

AFTER-WORDS

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE RETIREES OF THE
FOOTHILL-DE ANZA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

VOLUME XXXIX, ISSUE 2

WWW.DEANZA.EDU/FODARA

NOVEMBER 2017

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

The Holiday Party is fast approaching: **Friday, December 15, 11:30 am-1:30 pm De Anza's Hinson Campus Center Conference Rooms A & B.** Mark your calendar and send in your reservation form now for the lunch and fun festivities!



At this annual FODARA event, everyone enjoys catching up with old friends and former co-workers. And, as always, there's delicious food to eat, new people to meet, and door prizes to win. The holiday menu offers a choice of salmon, prime rib, or a vegetarian entrée, plus salad, rolls, and cake with coffee. The cost is still only \$22 per person. Bring your spouse and/or a friend and encourage other colleagues to attend.

Please send me the reservation form on p. 9 with your check no later than Monday, December 8. Be sure to include menu choices for you and your guest(s)—De Anza Food Services would like a tally for each entrée as early as possible. Along with your reservation form, voluntary FODARA dues and a FODARA scholarship contribution are also greatly appreciated. No worries about parking this year! The Flint Center Parking Garage, newly renovated and seismically upgraded, re-opened September 25. If you have the current orange parking sticker, Staff Parking Lots A & B also have many spaces, and a complete list of staff parking areas is listed at www.deanza.fhda.edu/parking/staff-lots.html. See you December 15!

Mike Paccione

OCTOBER PIZZA "THING"



Once again, the annual Pizza Bash at Tony & Alba's was a grand success. Our "private room" was decorated for Halloween by Maureen and Claudette. The tables were nicely decked out and included chocolate treats to snack on. Twenty-five people showed up to enjoy the excellent pizza offerings as well as salad and focaccia bread. Soft drinks were "open bar." Mike, our inimitable president, had the task of drawing many winning door prize tickets out of the hat. Those lucky people got to choose from a variety of swell prizes, donated by members. Lescher and Dorothy Dowling, who came in full costume, managed to win two bottles of vintage wine. It was fun to see and visit with old (aren't we all getting there?) friends and people we worked with. See photos on p. 8 and more on the FODARA website at www.deanza.edu/fodara/ (click on "Pictures and Photos!").

Ed Burling

FODARA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-18

President	Mike Paccioretti	408.274.4929	pacciorettimike@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Bill Lewis	408.639.9919	billlosgatos@sbcglobal.net
Past President	Tom Moore	650.969.3847	tomandcary@comcast.net
Secretary	Thomas Roza	408.375.9515	rozathomas@fhda.edu
Treasurer	Ed Burling		edburling@gmail.com
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Member At Large	Bob Hubbs	408.738.2489	jrsbbuh@comcast.net
Member At Large & Webmaster	Cindy Castillo	408.702.7721	cindycastillo@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Linda Lane		lanelinda@fhda.edu

FODARA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017-18

2017

Dec 15 Fri Holiday Party 11:30 am DA Campus Center

2018

Jan 09 Tues Board Meeting 10:30 am Cindy's house-Sunnyvale Open to all

Mar 06 Tues Board Meeting 10:30 am FH Toyon Room (Rm 2020) Open to all

Mar/Apr TBA Wtr/Spr Event TBA TBA

May 01 Tues Board Meeting 10:30 am FH Toyon Room (Rm 2020) Open to all

June 14 Thurs Summer Picnic TBA Cuesta Park, Mt. View

Aug TBA Baseball Social TBA SJ Giants Ball Park

FODARA COMMITTEES 2017-18

District Benefits	Tom Strand, strandtom@fhda.edu
	Faith Milonas, milonasfaith@fhda.edu
After-Words Email	Cindy Castillo, cindycastillo@comcast.net
After-Words Paper Mailing	Janice Carr, janicecarr@pacbell.net
Scholarships	Mike Brandy, brandymike@fhda.edu
Social	Need two volunteers
Mailings	Maureen Gates, gates-m@sbcglobal.net

THE GOOD NEWS: SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE



Thank you to all of the FODARA members who contributed to the FODARA scholarships for Foothill and De Anza students. In the September issue of *After-Words*, I am sure you were inspired by the personal stories of the four recipients from last year; as they indicated, the scholarships meant a lot to them and had a very positive affect on their lives.

As also reported in the September *After-Words*, due to dwindling funds, the Board was initially able to allocate only \$4,000 for four scholarships for this academic year. Since then, we received some very generous donations that will allow us to award the full \$5,000, two \$1,250 scholarships at each campus. These gifts will help deserving students pay for books, tuition, and living expenses.

