

**Retired Faculty and Staff Club**  
**NEWSLETTER**



Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  
[www.cpretirees.com](http://www.cpretirees.com)

March 2009

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**March Luncheon and Program**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 11:30 a.m. (Lunch at 11:45)**  
**San Luis Obispo Elks Club (\$16 at the door)**

**Topic: "Cal Poly in Troubled Financial Times"**  
**Dr. Robert D. Koob, Cal Poly Provost and Vice President**  
**For Academic Affairs**

**Reservations required by noon on Wednesday, March 25**  
E-mail Gail Simmons ([gsimmons@calpoly.edu](mailto:gsimmons@calpoly.edu)) or call her (462-9148)  
(If you send an e-mail or leave a message, please provide names for name tags.)

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**CAL POLY IN TROUBLED FINANCIAL TIMES**

During the current year Cal Poly's operating budget has been cut three times; the total campus hit has been a bit over \$8 million. How is that being managed? What can we all look forward to next year?

Robert Koob, our speaker on March 31, should provide some of the answers. Most RF&SC members will recall that he first served the campus as senior vice president and vice president for academic affairs from 1990 to 1995 after which he returned to his alma mater, the University of Northern Iowa, to lead that institution until he retired to San Luis Obispo in 2006.

Last November President Baker called him back and Bob agreed to serve for up to two more years. Certainly Cal Poly can use his sage advice and steady hand in these troubled times.

Koob, who began his career teaching high school science and mathematics, earned a Ph.D. at Kansas and had a distinguished career at North Dakota State University prior to his first appointment at Cal Poly. He and his wife Yvonne have seven children and eleven grandchildren, so when he retires yet again Bob will still have lots to keep him busy. Please bring your questions on March 31 as he wants to speak briefly and then respond to your concerns. *By Harry Sharp, Jr.*

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

At our last meeting we heard an excellent presentation by Cuesta College's new President, David Pelham, speaking on "Cuesta College's Role in the Community."

The Retired Faculty and Staff Club Nominating Committee, made up of Gene Starkey, Bernie Troy and Chairman Lark Carter held elections for next year's officers and unanimously elected were Harry Sharp, President; Joe Sabol, Vice President; Gail Simmons, Secretary/Treasurer; and Barbara Ciesielski, Newsletter Editor. The new officers will take charge during the June Jubilee.

I want to again call your attention to our Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Club website: [www.cpretirees.com](http://www.cpretirees.com). You will find Cal Poly reminiscences written by fellow RF&SC members as well as pictures and newsletters.

Below are pictures from the Cal Poly Forum sponsored by University Advancement for the Retired Faculty and Staff Club. The forum was held on February 27 at the Davidson Music Center and an enjoyable time was had by all.



Our scholarship committee Chairman, Gene Starkey, reported on the Scholarship Endowment Fund as of December 31, 2008.

Contributions since 2000	\$61,056	
Investment Returns 2002-2007	\$29,211	
Total		\$90,267
Scholarships awarded	\$ 6,025	
DIFFERENCE		\$84,242
Investment losses (2000, 2001 & 2008)	\$23,023	
ENDOWMENT BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2008		\$61,219

As you can see, we still have our principal (contributions) even after paying out over \$6,000.

Because of recent Newsletter funding source changes, your Newsletter Committee has developed a plan to continue to offer the Newsletter publication via e-mail. The members of the committee are Chairman Harry Sharp, Gene Starkey, Bernie Troy, Lark Carter, Joe Sabol, Gail Simmons, and Barbara Ciesielski. Their report is featured in another section of the Newsletter.

It has been an honor to serve you and our Retired Faculty and Staff Club for the last year and a half.  
*Best regards,*  
*Don Morris*  
*President of the Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Club*

**THE JUNE JUBILEE WILL BE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2009!**

## DUES TO INCREASE FOR 2009-2010

The Newsletter committee has met several times and the final result has been that the Cal Poly Retired Faculty & Staff Club must become more self-supporting. Increasing the dues and switching the newsletter to an e-mail format for most club members will enable us to continue with a newsletter. **Dues for the year beginning July 1, 2009 will increase to \$10 per year.** Our yearly dues run from July 1 to June 30. Remember that we will mail a "hard copy" version of the newsletter only to members who (1) have paid dues (either annual or Life) and (2) let us know they need a paper copy. Members who have paid their dues and need a paper copy of the newsletter and have not already done so will need to contact the Newsletter Editor, Barbara Ciesielski, at (805) 543-7429 or at 1221 San Carlos Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Be sure to include your mailing address. All other members who have provided us with an e-mail address will receive the newsletter via e-mail. *By Barbara Ciesielski, Newsletter Editor*

