinner where John, Bertha, and Mary were honored

Newly elected AEA-Retired Board of Directors members and officers sworn in by John Campbell.



L. to r. **John Campbell**, **Linda Somo**, **Marion Pickens**, **Julie Rivera-Horwin**, **AnnJi Craig-Wooten**, **Paula Grigsby**, **Jean Stephenson**, **Frank Bing**, and **Steve Ramos**



AEA-Retired Officers and Board members posed for this photo at the May Board meeting.

AEA Member Benefits

DOVE Program saves you big \$\$\$ on vehicles

by Frank Bing

If you hate the hassle of buying a new car, you need to meet **Larry Green**. Larry runs the **DOVE Program** (Discounts on Vehicles for Educators), one of your AEA member benefits. Larry is an AEA ESP member who used to sell cars. Now, he makes it easy and inexpensive for association members to have a stress-free experience when they buy a new vehicle. I know this is a fact, because I used the program for both my car and my wife's.

The process is simplicity itself. You just

call Larry and tell him what kind of vehicle you're searching for. Larry has contacts with the fleet managers in all of the dealerships and he contacts them for you. De-



pending on the make and model, you can save \$2,000 to \$5,000. In most cases, once you decide on a vehicle (and you can test drive different makes before you decide),

you can be in and out of the dealership in 3 hours or less.

As if that was not enough incentive, after the deal closes, Larry rebates you \$100 (in a check made out to you) to donate to schools, charity, or anything else you choose. You can't lose with a deal like this.

Contact Larry at (602)290-6212, or 1-(800)-881-3683 from outside of the Phoenix area. You can also e-mail him at dovelg@hotmail.com. Check out the website, including endorsements (one from AEA VP Andrew Morrill), at www.Doveprogram.org.

This program just goes to prove that "Membership Doesn't Cost, It Pays."

Austin site of NEA Western Regional Conference

From April 20-22, AEA-Retired had excellent representation in Austin, Texas for the NEA Western Regional Conference. Attending along with President **Kathy Campbell** were Vice President **Linda Somo**, Treasurer **Connie Wittig**, Secretary **Paula Grigsby**, NEA-Retired President **Barbara Matteson**, AEA liaison **Mike Aicone**, and AEA-Retired members **Jean Stephenson**, **Frank Bing**, **John Campbell**, **Gary Mehok**, **Mike** and **Daina Swinford**, and **Susan Waites**. (see photos on page 4).



(left) right next to the hotel we stayed in during the conference!

Participants attended workshops and general sessions designed to improve their knowledge and skills as representatives, including one with NEA Secretary-Treasurer **Lily Eskelson**.

When you see one of the attendees, ask about the 10,000 bats that live under the **Ann Richardson Bridge** (above

Retiring Educator Leaves The Gift of Music to Students

by Steve Ramos

Laurie Bingenheimer wanted to do something special for her retirement, so she announced she was having a party. However, instead of the usual retirement gifts, she made it clear she would prefer cash. Cash to buy musical instruments.

Laurie, a school psychologist, is leaving Redbird Elementary School in Mesa after 17 years in the Mesa District. She has invited her friends, family and colleagues to donate cash to the Mesa Foundation for Educational Excellence to buy musical instruments for the students she leaves behind.

"Last fall I heard there were three children to every instrument," said Bingenheimer, "I find that a great tragedy because I think music is so important and it's such a great experience for kids to have, whether they go on to play in high school or not." Many



parents at Redbird cannot afford to rent instruments, so the school's instruments are in great demand and in terrible shape. The violas are 35 years old and the trombones are patched with masking tape!

The school owns just 43 instruments, making it hard to coordinate taking them home to practice. Local music stores have loaned another 37. It's not just the band and orchestra instruments that are in short supply. The school also lacks resources to purchase accessories, such as books, music and reeds for wind instruments. "It's not a problem that is unique to Redbird," said **Althea MacIntyre**, the school's band instructor.

Already Laurie's friends have donated over \$4000 to her retirement cause. "I think our society is just splitting in half. We have children who have incredible sums of money spent on them each month and then these children who literally have nothing. They don't have shoes, clothing, or medical care, and now they can't even play musical instruments,"

said Bingenheimer. "This is just my attempt to, at least in one small place, do what I can."

Editors note: Laurie Bingenheimer joins us in AEA-Retired at the end of the month.

Intergenerational Mentoring Just Keeps Growing

The second year of our Intergenerational Mentoring Program ended on a high note at the celebration held on May 5. The program, which has paired retirees with ASU students, included ten teams this year.

