

### Our EC's 30th Anniversary Celebration Wraps Up With a Three-Part Flourish

Three intergenerational exchanges on Friday, April 3, will mark the end of the Emeriti Center's 30th Anniversary Celebration.

We'll begin in the GERO Auditorium at 11 a.m. with our annual Inamoto Event, a student, alumni, and retiree panel, which will explore cultural identities, with an Intergenerational Panel on the Japanese American Experience.

A Birthday lunch and an ice cream social honoring all retirees age 90 and over follows at 12:15 p.m. The USC retiree community is blessed with



Barbara Inamoto

more than 120 colleagues in this wise and treasured 90+ age group.

The festivities will culminate with our annual Borchard Event, featuring a presentation at 1:30 p.m., "Intergenerational Life Stories, Learning About Life," with Dean Emeritus **James Birren** and his intergenerational class, GER 423, Psychological Development through Autobiography.

RSVP for each event: [emeriti@usc.edu](mailto:emeriti@usc.edu) or call 213-740-7122.



Dean Emeritus James Birren

### March 19th SRA Luncheon Will Celebrate New Retirees

The 24th Annual Staff Retirement Recognition Luncheon for SRA Members, 2008 Staff Retirees and guests, takes place Thursday, March 19, at Town & Gown (11:30 a.m. check in).

A group photo of the honorees will be taken at noon sharp! This is the only photo that will be sent to the honorees this year, so we hope all honorees will plan to be included.

Reservations are required. Please respond by March 13. You may e-mail your RSVP to [emeriti@usc.edu](mailto:emeriti@usc.edu) or phone 213-740-7122. Be sure to include your phone number or e-mail address.

Honorees may invite up to two guests. Be sure to give us their names, as well.

We look forward to this celebration honoring the staff who retired in 2008.

### Our Retirees Voice Their Opinions

The USC Emeriti Center continues to poll retirees for their opinions. The most recent questionnaire accompanied the Emeriti Center's annual giving solicitation and resulted in more than 225 retirees responding:

#### Should the name of the "USC Emeriti Center" be changed?

- 60% thought there should be no change in the Center's name
- 21% preferred the name "USC Retirement Center."
- 14% suggested calling it "USC Staff and Faculty Emeriti Center"

Interesting comments included some saying that the word Emeriti is so closely related to faculty that it does not seem to relate to staff, while others encouraged using Emeriti because it denotes honor for service by all USC retirees.

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“Colleagues for Life” is the Emeriti Center motto adopted during this 30th Anniversary year. The motto characterizes the powerful resource and support our retiree community becomes when we collaborate and share diverse knowledge, experience, and wisdom. Every day we benefit from this collegial spirit and I am personally grateful to be a part of this incredible community.

In these uncertain economic times, I hope that all of you are doing reasonably well. If there are ways you think we might help by providing information or referrals, please contact me. We sincerely appreciate and thank the 245 of you who jointly contributed more than \$26,685 to our annual Emeriti Center campaign. Included in this amount is a generous \$10,000 donation by the Morris F. Smith Foundation creating an EC endowment honoring Carl and Carolyn Franklin. **Sterling and Larry Franklin** established this endowment to honor their parents and to support Center operations. We extend our deep appreciation and thanks to Sterling for initiating the gift and for his continuing support.



Janette Brown

Together, we have accomplished much since we began planning for our 30th Anniversary a year and a half ago.

During the 2007-08 school year, we maximized the EC's space to accommodate the needs of our growing retiree population and the staff to support them. We reconfigured our staff, planned the Emeriti Center's 30th Anniversary and the AROHE (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education) 4th Biennial AROHE Conference at USC.

Since the end of June 2008, the EC successfully completed the first half of its 30th Anniversary year, hosted our 30th Anniversary Luncheon and the highly successful AROHE Conference, and presented preliminary data on the Survey of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education, while expanding Emeriti Center and Emeriti College services and programs.

#### OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Launched the Trojan ENCORE Pilot Program for USC retiree part-time positions and volunteers;
- Hired the first Trojan ENCORE retiree, **Carole Gustin**, to coordinate the Pilot Program;
- Increased overall campus presentations by 28% — increased attendance by 58% (2,726 attendees);
- **Jerry Walker** became the new Emeriti College Director;
- **Bob Scales** agreed to continue with the Emeriti Center as an Associate Director;
- Emeriti College organized its first intergenerational Forum on Global Change;
- Surveyed 2,200 members of the USC retiree community about their health and financial situation and circumstances – 26% (511) participated – then presented results across campus;
- Began exploring the idea of a senior housing development near the University Park Campus;
- Co-sponsored “Going Back to College Day” for the Half Century Trojans;
- Began discussions with our neighbors at the EXPO Center and Ahmanson Senior Center;
- Collaborated with USC Davis School on three presentations offering continuing education credit;
- Planned and executed **Jim Birren**'s 90th birthday event; result – a \$100K Davis School donation;
- Increased the number of Emeriti College presentations by 28% (107 presentations) and the number of Emeriti College presenters by 47% (20);
- Conducted six USC Living History interviews focused on the Keck School of Medicine of USC;
- Expanded Web pages to offer more recorded workshops, audio interviews, and resources; and
- Broadened the Faculty/Staff Retiree Benefits and Resource Committee to include valuable and useful resources.

– Janette Brown, Executive Director, jcbrown@usc.edu, 213-740-7121

Don't forget! Our 30th Anniversary Celebrations conclude on April 3rd with three fun events!

