EC Task Force Analyzes 2007 Retiree Survey Responses

Preliminary results reveal both confidence in finances and some health care concerns among retired faculty and staff.

It is gratifying to report that more than 25% of the Emeriti Center’s “Retiree Situation and Circumstances” survey forms sent earlier this year to approximately 2,000 retired faculty and staff were returned within the deadline. In addition, most of the surveys were not only complete, but also contained useful comments and recommendations.

As any surveyor or statistician is well aware, this is an awesome percentage of returns! Also awesome are the skills and dedication of Bob Scales that enabled the data to be tabulated so soon.

Although at this point we have only just started analyzing the quantitative data, it is noteworthy that almost 80% of retirees are confident about their financial arrangements for retirement. However, fewer than 65% are confident about their health-care arrangements.

We are looking forward to discovering more from this important canvas of our retirees, and it is the expectation of the Survey Task Force that the data analysis – and at least some of the findings and related recommendations, will be reported in our December newsletter.

Pilot “Jobs” Program Is In the Works

Thank you to the retirees who have volunteered to help us work the bugs out of a new two-year pilot program that will test how retirees can apply for part-time, short-term, paid and volunteer USC projects and positions. After developing job possibilities

and satisfying the criteria that keeps retirement packages and health arrangements unaffected, this program will create opportunities to serve USC in a number of different capacities and offer satisfying ways to keep connected to USC. More details to come!
The 2006-2007 year was filled with many achievements and happy events along with, sadly, losing many of our treasured Emeriti Center community members, most especially past executive directors Paul Hadley and J. Tillman Hall. To these wonderful men, we say good bye, and we will remember their contributions to the Emeriti Center and Emeriti College and to USC by continuing the traditions they began. We will honor them through awards, special events and living history colloquiums.

Thank you to all for your dedication to the USC retiree community. Through the efforts of many we have:

- Gained the Provost’s support for another increase in the Emeriti Center budget that will now cover basic staff and student salaries, office supplies and maintenance, and most services and programs.
- Expanded our capacity to link the resources of the USC retiree community with the university, as well as strengthened our capacity to provide information, support, encouragement and voice to our members.
- Offered improved Web sites and Web recordings of many presentations along with a “Q & A” on retirement.
- Reached out to the full USC retiree community through a new “Situation and Circumstances Survey” to which 26% have responded. A small subset of these respondents will be interviewed in greater depth. Survey results will be examined closely for recommendations to the EC community and will be published accordingly.
- Initiated, with strong university support, the development of a small two-year pilot program that will allow tasks the university needs done (paid and voluntary) to be listed online where USC retirees can apply. Paid positions will be less than half-time so retirement funds and health insurance remain unaffected.
- Presented retirement information for the first time to the Dental School and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, and to the Academic Senate and Staff Assembly.
- Initiated the first 10-member panel and reception celebrating the stellar research and service accomplishments of the Andrus Gerontology Center.
- Joined forces with the RFA and SRA to produce more joint events and workshops.
- Successfully completed the “MDA 101 Health Professions” course for undergraduate pre-med majors that was instigated and managed by Mike Appleman.
- Offered the first “Guided Autobiography” course for the USC Retiree Community taught last fall by James Birren and Cheryl Svensson.
- Further increased the funding for the H. Dale Hilton Living History Project with help from Louise Ball (see page 5).
- Offered many unique and interesting panels, lectures, and series at USC (see pages 5 and 8).

We again thank Provost Max C. L. Nikias for an increased operating budget that will enable us to grow programs and increase staff support. And thanks goes to our dedicated staff: Jennifer Ontai, Judy Diaz, and Gloria Reyes for their superb efforts this year along with our stellar Executive Committee: Bob Biller, Steb Chandor, Carole Gustin, Mike Halloran, Bob Scales, Christine Shade, Bob Stallings, and Mitzi Tsujimoto.

Our 2006-2007 Annual Report will be posted soon on the Emeriti Center Web site. Please join me in thanking the many individuals and groups who worked so hard all year on your behalf.

– Janette Brown, Executive Director
jcbrown@usc.edu, 213-740-7121
News from the RFA

It has been an interesting and educational year working with the Board of the RFA and the personnel of the Emeriti Center and its other components.

