

## My Honey and the Bees: An Adventure in Books, Beekeeping and a 'Honey' Partner

By Mary Ann Laun

Twenty-five years ago, I went to a Castle family reunion and met Jeff's grand uncle Ed, a beekeeper from Bremerton, Washington. We were out by his truck, and he had some supers (bee boxes) in his truck. We started chatting and he told me how he was moving his hives to follow the flowers.

He graciously gave me a jar of his honey. I was intrigued. Later, at the L.A. County Fair, I found myself drawn to the bee exhibits from the LA County. Year after year, I would visit the exhibit and wonder at the box of bees... humming away doing what they do best.

Over one third of our food supply comes from bees that pollinate. I wished I liked honey...

Years later, I decided that I would tend bees even if I did not care for honey. They are fascinating creatures working in an intricate social network, communicating with each other, instinctively supporting the hive and their queen. I was thinking about retirement and building my "to do" list of all the things I wanted to explore if I just had the time.

Martha Stewart's segments on keeping bees made me start to consider it again. I had her segments on beekeeping (and chickens) on my Tivo and over the years, I watch it again and again.

I started with one book from Amazon called *Beekeeping: A Practical Guide* by Richard E. Bonney. It was a good basic overview, but to tell you the truth, the



idea of swarms and Africanized bees scared me away. My interest waned.

Then for Christmas, my daughter Lissa gave me a book titled *Natural Beekeeping: Organic Approaches to Modern Apiculture* by Ross Conrad. Quite extensive and dense. Then the next year, a friend recommended a book to me. He was a beekeeper as a Boy Scout and he thought the best book on beekeeping was one that would be hard to find because it was out of print. Franklin H. Carrier's *Begin to Keep Bees* made me feel that I could actually do this someday. It is a "step-by-step guide for the beginning beekeeper" as the subtitle says, and it is exactly that.

I read it cover to cover. Now if I only had more backyard space and was not concerned about all the children who come to swim each summer, all summer long. More books followed.

I was thinking about waiting until Jeff retired to start this adventure. Jeff's

philosophy is always to "get going" so he encouraged me to jump in and get started. I asked him if he would help me and since he also had an interest... he agreed wholeheartedly. In our many years of marriage, we have done many things together but never a hobby where we were so fully engaged!

Jeff and I decided to explore some classes. First at Honey Love in L.A. where you suit up and enter a bee yard on the first day. Although I was a little nervous, this trial taught me that I would be fine in a bee yard.

The hum of the bees and the rhythm of their chores pulled us in. We then decided to attend a meeting of the Los Angeles County Beekeepers Association (LACBA) where we were welcomed with open arms and were encouraged to find a mentor in our area. Manny and Cindy Caldera (Caldera Bees) were so helpful

Continued on next page

and invited us to tag along for a visit to their hives. Yes, we were hooked.

We ordered our bees from Bill's Bees in Sunland/Tujunga area and registered to take classes. One class a month for 10 months gave us all we needed to know to get started. The wonderful inexpensive LACBA classes were geared to what we would be doing the next month or two. We learned how to install our packages of bees and what to look for in the hives as we made inspections every two weeks or so.

We learned about wax moths, ants and varroa mites and how to deal with them., and how to harvest honey. Last year was our greatest success with 130 pounds of honey from one hive and 40 pounds from another hive.

The first three years we had hives that did not make it: wax moth, swarming, varroa mites, all challenges to the beekeeper.

Our mentors were just a phone call away, and we had lots of questions and sent photos to them to help them diagnose our issues. We were on our way.

## *Ellen Ligons Honored for Being a Trailblazer*

Sen. Anthony Portantino awarded Ellen Ligons one of his annual Trailblazer Awards for her professional work at Pasadena City College and community service in Pasadena last December.

He honored her for being the first African American hired as an investigator for Pacific Telephone Company in the 1960s, and the first African American to be hired as a full-time, tenured profes-



Over the last five years we have learned so much.

We learned Beekeeping is more of an art than a science.

- ❑ Ask 10 beekeepers a question, you'll get 11 different answers.
- ❑ Climate change (especially drought) is horrible for humans as well as colo-

rior in the Business Division at Pasadena City College in the 1970s.

She is one of very few African Americans to receive the John J. Risser Award for outstanding teaching at PCC, and the only African American to receive the Ralph Story Award for exceptional service to the college and community.

Ellen is also the only faculty member at PCC to be elected to four consecutive terms as president of the college's Academic Senate and one of few PCC employees to move up the career ladder from secretary to a professor of business administration and ultimately the Dean of Career and Technical Education. In 2010, she retired after serving 41 years at the college.

The Pasadena City College Board of Trustees honored her during commencement in June of that year for her service and dedication to the college and greater community.

In the community, Ellen was the first African American woman to be appointed to the city's Planning Commission, and the first to serve as manager of the Office of Northwest Programs in Pasadena. In addition, she is a dedicated member of Delta Sigma

nies of bees. We all rejoice when it rains!

- ❑ Italians (bees) are sweet and nice; feral bees can be aggressive
- ❑ The Queen rules! If you lose your queen, you lose your hive
- ❑ Jeff and I have different ways of beekeeping. I follow the rules (mostly) and Jeff follows his intuition
- ❑ Fellow beekeepers are great people—willing to help at any time! Gracious with their advice, mentoring and experience. We have mentors and ARE mentors!

Thank you to the Los Angeles County Beekeepers Association!

Give to your Club, and in return we all reap the rewards of the collective. People LOVE hearing about our adventures in beekeeping! There you go! To follow our adventure, you can follow along on Mary Ann's Facebook or in her developing website called <http://my-honeyandthebees.com> p.s. Mary Ann now loves honey!

Theta Sorority, Inc., Pasadena Alumnae Chapter where she has served as chapter president and chaired several of the chapter's public service committees.

Ellen is a leader, mentor, and friend to our community who works to change lives and impact the community in positive way. For these reasons, Sen. Portantino awarded her with one of two Trailblazer Awards for 2019.



# Pleasure and Surprise

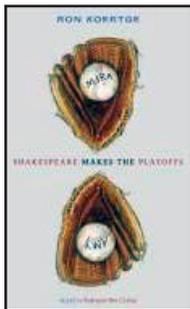
By Ron Koertge

I've been writing poems for more than fifty years. In 1962, I was in grad school when someone showed me a few out-of-the-ordinary magazines, all mimeographed and most stapled, that were nevertheless lively and fun to read. *The Wormwood Review* was one of those, and it was the first of the so-called "little magazines" that I submitted to and that published something of mine.

I fell in love with a lot of the counter-culture poetry journals. The poems were snarky and chatty. Nobody was writing about nightingales or Grecian urns. Basically, the poems were fun to read and an antidote to grad school classes in poetic technique and craft.

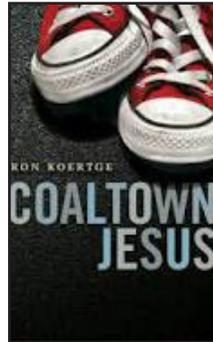
It turned out I had a knack for that sort of poem: relaxed, colloquial and (seemingly) off-the-cuff. It was only when, a few years later, my work started to drift toward the prosaic that I had to skate less on charm and sass and work to make the poems, for want of a five-star word, better.

Like a baseball player moving from the minors in Rancho Cucamonga to Triple A in Colorado, I started submitting to magazines that'd been around for awhile. That meant not changing my



breezy style into something challenging-for-a-reader but, at first anyway, not wasting a single word. Editors would reply to my submissions with comments like this:

"Fun to read and imaginative but lazy-on-the-page. Try again, please."



Here's a poem of mine that turned out well, but it didn't start that way. This is the final, published version. Probably the sixth or seventh draft.

## *Cinderella's Diary*

***I miss my stepmother. What a thing to say but it's true. The prince is so boring: four hours to dress and then the cheering throngs. Again. The page who holds the door is cute enough to eat. Where is he once Mr. Charming kisses my forehead goodnight?***

***Every morning I gaze out a casement window at the hunters, dark men with blood on their boots who joke and mount, their black trousers straining, rough beards, callused hands, selfish, abrupt ...***

***Oh, dear diary—I am lost in ever after: Those insufferable birds, someone in every room with a lute, the queen calling me to look at another painting of her son, this time holding the transparent slipper I wish I'd never seen.***

This poem turned out to be popular and it has appeared in a lot of anthologies. Once after a poetry reading and during Q&A, someone said that once I had the idea for the poem—and that is turning the happily-after trope on its head—didn't the poem pretty much write itself?

