

# **EX-Ls**Retiree Newsletter

# **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory - February 2016**

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# EX-Ls EXPRESS - February 2016

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Editor: Louise Vogelsberg

Deadline for Newsletter submittals is 7 days after the Board meeting.

# **EX-Ls BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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# PAST PRESIDENTS

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### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS THIS QUARTER

R.P. Singh
Fred Schlacher
<b>Howard Matis</b>
Alan Biocca

# 2016 CALENDAR OF BOARD MEETINGS & LUNCHEONS

**Board:** Luncheon: February 7, 2016 February 25: Hs Lordships

Board Meetings start at **3:00 p.m.**, usually in the conference room addition to Perseverence Hall in the Cafeteria at the Lab. 70A is used when Perseverance Hall is not available, Check with a Board member if you plan on attending. We welcome attendance by interested members.

# **OFFICE ADDRESS:**

Our mailing address is: LBNL EX-Ls 101 University Hall Berkeley, CA 94720

### **Photo Site:**

http://picasaweb.googl e.com/exLpics Photo Czar: Ned Dairiki

Website: www.lbl.gov/EX-Ls

Webmaster: Richard Baker (xrobaker@comcast.net)

### **EX-Ls Honorary Life Members**

Shirley Ashley Ingeborg Henle
Bud Larsh Patrick Cullinane

# **MEMBERS DECEASED IN 2015**

Robert Mortiboy Franklin Choy Abe Glicksman Andrew Sessler Branko Leskovar

# **UCBRC Policy Board EX-Ls MEMBERS**

Richard Sextro Trudy Forte
Connie Grondona

Happy 2016! Hope this is a year of health and happiness for you.

And Happy Chinese New Year (year of the red monkey!)

I'd like to just highlight a number of changes, many of which are further discussed elsewhere in the newsletter or other emails.

A new Lab Director: After a long search, the President of the University has announced that Dr. Michael Witherell, recently of UCSB, will be the new LBNL Director. We welcome him, and say thank you to Dr. Paul Alivisatos, who will be taking on the position of Vice Chancellor of Research at UCB. We congratulate them both, and look forward to hearing great things in the future.

# EX-Ls Universal Membership Program:

The biggest change this year is that we are running a pilot program we are calling "universal membership" that basically means that every LBNL retiree, spouse, etc., is automatically a member of EX-Ls, will receive information such as the Newsletter and will be invited to our events. For those of us who have been involved before, there won't be any change (except we will not pay annual dues). For those of you who are new, we hope you will take this as an outreach opportunity, read the materials you receive, and/or can find on-line, and choose one or more events to try out. We think this will be a great opportunity to enrich all of us in interacting together with more people. And we ask for your input—what would you like EX-Ls to do that would be of interest and benefit to you?

### **Upcoming Activities:**

Our Quarterly Luncheon will be at Hs Lordships in Berkeley on Thursday, February 25. For those of you who haven't come to one recently, please consider joining us. There will be a hearty buffet lunch preceded by a no-host happy hour, and topped off by a great talk by Dr. Jonathan Carter—if you've wondered about that

striking new building at the entry to the Lab, he'll be able to tell us all about Wang Hall and the future of computational research! See the registration form later in the newsletter.

Learning In Retirement. We are eligible to attend lectures in a variety of areas, sponsored by the UCB Retirement Center. Whether the topics are ones you are familiar with, or if you look to expand your horizons, you may enjoy these topnotch speakers, providing their best material! Coming up are "Monstrous Fictions in 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Novels" (Frankenstein anyone?) and "The Quality of Contemporary Urban Life". The events are free, but you need to register in advance. http://retirement.berkeley.edu/LIR/schedule

Mixer and Art Show. We are invited to the UCRAB-sponsored mixer and art show on Feb 11, at 3:30. There will be wine and cheese and an art display; the cost is \$25/person, or \$40/couple. Registration information is at <a href="http://retirement.berkeley.edu/ucrab events">http://retirement.berkeley.edu/ucrab events</a>

Website Location: We have switched to the new website host at the U.C. Berkeley Retirement Center (UCBRC). Besides seeing the EX-Ls most up to date information, this will bring you into proximity of news about other UC retirement groups and the Retirement Center. Even activities sponsored by others are generally open to all of us EX-Ls. (A few are highlighted elsewhere in this message.) You can access the new website from the Lab's A-Z page under "E" for EX-Ls or "R" for Retirement. You can also Bookmark the new address: <a href="http://retirement.berkeley.edu/ex-ls">http://retirement.berkeley.edu/ex-ls</a>. Do let me know if you have any problems or suggestions.

