

Emeriti Center

Retiree Community Newsletter

This Newsletter is devoted to news and articles of interest to all USC retirees. The USC Emeriti Center supports the entire USC Retiree Community, the Emeriti College, the Retired Faculty Association, and the Staff Retirement Association.

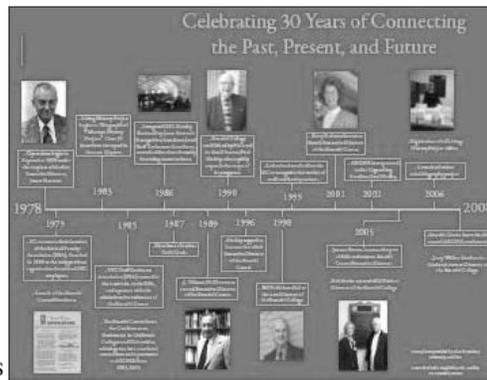
Colleagues from the U.S. and Canada Gather for the EC's 30th Anniversary

The Emeriti Center's 30th Anniversary Celebration opened with a letter from President **Steven B. Sample** read at a special Town & Gown luncheon celebrated on the second day of the AROHE Conference (see story below).

About 350 people filled the venue. USC retired faculty and staff and other guests intermingled with conference participants from around North America.

A timeline display on the patio told the story of the Emeriti Center from its beginning in 1978 to the present day, along with a photo display of EC leaders (see timeline details, page 7). Throughout its history, the EC has had five executive directors and three Emeriti College directors.

Executive Director **Janette Brown**, who has led the EC since 2005, told the audience, "The word emeriti indicates honor for service," and she recognized revered retired faculty and staff leaders, both those present and those who have passed away, and read from Sample's letter,



A timeline on display at the luncheon tells the story of the men and women who have contributed to the USC Emeriti Center's success, as well as illustrating important milestones.

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Multi-Institutional Group Energizes 2008 International AROHE Conference at USC



An international conference hosted by the USC Emeriti Center in October proved that the definition of "retirement" has evolved over the years, and USC has played an integral part in that change through its leadership in AROHE (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education).

The tenet that there is a vibrant intellectual life following university retirement, was illustrated at the 4th International AROHE Conference.

The three-day conference took place Oct. 24 – 26 at the Radisson Hotel. More than 130 participants from across the United States and Canada took part in forums, panels, demonstrations, networking opportunities and resource sharing.

"In this economy and with 'boomers' retiring, it behooves universities to tap into the wealth of knowledge, experience, and wisdom of dedicated

continued on page 6

It's Holiday Party Time, Join Us on Dec. 10



Join your Emeriti Center colleagues for the 3rd Annual USC Retiree Community Holiday Celebration on Wed., Dec. 10.

The festivities take place in the Founder's Room at the Galen Center. Check in at 9 a.m., then enjoy a 9:30 hot breakfast buffet.

We'll enjoy another performance with Prof. Parmer Fuller of the USC Thornton School of Music and some of his students, plus our Holiday sing-a-long.

Each RFA member and SRA membership (single or joint) may bring one guest.

To park: Enter garage from Figueroa driveway between Radisson & restaurant. Enter Galen Center on Figueroa, walk thru building to Founders' Room.

Please RSVP to 213-740-7122 by DEC. 1, or e-mail emeriti@usc.edu

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We Celebrate the Beginning of Our 30th Anniversary Year, and an Invigorating, Successful AROHE Conference



Janette Brown

It's been 30 years since the establishment of the USC Emeriti Center (EC) – and three years since my arrival at the EC. I am now even more inspired and invigorated than my first year by the wealth of wisdom, knowledge, and experience shared by our retired faculty and staff – I believe mine is one of the best jobs on campus. USC retirees share time, resources, brilliant guidance, and support – these are deeply appreciated and so necessary for an excellent Center. Your Executive Committee and EC office staff members are dedicated to high-quality services, programs, and advocacy. We owe them so much for going the extra mile each day. This kind of commitment is rare; it embodies the Trojan Spirit and is highly valued. I cannot thank them enough for their incredible work and service:

Executive Committee: **Bob Biller, Steb Chandor, Carole Gustin, Mike Halloran, Bob Scales, Christine Shade, Bob Stallings, Mitzi Tsujimoto, and Jerry Walker**; EC Staff: **Christopher Curry, Judy Diaz, Maricela Hinojosa, Gloria M. Reyes, and Jerry Walker**; Committee/Project leaders: **Louise Ball, Frances Feldman** (in memoriam), **Carole Gustin, Gib Hentschke, Dick Martin, Bob Scales, Bob Stallings, and Len Wines**; Dedicated Students: **Eric Ambler, Erica Baker, Vanessa Portillo, Erika Smith, Geri Toscano, and Shawanda Walker**.

