

Shirley Chater, RN, PhD

Education:

B.S. Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

M.S. Nursing, University of San Francisco

PhD, Education, University of California, Berkeley

Certificate in Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Work History:

Shirley is the former Commissioner of the U.S. Social Security Administration, serving during the Clinton administration. Prior to that time, she was President of Texas Woman's University in Denton, Dallas and Houston, Texas for seven years, and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of California, San Francisco for five years. She served as Professor of Nursing and Education, joint appointments at the University of California San Francisco and Berkeley. For the past 15 years she has held the position of founding Chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's program for Executive Nurse Leaders.

Other Honors:

Dr. Chater is the recipient of thirteen honorary doctoral degrees from various colleges and universities, including her alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania. Other honors include distinguished alumna awards from the Hospital School of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania, the School of Nursing of the University of Pennsylvania and the School of Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco. In 1997 she received the University Medal from the University of California San Francisco, the highest award given by the University. She was honored as a University of California Regents' Professor in 1997-1998. She also received the John P. McGovern, MD, Annual Award from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in 1996 and the Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society Lucia S. Kelly Mentor Award in 1995. Dr. Chater is a new resident of Oregon and lives in Medford.

John Forsyth, MD

Education:

Washington University in St. Louis, Medical School ('65)

University of Washington Hospitals ('65-'70), post graduate training

Work History:

John practiced Internal Medicine and Cardiology in Medford, Oregon from 1970-2004.

Board Service and Community Involvement:

Since 1994, he has been a volunteer clinical consultant (17 years), board member (6 years) and president (2 years) at Community Health Center. He has served on the Ethics committees of both Rogue Valley Medical Center and Providence Medford Medical Center since 1980. In 1994, he helped form VOLPACT, a collaborative venture between three local hospitals two safety-net clinics and 90% of the practicing physicians of Jackson County, Oregon to provide necessary charitable, specialty care for low income, uninsured patients. In 2008, he was elected chairman of Jefferson Regional Health Alliance. In 2010, he joined several concerned citizens and community health care leaders to form COHO (Choosing Options, Honoring Options), a collaborative fostering community-wide education about end-of-life care options, the role for palliative care and the importance of meaningful conversations in the final stages of life.

Previous Honors:

1998- Oregon Medical Association, Physician Citizen of the Year

1998- Providence Health System, Mother Joseph Award

2003- Rogue Valley Hospital Foundation. ASV Carpenter Distinguished Citizen Award

Sharon Johnson

Education:

B.A. Sociology, University of Minnesota
M.S. Rehabilitation Counseling, Minnesota State University
Post Masters, Cornell University (Bush Foundation Fellowship /Executive Development)
University of Washington, Certificate in Gerontology

Work History:

Sharon served as the Director of Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Director of Division of Mental Health for Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, and Deputy Director and Interim Director of Public Health for City of Seattle/King County. She retired in 2012 as Associate Professor Emeritus from Oregon State University at the Extension Campus in Southern Oregon. Sharon also completed the National Home Builders Program as Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) and launched a non-profit organization, Age Friendly Innovators, with her husband in 2013.

Board Service and Community Involvement:

RVCOG' s Center for Community Partnership Board Member; Consumer Credit Counseling Money Management Advisory Group Member; Ascension Lutheran Church Adult Education Committee Leader; Jackson County Public Health Advisory Board Member; Founding Member, COHO; Former RSVP Lunch Buddy Program Volunteer and Food & Friends Volunteer.

Reasons for my desire to be involved in hospice: Admiration for the work done and the people doing it; recent experience with the death of a friend who had hospice care and knowledge that a Hospice Home would have lightened that family's load enormously.

Other interests: Spending time with her 7 grandchildren (ages 1 to 21) and assuring an active and productive retirement.

Steve Neuberger

Education:

B.A., Creative Writing, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana
M.S.W., San Francisco State University
post-graduate studies in leadership development with the CORO Foundation.

Work History:

Steve Neuberger has spent the past thirty years doing various forms of community building. He has worked with Service Employees International Union (SEIU); the University of California, San Francisco; San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos; and numerous local, state, and national candidate and issue campaigns. Steve has worked with America Coming Together on the 2004 presidential election, SEIU, and Stand For Children, an education reform organization. He spent two years as the Southern Oregon Coordinator of Health Care for America NOW, the national coalition that lobbied for universal health care in 2008-2010.

Board Service and Community Involvement:

Steve has volunteered with Asante Hospice and served as the initial chair of the Membership Committee for Ashland At Home, with whom he continues to volunteer.

Source of Passion for the Hospice House Project:

Steve is very excited about the rapid advances in palliative care and views a hospice facility as a humane element in a comprehensive approach to end of life care.

Personal Information:

He lives in Ashland, is the father of three adult children and the grandfather of two.