The answer in a way is Yes. Once I'd begun it and when Cinderella started speaking-through-me, I knew the poem would work. I knew I could finish. All I had to do was stay out of my own way.

But the early drafts were also gabby and over-explained. For example, these are the opening lines of an early draft:

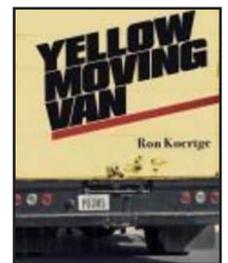
***I miss my stepmother. What happened to that well-advertised ever after? The prince is not what I hoped.***

I wanted this poem to sound like a diary entry, the kind that is intimate and no-holds-barred. People tell their diaries things they wouldn't tell anybody else. That's one of the reasons diaries are dear. They understand.

Once I'd written the whole Cinderella-poem, I could go back and see that only the first line was useful. There was no reason to follow that with the anti-ever-after theme. It was more fun to let the reader intuit that as the details accumulated.

So I threw out everything but those four words and started again, concentrating on Cinderella's confession and adding cool details like the cute page, the sexy hunters, and those "insufferable birds." I led my Readers toward pleasure and surprise and anything that blocked that or diluted it had to go. Thus six or seven drafts.

By the way, those two words—*pleasure* and *surprise*—can stand for why I write. I want to bring pleasure to my readers, and I want to surprise them. Sometimes pleasure first and then surprise. Sometimes the other way around. But always both, like that couple in high school who were always together, who married after graduation and lived happily ever after.



***Ron Koertge taught in PCC's English Department for thirty-seven years. He is the current Poet Laureate of South Pasadena. His most recent book of poems is Yellow Moving Van from the University of Pittsburgh Press. Available at Vroman's or, of course, Amazon. But Vroman's is a better choice. If they are sold out of Yellow Moving Van, they'll order it.***

# Retirees Tour The Historic Caltech Campus

By Alan Lamson

In mid-January a group of PCC retirees and guests gathered in front of the Caltech Athenaeum to begin a tour of the campus that included some of the original academic buildings and high-tech labs.

The tour was organized by Dona Mitoma who enlisted the services of Marilyn Diaz and Beryl Merion of the Caltech History and Architectural Tour Service, a volunteer group of the Caltech Women's Club.

While outside the historic Athenaeum, guide Marilyn Diaz talked about how Caltech came into being. Its beginnings are rooted in a small vocational school, named Throop University, which was founded in 1891 by wealthy former abolitionist and Chicago politician Amos Throop.

Later, the school changed its name to Throop Polytechnic Institute in 1893, then to Throop College of Technology in 1913, and finally to California Institute of Technology in 1920.

George Ellery Hale, astronomer from the University of Chicago, who founded the Mt. Wilson observatory was instrumental in turning Throop Polytechnic into a major scientific institution.

Inside the Athenaeum, we learned about the origins of the building. As early as 1921, Hale envisioned a social club at Caltech modeled after the Athenaeum in London. Finally in 1929, with a gift of stock by Mr. and Mrs. Balch, construction on the Athenaeum was begun, and it opened the following year. Fortunately, the gift of stock by the Balch's was sold immediately by



the Caltech Trustees for \$500,000, not long before the stock market crash in October of that year.

We left the Athenaeum to walk along the east west access way—called the Olive Walk--that runs from the Athenaeum to the Throop Memorial garden on the west side of the campus. Before walking along the access route, Beryl pointed out the Millikan and Einstein suites atop the Athenaeum. Einstein lived in the suite during his stay at Caltech from 1931 to 33. In late February of 1931, he dedicated the observatory at PCC.

As we made our way along Olive Walk, we first visited the Guggenheim Aeronautical Laboratory. Beryl mentioned an early group at the Lab called the "suicide squad." The squad was a group of students and amateur scientists who wanted to experiment with rockets.

They persuaded Theodore von Karmen, head of the Lab, to let them use the Lab to experiment with rockets on campus. As it turned out, these experiments with fuels and starters caused several explosions at the Lab. Complaints about these experiments caused Von Karmen to move the group, now called the suicide squad,



the Lab to experiment with rockets on campus. As it turned out, these experiments with fuels and starters caused several explosions at the Lab. Complaints about these experiments caused Von Karmen to move the group, now called the suicide squad,

to the vacant Arroyo Seco, near the area that became JPL.

I took few notes about other buildings we visited but the most impressive was the Beckman Lab of Chemical Synthesis with its wonderful Alexander Calder arches, which were rescued from the Pasadena city junkyard. I should also include mention the turtle pond in the Throop Memorial Garden, one of the most popular sites on campus.

After two hours of walking and listening, most of us were interested in heading to another well-known building on campus—the Chandler Café where most of the students and staff have lunch. Since it was a sunny day, all of the



outside tables were taken, but someone found an empty table inside for all of us. The café provides numerous dining options-- everything from "Chinese to Latino, from upscale to grilled cheese."

So, we ended our tour chatting with friends over lunch. Keith Miller, former physics teacher at the College, recalled the days when Caltech and PCC had closer ties.

Some of his best students transferred to Caltech and Richard Feynman, Nobel laureate, twice visited his physics class. Keith also consulted with Caltech on a multi-year project, "The Mechanical Universe," a critically acclaimed series of 52 videos designed to cover the basic topics of a university level physics class. The series is available online.

Caltech also offers a tour of the new buildings on campus which may be one of our future excursions.

# PCC's Has a Historical Connection to Caltech, Its Neighbor to the South

By Keith Miller

PCC is fortunate to be in close proximity to Caltech. It is not only close geographically; we have also had a great historical connection with our students and Caltech. When I first started teaching at PCC in 1967, we had the Millikan Lecture Series, given annually in Sexson Auditorium for local high school students who took notes and were judged and rewarded on their notes. Robert Millikan was Caltech's first Nobel Prize winner.

While a visiting professor at Caltech, Albert Einstein, in 1931, dedicated PCC's Planetarium.

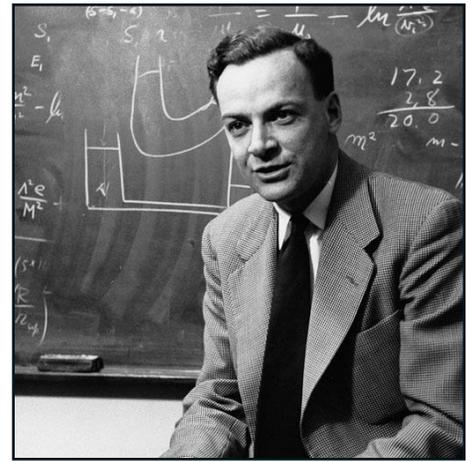
In the early 1980s I was fortunate to work on a project at Caltech called the Mechanical Universe, which was sponsored by the Annenberg Foundation. We collaborated on two textbooks in physics and 60 television shows.

When the Foundation called me for an interview to work on the project, I asked them what their projected audience was and the math level. They stat-

ed that the project was geared for the average high school graduate and they assumed that high school graduates had taken calculus. I tried to bring them back to reality by telling them that most high school graduates could barely pass a basic algebra class. Caltech people live in a dream world. The Mechanical Universe project ultimately worked out very well.

When I taught at PCC, we had many students transferring to Caltech. Foreign students from places like Hong Kong wanted to attend Caltech and were counselled by Caltech to go to PCC for a couple of years to improve their English proficiency and acquire additional courses in the humanities and to also enroll in our math, chemistry, and physics courses.

On the basis of their grades and our recommendations, these students easily transferred to Caltech, where most of our transfers ended up graduating with honors. I would like to say that I did something to help these students, but I know that they learned in spite of me.



Richard Feynman

In the 1980s, I was fortunate to have Caltech's Richard Feynman come to PCC and talk to my physics classes. Because of student interest, I reserved the large lecture room in E-Building, which was packed with standing room only. Dr. Feynman did not want me to introduce him as a Nobel Prize winner. He just wanted to answer students' questions.