## IDENTIFY THESE MEMBERS OF THE CAL POLY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AND WIN A FREE MEAL

Identify each of these old time Retired faculty and staff who have been inducted into the Cal Poly Athletic Hall of Fame. If you are the first person in line to pay for your meal who can identify all the pictures, you will get a free meal (ONLY ONE WINNER). If you cannot attend our meeting, send Don Morris an e-mail at [dmmorris@calpoly.edu](mailto:dmmorris@calpoly.edu) or phone him at 773-1672 with your best guess and, if you are correct, he will send you a small prize.



## WHO, WHAT, WHEN & WHERE

**William Alexander (Social Science and Political Science)** went on a Reality Tour to Venezuela sponsored by Global Exchange in January and February and will go on a tour of the World Neighbors development projects in Nepal in April.

**Frederick Bergthold, Jr. (Engineering Technology)** enjoys some travel and “honey do” home projects.

**Jim Bermann ((Bioresource and Agricultural Engineering)** belongs to the Sheriff’s Mounted Posse, is a firearms instructor for the National Rifle Association, a hunter education instructor for the California Department of Fish and Game, and a Boy Scout leader.

**Richard Birkett (Animal Science)** keeps busy with YMCA workouts, golf, and choir singing.

**Enrico Bongio (Welding, Engineering Technology)** is still playing accordion music, enjoying fish and game activities, and visiting grandchildren.

**William H. Brown (Architecture)** and his wife, **Joanie**, enjoy tennis and golf, traveling to San Diego (by Amtrak), Cayucos and Atascadero to see their children and grandchildren. They also went on a Columbia River cruise in April, an Oak Park, IL, trip to enjoy Frank Lloyd Wright’s architecture in May, and to Kalamazoo, MI, in August for Bill’s 60<sup>th</sup> high school reunion.

**Delores (Dee) Carlson (El Corral Bookstore)** has been on three cruises and enjoys visiting family and friends.

**Doreen Case (Civil Engineering)** flew to Albuquerque in July, mainly to visit two grandsons—one a senior (business) at the University of New Mexico, and the other a sophomore at the School of Mines in Colorado (engineering) on a basketball scholarship. She also attended two Elderhostel courses, one in Santa Fe. Purple sage was everywhere.

**Dean Crawford (Mail Center)** has been “showing” his photographs at several locations around the county including 15 photos at the Cal Poly Library in the second floor display area. He’s also shown his photographs at the Morro Bay Coffee Shop, Café Vio in Paso Robles, Barnes and Noble in San Luis Obispo, and the Paso Robles City Hall.

**Cornelius Deasy (Architecture)** is enjoying retirement and writing another book.

**Laura Dimmitt (Admissions, Recruitment and Financial Aid)** has been traveling (Australia, Kentucky, Arizona, Texas, Washington), taking care of elderly parents, working on her home, connecting with friends and family, and volunteering.

**Dale Federer (Psychology and Human Development)** spends his time visiting grandchildren, and is active in the Men’s Group at the Presbyterian Church as well as the Mission Committee, Democrat Club, and travelling to China and Greece.

**Robin Grinnell (Bioresource and Agricultural Engineering)** spends his retirement traveling, visiting children and grandchildren, enjoying northern Minnesota Lake, reading and computer work.

**Helen Hardcastle (Health Center)** enjoys each day.

**Roy Harris (Animal Science)** does bronze sculpture (look at the new life size Mustang at the Stadium and also by the Administration Building).

**Clyde Hostetter (Journalism)** has retired from cruise lecturing, is continuing research in Bronze Age astronomy, and plans to move back to SLO in the next year or two.

**John Y. Hsu (Computer Science)** has established “The James & Margaret Hsu Memorial Endowment for Graduate Student Support in the EECS Department of the University of California, Berkeley. He will contribute common stocks or cash in five years for a total of \$100,000 and the school will match the same.

**Ron Hurd (Financial Aid)** travels and walks the beach in Pismo.

**Esther Iglesias (Graphic Communications)** is enjoying her grandchildren and great grandchildren, making jam, selling Avon, and visiting neighbors.

