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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Kellogg

"Two Steps Forward, One Step Back"

The saying "Two Steps Forward, One Step Back" seems to fit my feeling about how our Association has progressed since our last newsletter. The saying implies moving forward, but not at the rate hoped for. Yes, progress has been made, yet not what we fully wanted.

I am pleased to report that our Board has been meeting regularly and planning for activities, both those that were not conducted, and ones we hope will take place in the months and year ahead. For example, our Jubilee normally held in June was planned for August last month. Literally, at the 11th hour, we made the decision not to conduct the Jubilee in August. At the time of our decision, the Delta COVID-19 variant was gaining traction in our community. The Jubilee was to be conducted downstairs in the Pavilion of the Performing Arts Center. This is the same location where we have met for several years. However, because of the room configuration and the potentially tight quarters, combined with the likelihood of wearing masks, and the very real possibility of a low attendance from our age generation, we decided to hold the Jubilee at the end of the year, possibly making it a "Holiday Jubilee." The invitations were at the printer and to be mailed out the next day when we made the decision to postpone the event. I hope you all agreed with the tough decision we made not to meet for this annual event last month. I want to take this opportunity to thank President and Mrs. Armstrong for agreeing to host the event, and to the Alumni and Donor Relations Staff who developed the invitations, program, and were ready to finalize the details for the Jubilee. Yes, two steps forward and one giant step back.

As you will read later in the newsletter, our Association is pleased to be awarding two \$3,000 scholarships this academic year to needy Cal Poly students. Funds for these scholarships come from our Centennial Scholarship Fund and is overseen by Laura Dimmitt our Scholarship Chairperson. If you are interested in supporting this fund, please know your Lifetime membership fee of \$250 goes entirely into this endowment.

The Board is making it easier to pay for annual dues and other financial transactions for the club via establishing an Association PayPal account. A special thank you to our Treasurer, Gail Simmons, for making this possible.

A new venture for the Association is the establishment of Coffee Hour gatherings. Our Coffee Hour coordinator, Lisa Hensley, has been looking for an affordable venue in San Luis Obispo to conduct this event. It looks like we

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UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Jenny Heckendorf
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may be able to meet on campus at a location in the future without the parking challenges faced by meeting in the campus core. More on this later.

Vice President, Jim Murphy, has lined up a Fall Quarter luncheon that will take place at the newly remodeled Vista Grande restaurant on October 14. Jim has arranged for a tour of this impressive structure, as well as a speaker to inform us about the past renovation, and future plans for this Campus Dining project. Speaking of quarterly luncheons, Vice President Murphy has a good list of potential luncheon and tour topics for the coming year. I'm personally excited to tour many of the new campus buildings that have been constructed over the past couple of years. It goes to show the University continues to invest in facility projects that will keep Cal Poly on the cutting edge among prestigious universities.

Kathy Mastako has been faithfully reaching out to new Cal Poly retired faculty and staff by inviting them to join our Association. Our desire is to help our new retirees to stay engaged and connected with Cal Poly during their transition to retirement life.

I want to say a special thanks to Meaghan Smeehuyzen and Jenny Heckendorf from the Alumni and Donor Relations office who have provided our Association with a tremendous amount of help during this COVID-19 trial period. Meaghan and Jenny are great assets to the university, and especially to our Association. Thank you both!

Lastly, our firm desire is to stay connected with each other. It goes without saying these past 18 months have been very difficult to do so. Nevertheless, we have been trying and will continue to make connecting our upmost goal moving into the future. I'm looking forward to our luncheon on October 14 and starting our Coffee Hour gatherings. We will continue to be patient, and when the time comes, see each other again (without masks!).

Thank you to those who have contributed to this issue of our newsletter, and especially to Elaine Ramos Doyle for her editing skills. Stay safe everyone.

FALL QUARTER EVENT

Please join the Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Association on **Thursday, October 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** for an informational presentation and escorted tour of the newly remodel (Fall 2020), Vista Grande Dining Complex. The three-story building located across from the Performing Arts Center on Grand Avenue offers indoor and outdoor seating, six unique dining venues, lounge space and game tables. All these amenities are housed in a modern building that boasts LEED Gold certification for sustainable, resource-efficient design. The six nutrition-focused restaurants provide fresh, healthy, made-to-order food options for all diets, lifestyles, and busy student schedules.

