Emeriti Center’s 30th Anniversary Year Ends on a High Note With Intergenerational and Autobiography Panels

The Emeriti Center College organized two panel discussions on April 3 that were very well attended and filled with intergenerational insights and enriching discussion. The annual Noboru Inamoto Endowment event, “The Japanese American Experience: Intergenerational Perspectives on Changing Family Values and Culture” was organized by USC alumna Cheryl Tsuyuki. Six panelists explained their families’ experiences as first, second, third and fourth generation residents in the United States.

“I was fascinated with the variation in family experiences presented by our guests,” said Jerry Walker, Director of the Emeriti Center College. “The contrast between pre-WWII grandfathers who were college educated, and the panelist who was taken to an internment camp as a two-week-old baby, was stark.”

Some felt close and continuing linguistic and cultural ties to Japan, and others felt very Western. Some of the younger panelists speak fluent Japanese, and others can speak Japanese, but not read it. They all expressed a desire to know more about their heritage. Most felt that the experience with WW II internment camps delayed the assimilation of Japanese Americans into American society. Panelists shared insights into changing communication patterns within their families and between generations. Randy Nakayama generously gave away copies of his grandfather’s autobiography.

Dick Martin Receives Inaugural Staff Award

The inaugural “J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC” was presented to retired staff member Richard “Dick” Martin at the 24th Annual Staff Retirement Recognition luncheon on March 19. Dick served on the staff of the USC School of Cinematic Arts, of which he is also an alumnus, from 1989 to 2003.

Martin said he was “flabbergasted” to be honored. “When I received the letter telling me that I would receive the award, I thought I was just doing what the jobs required. As I said at the luncheon, I just hope that I can live up to...”
The photos do say it all! As Colleagues for Life, we met on April 3, 2009, to commemorate the good work of past Emeriti Center and Emeriti Center College leaders, to illustrate 30 successful years of honoring and supporting the USC retiree community, and to celebrate the birthdays of all retirees 90 and over!

Additionally, after reading responses to our recent survey, we have developed a new Emeriti Center brochure that clarifies who we are and what we do! Note that although we have a new look, we have honored our past EC leaders and built upon their good work. Also note, that without the support of the Provost and generous volunteer help, and advice, and contributions, we would not have progressed so far!

We hope that you will enjoy this special 30th anniversary newsletter edition. With very best wishes for a happy and healthy summer,
RFA Election Joins Electronic Age, Welcomes a New President

The annual RFA election was conducted electronically this spring. We thank Phoebe Liebig for chairing the Nominating Committee. John Orr is our new Vice President/President Elect for 2009/2010. Bill Petak was elected to a second term as Treasurer. We have five new at-large members of the Board of Directors: Bob Baker, Larry Greiner, Jim Halls, Jim Kincaid, and Ken Williams. We extend a warm welcome to these new members and look forward to the new ideas and energy they will offer. Members rotating off the board as of July 1 are Howard Hansen, Barbara Solomon, and Nancy Warner. Sincere and heartfelt thanks to them for their many years of service to the RFA.

The board has been concerned about the process by which eligible retirees are awarded Emeritus or Emerita status. We brought this to the attention of a committee of the Academic Senate charged with revising the Faculty Handbook. New wording addressing this issue has been added to the Handbook.

A successful new program, Intergenerational Forums, was started last fall by Jack Wills. Please see the full description on page 8 in this newsletter.

A major goal was achieved by Barbara Solomon with the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the RFA and the Financial Aid Office regarding the Russell Caldwell Neighborhood Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to selected USC students from 10 neighborhood high schools. Kaaren Hoffman will continue as our Caldwell liaison when Barbara leaves the Board this summer.

We are happy to note that Art Donovan is the new Retired Faculty/Staff Benefits and Resource Committee chair.

We hope that you were able to help with our yearly request for dues and other support. Don’t forget to check our main Web site – www.usc.edu/rfa – for new items of interest. Have a healthy and happy summer.

