

Retiree Community Newsletter

February 2017

Medicare D consultations save retirees \$85,000

The Emeriti Center's focus on wellness events, partnering USC faculty expertise with USC student experiential learning is always a win-win situation providing great value for USC retirees and other members of the Trojan family.

Again this fall, the USC School of Pharmacy led by Professor **Brad Williams** and his graduate students provided 62 individual Medicare D consultations on the health science campus in November. Out of those consultations, 38 retirees saved money on their 2017 Medicare D healthcare plans. The grand total saved was \$85,201 for an average saving of \$2,242 per retiree.

With the rising cost of pharmaceuticals, this annual consultation program has made a huge difference in cost savings for many of our retirees. This intergenerational program is another way our USC students are gaining experience while helping others. ■



EC hosts Center for Health Care Rights Medicare workshops

The Repeal of the ACA's Impact on Medicare (ObamaCare): Feb. 24 at 12:30 p.m.

Register online: bit.ly/ACA2-24-2017 or call (213) 740-7122.

Medicare's Coverage of End of Life Care: April 7 at 12:30 p.m.

Register online: bit.ly/EndofLife4-7-17 or call (213) 740-7122. ■

March 17 luncheon honors USC's newest staff retirees

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 17, at Town & Gown for the 32nd Annual Staff Retirement Recognition Luncheon. This luncheon honors staff members who retired in 2016, but all SRA members are invited.

There will be a social gathering at 11:30 a.m. during check-ins with lunch following at 12 p.m. and the program at 12:45 p.m.

Please be sure to RSVP by March 10. Register online at: bit.ly/RetirementLuncheon2017 or call (213) 740-7122.

See page five for information about nominations for the J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC. ■

Partnership with USC Physical Therapy is back by popular demand



A PT student takes retiree Connie Horak's blood pressure.

On March 15, our USC Physical Therapist Faculty and clinical doctorate students will return to the University Park Campus. Led by USC faculty, **Kimiko Yamada**, PT, DPT, OCS, participants will enjoy a series of short concurrent workshops designed to include individual physical screenings. Open to all USC faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends. Learn how to stay physically fit and active throughout the lifespan. Other USC faculty leaders include: **Geoffrey Cariker**, PT, DPT, GCS; **Eileen Johnson**, PT, DPT, WCS; and **Janelle Gilmer**, PT, DPT, GCS.

Check in early, at 9:30 a.m. we'll start with: What does it mean to be "healthy" and is "healthy aging" possible? Four concurrent workshops run from 10 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. with snacks available between rotations.

Workshops include: Building Strength, Balance, and Endurance; Aerobic Exercise; Pelvic Floor – The Floor of Your Core; and Back/Spine Health. To register: bit.ly/PT3-15-17 or call: (213) 740-7122. URC Fishbowl. ■

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You can make a positive difference: USC Emeriti Center seeks volunteer coordinator

Throughout the 11 years that I have worked at the USC Emeriti Center, I have witnessed so many instances of our retired faculty and staff helping others. Individually and collectively, they have made a positive difference in the lives of many. In small ways and in large, I am inspired by their unselfish giving of time and talents.

Our Center continues to support USC retirees and also our USC students, staff, faculty and alumni as well as the community. Our programs are intergenerational, interdisciplinary and multicultural; they are inclusive and open to all. Whenever we can, we highlight USC education and research that contribute to student learning, wellness and quality-of-life, and we welcome diversity and multi perspectives that enrich our lives.

As we evolve into a more volunteer focused organization, I invite you to offer your talents to help us grow in service and lifelong learning. I thank many of you for stepping up to help our EC students manage the Center and for offering your expertise in various ways.

What we need now is a volunteer to help us manage our volunteers, supervise students, and keep in touch with our retirees and soon-to-retire employees. We have so many opportunities to serve, but we need a coordinator to manage our **Trojan Encore** volunteers. I am accepting applications for our Trojan Encore Volunteer Coordinator through February. The position requires a basic knowledge of computers, web, email, smart phone, and a willingness to call, coordinate and learn

a few simple web software programs. The position is approximately 10 hours per week and some of the work can be managed from home. To learn more, please contact me. ■



Janette C. Brown

Janette C. Brown

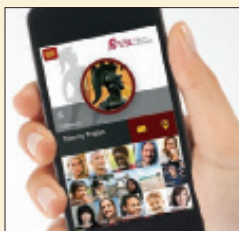
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Check out our new website!
We are looking for feedback and content.

iPad workshop April 7

A special intergenerational iPad workshop will be held in the URC room 108 from 10 a.m. to Noon, Friday, April 7. Join **John Casagrande**, **Bob Stallings** and USC Students to learn how to better use your iPad and iPhone. Some students may have knowledge of other smart devices as well. We will break into groups so that you will have individual attention. Open to all.



