Emeriti Center Spearheads Retiree Organization Research

Retirees are often a university’s greatest untapped resource.

The retiree community is one of a university’s greatest assets. Rather than severing ties in retirement, there are new and fresh ways retirees productively share their knowledge, experience, skills, insight, and other resources developed during their careers.

The USC Emeriti Center has taken the lead role in discovering how colleges and universities serve, support, and utilize their retired faculty and staff.

Through the nonprofit organization, AROHE, (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education) the Emeriti Center is spearheading a research survey collecting responses from colleges and universities across the nation and Canada. Through this survey, we hope to document programs for retired faculty and staff. We will present this survey research at the AROHE Conference, Oct. 24-26 at the Radisson Hotel, across the street from USC. The conference will host speakers, panels, and workshops all focused on opportunities and resources for retiree organizations.

A highlight of the AROHE Conference will be a luncheon on Saturday Oct. 25 to kick-off the USC Emeriti Center’s 30th Anniversary. The USC Retiree Community will join AROHE conference members in this special luncheon hosted at Town & Gown.

For further registration information, please refer to the Web site at www.arohe.org.

Four USC retirees received Faculty Lifetime Achievement Awards at USC’s 27th Annual Academic Honors Convocation. See pages 6 & 7 for their career highlights.

SRA’s June Program Takes You to Antarctica

Monday, JUNE 16 – 11 a.m. – Andrus Gerontology Center Auditorium

“Above & Below the Sea Ice”

Join marine biologist Lin Craft as she explores the rigors and rewards of the great white continent, Antarctica, from the unique vantage point of a working scientist.

Dive through six feet of ice to explore the life of the ocean floor and enjoy the unique wildlife of the world above water, featuring seals, penguins and killer whales. Discover the pristine beauty of this icy realm while exploring spectacular ice caves inside floating glaciers.

Lunch follows in Courtyard.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, June 11, to 213-740-7122 or emeriti@usc.edu.
Preparing for Our 30th Anniversary; New Budget Analyst Is on Board

Our number one priority is to ensure the efficient running of the Center. To this end, all staff contributed during the search for Jennifer Ontai’s replacement. In the interim, Jennifer worked from Hawaii to help with office functions. We sincerely thank Jennifer for her dedication and loyalty to the Emeriti Center and entire USC retiree community.

A sincere thank you goes to Gil Sigel who has stepped down after many dedicated years as Chair of the USC Retired Faculty/Staff Benefits Committee. Gil handled many responsibilities while leading the committee and we appreciate his dedication to USC. We invite those interested to join this important committee that looks for ways to improve retiree life.

Maricela Hinojosa is now on board as our Business Budget Analyst (see page 9). We are now searching for a part-time administrative assistant/receptionist for our main office. As we continue to grow, this position will play a key role in the continuity of programs and services.

As our 30th anniversary approaches this fall, we are spending time clarifying our vision as we connect past, present, and future. With guidance from Vice President for University Relations Martha Harris and Associate Senior Vice President for Public Relations Susan Heitman we are in the process of creating a more professional look for our public-relations materials and resources.

– Janette Brown, Executive Director; jcbrown@usc.edu; 213-740-7121; www.usc.edu/emeriticenter

Please Let Us Thank You! Recently, a loyal Trojan passed away and left a generous financial gift to the Emeriti Center. This gift came as quite a surprise and although we sincerely appreciate those who make bequests to the Emeriti Center, we regret it when we do not have the opportunity to thank them for their gifts.

We acknowledge this recent gift with great thanks and appreciation to:

William Golden* – $11,600

If you have included the Emeriti Center or Emeriti College in your estate planning, please let us know so that we can thank you! Contact Janette Brown: 213-740-7121; or jcbrown@usc.edu.

If you are interested in knowing more about bequests and charitable gifts, please contact Lambert Bittinger 213-740-1925 bitting@usc.edu.

We Thank Our Center Benefactors

Through the Emeriti Center’s Benefactor 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 Donation

• Donor: Jerry Cao
  Honoree: Myra Webster Cao

* William Golden, a native of New York, joined USC in 1969 as assistant to Academic Vice President Milton Kloetzel. Later, Bill became assistant to Personnel Director John Schneider. Bill left the university for a brief period, returning as University Benefits Director under Janis Romero, until his retirement in 1988.

Bill was well-known and respected at USC. He became ill in 2006 and succumbed to cancer in 2008. Bill did not have a family, but leaves a loving Trojan family to mourn him.