Particularly instructive were Bob Biller, now RFA past-president, and Janette Brown, the Emeriti Center’s executive director, as they brought into focus the wide range of activities of the Emeriti Center and its relationship to the “University Family.”

I left USC in 1976 for SUNY Stony Brook because it had a new medical school that was building a University Hospital. Once there I learned it was truly a one-campus university, so that our department of pathology taught at many different schools within that university, and one got to know people beyond one’s own school. This sense of “family” is not often felt on physically separated campuses, and one major benefit of USC’s visible and active retired community is that sense of “family.”

The components of this community need to continually grow, and through the talents of the RFA Board, such as Bob Stallings’ computer expertise, and the support of the EC staff, the RFA is in an excellent position to further develop as a very visible member of this University Family.

Returning board members include Dagmar Halamka (president elect), Jack Sanders (secretary) and Bill Petak (treasurer). And please join me in extending a welcome to our two new RFA board members, John Orr and John E. Wills. For additional members-at-large, please visit our Web site.

– Steb Chandor, RFA President

News from the SRA

Thanks to Bob Stallings, our SRA Web site is now up to date with the new Board of Directors, reports on our Annual Meeting and the Griffith Planetarium trip. Note that two board members have new titles of “Honorary Members.” This designation is reserved for those who have made significant contributions to the SRA for at least 10 years. I’m sure you will agree that Fred Dear and Mitzi Tsujimoto richly deserve this honor.

A BIG THANK YOU to our 2005-2007 board members! Those not returning to the board include Helen Jones who organized four luncheons honoring new retirees and Irene Lee who served as our recruitment chair.

Welcome to our new board members and continuing members in new positions – Louise Ball (vice president), Frank Chew (treasurer), Sadye Lawson (recruitment), Lynn Williams (program), Jeanne and Bob Church (hospitality), and Joan Ewing, Art Ochoa and Betty Redmon (members-at-large).

We’re planning 2007-2008 programs and events, so send me your ideas! One suggestion is for dancing after a general program. What do you think?

Still need to pay your yearly dues? Just send in your checks and updated information. We rely on our members for funds to support all our activities including mailings, copying, speakers, food, etc.

I hope to see you soon

– Carole Gustin, SRA President, cgustin@usc.edu;
The USC Emeriti College provides faculty members the opportunity to give talks and performances throughout all segments of the community. The speakers are eagerly received by senior centers, USC alumni clubs, churches, schools, and business organizations that seek to broaden their intellectual scope and engage in stimulating discussion. A diverse range of topics such as: Computer Literacy; Iraq and the Middle East; How the Media Inform U.S. Voters; Putin Update; Creating the Skirball Cultural Center; Christianity and Islam; and musical performances Miss Ethel Waters; and Jazz From A to Z: What Is It?, will be presented this fall by emeriti and active faculty of USC.

These talks and performances benefit audiences young and old, but also benefit the emeriti scholars who volunteer their time and draw on their individual areas of expertise to engage their audiences in lively discussions, while remaining current on their topics and keeping their skills sharp and vigorous. A copy of our Speakers Directory can be found on our Web site at: www.usc.edu/ecc.

For an overview of our activities see the enclosed flier. I hope to see you at events this fall, and encourage you to contact me the next time your local service organization or club is in need of a knowledgeable speaker to address your group. The Emeriti College is a dynamic and available resource.

– Judith C. Diaz, Assistant Director, Emeriti College
213 740-8841; judydiaz@usc.edu

In my physical absence as the director of the Emeriti college during the 2006-2007 year, there have been some notable successes. The College has increased its number of sites by 30% and welcomes Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Kiwanis Club of La Cañada, Marguerite Gardens, St. John’s Senior TLC, the USC Alumni Association, The Willows Senior Community, and the USC Alumni Club of Kansas City, to name just a few. Additionally, various esteemed speakers were added to the Speakers Directory. Furthermore, the Emeriti College presented its first academic credit student course, “MDA 101 Health Professions,” with the dedicated work of Dr. Michael Appleman, Emeritus Professor of Biological Sciences and the assistance of undergraduate student, Autumn Lamb.

Although my schedule has kept me away from Los Angeles during the last year, I have been drawn back to the Emeriti Center and the Emeriti College in particular.

