



# FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREES ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA

FSRA NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

<http://www.foreignservicereetireeassociation.org>

## **FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2019 – ANNUAL MEETING IN SARASOTA**

Please join us for the January 2019 FSRA annual meeting and lunch on Friday, January 11 at 12pm (social hour at 11am) in the Lakeside Room of the University Park Country Club (UPCC), part of the Park Grille & Cafe. UPCC is located at 7671 The Park Boulevard, University Park (off University Pkwy). We would like to extend a special thank-you to Frank Young (FSRA Board of Advisors) & Michael Boorstein (FSRA Chair) for organizing this event.



### **OUR SPEAKER FOR THE JANUARY LUNCH**

is Raymond C. Offenheiser, former President of OXFAM/USA and currently Director and Keough School Distinguished Professor of the Practice at Notre Dame University. Mr. Offenheiser's topic is "The role of foreign assistance as a tool of US foreign policy: How current efforts at aid reform may enhance or impede its effectiveness, and the impact of proposed funding cuts."

In addition to teaching sustainable development at the Keough School of Global Affairs, Mr. Offenheiser leads the Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development (NDIGD). His areas of expertise include poverty alleviation, human rights, US foreign policy, and international development. He is a frequent commentator with U.S. and international media.

Prior to joining Notre Dame in 2017, Mr. Offenheiser was the president of Oxfam America – a Boston-based international relief and development agency and U.S. affiliate of Oxfam International – for over 20 years. Prior to joining Oxfam America, Mr. Offenheiser represented the Ford Foundation in Bangladesh and the Andean and Southern Cone regions of South America. He has directed programs for the Inter-American Foundation in Brazil and Colombia and has worked for Save the Children Federation in Mexico. At the 2012 G20 Summit, he was appointed by the Obama administration to represent civil society interests on the leadership council of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa.

Mr. Offenheiser has also served as honorary president of Wetlands International and is a co-founder of the following organizations: ONE Campaign, the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network, and the Food Policy Action Network. He has served on the advisory boards of the World Economic Forum, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Aspen Institute, the World Agricultural Forum, the Gates Foundation, the Clinton Global Initiative, Harvard Business School, the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at Notre Dame, and Cornell University.

**Paula Jakob, Executive VP and CEO of AFSPA**, will address the January FSRA meeting to provide an update on their insurance program. She will also be present during the social hours to answer any questions members may have about their programs.

### **FSRA Board of Directors**

**2018-2019**

#### ***Chair:***

Michael Boorstein

#### ***Vice-Chair:***

Ellen Connor Engels

#### ***Treasurer:***

Christopher Swenson

#### ***Secretary:***

Linda Olesen

### **Board of Advisors**

Warrington (Pete) Brown

Sue Boorstein

Robert McAnneny

Jeffry Olesen

Sue Ford Patrick

Addison Richmond

Frank Young

### **The Foreign Service Retirees**

**Association** is a non-profit organization, formalized in 1982, designed to enhance the camaraderie and friendship of members and guests. Anyone who has served overseas as a representative of a U.S. government agency, including a branch of the Armed Services or Peace Corps, is welcome to join.

### **On October 10, 2018,**

Hurricane Michael made landfall as a CAT 4 storm on the Florida Panhandle with 155 mph winds, making it the strongest storm to hit the continental U.S. since 2004. Just one year ago, on November 16, 2017, FSRA members Betty Frankfather & Diane Mooney hosted a FSRA event in Panama City Beach. Our hearts go out to all our FSRA members in the area.

**HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS** Special rates have been confirmed for FSRA members from January 10 – 12 at two Sarasota hotels. Please note that **UPCC** refers to the University Park Country Club where the lunch is being held:

1. **The Even Hotel Lakewood Ranch** (part of IHG group) at 6231 Lake Osprey Drive, Sarasota, a 10 min. drive to UPCC. We have 19 rooms (2 queen or 1 king bed) and 1 suite available for FSRA members at the discount rate of \$109/night plus 12% tax (\$159/night for suite). Ample free parking and a full-service restaurant is onsite. **Reservations must be made by December 10.** Call the front desk directly at 941-782-4400; request the “Foreign Service Retirees Assoc of FL” room block. Cancellations less than 24 hrs of arrival will result in 1 night room charge + tax. (*NOTE: Our Thursday evening reception will be held in the bar at the Even Hotel.*)
2. **The Residence Inn** at 1040 University Parkway, Sarasota. Ten rooms have been reserved at a rate of \$129/night plus 12% tax, including breakfast. **Reservations must be made by December 27.** Call 941-358-1648 and mention the “Foreign Service Retirees Association of Florida” rate, or online: [Book your group rate for Foreign Service Retirees Assn. of Fl.](#) Cancellations with 48 hrs of arrival will result in 1 night’s room charge plus tax. The hotel is 10 min from UPCC. It offers free complimentary shuttle service to destinations within a five-mile radius of the Hotel.

