



# PHI BETA KAPPA

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION  
THE GAMMA ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
Association Chartered June 14, 1946

Visit us on the web at [www.pbknca.org](http://www.pbknca.org)

Φιλοσοφία Βίου Κυβερνήτης

September 2011

SALUS PATRIAE

Founded December 5, 1776

## From The President

**Y**our new and continuing Board members are settling into this new Board year's routine. It is sometimes confusing to members that our Fiscal Year runs from 1 July to 30 June, while our Membership Year is from 1 January through 31 December. Because we solicit membership donations starting in November (keep your eyes out for the November newsletter, which will have information about renewing), and because payments continue to be received into the Spring, it is more convenient to close our books on 30 June. Our Board takes advantage of the summer lull to transfer responsibilities to new officers. We are so fortunate to have a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers leading ΦBKNCA.

During the coming year, we'll have a wide variety of monthly visits to interesting Bay Area sites, thanks to First Vice President-Programs Judy Hardardt's efforts. Check this and every newsletter for more about these (see page five). In May 2012, we'll confer a number of scholarships on worthy graduate students from some of our nine associated colleges thanks to Second Vice President-Scholarships Joanne Sandstrom, her able committee members, and your generous contributions. We are accepting nominations for our Teaching Excellence awards from Mills College; San Francisco State University; Santa Clara University; Stanford University; the UC campuses at Berkeley, Davis, and Santa Cruz; and the University of the Pacific. If you were motivated, impressed, or enthralled by a teacher at any of those schools, please nominate him/her for a Teaching Excellence award using the form on page two. Teaching Excellence Chair Narcinda Lerner awaits your input.

Consider attending our annual Presidents' Weekend symposium, February 17-20, 2012, at Asilomar (Pacific Grove). We enjoy speakers on a variety of subjects, from literature to science and everything in between, have fascinating conversations among ΦBKNCA members during meals, and marvel at nature's magnificence as we wander the retreat center grounds. Cal Wood will be delighted to receive your reservation (page 8). All proceeds from the symposium are used for our award programs.

Please contact the Nominating Committee or any Board member if you have an interest in volunteering with our Association. We have positions that take as little as one day's work (audit committee; chapter initiation representatives) or as much time as you are willing to give. We'd be delighted to get a chance to know you better!

Thank you for being a member of ΦBKNCA.  
*Mary Turner Gilliland, President 2011-12*

## Receive the Newsletter Online

**M**ore than 1/3 of our members have gone green! Sign up now and receive the newsletter weeks ahead of everyone else **and** save the Association money! When we take the newsletter to the printer, we will send you an email containing a link to the newsletter online. You will be able read it online, save it on your computer, and/or print it. Try it; it's quick and easy, even for the "technologically challenged." If you later want to switch back to snail mail delivery of the hard copy – no problem. There will be a link in the email to do that. **Go to [www.pbknca.org/1010](http://www.pbknca.org/1010) to sign up now;** you will also be notified of any late developments.

# ***Excellence in Teaching Award Application*** ***Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association***

Dear Fellow Phi Betes:

We are seeking nominations for this prestigious award, which carries an honorarium as well as a certificate. Please nominate a professor you consider to be outstanding: someone who taught an especially memorable course or who impressed you as an unusually skilled educator, who had a special impact on your education, career, or life, or whom you found inspiring and admirable. Making such a nomination is an appropriate and satisfying way of expressing your gratitude to that person. Winners will be honored at Phi Beta Kappa NCA's Annual May Banquet.

Faculty members of any rank (including lecturers and emeriti) at the following schools are eligible for nomination: Mills College, San Francisco State University, Santa Clara University, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, or University of the Pacific. Please give as complete information as possible. Your nominees need not be Phi Beta Kappa members.

You may make more than one nomination, but please use a separate sheet for each nomination you make.