We are truly grateful for the endowment that Bill left to the USC Emeriti Center.
A Great Year, and We Welcome Our New President and Board Members

There’s an old adage about how time flies when you’re having fun. I must have had a lot, as this year has flown by. We continue to work on a variety of projects, such as space, appointment of an ombudsman, formation of an executive committee, a better understanding of relationships between EC components, and the upcoming AROHE conference and 30th Anniversary celebration. Special attention was paid to the Caldwell Scholarship Program. Last fall we met with three scholars and this April with three individuals from student financial aid, LAS, and the Neighborhood Academic Initiative. The sessions were stimulating as the scope of such aid and the program is substantial and appreciated. We owe special thanks to Barbara Solomon for arranging and managing the sessions.

Through the year we receive support from the EC staff and the student workers – I owe them many thanks. I appreciate the support of our Board, especially Bob Biller, mentor and taskmaster; Dagmar Halamka, who did an excellent job with the Provost’s Luncheon and is our incoming President; and Natalie Cohen, who did such a great job as chair of the Nominating Committee that she became the Vice President/President-Elect by a landslide. Bill Petak, treasurer, and Jack Sanders, secretary, continued to do well in their positions. Jack also sent birthday cards, which gave us a chance to say hello to our members.

We say goodbye to past RFA Presidents Bob Coffey and Gil Siegel, and we welcome new Board Members Art Donovan, Kaaren Hoffman, Phoebe Liebig, and Millie Milgrom. I also want to express my appreciation for support from the administration, particularly Provost C.L. Max Nikias who supported and attended the fall luncheon, the deans who also attended our luncheon, and Deans Knott and Yortsos for providing meeting space for our Board meetings. And SRA President Carole Gustin was a pleasure to work with in our joint endeavors.

I thank our members for attending our functions and responding so well to last year’s dues letter. I hope we will hear from even more of you this year. Have a great summer!

– Steb Chandor, RFA President; chandor@usc.edu; 323-442-8589; www.usc.edu/raa

It’s Dues Time, Time for an Icy Talk, and Time to Share Your Talents!

The March luncheon honoring the 2007 staff retirees was a big success (see page 8). Thank you, Louise Ball and your many helpers. The 77 retirees contributed 1,499 years of service to USC. Over the last three years, 222 retirees served 5,120 years! Wow!

It’s time for annual and new members to send in their dues checks. Hopefully, our current members have received their reminder letters. If you are able to contribute to the SRA, we’d appreciate it going to the new endowment to help it grow.

Our June program is topical and important. Lynn Williams has arranged for an Antarctic expert to discuss changes in that icy continent. Maybe she’ll even talk about what’s happening to Cape Zumberge. Join us!

The Emeriti College is expanding its membership to include USC folks who can offer programs/workshops/group discussions focusing on a wide variety of topics. Think about things that you might offer – travel experiences, hobbies, new careers, involvement in community service, etc. Retired staff are encouraged to become Emeriti College presenters.

Would you be interested in a USC retiree housing complex? We are exploring the possible demand for such a venture. Please let me know if this might appeal to you.

The EC wants to add more “mini” bios to the Web page. Only six retired staff have contributed information (Louise Ball, Janet Eddy, Carole Gustin, Betty Redmon, Mitzi Tsujimoto, and Ron Violette). It just takes a little time to write down a bit about what you did at USC, what you’re doing in retirement, and things you have learned about how to make retirement successful and happy.

If SRA members do not receive a birthday card, or know of someone who needs a get well or sympathy card, please call Alice Donahue at 562-634-8163. And please send me ideas about ways we can better serve our community and how you would like to participate.

– Carole Gustin, SRA President; cgustin@usc.edu; 310-842-7544; www.usc.edu/sra
Now for the Last Time ... And This Time I Really Mean It!

The announcement of my retirement as Emeriti College Director a year ago proved to be premature. But I’m now pleased to announce that a new director, Jerry Walker, will be taking over on August 1.

I look forward to continuing my participation as a presenter in the Emeriti College, as an attendee at College events and to serving as a member of the new Executive Emeriti College Oversight Group, EE-COG.

It has been very exciting exploring the possibilities and opportunities for the Emeriti College’s future. The College will have a new structure of oversight and operation, a new director, new initiatives/programs and expanded presenter programming as it goes into the summer and next year. We have only begun to expand the College by including “Teaching and Learning Without Borders” that offers classes that are of interest especially to USC retirees. We are looking forward to adding some multi-generational discussion forums to our curriculum as well.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve as the Emeriti College Director and wish to thank all those who have participated and helped with the College over the last four years. During my tenure as director we have organized and formalized the routine operation of presentations sponsored by the College that is accompanied by a good record keeping system.