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from the editor

If you have a short article, remembrance of a significant person, or event from your time at Cal Poly, submit the article and I will include it in our next newsletter.

Please email your article to:
eramosdo@calpoly.edu

Or you can mail it to me at:

Elaine Ramos Doyle
2381 Claranita Avenue
Los Osos, CA 93402

For those with walking challenges, a limited number of RFSA reserved parking spots on the top section of the Performing Arts Center parking structure will be reserved for the RFSA program. Cost for the luncheon is \$20.00.

Reservations and advanced payment are required. Please RSVP to Gail Simmons at gsimmons@calpoly.edu or 805-462-9148 by October 7, 2021, and indicate your lunch choice: Buffalo Chicken Bowl, Chicken Tostada, Chicken Harvest Bowl, or Vegetarian Bowl. Mail your \$20 check to Gail Simmons, 4165 San Vicente Ave., Atascadero 93422.

Please RSVP as soon as possible as space is limited to 60.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DONATIONS

By Jenny Heckendorf

Did you know at 70 ½ you are eligible to make a distribution from your IRA directly to Cal Poly? This popular gift option is referred to as the IRA charitable rollover, or qualified charitable distribution, QCD for short. Beginning the year you turn 72, you may make a distribution from your IRA to Cal Poly to satisfy part or all of your required minimum distribution (RMD).

Benefits include:

- Your distribution to Cal Poly will not be taxed

- Your distribution to Cal Poly will be counted against your required minimum distribution

- Since the gift does not count as income, it can reduce your annual income level

- You may gift up to \$100,000 annually per an individual

- You may direct your distribution to the college, department, or program of your choice

To make a gift from your IRA, contact your IRA administrator requesting a distribution be made directly to the Cal Poly Foundation. You may be asked for the Foundation's federal tax identification number, which is 20-4927897.

You may also consider naming Cal Poly as the beneficiary of your IRA. You may designate a percentage or set amount to be distributed to Cal Poly, tax free. This can often be done online with your IRA policy holder outside of the other estate plans you have in place, which your financial or legal advisor could confirm.

If you have questions or would like to discuss how your QCD could support campus, please contact Cal Poly's Office of Gift Planning at 805-756-7125, plannedgiving@calpoly.edu or visit their website at <https://plannedgiving.calpoly.edu/ira-qualified-charitable-distribution>

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friends noted in passing

BY ELAINE RAMOS DOYLE

GLENN SALO (AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING)

Glenn passed away July 18, 2019. He was 90 years old. Glenn worked with Ag Engr students in extracurricular activities. Some of his favorite activities were camping in an RV with family and friends, hiking, biking, swimming, gardening and square, round and ballroom dancing.

JOHN EDMISTEN (ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING)

John passed away on August 26, 2020. He was a long-time supporter and patron of Opera San Luis Obispo. John was a 1965 alumnus of the ARCE program and taught in the department from 1968-1994. The ARCE Dept. has established the "John Edmisten Global Travel Scholarship".

VIRGINIA SHOBER (LIBRARY)

Virginia passed away February 1, 2021. She was an avid swimmer, and one could see her at the Rec Center during the lunch hour.

BEVERLY JOY (HOUSING)

Beverly passed away March 7, 2021. She worked in the Residence Halls for 13 years. Beverly was an avid gardener, bunko player, baker and Eagles and Elks member and a friend to many.

HARRY FIERSTINE (BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS)

Harry passed away April 22, 2021. He taught biology, zoology, comparative anatomy, and ichthyology as well as being an Associate Dean in the College of Science & Math for 29 years. Harry was a leader in the anatomy program, always ensuring that students had access to cadavers, an unusual opportunity for undergraduates. His legacy can be seen in the university-wide Pre-Health Career Advising services available to students today. In the local community, Harry cofounded the Central Coast Biological Society.