During the 2007-2008 year my primary initiative as director for the Emeriti College, beyond continuing to improve its usual programs, will be to research, discuss, study and explore the future possibilities of the College. I look forward to finding ways to have the College extend the spirit of the academy.

If you have suggestions or comments about the Emeriti College, I would appreciate hearing from you via e-mail at rscales@usc.edu or by mail sent to the Emeriti Center. I look forward to a year of introspection and projection into the future of the Emeriti College.

– Robert R. Scales Director, Emeriti College
213 740-1289; rscales@usc.edu
Andrus Panel Highlights Its Wealth of Resources

On June 19, Dr. Gerald Davison, dean of the USC Davis School of Gerontology and Director of the Andrus Gerontology Center, moderated a panel of 10 speakers, for an audience of about 80 people, about the resources offered at the Andrus Gerontology Center. The event was sponsored by the Emeriti Center.

This panel of researchers and scholars from the Center discussed a range of issues related to aging from Alzheimer’s Disease research and elder abuse, to fall prevention and general adult services. A Q&A session allowed attendees to ask questions, which touched on topics such as longevity, caregiver resources, and stroke recovery.

Dr. Caleb E. “Tuck” Finch, a specialist in bio-gerontology research, answered a question about the phenomenal upwards rise of lifespan within the past few decades. Finch said that the trend “upwards is a product of the industrially privileged,” most effective for those able to live in optimum environments, as well as those with access to improved medical care, hygienic surroundings, and antibiotics.

Dr. Kelvin Davies, also of bio-gerontology research, spoke about oxidative processes relating to stroke recovery. He acknowledged that the main problem when strokes occur is getting the stroke patient to the hospital quickly enough in order to begin optimum treatment.

Also discussed was how caregivers should make proper preparations for their elderly loved ones before something serious happens. According to Shawn Herz, Director of Family Services at the Los Angeles Caregiver Resource Center, most calls occur in an emergency, after a loved one falls, gets lost or breaks a bone.

Dr. Kate Wilber, professor of gerontology, who specializes in protective services including guardianship and conservatorship, advised everyone to take advantage of the resources available in financial planning and other mechanisms of preparation that are necessary with aging, and to do this in a timely manner.

To watch this Andrus Gerontology Center presentation in its entirety, simply click on “Video Recordings” on the Emeriti Center Web site.

– Hillary Coplen, undergraduate, EC assistant

The Emeriti Center’s Living History Project Is Thriving

Determined that the living history of USC is recorded, a committee of retired faculty and staff members continues to evaluate the list of prominent USC retirees whose names have been submitted for future videotaping.

Utilizing the Robert Zemeckis Cinema Arts Center with its state-of-the-art equipment and students from Trojan Vision, the committee is now pursuing a group of long-time faculty members from the Keck School of Medicine of USC and is scheduling videotapings.

DVDs of close to 50 renowned faculty and staff members are included in the School of Gerontology Library collection for research students, and for those interested in learning about the growth of the university from the WWII years to the present day.

Until recently, however, very few individuals from the School of Medicine had been videotaped, even though the years from the mid-1950s were a period of unprecedented growth and achievement for the university.

But in June, DVD interviews were produced of the careers of Allen W. Mathies, Jr., M.D., a member of the department of pediatrics beginning in 1961, culminating in service as Associate Dean, and then as Dean for continued on page 9
A Celebration of Paul Hadley’s Life

The first half of the year brought the loss of two fine gentlemen who have been with the Emeriti Center from its very beginning, Paul E. Hadley on April 10 (see June newsletter) and J. Tillman Hall on June 6 (see page 1).

Right, Provost Max C. L. Nikias was among the many colleagues and friends who spoke about Dr. Hadley’s many contributions to USC at a May 22 memorial held at Town & Gown in his honor.

J. Tillman Hall, continued from page 1

head the Emeriti Center from 1989 to 1996. In 1989, he began the Living History Project, which has now preserved close to 50 videotaped interviews with longtime USC faculty, staff and administrators.

At a June 30 memorial service, highlights of Hall’s service at USC were noted, including his 27 years as grand marshall of USC’s commencement exercises. In 1983, USC dedicated the 100th Commencement program to Hall.

