



The Silver Slug

The Official Newsletter of UCSC Retirees Association

Volume 28, Issue #3, February 2018



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

Thursday March 8, 2018 11:30am – 2:00pm

Annual Speaker's Luncheon

Estate Planning with Lee Ann Shenkman – Trust Lawyer

Peace United Church of Christ
900 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Please bring your favorite buffet dish to share - appetizers, entrées, salads, side dishes or desserts. Cold drinks and coffee will be provided.

Crafts will be for sale and all proceeds go to the UCSC Retirees Association Silver Slug Scholarship Fund for UCSC Staff and Their Dependents.



President's Message February 2018

Happy New Year fellow retirees! I hope the holidays, however you celebrate them, were filled with family and friends and that the season found you all in good health! The new year is always filled with good intentions and resolutions that may or may not get filled. I have resolved to be more thankful for all the good things in my life and to not focus on what's going wrong! With that in mind, I want to take this opportunity to thank several of our campus partners who support our organization and all retirees. First a "thank you" to Virginia Rivera, Senior Director of Planned Giving, who has provided ongoing support and resources for our organization, next a "thank you" to Sarah Kudela, Director, Stewardship & Donor Services, who has graciously assumed supervision of the new Retiree Emeriti Center (REC) Coordinator - Christy Dawley, and finally a "thank you" to Sherry Main, Assistant Vice Chancellor, who enthusiastically welcomed the transition of the REC to University Relations. We're excited for the partnership opportunities this presents!

Retiree Health Benefits Work Group Update

The UC Office of the President has formed the advisory work group charged with exploring potential strategies and options for UC leaders to consider for the future of our health benefits. The work group has met and is just starting their work. You will find an update in the current issue of New Dimensions at

http://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/retirees/new-dimensions/pdf/nd_35_1.pdf.

As we learn new information, we will keep you posted. So, stay tuned!

UC Retiree Activity Survey

In my last report, I highlighted the UC Retiree Activity Survey sponsored by the Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA), that was published and can be viewed on the CUCRA web site: <http://cucra.ucsd.edu/survey/index.shtml>

We have now completed the data for UCSC and you can see a summary of those results on our website at <https://retirees.ucsc.edu/announcements-news/index.html>. The numbers are quite impressive and highlight our ongoing commitment and value to the campus. I, along with Emeriti Association President, Todd Wipke, have shared our groups respective reports and campus-specific results with campus leadership including the Chancellor, Executive Vice-Chancellor and others.

Welcome New Members

Our membership drive, supported by Chancellor Blumenthal, resulted in 45 new members, an increase of 15.4%! I want to welcome all of you to the association and look forward to meeting you at one of our many events.

For more retiree information visit our website at: retirees.ucsc.edu.

That's it for now. I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming Speaker's Luncheon on March 8.

Ilse (Kolbus) Lopes

Welcome to New Members of the UCSC Retirees Association!

William Atwood – Physics Department SCIPP

Froukje Brouwer – EFS (Enterprise Financial Systems)

Patti Cazel – College 8

Carol & Don Champion – McHenry Library (Carol)

Ray Charland – Counseling & Psychological Services

Gregory Creelman – UC Extension

Janette & Shelton Crutch – Psychology Dept. (Janette)

Dennis Derecho – Wincore/ITS

Julie Dryden-Brown – Academic Senate

Tom Graves & Jim Grove – Humanities (Tom)

Elisabet Hiatt – Police Department

Steve James – Police Department

Maria Kerschen – PB Sci Dean's Office

Kris Kessler-Nagle (Chemistry Nat Sci) & **Rick Nagle** (CATS)

Victor Kimura & Karen Garcia Graham – Finance & Planning (Victor)

Dr. Robert Klevan – Music Department

Fred Kuttner – Physics Department

Patrice Maginnis & Eric Rice – School of Engineering (Patrice)

Laurie McCann – Chancellor's Office

Gayle McConnell – UC Extension

Peggy McNicholas – Science & Engineering Library

Shann Ritchie – Institute for Humanities Research

Walter Schillinger – Earth & Planetary Sciences

Cheryl Van De Veer – History of Consciousness Department

Joe Waskevich – Vivarium

Christina Waters (Arts Division) & **Frank Galuszka** (Art Department)

Bruce Welden – Long Marine Lab

McIvor's Corner – News from the UCSC Benefits Office

Marianne McIvor, Health Care Facilitator

831-459-3573 memcivor@ucsc.edu

Office hours: 7:30 to 4:30 Mon-Friday (lunch Noon -1pm)

