



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

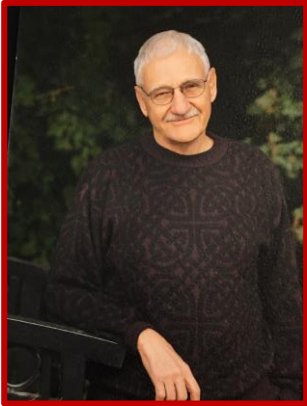
Professors Emeriti Club

Emeriti

NEWSLETTER

No. 4 December 2018

Wicked Problems: An Idea Whose Time Has Come



The “wickedness” of Halloween is long over, and the Broadway production of *Wicked* at the Eccles Theatre has yet to come. For now, we have *Wicked Problems*, the subject of what will surely be a fascinating talk by **Joseph C. Bentley**, Emeritus Professor of Management, at our **January 8 Luncheon**. The following is a brief overview of his topic, culled mainly from Professor Bentley’s website at www.tamingwickedproblems.com and a recent article.

Former Secretary of State George Shultz once drew a distinction between “problems you can solve” and “problems you can only work at.” These two kinds of problems have names: the ones that can be solved are “Tame” and the ones that can only be worked on are “Wicked.” Examples of current “wicked” problems include the threat of nuclear annihilation; danger of overpopulation; degradation of the global environment including climate change; gap between the developing and the industrial worlds; breakdown in public and private morality; and democratic versus authoritarian governing systems.

Wicked problems present us with a predicament: They are messy, confusing, dynamic, ill-structured, and ambiguous. There are no final solutions, only temporary arrangements. Yet most of the important problems we face in our lives are wicked and not tame. As parents, leaders, managers, colleagues, spouses and friends, we have no real choice except to face up to them and do our best. Yet it could be worth it. “When you are up against problems ‘you can only work at,’” observed author Gary Hamel, “even modest advances can yield big dividends. “It may turn out,” says Hamel, “that many of the 21st century’s more perplexing...problems are the ones we can only work at—they will resist attempts at quick fixes, but will reward persistent, imaginative efforts.”

Luncheon Menu

Tuesday, January 8, 12:15 p.m. Union Building, Saltair Room

Reservations should arrive by mail or online by **January 2**.

Online with credit card at: <https://academic-senate.utah.edu/professors-emeriti-club>

By mail to **Carol Stenger**, 573 L St., Salt Lake City, UT 84103

See page 5 for a reservation form

[Fifty-cent charge for credit card payment; this is equal to the price of a first-class stamp]

Broccoli Salad on Greens
Beef Lasagna
Seasonal Vegetable
Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Icing
Vegetarian Option: Vegetable Lasagna
Fruit Plate Option

“What Can I Do?”

From the Executive Board

After almost 250 years, the United States remains a precarious experiment in democratic self-governance and commitment to basic human rights. And the current juncture in our history seems to provide little comfort. Regardless of the side of the political aisle on which one is perched, the stakes seem especially high. As educators, scholars, and public servants, members of the Professors Emeriti Club follow current events with keen interest and typically harbor strong, well-reasoned views about the direction of our state, nation, and the world. The current leadership of the Professors Emeriti Club feel the gravest possible concern, indeed deep angst, triggered by daily news of the deadly effects of climate change, the continuance of gun violence, the rising number of hate crimes, the unresolved problems of immigration, health care, infrastructure, and more. The list goes on, and our government seems unable to consider real solutions, instead indulging in mere partisan bickering. Like you, we ponder, “What can I do?”

One thing we can do is, invite you to write short, constructive statements (no longer than the above) expressing your strategies for personal action and/or your reasons for hope. We will reserve space for one or two such expressions in each newsletter next spring. No hand wringing, no blaming. Educating is our mission. Healing is our hope.

Executive Board 2018-2019

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In Memoriam

Robert Bliss

Architecture
November 2, 2018

Malcolm Sillars

Communication
November 12, 2018.

Alice M. Hanniball

Spouse of Gus Hanniball
Marriott Library
Nov. 14, 2018

Wish to Serve? Consider This:

The U of U Alumni Association is excited to announce **ALUMNIFIRE**, a mentoring program for current U students and young alumni looking for career guidance from a trusted source. **As an integral part of the U community, members of the Professors Emeriti Club are invited to join this exciting networking platform.** It is free, and you can determine how much time and interaction you can offer—from résumé advice to informational interviews to developing full mentor relationships. **If you wish to help, please go to <https://uofu.alumnifire.com/>; for questions contact Amy Gleason, Alumni Career Services, at 801-585-5036.**

!!! FOUR SPACES REMAINING !!!

