# NEWSLETTER No. 2 October 2016 Professors Emeriti Club University of Utah



## Some perceptive – and, yes, partisan – reflections from State Senator **Jim Dabakis** on a heated election session

Utah State Senator Jim Dabakis came to Utah from Massachusetts to go to college in 1971. He has called Utah home ever since.

Sen. Dabakis was involved in radio and television from 1976 to 1989. He worked for all three major network television stations in Salt Lake City as well as numerous talk radio

stations. He was recognized with national awards during his time

as a journalist and talk show host. Sen. Dabakis was known as "Mr. Democrat" during his 13 years on Utah talk radio.

Sensing an opportunity in 1989 with the imminent collapse of communism, Dabakis quit broadcasting and moved to Eastern Europe with his partner (now husband) Stephen. He spent most of the next two years in Russia, China and living abroad, while developing a business around his passion – art.

Dabakis is passionate about equality and was chair of the Utah Pride Center and founding chair of Equality Utah.



"I love Utah Democrats!"

After volunteering in Scott Matheson's first run for governor in1976, Sen. Dabakis has remained an active Democrat.

In 2011, he was elected chair of the Utah Democratic Party. He called that full-time job (it paid \$1 a year!) "one of the most engaging,

fun, challenging and exciting things I have ever done."

The next year, Sen. Dabakis

was chosen by his party delegates to serve out the remaining two years of Ben McAdams' unexpired term.

Running for a four-year term in 2014, Sen. Dabakis received 75 percent of the vote and managed to raise over \$146,000 for his campaign. Contributions came from more than 1,100 private citizens – a record number.

The busy senator serves on the Executive Appropriations and Rules Committees. He also is a member of the committees on Higher Education Appropriations, Education, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment, plus Revenue and Taxes.

Luncheon Menu Tuesday, November 8, 12:15 p.m, Union Building Saltair Room Reservations should arrive by mail <u>by November 1</u> to Carol Stenger, 573 L St, Salt Lake City UT 84103 See page 5 for a reservation form Apple-Cranberry Spinach Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing Glazed Ham Roasted Yams ... Brussel Sprouts Pumpkin Pie ... Cranberry Spritzer/Water ... Coffee and Tea Service

Vegetarian Option: Meze Plate (Hummus, Ratatouille, Cucumber Salad, Pita) ... Fruit Plate Option

## **EMERITI DOINGS**

Also see p. 3

The first non-acdemic book written by Dr. **Noel de Nevers** in what he calls his "retirement project" has been published and is available through local booksellers.

The book is titled "The Kolob Tragedy: The Lost Tale of a Canyoneeing Calamity."

The emeritus professor of chemical engineering has written three textbooks within his field, but was challenged to find a more poignant literary voice in telling the gripping story of a 1993 canyoneering outing in southern Utah that ended in tragedy.

In a recent book review, the professor told *The Salt Lake Tribune* it took him a while to break the habit of writing a science manual. Indeed, the first publisher to receive his draft curtly replied that it read "like an engineering textbook."

It wasn't an easy fix. After first investing years into research and telephone inter-

views, it took Dr. de Nevers a daunting 12 years of editing and other academic projects before he found a publisher willing to accept the manuscript.

Tom Jones, a noted canyoneer who has authored books on the sport, worked with Dr. de Nevers in honing the text into a more readable and publishable style.

Readers may now delve into the "lost" events that flesh out the story of how two leaders of an eight-member church group – three adults and five teenagers – drowned while rappelling into the waters of Kolob

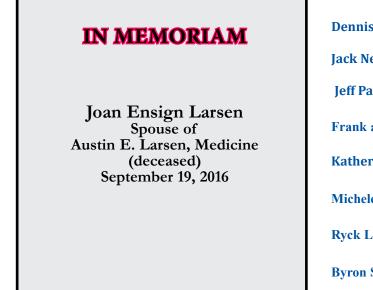
Canyon. The rest of the group was trapped five days awaiting rescue.

A lawsuit involving the National Park Service and a county water conservancy district was settled out of court.

To quote Ben Franklin: "Energy and persistence conquer all things." The patient professor likely would agree.

### Information on insurance open enrollment will be out in mid-October

You should receive in the mail this month a letter from the University Human Resources Office announcing this fall's health insurance open enrollment period. After October 15 you can call 801-581-7447 for further information which also will be posted on the HR website, *HR.utah.edu* You can find it near the middle of the page. Click on Retiree Section.



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### **2017 EMERITI TOUR**

Best of Devon & Cornwall + a Week in London

With an Option for

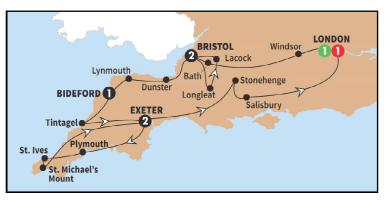


31 August – 14 September 2017

Are you a devotée of *Downton Abbey*? Then the 2017 Emeriti Club tour is for you! It's lovely to **travel** in autumn, so next September we'll be winging our way to Britain for a bit of town-&-country at an excellent exchange rate courtesy of Brexit. While there we'll have the option for an excursion to **Highclere** 

**Castle** and other *Downton Abbey* locations. Also **Buckingham Palace** is open to the public Aug/Sept, so I am looking into that as well.

Our tour begins with a full week on the loose in London. Hit the **traditional sights**: Tower of London, Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's. Immerse yourself in **great museums**. Explore the **South Bank** from Shakespeare's Globe to the London Eye. Enjoy the changing **London skyline** with its cheekily nicknamed skyscrapers. Search out **hidden gems** and **literary landmarks**. Take a **bicycle** 



ride along a canal. **Shop** Oxford St., Knightsbridge, Portobello Road. **Take tea** at Brown's or **take in a play** in the West End.



