



### President's Message

Happy New Year, Dear Elder Quest Friends.

As I recall our Fall Semester, I want to thank all of you for helping to make it a huge success. Thanks to all of you teachers who put in so much time and effort to educate us, your students. We appreciate your willingness to share your knowledge and talents with us. Thanks to all of you who served so diligently on the Board or on various committees to insure that Elder Quest would be a well-run organization. Without each of you sharing your gifts and abilities with us, it would not be the outstanding educational organization it has become over the last twenty-five years.

We reluctantly bid goodbye to teachers Lester Campbell, Deon Ruf, Anne and Mel Luthy, Jim Wright, and Gary Browning. We thank each of them for their countless hours of stimulating instruction in Life After Life, Poetry, Seeing the World Through Different Lenses, The World and I, and Russian Literature. Hopefully, each of these Elder Quest teachers will be returning to teach us next Fall Semester.

Our Current Events Luncheons were a huge success. In October it was so encouraging to hear from the scholarship recipients at our luncheon and realize what we are doing to help them with their education. I am so pleased we are able to share our love of learning with these students by contributing to the Scholarship Fundraiser at our April Seminar.

In November Fraser Bullock talked about the 2002 Olympics and gave us background information on details that we would not have known without his sharing with us. Because I was a volunteer at the Olympics, it was particularly interesting to me to hear more about it.

Our December luncheon put us in the mood for the Christmas holidays with the great music and beautiful voice of Tanya Barkdull. What a great beginning to the Christmas season.

Likewise, our Potpourri speakers contributed to our education. Brent Ashworth talking about his collection of Historical Documents and bringing many of them for us to examine, Ken Wainwright sharing his experiences of riding a bicycle across the United States, and Maralyn J. Hoff, the Earthquake Lady, teaching us what we need to do to prepare for the eventuality of an earthquake. How very interesting all of these were.

And finally, our day trips to Adobe out in Lehi at Silicon Slope and our visit to the Living Planet Aquarium in Draper added to our knowledge as we continued to learn.

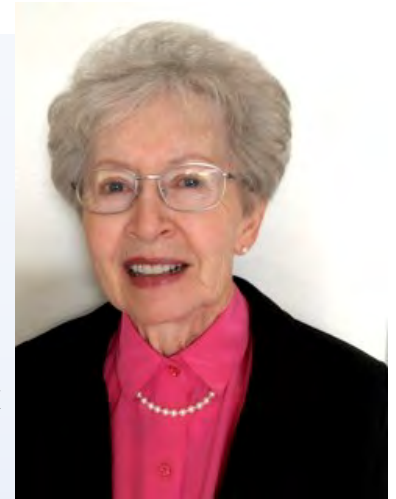
Thanks to all of you who served each other last semester in Elder Quest.

As we approach Winter Semester, I want to welcome four new teachers: Gordon Dunn, David Wilson, Robert Griffith, and Ott Dameron. Later in the newsletter, you will learn more about each of these gentlemen and what they will be teaching.

We anxiously look forward to continuing the great traditions we have in Elder Quest as we begin this New Year. Please continue to spread the word and invite your friends and acquaintances to join with us.

Sincerely,

*Fran Reiser,*





## **Gordon Dunn**

### **“Birth, Life and Future of Planet Earth ” Monday at 2:30 pm**

Dr. Dunn was born and graduated from high-school in Montpelier, Idaho. He attended the University of Utah and the University of Washington where obtained his PhD in Physics.

He conducted research in Atomic and Molecular Physics. He was a consultant to Science and Technology Committee of the US House of Representatives and was a guest professor in Sweden. He has received a number of awards and is a fellow of American Physical Society. He also served as Chairman of the National Research Council on Atomic, Molecular and Optical Sciences and co-directed the writing and producing of a volume discussing the future of that discipline. His bio has been listed a number of times in "Who's Who in America, in science and Engineering.

## **David A. Wilson**

### **“Living an Energy Efficient Life”**

**Thursday at 1 pm**

*David A. Wilson* has both a B.A. and an M.A. from Brigham Young University (BYU) in Organizational Communications and Consulting. He has over thirty years of experience in the housing industry with emphasis on energy conservation and efficiency for both new and existing homes. He has conducted numerous energy building code training workshops involving hundreds of building officials, contractors, and design professionals throughout Utah and the Southwest. He has also developed numerous presentations and workshops detailing the interactive role of energy codes, the EPA Energy Star HOMES Program, and the HERS program(s).

