



AUSTRALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

FOSTERING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TWO GREAT NATIONS

Issue No: 24. Quarter: Oct; Nov, Dec. 2010



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Her Worship
Lisa Scaffidi,
Lord Mayor
Perth WA

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## WELCOME NEW U.S. CONSUL GENERAL



We welcome to Perth the new U.S. Consul

General **Aleisha Woodward.**

Immediately prior to her assignment to Australia, Aleisha completed a master's program in national security strategy at the National War College.

Her previous assignments in Washington DC were in the Office of Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Islands, where Aleisha worked primarily on Australian issues, including the U.S.– Australia 12 Month Work and Travel Pilot Programme and the U.S.– Australia-Japan Trilateral Strategic Dialogue; and as a Senior Watch Officer in the Department of State's Operations Centre.

Overseas Aleisha worked as the Press and Cultural Attache at the U.S. Embassy in Moldova; a Consular Officer in London, and a Public Diplomacy Officer in Tokyo coordinating conferences and seminars on American society and foreign policy related topics.

Aleisha speaks Japanese and Romanian, and can shop in Spanish and French.

Aleisha received undergraduate and graduate degrees in international relations from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

She was raised on a potato farm in the Pacific Northwest and enjoys traveling; cooking; keeping in touch with her large family, and singing in her church choir.

**We are holding our Christmas Cocktail Party on Friday the 19th of this month at which Aleisha will be our Guest of Honour, and you will be able to meet her.**

Invitations and reminders have been sent to you, so let's make this a well attended successful event.

## President's Report & Functions Report

I was surprised to find our last Newsletter was as far back as May; later came the August AGM and a change in some Executive Members, and I then took over as Editor in late September.

Please now let me remind you of some of our events in the last few months.

In July we held a very successful 'Xmas in July Dinner Dance' at the Claremont Yacht Club, complete with Father Christmas and a 'live' rock and roll band taking us back to the 60's, with yours truly as singer. We have had a number of requests to perform again, and the band and I will provide our services, gratis again, some time in the winter months. Get your dancing shoes ready!

Mid August we held our Annual General Meeting, and I was very sorry to have Susan Glasfurd OAM stand down from Executive Council.

We all know what a wonderful and energetic organiser Susie has been, but she tells me she is planning to wind down and travel a lot.

Rumour has it she's off to dance with a Russian ballet dancer called Youputcha Leftleggin.

September saw my wife Tricia and I, and Treasurer Merv Bailey and Marice Purser-Bailey away at the Federation of Australian-American Associations Federal Conference, - this time in Adelaide.

In October our Happy Hour at the Swan Yacht Club was very well attended, and I thank Tricia our Head of Functions for organising it, and Treasurer Merv Bailey for being ever vigilant to sign up new members.

Our Melbourne Cup Lunch at the East Fremantle Yacht Club was fun for all attendees, and I thank Marice Purser-Bailey for arranging a large table for us via her brother Mark, who is the immediate past Commodore.

**I have already mentioned our Christmas Cocktail Party this month, at which we have the opportunity to meet the new U.S. Consul General.**

Future functions being planned include an event to bring together past members, including photos and memorabilia, - presented by Marice Purser-Bailey, a past President of our Association.

We also plan a fashion show, which will probably be either a breakfast or luncheon event. Hopefully that time of day may suit our Members who do not otherwise attend.

There will be other varied events, and we welcome any suggestions you may have in this regard.

I look forward to catching up with you at future functions.

**Da-**

**Jack is back!!** I'm delighted to tell you Cap'n **Jack Suriano** has rejoined the AAA, and is now my Vice President.

Our friend **Sandra Williams** has also joined Executive Council, and is already sharing the workload. Wonderful!



### Members!

If your birthday always fails to appear in our newsletter it is because you left it off your application form. Email us if you want that rectified.

### October 2010

Lindsay Peet Oct-05  
Hal Colbach Oct-07  
Tom Lane Oct-07  
Rich Tilghman Oct-11  
Marlene Rigby Oct-16  
Ann Spiro Oct-23  
James Irving Oct-27  
Judith Dowson Oct-28

### November 2010

Gail Erickson Nov-08  
Trevor King Nov-09  
Jennifer Okutake Nov-12  
Leonard Weinstein Nov-17  
MaryAnn Wright Nov-20  
Max Kay Nov-25  
Hon Max Evans MBE Nov-29  
Susan Glasfurd Nov-30

### December 2010

Brian Gotts Dec-01  
Veronica Kerr Dec-24  
Brenda Pullin Dec-27  
Hon Michael Mischin Dec-29  
Patricia Grace Dec-29  
Senator Alan Eggleston Dec-30

## *Melbourne Cup Lunch, - a Winner*



*Josie , Marice, and Margaret*



*Grace & Martin Lovell*

A good time was had by all AAA Members who attended our Melbourne Cup Lunch at the East Fremantle Yacht Club.

