

Winter
2012

C.A.R.E. Newsletter

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Association of Retired Employees

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Visit us online:

www.care-news.org

President's Message

I still find each day too short for all the thoughts I want to think, all the walks I want to take, all the books I want to read, and all the friends I want to see.

- John Burrough



This will be my last President's message to you, as the CARE board has nominated Chet Rhoan for President! He will be put forward for election by the membership at our annual meeting and reunion on January 19, 2013.

I would like to thank all the CARE Board of Directors for their assistance to me and their service to the organization, which relies so heavily on them for its success.

The CARE board extends thanks to all CARE members who have chosen to "go green" and read our Newsletter online. This choice reduces our costs and helps save the environment! If you wish to join this practice, see page 7.

Your \$10 annual dues contribution helps sustain CARE's regular operations; we can't function without it! The 2013 dues form is enclosed on page 7.

On page 5 you'll read about the CARE Fund Special Projects Grants Program, which is financed by your contributions to the CARE fund and its earnings. Learn more about the CARE fund and how you can contribute by visiting the [Support CARE](#) section of our web site. Also, a CARE Fund contribution form is included in our Spring newsletter each year.

Finally, I extend a personal invitation to our annual reunion at the San Ramon Country Club. Besides the great food and fellowship, the prize drawings will continue to be exceptional. If you have not attended the annual reunion, consider coming. It is wonderful to see old friends, enjoy the meal, gifts and conversations! Details are enclosed on page 6.

The CARE board wants to wish all of you Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year.

Linda Barde-Zimmerling, President

Retirement Legislation Update

The Legislature passed and the Governor signed [AB 340](#), a pension reform bill. Major employee organizations opposed AB340 because the take backs were legislated and not negotiated. AB 340 **does not change** pension benefits for **current employees**. Opponents of pensions lobbied to eliminate defined benefits for all new employees but AB 340 retained those rights for new public employees. However, new employees hired after January 1, 2013 will receive reduced retirement benefit formulas and will be required to contribute fifty (50) percent of their normal pension costs.

Chet Rhoan, Vice President



CHABOT COLLEGE NEWS

Isabel Polvorosa Reporting

Fiscal Impacts. For the first time in 50 years, Chabot College printed two spring semester schedules, one of which included severe cuts to course offerings that would have been imposed if Proposition 30 had failed. Due to the proposition's passage, the college will offer a full schedule of spring courses and a "robust summer session", according to President Susan Sperling.

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District also placed a parcel tax on the November 6 ballot to support operations, but this measure did not attain the required 2/3 vote for passage.

Building 3400. Construction drawings have been completed for this building, which houses the BMW automotive technology program. In related news, Chabot automotive students have been awarded \$1,750 in scholarships.

Building 1800. The building will house new math & science classrooms and labs. The site between buildings 1700 and 1800 has been designed in coordination with faculty to serve as an outdoor classroom with botanical specimens not located elsewhere on campus. Interior work proceeds with completion expected for spring semester.



Building 1200/Performing Arts Plaza. The renovated plaza will contain an outdoor stage and seating areas. The theater renovation is now nearly completed with cabling and minor punch list work remaining. The scope of work for the theater included a new sound mixing area and replacing the HVAC equipment.

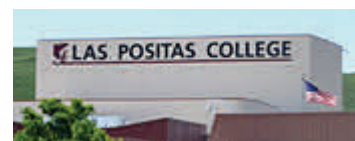


LAS POSITAS COLLEGE NEWS

Sophie Rheinheimer Reporting

In years past, when we were asked, "Where IS Las Positas College?", vague directions like "it's located beyond Costco," or "just keep driving up Collier Canyon Road, you'll see it on the right-hand side of the road" were always given.

Now that question can easily be answered by pointing towards the Livermore hills. Even though the college has been here since 1975, we were hard to find. Well, no longer! The new signage on the Mertes Center for the Arts can be seen from the freeway! It is so prominent, and is such a beautiful sight! It is a great beacon to welcome you back for a visit.



Once you arrive on campus, you will be awe-struck by the size of the campus and addition of new buildings. The changes that have occurred are unbelievable. The new Student Services Administrative (SSA) Building fills the center of the college. (It is the dirt patch in the center of the older photo below.)

