



UCRAB Newsletter

University of California Retirees' Association at Berkeley

Celebrate the Holiday Season with the
University of California Retirees' Association at Berkeley

Annual Holiday Party

Thursday, December 5th

The Berkeley City Club

Program

11:00am Social Hour

Gifts of Chocolate from Santa

12:00pm Luncheon

Holiday Raffle, Open Mike, Live Entertainment

and

Gift Donations Table for Children's Hospital of Oakland



Come celebrate the holidays with your UCRAB friends and make some new acquaintances at one of our organization's most enjoyable annual events: **The UCRAB Holiday Party**. Have a good holiday chuckle with Santa (above, top) or a big laugh with Jerry (above, bottom). Set in the historic and festively decorated Julia Morgan building, you will find a raffle, a holiday feast for your enjoyment and the opportunity to bring some happiness to the patients of Children's Hospital.

Santa Claus - Santa always says that every guest who attends the Holiday Luncheon has been very good this year, so everyone will get chocolates and the chance to have a photo taken with Santa.

Holiday Raffle - Each guest will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a wonderful gift contributed by generous local merchants.

Donations for Children's Hospital - For over a decade UCRAB members have made donations for the benefit of Children's Hospital, Oakland. Children's Hospital is always in need of donations and would be delighted to receive your gifts in time for the upcoming holidays. We are requesting that you bring your unwrapped, new gift items to the

luncheon on December 5th. Patients at Children's Hospital range in age from newborns to teenagers, and gifts are especially needed for teens and babies. Your donations will be added to our gift table and will remain on display during the luncheon for all guests to see. We will deliver the gifts on your behalf.

The following items provide a sample of what is needed: rattles, plastic teething devices, crayons, colored pencils, journals, blank books, note books, new or slightly used books, including Spanish language publications, travel-size shampoo, lotions, dental care, and shaving items for parents, gift certificates to grocery stores, or Target and Wal-Mart, telephone cards, and magazine subscriptions.

To view complete lists of items that are always needed at Children's Hospital, see the following:

<http://childrenshospitaloakland.org/main/in-kind-donation.aspx>

Thank you for bringing your gifts to be displayed on the Holiday Gift Table.

Patricia Hardy, Luncheon Coordinator

Find luncheon registration information on the insert enclosed in this newsletter.

President's Message

Late Autumn is the time of year that I truly enjoy. The leaves turn yellow, red and orange. There's my birthday on November 18 :). Thanksgiving is a time to gather and be truly thankful. And several December celebrations, not for the commercialism but for the true spirit.

Some of UCRAB's recent participation includes my acting as hostess at the Alumni and Family Weekend Retirement Center Open House on October 5. It was great to greet Association members and guests.



Guests attending the Open House on October 5 were greeted by UCRAB President Iola James (front row third from left), Roger Glassey past UCBEA President (back row second from the left), and Richard Sextro, Chair of the UCBRC Policy Board (back row right).

VP Allan Jensen, Membership Chair Isabelle Revoir and I also represented UCRAB at the Chancellor's reception honoring new retirees on October 24 at University House. This was my first occasion to meet our new Chancellor, Nicholas Dirks. I was more than impressed with his warm acknowledgment of retirees and the importance of their contributions to the campus. I made an informal invitation for him to speak at one of our future UCRAB luncheons, which he graciously accepted. We hope our attendance at the event results in new UCRAB members.

Board Member Patricia Hardy and I will be attending the 2nd Annual Retiree Organization NorCal Consortium meeting on November 19 at UC Davis. This meeting is an opportunity to extend our networking beyond UC and reach out to other colleges and universities in the region.

Our semi-annual meeting of the Council of Universities of California Retirees Associations (CUCRA) takes place on November 4-5, hosted by UCSF. VP Allan Jensen, our CUCRA representative, and I will attend. Allan will report on the meeting in the next UCRAB newsletter.

I am certain that there is no need for me to elaborate on this year's open enrollment. There is ample information available from UCOP, individual health plans and the many open enrollment information sessions presented by UC Berkeley. Find out more online at <http://hrweb.berkeley.edu/benefits/plans/open-enrollment>.

In the previous newsletter, reference was made to focusing on volunteerism. I thank Board Member Antonio Sweet for chairing this important committee.

You will be receiving a long awaited survey within the near future. We are asking that you take the time to complete this valuable document to enable us to continue our activities and programs with a new focus on what you, our members, want or need from this organization.

Lastly, I look forward to seeing everyone at our very festive Holiday Luncheon on December 5. Isn't it great to be retired?

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Editor's Note

Please direct your comments and contributions regarding this newsletter to the editor, Kurt Lauridsen:
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Phone: 925-376-1613

Coming Soon: UC Berkeley's Own Older Adult Housing

In the past four issues of the UCRAB Newsletter, we have discussed a variety of older adult housing opportunities convenient to the Berkeley Campus Area. These places have been described by the University of California, Berkeley retirees living there. It is appropriate to end this series with a description of Berkeley's own proposed older adult living residence to be built next to Albany Village by Belmont Village developers. Construction is projected to begin in summer 2014 with a fall 2015 planned opening. Emeriti and retirees will have priority move in status at the property.

This new residence is being developed in close cooperation with the University and the UC Berkeley Retirement Center and will feature numerous ongoing education, training and research activities. The Belmont Village organization has already built a similar residence in Westwood Village that is affiliated with UCLA and its Retirement Center.

