

Mission Statement

The UCSC Women's Club is open to all women of the campus and town communities. Its purpose is to be of service to the university, to foster friendships between town and gown, and to encourage understanding and support for the mission and functions of the university. A special goal of the club is to develop scholarships for re-entry students.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

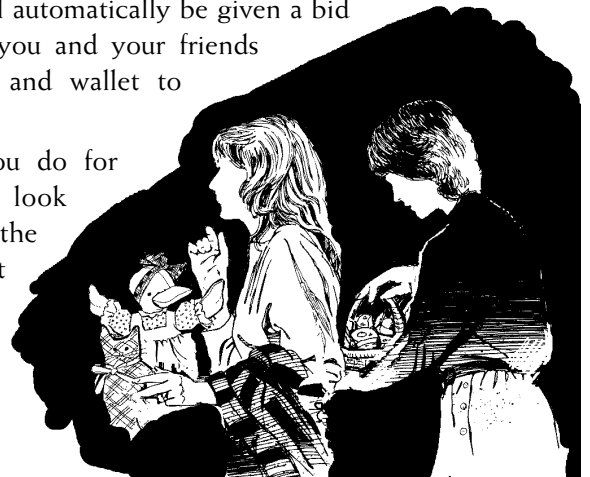
| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Interest Groups | 2 |
| Scholarship News..... | 3 |
| Board Members | 4 |

Remember the Silent Auction!

At February's meeting, those who attended were honored to hear from some of the women who have benefited from Women's Club scholarships, including our very first recipient. Striking about the presentation was how one small scholarship can touch so many lives and how each recipient has given so much back. These women are truly inspirational, and galvanized us to make the Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction even better than ever. How can you help us do that?

- Come to the luncheon! Bring a friend or sponsor a student. You are guaranteed to have a great time with some wonderful women.
- Donate to the auction! We have a multi-talented group of women and we'd like you to share your skills. Offer to teach someone how to cook something exotic. Arrange a gift basket we can auction for scholarship funds. If you're a gardener, donate a nice specimen in a pretty pot or offer your services to someone who might want to learn more about gardening. Incorporate your interest group, such as the hiking group member who is going to lead a behind-the-scenes tour of Ano Nuevo State Park. Make a flower arrangement or a quilt to auction. If you are too busy to create something, request or purchase a gift certificate from one of our great local stores or restaurants. Anything you purchase or donate will be tax deductible. Feel free to contact Sarah Schuster or Anne Easley to discuss your ideas or to make arrangements to donate.
- Bid at the auction! We anticipate a great display of items and they will be available for bidding before the luncheon. When you arrive at Peachwood's, you will automatically be given a bid number, so make sure you and your friends bring your checkbook and wallet to help our students.

Thank you for all that you do for the Women's Club. We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction—look for your invitation inside!



INTEREST GROUP UPDATES

Lunch Bunch Munches

Bangkok West

Choices, choices, choices faced us as we dined at Bangkok West, the Thai restaurant you can see from Highway One as you head north. We all decided to go for the luncheon buffet which presented us with many dishes from which to choose including a coconut soup, jasmine and brown rice, fish, chicken, noodles, and vegetable tempura. Our conversations ranged from travels we have taken and travels we want to take, a good place to find inexpensive glassware (the Goodwill store), the new knitting group, and what type of milk they use in Thai ice tea. Good food, good conversations, good company.

Let us know if you wish to join us. You can contact May Clark at 438-2577 if you have any questions about the group.

Ristoranti Avanti

2005 started with some surprises for the Lunch Bunch. First, we found that the restaurant we had selected does not open for lunch in the winter. Second, the person in charge of January broke her leg and could not attend the luncheon. Since all things come in threes we were waiting for the next thing to befall us. The first problem was quickly fixed by changing the location to Ristoranti Avanti. The second problem will take several weeks to mend. And the third disaster did not happen!

Ristoranti Avanti (open for lunch all year long) is small but surprisingly noisy. They have a very interesting menu including several specials. We all enjoyed the food, one person chose pumpkin soup, others had ravioli, quiche, pasta, and a late-comer quickly devoured a brussel sprout salad. We had several lively discussions covering antiques, movies, the holidays, hiking, and more. The restaurant is very popular and when we left there were several people waiting for tables. It was a good thing we arrived early enough so we didn't have to wait for space or service. Perhaps we will go to the restaurant we had planned originally in the Spring, Summer, or Fall.