I need to especially thank Judy Diaz, who has been my assistant throughout my term. She has been the one who made the College operate professionally and smoothly.

Please volunteer to be a presenter, suggest a topic for a presentation or a question for discussion, or to identify a new community we could serve. Please contact Judy Diaz, Assistant Director of the USC Emeriti College, 213-740-8841, judydiaz@usc.edu with your suggestions.

– Robert R. Scales, Ph.D.; 213-740-1289; rscales@usc.edu; www.usc.edu/ecc

Harriett Paine, 87, the Force Behind Downey’s Adult School Programs

Harriett Paine

serves as the program coordinator at the Downey Adult School site which utilizes USC speakers in its programs.

“One of the most popular series that I organize is with USC’s Emeriti College speakers,” Paine said recently.

Last year Paine, now 87, received the City of Downey’s “Older American of the Year Award” which she proudly shared with Downey Adult School.

She has led a remarkable life. Paine’s first husband came to USC in 1946 to study electrical engineering on the GI Bill of Rights. While he took evening classes at USC, she – as a Certified Home Economist and a Family and Consumer Science Educator – began a new job as a senior home economist with the So. California Gas Co. Soon she was teaching a six-week course on “Cooking for the Family” for “The Adult School” on KTHER, an experimental TV broadcast conducted by USC, that was located in USC’s Hancock Building.

“KTHER was the nation’s second educational TV station to broadcast regularly scheduled programs,” said Paine.

In 1958, Paine found herself widowed with two children. She then “embarked on what was to be a 55-year career in teaching older adults in my community,” she said.

In 1960, she met her second husband, then was again widowed in 1992. Paine continued teaching.

It was at Downey Adult School where Paine initiated the programs titled “Older Adults Seeking Information and Skills (OASIS).” The programs focus on education, entertainment and socializing, and more than 100 people register for her weekly programs. USC speakers have included Gunnar Nielsson on “Changing Pattern in International Conflict: From Interstate Wars to Civil Wars” and Dagmar Halamka on “Ten (or More) Tips for Living an Informed Financial Life,” among many others.

In 2005, Paine was honored by the California State Department of Education with the “Golden Dinosaur Award” for her then-53-years of service, the state record for the number of years teaching adult education.

– Judith C. Diaz, Assistant Director, Emeriti College; 213-740-8841; judydiaz@usc.edu
I still don’t know quite how it happened, but my wife knocked me out in three rounds of boxing. I wasn’t physically hurt, but my pride was forever damaged. And Lora Walker KO’d Jack Sanders in their match. I could never figure out the winning techniques of the females, but they got it down quick.

Boxing as well as “virtual” golf, tennis, baseball and bowling were Wii games that senior students played in one of our technology classes. The Wii Sports class was just one of a dozen we learned about in the program.

Early this year I received a proposal from an occupational therapy doctoral student, Michelle Man, that outlined a 12-week “Technology Simplified for Older Adults” course for about 10 seniors. It was ambitious and covered a wide range of subjects that used digital technology, but she needed a location and students to start a class. I told her that the Emeriti College would help her form a class and find a computer lab somewhere on or near campus.

We were offered computer lab space in the Gerontology building, but couldn’t find a suitable time to use that facility. However, Kim Thomas-Barios, director of the Neighborhood Academic Initiative’s computer lab in University Village, offered us use of their lab each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon from March through May.

We recruited “students” from a list of USC retirees who had attended at least one of the computer classes the Emeriti College had sponsored in the fall.

The syllabus for the “Technology” class spelled out each session in such a simple manner that it appeared we’d learn all this with few problems. The teacher was extremely knowledgeable and enthusiastic about us learning everything, but on occasion we all sat, as “technology newbies” looking slightly dazed in front of video screens as an assortment of cables, cameras and flash drives mingled with keyboards, our computer “mouse” device firmly in our hands. As Michelle helped individual students, others observed those getting assistance and picked up tips, and and still others got busy with email or toyed with the computer until the teacher took us to the next item on her agenda.

The 11 class members were at different levels of confidence, so learned at different levels, but all shared knowledge, or asked for help from others. The students are now more familiar with formerly foreign “technology language” and have a better idea of what it means and how

continued on page 11

The Gloves Came Off in New Tech Class

A class that introduced retirees to the bold new world of Wii and more showed them there’s a whole new technology world out there.

– special from Bob Scales

Living History Project Captures Nine HSC Physicians on DVDs

Do you need a program for a planned meeting about USC?

