The Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association (CCRFA) is made up of retired faculty, counselors and administrators of Cerritos College. Our current membership numbers 110. However, we keep track of about 199 retired faculty. Our purpose is to meet socially, stay abreast of what is happening at Cerritos College and try to keep up with legislation being passed or considered in Sacramento affecting STRS and PERS retirees. We are not a political organization and do not lobby in Sacramento, leaving that job for the California Retired Teacher Association.

We meet twice a year at Cerritos College (on center stage in the Student Center) for lunch – usually in April and October. We try to have other social activities in between the April and October lunch meetings. We have organized a Palm Desert weekend, a Sunday at the beach, and also went for a cruise on the mountains. We have organized a Palm Desert weekend, a Sunday at the beach, and also went for a cruise on the mountains.

Welcome to the Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association

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Donna Miller says life is good! Many of you may know that after 37 years living in Laguna Niguel, my husband and I moved to Santa Fe in 2015 to be closer to our twin grandchildren. It was a good decision! We’re loving being so close to family and are enjoying a new adventure that includes getting rid of stuff we don’t need anymore (ugh!) and being close to Dana Point. I did have to resign my positions on the Board of Trustees for the North Orange County Community College District and the Buena Park Library Board which made me sad, but after 18 years, it was time. I’m still involved with activities with the Community College League of California so community colleges (especially Cerritos!) are still in my heart. As usual we have relaxing vacations planned for the year in Coronado, Oxnard, and North Lake Tahoe so I’m happy relaxing but busy enough especially with the grandkids. Hope 2016 is off to a good start for all of you too!!

Bob Kreger sends a short note to say that I’ll not be at the upcoming meeting. Maria and I are now living in Spain. We sold nearly EVERYTHING and left the USA on Jan 1, 2016 for Maria’s home city of Palencia. We have purchased a new home and are renting while it gets a complete remodeling facelift. I am adjusting nicely and living out my dreams taking long walks along the nearby river while enjoying good food, great wine, and interesting tapas. Please give my best regards to all of the Cerritos gang. I will always carry my memories of my years at the college with me.

Dr. Wilford Michael writes the CCRFA luncheons are special occasions when Jean and I are able to see and visit with other Cerritos retirees. We will be out of town this year and unable to attend the April luncheon.

Our activities continue to be with family, church, Cerritos College, Rotary, and exercising at the Main Place Mall with friends. Our daughter Debbie and her husband, Tom, have retired and moved from Sacramento to Nipomo, south of San Luis Obispo, and much closer to us. Daughter Marcia still works at Disneyland and lives in Placentia. Grand-daughter and grandson live in Pasadena and Glendale respectively and we are able to see them frequently. Traditional extended family functions are Christmas and Easter which we have hosted for many years and intend to do so again this year. Right now we are in the planning stages and making arrangements with the “Easter Bunny” to make his yearly trek to the Michael abode. We still enjoy serving our church and have started our 31st year as ushers. Cerritos continues to play an important role in our lives and we attend the athletic events and ASCC sponsored programs. I am still a member of the Foundation Board. One of the excellent events each year that we attend is the Hall of Fame Award Program. Several members of the CCRF A have been honored, notably President Jon Fults this year. The Rotary Club of Bellflower is an excellent service organization that sponsors local, national and international projects of which I have been an active member for 42 years, having served a total of 55 years in Rotary. When we retired we determined that we would keep busy and not “lie in bed” til noon so we joined the Pacers Club at the Main Place Mall, and we have been walking there for the last twenty-seven years. Can you believe it? We don’t walk as fast or as far as we did, but the new Starbuck keeps Jean going and an occasional win at the Lottery available there keeps me happy. So what more can we ask? LIFE IS GOOD!

Enjoy reading about your fellow retirees? Your fellow retirees would enjoy hearing from you. Be sure to submit an article for the next issue of CCRFA MATTERS. Watch your e-mail for notification of when and where to submit your article.