When Feynman arrived, he was wearing his usual street clothes: tennis shoes, and open neck sport shirt. He was casual, as was his speech and demeanor. He began by saying: Science is

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Dear Members:

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Elvio Angeloni

munity colleges (out of more than 1,000!) in the country?

You should also know that membership in our Association is automatic upon retirement, does not involve dues, includes receipt of our newsletter twice a year provides an open invitation to participate in *all* of our activities.

So, if you would like more information about what we do (including notification of upcoming field trips that occur *before* publication of the next newsletter, please send your email address to Elvio Angeloni at [evangeloni@gmail.com](mailto:evangeloni@gmail.com) or Marcie Ambrose at [abuelitamarcie@gmail.com](mailto:abuelitamarcie@gmail.com). In fact, if you have any suggestions as to what we should be doing in terms of fieldtrips or projects, by all means, please let us know.

No one person can do everything, of course, but collectively we have strength—all 800 of us.

We look forward to having you join us when the Covid19 virus allows.

As president of the PCC Retirees Association, I would like to take this opportunity to describe our organization and its mission so that you might more effectively participate.

Everything we do is guided by a Board of Directors that reflects the diversity of the college itself: We are all retired faculty, classified staff and management, representing collectively over 500 years of experience working at PCC.

Understandably, our primary focus is to support the college in any way we can and to continue to foster an atmosphere of collegiality that we ourselves experienced as employees.

Since you are reading this newsletter, you are probably aware that we publish twice a year in order to inform members of upcoming events such as our twice-a-year mixers and our field trips to places of scientific, cultural and historical interest. We also share personal travel experiences that may be

suggestive of *your* next adventure and, of course, we memorialize the passing of dear friends and colleagues.

Because we are committed to continued service to the college and the community, we annually provide a minimum of ten \$1,000 scholarships (last year, it was seventeen!) to needy and deserving PCC students.

We also encourage members to support such organizations as the PCC Lancer Pantry, dedicated to combatting student food insecurity, to volunteer with "Reading Partners," which provides tutors to local Pasadena grade schools and to join our local PCC PTSA.

As a side note, isn't it interesting that PCC is the only community college that has a PTSA *and* the only community college in the United States that has a Retirees Association? Is it any wonder that, for two years in a row, we have been named one of the ten best com-

# Betty Kovacs Wins The Scientific and Medical Network 2019 Book Prize for Merchants of Light

By Betty Kovacs

In September of 2019 *Merchants of Light: The Consciousness That Is Changing The World* was published in the U.S. and launched in London at the *Beyond the Brain Conference*. This Conference is a branch of The Scientific and Medical Network which was formed at Cambridge in 1973 by a small group of scientists who, since the discovery of quantum physics, realized that it was necessary to include the study of consciousness within scientific research.

Since that time, the field of consciousness studies has exploded.

I presented a Pre-Conference Workshop, *Retrieving Soul from the Pathology of Western Culture*, as well as a talk during the main Conference on my earlier book, *The Miracle of Death: There Is Nothing But Life*.

There were many older people who attended, but I was especially happy to meet many young men and women all the way from Russia as well as most of the other countries in Europe.



There was great enthusiasm and interest among the young to participate in the new relationship between science and mysticism.

*Merchants of Light* tracks the emergence of a shaman-mystic-scientist consciousness that carries the blueprint for our evolution. This blueprint is revealed in the heart wisdom of the mystic and in the new science of quantum physics.

This sacred tradition, in spite of its persistent repression and suppression by the Roman Church and State, has survived underground and has been the source for every major creative awakening in Western history. Its reemergence in the twentieth century, along with the discovery of quantum physics, offers us a shift in perception that we urgently need in this moment of evolutionary crisis.

*Merchants of Light* and *The Miracle of Death* are available from online bookstores, ebook retailers, local bookstores, libraries, and the publisher, The Kamlak Center at [www.kamlak.com](http://www.kamlak.com). The book launches for *Merchants of Light* in Pasadena and Claremont have been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

If you would like to receive news and updates on the rescheduled book launches, my live events, webinars and radio shows, subscribe to The Kamlak Center newsletter at [www.kamlak.com](http://www.kamlak.com). Once you subscribe, you will receive a sample chapter of *Merchants of Light*. You may contact me via email at [bjkovacs@](mailto:bjkovacs@)

## More on PCC's Historical Connection to Caltech

like an onion. You peel off one layer and understand it and then there is another layer. I studied physics not to find the ultimate answer, but to discover something about nature. Once I get a puzzle, I can't let it go.

The exchanges between Feynman and the students were stimulating. I remember one student asking, "Why can I see through glass and not wood?" Feynman answered, "Why not?" "You can see through miles and miles of air with trillions and trillions of atoms. Why not glass? A thin sheet of aluminum foil is opaque and you can't see through it. It must have something to do with the material itself. Since light is an electromagnetic wave, maybe the material will simply absorb the light waves. You should study the electrical nature of the materials and then answer the question yourself."

Another student asked him, "What is gravity?" He stated, "That is something everyone wants to know. What does

gravity smell like? Look like? Feel like? How fast does gravity travel? Everything experiences gravity. A lot of physicists have theories on what gravity is. Is it a wave, like a light wave? If the earth were to suddenly move, how soon would the moon know it?

I really don't have a definitive answer to your question." He continued, "Gravitation is, so far, not understandable in terms of other phenomena. Maybe someday one of you students will have the answer. The answer is not as important as the question and the process and joy of trying to figure it out."

Feynman often answered a question with a question. There he was, Socrates, a couple of thousand years later. The students were in awe and didn't want to leave. Feynman seemed to enjoy himself and, in fact, returned a few more times to visit with my classes. He was a wonderful teacher and PCC was most fortunate to take an interest in our students.

Richard Feynman received a Nobel Prize

in physics in 1965 for fundamental work in Quantum Electrodynamics. He served as a physics professor at Caltech from 1950 until his death in 1988. For a few years he taught introductory physics courses at Caltech.

His lecture notes were published as The Feynman Lecture Series. Today PCC's equivalent courses would be Physics 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D.

If you are a physicist and a glutton for punishment, pick up a copy of the lecture series and have a good read. Feynman also authored other books, such as *Surely You're Joking, Six Easy Pieces*, and a few others. In 1981 Feynman was interviewed on PBS/Nova's "The Pleasure of Finding Things Out"; it is 50 minutes of pure Feynman and well worth viewing.

Richard Feynman leaves us with one of his most interesting and enigmatic sayings: "It doesn't matter how beautiful your theory is, if it doesn't agree with experiment, it's wrong".



# We Get Letters

## Scholarship Winners Check In

*I recently asked our scholarship students from last year to let us know what they've been doing. Below is the response of several, including a photo of Angel Ra who is now in the BA nursing program at Cal State Fullerton. From her letter, you can see why she was awarded several scholarships last year. Our scholarship committee looks forward to again selecting a group of returning students who have excelled at PCC. However, because of COVID19, this year's scholarship winners will be honored later in the Fall.*

*—Alan Lamson, Chair*

*Chair, Retirees Scholarship Committee*

### Stanley Hill Was Offered a Position at U.S. Bank

I hope that this email finds you well. My name is Stanley Hill, and I was a recipient of the PCC Retirees scholarship last school year. Since then I have adjusted well to California State University Northridge (CSUN).

I am approaching finals and I am confident that I will complete this semester amongst the top of my class. I have also recently been offered a position as a Client Relationship Consultant at U.S. Bank which I am sure you would be proud of.

I appreciate your support on this journey as your encouragement and philanthropy has allowed me to continue my career pursuits. I will keep you updated as I progress in my career, and I wish you the best on your future personal endeavors and the philanthropic endeavors of the Retirees' Association.

### Angel Ra Working on BA in Nursing

My name is Angel Ra. Since the PCC Retirees Scholarship luncheon, I have been very busy during the last semester of the RN program. The last semester focuses on critical care, namely cardiac and respiratory emergencies, neurological conditions, burns and disaster planning. It has been very interesting to study and highlights the seriousness of the medical field.

