



The Silver Slug

Official Newsletter of the UCSC Retirees Association
Volume 33, Issue #1, September 2022



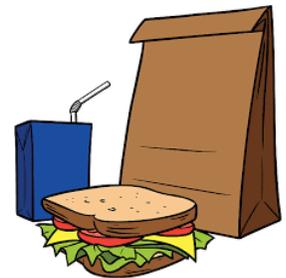
Our Annual Fall Picnic Is Back!

Thursday, September 15, 2022

11:30am – 1:30pm

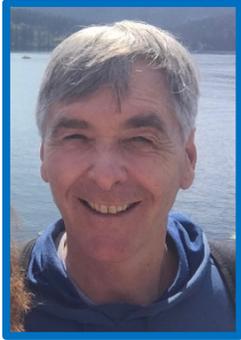
In person at Harvey West Park
326 Evergreen St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

We look forward to seeing you in person again at Harvey West Park for our annual Fall gathering. Consider inviting a guest that might be interested in joining the Silver Slugs. Masks are not required, but please feel free to wear one if you like. To minimize close contact, we will not be doing a potluck this time. Box lunches will be provided and there is plenty of room on the picnic benches for seating with social distancing. We need to know how many people will be attending to order the lunches, so please RSVP at the link below. You will be able to select the kind of sandwich you would like and also indicate if you are bringing a guest. If you miss the deadline and still want to attend, please do! You can bring your own brown bag lunch and we will have cold beverages available for everyone. Hope to see you there!



Please RSVP by September 1st.

<https://forms.gle/6m8MvND8yx4PFnf46>



President's Message September 2022

I hope that this Fall newsletter finds you well and ready to connect with friends and colleagues. Given the less restrictive CDC guideline revision, we want to start meeting in person under safe conditions. We'd like to hear from you as to your readiness to participate in person. Please let us know your thoughts and what activities you are interested in.

One activity we hope to get started is Pickleball. 20 people signed up for a pickleball lesson on August 18 with the Santa Cruz Pickleball Club. The class and the waiting list filled up very quickly, so we are optimistic that this will be popular. We hope to make it a regular activity. More info to come after our lesson.

It is also that time of year to welcome new members to the UCSC Retirees Association. We have 25 new members. Welcome! We are very happy to have you join our group. Last year at this time I dedicated much of my message to introducing new members to our organization. I will spare you all of those details by sending out information in a welcome letter to new members. I will however, take this opportunity to briefly remind us of some of the reasons that we have chosen to join together as the "Silverslugs" UCSC Retirees Association.

- We get together for social activities (Four regular events: Fall Picnic, Holiday Party, Speaker's Luncheon, Scholarship Luncheon, as well as many smaller activities)
- We advocate for retiree benefits and health insurance
- We raise money for scholarship programs for military veterans and staff/staff dependent students
- We volunteer
- We stay connected with UCSC

We have upcoming opportunities in all of these areas, some of which you can read about in this newsletter. Also visit our website: retirees.ucsc.edu If you would like to get more involved, please let me know. wcparro@ucsc.edu We need new board members and connections for volunteer opportunities. I hope to see you all at the Fall Picnic!

Sincerely,
Bill Parro
President, UCSC Retirees Association

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

David H. Anthony III - History

Michael Dine - Physics

Kim Durham - Financial Affairs/Extramural Funds

Benjamin Friedlander - Electrical and Computer Engineering

Hope Rochelle Fuller - Genomics Institute

Kenneth Garges - ITS

Angela Holleman - Disability Resource Center

David Evan Jones - Music

Sung-Mo Steve Kang - School of Engineering

Annie Valva & Carmen Beatriz Lopez-Flores - UC Berkeley College of Engineering

Robin L. MacAngus - Baskin Engineering

Joanne Madril - Registrar

Roxanne Monnet - Baskin Engineering

Susan Moren - Arts Division

Madlyn Norman-Terrance - HR/Benefits

Rebecca Peet - ITS

Virginia Rivera - UC Santa Cruz Foundation

John Rocchio - ITS

Dana Rohlf - Film & Digital Media

Carol Shennan - Environmental Studies

Susan Strome - Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology

Helen Stroud-Finley - Humanities Division

Haifang Telc - Genomics Institute

Ru-Shan Wu - Earth and Planetary Sciences

Ann Zweig - Genomics Institute



Christy's Corner - News from the Retiree and Emeriti Center

Christy Dawley, Coordinator, UC Santa Cruz Retiree & Emeriti Center
(831)502-8202 rec@ucsc.edu

Perks for UCSC retirees

UCSC Campus parking permit and bus passes

Did you know that not all UC campuses are able to offer parking passes to retirees? UC Santa Cruz offers the choice of a campus parking permit or Metro bus passes as a courtesy to current retirees from UCSC. Just remember, if you return to work and accept a recalled appointment with the university, you must trade in your retiree permit for an employee parking permit during that time. If you happen to use a retiree permit while on recall, you will need to pay for any accrued monthly charges. For more information about this program, visit here:

<https://taps.ucsc.edu/parking/parking-permits/retiree-permits.html>

And here is the direct link to the renewal form for a retiree parking permit or bus pass:

<https://basfmp16.ucsc.edu/application22/retiree.php>

Slug Recreation Memberships

Beginning this summer, all UC Santa Cruz Slug Recreation memberships now include Group Exercise access. For information on pricing for a membership and how to sign up, please go to <https://campusrec.ucsc.edu/>



McIvor's Corner – News from the UCSC Benefits Office

Marianne McIvor, Health Care Facilitator (she/her)

memcivor@ucsc.edu

Ad Hoc COLA for Some UCRP recipients:

As announced in July, the UC Board of Regents approved an ad hoc cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for some UCRP benefit recipients. You can review the article on UC Net for additional details about the ad hoc COLA provision and who is eligible. If you qualify, the ad hoc COLA was applied to the August 1, 2022 pension income payment, which you may view via your UC RAYS portal by logging in at: <https://retirementatyourucsc.edu/UCRAYs>

RASC Services Update:

UC retirees contact me to report that they are having a hard time getting a response from UC Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC). I know this has been very frustrating for many and I want to share what RASC has been working on to improve services. RASC is hiring in many positions throughout their organization and expects to add several dozen new front-line employees over the next few months. RASC is also setting up a Survivor Intake Process with a small team dedicated solely to serving Survivors of deceased UC retirees and providing highly personalized care. And finally, RASC will introduce a form of retirement counseling that will be provided to future retiring faculty & staff, likely by phone. Thank you to all that have contacted me with feedback regarding your experience with RASC services. RASC leadership is soliciting feedback from campuses, which I think is a critical step in attaining improvements that will be practical and helpful. The August 2022 edition of New Dimensions included a progress report on RASC services. Click here for the electronic PDF of New Dimensions. https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/retirees/new-dimensions/pdf/nd_39_3.pdf

Now Open: New Kaiser Permanente Medical Offices in downtown Santa Cruz

Located at 110 Cooper Street, 2nd & 5th Floors in downtown Santa Cruz, the new location offers 22 exam rooms; Pediatrics, Adult & Family Medicine, and Ob-Gyn departments; pharmacy and laboratory, as well as imaging services. You can watch the Santa Cruz Kaiser Medical Offices Tour Video by clicking on this link:

<https://kp.gumucloud.com/view/dwNiiwdTcUzvfiaL8UiXD3>

Retirees Association Scholarship Committee Report

As of the end of June 2022 the Silver Slug Award Endowment totaled \$63,303.08, the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Endowment totaled \$212, 045.59, and the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Current Year Fund totaled \$4,029.50.

I still talk to Barbara Dilianis every week although she is now living in Sequim, Washington. She said to say “hi” from her to all of you. She was such a devoted member of the Retirees Association and was on the Retirees Association Board for many, many years and is in our list of Honorary Retired Members because of her years of service. She and I both joined the Retirees Association at the the same time when we retired from UCSC in 1991. She is like a sister to me.

I still could use more ceramic cereal bowls and soup bowls – also taller containers, which are wider than cups, for my succulents which I raise and sell to earn money for the military veteran student scholarships. If you have any to donate or if your friends might have some, please call me at (831)426-8353. I’ve been shopping at stores that sell used things but haven’t been able to find the sizes I need. My son drills holes in the bottom of the ceramic pieces so the plants that I put in them will have good drainage. I’m anxious to get the plants planted so Bruce and I can sell them this fall.



I was very sad to learn that one of our supporters and volunteers for the Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship has passed away. Daniel Young was retired from UCSC and worked for the retirees scholarship fund for veterans, as well as reviewing and choosing candidates for scholarships. Daniel was both generous monetarily as well as being an endless volunteer all his life. Daniel fought for veteran’s rights and put his heart and soul into many projects involving veterans including saving the veteran’s building and volunteering to be the commander of the VFW post. He and fellow veterans hosted many successful holiday meals coordinating donations and volunteers and working endless hours. Daniel would network with farmers and markets to have food donated for this event. He spent twenty years as a volunteer for the Reef Works Film Festival showing films and sending out letter for donations and meetings for organizing. It was one of his many passions working for labor rights for everyone. I personally will miss Daniel very much. He has been a good friend and a great help to me and the Retirees Association throughout the years.

Please be careful and safe in this time of the virus. Many of my friends and relatives have contracted the disease. I try to be careful. At my age of 96 I’m much older than you.

Stay safe and hope to see you soon,
Maxine Lane
Scholarship Chairperson

Slugs On The Go!