David is currently the Executive Director of the Utah Energy Conservation Coalition/Energy Rated Homes of Utah (a non-profit training and education organization). He has significant experience as a manager, administrator, trainer, and negotiator as well as extensive knowledge of local, state and federal government operations pertaining to energy issues and concerns.

David lives in Orem with his wife Charlene. When not at work, David enjoys working with the Boy Scouts of America in the Venturing program for older youth, working in his yard, doing things outdoors (hiking, camping, SCUBA Diving, and backpacking) as well as growing orchids.



## **Robert Griffiths**

### **“Understanding China Today”**

**Tuesday at 2:30 pm**

Robert Griffiths is recently retired as a Senior U S Foreign Service Officer, rank of Minister Counselor and is currently an instructor in Chinese Politics at the University of Utah. He previously taught economics and Chinese studies at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C.



As part of his 34 year career with the State Department, he lived and worked in greater China for 14 years, most recently as US Consul General in Shanghai (2011-14). Previous postings abroad include Beijing, Bangkok, Taipei, Kaohsiung and Bogota, Colombia. He served in the U. S Senate for a year as foreign policy advisor to Harry Reid, (D-NV) and worked in the Asia Policy shop of the Secretary of Defense.

He has a B. A. in Asian Studies and a masters degree in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School. He has spoken frequently at universities in the U. S., China and Thailand and been interviewed on National Public Radio and other programs both in the USA and abroad. He has lived in or visited 35 countries on every continent and speaks Chinese and Thai.

He is married to Jeanne Decker Griffiths and they have three grown children.



## **Ott Dameron**

### **“The World and I”**

**Wednesday at 10:30 AM**

*Note: Ott is substituting for Jim Wright who is being a snowbird in St. George.*

Ott was born and raised in West Virginia. When he grew up he enlisted in the Navy and became a carrier pilot on the USS Independence. After seven years of active military service, he joined the Air Force Reserves where he served for sixteen years and retired as a Major in the U. S. Air Force.

Ott also has spent time working in the Army National Guard. During this period of time, he became the City Manager for Lindon City, retiring in 2013.

He and his wife, Cynthia, are the parents of four children and have 6 grandchildren. They have lived in Orem for 32 years. In past years, they have been very involved with the Hale Center Theater and enjoyed being in several productions.

Ott earned his BS in Accounting at West Virginia Technical College and his Master of Public Administration at BYU. For recreation, Ott, enjoys Horseshoe competition and has been a champion at that sport.

# OUR DAY TRIP TO THE LIVING PLANET AQUARIUM

By Sharon Ann H. Bird, January 6, 2016

It was a clear sunny morning, Veterans Day, 2016, when 28 eager life-long learners waited at Orem Senior Friendship Center to pile into our little UVU bus to go see the fabulous new Living Planet Aquarium in South Salt Lake County. When we arrived, instead of an ordinary mundane museum with only fish tanks, we saw an astonishing, huge, beautiful, sleek, shiny, free-form-shaped, modern building that housed, not one, but many separate museums inside.

As we entered, we each received a brochure map to help navigate our way. We scattered, wandering in many directions, separately and in groups, wherever we wanted to go. Because of the holiday, we saw many young families-children of all ages with mothers and fathers both carrying babies-all learning about this world we live in.

Real environmental living conditions were represented for many areas of the earth, titled Ocean Explorer, Deep Sea Lab, Antarctic Adventure, Discover Utah, Journey to South America, and Expedition Asia.

The Brazil room was so large you could not see the other end! It was so humid you could hardly breathe, and very hot, filled with real South American plants and animals. We saw strange creatures there such as a real Electric Eel (with an explanation of how it works and a note that we also have electricity inside us). We also saw a scary- looking big Green Anaconda Snake and Poison Dart Frogs.

The Penguin place was freezing cold to imitate Antarctic weather. It was fun to watch playful penguins show off and dive and swim under water! In Discover Utah, we saw an immense Desert Tortoise, large and tiny fish, and also North American River Otters. In Expedition Asia, we saw Clouded Leopards and Small-Clawed Otters. Real Sharks swam over our heads as we walked under their glass pool, hoping the glass would not break!