I have my final exam tomorrow. I expect to show my instructors I have retained the knowledge they have passed on to me. I was able to dedicate my time to studying this semester due to the financial aid I received.

While I did take on student loans, I cannot express my gratitude for the scholarships I received. The generosity goes beyond the finances.

What resonates most to me is that the Retirees committee truly cares for the future generations of students and takes the time to express their support.

This holiday season I will be studying for the NCLEX licensure exam, which I anticipate I will be taking in late January. I will also be in classes at Cal State Fullerton for my Bachelor's in Nursing. Thank you for keeping in touch!



### Rebecca Kovacs Loves Being Role Model to Her Kids

This is Rebecca Kovacs. So nice to hear about Stanley! He truly is an amazing gentleman, and I'm happy to know that he is continuing to be successful and incredible!

I'm proud to let you know that I have been awarded 2 scholarships from the PCC Foundation for fall. I was awarded the Robert Westerbeck Scholarship and the Robert Westerbeck Scholarship Osher Visual Arts.

It truly was a blessing to receive two scholarships in one night during the ceremony, and I had the pleasure of having both my children along with my husband there to share that

special moment. One thing that really made me so proud was how my oldest son Jeremy was telling me how excited he was that he too won an award at his elementary school for caring. He said, "mama, are you happy that I won an award just like you?" "Of course I was!!!" I told him. These special moments show not only me but my children that hard work pays off!

I'm happy to see that I am a positive role model for them too. It's so wonderful that we have such amazing donors such as yourselves that help support us students.

You have not forgotten the strug-

gles that come along with the college journey, and your generosity helps us achieve those goals that much more.

I just finished applying for transfer to 8 different schools! UCLA, UCSB, UCI, UCSD, CSULA, CSULB, CSUF, and CSUN. Once I get my acceptance letters, I will let you know which one I choose. FINGERS CROSSED!!!

It was very nice hearing from you again Alan! It makes me so happy to know that you truly care about us! I would like to meet with you one day maybe to grab some coffee and catch up Thank you again for all of your support! **Letters continued on Page 9**

# Harry Kawahara's Talks About His Experiences in Japanese-American Internment Camps

By Harry Kawahara

In retrospect, it is hard to believe that I spent three and a half years of my life in an American government internment camp during World War II. My family and I were confined in this camp called Topaz in central Utah in a remote and desolate desert that was very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter with nasty dust storms.

The camp was surrounded with barbed wire and guard towers with armed soldiers. It was a prison. We lived in makeshift barracks that were basic and spartan. Our meals can be best described as "army" food.

The ten internment camps confined approximately 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, two thirds of whom were American citizens by birth. After the attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 which authorized the military to order the incarceration of all Japanese living in the west coast states of Washington, Oregon, California and parts of Arizona.

I grew up in the San Francisco Bay area in a town called San Leandro. My father was a farmer growing mostly strawberries. After the issuance of EO 9066, we were ordered to report to the Tanforan, a race track in San Bruno which was quickly converted to a detention camp.

Tanforan was euphemistically called an assembly center where we were lived for five months while the more permanent camps were being built away from the west coast. Our dwelling was literally a horse stable which still had the stench of hay and horses. In May 1942, we boarded trains for the three-day trip to Topaz which was located about 16 miles from the town of Delta in the middle of Utah. This was my first trip outside of California.

A couple of years ago, my wife and I participated in a reunion of former Topaz internees. It was good to see a few old friends from years ago. At the camp site is a small monument to



mark this historic event that took place some 78 years ago. There are concrete slabs that show the areas where the barracks were placed. My family was in Block 12. We were also in Delta to celebrate the opening of a museum dedicated to what took place there years ago. I was pleased by how well the museum depicted life in the camp.

The U.S. government rationale for our forced incarceration was that it was critical because we were somehow a threat to the country. The government called it a military necessity. There were numerous studies conducted later that clearly reported there were no acts of sabotage by Japanese Americans during World War II.

The Japanese American community waged a 10-year battle to obtain redress as restitution for our unconstitutional confinement. Congress authorized a commission to hear from former surviving internees.

Hearings were conducted in 11 U.S. cities to listen to the accounts of over 750 individuals who spent time in the camps. Finally, we received a public apology from the government and \$20,000 to each surviving internee.

Our visit to Topaz painfully reminded me of the profound impact this episode had on my young life. I believe I was somewhat traumatized by those early

years. I remember vividly when we were standing in line to be processed at Tanforan. There were U.S. soldiers with rifles telling us where to go and what to do. I recall thinking to myself, "Why are they treating us as if we were criminals? I did not do anything wrong. I did not break any laws. So why are they doing this to us?"

I was too young to know what was happening to us but old enough to know that something was not right. In my young understanding of what was taking place, I internalized that I was being treated this way because I was Japanese. So, it must be bad to be Japanese. I was guilty by reason of race. Otherwise, why would our own government be treating us this way? There was no due process.

There was no trial. We were confined behind barbed wire because we looked like the enemy. This experience heaped upon a young boy during his formative years had to be devastating. I was just gaining a sense of my own identity as a person, my self-concept was evolving.

So, this incarceration experience had a crushing blow to my awareness of who I was. This event happened 78 years ago, but I still feel the sting of our unjust treatment.

Poet Lawrence Masuda of Seattle, who was confined in the Minidoka camp in Idaho, beautifully captured my lingering feelings:

*I carry my own fence,  
Barbed wire encircles me always.  
Determined not to follow my parents'  
path  
Into clinical depression or a bleeding  
ulcer—  
My shins are raked by steel teeth  
Of my unwilling confinement.  
Wearing this yellow skin, I am unable  
To walk freely in my own country.  
But I learn, border by border,  
Too leap safely in sudden movements  
Leaving no remnants snagged on the  
wire.*

*"A Cold Wind in Idaho"  
Black Lawrence Press 2010*

# Even as a child, Ysatis Vargas was Fascinated with Healing

My name is Ysatis Vargas. When I was a child, I liked to look at the needle go into my arm when I got vaccines. When I scraped my knees at recess, I liked to pick at my scabs to see what was underneath. When I would donate blood to my school's blood drives, I liked to watch the blood fill up the donation bag. In my first college human anatomy course, I was the first student to jump out of my seat to get a closer look at the cadavers. All my life I have been completely fascinated with the human body and the inner workings of what keeps us healthy and what makes us sick. This curiosity is what has driven me to pursue a career in nursing and what will drive me to continue my higher education beyond an RN license.

My drive to be the healthiest person I can be stems from losing my father when I was 6 years old due to hereditary colon cancer. However, I believe that trauma is not what happens to you but how you deal with the situation. I have used that situation to grow into a healthier person, both physically and mentally. My life goals include living a healthy life to diminish my chances of developing colon cancer as well as inspiring others to live their healthiest lives.

In terms of how this plays into my career as a registered nurse, I am particularly interested in nutrition, epigenetics, and a new branch of medicine, called functional medicine. Functional medicine takes a biology-based approach and focuses on identifying and addressing the root cause

of disease. Traditional medicine that is currently used is disease-centered and works by treating the disease with prescription drugs in a sort of one-size-fits-all model. Epigenetics is the study of biological mechanisms that switch genes on and off.

Currently, a lot of promising research is being done on how we can change the expression of our genes with proper nutrition and exercise. I have already started on my journey to become an exceptional nurse by receiving a 4.0 GPA in all my nursing classes at Pasadena City College as well as the nursing classes at Azusa Pacific University where I am co-enrolled to receive my bachelor's of science degree in nursing.

Once I earn my BSN, I plan to continue my education and become a registered dietitian nutritionist and eventually get my PhD to be a nurse practitioner. I dream of contributing to a new generation of medicine where every patient's treatment is personalized, and health professionals look at the underlying root causes of disease. I want to educate patients on how to live healthy lifestyles and fight disease through nutrition and exercise.

This curiosity I have to understand and heal people's bodies has only grown stronger with time and experience. Every day I learn something new in my RN courses and personal research that makes me more fired up and determined to achieve my dream of becoming a registered nurse.

## Christian Ty, A Registered Nurse

I wanted to give you an update about how I am doing after graduating from the RN program at PCC. I took the NCLEX exam for the RN license on February 27th. The official results came out today stating that I passed. I am now officially a Registered Nurse licensed by the California Board of Registered Nursing.