The outpouring of love and respect for Hall at the service was remarkable, said Bob Biller, emeritus professor of policy, planning, and development. He noted an observation that was attributed to Hall: “It’s probably up to you whether life grinds you down or polishes you up!”

Hall was called “Tilly” by his friends and colleagues who said his real vision came from the recognition that retirees best serve themselves by serving others. He lived this motto himself, and in 2004 Hall received the Leibovitz Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service to Seniors. At the time, his granddaughter, Michelle Jones, accepted the award, saying that no award “ever meant more to him than this one,” since it was awarded by his fellow faculty members.

According to the Los Angeles Times, Hall “kept a list of 25 principles to live by that he called his ‘personal guideposts.’ One, “Success in life depends on what you do for others, not what you do for yourself,” is reflective of his own life.

Hall was born on a farm in Tennessee in 1916. After graduating from Pepperdine University and serving in the Navy during World War II, he earned his master’s and doctorate degrees in education from USC.

Hall was active throughout his life. He played semi-pro baseball and earned a basketball scholarship to Pepperdine. He was a Golden Glove boxer, an avid fly-fisherman and golfer. In 1950, he founded a dance troupe known as The Lariats. Under his direction, the troupe performed in all 50 states and 13 other countries.

He was a respected international lecturer who wrote nine books and edited 29 others. He was appointed to the California Commission on Aging by then-Gov. Ronald Reagan and served as USC’s delegate to White House conferences on both physical fitness and aging.

Distinguished Professor Emerita Frances Lomas Feldman said Tillman “was ahead of his time in constructing exercises that would help older people maximize their physical and mental health.”

Hall is survived by Louise, his wife of 66 years; daughters Nancy Sweeny and Jody Hall Esser; grandchildren Michelle Jones, Brian Fisher, JoAnne Sweeny and Katherine Sweeny; six great grandchildren; six nieces, two nephews and their families.

The family suggests memorial donations in J. Tillman Hall’s name may be made to the USC Emeriti Center. For information, call 213-740-8921.
Two Emeriti Center staff members, Gloria M. Reyes, assistant director for retiree relations, and student assistant Autumn Lamb, undergraduate student in gerontology, attended the AARP’s “Diversity in Aging” three-day conference in mid-June in Los Angeles.

The conference addressed the challenges faced by diverse populations as they age and examined how diversity and aging will impact society. Sessions ranged from long-term care issues to transportation and housing, to the benefits of hiring of 50-plus-aged employees.

Some of the most pressing issues included: barriers accessing health care, the need for cultural competency (speaking the language of the person being cared for as well as being familiar with their culture), caregiving, and changes in the labor force.

One session, “Can a Business Case Be Made for Workers 50+,” focused on a landmark AARP study which was conducted to make a business case for hiring older workers. The study showed that some of the benefits of hiring older workers included a lower turnover and absenteeism, fewer on-the-job accidents, high productivity, a broader blend of skills and experience, and a high level of commitment and loyalty.

A copy of this study can be obtained on the AARP Web site at www.aarp.org. In the search engine type “business case” and you will be directed to the link where the study can be read or downloaded.

You can sign up to receive policy and research updates from AARP via e-mail on a range of topics. From their home page, simply click on the “Policy and Research” tab and hit the “Sign me Up” link. You can specify which topics you want to receive.

Applications for 2007 Leibovitz Faculty Award Now Being Accepted

This award is presented by the Emeriti Center to a faculty member in appreciation for volunteer service to seniors. The recipient will be recognized at the annual retired faculty recognition luncheon in November. The award includes a monetary prize funded by a grant from the Leibovitz Foundation.

To nominate someone, please provide a summary of nominee’s volunteer service to seniors – at the University, in the community, and/or to society in general. Please provide names and dates of organizations or types of individuals served, nature of service, and significance of contribution.

- Include name and telephone number of nominator as well as the name and telephone number of a second person to endorse the nomination.
- Include name and address of nominee.
- Nominees must have been a full-time faculty member at USC for 10 years or more and no longer be on the regular payroll of USC.
- Any staff or faculty, active or retired, may nominate or endorse a nomination.
- Relevant supporting material may be submitted along with the nomination, including news articles, supporting letters, etc.