It has been an important fall quarter. We kicked off the Emeriti Center's 30th Anniversary year, hosted the 4th International AROHE Conference (AROHE is the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education founded by the late Paul Hadley that links more than 60 institutions across North America), presented preliminary data on the AROHE Survey of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education (with participation from all 50 states and several in Canada), participated in the first serious USC discussions on possible retiree housing adjacent to campus, discussed campus retiree work opportunity programs with UC Berkeley on an AROHE Conference panel, and sadly lost our revered and beloved colleague, **Frances Feldman**.

The Emeriti Center is a treasure of powerful, productive, and caring retired faculty and staff. "Colleagues for Life" (see page 4) exemplifies how we come together to accomplish great things and how we help and support one another. We have only just begun to tap into the wealth of experience, talent, and collective support we can share with each other, USC, and the greater community. Let's move ahead with a vision to educate and share ideas in interdisciplinary, intergenerational, and cross-cultural ways. Together we are contributing strongly to USC's goals of meeting societal needs, providing student centered learning, and developing the human mind and spirit.

I hope all of us are doing the best we can through the troubling financial times of recent months. I also hope you will find a way to be as generous as you can in the EC funding campaign this year. Your gifts really make an enormous difference for what we can do in the EC beyond what the necessarily tight university budget can extend to our Center.

If you live nearby or happen to be in town, please join us at the Galen Center for the Holiday party on Dec. 10th!

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

We Thank a Center Benefactor

We thank the Bill Hannon Foundation for their recent gift of \$1,000, and gratefully acknowledge their gift of \$3,000 given last year.

Fall Happenings

Retired Faculty Association members may not be aware of all the things that the Emeriti Center does for us: advocating for benefits; maintaining an up-to-date database on all USC retirees; housing the Emeriti College; providing staff support for various RFA undertakings.

The RFA Board of Directors greatly appreciates the financial support that it receives directly from its members. This support supplements what the EC is able to do for us with the USC budget it receives. The board therefore hopes that every RFA member will make a gift to the EC during its current funding campaign. We understand that these are financially turbulent times but hope that members will be as generous as possible. **Janette Brown** and the entire EC staff, have done a terrific job supporting us and in return deserve our fullest support.

Incorporation of retiree housing into the university's development plans is being discussed. For more information or to have input, contact **Bob Scales** <rscales@usc.edu> or **Bob Biller** <biller@usc.edu>.

Jerome Walker, the new director of the USC Emeriti College, invited retired faculty to serve on several university committees. Thanks to Jerry for securing an important presence for retired faculty in USC affairs and also to those colleagues who have agreed to undertake these committee assignments.

Barbara Solomon continues her involvement with the Caldwell Scholars program on behalf of the RFA. Her latest efforts to improve administration of the program resulted in a meeting of all relevant university parties.

Thanks go to: RFA members who participated in October's AROHE Conference; to those who stopped by the EC/SRA/RFA Homecoming booth prior to the Univ. of Washington game, especially those who helped out; to **Ruberta Weaver** and **Natalie Cohen** for helping to organize the annual Provost's Luncheon honoring recent faculty retirees. Congratulations to the recent retirees, listed at www.usc.edu/org/emeriti_center/rfa/retirees2008.

We hope to see you at the annual EC/SRA/RFA Holiday Celebration at the Galen Center.

– RFA Executive Committee; www.usc.edu/rfa

2008 Was a Fulfilling, Exciting Year

The Staff Retirement Association enjoyed a variety of programs and accomplishments during 2008:

In January members attended a "Caregivers" seminar; in February the SRA and RFA attended the USC vs. Oregon State basketball game; in March the Staff Recognition Luncheon honored 77 recent staff retirees; in April the SRA sponsored an afternoon performance of the USC student production of "Carousel"; in May the SRA was represented at the "Transitions" program for USC pre-retirees; in June the annual general meeting/program focused on Antarctica; in July members participated in the summer "Transitions" program; in September the general meeting program featured a discussion on the possibility of USC developing housing for retirees close to campus; in October **Dick Martin** coordinated a tour of Grauman's Egyptian Theatre, a presentation of "Forever Hollywood" and lunch at Mel's Drive-In; in November, hopefully we all voted in the Presidential election; and in December we held our Third Annual Holiday Celebration for all retirees in the Galen Center.

A major accomplishment was the establishment of the SRA Endowment. As it grows, it will help support our activities. Contributions to the Endowment exceeded \$5,500. Thank you to our members for their generosity.

If you have not yet sent a contribution to the Emeriti Center Campaign, there is still time to make the deadline for 2008 donations!

NOTE: Check out the new Web sites – "Colleagues for Life" – read the column in this newsletter on page 4. **Bob Stallings** is always creating new helpful ways to communicate.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 2009!