I wanted to thank you, Ms. Mikki Bolliger, and the PCC Retirees Association for your help and encouragement because it enabled me to accomplish my dream of becoming a Registered Nurse. Thank you for believing in me and encouraging me to keep striving towards my dream.

I am very grateful to you and the PCC Retirees Association for helping fulfill my dream.  
Sincerely,

Christian Angelo Ty



## Eduardo Casanova Working on A.S. Degree at PCC

I'm very happy to hear from you again. Thank you for sharing Stanley's story, it's very motivational. I hope one day you could tell this kind of good news about me. For now, I just keep studying at Pasadena pursuing my AS, and keep working at the hotel full time.

There is some news with my family. My wife is now taking classes at PCC pursuing a yoga certificate and taking art classes. My older son graduated from high school and is pursuing a transfer degree in Environmental Engineering at PCC. My daughter, who is 16 years old, is taking a class on Saturdays. She wants to become a zoologist. For these reasons, the Fall semester was kind of stressful for me, too much work that unfortunately reflects in my not very good grades.

Anyway, I will keep continuing with my plan. I would like to transfer but I couldn't do it this year because I need more classes. That means more time for transfer, so I will make a decision about getting my associate or transferring in the future. But most important of all is to find a job in the film industry or photography. That way I will start building my experience which really is important for my career.

I'm glad to write to you about my things. You are a great person and the labor that you guys do to help the students reach their goals is amazing. I'm grateful for your help to support my studies.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Casanova

## William Welsch Studying at UCLA

My name is William Welsch. It really has been a long time! I'm very thankful for the help you and the rest of the retirees gave me. Right now, I'm at UCLA getting ready for finals, still doing great!

I'm hoping to get an internship in the coming year to work with an engineering company, but it's such a competitive market.  
Best Wishes,

# Crime Scene Investigation Program Separates Fact from Fiction in Informative, Fun-Filled Event

By Jo Ann Lee

I returned from five days of the most interesting, informative, and fun-filled event—and I didn't have to travel more than about an hour from home. I attended a Road Scholar program in Riverside: Crime Scene Investigation (CSI). We spent nearly 12-hour days listening to crime scene investigators and other forensic experts, viewing photos and videos, and performing tests of our own.

All of our presenters were experts in crime scene investigations; forensic photography; fingerprint, bloodstain, and DNA analyses; and entomology. We also had a day trip out to the San Bernardino Coroner's Office and the Riverside Police Department's Forensic Lab and a tour of the historic Mission Inn.

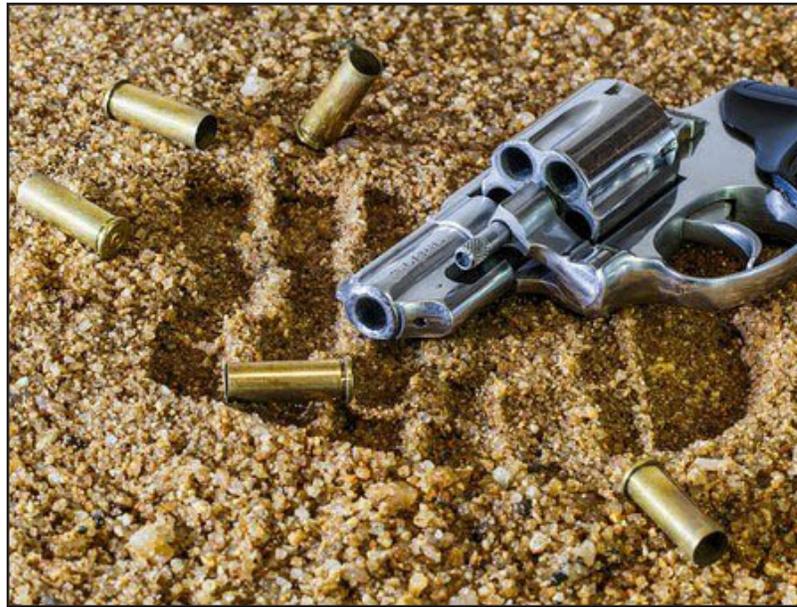
Early on, we were divided into teams assigned to re-enact a crime scene based on the original police detectives' crime scene report, the CSI tech's report, crime scene photos and sketches, photographs, the evidence collected, and the preliminary coroner's report. As the days passed, we picked up information from the experts that could be applied to our investigations.

**What is real?** Most people can't tell what is real: All of the professionals dinged the CSI TV shows (*Miami*, *Las Vegas*, and *Bones*), which are fiction, drama, science fiction, sometimes reality, and sometimes entertainment; but they do not portray actual procedures or personnel at work. CSIs and criminalists DO NOT get into gun fights (few carry guns), are not sworn law enforcement (are civilians), interrogate suspects (detectives do this), rely on flashlights, get emotionally involved with victims, use "vic" (for victim) or "perp" (for perpetrator).

All of these are referred to as the "CSI effect" and influence American jurors; judges will often ask potential jurors if

they in fact watch CSI!

The responsibility of CSIs is to document the scene so that someone not present at the scene can understand the scene later through notes, reports, detailed photos, sketches of the entire scene; measurements of distances and relationships, and videos. Evidence is collected, deductive reasoning is used to



reconstruct the scene. Forensic science is to provide enough information to be presented in court to lead to someone being arrested.

**Gathering Evidence:** Blood typing is no longer used because DNA testing is available, is faster and more accurate. DNA is everywhere; touch DNA can be swabbed or samples can be taken from a surface or fabric. DNA cannot be automated and is done only by hand, with one test costing about \$1,295. A good DNA sample can determine one's ancestry and even color of eyes to construct the face of a suspect. Genealogy is the future of DNA testing. DNA can also be done on animals. Military labs test only remains.

There are two types of footwear impressions that can be taken and photographed: 3-dimensional—a footprint impressed in dirt or a vehicle tire in dirt, and 2-dimensional—dusted shoe print on a surface. Patterns on footwear can

determine the manufacturer and style, wear pattern, defect, any artifact stuck in the tread. Dental casting compound is used to get a clean imprint for the mold and can even be used to cast in snow.

**Firearms, Ballistics, and Bullet Trajectories:** Gunshots yield gun power residue on the shooter, the victim, and on nearby surfaces.

Fingerprints found on the residue can be lifted from walls, floors, ceilings, furniture, objects, but doorknobs can yield no usable fingerprints because people squeeze or twist them. DNA tests can also be done. Firearms are sent to the Department of Justice for analysis and matching with databases.

Although revolvers and pistols are constructed differently, they can yield similar information. The cylinder of the revolver

holds cartridges that revolve with each shot and are expelled when fired. Semi-automatic pistols are preloaded with cartridges contained in the magazine. After a shot, the next cartridge is loaded automatically. Knowing the type of firearm used enables reconstruction at crime scene based on the direction of an expelled cartridge and examination of the trajectory of the bullet.

**Fingerprint analysis.** Fingerprints contain moisture and oil (90 percent), amino acids (1 percent), and salts (negligible). We dusted our own fingerprints on a mirror and on a drinking glass. With a rabbit hair brush containing powder, the brush is twirled while moving across the surface. Using a special tape, the powder is lifted from the print while bubbles and air are squeezed out. The tape is then anchored on a fingerprint card and sent for analysis. Identical twins have identical DNA but different fingerprints.



On our visit to the San Bernardino Sheriff Department Coroner's Division, the Chief Medical Examiner presented (graphic) photos and videos of body parts during autopsy and what they look for.

The medical examiner/coroner determines the cause of death, determines any contributing factors; Identifies mode of death, whether natural, homicide, suicide, accident, or unexplained. We had the option of going into the lab where a body was awaiting autopsy.

I took the other option. Those who went in said it was the smell in the room that got to them more than seeing the body.

At the Riverside County Forensic Crime Lab, we learned about the qualifications to be a forensic scientist: MA in Forensic Science, the ability to work and be on call, willing to travel, be on assignment for lengthy periods away from home, and be physically able to perform the physical work (carrying equipment, supplies, climbing), among others.