- 11 AM - Exploring Cultural Identities: An Intergenerational Panel of the Japanese American Experience (Inamoto Event)
- 12:15 PM - 30th Anniversary Birthday Lunch & Ice Cream Social, Celebrating all USC retirees who are 90+ years old (we have about 120 colleagues 90 and over!)
- 1:30 PM - Intergenerational Life Stories, a panel presentation with Jim Birren and his intergenerational class: GER 423 Psychological Development through Autobiography (Borchard Event).

Jim turns 91 on April 4 so he is part of the birthday celebration!

## RFA Moves Ahead With Ambitious Goals

The Retired Faculty Association Board of Directors continues to address concerns of retirees and pre-retirees. Among the matters dealt with recently have been the following.

The board is concerned about what seems to be uneven awarding of emerita/emeritus status and has drafted a letter – to be sent to all deans and heads of faculty councils – urging timely and consistent consideration of retired faculty and retiring faculty for this status.

The board also is looking for ways to highlight the accomplishments, past and present, of retired faculty. University archivist **Claude Zachary** attended a recent meeting to discuss ways in which the university could better recognize the achievements of its retired faculty.

The RFA continues to participate in the Emeriti Center's *Transitions* seminars for faculty considering retirement. These seminars are held each semester on both the University Park Campus and the Health Sciences Campus. The RFA remains a major player on the Retired Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resource Committee which works with the administration on post-employment benefits matters.

The RFA Board has agreed to find a useful role for retired faculty in the Provost's new mentoring program for both non-tenured and tenured faculty.

In addition, the RFA continues to strengthen its financial and organizational support for the Russell Caldwell Neighborhood Scholarship program. Two \$3,000 scholarships are awarded annually to seniors graduating from any of nine local high schools and enrolling in USC. **Barbara Solomon**, Professor Emerita of Social Work, has taken the lead in solidifying the relationship between the RFA and the financial aid office.

In January the board heard a presentation by **Nicole Sharma** from the Joint Educational Program (JEP) about "Project Read," its volunteer program that provides reading tutors to several elementary schools in the USC area. The aim of the program is to develop greater literacy skills among students. If you can volunteer an hour or so of your time per week, contact Nicole at [sharmani@usc.edu](mailto:sharmani@usc.edu).

Check out our new blog, at [colleaguesforlife.blogspot.com](http://colleaguesforlife.blogspot.com), where we post items of interest – our main website is [www.usc.edu/rfa](http://www.usc.edu/rfa). There you will find information and links about retiring from USC, announcements about upcoming events, minutes of board meetings, and more.

We hope to see you at one of the many events sponsored by the USC Emeriti Center and the Emeriti College. Have a wonderful spring.

– Bob Stallings <[rstallin@usc.edu](mailto:rstallin@usc.edu)>  
RFA Executive Committee; [www.usc.edu/rfa](http://www.usc.edu/rfa)



Bob Stallings

## SRA Welcomes Our New Retirees

March is a special month for the SRA. That is when we welcome the new (2008 this year) retired staff into our Retiree Community. **Louise Ball** is finalizing plans for this year's luncheon in Town & Gown on March 19. Be sure to mark your calendars and get your RSVPs in right away. SRA members and the honorees should have received their invitations. An accurate count is required for this event.

Please note the information about our USC School of Theatre party on April 4. **Dick Martin's** article on page 11 has details. Every year we enjoy a very professional production by our students. "Brigadoon" should be wonderful.

The SRA General/Annual Meeting will be held on June 8 in GERO 224. Please plan to attend. Prior to the meeting, Harriet Servis will send you a proposed slate of officers. If you wish to volunteer for one of the positions, or wish to nominate someone, please let Harriet know. All candidates must give their permission to be "slated." The SRA is growing in membership and opportunities for participation in a variety of ways. Be an active member!

A year ago we announced a program for retirees to come back to USC for short term/part time positions through Trojan ENCORE. Due to the economy, the university placed a freeze on hiring; but, our retirees can volunteer to help (see page 4). Please let me know if you would be willing to contribute a few hours if needed.

– Carole Gustin, SRA President  
[cgustin@usc.edu](mailto:cgustin@usc.edu), 310-842-7544  
[www.usc.edu/sra](http://www.usc.edu/sra)



Carole Gustin

## Need Computer Help? Don't Despair, or Tear Out Your Hair – Call the Help Squad!

Members of the Emeriti Center's Computer Help Squad – created for USC retirees by USC retirees – is ready, willing and able to lend their expertise and experience to help you figure out a computer problem.

Simply go to the EC Web site (through Goggle, or another search engine) and type in "[www.usc.edu/emeriticenter](http://www.usc.edu/emeriticenter)" – then click on "Computer Help Squad" in the left column to learn who to contact for PC and/or Mac assistance.

## Three Spring Enrichment Classes Are Launched

USC retirees have a fine selection of classes for the spring. Enrollment in the "Piano for Seniors" class was closed on Jan. 20 with 18 students signing up. The 10-week class is designed for beginners and for people who once took lessons but did not continue to play. The object is for each student to be able to play songs that she or he enjoys by learning simplified fingering of the melody and by using chords for harmony.

"An Introduction to Ceramics" is being offered by **Peter Bobbs**, who received his B.A. *cum laude* from USC's Roski School of Fine Arts in 2008. Classes are being taught in the Galen Ceramic Studio in the Roski School on six consecutive Friday afternoons. We are grateful to noted artist and head of ceramics at USC, **Karen Koblitz**, for sharing her studio with the Emeriti College.