To register for the workshop, RSVP online at: bit.ly/ipad4-7-17 or call our RSVP line: (213) 740-7122. ■

Welcome to our newest student

Taylor Witczak:

I am a junior majoring in Communication and honors in Media Arts and Practice, I grew up in the northwest suburbs of Chicago and am a first generation college student. I had no idea what to expect when moving half way across the country, but was pleasantly surprised at how supportive the Trojan Family is for my academics and future. Here at the Emeriti Center, it is apparent that this notion is no exception, not only to myself, but anyone they reach out to. I came to Los Angeles to work in the media and film industry, where I hope to tell people's stories and help make a difference to those I can reach. The weather is great, too! ■



"Take Me Out to the Ball Game" EC Event!

If you love baseball, then this event is for you! Join us as we support our student baseball athletes as they play against Arizona State on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 2 p.m. Before the game begins, at 1 p.m. attendees have the opportunity to meet the coach, receive a coupon for free food, and receive a brief tour of USC Baseball's Hall of Fame.

The game will take place at USC Dedeaux Field on 1021 Childs Way, Los Angeles CA 90089. Park in Structure A.

Enjoy a fun Sunday afternoon with your fellow USC retirees at this can't miss event! Register online: bit.ly/Baseball3-26-17 or call our RSVP line: (213) 740-7122. ■

USC Living History Project continues and will include short stories

This semester, we are adding video short stories to our wonderful collection of longer **USC Living History Project** recordings. (To view our list of USC living history project recordings go to: bit.ly/LivingHistoryUSC)

Spearheading the short stories project is our newest student from the Annenberg School of communications, **Taylor Wiczak**. (See page 2).

The purpose of "living history short stories" is to record interesting and unique stories from our USC retired faculty and staff about their lives after retiring from full-time work at USC.

If you would like to participate in the project, please contact the Emeriti Center. (213)-740-8921. ■

Tool bids goodbye to the veterans network friends



In January, David Tool (center) said goodbye to veterans network leaders at the University Club. Joshua Lynch, President USC veterans student Association (left) and Eduardo Tinoco, associate university library and business librarian (right).

To register to support our USC Student Veterans Network, please go to bit.ly/SupportUSCvets.

My appreciation for the USC Emeriti Center

USC was a major part of my life, as a graduate student (M.A./Ph.D.), Humanities Division staff and Geography Department faculty between 1970 and 1990. When I retired from USC in 1990 and went to China and Sri Lanka for 16 years, I thought my participatory connection with my Alma Mater was ended. But, to my delight, after I returned to the U. S., in 2012, **Dixon Johnson**, SRA President, invited me to be a member. As an SRA board member, I learned about the Emeriti Center and the marvelous assistance Dr. **Janette Brown** gives for programs and projects supporting, educating, engaging retired staff and faculty and a new, exciting, fulfilling association with USC began for me!

The Emeriti Center, the SRA and RFA provide opportunities for USC retirees to continue to actively participate in areas of interest and to take active roles in the life of the students. Thus, working with Chinese and Indian students through the Trojan Global Intergenerational Friends/Trojan Friends Network gave me an opportunity to draw on my experience as a teacher of advanced English and analytical thinking in the P. R. China and Sri Lanka to mentor Chinese and Indian students attending USC. Some of my Chinese students in China even decided to apply for admission to graduate programs here at USC which enabled us to continue our friendships.

As a retired army colonel, another opportunity provided me by the Emeriti Center was working with student veterans at USC; I had gotten my graduate degrees using the GI Bill in the '70's! The new [USC Student Veteran Support Network](http://bit.ly/SupportUSCvets) that the Emeriti Center sponsors gives

active/retired staff/faculty/alumni the chance to serve as mentors and as older veteran friends who understand the issues veterans face. The position on the SRA Board also gave me credibility to serve on the neighborhood council as a local representative and then as the USC representative. Neighborhood Councils in Los Angeles act as a kind of go-between for the community and the City Council and other city government entities. This gave me a chance to help maintain a good image for USC as I attended all the local "Block Clubs" and spoke of USC community programs and general news.

So, what I want all readers to understand is the incredibly important opportunities and support the Emeriti Center provides for USC faculty and staff to continue to lead productive lives that can benefit both USC and the surrounding community and give us that all-important feeling of being USEFUL!

Thus, as my wife and I leave our home of 46 years in the USC neighborhood to move nearer to our children and grandchildren, I want to express my deep appreciation for the Emeriti Center and the Staff Retirement Association and their outstanding leaders for the opportunities they gave me to enrich my life! ■



David Tool, Ph.D.
U.S. Army (Ret.)
Chair, SRA Student

Staff & Neighborhood Outreach Committee

New Year, with renewed leadership

I've been honored to serve as your president since last September. Being engaged with the leadership of the Retired Faculty Association allows those who function on the board to focus on matters of importance to retired or about-to-retire faculty members of the University of Southern California.