#### **OTHER LODGING OPTIONS WITHIN 15 MINUTES OF UPCC**

Due to high season, lodging in Sarasota is difficult to come by at reasonable rates. Please check the hotel websites as rates change frequently.

- **Hyatt Regency** (1000 Boulevard of the Arts) - just north of downtown
- **Art Ovation** - Marriott (1255 N. Palm Ave) - downtown, opened in March
- **Courtyard Marriott** (850 University Pkwy); **Hampton Inn-Suites** (975 University Pkwy); **Springhill Suites** (1020 University Pkwy); **Hyatt Place** (950 University Pkwy); all near the Residence Inn across from the airport

**WELCOME RECEPTION** Please join us on Thursday, January 10 from 5:30-7:00PM for a no-host social hour in the ground floor lounge/bar of the **Even Hotel Lakewood Ranch** (at 6231 Lake Osprey Drive, Sarasota).

**FSRA BOARD MEETING** The FSRA Officers and Board of Advisors will meet on Friday, January 11 from 10:00am to 11:00am in a special set-aside area in the Grille Room and Café at University Park Country Club (UPCC).

**SOCIAL HOUR** Join us on Friday, January 11 from 11:00am to 12:00pm for the social hour at the bar/lounge in the Grille Room and Café adjacent to the Lakeside Room. There will be a cash bar.

**LUNCH MENU OPTIONS** UPCC’s Grille Room and Café offers a choice of three delicious entrees, and includes salad and a choice of dessert.

1. **Chicken** Palliard – herbal panko-crusted breast of chicken, lemon butter, with haricots verts (vegetable) & seasonal vegetable risotto
2. **Seafood** – stuffed filet of sole and lemon butter with vegetable & risotto
3. Penne **Pasta** Primavera – with fresh garden vegetables & parmesan cheese

Please **choose one dessert** from the following:

1. Chocolate Flourless **Torte**
2. Fresh **Berries** and Cream

#### **FSRA ANNUAL DUES**

**\$20 for singles**  
**\$30 for couples**

#### **FSRA RENEWALS ARE PAYABLE JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

New member applications, member dues, member address and/or email changes, contact: Chris Swenson at [chswenson@embarqmail.com](mailto:chswenson@embarqmail.com) or call 239-495-6739.

#### **\*\*\*Membership Renewal\*\*\***

To ensure that your name and contact information are included in the next FSRA directory, check that your FSRA dues are current. FSRA renewals are payable Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. For your convenience, the New Member and Renewal Form is attached and it is available on the home page of the FSRA website.

Please send any comments or suggestions for the FSRA newsletter or website to: Marian Walsh 941-483-0803 or [mvanwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:mvanwalsh@gmail.com)

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

**Paul Nugnes** (Dec 30, 1938 - Sept 27, 2018). Paul served with OC/DTSP0 in Abidjan, Moscow, Taipei, Paris, Dar es Salaam, San Jose, Nairobi, DC, Manila and Bangkok. With 34 years of service, he retired in September 1994. Paul is survived by his wife Deborah Lindsay Nugnes. Deborah organized the FSRA lunch in Melbourne in September.

**Arlene Erickson Mitchell** (Jun 2, 1935 – May 17, 2017). Arlene worked for the Foreign Service as an USAID Executive Secretary, serving in Liberia, Ethiopia, Korea, Thailand, Pakistan, Syria, Niger and Egypt. Arlene was married to Stanley D. Mitchell (USAID).

**TO MAKE LUNCH RESERVATIONS** Please see the reservation form on page 5 of this newsletter to select lunch options and for payment and mail-in information. The price is \$36.00 pp. The deadline for lunch reservations is December 31<sup>st</sup>. All members must provide the names of those attending the lunch – so these names can be given to the security gate at UPCC for entry.



### THINGS TO DO IN SARASOTA

There's far more to Sarasota than white sandy beaches (but you might want to visit *Siesta Key Beach & Lido Beach*). Stroll through an art museum where the Venetian-style architecture is as much an art form as the masterpieces within (the world-famous *Ringling Museum of Art*) or visit the largest

natural and cultural history museum on Florida's Gulf Coast (*South Florida Museum in Bradenton*). Gaze upon exotic orchids (*Selby Gardens*) or find the perfect gift (*University Town Center*). You can also paddle through lush tropical forests (*Myakka River State Park*).