**Michelle Mann**, USC Doctor of Occupational Therapy, is giving a reprise of her "Technology for Seniors" class on Saturday mornings to teach us how to transfer digital photos into our computers, how to crop and manipulate photos, and how to make albums or send photos to family and friends.

The intergenerational "Forum on Global Change," proposed by **Jack Wills**, Professor Emeritus of History, met monthly over lunch during the fall semester, where 24 students and eight retirees read *The Economist* and discussed current events. Everyone was delighted with the discussions and asked to meet twice-monthly during the spring semester.

**Janette Brown** and I collaborated with **Patrick Auerbach**, Senior Director for Alumni Relations, and **Jaimey**

**Wiener**, Coordinator of Lifecycle Programs in the USC Alumni Association, on a new Half Century Trojans "Going Back to College Day," which we hope will become an annual tradition. The Emeriti Center hosted an interdisciplinary lunch; and the Emeriti College organized three concurrent lectures by distinguished faculty. All USC retirees are considered honorary Half Century Trojans and are encouraged to participate in future HCT events.



Jerry Walker

The Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, chaired by University Professor Emeritus **George Bekey**, selected three recipients of the Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award for recognition at the Academic Honors Convocation on April 14. The award honors retired faculty for notable contributions to the university, their professions, and the community. I would like to thank University Professor **Solomon W. Golomb**, Professor Emerita **Barbara Solomon**, and Professors Emeritus **Doyce Nunis**, **Vern Bengtson**, **Sidney Benson**, and **Paul Knoll** for their hard work and timely advice to the Provost. The three recipients of the award will be announced in the next issue of our newsletter.

— Jerry Walker, Director, USC Emeriti College  
jwalker@usc.edu; 213-740-1289

## Trojan ENCORE Update

**Carole Gustin**, our Trojan ENCORE Coordinator, and **Janette Brown**, EC Executive Director, met with USC Home Department Coordinators (HDCs) and Senior Business Officers (SBOs) in the fall regarding our USC retiree part-time work force designed to assist USC units and schools with part-time and short-term projects. In addition, **Diana Seyb**, Employee Recruitment Services, supports us on the recruitment side.

The HDCs and SBOs seemed to feel this is a good idea. The timing of these visits was a bit ironic, however. Due to budget concerns and economic uncertainty, USC announced a hiring freeze just before the meetings. Therefore, to address the needs of the university, we will redesign our data base of retirees to focus on those willing to volunteer. We will continue to list those who wish to be paid, as some circumstances may allow for those hires.

## The EC's Book Nook

If you've read something not too weighty on any topic that is among the best of what you've read in the last year or so, pass along a 75-word review for consideration in an upcoming Newsletter issue, and for eventual EC Web posting.

### "A Mercy"

by Toni Morrison (2008)

Much has been written about slavery during the Civil War period, but this poignant novel is set in the Americas of the 1680's. Florens, a young slave girl is cast off by her mother in the hope of saving her, and neither can know the unforeseen consequences that will come of this action. Interwoven here are early America's religious intolerance, race hatred mixed with small kindnesses, survival against all odds, and exhausted acceptance of one's status.

— Christine Shade  
(Send your 75-word selection to shade@usc.edu)

# Seniors Should Keep a Keen Eye Out for Mail Fraud Schemes

*Consumer advocate Helen Dennis reminds us if “it’s too good to be true” ... it probably is.*

Most of us receive an inordinate number of solicitations in the mail. It can be a challenge to decipher legitimate requests for contributions, investments, and purchases from the scams.

Any organization that offers a product, service or investment opportunity through the mail that does not live up to its claims is committing mail fraud. Here are some common schemes identified by the U.S. Postal Service. Note that older adults often are among the more vulnerable.

**Free vacations:** “Congratulations. You have received a free vacation for two in Bermuda.” But there’s usually a catch – travel times may be restricted, you may be required to pay a reservation “handling fee,” or the dates you want may be unavailable.

**Sweepstakes and “free” prizes.** Every day thousands of people receive notices such as “You are the winner of one of three ‘valuable’ prizes – a new car, a high resolution TV or a \$500 savings bond.” All you have to do is pay a “processing fee” with your credit card or send a check by overnight courier. Don’t do it! The prize may never arrive, or will cost you more than it is worth.

**Government look-alike mail.** Many of us have received official-looking brown envelopes with a seal and federal-like return address. These mailings can be confusing, deceptive and even illegal. They often contain sweepstake solicitations or requests to donate to a political cause. They are illegal unless the entity has a valid government connection, approval or endorsement; the mail and envelope has a notice by the U.S. Postal Service disclaiming connection, approval or endorsement; or the material is contained in a publication you purchased.

**A solicitation disguised as an invoice.** Con artists try to get you to order items or services by sending you what looks like an invoice; they know that some will be fooled and automatically will pay the amount. The purpose of the solicitations may be disguised; others may accurately identify themselves in very tiny print. Verify that *you* placed the

order before paying.

**Chain letters.** You receive a chain letter guaranteeing that you will earn a b-zillion dollars with one small investment. You just have to send \$10 to everyone on the list, place your name on the end of the list and mail the list to 10 friends – and soon checks will pour into your own mailbox! Chain letters *don’t* work. The first investor in the chain may receive some money. The Postal Service tells us that those who appear later on the list rarely get back their original investment.