This Living Planet Aquarium is so large that you could explore it all day! In the large and spacious foyer, hanging from a very high ceiling was a facsimile of a Tremendous life-size whale, seemingly big as a house!

There were so many things to see that none of us got to see everything. Before leaving, we gathered together to watch, through special eyeglasses, an interesting three- dimension film about strange creatures on the Galapagos Islands- in the Pacific Ocean only a few hundred miles southwest from California-creatures that inspired Charles Darwin to develop his Theory of Evolution!

We learned more appreciation for the great diversity of life on our Living Planet and the complex, complicated ways animals and plants adapt to their very different environments. We are grateful to Elder Quest for making day trips like this possible.





## **Day Trip to Adobe, Lehi, UT**

**By Richard Reiser**

All good seniors who have been baptized into the club dedicated to LIFE-LONG LEARNING were probably in the large group riding the efficient UVU bus north on I-15 Friday, October 14, 2016, to visit the Lehi operation at the huge, though tastefully designed Adobe facility, in the Silicon Slope of Northern Utah Valley. Rip Van Winkle would not recognize the digital explosion that has occurred at the Point of the Mountain in Utah County. Most of the new construction in that area is associated with the digital industry in the Silicone Valley of California.

The huge Adobe building dominates the landscape of the area and, therefore, piques the interest of those curious about life-long learning. Hence the tour! We wanted to learn just exactly what goes on there. We discovered it is occupied by over 400 apparently intelligent young people, both male and female, who appear to enjoy the work environment. We were introduced to many conference rooms, open work areas, health and exercise facilities, spacious food areas for employees, and many large rooms housing frenetic computer screens that we were told displayed digital data from sources all over the world – and constantly changing. This apparently is what Adobe does. We were told it has access to any or all of Adobe's data processing centers throughout the world.

Ordinary citizens like any of us, (though much younger) seemed to staff the workplace. Nothing mystical or magical at all. We did learn talking with the pleasant people with whom we had contact, that most employees were very happy to be there and not forced to move to the West Coast


We were not allowed to visit the large room where the mysterious computers are housed, but were impressed with the complex cooling system necessary to keep the genius machines working efficiently. It was very interesting for us Seniors to try to comprehend this amazing procedure.

The olde guy, (me) enjoyed the visit and hop others found it to be a worth the trip.