Again, I invite your thoughts and opinions—email me at <a href="mailto:Cheryl.fragiadakis@gmail.com">Cheryl.fragiadakis@gmail.com</a>

All the best, Cheryl Fragiadakis EX-Ls President 2016

REMEMBER TO
SIGN UP FOR THE
FEBRUARY LUNCHEON
BY FEBRUARY 18
(SEE FLYER ON PAGE 9)

# PLEASE NOTE: LUNCHEON DATE CHANGE

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016

LOCATION: Hs Lordships Restaurant, Berkeley Marina

TIME: 11:30 to 2:00

# CONNIE GRONDONA - OUTGOING PRESIDENT, EX-LS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2012-2015)

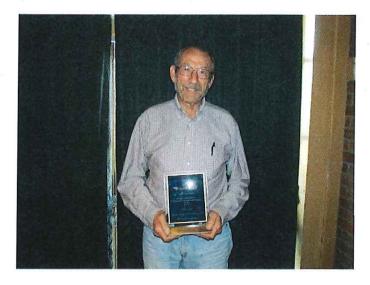
Connie Grondona, served three years on the EX-Ls Board of Directors as Second Vice President, First Vice President and President. Along with running the quarterly Board meetings, attending numerous UC affiliated meetings and representing EX-Ls at UCBRC functions, Connie pursued a proposal with the Laboratory Directorate to have a Laboratory sponsored reception for retirees. In large part due to her commitment to this proposal, the Lab held a reception for retirees in April, 2015. The reception was a success and because of this, and the fact that the Lab's Directorate supports this event, Connie and her committee are assisting Lab management to prepare for the second annual reception for 2016. Finally, Connie was a leader in the investigation and recommendation for a broader and more inclusive model for Ex-Ls, one that we are calling the "Universal membership" model.

Thank you Connie for your dedication to the EX-Ls and the retirees.



#### THANK YOU RICHARD BAKER

EX-Ls Web Master - 2002 to 2015 Happy Retirement from the EX-Ls Board of Directors

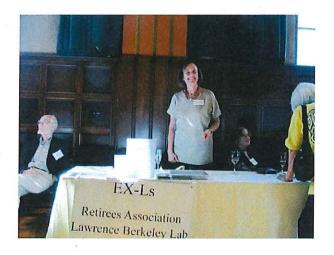


# Richard Baker EX-Ls Web Master In appreciation of your continued dedication and support to the EX-Ls 2002 to 2015 Thank you for your excellent service LBNL Retirees Association

### UC RECEPTION HONORING NEW RETIREES

On October 22, 2015, UC honored retirees from the campus community and LBNL. The reception was held at the Krutch Theater, Clark Kerr Campus, UC Berkeley. Retirees were welcomed by Claude Steele, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, and he saluted all with a champagne toast (or bubbly apple cider for some). A large gathering of recent retirees dined on a delicious buffet luncheon during which we were serenaded by a harpist from UCB. Following lunch and congratulatory remarks and toast by Vice Chancellor Steele, guests were asked to mingle and talk with representative from the various retiree associations. This wonderful reception was developed and organized by Cary Sweeney and Kris Thornton, UCB Retirement Center. Members of the EX-Ls Board of Directors were on hand to greet the new retirees from LBNL - They included: Connie Grondona, Cheryl Fragiadakis, Kay Bristol, Vicky Jared and Rich Sextro. We were able to recruit four new EX-Ls members.





