



THE PACRAPACER

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SOME THINGS WE SHOULD NOT AVOID

First things first: it is the editor's duty to alert certain "members" of PACRA that they have not paid their annual dues. In some cases the practice extends back a year or two. Our income is used for current expenses of which the major part are printing and postage. When some folks do not contribute with their dues it causes their expenses to be borne by the dues-paying members. Now that isn't fair, is it?

PALOMAR'S GEODESIC DOME

On July 12 of this year the United States Postal Service will issue a new 37c postage stamp, which will indirectly honor Palomar College. The famed American engineer, Buckminster Fuller, designed the distinctive geodesic dome that has housed our gymnasium. This design has been used in varying sizes at many places over the world.

Fuller patented the design in 1954, originally intended as low-cost housing. Just four years later the Governing Board of Palomar College voted to use the design as recommended by the young architect, C. J. Paderewski of San Diego. At the same time the Board approved plans for a new student union for the campus. Part of this building was removed in 2002 to make way for the new Student Center, which opened in the summer of 2004.

But the Dome remains, and is used daily for physical education and athletics events. Although the 545 aluminum alloy panels are but 0.081 inches thick, we were assured that one could drive a light tank across it without damage. Since we had no light tank, we were never able to test this theory.

A geodesic structure uses the concept that a sphere can be divided into 31 great circles using triangles of varying sizes. Each great circle divides the sphere exactly in half. The resulting equilibrium makes the geodesic dome the strongest, lightest, and least expensive man-made structure, allowing it to withstand earthworks and hurricanes much better than conventional buildings. Likewise, the panels on the dome are fastened together in such a way that any weight put on top of it would be distributed equally among all the other panels. One slight disadvantage: the interior has terrible acoustics.

We have managed to hold graduation ceremonies and other events in it. Sunshine heats one section of the surface causing the dome to swell and contract. This tends to loosen the sealing material between the panels, thereby allowing some leakage (but only when it rains.) A later resealing of the dome to correct some of the contractor's errors greatly improved the utility of the building.

Palomar's dome was but the sixth geodesic structure in the United States, and the first for educational purposes. Since then, more than 200,000 similar structures have been constructed, some as large as 710 and 614 feet in diameter. Perhaps the most famous is at Epcot Center in Orlando, Florida.

After the footings, the concrete floor, and the brick panels which would eventually support the dome had been completed, a large crane was brought onto the middle of the floor. The first circle of panels was assembled, then raised a few feet, to be followed by the second row. Eventually, the entire dome was assembled, suspended by the crane, which then allowed the structure to settle down on the brick pylons, to be attached and finished.

One of the interesting arguments came from the insurance carriers. They had different rates for walls and for a roof, but there was no clear, conventional demarcation between the two on the dome. They eventually settled the matter, and Palomar started using its geodesic dome.

For the College, this was more than just adding a couple of buildings. It was evidence that the community had decided that Palomar College was here to stay. Needless to say, morale of the staff increased greatly.

PRESIDENT AMADOR SCHEDULED TO RETIRE

Dr. Sherrill Amador, president/superintendent, has announced her intention to retire on June 30 of this year. During her three-year term she, with the aid of a large representative committee, has seen the completion of a 20-year Master Plan covering instruction and construction. She cited personal reasons for her retirement with a need to have more time with her family.

In former years, the college was required to update its construction and expansion plan each year, a small task compared to the detailed study covering twenty years. The plan has been available on Internet at www.Palomar.edu/masterplan, covering more than 200 pages. It can be copied and printed by a computer with sufficient memory.

Dr. Amador was formerly president of Cuyamaca College in the San Diego area. She was the ninth president and the first lady president of Palomar.

The Governing Board has appointed a 23-person search committee, aided by a consulting firm, to screen a list of applicants. The Board hopes to make a final selection in October.

RETIREMENT OF DEAN GENE JACKSON

Gene Jackson, retiring last year as Dean of Arts and Languages, marks the departure of one of Palomar College's longest serving teachers. From

1965 as a teacher of English, he has served in various capacities in the classroom, on the faculty, and as a college administrator. He has been, and still is, a firm believer that administrators should remain in the classroom with students, serving as a classroom teacher.

At his gala retirement party the students presented him with a check for \$5,000 with instructions that he and Mrs. Jane Jackson use it for a trip to Paris. Although very appreciative of the gift, Dean Jackson immediately turned the money back to the students of Palomar College for their immediate needs as small loans. The Emergency Loan Fund has been well received by the students and is in constant use, repayments helping to keep the fund in proper shape.