The Emeriti Center’s Living History Library now holds 59 DVDs recording the history of the rich and varied contributions of USC faculty, staff, and administrators, many of whom have given 50 years of their life working with students, conducting research, or assuring that the administrative machinery works well and on time. There is no fee to borrow a DVD, and a list of the individuals recorded is on the EC Web site.

Since July 2007, the Living History Committee facilitated the recording of nine faculty members from USC’s Keck School of Medicine. Major revitalization occurred at the medical school beginning in 1960, steadily growing and developing until today’s faculty and clinical facilities rank high in the medical world. The recordings include the initiation of the Norris Cancer Center, establishment of the USC Hospital, growth of the student body from 64 students in each class to 138 students in each class. Physicians Peter Lee, Phil Manning, and Denman Hammond, each served more than 50 years each. Recently physicians Daniel Mishell, Joseph Van Der Meulen, and Brian Henderson, were recorded at the Robert Zemeckis Center for Digital Arts and their histories will be available to borrow soon.

All DVDs are available at the Andrus Gerontology Center Library, and some can also be viewed online at www.utube.com/usc.

– Louise Ball, lbll478@msn.com

Bob Scales’ wife, Suzanne, declares victory when she “knocks him out” in a vigorous Wii virtual boxing match. Bob will have to study up on his technique.
George A. Bekey, University Professor, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Biomedical Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering

George Bekey, the former holder of the Gordon S. Marshall Chair in Engineering, has received USC’s highest award – the Presidential Medallion. An eminent scientist and educator, he conducted pioneering research in the field of robotics. His four-decade USC career began in 1962. Skilled at interdisciplinary research and teaching, he has done groundbreaking work in hybrid computation and biomedical engineering while his early research involved mathematical models of blood circulation.

Bekey was one of the founders of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ (IEEE) Robotics and Automation Society. A member of the NAE, he was the first academic to be awarded the IEEE Technical Field Award in Robotics and Automation and was the founding editor of the IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation and the journal Autonomous Robots.

As founder and director of USC’s robotics teaching and research program, Bekey helped establish USC as a leading national center in robotics, helped create the Viterbi School’s biomedical engineering department and its first computer laboratory, served as the first chair of the electrical engineering-systems department, chair of the computer science department, and as the school’s associate dean for research.

Bekey’s latest book Autonomous Robots: From Biological Inspiration to Implementation and Control was published in 2005 three years after he retired. He is a research scholar at California Polytechnic State University, an active lecturer, and a technical consultant to various companies.

Vern L. Bengtson, Research Professor of Gerontology, AARP-University Professor Emeritus of Gerontology, USC Davis School of Gerontology, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, USC College

Vern Bengtson has excelled as a teacher and researcher in the fields of gerontology and sociology. His four-decades-long study of multigenerational family relationships and aging is considered peerless for its creativity and prodigious record of publications. This project has been continuously renewed by the NIH and has accumulated more than $10 million in funding. Over the years the Longitudinal Study of Generations, which remains ongoing and for which Bengtson served as founding principal investigator, supported dozens of graduate research assistants.

He has earned several top teaching awards and mentored countless students. Among his recent publications is the Sourcebook of Family Theory and Research, for which he was editor-in-chief. Bengtson has received awards from the Gerontological Society of America, which he served as president, the American Sociological Association, and the National Council on Family Relations. The National Institute on Aging honored him with two MERIT awards, and USC has presented him with the USC Associates Award for Creativity in Research.

Bengtson began teaching at USC in 1967 – the same year he was awarded his Ph.D. in human development and social psychology from the University of Chicago. He retired in 2007 and now pursues a new project – funded through the USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture – that examines the generational transmission of religious beliefs.

Robert P. Biller, Professor Emeritus of Public Administration, USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development

Robert Biller has distinguished himself as a visionary educator and leader. As a scholar and a USC administrator, he has helped shape the field of public administration, oversee the development of innovative procedures and programs at USC, and strengthened the university through his significant contributions in a diverse array of administrative posts. These positions include executive vice provost, dean or interim dean of three schools, dean of admission and financial aid, and vice president of external affairs. Early in his USC career he became an advocate for USC’s engagement in interdisciplinary initiatives and community involvement in order to advance its academic mission.

Biller now plays a leading role in enhancing the well-being of his fellow USC retirees through his involvement with the USC Emeriti Center. He is a member of several university committees, including the Executive Committee of the USC Retired Faculty Association, which he previously guided as president. He is also a consultant to the director of the Skirball Cultural Center, having also been its chief operating officer and a participant in its founding.