**Charity fraud.** Most solicitations from charitable organizations are legitimate appeals. But some are not. To check out those that you have never heard of or whose names are similar to ones you know, go to the Internet site “Google” and type in “charity watchdogs.” You will get websites that will let you know if the organization is legitimate. Write your check to the organization, not a person. And, be suspicious of those that only will accept cash.

**Medical fraud.** Although there have been medical advances in cures for conditions such as baldness, obesity and sexual dysfunction, snake-oil merchants continue to peddle their wares. Beware of instant cures! Check with your family physician before purchasing such “cures.” Our health should not be trusted to salespeople.

To file a mail fraud complaint, complete a form available at [www.usps.com/postalinspectors/fraud/MailFraudComplaint](http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/fraud/MailFraudComplaint). Postal inspectors base their investigations on the number of complaints, their pattern and substance. © Helen Dennis 2009

Helen Dennis is an author, lecturer, and expert on aging, employment and retirement issues. She writes a weekly column on Successful Aging for the South Bay newspaper, *The Daily Breeze*. This article is adapted from one of her columns.



## We Thank Our Center Benefactors

Through the Emeriti Center’s Benefactor Recognition Program, we thank those who have become benefactors of the Center and who have recognized honored colleagues, friends, and family with a \$500 contribution.\* For details on how you can participate, call 213-740-8921, or send an e-mail to <emeriti@usc.edu>.

### Recent Benefactor Donations

- **Donor:** David McConaughy  
**Honoree:** Taylor Meloan
- **Donor:** Angela Ramos  
**Honoree:** Leon-Emil Ramos
- **Donor:** Mitzi Tsujimoto  
**Honoree:** Louise and J. Tillman Hall
- **Donor:** Leonard Wines  
**Honoree:** Studs Terkel

\*Additional donations have been received as part of the Benefactor Recognition Program and will be included in the June newsletter.

I was surprised to find that the staff retirees preferred the word Emeriti in the name, with 59% preferring the current name and 26% opting for “USC Staff and Faculty Emeriti Center.” Of the faculty retirees, 64% preferred to keep the Emeriti Center name, while 28% chose “USC Retiree Center,” with only 15% of the staff desiring that name.

**Would you be interested in having a senior housing unit near USC?** 14% replied yes, while 15% were not sure. This same question was asked in the 2005 USC retirees survey where the response was only 5% who were interested. This almost three times greater positive response from four years ago will be important for our case in talking with the university and possible developers. On this front there are several meetings that began in January to discuss the possibilities and options with developers, USC administration and USC retirees. Let us know if you want to be kept informed on this issue.

**What suggestions do you have for the Emeriti Center?** The most common suggestions were to “keep up the good work,” “Thanks,” “Good job,” etc.

There were some suggestions impossible to attempt, such as improvement of one’s football seating – that’s in the hands of the ticket office and athletic department. Those who suggested an improvement in the health stipend should know that the Retired Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resource Committee continuously tries to improve this stipend, but during the economic downturn there is little likelihood this issue will get any attention.

There was a request to have more informal socials and to have some local events where people live, on the Westside, Orange County, Palm Springs, etc. There was interest in having more programs on health and to offer some exercise programs. There was a request for more classes on technology, especially digital photography (see **Jerry Walker’s** column, page 4). The Emeriti Center and Emeriti College are in the planning stage to address these suggestions.

The Emeriti Center is an administrative unit of the USC Provost’s Office. It supports all USC employees, faculty and staff, in retirement and the retirement process. It is also the office of record for every USC retiree. All retirees are automatically members of the Emeriti Center upon retirement from USC and pay no dues at any time for that affiliation. The funding from the Provost’s office provides support staff, space and essential Center programming. The Emeriti Center

solicits gifts to support programs that are not covered by the Provost’s Office. The RFA and the SRA are membership organizations that operate on dues from their members and solicit gifts for their own programs and endowments. USC retirees are given the opportunity to join these membership organizations, but do not need to do so to be part of the Emeriti Center.

The Emeriti Center appreciates the responses and the sharing of thoughts from all USC retirees. A high percentage of retirees sent a gift to the Emeriti Center, and even those who were not able to contribute, assisted us by returning a completed questionnaire.

We thank everyone who took part.

– Bob Scales, <rscales@usc.edu>

## RFA’s Filep Presents “Team of Rivals” to Annenberg’s Dean Wilson



The RFA’s **Bob Filep** presents Annenberg School of Communication Dean **Ernest J. Wilson III** (left), with a copy of Doris Kearnes Goodwin’s book, “Team of Rivals,” which describes the measures President Lincoln took when he formed his administration. “Team of Rivals” was one of two books that Obama said he would have in the White House on his first night (the Bible being the other), since both had influenced his campaign.

Dean Wilson recently returned from Washington, D.C., where he had served on Barack Obama’s Presidential Transition Team. Wilson’s group reviewed America’s international broadcasting services including the Voice of America and the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and advised the transition team working with the U.S. Department of State on public diplomacy issues.

Filep dedicated the book to the dean and to ASC students. “I purchased the book at The Nixon Library when I ‘guided’ a group of Peninsula Seniors on a bus trip to the Library,” said Filep, a founding faculty member of the ASC (curriculum and building). Filep had served the government in several administrations, from Nixon’s to Clinton’s. He said he inscribed the book on President Obama’s inauguration day.