Then for a complete change we explore the frequently overlooked southwest counties of **Devon and Cornwall**. You PBS lovers of Doc Martin & Ross Poldark, be on the lookout for those gentlemen; for Pilgrim Fathers & King Arthur, and en route to St. Ives that man in the nursery rhyme with seven wives! Dramatic **rocky shorelines** and perfectly picturesque **coastal villages** embracing tiny harbors—you will think you have escaped into the past.

Prices are still in flux as we sort out hotel costs and wait on airfare. My goal: bring the tour in at an affordable price. On top of a 5% group discount for Devon/Cornwall, reserve your

place NOW with a <u>\$200 deposit</u> and take advantage of an additional 10% early payment discount...just think of it as the **Best Christmas Gift Ever!** 

Questions? Call Michele, 801-582-2806, or Monica at Thomas Travel, 801-266-2775

#### **EMERITI DOINGS**

Two of the "four extraordinary Utah women" involved in the Salt Lake Acting Company's upcoming production of Julie Jensen's **WINTER** are Emeriti Club members: professor and author Margaret Pabst Battin and actress Anne Cullimore Decker.

**WINTER's** theme is "getting out of this life with dignity." The play deals with family dynamics and having some control of your life, including the end. It has wonderful humor in it,



Peggy Battin



**Anne Decker** 

but also offers a perspective on what lies ahead as we face the last years. Are we really in charge? Do we have the courage to act on it? Who in our family do we really trust; who in our family truly understands us?

Dates are Oct. 12 to Nov. 13 (Wednesdays-Sundays, two performances on Sundays). Box office hours: 9am-6pm Mon-Fri; noon-9 Sat-Sun. Cost, times on specific dates: 801-363-7522 or *http:/ saltlakeactingcompany.org/attend/buy-tickets*. Pioneer Theatre Company's Season

Pioneer Theatre Company 300 S. 1400 E. SLC, UT 84112 801-581-6961

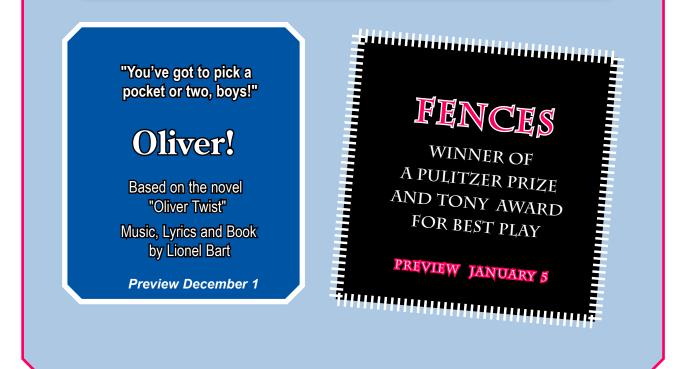


**New Emeriti Club members** are entitled to a pair of FREE preview tickets, and may collect them in person from the PMT box office.

## The Glass Menagerie Preview Oct. 20

A gentle and moving masterpiece of American theatre

One of the most timeless and famous plays ever written, in which Amanda Wingfield and her painfully shy daughter Laura await the arrival of "the Gentleman Caller" who will transform the dross of their everyday lives into fine-spun gold..



Ticket Pi	ckup, Preview Dates
GLASS MENAGERIE T Oct 5	<b>WOMEN IN JEOPARDY</b> T Jan 23
P Oct 20	P Feb 9
OLIVER! T Nov 7 P Dec 1	KING CHARLES IIITFeb 27PMar 23
<b>FENCES</b> T Dec 19	WILL ROGERS FOLLIES T Apr 10
P Jan 5	P May 4

## Why aren't you getting out with us and having fun?

Our **Emeritus Hiking Group** has outings planned every Friday morning throughout the year, plus an extended trip in Spring or Fall. Our motto is "Health, Happiness, and Camaraderie." In August we had 22 individuals, from a teenager to octogenarians, hiking two miles in to beautiful Lake Lackawaxen. Where is Lake Lackawaxen? It is just the other side of Mt. Majestic from Brighton, and best accessed from Guardsman Pass. Another new outing for us was a mid-September easy hike to Art Nord from Snow Basin. Our mailing list is managed by **Bill Gray** *cyberflora@xmission.com* and **Suzanne Stensaas** *suzanne.stensaas@hsc.utah.edu* Email one of us if you wish to join our list.



### Scheduled hikes until Thanksgiving

14 Oct	Suzanne Stensaas	Mill Creek: Old Red Pine Road	Moderate
21 Oct	The Bennions	Bonneville Shoreline Trail, Davis County	Easy
28 Oct	Barbara Eaton	Mormon Trail from Little Emigration Cyn	Moderate
4 Nov	Rose Novak	Mormon Trail from Little Dell Reservoir	Easy
11 Nov	Suzanne Stensaas	Stansbury Island Petroglyphs	Easy
18 Nov	Joyce Foster	Jordan River Parkway	Easy

### Luncheon Reservation Form Tuesday, November 8, 12:15 pm, Union Saltair Room

Name	_Ham	Veggie Plate	Fruit Plate	
Partner	_Ham	Veggie Plate	_ Fruit Plate	
Guest(s)	_Ham	Veggie Plate	_ Fruit Plate	
Number attending @ \$16.00 each		Luncheon total: \$		
Voluntary dues for 2016/17 \$12.00 Single, \$24.00	Couple		Total \$	
		Total end	closed \$	

PLEASE NOTE: You may use the reservation form at any time to send in your <u>dues only</u> without actually attending the luncheon.

Make check payable to PROFESSORS EMERITI CLUB. Payment should <u>arrive by</u> November 1 Send payment to: *Carol Stenger, 573 L St., Salt Lake City UT 84103*