



The Silver Slug

The Official Newsletter of UCSC Retirees Association

Volume 29, Issue #2, November 2018



Annual Holiday Party

Tuesday December 11, 2018 11:30am – 2:00pm

United Peace Church

900 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Enjoy a festive celebration of the season with food, music, and decorations, and join us as we thank Chancellor Blumenthal for his ongoing support of all retirees. Please bring a dish to share - your favorite holiday appetizer, entrée, salad, side dish, or dessert. Cold drinks and coffee will be provided. Please bring your own plate and utensils to reduce waste. Look forward to seeing you there!

There will be succulents for sale as a fundraiser for the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Fund for UCSC students who are military veterans, and also homemade crafts to benefit the Silver Slug Award Scholarship for current and retired UCSC Staff and their dependents who are attending UCSC.





President's Message November 2018

My how time flies! It's again that time of year when we count our many blessings and try to focus on the positive aspects of our lives. I, for one, am blessed with a supportive spouse, with children and grandchildren who are all healthy, and with my own good health. I am also blessed to be part of the UCSC retiree community as part of the Association which offers continued connection to many friends, important to maintaining a sense of belonging and a fun and vibrant life.

We continue to do good work on behalf of students through our efforts to award scholarships to deserving students. We also continue to advocate for retiree benefits and to offer fun social activities, the most recent a tour of local glass maker Annie Glass. We are, however, struggling to maintain a full complement of volunteers dedicated to ensuring our continued success. We are looking for retirees willing to coordinate our fundraising efforts, to maintain our newsletter, to act as our treasurer and to serve as our vice-president ready to lead the Association into the future. If you are reading this article and are interested in advocating for the benefits of retirees, or enjoy the many activities that we offer, including our quarterly luncheons, please consider taking a turn at joining the Board or one of its Committees. For more information or to volunteer email us at ucscsilverslug@gmail.com. Okay, enough recruiting!

We will soon have a very distinguished person, Chancellor Blumenthal, joining our ranks. The Chancellor has been a significant champion for retirees and I am sad that he will not be there for us once he retires at the end of the current academic year. However, I am happy for him and his family and that he will be able to relax and enjoy his hobbies. We look forward to his annual briefing provided at our December Holiday pot luck luncheon to be held on December 11, 2018.

As always, I look forward to seeing you all there!

Ilse Lopes

PS - Another great resource for retiree information is the Emeriti Association, here is the link to their website: <https://emeriti.ucsc.edu/index.html>



to New Members of the UCSC Retirees Association!

Linda Robertson – Campus Real Estate Services
Roberta Valdez – Women's Center (and CSUMB)
Phil Vandenberg – OPERS
Susan Marx – Lecturer from UCSD



McIvor's Corner – News from the UCSC Benefits Office

Marianne McIvor, Health Care Facilitator
831-459-3573 memcivor@ucsc.edu

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

Open Enrollment 2019 - 8:00am October 25, 2018 to 5:00pm November 20, 2018.

This is the time of year to review your health and welfare benefits, decide whether to make any changes, and add or delete family members for 2019. The UC Open Enrollment website is

<https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/oe/>

Open Enrollment Information Concerning Medicare Retirees and Kaiser

Active employees, even those that work past age 65, are able to select Kaiser HMO as a medical plan for their employee health plan. Prior to January 2017, Kaiser HMO was not available for Santa Cruz county residents because there were no Kaiser facilities in the county. Beginning in 2017, Kaiser established a presence in Santa Cruz county. This was exciting news due to the historic imbalance of demand vs. availability for physician services in Santa Cruz county across primary and specialty care. Kaiser established three medical offices in Santa Cruz with access to primary care, urgent care, psychiatry and behavioral health, lab and pharmacy services. An agreement was set up with Watsonville Community Hospital for Kaiser physicians to see Kaiser-enrolled patients for Emergency Room services; a Kaiser birthing center was set up alongside the Watsonville hospital birthing center; and Kaiser hospitalists would see Kaiser patients at Watsonville for inpatient stays. Members could, and sometimes are required to, travel to Kaiser facilities in Santa Clara county.

Since 2017, retired UC members with Medicare eligibility (generally retirees aged 65 and up) could *not* select the Medicare-coordinated version of Kaiser HMO because approval was required by federal regulating agencies. This means that retirees enrolled in Kaiser HMO weren't able to continue with the plan upon turning 65. Also, active employees working past age 65 and enrolled in Kaiser had to select a new medical plan as part of the retirement process (Disruption).

