

Retiree Community Newsletter

September 2012



Photo/Lisa Helfert Photography

Above left, Martin L. Levine, Vice Provost and senior adviser to the Provost; Claire Van Ummersen, senior adviser and project director in ACE's Office of Institutional Initiatives; and Janette C. Brown, executive director, USC Emeriti Center. Photo right: From left, Martha and Martin L. Levine, Joseph and Zeina Aoun, and Janette C. Brown

USC Wins Prestigious ACE/Sloan Award

"We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our retired and non-retired USC faculty for taking the American Council on Education (ACE) and Alfred P. Sloan Faculty Retirement Transitions Survey," said **Janette C. Brown**, executive director of the USC Emeriti Center.

The survey was sent by email from the Provost's Office and the Emeriti Center last March. Due to the favorable faculty survey participation, USC's retirement policies and committed support from President **C.L. Max Nikias** and Provost **Elizabeth Garrett**, and Emeriti Center programs, USC won an Alfred P. Sloan Award for Faculty Retirement Transitions and a \$100,000 award. Guidance from Vice Provost and Senior Advisor to the Provost, **Martin L. Levine** "led us to apply for the award and his support was a key component for our success," said Brown. "Thanks also goes to **Bob Baker, Jim Ball, Awilda Bregand, Bob Coffey, David Haugland, Phoebe Liebig, Gloria Reyes, Bob Stallings, and Jerry Walker** for their special help throughout the application process."

The award will be used to develop current and innovative transitions to retirement and legacy programs for USC retirees. Since 1978 the USC Emeriti Center has supported both retired faculty and staff with retirement transitions and many other services, programs, and resources. Brown said Vice Provost Levine, along with the Center and the Retired Faculty Association will play key roles in guiding the project funds for the next two years.

ACE particularly acknowledged the Emeriti Center and its Living History Project, which works to record USC legacies; its Trojan Encore program, which promotes part-time work and on-campus volunteer service, leveraging retirees' unique skills and experience; and the USC Emeriti Center College, which sponsors a speaker's bureau, offers small research grants to retired faculty and provides enrichment courses, including a guided autobiography class.

The names of the 15 institutions honored, along with summaries of their award-winning activities can be found on the ACE website. USC will write a chapter about campus practices to be included in an upcoming ACE monograph and will also have the opportunity to disseminate best practices at conferences and in other venues.

Levine and Brown made the trip to Washington, DC for the ACE Sloan awards and Levine accepted the crystal bowl award on behalf of USC. Trip highlights included meeting college presidents, deans, chairs, and provosts of the winning institutions along with ACE Board members. Martin and **Martha Levine** and Brown visited with ACE President, Northeastern University President, and former USC Dornsife Dean, **Joseph Aoun** and his wife **Zeina**.

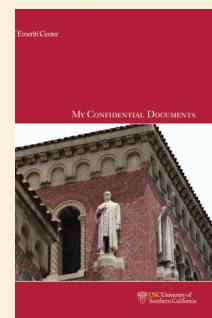
If you would like to provide recommendations that can improve the USC retirement transition process or offer suggestions about how the Emeriti Center might be helpful during retirement, please send your ideas to jcbrown@usc.edu. ■

The EC Produces a New Key Publication

All USC retirees received a copy of "My Confidential Documents" this summer. It is an example of the caring concern and special efforts of our USC retiree community's widows and widowers along with members of the USC Emeriti Center's Retired Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resource Committee.

As a result of this concern, they compiled a comprehensive list of important financial, medical, and other important information to be kept in one place. We hope that this booklet is helpful for all members of the Trojan Family and our many colleagues and friends.

This publication is posted in the resources section of the Emeriti Center web site along with "Upon the Death of a Loved One" published last year. ■



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Change Is the Norm, Retiree Leaders Guide

What is so remarkable about the USC Emeriti Center is that our activities and initiatives change based upon the interests and talents of our retiree leaders. With hard work from our staff, we ensure that the important ideas of our retired faculty and staff have the support to evolve into important resources, projects, surveys, and events.

Our recently published, “My Confidential Documents” booklet is an example of the special efforts of our USC retiree community’s widows and widowers, along with members of the EC’s Retired Faculty and Staff Benefits and Resource Committee. This valuable publication was sent to all USC retirees and is available on the EC website. This booklet is one of several resources developed at the Emeriti Center and is designed to help prepare, collect and store important information all in one place.

Another example of retiree efforts is the research conducted by **John Orr** and **Bob Scales** resulting in the EC’s purchasing a portable assistive listening system for our retiree

community and to share with the USC campus. In addition, the Retired Faculty Association is funding a permanent assistive listening system for a frequented campus location.

Our USC Living History Project has also been invigorated through the interest of our conscientious, committed volunteers: **Dick Martin, Jerry Walker, and Casey Kazlauskas**. Many interviews are planned for the coming year. Our two most recent interviews were with **Warren Bennis** and **Ralph Knowles**.