Pickleball Class on August 18, 2022

UCSC Farm Tour – July 26, 2022

A foggy July morning in Santa Cruz was the perfect setting for a tour of the UCSC Farm. Not only was it nice and cool, but perfectly complimented Darryl Wong's explanation of why dry farmed tomatoes are a regional success story. These flavorful tomatoes are grown with a limited amount of water, and this only works because of our unique climate and the moisture provided by the fog. Darryl Wong is the Executive Director for the Center for Agroecology. His relationship with the UCSC Farm started many years ago when he was a student in the apprenticeship program. He continued to be involved with the Farm in several capacities and is now also working on his PhD at UCSC. His research is focused on no-till farming and determining whether organic vegetable systems can produce comparable yields to tilled systems while at the same time improving soil health and sequestering carbon in the soil. We also heard from Joji Muramoto, a longtime research associate with University of California Santa Cruz. He was hired in 2019 as the first University of California Cooperative Extension Specialist dedicated to organic agriculture. Muramoto coordinates a statewide program focusing research on organic fruit and vegetable production. He provides educational resources to producers on topics such as organic pest management and soil fertility. It was a treat to hear him talk about his research, while looking at the actual plots of land that he is working on. Esperanza Nee, volunteer docent at the Farm and UCSC retiree, completed the tour and pointed out landmarks of interest and historical notes along the way. For the full story and more photos go to <https://retirees.ucsc.edu/calendar-events/past-events/farmandgarden.html>



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UPCOMING EVENTS

It's Beer O'clock Again

Some of you may remember that before the pandemic shut down much socializing, the Retirees Association had begun developing a Santa Cruz County brewery tour. Before that fateful March in 2020, we had visited several, including Seabright Brewery, Santa Cruz Mountain Brewery, Shanty Shack Brewery, New Bohemia (NuBo) Brewery and Fruition Brewery. Reports are that a good time was had by all. The good news is we're starting the tour back up.

Generally, the visits include a tour and talk by an owner and/or brewmaster followed by some tastings. Some of the visits will carry a nominal charge to cover the tastings and, sometimes, accompanying food. You will know the cost and what it covers before signing up. Not all visits will not include food, but we may be able to stay to have lunch on our own.

Our hope to have a tour every two months or so. While there will be no obligation sign up for more than one, visiting multiple breweries can be quite interesting as the breweries often have quite distinct brewing techniques and philosophies. Often there will be a minimum number required, and occasionally a maximum number, in order to proceed. So, once you receive an e-mail blast advertising the event, you should sign up ASAP.

So, don't ignore your e-mail too long and keep your eyes peeled for the re-start of our brewery excursions.

Frank Trueba and Esther Sylvan



Travel Is Back....To Stay, we hope!

Hi fellow retirees ... many of you are aware of the Council of University of California Retiree Associations (CUCRA) Travel Program. Under Sue Barnes' leadership, the UC Travel program not only tries to arrange trips to spots UC Retirees are interested in visiting but also leads a team of UC Travel Escorts, which is comprised of UC retirees who help liaison with the travel company as well as work to make sure the trip is as pleasurable as possible. You can read about the Escort Team at: <http://cucra.ucsd.edu/travel/escorts/index.html>

Along with my other duties on the UCSC Retirees Association, I also serve as a Travel Escort and just want to recommend that anyone interested in travel check out the upcoming slate of 2022 and 2023 trips. They can be viewed at <http://cucra.ucsd.edu/travel/>. Additionally, if you are interested in suggesting a future destination, you can contact Sue Barnes at UCRetireesTravel@gmail.com We try to arrange travel to places retirees are interested in.

Having had a number of planned trips canceled when the COVID pandemic shut down occurred, I was anxious to



get "back on the road" and took my first UC Travel trip to Portugal & Spain this past March. I'm here to report that it was an absolute delight and is being repeated in March 2023 (Backroads of Iberia: Spain & Portugal). I am now scheduled to escort a trip to Cuba in October. Although this one is currently full, there are plans for it to be repeated in Oct. 2023.



The upcoming 2023 year is full of exciting selections: Treasures of Egypt in January (on which I'll be an escort), Spectacular South Africa in February, the aforementioned Backroads of Iberia in March and also in March, Japan's Cultural Treasures. These trips are usually small and often made up of members from one campus, where people already know one another (my March Backroads trip was predominantly retirees from UC Davis). Spouses and friends are welcome. The website lists more 2023 trips (and soon we'll start posting 2024 trips). Also on the website you can find detailed itineraries and some of the trips include webinars that go into more depth. And, if you still have questions, those can be sent to: UCRetireesTravel@gmail.com

Lastly, when you participate in UC Retirees Travel trips, you help to support CUCRA, which is the systemwide consortium of volunteer representatives from all of the UC retiree associations. CUCRA represents retiree interests and advocates for retiree benefits in regular meetings with UC leadership. If I can help answer any questions, please drop me a line, maybe we can organize a future trip full of UCSC retirees!

Frank Trueba
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