The Hikers Explore

Ano Nuevo

It's no wonder that the hiking group's roster is growing, given the special places we wander! The February trip required two installments so everyone could have a space. On February 3rd and on the 10th (our normal second Thursday of the month), groups of 8 or 9 visited Ano Nuevo for an after-hours tour led by geologist Jerry Webber. We learned about the dramatic changes that occurred along our beautiful coast and how humans, from early to contemporary Americans, were a part of creating the shifting landscape. The centerpiece of our explorations was time spent with several thousand elephant seals. We ogled pups squealing for their moms when not nursing, "weaners" (those whose mothers left after fattening them up for about 4 weeks after birth) and bulls wallowing in small puddles, moms flipping sand like fountains of water, and the ever-watchful alpha males charging



A Weaner on the Beach

wannabe beta males who circled the harems of females in hopeful anticipation. We watched the sun set and reluctantly turned home under a new moon and first stars, walking alongside the grazing deer in the field. Thanks go to our group member, Dorothea Ditchfield, for arranging this memorable experience.

Quail Hollow Ranch

Way out in the Zayante area of the San Lorenzo Valley there is a county park, Quail Hollow Ranch. It became a part of the Santa Cruz County park system in 1986. Before that it had belonged to the Lane family, publishers of Sunset magazine. The park offers several trails from a short, level discovery loop to

an uphill Sunset Trail that offers some good views of the surrounding area. You can also explore the downstairs portion of the Lane home with a large kitchen and dining area, and a master bedroom with his and her bathrooms.

The hiking group went there and ventured on several of the trails, and explored the home and exhibits in January. Luckily it was a dry day in between the winter storms. The ground was a little marshy in places but we still enjoyed the outing and each other's company. As a group we did not go on the Sunset Trail but one of our members went back several days later with a friend and did that particular hike.

There is a pond where waterfowl could be seen and we were told there are turtles as well. And if you like horses, there are several living on the ranch. In the springtime the wildflowers pop up. If you are ever out in that part of the Valley you may want to stop by to see it.

What's New with Re-Entry Scholarship Recipients

Our February meeting was a wonderful opportunity to hear from some of our former scholarship recipients, **Marilyn Dreampeace**, **Jinna Wilson**, and **Yvonne Rodriguez**. Re-entry women at the time they received their awards, they have gone on to shine in their respective worlds.

Marilyn Meyer Dreampeace was the first student to receive a Women's Club scholarship in 1976. She used her award of \$200 to attend a family therapy workshop presented by Virginia Satir that summer. For a single mother struggling to complete college while supporting herself and her children, a month-long workshop complementing her psychology and sociology majors seemed out of reach. But Marilyn's tenacity and creativity allowed her

to attend a workshop that enhanced her career goals, and she went on to become a licensed clinical social worker. She has directed several mental health programs in the area, recently serving as the Program Director of Community Connection for the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz.

Jinna Wilson received scholarships to support her writing as well as her studies in literature and women's studies. One of our more seasoned re-entry students, Jinna had raised four sons as a divorced mother when she came to UCSC as a transfer student in 1997. Subsequent to completing her bachelors degrees, Jinna earned her MFA in creative writing at Mills College and is currently teaching beginning writing classes at Evergreen Valley

College and Las Positas College. She continues writing, and recently published an article in *California Wild*.

Like Jinna, Yvonne Rodriguez came to UCSC as a literature major. But her life took a different turn. To complete a general education requirement she took a class titled *Earth Catastrophes*, and she was so excited about the field she changed her major to earth science. A subsequent requirement in the earth science major led to enthusiasm about physics that was so great she added a second major in physics. After graduation she took a two-year hiatus from school to spend more time with her three children and coordinated a physics tutoring program on campus. She is currently completing a PhD in physics at UCSC.

Making Scholarships Happen

Ronaldo Ramirez, Director of Development for Student Affairs was invited to speak to us at our February meeting about our mission of raising funds for re-entry scholarships. Since 1976, the Women's Club has awarded 206 recipients a total of \$101,242, and for each of the last three years has awarded \$7,500. Ronaldo pointed out that the cost of education has risen to a current estimated budget of \$19,926 for a student living off campus in the academic year.

The Women's Club has historically developed funds for the scholarships in various ways: through fund raising efforts such as the Garden Tour and the Phantom Tea; through membership dollars, and through interest earned on our established endowment, the Rita Olsen Pister Endowed Scholarship Fund. As of June 30, 2004, the market value of the endowment was \$71,579, and paying out approximately \$2,362 annually. As the fund continues to grow the payout will increase. One way to increase this

fund is to have a goal of contributing \$5,000 every year to the fund. This could be accomplished through direct solicitation or contributing a portion of the Women's Club membership dollars. Through planned giving, a donor may also designate a gift to the endowment in their estate or will.