Next is our set of 10 lunch conversations moderated by **Helen Dennis**, an expert on the issues of aging and retirement (see column, page 7). These inspiring lunch conversations have generated insightful data and recommendations about the new mid-life stage (past the age of 55). This stage is becoming a longer, healthier, and more productive life stage. By exploring this stage with retired faculty and staff, as well as those who are still working, we plan to

create a survey that should inform USC and other universities as well.

In the spring, we piloted a new Trojan Encore workshop series offering: “Refocusing of the Future of Work, Purpose and Fulfillment.” Participants found the workshops fulfilling and were provided with useful tools, collegial insight, and personal reflection to help them prepare for their life transitions into the next chapter of life. This Fall, we will offer the workshop series again (see below).

Our summer wellness event focused on protecting our colleagues by educating them about “Identity Theft and Scams” (see page 4). In November, our wellness event will present information on Medicare. ■

Janette C. Brown, Executive Director
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Janette C. Brown

Spring Workshops a Success, More in the Fall

The spring Trojan Encore Workshop sessions, “Refocusing on the Future of Work, Purpose and Fulfillment” taught by **Pearl Hilliard** and **Joyce Fernandez** were very successful and enjoyed by all. The evaluations by the attendees indicated that faculty and staff – both retired and not – found the workshops valuable for their personal and professional lives. The Emeriti Center will be hosting these sessions again in the fall (Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and 11, and Nov. 1 and 8.). The fees are less than what it costs the Center for materials and the instructors, so please take advantage of the fall sessions before it is necessary to increase the tuition (currently \$20 per class).

The five-part series of exercises and assessments are designed for USC retirees and current faculty/staff to help them transition successfully to their next phase of life. If you are new to retirement or merely exploring a future new phase of life, this workshop will help you clarify “What’s next?”

Session 1 - Navigating Change

Participants will gain an understanding of the stages of change and how to successfully manage change and transition in their lives.

Sessions 2 & 3 - Finding Your Purpose

Through self-examination and discovery, participants will create a roadmap and a transition plan for their “encore” lives.

Sessions 4 & 5 - Strategies for Competing in the New Workplace

Participants will learn how to effectively prepare themselves for a successful job search, whether it be full-time, part-time, volunteer work or a consulting endeavor. This will include creation of an updated resume, job search strategies and the use of social media, interviewing preparation and tips for successful networking. Register on the Emeriti Center Web (Trojan Encore button) or call (213)-740-8921 for information. ■

The RFA Gears Up for 2012–2013

Your RFA Board has been busy planning activities for the coming year, led off with the Caldwell Scholars lunch in early September, organized by **Kaaren Hoffman** and **Victor Marshand Webb**.

In October under **Jack Crossley**'s leadership, we will launch six Sherry Hours, not five as in the past. Based on the rousing success of April's Catalina trip, **Art Donovan** and the EC Benefits and Resource Committee have selected a 4-day adventure (Oct. 22-25) to Sequoia and Kings Canyon. A key date is Tuesday, Nov. 13 for the Provost's Luncheon in Town & Gown, honoring USC's new faculty retirees; **Bill Petak** is coordinating this event. Be sure to mark your calendars NOW! Coordination by **Ruberta Weaver** for select Visions & Voices offerings for USC retirees will continue.

The RFA website is being revamped, thanks to **John Orr** and **Bob Baker**. Please send your suggestions and comments to jorr@usc.edu. Inspired by the university's vision for 2022, the RFA Strategic Vision Committee has been meeting since early June. It will present a draft version at a spring RFA Board meeting open to all RFA members.

Finally, a new Outreach Committee, composed of **Yvonne Biller**, **Bob Coffey** and **Ruberta Weaver**, is developing a new activity: "neighborhood" informal gatherings (e.g., coffees or teas) primarily for widows, widowers and other singles, in areas such as Pasadena or Palos Verdes. If you are interested in learning more about this, please contact the Emeriti Center.

We welcome your participation, your suggestions and continued financial support. If you haven't already responded to the recent dues letters, please try to do so soon. We look forward to seeing you this Fall at the many USC retiree programs! ■

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Left, Phoebe Liebig
 Right, Dixon Johnson



SRA: People, Places and Things

This summer has proven once again that USC truly is the University of Summer Construction! Getting around the campus has been an adventure as USC has been a real aMAZEing place with all the fenced off areas and redirection signs.

In June, more than 75 retirees attended the SRA annual meeting in Heritage Hall to hear Athletic Director **Pat Haden** speak. Kudos to **Jeanne** and **Bob Church**, co-chairs of the Program Committee, for arranging Haden's appearance and to **Carolyn Watanabe** and the Hospitality Committee for handling the check-in details and the box lunch distribution.

The day trip programs so effectively managed by Treasurer **Dick Martin** continued with the May trip to the Banning Mansion Museum (see page 11). The next trip will be to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for an opportunity to learn about the Mars Rover, Curiosity.