Nominations must be received by FRIDAY, OCT. 5.

Send your nomination to: Leibovitz Award, USC Emeriti Center, GER 220, 3715 McClintock Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191.

You may also Fax (213) 740-7120 or e-mail at emeriti@usc.edu. *A PDF of the application can be found at www.usc.edu/rfa – click on “Leibovitz Faculty Award” in the column to the left.

Former Recipients Include:

Emeriti Center’s Retirement Outreach Efforts Are Expanding

The Emeriti Center is continuing its commitment to educate active staff and faculty members (pre-retirees) on retirement issues.

In March, the EC and Office of Benefits Administration co-sponsored two seminars on Social Security and Medicare for current USC staff and faculty that provided information on Social Security coverage, benefits and enrollment periods as well as the distinctions between Medicare Parts A, B, and D. Both seminars, held on the University Park and Health Sciences campuses, drew more than 160 attendees.

Both seminars were addressed by representatives from the Social Security Administration and Center for Health Care Rights. Additionally, Awilda Bregand and Lyn Miller, from USC’s Office of Benefits and Bob Biller from the RFA and Carole Gustin from the SRA, were on hand to answer questions.

The popularity of these subjects was realized last summer when the EC hosted two sessions for the first time. The March 7 session was videotaped and the recording is available on the EC’s Web site by clicking on the tab “Video Recordings.”

In addition to these seminars, the EC again co-sponsored, with the Office of Benefits, two one-day “Transitions 2007- Planning for Retirement” programs in April on the UPC and the HSC. More than 150 active staff and faculty members attended the programs and received information on retirement planning, Medicare, Social Security and USC Senior Care. The EC hosted a panel of retirees who shared their personal experiences of transitioning to retirement, as well as sharing how retirees can continue being an active member of the academic community and maintaining contact with colleagues in retirement. Dagmar Halamka, attorney-at-law and emeritus professor, USC Marshall School of Business, held a session on “The Joy of Avoiding Financial Problems in Life and Beyond” in which she addressed subjects such as estate planning, living trusts, wills, and durable power of attorney for health care and for estates.

The “Transitions 2007” programs were also offered for the second time in July at UPC and HSC and were attended by about 80 people.

This past spring, the Emeriti Center also made presentations to the USC Staff Assembly, the Academic Leadership and Development Program, the Dental Faculty and Dental Staff Assemblies, the USC Rossier School of Education’s Retirement Reception and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles.

All outreach efforts and programs, many in collaboration with other departments and units, are geared to increasing awareness of retirement issues. We welcome suggestions from the USC community as we continue to provide service and support to faculty and staff prior to and during their retirement years.

– Gloria M. Reyes, Assistant Director, Retiree Relations
(213) 740-8175, gmreyes@usc.edu

Emeriti Center 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, check our Web site, call us, or send an e-mail to <emeriti@usc.edu>.

Recent Benefactor Donations

- **Donor:** William D. Walker  
  **Honoree:** Janette Brown
- **Donor:** USC Staff Retirement Association  
  **Honoree:** Paul Hadley
- **Donor:** Robert Filep  
  **Honoree:** Herb Farmer
- **Donor:** Norman, Chris, Rick and Kurt Fertig  
  **Honoree:** Paul Hadley
First SRA Arts & Crafts Exhibit Reveals Many Hidden Talents

In conjunction with its June luncheon, the Staff Retirement Association held its first Arts & Crafts Exhibit. The Gerontology Center’s second-floor student lounge was converted into an art gallery for the event, and 17 participants displayed their amazing work.

Photographs of Ethiopian Jews by Irene Fertik captured lives in distant cultures, and those of Janette Brown showed the beauty of our own surroundings.

Betty Redmon’s watercolor paintings highlighted the beauty of florals and landscapes (see her gallery at DaronDesigns.com).

Also on view were sculptures in stone, wood and paper maché by Jo Raksin, joined by the craftsmanship of a hand-carved wooden train and airplane by Ron Violette.

Judy Diaz contributed hand-made jewelry; Jo Ochoa showed how souvenir pictures can be displayed through the art of scrapbooking, and Helen Jones shared two framed jigsaw puzzles that were mind-boggling.

