

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 2024

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 (in the Falcon Room Restaurant) 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 : Hy Finkelstein at hyfink@yahoo.com . He 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.



2024— 2025 OFFICERS AND OFFICE HOLDERS

President — Hy Finkelstein	Co-Secretary — Vykki Morgan
Vice President — Rhea Black	Co-Secretary — Sherry Perkins
Treasurer — Tom Jackson	Newsletter — Hal Malkin

Taps From the Gavel by Hy Finkelstein, CCRFA President



Jon Fults has done an excellent job as President of the Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association for many years. But Jon has now retired from that position. I think the Association should give him a great round of applause.

I have taken over the reins and hope to keep us going forward. At my request, the college has reached out to the retirees from the past 9 years to inform them about our organization and encourage them to join us. But we need you, the current members, to reach out to your former colleagues to urge them to join us.

I look forward to seeing you at our luncheon.

Hy Finkelstein, Retired
Business Administration 1975-2011.



Notes from Jon Fults—

As an organization we are indeed fortunate to have dedicated leaders keeping us informed and together. Rhea Black as Vice President, Tom Jackson as treasurer, Sherry Perkins and Vykki Morgan team working secretaries and Hal Malkin publishing our newsletter all serving for many years. Our new and very capable President Hy Finkelstein diligently guides our organization. We thank all of them.

Since our last meeting, we spent the month of May in Maui and are currently there returning the day before our meeting. This is our 72nd trip to Maui and hopefully we will enjoy many more.

In July we spent a couple weeks in Libertyville Illinois.

Traveling is becoming more difficult but a direct flight from Long Beach to Kahului gets us here and a direct flight from John Wayne to OHare gets us to Illinois. LAX has become too difficult.

2025 is a birthday year as Lois Jean turns 95. I will be 90. Our eldest daughter turns 75 and one of our granddaughters will be 50. Lots of parties to look forward to.

The picture below is the view from our Lanai.



From Hy & Lola Finkelstein

Since our last meeting, we have still been working on refurbishing our house. Seems like a never-ending story. But we have had 3 diversions that involved flying, driving, and hotel stays.

First, one of our grandsons was accepted into the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York. He received a full-ride scholarship (worth about \$350, 000). This is similar to going to the Navy Academy, but when you graduate you can earn both your commercial ship's Captain's License and an officer's commission in any branch of the military. We visited him on his first liberty (called Parent's Week).

Second, our other grandson graduated from Navy Boot Camp in Great Lakes, Chicago. Hy went to that graduation and the grandson's first liberty. He is going to become a member of an aircraft carrier's flight deck crew.

Third, we were involved in putting together a granddaughter's wedding in Altadena. This was much closer to home but you know what it's like driving back and forth from Orange County to Altadena. Ugh.

Also (no travel) we are fostering a new kitten for a friend who just had open heart surgery. Just a 2-pound entity that takes up a lot of our time.

And, how could I forget to tell you that Lola is creatively designing and wildly painting pumpkins for her church bazaar!



Hi Friends,

It's been a busy 2024 but all in a good way!

I've done a ton of trips while I'm still healthy enough to do all of them!! I went with family to New York in April and saw so many great things. The 9/11 Memorial is so moving and incredible! I visited

Wendell Hanks and family in Georgia in May. They have a lovely home, beautiful trees, and a sweet granddaughter. Then visited my Sister in Idaho in June, Lake Tahoe with my Sacramento niece and family in late June, then our favorite place, the Hotel Del Coronado with family in August and then FINALLY, after many years on my bucket list, I went to the US Open Tennis Tournament in New York with a friend! So much fun!!

Like I said, trying to enjoy every single day with a fun activity! So grateful to be able to do all these things!!

And I'll need to start planning for next year!!!!

Donna Miller



NEW AFFORDABLE ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING A REALITY AT CERRITOS COLLEGE

Cerritos College is pleased to announce that it will receive \$68 million in funding through a statewide lease revenue bond to build affordable on-campus student housing. Cerritos College is one of 13 community colleges selected to receive this funding.

In 2023, Cerritos College was awarded \$225,000 in funding through the Higher Education Student Housing Grant Program. The college ranked first among grant applicants, partly due to the Board of Trustees' strong commitment, demonstrated by its \$12 million contribution to the college's student housing project. With additional funding from the statewide lease revenue bond, a total of \$80 million will now support the construction of a student housing complex along Studebaker Road, providing approximately 400 affordable beds for students in need.



Artist Rendition of Proposed Student Housing

Cerritos College Retired Faculty Association



Fall 2024



In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the passing of **Dr. John Haas**, a dedicated

full-time faculty member. Dr. Haas had been a valued member of our district, serving as a History Professor since August 1998.

Dr. Haas was devoted to our students and their success, always striving to make a difference in their lives. He was passionate about researching historical and current events to better understand the world we live in and to promote peace through education. His commitment to this cause was evident through the prominent leaders he brought to our campus to discuss these vital issues. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, he was honored with the Outstanding Faculty Award in 2000-2001. In addition, Dr. Haas was also the founder and director of the [Global Consortium for Sustainable Peace](#). His legacy will be remembered by all who knew him.

Dora Macias wrote: As a retired International Counselor I had the privilege of attending many presentations offered by Dr Haas. What a remarkable educator, someone who really sought the idea that world conflicts could be resolved through education, dialogue, diplomacy, forgiveness and understanding. He was a wonderful mentor and admired by his students. My heart is saddened by this news. My condolences to his family.

We are saddened to share the news of the passing of Professor Emeritus **John**

Jackson on October 4, 2024. Mr. Jackson joined Cerritos College in April 1957 as a full-time automotive technology instructor, dedicating himself to our students until his retirement in December 1991.

Hired as one of Cerritos College's original faculty members, Mr. Jackson was pivotal in the development and evolution of the College's Automotive Technology program. Over his 34-year tenure, he worked diligently to enhance the program, building strong relationships with industry experts, and forging long-term partnerships with major automotive companies—many of which continue today. After his retirement, he established the John R. Jackson Career Technical Education Scholarship which is endowed through the Cerritos College Foundation. In recognition of his commitment and dedication, Mr. Jackson was inducted into the [Cerritos College Hall of Fame](#) in 2017.

Additionally, John's brother Tom and sister-in-law Marie have both retired from Cerritos College. Tom currently serves on the Cerritos College Foundation Board.



In Memoriam

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please fill in and send the following information to Tom Jackson, along with a check:

Name: _____ Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, _____

Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Year Employed at Cerritos College: _____ Year Retired from Cerritos College: _____ Division/Dept: _____

Please Mail to: Tom Jackson
11014 Hayford
Norwalk, CA 90650

Note: Dues are \$10 per year or \$100 for a lifetime membership