CONTINUED on next page

EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

By Dana Azevedo

Are you comfortable traveling together via a charter bus? If yes, please email dazevedo@calpoly.edu with your preference of which locations indicated below you would be interested in:

1. Monterey Bay Aquarium is a nonprofit public aquarium in Monterey, California. Known for its regional focus on the marine habitats of Monterey Bay,

And...

17-Mile Drive is a scenic road through Pebble Beach and Pacific Grove on the Monterey Peninsula in California, much of which hugs the Pacific coastline and passes famous golf courses, mansions, and scenic attractions.

2. Getty Villa - A visit to the Getty Villa offers an experience of ancient Greek and Roman art in a setting that recreates a first-century Roman Villa. Home to the J. Paul Getty Museum's antiquities collection, the two-floor museum displays art that spans the 7,000 years from the end of the Stone Age to the fall of the Roman Empire.

3. Natural History Museum - It's one of L.A.'s oldest cultural institutions, and today, it's the anchor of an emerging cultural, educational, and entertainment hub in Exposition Park. It shows off extraordinary specimens in exhibits, such as Age of the Mammals, the Dinosaur Hall, the Gem and Mineral Hall, and dioramas. In addition to sharing the history of the planet, they also explore the transformation around us right now. Becoming Los Angeles, the outdoor Nature Gardens, and the Nature Lab look at the relationship between environment and people, past and present, in L.A.

4. Point San Luis Lighthouse - The Point San Luis Lighthouse Keepers welcomes you to join their docent-led interpretive tours to experience a rich history of the beautifully restored Lighthouse, the Hornhouse, and other structures. The tours will give a glimpse into the lives of Lighthouse Keepers and their families, while helping keep this jewel of the Central Coast preserved and protected. Point San Luis is part of the Port San Luis Harbor District.

5. Or, would you like to suggest something else?

Thank you for taking the time for emailing me with answers to the above.

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friends noted in passing

continued

PATRICIA SAAM (HOME ECONOMICS, FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION)

Pat passed away May 12, 2021. She was a practicing dietitian for many years, as well as an excellent teacher for 29 years at Cal Poly.

JOSEPH GARCIA (FACILITIES)

Joe passed away May 23, 2021. He was an Air Force veteran and worked for Cal Poly more than 30 years. Joe was an avid reader and could be found in local libraries reading historical documentaries, music books and planning his next trip to one of the California missions.

DOUGLAS GATES (LIBRARY)

Doug passed away July 6, 2021. He worked for Cal Poly for nearly 40 years. Doug was a beloved and regular patron of the Palm Theater. Doug started as a student assistant in the Kennedy Library and recently seeded a scholarship to help support library student assistants.

RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

By Laura Dimmitt

Greetings!

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, the Retired Faculty and Staff Association (RFSA) Centennial Scholarship Endowment fair market value is \$189,254. This marks a steady and stable increase over the calendar year endowment report figure (see spring newsletter). We always encourage you to donate to the endowment, especially to recognize or honor a loved one. You can find a donation form in this newsletter or visit <https://rfsa.calpoly.edu/scholarship> to donate online. To our donors, we are continually grateful for your ongoing generosity!

For more information about the scholarship and the RFSA, check out our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/calpoly.rfsa> as well as the Cal Poly RFSA webpage <https://rfsa.calpoly.edu/scholarship>.

I look forward to seeing you in person at the Fall event on Wednesday, October 14, 2021!

COFFEE HOUR

By Lisa Hensley

Coming Soon... Coffee Hour Meetings

These past 18 months or more of COVID-19 have left many of us isolated and desiring to interact with each other on a regular basis. In response to this need, the RFSA Board is implementing an informal monthly "Coffee Hour" with the goal of gathering. This time will allow us to meet for lively discussions, renew friendships, and listen to guest speakers, along with a great time for fun and fellowship. After looking throughout the San Luis Obispo area for a suitable location to meet, we have made arrangements to hold these meetings at the Dairy Innovation Center on the Cal Poly Campus.