Biller (M.P.A. ’65, Ph.D., ’69) joined USC as dean of its School of Public Administration in 1976 – a position he held continued on page 7
until 1982. He has also directed the USC School of Fine Arts as its interim dean and played a crucial role in the growth of the newly merged USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development as its interim (and founding) dean from 1998 to 2000.

Biller is highly regarded by his colleagues for his energetic and “ahead-of-the-curve” leadership, his talent as a teacher and problem solver, and his generous and exuberant nature. His accomplishments have earned him membership in the National Academy of Public Administration and USC’s Presidential Medallion.

Michael Ming-Chiao Lai, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Molecular Biology and Immunology, and Neurology, Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

Scientist and educator Michael Lai has brought extraordinary luster to USC through his pioneering studies of infectious diseases and his stature as a world-renowned virologist. He has advanced scientific understanding of RNA virus replication through his research into a wide range of RNA viruses, including hepatitis C and the coronavirus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS.

Lai became president of National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan after retiring from USC in 2006. However, he maintains a portion of his research program at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. He has distinguished himself as the only USC faculty member to be named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, and he is also a Distinguished Fellow of the Academia Sinica in Taiwan and a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

At USC he has been awarded the title of Distinguished Professor, the USC Associates Award for Creativity in Research and Scholarship, and the Keck School’s Excellence in Teaching Award. A prolific scholar with more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, Lai has been listed as a highly cited researcher by the Institute for Scientific Information, and he has also trained many outstanding students who have become prominent scientists.

Lai guides the National Health Research Institute as a trustee, the Influenza Research Initiative in Taiwan as its director, and the Journal of Biomedical Science as its editor-in-chief. He has also been a member of various scientific advisory boards and multiple NIH study sections.

Born in Taiwan, graduated summa cum laude with a medical degree from the National Taiwan University College of Medicine. He holds a Ph.D. from UC-Berkeley and joined USC’s faculty in 1973.

Leibovitz Honor for Violette

We congratulate Ron Violette as the 2008 Leibovitz Staff Honoree for service to seniors. He retired from USC in 1991, after 15 years of service in the Institute of Safety and Systems Management.

Violette joined the SRA Board in 1992 and has served ever since. In 1994, he published the first issue of “Senior Class Tips,” which was the first Staff Retirement Association newsletter. Sixty-one issues later, he joined the “email age.” And, after writing the first 33 issues by himself, he and Len Wines have shared authoring of the SRA E-Newsletter. He also serves as “Bylaws Officer” for the SRA and is a willing volunteer for many SRA projects and events.

In joining those who have previously won the award, Violette said, “I am truly humbled.”

Star Staffers Graduate

Three of our student workers are graduating and taking their skills out into the world. We thank them for their service and wish them well:

- Ariel Bailey, who began working at the Emeriti Center in Spring 2007, assisted with database management and budgets, received a B.A. degree in East Asian Studies/East Asian Languages and Cultures. Ariel will be working in Korea.
- Jessica Lum, majored in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Studies and received her Masters degree in Occupational Therapy. She worked at the Emeriti College for a year and plans to work with children as an occupational therapist in a school setting. “I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to be employed in an organization that supports lifelong learning,” said Jessica.
- Emily Roellke began working at the EC on “day one” of her freshman year in 2004, and assisted with the Emeriti College. She received a B.A. in social science with an emphasis in psychology. Emily plans to stay in L.A. and will begin teaching at the Willows School in August. She’s saving her money to travel in South America. “When I count my blessings,” said Emily, “the incredibly kind and warm people I’ve had the honor of working with come first.”
Retiring Staff Laid a Strong Foundation for Those Who Will Follow

It’s time to celebrate the “Golden Years.”

Seventy-seven newly retired USC staff members were honored at the 23rd Annual Staff Retirement Luncheon & Recognition program on March 20, at USC’s Town & Gown.

Staff Retirement Association Vice President Louise Ball and SRA President Carole Gustin welcomed the retirees to the “Golden Years” themed luncheon, where gold-foil wrapped chocolate coins graced the tables.

Todd R. Dickey, senior vice president, administration, lauded the retirees for their many years of service, and for “laying the foundation for the staff that will follow. We wish you the happiest possible life in retirement,” said Dickey.

Retirees at the luncheon received a copy of The Trojan Gallery, USC 1880-1980, a photographic history of the university.

