



# THE PACRA PACER

San Marcos, CA

Volume 2 - Number 1

November 1993

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you will enjoy the articles in this new issue of THE PACRA PACER. By this time you should have received your 1993-1994 membership directory. Please let us know if you haven't received your copy, or if there is an error in your information.

Perhaps a brief explanation is in order concerning the way names are listed in the Directory. Both retirees and spouse may become members as provided in our By-Laws. If both retiree and spouse are retirees, each is listed separately. If both the member and the spouse are active employees, each is listed separately. If retiree and (non-employee) spouse are both members, the retiree is listed first and the spouse is shown in parentheses. If only the retiree has joined, he/she stands alone.

We are very pleased to have several more active employees join the Association. Since the Directory was mailed in October there are three more names to be added as shown in one of the articles. Welcome!

Dr. Omar Scheidt and I are the PACRA representatives on the Benefits Task Force. At this time there is nothing to report, for few decisions can be made until the National Health Plan is enacted. Any information from the District pertinent to our retirees will be reported immediately.

This year is rapidly drawing to a close. We certainly don't want to rush the season, but since there isn't much chance that we will be together before the end of the year I would like to extend Seasons Greetings to everyone as well as the best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

- Jean

## INNOVATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY FOR SERVICE TO STUDENTS

Herman C. Lee, Director of Enrollment Services

Encouraged by President Dr. George Boggs and Vice-President Dr. David Chappie, several innovations have been made in Student Services, with budget and master planning support. Palomar has emerged in recent years as one of the most innovative community colleges in California. Technological breakthroughs have occurred in the way students register for classes, in reduction of paper records storage, and in student access to campus information and transcript information.

Over the years Palomar students have experienced every kind of registration on the market. Walk-in, bull-ring or arena, and mail-in registration have been tried, both singly and in combination. The registration staff has heard a litany of complaints from students: long lines; power outages; closed classes; lack of course eligibility; hot and stuffy conditions in the arena; students standing in the rain, and so on. Faculty members

continued pg. 4

## PLANNING FOR AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

George R. Boggs, Ph.D., Superintendent/President

During the spring semester of 1993, the faculty, staff, students, and administrators of Palomar College were involved in an exhaustive planning process for the 1993-94 academic year. Rumors and speculation abounded about California's fiscal crisis and the unpleasant surprises the State budget might hold for community colleges.

In this environment of uncertainty, the Budget Development Committee, with representatives of all college constituencies, met regularly to plan a response to the expected cuts, the magnitude of which was unknown. Starting from the position that all funding decisions should be made within the framework of Palomar's commitment to student learning, the Committee recommended that most open positions be frozen and that the vertical salary matrix be suspended for 1993-94. All college departments were asked to prepare budgets reflecting three, six, and nine percent reductions. Approval of sabbatical leaves was delayed while ways were explored to reduce their cost.

Past evidence of the impact of fee increases raised concerns about fall enrollment. The number of students with bachelor's degrees had dropped by 32 percent between the fall semester of 1992 and the spring semester of 1993, largely owing to the new \$50 per unit "differential fee" charged these students. Would the large fee increases proposed by the governor also result in a substantial decline in enrollment?

To help address this constant worry, we launched expanded marketing efforts, including weekend information booths at North County Fair, increased advertising on local radio stations, and a banner at the front entrance encouraging students to register.

Meanwhile, as the State budget deliberations progressed, we had to inform the public of the implications of the proposed fee increase without discouraging potential students who feared rising fees and loss of class selections. Faculty, students, staff, PACRA members, and community supporters of the College worked together to educate our legislators and the governor about the important role played by our community colleges.

Finally, the State budget was adopted. Fees were increased to \$13 a unit and the differential fee for students with bachelor's degrees was retained at \$50 per unit. Even with our vigorous effort to inform our lawmakers of our concerns, the community colleges state-wide were given no cost-of-living adjustment for the third straight year, received a loan of \$178 million in state funds that will have to be repaid, and lost an estimated 0.5 percent in apportionments.

At Palomar, budget cuts were still implemented in all departments, but the hiring freeze recommended by the Budget Development Committee was lifted for most new positions.

continued pg. 4

## WHAT'S NEW

The California State University system has reported that in 1992-93 Palomar's transfer students outperformed, by a significant margin, transfers from other community colleges and California State University native students.

