

National:
Cancer Control Month
Prevent Child Abuse Month
National Donate Life Month

Pima County School Retirees' Association

September, 2016

We welcome all retired school employees



President's Desk

~ Ann Reaban



Democracy and Me Voting is a Hard-Won Right for Women



The right to VOTE is the key to the American way of life. In our Democracy, we, as citizens, have the power to elect leaders we believe in and get rid of disappointing choices.

What gives me, specifically, the right to vote?

I would have been out of luck in the early days of our country when colonists associated democracy with disorder and mob rule. Only white men were allowed to vote, and there were restrictions placed even on them: owning property, paying taxes, literacy tests, long term residency, and in some cases religious bias against Catholics and those of Jewish faith. The Founding Fathers tried voting by voice, which was later changed to voting by written ballot, not at all the same thing as our secret ballots of today.

Even with all those restrictions, surely I can find a way to prove I should be able to vote, so I turned to the United States Constitution. The right to vote is mentioned five times in the Amendments to our Constitution.

Amendment XIV, "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States." (Passed by Congress June 13, 1866. Ratified July 9, 1868.)

All right, I'm a citizen of the United States, but "oh no," I'm still out of luck. The Supreme Court ruled that women could only receive the vote as a result of explicit legislation or constitutional amendment. It was "too late" to claim the right of suffrage by implication.

Sorry, Susan B. Anthony, nice try at the polls!

Which leads me to Amendment XV . . . Maybe this is the answer for me . . . "The right to vote could not be denied or abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." Now, African American men have the right to vote, but not me . . . (Passed by Congress February 26, 1869. Ratified February 3, 1870.)

The Constitution speaks of "persons." **Well, I'm a woman type person that deserves the right to vote!**

World War I helped fuel support for Amendment XIX.

(Passed by Congress June 4, 1919. Ratified August 18, 1920.)

At last **WOMEN** have earned the right to vote, but listen to the wording chosen for this momentous occasion. "Right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex."

So finally I have earned the right to vote after a long, hard battle for women!

I plan to use this special privilege on the second Tuesday of November to vote for President of the United States even though I am not thrilled with the choices available. Please join me by using your special right and obligation to keep our democracy working.

Patriotically yours, Ann Reaban

Source: The Journal of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History & Amendments of US Constitution

August Report



PCSRA Membership is currently 203.

AASRA (state) membership is 68.

Scholarship fund contains \$318.50.

October 13th Luncheon at OSL Church Defense against Fraud

\$11.00 each Postmark by Oct. 5 to:
PCSRA Reservations, 4315 E. Seneca St., 85712.

Menu: Meat & Cheese Ravioli, Green Salad,
Garlic Bread, Ice Cream, & Cookie

Name _____

Guest _____



Programs

~ Gloria Barnett



Gloria Barnett, First Vice-President, coordinates speakers for our monthly luncheon meetings and Michael Gordy, Second Vice-President, makes our luncheons run smoothly.

September 8, 2016 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Voting is Important
“Because Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport”
Betsy Bolding, League of Women Voters
Caterer: Leo's Mexican Restaurant

October 13, 2016 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Collection for Youth On Their Own
“Defense against Fraud”
Terri Alexon, Investor Education Coordinator for the
Securities Division: Arizona Corporation Division
Caterer: Tony's Italian Deli

November 10, 2016 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
“Strands of Barbed Wire” Documentary
“Veterans Patriotic Celebration”
Peter Bourret, Veteran and Author
Caterer: Tony's Italian Deli

December 8, 2016 ~ Viscount Suites
Holiday Celebration
“Rincon University High School Choraleers”
Mareena Boosamra Ball
White Elephant Gift Exchange

January 12, 2017 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Poetry, Magic, and Western Music
“Cattlemen at the Cantina”
Bill Black, Poet Sue Black, Guitar
Caterer: Tony's Italian Deli

February 9, 2017 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Panel of PCSRA Authors
“Journey toward Publishing/Why I Write”
Tucson Author Joe Sharkey
Caterer: Tony's Italian Deli

PCSRA Programs Planned

Thank you to all who gave us input regarding programs and menus this spring. We have a little something for everyone this year. Mark Paolini of Tony's Italian Deli returns as our caterer for most meals this year. We look forward to enjoying varied menus with special treats in November and March. A change or two may occur down the road, but this is so far!