Needlework had the most exhibitors and included Frances Abraham’s delicate embroidery on linens and pillows, Ginny Ainsworth’s ultra-soft crocheted baby blankets, Sally Emerson’s knitted baby booties and Alice Donahue’s knitted scarves. Also on exhibit were cross-stitch, crewel and embroidery needlework pictures by Madeleen Smith and Jennifer Ontai’s pieced and quilted blankets. Beverly Rhue displayed a hand-sewn 1913-style dress and Lynn Williams showed her hand-made folk-dance costumes and her own jellies and wine.

Many thanks to all who helped with the exhibit, those who shared their work, and those who “oohed” and “ahhed” over the remarkable talent of the “SRA Artists” and the Emeriti Center staff.

Living History Thrives ...continued from page 5

11 years; Robert E. Tranquada, M.D., professor of medicine, began his career in the department of medicine, served as medical director of the LAC/USC Medical Center, assisted in the founding of the Watts Clinic, and served as Dean; and Arthur Donovan, M.D., who joined the surgical faculty in the 1960s, is well known for his work in the field of breast cancer and as chairman of the department of surgery.

Three more long-time medical faculty members were videotaped at the end of July. Each boasts a history of 50 years at USC: Phil Manning, M.D., who created and chaired the department of medical continuing education; Peter Lee, M.D., a department of medicine faculty member who served as Associate Dean for medical education and later helped establish the department of family medicine; and Denman Hammond, M.D., who served at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles pursuing pediatric cancer research. Dr. Hammond was instrumental in the establishment and funding of the Norris Cancer Institute.

The committee will meet regularly during the coming school year to seek additional funding for continued projects and to review the credentials of individuals who are suggested for the Living History Project.

– Louise Ball, Chair, Living History Project
In the News

Robert R. Dockson (dean emeritus, business administration) recently wrote and published his autobiography, “I Envy No Man,” which, he writes, chronicles “the first 89 years of my life.” Dockson’s 272-page book includes a wealth of information and photographs that illustrate his life and career, many that chronicle his years at USC, including one (right) circa 1941. It’s labeled “A Very Young Instructor,” and shows Dockson, pipe in hand, sitting at fountain’s edge with Bovard Auditorium in the background.

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

Constance Ahrons, professor emerita (sociology), was quoted in the May 14 The Kansas City Star about the relationship between children and stepmothers. “If the stepmother says anything that even appears to cast the biological mother in a negative light, the effect is that the child will have a negative feeling about the stepmother,” Ahrons said.

Jerald Jellison (psychology) was quoted in June by The Chronicle of Higher Education and the Los Angeles Times about the psychology behind lying. “The problem with telling a lie is you have to remember all the lies you told,” he said. An article in Human Resource Executive noted that Jellison spoke at a recent human resources conference in Las Vegas, in a session titled “Mixing Business With Pleasure: Gaining Leverage in Relationships,” where he advised human resources leaders.

Malcolm Klein, professor emeritus (sociology), was quoted in the June 1 Los Angeles Times about new Los Angeles Police Department statistics that found a 32 percent decrease in gang-related homicides. “That is a substantial decline in gang homicides if their gang-related definition has remained the same,” Klein said.

Has It Already Been 30 Years?

Did you know that 2008 marks the Emeriti Center’s 30th Anniversary? Help us honor the past, celebrate the present, and plan for the future by sending in stories, photos and memorabilia for us to share on the Web and in displays.

Send an e-mail (subject heading “30th Anniversary”) to <emeriti@usc.edu> and share your ideas with us.

Good News for The Emeriti College

We are delighted to announce that Bob Scales, after participating in a number of national and international theatrical projects while living in Connecticut, has returned to Los Angeles and will resume his position as Director of the Emeriti College (see Bob’s message, page 3). The remainder of 2007, and then 2008, will be a planning and strategy time to set the Emeriti College on a course of academic leadership into the next decade. Bob is joined by Gib Hentschke and Jerry Walker who have generously offered to take part in the leadership of this new exciting endeavor.

