

# CCRFA Matters



## Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association



Every day you made a difference in your job. Imagine if you brought those same skills to helping others. To improving lives of people who didn't get your opportunities. Of saving lives. Of making change. Imagine . . .

Fall 2021

### WELCOME TO THE CERRITOS COLLEGE RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION

The Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association (CCRFA) is made up of retired faculty, counselors and administrators of Cerritos College. Our current membership numbers 124. However, we keep track of about 199 retired faculty. Our purpose is to meet socially, stay abreast of what is happening at Cerritos College and try to keep up with legislation being passed or considered in Sacramento affecting STRS and PERS retirees. We are not a political organization and do not lobby in Sacramento, leaving that job for the California Retired Teacher Association.

We meet twice a year at Cerritos College (on center stage in the Student Center) for lunch – usually in April and October. We try to have other social activities in

between the April and October lunch meetings. We have organized a Palm Desert weekend, a Sunday at the beach, and also went for a cruise on the SS Lane Victory and attended a dinner/dance at the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club. Our newsletter is published twice a year and is made up entirely of letters received from our membership.

We stand ready to assist faculty with their non-STRS questions about retirement. We also stand ready to help students planning to be teachers with scholarships. If you would like to contact CCRFA, please E-mail Jon Fults at: [fults007@gmail.com](mailto:fults007@gmail.com). I will get in touch with you as soon as possible.



#### CERRITOS COLLEGE RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION (CCRFA) TEACHER TRAC SCHOLARSHIP

Established by the Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association, this scholarship is awarded to a student newly admitted into the Teacher TRAC program and is based on letter of application, overall GPA, financial need, and school and community involvement.

You can make a donation to the scholarship fund by sending a check to:

**Tom Jackson, Treasurer**  
**11014 Hayford**  
**Norwalk, CA 90650**

Indicate CCRFA Scholarship Fund on the memo line of the check.

Enjoy reading about your fellow retirees? Your fellow retirees would enjoy hearing from you. Be sure to submit an article for the next issue of *CCRFA MATTERS*. Watch your e-mail for notification of when and where to submit your article.



#### 2021— 2022 OFFICERS AND OFFICE HOLDERS

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| President — Jon Fults       | Secretary — Vykki Morgan   |
| Vice President — Rhea Black | Secretary — Sherry Perkins |
| Treasurer — Tom Jackson     | Newsletter — Hal Malkin    |



## Taps From the Gavel by Jon Fults, CCRFA President



We are grateful to finally meet again. Our last meeting was Fall 2019. Although Cerritos College wouldn't allow us to meet on campus, Tom and Marie set us up to meet at Frantones across the street. Obviously we are overdue for an election of officers, so let's plan to do the election at our Spring 2022 meeting.

We are fortunate to have Rhea Black as Vice President, Tom Jackson as treasurer, Sherry Perkins and Vykki Morgan serving as co-secretaries. Hal Malkin continues to do a beautiful job producing the newsletter. (It is currently being distributed by email). I couldn't do this without them.

We have sadly lost some members during the past two years. They are missed.

A special thanks to CC President Dr. Fierro for coming to our meeting and updating us on how the College is recovering from being closed to people on campus and how various projects have progressed.

Your current address, telephone number and email address is important to us. Please send any changes to [fults007@gmail.com](mailto:fults007@gmail.com). I would really appreciate it.



## FOLLOW UP TO NOVEMBER 2, 2021 CCRFA MEETING

To my friends in CCRFA—

Our last official meeting was in the Fall of 2019. Tragically we were told we couldn't meet at the College until the Spring of 2022 and that was not even certain. Fortunately Tom and Marie Jackson answered my call for an answer to our not meeting by making arrangements for us to meet at Frantone's right across from the College on November 2, 2021. We had a great meeting. Everyone was so glad to get to visit with long-time friends once again. I asked Dr. Fiero to give us an update on what has been happening at the College and he quickly agreed and delivered a 35 minute update.

