



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

Φιλοσοφία Βίου Κυβερνήτης

SALUS PATRIAE

Founded December 5, 1776

March 2013

From the President

I am still basking in the lovely glow of this year’s Asilomar conference, held over Presidents’ Day weekend at one of my favorite locations in Monterey County. Deirdre Frontczak did a superb job of coordinating the event, with presentations to interest every attendee. Michael Wolfe wowed us on Friday evening with ancient Greek epitaphs, some sad, some poetic, and some really amusing. On Saturday, Sharon Roe led us through archeological sites in Afghanistan, where amazing pieces dating back millennia have been unearthed; Arthur Bienenstock revealed the plight of public universities with respect to federal research funding; and Joel Rudinow traced the history of Soul Music. On Sunday, Keith Porter (son of ΦBKNCA member Jerry Porter) showed that U.S. building codes may not keep our homes from collapsing during “the big one.” He was followed by Darren Zook, two-time Teaching Excellence Award winner, who convinced us that our computers probably aren’t safe from hacking, either. Our final “lecturer,” Vanessa Raditz, gave us a tour of the Petaluma Health Center and how it will work under the Affordable Care Act. We ended on Monday morning with Ranger Roxann Jacobus showing us some of the later additions to the Asilomar campus and what the current concessioner has planned. We’ve heard Ranger Roxann a number of times, but this was an entirely new and different presentation, giving naturalist wisdom and juicy tidbits about former well-known visitors.

As frequently happens at this time of year, members of our Board leave to pursue other activities, and new members step up to keep us going forward. We

thank our departing Board member, Alex Harding, Third Vice-President–Membership. Alex has served faithfully for many years and has been instrumental (along with Communications Officer Ray Hendess and Treasurer Robin Fuller) in setting up our PayPal account, which allows members to pay dues *via* credit card or their own PayPal account. I am delighted to introduce our next Third Vice-President, Pat Kenber of Danville, who graciously allowed her arm to be twisted during the Asilomar conference. Board members for the 2013-14 year will be elected and installed at the Annual Meeting, to be held Sunday 5 May 2013 at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club. Check www.pbknca.org or page [five](#) of this newsletter for more information.

I look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming activities, and I thank you for your continued support of Phi Beta Kappa – Northern California Association.

Mary T. Gilliland

Mary Turner Gilliland, President

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ΦBKNCA 27th Annual Asilomar Conference – A great success!

Presidents' Day Weekend, February 15-18, 2013.

\$85 of the \$100 deposit you paid in 2012 for this Asilomar conference is tax deductible on your 2012 taxes.



The spectacular weather on President's Day weekend was just one highlight of another outstanding Asilomar conference! Feedback indicates that attendees enjoyed a wonderful and inspiring break, and that our speakers once again delivered food for thought across a broad spectrum of fields.



Michael Wolfe, poet, classics scholar, filmmaker, and Association member, opened the weekend with an inspiring and heartwarming introduction to ancient Greek epitaphs. Despite some of our misgivings (a kickoff with funerary verse?) Michael showed us a heartwarming glimpse of the real individuals whose daily lives, two thousand years ago, were very much like our own. The talk touched us with the humanity and the extraordinary range of emotion expressed in just a few lines of text – and beautifully voiced by Michael, as well. And who knew that T.S. Eliot found one ancient epitaph writer had created the greatest poetry ever written? Kudos to our speaker for an outstanding presentation.



Our cultural travels continued Saturday morning when Sharon Roe, docent at the Asian Art Museum and Ph.D. candidate at the California Institute for Integral Studies, offered an eye-opening tour of the art treasures of Afghanistan – a part of the world most of us had not associated with great cultural riches. Sharon's gorgeous slides were accompanied by regional maps and historical commentary, helping

us to situate the works we were seeing within the evolving timelines of Indian, Chinese, and emerging Islamic cultures. Now, when we learn of the political and religious challenges along the ancient Silk Road, resolving those conflicts will take on new urgency and meaning.