On Jan. 22, Dean Wilson discussed his experiences serving on the Presidential Transition Team at a Roundtable with the Geoffrey Cowan Forum titled “Re-booting America’s Image in the World,” and offered his assessment of the limits and potential for public diplomacy under the new administration as it seeks to re-cast America’s image abroad.

## The University Salutes 46 Retiring Faculty, Lauds Their Achievements

The careers of forty-six retiring faculty members were celebrated at the Provost's Faculty Retirement Luncheon on Nov. 20, at Town & Gown.

**Steb Chandor**, past-president of the Retired Faculty Association, welcomed the 2007-2008 retirees which brought together colleagues from nine different schools, as well as the College, the Libraries, and the Provost's Office.

**Elizabeth Garrett**, Vice President for Academic Planning and Budget addressed the gathering, noting that USC has made phenomenal gains in quality and reputation in the past two decades. This growth, Garrett said, "happened through the tireless commitment and countless contributions of those individuals who have served USC during these pivotal years. And I can think of no better representation of those individuals than the faculty we are honoring in this room today."

**Natalie Cohen**, RFA President-elect announced the newly retired faculty, 20 of whom attended the event. The retirees, Cohen said, "represent 1,232 cumulative years of service, averaging 26 years each." Each retiree received a copy of "The Trojan Gallery," USC 1880-1980, a pho-



Row 1 (front): Timothy Greaves, Won Ng, Richard Hurvitz, Stella Fu, Vice President for Academic Planning and Budget, Elizabeth Garrett; Row 2: Margaret Wineburgh-Freed, Janet Nelson, Stephen Sobel, Frank Dimster; Row 3: Gordon Berger, Leslie Bernstein, Susan Laemmle, Gabor Kalman, Victor Marshand Webb, David Lopez-Lee; Row 4 (back): James Hall, Alan Stacey, Robert Stellwagon, Gerhard Clausing, Lou Byerly, Charles Patterson.

tographic history of the university, and an invitation from Emeriti Center Executive Director, **Janette Brown**, to join their retired colleagues by taking part in Emeriti Center opportunities and activities.

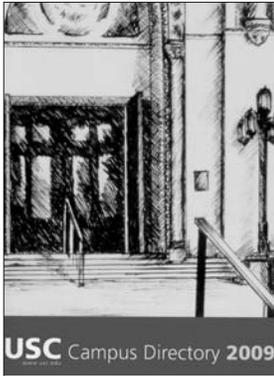
Vice President Garrett told the faculty retirees that the Emeriti Center would enable them "to be a teacher to the wider community, while serving as an ambassador for USC."

**2007-2008 USC Faculty Retirees:** School of Architecture: **Frank Dimster**, School of Cinematic Arts: **Gabor A. Kalman**; Marshall School of Business: **Michael Abraham Kamins** (marketing); College of Letters, Arts and Sciences: **Gordon Mark Berger**, **Thomas C. Cox** and **Charlotte Furth** (history), **Eduard K. Blum** (mathematics); **William Louis Byerly** (neurobiology); **Gerhard Clausing** (German); **Larry Raymond Dalton** (Loker Hydrocarbon Research Institute); **Sarnoff A. Mednick** (psychology); and **Ronald L. Steel** (international relations); Annenberg School for Communication: **Victor Marshand Webb** (journalism); School of Dentistry: **Samuel Walford Oglesby** (surgical, therapeutic, and bioengineering sciences), **Stephen Sobel** (diagnostic sciences); **Robert A. Wiswell** (biokinesiology and physical therapy), and **Carol W. Wuenschell** (craniofacial sciences and therapeutics); Rossier School of Education: **Nelly P. Stromquist**; Viterbi School of Engineering: **Christoph Von Der Malsburg** (computer science), **Charles L. Weber** (electrical engineering); USC Libraries: **Stella Fu** (Gerontology Library); **Frank O. Mason** (Wilson Dental Library), **Janet L. Nelson** and **Margaret Wineburgh-Freed** (Norris Medical Library); The Keck School of Medicine of USC: **Dennis W. Anderson** and **Timothy S. Greaves** (pathology); **Leslie Bernstein** and **Annlia Hill** (preventive medicine); **John D. Fissekis**, **James Hall**, and **Hervey David Segall** (radiology), **Yuen Kai Fung**, **Won Gin Ng**, **John Reinisch**, and **Charles Patrick Reynolds** (pediatrics/Childrens Hospital); **Richard Jay Hurvitz** and **Randolph Sherman** (surgery); **Carl Johnson** and **Alan Stacy** (Institute for Prevention Research); **Ronald L. Kaufman** (clinical medicine); **Sharon L. Norris** (family medicine); **Charles W. Patterson** (psychiatry and behavioral sciences); and **Robert H. Stellwagon** (biochemistry and molecular biology); School of Policy, Planning, and Development: **Greg G. Hise** (urban history), **David Lopez-Lee**; Office of the Provost: **Susan E. Laemmle** (Office of Religious Life); School of Social Work: **Robert H. Nishimoto**.

## 2009 USC Directories Are Here!

You may stop by the Emeriti Center office, GER 220, for a free copy of the 2009 USC Directory. If you prefer us to mail you a copy, please send a check for \$10, made out to the USC Emeriti Center, to cover the cost of postage and handling (see address on back cover).

We are still working with ITS on a new system to post retiree entries on the online directory. Please be patient.