Thank you to those who have already sent in your membership renewal and dues checks. If you have yet to renew, do so soon as only dues paying members and spouses will be invited to our annual December Holiday Party!

Currently the SRA board is reviewing new initiatives to increase the retiree community's visibility on campus and to assist in fulfilling the university's new Strategic Vision. I'll have more about these plans in a future report.

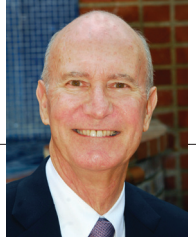
As the Fall term approaches, excitement builds for the national election and the upcoming football season. Please consider hosting an International Student for Thanksgiving dinner. This is a terrific way to learn about contemporary student life and to offer hospitality to students who are far from home.

On behalf of the SRA board we invite you to join us for our upcoming activities. ■

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Offer a Place at Your Table for Thanksgiving

In 2011, SRA President **Dixon C. Johnson**, retired associate dean and executive director of the Office of International Services (OIS) and his wife welcomed international students to their home to share in their Thanksgiving dinner. In photo, from the left, **Carrie Jo Johnson**, the Johnson's cousins **Marcus** and **Jessi Wunderlich**, and students **Ruisha Yu** and **Feng (Frank) Rao**. Each year, USC encourages faculty and staff to invite students who are far from home to take part in their festivities through USC's "Thanksgiving Match Up" program. It's a great opportunity for students and host families to learn more about each others' cultures. For questions, please contact the OIS program assistant at (213) 740-1046.



Jerry Walker

Looking at Ourselves: Four Perspectives

This semester the College offers USC retirees, alumni and friends a particularly rich selection of on-campus courses. “Seeing Ourselves as Others See Us” explores how the rest of the world sees America, and how those opinions have changed over time. USC international students will be invited to bring global and intergenerational perspectives to selected classes.

“Looking Back in Laughter: The Comic Academic Novel” will assess three of the funniest novels about academia ever written. The scathing satire of the academic scene will allow you to see and laugh at our departments, our colleagues, our students, and ourselves from new perspectives. The UCLA Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center co-sponsors this course and encourages all retirees to bring an inter-institutional perspective.

“Guided Autobiography” encourages you to think in a structured and thematic way about key branching points in your life and the major influences that affected the choices you made. Attendees write short essays weekly on the history

of their family, their major life's work, their health, and their values and spiritual life, the influence of money, their goals, and more. Small discussion groups enhance these personal perspectives.

Finally, join us in Irvine, at USC's Orange County Center, for a multi-media class on the music of Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart, and Oscar Hammerstein II, and the stories about their lives that inspired the music. These programs are extremely popular everywhere they are performed.

Come join the fun and laughter, and look at yourselves from new perspectives. ■

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Photo: Maricela Hinojosa

From left: Jerry Baik, L.A. Assistant City Attorney/ID Fraud; Sherrie-Ann Gordon, AARP/Multicultural Markets & Specialist Programs; Dan Kinney, L.A. District Attorney/County Elder Abuse Forensic Center; Mark Trachtenberg, U.S. Postal Inspection Team; and Janette C. Brown, EC executive director

EC Summer Event Put the Focus on Scams

A panel of experts addressed important steps to protect your identity and avoid scams on Aug. 2, at the Emeriti Center's Summer Wellness Series, “Avoiding Identity Theft and Scams.” Experts included representatives from the L.A. County Elder Abuse Forensic Center, AARP, Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney, and the Los Angeles Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Team. Attendees learned the top 10 scams targeting seniors with tips to avoid scams and swindles. Two tips: never give out personal information; and check your credit report annually. Also addressed were ways to protect your identity, and what to do if you're a victim of identity theft. This program was recorded for viewing on our EC web site. ■

Living History Project Adds Two Interviews

This summer, two new Emeriti Center USC Living History Project interviews were conducted at the Robert Zemeckis Center for Digital Arts by Trojan Vision. USC University Professor **Warren Bennis**, USC Marshall School of Business, was interviewed by Fisher Museum of Art Director **Selma Holo**. And **Ralph Knowles**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, School of Architecture, was interviewed by **Doug Noble**, Professor and Chair, School of Architecture.

To view 40 of the 62 Living History recordings, go to USC YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/USC. In the upper right box “search channel” type USC Living History Project. You will find a list of the many interviews on the EC's web site. Click on the gray tab on the top of the page entitled: Programs & Resources.



University Professor Warren Bennis is interviewed by Selma Holo

Expertise Pays Off for Trojan Encore Hires

USC recently received national recognition from The American Council on Education and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for programs that include the university's retiree community. We are pleased that the Trojan Encore program was highlighted as one of the key reasons for the award.

We are also pleased with the increased activity of hiring managers requesting our retirees for part-time and/or short term paid or volunteer positions. Two of your colleagues share the success they found in their Trojan Encore experiences.