March 9, 2017 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Legendary Teacher and Leadership Stories
“How to Catch a Swamp Frog”
Dr. Nicholas Clement, Retired Educator
Caterer: Tony's Italian Deli

April 13, 2017 ~ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
PCSRA Service Award
“Honoring One of Our Own”
Cecilia Aros ~ PCSRA Scholarship Recipient
Caterer: Tony's Italian Deli

May 11, 2017 ~ Viscount Suites
Memorial “A Time of Remembrance”
“Learning to be Retired”
Vicki Ballentine, Retired Amphi Superintendent
PCSRA Officer Installation

Annual PCSRA Membership

\$16

Luncheon Meeting

\$11

Fellowship

Priceless



Collection for YOTO in October

One of PCSRA's Objectives is: "To offer avenues for school retirees to continue serving education and the community. By choosing "Youth On Their Own," we are really focusing on both needs: education and the community. YOTO is working with these young people living on their own by giving them a better chance for a meaningful life by keeping them in school. Their progress is monitored by a counselor on a monthly basis to offer encouragement which is missing from the lack of parental involvement.

We help by donating supplies desperately needed by these kids living on their own. It is very difficult for these young people to do homework if they have not slept, have not eaten, are wearing dirty clothes, and have no supplies. Our October collection can help keep these young people in school.

You will be given two baggies at the end of our September meeting: one for small items and another for the bigger items that are on the list.

Non-perishable food items (within expiration date):

Macaroni & cheese	Cereal
Canned soup	Bottled water
Canned pasta	Canned meats
Spaghetti sauce & pasta	Canned fruits
Peanut butter & jelly	Ramen noodles

NEW, regular size personal care products:

Feminine hygiene products	Toothbrushes/paste
Body wash/soap	Dental floss
Shaving Cream	Razors
Shampoo/Conditioner	Deodorant

Household items:

Toilet paper	Paper Towels
Laundry detergent pods	Dryer sheets

NEW undergarments (sizes to fit 11-21 year olds):

Boxers (no briefs, please)	Ladies underwear
Athletic socks (short/ankle)	Bras (all sizes & styles)

If you wish to make a monetary contribution, please make your check to Youth On Their Own, NOT PCSRA, to receive a tax deduction.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the YOTO office at (520) 293-1136, or visit www.yoto.org.



Journey

go outside
and you will find risk
and also
you will see the stars
or
stay at home
on the shores
of the old world
safe from the edge
of a flat world
be Columbus
or Cousteau
or an astronaut
or the darling toddler
you once were
boldly taking that first step
into success or failure
be the brave soul
choosing to begin
the journey outward
the journey inward

Peter M. Bourret

Voices in the Desert to be Heard

It is important to have Arizonans speak up to their legislators via [Arizona Voices](http://www.azvoices.gov). It's very easy to use the website.

Go to [http://www.azvoices.gov/](http://www.azvoices.gov) It's simple to register for use. On that site you can find bills that are under consideration in either the House or the Senate AND to vote your opinion: Strongly Oppose, Oppose, Slightly Oppose, Slightly Agree, Agree, or Strongly Agree. You can also make comments.

I have been told that legislators do view the website. We can only hope that our opinions may make a difference.
~ Terry Bagwell



Retirement News

~ Jerry Holmes



- The Arizona State Retirement System announced that Assurant Employee Benefits, the ASRS **dental insurance provider**, was purchased by Sun Life Financial in March of 2016. Everything remains the same for enrollees except the name you will see on documents from the insurance provider will change. You will continue to use the same ID card, see the same dentist or use the same network. Benefits, deductibles and maximum benefits do not change.
- United Healthcare will continue to be the **health insurance provider** for ASRS retirees despite changes occurring in health plan exchanges for 2017. Those changes do not affect plans offered through ASRS.
- Senate Bill 1151, introduced and passed during the 2016 legislative session, continues the life of the **Arizona State Retirement System through 2024**. The state legislature on a periodic basis must extend the statutory life of state agencies.
- ASRS received the **Public Pension Standards Award** for 2015 from the Public Pension Coordinating Council. The award recognizes ASRS for “meeting professional standards for plan funding and administration.” This is the 11th consecutive year that ASRS has received this prestigious award.
- The market value of the ASRS fund is currently \$35.5 billion **and 77.53% funded as of 6/30/15**. That means if no one contributed another penny and all members retired, we would have nearly 80% of our funds available today. That’s outstanding in the world of public retirement funds.