For those of us who have been retired close to 30 years (or longer) Dr. Fiero's remarks were amazing. The topics he addressed – graduation rates, homelessness, mathematics requirements and a myriad of subjects made us realize times have definitely changed. I wish everyone could have been there to hear what he had to say.

Some could not risk coming. Sadly some passed away. Personally I fear some have passed away and we have not been told, because some E-mails, telephone numbers and addresses just don't work anymore.

I am grateful to Tom Jackson for doing such a great job as treasurer and keeping our teacher-trac scholarships active. He also pitches in on many fronts including setting up this meeting. Our vice-president Rhea Black continues to serve the organization and has for many years. Several times she has stepped up and put on programs designed to keep us healthy and live long lives. She also maintains a collection of retiree pictures which are a lot of fun to see. Arleen Myers served as secretary for decades and when she retired, we elected two secretaries to replace her and they are doing an excellent job. Our new secretaries are Sherry Perkins and Vykki Morgan. Our newsletter editor, Hal Malkin, is not only a very good editor, but very generous as well. Most newsletters are now delivered by E-mail. Last, I have now served as President for 26 years. I try to keep the membership informed, our membership (and retiree) roster up-to-date, and sadly keep track of those who have passed away. I am actively looking for my replacement. I don't want to overstay my welcome.

We are looking forward to an April meeting next year. Be careful, stay healthy and have as much fun as possible.

Sincerely, Jon Fults

March of 2020 brought about a big change in the lives of nearly everyone. We all had something new and different in our lives, how to protect ourselves and loved ones from an insidious disease and find things to do that would allow us to still find joy in our lives.

My wife Carol, and I had a new focus on what we would do with the time. Much more time was spent at home. Our back yard became a welcome refuge. Plants were added, grass was more carefully tended and al fresco dining more common. Phone calls, zoom meetings, emails, all became ways to maintain contact with friends and family.

Many things we planned to do were postponed, many of which we are still waiting to be able to do. We have recently done a few things that remind us of how we once lived.

In June we went to the east coast taking our fourteen-year old granddaughter and sixteen-year old grandson to the east coast for ten days to visit our national heritage. Washington DC, George Washington's home, the White House, the US Capitol, war memorials and more were all visited. The big shock was how happy everyone was to see real live, money spending tourists! Everywhere we went everyone was really happy to see us and actively concerned that we enjoy our visit and get the most from it. Hopefully, they will maintain at least some of this behavior.

After the nation's capitol and Washington's home we went north to the Philadelphia area. Along the way we stopped at Valley Forge. In Philadelphia they naturally had to see the Rocky Statue and Independence Hall. Our grandchildren were in the same room where the United States was born, as well as many other historic sites. We also took them to the Amish country where they experienced an alternative way of life.

It was a wonderful experience for them and the grandparents as well. Since then Carol and I have taken a trip to Canada to see the Canadian Rockies. The scenery was beautiful and we really enjoyed the tour. Getting into, and out of Canada was not a pleasant process. Nothing seems to be happening that makes it an easier process.

During my 38 years at Cerritos College there were many wonderful experiences with students, faculty and staff. It was my good fortune to have many friends, some of which I got to know very well. Many of my classes were next door to the room used by Howard Taslitz. When I was giving a test, or quiz to my students, I would often go to the back door of my classroom and listen to Howard's American History lectures. He was the best classroom lecturer I ever heard. He brought American History to life! It was a comfort to me to know that despite his brilliant efforts some of his students were bored and disinterested! I didn't need to be worried that I did not have a big positive impact on each and every one my students.

## Charles Betz

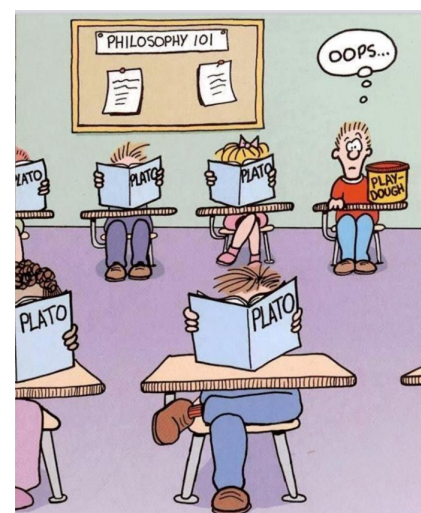


Greetings Colleagues,

Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the meeting, unless I can find someone to take me. I can barely walk, and driving that distance is now impossible for me. I have nothing exciting to report. My only outings are physicians appointments. Otherwise, I spend a lot of time reading.