# JVU Elder Quest Class Schedule – Winter 2017

January 23-March 31

Revised Jan 11, 2017

| Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday  |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p><b>No classes</b></p> <p><b>Monday Mornings</b></p>  <p>UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY</p> <p>1:00 - 2:15 pm</p> <p><b>Best Book Reviews</b></p> <p><i>Always looking for a great book to read? Join us for some fun and stimulating reading and conversation.</i></p> <p><b>Dale and Margene Shumway</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>2:30 - 3:45 pm</p> <p><b>Birth, Life and Future of Planet Earth</b></p> <p><i>Join us as we explore the life of our great spaceship, Earth.</i></p> <p><b>Gordon Dunn</b><br/>Senior Center</p> | <p>10:30 - 11:45 am</p> <p><b>Writing Your Personal History: One Story at a time</b></p> <p><i>Learn the tips and tricks to make your personal history tell your story.</i></p> <p><b>Barbara Willes</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>1:00-2:15 pm</p> <p><b>Organ Instruction</b></p> <p><b>Jodi King and Kevin Price</b><br/>Piano Gallery</p> <p>1:00-2:15 pm</p> <p><b>Living an Energy Efficient Life</b></p> <p><i>How to use your home energy efficiently and lower your utility bills.</i></p> <p><b>David Wilson</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>2:30 - 3:45 pm</p> <p><b>Understanding China Today</b></p> <p><i>Understanding everything you read and hear about the world's new superpower.</i></p> <p><b>Robert Griffith</b><br/>Senior Center</p> | <p>9:00-10:30 am</p> <p><b>Watercolor Painting</b></p> <p><i>Sponsored by Elder Quest</i></p> <p>Coordinated by<br/><b>Berni Mortensen</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>10:30 - 11:45 am</p> <p><b>"The World and I"</b></p> <p><i>An intriguing and thrilling discussion of current events where all can agree to disagree.</i></p> <p><b>Ott Dameron</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>1:00 - 2:15 pm</p> <p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday only</b></p> <p><b>Potpourri Lecture Series</b></p> <p><u>January 25</u><br/><b>Dr. James Baer</b><br/><i>Climate change</i></p> <p><u>February 22</u><br/><b>Officer Jeremy Jameson</b><br/><i>Senior fraud</i></p> <p><u>March 22</u><br/><b>Janice Kapp Perry</b><br/><i>Senior Center Lounge</i></p> | <p>10:30-11:45 am</p> <p><b>Shakespeare for Beginners</b></p> <p><b>Macbeth</b></p> <p><b>A Midsummer Night's Dream</b></p> <p><i>Delight with us in the language and literature of the Bard.</i></p> <p><b>Dave Johnson and Glen Smith</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>1:00-2:15 pm</p> <p><b>The Joy of Music</b></p> <p><i>How to listen to and enjoy the music of the past and present.</i></p> <p><b>Esther Megargel</b><br/>Senior Center</p> <p>2:30 - 3:45 pm</p> <p><b>New Developments in New Testament Scholarship</b></p> <p><i>Learn how dramatically our understanding of the New Testament has changed over the last 100 years.</i></p> <p><b>Don Norton</b><br/>Senior Center</p> | <p>1:00 – 3:30 pm</p> <p><b>Best of Old Favorite Movies</b></p> <p><i>The greatest and best of the movies you remember and maybe some you don't!</i></p> <p><b>Claude and Deanne Hubbard</b><br/>Orem City Library</p> <p>Day Trips<br/><u>February 24</u><br/><b>NuSkin—9 am</b></p> <p><u>March 24</u><br/><b>Roots of Knowledge—9 am</b></p> <p>Luncheons: Cost \$16<br/>January 18 - Noon<br/>February 15 - Noon<br/>March 15– 6 pm</p> <p><i>All luncheons are held at the UVU Culinary Arts building L 661 East Timpanogos Parkway</i></p> <p>Spring Seminar and Scholarship Fundraiser<br/>Wednesday April 12<br/>10:30 am—3 pm</p> <p>Sleepy Ridge Golf Course Club House<br/>730 S. Sleepy Ridge Dr., Orem</p> |

# UVU ELDER QUEST OFFICIAL REGISTRATION 2016-17

|                         |        |                |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Participant First Name: |        |                |
| Participant Last Name:  |        |                |
| Preferred Name:         |        | (for name tag) |
| Address:                |        |                |
| City:                   | State: | Zip Code:      |
| Home Phone:             | Cell:  | Work:          |
| Email:                  |        | (optional)     |

I wish to receive the newsletter by mail.

- Enclosed is the annual membership fee of \$40.00 (cash or check) for the academic year 2016-17. **Please make checks payable to UVU Elder Quest.**
- Luncheons, dinners, day trips, extended travel and some activities will require additional payments.
- Your UVU Elder Quest member name tag will be provided which you should wear to all classes and activities.

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| Emergency Contact Name:  |
| Emergency Contact Phone: |
| Relationship:            |

Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
*By signing this, I verify that I have read and agree to the RISKS AND HAZARDS: STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND RELEASE found on reverse side of this page.*

*Information on this form will be used for direct contact only and will not be shared with any other organization except in connection with notification of and participation in UVU Elder Quest activities.*

**Please return this completed form with your \$40.00 annual membership fee to:**

UVU Elder Quest  
 % Gerhard Ruf, Treasurer  
 64 South 1000 East  
 Orem UT 84097

President-Fran Reiser: 801-225-0268

Vice President: Janet Wright 801-607-2268

Email questions to [elderquest@uvu.edu](mailto:elderquest@uvu.edu)

## Fun and Interesting!

### EQ Potpourri Lecture Series

4th Wed at 1 pm

January 25 *Dr. James Baer Climate change*

February 22 *Officer Jeremy Jameson Senior fraud*

March 22 *Janice Kapp Perry Senior Center Lounge*

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### EQ Day Trips

February 24 *NuSkin* —9 am

March 24 *Roots of Knowledge*—9 am

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### EQ Luncheons

*UVU Culinary Arts Building L*

January 18—12 noon

February 15—12 noon

March 15—6 pm (*Teacher appreciation night*)

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SPRING SEMINAR**

**Wed, April 12 at 10:30 am**

***Sleep Ridge Golf Course Club House***





# Traveling with Elder Quest

Joan Hahn & Carla Teasdale

## Branson Trip Report

September, 2016, we flew away to Branson to see 5 shows and then on to St. Louis to visit the famous Arch and see the Clydesdale Horses. In Hannibal, MO we visited Mark Twain, Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn and Becky Thatcher. We ended in Nauvoo with tours, temple visits, and the Missionary Show.



