



The PACRA Pacer

Where Are They Now?

HORACE & FRAN DIXON, Florence, OR

Thank you for the opportunity to share with our PACRA members how God has continued to bless our lives here in our beloved and gorgeous Florence, Oregon.

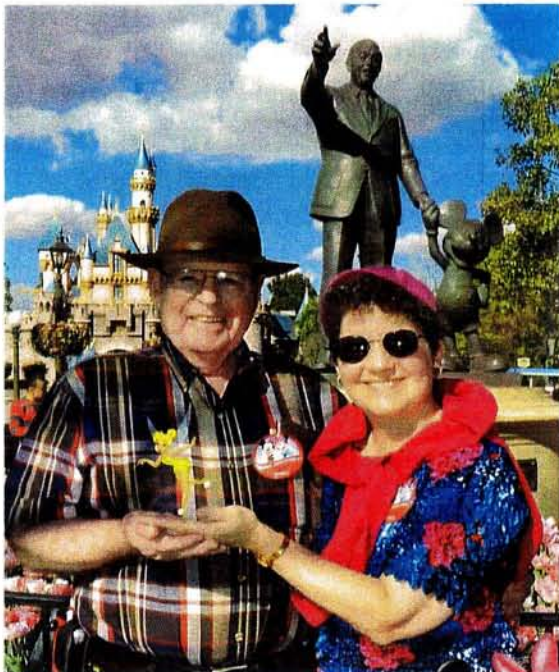
Horace has continued to teach others in many areas of his giftedness including the purchase and operation of personal computers. He has faithfully served in many leadership positions at Community Baptist Church including Elder, Treasurer, Deacon, Usher, Attendance Clerk, and on the Property & Finance Committee.

Fran enjoys gardening and cooking for her sweetheart. Her passion is in the area of Bible Study where she has coordinated the Women's Bible Studies at Community Baptist Church for the last 15 years. In addition, she has served as Secretary for several committees as well as Deaconess and Branch Leader.

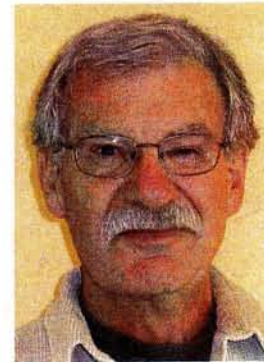
Fran was blessed and felt privileged to be the primary caregiver for her Mom, Shirley O'Rourke, also a PACRA member, prior to the Lord taking her home on December 14, 2008.

Since retirement, Horace and Fran have thoroughly enjoyed their travels by RV. They have explored all the lower 48 states and most of the

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MICHAEL G. NEWBROUGH, Anacortes, WA



*Michael Newbrough,
Ph.D., Professor
Emeritus, Depart-
ment of History,
Economics &
Political Science*

When I retired in 2003, my wife and I moved to our second home here in Anacortes, WA, an island paradise 80 miles north of Seattle. I have continued the hobbies I love—music (I play trumpet in two groups), woodworking (furniture building in my shop), landscape gardening and RV travel (we're off to Alaska again next year).

It took only 3 years before the teaching urge re-emerged, so I helped found the Anacortes Senior College (5 years old now, where volunteer instructors offered nearly 100 six-week courses to over a thousand seniors), where I teach politics & economics.

I feel truly blessed that "retirement" has turned out to be far more fun and fulfilling than I'd ever dreamed, and—if STRS remains viable—I anticipate another 20+ years here in our north-west heaven! ◆

SELMA OPIE, Los Gatos, CA

Soon after retiring in 1995 Bill persuaded me to visit the Escondido Bridge Club where I found a compelling new interest. I attended the classes, and within a year I was a Life Master. Playing bridge at other clubs motivated us to visit friends and relatives everywhere. It didn't take too long for me to reach Bronze Master status on my way to the Silver level... not reached. At present I am the volunteer director of duplicate bridge at The Terraces of Los Gatos (TLG), a retirement community where we live. Besides the weekly games I have added team games, workshops for review, and introductions to the newer conventions.

At TLG there are opportunities to use my experiences in gerontology and counseling at committee and community meetings. In addition I have presented topics such as, *A New Dynamic: Older Adults with Adult Children* to the San Jose AAUW, OWL, and other community groups.

Travel had been a large part of our life until Bill's health began to deteriorate in 2002. He is now in 'total care.' Luckily we have four levels of care here and he is close by and well tended. At TLG we take advantage of our proximity to San Francisco for its art and theater offerings. My sons lead active lives, the grandchildren are finishing college degrees, and I have much for which to be thankful.

Our prior travels took us to the Soviet Union where we enjoyed a personal tour of the Hermitage due to the fact that Bill's ancestor was John Opie, a well-respected English painter. The Hermitage has several John Opie works. We

have taken many cruises and several land tours. One of my favorite vacations was to South America, sailing around the Horn. Right now I am once again getting the luggage ready for a trip to Alaska with a friend.