On Saturday afternoon, the focus shifted to more sobering matters as Dr. Arthur Bienenstock of Stanford, Special Assistant to the President for Federal Research Policy, spoke of the impact of the looming fiscal cliff on scientific research and education. With a trove of data both present and past, Dr. Bienenstock helped us understand not only the economics of research but the very real impact of political trends on the fortunes of education — especially public institutions such as the University of California system, through the years. Linking this economic background to the future of present day students, Dr. Bienenstock eloquently defended the importance of federal funding for securing our competitive place in a changing global landscape.



On Saturday night, Dr. Joel Rudinow, professor emeritus of philosophy from Santa Rosa Junior College, gave us a new perspective on the evolution of the Blues, long decried (or perhaps embraced) as “the Devil’s Music.” Demonstrating the origins of the music in African-American spirituals and gospel traditions – and its evolution through England and Europe toward the rock and blues of today – Dr. Rudinow offered a new insight into the deep

spirituality, anguish and societal wounds that have fed into our American musical tradition. Punctuating his talk with frequent musical quotes got the audience swaying, clapping, laughing and eager for more.



Sunday morning we returned to more serious business when Dr. Keith Porter, geologist and seismic engineer from the University of Colorado, showed us why contemporary building codes are designed to protect lives in a major earthquake – but not necessarily to preserve our cities. With abundant seismic and architectural data, which he somehow made accessible even to the least scientifically inclined, Dr. Porter explained the likely impacts of “the big one” along northern or southern California coastlines in terms of the overall security and functionality of the community as a whole. In doing so, he helped us ask critical questions about the engineering standards we must expect not only for our homes but also for the civic structures on which we all rely.



Sunday afternoon continued our focus on public policy concerns as Dr. Darren Zook, professor of political science at UC Berkeley, Fulbright scholar, and two-time Phi Kappa Phi Teaching Excellence awardee, expanded our grasp of the meaning, prevalence and risks of cyberterrorism. Explaining the technology behind common cybernetworks, Dr. Zook made clear the vulnerabilities we experience – not just personally but on a corporate, societal and international level. As a result, we are not only more aware of the small risks we take each day – and actions that might minimize those risks – but also of the much larger security concerns to our economic and political well being.



On Sunday evening we heard from Vanessa Raditz, recent Phi Kappa Phi graduate who will soon embark on graduate studies in public health policy at UC Berkeley. A current AmeriCorps intern with the Petaluma Community Clinic, Ms Raditz walked us through the many and complex challenges faced by such facilities in implementing the Affordable Care Act, as well as

new opportunities the legislation presents for uninsured and underinsured patients. Of particular interest were the proactive strategies being pursued by the Clinic to maximize wellness and preventive practice, especially improved nutrition and exercise for clients who may not have had real access to such care.



The conference concluded on Monday morning with a lively and informative walking tour with Ranger Roxanne, resident sage of Asilomar. Those who had taken previous tours noted that this was an entirely new and different presentation, sprinkling naturalist wisdom (who knew ceanothus made instant soap?) with juicy tidbits about former well-known visitors to the site. Sorry, we’re not revealing the secrets – you’ll have to come on the next tour to hear the shenanigans that once went on in the park!

Special thanks for our success go to Barry Haskell, whose organizational skills were invaluable in tracking registrations and managing the site; to Mike Sitzer, whose generosity and technical skills allowed us to take advantage of the donated A/V equipment; to Vanessa Raditz, for her willingness to turn on a dime and take an earlier time slot – and then step back again when the scheduled speaker appeared; to Rory Keller and Jud Goodrich for taking pictures during the event; and finally to Santa Rosa Junior College Media Services Dept., for supplying the full complement of A/V equipment required to deliver flawless presentations.