"My experience as a Trojan Encore participant, working at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering in the Office of Admission was a very interesting and rewarding experience," said **June Griffin**. "It was also a good situation for the department because I came with knowledge of the campus that many outsiders do not have. Consequently, there was little training

needed for the assignment. I recommend such assignments to any retiree who is interested in a temporary placement as either a volunteer or paid employee."

"My experience working through Trojan Encore in the Master of Professional Writing Program was very successful. I gained some new favorite authors, was able to earn a wage, and gave back to a community I care about," said **Linda Neumaier**. "I brought some expertise to the job that someone new to the university would not have. I would definitely do it again. It was a dream job!"

We hope you will join June and Linda, putting your information on the Trojan Encore web site. Go to the Emeriti Center web page (emeriti.usc.edu). Click on the red "Trojan Encore" button on the right hand side of the web page. Click on "for Job Seekers;" fill out the application and submit. For questions contact Carole Gustin – encore@usc.edu

Travel With a Higher Purpose

Linda Forman, USC retiree, former chief administrative officer, department of medicine and her husband, **Joel**, travel to exotic places, but not just for fun and pleasure. They also travel for "purpose" through their membership with the Rotary Club. "The Rotary Club requires members to attend their meetings, and since I have retired, I am able to go to all the meetings!" she said with delight.

Linda and Joel are longtime members of their local Culver City Rotary Club. The name, "Rotary" comes from the fact that at its original inception, to provide service to the local community, the business community members met in rotation at their various places of business.

As volunteers of the Culver City club, Linda and Joel helped raise funds to build a YMCA, lower-income senior housing, and develop a children's community literacy program for their community. Their global participation took them to Puerto Rico, where the Rotary Club's funding provided the building of a solar system for water filtration.

Puerto Rico, a United States commonwealth, has some tax exemptions that prevent this country from having access to U.S. federal funding for various programs. Therefore, the Rotary Club with its purpose to provide service, now to a global community, is able to support programs in Puerto Rico, a vital USA community. "The team that was sent to build the systems was all strictly volunteers," explained Forman. "Rarely are any expenses paid." Interestingly, while they were there as volunteers celebrating the system, there was also a team of USC student volunteers!

– **Diana Seyb**, seyb@usc.edu



Linda and Joel Forman in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on another travel adventure.

An Editor's Thoughts

Is there an "app" for that?

With more than 500,000 "apps" available, there probably is one for your needs. An "app" is a software application designed for use on a mobile device, such as a smart phone or tablet computer – but frankly I'm not so up on new-fangled gadgets to need any of them. In fact, on the last road trip with my sister, we used actual paper folding maps and marked on them with pens.

I was late getting a cell phone – now it's unthinkable to leave home without it (I do feel safer having it handy), but I'm fine with a low-tech cell that doesn't do a lot of tricks.

But I admit it was handy this summer when my 12-year-old grandson used his iPhone 4S to double-check driving directions. And it was fine when he used it to check swim meet competition times, and to play the ubiquitous games kids play when I was otherwise engaged.

I don't think I'm turning into a cranky old person. In fact, I'm usually pretty cheerful. But it's annoying to be with someone who constantly casts their eyes downward to check a device for calls, messages, or alerts from others. Play games such as "Words With Friends" on that "device" when you're alone, I say. Check your email and messages later, unless you're waiting to hear about someone's emergency heart surgery. When you're with a real human being, make eye contact, use your words, and have a conversation.

And no, I don't need an app to tell me if the "Hot Light" is on at Krispy Kreme. ■



– **Christine Shade**,
shade@usc.edu

SENIOR CYBER TIPS*

The Actual Tech Column Is Elsewhere

If you have a computer and want to avoid the anguish of losing everything that is on it, then you need to read an article that is too long to publish here. It is long because it covers all the possibilities of avoiding the loss of your computer's contents. The article covers the options available from the most simple backup to the most sophisticated.

If you follow the advice given, you may say someday, "Wow! I'm really glad that I read that piece from the Emeriti Center Newsletter."

So, when you have the time, go to www.winesland.net/sra and press the Computer Info tab. Or, look for it at emeriti.usc.edu/ and press the Programs & Resources tab.

— Len Wines
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In The News

- *The Washington Post* ran a column by **Stephen Krashen**, professor emeritus, (education) about the right and wrong ways to learn a language. He noted that traditional methods of teaching language — rote drilling of grammar and vocabulary — have limited success. Krashen wrote that it's more effective to simply read or speak, and learn at one's own pace. "As we get comprehensible input through listening and reading, we acquire (or 'absorb') the grammar and vocabulary of the second language," Krashen said. An op-ed by Krashen related how the Common Core State Standards will change testing in the nation's schools.
- *The Whittier Daily News* highlighted a study by **Hugh Hurt**, professor emeritus (safety science), studying motorcycle accidents in Los Angeles. Hurt found that riders involved in accidents were overwhelmingly without training, with 92 percent having taught themselves or learned from family members or friends.

It's Dramatic

USC's School of Theatre changed its name to the USC School of Dramatic Arts to reflect the school's emphasis on a broader range of dramatic expression and programs. The name change became effective July 1.

