

UCRAB Newsletter

University of California Retirees' Association at Berkeley

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UCRAB Summer Luncheon and Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

PLEASE NOTE: DATE CHANGE

Berkeley City Club



**Never in My
Wildest Dreams**
A Black Woman's
Life in Journalism
Belva Davis with Victoria Haddock

Never in My Wildest Dreams

UCRAB Welcomes Belva Davis

The UC Retirees' Association at Berkeley is delighted to welcome Belva Davis as our June luncheon speaker.

Belva Davis's captivating voyage began on the crowded streets of Oakland where she faced abuse and racism during a time in which women and African Americans rarely made it to mainstream broadcast. Belva pioneered the entrance for both into broadcast journalism. The insults and harassment Belva faced only fueled her determination. This single mother of two was ready for

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This organization would not exist without dedicated volunteers.

The UC Berkeley Retirees' Association invites its members to attend the executive board meetings, which are held on the third Wednesday of the month at the UC Berkeley Retirement Center, 1925 Walnut Street.

The coming schedule:

- June 16, 2011
- July 20, 2011
- September 21, 2011
- October 19, 2011
- November 16, 2011
- January 18, 2012

Please note that no meetings are held in August or December.

The UC Retirees' Association at Berkeley is located at:

1925 Walnut Street #1550
Berkeley, CA 94720-1550

Hours: 9:00am—4:00pm
Closed Noon—1:00pm

Telephone: 510/642-5461
Fax: 510/643-1460

Retirement Center Liaison
to UCRAB:

Patrick Cullinane, MS
Director

The UCRAB Newsletter is published approximately three weeks before each quarterly luncheon.

Editor: Marcelle Baxter
Email: ucbrc@berkeley.edu

Belva Davis, Continued...

anything—except giving up.

Early viewer Bill Cosby considers her “someone who sustained us, who made us proud . . . She was the first woman of color that many viewers came to know and trust.” During an era marked by the struggle for civil rights and racial equality, Belva’s career included battling for just treatment towards people of all colors.

Belva’s work includes the most memorable stories of the last half century, such as the Berkeley student protest, the birth of the Black Panther Party, the People’s Temple Cult, the assassinations of San Francisco Mayor George Mascone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, the onset of the AIDS epidemic, and the terrorists attack of 2001. Along her journey, Belva crossed paths with the nation’s most iconic cultural figures: Malcom X, Frank Sinatra, James Brown, Nancy Reagan, Huey Newton, Mahammad Ali, Alex Haley, Fidel Castro, Dianne Feinstein and Condolezza Rice, to name a few.

An award winner of eight local Emmys and a number of Lifetime Achievement awards, Belva continues to cultivate her admirable determination by supporting organizations focused on helping people improve and change their lives.

Now, she shares her tempestuous life story in a compelling memoir, *Never in My Wildest Dreams*. Says Maya Angelou, “No people can say they understand the times in which they have lived unless they have read this book.” And as Gloria Steinem notes, “I don’t think it’s possible for anyone to read her words in *Never in My Wildest Dreams* without being a better and braver person.”

Copies of Belva’s memoir will be available for purchase (\$20, cash or check) and signing at what is sure to be a memorable luncheon.

UCRAB Lapel Pins

If you haven’t already picked up your UC Retirees’ Association at Berkeley lapel pin, you may do so at the registration table at the June luncheon. Pins are available as a special membership benefit to all paid association members.



Membership Dues Reminder

The UCRAB membership period runs from July 1st through June 30th of each year. Check the mailing label on this newsletter to see when your membership expires. If your mailing label says, “2011,” you will need to pay your dues in July.

Later dates (2012, 2013, etc) indicate a future year in which your membership is set to expire.

If your membership is due for renewal, please complete the green form found in this newsletter and return with a check or money order made out to UCRAB to the Retirement Center, 1925 Walnut Street #1550, Berkeley, CA 94720-1550. Dues are \$15 per year or \$40 for three years.