The ladies were dressed so elegantly I

almost disregarded political correctness and wolf whistled.

The gentlemen were likewise turned out smartly; the weather and venue were

perfect overlooking the sparkling Swan River; champagne flowed, and as always the East Fremantle Yacht Club presented us with a lovely meal.

After the excitement of the race (Tricia Grace had at the TAB that morning backed

3 out of the 4 place getters) we were entertained and danced to an excellent duo plus a Cliff Richard impersonator. Don't miss it next year!



*Arthur Okutake, Tricia Grace, & Jennifer Okutake*



*Marice Purser-Bailey & Merv Bailey*

### *Did you know:-*

1. The composer of the **tune** of the National Anthem of the United States of America was an **Englishman!** He was **John Stafford Smith** (1750—1836) composer and organist of the Chapel Royal, London, who's father, Martin Smith was organist of Gloucester Cathedral.
2. The term '**Time Immemorial**' was created by the first Statute of Westminster (1275) which set a limit to the time of legal memory: precedents and customs before which time cannot be cited. The date chosen was **6th July 1189**, - the beginning of the reign of Richard 1 (The Lionheart).

## *The Federation of Australian-American Associations Federal*

### *Conference, - Adelaide, - September 2010*

The Conference was an extremely well organised and well run event by the Adelaide Division, where the new Federal Executive was elected.

We had the pleasure of meeting His Excellency the Governor of South Australia; we attended a Civic Reception by his Worship the Lord Mayor of Adelaide; and the next evening a formal dinner, the Guest of Honour being the U.S. Ambassador who flew in from Canberra. We also visited the Barossa Valley, Hans Heysen's studio, and other places of interest Adelaide is such a lovely City.



*David & Tricia Grace; Merv Bailey & Marice Purser-Bailey relaxing at a Greek restaurant.*

## Get to know your AAWA Executive Council Members



**David Grace** (President) born into a Police family at Abingdon Berkshire UK (now Oxfordshire); - a lovely spot on the Thames, but soon moved to Hungerford Berks - race horse country. When David was 5 his family moved to Bracknell Berks near Ascot Racecourse and Windsor Castle, where his father was Police Station Senior Officer at a pretty market town, about to expand dramatically. David's first 9 years of employment was in Solicitors offices in London and Reading, whilst some evenings a week 1961—1965 playing guitar in a band (then called a 'group' or course). In December 1969 David moved to WA with his wife and 2 children, and joined Parker & Parker the largest Solicitors in Perth as a Legal Executive heading the Company Law Department.

By April 1976 David was bored with this and decided to leave his secure employment and join a Real Estate Agent as a 'commission only' salesperson, whilst studying to become an Agent himself.

Over the following 30 years, - all in real estate, David was Manager of other agents offices; Managing Director covering 3 offices; in Partnership, and a part time Lecturer at REIWA and TAFE.

The last 4 years have seen David in his own business **David Grace Real Estate** in which he employs 6 residential Sales Associates; a Property Manager, and a Business Broker.

David loves life and sees the humour in it. After 2 heart attacks in Feb 2010 David gave up his gym membership. Interests include military history, music, dining out, dancing and reading. David & Tricia live in Woodvale Waters

**Merv Bailey** (Treasurer/Membership Officer) born to farmers in the Wubin/Dalwallinu wheat growing area. Merv has been married three times; has 4 daughters; a son, and 11 grandchildren. His current Wife Marice is **unlikely (in the extreme)** to produce any Children. Merv had an interesting business career, starting with nine years with Ampol as Representative and later as District Manager. He left to take up a General Business in the town of Kununoppin, from there he expanded to Wyalkatchem & Mukinbudin. After selling the country businesses, Merv then moved to Perth, and purchased the lease of the Narrows Motel (since demolished). After selling the motel, Merv moved to Mandurah and purchased a retail lighting business, which he sold in August 2009 and retired. Merv's interests during his life have been involved with water-skiing, golf, tennis, badminton, a little bit of squash,(until he decided he would kill himself playing it) Rotary Club membership, and more recently, lawn bowls. Merv & Marice live on a 1 acre property in the Perth Hills of Mt Nasura, and enjoy the company of all the AAA Members, both WA and interstate. Merv intends to enjoy the various functions promoted by the AAA WA, but would like to retire from Treasurer/Membership at the next AGM to make room for someone younger with new ideas to take over the position. Meanwhile his dedication and enthusiasm to promote and advance the ideals of the AAA WA continues.

### [AAWA MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION \(Awards\) COMMITTEE](#)

At the Executive Council Meeting held on 30th September, Immediate Past President Terry Spiro reported this Committee has proceeded as far as the can and would logically go into recess.

At the Executive Council Meeting held on 28th October, it was decided the Committee be disbanded.

A letter of thanks has been forwarded to each Committee member.

*The President & Executive Council wish you  
A safe & Memorable Christmas*