– Carole Gustin, SRA President
cgustin@usc.edu, 310-842-7544
www.usc.edu/sra



Carole Gustin

The Emeriti College Plans New Initiatives

I am delighted to join the cluster of talented and hard-working colleagues at the USC Emeriti Center. **Janette Brown** and her colleagues are the heart and spirit of the Center's motto, "Colleagues for Life," and every day in the Center is a pleasure.

My time has been dedicated to several projects since early August. **Jack Wills**, Professor Emeritus of History, proposed the creation of an inter-generational forum in which large contemporary issues can be discussed over lunch by undergraduates and retired faculty. Titled "Across the Generations: A Forum on Global Change," Jack's idea became a reality on Tuesday, Sept. 30 – the first of three meetings this semester (see page 5, "A Forum on Global Change").

My second project was to assist the RFA with nominations of emeriti faculty to serve on the General Education Committee, the Committee on Academic Policies and Procedures (CAPP), and subcommittees of the University Curriculum Committee. Appointments are coordinated by the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Professor **Marty Levine**. Emeritus Professors **Gil Babcock** (business), **Jack Crossley** (religion), **Roger Dingman** (history), **Ron Gottesman** (English), and **Tom Henyey** (earth science), have agreed to serve. In addition, **George Bekey** (electrical engineering) has agreed

to serve as chair of the Lifetime Achievement Award Committee.

The USC Alumni Association has approached the USC Emeriti Center for assistance with two alumni colleges in the spring semester. The Half-Century Trojans will engage in a full day of campus academic and cultural activities with their respective schools on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009.

The Emeriti College has agreed to schedule concurrent speakers during the afternoon.

As part of the Emeriti Center's 30th Anniversary, the Emeriti Center will co-sponsor an Alumni College in early April, in what is expected to be the first of a series of annual spring reunions built around academic programs. Interdisciplinary and inter-generational panels will present "Classes without Quizzes."

Watch for announcements of spring enrichment programs for USC retirees in ceramics, painting, music and technology for seniors.

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



Jerry Walker

Two New Web Sites at Your Service

At the suggestion of **Bob Scales**, past director of the USC Emeriti College, a new Web site, colleaguesforlife.org, has been created. The name incorporates the new slogan of the USC Emeriti Center, "Colleagues for Life."

The Web site is affiliated with the Center but is not hosted on university-owned servers. This makes it possible for the site to take advantage of a wider array of new forms of online interaction including live streaming video, video messaging, and an Internet chatroom.

Also new this Fall is a blog (short for "Web log," a Web site with short postings on any topic by a variety of authors) featuring the Colleagues for Life motto, colleaguesforlife.blogspot.com. Retirees can read and comment on postings as well as post new items on the blog, if they so desire.

– Bob Stallings, rstallin@usc.edu

The EC's Book Nook

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

**"Terrors of the Table:
The Curious History of Nutrition"**
by Walter Gratzer (2005)

This book's subtitle says it all. There was a time not so very long ago when vitamins were unknown and superstition about food trumped reason. Told with a minimum of technical jargon, there's plenty of drama here – with heroes, villains, scientists, and quacks – and the story brings us right up to the present day of the human genome. Plus there's a short Appendix that outlines the underlying science of it all.

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

Across the Generations: A Forum on Global Change



An opportunity is being offered to USC undergraduates to enrich discussion of large contemporary issues across generational lines under the leadership of **Jack Wills**, Professor Emeritus of History, and **Bob Biller**, Professor Emeritus of Policy, Planning and Development.

*Everyone in the Forum reads **The Economist** as the common source of topics and information.*

A monthly forum is being held on the University Park Campus throughout the 2008-2009 academic year under the sponsorship of the USC Emeriti College with the support of the Division of Student Affairs and the Vice Provost for Undergraduate



From left, Christin Thompson and Jack Wills, Professor Emeritus of History.

Programs. We hope to enhance intergenerational communication, provide political and social diversity, and consider actions appropriate to the issues discussed.

Everyone in the Forum reads *The Economist* (London) as the common source of topics and information. Participants come to the Forum with something from a previous month's issue of the *Economist* to talk about. The journal has good reporting about changes around the world, including science, technology, and cultural life. The conclusion of each Forum focuses on how the information and issue discussed is to be presented to a person or a group who can act on that issue, including senators, governors, city councils, corporate CEOs, and university presidents.

Twenty-one students declared an interest in participating in one or more of the forums, and meetings took place in September, October and November.

– Jerry Walker



From left, USC students Carlos Navarro and Lorena Sanchez and Professor Emeritus of Policy, Planning, and Development, Bob Biller.