Full Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Rank (Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, Other): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject(s) Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Course(s) Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Department and School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** Please tell us, in as much detail as you can, why and how this person stands out in your mind. Use additional sheets as necessary:

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School, Class Year and Date of Election to ΦBK: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Narcinda R. Lerner, Ph.D. (e-mail: [nrlernern@netscape.net](mailto:nrlernern@netscape.net))  
Teaching Excellence Chair  
10 Stadler Drive

Woodside, CA 94062-4840 Phone: (650) 851-0137 FAX: (650) 529-9369

**Deadline: November 30, 2011 for May 2012 Award**

webform

**Thank you for your help!**  
**ΦBK NCA**

## Teaching Excellence Awards

Phi Beta Kappa is dedicated to the cultivation of scholarship, and we know that we would not have great scholars if we did not have great teacher/scholars. Unfortunately, in the present political climate teachers have been the targets of a great deal of unjustified criticism. This hardly encourages young people to go into teaching, nor does it encourage those in the profession to continue – especially since the best of them can always go off and do something else. One small thing that each of us can do to encourage the best in teaching is to nominate a teacher who was instrumental in our development for the  $\Phi$ BKNCA Teaching Excellence Award. Nominations for the May 2012 Teaching Excellence Awards close on November 30, 2011. The nomination form is available on page two of this newsletter and on our website. Please mail hardcopy directly to the Teaching Excellence Chair Narcinda Lerner, 10 Stadler Drive, Woodside, CA 94062 or make a pdf and email it to [nrlernern@netscape.net](mailto:nrlernern@netscape.net).

*Narcinda Lerner, Teaching Excellence Chair*

## Scholarship Awards

Due to space limitations, the full text of the scholarship awards cannot fit here; the full text appears on the web at <http://www.pbknca.org/newsletter/2011-09September.htm>

### **Nöel Bakhtian—Stanford—Aeronautics and Astronautics (Reed Scholarship)**

Nöel has always wanted to be an astronaut. As she wrote in her application, "I see the exploration of space as an attempt to answer the ultimate questions concerning our origins and significance in the universe while laying down a framework for our future." She has a B.S.E., Engineering, from Duke; a M. Phil. from the University of Cambridge; and a M.S., Aeronautics and Astronautics, from Stanford.

One of her professors called her "highly motivated, hardworking, uniquely gifted, and a natural organizer." Another noted that Nöel "challenged me good-naturedly when I glossed over important details." Still another noted her "irrepressible and endearing enthusiasm" and her "coherent vision of purpose for her career the likes of which I have never observed in a student."

### **Maya de Vries—UC Berkeley—Integrative Biology**

The title of Maya's dissertation explains her investigation: "Testing Form and Function: Ecological and Morphological Specialization in Mantis Shrimp." Her early results already run counter to the expectation that form follows function in suggesting that "smashers" actually consume a wider range of prey types than "spearers" do. Much of her research is done in Panama at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute's Galeta Marine Lab.

Letters of recommendation note that Maya is "bright, creative, resourceful, dedicated, and unusually hard-working," "curious and inquisitive with outstanding interpersonal skills" (she was adept at involving local Panamanian students and support staff in her research program), and that she "was fearless . . . in conducting her field experiments in crocodile-laden waters and in truly challenging living conditions."

### **Jenny Lane—UCSC—Ocean Sciences**

Jenny is studying algae blooms (*i.e.*, "red tides"), which seem to be expanding globally and causing more economic losses than had been thought.

Her research shows that both ocean upwelling and river flow are influential in causing the algae blooms. The research has primed a ground-breaking statewide effort at a time of significant funding shortfalls, with the California Ocean Protection Council awarding \$792,000 for implementation of her models as part of a California-wide effort to develop a harmful algal bloom forecast system.

According to her professors, Jenny is "constantly asking What is the big picture?" She is doing "truly interdisciplinary work at the interface between policy, management, and science." She is "a dream student."

**Michael Levien—UC Berkeley—Sociology**

Michael is investigating "The Land Question: Special Economic Zones and Accumulation by Dispossession in India." His study contrasts two strategies of development: state-led high modernization revolving around massive projects (*e.g.*, dams) and market-driven projects associated with Special Economic Zones. Basically, this is a study of conflicts over land, land use, and government policies, dispossession with and without development that benefits the original landowners.

His professors call him a "consummate, intrepid, imaginative ethnographer," a "tireless researcher and devoted theorist," and a person who "weds intellectual sophistication and civic idealism with economic and political realism."

