



New Retirees Honored at Marina Village



Back row, l to r: Jed Ashley, Will Cummings, Richard McMinn, Joyce Sake, Ed Olsen, Suedonna Filmer, Dave Jordan, Ingrid Tarikas & Virginia Berger.
Front row: Lorraine Martin, Dennis Collins, Dave Wertlieb, Ruth Botten, Bonnie Price, Elaine Hussong, Nancy Yale & Dale Powell.

The Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Recognition Dinner for retirees, sponsored by the Grossmont College Foundation, under the theme *Cruising into Retirement*, was held May 26, 2006, at the Marina Village Seaside Room. It was a fun evening for the hundred-plus attendees, including retirees, friends and families. It was great to see some past retirees return to honor the current retirees. Once again the retirees received a lei upon their arrival and then had their picture taken. Gay Cox brought her father, a young 95-year old. Joyce Sake was accompanied by her mother, also very young. One added feature this year, the photographer, provided a printed picture to everyone at the end of the evening. Dr. Colli, Grossmont College interim

president, and Dr. Perri, Cuyamaca's president, presented retirees their gifts. Bill Cummings and Richard McMinn were honored for the most years (40+) at Grossmont College. Gay Cox, who held the previous record of 41.5 years of service, presented the retirement award to Bill Cummings, who now holds the new record of 42 years. Marilyn Marshall, who was not on the retirement list but will be retiring in July, was presented with a lei by her dean, Janet Castanos. Marilyn has promised to return next year for the official retirement.

A big "thanks" goes to Joanne Prescott and the foundation for all their tireless work in making the retirement gala a big success. Thanks also to ex-foundation director Howard Kummerman



L to r: Dr. Geraldine Perri, Dr. Dean Colli & retiree Joyce Sake.

Retirement dinner, cont. on p. 5

Editor's Comments

by Tom Scanlan



It's slowly beginning to dawn on me that a significant number of my fellow retirees are getting older, I mean REALLY older. Any hope for immortality has faded with the years, and it seems that many of us are now spending more time with our doctors than with our friends. And even the doctors seem to be getting older!

I visit the Grossmont College campus now and then, mostly on Grapevine related stuff, and I see mostly strangers. The latest group of retirees from the district included more people I didn't know than people I did know. The worst part is running into older colleagues I did know well and not recognizing them! (I'm sure that's often a mutual reaction.) Can't someone just slow things down a bit!?! The time goes by so much faster and there's never enough time to do stuff anymore. That makes life especially difficult for us

habitual procrastinators. Not fair.

Which leads to the point of this editorial—have you written your memoirs yet?

Look, I'm not being pessimistic, just realistic. Leave your friends and kids and grandkids something they'll really appreciate when your time is up. You know they don't really want your money or your house or all that stuff in boxes out in the garage that you've been collecting over a lifetime. They'd much rather curl up in front of a warm fireplace and read the story of your life (wouldn't they?).

So what do they want to read about? A concise chronology would be a good beginning (or a nice appendix, depending on how much other writing you get done). It doesn't have to be year by year, but should include birthplace and date, a brief description of your parents and siblings, places you've lived and when, schools you attended and when you graduated, how and when you met your significant other, military service and jobs you've held, and when you retired and what you did during retirement. Then add details and anecdotes. Your kids have probably

heard all about "when you were growing up" (more than once, and maybe too often) but your grandkids haven't. Leave them some stories to go with those faded pictures. You'd be surprised how curious and gullible young minds can be (not that you'd resort to anything like hyperbole in your memoirs).

Even your friends and colleagues might enjoy reading about the lives you've led before and after GCCCD. A previous Grapevine editor, Pat Higgins, wrote an excellent memoir, which a number of his colleagues found quite interesting, including myself. To get ideas, read the memoirs or autobiographies of some of your favorite people, be they presidents or actors, heroes or scoundrels. Include lists of your favorite books, music, food, films, people and places. Leave them a bit of poetry if you've written some. Or some of your artwork. They might even enjoy reading some letters or other prose that you've written over the years. Write down some interesting memories and you just might achieve immortality, after all.