We are starting 2017 with many changes and being aware helps us to take the opportunity to provide programs, activities and benefits that fit in with our evolving status. Our big picture nationally has seen a major, and perhaps unexpected shift, in political climate for our great nation. Climate-wise we have undergone unprecedented drought for four years and a rise in average temperatures globally.

As I write this, we are verging on surprisingly wetter weather that shows much promise in reinvigorating our landscape with much needed water. In the same manner the RFA Board has the opportunities to channel the energies, passions and expertise of willing and able RFA members in creative and innovative ways. We all have had careers at USC whereby we added to our knowledge, skills, and experiences in refining our judgments for the betterment of our students, our "academic silo," and the university overall. Those factors could be the factors that add up to our individual wisdom

that we so willingly contributed for so many years as faculty members.

The RFA seeks to help its members redevelop purpose for what can be a continuum of work life, though with changes that retirement brings in time, daily routines and compensation. The RFA is reaching out to its members – whether long-standing, recent or brand-new – to invite participation in its many activities that include the Caldwell Neighborhood Scholarship program, Distinguished Lecture and Academic Sherry Hour, and various internal committees.

I invite our members to become active and to contribute to this organization as we span the spectrum of being intergenerational, interdisciplinary, and multicultural. The RFA invites members to attend an upcoming board meeting to experience first-hand what we do and how we go about helping retirees discover their purpose and passion in meaningful ways. ■

Calvin Lau, Interim RFA President

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Calvin Lau

2016 faculty retirees honored



USC faculty who retired in 2016, and who attended the Provost's luncheon at Town & Gown in November, included:

Front row (from left to right): **Wynette Waugaman, Maryalice Jordan-Marsh, Leonid Piterbarg, Provost Michael Quick, Ana Martinez, Linda Weinberger, Nake Kamrany, and Charles Lanski;** Middle row (from left): **Robert Baker, Mario Saltarelli, Amy Ciccone, Richard Jewell, Richard Thompson, and Assistant Vice Provost, Janette Brown;** Top back row (from left): **Gene Albrecht, George Haden, and Aris Protopapadakis.**

Sign up for Glorya Kaufman School of Dance tours

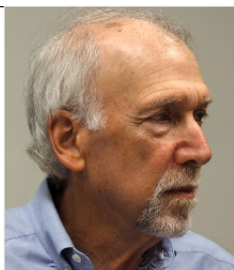


The Glorya Kaufman School of Dance is saving 20 spaces for our USC retirees to tour the new building. Tour dates are as follows:

Friday, April 14, 2017: bit.ly/Dance4-14-17
1 p.m. Tour and 2 p.m. Rehearsal

Friday, May 5, 2017: bit.ly/Dance5-5-17
1 p.m. Tour only

Follow the bitly links to register or call our RSVP line: (213) 740-7121.



Michael Klineman

Include the SRA in your New Year's resolutions!

"Resolutions – they're not made to be ignored." This is a quote I saw as the headline of an article in the paper. Many of us have made New year's resolutions and we may have already broken some of them! Hopefully, one that has not been broken is to attend as

many upcoming SRA events this year as possible.

One of the SRA's resolutions is the same as in the past: to continue to offer informative, educational, and entertaining programs to our members. We provide a free meal (included in your membership) at four annual meetings where you'll have the opportunity to see old friends and colleagues as well as meet some new ones.

Last Dec. 4th, we had our annual holiday breakfast at Town & Gown. This was a joint SRA, RFA and Emeriti Center sponsored event with nearly 200 guests in attendance. An outstanding music performance by **Parmer Fuller** and students from the USC Thornton School of Music was enjoyed by all. The cost to members for this program and meal was free, like others we offer during the year.

On Nov. 10, a Red Line (Metro) Art tour was offered as a special event, followed by lunch at historic Mel's drive-in

in Hollywood. Feedback was extremely positive and we may schedule a repeat tour in the coming months.

In March, we will host the Staff Retirement Luncheon in Town & Gown (March 17) to honor all 2016 USC staff retirees. This event is sponsored by USC Vice-President **Todd Dickey's** office and includes a speaker who will address the audience as well answer questions.

At this luncheon, the prestigious "J. Tillman Hall Award" will be presented. You can read about this award, and how to nominate a colleague below.

In June, we will have our annual membership meeting, and program in the elegant board meeting room at the historic L.A. Coliseum which has hosted two Olympics (1932 and 1984). In addition, there will be a tour of the Coliseum facilities. Lunch will be served and it should be a fascinating program.

I hope to see all of you in 2017, and I welcome any feedback and suggestions you may have. In addition, if you have interest in getting involved in the organization and operation of the SRA, please contact me. ■

Michael Klineman, SRA President
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Staff award for service to USC

Please consider nominating a special retired USC staff member for the **J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC!** The Award will be given out at the annual Staff Retirement Luncheon in Town & Gown on March 17, 2017. The Award comes with a special plaque and a \$500 stipend.

Nominees must have made outstanding voluntary contributions toward enhancing the overall quality of university life for students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees, or other members of the USC community and have contributed to the positive collegial spirit of the Trojan Family.