#### **Blood Pattern Stain Analysis.**

When analyzing blood stain, consider air resistance, gravity, velocity; angle of impact; length and width of the stain; degrees of impact. Blood stain analysis consists of discerning the pattern (identity, position, direction, number of blows, etc.); and determining weapon or firearm use (type, trajectory, shooting distance, location).

A stain on carpet will be absorbed and will show a smaller pattern but be deeper; while a stain on a floor or table will remain on the surface. Blood patterns are either splatters or spatters with bleeding from an artery or vein, and each has its own characteristics. Only the area where blood is in contact with a surface will show up. With

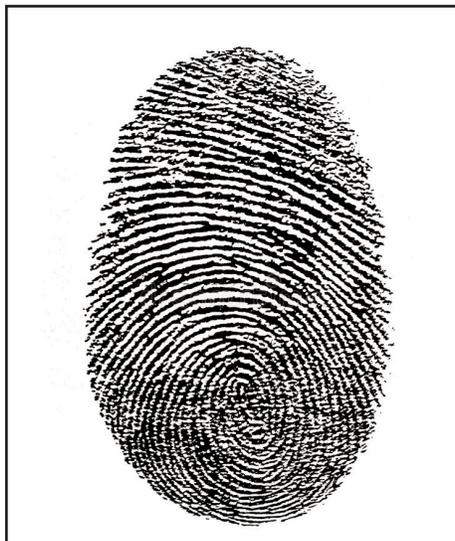
part of our room papered, the analyst demonstrated how blood from a knife can be splattered over a crime scene and how the stains can be identified by the above-mentioned elements.

#### **Forensic Entomological Science.**

Yes, BUGS AND INSECTS also yield evidence at and about the crime scene. Most of the work involving entomology is used on cold cases to determine time of death.

While a medical examiner can establish a limited time frame of death, an entomologist can get a more specific time based on what insects do and why they are at the scene. The presence of insects tells the location, season of year, weather pattern, and time of day of the death.

We examined samples of butterflies, flies, maggots, each having a distinctive characteristic for crime scene analyses. For example, moths are nocturnal; so if they are found on a car radiator, the vehicle was driven somewhere at night. Female flies do not lay eggs; they deposit maggots, which are first to arrive at the crime scene and develop on a victim



between 20 minutes and 24 hours after death. Maggots collected at the scene can yield DNA samples.

Entomological forensics have applications in such agencies as the Departments of Fish and Wildlife, Interior, public health; the USDA and FDA, and U.S. Customs (smuggling).

In civil applications, entomology helps identify food contamination. Medical applications include infections (caused by goods or animals brought into the country illegally), and neglect and abuse.

**Our team crime scene investigation.** Each team had 1.5 hours to reconstruct the original crime scene in a hotel room, the scene of the homicide. Our job was to determine whether all appropriate procedures were followed.

The crime scene photos were blurred and were not taken from different angles. The detectives failed to interview the witness who had called 9-1-1; look for surveillance tapes around the hotel; talk to hotel personnel about the victim and her suspect/husband. He had fled the scene and was not found until four hours later at home. They did not search the suspect's home or do lab tests on his clothing and shoes or his car. They did not report the crime scene accurately.

We disproved the suspect's version of the crime. The CSI team did not do a thorough investigation of the scene, failing to remain at the scene or to follow up to do complete testing. Whew! We had all sweated this assignment since we had little time to meet as a team to discuss theories.

**A Murder Mystery Dinner** was the final activity of our program! It was all exciting and fun because we knew one another by Day five of the program. We were attending a CSI Conference, with each person assigned a character, complete with name tag and a history. We were to interact with one another, sharing information about ourselves, offering opinions/comments about other forensic specialists in attendance. Everyone had reason to dislike one particular scientist. Lights out! A homicide has been committed. Whodunnit? I'll never tell!

# In Memoriam

## *Bruce Carter, Geology Professor and Eclipse Chaser*

Dr. Bruce Alan Carter was born on October 31, 1941, in Half Moon Bay, California, to Ralph and Kathrine Carter and passed away suddenly after a long illness on November 26, 2019, surrounded by family and friends.

Bruce was a former Dean of Natural Sciences at Pasadena City College and also a PCC geology professor (retired in 2005).

Bruce worked at PCC for more than 40 years and touched the lives of countless students who learned how to make it “just over the next ridge.”

Bruce was recruited from his home in Northern California to attend Caltech by Professor Bob Sharp, completed all of his degrees at Caltech and earned his Ph.D. at Caltech under the guidance of Dr. Lee Silver. His dissertation remains one of the most important works to be done about the petrology of the San Gabriel Anorthosite.

Bruce was a longtime member of the Mineralogical Society of Southern California. He also had been active in

developing educational exchanges with schools in China. He was also a member of the Monrovia School and CSBA.

Bruce was a founding father of the Monrovia Old House Preservation Group. His real love remained in the outdoors teaching students how to recognize and interpret complex geological information and leading extended field trips across Northern California, Santa Cruz Island and Baja California.

In retirement, Bruce and his wife Kathy Carter were avid eclipse chasers and members of the PCC Retirees Association. He was truly loved and will be greatly missed.

Many of Bruce’s and Kathy’s adventures around the world were documented in the Retirees Newsletters. He was a regular contributor.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy Carter, his children, Amanda (Clark Abbott) Carter, Cammy (Erik Schmutdie) Carter



and Douglas Carter, Kathy’s family, Alan Fluhrer and family, Marc Fluhrer and family, his sister Betty (Wayne) Heaton and their children, Becky (Mike) Contreras and family and David (Melissa) Heaton.

If you would like to make a donation to The Bruce Carter Field Award, please contact the Pasadena City College Foundation.

## **Paul Duchow Wrote Statistical Software for Two Sports**

Paul G. Duchow, 78, of Palm Springs, a retired math professor, passed away peacefully at home on after a brief illness.

Paul was born December 22, 1938, in Albany, N.Y., the son of Martin and Julia Anderson Duchow. Born with Tetralogy of Fallot, Paul had the first of three heart surgeries at age 11, and is one of the

longest survivors of this heart defect.

As a child, Paul’s family moved to West Hartford, Conn., where he graduated from Hall High School. Paul received his bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Central Connecticut State College, and his master’s degree in mathematics from Syracuse University, before settling in Willimantic, Conn., where he was a math professor at Eastern Connecticut State University from 1963 to 1981.

While his health did not allow Paul to participate in sports, he was an avid fan. While at Eastern, Paul served as statistician and scorekeeper for the university’s baseball, basketball and soccer teams.

He also developed one of the first statistical software packages for soccer and baseball, an innovation for which he was honored in 2004 as an Eastern Pioneer by the university’s Sports Hall of Fame.

In 1978, Paul took a one-year sabbatical to teach at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, an experience which made him want to live in California. In 1981, Paul moved cross country to be a professor

of math, statistics and computer science at Pasadena City College, a position he held until retiring in 1996 and moving to Palm Springs full time.

While at Pasadena City College, Paul co-authored a computer lab textbook with Spike Meyers for use in any college level course.

During his career, he also helped edit other math textbooks.

In Palm Springs, Paul was the business manager at Streetbar from 2000 to 2012.

Paul enjoyed baseball, word puzzles, traveling, math, classical music and tracking weather patterns, and he loved the desert.

Paul is survived by three brothers, Robert (Bonnie) Duchow of Westerlo, N.Y.; Gilbert (Linda) Duchow of Hilliard, Ohio; and Marvin (Darlene) Duchow of Chemainus, British Columbia; a sister, Carol (Joel) Gurin of Silver Spring, Md.; best friend Spike Meyers of Palm Springs; and 14 nieces and nephews.

As Paul wished, his body was donated to the UCLA School of Medicine.