Meeting Confirms Possible Retiree Housing Projects Still Several Years in Future

Attendees at the September SRA meeting heard an update on the plans to possibly include retirees in future housing projects. **Michael Lehrer**, AIA award winning architect working with USC administrators, discussed: how life-long learning could be facilitated with USC-approximate housing; the potential of success due to the number of retirees and alumni who might be interested; the number of possible sites for such a development; how they would provide easy access to Downtown L.A., as well as to USC; how retiree housing could be designed, including using “green” designs; and the ongoing process to determine retiree needs and wants and USC’s ideas for how to best coordinate retiree housing with student and active faculty and staff housing.

Lehrer solicited input from our attendees, who identified the following interests they would like to see addressed: safety, easy access to medical and dental services, community meeting rooms, multi-generational engagement, exercise and recreational facilities, convenience to mass transit and shopping, access to USC classes, and units that can adapt to changed circumstances. **Kristina Raspe**, USC VP for Real Estate, said that USC has an interest in retiree housing, but it will be three to four years before such developments will be pursued. Future meetings may be useful. Retirees sit on a USC committee dealing with USC housing planning, so give me any input you would like to have considered during this process.

– Carole Gustin, cgustin@usc.edu

retirees,” said **Janette Brown**, EC executive director and executive director of AROHE. Brown co-chaired the conference along with her UCLA counterpart, **Eddie Murphy**, Director Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center.

Todd Dickey, USC Senior Vice President, welcomed attendees on the opening day and acknowledged the value that retirees contribute to their institutions.

A letter from USC President **Steven B. Sample** congratulated AROHE and called it “the most experienced multidisciplinary and intergenerational group to grace this campus,” and paid tribute to the late **Paul Hadley**, “whose wisdom, intelligence and vision nurtured AROHE into existence.”

Hadley was the association’s first president, and is honored at every conference with the Paul Hadley Honorary Address. On the Conference’s opening day, **Helen Dennis**, an author, columnist, and specialist on aging, employment and retirement, gave the Honorary Address, “The Retirement Revolution – A Winning Opportunity.”

A highlight of the conference included the presentation of a year-long AROHE survey of what universities in the U.S. and Canada are doing with and for their retired faculty and staff.

“These days, more and more university retirees are likely to treat the word ‘retirement’ like an active verb than a noun through their continuing contributions,” said Brown.

USC’s retiree members – both retired faculty and staff – and Emeriti College participants joined with conference attendees from universities all across the United States and Canada. Also in attendance were representatives from retiree associations and directors of campus retiree centers.

Among presenters were: **Gerald Davison**, Dean, USC Davis School of Gerontology, who presented the school’s latest research; a panel that focused on managing successful volunteer programs, emeriti mentoring programs, and oral



A dedicated team from the Emeriti Center went “above and beyond” to help make the 30th Anniversary luncheon and the AROHE Conference a success. From left, Gloria M. Reyes, Christopher Curry, Geri Toscano, Judy Diaz, and Maricela Hinojosa. (For a list of volunteers, see page 11.)



Patricia Will (at podium), President, American Senior Housing Association and CEO of Belmont Village Senior Living, speaks at Saturday’s “University Affiliated Retirement Housing” panel.

and living history programs; **Bob Stallings**, EC Webmaster, took part in a special demonstration of the EC’s retiree computer “Help Squad,” and retiree organization Web sites, and **Michelle Man**, from USC’s Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, who demonstrated “Technology Made Simple for Retirees.”

Other presentations included: sessions on trends on life-long learning; educational and creative programs; campus retiree re-employment programs; a panel on university-affiliated retirement housing; sessions on “Autobiography Programs for Retirees,” given by **James Birren**, Founding Dean, USC School of Gerontology and **Cheryl Svensson**, lecturer, CSU Fullerton and USC; and many others.

On the second day of the conference there was a joint celebration of the USC Emeriti Center’s 30th Anniversary luncheon with the AROHE members (see page 1 story) where **Roger Anunsen** was the featured speaker.

“At the conference we shared ideas, best practices, and challenges with retiree organization colleagues from across North America and honored our past leaders,” said Brown. “What an invigorating and motivating celebration of the progress we have made together!”

Brown thanked Executive Vice President and Provost **C.L. Max Nikias** for his support of the Center and the AROHE conference and **Todd Dickey**, Senior Vice President, Administration, who had welcomed the AROHE conferees on Friday.

Brown also thanked Associate Senior Vice President, **Dan Stimmler** for Conference support, and Associate Senior Vice President, University Relations and Chief of Protocol, **Dennis Cornell**, Executive Director, University Events, and **Jim Hooker** and **Wendy Chang** from Protocol and Events for the 30th Anniversary luncheon.

Said Brown, “We sincerely appreciate our wonderful staff and the terrific retiree volunteers who assisted us with the anniversary luncheon and the AROHE Conference.”