There are 578,677 members active, inactive and retired in ASRS. There are currently 211,300 active members and 137,942 retired members or beneficiary recipients with 225,328 inactive members. Average age of active members is 45.7 and the average age of recipients is 70.4. The average monthly retirement benefit is \$1663.

Glimpse behind the Curtain of Arizona Education Funding

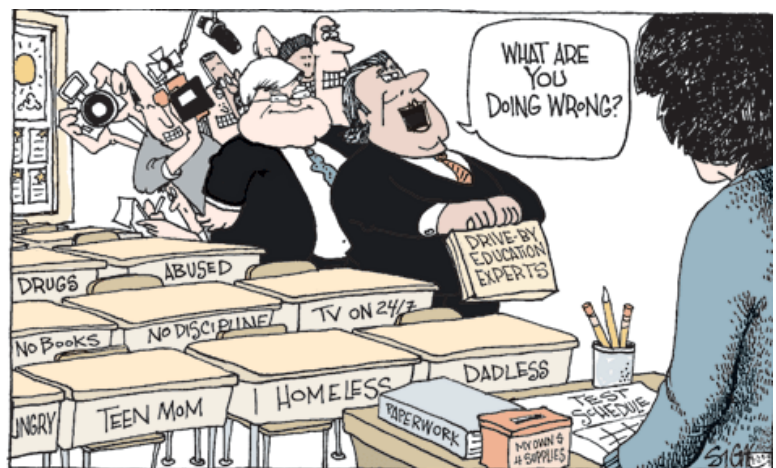
If you look at funding levels for each side, the passage of Prop 123 in the May election was almost a foregone conclusion. Those who supported the proposition raised over \$5 million dollars in cash and in kind donations. The opposition forces raised less than two percent of that, \$8,733.25 in cash. The pros had 573 times the amount of assets the cons had. Yet, of the 1,053,314 votes cast the proposition lost by only 19,416 votes or a 1.84% margin.

One individual, Bruce Halle, donated \$1 million in cash to the proponents of the measure. Mr. Halle is the founder and owner of Discount Tire. He is the richest resident in Arizona and the 248th richest person in the world with a personal wealth of about \$6 billion dollars. He also owns and operates a chain of charter schools in Arizona.



AZ Weeds Out Laws that Limit Consumption of School Gardens

A new law passed by the 2016 state legislature went into effect on August 6th that says county health departments can no longer regulate food grown in school gardens if it is prepared and served on site. Previously, there were a number of limitations on how school garden food could be served.



Legislators Take Undue Credit

Gov. Ducey and members of the state legislature have come under fire for not spending enough on education in Arizona. Legislators under attack claim more money is being spent on education in Arizona than at any time in the past.

As Senate president Andy Biggs said, “Education funding is a complex issue, but we know one thing: There’s more money going into education than ever before in state history”. Technically, this is correct.

Arizona’s K-12 schools have received more than \$10 billion for the '15-'16 school year. That funding includes state, federal, and local funding and is greater than at any time in the past. Increases in student numbers and accommodations for inflation have driven the amount of money up, not the initiative or good will of the legislature.

Arizona’s Joint Legislative Budget Committee says the legislature actually cut funding by \$170 million for the last school year (prior to the implementation of Prop 123). One school board president, in response to claims of historic funding amounts, commented, “We have more students in our system than we ever have before. It would only make sense.”

Who Knows What Dark Money Lurks in District #14? Jerry Knows!

Arizona State House District #14 in SE AZ saw a large flow of “dark money” contributions in the Republican primary race. David Gowan and David Stevens vacated two House seats in the sprawling district which encompasses portions of Tucson, Sierra Vista, Bisbee, Douglas, Safford, over to the New Mexico border and up to Hannigan’s Meadows.

There were four candidates in the Republican primary race. Two of those Republican candidates benefitted from nearly \$28,000’s worth in campaign flyers being mailed out by the American Federation for Children, Inc. (AFC) from D.C. AFC spent \$213,000 in AZ Republican primaries this year. The conservative group advocates for vouchers so that children can use public funds to attend any school, public or private.