# Joe Barnes, A Chemistry Professor and Coach

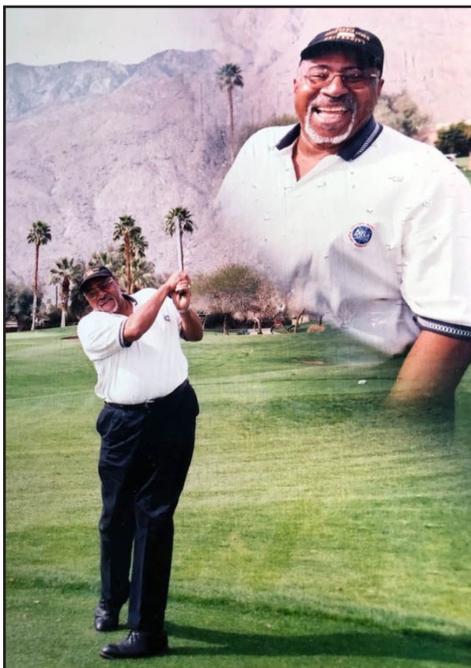
Joe Barnes, who was an assistant coach on two state champion Pasadena City College men's basketball teams and was the head coach when Lakers great Michael Cooper attended PCC, died at the age of 79.

Barnes served as a chemistry professor in Natural Sciences for 35 years before retiring in 2005.

A board member of PCC's Retiree Association, Barnes frequently attended PCC functions, including Lancers basketball games after his retirement.

Barnes played California Community College basketball at Riverside City College under PCC Court of Champions legend and Naismith Basketball Hall of Famer Jerry Tarkanian, who later encouraged PCC to hire Barnes, a standout student-athlete from Detroit, Michigan. Once Barnes finished his undergraduate and then master's degrees at Whittier College, he was hired by PCC.

Barnes served as an assistant on both Tarkanian's 1967 and Coach Dan Ayala's 1969 Lancers state champion teams, the latter the last state title in men's basketball by a PCC squad. In 1968, he assisted on Tarkanian's state finalist team during an amazing run by the Lancers program. Those squads featured such PCC Sports Hall of Famers



as Lancers all-time leading scorer Sam Robinson and the Trapp brothers, John and George.

Barnes took over as PCC's head coach in 1971 and served eight seasons directing the program. He finished with a 134-99 career record (.575 win percentage) including a 26-7 season in 1977-1978.

He is best known for being the community college head coach of Michael Cooper, who attended PCC from 1974-1976. The PCC Hall of Famer and CCCAA State Hall of Fame Cooper became academically ineligible during his freshman season for the Lancers, and Barnes wanted to impress upon him the value of going to class and gaining a college education.

"A lot of kids would have sulked after that and just quit," said Barnes in an interview years back with the *PCC Courier*. "but he came to every single game after that, sat on the bench and cheered. Not being able to play was a severe price to pay and he was very hurt by it, but I was very proud of the way he took it."

Under Barnes guidance, Cooper would come back as a sophomore and become an All-Metropolitan Conference scoring leader in 1975-1976 as he finished his Lancers playing days as the school's then #2 all-time leading scorer (now No. 7) with 1,070 points. Cooper earned a scholarship to the University of New Mexico before embarking on his career as a professional player and a part of five NBA World Championship teams with the Los Angeles Lakers.

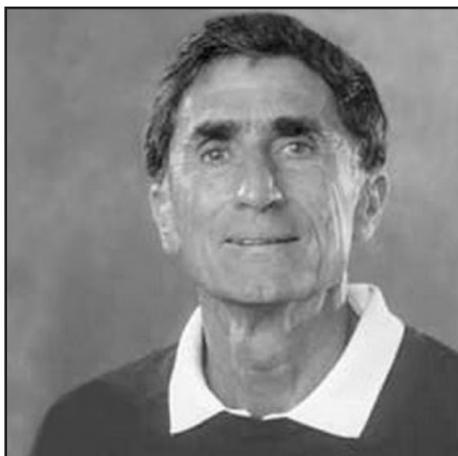
# George Terzian, Winningest Men's Basketball Coach

George Terzian, the winningest men's basketball coach in Pasadena City College history, has died at the age of 83 after a determined battle with cancer.

Terzian is a Pasadena legend as he had long coaching careers first for Pasadena High School and then a 20-year run at PCC before retiring in 2004. He amassed a Lancers record of 332-284, including a streak of seven consecutive appearances in the state playoffs from 1987 through 1994.

His finest team was the 1982-83 squad, a unit that went 28-8 and lost in triple overtime in the state championship game against Cerritos College. In 2003-2004, Terzian went out with a successful 22-9 season, reaching the second round of the SoCal Regionals. More than 50 percent of PCC's All-Time Scoring List were players coached by Terzian.

The long-time hoops coach directed PHS to two CIF Southern Section titles and a 383-110 prep record in 17 seasons there before taking over at PCC in the 1979-1980 season. At PHS, he coached PCC great Michael Cooper. "To play for George Terzian was pretty amazing because playing for Terzian was like playing for the John Wooden of high school



basketball back in the day," Tucker told the *The Pasadena Star-News* in a 2012 interview.

Terzian's link to PCC goes as far back as 1954-55 when he was a 2-sport star in basketball and tennis. He went on to be Westmont College's third all-time leading scorer in basketball as well as Westmont's No. 1 singles tennis player for three years.

In 2018, Terzian was inducted into the PCC Sports Hall of Fame, capping an impressive number of halls that he was honored to enter. He was inducted into the Southern California Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association HOF in 1987, the Westmont College HOF in

1995, the California Community College Men's Basketball Coaches Association HOF in 2006, and the Pasadena Sports HOF in 2017. Terzian also ran one of the most popular men's basketball tournaments for many seasons at PCC, the Crown City Classic, held every December during his coaching run here. Terzian served as a full-time physical education instructor for 25 years at PCC.

Coach Terzian is survived by his wife Danita Letts Terzian, two children, Todd and Melissa, and three grandchildren,

# Linda Kay Teilhet, Alumna and Dental Assisting Instructor

Linda Kay Teilhet, 78, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, March 7, 2019.

Linda grew up in Lee Vining, CA and graduated from Pasadena City College as a Dental Assistant. While



working as a Dental Assistant, Linda obtained degrees from USC and UCLA. She became a Dental Assistant Instructor at Pasadena City College where she remained for more than 30 years. During her career, Linda achieved great relationships and meaningful friendships with many of her students.

Linda was also a member of the

American Dental Assistants Association. A former student said, "she was a teacher who always believed in me, the one who made me a better person. Heaven has welcomed a shining star into paradise."

Linda met the love of her life, Tom Teilhet in Lee Vining in their early childhood. They were reunited while Linda was working as a dental assistant, and Tom returned home from the Navy. They married in 1962. Tom and Linda resided in Arcadia and created a home- stead and a family.

Most of the family vacations were spent at June Lake or Lee Vining and the Sierra Nevada Mountains where they enjoyed, flying, canoeing, and fishing. Linda always made sure to capture the moment with a classic photo.

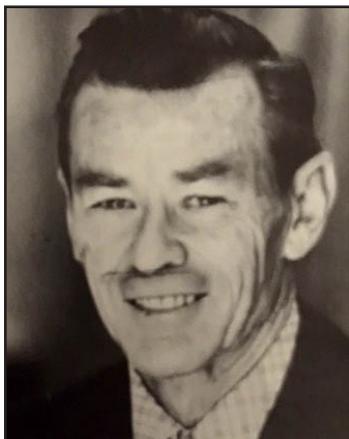
She was an avid dog lover. Linda had a smile that could light up a room; she was a woman of grace, strength, and care, making friends wherever she went. Her grandchildren were the light of her life. Attending every soccer game, choir performance, volleyball game or school musical brought her great joy. Linda is survived by her daughter, Diane (Jim) LaTurner; grandchildren, Rebecca, Ian, and Mitchell LaTurner. She was preceded in death by her husband, Tom.

# Bob Carroll, Theater Arts

Robert Carroll, a former faculty member in theater arts at PCC, passed away Jan. 25. A Navy Veteran, Bob was assigned to the Pearl Harbor headquarters of Admiral Nimitz, considered the Grand Old Man of the Pacific War.

After the war, Bob entered the teaching profession. He was hired at PCC, and he is noted for developing the programs for theater lighting at PCC.

Bob also moonlighted as a lighting tech for Bob Hope's USO shows. He flew thousands of miles with Hope and his troupe of entertainers to bring shows to servicemen



in war zones. Although Bob's job was behind the scenes, the shows needed his lighting techniques to be successful.

Lighting technicians are never in front of the camera, but actors, actresses, directors and producers all know the importance of the right lighting in a scene.

During his time at PCC, Bob taught many theater arts students who went on to become regulars in entertainment industry.