## Colleagues for Life Has a Health-Conscious Blogger

In January, **Elaine Steward** (retired staff/engineering) published her first “blog” entry on the Emeriti Center’s site [colleaguesforlife.blogstop.com](http://colleaguesforlife.blogstop.com).

Steward’s expecting to be a regular contributor to this blog, where she’ll pass on significant information from health-related and other on-line bulletin sites, such as My Medicare Matters,

iHealthBeat, and California Healthline. Steward’s goal is to publish a weekly entry. Readers with suggestions should email her at [<esslady@gmail.com>](mailto:esslady@gmail.com). Here’s an entry Steward suggested we post in this issue:

- Under a new partnership, the FDA will post public health advisories, consumer updates and safety information on a dedicated WebMD Web page. In exchange, Steward reports, the FDA will publish consumer updates in WebMD’s bimonthly print magazine.



## THE U.S. CONSTITUTION and African Americans - excerpts from a lecture by Dr. Robert Penny

In honor of the inauguration of President Barack Obama, Dr. Robert Penny (emeritus, medicine), an Emeriti College presenter, gave a special lecture on Tuesday, Jan. 20, in place of the usual Grand Rounds at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Here, we include excerpts from his presentation.



Scott case of 1857.

Following the end of the American Revolution, in 1784, the 13 States had functioned under the Articles of Confederation (1784–1788). The U.S. Constitution replaced the Articles of Confederation.

The U.S. Constitution is a four-page document divided into seven Articles, some of which relate to African Americans, and others that do not. It was written in Philadelphia in 1787 by 55 men, America’s social and economic elite and was ratified in 1788.

The paradox in the Constitution resulted from an agreement to count slaves as 3/5ths of a free person for determining representation in Congress, stopping the slave trade, but not abolishing slavery, and that escaped slaves, to a Free State, were not free.

For African Americans, this agreement resulted in 81 years (1784-1865) of U.S. slavery, 100 years (1865-1965) of legal racism, and 43 years (1965-2008) of negative assumptions.

Significant events, over a period of 220 years, in the effort to correct the U.S. Constitution’s paradox are: 1) A Civil War (1860–1865); 2) Five Amendments to the Constitution (13th 1865; 14th 1868; 15th 1870; 23rd 1961; and 24th 1964); 3. the U.S. Supreme Court Ruling in 1954, that racial segregation is unconstitutional); 4) a Civil Rights Movement (1955 – 1968, led by Martin Luther King, Jr.); 5) the actions of three Presidents: Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, Jan. 1, 1863); Truman’s Executive Order 9981 desegregating the military, July 26, 1948; Johnson’s signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act giving legal status to the rights of African Americans; and most recently, 6) the 2008 election of the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama.

Paradoxically the U.S. Constitution entrenched liberty and slavery. It is believed that most U.S. political evils were traced to U.S. economic concerns. The U.S. economy was capitalistic (privately owned enterprise without government regulation) based upon the philosophy of Adam Smith (1723–1790): that capitalism depends on adherence to moral obligations for the well being of a nation’s population.

Reality is that in privately owned enterprise without government regulation, “Profits depend on high or low wages” and capitalism is composed of money, property and labor.

Abolishment of slavery – labor with no wages – would have collapsed the economies of the South [40% of the South’s population were slaves (1.013 million whites and 675,000 slaves)].

Africans were brought to the colonies in 1619 and treated as indentured servants for 50 years, resulting in Free blacks. Starting in 1669, Africans brought to the colonies were slaves. Africans have been in America for 389 years (one year longer than the Pilgrims; 165 years under the British).

The 13 States (“South’s Slave States” were Georgia, S. Carolina, N. Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware, and “North’s Free States” were New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, R. Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire) had a population of 3 million (2,275 million whites, 675,000 slaves and 50,000 free blacks) in 1788 when the Constitution was ratified. Free blacks had the rights of citizenship until the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution had only been written for whites in the Dred

## Senior Cyber Tips\* It's All About Time

Ever need to reset your watch, only to discover that every clock in the house displays a slightly different current time?

Find out the correct time by going to the Web site, <www.time.gov>, a public service of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Naval Observatory.

In the address line of your browser, simply type <time.gov>. (No need to type "www," for World Wide Web; it is assumed.)

When the map of the United States appears, left click on California, and soon the exact time in the U.S. Pacific time zone will appear.

Now that you know what time it is at your own house, you can find the current time in other parts of the world by visiting the Web site, <timeanddate.com/worldclock/>. (As before, adding "www" is not required). Click on the name of a city to see more information such as current local weather conditions.

– Bob Stallings at <rstallin@usc.edu>

\* If there is a tip that you would like to read about in a future issue please e-mail Bob Stallings at the above e-mail address, or Len Wines at <len@winesland.net>.

## Scoring Trojan Tickets

The EC is often asked about season tickets for USC football games. If you have season tickets and want to keep them, I urge you to renew as soon as you are notified the ticket office is accepting renewals. If you seek season tickets for the first time or after letting your subscription lapse, you should sign up with the ticket office as soon as possible. After the season ticket holders' period for renewal ends, new season tickets are handled, if there is room available.

Retirees pay the same amount as active employees. Special seating arrangements and guaranteed access to away games and bowl appearances are only for the higher-level support groups. This is the penalty for success and most of us prefer that to the alternative!

– Carole Gustin, Season Ticket Holder, SRA President

## A Gala Holiday Gathering at the Galen

On Dec. 10. close to 200 retired USC faculty, staff and friends enjoyed a hot buffet breakfast in the Galen Center's Founder's Room before the entertainment by Prof. **Parmer Fuller** of the USC Thornton School of Music, which included a rag-time concerto in four parts.