CU Moves to Campus Center

The King Hall branch of the USC Credit Union closed in May and will relocate to the heart of campus in the Fall to the Tutor Campus Center Courtyard (STU 106). Prior to its opening, members can visit the CU's full-service branch at 3720 S. Flower Street (right across from Parking Structure 1), where free parking is available.

Make a Difference Day

USA Weekend's "Make A Difference Day" is Saturday, Oct. 27. It's the nation's largest day of volunteering. You may already belong to a group that's taking part, or you may want to view new volunteer opportunities. For information: makeadifferenceday.com ■

IN MEMORIAM

We honor and remember our university colleagues who have passed on. Those whose names were recorded at press time, and who were not noted in previous newsletters, are:

Albert Brecht (law); Gregson Dwaine Lawrence (pharmacy); Robert L. Reeves (dentistry); Martin J. Siegel (engineering), and Ruth M. Sparhawk (physical education).

RFA Meets to Align Their New Initiatives With USC Strategies



The Retired Faculty Association's Strategic Planning Committee is hard at work on new initiatives for the RFA in line with the University's Strategic Plan. The RFA will play a key role in guiding the ACE/Sloan projects for the next two years and will become more involved with supporting the work of the Emeriti Center College. Above, from left, Art Donovan, Natalie Cohen, John Orr, Phoebe Liebig, Kaaren Hoffman, and (from back) Bill Petak and Bob Stallings.



EC Colleagues Gather for South Bay Social

It was a “family affair” in June at Emeriti Center’s June Social at the Rolling Hills Estates home of **Ken** and **Harriet Servis** as their granddaughter and friend checked in early arrivals **Mildred Jones** and **Bob Coffey**. As it was a hot summer day, the festive hats used as decorations provided ample cover for a good-natured photo of (from left) host Ken Servis, **Bob Church**, **Jeanne Church**, **Janette Brown**, and hostess Harriet Servis.

Retirees Are Invited to Join the “Andrus Volunteers”

The Andrus Volunteers are a diverse group of active, engaged mature adults who provide services and support to the USC Davis School of Gerontology. Volunteers represent a wide variety of experiences, talents, cultures and ethnicities. They are committed to promoting and enriching the study of aging by offering their perspectives, time and support.

You are invited to a meeting on Friday, Sept. 28, 10 a.m. to noon, in the Davis Auditorium to hear **Albert “Skip” Rizzo**, Ph.D., Associate Director, Institute for Creative Technologies and Research, and Professor of Psychiatry and Gerontology. His topic is “Memory — Use It or Lose It”.

Several professors of gerontology are invited to speak about the value of volunteer participation in their research and their classes.

Refreshments will be provided. ■



SRA Group preparing for a tour of the John McKay building.

Pat Haden Speaks at SRA Annual Meeting

Pat Haden, USC’s athletic director, updated the SRA members on USC’s 21 athletic teams and arranged for tours of the new John McKay building at the SRA annual meeting June 11th. The state of the art facility is a new 110,000-square-foot building that houses meeting rooms, coaches offices and a locker room for the football program, as well as an academic center, weight room, athletic training room and state-of-the-art digital media production facility for all of USC’s 21 sports. ■

SUCCESSFUL AGING

Older adults are a target for scam artists. One reason is “that’s where the money is.” Financial scams in particular are considered the crime of the 21st century. Overall, 25 frauds have been identified that target older adults. Here are just a few:

Telemarketing: This is the most common scheme. Older adults make twice as many purchases over the phone than the national average so they are used to buying by phone. They also are from a generation of good manners, often reluctant to just hang up.

Investment schemes. A number of investment schemes target retirees who want to safeguard their savings for later years. Many of us have received emails from the Nigerian prince looking for a partner to claim his inheritance money. Note that Bernie Madoff’s pyramid scheme devastated the lives of many.

Healthcare/Medicare fraud. Perpetrators may pose as a Medicare representative to get personal information or provide bogus services in makeshift mobile clinics, using all that information to bill Medicare and pocket the money.

Be alert if solicitations have a time-pressured deadline, are presented with lot of barely readable print or are under the guise of political or religious organizations. Not all are legitimate.

Remember: If it sounds too good to be true, it is. However, Richard Carlson, author of *Don’t Worry, Make Money* writes, “that’s not always correct. Suspicion, cynicism, and doubt that are inherent in this belief can and does keep people from taking advantage of excellent opportunities.”

Recommendation: Be informed, ask questions and exercise caution. ■



— **Helen Dennis**,
Specialist on aging,
employment and the new
retirement, helendenn@aol.com

Three Cheers From EXPO and Bus Riders

Carole Gustin: “I have found the EXPO line to be a good alternative to driving from Culver City to USC University Park Campus. I leave my car at the Park & Ride structure at the corner of Jefferson and La Cienega (no charge). The train runs about every 15 minutes. I get off at the USC station, at Trousdale Parkway and walk to the Emeriti Center. It’s good exercise. I have a “Tap” card with a month’s senior rate of \$14. I have found it a bit tricky to get the computer to give me the senior rate prompt, but there are workers onsite for help.