## Upcoming Trips 2017

Our upcoming trips are "The Little Known West" or "Fun in the Sun with Joan & Carla". We leave April 3-8 and have 35 people on this trip. **This trip is closed.**

**The Logan Musical and Opera Festival** is July 26th-28th and will be so much fun. This trip includes 3 musicals, "Rex" starring Michael Ballem as King Henry VIII. This is the story of King Henry and his 6 wives. The other two musicals are "The Music Man" & "Hunchback of Notre Dame". The Opera this year is the beloved "Madama Butterfly". There is an informance before each show to help you understand the plot, and Joan also does information before each show and a wrap-up afterwards.

The shows are the main attraction but we all love shopping at the Pepperidge Farm Outlet, Gossner Cheese, Honeyland, Bluebird and Idle Isle Chocolates and eating fabulous meals together including Maddox! **This trip is still open** and we can take more people and would love to have you join us.

August 16th-18th will find us in **Cedar City for the Shakespeare Festival and Tuacahn Outdoor Theatre**. At Cedar City we will be seeing "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Treasure Island". At Tuacahn we will see two great Broadway Musicals, "Mamma Mia" & "Newsies." We also have wonderful meals planned and shopping at the outlets. **This trip is also open** and we would love more Elder Questers to join us.

Our "piece de resistance" this year is our **New England & Canada Cruise with New York City add ons**. The cruise takes us from New York City to Boston, Portland, Maine, Halifax, Nova Scotia and Saint John, New Brunswick. You do not need a passport for this trip because you leave and return to New York City. The Cruise goes from Oct. 7 to Oct. 14th. We like people to fly in a day early so as not to miss the cruise, or you can fly in on a Red Eye flight the day of the Cruise. Our pre day includes a hotel in Times Square and an Uptown City Tour. You may also have time for a Broadway Show the evening you arrive depending on flight times. If you do the three day Post Day Cruise, that includes the 911 Museum, 2 night Hotel Stay, and a Broadway Show and Dinner. Plus Carla & Joan will be there to help you see the things you are most interested in during the days and evenings you are there. Be it Museums, Statue of Liberty, Empire State Building, 5th Ave., Yankee Stadium, we will make sure you get there.

Our trips are planned with an eye towards the educational value they contain and Joan & Carla will be with you every step of the way. Don't miss this opportunity to travel with friends and see more of our exciting world.

Year's end is  
neither an end  
nor a beginning  
but a going on,  
with all the wisdom  
that experience  
can instill in us.  
Happy New Year





L to R Front: Suzanne Hammond, Julia Blair, Dorothy Purcell, Sharon Bird, Fran Reiser, Janet Harmon  
 L to R Back: Tal Huber, TerryAnn Harward, Carol Hinckley, Grace Berrett, Dave Johnson, Cathy Carter,  
 Gerhard Ruf, Richard Reiser, Janet Wright      Not pictured: Joan Hahn and Karen Cloward

### UVU Elder Quest Board of Directors

**2016-2017**

|                 |                 |                      |                                  |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| President       | Fran Reiser     | Membership           | Cathy Carter                     |
| Vice-President  | Janet Wright    | Luncheon Speakers    | Tal Huber                        |
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| Treasurer       | Gerhard Ruf     | Facilitator          | Barbara Hoag                     |
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Although no  
one can go back  
and make a  
brand new start,  
anyone can  
start from now  
and make a  
brand new  
ending.

— — *Carl Bard*

**Join us in UVU Elder Quest!**

## **UVU Elder Quest**

Give us a call for more information  
about UVU Elder Quest

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385-219-8449

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801 225-0268

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.uvu.edu/elderquest](http://www.uvu.edu/elderquest)

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