**Feng-Yen Li—UCSF—Biomedical Sciences**

Feng-Yen's dissertation is "The Etiologies of Primary Immunodeficiencies," in which she defines the molecular basis of immunodeficiency in children with congenital abnormalities of the immune system. Her research has led to the discovery of a second messenger role for magnesium in biology that is particularly important for T-cell activation and the development and function of a normal immune system in humans.

As her professors note, she is a "tenacious, creative researcher" and is "flexible in her thinking." Even more important, she has made "one of the most important discoveries in the past several years" in this area. "Her work will lead to a revision of the textbooks."

**Shane Morrison—Medicine—Stanford**

In his opening statement, Shane noted that "the initial impetus for my career in medicine . . . [came from] the death of the man who raised me: my grandfather. In fact, a five-gallon metal pail became my primary inspiration." This pail, which held his grandfather's catheter bag, served as a physical reminder of his prostate cancer.

Shane's current work is on treating diabetic wounds through gene therapy. He combines a passion for

scientific research with an interest in public health, often volunteering in public health clinics.

His professors call him "clear thinking, energetic, and enthusiastic," with "great initiative and creativity," "impeccable integrity," and "extraordinary energy and enthusiasm." There are "not enough superlatives to describe Shane."

**Wei-chung Wang—UC Davis—Psychology**

His focus is on the physical components of behavior: using neuroimaging and neuropsychological methods to test the hypothesis that the perirhinal cortex contributes to conceptual priming. "His research has challenged strongly held beliefs in our field."

His professors note that he combines "drive, mental horsepower, and creative spirit." He is "modest, friendly, easy-going" and an "independent thinker [yet a] team player" who is "an exceptionally clear communicator" "liked by everyone in the lab."

**Chelsea Wood—Stanford's Hopkins Marine Station—Biology**

Chelsea is studying the impacts of fishing on tropical marine ecosystems. As she noted in her application, "Fishing is among the most economically important human uses of the world's oceans, but it may come with costs [we haven't] accounted for." Her research takes advantage of the presence of a pristine, unexploited fish community on Palmyra Atoll, where she is monitoring experimental treatments that simulate "pristine" and "fished-out" conditions on the atoll. She hopes that her work will permit the development of baselines for ecosystem function and service provision throughout the U.S. Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, the Republic of Kiribati, and other Pacific island groups.

"Exceptional" was often used in her letters of recommendation: "exceptionally talented," "exceptionally motivated," "simply exceptional." Her "logical and technical rigor" was also commended.

*Joanne Sandstrom, Second Vice President, Scholarship*

## Upcoming Events

Here is a reminder about our enrollment, refund, and cancellation policies. Most events can accommodate you and any friends or family you'd like to bring along. Occasionally an event will have a limited enrollment, in which case we may not be able to accommodate more than one member and one guest per enrollment. As for refunds, if you call in advance they may be available unless ΦBKNCA will lose scholarship money — that is, unless we are financially committed, based on your enrollment, to an organization at which the event will be held. If we can find someone to fill your space, we may be able to refund your payment but that is not always possible. Members who do not come to an event they've signed up for will not receive a refund. The ΦBKNCA Board is most grateful to those who prefer to donate the program fee to the scholarship program in lieu of a refund.

Check our website at [www.pbknca.org/index.htm#upcoming](http://www.pbknca.org/index.htm#upcoming) for the latest news and any changes or scan the QR code on the address page to open the website in your smartphone.

### Private Docent-Led Tour: Marine Mammal (Rescue) Center – Friday, September 23, 2011



The mission to expand knowledge of marine mammals—of their health and that of their ocean environment—and to inspire their global conservation, is the overriding objective for the hard-working people at the Marine Mammal Center. Their core work is the rescue and rehabilitation of sick and injured marine mammals, supported by state-of-the-art animal care and research facilities, a corps of dedicated volunteers, and an engaged community.

We will have a docent-led tour of the facility, be escorted through this unique outdoor animal rehabilitation hospital, have our questions answered, and learn the stories of the current patients. We will view seal and sea lion patients and learn how the hospital functions, look into key areas such as the fish kitchen, chart room, laboratory, and post-mortem area (optional). Depending on the number and type of patients they have onsite, we may be able to watch animal-care crews in action preparing and offering food, cleaning pens, and helping with medical procedures, as well as observe technicians doing laboratory analyses. Hands-on experiences with rescue equipment and touching pelts enhance the tour and highlight the characteristics, behavior, and adaptations of the seal and sea lion patients.