Portugal in Depth

Time is fleeting, *meus amigos!* The group space held for Emeriti Club members, family & friends must be released on December 18. You may still sign up for our wonderful tour after that date *if there is space*, but a place is no longer guaranteed. So do not delay! Hesitate and you may miss out on a splendid journey of discovery in the good company of cheerful colleagues!

To inspire you, let me share **a bit of Portuguese folklore** to give you a flavor of the country we will be visiting: A pilgrim en route to Santiago de Compostella was unjustly arrested for theft and condemned to die. Pleading before the judge at his dinner, the pilgrim, denied mercy, declared that as proof of his innocence the roasted fowl on which the judge was dining would rise up and crow. To the judge's astonishment, the bird arose from the platter and gave a loud cry. The pilgrim was freed and the **rooster** cock became the Portuguese **emblem of justice triumphant** and of **good luck**. I challenge you to return home without at least one rooster souvenir....



Another little something to whet your appetite: A distinctive feature of the Portuguese street scene (quite literally) is the **Calçada Portuguesa** or Portuguese pavement. You will find these primarily in pedestrian areas ranging from the geometric to floral to figurative—as you see here! Take a break from looking up at the Manueline architecture and you'll find what's beneath your feet every bit as beautiful! Come be part of the adventure!



Request a full itinerary! ~ Join your Emeriti colleagues for this wonderful Journey of Discovery!

Land: \$2,219 per person double occ. **Air:** working on it
Single supplement: \$570 **Triple discount:** \$65 per person
Group space released Dec. 18, 2018 **Final payment due:** Jan. 31, 2019

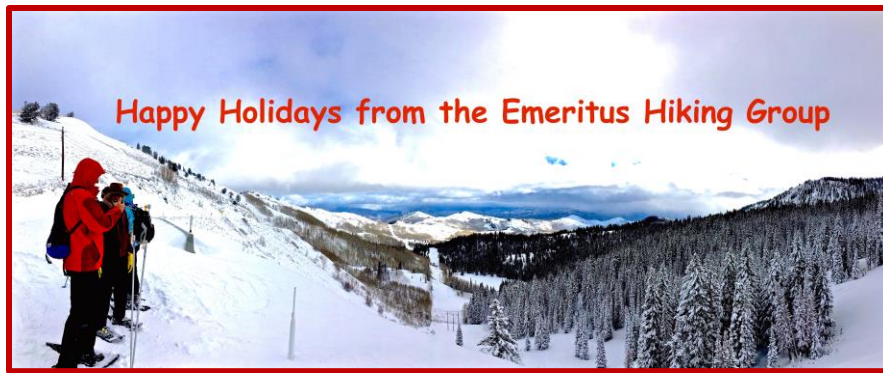
Questions? Call Michele, 801-582-2806; or Monica at Thomas Travel, 801-266-2775

An Invitation To Learn and/or Play Pickle Ball



Our Membership and Program Facilitator, **Ryck Luthi**, has a special invitation for Emeriti Club members:

The Sports Mall (5445 South 900 East, east side of the road) offers **Pickle Ball lessons or play time** on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to noon. The lessons are a good, easy way to learn the game. If you are interested, you can meet me there on **December 12 at 10:50 a.m.** and I will verify you for a guest pass (your cost would be \$8 dollars). Paddles and equipment are furnished. Comfortable clothing is suggested, and sport shoes are required. The trainer will teach the fundamentals and some simple stretching. Pickle ball is very popular with many of our colleagues. **Please let me know if you can join me on December 12 or if you might be interested in future dates.** I'm also happy to answer other questions. **Phone: 801-532-6464; email address: ryckluthi@msn.com.**

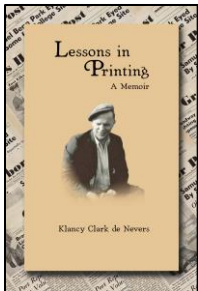


Join the mailing list, put on your snowshoes or microspikes, and enjoy our wonderful Wasatch Mountains. To subscribe to our mailing list email either Suzanne.Stensaas@hsc.utah.edu or Bill Gray, cyberflora80@gmail.com