A new procedure, interns in academic departments, has been set up, with interns this fall in the English Department and the Administration of Justice Department.

### SURVEY OF OPINIONS ON DENTAL INSURANCE

PACRA, working with other units of the College, participated in a telephone poll of regular members living in the San Diego area on facts and opinions concerning dental insurance coverage for 1992. Of those interviewed, 98 members and spouses did not exceed the \$1,000 limit on coverage; and 23 did exceed the limit. Further, 35 retirees or spouses desired that the limit be left at \$1,000, 42 suggested that it be increased to \$1,500, and 44 wanted it increased to \$2,000.

These data have been brought to the attention of the Benefits Task Force. The following members and officers participated in the telephone poll: Carl Iserman, William Eddy, Omar Scheidt, Rita White, Richard Norlin, Ann Steffens, Fred Huber, Gretchen Mailham, and John Schettler.

### OFFICERS FOR 1993-94

Officers who were elected at the May meeting, or who continue in the second year of their offices are Jean Huston, president; Fred Huber, vice-president; Rita White, secretary; Carl L. Iserman, treasurer; Ruth Serr, member-at-large (1994); Ruth Clothier, member-at-large (1995), and John Schettler, designated as immediate past president. Ruth Clothier shortly afterwards moved to San Diego and resigned her office because of the driving distance. The Board of Directors then appointed Ann Steffens to fill the position until the end of the term. Linda Nomura continues her duties as archivist.

### CAN YOU REMEMBER . . .

- when the grounds crew and the custodians were called from their duties to chase the neighbors' cows from the campus?
- when snow fell over a large part of North County, leaving over four inches on campus?
- when, on the early campus, the flag pole was in the center of the quad.
- when a itinerant painter painted the flag pole, from top to bottom? (He was a bit disabled, one-armed.)
- when Palomar operated three busses, bringing students to campus? One of the student bus drivers still serves the campus, Gordon Stubblefield, instructional associate in the Earth Sciences Department.

### WISE SAYING . . .

There are only two ways of telling the complete truth - Anonymously and Posthumously. - Thomas Sewell

### TRANSIT CENTER AT PALOMAR

Scheduled for completion in 1994, the construction of the transit center on Palomar College campus is at last under way. Ground breaking occurred in October, but the soil was so hard that the spade could barely make a hole!

## NOTCH GENERATION

If you were born between January 1, 1917, and December 31, 1926, you are receiving payments from the Social Security system which are lower than those to persons born before or after these dates. This unfair distinction is the result of 1977 legislation which attempted to correct a flaw in the Social Security benefit formula. As a result, about 12 million persons born between 1917 and 1927 receive benefits much smaller than those born before or after them. Attempts to obtain sufficient support in the House and Senate were not successful last year. This year congressional leaders are showing even less enthusiasm to eliminate this discrimination which amounts to hundreds of dollars each year for each of the victims.

Letters to your U.S. Congressmen and Senators might be helpful.

### LEIS TO DR. BOYCE

One of our honorary members and former trustee of the College, Dr. William Boyce, has recently received the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award from the United Way of San Diego and the Leadership Award from Channel 10. He is medical director for the Elizabeth Hospice in Escondido, supervising social workers, nurses, aides, and 200 volunteers who befriend patients and give respite to family care givers. He has been a general surgeon in Escondido for 35 years; and in 1983 he and his wife, Lorraine, served in American Samoa, he as head of the surgical department in Pago Pago and she as supervisor of the surgical clinic. He is also one of the co-founders of the National Academy of Hospice Physicians. In honor of his 79th birthday this October, the Escondido Main Rotary Club presented Carol Davis, dressed up as Marilyn Monroe, who cooed "Happy Birthday" to Bill a la the sultry rendition of the song Monroe did for President John F. Kennedy.

### LA COSTA MEADOWS CENTER

The Governing Board of the College has approved the sale of its lease hold interest and furnishings in the La Costa Meadows Child Care Center to the highest qualified bidder. The action has caused a reduction in force, with disemployment notices given to the affected employees.

### AUDIT CLASSES?

Palomar College retirees, as well as regular staff, may audit one class per semester or summer session at no charge, with permission of the instructor.

THE FRIENDS OF PALOMAR COLLEGE LIBRARY have closed their books because of declining attendance at their programs and difficulty in finding leaders. Over the 11 years of the organization it raised \$57,751 for the Library. Restarting the organization can occur at any time in the future.