The program is funded through a grant from NEA-Retired. A new grant will be submitted this summer as a two-year plan to cover the expansion of the program to Tucson and Yuma and also explore the possibility of establishing a 1st through 5th year teacher group of mentees.

A retreat in Overgaard on May 21 is planned to coordinate the Phoenix group with the new ones. **Claudia Jensen**, **Cindy Michels**, **Bernadette Presloid**, and Chair **Paula Grigsby** will attend.

Any one interested in becoming a part of this exciting program should contact Paula at 928-535-4353 or pkggrigsby@frontiernet.net.

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 (Oceanview 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 Oceanview 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 July 9, 2007.

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*

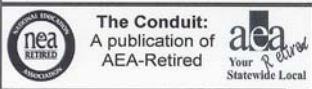


New England fall foliage is a riot of bright colors



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!



345 E. Palm Lane
 Phoenix, AZ 85004
 602-574-1473
 www.aea.retired
 @arizonaea.org

Kathy Campbell President
 Linda Somo V. Pres.
 Paula Grigsby Secretary
 Connie Wittig Treasurer
Conduit co-editors
 Suzan Austin Frank Bing

We love our staff

Behind the Scenes at

AEA

We at AEA-Retired want to give a big "thank you" to the following AEA Staff members who provide us with invaluable assistance as we go about the business of AEA-Retired. First of all, **Mike Aicone**, our liaison with AEA, is always there with answers to questions we have with any aspect of the organization. **Heidi Bouree, Jennifer Dawson, Guy Horine, Nick Milonas, Jim Paulsen, Sheenae Shannon, Penny Skubal, and Paul Tristran** help out whenever we work on our publications. And, of course, **Norma Greene** is our long-time good friend and is as reliable as they come.



Chapter News

Glendale Chapter: A meeting was held on Thurs. May 10, 2007. **Jackie Thrasher**, new member of the Arizona House of Representatives, District 10, gave a dynamic talk on the current Arizona education issues. Our chapter has also 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 Sept. 13, 2007, 4-6:00 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.

Mesa / East Valley Chapter: On March 21, we met on the 8th floor of the Mesa Bank Building, 63 E. Main St. There were 24 members in attendance. **John Campbell** gave a presentation on the Intergenerational Mentoring Program. On May 9, Paul Matson from ASRS was a guest speaker. He discussed insurance and legislation with the 30 members present. The next meeting will be October 10. For information contact **Phyllis Swan** at (480) 926-2878 or lcswan@cox.net.

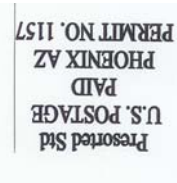
Tucson Chapter: A meeting was held at the Southern Regional office on March 14 at 2:00 pm. **Paula Grigsby** spoke about the Intergenerational Mentoring program and **Barbara Matteson** discussed Medicare. A meeting was also held on April 11 at the TEA Office. **Don Prince** and **Claudia Jensen** were the speakers. The last meeting of the year was held on May 9 at the Southern Regional office. The guest speaker was Tani Bahti, R.N., author of *Dying to Know: Straight Talk about Death and Dying*. Anyone interested in attending our future meetings should contact **Aurora Aber** at TheAbers@cox.net or 520-721-7547.

Phoenix Chapter: There was a meeting on May 17 at 10 AM at the new AEA building. Officers for the next year were elected: President **Frank Sacco**, Secretary **Jean Stephenson**, and Treasurer **Eloise Rohner**. The first meeting next fall will be Oct. 18 at 10:30 am, place to be announced. For information contact **Brenda Pierce** at 602-973-2822.

White Mountain Chapter: On March 22 **John Campbell, Joanne Lynch, and Gary Mehok** presented information on health insurance and Medicare. For information contact **Billie Fugate** (Lakeside) at 928-367-1493 (bjfugate@frontiernet.net) or **Paula Grigsby** (Overgaard) at 928-535-4353 (pkgrigsby@frontiernet.net).

Prescott Chapter: The chapter met on May 17. **Gary Mehok, Frank Bing, and John Campbell** gave the new Five Wishes presentation. At the next meeting on Sept. 13, the NEA Value-builder program will be discussed at the home of **Helga Krantz**, 7825 Prickly Pear Path, Prescott Valley. Please contact her at 928-776-4314 or bcdhelga@gmail.com.

Yuma Chapter: The first meeting of the newest chapter will be at the AEA Western Region office on September 18, 2007 at 10:00 am. A program is planned. Please notify **Bernadette Presloid** at dettep@juno.com if you are planning on attending.



AEA Retired, YOUR STATEWIDE LOCAL
 Affiliated with Arizona Education Association
 345 East Palm Lane
 Phoenix, Arizona 85004