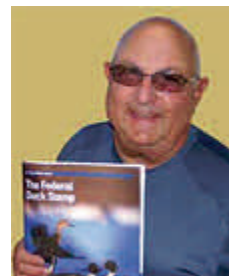


The Campus Boulevard, connecting the middle and upper end of the college, is almost complete. After months of construction (with noise, dust, dirt) and having to maneuver through narrow zigzagging chain-link-fence lined walkways, there are now trees and planting areas that make it all worthwhile. The transformation is breath-taking!

Retiree News

Carlo Vecchiarelli began buying and selling waterfowl art and duck stamps in 1978. He later combined this pursuit with a doll business operated by his wife, Geri, and they founded Dolls and Ducks, a business that operated out of a retail storefront on Main Street in Pleasanton. Although Carlo and Geri retired from the retail business in 2003, he remains a recognized expert on decoys and duck stamps and has served as a judge in several duck stamp competitions, including the 2010 Federal Duck Stamp Contest, held in Berkeley. Together with his friend and artist Rich Radigonda, he was selected by the state to publish the 2005 California Duck Stamp. In addition, Carlo has served as a Trustee of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District since 2004.

Learn more at http://www.pleasantonweekly.com/story.php?story_id=7575.



Art Larson and a group of neighbors in Danville make a weekly trip to the local Starbucks for a great cup of coffee. Reed Buffington, upon hearing about these gatherings, expressed a bit of sadness that he couldn't join them. Art and the group talked it over, and decided that if Reed couldn't come to them, they'd go to him instead. They drove to his place in The Valley of the Moon in Sonoma County and had coffee at the Starbucks there. A good time was had by all.

Bob Forester and his three remaining siblings were honored to be chosen to be a part of the newest Ken Burns documentary *The Dust Bowl*, premiering November 2012 on PBS Television. According to Bob: "We were 'dust bowl refugees' and experienced the difficult events of the 'dirty thirties.' After being interviewed as a group, we were individually filmed for use in the documentary. I guess this will be this my 'fifteen minutes of fame.' On April 14, 2012, the anniversary of the worst dust storm of all, we attended the initial preview of the documentary in our hometown, Goodwell, Oklahoma. Florentine Films was up to their usual magnificent standard of production. Accompanying the film is a book, *The Dust Bowl*, written by Historian Dayton Duncan. His previous book was *The National Parks: Americas Best Idea*."

Learn more at <http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/dustbowl/>



Jim Healey divides his time among golf, USTA League tennis, delivering Meals on Wheels, doing magic shows, attending Laurel and Hardy conventions, writing for the Route 66 magazine, and playing outfield for the 2011 Senior Slow Pitch World Series Champion State Roofing Royals. He's written a rhyming history of Seals Stadium as told by Seat #4, which now resides on his patio in Aptos. He'll send you a copy of this history if you really want one.

Contact Jim by e-mail through the [CARE Directory](#).

We want to share your retirement story! Please send information to the [newsletter editor](#).

New Retirees

Elizabeth DeLeon, District Services, April 2012
Linda Franco, District Services, December 2012
Leslie Gravino, Las Positas College, August 2012
Haniyyah Mujahid, Chabot College, August 2012
Connie Reding, Las Positas College, August 2012

Deceased

Donald Green, Chabot College, May 2012
Leonard Woolfolk, Chabot College, July 2012

Looking for Lost Retirees

Victoria Morrow

Meet Your Board Members - Linda Barde-Zimmerling

The theme of my life to date has been survival. It started with my birth. My mother was never supposed to have a child, she had one kidney and that was not doing well. True to her stubborn nature, the one that I inherited, I was born in Oakland, June 12, 1946. My father had been a professional boxer and started supporting his family as a young man of thirteen. He continued all of his life finding ways to support his family including taking us to live in French Morocco when I was eight so he could make enough money as a welder to pay my mother's hospital bills.