The LIBRARY expects to be closed in the month of January 1994 for extensive remodeling to eradicate recurring air quality problems. The remodeling is funded by a \$1.7 million state grant, with the first phase completed in June 1994. Activities of the Library will be rescheduled so that operations during the semester can continue.

THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT is offering a Spanish program which involves living with a Mexican family in Cuernavaca, Mexico. The program will be held during the semester break in December 1993 and January 1994.

#### FIRST NOVEL

Dr. Luz Garzon, Director of Multicultural Studies, with 18 years at Palomar, soon will have her first novel published. *Bridges* will be published in Spanish in Mexico, and in English in the United States.

#### A NEW CENTER

Ground breaking ceremonies were held near the tennis courts for the Wellness/Fitness Center, a joint venture of the city of San Marcos and Palomar College.

#### SOCIAL MEETING

On September 25, a luncheon and a pleasant social meeting of PACRA members was held at the Sizzler Restaurant in Escondido. Dr. Boggs complemented PACRA for its organization and commented on the importance of PACRA to the college. He then discussed, followed by questions and answers, the significance of Proposition 174 to public education in California, and especially its impact on community colleges. Both he and Dr. Huber urged that we contact friends to encourage negative votes.

#### LONG MEMORY

JaDene Dugas related that recently she talked to Bob Burton who lives near Prescott, Arizona, opening her conversation with him with the question, "Do you remember me?" His answer was, "I certainly do remember you and the day I employed you. I even remember the dress you wore that day."

#### IRREPLACEABLE LOSSES

We regret to announce the deaths of Mr. Palmer Kremer, Mrs. Elvera Bailey, Mrs. Harriet Lund, Mr. Charles Burke, Mr. David Rickabaugh and Mrs. Charlotte Lonzar.

Palmer was a long time member of the Social Sciences Department and a former mayor of the city of San Marcos. A well-attended memorial service was held at St. Mark's Catholic Church of San Marcos. He was one of the early members of PACRA, and was serving on the Communications Committee.

Elvera Bailey, PACRA MEMBER and long time employee in administrative offices and in the Bookstore, was honored by her family and others in a memorial celebration in early September at the Robert Adams Community Park in Valley Center.

Harriet Lund will be remembered as a cheerful member of Food Services for many years. Charles Burke was the husband of Marilyn Burke, Charter member and one of the Directors of PACRA.

David Rickabaugh, member of PACRA and husband of retiree member Virginia Rickabaugh, passed away of a heart attack at the Dallas Airport on October 12, 1993. He and Virginia were headed for a vacation in Florida. A memorial service was held at the Village Church in Rancho Santa Fe on October 15, 1993. We regret the loss of these valuable persons and give our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

Mrs. Charlotte Lonzar, Vista, former secretary for Dean Charles Coutts, died on October 21. Prior to her duties at Palomar she was secretary with United States government offices for 15 years.

#### UPS AND DOWNS

Kitty and Cap Grage, residents of Escondido for 34 years, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary September 25. Kitty worked in the Public Information Office at Palomar, retiring in 1990. In honor of the occasion their two children sent the couple on a vacation to Disney World in Florida.

Virgil and Natalie Bergman are about to leave their 100 year old home on Juniper Street, Escondido. Because of health reasons, they are looking at other options. It will be painful to leave this historic home, filled with fine furniture, some of it dating from the time of the American Revolutionary War. The home also has many reminders of the five years the Bergmans spent in Kenya when he was director of the American School in Nairobi for the United States International University.

Esther Altmann has reported that Max took a fall from an avocado tree. While he was pruning the tree, his ladder slipped and Max came tumbling down, with three ribs broken. He is recovering nicely, and will soon be back in the tree.

#### THE BEST ENTERTAINMENT IN NORTH COUNTY

November through May  
Howard Brubeck Theatre, Palomar College  
Call 744-1150 x2317

#### Dance & Music -

Holiday Program: Peter and the Wolf & North Pole Follies

Dec. 10, 11, 8 PM; Dec. 12, 2 PM and 8 PM;

Dec. 18, 8 PM; Dec. 19, 2 PM and 8 PM.