Grossmont College Foundation Director Changeover



Howard Kummerman

Howard Kummerman, previous Executive Director of the Grossmont College Foundation, left that position on June 1 to begin work as

Assistant Deputy Chief to previous Grossmont College president, Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr., who is now Deputy Chief of Neighborhood and Customer Services for the City of San Diego. Howard was a strong supporter of Grossmont College and our newsletter, and was responsible for the GC Foundation funding our newsletter when district funding stopped.



Ernest Ewin

Howard will be replaced by GC Foundation board member, **Ernest Ewin**, who will serve as interim executive director of the foundation. Ernest Ewin graduated from Grossmont College

in 1969 as student body president. He has been an active participant in our college community, having chaired the Citizen's Bond Oversight Committee for over three years in the successful effort to pass Proposition R which is now funding building projects on both campuses. He is also an elected official, serving on the City Council of La Mesa, and is a member of several other boards which provide services to our community.

The Grapevine is a free newspaper for retirees of Cuyamaca and Grossmont Colleges and sponsored by the Grossmont College Foundation and the Cuyamaca College Foundation. The GCCCD Grapevine is also available on the Grossmont College web site at <http://www.grossmont.net/grapevine/grapevine.html>

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To submit news items, articles or photographs of interest to GCCCD retirees, mail them to:

The Grapevine
Grossmont College
8800 Grossmont College Drive
El Cajon, CA 92020

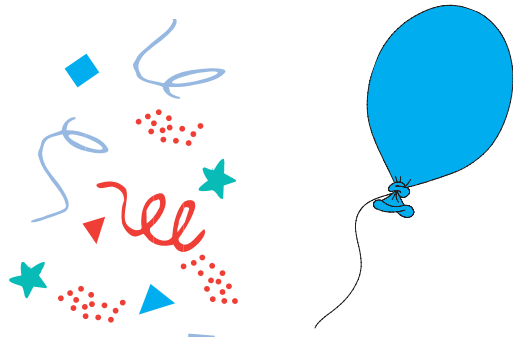
or email to:
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The Grapevine is published in November, March, and July. Deadline for submission is the 10th of the month before publication.

GC Physics and Astronomy Department Retirement Party

Two instructors from Grossmont College's Physics and Astronomy Department celebrated their retirement on April 28 at the Bali Hai Restaurant. **Tom Tsung** retired a year ago and **Dennis Collins** retired this June. The event was attended by more than fifty friends, family members and colleagues. All of Dennis Collins' family were able to attend, including his 94-year-old mother, Vivian Collins. Retirees attending included Bill Bornhorst, Bill Bradley, Bill Givens, Bob James, John Maley, Millie McAuley, and Tom Scanlan.

A no-host bar and social hour was followed by a delicious sit-down dinner featuring a variety of Bali-Hai's delicious Polynesian specialties. Students, family and friends then took the microphone and toasted or roasted Dennis and Tom, each of whom also commented on their tenure at Grossmont College. A slide presentation summarized some of the highlights of their experiences. ts



L to r: Teresa and Tom Tsung, David Duenas, and Dennis & Dana Collins.



L to r: Margit and Bill Bornhorst, Bill Givens & John Maley enjoying the fare.



L to r: Alba Orr, Tom and Teresa Tsung, Joanne Duenas, & Les Orr.



Dennis Collins & Millie McAuley (seated at left is a student of Dennis).

Driftwood

by Bob Steinbach

Snippets of gossip that have been burnished by friends and washed up on the Grapevine desk.