– Natalie Cohen, RFA President-elect
ncohen@usc.edu; (626) 577-1782
www.usc.edu/rfa

SRA Prez Term Ends, She Thanks All

The 2008-2009 academic year closed with two events. Our March luncheon honoring 70 staff retirees from 2008 was a huge success. Thank you to Louise Ball and her committee for their contributions. Brigadoon was another “sold out” event coordinated by Dick Martin. I am glad that his undying support for USC and the SRA was recognized with the first J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service, presented to Dick at the March event.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as the SRA president these past four years. I have learned a great deal and enjoyed the interaction with our SRA members, our RFA colleagues, the Emeriti Center staff (including our wonderful student workers), and many active faculty, staff and administrators. I look forward to continuing service on the SRA board as past president. I wish the new officers rewarding experiences and know our members will continue to support them.

Thank you to the members of the SRA Board of Directors for their service and support, to the Emeriti Center Staff for their hard work on behalf of our entire USC Retiree Community, and to the student workers for helping out whenever needed.

A big thank you to our SRA members for their continued contributions, both financial and volunteering, that make it possible to offer programs and events throughout the year. Thanks to Todd Dickey and his staff for continuing to fund our recognition luncheon and for encouragement with our new Trojan ENCORE venture.

I urge our retired members to give Trojan ENCORE a try. It is still in its infancy and we need participation from our retirees to make it work (see page 8 article for more information).

Best wishes to all for a successful and enjoyable rest of 2009 and 2010. FIGHT ON!!

– Carole Gustin, Outgoing SRA President
cgustin@usc.edu; (310) 842-7544
www.usc.edu/sra
It’s “Back to College” for Half-Century Trojans & EC Members

In collaboration with the USC Alumni Association, the Emeriti Center participated in the first Half Century Trojans’ “Going Back to College Day” held in February.

Alumni graduating 50 years ago or more were invited to campus to enjoy a day of engaging academic, cultural and social activities. Nearly 200 guests returned to campus to participate in lunches sponsored by seven schools, tours of the new School of Cinematic Arts complex and Doheny Memorial Library, and three enriching classes organized by the Emeriti Center College.

The Emeriti Center partnered with the USC Roski School of Fine Arts, the School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and the USC Thornton School of Music to host an interdisciplinary luncheon where graduates from the schools learned about the latest developments at their respective schools and shared memories of their time on campus.

The Emeriti Center College provided three speakers for the academic programs. Alumni returned to classroom settings and engaged in one of three discussions led by Professor and Dean Emeritus of Public Administration, Robert Biller; founder and Professor of Jazz Studies, Thom Mason; and Professor and Dean Emeritus of Medicine, Robert Tranquada.

The guests attended a dinner at the Davidson Conference Center which featured remarks by USC President Steven B. Sample and a presentation by Senior Vice President for University Relations, Martha Harris. Harris’ talk was titled, “USC Then and Now” and she addressed the changes USC has undergone in the last half century.

— Jerry Walker, Director, Emeriti Center College; jbwalker@usc.edu; (213) 740-1289
— Judy Diaz, Asst. Director, Emeriti Center College; judydiaz@usc.edu; (213) 740-8841

Faculty Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented at the 2009 Annual Academic Honors Convocation in Town & Gown on April 14 to George Chilingar, Professor Emeritus, Civil and Environmental Engineering, USC Viterbi School of Engineering; Marshall Cohen, University Professor Emeritus, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Law, Dean Emeritus in the USC College; and Donald Feinstein, Professor Emeritus of Medicine, Keck School of Medicine of USC.

The Emeriti Center thanks George Bekey, University Professor Emeritus, for chairing the selection committee.

We Thank Our Center Benefactors

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 1-213-740-8921, or send an e-mail to emeriti@usc.edu.

Recent Benefactor Donations

• Donor: Bob Coffey
• Honoree: Helen Coffey
The 30th Ends ... continued from page 1

event, “Intergenerational Stories, Learning About Life” was presented by a panel of six students from the Guided Autobiography class (GERO 423). The panelists, ranging in age from 21 to 87 years, participated in a lively discussion, moderated by Professor Emeritus of Gerontology James E. Birren and co-instructor, Cheryl Svensson. Birren developed the Guided Autobiography (GAB) course more than 30 years ago and has written extensively on the process.