For questions, please contact the Assistant Vice Provost, **Janette Brown**: (213)740-7121 or jcbrown@usc.edu. Nominations for the 2017 award are due Friday, Feb. 24, 2017. You may nominate online at the following website: bit.ly/staffaward2017.

Previous recipients of the J. Tillman Hall Staff Award: **Jerome B. Walker** (2016), **Leonard Wines** (2015), **Jo** and **Art Ochoa** (2014), **Jeanne** and **Bob Church** (2013), **Mitzi Tsujimoto** (2012), **Carole W. Gustin** (2011), **Janet E. Eddy** (2010), and **Richard F. Martin** (2009).

The J. Tillman Hall Award story:

In 1983, USC dedicated the 100th Commencement program to Distinguished Emeritus Professor, **J. Tillman 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 retirees. According to the L.A. 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," was reflective of his own life.

When the Leibovitz funding expired, that award evolved into the USC Emeriti Center's special volunteer service award honoring J. Tillman Hall., the J. Tillman Hall Staff Award for Service to USC. ■

SENIOR CYBER TIPS

TV Program Listings

Here are two free digital ways to track your favorite TV shows. For mobile devices, there is TV Guide for iPad/iPhone and TV Guide Mobile for Android.

For browsers on laptops and desktops, there is zap2it.com. Zap2it can simultaneously display a mixture of over-the-air channels (including “extra” channels such as cozi.tv, antenna.tv, etc., showing classics like Perry Mason, Gunsmoke, Emergency!, etc.) and satellite/cable channels (CNN, ESPN, TCM, HBO, etc.).

The TV Guide app is slightly less convenient since local area broadcasts and satellite/cable networks (AT&T U-verse, TWC, DirecTV, etc.) are separate listings, meaning you must go through “Settings” to move from one to the other. Either way, simply create an account, then select your favorite channels. To see titles, season and episode numbers, and dates first aired (or times for live events), simply tap on the program name. Enjoy! ■

Bob Stallings
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Protect your computer

Sophos Endpoint Security is available for USC retirees. Visit the USC ITS website link: itservices.usc.edu/security/sophos/

In the News

Retired staffer publishes second e-book

Retired Viterbi Staffer **Bob Calverley** published his second novel, a murder mystery called *Hyperventilated Underwater Blues*. It is available wherever ebooks are sold and in paperback from Amazon.

Boek joins EC committee

Katie Boek, an administrator from Molecular and Computational Biology, has joined the Emeriti Center's Benefits and Resource Committee as its new recording secretary, replacing **Connie Horak** who will remain on the committee. Thank you Connie and Katie!

Dixon Johnson to serve on committee

Dixon Johnson, former SRA president, has agreed to serve on the retired USC Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resource Committee.

Easing the path to retirement

USC was mentioned twice in articles in the Nov. 27, 2016 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education, showing ways to help faculty view retirement as an opportunity, not a threat. USC's Emeriti College was mentioned as the 7th way, in the article *7 Ways to Ease the Transition to Retirement*, “[USC] looks for ways to keep retired scholars engaged on campus and in the community. Administrators created a ‘college’ in the Emeriti Center that arranges lectures, short courses, and book clubs for retirees.” In *Greasing the Retirement Wheel*, the article noted that: “[USC] retirees attend social events like the Academic Sherry Hour, where they renew contact with colleagues both retired and still working on the campus.”

A research grant for Schlaerth

Katherine R. Schlaerth, Professor Emerita (pediatrics and family medicine/Keck), has been awarded a \$2,000 research grant from the USC Emeriti College for her “Use of Communications Technology by Seniors.”

Research participants needed

Are you or someone you know 55 years or older? The VaSC Lab, a psychology research lab at USC, is conducting a study of cardiovascular health, aging, and cognition. Participants will be asked to complete a series of game-like cognitive tests, give a blood sample, and undergo a brain scan. All information is confidential. You will be compensated for your participation and parking will be provided. Interested? Please contact us via phone at (213) 821-3120 or email vascstudy@usc.edu and leave your name, phone number, and the best time to reach you. The principal investigator is **Daniel A. Nation**, USC associate professor of psychology. ■

In Memoriam

We honor and mourn our university colleagues who have died. Those who were recorded by press time, and whose names were not mentioned in previous newsletters, are:

Jack Borstein (business administration), **Bernie Hinojos** (Norris Cancer Hospital), **Seymour Lampert** (mechanical engineering), **Jack Ryan** (communication), **Gil Siegel** (public administration), **Kevin Starr** (history), **Bert Wertz** (spouse of Elsa Wertz, business), and **John E. "Jack" Wills Jr.** (history). ■

Retirees sing in the holiday season



Vocalists from left to right: Molly Chiffer, Taubert Nadalini, Annika Ellwanger-Chavez, Carson Klasner, Selene Klasner, Stephanie Jones, and Maya Rothfuss.