Reservations are now being accepted for the next Asilomar event on Presidents’ Day Weekend, February 14 – 17, 2014. Registration is \$100 per person, paid directly to Phi Kappa Phi (mostly tax-deductible, it covers our conference expenses and contributes to our scholarship fund). Housing and meals for the three nights and four days are handled separately by Asilomar (\$460 per person, double occupancy in 2013). We will send you that information when you register. Please mail your [registration form](#) from page eight, along with a check for \$100/person, to Barry Haskell, 1190 Fairbrook Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040. For more details, contact Deirdre Frontczak, 707-546-4238, dfontczak@santarosa.edu or watch our website www.pbknca.org.

Deirdre Frontczak, Asilomar Chair

Online Newsletter Saves the Association \$\$\$

We would like to thank you for receiving the online newsletter. In 2012 we spent nearly \$3,000 mailing hardcopy newsletters – that is three-fifths of a scholarship! You and seven hundred thirty-three of your fellow members have now signed up for the online newsletter, and are helping to save scholarship money!

Ray Hendess, Communications Officer

We Have a LinkedIn Group Just for Our Members

As a paid-member of the Northern California Association, you are eligible to join our private LinkedIn group. Our group, "PBK, Northern California", is restricted to members of the Northern California Association, so you will know with whom you correspond. Go to www.pbknca.org/linkedin to join. I have to verify each member manually, so please email me at liaison@pbknca.org if you requested to join the group and feel that I've taken too long to process the request. Also, please note that the Thank You letter you received in January contained an incorrect web address for our LinkedIn group. Our Communications Officer, Ray Hendess, has asked me to express his apologies for the error.

Melissa Getz, Chapter Liaison Chair

Bylaws Approved by the National Society

Before our new bylaws could become effective, they needed to be approved by the national Society. We have now received that approval. Bylaws are located at: www.pbknca.org/bylaws/BylawsRevised03-10-2012.pdf

Ray Hendess, Communications Officer

New Board-Member-Nominee Bios

CHAPTER LIAISON: **Melissa Getz** - B.S. Biology, minor: Chemistry (*magna cum laude*), Virginia Tech., 1991. Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Kappa Phi, 1990; Mortar Board, 1990; Golden Key National Honor Society, 1989; Gamma Beta Phi, 1988; M.S., Plant Pathology, UC Davis, 1994; Teaching Credential, California State University, Sacramento, 1995; Student, Boise State University, Masters in Educational Technology, 2011; Kappa Delta Pi 2012. Certificate in Online Teaching 2012. Owner, Online School Surveys, 2005-2011. National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT), Adolescent and Young Adult, Science, 2010; Teacher, Tennyson High School, Hayward, CA, 1996-2004; Gateway High School, San Francisco, CA, 2007-2010. Board member, Bridgewater Homeowners Association, 1999 – 2008 (President 2006-2008). BTSA Coach, Oakland Unified School District, 2006-2007. Science Teaching Methods Instructor, UC Berkeley, 2004-2005. (Returning board member, but bio was not published last year.)

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT - MEMBERSHIP: **Patricia Kenber** - B.Sc. (Honors) Mathematics, University of Exeter, UK, 1966; B.A. English (*summa cum laude*) San Francisco State University, Phi Beta Kappa, 2000; M.A. English San Francisco State, 2003. Systems engineer IBM UK until moving to USA in 1972. American Association of University Women (1979-1992): Branch leadership roles in Georgia and California, and California AAUW Communications Chair, (1991-92). Board member of Role Players Ensemble Theatre, Danville (2004-2009), serving in various roles – publicist, database manager and President. Currently employed as a tax preparer for a CPA firm. Enthusiastic, reader, traveler and theatergoer.