Janette C. Brown, executive director of the USC Emeriti Center presented its 2008 Staff Leibovitz Award for service to seniors to Ron Violette (see story page 7), and Gustin invited the retirees to join in the social and educational activities of the Staff Retirement

Among those who attended the luncheon were: (front center) Agueda Poblete; (second row, from left) Aurora Oligane, Janet Cogorno, Dong Xu, and Michael Barr; (third row) Doreen Horwitz and Myrtle Gibson; (fourth row) Dixon Johnson, Terence Langford, Linda Lewis, Senior Vice President/Finance and CFO Dennis Dougherty, Juanita Keeling, and Phyllis Rideout; (back row) Robert Calverley, Jack Himebaugh, Senior Vice President/Administration Todd Dickey, and Connie Horack.

Association, as well as to take advantage of the benefits provided by the USC Emeriti Center.

Staff retirees for the year 2007 and their departments and/ or schools are:

Academic Affairs: Cecelia Fincham; Academic Records & Registrar: Aurora Oligane; Administration: Nancy Hodges (Office of the Sr. VP); Administration & Finance: Mariefe Dziuk; Administrative Operations: Agueda Poblete (child care) and Olivia Atterberry (personnel services); Advancement: William Nies (planned giving); Animal Resources: Gaspar Marin; Auxiliary Services: Trinidad Ornelas (housing); Bookstore: David Beyan (dental); School of Business: Juanita Keeling (executive MBA programs), and Myrtle Gibson (finance & admin.); CAPS: Martin Jones, Diane Billings, Donna Campian, William Johnson, and Maria Gonzalez; Center for Effective Organizations: James O’Toole; Child Care: Ada Zelaya (UPC/infant); School of Cinematic Arts: Kathy Fogg (Stark Producing Prog.); The College: James Merritt (chemistry), and Grace Dyness (religion); Continuing Educ. Prog.: Michael Barr; Culinary Specialist: Lillian Averal; Customer Resource Center: Edward Miller; School of Dentistry: Janet Cogorno (biokinesiology & physical therapy), Betty Alexander (clinical affairs) and Victoria Newcomer (strategic planning); School of Education: Beverly Franco (undergraduate and teacher education program); School of Engineering: Robert Calverley (external relations), Catherine Labore and Lisa Moses (ISI), and Merrill Roragen (EE-electrophysics); Equipment Management: Jack Himebaugh; Facilities Management Serv.: Terence Langford, David Ramos-Oriz, Juan Rodriguez, and Reynaldo Sanchez; Financial Aid: Linda Louise Lewis and Catherine Thomas; School of Gerontology: Shirley Ann Kirksey, Joanne Rakson; Hospitality/Parkside: Austreberta Hernandez and Teresa Marin; Housing: Rene Torres (Founders/ housekeeping) and Shirley Johnson (customer service office); Information Technology Services: Gerald Jones (customer support/Learning Skills Dev. Cntr.); School of Law: Valerie Adair (post-conviction clinic); Mailing Services: Evertis Anderson (shipping and receiving); School of Medicine: Kazuko Arakawa, Doreen Horwitz and Phyllis Rideout (preventive medicine), Cheryl Ann Armstrong and Maria Ignacio (neurology), Holly Jo Boyd (I.D.-ACTU Med.), Angelette Delk (financial aid), John Fissekis (radiology), Ruby Hinds-Ashton (pathology/Res. Ctr. for Alcoholic Liver & Pancreatic Disease), Florence Miyagawa (pathology), Dolores Morales (Center for Stem Cell and Regenerative Med.), Teresa Alcala Moreno (family medicine), Arletta S. Ramirez (cardiovascular-ARV), Julia Reyes (surgery), Yolanda Sanchez (HCC II); Alexander Sensenbrenner (otolaryngology); William Watson (development), Dong Xu (rheumatology), and Jun Liang Zheng (pediatrics); Operation & Maintenance: Valerio Tigno (utility systems/UPM); Overseas Studies: Constance Horak; Planned Giving: Jane Page; SECE: Ofelia Ongpin (external relations); School of Social Work: Robert Aisley; Student Affairs: Dixon Johnson (Office of International Services); Transportation Services: John Deptowicz (field personnel/day) and Guillermo Garcia (HSC); and University Advancement: Robert Davis (planned giving).
We Welcome Maricela to Our EC Team

We are pleased to welcome our new Emeriti Center budget business analyst, Maricela Hinojosa.

Maricela has worked on campus for eight years, first as a payroll specialist in human resources, and most recently as a budget business analyst at the University Club. She has been working closely with Jennifer Ontai and will take the summer months to secure training in a number of specialized systems. Maricela manages all accounts, budgeting, and purchases for the Emeriti Center and Emeriti College. She also assists with RFA accounting and some SRA purchase requests along with other support for both membership organizations.