Professor **Parmer Fuller** and talented students from the USC Thornton School of Music led a sing-along of holiday tunes at the Annual USC Retiree Holiday Breakfast and presented a mini musical afterwards.

The Staff Retirement Association, Retired Faculty Association and Emeriti Center guests and friends welcomed the holiday season on Dec. 2, 2016 at Town & Gown. We gathered again to share each other's company and, of course, to enjoy the fun musical program!

Many attendees brought gently-used professional clothing donations to benefit local job-seekers. The collection was satisfyingly large this year. Two of the three representatives from LA WorkSource told us how our previous donations had personally helped them in job interviews and on entering their new employment – quite inspiring. ■

Join us at the Arboretum to learn about cultivating a healthy brain

The USC Emeriti College in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden invite you to join USC professor **Robert Tager**, M.D. at the Arboretum for a healthy brain presentation and nature walk to identify health-promoting plants. Dr. Tager is a neurologist, gerontologist and Arboretum docent who has been developing health and wellness classes for the community.



Thursday, April 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., join Dr. Tager at this exciting event! Meet at the Arboretum entry building: 301 North Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA 91107. Visit arboretum.org for directions. The workshop is free but you must pay for admission to the gardens: Seniors (62 and over) \$6.00 and general admission \$9.00.

Registration required: bit.ly/Arboretum4-27-17 or (213) 740-7122. ■



SUCCESSFUL AGING

Finding the right volunteer position

"How can I be useful in retirement?" This is a common question raised by retirees and those thinking about retirement. "Why don't you volunteer?" is a common suggestion.

Given the many volunteer opportunities in our communities, finding a spot as a volunteer sounds easy. Finding the "right" spot may not be so easy. The new generation of retirees often wants positions that are meaningful, that makes a difference and uses their skills, knowledge and experience – and taps their aspirations.

Two issues: The first is knowing what kind of position you want. Here are a few questions to consider: Do you want a position where you will be in charge? Are you fine using your work skills and not getting paid? Do you want a long-term or short-term position? What constitutes a meaningful volunteer experience? Do you want to work with children, adults or have an office position? Do you want to be indoors or outdoors? What does your spouse or mate think about your volunteer ideas? What are your strengths? What do you want to learn? Do you know individuals who could help you in your search?

The second potential issue relates to the person who will interview and place you. That individual may or may not have the skills to make the optimum placement which means you have to be your own advocate. This adventure is similar to seeking a job with no salary negotiation.

Research indicates that volunteering leads to higher life satisfaction, better physical health and longer life.

So go for it! ■



Helen Dennis
Specialist in aging,
employment, and
the new retirement
helendenn@aol.com

Meet Stevie T., called to gerontology

I had a brief telephone interview with **Stevie Tu'ikolovatu**, also known as Stevie T, the award winning 2016-2017 Trojan Defensive Tackle. Stevie was part of the Cinderella story of the 2016 Trojan team that struggled at the beginning of the season, fighting back from a 3-1 record to end the season as Rose Bowl Champions. Stevie, as a transfer from Utah, used his one remaining year of football eligibility to play for USC and to study gerontology.



Tell us what called you to gerontology?

"I studied sociology, but when my grandfather was sent home from the hospital with two months to live, my whole family decided to move in and be his caregivers. It was a hard time, but the best decision ever. We were his hospice care. We ate traditional foods and were together. I have always liked older people, but didn't know about the study of gerontology. When I heard about the USC Gerontology Master's in Aging Services Management, I knew that is what I wanted to study. One day, my wife and I would like to open some facilities for the elderly."

How did your grandfather encourage such a strong dedication to family and a dedication for the young to serve?

"It is what we do. Caring for the sick and the elderly is part of our Tongan culture; it is the same throughout Polynesia. It is what we do to honor and respect the sick and the elderly. One day we will all be there."

How did the faculty impact your life while here at USC?

"One professor stood out. Her name is **Caroline Cicero**, she teaches GERO 540. She helped me and acted like a guidance counselor. Her support surprised me a lot. I initially struggled with Blackboard and other systems. She came alongside me and helped and encouraged me. When a professor does that, it really inspires you."

How might you encourage our retirees as they move through retirement and age?

"Find some hobbies and interests, especially positive habits. Do what you like to do. This is the time of life where you get to enjoy things. I think music can be cherished. Everyone can connect to music, at every stage in life and aging."

What was your greatest football triumphs or highlight?

"The whole season—to turn it around. I was able to contribute to the team that over came to become Rose Bowl Champions. For me to be the Rose Bowl 2016 Defensive MVP was part of that turn around. To be honest, we were scared sometimes, but we came together and we did it. It was an honor to be a part of that."