Bios of returning board members are located at www.pbknca.org/bios/2012.html

**Nominating Committee members, we need one more.
Can you volunteer? Contact Jean James, jeanejames@comcast.net**

Jean James, Chair; Brenda Shank, board representative; more TBA

Chapter Liaison Call for Volunteers at Stanford and University of the Pacific

Our Association sends one or more representatives to initiation ceremonies at all eight of our affiliated college chapters: Mills College, San Francisco State University, Santa Clara University, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz and the University of the Pacific. We would like to thank in advance the following volunteers for taking the time to welcome the new initiates into Phi Beta Kappa, congratulate them on their accomplishments, and letting them know about the scholarships our Association offers as well as the Teaching Excellence Awards: Mary Frances Crabtree will be speaking at SF State, Mary Hanel at Santa Clara University, Joanne Sandstrom at UC Berkeley, Judy Hardardt at UC Davis, and Pamela Roby at UC Santa Cruz. The service they do on behalf of the Association is invaluable.

Our participation in the initiations increases the graduates' awareness that ΦBK alumni associations are found nationwide and offer them a great opportunity for networking after college. At the ceremonies, we seek nominations for our Teaching Excellence awards, as well as encourage applications for our graduate scholarships, and offer the initiates a free one-year membership in our Association. Our NCA representatives often become more involved on the campuses and sometimes are invited to events throughout the year. **We still need representatives to go to Stanford and the University of the Pacific. Please contact me if you are interested in participating in either of those initiation ceremonies this spring.**

Melissa Getz, Chapter Liaison Chair, melissa@melgetz.com

Upcoming Events

Be sure to read this important information 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 for which they have registered 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. You will not receive written confirmation of your reservation for the events. Directions are available from the event websites, Google.com, your GPS, or on the day of the event, by calling Judy at (707) 696-9498.

ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner – Sunday, May 5, 2013



It is time for you to put this coming year's ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on your calendars!

Our meeting in May will be held from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm at The Faculty Club on the campus of UC Berkeley. As you are aware, the annual meeting is the occasion when we celebrate ΦBKNCA's primary mission and award scholarships and teaching excellence awards to deserving scholars and professors, with the objectives of enhancing the scholars' educational and research activities and honoring the professors for their teaching of our next generation.

For those of you who have not been able to come to the Annual Dinner before, we encourage you to do so. In meeting some of these outstanding honorees and learning about their academic interests (as well as renewing old friendships and perhaps getting more involved in our vibrant organization, ΦBKNCA), you will be able to more fully appreciate the value of the programs we offer throughout the year, the funds generated through the Asilomar conference, the many monthly events and the direct contributions you make!

Enjoy the food, wine and, best of all, the fellowship of kindred spirits. Social hour begins at 4:00 pm with a cash bar. Dinner, which includes white or red house wine, will be served at 5:00 pm. Coffee and tea will be served with dessert.

Date: Sunday, May 5, 2013
Deadline: Wednesday, April 11, 2013
Time: 4-8 pm
Price per Person (incls. tax, gratuities, parking): \$65.00

Tour of the Stanford University Campus – Saturday, June 8, 2013



Mission accomplished! We will meet at the oval east of the quad (Palm Drive) where we can find parking and begin our tour of the Stanford University campus, focusing on the

historic architecture from the early days to the present. Our tour will be led by Gary Holloway, tour guide extraordinaire, and will include historic buildings and their stories, the chapel, the rose garden and will end at the Hoover Institution, hopefully with a great overview from the top of the tower.

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2013
Time: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Minimum: 20, Maximum: 30
Deadline: May 25, 2013
Fee: \$15.00

Directions from Highway 101 North & South

Exit onto Embarcadero Road and travel west, following the signs directing you to Stanford University. About three miles after you exit the freeway, Embarcadero Road becomes Galvez Street as you cross El Camino Real. Stay in the right lane and bear right onto Arboretum and then left onto Palm Drive. The oval is at the end of Palm Drive.

From Highway 280 North & South

Exit onto Sand Hill Road and follow the signs for Stanford University. Heading east, drive approximately 3 miles to the Stanford Shopping Center. Turn right onto Arboretum Road (Nordstrom is on your right). Stay on Arboretum and turn right onto Palm Drive. The oval is at the end of Palm Drive.