**Date:** Friday, September 23, 2011

**Time:** 11:15am

**Minimum:** 15 - **Maximum:** 20

**Deadline:** August 24, 2011

**Fee:** \$12.00

**Directions:**

[www.marinemammalcenter.org/visiting-us/directions.html](http://www.marinemammalcenter.org/visiting-us/directions.html)

From north of the Golden Gate Bridge: Take the last Sausalito exit off Highway 101 South, just before the Golden Gate Bridge. At the exit stop sign, turn right and follow the road under Highway 101 to a second stop sign. Go straight and look immediately for a left turn lane and a sign for "Marin Headlands." Go left and through the tunnel. You will now be on Bunker Road. Follow directions below.

From south of the Golden Gate Bridge: Just after you cross the Golden Gate Bridge, take the second exit off Highway 101 at Alexander Avenue (after the Vista Point). Stay to your right. Do not turn left at the exit off-ramp and do not go underneath the freeway. Proceed about 500 feet until you see a left turn lane and a sign for "Marin Headlands". (Do not go down the hill into Sausalito). Turn left and go through the tunnel. You will now be on Bunker Road. Follow directions below.

Directions once on Bunker Road:

- Follow Bunker Road for approximately 3 miles.
- Ignore various forks to the left; always bear to the right to make sure you stay on Bunker Road. Rodeo Lagoon is your next landmark.
- About halfway alongside the lagoon, the road forks. Turn right at that fork, continuing uphill. Turn right at your next opportunity; this will lead you up the hill and through our entrance gate.



**Physicians: Saints or Scoundrels and Millionaires Row at Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland—Tuesday, November 15, 2011**



Melancholy angel, Crocker tomb

**Description:** Close enough to Hallowe'en for our visit to the Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland's answer to Pere Lachaise in Paris. We will enjoy a guided introduction to the final resting places of Charles Crocker, Julia Morgan, Thomas Hill and more. The cemetery was designed by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and its spectacular vistas of the Bay Area are in themselves worth the visit. Our visit will involve using cars to take us to the various points of interest to save us time and energy and to allow us to focus on the stories shared by our docent.

**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2011

**Time:** 10:00am to 12:30pm (approximately)

**Minimum:** 8 - **Maximum:** 18

**Deadline:** November 5, 2011

**Fee:** \$10.00

**Directions:** Mountain View Cemetery is located at 5000 Piedmont Avenue in Oakland. We will meet at the office which is opposite the fountain after entering the cemetery and bearing to the right. See "Mountain View Cemetery Oakland" in Google Maps for detailed map and directions.

**Note:** Bring water. Walking shoes advised.

Check our website at [www.pbknca.org/index.htm#upcoming](http://www.pbknca.org/index.htm#upcoming) for the latest news and any changes or scan the QR code on the address page to open the website in your smartphone.

**Holiday Traditions at Filoli**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011



Our visit to Filoli two years ago for their "Holiday Traditions" was such a success that we are doing it again! Come and enjoy the excitement of Filoli's spectacular nine-day Holiday Traditions event. Shop the Holiday Boutique, with its wide range of unique holiday gifts to be found throughout the house, while performers sing and play seasonal melodies. Filoli will be decorated for the holidays from top to bottom, both inside and out. Weather permitting, we will be able to explore the gardens as well as doing some Holiday shopping. We will stay at Filoli for lunch as well (reservations will be made for all of us) and if we are as lucky as we were at our last visit, we will leave feeling totally spoiled!

Tickets are very much in demand for this event; our group size is limited to no more than 12  $\Phi$ BKNCA members.

Holiday Traditions at Filoli are day-long events, starting at 10am and continuing into the evening. While we will be visiting Filoli in the daytime, no matter when one attends the Holiday Traditions event, that visit will be special. Experience the magical warmth of Holiday Traditions.

**Website:** [www.filoli.org](http://www.filoli.org)

**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011

**Time:** 10am to 1pm (approximately)

**Minimum:** 8 - **Maximum:** 12

**Deadline:** September 22, 2011

**Fee:** to be determined

**Note:** The date of the event will be confirmed in late September when tickets become available. This, plus the visit time and fee will be set at that time.