President's Message

We are elated to end our year with the summer UCRA B luncheon and annual meeting. In addition to the business of voting on open executive board positions, we are privileged to have a presentation and book signing by renowned journalist Belva Davis.

I encourage you to pay particular attention to the May 2011 edition of *New Dimensions*, the benefits newsletter for UC retirees published by UCOP, which includes: cost of living adjustments (COLA) and how it is calculated; important information regarding tax statements that are now available online; and the notice that paper direct deposit statement are being discontinued. If you have any questions about articles in *New Dimensions* or your retirement and benefits in general, don't hesitate to contact the UC Retiree Service Center at 800/888-8267, ext. 4.

As previously reported, our campus associations hosted the fall 2010 statewide meeting of the Council of UC Retiree and Emeriti Associations. UCRA B representatives attended the spring meeting on April 27 & 28 at the UCLA campus. Participation in organizations such as CUCEA and CUCRA allows our campus associations to better advocate on behalf of all retirees.

The UCRA B Executive Board is currently planning a wine, cheese and hors d'oeuvres mixer for association members, possibly including an exhibit of art produced by retirees, in October 2011. Our fall newsletter will provide detailed information.

The association membership continues to grow and now has over 700 members.

Everyone is invited to join our trips! Recent trips include: A Day in Golden Park -- the De Young Museum Impressionist Exhibit and Academy of Science, The Rails to Rims Grand Canyon tour in Arizona, a three-day Yosemite Valley Trip, and our recent Day at the Races. See p. 5 for upcoming trip information.

If you have items to share in our newsletter, please contact the Retirement Center at ucbrc@berkeley.edu. Remember, UCRA B is an association newsletter and we welcome input from all members.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming summer luncheon and meeting.

Iola James, President

Report from UCRS - May 18, 2011

The University of California Regents approved the changes to the retirees' health and pension programs in December 2010.

Again, it is important to reiterate that UC annuitants' pensions will not be affected. Pension benefits for retirees and current employees are protected by law and cannot be reduced or revoked.

The cost of health care is expected to increase in the future because one of the changes that the Regents voted for gradually reduces the amount UC will contribute toward the cost of retiree health insurance. In the year 2011, UC pays about 86% on average. That amount will reduce over time to a 70% floor. For more information, see the Future of UC Retirement Benefits website at:

<http://universityofcalifornia.edu/sites/ucrfuture/>.

CUCRA (Council of UC Retirees Associations) has a new website at <http://cucra.ucsd.edu/>. Check it out. It is an attractive website with very interesting information.

Retirees will receive a 2% COLA increase on July 1st. For those of us who use direct deposits for our checks, please be aware that UCOP will cease to send hardcopy (paper) pay stubs beginning on July 1st. *New Dimensions* has an extensive article detailing the changes. You may also check the UCOP service website, <http://atyourservice.ucop.edu/>, for information.

Please remember that the editor of *New Dimensions*, the UCOP publication, continues to look for articles by retirees. If you would like to contribute, contact Anne Wolf at anne.wolf@ucop.edu with your articles.

Toni Sweet

In Memorium



**University of California Berkeley Retirees Association
1925 Walnut Street, Berkeley, CA 94720-1550**

2011 Slate of Officers and Directors

The following slate of Officers and Directors is proposed by Carroll Brentano, Nominating Committee Chair, for the 2011-2013 term. All members of UCRA B are invited to make additional nominations at will, from the floor at the June 15, 2011 Annual Meeting.

The officers listed below have completed their two-year terms and have volunteered to serve another two years, if elected.

