



The Silver Slug

The Official Newsletter of the UCSC Retirees Association

Volume 30, Issue #4, April 2020



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

This spot is where we usually promote our next social gathering, which for this issue would have been the Annual Scholarship Luncheon in May. Since the event has been cancelled due to COVID-19, Chancellor Cynthia Larive sent the following statement, as she was scheduled to attend.

***Note to scholarship winners and Retiree Association members
from Chancellor Cynthia Larive***

Celebrating student success is my favorite part of my job, and it's especially important these days, as Slugs are spread worldwide as we each do our part to help end this pandemic. I look forward to the time when we are again united on our campus!

I would like to offer hearty congratulations to Elizabeth, Katharina and CJ, the recipients of the Retiree Association's Silver Slug Award, and to Marco, Jared, Matthen, Ayelesha, Cole, Ryan, Jerhson, Nicholas, and Heather, the recipients of the Bruce Lane Memorial Scholarships. Reading a little about each of you has buoyed my spirits. I applaud all the work you've done to get to this point — your dedication to family, your resilience, your vision! I am so proud that you have chosen UC Santa Cruz as a stop on your journeys. You are a credit to this university.

Thanks also are due our retirees, whose collective generosity has made these scholarships possible. It would be impossible to overstate the ability of these awards to change lives. They are truly transformational. I deeply value the contributions you have made, and continue to make, to our campus.

Fiat Slug!



President's Message April 2020

First, I hope you and yours are staying healthy and sane during this unusual time. It's been nothing but excitement here...if you like repetition. After waking, drinking coffee, walking the dog, exercising (though my motivation is dwindling), reading, and cleaning the house over and over, I have resorted to watching funny animal videos on the internet while my husband is learning Hawaiian on-line with our grand-daughter. However, I did find a great new restaurant called "The Kitchen" where you have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. We'll see if they stay in business.

Now, onto Association news. Our Annual Spring Speakers Luncheon was held on March 5th. Our guest speaker was Sandra Cohen, a UCSC retiree, representing Village Santa Cruz County, a local non-profit that is part of a National movement whose goal is to provide connections and support to the Senior community, much like our association. If you missed it, I encourage you to check out their website at www.villagesantacruz.org.



You already know that future luncheons and outings, including our May scholarship event, have been cancelled and/or postponed. However, we will still honor our award recipients through this newsletter and follow-up communications over the next couple of months. There are twelve deserving students and we'll feature three or four at a time.

The Board met virtually on April 7th, via ZOOM. Thank you to Retiree and Emeriti Center Coordinator Christy Dawley, who coordinated and provided user training to Board members for the meeting. We donned our best hats for the event (that's how desperate for fun we are), mainly to cover up our increasingly unruly hair. Look for a few examples throughout the newsletter. We discussed how to recognize our scholarship awardees, how to keep engaged with you our members (you'll be hearing from us), and discussed the Officer slate for the coming year starting in July.

And on that note, my term as President is coming to an end and this is my last letter to you as President. It has been an honor and a pleasure working with the Board and meeting all of you these past three (yes, count them) years. Fortunately, we have a fabulous Board member in Bill Parro, who will transition from his role as Vice President to President for 2020-21. I look forward to continuing to be involved and supporting the Association in some other way. So we are in pretty good shape, but are looking for a brave volunteer to take over the duties of the Vice-President and also someone to fill the role of Fundraising Chair. Now's the time to volunteer what else do you have to do?

My final wish for all of you, as President, is that you stay healthy, in good humor, and have connections that sustain you until we are able to meet again.

Ilse



McIvor's Corner – News from the UCSC Benefits Office

Marianne McIvor, Health Care Facilitator [831-459-3573](tel:831-459-3573) memcivor@ucsc.edu

It is an interesting and challenging time on campus due to shelter in place orders. I am working from home and the best way to reach me is by e-mail: memcivor@ucsc.edu. Things are changing daily because of public health needs and due to legislative changes. Accordingly, I have collected below some information to help keep you informed. The websites cited are being regularly updated with information.