An adjunct assistant professor of musical theatre, Fuller has written scores for films, television, symphonies, a ballet, an opera, two musical comedies, choral and chamber works and songs. He received the Henri Mancini Prize for dramatic composition and three Frank Sinatra Prizes for jazz arranging and jazz performance. He has entertained numerous celebrities and conducted various orchestras, including the Young Musicians Foundation Orchestra. He is music director of the San Diego Civic Light Opera at the Starlight Bowl.



Catherine Ricafort sang, accompanied by Prof. Parmer Fuller.



Staff and faculty retirees enjoyed getting together with their friends and colleagues at the holiday festivities at the Galen Center.

Accompanying him this year was USC engineering student **Catherine Ricafort**, who has performed at many campus events. Catherine started with a selection from "Miss Saigon" and ended with a special musical tribute to **Louise Ball**, Vice-President of the SRA, who was celebrating her 90th birthday that very day. Everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to her. The cake was delivered to Louise along with a video of the proceedings by **Art Donovan**, as she was home recovering from the flu.

The breakfast ended with a slightly altered version of "Everything's Coming Up Roses" and the USC Fight Song for the upcoming 2009 Rose Bowl. A good time was had by all.

## In the News

**Sharing Their Expertise:** USC Retirees who were called upon for their comments on news topics in recent months or highlighted in the news, include:

**Malcolm Klein** (professor emeritus, sociology) was quoted by *The Bakersfield Californian* about statistics showing that smaller cities like Bakersfield have a higher per capita property crime rate than bigger cities like L.A. Each city has to be analyzed independently, Klein said. "The so-called bigger cities are made up of a lot of Bakersfields," he explained.

**Ralph Knowles** (professor emeritus, architecture) was interviewed on Wisconsin Public Radio's "To the Best of Our Knowledge," about his book "Ritual House: Drawing on Nature's Rhythms for Architecture and Urban Design." Knowles is one of the godfathers of the green design movement, the story stated.

The work of **Constance Ahrons**, professor emerita (sociology) was highlighted by the *Chicago Tribune* in a story about divorced parents who decided to spend Christmas together for the sake of the children. "It's heartening that people are finally getting the message that the real harm in divorce is the subsequent bitterness, not the dissolution itself," Ahrons said.

**Carl Q. Christol**, distinguished professor emeritus (international law and political science) had an op-ed, "Ban the Bombies," in *The Santa Barbara Independent*, about land mines and cluster bombs. "[The U.S.] has treated both weapons as relatively inexpensive weapons of opportunity, fitting in with the historic military goal of destroying an enemy's will to continue in battle by the most economical means," he wrote. In November, Christol gave opening remarks at a forum organized by the U.N. Association and UNESCO of Santa Barbara, on this important topic.

**Published: Richard B. Kaplan** (professor emeritus, applied linguistics) and his co-author, have written "Language Planning and Policy," one in a series on the current language situations in nations around the world.



**James Birren** (Dean Emeritus, Davis School), **Janette C. Brown** (EC executive director) and **Robert Scales** (professor emeritus/dean, theatre) are co-authors of a chapter on Changes in Academia: Retirement, Productivity, and New Roles in "Potentials of Senior Scholars and Scientists: Emerging Productivity in a New Era."

## Ellwood Named Alumnus of the Year

The Board of Trustees of Chicago's Baptist Theological Union has named **Robert Ellwood** (distinguished emeritus, religion) the Divinity School's Alumnus of the Year for 2009. Ellwood taught at USC from 1967 until his retirement in 1997. He will deliver

his Alumnus of the Year address, "The Mythology of Evil," on Thursday, April 30.

## Reaching Out to Widows and Widowers

The Emeriti Center is exploring whether or not there is a need and opportunity to help widows and widowers. This group includes both USC faculty and staff members who have lost their spouses and those who have lost spouses who were USC employees. Losing a partner is a difficult experience, and many are not well prepared for what ensues. The question is whether or not support groups and activities would be helpful to those in these categories. A small group will begin exploring this question in February. Anyone interested in joining this ongoing group is invited to contact **Ruberta Weaver** (310-833-4250 or ruberta@cox.net) or **Bob Coffey** (310-377-8637 or coffeyrnh@aol.com)

Your reactions and comments relating to this topic are welcome. The group plans to make recommendations in April about what, if anything might be done. Also, please let the Emeriti Center know of any USC widows or widowers you may know. Currently, we do not have a good system for tracking this group, and your help would be welcome.

– Bob Coffey

## Engineering Retirees Attend Holiday Luncheon

For the second year, USC Viterbi School of Engineering Dean **Yannis Yortsos** honored retirees from the school at its annual December holiday luncheon, where he shared information about the school's progress and achievements.



Hans Kuehl (left) and Dean Yortsos.

## In Memoriam:

We honor and mourn our university colleagues who have died. Those who were recorded by press time, and whose names were not noted in previous newsletters, are: *Bea Farmer (wife of Herb Farmer); Frank Fox (education/counseling psychology); Sherman Gillespie (business); Mitchell Lurie (music/percussion & wind); Gene Parrish (KUSC); Darby Siegel (wife of Gil Siegel); Russell R. Thyret (parking operations/security); James C. Warf (chemistry), and C. Sylvester Whitaker Jr. (political science/former dean, social sciences).*

\* If you know of colleagues we have missed, please contact the Emeriti Center at 213-740-8921, or send an e-mail to <emeriti@usc.edu>.