I lived in Oakland, attended Mills College pre-school and Burckhalter Elementary. My life was happy; I loved school, spending hours at the horse stables, church and my family. My life changed on May 5, 1958 when my mother died, her remaining kidney finally failing. I was nine years old, the day of her funeral was the last time I saw my father for years, and I lived between my grandmother's house in Oakland and my aunt's in San Lorenzo. I had to learn to survive without my mother and father. I went to Bohannon Middle School, and Sunset High School, graduated early and went on to complete my college and graduate degrees in two fields: Speech Pathology and Psychology. My first professional job was as staffing and resources coordinator for Hayward Area Recreation District and the Handicapped Center in Castro Valley. While working at the center, I met an instructor from Chabot College, Norm Olsen, who asked if I would be interested in a special position writing a master curriculum for all the community colleges interested in offering an Associate degree in Early Childhood Special Education. The college hired me in 1973 to write the master curriculum, and I started as a full-time faculty member in Early Childhood Education and Psychology in 1975. After thirty seven years I retired January 2010. I have continued to teach as an adjunct making this my thirty-ninth year as faculty member.

My years at Chabot included Faculty Senate President for six years, Accreditation Chair twice, Buffington Award, and many hiring committees for faculty, presidents and Chancellors. As Senate President, I helped establish the governance structure for Chabot and the District.

On a personal level, in 1971 I married a wonderful man, adopted his three daughters, and we had a son together. In February 2000, after 33 years of marriage my husband died of leukemia. I had to find a way to survive again. I moved away from the house we shared for 25 years and bought a house in Pleasanton. I spent the next five years trying to survive a house whose foundation, a month after I moved in, dropped 4 inches. I called it my "crack house" because all I did was fix cracks in walls and the foundation. It took me the next five years to get it fixed, replacing the foundation and reinforcing the ceilings. I sold it, and moved to a new house in Livermore on a vineyard. Now I just needed to survive the commute to Chabot, which I did for five years.

I retired thinking my life would be predictable and stable. That all changed when a dear friend encouraged me to think about attending a high school reunion. I sent my name, both maiden and married, and to my surprise my high school boyfriend emailed me the next day, and four months later we married. Although he was living in Philadelphia, he retired and moved to Livermore. I now have two new step-daughters who have 6 children, along with my four children and seven grandchildren for a new grand total of thirteen grandchildren. So far I have been able to survive all the birthdays. This year will be the next test: can I survive Christmas in Dallas with all thirteen grandchildren!



Classified Contract Update

In August 2012, an [agreement](#) covering July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014 was ratified by members of the SEIU Local 1021 and approved by the District. Under the agreement, classified retiree medical benefits will be modified to match the other employee group benefits. For more, see a brief article at www.care-news.org.

Isabel Polvorosa

CARE Fund Special Projects Grants Program - News

In 2011, the CARE Board committed \$1,500 to a pilot program of small grants to support special projects that improve service to the colleges. Thirty applications flooded in, and four projects were selected to receive partial or full funding from the CARE Fund, the source of CARE's charitable activities. Outcome report highlights follow:

1. Backup Hard Drive; by Carol Edson (GEOLOGY)
2. Boxes for Mineral Display by Carol Edson (GEOLOGY)

“Geology purchased a backup hard drive...to archive valuable teaching materials and to have easy access in any location....The clear plastic boxes for mineral display ...allow fragile samples to be seen and examined by students without damage.....Our CARE grant materials have allowed us to better meet student needs...(they) have fostered student contact with the best materials we have to offer....Thanks again to the CARE group for giving us this opportunity to provide excellence in science education.”

3. Transfer Student Web by Michael Schwarz (TRANSFER PROGRAMS)

“I am pleased to report that the redesigned Transfer Center Web Site is ready to debut!...The site (is) more student friendly ...We are extremely grateful for the opportunity that CARE provided....to serve transfer students.”

4. Taking Note of Foreign Languages by Catherine Suarez (ARTS & COMMUNICATION)

“The CARE Fund Award has allowed the Foreign Language Department to offer more teaching resources to the students in the program, enriching the delivery of the required curriculum. In addition, the DVDs with closed captioning and the SMART Pens for note-taking have allowed instructors to better include students with learning disabilities, or those who lack basic skills.”

