



# The Silver Slug

The Official Newsletter of UCSC Retirees Association

Volume 29, Issue #3, February 2019



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
**SANTA CRUZ**

## Annual Speaker's Luncheon

Thursday March 7, 2019 11:30am – 2:00pm

Peace United Church of Christ

900 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Guest speakers will be Roger Anderson, reporting on the UC Retirees Health Benefits Working Group, and Barry Bowman with information about the Osher Life Long Learning Institute at UCSC (OLLI)**



This event is a potluck. Please bring a dish to share - appetizer, entrée, salad, side dish, or dessert. Cold drinks & coffee will be provided.

In an effort to reduce waste, please consider bringing your own reusable plate and utensils.





## President's Message February 2019

The New Year is well under way and I hope it finds you happy and healthy! I'll take this opportunity to catch you up on recent our activities.

We can all be thankful that we are supported by a network of retirees that care about one another. As an example, one of our members, Peggy McCray lived in Paradise, CA and was contacted by one of our Board members following the devastating fire in that area. We learned that she had lost her worldly possessions, including her home. Thankfully, she and her dog are safe. One of the many things we try to do is to stay connected with our members any way we can.

We continue to advocate for retirees, the latest were our efforts, supported by campus leadership, to get UCOP to allow our retirees, that are of Medicare age (you know who you are) to enroll in Kaisers Senior Advantage Plan. I'm happy to report those efforts were a success!

In December we participated in a campus crowd-funding effort, for Friends groups, to support our scholarships. Thanks to all of you for making this effort a success. We had more than 90 donors, raising close to \$4,000 and secured the 2nd place prize of an additional \$1,500!

In January, many of us participated in a self-defense course for women (sorry men) that was educational, fun, and gave us pointers on how to live safely and defend ourselves when needed. This class fit in with my New Year's resolution to try new things outside of my normal activities. I encourage you to do the same. We are all life-long learners.

And along those lines, we have a number of fun events coming up. On March 7<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Speakers Luncheon and this year emeriti Barry Bowman and Roger Anderson will be our guest speakers. Barry will educate us about the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and explain why he believes participation in groups like OLLI is important for retirees. Roger will provide his insights on the UC Retiree Health Benefits Working Group, of which he was a member. and how to provide productive leadership around this issue. This is an exciting opportunity to hear from two distinguished former faculty members still engaged post retirement.

Finally, we will be releasing our member survey very soon. When it arrives, we would truly appreciate your input and hope you will have a moment to respond to our questions. We aimed to keep it short with 10 questions, but if you are inclined to write more, the last one is open-ended and we welcome ideas and suggestions. Our goal is to make sure we are meeting the needs of you, our members.

Stay well and hope to see you in March,

Ilse Lopes



## New Members of the UCSC Retirees Association!

**Lisa Akeson Charnock** – Real Estate Services/BAS  
**Jan Burroughs** – College 8, Rachel Carson College  
**Larry Pageler** (TAPS) and Kathy Freeman

**Mallory McWilliams** (Econ. Dept) and Barbara Lawrence  
**Michael Peck** – UCO/Lick Observatory

## What's New?



The UCSC Farm, managed by the Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) at UC Santa Cruz, welcomes participants to the 2019 Volunteer Docent Training Session. You will learn:

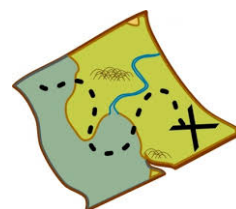
- Basic concepts & practices of organic farming
- History of gardening & farming at UCSC
- Social justice in relation to the food system
- And more!

There will be seven training sessions on Mondays 5:30 – 7:30pm from March 11 to April 22. More information is available on the CASFS website.

<https://casfs.ucsc.edu/news-events/news/docent-training-2019.html>

### Professional Educator's Assistance Recognition (PEAR) Scholarship

As the nation's largest educational travel institution for older adults, Road Scholar is proud to announce a unique opportunity for past and present educators to take part in one of their Road Scholar travel programs. <https://www.road scholar.org/about/>



Road Scholar was founded by two education administrators, David Bianco and Marty Knowlton, and nearly half of the participants were, or are currently, in the field of education. Though being an educator is one of the noblest callings, unfortunately in today's world, the financial reward educators receive doesn't come close to matching the value they provide society. That is why, with the generous support of donors, the Road Scholar program has created a special kind of assistance specifically for active and retired educators, the "Professional Educator's Assistance Recognition" scholarship - or "PEAR" for short.

