

# DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE RETIREES NEWSLETTER

January 21, 2015

## DVCRA Luncheon on Campus Friday, Feb. 27

Join us for our New Year's celebration and the first served luncheon of the year in the new Diablo Room on Friday, Feb. 27, 2015.

Arrive at: 11 a.m. for a guided tour of the new Culinary Arts area or at 12 noon if you want to skip the tour and go straight to lunch.

Park near the BFL and Humanities Buildings in Lot 7. No need to worry about parking permits. Student Ambassadors will guide you to the new HSFC

(Hospitality Services and Food Court) Building and the Diablo Room on the third floor.

Please RSVP so the Cafeteria prepares enough food. Email Irene Menegas at [imenegas@comcast.net](mailto:imenegas@comcast.net). Or, if you do not have email, you may call your reservation into Jeanne Hymer at 925-825-6400.

Bring \$10 per person to the lunch at the DVC Retirees Association welcome table in the Diablo Room.



*DVC Culinary Arts Department*

### *Didn't Get Your DVCRA Directory?*

Bruce Reeves will have copies of the most recent directory for those who are new, or who for some reason haven't gotten one yet. Email him at [brucethebald@astound.net](mailto:brucethebald@astound.net) and -- assuming you've paid up -- he'll have a copy for you at the Feb. 27 lunch on campus. If you haven't paid your dues but are planning to, he'll forgive [he also has a line to quikloans...]. But you'll need to email him to guarantee a copy. If you're not coming, let him know, and he'll be glad to walk a copy to you.

### MAKE A RESERVATION

### THE DVCRA WINTER SERVED LUNCHEON

**Friday, Feb. 27, 2015**

Diablo Valley College

Diablo Room

Culinary Arts tour at 11 am

Lunch at 12 noon

**RSVP as soon as possible:**

Irene Menegas

[imenegas@comcast.net](mailto:imenegas@comcast.net)

or

Jeanne Hymer

Phone: (925) 825-6400



# *Volunteer for the Archives*

In the archives in mid-January I (Bruce Reeves) listened to a recruiting pitch from the mid-60s from KKK. Amazing. And ran across a recording of Martin Luther King speaking at CCC.

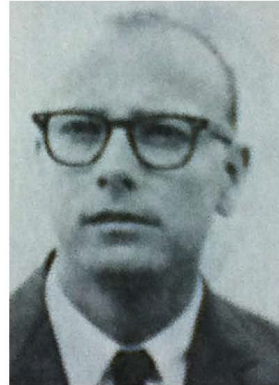
If you are interested in putting in some time in the archives (the mezzanine floor in the library) let Bruce Reeves know ([brucethebald@astound.net](mailto:brucethebald@astound.net)). There is a new library employee who spends a few days a month there, and who has made the place spit-spot.

There's a pile of stuff, however, that's long time overdue (about 10 years) for categorizing, there are old photos whose subjects need identifying, there are tapes to be downloaded to discs or hard drives, etc.

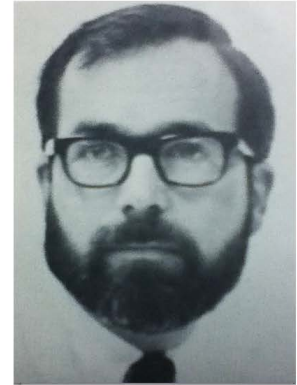
I also came across, in the special access section, a page from a 1611 King James Bible, seven letters from a Union Soldier to his family (1864-5), a handwritten note from Aldous Huxley apologizing for not being able to accept an invitation to speak, a 1753 collection of poems written by a young black woman who worked for an upper class family in Boston; the preface has statements from 18 Boston Brahmins attesting that she was as bright as a whip, and wrote all the poems herself. And much more.

DVC had an alumni association which recognized DVC grads who were outstanding in their fields. Nat Larks was one of them. A tape of a speech/harangue from the first chancellor of the district (who was eventually fired, but not before he had private detectives checking out new faculty, and prompted some faculty members to

*Can you identify these men (1968-9)? Join Bruce Reeves in the Archives Project.*



MAN A



MAN B



MAN C



MAN D

sneak a look in the office files of teachers he suspected might not be true blue Americans.

Glossy pages of photos of the new faculty in 1968-1969: there were 39 of them, some of whom are still around... . Proclamations from Presidents Reagan and Clinton on various accomplishments, every issue of the forum. A file box marked "The Edelstein Years."

Lotsa good stuff—but so much of it needs to be catalogued and boxed and marked and decided upon, by an ever-diminishing group of people who lived through it.

Institutional memory iz us.