31st Year Ushers
Bob Kreger

Don Karvelis
Bob Kreger
Nick Kremer
Bill Lewis
Joan Licari
Dora Macias
Walter Magnuson
Hal Malkin
Rebecca Marine
Gene Martin
Bill McFadden
Dr. Wilford Michael
Donna Miller
Dora Macias
•

Donna Miller

Donni Baramki
Connie Bauer
Alex Belroy
Steve Berklite
Charles Betz
Marie Beuligman
Jack Black
Rhea Black
Ed Bloomfield
Allan Boodnick
John Boyle
Gary Cain
Barbara Carlson
Judith Chown
Susanna Cienmans
Novia Jean Crisada
Francine De France
James Engberstson
Don Erjavec
Roger Ernest
Bill Evans
Hy Finkelstien
Kerry Follett
Max Freifield
Jon Fults
John Gallant
Don Hallinger
Andrew Hallum
Wendell Hanks
Chester Harbut
Robert Hinchberger
Keith Hinrichsen
Marge Hohly
Carolyn Holmes
Ellen Horvath
Bob Hublett
Mildred Ikemoto
John Jackson
Tom Jackson
Meredith Jacobson
George Jager
Adolph Johnson
Jeanne Johnson
Dick Juliano

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Heni Baramki
Connie Bauer
Alex Belroy
Steve Berklite
Charles Betz
Marie Beuligman
Jack Black
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Allan Boodnick
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Dr. Wilford Michael
Donna Miller
Dora Macias
•

Pat Stewart
Wendy Stano

Lynda Sampson
Marcelino Saucedo
Lara Scott
Olive Scott
Don Sewell
Al Spettro
Wanda Sterner
Pat Stewart
Glen Tolleson
Roy Tucker
Selma Turnblom
Joan Walker
Bob Walther
Lee Westerlin
Brenda White
Farid Wissa
Betty Wolfe
James Wool ever
Frank Yee
David Young
Rey Ysais
Ina Zive

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Ina Zive
The past twelve months have been very busy as well as rewarding. Home and family has been a major focus as we have visited Washington State to spend time with a nephew and his wife. He is a career Navy man, usually a Flight Officer, but currently assigned to the aircraft carrier Nimitz. The only reason we were there is currently in dry dock for refurbishment. It was our first time to spend more than a day or two in Seattle/Tacoma area and we really enjoyed the city.

Despite being born in South Gate and living in California my entire life I had never traveled the coasts of Washington and Oregon. We flew into SeaTac, rented a car, visited some displaced friends from California, spent several nights with them and then went to the Naval Base at Bremerton for several nights. We then drove home, stopping in some delightful and scenic places.

A trip to the big island of Hawaii for a week was another treat. It is a really interesting place with the most rapid and dramatic changes of climate and vegetation I have ever seen. We are going back later this year for another dose. Carol still has many family members in the Philadelphia area. We go there two or three times each year. Her two sisters and their spouses as well as cousins, aunts, etc. keep us busy with social events. I really try to get up to New York City for a two or three day visit. We really love the Museums and the theaters. We have been very impressed by a couple of plays at the Mint Theater Company. They specialize in plays from the past that have not been recently staged. I first read about them in the Wall Street Journal with a rave review, it was a really superb production in every respect. The bad news for me is that I really wear out from the incredible density of the people overflowing the sidewalks and I want to get out of there in about 48 hours.