USC Emeriti Center's 30-Year Timeline

A timeline of the rich 30-year history of the USC Emeriti Center was on display on the Town & Gown patio along with photos of past and present EC leaders. Here are selected EC highlights:

- 1978** – Operations begin in September under the auspices of the first Executive Director, James A. Peterson.
- 1979** – EC assumes administration of the Retired Faculty Association (RFA), founded in 1948 as the only previous organization for retired USC employees; in April, Vol. 1, No. 1 of the Emeriti Center NEWSLETTER is launched.
- 1983** – The Living History Project begins as the “Biographical Videotape History Project.” More than 50 interviews of retired faculty, staff, and administrators are taped in the next 25 years.
- 1985** – USC Staff Retirement Association (SRA) is created in the same vein as the RFA, and operates with the administrative assistance of the EC: the EC hosts the Conference on Retirement in California Colleges and Universities, which grows into a national consortium and a precursor to AROHE from 19885-2000.
- 1986** – Inaugural USC Faculty Retiree Day (now Provost's Recognition Luncheon) and Staff Retirement Luncheon, annual celebrations formally honoring recent retirees;
- 1987** – First issue of retiree Gold Cards.
- 1989** – J. Tillman Hall becomes second Executive Director of the Emeriti Center.
- 1990** – Emeriti College established by Hall and its first Director, Paul Hadley, who rapidly expands the scope of its programs.
- 1996** – Hadley tapped to become the third Executive Director of the EC.
- 1998** – Bill Faith installed as the new Director of the Emeriti College.
- 1999** – Leibovitz Awards allow the EC to recognize the service of staff and faculty retirees to seniors;
- 2001** – Betty Redmon becomes the EC's fourth Executive Director;
- 2002** – AROHE incorporated under Organizing President Paul Hadley.
- 2005** – Janette Brown assumes the post of fifth and current Emeriti Center Director; Bob Scales succeeds Bill Faith as Emeriti College Director.
- 2006** – Digitization of all Living History Project videos; launch of retiree mini-biography project.
- 2008** – Emeriti Center hosts the 4th annual AROHE conference and hosts the 30th Anniversary luncheon; Jerry Walker signs on as the third and current Director of the Emeriti College.

(Thanks to Eric Ambler and Claude Zachary for compiling this information.)

30th Anniversary ... continued from page 1

which noted the Center's “enormous strides during the past 30 years.”

Those strides wouldn't have been possible without the dedicated retired staff and faculty members who have stepped up to the plate over the years to help steer the Center, from its humble beginnings to its current status as the home base of AROHE.

Staff retiree **Harriet Servis** – who was instrumental in organizing on-campus retirement organizations – reminded the audience that in the early years, records were kept up the old fashioned way, with an old typewriter and a Rolodex.

The EC now has a Web site, databases, retiree computer consultants, an ambitious Emeriti College program, has converted the original Living History videotaped interviews into DVDs, created Trojan ENCORE, a pilot program for retiree work opportunities, and is looking to increase endowment funds to sustain the Center.

The luncheon's featured speaker, **Roger Anunsen**, creator of “MemAerobics,” spoke about the importance of positive aging, and of keeping a “mature” brain healthy. He noted that researchers are now in the “Golden Age of Neuroscience” where discoveries are coming at a rapid pace and that the scientists don't know when a brain peaks since it continues to generate new



It was a full house at Town & Gown for the Emeriti Center's 30th Anniversary luncheon. EC retirees hosted tables that mixed faculty and staff retirees with colleagues and participants from the three-day AROHE Conference.

connectors no matter how old a person becomes.

“Every so often,” Anunsen said, “throw a rock in your cognitive pond,” to keep the brain engaged and busy learning something new. That, he said, combined with the wisdom that comes from age, is a healthy combination.

Brown called her retiree colleagues “the jewels” of the university and said, “If you're not involved now, get involved!” In effect, she was inviting them to throw some rocks into their cognitive ponds and to make some ripples by getting involved with the EC.

ShakeOut Drill Mobilizes Trojan Citizens to Prepare for a Quake

Drop, Cover, and Hold On!

That's what Southern Californians – including Trojans – were called on to do at 10 a.m. on one day in November as part of an emergency drill to prepare citizens for a major earthquake.

USC held the Trojan ShakeOut on Nov. 13 – its part of a massive, regional-wide earthquake drill to prepare for the possibility of a major earthquake. The Trojan ShakeOut corresponded with the Southern California project called ShakeOut, that called for public and private agencies to participate in an emergency earthquake drill. The earthquake drill called for millions of Southern Californians to simultaneously “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.”

The Trojan ShakeOut was a coordinated effort by several USC departments including USC Medical Response Team and the USC Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT), USC's version of the City of Los Angeles' Community Emergency Response Team. CERT provides lay citizens basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills in order to help one's self, family and neighborhood in the event of a catastrophic disaster. CERT also provides bright green helmets and vests to those who have completed the training program.