From where I live, the Park & Ride system works better than trying to coordinate the Culver City bus service to the La Cienega station. If you live on a different bus route, it might work out that you can get mass transit from door to door service. Overall, this is a comfortable option for me.”

Dick Martin: “In years past, when I did not want to drive to the University Park Campus, I would catch the 84 bus, walk down a steep hill from my house on Mt. Washington above Cypress Park, and take it to Figueroa and Ave 26. There I would catch the 81 bus to campus. With the opening of the Gold Line I could still take the bus or drive to the Lincoln/ Cypress station on that same Ave 26.

Taking the Gold Line to Union Station, and several other lines to 7th St./Metro Center, I would catch the Dash F to campus. The problem with the Dash was that it ceased operation early evenings at 6 p.m.

With the wonder of The Expo Line, I still go to 7th St./Metro Center, but now catch the Expo Line to Culver City and exit at the Expo Park/USC Station at the South end of Trousdale. On a typical week day trip I board at 11:09 a.m. and by 11:45 a.m., I am exiting the Expo Line at the Expo Park/USC station—36 minutes. Be aware connections are not always so prompt. But I love the Expo Line and I hope students and others will make good use of the Expo Line this Fall.”

Janette Brown: “Dick Martin, Carole Gustin, and Bob Stallings use public transportation: So do I. As a bus rider for 16 years, I save wear and tear on our car, conserve gas, and use the commute time to work and network. And surprisingly, I am inspired almost every day by the kindness of fellow bus riders. Conversations on the bus also lead to insight and inspiration. One of my most memorable conversations was with an environmental planner, ‘I consider that my day is successful if I do three things: 1) Appreciate beauty (in any form...music, children, nature, etc.; 2) Do a kindness (just smile sometimes); and 3) Be thankful.’ How simple is that? It makes you feel good and spreads good will to others.

You may have read in the *L.A. Times* this summer (front page July 11) about a bus rider hero who saved a bike from being stolen from the front of the bus. I am honored to ride the bus with this hero named Chris. He is a customer service representative for the DWP. I have known him for years. He smiles at



Carole Gustin shows off her “Tap” pass

everyone and graciously offers his seat to strangers and friends alike.

Some of the special people who ride the Commuter Express bus: the lawyer who was a guest lecturer in my EDCO 248 Career Theory class and gave me free legal advice; the actuary who helped me understand my grad school statistics; the judge who provided great travel guidance for a trip; the district attorney who provided an internship for one of my undergraduate students; the woman with cancer who always has a cheerful smile and is grateful for every day, and lastly, the water quality engineer from Taiwan who taught me about photography and who took photos for our daughter’s wedding last summer.

Who wouldn’t want to ride our bus?”



We Thank Our Wonderful Students

The EC showed its appreciation for its student workers at an end of the semester thank you luncheon. Happily for the Emeriti Center, Stephanie, Velvet, Agnes, and Kamesha continued to work at the EC through the summer. Front row: **Velvet Arriola, Agnes Sung, and Kamesha Longsworth**; back row: **Elson Lin, Stephanie Ramsden, and May graduate Lorenzo Tovar**.

We Are Grateful To Our Legacy Patrons

Since 1978, major donors have come forward to assist the growth and development of the Emeriti Center, Emeriti Center College, and USC Living History Project. These major donors have contributed between **\$5,000** and **\$110,000** through individual donations or through planned gifts in a will or trust. We are deeply grateful for their contributions that support the USC retiree community and the Emeriti Center's many programs and resources. Without their generous support and trust in us, we never would have accomplished such a vibrant and growing Center for our Trojan Family.

With deepest gratitude to our Legacy Patrons: **Gwen Babcock, Albert & Elaine Borchard Foundation, Robert Paul Biller, Robert E. Coffey, Robert R. Dockson, Robert E. Doherty, William M. Golden Trust, Walter S. Graf, Paul Ervin Hadley, Bill Hannon Foundation (Andy Mosich), John & Dora Haynes Foundation, Health Net of California Inc., Barbara Inamoto, Morris P. Leibovitz Foundation, Taylor W. Meloan, Ken & Eileen Norris Foundation, Irving Rehman, Janis L. Romero, The Rose Hills Foundation, Paul J. Swifts, Rita H. Small Charitable Trust, Morris S. Smith Foundation, (Sterling & Larry Franklin), Mitzi Tsujimoto, and Nancy E. Warner.** ■

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

Ronald L. Violette

Honoree

John V. Grimaldi

We Welcome Gerontology's New Dean

Pinchas Cohen, M.D., a prominent researcher and leader in the field of gerontology, began his tenure as dean of the USC Davis School of Gerontology on July 16. He is the holder of the William and Sylvia Kugel Dean's Chair in Gerontology as well as executive director of the Ethel Percy Andrus Gerontology Center.