GAB is a life-story writing class, in which a new thematic topic and sensitizing questions are introduced each week, with topics ranging from Branching Points, Family, the Role of Money and Work, to stimulate students’ thinking and help with their writing. Important intergenerational exchanges take place and understandings occur that unite and bond class members. The panelists talked about the value of the class and how it has made an impact on their lives.

“Listening is an opportunity for learning,” said Birren. “There are so many connections that can be made between the generations.”

The mix of generations helps the younger students to recognize their abilities to learn from their experiences and one another throughout their lives. Panelist Christine Reynolds summarized the value of Guided Autobiography for older adults as, “Remember your life, remember your feelings, remember your treasures, and write them down!”

The Guided Autobiography class will be offered again in the fall with Jerry and Lora Walker as facilitators. USC retirees, faculty and staff, and USC alumni, are encouraged to join in.

* Video recordings of the Inamoto panel and the Borchard panel are now available on the EC Web site. Go to www.usc.edu/emeriticenter, and select the “Video Recordings” link, then click on the program you want to view.

Upper left, USC alumna Cheryl Tsuyuki, a third generation Japanese American, moderated the Inamoto Panel. At the table are panel members Sean Miura and Keiko Nakada. “For me,” said Tsuyuki, “it was a chance to reconnect with my alma mater, get involved, and share a personal interest of mine to highlight the Japanese culture and way of life.”

Quartet Brings Rhythm to the 30th

The “Sound Stage Quartet” provided lively entertainment during the 30th Anniversary celebration’s luncheon break. From left, Harry Stasney (tenor), Todd Kolberg (lead), Tom Laskey (bass); and Alan Hanson (baritone). At far right is Emeriti College Director Jerry Walker, who is the usual lead singer for “Sound Stage.” Walker joined in the singing of “Happy Birthday” to the Super Seniors who were age 90-plus.

Endowment Fund Benefits USC Emeriti Center

In December 2008, Sterling and Larry Franklin, sons of the late Dr. Carl M. Franklin and Mrs. Carolyn C. Franklin, gave $10,000 to the USC Emeriti Center endowment fund. These funds will generate income each year to provide about $500 for the EC’s executive director to spend where the need is greatest.

The donation honors the service by Dr. and Mrs. Franklin to USC. Dr. Franklin joined the USC Law School faculty in 1953, became vice president for financial affairs in 1960, and was also named vice president for legal affairs in 1970. In 1991, at age 80, he became vice president emeritus, and focused on fund raising for USC. The Franklins raised more than $150 million for USC and in 1996, the couple was awarded the university’s highest honor, the Presidential Medallion. Mrs. Franklin who had served as President of Faculty Wives and of Town & Gown, died in 1993 at age 73, and Dr. Franklin continued working at USC until his death in 2004 at age 93.

“We are delighted that Sterling and Larry have increased our EC endowment fund to honor their parents,” said Executive Director Janette Brown. “We hope that other Emeriti Center supporters will follow their example.”

Dr. and Mrs. Carl M. Franklin

Page 5
After many months of collaboration with USC entities, we now have the ability to add USC retiree contact information to the USC online directory.

During the next months we will be adding USC retiree contact information (for those who wish to be listed in the USC online directory) using the iVIP web based system. Once a retiree has been added to the directory, an automated e-mail will be sent with the subject line: “your USC identity has been created.” The message will be coming from Maricela Hinojosa, our EC Budget/ Business Analyst. The message will include your current 10-digit ID number.

Please keep your 10-digit ID number in a safe place for future reference. Disregard the rest of the message because it does not apply to you as a retiree.

If your contact information has recently changed please notify us on our Web site or call the USC Emeriti Center at: (213) 740 8921.

One of the perks many retirees treasure is the Gold Card, especially its parking provision.