I trust you will have a wonderful meeting, and I wish you all the very best.

## Don Karvelis





## .From: Joan Licari

It has been a long time since we have been together. Just as the pandemic got started I was lucky to be able to get an operation on my lower back completed relieving the pain I was having. There was a glass of lemonade associated with the pandemic lemons—all my meetings have been virtual since then, making it so much easier to attend since I am not driving yet. I have been kept busy as chair of the Sierra Club San Gabriel Valley Task Force.

There is never a dull moment with Sierra Club since our turf covers the whole San Gabriel Valley from the San Gabriel foothills to the Puente-Chino Hills. I also serve as editor of the monthly newsletter and as Zoom host the Book Club associated with the garden club in which I am active.

My daughter and I got cabin fever just before she went back to teaching. So off we went off for a couple of weeks in Arizona and New Mexico. We visited Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Navajo country, Santa Fe, Taos, and the Albuquerque areas. We also enjoyed beautiful areas like El Morro and Petroglyph Natl. Monuments. It was a nice change of scenery!

One local practice we encountered while there--roasting of chiles by all the markets. Special Hatch chilis were in season and in the free roasting facilities were in the grocery store parking lots and boxes upon boxes of chilis were for sale inside. We talked with people having their chilis roasted outside; they get them now, roast and freeze them for the rest of the year.

I hope to make it to the meeting at Frantone's and see old friends there.



## Robert Kreger sends warm greetings from España.

Jon asks for an update on our doings. My best answer is that Maria and I are doing just about what we all are doing, ... hoping for a better tomorrow than what the pandemic has wrought for quite some time now. We are both in good health, thank goodness, and thankful, as well, for our routines of exercise and healthful eating (no thanks to any culinary skills that I have mind you).

As covid travel restrictions eased recently, we were able to enjoy two short trips. One to the Spanish Mediterranean city of Gandía and the other up north to Astoria and the city of Gijón. Two very different locations, each with its own character and charms.

I've said this before in earlier notes but it bears repeating (hopefully without boring or offending) that after nearly six years now living as an expat in Spain, I've not one regret for having made this move. Save one! Later!

Now, that is not to say that I don't retain a great love for my time at Cerritos while embraced by caring professionals as yourselves. There's not a day that goes by that I don't remember those years. What I don't remember, and will not comment on further in this note, is the great divisiveness that seems to pervade many aspects of daily American life nowadays.

Oh! That one regret! We regret not being able to drive to Tacos San Pedro in Hawaiian Gardens for a torta and a heaping pile of re fried beans.

Peace and quiet my friends,

Bob



## Terry Price Fall 2021 Update

Hello again my fellow (Survivors) meaning retired faculty members and friends.

It's been quite a challenging time we have all been exposed to together and I hope you have all pulled through it with little difficulty or loss. We all have lost great memorable members of our Cerritos family and have many personal stories of them we can remember.

So, it has also been awhile since you have heard from me as I was out of town and missed the last gathering of the CCRFA via Zoom.

Well here goes an update.

Healthy for ourselves, grandkids, family and friends, aside from getting all the vaccine doses possible we



also didn't forget the Flu shot. In addition we still try to remain active by walking routinely or cycling approx. 3 miles daily in the neighborhood with occasional 12-13 mile jaunts to the beach down the bike trail along the 405 Fwy. Yes, activities still include riding my motorcycle as often as I can and frequently take my wife for spin with scenic cruises down on Pacific Coast Hwy often with a stop along the way.

I can't ignore another source of constant exercise and personal enjoyment; the grandkids.