Now is not too early to start building the FODARA scholarship fund for the 2018-19 cycle. In fact, now—*prior to December 30*—is the perfect time to lower your taxes by making a tax-deductible donation online at the FHDA Foundation website www.foundation.fhda.edu; just click the “Donate” button and be sure to designate your gift is specifically for FODARA. The Foundation will mail you a letter acknowledging your contribution. You can also, of course, contribute to the scholarship fund anytime by including a donation when sending in one of FODARA’s social event registration forms or by mailing a check made out to FODARA, to Treasurer Ed Burling, 17700 Bruce Ave., Monte Sereno, CA 95030. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Mike Brandy

THE BAD NEWS: PARTICIPATION UPDATE

In the September *After-Words*, the FODARA Board asked retirees to submit their suggestions and ideas for a new Winter or Spring social event and for increasing membership. Your newsletter editor also alerted folks that, unless more retirees responded, the “Where Are They Now” column (see p. 7) is out of submissions so will end in this November issue.

Though *After-Words* is emailed out to over 900 listserv members, **no one** replied to the Board or editor. Please don’t assume “others” will provide the support and feedback FODARA depends on to provide great services: keeping retirees up-to-date and well-informed on important matters and arranging annual fun social events. It’s up to **you** to come to the January 9 Board meeting to share your new event ideas and/or membership drive suggestions (or email them to any Board member). And, before January, it’s up to **you** to send in your “Where Are They Now” details. See email addresses and calendar on p.2.



HEALTH BENEFIT NEWS

At the time of publication, no updates on health benefits were available. The November 9 JLMBC meeting is rescheduled to December 7. If any items discussed at that meeting are time-sensitive or urgent, a summary will be emailed out to FODARA listserv members; otherwise the details will be included in the January issue of *After-Words*. What follows is additional information on the Silver Sneakers program, which was mentioned in the September issue of *After-Words* as one of the five benefit changes CalPERS is implementing in 2018 to ensure the sustainability of high quality, affordable health care.

Starting January 1, 2018, Foothill-De Anza retirees who are currently enrolled in any of the District's five CalPERS Medicare Supplemental plans (see names below) can join **for free** a Silver Sneakers fitness program at a participating gym. Those enrolled in Kaiser's Senior Advantage Medicare Plan will have a similar benefit and should contact Kaiser for information.



After the beginning of the year, eligible retirees will receive in the mail a Silver Sneakers membership card, which is all that is required to enroll for free in a Silver Sneakers fitness program. To find participating gym/fitness locations in your area, enter your zip code at tools.silversneakers.com/LocationSearch.

Some detail on this new benefit is included in all of the CalPERS 2018 Evidence of Coverage pamphlets, which were mailed out recently; for example, the PERS Choice pamphlet, titled *Supplement to Original Medicare Plan Evidence of Coverage Effective January 1, 2018-December 31, 2018*, briefly describes Silver Sneakers on the fifth (unnumbered) page. The information is also on the CalPERS website: www.calpers.ca.gov. Just click on these links in this order from the main page: Retirees / Health & Medicare / Retiree Plans & Rates / scroll down to "Health Plans" and click on your plan (**ANTHEM BLUE CROSS MEDICARE, PERS CARE, PERS CHOICE, PERS SELECT, or UHC MEDICARE**) / scroll down to "Medicare Publications" or "Publications" and click on "2018 --- Evidence of Coverage." The program is not listed in the Table of Contents, but a "find" command for the words "Silver Sneakers" quickly locates it.

SilverSneakers is not just a gym membership but a specialized program designed exclusively for Medicare-eligible, older adults; it offers physical activity, health education, and social events. Members can participate in SilverSneakers, SilverSneakers Steps®, and, where available, SilverSneakers FLEX®, which provides instructor-led activities outside a traditional fitness center. The SilverSneakers network provides free access to a variety of participating fitness centers throughout the country, many of which offer amenities such as these:

- Fitness equipment, free weights, pools
- Signature SilverSneakers fitness program classes, designed specifically for older adults and taught by certified instructors
- At select locations, additional signature classes, such as SilverSneakers BOOMTM, SilverSneakers Yoga, and SilverSneakers Splash
- A designated staff member to assist as needed

For more information on this program, contact SilverSneakers at 1-888-423-4632, Monday through Friday, 8 am-8 pm ET or visit silversneakers.com. **Note: Gym memberships or other fitness programs that do not meet the SilverSneakers criteria are excluded from this CalPERS benefit.**