But remember that Gold Card courtesy parking privileges are subject to a few rules, such as space availability. If a structure is full, you may be redirected to park in another structure.

At HSC, USC retirees can receive courtesy Gold Card parking at the Biggy Structure, HCC II, and San Pablo Lot. The Doheny Eye Institute has never honored the Gold Card. In the past, patients received free parking which is why some USC retirees may not have paid before. However, since Feb. 1, everyone has to pay $5 to park, including all patients, customers, volunteers, and guests, even with a Disabled placard.

Gold Card parking still requires following Transportation Services’ rules and regulations, so don’t park in “reserved” spaces, including on weekends and holidays, or in “Disabled” spaces except with the proper placard. In a Disabled space you must display both the daily parking pass and a placard.

If a USC retiree receives a ticket, it is the retiree’s responsibility; the Emeriti Center is not involved. Here is the Web site link for parking regulations for guest parking:

http://transnet.usc.edu/enforcement/regulations

In these trying financial times, it was no surprise that it was a full house in February for another “Making the Most of Your Financial Situation” class at the USC Andrus Gerontology Center. Retiree Elaine Steward, who gives generously of her time to teach the class, is silhouetted against the screen as EC Director Janette Brown looks on.

Above, Vasisht K. Malhotra, retired adjunct professor in the School of International Relations, presents an Emeriti Center College class – “Contemporary Afghanistan” – to a group of residents at The Fair Oaks in Pasadena, an independent and assisted-living senior community, and a new ECC venue. At the April 13 presentation, Malhotra discussed options for this much-troubled nation, and what may lie ahead, following the Taliban regime’s defeat.

Right, EC volunteer leaders Louise Ball and Mitzi Tsujimoto, both residents at The Fair Oaks, flank Rica Duff, Fair Oaks director of marketing, and Prof. Malhotra.

Be on the Lookout for an E-Mail Message About New Online Directory Listings

After many months of collaboration with USC entities, we now have the ability to add USC retiree contact information to the USC online directory.

During the next months we will be adding USC retiree contact information (for those who wish to be listed in the USC online directory) using the iVIP web based system. Once a retiree has been added to the directory, an automated e-mail will be sent with the subject line: “your USC identity has been created.” The message will be coming from Maricela Hinojosa, our EC Budget/ Business Analyst. The message will include your current 10-digit ID number.

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If your contact information has recently changed please notify us on our Web site or call the USC Emeriti Center at: (213) 740 8921.
The University Honors 70 Retiring Staff at Celebratory Luncheon

On March 19 in Town & Gown, the numbers spoke loudly at the 24th Annual Retirement Recognition luncheon: 70 newly retired USC staff members have provided a combined 1,548 years of dedicated service to the university.

“The average length of service is 22 years, with most careers lasting more than 20 years,” said Staff Retirement Association President, Carole Gustin. One staff member had logged 42 years of service, another 41 years.

Gustin encouraged the retirees to join the SRA, the organization that advocates for staff retirees and plans group events such as theatre parties and day trips. In July, for instance, the SRA has scheduled a trip to the Nethercutt Collection in Sylmar which holds a vast array of vintage cars (see page 9).

Staff retirees automatically become members of the USC Emeriti Center, as do faculty retirees.

The event was sponsored by the Office of the Senior Vice President, which was represented by Todd R. Dickey, senior vice president, administration.

The inaugural 2009 “J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC” was presented to USC School of Cinematic Arts retiree, Dick Martin (see story page 1).