# UC NAMES MICHAEL WITHERELL TO HEAD LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY

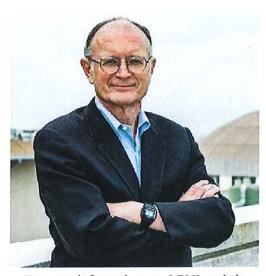
UC Office of the President Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016:

The University of California Board of Regents today (Jan. 21) approved Michael Witherell, vice chancellor for research at UC Santa Barbara, as director of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Witherell is a leading physicist with a highly distinguished career in teaching, research and managing complex organizations. He has received numerous honors and recognitions for his scientific contributions and achievements. Witherell is the former Director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) in northern Illinois and currently holds the Presidential Chair in Physics at UC Santa Barbara (UCSB).

"Michael Witherell is a proven leader with exceptional scientific credentials," said UC President Janet Napolitano. "The attributes and experience he brings to us will enable the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to continue to thrive as one of the world's premier labs."

Credit: Photo by Majed



For more information, see LBNL website <a href="http://today.lbl.gov">http://today.lbl.gov</a>

# OUTGOING BERKELEY LAB DIRECTOR TO TAKE RESEARCH HELM AT UC BERKELEY

Abstract taken from LBNL TABL, January 21, 2016:

LBNL's outgoing Director Paul Alivisatos, who was the lab's seventh director (starting in November 2009), has been appointed Vice Chancellor for research at UC Berkeley. Dr. Alivisatos, who has been a UC Berkeley professor of chemistry since 1988, will assume the position of vice chancellor for research on March 1. He will oversee campus research, which annually generates approximately \$700 million in grants and contracts. Alivisatos announced his plans to step down as Director of Berkeley Lab last year and his successor, Dr. Michael Witherell, has just been approved by the UC Board of Regents.

As Vice Chancellor for research, Dr. Alivisatos has the primary responsibility for research policy, research planning and research administration for UC Berkeley, including relations between the campus and industry, technology transfer and research compliance. While noting that there are lots of similarities between the research at Berkeley Lab and that on campus, he said that there also are significant differences.

During his tenure as lab director, Dr. Alivasatos led efforts to focus research in the areas of renewable energy and climate change, and oversaw expansions of space for computational research, building efficiency, solar energy research and biological sciences.

Congratulations Dr. Alivisatos

If you are interested in looking at the photos from the November, 2015, luncheon you can view them at our Picasa web page: <a href="http://picasaweb.google.com/exlpics.">http://picasaweb.google.com/exlpics.</a>

75 members and guests met at Hs Lordships Restaurant. Join your former co-workers and friends on February 25th at Hs Lordships and be part of the fun, good food and interesting lecture.

# REPORT ON THE FALL CUCEA/CUCRA MEETINGS

# **Don Grether**

CUCEA is the Council of UC Emeriti Associations, and CUCRA the Council of UC Retiree Associations. EX-Ls is a member of CUCRA. CUCEA and CUCRA hold semi-annual meetings on a UC campus. The format is that CUCEA and CUCRA meet separately, and also hold a joint meeting that is attended by representatives of the UC Office of the President (UCOP). Janis Dairiki and I attended the meetings on October 28-29, 2015 at UC Davis (UCD). The following briefly addresses those items that particularly pertain to LBNL retirees. If you would like a more detailed report please send an email to DFGrether@yahoo.gov.

We saw very little of the UCD campus. We did have a tour of the Veterinary Center, which was recently rated the best in the world. The emergency room and the hospital had all the trapping of the human versions, plus a linear proton accelerator to treat cancer - a facility that is rare among human hospitals.

Janis was the Chair of the nominating Committee for new CUCRA officers. The Committee had many of the same recruitment problems that EX-Ls and similar organizations have. Break out sessions came up with a list of good suggestions. The details are in the more detailed report mentioned above.

Officials from UCOP gave several presentations. Arthur Guimaraes from the UC Chief Investment Office gave a presentation on the UC Investment portfolio. His office manages the \$55.0B pension fund, as well another \$43.2B of other, smaller funds. The Pension Fund has grown from \$34.6B in 2001, to \$52.1B in 2014, to \$55.0B in 2015. The rate of growth in 2014/2015 was 4.5%. While that is impressive compared to the generally very low rates for other investments (e.g., savings accounts), he pointed out that 4.5% falls short of the 7.5% that UC projected would help get the pension's unfunded liability to a smaller if not zero value. UC

practices active management of its investments. That can be compared to the rate of return of index funds that do not require active management. Using such funds as a benchmark, UC has consistently done significantly better.

