



TUCSON MED CLUB



ZUROUNA زورونا

www.tucsonmedclub.org

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Message from the MED Club President: George Sahyouni

Greetings and best wishes to all. As newly elected president of the Tucson MED Club I would like to extend my appreciation to everyone who put their confidence in me as President.

First, I would like to pay tribute to our previous MED Club Presidents: Salim Hariri, David Basila, and Hassan Hijazi. All of which paved a great road for these upcoming years, especially the most recent; Salim, who served for multiple terms. I hope to continue and build on the great job that they have done.

With spring approaching fast, we have a great year ahead of us. In our annual MED Club meeting on February 16 at the Jasmine restaurant, we discussed future events and activities that will be held throughout 2014. We hope to be able to include more participation from a wider range of ages; encouraging younger members to serve on the board, promoting fresh ideas and ensuring the continuity of the MED Club for many years to come. The attendees have elected the following members to lead the club in 2014:

- George Sahyouni, President
- Magdalein Moussa, Vice President
- Lydia Sahyouni, Treasurer

Board of Directors:

Salim Hariri
Hassan Hijazi
Albert Moussa
Farah Fargo

The success of our activities in the past years led us to plan similar functions for this year. In addition to the quarterly publication of the Zurouna newsletter, we plan on having our annual New Year's Eve party (December 31st), Scholarship/Graduation party, and a festive Halloween Party. Any other ideas for possible events or community involvement opportunities are welcomed.

We have a fun and eventful year ahead of us! We look forward to seeing you at the next MED Club gathering. Best wishes to everyone and their families, both here and in the old countries.

Sincerely,
George Sahyouni, President
Tucson MED Club



I am the descendant of a people that builded Damascus, and Byblos, and Tyre and Sidon and Antioch, and now I am here to build with you, and with a will.

Kahlil Gibran

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Arab American Who Made The Difference

Farouk El-Baz

Source: <http://www.bu.edu/remotesensing/faculty/el-baz/>



He was born on 2 January 1938 in the Nile Delta town of Zagazig. Twenty years later, he received a B.S. in chemistry and geology from Ain Shams University. In 1961, he received a M.S. degree in geology from the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla, MO; his performance won him membership in the honorary scientific societies of Sigma Xi and Sigma Gamma Epsilon. In 1964 he received a Ph.D. in geology from the University of Missouri-Columbia after conducting research in 1962-1963 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge MA.

His professional career began by teaching geology at Asyut University, Egypt (1958-1960) and Heidelberg University, Germany (1964-1965). In 1966, he joined the Pan American – U.A.R. Oil Company, where he participated in the discovery of El-Morgan, the first offshore oil field in the Gulf of Suez.

From 1967 to 1972, Dr. El-Baz participated in the Apollo Program as Supervisor of Lunar Science Planning at Bellcomm Inc., a division of AT&T that conducted systems analysis for NASA Headquarters in Washington DC. During these six years, he was Secretary of the Landing Site Selection Committee for the Apollo missions, Principal Investigator of Visual Observations and Photography, and Chairman of the Astronaut Training Group of the Apollo Photo Team. His outstanding teaching abilities were confirmed by the Apollo astronauts; while circling the Moon for the first time during Apollo mission 15, Command Module Pilot Alfred Worden said, "After the King's [Farouk's nickname] training, I feel like I've been here before."

In 1973, NASA selected him as Principal Investigator of the Earth Observations and Photography Experiment on the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project (ASTP), the first joint American-Soviet space mission of July 1975. Emphasis was placed on photographing arid environments, particularly the Great Sahara of North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, in addition to other features of the Earth and its oceans.

From 1982 to 1986, Dr. El-Baz was Vice President of Science and Technology at Itek Optical Systems, Lexington, MA. He oversaw the application of data from the Space Shuttle's Large Format Camera. The photography of this advanced system assisted greatly in his program of desert study from space.

He was elected Fellow of the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) in 1985, and became a member of its Council in 1997. He represents the Academy at the Non-Governmental Unit of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN), New York.

In 1986 he joined Boston University as Research Professor and Director of the Center for Remote Sensing to promote the use of space technology in the fields of archaeology, geography and geology. Under his leadership, the Center has grown to become a leading force in the applications of remote sensing technology to environments around the world. In 1997, NASA selected it as a "Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing."

Research

Dr. El-Baz is well known as a pioneer in the application of space-borne data to ground-water exploration. He utilizes satellite images to identify fracture zones, and radar data to reveal sand-buried courses of former rivers. He successfully applied these methods in the arid lands of North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. His findings alleviated shortages of ground water in areas of dire need. This won him the M.T. Halbouty Human Needs Award of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG).

Continue from Page 2: Arab American Who Made The Difference

Throughout his career, Dr. El-Baz has succeeded in conveying the excitement of scientific research and the importance of using advanced technology. One of his efforts resolved the 1995 controversy about the crowd size in Washington DC's "Million Man March". He estimated the number of participants in the march (more than 870,000 individuals) using the same computer techniques applied to counting sand dunes in the desert.