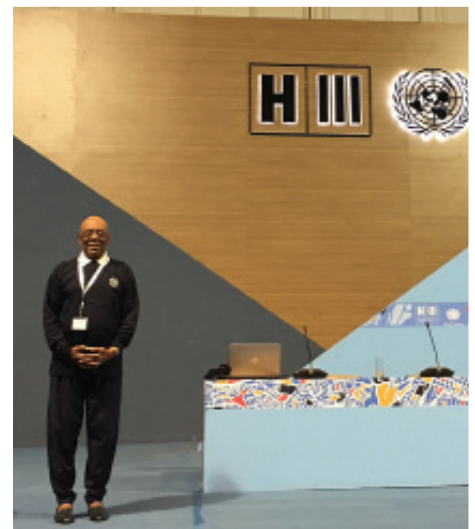
Stevie T is currently conditioning in Florida and will soon participate in the NCAA Senior Bowl. The next step will be to compete in the NFL Combines to pursue football at the next level. Fight on, Stevie T! ■

Debbie Jones, USC Faculty Retirement Navigator
jonesdeb@usc.edu

On the road to Quito!

RFA Board member **Victor M. Webb** ventured to Quito, Ecuador in mid-October 2016 as a participant in Habitat III, the United Nations' 40th Anniversary research culmination conference on Global Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.

The 35,000 attendees included international delegates, politicians, housing authorities, architects, construction companies, academics, disabled and elderly groups, youth groups, health professionals, economists, water and food security experts, anti-poverty and refugee organizations, indigenous peoples from Amazon regions, musicians and publishers along with UN officials/ambassadors and hundreds of exhibitors from 177 countries. The exhibitors showcased infrastructure projects from "Urban Thinkers' Campus." The goal was to debate, agree and sign off on a final (post-20 years of research) document. The 193 UN member-states voted unanimously for a non-binding New Urban Agenda, a policy guideline on global city growth and development through 2036. For Webb's complete report, visit the emeriti center website at emeriti.usc.edu. ■



Benefactor Recognition

Through the Emeriti Center's Benefactor Recognition Program, we thank those who have recognized honored colleagues, friends, and family with a \$500 or more contribution:

Donor

David Tool

Honoree

Dixon Johnson

Would you consider naming our center in your gift planning? If so, please contact Janette Brown, (213) 740-7121 or jcbrown@usc.edu.

Smart phones make it easy to donate to Caldwell Scholarships, EC, RFA and SRA.

Text the word "Emeriti" to 41444 on your cell phone to make a pledge. You will receive a text that gives you a link to donate.

Dr. Lau's Bits and Bites: Teeth are meant to last a lifetime

As a recently retired faculty member of the Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, I offer my colleagues some basic information about their mouths and teeth:

Nature has provided each of us with two sets of teeth. The beginner set was a learner's model, or baby teeth, that allowed for a transition to the final, or permanent teeth as we reached adulthood. The baby teeth act as placeholders for the adult teeth. Keeping the dental arches – that is the upper and lower teeth – intact is important so shifting or movement is prevented, and the needed space for the adult teeth is maintained.

We're all past that stage, but younger generations with whom we might be influential can encounter this situation routinely. Prevention in dentistry plays its role, as does maintenance and active treatment. In our busy lives we often make judgments that if it doesn't hurt or bother me, it must be okay. With teeth, that notion might lead to serious consequences. A beginning dental problem, such as dental cavities and gum problems, usually start without any outward signs. As with many things in life, early detection and treatment are best strategies for having a healthy mouth.

A healthy mouth is a shared goal for the individual person patient and the dentist or dental hygienist. We can characterize a healthy mouth like this: Comfort – things feel fine and have no symptoms like teeth sensitivity, bleeding gums or bad mouth odors; Function – we can talk and eat normally instead of using compensating behaviors due to missing or crooked teeth; Looks – we can naturally smile without feeling self-conscious; Stays that way – stability is good for the mouth, and; having a maintenance plan is vital for improving the chances of keeping your teeth a lifetime. This is an opening column about your dental health. Feel free to send suggestions for future issues to my email address. ■

Calvin Lau; clsau@usc.edu

Clinical Professor, retired (after 40+ years of service)



Make a Difference

Last year on Nov. 8, after I voted but before the outcome was known, I wrote my first letter to a politician – to President Obama, thanking him for his service, and sharing my own reflections. Then the election was over, and life went on.

I was shocked on Jan. 27 when I got a letter from the White House. On embossed stationery, there it was, a short reply, written on Jan. 17, signed by Barack Obama.

Later, I learned he received 10,000 letters a day, which were sorted by volunteers, with just 10 a day passed on. Some got handwritten replies; mine was typed, and likely a general reply tailored to what I had written, but personally signed – my voice had been heard.

It made me glad that for Christmas I had given my sister, my daughter, and my nieces packets labeled: "A political action starter kit!" with a stack of a half-dozen pre-paid postcards, and instructions.

1) Make a list of names and addresses of your state and Federal senators and reps, as well as the address for the White House, and phone numbers for each office for voice messages.