One of the UCOP Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC) primary roles is to respond to questions from retirees. RASC has a goal of responding to a phone inquiry within 90 seconds, and written correspondence within a week. An overall goal has been to have at least 80% satisfied clients. This past year RASC had an 85% satisfaction rate

The Health Benefits Program sent out a questionnaire to the campuses, but not LBNL. There was a 26% response rate, which is not bad for these sorts of things. 82% of the respondents were satisfied. A brief history was given of the UC Wellness Program. Over the past five years participation in the program has steadily declined. One of the attendees noted that the Program is very complex, obtaining the financial incentive is a difficult process, and many people say that it is not worth it. That was a great lead-in to the speaker's next slide. The current provider, Optum, is being dropped, with the campuses and the medical providers encouraged to have their own programs.

Speakers went over the 2016 changes to the Health Care Programs for retirees living in California – the same information that is in the booklet we all recently received: "Are You Covered – 2016 Open Enrollment for Retirees." We were reminded that UC is lowering its contribution to health care premiums by 3%/year to 70%. For 2016 it will be 74%

The 2016 CUCRA/CUCEA spring meeting will be at UCLA. The dates are Monday and Tuesday, April 25 and 26. It is thought that UC President Janet Napolitano might give a talk on the 26th.

# LAURA WELSH: ATTENDED THE NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> LUNCHEON

Laura Welsh (Outreach Manager, California, Nuclear Care Partners) attended our November 19th luncheon at Hs Lordships. Nuclear Care Partners is an approved medical provider under the US Dept. of Labor. Laura spoke with guests regarding the CNCP program that provides in-home medical benefits to former Dept. of Energy workers who are now chronically ill as a result of their work exposure. Nuclear Care Partners have found that most individuals who qualify have never heard of these benefits, so their aim is to reach as many retirees as possible. The benefits and their services are provided at NO CHARGE to the claimants. Ms. Welsh is available to provide information on how to file claims for these benefits. For further information you may call (209) 597-Web OI' (888)525-5111. information: www.nuclearcarepartners.com







Submit your articles to:

http://retirement.berkeley.edu/ex-ls

Notes from the guests: EX-Ls Luncheon, Hs Lordships, 11-19-15

# Almon Larsh and Brenda Shank:

At the end of August this year, Bud Larsh and Brenda Shank went on a Rhone River cruise from Avignon to Chalon-sur-Saone, and then spent three days in Paris. In early October they spent a week in Napa, followed by a week in Los Cabos, Baja, Mexico in early November. They are now deservedly resting up!

# Claire Shigley and Dawn Holley:

Good luncheon at Hs Lordships, very enjoyable.

# Winnie Baker:

Spent six weeks starting off in South Africa, stopping at many countries along the Southern Coast, including Angola, Madeira Island, Lisbon, etc., and landing in Dover, England where we took three trains and a ferry to the Isle of Wight, England where my maternal grandmother grew up until she migrated to the U.S. at the age of 27. Went on to Bath and surrounding towns finally ending up in London for six days.

# FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> LUNCHEON SPEAKER: DR. JONATHAN CARTER (LBNL)

Title of Talk: "Wang Hall: A Building to Facilitate Computational Research"

Dr. Carter will talk about the new Computational Research Building on the Hill. He will present the ideas that lead to its construction and the research goals and mission that will be accomplished by the computational research in the years to come.

Bio: Jonathan Carter is both the Computing Sciences Area Deputy and the Computational Research Division Deputy at LBNL. Jonathan's research interests are in the evaluation of system architectures and algorithms for high-performance computing, and in computational chemistry and physics simulations. Over the last 10 years, Jonathan has lead or played a leading role in teams that procured and deployed three of the fastest computing systems in the world. He brings a unique perspective to his work, formed from using computing resources as a domain scientist, from carrying out performance analysis of computer architectures, and from his experience in moving large-scale computational systems from idea to reality.