Very recently, in early October, Kaiser Permanente was approved by CMS (Centers for Medicare Services) to serve Medicare-coordinated members residing in Santa

Cruz county. This was very welcome news and Kaiser has been communicating with the Medicare-aged county population that this plan, Kaiser Senior Advantage (a Medicare advantage plan) is available to them on 01/01/19. However, this raised a question as to whether UC retirees wanting Kaiser Senior Advantage could select this plan. The programming for the Open Enrollment website (AYSO) was not updated to accommodate Kaiser Sr. Advantage as a selection for Santa Cruz county addresses. I communicated to the OP HR/Benefits management team that there was print, digital, radio and television media communicating the availability of this plan and I requested a statement from Office of the President. I received a statement that UC was considering future options, but Kaiser Sr. Advantage would not be available as Retiree Open Enrollment election for Santa Cruz county residents. UC will assess for any enrollment opportunities after the new year. I am apprising you of the current-state of things. I have recommended to that UCOP vendor management group that paper Open Enrollment elections for Kaiser Sr. Advantage election by Santa Cruz county residents be accepted by RASC and I have expressed my deep disappointment with this response.

The UCSC Benefits Office is collecting the names and contact information for UC Retirees that contact us wanting to be enrolled in Kaiser Sr. Advantage on 01/01/19 so we can quickly distribute information to individual retirees should conditions change. I will keep this group updated with developments.

Please contact Marianne by e-mail at memcivor@ucsc.edu or phone at (831)459-3573.

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

Christy Dawley Coordinator, UC Santa Cruz Retiree and Emeriti Center

(831)502-8202 rec@ucsc.edu

Office Hours Monday - Friday, 10:00am to 2:00pm*

Office Address: 100 Enterprise Way, Suite E100, Scotts Valley, CA 95066

**Office hours may vary based on meetings and events. If you would like to make sure Christy is available, it is recommended to make an appointment ahead of time.*

Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much. Through the efforts of many, UC Santa Cruz has established itself during the last half century as a university with an international reputation for excellence. Every retiree has played a necessary role in helping accomplish this.

Having worked on campus for the last five years in a different capacity, I have been impressed by this fact time and time again. Last January, I was brought on as the new coordinator of the Retiree and Emeriti Center in conjunction with the center relocating to University Relations. Simultaneously, the center's office moved to the second floor of the Enterprise Technology Centre in Scotts Valley- which some may recognize as the old Borland complex. The move facilitates direct contact with the teams within University Relations, Staff HR, and the Benefits Office. The added advantage is the proximity to other departments that impact retirees.

Our current location is not easily accessible by drop-in visitors. To alleviate this sense of distance, I hope to connect with retirees through events, bi-monthly pop-up meetings around campus, and through the development of a more robust online presence that will be readily available no matter your current geographic location.

This is an exciting time for UC Santa Cruz retirees. We are at the beginning stages of developing a center that strives to provide a conduit between retirees and campus and a nexus for resources, and which celebrates the achievements of our retirees. I look forward to discovering what we can do together to make our center one that is as diverse and unique as our campus and the retirees we support.

To learn more about the center, please visit rec.ucsc.edu

If you would like to receive updates on upcoming programs available to retirees and other relevant information, please submit your contact information either by using our [online form here](#) or by emailing: rec@ucsc.edu. Spouses of retirees are also welcome to sign up to receive information and attend training sessions that are presented by the center. I welcome your comments and ideas for the future.



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/>

Scholarship Committee Report

What an unforgettable surprise event for me which was added to the scholarship luncheon program on Wed. May 2 at the UCSC Arboretum. Many, many thanks for the lovely framed certificate signed by Chancellor Blumenthal and our Retirees President, Ilse Lopes, for my efforts related to the Retirees Association and campus. Also, thanks for the useful gardening tools to help me with propagating succulents to sell for military veteran student scholarships. I just hope to be worthy of Associate Vice Chancellor Steve Stein's kind words at the luncheon; you can't imagine how much his comments meant to me.

As of the end of September 2018, my records show a total of \$40,229.58 in contributions for the Silver Slug Award Endowment for staff members and their dependents. This now has a market value of \$42,516. There is a total of \$160,300.78 in contributions for the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Endowment for military veteran students. This now has a market value of \$171,476. There is a total of \$1,541.83 in the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Current Year Fund for military veteran student scholarships.

Is there anyone who has a friend or relative they would like to remember next May at the scholarship luncheon with a scholarship in their memory? That person doesn't need a military background. If you are interested, please call me at (831)426-8353 by March 1, 2019.