Emeriti in Action: An Award and a Memoir



On November 9, at the Camerata Awards Concert Gala, which, according to the School of Music website, “celebrates the contributions of musicians and patrons of the arts to the University of Utah and the broader community,” the School of Music presented one of the two annual Camerata Awards to **Henry Wolking**, Emeritus Professor of Music. “Taking its name from the Florentine Camerata – a 16th century group of musicians, intellectuals and arts patrons – the event offers inspiration, thanks to the passion, dedication and talent of each year’s honorees, and showcases the school’s young performers.”



Scattered Leaves Press has recently published **Klancy de Nevers’** memoir, *Lessons in Printing*. Klancy is the spouse of Noel de Nevers, Emeritus Professor of Chemical Engineering. In his blurb for the book, David Kranes, Emeritus Professor of English, states, “In Klancy Clark de Nevers’ unflinching *Lessons in Printing*, the life-lessons are often hard...and only take on a regretful clarity much later. This lovely memoir reaches into a dim landscape of regret and lovingly reassembles its lessons in printing—not as museum objects but in a way that breathes new life into the ghosts and spirits of their past.” **Klancy will read from *Lessons in Printing* on December 12, 7 p.m., at the main Salt Lake City Public Library. The event is sponsored by City Art.**

University of Utah Faculty Club

Don Strassberg, Emeritus Professor of Psychology

As a new emeritus, I am pleased to remind you about the U of U Faculty Club. I have been a member for over forty years and consider it one of the real perks of being a faculty member. As described on its web page, “The Faculty Club at the University of Utah is a longstanding tradition that allows faculty from across campus to meet, mingle, and enjoy a variety of social activities.”

Throughout the academic year, the Faculty Club holds a monthly Friday night “social,” typically at the University Park Marriott Hotel. These are wonderful get-togethers including (for Club members) free food and drink and fun conversations. My wife and I try to attend every one of these. The Club also holds several other social events during the year (e.g., a wonderful holiday party in December, wine tastings) and members have several discounts available to them (e.g., at the University Park Hotel). All this for \$50 a year! It is really the best deal in town.

See <https://facultyclub.utah.edu/> to learn more about the Faculty Club and for a schedule of events. I strongly encourage you to attend one of our monthly socials and join the fun.



**PIONEER
THEATRE
COMPANY**

300 S. 1400 E. Salt Lake City, UT 84112
Box Office: 801-581-6961
<http://www.pioneertheatre.org/2018-2019-season/>

Emeriti Club Members are entitled to a pair of **FREE** preview tickets. You may collect them in person from the PMT box office with your emeritus UCard



Ticket Pickup (T/P) and Preview (P) Dates

Please Note: PTC Preview performances are on Thursdays at **7:30 p.m.**

<p>The Lion in Winter <u>T/P</u>: Dec. 17, 2018 <u>P</u>: Jan 3, 2019 Once <u>T/P</u>: Jan. 21, 2019 <u>P</u>: Feb. 14, 2019</p>	<p>Sweat <u>T/P</u>: March 4, 2019 <u>P</u>: March 28, 2019 Grease <u>T/P</u>: April 15, 2019 <u>P</u>: May 9, 2019</p>
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Luncheon Reservation Form
Tuesday, January 8, 12:15 pm, Union Saltair Room ~ see page 1

[To pay by credit card, go to: <https://academic-senate.utah.edu/professors-emeriti-club/>]

Name _____ Beef ___ Veggie Plate ___ Fruit Plate ___
Partner _____ Beef ___ Veggie Plate ___ Fruit Plate ___
Guest(s) _____ Beef ___ Veggie Plate ___ Fruit Plate ___
Number attending @ \$17.00 each _____ Luncheon \$ _____
Voluntary dues for 2018/19 - \$12.00 Single, \$24.00 Couple* _____ Dues \$ _____
Total \$ _____

Please check here if this is your first luncheon as a new member

***PLEASE NOTE: You may use either the paper form or the online credit card reservation site at any time to pay your dues, even if you are unable to attend the luncheon.**

Make check payable to PROFESSORS EMERITI CLUB. Payment should arrive by January 2
Send payment to: Carol Stenger, 573 L St., Salt Lake City UT 84103