Gene may become the interim president of Palomar College while the full search is made for our next president.

DEATHS OF STAFF MEMBERS

Mr. Robert Jackson, retiring in 1985 as head of the Criminal Justice Department of the College, died in January 2003, of heart failure. He had been with the Los Angeles Police Force for 20 years after serving as a lieutenant in the United States Air Force. He had also taught earlier at Orange Glen High School.

Mr. Everett T. Robertson, 82, passed away on January 7, 2004, at his home in Carlsbad after a long battle with emphysema. Born in Texas, he joined the United States Navy in 1942, serving in North Africa, Salerno, France, Okinawa, and occupied Japan. After WWII he returned to California and taught at Redondo Beach High School. In 1956 he started as Palomar's first full-time Industrial Arts teacher, retiring in 1982. He was a skilled carpenter, cabinetmaker, welder, and draftsman, with a hobby of tending his fruit orchard. His wife, Virginia, after 57 years of marriage, died in May 2003.

CAMPUS POLICE CHIEF POSITION OPEN

The position of campus police chief is open, with a replacement eligible for office on July 1.

The campus police department has 43 employees and is charged with patrolling the San Marcos campus and the Escondido Education Center. In addition to enforcing criminal and traffic laws and responding to calls, they also escort students and teachers to their cars late at night.

Before the campus police force was established in 1999 the College contracted with a security company, which furnished unarmed guards. It's a far cry from the 1960's when the campus night guard chased down a fugitive, physically tackled him, and led him into the office area.

A new portable building now under construction near the front of the campus will house a dispatch center, offices, and meeting and interview rooms. The department will continue to lease space at the San Marcos Sheriff's Station for classes in the public safety programs.

RETIREMENTS IN 2003 AND 2004

The number of staff members choosing to retire is larger than usual.

Dr. Gheoghe Mozes, *director, Libraries and Educational Television*
 Dr. Michael O'Rourke, *dean, Mathematics/Natural and Health Sciences*
 Mr. Jerry Patton, *vice-president for finance, transferring to College of the Desert in Palm Springs*
 Evelyn Treais, *English/Second Language*
 Tim Ulman, *Foreign Languages*
 Dr. Pat Archer, *Political Science*
 Wayne Armstrong, *Life Sciences*
 Dan Arnsan, *Librarian*
 Neil Bruington, *Graphic Communications*
 James Daniels, *Mathematics*
 Robert Ebert, *Life Sciences*
 Mary Anne Giardina-Rodgers, *Child Development*
 Ed Groschwitz, *Chemistry*
 Ann Haney, *Behavioral Sciences*
 Steve Kirby, *Trade and Industry*
 Dennis Martinek, *Business Education*
 Mario Mendez, *Physical Education and Athletics*
 Mike Michaelson, *Computer Science/Information Systems*

George Pesacreta, *Foreign Languages*
 Kathy Pine, *Physical Education*
 Cynthia Poole, *Counseling*
 Jack Quintero, *English*
 Anne Reiss, *Trade and Industry*
 Gene Sager, *Behavioral Sciences/Philosophy*
 Pat Schmidt, *Nursing Education*
 Marilyn Soucek, *Behavior Sciences*
 Dr. Joe Stanford, *Performing Arts/Music;*
 Barbara Williams, *Behavioral Sciences*
 Patricia Worret, *Nursing Education*
 Emmett G. Logan, *Custodian*
 Olivia Romero-Walsh, *Occupations and Non-Credit Programs*
 Judy Eberhardt, *Behavioral Sciences*
 Carolyn Funes, *Librarian*
 Nan Haugen, *Physical Education*
 John Leahy, *Business Education*
 John Tanner, *History/ Political Science*

TENURE GRANTED IN 2003 and 2004

Michael Finton, *Emergency Medical Education*
 Carolyn Lowther, *English/Second Language*
 Katharina Meek, *Art*
 Larry Roberts, *Pubic Safety Programs*
 Wade Rollins, *Graphics*
 Thomas Ventimiglia, *Counseling*
 John Aegerter
 Madelyn Byrne
 Terrie Canon
 Grace Fowler
 Sherry Goldsmith
 Dewi Hokett
 Cathy Jain
 Gloria Kerkhoff
 Jo Anne Lesser
 Wendy Nelson
 Jon Panish
 Jennifer Paris
 Craig Thompson
 Carla Thomson
 Cynthia Torgison
 Steven White
 Susan Zolliker

PALOMAR'S DENTAL ASSISTING PROGRAM

Palomar's Dental Assisting Program placed in the top 25 percent of programs statewide, has a record of 81 percent of its students passing the Registered Dental Assisting exam last July. Students spend time not only in the classroom, but also at least 820 hours in their different kinds of dental offices.