What is happening on the UC Santa Cruz campus in response to COVID-19? Information on the campus response to the COVID-19 pandemic is available at: <https://www.ucsc.edu/coronavirus/>

How do I find out what my health plan covers for COVID-19? Your health plan's website and/or calling the customer service number on your medical plan ID card are the best resources to find information about coverage. Customer Service teams have received training and are prepared to answer questions about COVID-19 treatment coverage. UC Net, the University's website for health and welfare information, has brief information and links to more detailed information. UC never provides your e-mail address to your medical plan. To make sure that you don't miss timely & informative communications from your medical plan, register as a user at your plan's website. Find the links to your plan's website at the following page: <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/contacts/plan-contacts.html>

UC Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC) Limited Operations: In response to stay at home orders, RASC representatives will be unable to answer calls as usual, or to receive physical mail in a timely manner. UC RAYS Secure Messaging is the most efficient method to reach RASC representatives. See the Getting Help with UC RAYS page: ucal.us/retireehelp. If you are locked out of UC RAYS, please notify the UCSC Retiree & Emeriti Center by email at rec@ucsc.edu, or by phone at (831)502-8202.

Please be aware of scams! Unfortunately, Centers for Medicare Services and Internal Revenue Service are reporting sharp increases in illegal schemes, often targeting older adults. A Social Security agent will never call you to ask you for your Social Security Number. Never give any part of your Social Security number, your bank account, Medicare ID # or credit card number to anyone who contacts you.

Wishing you good health, Marianne McIvor

Staying In Touch via the Telephone Tree:

Several members of the Retirees Association do not have Internet or email access. For several years, I have been calling them with reminders of upcoming social events and announcements. Shortly after the shelter in place order was issued, I called to check on these retirees to make sure they were up-to-date with the latest from the Retiree Association. I left messages for several, and was able to talk with the rest. As you might know, our members are resilient, creative, and very self-reliant. They have made arrangements for deliveries of food and medicine, and set up frequent contacts with family and friends. One member was facing a potential crisis due to lack of toilet paper. I was able to make an emergency delivery to provide temporary supplies. In a sweet gesture of thanks, the member made a donation to the Silver Slug Award Endowment Fund! As we continue the "lock-down" I will call our colleagues to be sure they have updated information to UC announcements and information. Let me know if you know of any of our members who do not have Internet or email access, so I can add them to the call list.

Stay well, Stay home, Be Safe!
Nancy Pascal



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

As we continue to shelter-in-place for the time being, there is much welcome good news about the UC Retirement Plan below. Also, be sure to continue reading to the end of this newsletter to learn about a newly released book of oral histories from UC Santa Cruz. Don't miss the book's companion website where you can delve into the history of the campus through striking photos, an interactive timeline, and more.

UC Net Article: Long-Term Stability of UC Retirement Plan

UC Office of the President has posted a new article on UCnet. It begins, “Across the University of California system, members of our community — especially the dedicated professionals at UC Health — are working tirelessly to stop the spread of the coronavirus and limit its impact to our health, welfare, and national security. During this time of uncertainty and upheaval, it is important to know that your UC retirement benefits will be there when you need them. They will be.”

Please visit here for more information:

<https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2020/03/the-long-term-stability-of-the-uc-retirement-plan.html>

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

University of California Retirement Plan (UCRP) and UC-PERS Plus 5 Plan benefit recipients, including those receiving survivor and UCRP disability income, will receive a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) effective July 1, 2020. The July 1, 2020 COLA of 2.0% is for those with retirement dates on or before July 1, 2019 and does not vary by retirement date. The increase will appear in checks paid on July 31.

Please visit here for more information:

<https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/2020/03/2020-cost-of-living-adjustments-announced.html>

Board members Patt Takeuchi, Chris Attias, and Ilse Lopes on ZOOM in our virtual meeting on April 7th.



Scholarship Committee Report

Unfortunately, we won't be able to have our Annual Scholarship Luncheon in May due to the COVID 19 virus that is spreading over the nation. Chancellor Cynthia Larive was going to speak and we hope that she will be able to join us next year. As an undergraduate Chancellor Larive received a scholarship and is well aware of the positive impact of such awards. We are so lucky to have her as our Chancellor.

At the end of February 2020, the Silver Slug Award Endowment totaled \$53,573.08, the UCSC Retirees Association Bruce Lane Military Veteran Student Endowment totaled \$198,484.59, and the Retirees Association Bruce Lane Current Year Fund is \$2,866.69 after the nine scholarships are given. Since we won't be able to meet or hear from the students in person at the luncheon, here is some background information on all the scholarship recipients. Thanks to the following members of the Scholarship Committee who carefully examined all the applications and decided who would receive the awards: Barbara Collins, Sharon Dirnberger, Sally Lester, Corinne Miller, Nancy Pascal, Mary Wells, and Daniel Young. Many thanks also to Sally Lester for her work with the Silver Slug Award applicants, and Julie Howell, the UCSC Veteran's Program Coordinator

We hope all our UCSC retiree friends are healthy and can be in good spirits. We're all in this virus problem together, support one another and stay strong!

