

# ***UCRAB Newsletter***

University of California Retirees' Association at Berkeley

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## *UCRAB Spring Luncheon*

***Barbara Oliver***  
*Founding Artistic Director, Aurora Theatre*

***Tuesday, March 16, 2004***  
***11am–2pm at Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto***

Whether you are a lover of Ibsen, Albee or Mamet, theatre goers are in for a rare treat at our next luncheon, when the guest speaker will be Barbara Oliver, award-winning actor, director, writer and founding director of the Aurora Theatre. It would not be an exaggeration to say that Ms. Oliver is the First Lady of Berkeley Theatre.

A graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology, she's been a resident of Berkeley since 1958, when her late husband, William I. Oliver, joined the faculty of the UC Berkeley Department of Dramatic Art. Some of you may have been fortunate enough to see an early production, "Dear Master," for which she won a Bay Area Critic's Circle Award for Acting. No doubt some of you may have attended the outstanding plays performed in the tiny, intimate Aurora Theatre in the Berkeley City Club - "Candida," "Ghosts," "Mrs. Warren's Profession," "The Belle of Amherst," just to name a few.

As Aurora attracted a rapidly-growing audience, it outgrew its limited quarters in the Berkeley City Club. In November 2001, the theater moved to its elegant new home on Addison Street, site of such outstanding plays as "Partition," "Lobby Hero," "St. Joan," and the upcoming "The Man of Destiny."

It should be mentioned here that Ms. Oliver has acted with the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the Berkeley Stage Company, the Seattle Repertory Theatre and the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego. Ah, but she has a life outside of

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## *President's Message*

Happy New Year to you all! As you will see at other points in this newsletter, our luncheon and trips coordinators have been enthusiastically planning a series of events that I know we will all enjoy this spring. Consider this an invitation to join us!

We all know of the serious budget crisis that now engulfs our state, and with it the University of California. Your board, as well as other retired staff and faculty groups, have been talking about what kinds of contributions we might make, monetary and in terms of service, to help out in these difficult times. Among several possibilities, your UCRAB board has decided to follow the example of our sister associations on several other campuses and contribute toward scholarship funds for undergraduates, whose fees have increased drastically in recent years and will apparently continue to do so. Those of you who were at the University when California's much praised Master Plan for Higher Education of 1960 was enacted may remember that one cornerstone of that Plan was free access to higher education to all eligible Californians. That promise of access is now in danger, and we want to do our small part to keep

open the doors of the University. Consequently, some of our trips and events will have a surcharge of up to \$5 added in order to build a fund which can be used for scholarships. At present, the plan is to donate to the campus's general scholarship fund rather than trying to create a specific UCRAB scholarship which, we believe, would be a more intensive – and expensive – undertaking, although that is always a possibility for the future (especially if someone decides to make a substantial contribution to endow a scholarship fund). The explanatory literature for each trip or event where such a surcharge is being added will clearly state what portion of the fee is dedicated to scholarships.

If any of you have comments on this new policy, pro or con, or if you have suggestions as to other ways in which retirees might support the University under present circumstances, I would be happy to hear from you.

*Marian Gade*  
*UCRAB President*

## *Email and Web Directory*

Below are e-links to relevant information and email contacts for some UCRAB members. See someone you know? Would you like to be listed? Email your information to the editor at [ucbr@uclink.berkeley.edu](mailto:ucbr@uclink.berkeley.edu).

Anderson, John R.  
UCB, College of Natural Resources  
[jrandrsn@transport.com](mailto:jrandrsn@transport.com)

Riggle, William H.  
UCB, Graduate School of Education  
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Vergeer, Kathy  
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Webster, Betty  
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LBNL  
[mm0061@pacbell.net](mailto:mm0061@pacbell.net)

**UC Berkeley Retirement Center**

<http://thecenter.berkeley.edu>

**Association of Retirement Organizations  
in Higher Education (AROHE)**

[www.retireesu.org](http://www.retireesu.org)

<http://atyourservice.ucop.edu>

**UC Berkeley Newscenter**

<http://newscenter.berkeley.edu>

## ***Trips, Tours, Etc.***

We've been busy planning some exciting events. Hopefully you will join us on one of the upcoming trips described below. If there is somewhere you would like to go with UCRAB, contact Iola James.