Office address: UCSC Staff Human Resources, 100 Enterprise Way, Scotts Valley, CA 95066

Need Health Plan Information? It's a new year, and that may mean a new medical or dental plan for you. Or possibly you've misplaced your health plan identification card. If you need to obtain a copy of your health plan ID information, you may contact the plan directly for ID cards. The list of customer service telephone numbers for all UC health and welfare plans is available at the link below. If you changed your medical plan, you should have received a new ID card at your home address already. All members of UC Care, UC Medicare PPO, UC High Option should have received new ID cards reflecting the change in the prescription drug administrator for 2018. Call the number for your plan, provided at the site below, if you need assistance.

<http://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/contacts/plan-contacts.html>

...and, consider creating an on-line profile: On-line profiles allow access to your health plan ID #, claim information and coverage details whenever you need it. To create an on-line profile, you will first have to register at the plan's website. You may link to each plan's website from the site above. Of course, you may also contact me if you need assistance or experience difficulty.

Work Group Studying Health Benefits for Retirees: UC is evaluating options to ensure the long-term financial viability of the retiree health benefits program. The UC Office of the President is convening an advisory group with representatives from a wide range of groups to explore potential strategies and develop options for UC leaders to consider. The work group is expected to deliver recommendations by June 2018. *This work only pertains to retiree health benefits and does NOT affect UCRP pension benefits.* You may learn more about the work group, follow news updates and join the discussion by going to the home page for UC Net at: <http://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/index.html> and then type in "Work Group Formed" in the search field in the upper right corner.

In Memoriam

Word of the deaths of the following UCSC staff and faculty has been received. Condolences are extended to their families, friends and colleagues.



Patrick David Barber
September 2, 2017

Robert A. Chadwick
November 23, 2017

Steven J. Clementi
December 4, 2017

Scholarship Committee Report

Put Wednesday, May 2, 2018 on your calendar for the Scholarship Luncheon at the Arboretum. This is the first year that the Silver Slug Award Endowment will give scholarships to staff members and their dependents in need who are attending UCSC and help satisfy their desire for a better education. On Giving Day, February 28, 2018, the Silver Slug Award Endowment will match your contributions up to a total of \$8,000. Board members have been making and selling aprons, bags and other crafts to raise money for the scholarship. Take advantage of your opportunity to really help the staff members and their dependents on Giving Day.

The UCSC Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Endowment provides scholarships to military

veteran students attending UCSC. The succulents which have been sold at the retirees' social events this year will pay for one of the \$1,000 scholarships. By volunteering for military service, the military veteran students took the chance of risking their lives, being wounded, or being affected psychologically. On Giving Day the Lane Family will match \$2.00 for every \$1.00 contributed up to \$30,000 in matching funds. Giving Day is the time to show the military veteran students that we appreciate what they have done for us and for our country.

Maxine Lane, Chair of Scholarship Committee

Scholarships for Military Veterans



In Honor of Benjamin Lopes Jr.

Made possible by a contribution from The Lopes Family

Benjamin Lopes Jr. was born March 25, 1923 and raised in Honolulu, HI, by his father Benjamin Sr. and mother Mary. He and his brothers, Harold and Robert, were the Lopes family's third generation in the Hawaiian Islands.

Following graduation from Saint Louis Prep School in June 1941, Ben worked as a civilian flight-engineer on B-17's at Hickam Field. On December 7, 1941, he witnessed the bombing of Pearl Harbor. While waiting to be drafted into the military he joined the Merchant Marines and delivered Marine supplies throughout the South Pacific. In 1943, he traveled to San Francisco to enlist in the Navy.

(continued from Page 4)

After his Navy basic flight crew training Ben was assigned to VF-46. He served on both the U.S.S. Independence (CVL 22) and U.S.S. Cowpens (CVL 25) as Bombardier and Radio-Radar Operator on a TBF Avenger torpedo bomber. He made 32 combat missions including Naval air operations over Iwo Jima, Chi Chi Jima, Okinawa, Kyushu and Tokyo. For his service to his country, Ben was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, (3) Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Medal with 3 stars, the American Defense Medal and the Victory Medal.