NEW RETIREES

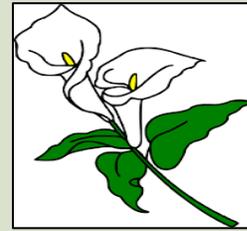
From the online District Board meeting minutes, fourteen people will have retired by the end of Fall Quarter 2017 (apologies if anyone was inadvertently included or excluded):

- + Nancy Charnoski, DA Admissions/Records
- + David Coleman, DA Counseling
- + Kenneth DiMare, DA Bookstore
- + John Dorcak, CS Police Department
- + David Gillett, Central Services ETS
- + Alejandro Lambruschini, DA Bookstore
- + Joni Hayes Lamprey, CS Business Services
- + Arthur Levine, FH International Students
- + Ellen Lyon, CS Business Services
- + Susan Maltby, FH Admin Services
- + Joan Pena-Ferrick, DA Student Services
- + Karl Schaffer, DA PSME
- + Terri Vijeh, CS Business Services
- + Christine Woo, DA President's Office



We wish all retirees a happy and healthy post-employment life and invite everyone to join FODARA by signing up for the email listserv (send email to cindycastillo@comcast.net), by serving on the FODARA Board or a committee, by volunteering to help plan/set up a social event, or by simply attending one or more of the great parties scheduled throughout the year; see p. 2 for calendar and committees.

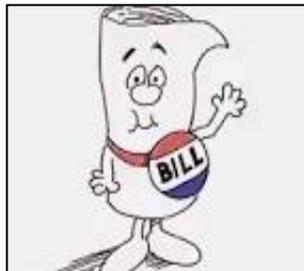
IN MEMORIAM 2017



*Jeanne Bergendahl
Gerald Besson
Ron Bottini
Joyce Colvard
James Custodio
Claire Davis
James Fetler
Ruth Anne Fish
Joe Gallo
Gene Hawley
Dave Paulsen
Frank Savage
Nancy Schrier*

WEP UPDATE

The November 2016 issue of *After-Words* reported on **HR 711, the Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act**, which proposed a new method of calculating the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). Analysts seemed to agree **HR 711** had a “reasonable” chance of passing and, if its original language remained intact, would increase benefits for most folks subject to



WEP. But, even with this positive prognosis and near unanimous congressional support, the bill languished and died in committee.

The current WEP formula uses a somewhat complex method to reduce social security benefits for those who also have career earnings from non-social security covered employment, as, for example, community college faculty. The history of and rationale for WEP are available to read at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10045.pdf. On this webpage, the Social Security

(Continued on p.6)

(From p.5)

Administration says WEP eliminates an unintentional advantage given to people with career earnings not covered by social security and who also have private pensions.

However, those in support of a WEP redo argue people are entitled to the benefit they earned based on the dollar amount/number of years paid into social security, and the WEP formula “unfairly and arbitrarily” reduces that amount. According to the National Education Association (NEA), *“Together, the GPO [Government Pension Offset] and WEP deprive nearly 9 million educators and other dedicated public servants of Social Security benefits they have earned.”* NEA strongly encourages those in support of WEP changes to contact their congressional representatives.

Possibly good news for WEP sufferers is in February two new bills, both titled the

Social Security Fairness Act of 2017, were introduced as **HR 1205** in the House and **S. 915** in the Senate. House Speaker Paul Ryan has reportedly given the measure his approval to move forward, and congressional leaders from both parties say the bills are targeted for action late this fall. October 3 the bill actually made it to the Senate floor where one Senator explained why it should be supported.

Nonetheless, for the past many years, every bill brought forward to retool the WEP formula—regardless of widespread bi-partisan support—has expired before any action is taken. And, given the political realities of this particular congress in Washington, **HR 1205** and **S. 915** may not be given the chance to rise to the top of the legislative landscape before they expire in 2018. Any updates on these bills will be included in future *After-Words*.

Flint Center December Holiday Performances

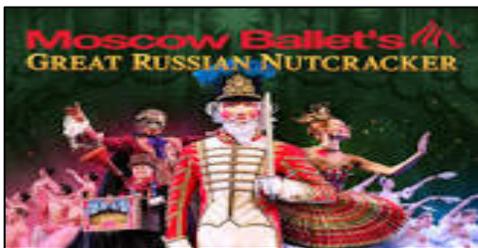
www.ticketmaster.com/Flint-Center-tickets-Cupertino/venue/229530

12/8 –12/10 Los Gatos Ballet’s Nutcracker



This production showcases some of the finest youth and professional talent in the Bay Area and, in collaboration with the San Jose Youth Symphony, provides a live philharmonic orchestra. Filled with vibrant costumes, engaging sets, and delightful choreography, this Nutcracker delights children and adults of all ages.