Books

Dr. El-Baz is the author or editor of landmark books on the use of space photography to define geological features, including: *The Moon as Viewed by Lunar Orbiter* (1970), *Apollo Over the Moon* (1978), *Astronaut Observations from the Apollo-Soyuz Mission* (1978), *Egypt as Seen by Landsat* (1979), *ASTP Summary Science Report: Visual Observations and Photography* (1979), *Desert Landforms of Southwest Egypt: A Basis for Comparison with Mars* (1982), *Deserts and Arid Lands* (1984), *Physics of Desertification* (1986), *Remote Sensing and Resource Exploration* (1989), *The Gulf War and the Environment* (1994), *The Arab World and Space Research: Where do We Stand* (1998), *Ground Water Potential of the Sinai Peninsula* (1998), *Atlas of the State of Kuwait from Satellite Images* (2000), *Wadis of Oman: Satellite Image Atlas* (2002), *Sultanate of Oman: Satellite Image Atlas* (2004), *Remote Sensing in Archaeology* (2007), and *Development Corridor: Securing a Better Future for Egypt* (2007). He has contributed over 250 scientific papers to professional journals, supervised numerous graduate students, and lectured at academic institutions worldwide.

Positions

Dr. El-Baz chaired several scientific committees including the U.S. National Committee for Geological Sciences of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), the Charles Stark Draper Prize Award Committee of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), and the Steering Committee of the Keck Futures Initiative on Imaging Sciences of the National Academies. He also served on the committees on the Grand Challenges for Engineering of the NAE, the U.S. National Committee of the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE), the International Geological Program (IGCP) of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) of UNESCO, and many other archeology organizations.

Awards

Dr. El-Baz has won numerous honors and awards, including NASA's Apollo Achievement Award, Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal, and Special Recognition Award, the Certificate of Merit of the World Aerospace Education Organization, the Award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Arab Republic of Egypt Order of Merit – First Class, the Golden Award of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (Cairo, Egypt), the Best Letter Award of the Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Society of London, the World Water Masters Award of the International Desalination Association (IDA), and the Most Influential Alumnus of the Missouri University of Science and Technology (MUST), the 2013 Caroline and Charles Ireland Distinguished Visiting Scholar Prize of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB).

In 1999, the Geological Society of America (GSA) established the "Farouk El-Baz Award for Desert Research," an annual award aimed at rewarding excellence in arid land studies by experts worldwide.

In 2009, his name was given to a teaching and research laboratory as "The Farouk El-Baz Center for Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems" at Port Said University, Egypt. Furthermore, the "El-Baz Award for Excellence in Organizational Sustainability" was initiated in 2011 by the Hamdan Bin Mohammed E-University, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.



Where I'm From

By Sarah Brewer

I am from great big bear hugs
from hot chocolate that warms my soul
fireplaces and big warm blankets
as well as stuffed animals galore

I'm from independence and knowledge
quietness and loudness
and from joy and inner peace

From lentil soup and clam chowder
bacon and ham

I'm from barbeque sauce over a hamburger
from mint chocolate ice cream
pizookies and apple pies

I'm from the saguaro cactus
that used to stand in my front lawn
from a mesquite tree
whose branches are big enough to sit on

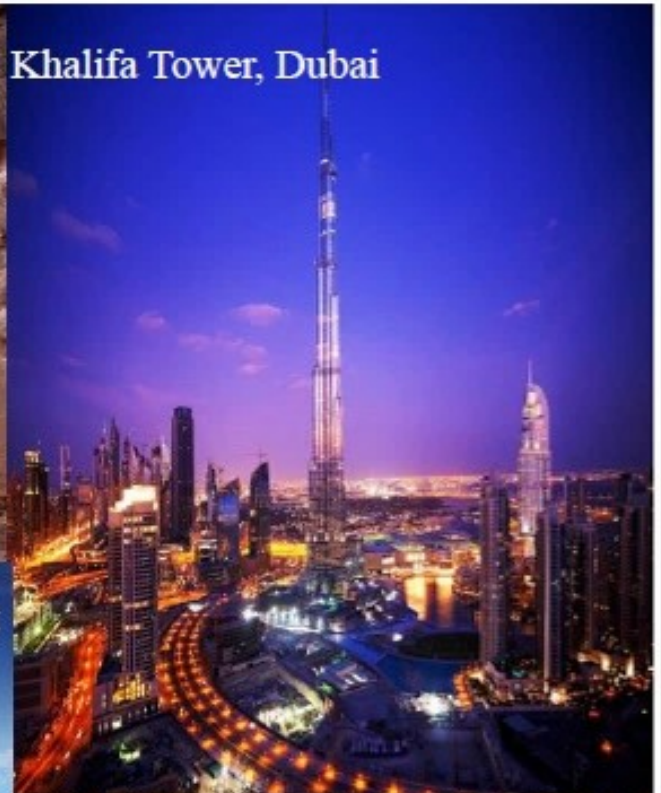
I am from technology
iPads and internet-using phones
silly texts and crazy songs

Most of all I'm from my brain
which holds all these memories
in a half-locked cage