Students who graduate from the Registered Dental Assisting program have no difficulty finding employment at respectable wages.

LOSS OF A LEADER

The Patrons of Palomar College recently lost one of their hardworking leaders through the death of Mrs. Jennifer Lebedeff. She was widely acclaimed a few years ago for her supervision of the annual Gardening sale to support the several projects of the Patrons.

The Patrons, established in 1947, have long used their efforts and skills in providing scholarships to students, in campus beautification, and in preserving the laminated, bound volumes of news items related to the College. In the past 56 years they have contributed over a million dollars to the benefit of Palomar students.

Now that the age of workers among the Patrons has prevented their large scale projects of the past, their influence continues to inspire others to provide campus beautification and student scholarship funds.

One of the most evident features of their work is the Campus Carillon and Clock Tower, promoted by Mrs. Edna Pulver and others, and financed by the Patrons Plant Sales, Book Sales, and Holiday Sales.

The first project of the Patrons in 1947 was to obtain and provide furniture for a student lounge in the old wooden buildings of long ago. Their latest project has been the Friendship Pavilion north of the Phil H. Putnam Library Building, which will not be completed until the new Science Building has been finished.

THE NEW SCIENCE BUILDING

Plans for the new science building to be constructed on the green belt just north of the Library Building seem to be complete, and funds are available at the State level for its construction and equipping. Yet there remain some entanglements at State level, which are delaying the construction contract.

The State Department of General Services keeps asking for more assurances and requirements. At first, they demanded evidence of a clear title to the land which the building will occupy. Then, the request was extended to cover the area of the landscaping as well. Following this, they wanted assurance on land 500 feet in all directions from the building. Now they want to know about the easements existing within 500 feet of the site in all directions.

The Department of Finance will not release the needed funds until General Services gives them the nod. These delays are exasperating when one realizes that the inadequacy of the present facilities for science classes has been recognized since 1978, and that the probable costs of construction and equipping are rising each month.

RAIL LINE TO SERVE CAMPUS

The North County Transit District has begun construction on a light rail system called the Sprinter. Running parallel to Highway 78 it will extend from Oceanside to Escondido.

Using the current freight train tracks which are not used during the day hours, it will serve Palomar College from a train station across from Palomar's main entrance with a planned pedestrian bridge to the campus.

The line will provide passenger service every 30 minutes in each direction from 5 A.M. to 10:30 P.M., with 15 stops between Escondido and Oceanside.

THE STUDENT CENTER

The long awaited new Student Center was dedicated on September 4, 2003, with a small crowd of students and participants. The Palomar College Foundation, the President's Associates, the Lake San Marcos Friends of Palomar College, The Associated Students, and The Patrons of Palomar College, each of which paid a prominent part in furnishing the building, were represented and recognized. Dr. Fred Huber, president/superintendent from 1964 to 1977, gave complimentary remarks for former Dean Robert Burton and Dean Bob Bowman for their work with students in the earlier years of the College.

Dr. Sherrill T Amidor accepted the new building, and Mr. Darrell L. McMullen, president, Palomar College Governing Board acknowledged the quality of the planning and of the construction..

The new addition, costing \$6,000,000, is financed by long-term bonds based on student fees of future years. The original building, constructed with district bond funds, cost about \$300,000. A bond election within the Palomar College District on October 7, 1957, provided \$685,000 for the construction and equipping of the Student Union and the geodesic dome gymnasium. The election was successful with a 75% vote, and established a bond redemption schedule that cost each taxpayer about 4 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation per year for 25 years. (That's how we used to do it!)