The Emeriti Center's **Gloria Reyes**, Assistant Director, Retiree Relations, is a member of CERT. Reyes had participated in an 18-hour course conducted by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department as well as supplemental review workshops conducted by the USC department of environmental health and safety. Topics covered included first aid and triage, light



Gloria Reyes, right, helps place a “volunteer victim” on a backboard during an emergency drill procedure.

search and rescue, disaster fire suppression techniques and disaster psychology.

The concept of CERT was developed in 1985 by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department when it was recognized that citizens would likely be on their own during the early stages of a catastrophic disaster. The program expanded when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) felt the concept should be made available to communities nationwide.

To learn more about CERT and the possibility of becoming a member in your local community, visit www.citizencorps.gov/cert or email cert@dhs.gov.

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

Nominations for “J. Tillman Hall Service to USC Staff Award” Due by Feb. 15

The J. Tillman Hall Service to USC Staff Award acknowledges special service to a USC unit or school, including the Emeriti Center. Nominees must have made an outstanding contribution(s) toward enhancing the overall quality of university life for students, faculty, staff, retirees, alumni or members of the USC community, and have contributed to positive morale and enthusiastic Trojan spirit.



J. Tillman Hall

Nominees must be retired USC staff members.

Nominations can be made by anyone in the USC retiree community or anyone from the USC community at large. The Selection committee consists of the USC Emeriti Center Executive Committee and a representative from each of these entities: the Retired Faculty Association Board, Staff Retirement Association Board, Academic Senate, Staff Assembly, and Center for Work and Family Life.

A nomination form and additional information can be found at the EC Web site (or see enclosed insert); direct questions to emeriti@usc.edu or 213-740-8921. Mail the nomination form and supporting materials to: J. Tillman Hall Award, USC Emeriti Center, 3715 McClintock Ave., GER 220, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0191.

Senior Cyber Tips* Some Google Tips

While driving just after sunset, we wondered if “twilight” and “dusk” were synonyms. At home, we entered in Google.com define twilight and define dusk. They’re not.

To see weather in many cities, type weather followed by the city. To convert between many different units of measurement (like weight, height, and mass) just enter your desired conversion. For example, 10.5 cm in inches.

To make finding a local store or restaurant easy, tell Google what you are looking for, followed by your zip code. For example, delicatessan 90019. If you have a package tracking number for UPS, Fedex, or USPS, just enter it. Note: the least-reliable results are from USPS. If you are wondering where a certain area code is, just enter it.

In the entries above, those are commands that Google understands, so don't use quotation marks.

However, for an enjoyable three minute video, type “Coke and Mentos” into the search box.

The quote marks are important. If you leave them out, you will get 115,000,000 results for Coke and 6,440,000 for Mentos!

– Len Wines <len@winesland.net>

* If there is a tip that you would like to read about in a future issue please e-mail Bob Stallings at rstallin@usc.edu, or Len Wines at the above e-mail address.

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW!

New 818/747 Area Code Overlay:

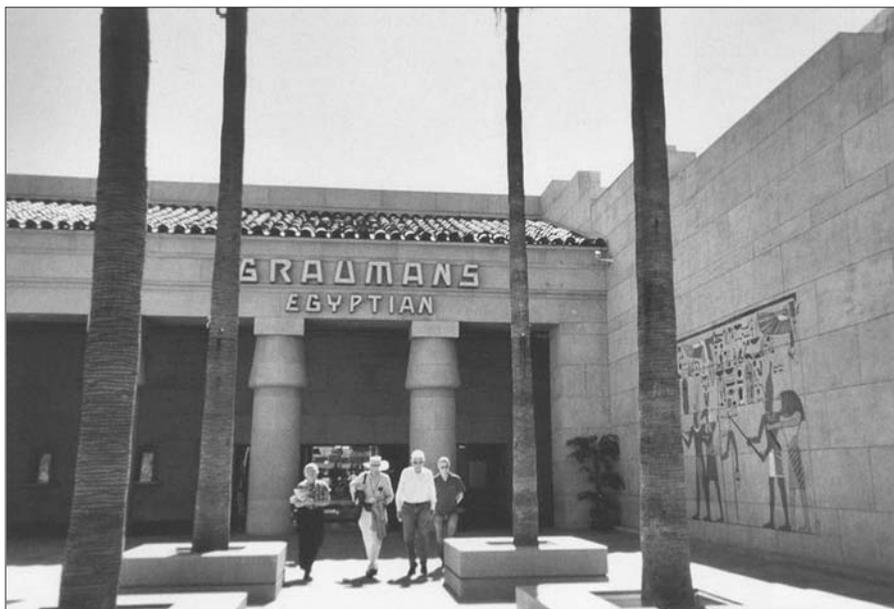
The California Public Utilities Commission approved the addition of the 747 area code to the geography served in the San Fernando Valley by the 818 area code. This will change the way you must dial your calls.