From the April 17 *Courier* (Board newsletter): ***Emeriti faculty applauded.***



Mary Donnelly, Mike Matherly, and Shannon O'Dunn received recognition as Emeriti Faculty from Grossmont College. Academic Senate President Beth Smith and Interim President Dean Colli described the many years of service and dedication to students demonstrated by the emeriti faculty. Governing Board President Deanna Weeks pointed out they represent 115 years of experience. Matherly said, "If I could do it again, this is the best thing I could ever choose to do."



Lori Carver, Former Risk Management Assistant, writes, "Dear Tom, et al.: It is so wonderful to see the loving care you and others have given over the years to this quality print and how it has blossomed! It is a treasure as are all of the retiree's and their memories encased within."



Our deepest condolences to retired Grossmont College Counselor, **John Feare**, upon the death of his wife, Rachelle. She died on April 15 at Cloverdale, California, following a prolonged illness. John met Rachelle in Germany in 1947 and they were married 58 years. John is listed in the Retiree Directory if you'd like to send a card or talk with him by phone.



Bill and Cathy Hansen write, "Last year we enjoyed a river



cruise beginning in Vienna, traveling on the Danube River through Austria and Germany and then the Rhine River into the Netherlands. Enjoyed it so much that this year we started in Budapest and cruised east through Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Bulgaria and Romania to the Black Sea. Daughter Lisa and Grandson James flew in from Sweden and met us in Prague for a week of great fun together."



Lou Hansotte writes: "I'm sorry to report the death of my wife, Wilma "Tootie" Hansotte, age 79, at Grossmont Hospital on

March 15th, 2006, due to congenital heart failure. She is survived by me, daughter Beth Hansotte, a flight attendant for Delta Air Lines in Atlanta, and son Jeff Hansotte, a grounds supervisor at Barona Casino.

"Lou retired in 1993; formerly a part-time instructor in business and real estate law, real estate coordinator at Grossmont and Cuyamaca, and one of the developers and first coordinator of the Paralegal Studies Program at Cuyamaca."



Muriel Owen writes: "Norman has been ill for some time, greatly restricting our travel and fun time together, but just recently he finally got

a diagnosis of a microadenoma of his pituitary. He was put on medication starting Monday and has shown tremendous improvement. We are planning a trip to Des Moines, Iowa in June for a 55th anniversary of my nursing school (Iowa Methodist) followed by a week in Branson, MO. We've been wanting to take another cruise and will try to work that out if he stays healthy.

"We're enjoying Colorado and are glad we made the move. Do keep in touch." [See Digital Driftwood]



Sirkka Huovila (Grapevine desktop production) writes: "I just read [Bob's] editorial column when putting together the current issue of the

Grapevine, and I wanted to let you know what an impression it left on me. Thank you for those words. Very beautifully put." (Sirkka's little note about this issue's editorial page: Don't miss Tom's column. I found it touching!)

Digital Driftwood: Pictures from Retirees



Bob and Virginia Steinbach enjoyed a one-day reprise in March of previous air safaris in the Australian outback. The trip to the Temora Air Museum from Wagga Wagga included L to R: Roger Merridew (pilot), Virginia, Bob Shanks with whom Bob and Virginia lived on her exchange to Box Hill in 1993, Neroli Merridew, Bob, and Peter Rushbrook who exchanged with Eleanor Tucker (Grossmont Speech Dept.) in 1990.



Norman and Muriel Owen and their grandson Adam with Bob and Virginia Steinbach outside the Owen home in Colorado Springs.

Retirement Dinner, cont. from p. 1



New and previous retirees and guests enjoying dinner at Marina Village Seaside Room.

(see article elsewhere in this issue), and Ernest Ewin, interim foundation director, for the cute centerpieces (fresh fruit), to Gaydeen Dollar for all the administrative duties, to Les Orr for taking candid pictures and to all others who made the event go smoothly and enjoyably. New retirees who were not able to attend this event may pick up their gifts at the Grossmont College Foundation office.