Shirley Patton

Education:

Stanford University, B.A., Speech and Drama
Portland State and SOU, post-graduate work for teaching certificate

Work History:

Shirley was a member of the acting company of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for thirty seasons. She has also been a guest artist at SOU as well as working for Actors' Theatre, New Playwrights, Oregon Stage Works, Lyric Theatre and currently, Camelot Theatre. She taught English at Medford High School for one delightful, challenging year.

Board Service and Community Involvement:

Shirley as served on the boards of the Carpenter Foundation, League of Women Voters, Ashland, Tudor Guild, and the Junior Service League (President). She is a founding board member and performer with the Extended Circle, which for 24 years has provided weekly variety shows in care and retirement facilities in the Rogue Valley. She is a leader with Presbyterian Women on the national, synod, presbytery and local level, synod representative on Global Exchange to Brazil. She is an Elder and Deacon (co-Moderator) at the First Presbyterian Church in Ashland. Shirley's voice is also familiar to many as the voice of "As It Was" on JPR.

Honors include:

Aubrey Watzek Award (Lewis & Clark College); President's Medal (SOU); Citizen of the Year (Ashland Chamber of Commerce); Inclusion in Ellen Nichols' book, *Images of Oregon Women*

Reasons for my desire to be involved in hospice:

"In the span of two years I experienced hospice first hand during the preparations for my mother's and then my husband's deaths. We were all cared for by wonderful, caring teams of people from hospice. Any program that benefits the work of hospice and extends its reach has my support."

Other interests:

Shirley enjoys travel, especially with friends and family; attending cultural events; reading; and showing up on behalf of peace with justice concerns.

Harriett Rex Smith

In her tenth decade, fine artist Harriett Rex Smith is still painting, both her signature very large astronomy watercolors inspired by Hubble space photography, and her meticulously rendered acrylics on canvas.

Education:

Harriett went to the Herron School of Art in Indianapolis. When jobs for women opened up during World War II, she left, taking a job with the advertising agency Foote, Cone & Belding and moving to Chicago. Much later, after marriage, seven children and divorce, she re-entered formal schooling, taking my BFA from the Herron School (now part of Indiana University) and three years later, an MFA from the University of Notre Dame.

Work History:

Harriett taught painting classes in her studio, gave summer workshops at "The Clearing" in Ellison Bay, Wisconsin, and taught at Purdue, Indiana and Valparaiso Universities. In 1978 she moved to Oregon, established her studio in the woods some miles outside of Ashland, and taught in the "artists-in-the-schools" program.

Personal:

"In my elder years, I seem to spend much time in the woods, mostly very happy."

Jeanne Taylor

Jeanne Taylor has been active in the Rogue Valley community since 2003. She serves on the Southern Oregon University President's Advisory Board, the YMCA board and the Pacific Retirement Affordable Housing Board. She served on the Ashland Hospital Foundation Board for six years and on many boards in California before moving to the Rogue Valley in 2003.

Davis Wilkins, MD

Education:

Duke University, B.A., Comparative Literature
Monash University, Victoria, Australia, M.A. in Bioethics at with a focus on end-of-life issues
University of Washington, medical school and internship
Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle, Internal Medicine residency
OHSU, Portland, Hospice & Palliative Medicine fellowship

Work History:

Davis is board-certified in Internal Medicine, Hospice & Palliative Medicine.
Davis and her husband, Matt Oliva, MD, moved to Ashland in 2008. She began the first inpatient palliative medicine consultative practice here in Southern Oregon. She went on to champion inpatient palliative medicine service implementation grants from the Cambia Foundation at both Rogue Valley and Providence Medford Medical Centers and was the founding medicine director for Rogue Valley Medicine Center's palliative care service from 2010-2012, where she served on their hospital ethics committee. She currently works as the medical director for Ashland Community Hospital's Home Health, Hospice, and Palliative Care service.

Board Service and Community Involvement:

She has worked with hospices and palliative care units in Kathmandu, Nepal, while there with her husband who works overseas with the Himalayan Cataract Project.

Source of Passion for the Hospice House Project:

Davis seeks to bring excellence in both care and communication to the bedside and champions the movement to build a residential hospice house to Southern Oregon, where she looks forward to caring for patients and their families one day.

Previous Honors:

While at University of Washington, Davis co-created and taught an elective course for medical students, residents and physicians still being taught today: Mind, Body and Pen--Writing and the Art of Becoming a Physician, for which she was awarded the Ellen Griep award for most inspiring student by her colleagues and professors.

Personal Information:

Davis grew up in Idaho. In her free time, she enjoys reading and creative writing, road biking, hiking with her dog, rafting, adventuring, laughing and sharing quiet time with her husband, two children, and good friends.