12/17 Moscow Ballet’s Great Russian Nutcracker



This fabulous performance features leading soloists from world renowned ballet companies. New backdrops and costumes were hand-made in Russia at a 300 year old theatrical shop that also builds for La Scala and others. There is simply nothing like it.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

For this series to continue, **you** have to participate. Just email your responses to the questions below—subject to editing for space—along with a photo to *After-Words* editor Linda Lane (LaneLinda@fhda.edu); your former colleagues and old friends would enjoy knowing how and what you are doing!

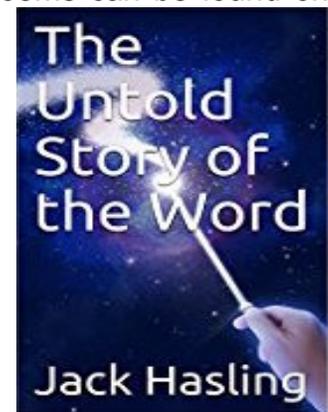
Jack Hasling



Q: What was your former position(s) and why/when did you retire? A: I came to Foothill College in 1966 and retired in 1991, so I am one of the Old Timers. I was there in what I like to call the Golden Years, when all of us on the faculty were young and perhaps a little cocky. They were some of the best years of my life. I can't think of a better way to make a living than directing a radio station, coaching a debate team, and lecturing to classes in speech communication.

Q. Describe your first years in retirement—"smooth sailing" or an adjustment? A: After retirement I spent a good deal of time travelling in Europe with Elsie. Great times and great memories. But we are getting too old to do that anymore. I still have stacks of 35 mm slides in my closet... if anyone would care to see them. I had no trouble adjusting to retirement because there was much I wanted to do. I am grateful to have the time, the health, and the energy to do some writing—a hobby rather than a vocation. I wrote my first novel in 1995 called *Hillview*, which revolved around faculty and students at a community college during the turbulent times of the late sixties. It dealt with the Summer of Love, the protest against the War in Vietnam, and the use of Agent Orange. Copies are still available on Amazon and probably in the Foothill College bookstore.

Q: How do you keep busy—interests/activities you enjoy? A: A few years ago I joined a poetry circle in Cupertino and began writing light verse. I self-published three paperback books of poetry, two of them, *Footprints on My Tongue* and *I've Thought Every Thought I Can Think*, are on Amazon. The third, *It's Nice to Take a Gift*, you can buy at Book Shop Santa Cruz on Pacific Avenue. More information and occasional poems can be found on my webpage, jacksverse.com. Some years ago, I became an elder in the Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church relating to the Peacemaking and Social Justice ministry. I occasionally read scripture to the congregation on Sunday morning prior to the sermon. This activity drew me into writing my latest book titled *The Untold Story of the Word*. It is a satire on the Old Testament describing how God really created the world and what he really meant to say in the book that was written about him. I hope you will find it witty and maybe thought provoking. It, too, is available on Amazon as an eBook and a paperback. I still ride my bike occasionally—not as far or as fast as before—but I plan to fulfill one of my bucket list items of riding on my ninetieth birthday next March.



Q: What words best describe your life? A: Lucky and grateful.

Q: Advice to those considering retirement or newly retired? A: Make the most of it.

OCTOBER 2017 PIZZA "THING" PICTURES

Thanks to everyone who joined us and to Ed Burling for the great photos! If you have photos you'd like to share from recent FODARA events, please email them with a caption to Webmaster Cindy Castillo, cindycastillo@comcast.net.





FODARA HOLIDAY PARTY



When: Friday, December 15, 11:30 am- 1:30 pm

Where: De Anza College Hinson Campus Center
Conference Rooms A & B

RESERVATION FORM: **Please mail by December 8 or earlier**

Retiree Name _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Current Address/Telephone/Email (*only if new/changed*): _____

Check menu choices for you and your guest(s):

Retiree: Prime Rib _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian _____

Guest(s): Prime Rib _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian _____

Please reserve _____ total places for the HOLIDAY PARTY

\$ 22.00 for each person attending \$ _____

\$10.00 for 2017-18 FODARA dues (voluntary) \$ _____

Donation for FODARA scholarship fund \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Make check payable to "FODARA" and mail to Mike Paccioretti, FODARA
3075 Muirdrum Place.
San Jose, CA 95148

*If you miss the above deadline, call or email Mike by December 13 (408.274.4929,
paccioretti@sbcbglobal.net).*

FODARA

Foothill-De Anza Retirees Association

Foothill-De Anza Community College District

12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022