2008 USC Staff Retirees and their departments and/or schools are: AIS: Lucinda Rowe (financial & business services); Athletics: Danyod Dennis; CAPS: Anna Marie Bonvissuto, Audrey Cairns, Ramon Raigoza, Eddie Taylor, Mary Benson, Victor Collazo, Doris Lar, and Segundo Orellana; Child Care: Nora Zerarossa (UPC/infant); The College: Angel Shekerdjian (appt. & promo coord./dean of faculty); Brenda Johnson (history); Veronica Pete (political science); Enrollment Services: Frances Franklin (data entry); School of Dentistry: Valenti Santos (craniofacial molecular biology); Department of Public Safety: Lawrence Edwards, Jacqueline Flores-Drabik, and Edwin Holbert; Facilities Management: Essie Kwan (financial services), Joel Rodriguez, Jesus Rodriguez and Steven Wolveiton (UPM shops); Financial Aid: Rachel Mesa (enrollment services); Information Technology Services: Barbara Bernd (call center), Gwen Ganger, Howard Meadows Jr. (project director); Keck School of Medicine: Diane Boughton (faculty development); Philip Harris (dean’s support staff); Marisa Kasperek (family medicine); Toni Kinard (anesthesiology); Bonifacia P. Oamar (orthopaedics); Annie Fung, Elizabeth Hanna, Katherine Jung, Bernice LeNoir and Timothy Storton (preventive medicine); Jenny Tang, Quing Xiang, and Licheng Zeng (pathology); Leslie Pittman (USCP Admin & Finance); Kay Ruiz (educational affairs); Henry Valencia Jr. (occupational & environmental health); Law School: John Tumlinson (assoc. dean); Office of the Provost: Georgia Jeffrey (HSC Institution Review Board); O&M: Maximino Campero (bdlg. services); Personnel Services: Maria Cardenas; School of Music: Joanne Forbes; Student Affairs: Bradford King; Trojan Services: Cleotia Harris (field personnel); Francisco Lopez (transportation/tram); Rickey Lovely (transportation/HSC); Norma Cruz, (housing/north complex), Maria Miramontez-Ceramin (housing/Pardee), Andres Ramirez (housing/Century); Agustin Salmeron (dining/EVK); Alejandro Rivera (dining/banquets), Luis Molina (dining/kitchen), and Lok Chun Yin (dining/Plaza Marketplace); Bob Tostado (transportation/tram); Man Yuen (Cafe84); Univ. Finance: Dennis Dougherty; University Relations: Carolyn Webb De Macias (external relations); USC Cancer Center: Linda Friedman; USC Clinical Lab Groups: Zhi Fan; USC Libraries: Edone Manalo; Viterbi School of Engineering: Gwen Ganger (ISI), Criselda Penolar (financial office), Elsie Reyes (business manager/aerospace & mechanical engineering).

The luncheon was planned and executed by the SRA, led by Vice President Louise Ball and her committee.

2008 USC Staff Retirees ... continued from page 1

the honor that has been bestowed and will be worthy in some small measure of the legacy of J. Tillman Hall.”

Martin has also worked to coordinate interviews for the Emeriti Center’s Living History Project, and continues to serve as an active member of the Staff Retirement Association, spearheading all special events and coordinating joint programs with the USC Retired Faculty Association. Martin begins a two-year term as SRA Treasurer in July 2009 in addition to serving as data manager.

“Dick generously donates his time and talents to the university retiree population,” said Emeriti Center Executive Director Janette Brown.
Emeriti Center College Sponsors Multi-Generational Forum on Global Change

Multi-generational student-centered exchanges began taking place twice monthly – at the first meeting in spring 2009 – pairing retired faculty and staff and USC undergraduates and graduate students. A group of faculty and staff retirees met over lunch to study the big and small problems of our world, from the North Korean missile launch to trash collection on campus.

Each participant had in hand a copy of a recent issue of the *The Economist*, a sophisticated journal of global news published in London.

One never knows where the discussion may lead; one session ended with a student drafting a letter to President Sample urging the university to be alert to the impact of the economic troubles on its students and their families. The group received a cordial reply – saying that the university is taking steps in dealing with this situation. Another student came to see local recycling efforts as part of a major global challenge.

These discussions are organized by the Emeriti Center College and supported by the Division of Student Affairs. They are a modest effort to tackle a very big problem, the difficulty we have talking sense to each other about important issues. Three pieces of the difficulty are that we often talk only to people who share our experiences and opinions, that we never seem to have read or heard the same things, and that we don’t ask often enough “What can we do about this? Who needs to hear from us?”