**Ed Jorgensen (Physical Education)** had several Cal Poly Year Books donated to the Cal Poly Athletic Hall of Fame by his daughter. The Year Books are on display in the Cal Poly Athletic Hall of Fame Room in Mott Gym.

**Rod Keif (Air Conditioning Engineering)** does engineering consulting, plays the piano, and does woodworking.

**Martin Lang (Mathematics)** traveled to Germany, Poland, Russia (river cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow), visits with relatives in Florida and Alabama, and spends time with their three children and six grandchildren (all in California).

**Leon Magur (Physics)** took a two-week cruise to Hawaii and took a trip to Florida.

**Marguerite Maxwell (Electric Power Institute)** was on the SLO Grand Jury for two years, usually makes two overseas trips a year (India in April), and spends summers in her home in Gold Beach, OR. Like everyone else, she enjoys her grandchildren.

**James Neelands (Physics)** travels and babysits his grandchildren.

**Nancy Ochs (Agribusiness)** spends time traveling, taking Italian classes, and with her grandchildren.

**Roland Pautz (Animal Science)** is nearing completion of a history of the Poultry Program at Cal Poly.

**Mabelle Pence (Plant Operations)** recently moved to The Palms and is enjoying life (age 95) playing bingo, jeopardy, and being with her family.

**Vivian Phillips (Health & Counseling)** is quilting, sewing, gardening and enjoying life.

**Gerald and Helen Punches (Admissions and Records)** took a Panama Canal cruise in 2008.

**Jim Railey (Physical Education)** volunteers to teach one or two racquetball classes per year at Murray State University. Last year he started a student racquetball club that competes with other universities. He still is competing in state, regional, and national racquetball tournaments.

**Dallis Richardson (Facility Services)** enjoys photography, jewelry-making, walking, and being in love with life.

**Lorraine Ridgeway (College of Business/Student Affairs)** does some traveling, some quilting, some volunteer work with the Assistance League and enjoys life.

**Joanne Ruggles (Art and Design)** is teaching studio art workshops and working on her own art projects along with travel overseas and in the USA.

**Philip Ruggles (Graphic Communications)** enjoys writing, reading, travel, and golf.

**Harry Scales (Psychology and Education)** celebrated his 98<sup>th</sup> birthday in October. He is surprised but very grateful to have lived this long and still has a great interest in everything – especially football, baseball, and politics.

**Estelle Stanhill (Athletic Administration)** works with a senior peer counseling group as a volunteer counselor and really loves it. It keeps her very busy.

**Vicki Stover (Administration and Finance)** is enjoying time with family and friends. She is working two days a week for CSU Los Angeles.

**Sondra Tuttle (Industrial Technology)** is still quilting and spending time at Lake Nacimiento.

**Davie Walch (Library Services)** and his wife, **Phyllis**, have thoroughly enjoyed their retirement. They have served two 18-month “service missions” for their church. The first was in the South Pacific where they lived in Hawaii and had an office on the BYU-Hawaii campus. They coordinated a teacher training program for the church schools located in Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, and Kiribati. They did a lot of travel throughout the islands and were also sent on a special assignment to the People’s Republic of China.

Their second assignment was to serve as Country Directors for Humanitarian and Welfare Services in Thailand. They coordinated a lot of various projects throughout the country, including a project with the Hill Tribes located in the Golden Triangle—a choice and very interesting people. They were on that assignment when the tsunami occurred and did a lot of projects related to rebuilding the area of Phuket and Bang Na where substantial damage was done. They provided funding for the building of fishing boats (not just anyone can build a Thai fishing boat—a Thai boat builder needs to be involved). They also built several village libraries. Village libraries are not at all common but they felt the need to provide access to books for those who could not otherwise afford such access. They also did a number of water projects to help restore access and upgrade their water systems. It was a very meaningful and worthwhile experience. It is still hard to comprehend the extensive damage and loss of life of so many in mere minutes.

**Bob Walters (Student Affairs)** continues to enjoy days with family and his 12 grandchildren.

**Doug Williams (Bioresource and Ag Engineering)** is working full-time as a consultant.

**Harry Wolf (Electronic Engineering)** celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in January. He graduated in 1928 from Cal Poly and returned in 1941 to teach navigation to Navy pilots. He stayed on after WWII to teach Electronic Engineering. In 1960, he transferred to Cal Poly Pomona and retired from there in 1974.