The new dialing requirements went into effect in October, however there is a grace period, so if you forget and dial just the original seven digits, your call will still go through.

But as of April 18, 2009, you must dial the area code for all calls, or your call will not go through. You must also: update any preprogrammed 7-digit phone numbers in your phone system to include the area code, including text or e-mail alert services (such as USC’s service); and reprogram equipment with automatic dialers, such as life-safety systems; and be sure to update any stationery or advertising materials.

This information comes from a Verizon service – if you have questions, please consult your own individual telephone service.

Having an Adventure in Hollywood



No, it's not Egypt, but Hollywood does a great job of make believe! In October, Dick Martin coordinated a Staff Retirement Association tour of Hollywood's Grauman's Egyptian Theatre, for a presentation of “Forever Hollywood” and lunch at Mel's Drive-In. Above, from left, Lynn Williams, Dick Martin, Bill Singer and Tony Bond. Photo by SRA President Carole Gustin.

Changes in How You Receive TV

On Feb. 17, 2009 all full-power broadcast TV stations in the U.S. will stop broadcasting on analog airwaves and begin broadcasting only in digital.

You are not affected if you currently receive your TV service through cable or a satellite service.

This will affect you if you rely on a roof-top antenna or “rabbit ears” to receive free TV signals. If your TV set only has an analog tuner, you must get a converter box to continue to receive a signal.

* A converter-box coupon worth \$40 is available through March 31, 2009, to help with this cost. For more info, go to www.DTV2009.gov or call 1-888-388-2009.

Paul Hadley Keynote Speaker: Helen Dennis

Helen Dennis delivered the conference address in honor of AROHE founder, **Paul Hadley**, longtime believer in life-long learning. Dennis is a specialist in planning for life beyond employment and outlined the positive aspects of regenerative retirement. Her presentation was given with gentle humor.

Formerly, said Dennis, “retirement” meant stopping working with a pension in hand. Now it involves so much more as the demographics of longer life have an economic impact. Only recently has industry realized that it is the senior citizen who has the financial ability to move “the market.” Government entities and universities will gradually follow this reckoning, though institutions are slow to change, she noted.

To live to be 100 one needs to avoid tragic ills, but beyond that Dennis listed four markers for successful aging: keep a stress-reduction personality; keep exercising; keep the brain stimulated; and keep a positive attitude. Exercise, she pointed out, is the most important part of diet. Successful aging, said Dennis, involves attitude as much as health and a charismatic personality will go far in moving life expectancy forward.

Dennis concluded her remarks by urging retirees to carry on the lifelong learning legacy of Paul Hadley by keeping creative in our engagement with life. Itzak Perlman continued to play at a concert though one of his violin strings broke, she said, pointing to this as a model of working “with what you have left.” Brain cells have been shown to regenerate but lifestyle is 70% of successful aging, she said.

– Ruberta Weaver

At the Events



Right: Keynote speaker Helen Dennis, Specialist on Aging, Employment and Retirement. Below, from left: Eddie Murphy, Director, UCLA Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center; Brown; and Bob Stallings, EC Webmaster, who gave a demonstration at the AROHE Conference on the USC EC's Retiree Computer Help Squad and Web Sites. Left: staff retiree Harriet Servis talks about the early days of USC's EC at the 30th Anniversary luncheon.



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:

Arsho Aparadian (physiology/biophysics); Roger Burke (kinesiology); Myrtle Higlon (Annenberg); Frances Feldman (social work); Joan Hodgman (medicine); Bernard Levin (dentistry); Robert Maronde (medicine); Richard McGee (facilities management); Edwin O. Guthman (journalism); William H. Perkins (speech pathology/psychology); and Roger Terry (medicine).

Spouses: *Helen Coffey* (wife of Robert Coffey) and *Nelle Fertig* (wife of Norm Fertig).

* 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>.

Thinking of Those We Have Lost

As I think of the tremendous impact retirees have at USC, Frances Feldman immediately comes to mind. An icon in Los Angeles and at USC, she was a model example of significant contributions to society after retirement. Just this August Frances spoke to the USC Staff Assembly about her part in establishing the Staff Assembly many years ago. She also introduced the EC Retiree Situation and Circumstances Survey. Frances took little credit for that informative survey although it was her idea; she led the committee from start to finish, and wrote most of the summary. Behind the scenes, Frances was advising and helping to guide the EC until only a few weeks before her passing at age 95 just a few months short of her 96th birthday.

After listening to Bob Coffey describe his wonderful wife, Helen, who passed away recently, I remember the quote from Dr. Seuss that he read at Helen's memorial:

“Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.”

This is a good quote for all of us at the EC to remember. We are so privileged to know and work with such incredible people and we lose them too soon; but the time we have with them is so memorable and life changing, that it is worth the eventual pain of loss.