This new lifestyle for older adults will be enhanced by a technology center, theater, town hall and professionally managed fitness center. There will be new retail establishments at the site and concierge and transportation services will round out the comfortable life style offered by Belmont Village, with special shuttles provided for easy access to the Berkeley campus. A chef and kitchen staff will offer an outstanding dining experience with catering service offered as well.

The variety of residential opportunities will include 175 private units for independent living, assisted living and memory care all arranged in studio, one-and two-bedroom floor plans. Belmont Village is particularly well known for its Diabetes Centers with licensed nurses onsite 24/7 that manage medications and monitor wellness. They have also developed award-winning programs for mild cognitive impairment and more severe

memory impairments.

Current plans call for an attractive facility featuring an all-weather two car lane covered entrance. The building design will feature three and five story sections and a large garage with 106 spaces. Independent living spaces will include one and two bedroom floor plans with full kitchens and washer/dryers. Assisted living studio and one bedroom apartments will have kitchenettes and access to laundry rooms in common areas.

Many of the older adult residences that we have featured in this series have rather significantly large entrance fees required for admission. It is important to note here that the new Belmont Village for UC Berkeley will have monthly rates only. If you wish to receive more information about Belmont Village or get on a priority waiting list to receive project updates please contact Susan Berger at 310-475-7501 or info-alb@belmontvillage.com or ask to be placed on the Retirement Center's interest list ucbrc@berkeley.edu, 510-542-5461.

Kurt Lauridsen, Editor

UCRAB Trips

Join us on a Johnny Cash Country trip aboard the Reno Snow Train. Sit back, relax and watch the spectacular wintertime scenery from your reserved seats. The train includes fun features such as a Dance Car, Piano Lounge, and Card Magician.

We will depart from Emeryville Amtrak Station on the morning of **Tuesday, February 11**, and return Thursday, February 13. See enclosed flyer for more details!

Registration packet, including payment, must be received at the Retirement Center by 4pm on Monday, December 16, no exceptions. We hope you will be able to join in on this not-to-be-missed opportunity!

Iola James, Trip Coordinator

Membership Update

Thank you, dear members, for renewing your UCRAB memberships in response to letters sent by us to those lapsing on 6/30/2013 and 6/30/2012. We value your membership and want to continue to try to make the Berkeley Campus more "retirement friendly." *Isabelle Revoir, Membership Chair*

In Memoriam

Robert P. Dittmer, Laura Leong, Olive Shaner, Frederick Warnke

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Retirees' Association at Berkeley
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UCB Retirement Center Update

UCRAB invites you to observe our executive board meetings held at 10:30 am on the third Wednesday of the month at the UC Berkeley Retirement Center, 1925 Walnut Street.

The coming schedule:

November 20

January 15

February 19

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

Upcoming UCRAB Luncheons:

December 5

March 20

As you read this column, the holiday season is quickly approaching. The Center hopes your preparation for the season is as easy and as enjoyable as possible. It can be a stressful time of year but also a time of many joys and sweet remembrances.

Fall Open Enrollment - Open Enrollment started on Oct. 28 and will conclude on Nov. 26. HR is developing an online tutorial about plan offerings. As soon as the Center has the link to this program, we will forward the information to all retirees we have email addresses for. At any time, retirees can call the UCOP Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC) at 800-888-8267. They have a dedicated team trained to handle the benefit needs of retirees. If the Retirement Center does not have your email address, now is an excellent time to provide it; just send an email to ucbrc@berkeley.edu and ask to be added to our list.

Transforming Retirement Conference - Some of you remember the excellent full-day retiree conference held in May 2012. Robert Reich was the keynoter. The next retiree conference is set for May 15 at Hs. Lordships in the Berkeley Marina. Jennifer Granholm, UC Berkeley Distinguished Practitioner of Law and Public Policy and Michigan's 47th governor from 2003 to 2011, will be the keynoter. The month of May is chosen for this major event as it is Older Americans Month in the US, recognizing the contributions and achievements of older Americans. The daylong conference will feature workshop sessions on topics of interest to retirees.

Be well! *Patrick C. Cullinane, Director, UCB Retirement Center*

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Join us for this annual special event, for only \$25 per person. For over a decade UCRA members have made donations for the benefit of Children's Hospital, Oakland at the annual holiday party. Please bring your unwrapped, new gift items to the luncheon on December 5th.

See what items are always needed and what is not accepted online at:

<http://childrenshospitaloakland.org/main/in-kind-donation.aspx>

Reservations must be received in the office no later than Monday, November 25



Parking and Transportation Information for the Berkeley City Club:

Low-rate parking is available in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley. The entrance to the lot is on Channing Way between Dana St. and Telegraph Ave. Also, the Berkeley City Club will validate parking for the Sather Gate Garage (enter from Durant, between Dana and Telegraph). The #51B and #7 AC Transit busses stop close to the Berkeley City Club and Downtown Berkeley BART.

Reservation for the UCRA Holiday Party

Member Name:	_____
Address:	_____
Phone Number/email:	_____
Spouse/Partner/Guest Name:	_____
Phone Number/email:	_____
Guest Name:	_____
Phone Number/email:	_____

Meal Choice: _____ Regular Entrée _____ Vegetarian Entrée

Enclosed is my check payable to UCRA for \$25.00 per person.

Please mail this reservation form to: UCRA, 1925 Walnut Street, Berkeley, CA 94720-1550