### FROM MICHAEL BOORSTEIN, FSRA CHAIR

I'm looking forward to the January meeting in Sarasota, my current hometown (in nearby Longboat Key). The Sarasota gatherings are typically the best-attended, given the number of Foreign Service Retirees who live in this area. We have a great venue for lunch, blocks of rooms in two excellent and affordable hotels, and a superb speaker, thanks to Frank Young.

The January meeting will also feature Paula Jakub, the CEO of the American Foreign Service Protective Association (AFSPA), who also came to our meeting last January in Orlando. AFSPA just sent out its' Fall 2018 Magazine, with 2019 Foreign Service Benefit Plan (FSBP) changes. For those who are covered by the FSBP, I urge you to look at what is being offered in 2019. Paula will provide more information when she speaks at our January meeting.

In 2018, our members in conjunction with the FSRA board, have organized 4 luncheons: Orlando, Bonita Springs, Melbourne and Punta Gorda. Attendance at each lunch has been between 50 and 60 members (including a similar number expected this Friday in Punta Gorda). Our membership ranks are growing. The only disappointing development has been the need to remove some members for non-payment of dues. Note that 2019 dues are payable by January 1st and we ask you to make every effort to pay your dues on time.

In the last month, I participated in a webinar where AFSA president, Barbara Stephenson, spoke to FS Retiree Associations countrywide on the latest developments at the State Department and in AFSA, and urged all of the Associations to participate in outreach in their communities. I asked a question about how Associations could partner with other Associations who were more active in outreach, and the AFSA Outreach Coordinator, Christine Miele, suggested we get in touch with the Association in Northern California, which I intend to do in the near future. I'd welcome hearing at our January meeting about the efforts of any of our members in this regard and invite ideas on how we can be more active in this important area. See you in January!

**GET WELL SOON!** Best wishes to Ambassador Jim McGee as he recovers from a kidney transplant.

### NEW FSRA MEMBERS!

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Ron & Sue **ACUFF** of Orlando (STATE) served in Buenos Aires, Jeddah, Kampala, Abuja & Monrovia.

Mark & Nora Jean **BOULWARE** of Bradenton (STATE) served in Jakarta, Maracaibo, Ouagadougou, Banjul, Gabarone, Bamako, Yaounde, San Salvador, Rio de Janeiro, Nouakchott & N'Djamena.

Larry **CORWIN** & Kevin **BOXX** of Tampa (USIA) served in Brussels, Karachi, Bridgetown, Port-au-Prince, Havana, Bogota, Pristina & Santiago.

Christopher **CUSHING** of Palm Beach.

Richard **EASON** of Jacksonville (STATE) served in Montevideo, London, Muscat, Tunis, Riyadh, Singapore, Amman, Brussels & Abu Dhabi.

Lance & Mary Ann **JEPSON** (AID) served in Mali, Senegal, Niger & Haiti.

Michaela **LANG** of Dunedin (Peace Corps, CARE & USAID) served in Freetown, New Delhi, N'Djamena, Bamako, Yaounde.

LTC Robert **MORRIS** of Melrose (DOD) served in Chiangmai, Dalat, Tokyo, Blantyre, Lusaka & Saigon.

Sheila Ann **YOUNG** of Satellite Beach (USAID & PCV) served in Mozambique, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Sri Lanka, Honduras, Mauritania.

Joanna **ZEALL** of Belleair (STATE) served in Greece, Yemen, Russia & Jordan.



The 7th annual **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** hosted by the International Diplomatic Corps of Florida (IDCFL), will be held Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 3pm at the Italian Club of Tampa in Ybor City. Presenters include reflections from Rifka Glatz, who survived the Holocaust to go on and live in British Palestine, then Israel, and now calls Sarasota home; and Mayor Rick Kriseman from St. Petersburg. Free admission – by invitation only. For information, see the website [www.idcfl.org](http://www.idcfl.org), or contact Jana Behar Melamut, Director, Holocaust Commemoration at [jmelamut@idcfl.org](mailto:jmelamut@idcfl.org) for an invitation.