– Janette C. Brown

In Remembrance – Frances Lomas Feldman, 95: *USC Professor Emerita at the USC School of Social Work, Frances died in September from complications following a stroke.*

At an Oct. 6 memorial at Hillside Cemetery, Emeriti Center Director **Janette Brown** remembered **Frances Feldman's** amazing capacity for friendship and mentoring, and for being a cherished mentor, advisor, and friend:

Frances was an active colleague at the Emeriti Center, the Emeriti College, and served on the RFA's Board. She became thoroughly involved with the EC's strategic planning retreat, gave a Borchard Lecture – "A Natural Optimist Grows Up with Los Angeles" – and was awarded the Liebowitz Faculty service to seniors Award just before her knee replacement surgery at age 92.

After recuperation, she joined **Jim Birren's** guided autobiography class just for fun, even though she was an expert, having written more than 1,000 pages of her own autobiography documenting her life and extensive worldwide travels.

Frances was many things to us, a leader, wise counsel, teacher, mentor, friend, warm positive influence, an intelligent, perceptive mover and shaker, social worker par excellence, and truly an inspiration. She will be truly missed, but celebrated for her significant contributions to society, to USC, and to all of us.

We are so privileged to have known and worked with such an incredible human being.



Frances Lomas Feldman

We thank **Bob Biller**, for collecting these remembrances:

Marlene Wagner remembered Frances in terms of the more than 200 countries she had visited in her travels and Frances' observation that with humor, staying involved, keeping strong connections, and nurturing the hope that there always be a way forward.

Lester Breslow, California Secretary of Health remembered the way Frances energized the new field of community and industrial social work which she spent her professional life creating.

June Brown recalled landing her first job with Frances some 60 years ago and how elegant Frances was (and how glad June was that she wore stockings to that interview!), and how Frances always believed her office was a social welfare agency while other district offices thought they were operating relief agencies.

Ralph Fertig noted that Frances both respected history as well as made it – she fully integrated the agency she ran 20 years before the Brown vs. Topeka decision.

John Kulli emphasized how elegant Frances was in every way. How by the age of eight she was already doing volunteer work in the local library teaching children younger than herself how to read.

Helen Needleman recalled how Frances always made Helen's world the most important thing in any conversation they had.

Dona Munker, reading from the 1,200 page autobiography her mother had completed, gave Frances' affirmation of the spirit of optimism and the hope it engenders as the most important thing learned in her life – noting "there is always a way to do something good for yourself, your family and your community."

Bob Webb remembered his coming to Frances as a young man desperate for a job, and her giving him four remarkable years as her RA. Songwriter Webb sang one of his songs that Frances enjoyed most – one called "Lucy Foster" with a haunting chorus at the end of each verse – marking a ship making its way up the channel beside Cape Ann, on its way home after having done its work, being admired by everyone who saw her for her clean lines and joyous elegance in completing her day's work: "*She's the schooner Lucy Foster, She's a sailor out of Gloucester. She's an able and handsome lady, And she's going home.*"

Exactly so, writes Biller.

Bravo! Thank You!

A big "Thank You" to all the volunteers and staff who worked so hard to make the 30th Anniversary luncheon and the AROHE Conference a success by hosting tables, staffing the information desks, and making sure all went smoothly.

USC Retirees: Bob Biller, Steb Chandor, Bob Coffey, Natalie Cohen, Art Donovan, Sally Emerson, Bob Filip, Carole Gustin, Dick Martin, Jo and Art Ochoa, John Orr, Bill Petak, Betty Redmon, Bob Scales, Harriet Servis, Bob Stallings, Mitzi Tsujimoto, Jerry Walker, Ruberta Weaver, and Lynn Williams. **USC Staff:** Janette Brown (AROHE Conference Co-Chair), Chris Curry, Judy Diaz, Maricela Hinojosa, and Gloria M. Reyes. **USC Students:** Eric Ambler, Erica Baker, Barbara Jenkins, Vanessa Portillo, Erika Smith, Geri Toscano, Shawanda Walker and April Wong. **UCLA Volunteers:** Roslyn Haley, Betty Levinson, Eddie Murphy (AROHE Conference Co-Chair), and Barbara Wold.

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

USC Emeriti Center Winter Events

Dec. 10 (Wednesday): SRA/RFA/EC “Holiday Celebration” at the Galen Center; 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 25 – Jan. 2: USC Holiday

****SAVE THE DATE - March 19, 2009 - Staff Retirement Association Luncheon ****

MEDICARE ALERT: Those of us on Medicare D (drug coverage) need to check out the 2009 premiums and coverages. Remember, you have to make your choice by Dec.31, 2008, or stay with what you have. The 2009 Medicare prescription drug plan and health plan information is online through the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder at: www.medicare.gov, or you can find information at www.mymedicarematters.org.

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

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