The war behind him, Ben married Virginia Walker on November 9, 1946. They spent the next 65 years together active in their community and proud of those who served their country. Ben passed in 2012 after a brief illness. He is survived by 7 children, 19 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

In Memory of LTC Joseph E. DeDera

The DeDera family would like to thank Maxine Lane for her contribution for the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship that will be awarded in our father's memory. LTC Joseph E. DeDera, who made a lifelong commitment to the United States military, would be particularly pleased with this as Bruce was a man for which he had a great deal of respect. He would also be pleased that this scholarship will assist a veteran student in achieving their educational goals.

Joseph E. DeDera was born 8 October 1917 in Chicago, Illinois and was the youngest of eight children. He always had an interest in learning to fly. In 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Forces and completed primary and basic training at Eagle Field, Dos Palos, California, and at the Merced Army Flying Field. In 1943, Joe was a member of the class of 43-C Student Officers and Aviation Cadets that graduated from the Army Air Forces Advanced Flying School in Yuma, Arizona. Following his graduation, Joe was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force Reserve and earned the coveted silver wings symbolic of the aeronautical rating of pilot; he was immediately placed on active duty.

His first assignment was in England where he flew with the 19th Tactical Air Support Command and shuttled American troops that evaded German capture, from France back to England. In September of 1944, Second Lieutenant DeDera was ordered to prepare for duty in Holland. His mission was to recover (~700) CG-4A allied gliders used in the invasion of Holland which were needed for a near term mission. To support the mission, on October 2, 1944, 151 mechanics and four officers under our father's command were airlifted by twenty C47 transports that were loaded with tools, equipment, jeeps and trailers, to a former German airstrip at Eindhoven, Holland. By early January, the team completed the mission. Ten weeks later, due to the ingenuity, resourcefulness and hard labor of our aircraft mechanics, the gliders delivered thousands of fighting

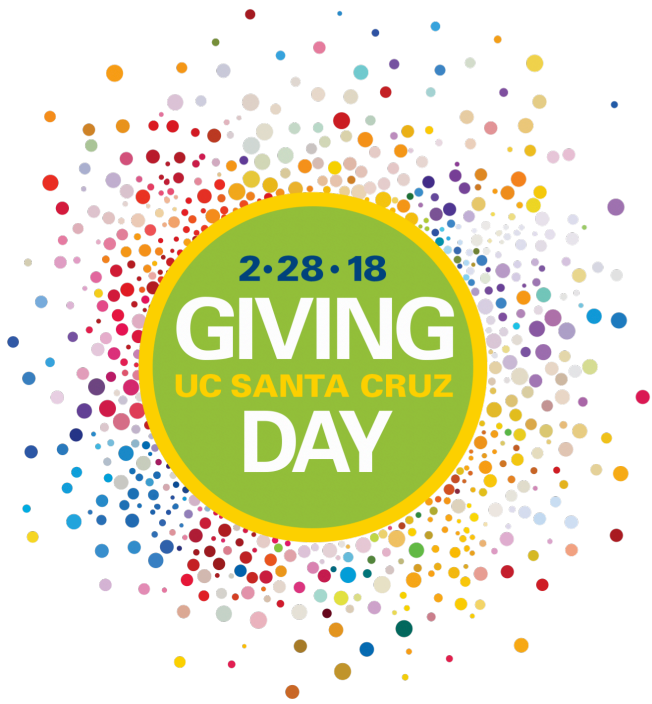
men and fire power into Hitler's backyard, bringing the Nazi's to their knees.

From 1945 to mid 1948, our father was stationed in Mobile, Alabama assigned to work hurricane reconnaissance missions along the gulf coast. This is where he met and married his bride, Martha Beatrice Williamson, on 22 April 1945. They had five children (2 girls and 3 boys) and enjoyed their life together for 54 years. From June 1948 to May 1949, our father was assigned to the "Berlin Airlift" when West Berlin was under siege by the Soviet Union. For nearly a year all supplies needed to be flown into West Berlin by the US, the only entrance being a small airway that was heavily lined on both sides by the Soviets. From May 1949 to May 1954 he was assigned to the flight test center at Edwards AFB where he worked as a test pilot. From June 1954 to June of 1964, our father was assigned to the Pentagon, was sent back to England as the wing commander at Mildenhall Air Station, and assigned to Hanscom Field in Medford, Mass. His final assignment was from 1964 to 1969 when he was assigned to Vandenberg AFB. He completed his career working in aerospace, establishing comm support for the Apollo program and leading range safety operations for the Minuteman program. LTC Joseph E. DeDera retired in May 1969 and died 6 December 1998. He was survived by his wife and all five children.