In 2012, after the success of last year's inaugural Grant Program, the CARE Board decided to increase awards to \$1,500 at each college. There were many worthy projects among the 20 applications received. The committee was stunned by the extent of the dire needs represented, including several requests to fund basic cleaning and classroom supplies. Unfortunately, as is the case in tough times, we could not fund everything. The following proposals are the 2012-2013 winners, which can be viewed at www.care-news.org/grants:

- From Chabot:
- Library Laptop Lending Program by Kim Morrison (LIBRARY)
 - Community Outreach RAM by JoAnn Galliano (DENTAL HYGIENE)
 - Student Health 101 Digital Wellness Magazine by ValJean Dale (COUNSELING)
- From Las Positas:
- Fermentation Room Temperature Control System Support by David Everett (VITICULTURE)
 - Refillable Auspens for Tutorial Center by Pauline Trummel (STUDENT SERVICES)
 - Reading and Writing Center Sign and Banner by Richard Dry (ENGLISH)
 - Operation Whiteboard Erasers by Cindy Ahre (ENGLISH)

Please consider donating to the CARE Fund so that your contributions can continue to support the Grant Program. Visit www.care-news.org/grants to learn more about the grants and print the CARE fund donation form.

Sophie Rheinheimer, Special Grants Committee Chair



Richard, Pauline, and David receiving their awards at LPC's November Town Meeting

2013 CARE Reunion

Please join your colleagues at the reunion and annual meeting!

We will enjoy a wonderful opportunity to socialize with friends and co-workers, a delicious buffet lunch, an updated slide show of historic and current campus photos produced by Don Nilson, and a fun prize drawing,

When: Saturday, January 19, 2013 11:00 a.m. No-Host Social
Where: San Ramon Country Club 11:45 a.m. Business Meeting
Cost: \$22.00 per person 12:15 p.m. Lunch



Directions to San Ramon Country Club:

From 580 east or west go to the 680 interchange.
 Go North on 680 to ALCOSTA BLVD. (The first off-ramp).
 From the North take 680 South to San Ramon Alcosta Blvd. Off-ramp.
 Go East on Alcosta, through 3 signal lights to FIRCREST LANE, and turn left.
 You will see the golf course. Take Fircrest to the club parking lot.



Detach and return

**Reservation For
 Annual CARE Reunion and Lunch
 January 19, 2013, 11:00 a.m.
 San Ramon Country Club**

Please complete this form, enclose your check payable to C.A.R.E., and mail to

**Sharon Trethan, C.A.R.E. Treasurer
 5122 Blackhawk Dr.
 Danville, CA 94506**

Name/Names _____

E-mail Address _____
 (please print clearly)

- **Yes, please add me to the CARE Member Directory. (E-mail address required)**
- **Yes, I want to "go green" and receive this newsletter via e-mail. (E-mail address required)**

Number Attending _____ × \$22 = _____
 2013 Dues (If not already paid) \$10 = _____
 Total Amount Enclosed = _____

**Reservation Deadline:
 January 7, 2013**

Reservations must be prepaid.
 There is no pay-at-the-door option.

CARE BOARD

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Contact the board:
www.care-news.org/contacts

Go Green!

CARE newsletters are available on the CARE website at care-news.org.

If you would prefer to read your newsletter online, please [email Sharon Trethan](#) and she will revise our newsletter mailing list.

Be sure to provide your e-mail address and we'll alert you when each newsletter is released.

Change of Address

Please send your change of address to CARE Treasurer, Sharon Trethan by [e-mail](#) or
5122 Blackhawk Drive, Danville, CA 94506.

Detach and return

C.A.R.E. Dues 2013

(\$10.00 per year or \$100 Lifetime Membership)

Support from CARE members is key to our success.
Thank you if you have already paid your 2013 dues!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

(please print clearly)

→ **Yes, please add me to the CARE Member Directory.**
(E-mail address required)

→ **Yes, I want to "go green" and receive this newsletter via e-mail.**

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ (Thank you!)

Please cut and mail this form and your check payable to **CARE** to:

CARE c/o Sharon Trethan
5122 Blackhawk Dr.
Danville, CA 94506

www.care-news.org

New on the CARE web site:

- [Article on retirement benefit provisions of new classified contract.](#)
- [Winning proposals for the CARE Special Grants Program.](#)

Always on the CARE web site:

- [Information about CARE, its mission and governance, including meeting minutes, board membership, contacts.](#)
- [Every issue of this newsletter since 2006.](#)
- [Information about Reunions, past and planned.](#)
- [A member directory with E-mail contact information for nearly 190 CARE members.](#)
- [The CARE History Project, chronicling our distant and recent work experiences.](#)
- [The current issue of the Chabot Hotsheet and Board of Trustees Report.](#)
- [Information about how you can support CARE's operation and charitable activities.](#)



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