In these discussions, we arbitrarily choose a common base of high-quality reading; we try to wind up with someone tasked to write a letter or make further inquiry; and when 20-somethings and 70-somethings sit across the table they learn the most amazing things from each other!

A university with well-organized emeriti has a ready source of both age groups, but this could be done as well in church, temple, community and other groups.

Anyone interested in trying something similar should feel free to contact the Emeriti Center for further information and contact with the organizers.

– Jack Wills, jwills@usc.edu

Trojan ENCORE Wants You! And You, And You, Too ... Apply Online

Trojan ENCORE (TE) provides an opportunity to contribute to the Trojan Family by applying experience and skills developed as a USC staff or faculty member.

You can register on the Trojan ENCORE Web site for paid or volunteer part-time work and/or short-term positions, using the online form that is quick and easy to complete. The form posts skills and experience, making them visible for viewing by hiring managers.

“TE” IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS: To login go to the Trojan ENCORE Web site: sites.google.com/site/trojanencore and click on “For Job Seekers.” Follow the directions to add information and send a 1 or 2-page résumé as an attachment to encore.emeriti@gmail.com or Fax a résumé to (213) 740-7120.

For more information, please contact Carole Gustin at cgustin@usc.edu (213) 740-5156.

Great Resources & Info From EC Blogger Elaine on “Colleagues for Life” Site

USC staff retiree Elaine Steward has been making entries to the Emeriti Center’s Blog, http://colleaguesforlife.blogspot.com/, for several months now – be sure to check it out.


Please feel free to e-mail Elaine at esslady@gmail.com with suggestions and comments.

Elaine Steward

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Great Resources & Info From EC Blogger Elaine on “Colleagues for Life” Site

USC staff retiree Elaine Steward has been making entries to the Emeriti Center’s Blog, http://colleaguesforlife.blogspot.com/, for several months now – be sure to check it out.


Please feel free to e-mail Elaine at esslady@gmail.com with suggestions and comments.

Elaine Steward
Survey To Gauge Interest in Senior Housing for USC Retirees

A senior housing complex on or adjacent to the USC University Park Campus is a possibility if there is enough interest from 55 and older adults who indicate a willingness to invest in and commit to such a project. The timing is right for this to happen. In fact it might be “now or never” for such a development since USC is implementing a Master Plan that is adding more residence facilities for faculty, staff and students. So at this time, it would be logical to plan a senior housing unit into this mix, if one is going to ever happen.

We must show that there are enough seniors interested, or it’s not likely to happen. My wife and I are extremely interested. We presently live in the USC McCulloch Townhomes at 30th and Hoover. We know and like the neighborhood, enjoy being near the campus and appreciate being close to downtown and centrally located to navigate Los Angeles in all four directions. We feel safe and secure in this comfortable complex, but it is not designed to accommodate persons of age as it has no personnel to assist with needs such as monitoring visitors, overseeing the space when we travel, or providing on-site assistance if needed.

The USC master plan group has expressed an interest in knowing how many persons age 55 and older with a connection to USC would be seriously interested in senior housing at the campus. To this end, the Emeriti Center has created the enclosed survey to start collecting information to share with this group and to start a file of names and contact information to enable follow up on this issue.

USC retirees are a pilot group for this survey. We hope to learn from you of your interest in such a venture, as well as comments you have about the clarity of the questionnaire, etc. As you can see from the enclosed survey, we plan to extend to a wider range than just our retirees. Please return the survey to help us gauge interest in this important project.

– Bob Scales
rscales@usc.edu

Join the South Bay Get-Together in June

Save the date! The USC Emeriti Center will host its first regional social get-together for retirees living in or near the South Bay area on Saturday, June 20.

This event will be from 4 to 7 p.m., at the home of Emeritus Professor Bob Coffey, 6828 Vallon Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.

Light refreshments and drinks will be available. Please join this opportunity to socialize with your USC friends and colleagues and to meet new people.