Maxine Lane
Scholarship Chair

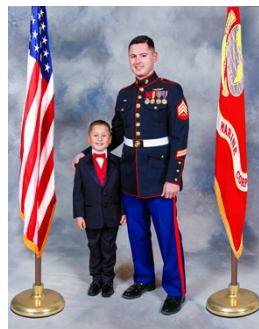
SILVER SLUG AWARD SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Elizabeth Anne Howard is the Director of UCSC's Younger Lagoon Reserve supporting teaching, research, and restoration. She enjoys collaborations with faculty, other graduate students, undergraduate students, and professionals on research projects, several of which have resulted in publication during her tenure at the reserve. She also is a mentor for undergraduate student interns. For her dissertation research she is using a combination of social and natural science approaches to evaluate the long-term success of native habitat restoration projects mandated by the California Coastal Commission. Her work will provide insight to regulators and land managers on how to maximize restoration success while minimizing cost. She is pursuing her PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She believes in living within her means, paying cash whenever possible, and minimizing debt. As a re-entry graduate student with a limited

research budget, receiving the Silver Slug Award scholarship for the second year will allow to complete her archival research and visit field sites this spring and summer.

RETIREES ASSOCIATION BRUCE LANE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS



Matthew Enders spent nine years in the Marine Corps as a Western European Cryptologic Linguist and as a Military Language Instructor at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, California where he taught classes and mentored marines. He felt that all of his experience in the Marine Corps built him to be a capable individual. The transition to life at UCSC has been filled with adaptation, integration, and flexibility. He is pursuing a goal of attaining a bachelor's degree in psychology and achieving a doctorate, returning eventually in service to the Marine Corps as a civilian to help the Marines with burdens they incur. His greatest challenge is missing out on his son's life. His son has been a priority for him since before he was born. This scholarship will help him financially and will be used for his goal of continuing to be successful academically. It will also help him be there for his son as much as possible.



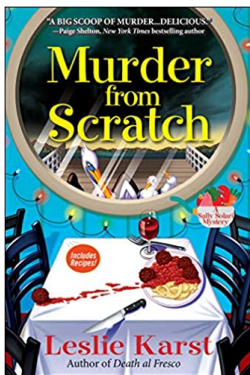
Ayelesha Gibson joined the U.S. Army soon after high school graduation as a Combat Medic or Health Specialist. Her lifestyle called for a level of independence, adaptation, and resilience which she didn't think she would ever have known, if it weren't for the very unique situations of military life. Her time in the military prepared her for UCSC, juggling full-time and part-time work, self-care, relationships, sanity, and perseverance. She is majoring in Film and Digital Media with a production concentration and accomplished the goal of interning at a media company last summer. The GI Bill ended for her so the Retirees Association Bruce Lane Scholarship will help her tremendously in her last quarter so she can fund her Senior Narrative Film Project. Her funds are very tight and the scholarship will take some of the strain off.



Ryan John Hartnett served for four years on the USS Tarawa as an Airman on the flight-deck, on the repair crew, and also worked out of the hanger bay and workshops. He was trusted with independently working with highly technical repairs on multi-million dollar equipment. While growing up he never expected to go to college. The Navy was his introduction into engineering and his career aspiration is to work in research and development regarding organismal cybernetics – the engineering of cyborgs. He plans to pursue a PhD in a related field such as applied physics or neuroscience with the goal of trying to make these technologies more effective and commercially viable. He plans to use the Retirees Association Bruce Lane Scholarship to help cover his bills and will show his appreciation for it by continued academic excellence.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH OUTINGS AND EVENTS?

Back in early March, the Retirees Board thought it may have been premature to cancel our planned outings, but in light of our current situation, the decision was a good one. We were all looking forward to the Younger Lagoon walks led by Beth Howard & the Wildlife Video Presentation by Katharina Pierini, both recipients of the 2019 & 2020 Silver Slug Scholarship Awards. Frank Trueba was getting excited about getting us together to try two more beer breweries in south county, Elkhorn Slough Brewing and Corralitos Brewing. Unfortunately, we'll have to sit tight for a while. These events will all be back on our calendar when the time is right. In addition, here are some things to look forward to:



Originally planned for late May (although we're fairly certain that we won't be out of the COVID-19 woods by then) we scheduled a talk by local author and UCSC grad, Leslie Karst, entitled: *A Writer's Reinvention and Journey*. We will follow her career from legal attorney to culinary mystery writer, what it took to switch from one kind of writing to that of an entirely different milieu, finding an agent, and to her final successful publications of the Sally Solari mystery series. If you're looking for something to read, check out her 4 books that all take place in Santa Cruz! Even though you can't get outside and be there, you'll enjoy reading about various locations in town, visualize hanging out on West Cliff, the Pacific Garden Mall, and the wharf and imagining the delicious meals she describes. They are available on the Bookshop Santa Cruz website, so you can support a local business too!
<https://www.bookshopsantacruz.com/search/site/Leslie%20Karst>

We will also have more beer and wine tasting in our futures, a FALL trip to Filoli Gardens, and maybe an end of the season visit to see the Santa Cruz Derby Girls.