It is a joy to live in a small town like Los Gatos close to family and friends. In my quiet times I have a Kindle, I knit, and I enjoy Netflix offerings. Although I miss old friends from Palomar and San Diego, an occasional email brings some news, and the last PACRA Pacer brought wonderful stories. Thank you! ◆

LARRY BERTRAM, Payson, AZ



Larry retired in 1994 after 30 years of automotive teaching. He resides in Payson, AZ with his wife of three years, Shirley. As you can see, his project is coming along. It is a 1949 Crosley pickup truck which has been a lifetime project but one that has the end in sight. He and his wife enjoy classic cars, a multitude of other activities including ballroom and country western dancing, cruising and traveling by car. ◆

Dixon continued

Canadian Provinces, visiting our beautiful National Parks, wildlife refuges and Historical Sites.

Most recently, Horace and Fran celebrated their 34th Wedding Anniversary at Disneyland.

Thank you again for allowing us to share with our beloved Palomar College family. Those were very special days for us. Not only being united together as one in marriage at the "Schettler Garden" but all the friends and fond memories of a loving community. ◆

CANDICE FRANCIS, Escondido, CA

(Editor's note—aka World Traveler and Photographer Extraordinaire)

I've posted a few new images on the web. I hope you'll get a few minutes to take a break and have a look. I have some other things in the works so check back again soon. We each see the world through a different lens. This collection represents my vision, through my lens as it existed in a nanosecond of time. Some of the images are my favorites; others are not but are included because I honor your lens.

As always, I appreciate your time and comments.

<http://www.candicef.zenfolio.com>



Palomar College NEWS BRIEFS

1 **Bonnie Dowd**, Palomar College's Vice President for Finance, resigned her post in September to become Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Services at the San Diego Community College District. Dowd said she'll continue to take a personal interest in Palomar College and will represent it and other campuses as the president-elect of the Association of Chief Business Officials for California Community Colleges.

2 On June 30, 2011 the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges reaffirmed **Palomar's accreditation**, commending the college for changes that President Robert Deegan said will also improve services to students. The College specifically improved its methods of measuring student progress, ensured the quality of online or distance learning, updated some personnel policies, and, most important, aligned its goals with its budget. "We're a stronger, better institution for the work that we've done," he said.

3 Palomar College bans **smoking on campus**. In July 2011 the Board of Trustees decided to scrap the College's former policy that allowed smoking in some areas of the campus as long as it occurred at least 20 feet from any buildings. Now, smokers will have to stay off campus completely if their cigarettes are lit.

4 **Performing Arts** program plans for **temporary quarters** during theater remodel. A two-year theater renovation will be an exercise in improvisation for performing arts students and faculty, as classes and performances are dispersed throughout the campus during construction. The \$16.8 million upgrade will remodel the 27,250 square-foot theater and add 12,081 square feet of new classroom and studio space.



PACRA Hosts Annual Meeting

The **Twentieth Annual Meeting of PACRA** was held on May 19, 2011, at *The Old Spaghetti Factory* in San Marcos. PACRA President **Ken Burns** welcomed the approximate 40 attendees and introduced first-time attendees to the meeting.

President/Superintendent **Bob Deegan** gave an update on the status of Palomar College, noting that nineteen new faculty have been hired and eighteen faculty members retired as of this year. He gave an update on the campus building program which is underway utilizing Prop M bond monies. President Deegan also assured all attendees that current retiree health care benefits remain secure, are not subject to change, and he reiterated the Governing Board's policy commitment to continue to fully fund the cost of these benefits.

Steve Spear, recently retired Palomar College Earth Science professor, gave a presentation on earthquakes, explaining the different types of fault lines and seismic waves, and how best to prepare for an earthquake event. The presentation was educational, entertaining and engaged the entire audience.



Palomar College Retirees' Association (PACRA) 2012-13 Scholarship*



Prerequisites:

- Applicant must be a relative of a PACRA member.
- Be a continuing Palomar College student, a high school graduating senior or a high school graduate.
- Have a Palomar College or high school GPA of 3.2 or higher**

Application Procedure:

Applicants must apply to Palomar College to receive an I.D. number in order to apply for scholarships online.

After you receive your Palomar I.D. number you can complete an application online at:

www.palomar.edu/fa/scholarships. Application and deadline dates for 2012-2013 college year were not available at press time. This information will be posted online at www.palomar.edu/fa/scholarships in late November 2011.

For questions regarding scholarship eligibility, contact PACRA Scholarship Chair, JaDene Dugas at 1.760.940.8969.

* \$1,000 for the academic year: \$500 for the Fall Semester and \$500 for the Spring Semester

** Must maintain a GPA of 3.2 or higher to receive second semester payment

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