All USC retirees and guests are welcome. RSVP to the Emeriti Center, either at (213) 740-7121 or via email at emericenter@usc.edu.

SRA’s July Field Trip: Classic Car Collection

The next SRA Field Trip will be on Thursday, July 9, to the Nethercutt Collection of classic cars in Sylmar.

We’ll board a chartered bus at the Emeriti Center (3715 McClintock Ave., University Park Campus), at 10 a.m. and start back to USC at 3:30 p.m.

If you live in the West San Fernando Valley, you can drive to the Nethercutt Collection (15151 Bledsoe St.). There will be a no-host lunch at 12 noon.

The Nethercutt Collection is the world’s largest collection of classic luxury automobiles, displayed in an appropriately opulent setting with a self-guided tour.

At 1:30 p.m. we’ll take a guided tour, with entertainment, of the amazing automated musical instrument collection.

Admission to the collection is FREE. Your only cost will be $10 per person for the chartered bus and your no-host luncheon. We have a limit of 40 folks and reservations will be accepted until July 1.

To make your reservations, please contact: Dick Martin (323) 343-1146 or dickmar@msn.com.

To preview the collection go to: http://nethercuttcollection.org

Nominations Sought for Inaugural Faculty Award

Even though the deadline to submit names for the Emeriti Center’s inaugural Paul E. Hadley Service to USC Faculty Award is Oct. 15, it’s really not too early to begin thinking about candidates for this new award.

The award recognizes dedicated service to USC by a retired faculty member, acknowledging special service to the Emeriti Center or for any unit or school at USC. For specific criteria and additional information, go to www.usc.edu/emeriticenter and click on “Awards.”

Paul E. Hadley

To preview the collection go to: http://nethercuttcollection.org
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:

- The Armenian Reporter highlighted George Chilingar, professor emeritus (petroleum engineering), who was recently awarded a gold medal by Armenia’s Ministry of Education and Science. Chilingar has discovered several oil fields in Iran that are named after him, the story noted.

- Lillian Hawthorne, professor emerita (social work) wrote a Los Angeles Times op-ed on just what might happen if you ask someone, “How are you?” They might actually tell you, she wrote, so you should be prepared to listen. “We know talking about our problems does not reduce them. But it somehow makes them more possible to face and live with.”

- The Pasadena Star-News highlighted a family who moved to California so that one of their children could study cello with Alice Schoenfeld, professor emerita (music), and the late Eleanor Schoenfeld, who also taught at the Thornton School.

- The Santa Monica Daily Press quoted Malcolm Klein, professor emeritus (sociology), about a reduction in crime statistics in Santa Monica. “What you are seeing in Santa Monica is a reduction in stats, not necessarily a reduction in crime,” Klein said.

Irene Fertik (retired news service photographer) was in Philadelphia for the April 23 opening of her photo exhibition, “From Tesfa to Tikva/From Hope to Hope, Photographs of Ethiopian Jews in Israel” at The Open Lens Gallery at the Gershman Y. The show runs through Aug. 7, so if you’re in the area, stop by.

Robert S. Harris (professor emeritus, and former dean, USC School of Architecture), was one of five professors – and the only emeritus professor – to be a recipient of a 2009 Mellon Mentoring Award. Harris’ award was in the “Faculty Mentoring Faculty” category.

Errata: Our March issue noted a publication by Robert B. Kaplan (professor emeritus, applied linguistics) and a co-author, “Language Planning and Policy.” Unfortunately, Robert’s name was listed as Richard. We regret the error.

A Special Thanks to our 30th Anniversary Supporters: USC Provost’s Office, Barbara Inamoto, The Borchard Foundation, the USC Alumni Association and the USC Credit Union.

Farewell to the EC’s Graduating Seniors

Right, senior Shawanda Walker shares a moment with Judy Diaz, assistant director, Emeriti Center College.

Below, Seniors Geri Toscano, Erika Smith, and Eric Ambler display their new USC license plate holders. Fight on! Drive on!