District #14 House candidates Becky Ann Nutt and Anthony Sizer and incumbent State Senator Gail Griffin were supported by the flyers. Nutt is running as a Clean Elections candidate meaning she cannot receive money from special interest groups to receive public funding for her campaign. Because the money for the flyers was not donated to her campaign, but directly purchased the fliers in her support, she has technically complied with the Clean Elections Law. Nutt, who supports school choice, said she was initially unaware of the AFC mailer.

In District #14, 40% of voters are registered Republican, 27% Democrat and 32% are Independent or party not designated. Also, AFC has given \$43,766 to Republican House candidate David Stringer in Arizona House District 1. The Arizona Center for Investigative Reporting says that \$478,000 has been spent by “dark money” groups in the 2016 Arizona primary elections.



Education News

~ Jerry Holmes



Yeah! We’re better than Nevada, Louisiana, D.C., and New Mexico

Wallet Hub is a website that offers free credit scores, financial tools and products, and lots of data. In a study released August first, Wallet Hub listed Arizona schools as the 4th worst in the country based on several factors. Overall Arizona ranked 48th out of 51 for school systems (the District of Columbia was included). Arizona’s overall score for school quality was 34.36 compared to the highest scoring state, Massachusetts, with a score of 73.65.

One factor considered is student to teacher ratio with only Utah and California having more students to teachers than Arizona. Scores from 13 different metrics were used to arrive at the rankings. Metrics included math scores, reading scores, dropout rates, the percentage of licensed or certified teachers, high school graduation rates for low income students and the aforementioned student/teacher ratio.





Farewell

September 2016

Adams, Douglas (91) ~ 8/20; Teacher, Administrator

Armstrong, Nancy (82) ~ 7/21; Teacher

Babcock, Ellen (94) ~ 6/6; TUSD School Nurse

Barnes, Clare (94) ~ 6/18; Teacher

Bates, Nancy (78) ~ 5/25; Teacher

Bauer, Winifred (91) ~ 8/21; Teacher

Bishop, Fritz (69) ~ 5/1; Teacher

Bloom, Alexandra (88) ~ 6/13; Teacher

Bowler, Rupert (83) ~ 5/27; Teacher

Browne, Tillman (73) ~ 5/8; Teacher

Burke, Robert ~ 7/20; Industrial Arts Teacher

Burritt, Warner (91) ~ 7/20; Teacher

Byrd, Shirley (88) ~ 5/28; Teacher

Caruso, Samuel ~ 5/11; Patagonia, Amphi, &
Catalina Foot Hills High Schools AP Teacher

Chambers, Andrea (77) ~ 6/15; English & Ancient
History Teacher at Fenster School, administrator

Chatinsky, Lola (85) ~ 9/1; 3rd Grade Teacher at
Nash Elementary School

Clifford, Rebecca (69) ~ 7/18;
TUSD Food Service Supervisor

Corey, Janet (70) ~ 5/19; High School Registrar

Daldrup, Lou Ann (86) ~ 7/26;
Tucson High Counselor & Principal at
Sabino High & Catalina High Schools