Before assuming his current role, Jonathan worked for almost 15 years with the National Energy Scientific Research Computing (NERSC) Division at LBNL. Before coming to LBNL in 1996, he worked at the IBM Almaden Research Center and performed postdoctoral work at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Jonathan holds a B.S. and Ph.D in chemistry from the University of Sheffield, UK.

Please come and join us for lunch to listen to Jonathan after the meal.

Lee Schroeder





Luncheon Speaker Nan Zhou and Cheryl Fragiadakis



Connie Grondona, Welcome New Members, Howard Hatayama and June Wong



Happy Birthday Lillian Hawkins with son Gordon

### SUMMARY OF LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

China and Energy: China's Low Carbon Development— Transforming Buildings and the Built Environment

There is an increasing awareness throughout most of the world of the impact of energy use and global climate change. New ways to improve human life and simultaneously reduce our carbon footprint are needed. Dr. Nan Zhou, Deputy Director of the China Energy Group, addressed the Ex-L's on November 19, 2015, giving an overview of the current situation in China, the tremendous societal growth and the potential large increase energy use, and strategies to address the growth.

The China Energy Group, in EETD at LBNL, has been working on this challenging problem for nearly three decades. Through its ongoing research into technologies, policy, and behavior, they have been able to advise and influence decision makers particularly in China. Especially with the expansion of the group and the collaboration among industrial companies, government and academia in the US and in China, under the auspices of the U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center for Building Energy Efficiency (CERC-BEE) the identification and quantification of various strategies for the buildings sector have been developed.

Between the two of them, the US and China account for 40% of the world's energy use in buildings. The built environment, which includes both the operation of buildings and the embedded energy in producing the materials for the buildings and associated infrastructure, accounts for 51% of US energy use. In China, the built environment accounts for 37% of energy use, as industry is so energy intensive in that country.

The use of energy in buildings is typically for the comfort and health of the inhabitants. Improvements in the available light, the climate control, and the use of appliances and electronics can improve the quality of life; the improvement of the energy used can improve our environment. The goal is to improve both at the same time, in a cost-effective manner.

The opportunities for improvement in two countries vary as the circumstance. In the US for instance, where buildings are expected to have a useful life of 75 years or more, most of the opportunity for improvement is via retrofit of existing building stock. In China the typical life is a third of that; between replacement of end-of-life buildings, and construction of new buildings to accommodate migration from the extremely poor countryside into the cities, the greatest opportunity is in new construction.

Six strategies for the China building energy sector were identified and evaluated for energy impact:

- Integrative Design: bundled and optimized measures for design of the entire building system for energy efficiency and cost effectiveness.
- Passive energy: Design and operation using natural ventilation, shading, and daylighting.
- Renewable and Clean Energy: On-site generation of energy, including photo voltaic (PV), solar thermal, and geothermal; replacement of coal by natural gas; and electricity from cleaner sources.
- Super efficient appliances: Highest efficiency air conditioning, refrigerators, clothes washers, LED lighting.
- Microgrids and Demand Response: Distributed electrical generation and mircrogrids; storage via batteries, fuel cells, and electric vehicles; Smart control allowing demand response.
- Prefabricated buildings: Buildings constructed in modules with more recycled and low energyintensity materials, resulting in speedy high quality construction and longer building lifetimes.

The US and Chinese buildings sectors are interesting in regards to collaboration opportunities in that they are different but complementary. For example, the biggest opportunities for improvement in the US are in Commercial Buildings, whereas for China they are in Residential Buildings. In the US there is more opportunity in retrofits of existing stock, whereas in China the biggest opportunity is in new construction. The US has identified innovations that need to be tested; China has the facility to more quickly demonstrate new technologies.

The CERC, that Dr. Zhou directs, was recently renewed after 5 years of successful operation. Funding in both the US and China comes primarily from the respective governments, although there has been substantial private sector participation as well. Accomplishments have included new inventions disclosed, patents filed, and new products launched; additionally, energy efficiency related software that was originated at LBNL has been enhanced, and implemented; and standards for building energy consumption in China, and international (ISO) standards for window characterization were developed.