August took me to Monterey, California for the annual week of car shows, auctions and touring events. I arrived on Monday, judged Ferraris at the Concourse on the Avenue in Carmel on Tuesday, watched the Pebble Beach Tour on Thursday, met with the Ferrari Preservation Group in the afternoon and skipped a very nice party that evening. I was too tired. Friday and Saturday I made numerous stops in Carmel, Carmel Valley and Monterey. Sunday was the Pebble Beach Concours and I naturally went there as well. As if this had not been busy enough Monday was the first day of the Ferrari Club of America 2015 National Meet in Monterey. I was Chief Class judge of one class and was involved with the selection of the major award winners. Carol had come up on Sunday to join me and we had a very nice time. The event ended on Thursday night with an Awards Banquet. Carol and I presented the Trofeo Gran Turismo to a good friend of ours who had won the award eleven years earlier! We, and my car collecting partner, Fred Peters (some of you may remember him from his 35 year tenure in the Psychology Department at Fullerton College) have sponsored the Award at each Ferrari Club of America National Meet since 2002.

January of this year meant the 25th Cavallino Classic event in Palm Beach, Florida. This is the biggest all Ferrari event and show in the world. Special focus of the show were 18 of the previous twenty four Best Of Show winners. Fred and I had owned, or restored, three of the winners. Once again as Chief Class Judge for a class I was involved in selecting the major award winners.

Carol and I are still in good health and able to do pretty much anything we desire. On a day to day basis we are blessed with wonderful friends and family and always have things coming up to look forward to doing. Participating in the growth and development of children and grandchildren takes up some of our time every week we are home. It is really a wonderful experience.

Each year we take on several projects on improving, at least to us, our home. In the last year we have repainted the house inside and out, installed new heating, added cooling, replaced drapes with shutters and replaced some of the furniture as well.

Charles Betz
Cerritos College, Department of Economics 1962-2000

Word Search Puzzle Solution

I have guests staying in the B&B the week of April 5 which means I will not be able to attend the meeting. After serving breakfast, there is not enough time to get to Cerritos. While I hate to miss it and I’m sorry I will not get to visit with all of you, I am very grateful for the income. Fall was extremely slow, so it was a relief to have had the bookings pick up since January. It seems that at least some of the expenses mount up guests or no guests. So this is catch up time! We had a warm winter with just enough rain to bring out the wildflowers. There is a large open field nearby which was bulldozed in preparation for a long delayed construction project. Right now it is covered with pink verbena! My garden is filled with colorful flowers as well. Spring is the loveliest time of the year in Palm Springs.

Otherwise, since the fall, there is nothing new and exciting to report, other than the usual month long visit over Christmas and New Years from my sister. She still lives in Victoria. Hope to see you in the Fall.

Best Wishes,
Don Karvelis

Wayne Rew writes that 57 years ago on this date, March 21, 1959, I married my first and only lady, Loretta. And we are still happily together, even on the days we go to the doctors.

Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association

Taps From the Gavel by John Fults

Several members expressed serious concern over proposed ballot measures that would make some very fundamental changes to our STRS. As it turns out they failed to make the November ballot, but promise to fight those changes and obtain better benefits particularly in the area of Purchasing Power Protection. If it were not for CalRTA many of us would not be receiving supplemental checks at this time.

We try to always meet in April and October each year. In spite of the fact I have been getting these dates in April and October for over twenty years, I never realized how difficult April is. The Cerritos College student body is trying to wrap up the school year and the Student Center is heavily used in April. Occasionally our meetings catch the last part of March or September or early November as a result of this heavy usage of the Student Center. We will do our best to keep you informed of meeting dates.

Thank you for continuing to support our Teacher Trac scholarships. Your generous support has given many students an opportunity to work towards their degrees to become teachers.

For a long time I have been personally concerned our name does not truly represent who we are. True we are retired faculty, but we are also retired faculty and administrators. I noticed the State University system gives a slightly different name to their retiree organizations. Some refer to them as Emeritae and others Emeritus. (I took Latin and have a vague recollection of the difference). Is this worth worrying about?

I have a sincere hope every one of you are enjoying your retirement in your own way. Catch up on a good book lately? More flexibility for your doctor appointments. How about traveling to interesting places? Are you helping family or are they helping you? This could go on forever, but I will conclude with a hope that whatever you are doing, you are having fun doing it. Now what happened to that last cruise brochure?