**Retirees of the Quarter:** In each issue of the newsletter, we highlight the contributions of a member of the USC retiree community. This month we honor staff retirees **Jeanne** and **Bob Church**.

**Jeanne** and **Bob Church** are co-chairs of the Staff Retirement Association's hospitality committee. They are in charge of two general SRA meetings, the joint SRA/RFA Holiday Celebration and all the "extra" events we schedule during the year. They not only reserve sites, plan menus, and order food, but they create the table decorations for the holiday event and secure helpers for the larger events. They serve on the Board of Directors of the SRA and are always willing to step in to help whenever there is a need, and they support our Homecoming booth every year.

Jeanne, a USC retiree from the USC Marshall School of Business, has also served USC as treasurer for the Faculty Center (now the University Club).

Joining the Food Industry Management Program (FIM) in July 1974 was a dream come true for Jeanne. A life-long Trojan with two children in high school planning on college, a job at USC was most opportune. Jeanne's background, in conjunction with Bob's, has always been with the food industry, so it was a perfect match.

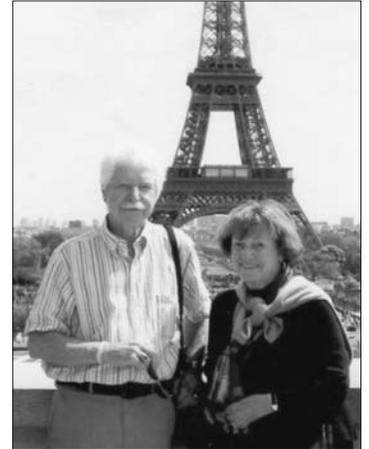
FIM is a year-long certificate program in the School of Business for management-level personnel from grocery chains throughout the U.S. and internationally. Jeanne's job was to work with the human relations personnel, screening applicants and walking them through the steps for admission to USC. She worked with major grocery manufacturers who donated full tuition scholarships for students. She assisted the non-local students in finding apartments and relocating their families – some from as far away as Australia, Japan, Europe and South America. She was "Mom" to all. She retired on June 30, 1991, as Assistant Director of the FIM Program.

Following World War II, where Bob served in the U.S. Army in the Provost Marshall's office in France, he attended USC's College of Commerce, graduating in 1950 with a major in advertising, well prepared for his long career in the food industry. At KTTV, he worked on the Star Shopper program and dealt with food and drug advertisers as well as local grocery chains. Bob later hosted a 15-minute TV interview show for the retail food industry. At the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of L.A., he headed the Chain Store Sales Division and at Pepsico he covered 15 western states and coordinated programs for the chains and bottlers. Retiring from Angostura Bitters after 20 years, he has pursued his hobby of collecting antique silver figural napkin rings.

One of the highlights of their experiences is that daughter, Lisa, while attending SC, met and later married Mark, an FIP student. Lisa and Mark's daughter is a 2004 graduate with degrees in psychology and English Lit, and their son is a junior in the School of Business, who is majoring in economics and also plays in the Trojan Marching Band.

Bob and Jeanne like to attend live theater, especially musicals, and, of course, all the USC home football games. They volunteer weekly at their church; work and relax at their mountain cabin; travel and, most important, enjoy their two USC grandchildren, their three younger ones in Huntington Beach and their Scottish terrier, Rufus.

Bob and Jeanne are busy members of our Trojan Family! We appreciate their continuing contributions to the USC Retiree Community.



Bob and Jeanne Church in Paris.

### It's a Theatre Party – Please Join Us!

Save the date – **Saturday, April 4, at 2:30 p.m.** – for what has become an annual event, an SRA USC School of Theatre matinee! The delightful musical fantasy "**Brigadoon**" will put a little Irish in your Spring! It's set in a mysterious village that disappears into the mists of the Scottish Highlands, returning only one day every 100 years. Seems a covenant made long ago with God means no one from the village may leave. Hummm, what then to do with those two lost American tourists who stumble into their village?

The SRA has reserved 50 seats in the center section of the Bing Theatre (University Park Campus) and the cost is only \$8 per person. Please contact **Dick Martin** with the number of guests, including yourself, to be put on the list: <dickmar@msn.com> or (323)343-1146.

– Dick Martin

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For a full listing of EC, RFA and SRA Board officers/members-at-large, and their contact information, go to [www.usc.edu/emericenter](http://www.usc.edu/emericenter) and click on the group you want to find out more about.

### **USC Emeriti Center Spring Events**

- March 19 (Thursday):** Staff Retirement Association Luncheon, Town & Gown, 11:30 a.m., reservations required (see page 1)
- April 3 (Friday):** 30th Anniversary Celebration Day – 11 a.m., a student/alumni/retiree panel on Japan (GERO Auditorium); followed by lunch and an ice cream social honoring retirees age 90+; ending with a presentation of “Intergenerational Life Stories, Learning About Life” by Dean Emeritus James Birren. Reservations are required (see page 1).
- April 4 (Saturday):** “Brigadoon” Theatre Party (see page 11)
- May 15 (Friday):** USC’s 126th Commencement
- June 8 (Monday):** SRA Annual Meeting and Elections

*The Emeriti Center, an advocate and active supporter of USC retirees since 1978, celebrates 30 years of service.*

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