Stay safe and stay tuned!

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAIN VINEYARD

--- by Retirees Association member Sharon Dirnberger

On a sunny February afternoon eleven wine-loving Silver Slugs gathered at Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard on the Westside. Jeff Emery, the owner and winemaker, and his friend and colleague Andrew Cohen, a local chef, were our hosts. Both were UCSC students in the late 1970s so some campus memories certainly were shared.

Jeff told us about the founding of SCMV in 1975 by Ken Burnap, a restaurateur from Southern California with a love of French Burgundies. With Andrew's expert guidance, we tasted more than a dozen wines from the SCMV label as well as the Quinta Cruz label, which features wines from varieties traditionally grown on the Iberian

Peninsula. From a dry, crisp Bobcat White to the 2010 Rabelo, a dessert wine made from the true Port grape varieties used in Portugal, we savored an amazing selection. We were even treated to the 2012 Pinot Noir—Vine Hill Reserve, a very special wine.

Andrew had great stories to go with the wines and he made our mouths water with his food pairing suggestions. We learned a lot and enjoyed experiencing both familiar and new wines. There were many positive comments, including, "I loved 90% of what I tasted!", "This was the best wine tasting ever!" and "I learned so much".

Many thanks go to Jeff and Andrew!

What have Silver Slugs been up to?



Elisabet Hiatt - I have hundreds of uninhabited acres behind my house (privately owned land to which I have been given permission to use) so I've been able to continue to ride my horses "as usual" during this time... as an "I like to be outside person" this is one of the few things that hasn't changed for me that's keeping me sane!!

Maurene Catto has been sewing masks to donate to health care workers.

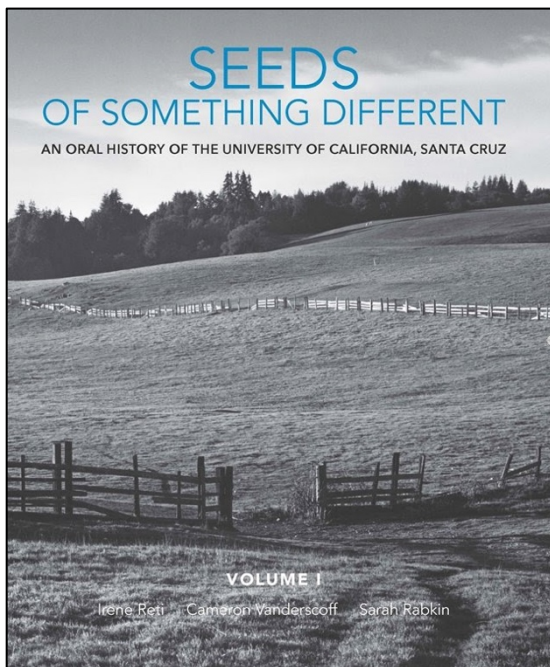


Karalee Richter (on the right) has been sewing and selling handbags, with proceeds going to the Silver Slug Award scholarship fund. Buyer Kerrie McCaffrey on the left and Ilse Lopes photobombing!

11

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



Explore the rich history of UCSC through photos, oral history clips, posters, and more all featured on the companion website for the new two-volume book, **Seeds of Something Different: An Oral History of the University of California, Santa Cruz**, edited and published by the UCSC Library's Regional History Project.

Visit the SEEDS website to see the interactive timeline, pictures of campus, and learn more about the book

<https://exhibits.library.ucsc.edu/exhibits/show/seeds/home>

This book is available for delivery through the UCSC campus bookstore and Bookshop Santa Cruz. For those who live in Santa Cruz County, Bookshop Santa Cruz is offering delivery within the county for \$0.99, or curbside pickup to those who call or order online. Both volumes are also available on Amazon as an ebook. If you have stories, photos, posters from your time at UCSC, please consider contributing them for possible inclusion on the curated SEEDS website. You can do this by going to the University Library Digital Exhibits contribution page, here is the link. <https://exhibits.library.ucsc.edu/contribution>