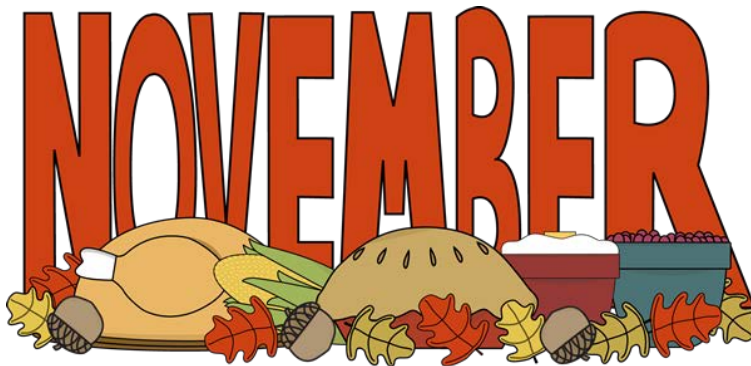


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An occasional newsletter for the Emeritus Faculty Association

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Emeritus Faculty Association news November 2015

Next Meeting: New location: Friday, November 6th at 10:30am in the **Chemistry building room 410.**

Professor Helen Harrison will be our next guest speaker. Helen A. Harrison, the Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Director of the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center in East Hampton, received her AB in studio art from Adelphi University and her MA in art history from Case Western Reserve University. She began her career in museum work as the curator of the Parrish Art Museum in Southampton. She has also been the curator of Guild Hall Museum in East Hampton, and a guest curator at the Queens Museum in Flushing. She is a former art reviewer and feature writer for the Long Island section of The New York Times, and visual arts commentator for the NPR affiliate WLIU 88.3FM. Her publications include *Hamptons Bohemia: Two Centuries of Artists and Writers on the Beach*, co-authored with Constance Ayers Denne, and *The Jackson Pollock Box*, an art kit for young people. Her monograph on Jackson Pollock was published by Phaidon in 2014.

The topic of her presentation will be: "Jackson Pollock: Myth vs. Reality." Jackson Pollock (1912-1956) is a legendary figure in 20th century art. He was the first American artist to gain an international reputation as an innovator without having studied or worked in Europe, the birth place of modernism. His challenging abstract

imagery and unusual painting technique are still controversial today. His works hang in major museums around the world, and his life has been examined in biographies, documentary films, and an eponymous Oscar-winning motion picture starring Ed Harris as Pollock and Marcia Gay Harden as his wife and fellow painter Lee Krasner.

Like many celebrities with enormous talent and troubled personalities who died young--think of James Dean, Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley--Pollock is surrounded by an aura of myth. The reality is often very different, and much more interesting. This talk will separate some of the fiction from the facts.

In Memoriam: A. Henry von Mechow

A. Henry (Hank) von Mechow, of Hamilton, NY, died suddenly at the age of 87 on August 22, 2015. He was born May 9, 1928 in New York City.

Hank served his country in the U.S. Army during the Post World War II European Occupation in the Special Services Unit, and was a faculty member of Stony Brook University from 1957 until his retirement in 1991. He was inducted into the SUNY Cortland "C" Club Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991, and the Stony Brook University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992. Hank loved to teach, and most recently taught ballroom dancing at Colgate University and Hamilton Adult Education. He served on the Board of Directors for Hamilton Education Unlimited and the SUNY Cortland "C" Club Athletic Hall of Fame. He also enjoyed traveling and had been to many places throughout Europe, Australia, and Antarctica. In addition to teaching and travel, Hank was also passionate about vegetable gardening, model railroading, and spending time with family, of whom he was extremely proud.

Hank is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Sallie; his children, Fred and Patricia von Mechow, Kathy and Michael Bowen, Ruth and Dave Dupont, and Laura and Warren Kerper; twelve grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Please visit the Provost's Lecture Series website at
<http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/provlec.shtml>
for further updates.

If you would like receive your copy of the newsletter via email instead of snail mail
please send your name, address, and current email address to *Alison Gibbons* at:
alison.gibbons@stonybrook.edu

Brown bag tradition: The steering committee wishes to remind new members and old about the ongoing tradition of brown bag lunches in the Javits room immediately following each month's talk. Please take advantage of this opportunity to socialize and catch up with news of old friends.

Visit our website: To visit our website, first go to the University website at www.stonybrook.edu, click on "For Faculty and Staff", and then on "Emeritus Faculty Association". It always contains the latest emeritus news (click on "Next Meeting"), a list of members' email addresses, a list of officers, newsletter archives and many other useful links.