#### Music -

Jan. 22, 8 PM; January 23, 2 PM: Orchestra

Mar. 19, 8 PM; Mar. 20, 2 PM: Chorale

Apr. 9, 8 PM; Apr. 10, 2 PM: Orchestra

June 21, 8 PM; June 22, 2 PM: Orchestra

Falcone Piano Series

Feb. 6, 2 PM, room D-10: Rebecca Rollins

May 8, 2 PM, Theatre: Dr. Peter Gach Recital

#### Drama -

March 10, 8 PM; March 11, 8 PM: Grapes of Wrath

March 12, 8 PM; March 13, 2 PM: Grapes of Wrath

April 28, 8 PM; April 29, 8 PM: Heidi Chronicles

April 30, 8 PM; May 1, 2 PM: Heidi Chronicles

#### To be Announced -

Joint concert of Palomar Community Orchestra and the Grossmont Orchestra at Poway Center for the Performing Arts and at Theatre East in El Cajon.

Special discounts at local eateries, valid on your performance day only: Quails Inn and Baker's Square Restaraunt and Pie Shop.

(INNOVATIONS continued)

have complained that class rosters were inaccurate or expressed horror when classes were overloaded. The entire campus couldn't wait until the process was over!

Then came Touchtone telephone registration. Students finally had control over their registration. They could register from the comfort of their living rooms, from telephone booths, or even from the beach. Today over 15,000 students use this convenient system to register for classes. One international student registered from a pay phone in Fukushima, Japan.

After registration there is the typical voluminous amount of paper record keeping. For years the Student Records Office has wanted to reduce paperwork. Consequently the office embarked on a goal of creating a paperless office with its new image management system. Image management or imaging is simply the popular term for the technology of scanning, storing, and retrieving records on optical discs. A high capacity optical disc, 5 1/4 inches, can store about the same number of documents as a four-drawer file cabinet. The WORM discs (Write Once, Read Many) are as permanent as any medium currently used, and with an eleven platter "jukebox," the Student Records Office will be able to free up lots of floor space. The project is well underway with the scanning of catalogs and grade rosters. The actual conversion of paper student records to the optical discs will occur in 1994.

The Palomar Automated Self-Services Stations (or PASS) is the latest procedure for allowing students to gain access to information without having to stand in line. PASS is an interactive multimedia computer which allows students to view their grades, print a copy of their class schedules, or get a map of the college. Students can also take video tours of the campus and receive information on student services such as job placement, admissions, and financial assistance. The system is accessed by touching a choice on the monitor screen. For personal information such as grades, the student must use the student identification card and their I.D. number to receive security clearance. Plans are under way to add information on book lists and to add a process to request an electronic transcript. PASS is to Palomar what ATM is to banks. It's a far cry from registration at tables in the Food Services dining room.

(PLANNING continued)

Sabbatical leaves were granted, and the salary matrix increases were implemented on July 1 as planned, although no cost-of-living salary increases have been granted.

Next we had to plan for expected enrollment. Based on early projections, 68 class sections had been cut from the fall schedule. After adoption on the budget, 24 sections were restored. Twenty-five accelerated "late start" classes were added to the fall schedule. Fall enrollment for 1993 was just over 23,500, down by 5.9 percent as compared to fall 1992. Thanks to a 2.54 percent reduction in this year's enrollment cap, we need to increase enrollment by only about 2 percent. No cuts in the number of sections are planned at present for the spring 1994 semester.

A team effort on the part of all concerned has enabled the Palomar Community College District to weather the 1993-94 budget crisis. Despite having had to plan without information about such crucial variables as total budget, student fees, and enrollment, we were able to embark upon the new fiscal year with a balanced budget, a modest reserve, and a solid array of course offerings for our students.

#### OUR LATEST

Our most recent members are Dr. Luz Garzon from Multicultural Studies, Mr. Tom Humphrey from Business and CSIS Departments, and Mrs. Virginia Dower, Director of Auxiliary Services. Welcome!

#### PALOMAR PLANETARIUM SHOW SCHEDULE

The People: Nov. 3, 5, and 19.

The Star of Bethlehem: Dec. 1, 2, and 17

Call for reservations

744-1150 x2512

#### KEEP US INFORMED

Please keep us informed of any changes of address or status of your self and other retirees.

We would like to publish articles about your activities, so send the stories to us. Long or short, it doesn't matter.

### Palomar College Retirees' Association - PACRA

1140 West Mission Road  
San Marcos, CA 92069-1487