2) Use the proper salutation, and be courteous – don't rant, be brief and to the point. Keep each postcard to a single concern, and be clear about your complaint (or praise). Use a label with a return address so your name as a constituent is recorded.

3) As the saying goes ... wash, rinse, repeat as necessary.

I also bought a box of 100 envelopes and a roll of stamps. I'm going to let my politicians know throughout the year what I think is important, and that I vote.

Whatever your political stripes are, speak up. ■



Christine Sinrud Shade
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Two faculty selected for Douglas Basil funding

The Emeriti Center is very grateful to Professor Emeritus **Douglas C. Basil** for his \$10,000 contribution to support two faculty projects. “I have great admiration for my fellow emeriti, and wish to provide some assistance to sponsor their research and contributions” said Basil. “My philosophy is that it was a university education that allowed me to be a professor and that I must give back to university education.”

In the fall, the Emeriti Center received twelve submissions for the USC Emeriti Center’s Douglas Basil Awards. Professor Basil created this unique opportunity for all USC retired faculty to submit proposals for funding. The submissions were selected randomly as per Basil’s request. Vice Provost **Elizabeth Graddy** did the honors and selected two retired faculty: **Gregory Davis** and **Robert Scales**.

Gregory Davis: I have been conducting fieldwork in the mountains of northern China since 1987, with a unifying theme to understand the geologic evolution of the mountains underlying China’s Great Wall. The recognition of my research efforts in China is indicated by multiple refereed publications and a decade of summer teaching appointments at the China University of Geosciences/Beijing. Last fall, I taught a short course at Peking University; last October, I was given an appointment as an Honorary Professor of the CUGB, a rare honor for a foreigner.

My final China field project is in Liaoning province, a four hour-long drive to the east of Beijing. The relatively small area I have been mapping (ca. 200 km²) contains the best preserved geologic record of major mountain building in eastern north China between 220 and 150 million years ago. My previous fieldwork has always been conducted in the summer months, with the disadvantage that much of the field area is covered by thick vegetation — natural and planted — thus obscuring critical elements of geologic structure and history. However, fieldwork in early Spring of 2016, following my retirement in May 2015, provided opportunities to see geologic relationships not exposed in summer and with surprising and unanticipated critical results. I am requesting support from the Douglas Basil Research Award program for two purposes: (1) to support April travel to Beijing and Liaoning in order to resolve key geologic field relationships that are necessary to complete my China research; and (2) to assist in the preparation of the geologic figures (maps, and diagrams) necessary for publication. ■



Robert Scales: My project is to create a tribute for deceased USC Professor, Dr. **Endesha Ida Mae Holland**. 2014 was the 50th anniversary of the Mississippi Freedom Summer to register the African Americans to vote in Mississippi (freedom50.org). This is an event I attended for a couple of days, to learn more and make some contacts. Dr. Holland was part of this movement. This event began her journey to becoming educated, a playwright and professor.

Dr. Holland and I joined USC at the same time in 1993 when I became Dean. I knew about her before I met her and after seeing an excellent production of her play “From the Mississippi Delta” in Seattle, I had high hopes for what she could contribute to USC’s School of Dramatic Arts. We both had PhD’s from the University of Minnesota where we knew and admired some of the same people. Unfortunately her condition of Ataxia intervened, leaving her hopes and my expectations unfulfilled. She had such potential and lofty goals, but Ataxia claimed her before she could carry out her dreams. I would not like to see her death be the end of her story. I took care of her as one of her Power of Attorney’s during her last years and learned a lot from this experience. I was impressed with her courage, determination and dreams. I’ve been going through the remnant of items that I still have about her. In my collection is her CV which is 25 pages long. I don’t think she left anything out, but what was the most interesting to me was her last page of “Goals.”



I would like to do a couple of things to honor Dr. Holland: 1) Provide an appropriate marker for her unmarked resting place in Greenwood, Mississippi; 2) Work to advance her goals and promote the completion and production of the Mississippi Delta Trilogy of Plays: “From the Mississippi Delta”, “Parader Without a Permit” and “Homebound”; 3) Raise the visibility of Ataxia - it took Dr. Holland without her or any doctor having any way to stop it. Dr. Holland was a healthy person with full capacity of her mind functioning but as Ataxia took her body so she could not move or communicate when she died at the age of 61; 4) Tell her story to motivate and inspire others to use the power of education to achieve economically, politically, socially and culturally. ■

Staff Assembly welcomes 2017 president



Jeffrey de Caen

Similar to efforts on the campus to follow students from their early interest in the University through to their status as alumni, I feel the USC Staff Assembly plays a critical role in keeping touch with, tracking, and representing staff, and by extension, all “employees” at USC during their service years as well as beyond. It makes perfect sense that the group have presence in, and works in conjunction with, the Staff Retirement Association and the Emeriti Center.