Attractive Places in The Middle East



Petra, Jordan



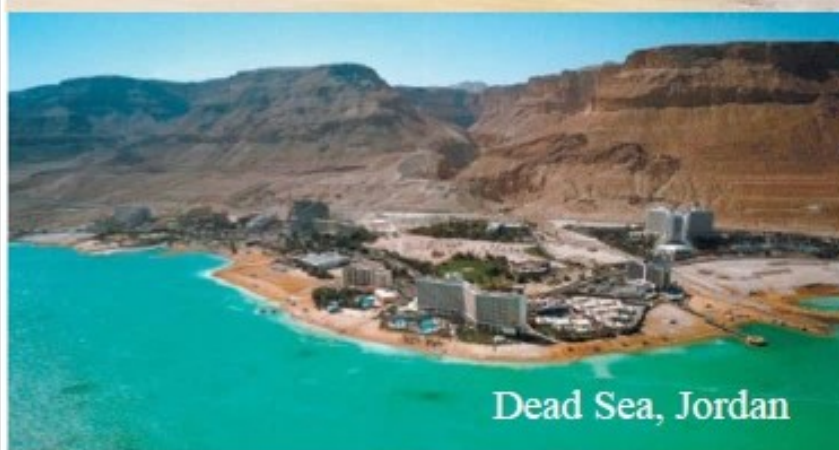
Khalifa Tower, Dubai



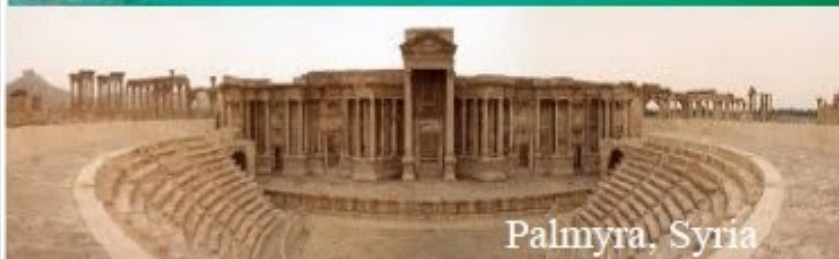
Pyramids, Egypt



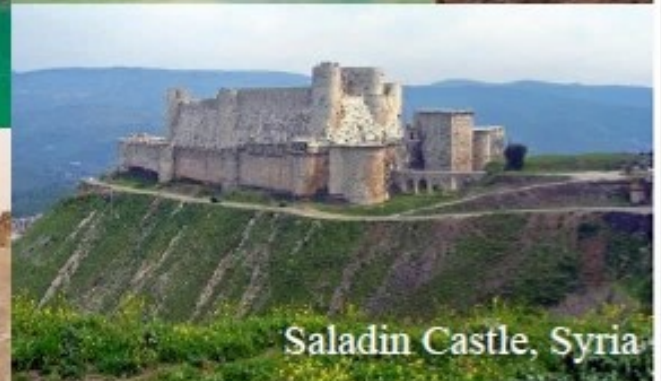
Jeita Caves, Lebanon



Dead Sea, Jordan



Palmyra, Syria



Saladin Castle, Syria

Med New Year Eve Party at Loews Ventana Resort



Med Club Information: Please Join or Renew Your Membership for 2014

- If you are already a member, please renew by sending a check payable to: Tucson Med Club

Fees: Family Membership: \$70

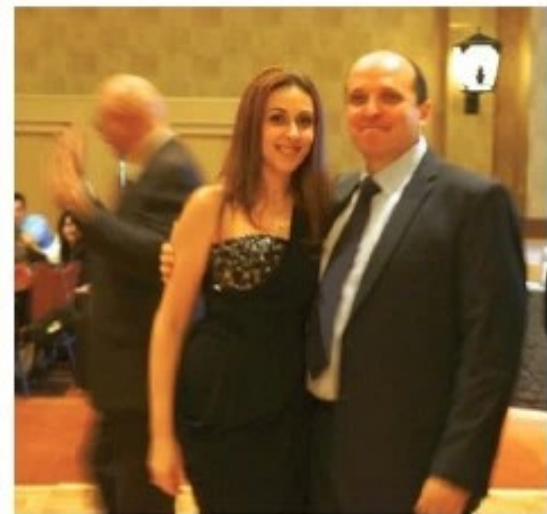
Individual Fee: \$35

Donations: MED Scholarship Fund

- If you are not a member, you can download the application form from our website at www.tucsonmedclub.org or contact George Sahyouni, MED Club President, at 520-271-2095, or sahyouni.george@gmail.com or Magdlien Moussa, MED Club VP, at 520-403-7976, magdalienmoussa@yahoo.com

- Please note that to be officially a member, according the MED bylaws, the board must discuss and approve the application.









New Year Eve Party, Loews Ventana Resort



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- Farah Fargo

Kahlil Gibran

*"You should
be proud of
being an
American,
but you
should also
be proud
that your
fathers and
mothers
came from
a land upon
which God
laid His
gracious
hand and
raised His
messengers."*

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[Http://www.tucsonmedclub.org](http://www.tucsonmedclub.org)



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