In addition, Maricela is responsible for gold cards, retiree e-mail and computer accounts, donor records, and managing contact data for mailings, directory listings, and confidential files. Maricela is the mother of five and the wife of Sam Hinojosa, Associate Director of Information Systems, for USC Career and Protective Services.

You can reach Maricela at 213-740-8169 or marih@usc.edu.

Retiree Who’s Been There Shares Financial Survival Tips

When a recent USC Emeriti Center survey disclosed that those retirees in the most financial stress were single staff females, the EC addressed the problem by calling on the talents of retiree Elaine Staber Steward.

After all, Steward, now approaching 70, had survived “two plunges into poverty” – first when she was widowed at 40, then again when she faced retirement – and she was willing to share how she was able to cope with financial changes and go on to a comfortable retirement.

Steward’s March presentation, “Making the Most of Your Financial Situation,” drew a mix of 35 retirees and active employees. She gave tips on taking control of budgets, avoiding credit card debt, assessing investment options, enhancing earning power, knowing the difference between “a need” and “a want,” and making a will.

“Your retirement fund is for you,” Steward told the group, and is not meant to bankroll your children. Taking care of yourself, she said, “is one of the best gifts you can give your children.”

Seminar handouts included a hard-copy version of Steward’s slide presentation for future reference, a checkbook balancing form, a list of “typical expenses,” and tips on getting senior discounts (dining, movies, auto insurance, and dog licenses, for instance), as well as tips on how to cut down on spending. Can you rent something instead of buy it? Or borrow it from a neighbor? Or get a book from the local library? Or can you do without it?

Held in the USC Credit Union’s new Flower St. location, the event was sponsored by the Emeriti Center in collaboration with the Credit Union.

Are You Eligible for the Quarterly Health Stipend?

Retirees with a minimum of 15 years of benefits-eligible employment and who are 65 years of age or older, need to reapply for the health stipend in July ($60/month, paid quarterly).

The Office of Benefits Administration sends application forms to those retirees believed to be eligible after the Board of Trustees authorizes the stipend.

If you believe you are eligible, but do not receive the form by the end of July, please contact Kevin Johnson at 213-437-1839.

The EC’s Book Nook

An occasional column: 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 to the Editor for consideration in an upcoming Newsletter issue, and for eventual EC Web posting. Here’s our first selection:


How did Abraham Lincoln get better and better as a writer over his too-short life? How did that skill mobilize and steer this nation through and beyond our most substantial calamity? How did Lincoln convert ideas into text in such an astonishing way and – with no word processing – do at least four drafts of everything important he wrote?

And why is what Lincoln wrote still riveting? Better than any mystery novel I’ve read this year.

– Bob Biller
Making News

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

- **Stephen Krashen,** professor emeritus (education) was quoted in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* about evaluating students and teaching reading. “Teachers evaluating their students is the best way to measure how students are doing in school, and standardized testing directed from outside a school should be minimized,” Krashen said.

- **Malcolm Klein,** professor emeritus (sociology), was quoted in the *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin* about the drop in crime in the San Fernando Valley. Such a decline, particularly in gang violence, can offer a false sense of security, Klein said. “It goes up and down, almost irrespective of what we do for them and to them.” Klein was also quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* on L.A.’s falling homicide rate.

- **Constance Ahrons,** professor emerita (sociology) had her book “The Good Divorce” highlighted in *The Times (U.K.).* Based on her USC research, Ahrons’ book is 14 years old but is still updated and used as “the bible of breaking up,” the article stated.

**A New, Different Collection**

A book by **Robert Ellwood**, professor emeritus (religion), “Campus Secrets: College Tales of Love and Loathing, Fear and Favor,” was published in 2007 by Lulu.com. In his first collection of short stories Ellwood draws on his experiences from growing up in a college town to a 30-year career as a professor. His stories cover all aspects of college life, from dorm rooms, the row, to graduate school, faculty and administrations.

**Three Generations of Service**

An article in the Heroes and Great Ideas section, “A Sterling Legacy,” in the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* details the career of emeritus professor (dentistry) **Clifton O. Dummett,** as well as the extraordinary dental careers of his father and grandfather.

**Two Chairs for the Ochoas**

**Jo Ochoa** retired in 2004 from the USC Division of Biokinesiology & Physical Therapy where she was the Coordinator of Clinical Education for the Doctorate of Physical Therapy students. Jo recently accepted the Division’s request to be the inaugural Membership Chair on the Board of Directors of the newly formed USC Physical Therapy Alumni Association. The position will be for two to three years, and she looks forward to being involved with the physical therapy graduates again. **Art Ochoa** was recently unanimously elected chairman of the Reserve Deputy Probation Officers’ Executive Board for the L.A. County Probation Department.