### **UCRAB's Second Annual "Day at the Races"**



Those that attended last year's "Day at the Races" will recall having a wonderful time with good friends, both old and new. We'll have V.I.P (valet) parking, lunch in the Turf Club and a race named in our honor - all for only \$25 per person. (Remember \$5.00 goes towards the new UCRAB Scholarship Fund.) See the flyer insert for registration.

### **Monterey Bay Aquarium Excursion**

Join us for an educational tour of the Monterey Bay Aquarium. We will take a chartered bus to the aquarium, which sits on Monterey's historic Cannery Row, just minutes from Carmel and Pebble Beach. This year the aquarium is celebrating its 20th anniversary with special festivities throughout the year, including a new shark exhibit and grand new entry gallery for visitors.

We will leave the campus at 7:30am, and return by 6:00pm. Call the Center at (510) 642-5461, for more information and to request a registration packet.

### **Hearst Castle**

We are planning an overnight trip to Hearst Castle, by Amtrak train. Hearst Castle, in beautiful San Simeon, is one of the largest of approximately 5,000 historic house museums in the U.S., with one of the most sophisticated guided tour programs in the country. Watch for more information in a future newsletter.

*Iola James*

## ***Hold the Date***

**June 4, 2004** - Day trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium (See Insert).

**October 2004** - Amtrak trip to Hearst Castle.

## ***Barbara Oliver, Continued***

theater, being a proud mother of three very talented children, Michael, Anna and Soren.

We think you'll all agree that Ms. Oliver is a remarkable, multi-talented woman. So mark your calendar for lunch at Spenger's on Tuesday, March 16. As usual, social hour starts at 11am, lunch at noon. By the way, our speaker will dash off after her talk and the question and answer period to direct the first rehearsal of "The Man of Destiny."

*Dorothy Snodgrass*

## ***Ask Adrian***

Do you have a financial planning issue and you are not sure where to start or whom to call? Now, you can "Ask Adrian." Adrian Harris, UCLA Vice Chancellor-Planning, Emeritus, has, since his retirement, served as a volunteer through the UCLA Emeriti/Retiree Center offering advice on financial issues. He has also chaired the systemwide Council of University of California Retiree Associations (CUCRA) and the Joint Benefits Committee, which raises issues with the UC Office of the President on protecting and enhancing benefits to UC annuitants. He also served as CUCRA representative to the UCRS Advisory Board that advises the President on retirement issues.

Recently, Adrian has begun a Q and A column for the UCLA emeriti and retiree newsletters, covering issues such as funds available in tax deferred plans offered by the Regents, benefits to surviving spouses and benefits to a second spouse. You, too, may now receive this same advice—individualized—by contacting him at [harris@ucla.edu](mailto:harris@ucla.edu). If you do not have email, contact the Center (510/642-5461), and they will set up a telephone appointment for you.

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## Upcoming Campus Events

### UCB DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FREE NOON CONCERTS

#### *String Quartet & Beethoven Duo*

March 17

Alexandra Roedder, cello; Miles Graber, piano  
Beethoven: Sonata for Cello & Piano in A Major  
Poppy Crum, violin; Chung-Pei Ma, violin;  
Jen Mankoff, viola; Jukka-Pekka Vainio, cello  
Shostakovich: String Quartet No 7

#### *Songs*

March 31

Jillian Khuner, soprano; Jonathan Khuner, piano  
Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Wolf, Barber

#### *Choral Music from Latin America*

April 7

Chamber Chorus, Marika Kuzma, director  
Music from Latin America: Sacred to Salsa  
Selections by Hernando Franco,  
Joaquin Nin-Culmel, Roberto Sierra

#### *Ravel & Poulenc*

April 14

Monica Chew, piano; Umesh Shankar, clarinet &  
narration  
Maurice Ravel: Pièce en forme d'Habanera  
Francis Poulenc: Sonata for Clarinet and Piano;  
L'Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant for Piano and  
Narrator

#### *Milhaud Trio & American Songs*

April 21

Lang Nixon, soprano; Chris Goslow, piano  
American Songs  
Stanley Luu, piano; Jia Jia Zhang, violin; Nathan  
Bramall, clarinet  
Milhaud: Suite for Violin, Clarinet, and Piano

*Due to earthquake retrofit, Hertz Hall is closed until Fall 2004.*

*The noon concerts listed above are held in the Chevron Auditorium at the International House.*