Please check [www.pbknca.org](http://www.pbknca.org) for information updates but don't delay getting your coupons in as the group size is limited. If you want to come but not be included in our lunch reservation, please be sure to include that information when you send in your coupon.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 280, exiting at Edgewood Rd., turn right on Edgewood until it ends at Canada Rd., turn right again, go 1.25 mi., turn left into Filoli and proceed toward guardhouse. **From the South**, follow the directions above but at the Edgewood Rd. exit you will need to turn left.

## Coupons, Board, Financial, and Spain

**P**lease print legibly and print name of tour on check as well. **No acknowledgements will be sent.** If you subsequently can't make an event, others may be waiting. Kindly notify Judy Hardardt: home (530) 297-7150; cell, day of event, (707) 696-9498.

Marine Mammal Center  
 Friday, September 23, 11:15pm  
 Deadline August 24, 2011  
 # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter name of tour on check)  
 Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mail coupon and payment to:  
 Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

Mountain View Cemetery  
 Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 10:00am  
 Deadline November 5, 2011  
 # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter name of tour on check)  
 Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mail coupon and payment to:  
 Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

Filoli Holiday Traditions  
 Tuesday, November 29, 2011, 10:00am  
 Deadline September 22, 2011  
 # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Fee to be determined. Please check web, but send in your coupon now.  
 Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mail coupon and payment to:  
 Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

### ΦBKNCA Board July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

Mary Turner Gilliland, President  
 Menlo Park, (650) 321-9966, Mltg@aol.com  
 Judy Hardardt, First Vice President – Programs  
 Davis, cell (707) 696-9498, hardardtj@comcast.net  
 Joanne Sandstrom, Second Vice President – Scholarships  
 Oakland, (510) 339-1352, joannes@berkeley.edu  
 Alex Harding, Third Vice President – Membership  
 Kentfield, (415) 747-8977, alex.harding@comcast.net  
 Letitia Sanders, Corresponding Secretary  
 Novato, (415) 897-4822, shamanletitia@hotmail.com  
 Sam Kart, Recording Secretary  
 Palo Alto, (650) 799-0196, samuelkart@gmail.com  
 Robin Fuller, Treasurer  
 San Leandro, (510) 919-0806, rfuller81@msn.com  
 Narcinda Lerner, Teaching Excellence Chair  
 Woodside, (650) 851-0137, nrlernern@netscape.net  
 Marci Coglianese, Chapter Liaison Chair  
 Rio Vista, (707) 374-2857, marci.coglianese@comcast.net  
 Ray Hendess, Newsletter Chair & Webmaster  
 Petaluma, (707) 763-2072, Ray@pbknca.org  
 Calvin Wood, Asilomar Chair  
 Livermore, (925) 447-8666, calandix@comcast.net

## Financial Report

Members may download a copy of the FY 10-11 Financial Report from [www.pbknca.org/financials/](http://www.pbknca.org/financials/), or request it by mailing a #10 pre-addressed and stamped (44¢) envelope to the Treasurer, Robin Fuller, 14217 Seagate Drive, San Leandro, CA 94577-6411.

**Walk on the Camino to Santiago de Compostela (Spain) --October 2012:** Any ΦBKNCA members and their friends who might be interested in participating in this fund-raising event are asked to contact Judy Hardardt as soon as possible. An email or snail mail will do: [hardardtj@comcast.net](mailto:hardardtj@comcast.net) or Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis, CA 95617.

Do we have your email address? If not, please send it to [membership@pbknca.org](mailto:membership@pbknca.org)



**PHI BETA KAPPA  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION**

Alex Harding  
VP Membership, PBKNCA  
4 Fern Road  
Kentfield CA 94904-2810

**Return Service Requested**

**Go green – get the newsletter by email**

Scan this QR code with your smartphone  
for the latest event information



*Note – Please do not return this form if you have already paid a deposit.*

**ΦBK at Asilomar February 17-20, 2012**

Deadline for Reservations: December 1, 2011

Registration fee: # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$100/person= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to PBKNCA and mail with coupon to:

Calvin Wood, 420 Lincoln Ave, Livermore, CA 94550-3440

Questions? Call 925-447-8666

Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Car Pool**

I am willing to offer a ride to \_\_\_\_\_ person(s).

I would like to obtain a ride for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s).