"Dean Cohen met the Emeriti Center staff this summer," said Executive Director Janette Brown, "and he hosted a meeting with EC leaders where mutually beneficial partnerships, projects, and research were discussed."

Pinchas was formerly vice chair for research at the UCLA School of Medicine, where he oversaw teaching, training and research activities and was involved in programs related to diseases of aging. Previously, he served as chief and professor of endocrinology at Mattel Children's Hospital and as associate director of the UCSD-UCLA Diabetes and Endocrinology Research Center.

Cohen has received awards for his work in the field of aging, serves on the boards of professional journals and societies and has published more than 250 papers in scientific journals. He earned his M.D. degree from Israel's Technion School of Medicine, and was a resident and fellow at Stanford University, after which he spent seven years at the University of Pennsylvania.

"I look forward to joining forces with our amazing faculty, staff and students," said Cohen, "and to continue and expand the USC Davis School's mission: to improve the quality of life for older adults through research, service and education." ■

2012 Professional Clothing Drive

Retirees made generous donations of professional clothing at the 2011 Holiday Breakfast. This annual clothing drive is sponsored by the USC Emeriti Center, in partnership with the Southeast L.A. Crenshaw WorkSource Center of California. The clothing drive helps local community members prepare for job interviews and settle into employment situations. Clothing needs are for both men and women: suits, shirts, blouses, shoes, belts, purses, briefcases, etc. We encourage all those attending the December Holiday Breakfast on Wednesday December 5, 2012 to take advantage of this opportunity to give to those in need within the surrounding USC community. ■

Join us at the SRA/RFA/EC Holiday Celebration in December. See Calendar on back page.



Dean Pinchas Cohen

Assistive Listening Devices To Be Available at USC Retiree Events

Many people experience hearing difficulties, especially as they age. This can often be a problem in public venues because sound systems vary in quality or these systems do not amplify speakers' voices. To address this problem, technology is progressing rapidly with the use of assistive listening devices being increasingly commonplace at public events. These developments offer new hope for hard-of-hearing persons who, in the past, may simply have chosen to stay away from programs that they want to attend.

Starting this summer, the Emeriti Center began offering a new assistive listening system at all retiree community events. The Gerontology Auditorium has a RF (Radio Frequency) assistive listening system that uses headset and earphones to enhance listening. The EC has purchased hearing loop devices that work with that system giving those with telecoil, T-coil or T-switch technology in their hearing aids an opportunity to use the hearing aid as the receiver, negating the need for wearing earphones.

Hard-of-hearing members of the



Bob Scales takes a look at the new system.

retiree community are urged to speak with their audiologists about whether or not their hearing aids currently contain telecoils. When purchasing new hearing aids, the EC strongly urges that retirees select devices that include telecoils. Those with hearing aids without telecoils and those without hearing aids can still enhance their hearing using this new portable assistive listening system using the provided headphones.

For convenience and the highest possible sound quality, the assistive listening system devices that utilize Loop Technology—"inductive wire"—is the technology the EC supports. This technology requires that

listeners activate telecoil programs in their hearing aids—programs that are currently available in more than 75% of hearing aids. When listeners activate these telecoil programs, sound will be transmitted directly to hearing aids via receivers, attached to unobtrusive lanyard-like loops that hang around listeners' necks. In some cases, the entire room is looped and no other receiver is required other than the hearing aid.

At each event sponsored by organizations in the USC retirement community, someone will be present to offer information and advice about the use of the assistive listening system devices that the EC provides.

This logo incorporates, with the permission of the National Association of the Deaf, the universal symbol for hearing assistance. To this logo is added explanatory text and a "T," which signifies an available telecoil compatible system. Please look for this logo whenever you attend concerts and other events. ■



— Bob Scales, rscales@usc.edu

Call for Award Nominations:

Paul E. Hadley Faculty Award

The deadline to submit nominations for the Emeriti Center's Paul E. Hadley Faculty Award for Service to USC is **Friday, Oct. 5, 2012**. This award recognizes a retired faculty member who has significantly contributed to USC after retirement. The award will be conferred at the annual Provost's Faculty Retirement Recognition Luncheon honoring recent retired faculty on November 13th. For criteria and more information, go to: emeriti.usc.edu and click on "Awards" or call Gloria M. Reyes at (213) 740-8175.

Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award

The deadline to submit nominations for the USC Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award is **Friday, Oct. 19, 2012**. Outstanding retired faculty are honored for "notable contributions to the University; their profession and community." Awards will be conferred at the 2013 Academic Honors Convocation in April. For criteria and more information, go to emeriti.usc.edu and click on "Awards" or call Gloria M. Reyes at (213) 740-8175.