If you are over 50 years of age, are currently working in or have retired from any educational organization or system and are facing financial barriers preventing you from participating in a Road Scholar program, you are eligible to apply. For more information, go to <https://retirees.ucsc.edu/announcements/index.html>

### Slugs on the Go!



Dave Kirk in the Alps and travelling in Italy



## 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

### Annual Tax Statements and UC's tips for protecting yourself from tax scams

Tax season is around the corner and scammers will be sending fraudulent e-mails that look like legitimate tax communications. The IRS reports that thousands of people have lost money to tax scams. You can protect yourself from becoming another victim by being cautious. Check out IRS alerts about common tax scams at <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts> and be on alert for the following:

- Any message (text or e-mail) asking for W-2, 1099-R or other tax information
- Authentic-looking e-mails impersonating UC communications that offer access to your tax information via an attachment or hyperlink
- Messages that look like they are from executive management requesting copies of 1099-R or W-2 forms for review purposes
- Any messages that encourage you to click on links; that ask for passwords; or that request other private or confidential information
- Unexpected phone calls about messages, including calls that ask you to install software

Please note that UC does not send actual tax statements to retirees by e-mail or text. If you have requested an electronic statement, you must log into to AYS ONLINE to view it. If you receive an e-mail or text that has an attachment for viewing your tax statement, it is a phishing scam designed to gain your private information. DO NOT open any attachments or click on any e-mail links. Here is more information on what phishing is and how to protect yourself <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0003-phishing>.

As a reminder, here's how you will receive your 2018 W-2 or 1099-R from UC:

- Printed W-2 and 1099-R forms will be mailed by January 31<sup>st</sup> to your home address on file with UC

**Electronic W-2 and 1099-R forms are available now on** <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/retirees>

The UCOP website has a section on Information Security, including eight important cybersecurity habits to help protect your information and reduce your risk of getting scammed.

<https://security.ucop.edu/resources/security-awareness/habits.html>



### **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/>

## 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](mailto: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.*

### Cybersecurity Awareness

In only a few decades, the internet has altered our world in more ways than anyone could have imagined. Despite the many benefits and conveniences that come with this technology, the internet presents us with new challenges to the security of our personal information.

The Retiree & Emeriti Center will offer another cybersecurity training for retirees on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 4:00pm at the Scotts Valley Center. Participants will leave empowered with tools and awareness to help them safely navigate the internet, manage online accounts, and understand best practices for sharing personal information to limit the chances of becoming a victim of identity theft and internet scams. Presented by the UC Santa Cruz IT Department and Campus Privacy Office in conjunction with the Retiree & Emeriti Center.

If you would like to take this workshop, please click on this link, which will take you directly to the online registration form. <https://goo.gl/forms/kfmCzpZig9WLtLXx2>

Even if you are not able to attend the training, you can still use six steps below to help protect your devices and personal information online. For additional resources, please visit the Cybersecurity Resource page on our website at <https://rec.ucsc.edu/news-and-information/tech-awareness.html>

#### 1) Password and Information Security

- Use long and strong passwords
- Never reuse passwords
- Use a password manager
- Use a two-factor or multi-factor authentication

#### 2) Keep Your Computer Updated

- Use anti-malware
- Regularly shut down or restart your computer
- Be sure your computer updated regularly

#### 3) Avoid scams

- Stop and think before you act
- Criminals utilize people's emotions to create a sense of urgency that often results in poor decision-making
- Be aware of phishing, malware, identity theft and computer phone scams

#### 4) Safely Use Sites

- "S" stands for secure. Look for the "S" in https://
- Make sure there is a lock image next to the URL (web address)

#### 5) Use a Secure Network

- Change your home network password 1-2 times per year
- Older routers may be vulnerable
- Consider using a VPN (Virtual Private Network)

#### 6) Safely Share Information



## Scholarship Committee Report

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who contributed to the Friends Group Face-Off Giving Week on behalf of the UCSC Retirees Association. Thanks to your efforts, we came in second place in the competition and received the prize of an additional \$1,500 which will add to the scholarship funds.