The Trojan Family connections made with faculty, staff, students, parents, and community do not simply sever at the time of retirement. It is important for the individual to continue to exercise that tie and important that the institution recognize the wealth of experience, knowledge, and compassion our retired community have to offer to the active environment. ■

Jeffrey de Caen, Staff Assembly President
staffassembly.usc.edu

Academic Senate welcomes 2017 president



Paula Cannon

I'm a Professor in the Keck School of Medicine, so I hail from “the other” campus. One unexpectedly nice aspect of my tenure as Academic Senate president has been my exposure to the Emeriti Center and its staff and volunteers. The offices of the Academic Senate and the Emeriti Center share a common space (and sometimes coffee supplies), and I believe that this physical closeness gives the Senate President an important insight into the issues that are important to the retired faculty.

This year the Senate has continued its close relationship with the Provost and his officers, working together on issues that impact both our physical and emotional well-being. As a member of the medical school, I was especially proud that the Senate was able to unanimously pass a motion to ban smoking at USC, and that together with similar resolutions from the staff, undergraduate and graduate student assemblies, this quickly translated into USC's new smoke-free policy.

Another item I would like to share with you is a link to a statement that the Senate endorsed in December, which is a reaffirmation of our shared values as faculty (academicsenate.usc.edu/about/faculty-shared-values/). I hope that you find that you also recognize these sentiments, and continue to use your influence as retired USC faculty members to help us to maintain these values in the interesting times in which we find ourselves. ■

Paula Cannon, Academic Senate President
academicsenate.usc.edu

AROHE presents Shades of Ireland

Travel with friends, colleagues and members of AROHE Oct. 11 to Oct. 20, 2017! More information will be available through a webinar Wednesday, March 8, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. PST. Online registration requested: bit.ly/IrelandOct2017 or call (213)-740-5037. ■

SHERRY HOUR

Feb. 7 Sherry Hour addresses immigration consequences

Curious about what the economic consequences of immigration are?

The RFA and the USC Emeriti Center present a Distinguished Lecture and Academic Sherry Hour on Friday, Feb. 10, featuring **Dowell Myers**, professor of policy, planning and demography, speaking on “The Economic Consequences of Immigration for the Future.” Myers, the author of the 2007 book, *Immigrants and Boomers: Forging a New Social Contract for the Future of America*, just completed three years of service with a National Academy of Sciences study panel whose report on the economic and fiscal consequences of immigration was issued in fall 2016.

Myers says his research has benefitted from the fact that L.A. is the greatest laboratory for the study of demographic change in the U.S.

Join us from 3 to 5 p.m. in Doheny Memorial Library's Polymathic Academy Room (Rm. 241). Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend, and there is no charge. For more info, contact: **Jerry Walker** at jbwalker@usc.edu.

RSVP requested: bit.ly/Myers2-10-17. ■

A musical treat - EVITA - from the SRA

A special SRA event is the annual musical matinee performance of “Evita” at the Norris Theater on April 1. Tickets have been reserved at a reduced rate for SRA members. Contact **Dick Martin** at: dickmarm@msn.com.

Other events in the planning stages are a demonstration and tour of the massive Walt Disney Hall Concert Hall Organ and a visit to the Los Angeles Holocaust museum. Details about all upcoming events will be sent via email with instructions on how to RSVP. ■

USC University of
Southern California

RETIREE COMMUNITY EVENTS (emeriti.usc.edu/events)

- FEBRUARY:** **Friday, February 24**
Medicare Workshop: Repeal of ACA's impact on Medicare
12:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., URC 108
- MARCH:** **Wednesday, March 15**
Physical Therapy Workshop (front page), 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., URC
- Friday, March 17**
Staff Retirement Recognition Luncheon (front page)
11:30 a.m. check in, 12 p.m. Luncheon, USC Town & Gown
- Sunday, March 26**
Baseball Game (See page 2), 1 p.m., Dedeaux Field
- APRIL:** **Saturday, April 1**
Matinee of musical "Evita", 2: 30 p.m., Bing Theater (See page 11)
- Friday, April 7**
iPad Overview Workshop, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., URC 108
- Medicare Workshop 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., URC Fishbowl
- Thursday, April 27**
Cultivating a Healthy Brain - Dr. Robert M. Tager, M.D.
9 a.m. to 12 p.m., L.A. County Arboretum & Botanic Garden
- MAY:** **Friday, May 12**
USC's 134th Annual Commencement

USC Emeriti Center

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USC Retiree Community Newsletter

Janette C. Brown, Executive Director
Asst. Vice Provost, Emeriti Center

Christine Sinrud Shade, Editor

Contributors: Retired Faculty Association
and Staff Retirement Association members;
and retiree community leaders.

USC Alumni Association

Thursday, March 9, 2017
9th Annual Half Century Trojans:
Going Back to College Day
9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Bovard
Auditorium. Registration required:
alumni.usc.edu/hct

Saturday, March 11, 2017
6th Annual USC Alumni Day of
SCervice (alumni.usc.edu/scervice).
Call the USC Alumni Assoc. for
information: (213) 740-2300.