The Grapevine editors extend special thanks to Alba Orr, who reported and wrote this article, and to her husband, Les, who took all of the photographs.



L to r: CC president, Dr. Geraldine Perri, GC interim president Dr. Dean Colli, & retiree Will Cummings (with 42 years of service).



L to r: Dr. Geraldine Perri, Dr. Dean Colli & retiree Dave Wertlieb.



L to r: Retiree Dale Powell holding retirement gift, Dr. Geraldine Perri & Dr. Dean Colli.

Retirees Write



Doris Woods writes:
May 11, 2006

I think I'd better get my 2 cents worth in before Father Time catches up with me. I'll be 95 in July.

After retirement I enjoyed ten years of delivering Meals on Wheels, taking oranges to Crisis House and gardening in El Cajon. In 2002, I relocated to a retirement community, Cheyenne Place, in Colorado Springs to be near my family. I

have two married sons, one retired from the Marine Corps, the other a music teacher in a college in Illinois, 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grands.

I retired from Grossmont in 1977 so probably few of you remember me, Room 500 where many an exam was typed, the manual typewriters there for the teachers' use, and the wonderful Xerox machine. All now ancient history!

Pike's Peak and other 14,000 footers are beautiful with their snow caps, and I do like the changing seasons. I haven't yet adjusted to a sedentary life, but I

take walks, read lots (thanks for the book reviews) and solve double-croctic puzzles.

Thank you to every person who helps publish THE GRAPEVINE. Sorry to hear it's not all smooth sailing at the colleges.



Don Shannon Enjoys Barbecue with Family and Friends



Retiree **Don Shannon** invited family, friends and colleagues to a barbecue picnic at his convalescent home, Country Villa, on May 28. This picnic has become an annual

tradition to thank those who visit him regularly because his infirmities confine him to the premises. He especially welcomes visits from retired colleagues.

The afternoon was picture-perfect, the hamburger and hotdogs, homemade beans and salad were scrumptious, and there was live music. His youngest son, Kevin, played guitar along with a friend and some sang along, including Don, if they remembered the lyrics to the folk songs performed. One of the songs they played was composed by Don over twenty years ago. Pat Higgins read a

poem he had composed for the occasion, describing the many facets of Don's life.

Along with friends and colleagues, both of Don's sons and their families were able to attend. Retirees attending included Mel Amov, Judy Barkley, Pat Higgins, and Tom Scanlan. His oldest friend and colleague, Sam Porter, served as master chef and helped organize the event. Ray Resler and Mary Ann Beverly are regular visitors who missed the hamburgers but arrived later that day to help Don celebrate. ts



Don Shannon surrounded by his family.



Pat Higgins reading his poem to Don.



Rosemarie Scanlan, Barbara Roper & Judy Barkley.

Obituaries



Bob Danielson

GC English Instructor
1961-1986

Bob died on May 11 at Kindred Hospital in San Diego of complications from a

fall and Parkinson's Disease. He was born in Mason City, Iowa on November 23, 1922. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Patricia "Nan" Danielson, children James Danielson and Cathie Simms of San Diego, eight grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Bob flew Douglas R4D's and R5D's in the China-Burma-India theater as U. S. Navy Transport Plane Commander during World War II. Losses of airplanes and aviators flying over "the hump", as the Himalayas were known, sometimes reached 50 per cent because of turbulent weather, planes flying at the limits of their performance at high altitudes and attacks by Japanese fighters. He also flew air-sea rescues in the famous San Diego-built amphibious PB5Y-5A's.

After the war ended, Bob Danielson enrolled at the University of Minnesota and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor's degree in English in 1950. He later earned a Master's degree at San Diego State University. He taught English at Grossmont High School from 1956 to 1961. In the fall of 1961, he was chosen as the founding chair of the English Department at Grossmont College, where he taught literature and composition. Mr. Danielson was also the first chairman of the Pacific Coast Regional Conference on English in the Two Year College, and was a member of the National Council of Teachers of English Curriculum Commission. In June 1986, he retired and was honored as Professor Emeritus of English.