There are various ways to arrange a planned gift. A charitable remainder trust (CRT) allows you to transfer assets (valuing a minimum of \$100,000) which make regular payments to you. In a charitable gift annuity (CGA) you make a gift to the university (minimum of \$10,000) which pays an annuity to you. Pooled

income funds (PIF) are similar to mutual funds in which many donors transfer assets into a pooled fund that is invested by the University with the income distributed to you for a minimum \$5,000 contribution.

Naming UC Santa Cruz in your will or living trust for any portion of your estate is the simplest way for you to contribute to the campus with a planned gift, and qualifies your estate for a charitable deduction, reducing your tax burden. If you have questions about or are interested in making a bequest or a planned gift, please contact Ronaldo Ramirez at affirm@ucsc.edu or 831-459-3801.

Thanks and Gratitude

A donation has been made by Diane Simpson to the Rita Olsen Pister Endowed Scholarship for Re-Entry Students in honor of Chancellor Denice D. Denton.

Donations to the Phantom Tea totaled \$2,300 as of March 14, 2005. Thanks to all who contributed to the fund-raising effort. It's not too late to help us reach our goal of \$6,000!

Images of the Himalayas

By Colleen Berlin

Recent travels to remote areas of India, Nepal, and Bhutan, resulted in my photographic exhibit currently hanging in the UCSC Chancellor's House. Of the three countries visited, I am most enthusiastic about Bhutan, a tiny but exquisite kingdom nestled unobtrusively between India and Tibet. Bhutan extends from tropical lowlands in the south to rugged, mountainous terrain bordering Tibet in the north. Towering snow peaks reach a breathtaking altitude of over 22,000 feet. My exhibit, "A Mystifying Fusion of Contrasts," presents a glimpse into the simple existence of hardy, unassuming people living happily with few material possessions in the incredibly majestic, but rather harsh environment of the Great Himalayas. Bhutan is known in local language as Druk Yul which translates to "Land of the Thunder Dragon." The Bhutanese people refer to themselves as Drukpas or Dragon People. The state religion is a branch of the ancient Mahayana Buddhism. In the eleven centuries since it was introduced, Buddhism has shaped the nation's history and played a vital part in the life of its people. Throughout the country religious monuments and symbols bear witness to a deep faith. Prayer wheels turn and prayer flags wave in the breeze sending the message of Buddhism. Impressive fortresses known as Dzongs with multi-tiered roofs and golden spires double as monasteries and administrative centers.

With a mere 800,000 inhabitants, there are remarkable expanses of untouched wilderness. Only one arterial road runs west to east. It does not extend through the entire country, severely limiting general access. Most tourists do not venture beyond the western

portion near the airport in Paro and the capital city of Thimphu.

Fortunately, I was traveling with a professional photographer who had established personal contacts through previous visits. We were driven from west to east crossing the country over narrow, precipitous roads occasionally blocked by landslides. Participation in clearing debris before proceeding offered an interesting perspective. We did some day trekking and frequently stayed in an annex to a farmhouse or monastery at elevations of 15,000 feet. There was snow on the ground. When the wood stove burned down, there was little or no heat.

Monks are held in great respect and play an active part in community life. Dressed in customary rose-colored robes, they are friendly by nature and welcomed us into their monasteries for ceremonies and photo opportunities. Normally, one son from each family enters the monastic order at a young age. Hence, we saw a large number of "little ones" struggling to manage their newly acquired robes.

The spirit of the people is apparent in both the national dress and architecture unique to Bhutan. Men and women wear robes tied around the waist; each region having its own traditional pattern of finely woven fabric. The typical farmhouse is adorned with lively motifs and ornately decorated.

Although slowly emerging from a self imposed isolation, Bhutan remains profoundly traditional. Progress of the present is consciously counterpoised by the rich heritage of the past. My experience may not appeal to tourists looking for the comfort of Western style hotel accommodations; but if there is magic and wonderment left on earth, Bhutan is where you will find it.

2004-05

UCSC Women's Club board roster

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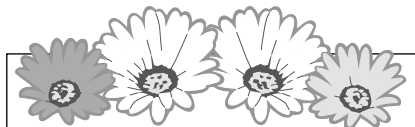
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MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Remember our new system for refreshments. There will be sign-up sheets at our meetings for each of the subsequent months.