Day, Eleanor (77) ~ 5/7; TUSD Substitute Teacher

Deeb, Mabel (88) ~ 8/6; TUSD

Drake, William (93) ~ 7/2; Science Teacher at
Mansfeld & Gridley Middle Schools

Duncan, Christina (73) ~ 5/7; Wheeler Elementary

Elandt, Daniel (80) ~ 6/27; Counselor at
CDO & Immaculate Heart

Esmay, Martha (96) ~ 5/12; Teacher

Firebaugh, Dennis (71) ~ Teacher of
History & Political Science

Frederickson, James (80) ~ 6/15; Teacher

Freestone, Sharon (80) ~ 6/12;
Physical Education Teacher

Gandolfi, Judith (69) ~ 5/10; Pueblo HS
Math and Computer Teacher

Garvin, Hettie (95) ~ 7/8; Teacher

Gingerich, Julia (87) ~ 7/19; Teacher

Hamilton, Elbert; Alice Vail
Middle School Math Teacher

Harrison, Joyce (62) ~ 6/9; Special Education
Teacher & Vice Principal

Hart, Toni ~ 5/14; Second Grade Teacher
at Lowell Smith

Haupt, Nancy (84) ~ 5/17; Elementary Teacher

Hayden, Mary (81) ~ 5/27; Jr High & HS Teacher

Hemmeter, Jon (67) ~ 8/3; Tucson High
Magnet School Theater Teacher

Hobson, Karen (61) ~ 8/13; Borton
Primary Magnet School Teacher

Homan, Mac (82) ~ 5/28; Teacher

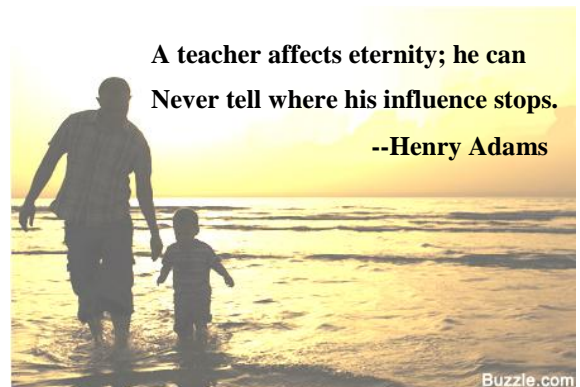
Huisinga, Carmin (94) ~ 6/8; Teacher

Jolley, Elizabeth (62) ~ 8/11; Teacher



**A teacher affects eternity; he can
Never tell where his influence stops.**

--Henry Adams





Farewell

- ***Jones**, Charlotte (86) ~ 8/20; Teacher
- Kaith**, Dolores (83) ~ 2/5; Peter Howell & Rogers Elementaries Teacher
- Kaplan**, Vivian "Vicki" (79) ~ 6/30; Teacher
- Keever**, Kent (52) ~ 5/7; Teacher
- Lahrgoue**, Imogene (93) ~ 8/17; Teacher
- Linares**, Paul I., Sr. (64) ~ 7/24;
AZ State School for the Deaf and Blind
- Logan**, Donna Jean (80) ~ 7/23; Flowing Wells Special Education Bus Driver, Ops Coordinator
- Loutzenheiser**, Jeanette (69) ~ 5/22; Teacher
- Marts**, Larry ~ 4/18; Teacher at Lineweaver, Mansfield, & Townsend Schools
- Mase**, Juana (90) ~ 7/12; Teacher
- McLaughlin**, Tracy (48) ~ 5/13; Teacher
- McEuen**, Arden (79) ~ 6/6; Teacher at Myers, Dunham, Robison, & Marshall Elementaries
- Mellen**, Gail (82) ~ 6/15; Sahuarita USD Secretary
- Merriman**, Audrey (89) ~ 8/19; Teacher
- Miller**, Ruth (93) ~ 3/9; Teacher
- Navarro**, Elizabeth (57) ~ 5/2; Education
- Nawrocki**, Eleanore (86) ~ 5/28; Sunnyside U Special Education Teacher
- Omari**, Evelyn (37) ~ 3/5; SUSD Substitute Teacher
- O'Neal**, Jean (94) ~ 6/21; TUSD Secretary
- Porter**, Gordon (95) ~ 6/11; Spanish & Portuguese Teacher
- Rauh**, Robert "Bobby" (81) ~ 6/7; Teacher at Roskruge, Wakefield, & Magee
- Reents**, Carol (70) ~ 5/8; Teacher
- Rinehart**, Carroll (92) ~ 8/16; TUSD Elementary Vocal Music Coordinator
- Rodriguez**, Connie (72) ~ 6/19; Headstart
- Rumic**, Sheryl (58) ~ 5/26; Teacher
- Salgado**, Ronald (71) ~ 7/17; TUSD Painter & Supervisor
- Schaler**, F. Dorothy (97) ~ 7/18; Salpointe High School
- Schutz**, George (68) ~ 6/29; Teacher
- Seagroves**, Jean (81) ~ 6/29; Teacher
- Stengel**, Walter (80) ~ 5/26; Teacher
- Walker**, Paula (63) ~ 7/11; Teacher
- Wood**, Ruth Ann (77) ~ 4/19; John B. Wright Elementary School
- Wuerschmidt**, Elaine (90) ~ 8/9; Teacher
- Zagona**, Ingeborg (99) ~ 6/6; Teacher at Roskruge Jr. High School

* PCSRA Member

Consider Ways to Keep Their Memories Alive

Talk about the ways people have touched your heart. Perform a deed in their name – read a book to a child; plant a tree; offer someone a bit of your time. Realize their importance in your life – do something the way they would have done it, tell stories about them, pass on their sage advice to the next generation.

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die." — Thomas Campbell