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Our middle daughter with the two special needs children up in San Luis Obispo. Many of the wedding party camped together at a lake nearby so it and the wedding held outdoors.

Can you see us doing the happy dance. We are greatly.

Jon Fults wrote that the Fall 2015 CCRFA meeting preceded our Fall trip to Maui. We love our trips to Hawaii and will return next month. I have discovered a strange phenomenon. When you spend two or three months a year in a second home, you lose some perspective regarding time passing. For example, you think you bought a new washer/dryer two years ago. But it was really six or seven years ago. I have to write all new purchases down in order to maintain a proper perspective.

I asked Lois Jean if she would like to celebrate her 86th birthday by going on a cruise. I’m not even going to let you guess what her answer was. January 3rd we boarded the Veendam in San Diego to take a cruise she always wanted to go on – see the Panama Canal. We visited Puerto Vallarta and Huatulco in Mexico, Puerto Quetzal Guatemala, transited the Panama Canal, stopped at Cartagena Colombia and Georgetown Grand Cayman. Fourteen days and 5270 miles later we tied up in Tampa Florida. Now it was time to visit old friends and relatives in Florida before returning home. Any ideas for next year?

The anniversaries keep rolling around. In June Lois Jean and I will have been married 55 years. Our youngest grandchild is getting married in October and our eldest grandchild is graduating (at the age of 41) from College also in October. Counting grandchildren and great-grandchildren we are now up to 16. We love our large family and revel in their successes.

Hello everybody. Hope you are all in good health. Lola and I are doing well, but will not be able to attend this Spring's luncheon. We will be in training to become part of the City of Orange's Emergency Response Team. We are going to learn fire fighting, jaws of life, traffic control, evacuation, disaster medical operations, search & rescue, anti-terrorism, and other fun stuff. Our training is being funded by Homeland Security. This should keep us busy for a while. So if you live in Orange, drive your car into your house, start a fire, and can't figure how to get out, call us.

We are also enthusiastically taking Yoga classes to help with the flexibility of growing older. I would like to avoid another episode where I had to temporarily go back on my walker last winter. That was not fun.

Our middle daughter with the two special needs children has also moved out after their temporary stay of 8 years. Can you see us doing the happy dance. We are greatly enjoying the empty quiet nest.

Hope to see you all in the Fall or if someone puts together a summer get together.

Lola & Hy Finkelstein

Lynda S. Roberts writes that she is sorry she is unable to attend this meeting. She will be on a ski vacation with her three sisters in Mammoth.

She said this is the first semester since 1985 that I am not teaching at least one class at Cerritos College. I do miss it, but I remain active on the Advisory Board for the Child Development Program.

I am still playing volleyball, tennis and golf. I am also volunteering at my daughter’s elementary school, teaching PE to 100 4th and 5th grade students. I love it and I see growth every week in their skills. I am looking forward to a trip with six friends to Graceland, Nashville and Branson in late May.

I enjoy seeing all the on-going improvements on campus.

Max Freifeld sends Spring greetings to all of our CCRFA members.

One thing learned since our last meeting is that getting older brings a whole lot of health issues and that makes a big difference in one’s life. I am not really complaining, just taking life as it comes.

My apologies to all my dear friends at Cerritos for not getting out all of my holiday cards for Christmas, New Years or Hanukkah. The health issues really made that impossible this last year.

Congratulations are surely in order for Jon Fults for his induction into the Foundation’s Hall of Fame. He certainly deserves that honor and I was fortunate to be able to attend the induction dinner and share the evening with him and all the other great honorees.

One thing I do know is that Cerritos College was a great place to teach and I am most grateful for the years I was privileged to teach at this fine school. Everyone was not just a teaching colleague, but very much a family member. Everyone cared about each other (and they still care in the CCRFA.) My sincere thanks to each of you, even to this day.

My best wishes for a great summer and great adventures in your times.

Max Freifeld