**NEW GIFT IDEAS** Polo shirts with the FSRA seal are available through FSRA member Bob Kegley at [RAWombat@msn.com](mailto:RAWombat@msn.com) (prices range from \$24 to \$27 with the seal embroidery plus shipping; XL sizes add \$6). Men's shirts are available with or without a pocket; ladies are without pockets. Orders will be taken at the November 16 luncheon in Punta Gorda, or search for "Port Authority Polo Shirt" for product information and colors at this website: <http://www.unameitapparel.com/shop/>

**PHOTOS FROM MELBOURNE** The Melbourne lunch in September had a wonderful turnout and thanks to Adelet Kegley, we have a number of photos to share from that event. Adelet stored the photos on her OneDrive and will leave the photos in place until the end of November. Click on the link below to view/save the photos. Adelet has also offered to include her email address ([Adelet\\_kegley@msn.com](mailto:Adelet_kegley@msn.com)) in case you can't access the photos. Send her an email and she will resend the link to you. Thanks so much Adelet!  
[2018-9-22 FSRA Luncheon Melbourne at Matts Casbah](#)

**NOTES FROM THE SPEAKER – SEPTEMBER 22 – MELBOURNE**  
The 55 Attendees at the FSRA luncheon in Melbourne had the opportunity to hear Dr. Tom Marcinkowski from the Florida Institute of Technology present: "Trends in Public Opinion on the Environment in the U.S. and Their Implications for National Policies and Programs".

**Summary:** The Conservation Movement was renamed the Environmental Movement. Its early roots can be traced back more than 150 years to the 1860s. Over time, this movement has been characterized by several waves (preservation, resource management and conservation, and environmental quality), each of which has continued, and each of which has influenced the others. This movement was supported and guided by the growth of ecology (ca. 1860s) and environmental science (ca. 1960s), fields of scientific study that enhance our understanding of the natural world and impacts to it. It has been advanced by the actions of Presidents, Agencies, and Congress through the designation of areas, establishment of agencies to manage them, laws to protect them, and associated initiatives to educate citizens. It has been advanced by non-governmental (NGO) advocates, both by influential individuals and prominent organizations.

*Submitted by Linda Olesen, FSRA Secretary*

### **WONDERING WHERE FUTURE FSRA EVENTS WILL BE?**

The locations will depend on YOU! We need members to suggest venues and speakers. As a local, you are the best person to suggest a location. The FSRA board will be happy to help with the details. Please contact Ellen Connor Engels, FSRA Vice-Chair, at 703-785-0614 or [engelsec@hotmail.com](mailto:engelsec@hotmail.com).

**AFSA** – AFSA encourages retired FS personnel to let your Congressional Representatives know what you think about the proposed cuts to the State Department and USAID budgets, and to thank them for the things they do support.  
<http://afsa.org/>

**FROM YOUR DIPLOMAT IN RESIDENCE FOR SOUTH FLORIDA:** Monique Quesada is the Diplomat in Residence (DIR) based in Miami at Florida International University and Miami Dade College. She covers the Florida educational district that spans from Daytona Beach to Key West, as well as Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands.

*A message from Ms. Quesada:*  
I do a lot of public engagement at universities throughout South Florida, recruiting top talent and diversity for our Foreign and Civil Service. If you would like to join me in speaking about your Foreign Service experiences and help me answer questions (especially Foreign Service specialists!), email me at: [quesadamv@state.gov](mailto:quesadamv@state.gov).

Let me know where you live and what you did during your DoS career – I'll let you know the next time I'm coming to a university or professional organization near you.  
Warm regards,  
Monique Quesada

### **USEFUL WEB LINKS**

Haven't read the latest Foreign Service Journal?  
<http://afsa.org/afsa-publications-resources>

How about State Magazine?  
<https://www.state.gov/m/dghr/statemag/>

Ellen Connor Engels  
230 24th Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33704

**Mail-back Coupon for Lunch on Friday, January 11, 2019 at the University Park Country Club**

Complete this form and send it **PRIOR TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2018** with a check payable to:  
FSRA of Florida to Ellen Connor Engels, 230 24th Avenue North, St. Petersburg FL 33704  
(Ellen's email is engelsec@hotmail.com)

**\*\*YOUR ORDER & PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY MON. DECEMBER 31, 2018\*\***

<b>MEMBER or GUEST</b>	<b>LUNCHEON &amp; DESSERT CHOICE (Circle One of Each)</b>
1. NAME _____ HOMETOWN _____	Chicken – Seafood – Veg. Pasta Choc Torte – Fresh Berries & Cream
2. NAME _____ HOMETOWN _____	Chicken – Seafood – Veg. Pasta Choc Torte – Fresh Berries & Cream
3. NAME _____ HOMETOWN _____	Chicken – Seafood – Veg. Pasta Choc Torte – Fresh Berries & Cream

**Check # \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Luncheons @ \$36.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Thank You!**

I/We plan to gather at 5:30pm for the welcome reception in the ground floor lounge/bar of The Even Hotel Lakewood Ranch (6231 Lake Osprey Dr. Sarasota) on **Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_