At the December retiree's luncheon, Patt Takeuchi Karalee Richter will be selling aprons, hats, bags, cards, soap, etc. for the Silver Slug Endowment. I will be selling succulents for the current year military veteran student scholarships. I'm desperately in need of cups, mugs, sugar bowls, soup bowls, creamers, serving bowls, etc. in which to plant the succulents. Please bring any you could donate to the December luncheon. Look forward to seeing you there.

Maxine Lane, Chair of Scholarship Committee



If you would like to make an online donation, please go to the Scholarship page on our website: <https://retirees.ucsc.edu/scholarships/index.html>

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.

Donna Rispoli
August 17, 2018



Dennie Van Tassel
September 8, 2018

Jesus Valencia
August 11, 2018

Kathryn Metz
September 27, 2018

Donald Weygandt
September 9, 2018

Madalyn Doke
October 1, 2018

Bruce Allison
September 1, 2018

Frank Talamantes
October 8, 2018

Lynda Marks
September 10, 2018

Helene Moglen
October 18, 2018

Slugs on the Go!



Past Events

Sept. 12, 2018 Annual Fall Picnic



This year we fired up the BBQ at the Annual Fall Picnic at Harvey West Park. Folks enjoyed hotdogs and burgers along with wonderful salads and side dishes that everyone brought. Succulents and crafts were sold to raise money for our scholarship funds.



October 2018 Annieglass Factory Tour



On Oct. 18, seventeen Silver Slugs met in Watsonville to see how the craftspeople at Annieglass turn large slabs of architectural window glass into beautiful and useful handcrafted glassware. After sternly (and humorously) warning us not to touch anything in the production area, because GLASS IS SHARP, our tour guide, founder Annie Morhauser’s daughter Eva, took us through each stage in the process. Starting with cutting the glass, either by hand or by computerized water jet cutter, to the application of precious metal, painted decoration or etching, and then to the firing process. Glass pieces are heated to high temperature in electric kilns until they soften and “slump” over hand-made plaster forms. Before shipping, each piece receives a hand-etched signature and date. Annieglass recently celebrated their 35th year, and continues to offer new designs, as well as producing old favorite patterns. Their current factory incorporates their only factory outlet, selling current patterns and factory seconds, and a space offering art classes and wine tastings. For those who are interested, but could not join us, Annieglass offers regular tours, three days a week. More information at:

<https://annieglass.com/pages/studio-tours>

“Racism & America’s Concentration Camps” by Mas Hashimoto at TEDx Merit Academy

Mas Hashimoto (retired Watsonville High history teacher) gave a talk at our 2016 Spring Luncheon on the Japanese-American Internment during WWII. Recently, Mas told me that he had done a presentation for a TEDx event. Most people are familiar with TED talks, but it has recently been extended out to TEDx which brings the spirit of TED’s mission of “ideas worth spreading” to local communities around the globe. His YouTube TEDx presentation is less personal than the one we experienced when Mas spoke to us in person, but equally worth watching. Here is the link to view it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RO8RI9Wqms>

Travel



Frank Trueba with his signature “selfie” in front of the Golden Pavilion in Kyoto, Japan, May 2018 and Roman Aqueduct in Segovia, Spain in September 2018



Upcoming Events

Look for an e-mail with our survey!

In an effort to ensure we are meeting the needs of retirees we would appreciate your input by answering a few questions. We've kept the survey short so to not take so much of your precious time, but we would LOVE to hear from you.

Self Defense Strategies & Skills Workshop

Sat. January 5, 2019 1:00 – 4:00pm

Tannery Arts Center, Santa Cruz

Learn techniques for dealing with threatening people, how to avoid "high risk" situations, skills and strategies to keep you safer and more confident around town and in your home.

- verbal strategies/use of voice
- body awareness/language
- environmental awareness
- main targets on body/some alternate targets
- body's natural weapons
- weapons of opportunity
- how to evade physical attacks
- techniques for striking perpetrator
- how to get out of grabs/chokes/holds

Watch for an e-mail regarding registration.

It's the time of year for giving gifts! Get your shopping done and support UCSC students by buying online at the Zazzle Silver Slug Store



You can purchase products with the UCSC Retirees Association logo at [zazzle.com](https://www.zazzle.com). Proceeds from the sale of these items will raise funds for scholarships for UCSC students through the Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship for Military Veterans and the Silver Slug Scholarship for staff and their dependents who have financial need. With your purchase, you will be contributing to the scholarships for our many deserving students.

Thank you for your support!

<https://www.zazzle.com/silverslugs?rf=238135498215017315>



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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!

5:00pm Nov. 20, 2018 – **Last Day of Open Enrollment**

Tue. Dec. 11, 2018 11:30am – 2:00pm

Annual Holiday Luncheon

Peace United Church
High Street, Santa Cruz

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