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: Diane Ainsworth (engineering; daughter of Ginny Ainsworth); John Edw. Blankenchip (theatre); Francis Buck (medicine); Gloria Byrd (social work); Bernard Levin (dentistry); Ben D. Massey (2008/medicine); James Massey (student affairs); William McGeehee (medicine); Susan Peterson (art/ceramics); William B. Schwartz (medicine); Emery Stoops (education administration); William Bruce Storm (policy, planning, and development); George Oakley Totten III (political science); Harry Ziel (medicine).

* 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.
John Blankenchip’s Edinburgh Fringe Festival Gift Will Enrich USC’s Archives

USC School of Theatre professor emeritus John Edw. Blankenchip, died at the age of 89 on April 1 after serving the university for more than 50 years.

John leaves behind a long legacy of contributions to the history of the theatre school. Many students were inspired by his enthusiasm. John loved theatre and for most of his years at USC he was involved with directing, designing or supervising and supporting a student in some way.

Fortunately, John recently participated in the Emeriti Center’s Living History Project, so there is a record in his own words of experiences and observations of his many years with theatre students and the development of drama and theatre programs at USC. John was a significant spirit and influence on USC students, especially those who participated in the USC Edinburgh Fringe Festival Troupe that he created in 1966 and directed for more than 40 years. This unique experience in this festival in Scotland is shared by hundreds of USC alumni who credit it as being one of the most exciting and memorable experiences of attending USC.

John had saved many things from his more than 20 USC trips to the Festival, and a few months before his death John told me that he would like to donate his Edinburgh trip materials to USC. I told him that I would do what I could to make this happen.

At this point we’re not sure what is included in the materials that John saved, but it is possible that he could have copies of all the programs, reviews, pictures, posters, etc., for every production that USC performed at the Festival. He may also have had props, costumes, fabrics, or who-knows-what stashed in his apartment.

Soon after John offered these materials to USC, I found enthusiastic support from School of Theatre Dean Madeline Puzo and others who are willing to help in the process of organizing and identifying the materials. Before approaching the USC archives office, I had planned to have a better idea of John’s collection, but his untimely death intervened.

Claude Zachary, USC archivist, said he will welcome this collection for the USC archives. The value of John’s gift is especially significant because there is probably no USC institutional record of this important part of USC’s theatre history. USC was the first American university to participate in the Fringe Festival and this program was an exceptional guerilla theatre training program very much like summer stock. John was interested in giving his Edinburgh collection to USC in order to preserve his work and highlight USC’s participation in the Festival.

This gift of John’s materials will greatly enrich USC’s archives.

Perhaps there are materials that you know of that could be offered to USC that will help preserve an important part of the university’s history from your own field of study. Don’t let these important contributions be lost.

― Robert Scales, Professor Emeritus, former Dean, USC School of Theatre rscales@usc.edu

MEMORIAL: A memorial celebration will be held for John Edw. Blankenchip on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., in the Bing Theatre.

Newly Endowed Professorship Named for Albert and Frances Lomas Feldman

The USC School of Social Work has named Lawrence A. Palinkas, a professor of social work, anthropology and preventive medicine, to a newly endowed professorship, the Albert G. and Frances Lomas Feldman Professorship in Social Policy and Health.

Frances Lomas Feldman was a pioneer in the field of social work and a USC faculty member for 36 years before she died in 2008, at the age of 95. Her late husband, Albert Feldman, was the deputy director of the USC Andrus Gerontology Center, with joint appointments in social work and public administration. Both were avid community advocates with an emphasis on health and mental health. Palinkas said he hopes to continue the Feldmans’ legacy.

“Like Frances, my work focuses on the well-being of vulnerable populations,” Palinkas said. “Like Albert, I have worked to improve the delivery of mental health services.”

“Endowed professors are heralded,” said Marilyn Flynn, dean of the School of Social Work. “Their ideas hold a special weight and are deeply respected.”

― Frances Lomas Feldman

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

USC Emeriti Center
Emeriti Center College
University of Southern California
3715 McClintock Avenue, Room 220
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191