Former colleague Judy Barkley, now retired, remembers him as a very popular teacher whose classes remained high in enrollment to the end of each term, "Not because he was easy—he made them work." She continued, "As chairperson, he was a mentor. When I was first hired, he saw

that I was young and inexperienced, and I would go to him with questions about teaching."

Bob was a longstanding member of First United Methodist Church in Mission Valley. The Reverend Mark Trotter, retired minister of First United Methodist Church remembers, "Bob Danielson was a dignified and humble man, a serious learner all his life. He delighted in knowledge. His first love was great literature because it illuminates the important questions of life. He would send me articles on things we had talked about. He was constantly investigating the world around him. He was a wonderful man who never stopped learning."

The family suggests contributions to the Robert W. Danielson Scholarship, checks payable to Grossmont College Foundation, 8800 Grossmont College Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020.

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Jack Hansen

Founding President of
Grossmont College
1961-1966

John "Jack" Hansen died of complications from Parkinson's Disease on May 8 at

San Joaquin Gardens, an assisted living facility in Fresno, California. His wife of 59 years, Barbara, died in 2002. Jack is survived by his daughters, Cathy Lean and Martha Hanna, a sister Cathleen, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Jack was born November 9, 1920, in Selma, California. He graduated from Fresno High School and then earned a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism at Fresno State College. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 and married his wife Barbara. He served on the Island of Tinian and later as flight instructor for

three years during World War II. After the war he earned a Master's Degree in Education at Stanford University. Jack then taught journalism at the College of the Sequoias, coached tennis and became Dean of Students. Following ten years at Sequoias, Jack was appointed vice-president of Fresno City College. He was recruited from there for his job as president of Grossmont Community College.

As Grossmont College's founding president, he hired four deans, 31 teachers and 11 staff members for the 1961 founding faculty at their temporary location at the Monte Vista High School campus. He oversaw teams, including one lead by Erv Metzgar, Grossmont College's third president, to obtain provisional and later permanent accreditation for the college. Jack stayed on for the move to the college's present campus in 1964 and continued to preside until 1966. He then returned to Fresno to be appointed assistant superintendent of education for the Fresno community college district, and became their district chancellor in 1978. He retired in 1982 and continued to live most of his retirement years in the Fresno area, close to his family.

Hansen Circle on the Grossmont College campus was named in his honor. Most of us who knew Jack will remember him best for his gentle manner, his crew cut and his quick smile. Those early years under his presidency are sometimes referred to as the 'Camelot years,' when harmony, hard work and dedication helped build the Grossmont campus into the finest community college in the state.



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Return Service Requested

1961 to 1965 Faculty and Staff Celebration Remembering Jack Hansen and Grossmont College Pioneers

With the death of founding Grossmont College President Jack Hansen in May, preceded a number of years earlier by founding Dean of Instruction Charles Collins, as well as many faculty members, old-timers are reminded that time is fleeting. To celebrate the administrators, faculty and staff of those memorable early years:

APPETIZER POTLUCK CELEBRATION AT LEE & BARBARA ROPER'S

1961 through 1965 Faculty, Staff and Administrators Invited

Saturday, July 29, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

4669 E. Talmadge, San Diego, CA 92116

RSVP: bnlroper@sbcglobal.net or (619) 584-6445

Hosts: Lee and Barbara Roper, and Millie McAuley



Please bring your favorite drink and appetizers or dessert. Appetizers and a non-alcoholic punch will be provided.



Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members: Richard Alexander, Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C., Wendell R. Cutting, Bill Garrett, Deanna Weeks • Student Members: Cathy Keyes, Pat Ardilla • Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D. • Grossmont College Interim President: Dean Colli, Ed.D. • Cuyamaca College President: Geraldine Perri, Ph.D.