The impact of the work and the changes planned for the next couple of decades will be major contributions to the reduction of CO2 emitted into the atmosphere. Dr. Zhou was on her way to a senior level meeting with senior ministers in China, ahead of her participation (with other LBNL scientists) in the upcoming Climate Summit COP21 in Paris.

Cheryl Fragiadakis

EX-Ls 11-19-15 Luncheon

Attendees and Guests - Hs Lordships Restaurant

Marie & Ray Alberti Richard Baker Winnie Baker Paul Banchero Tom Beales

Roy Benedict Gene & Myrna Binnall

Kathleen Bjornstad Igor Blake

Kay Bristol Jerry Bucher Geores Buttner Doyle Byford

Laura Crymble

Diane D'Aoust

Janis & Ned Dairiki Genevieve Dreyfus Norman Edelstein David Edgar Tom & Ione Elioff Pauline Fleischer Trudy Forte

Cheryl Fragiadakis

Rick Gough

Connie & Ed Grondona

Warren Harden Howard Hatayama Lillian Hawkins Gordon Hawkins Dawn Holley Egon &

Annette Hoyer Joseph Jaklevic Vicky

& Richard Jared Steve Kessler Richard LaPierre Almon (Bud) Larsh Peter & Mary Lichty Howard Matis Doug McWilliams Ken Mirk

Nancy & Vic Montoya

Fred Perry

Conway Peterson Arthur Pierce Terry Powell Patti Powers-Risius

Mike Press Don Rondeau

Henry & Linda Rutkowski

Esther Schroeder

Lee & Beverly Schroeder

Clay Sealy
Brenda Shank
Claire Shigley
Betsy Smith
Sandy Stewart
William Turner
Irma Vogel
Trudy Washburn
June Wong
Gordon Wozniak
Allan Zalkin

# Guests:

Nan Zhou, Speaker

Laura Welsh, Nuclear Care Partners Representative

Raffle Winners: Geores Buttner, Dough McWilliams and Henry Rutkowski

# EX-Ls Retirement Association - News Online - Luncheon Announcement

# Luncheon reminder and Guest Speaker Information → See Reservation form below

**Luncheon Speaker:** Dr. Jonathan Carter, Computing Sciences Area Deputy and Computational Research Division Deputy at LBNL



Wish Assistance with Buffet?

Title of Talk: "Wang Hall: A Building to Facilitate Computational Research"

**Biography:** Before assuming his current positions, Dr. Carter worked for almost 15 years with the National Energy Scientific Research Computing (NERSC) Division at LBNL. Before coming to LBNL in 1996, he worked at the IBM Almaden Research Center and performed postdoctoral work at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Carter holds a B.S. and PhD in chemistry from the University of Sheffield, UK.

Abstract: Dr. Carter will talk about the new Computational Research and Theory facility, or CRT located on the Hill. He will present the ideas that led to its construction, and the research goals and mission that will be accomplished by the computational research in the years to come. Dr. Carter's research interests are in the evaluation of system architectures and algorithms for high-performance computing, and in computational chemistry and physics simulations. Over the last ten years, Dr. Carter has led or played a leading role in teams that procured and deployed three of the fastest computing systems in the world. He brings a unique perspective to his work, formed from using computing resources as a domain scientist, from carrying out performance analysis of computer architectures, and from his experience in moving large-scale computational systems from idea to reality.

**Reservations:** Computer access to the LBNL/EX-Ls Web page (www.lbl.gov/EX-Ls) will also give you the lunch form. Vicky must receive your reservation by **February 20.** Please mail form to Vicky Jared, 4849 John Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553. Call (925) 228-2145 - or email to: jaredrv01@aol.com if you want to sign up or have questions.

Questions.

See you at the February 25 luncheon at Hs Lordships. Be sure to make reservations by February 20. Mail To: Vicky Jared, 4849 John Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

From:

I Plan to attend the EX-Ls Luncheon \$30 per person PREPAID

I will bring \_\_\_\_\_ guest(s)

Name(s) of Guest(s):

Menu is Buffet: Advance Choice is not required, (see previous email for details)

Please make check payable to EX-Ls Total Enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_
Willing to carpool: As Rider? \_\_\_\_\_ As Driver? \_\_\_\_\_\_

Need to sit closer to the Screen? \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_