**Booked for the Weekend**

**Clancy Sigel,** professor emeritus (journalism), was a participant on a Los Angeles Times Festival of Books panel in April titled “Current Interest: Lessons from the 20th Century.”

**A St. George Honor for Dr. Melrose**

In April, 30-year-long American Cancer Society volunteer **Raymond Melrose**, professor emeritus (dentistry), received the ACS’s St. George National Medal of Honor. Melrose was honored for his activist leadership, legislative advice, and ability to bridge disciplines, especially in relation to his fight against tobacco use.

**Stoops in the News**

An article on **Joyce Stoops** (assistant dean emeritus, education) appeared in the Florence Sylvester Memorial Senior Center’s newsletter, detailing her years in teaching and her USC career.

**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: **Herbert E. Alexander** (political science); **Melville C. Branch** (policy, planning, and development); **John Cantelon** (former director, School of Religion; dean/College); **Mary O. Jordan** (university advancement/alumni relations); **Opal Jones; Frieda Liem (2003); R.H. (Rod) Redmond** (business); and **Malvin Wald** (cinematic arts).

* 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> or <shade@usc.edu>.
Dues’ Time Rolls Around Again

The Staff Retirement Association (SRA) and the Retired Faculty Association (RFA) members need to renew their dues for 2008. Notices have been mailed and, hopefully, you have responded.

Each association relies on the financial support of its members to make possible the advocacy, community and activities that we are building.

In the fall, you will receive a request for support of the Emeriti Center (EC).

The RFA and SRA are part of and benefit from EC staff support, programs and events, as well as the quarterly newsletters. We urge our members to support the EC, as well as their individual membership associations.

Tech Class ... continued from page 5

it is used – such as on-line chat, flash drive, Wi-ii console, USB ports, digital album, and language used in text messaging.

Michelle had not taught before, but was patient, observant in spotting problems, and quick to help anyone who needed to know what to push, click, or connect, and the students had a great deal of respect for her knowledge.

The students may never know all they want to know about how to use digital technology, but all have gained much from the class, from the hands-on use of digital equipment, to familiarity with new computer programs.

Our class members – like many older adults – could already use the computer to write a letter, send and receive email, do a spreadsheet, or organize some data, so they knew how to use “applications.” But now, after immersion in this basic course, these 11 seniors have a broader understanding of the use of digital technology, and they know what they want to learn next.

Senior Cyber Tips*

Enlarging Text Size on Web Pages

Ever wish that the size of text on the Web page you were reading was larger?

The browser that you use to surf the Web should allow you to “zoom in” for a closer look at the pages on your monitor.

PC users can hold down the control key (“Ctrl”) and press the “+/=” key to magnify the page. Continue to hit the “+/=” key while depressing the control key until you zoom to the desired magnification. (Holding down the control key and pressing the underscore/hyphen key [“/-“] reverses the process, that is, zooms out.)

Mac users can zoom in by holding down the Command (or Apple) key while repeatedly pressing the “+/=” key. Note that to see all of the enlarged Web page you will need to use both the horizontal scroll bar (bottom of the browser) and the vertical scroll bar (right margin).

– Bob Stallings

*My thanks to Len Wines for his help with this tip. If there is a tip that you would like to read about in a future issue, e-mail me at rstallin@us.edu.

Encore! Encore! Here’s a Trojan ENCORE Update

The Emeriti Center has successfully “employed” one Trojan ENCORE participant, Carole Gustin, who is the coordinator for the Trojan ENCORE program.

We hope that other USC units will hire Trojan ENCORE retirees in the near future.

With increasing numbers of retirees each year, there should be opportunities for our folks to fill in during searches for new full-time employees, while employees are on disability and/or to help out schools or departments with short-term or part-time specific projects.

For more information, contact Carole Gustin at cgustin@usc.edu.

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SAVE THE DATE – Saturday, Oct. 25 – for our 30th Anniversary Kick-off Luncheon!

On Saturday, Oct. 25, a Town & Gown luncheon will begin the Emeriti Center’s 30th anniversary celebrations! A unique feature of this celebratory luncheon is that the USC retiree community will host more than 100 AROHE Conference attendees – retired faculty and staff and retiree organization administrators from colleges and universities around the U.S. and Canada (see page 1 article).

This will be an exciting event where we’ll view photo essays from our past 30 years, network with new colleagues, and enjoy a speaker focused on keeping our brains sharp. Mark your calendars! We would like as many USC retirees to attend as possible. (Lunch is complimentary for USC retirees).

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