The recent surge of the COVID-19 Delta variant has caused us to move more slowly than anticipated to roll out this social gathering time. Look for an announcement for the date and time of our first Coffee Hour meeting. If you would like to assist in the facilitation of these meetings, please contact Lisa Hensley at lhensley@calpoly.edu or by phone at (805) 441-4776.

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WHO, WHEN AND WHERE?

Doug Piirto – (Natural Resources Management) Mary and I moved to Hobart, WI, which is near Green Bay (Go Packers). We moved to be closer to our Piirto Farm Ltd. In Trout Creek, MI (Upper Peninsula). I stay busy teaching professional workshops for the USDA Forest Service and lecturing as needed at Cal Poly and doing work for the Board of Forestry, etc. Am owner of Crestline Forestry, Inc., and Piirto Farm LTD. And, of course, taking care of Mary. Hello to all.

Hemalata Dandekar – (City & Regional Planning) I am on FERP and find teaching still takes up a lot of my time. Am also completing the second edition of my cookbook and taken back up watercolors – mostly cards at this point.

Patricia Kohlen – (Architecture) Golf, relearning Spanish, trying to stay healthy and dreaming of travel.

Faysal Kolkailah – (Aerospace Engineering) – Ferping, teaching ½ time during Winter and Spring Quarters. Enjoying my time with my lovely family. Trying to read and write.

Art MacCarley – (Electrical Engineering) – FERPing

Ken Palmer – Education – Travel, vintage British for hobby.

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news and dues

Annual dues for 2022 are due January 1, 2022. To pay dues for 2022, enclose your \$10 check payable to:
Cal Poly RFSA

Complete and include the form to the right and mail to:

Gail Simmons
4615 San Vicente Ave.
Atascadero, CA 93422

Dues for the year are from January 1 through December 31.

For a Life Membership, fill out the Centennial Scholarship Endowment Donation form on the following page. The entire \$250 will be added to the Retired Faculty and Staff Centennial Scholarship Endowment.

Make your \$250 check payable to:
Cal Poly Foundation

The entire \$250 will be added to the Retired Faculty and Staff Centennial Scholarship Endowment.

Let Cal Poly know if your contact info needs updating. Please use the form on the right so that your university records stay current.

Retired Faculty & Staff Membership

DUES AND NEWS FORM

Name _____

Spouse's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

☐ Check here if you do not have email and need to have the newsletter mailed to you.

Year you began at Cal Poly _____ Position/Department _____

☐ Faculty ☐ Staff Year retired _____ Today's Date _____

Please share some of what you are doing in retirement. _____

Check payable to:
Cal Poly RFSA

Mail the above form and check to:
Gail Simmons
4615 San Vicente Ave.
Atascadero, CA 93422

Thank you!

Update Contact Info for University Records

CURRENT CONTACT INFO for CAL POLY

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email address _____ Year retired from Cal Poly _____

Position/Department _____ ☐ Faculty ☐ Staff

Return this form to:

Jenny Heckendorf / University Development
Attn: Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff
1 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0443



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our endowment

The Retired Faculty and Staff Centennial Scholarship Endowment

is a way for us to give back and collectively make a greater impact on deserving students. Please consider donating to our endowment by using the form on the right.

One may also donate online at <http://bit.ly/2u3r6yM>. It is a perfect opportunity to secure lifetime dues and/or honor or memorialize someone special.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and believing in the future leaders of tomorrow.

Interested in creating a personal endowment?

Please contact the Office of Gift Planning at 805-756-7125 or plannedgiving@calpoly.edu.

Retired Faculty and Staff Centennial Scholarship

ALLOCATION #2106

CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

Please complete this form to donate to the Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarship Endowment. A \$250 donation enables you to become a life member of the Cal Poly Retired Faculty and Staff Association. You may also wish to make a donation in honor of someone or in memory of someone.

Enclosed is my contribution of (check one):

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$_____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Donation in Honor of _____

Donation in Memory of _____

Make check payable to:

Cal Poly Foundation



**CAL POLY
Foundation**

Mail check and this form to:

Cal Poly

University Development & Alumni Engagement

Attn: Office of Gift Planning

1 Grand Avenue

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0444

Thank you!