Yes, I'm sure it's true that grandparents' dote and spoil their grandkids. Aside from the usual Soccer practice, games, swimming lessons, School drop-off, pick-up and occasionally we take them up to the Condo on the beach in Ventura at Port Hueneme. Well this year was no different as we took them for their birthdays to Hawaii, the Monterey Aquarium,

Disneyland and Lego Land.

Trade shows have kept me busy networking while keeping me up to date with current and cutting edge technology I can share in my Consulting and teaching career.

Due to COVID most of the annual Conferences, Conventions and trade shows have been cancelled, postponed or Zoomed with online activity. Those that I have attended with strict COVID protocols included; the (2-day) Surfboard Shaping Show in the Del Mar Show Grounds called the "Board Room" that I have attended for over a decade meeting the Pro's in the industry that include Suppliers, Manufacturers, and former students with successful businesses and interests in the field.



The Plastec (3-day) trade show is another favorite for networking as it's co-located with 6 other related trade shows all inside the entire Anaheim Conv. Ctr. This has been a favorite for networking because Cerritos College was supported every year requested with a complementary booth given to the Plastics Manufacturing Department due to our training and education program for over 35 years. This show was a favorite and helpful in marketing our Plastic & Composites classes to industry with huge success as it yielded not only students from related companies that also sponsored us with Plant tours, Guest speakers, current Donations and active Advisory Committee members as well as student placement. In addition the tradeshow give me a great reunion vibe visiting with successful former students, reconnecting and meeting Business professionals. This is also true

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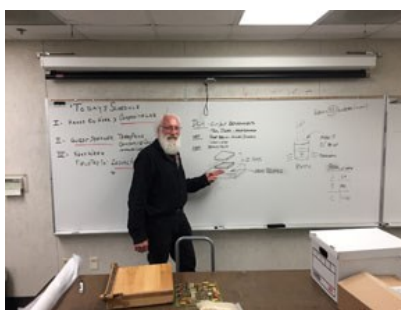




with the (3-day) Space Tech Expo that focuses on everything aerospace and beyond including new materials, processes, assembly techniques and training needs. Another specialized event attended is the (7-day) (NAMM) National Association of Musicians and

Manufacturers show filling the entire Anaheim Conv. Ctr. This is a special treat to attend because it's only open to the trade or special invited guests. Plastics & Composites are continually being added to the materials of choice within this industry for the practical applications of being light weight, exhibiting special acoustic abilities, with no humidity, corrosion and moisture resistance while gaining wide acceptance of the music professionals. Many vendors utilize plastics in their instruments and proficient Artists get the best hands-on experience by jamming with these new tools of the trade materials.

I still enjoying teaching Technical classes at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena about



Plastics and Composites manufacturing technology focusing on materials and methods to Design students with PowerPoint presentations with

examples, handouts and focused audio visuals included in their applied practical training.

Recent travels, besides the ones mentioned earlier with the grandkids have also included many trips to the Hawaiian Islands. On last one, by ourselves we did some inner Island-hopping over (2-weeks) going

from the Big Island to Oahu and Maui. Of course we sampled the local cuisine, went golfing, snorkeling, and driving around exploring especially visiting places of interest while soaking up the Hawaiian experience.

Local California trips recently took us to enjoy a (4-day) overnight stay exploring the wine country in the Russian river area of Healdsburg, Windsor, Forestville and surrounding wineries. Earlier we also were able to be day trippers several times on mini getaways to some Santa Barbara, Los Olivos,



Santa Ynez and Solvang area wineries and tasting rooms while enjoying the sightseeing.

An upcoming (3-week) trip will include an East Coast visit to North Carolina for Thanksgiving with relatives and touring the local historic sites in the region.

With the Christmas Holidays coming soon the Santa gig this year looks to be a busy season as bookings are filling up. Last year, 2020 didn't really happen due to COVID, but there were a few very creative events in the City by being smart. By using social distancing, the mask mandate and shot



verification protocols followed. The tree lighting event at Middle School in the evening was a safe drive by experience with everyone staying in their vehicles without getting out for selfies

with Santa worked well with over 300 vehicles with school children and family members, a few pets cruising by to wave to Santa.