Bob is survived by his second wife Rosemary, his daughter Cindy and Jeff, his youngest son by his first wife, Wilma.



# Jo Rachel Stoup Music Professor

Jo Raquel Stoup passed away at home with her family in Pasadena on Nov. 22, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was born in Boise, Idaho, on March 11, 1947. Raised in Las Vegas, Jo excelled in flute performance, receiving her Master's in Music from Temple University.

Former colleague Donald Brinegar said, "This amazing light illuminates heaven now. They better be listening up there or Jo will hold them all accountable for not playing in time.

She taught music at every grade level in PUSD and retired as a full-time music faculty member at Pasadena City College (PCC). She was the instructor and mentor for hundreds of students who went on to careers in the music business.

Friends and family members have created the Jo Raquel Stoup Memorial Scholarship at PCC.

For those who would like to support the scholarship in Jo's name, can send donations made payable to the PCC Foundation to the following address and note the Jo Raquel Stoup Memorial Scholarship on the memo line: Pasadena City College Foundation, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd. CDC 204, Pasadena, CA 91106 or online at: [give.pasadena.edu](http://give.pasadena.edu).

Select the dollar amount you wish to give, click on the drop-down menu next to designation and select "other." Type in "Jo Raquel Stoup" to ensure funds are designated in support her scholarship and complete the donor information.

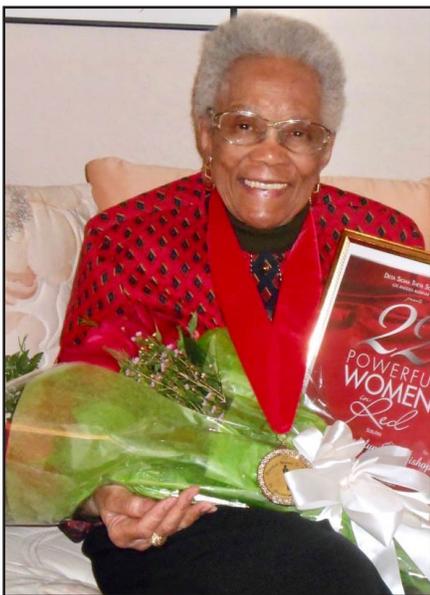
## Dr. Gwen Bishop, Social Sciences, Loved Playing Scrabble and Bridge

Dr. Gwen Bishop moved to California in 1968 and entered the college arena when she became Director of Project Upbeat, a Pasadena City College training program for Teacher Aides. She retired from PCC as an Associate Professor of Social Sciences in 1984.

Dr. Bishop was a faithful and hard-working member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for more than 70 years. As such, she gave numerous hours of her time and talent participating in public service activities initially in Chicago and later in Pasadena.

As a member of the Pasadena Alumnae Chapter, she held numerous offices (including President) and chaired many committees and events. She was prominently recognized in the Chapter as an innovator.

She was a founding member of the Pasadena Delta Foundation and estab-



Dr. Gwen was busy playing Scrabble or Bridge.

She was a word judge for the National Scrabble Association and was honored as the National Scrabble Director of the Year.

She personally coordinated the annual, longest running Scrabble Tournament in Southern California, which was held at Pasadena City College.

lished "Preview Theater Nights" at the Pasadena Playhouse as a fundraiser with a focus on stage performances that featured African American actors, producers, writers and directors.

This fundraiser provided a significant number of scholarship dollars for students graduating from high schools in the Pasadena Unified School District.

When she was not volunteering and working as a fundraising consultant or event planner,

## Paul Visick, Programmer-Analyst

Paul Visick passed away on Feb. 2 after an intense and very brief battle with colon cancer. He joined the staff at PCC in 1987 serving as a programmer in the Management of Information Services (MIS) team.

Later, he became a Lead Programmer Analyst in the Information Technology Services (ITS) team before retiring in December of 2017. Paul was instrumental in the submission of state and federal data reporting and in supporting many student and administrative areas of the campus.



## Roy Street, A Friend to All on Campus

Roy Street passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday, May 10, 2020. He began his career at PCC in 1968 working in the department of Office Services. He started as a mail carrier delivering and picking up mail to and from each office on campus. Roy did that job with great enthusiasm, making friends everywhere he went and enjoying the treats we always had for him.

In his later years with the college, he was promoted to running the duplicating equipment in Office Services. That job required him to work on a tight schedule assuring that the duplicating requests, were completed on time. He managed to juggle print orders from the divisions, departments, and individual employees including classified staff, faculty, and managers. He made sure they were completed and delivered to the appropriate places in a timely manner. Roy never failed us. Everything was always done correctly and on time. He retired in 2005.

## Cheryl Cornelius-Ayala VAMS Administrative Assistant

Cheryl Cornelius-Ayala, administrative assistant in the Visual Arts and Media Studies Division (VAMS), passed away over the summer.

She worked at PCC for 20 years, and she was a fixture at the front desk in the VAMS office. She was born in Homestead, Pennsylvania, a town southeast of Pittsburgh. She was one of 10 children.

Faculty and staff remember her as a free spirit who was always helpful and fun to be around.

People loved to come into the office because they knew that Cheryl would brighten their day.

Even if someone was in a bad mood when they walked in, Cheryl would have them smiling before they left.

Cheryl left Homestead when she was 17, and she moved to Arizona. After spending a few years there, she moved to Los Angeles. She was hired at PCC in the 1990s.

Everyone who spoke about Cheryl said she was kind and caring. If you needed help, she would do her best to help you.

Cheryl is survived by her daughter, Ashlee Cornelius, who works at PCC in the Disabled Students Program and Services.

The VAMS office will never be the same without Cheryl. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.



# COVID 19—The Pandemic That Has Changed Our Once-Normal-Lives Forever

Two months into the new year, 2020 made history when the COVID19 virus became a pandemic that swept throughout the country and around the world. In a matter of three months, more than 8 million people worldwide contracted the disease, and to date, almost 500,000 have died.

While numbers have leveled off in some parts of the world, the cases keep rising in the United States.

Health officials determined early on that the best way to slow the virus was for everyone to stay home and avoid contact with people, even family members who do not live in the same household.

Even now, going to the grocery store or pharmacy is risky. Everyone worries about contracting the deadly virus, and they are especially fearful for those with compromised immune systems or those over 65 years old. Retirees Association members have been particularly anxious about getting the virus because almost 100 percent of the members are over 65 years old and in the high risk category.

So, staying home and getting used to constantly sanitizing everything and wearing masks has become the new normal.

In order to stay safe, people have been advised to avoid hugging, kissing and handshaking as well as maintaining social distancing, which means staying at least six feet apart when others are around.

Even today, many businesses are still closed, or they have been given the OK to open, but they can't figure out how to do it safely.

For many, the worst part was not being able to get their hair cut or colored. Beauty salons and barber shops were closed for three months. Those



**COVID19 has changed the face of education almost over night. All grades from kindergarten through college had to change to distance learning. The photo shows what a digital classroom looks like. While administrators struggle to find a safe way to return students to classroom learning, the computer is going to be the new normal for a the foreseeable future.**

who could, worked from home. Unemployment skyrocketed, and the economy took a massive hit.

Schools were closed and teaching moved online for the remainder of the school year. Even doctors' appointments were handled online. All professional sports seasons were halted. The Hollywood Bowl cancelled its season for the first time in 100 years as did most entertainment venues.

PCC joined the list of schools that had to retool all courses in a matter of days to switch to online or distance learning. Instructors had to figure out how to keep students engaged in lessons as they lounged at home.

Since there were no face-to-face meetings, instructors couldn't be sure that those enrolled in the class were actually doing the work. With

everyone having to learn how to navigate online, the inevitable breakdowns occurred regularly. Students didn't turn in assignments and used the excuse that their computer lost it instead of the old standby the dog ate it.

Administrators throughout the country are now trying to figure out if classes will be able to resume safely on campus in the Fall. So far, it doesn't look like a good bet.

Unfortunately, PCC did have a number of people who contracted the virus, but because most staff members were working from home, an official list of those affected has not been released.

As Covid19 continues to ravage our state and our country, doctors still want people to stay home so they can stay safe.

**Please Donate to the Retirees Scholarship Fund**