All Aboard for the Western Railway Museum! Sunday, July 7, 2013



We will be experiencing California as it was 100 years ago, taking a 10-mile electrically powered train trip through the peaceful, picturesque Montezuma Hills over the original historic main line

of the Sacramento Northern Railway. As a living history museum, the Western Railway Museum gives visitors the opportunity to ride authentic historic streetcars and interurban electric trains from all over California and the

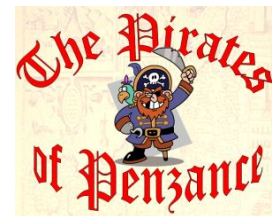
western United States. After our train ride, we will tour Car House 3 to see the train cars and trolley cars that have been restored, are in the process of restoration or waiting patiently for the volunteer hands that will skillfully bring them back to life.

Date: Sunday, July 7, 2013
Time: 11:45 am (plan to arrive no later than this time as we board the train at 12:15 pm)
Minimum: 16, Maximum: 30
Deadline: June 15, 2013
Fee: \$13.00

Directions: The museum is located at 5848 State Highway 12 in Suisun City, approximately 12 miles east of I-80. Members driving from I-80 east from the Sacramento area can access via Hwy 113 south. Members driving from west of the junction of I-80 and Hwy 12 should follow the exit for Hwy 12 east.

Pirates of Penzance at Santa Rosa Junior College Summer Rep – Sunday, August 4, 2013

Gilbert & Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance* has been enjoyed by audiences worldwide ever since 1879.



Pirates of Penzance was the fifth of the collaborations by G&S and includes the much-parodied "[Major-General](#)" song. We will be attending the final matinee performance of the SRJC Summer Rep, and for those interested, we will stay

afterward for an early dinner at one of the many superb Santa Rosa area restaurants.

Date: Sunday, August 4, 2013
Time: 2:00 pm
Minimum: 15, Maximum: 25
Deadline: July 15, 2013
Fee: Group rate is \$15/person; if fewer than 15, cost is \$25 adults, \$15 seniors. You will be called or emailed if the group size requires the higher charge for "adults" (no cost change for seniors).

Directions: From the Bay Area, take US 101 North to exit 490 for College Ave., turning right onto College Ave. Turn left at the Mendocino Ave traffic light, then left at the Bear Cub Way/Pacific Ave traffic light. The parking garage is on the right. Purchase a parking ticket from the yellow machine for \$4 and leave it on your dash. The theater is at 1501 Mendocino Ave.

Two campus maps are at this [link](#).

Coupons

Please 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.

Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner
Sunday, May 5, 2013, 4 – 8 pm
Deadline April 11, 2013
Attending _____ x \$65.00 per person = \$ _____
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter "Annual Meeting" on check)
Dinner selection:
Chicken _____
Seafood _____
Vegetarian _____
Member(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Guest name(s) _____
Mail coupon and payment to:
Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

Tour of the Stanford Campus
Saturday, June 8, 2013, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Deadline May 25, 2013
Attending _____ x \$15.00 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

Western Railway Museum
Sunday, July 7, 2013, 11:45 am
Deadline June 15, 2013
Attending _____ x \$13.00 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

Pirates of Penzance
Sunday, August 4, 2013, 2:00 pm
Deadline July 15, 2013
Attending _____ Cost \$15, but [see above](#)
Interested in dinner after the show? _____
(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

ΦBKNCA Board July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013

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
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Ray Hendess, Communications Officer
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Deirdre Frontczak, Asilomar Chair
Santa Rosa, (707) 546-4238, dfrontczak@santarosa.edu

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

ΦBK at Asilomar February 14-17, 2014

Deadline for Reservations: December 15, 2013

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

Please make checks payable to PBKNCA

Mail to: Barry Haskell, 1190 Fairbrook Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040

Questions? Call Deirdre Frontczak at 707 546-4238

Member Name(s): _____

Where initiated to PBK (For your nametag) _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone #(s): _____

Email (essential!) _____