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: Ruth Aaron (medicine); Paul Bohannan (anthropology, dean/social sciences and communication); William Brady (dentistry); H.K. (Hsien Kei) Cheng (engineering); Pearl Coleman (student affairs); Erwin Goldenberg (pediatrics); J. Tillman Hall (physical education); Don Hanifan (ISSM); Charles F. Langmade (ob-gyn); Robert H. Linnell (ISSM); Hammond Rolph (international relations); Barrie Tucker (music); David B. Wittry (engineering); and Fred Ziesenhenne (Hancock Foundation).

Note: Our June newsletter listed Eleanor Tovar’s first name as “Elaine.” Our apologies.

* 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>.
Retiree(s) of the Quarter: In each issue of the newsletter, we highlight the contributions of someone in the USC retiree community. This month we honor two staff retirees – Leonard Wines and Ron Violette.

Issue #56 of the SRA Email Newsletter was the July issue of the monthly e-newsletter edited and sent by Leonard and Ron to all who wish to receive it. A simple e-mail request to <len@winesland.net> will ensure 12 e-issues per year of up-to-date happenings in the USC retiree community and lots of helpful tips on where to find information on topics of interest. They range from where to find the latest medical advances on treatments for health problems to where one can find the best deals on items you plan to purchase. Oh yes, there is always a tidbit at the end designed to bring a smile to your day. Ron and Leonard alternate months of serving as editor and Leonard’s high powered e-mail system sends each issue zooming into our computers.

Ron joined the SRA’s Board of Directors shortly after his retirement in 1991. He created Senior Class Tips in 1994 (a hard-copy newsletter); it was the first effort of the SRA to send timely information to its members and friends. He continued this publication until November of 2002 (issue #61). E-mail became more and more popular as printing costs increased, so the E-mail Newsletter was born. Ron edited the first 33 issues and, in September 2005, Leonard edited issue #34. They have shared this duty ever since. In the summer, Ron works from his home in Minnesota. Ron has also served the SRA as our Bylaws Officer, making sure that all amendments are written correctly and that each addition is in agreement with the rest of the document.

Leonard tested the SRA Newsletter to make sure everyone could receive it regardless of their type of computer or Internet access. After trying several formats he determined that sending the document in the body of the e-mail as plain text, not HTML, worked best. Each issue contains clickable URLs, so it is easy to retrieve Web information. His big challenge is keeping the e-mail database current. “While people are good about changing their address with the Postal Service when they move,” Leonard said, “they are not as careful to change their e-mail address when they make a change with their service provider.” He also finds recipients have a hard time determining who edited the newsletter, although the name appears at the top. He said wryly, “Each issue contains at least one joke. If the joke is corny and stems from Minnesota or Wisconsin and features someone named Olaf, then Ron edited the issue. If the joke comes from Steven Weber or George Carlin and is pithy and biting, then I did the piece.”

Leonard has also served the SRA as treasurer for four years, keeping the finances in good order and investing funds to earn the best interest possible. He is currently the MAC coordinator of the new “Help Squad.”

Leonard and Ron have served USC well during their active employment. Leonard joined the staff in 1958 and served in University Affairs, retiring in 1986. Ron joined the USC staff in 1976 and was responsible for all aspects of the Master of Science in Systems Management, and Master in Safety programs, both on campus and abroad until he retired.
For a full listing of EC, RFA and SRA Board officers/members-at-large, and their contact information, go to www.usc.edu/emeriticenter and click on the group you want to find out more about.

**USC Emeriti Center Fall Events**

**Sept. 17 (Monday):** SRA General Meeting; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., GER 224

**Sept. 19 (Wednesday):** “Collaborative Approaches to Reducing Elder Abuse,” presented by Kathleen H. Wilber (see flier); GER Auditorium, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Sept. 27, Oct. 25 (Thursdays) and Dec. 4 (Tuesday):** Retiree Book Club; 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., GER 219

**Oct. 9 (Tuesday):** “Ten (or More) Tips for Living an Informed Financial Life,” presented by Dagmar Halamka (see flier); GER Auditorium, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Nov. 14 (Wednesday):** Provost’s Faculty Recognition Luncheon; Town & Gown; 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Dec. 13 (Thursday):** SRA/RFA Holiday Party; Galen Center, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

*The Emeriti Center, an advocate and active supporter of USC retirees since 1978, celebrates 29 years of service.*