### FRIENDS NOTED IN PASSING

**Gertrude (Trudy) Beck (ASI)** passed away peacefully in her sleep December 25, 2008.

**Susan Bethel (Human Resources)** passed away October 24, 2008. She will be remembered for her happy, upbeat outlook on life. She met her second husband, **Walt Bethel (Philosophy Department)** while working at Cal Poly. Sue was honored with an Outstanding Staff Award in 2003. She was very involved with the Assistance League, whose “Operation School Bell” annually clothed more than 1,100 school children in need throughout the county.

**Elsie Davies (spouse of George Davies, ROTC, who predeceased her)** passed away on March 4, 2009. They moved to San Luis Obispo in 1962 when George was assigned to the Cal Poly ROTC Department. Elsie was a member of Cal Poly Women’s Club, Gourmet Luncheon Group, Retired Officers Club and enjoyed playing bridge. She also enjoyed hosting many family functions and parties for their children, grandchildren, and many friends.

**Dora Harter (Admissions)** passed away October 2008. She was an avid sports fan and music lover. She and her husband’s love of sports led them all over the U.S. as they tracked their favorite teams – Cal Poly, Mission High School, San Luis Obispo Blues, the Dodgers, 49ers, Lakers and Angels, among many. After retirement, Dora volunteered at the Senior Citizen Center by leading exercise groups and serving breakfast.

**Jean Kuhns (Library)** passed away on September 17, 2007.

**Ralph Liddle (Plant Operations)** passed away November 1, 2008. Ralph had faithfully served the Cal Poly Maintenance Department for over 20 years. Over the years, Ralph could be seen keeping the rhythm in several different bands as a drummer, who not only set the beat, but kept it and felt it.

**Jorge Penalba (husband of Celina Penalba, Civil Engineering)** who was a pediatrician, passed away on July 28, 2008, at his home in San Luis Obispo. His funeral services and burial took place in Nicaragua, his native country.

**Joan Radabaugh (Ornamental Horticulture)** passed away January 2, 2009. In her spare time, Joan enjoyed volunteering, sewing and crafts, playing computer games, and refinishing antique furniture.

**Mary Scrivner (President’s Office)** passed away on December 26, 2008, at her home in Atascadero. She enlisted in the WAVEs during World War II and met her husband after the war. They married and settled in Atascadero in 1950. Mary worked in several administrative offices at Cal Poly, volunteered with the Atascadero Public Library and was active in the Atascadero Gospel Chapel and the DAR.

**Edward Sullivan (College of Engineering)** died on February 16, 2009. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Civil Engineering from MIT and a doctorate in Civil Engineering from UC Berkeley. He also held a master's in Business Administration from John F. Kennedy University. During his long career he had been a lecturer at Northern Jiaotong University (also known as Beijing Jiaotong University) and a visiting professor at the Universidad Central de Venezuela.

**Bette Jean Tryon (Psychology and Human Development)**, spouse of **Walter Tryon (Landscape Architecture** who predeceased her) died February 1, 2009. Bette received her B.A. in Education from the University of Maryland and her M.S., C.A.S. and Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education from Syracuse University. While at Cal Poly Bette became identified with the teachings of Dr. Maria Montessori. Bette and her husband, Walter, loved to travel and visited every continent as well as all the states in the United States, except Alaska.

RF&SC Dues & News Form

Stay up-to-date with fellow retirees by filling out this application today. To pay annual dues for 2008-09 enclose your \$8.00 check payable to the Cal Poly RF&SC. (Dues are from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009.) To pay annual dues for 2009-2010, enclose your **\$10.00 check** payable to the Cal Poly RF&SC. For a **Life Membership**, make your \$250 check to the Cal Poly Corporation. The entire \$250 will be put into our scholarship endowment. Please print clearly and mention the department or unit from which you retired.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (if you use one) \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if you do not have e-mail and need to have the newsletter mailed to you.

Year you began at Cal Poly \_\_\_\_\_ Position & Department \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty \_\_\_\_\_ Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Year retired \_\_\_\_\_ Date **today** \_\_\_\_\_

Please share some of what you are doing in retirement.

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Mail this form and your check to Gail Simmons, 4615 San Vicente Avenue, Atascadero, CA 93422. News items may be e-mailed directly to [bciesielski@msn.com](mailto:bciesielski@msn.com) or mailed to her at 1221 San Carlos Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Colleagues want to hear from you!