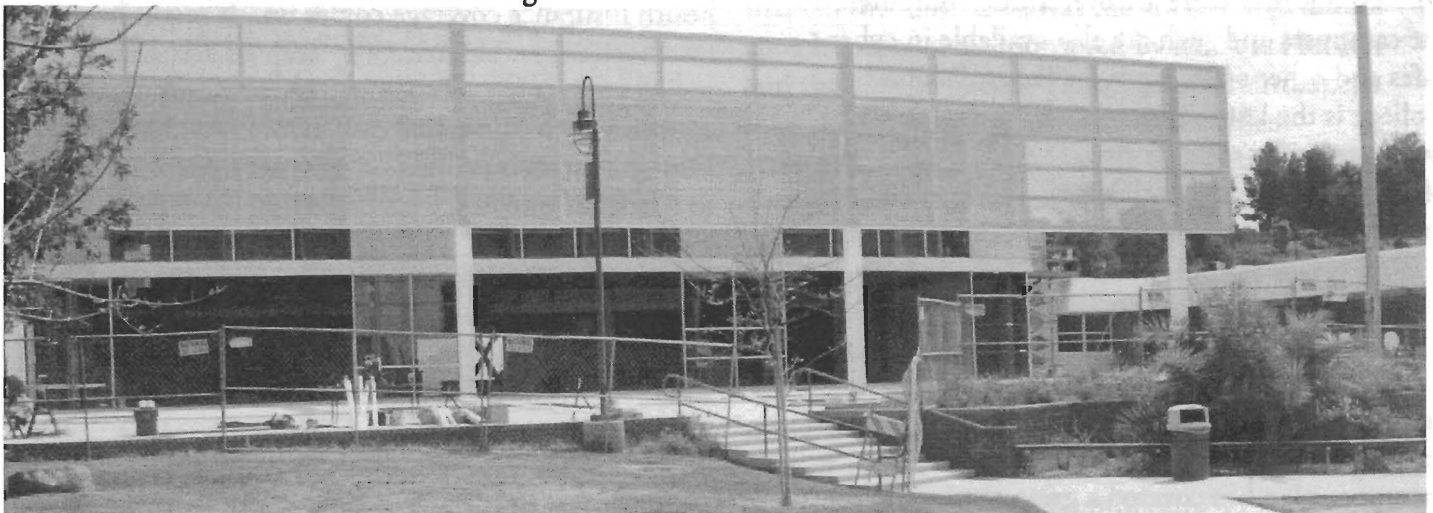
The dedication ceremony was capped with music from members of the Palomar Performing Arts

Department under Billy Hawkins, and by activities of the Palomar College cheerleaders.

In 1957 not everyone was in favor of public funds for a Student Union and for a gymnasium. Letters indicated objections based on such things as students were interested only in dances, assemblies, and beach parties; bus service to the college was free for students; any high school graduate could attend Palomar; and entrance exams were only for placement and guidance. (Your editor cannot remember any beach parties being held in the gymnasium or in the Student Union.)

In the original plan for the Student Union, the clocks of the entire campus were regulated by a high frequency signal from a master clock over the electric power lines. Soon it was observed that the clocks all over the campus were acting irregularly, jumping ahead by several hours. Students had no way of regulating their nap times in class. It was soon discovered that the erratic behavior was coincident with the passage of the locomotive on the railroad line along Mission Road. After some reconstruction of the clock system, the clocks became controlled by their own circuits in conduits, with well-regulated time (and naps) following.

The style of the new Student Center should answer those students who needed evidence that Palomar was moving into a new age, with broader views and goals.



Student Center 2003

In the middle of the morning I received a phone call from someone on campus saying that the radio had reported that the President of the United States had been shot in Dallas, Texas. Sometime later I took a walk to the Student Union to see if anyone had further information for we had no radio in the administration area.

I passed the office of the Bookstore and saw the manager, Mr. Don O'Neal on his knees, praying in the corner. It was enough to inform me that the news was serious, as was confirmed in a few moments when I got to a radio.

I don't recall sending any news to classrooms, but bad news has its own way of moving, very fast. I returned to the office, and received confirmation of the President's death. I phoned Mr. Charles Crafts, the superintendent of buildings and grounds, and asked him to lower the flag to half-mast. Another walk across the campus disclosed students hurrying toward their cars to leave the campus. Some of the high school groups immediately left the campus for their home schools. But the major part of the high school participants concluded their presentations.

On the sidewalk approaching the Library I met Mr. Howard Brubeck, and we both walked speechless to view the lowered flag. There is not way to describe the effect of this death to the young citizens of our country.

In the next few days no one left the screen of his television set. We were aghast of the death of Oswald in a Texas jail, amazed at the well-planned succession of Mr. Johnson to the presidency, and his oath of office aboard the president's airplane. Then in the following days we saw the arrival into Washington of the heads of state from many foreign nations, followed by the unbelievable scenes of the funeral procession and the salutes of the president's three-old son. All of this is now engraved as part of the tragic aspects of American history.

To bring us back again, think of this quotation from Ogden Nash: "You are only young once, but you can stay immature indefinitely."

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