Norris Research Fund Information

The USC Emeriti Center maintains a fund to assist retired faculty with research expenses made possible by a grant from the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation. One grant of \$2,000, or two grants totaling \$2,000, may be awarded during the academic year. Funds may be used to reimburse research expenses and hire undergraduate research assistants. The deadline for applications is **Friday, Nov. 2, 2012**. Application forms can be obtained from the USC Emeriti Center College web page, emeriticollege.usc.edu For questions, contact Jerry Walker (213) 740-1289 or Judy Diaz (213) 740-8841.

Music Has Beneficial Powers

Music lifts the spirits, triggers memories, and feeds the soul. “I walk a little faster, dance a little longer, and feel better after singing along, tapping my feet to the beat,” said Emeriti Center Executive Director **Janette Brown**. “Using the iPod I received from my daughter and son for a birthday/Mother’s Day gift this year, my children and Len Wines have been teaching me about iTunes and internet music sources. Do you know that if you have a favorite song, singer, or genre, you can find and listen to similar songs on www.pandora.com or www.apple.com/itunes/?”



Emily Loynachan assisted with a Vocal Gymnastics class for the EC College.

EC intern **Emily Loynachan** is a Gerontology grad student (and vocalist). She spoke to Brown about music and its effects on human beings, and assisted Dean Emeritus **Bill Thomson** with the Vocal Gymnastics class he taught for the EC College last year. (Bill recently taught this class in Bloomington, IN).

“Music is not limited by age, disability, illness or health,” said Loynachan. “It is part of human communications: relationships and play; emotion, self-expression, and movement; dancing, singing—along to the radio, even the infamous music videos.”

Music influences mood and the physical, psychological, and social state of individual and sometimes makes sense to people where other forms of communication such as words or body language, cannot be understood. While language deterioration is a feature of cognitive deficiency, music abilities appear to be preserved, perhaps because the fundamentals of language are musical. The recent development of the iPod project offers personalized playlists to dementia patients. Review this website: <http://pickerinstitute.org/video-of-the-week-music-memory-the-ipod-project/>.

Recent research has established a connection between music and restoration of speech impairment caused by a stroke episode. Researchers use “Melodic Intonation Therapy” that involves having the patient sing words and phrases. After a series of sessions, some patients are able to sing basic commands like “I am hungry.” Voice projection and breathing exercises reinvigorate and strengthen deteriorating musculature in Parkinson patients. Participation in choral groups integrates both singing and movement, which promote solidarity, camaraderie, and physical and mental health.

“Music is a powerful and meaningful medium no matter what state of health you are in,” said Loynachan. “It can bring back long lost memories of happy times, sad times and joyful times.”

“Let us know your favorite song(s) and singer(s),” said Brown, “by sending a message to: emeriti@usc.edu. We would love to hear about music that moves you, and we’ll report back or may even create a CD with the selections for a future EC event.” ■

THE EC’S BOOK NOOK

“Birdseye: The Adventures of a Curious Man” (2012)

by Mark Kurlansky

Frozen peas, anyone? This biography of Clarence Birdseye tells the tale of an eccentric man who, in the early years of the 20th century, changed the way America ate. Birdseye’s years as a fur trapper in Labrador, Canada, led him to discover a method of freezing food that retained its integrity—leave wet food out in Arctic winds! He refined this process, of course, and ever curious went on to patent many other inventions including the electric sunlamp. Birdseye embodied the “can-do” American spirit. ■

Day Trip Provides a Look at Victorian Americana



Bob and Jeanne Church with the display of their Napkin Ring Collection at the Banning Museum. The Banning Mansion Rose Garden in Wilmington, Calif., was the lunch setting for 22 USC retirees before they toured the grounds in May. The SRA Day Trip was arranged by Dick Martin.



USC EMERITI CENTER EVENTS

SEPTEMBER: Thursday, September 27, 2012

Trojan Encore Workshop Sessions begin-5 sessions
(See page 2)

Friday, September 28, 2012

Staff Retirement Association General Meeting, 11 a.m.
Doheny Library, Room 240

OCTOBER: Friday, October 5, 2012

Deadline for Paul E. Hadley Faculty Award for Service to USC

Friday, October 19, 2012

Deadline USC Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award

NOVEMBER: Friday, November 2, 2012

2013 Medicare Part D Drug Coverage Updates

Friday, November 2, 2012

Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation deadline

Friday, November 9 and Saturday, November 10

Reunion Weekend and Homecoming. Come join us!

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Provost's Faculty Retirement Recognition Luncheon
Town & Gown, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 22, 2012

Share Thanksgiving Dinner with students (See page 3)

DECEMBER: Wednesday, December 5, 2012

SRA/RFA/EC HOLIDAY PARTY at Town & Gown.

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USC Retiree Community Newsletter

Janette C. Brown, Ed.D., Executive Director

Christine Shade, Editor

Diana Seyb, Associate Editor

Contributors: Retired Faculty Association and
Staff Retirement Association members; and
Emeriti Center leaders and staff.

SAVE THE DATES!

The enrollment period for 2013
Medicare Part D (prescription
drug) coverage will begin on
October 7 and ends November 15,
2012. *Note these dates are different
from those in prior years.*