The succulent sales again brought in over \$1,000, so that will provide for one scholarship in May. Thanks to all of you who bought succulents at our social events and/or donated cups, mugs, soup bowls, creamers, sugar bowls, serving bowls, etc. in which I can plant them. I can still use more such containers for succulents and would appreciate your bringing any you can spare to the March social event.

If you would like to provide money for a scholarship for a military veteran student to be presented in May in the memory of a particular person, please contact me at (831)426-8353 by March 1<sup>st</sup>. That person

doesn't require a military background. For this type of scholarship, a brief account can be given at the Scholarship Luncheon regarding the person being remembered and some memorabilia can be displayed on a side table.

From the information I received to date from University Relations, counting most, but not all of the December contributions, the Silver Slug Award Endowment Fund now totals \$46,666.08, the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund totals \$167,020.78, and the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarship Current Year Fund totals \$3,255.57.

I look forward to seeing you on March 7<sup>th</sup>,

Maxine Lane, Chair of Scholarship Committee

## 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.



Lila Brown  
October 17, 2018

Stuart Schlegel  
November 8, 2018

Susan McBride  
November 14, 2018

John Dizikes  
December 26, 2018

Mary Patricia Costello  
December 26, 2018

Lois L. Innes  
December 31, 2018

Arnold R. Klemola  
January 5, 2019

Bryan H. Farrell  
January 7, 2019

John K. Mortensen  
January 10, 2019

Geraldine L. Powell  
January 12, 2019

Joan J. Roberts  
January 18, 2019

## Past Events

### Annual Holiday Luncheon – December 6, 2018

A special tribute was given to Chancellor George Blumenthal, as he announced earlier in the Fall that he would be retiring at the end of the 2018-19 Academic year. The UCSC Retirees Association presented him with a star named after him, and an apron and T-shirt tote bag from our Crafts Committee. RA President Ilse Lopes expressed our gratitude for the ongoing support that we have received throughout his tenure. Chancellor Blumenthal has always made the time to attend RA events and provide updates on relevant happenings on campus and at the system-wide level.



*UCSC Retirees Association President Ilse Lopes presenting certificate to Chancellor Blumenthal*



*Hand made crafts were sold to benefit the Silver Slug Award Scholarship. Thank you to the following people who donate their time to create these wonderful items: Karalee Richter, Patt Takeuchi, Robin Ove, Pamela Hunt-Carter, Maria Smith, Jane Hanvirth, and David Kirk.*

### Self Defense Workshop – January 5, 2019



Making good choices to stay safe when confronted with threatening situations and how to avoid confrontational situations in the first place were critical lessons conveyed in the 3-hour workshop taught by Marcia Buenafe (soon to be a UCSC retiree) and Clara Minor of MINORSAN Self-Defense & Fitness. Time was spent teaching us how to be more aware of our surroundings, developing a solid sense of self, and how strong body language, facial expressions and tone of voice can be used as defense tools. We were taught how to be more aware of our environment and avoid being a target for predators. Having a positive, confident attitude goes a long way in helping keep us safe. We were able to put this knowledge to work when we started the “hands-on” exercises. We employed various defensive arm moves with partners and practiced our kicking skills on punching bags and plastic “dummy” heads. One attendee commented, *“There was a lot to absorb but still easy to remember some basics of what we learned and experienced: practice self-awareness and awareness of surroundings, and next steps we can take for our own self-confidence.”* We all walked away more confident, and more aware of surroundings and how we might put some of the skills learned to use some day. Time definitely well spent!

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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 7, 2019 11:30am – 2:00pm

### **Annual Speaker's Luncheon**

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



Wed. April 17, 2019

### **Filoli Gardens Tour**

Wed. May 8, 2019 11:30am – 2:00pm

### **Annual Scholarship Luncheon**

UCSC Arboretum, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

More information on all events is available on our website

<https://retirees.ucsc.edu/calendar-events/index.html>