**Nominated For Election at This Meeting
(additional nominations accepted on June 15, 2011)**

Officers:

Secretary: Marian Gade (incumbent)
Treasurer: Errol Mauchlan (incumbent)

Directors:

Kurt Lauridsen (incumbent)
Dorothy Snodgrass (incumbent)
Antonia Sweet (incumbent)

**Continuing Officers & Directors
(for information only)**

Officers

President: Iola James
Vice President: Lola Harris

Directors:

Patricia Hardy
Allan Jensen
Isabelle Revoir

Day at the Races Highlights



GAVEL

GOLDEN GATE FIELDS, CA 4/21/2011 1 1/16 MILES 1:45.46 PURSE \$10,500 JOHN F. MARTIN.....OWNER
YVETTS PRIDE.....SECOND UC BERKELEY RETIREES ASSN JOHN F. MARTIN.....TRAINER
WATCH YOUR MONEY.....THIRD AARON GRYDER.....UP
COPYRIGHT VASSAR PHOTOGRAPHY 2011

At the ninth annual Day at the Races, members and guests enjoyed a photo with Jockey Aaron Gryder, the winner of the UC Retirees' Association at Berkeley's Named Race.

A portion of the proceeds from this annual event is set aside for the UCRAB scholarship fund.

Upcoming Trips and Events

Filoli Gardens

June 22, 2011 - Save the Date!

We hope you can join us for the next UCRAB day trip to visit the beautiful and famous Filoli gardens. Located in Woodside, California, the 16 acre estate was donated to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1975 and it is often used in television and movies.

Filoli's beautiful gardens feature profuse naturalized plantings, sprawling lawns, formal reflecting pools, framed-in walls and clipped hedging and Irish yews.

Once trip details are finalized, UCRAB will notify all members via email announcement. You may also call or email the Retirement Center at 510/642-5461 or ucbrc@berkeley.edu to be added to a waitlist for this trip.

If you do not already receive Retirement Center and UCRAB e-news, send your name and email address to ucbrc@berkeley.edu to be added to the list.

Retirement Center Summer BBQ

UCRAB is happy to support the UC Berkeley Retirement Center's summer barbeque this July. Celebrate the beauty of summer days in the Bay while reconnecting with friends and colleagues at the first of this sure-to-be-annual event.

Volunteers will serve up a barbeque lunch, beverages, and desserts. Retiree association board members will be present to answer your questions about programs, events, and services.

In addition to great food and wonderful company, they'll have door prizes, lawn games, and a musical sing-along. Feel free to bring your favorite games and musical instruments. See the next issue of *the CenterPiece* newsletter for details and registration information. We hope to see you there!

Reminder: UCRAB does not accept cash payments. Please make payments for luncheons, dues, etc. by check or money order.

University of California Retirees' Association
1925 Walnut Street #1550
Berkeley, CA 94720-1550

Upcoming Events

UCRAB Luncheons | Berkeley City Club | June 15, September 22, December 8

Photographing the Illusion of Austerity: Fashion Photography and Femininity in Post-WWII Britain | April 25 – September 30, 2011, Monday-Friday, with exceptions | Doe Library, second floor | The latest work in the Undergraduate Library Prize exhibit case is from a paper written by Robin Lam, a former UCB Retirement Center student employee and 2010 Cal graduate.

The Conservator's Art: Preserving Egypt's Past | May 12, 2010 – December 31, 2011, Wednesday-Sunday | Hearst Museum of Anthropology | Explore techniques and see results of extensive conservation carried out on pieces including crocodile mummies, statuary, mummy portraits, amulets, and stela collected through the patronage of Phoebe A. Hearst ca. 1900.

Botanical Garden Tour/Open House | Tuesdays, Saturdays, Sundays with exceptions | 1:30pm | With paid admission, we offer free docent-led tours year-round. Explore the Garden's incredible diversity of plants from six continents, including environments as diverse as deserts, tropical forests, redwood forests, and wetlands.

Science On a Sphere: Hands-on exhibit | Weekends through 2011 | 10 a.m.-5 p.m. | Lawrence Hall of Science | Get an astronaut's-eye-view of Earth's surface as it changes minute to minute, by the hour, through the seasons, and over the years. Science On a Sphere® creates stunning visual effects from real scientific data, and displays them on a six-foot-diameter globe to help visitors of all ages understand complex environmental processes that affect everyone on our planet.