Got empty containers?

Have you got decorative pots, small containers, tea cups, or coffee mugs that would make a great succulent container? AND you want to get them out of the house? We can use them for our succulent arrangements that are sold to raise funds for the Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Fund. Just bring them to our next event you attend. ***Thank you!***

Wednesday, February 28 is UCSC Giving Day!



<https://givingday.ucsc.edu/index.html>

The Retirees Association is participating with two campaigns this year:

The Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund

Providing scholarships for Military Veteran students attending UCSC

The Lane Family has pledged to match \$2 for every \$1 contributed on Giving Day up to \$30,000 in matching funds.

The Silver Slug Award Endowment Fund

Providing scholarships for current and retired UCSC Staff and their dependents who are students at UCSC

Several people have contributed to a matching grant of \$8,000, every donation on Giving Day will be matched \$1 to \$1

Birth of the Silver Slug Award

Long time UCSC staffers and enthusiastic Silver Slugs Mary Wells and Sharon Dirnberger first met when Mary joined the Admissions office in fall 1979. They have remained fast friends for nearly 40 years. A few years ago they were discussing how they both needed to update their estate plans and wanted to include charitable gifts to favorite causes. Both wanted to think of a way to benefit the staff at UCSC.

One of Sharon's roles as an admissions counselor was to talk with UCSC employees about the educational benefits available to them through the campus. In the course of her long career she met many who struggled to finish their degree program while working. Mary knew that other Retirees Associations on UC campuses offered scholarships for staff. They also know how hard it is for many staff to afford UC tuition so they thought

dependents should be included as possible awardees. The idea seemed perfect!

After much hard work and consultation with the UCSC Retirees Association Board and the support of Virginia Rivera and Bonnie McLeskey in University Relations, the idea came to fruition! It was approved by the board, and the Silver Slug Award endowment was established just in time for the first Giving Day in 2016. Mary, Sharon, and generous fellow Silver Slug Dave Kirk made initial donations to provide matching funds for gifts made that day, and with the help of many retirees and current staff, the initial \$25,000 endowment goal was met well before the five-year deadline.

We plan to continue growing the endowment and we will be reviewing our first applications and making our first Silver Slug Award in May 2018. Now that's a great retirement project!



Slugs on the Go!



Nancy Pascal at Stonehenge – June 2017



Dave Kirk at Delphi, Greece

Council of University of California Retiree Associations

An important benefit of membership in the Retirees Association is our participation with 12 sister associations throughout the UC system in the Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA). One of the main purposes of the Council is advocacy on behalf of retirees with the Office of the President. It's easy to keep abreast of what's happening within the UC retiree community by visiting the CUCRA website: <http://cucra.ucsd.edu/>

The following two announcements were sent by Rod Seeger, CUCRA Information Officer:

We have recently become aware of some UC websites that may be useful to you and the members of your association.

- If you are in an **Anthem Blue Cross plan** with prescription coverage, you know that Express Scripts replaced Optum RX for prescriptions. UC has set up this website if you have any questions about refills: <https://www.ucppoplans.com/medrx/answers-to-your-questions-about-rx-refills>
- If you are in the UC Medicare PPO with RX plan, you may be receiving a few letters in the mail. This website is available to explain the correspondence: <https://www.ucppoplans.com/medrx/pharmacy-transition>

Colleagues have complained that they have received unsolicited emails from a financial advisor in Irvine affiliated w Stratos wealth planners. The email implies that he is working with university retirees and Fidelity offering financial planning services. I checked at UCOP and it is clear that neither the university nor Fidelity have shared any financial information with this individual. However, our identity as emeriti is a matter of public record and the Stratos people apparently used such sources to identify potential clients. I cannot speak to their credentials, capabilities, intentions. They may be laudable or they could be questionable. However, it might be well to remind our members to be cautious about email solicitations from financial advisors who claim to be speaking on behalf of Fidelity or the university.



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UCSC Retirees Association
University Relations
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

UCSC Retirees Association – *aging gracefully like fine wine!*

DATES TO REMEMBER!

Thurs. March 8, 2018 11:30am – 2:00pm

Annual Speaker's Luncheon

Peace United Church of Christ

900 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Wed. May 2, 2018 11:30am – 2:00pm

Annual Scholarship Luncheon

UCSC Arboretum

1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