## Voting on Proposed DVCRA Bylaws Revision

It's time to vote on the DVCRA bylaws revision emailed to everyone back in November. Just a reminder, here's the rationale for the revision: as the DVCRA evolves, the Board felt it important to revise the bylaws to better reflect current practice. The previous bylaws, last revised in 1994, described an organization with a more political tie to the College and more involvement of Association members. As our members find myriad other interests to pursue beyond DVC, we have fewer volunteers to continue the work described in the older organization. We've therefore scaled back our goals to better reflect what we can do with our current resources. The revised bylaws reflect the continued focus of the Association to maintain contact with all DVC retirees, to protect our retirement benefits, to support the college, and to help students through annual scholarships.

Please see the attached revision, pages 5-6 of this newsletter. The last section on page 6, "Union, District and Benefits Liaison," has been slightly modified for clarity as suggested by one of our members. We will be sending a ballot to all members by U.S. mail sometime next week. We must receive your marked ballot by Feb. 13, 2015. Contact Jeanne Hymer at [sjhymer@yahoo.com](mailto:sjhymer@yahoo.com) or Irene Menegas at [imenegas@dvc.edu](mailto:imenegas@dvc.edu) if you have any questions about the voting process. Results will be announced at the Feb. 27 luncheon.

## Election of Officers

The following folks have stepped forward to serve on the Association Board. Since none of the positions is contested, there is no need for an election. These folks will be declared elected by acclamation at the Feb. 27 luncheon.

As you will see, several positions remain open. Please consider volunteering for one of the vacant positions or joining the work team for one of the areas. The Association's strength depends on the number of people involved.

*Association Coordinator: vacant*

*Treasurer: Jeanne Hymer*

*Secretary: Irene Menegas*

*Luncheon coordinator: Ellen Kruse*

*Scholarship coordinator: Bernice Dandridge*

*Newsletter editor: vacant*

*Member Directory maintainer: Bruce Reeves*

*Unions, District, Benefits liaison: Nancy Zink*

*Immediate past Association Coordinator: Bill Harlan*

## Spring 2015 Luncheon

The Board has tentatively planned our spring luncheon for Friday, Apr. 24, 2015. Mark your calendar! More details will be forthcoming.

# A New Year, a New Start

## Spring 2015 Emeritus Classes Begin Soon

The New Year is a great time to make some changes and learn new things. Emeritus College at Diablo Valley College provides an opportunity to take classes, exercise the brain, and meet interesting people without the stress of homework and tests.

A non-profit, fee-supported program of Diablo Valley College, Emeritus is designed to provide affordable classes and special programs especially for adults to satisfy the desire to learn and grow. Research has shown that stimulating the brain is as important to well-being as exercising the body.

Classes are held at several locations including Rossmoor in Walnut Creek, and Diablo Valley College and JFK University, both in Pleasant Hill. Emeritus also offers some local

tours as well as the opportunity to see outstanding plays and films.

The following are just a few of the many classes available this spring:

**RETIREMENT 101: MAKING YOUR NEST EGG LAST LONGER** - Tues, Feb 10 1-3pm - John F Kennedy

**THE ROOTS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM** - Fri, Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1:30-3:30pm - Diablo Valley College

**THE MUSIC MAN** - Sun, March 29, 2pm matinee - Walnut Creek Leshner Theater

**THE EMPIRE OF ROME** - Tues, May 12, 1-3 pm - Rossmoor

**THE MANHATTAN PROJECT** - Mon, June 8, 10-noon - Rossmoor

To sign up for a class, request a brochure, or for more information, call the Emeritus office, 925-969-4316 between 10 am and 2 pm, Monday through Thursday. You can also view the complete fall schedule online at

### In memoriam

## Jean Kennedy

Jean Kennedy died at the age of 95, soon after the celebration of her birthday with her family. She was in good health until the last few days of her life.

Jean started at DVC as secretary for the Faculty Senate and the English Division. "She was always a charming, upbeat, and a highly literate and thoughtful person," remembered Bill Harlan.

Harlan remembered Jean went with his first group to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 1976. To commemorate that event, she gave a cheese board with a picture of *King Lear*, the play the group saw that year.

She later went with the group to England.





## Final Revision, DVCRA Acting Board, 1-20-15

### BYLAWS OF DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE RETIREES ASSOCIATION

**Purpose:** The goals of the Association are: to maintain contacts with friends and the college; distribute information of value to members; try to prevent the DVC retired community from getting financially or politically harmed; help the college and support the students by providing scholarships; and be an active stakeholder in DVC.

**Membership:** Membership is open to all retired DVC employees and their spouses/significant others, to the spouses/significant others of any deceased employee, and to current and former DVC employees who are within five years of anticipated retirement. Membership is established by payment of dues annually on or before July 1. Membership includes a copy of the directory.

**The Board:** Current members of the Board will solicit nominees for all vacant positions and conduct voting as needed. When required, and in time for reporting to the last Association meeting of the academic year, members will receive a ballot by US mail to vote to approve for two-year terms an Association Coordinator and area leaders in the following areas:

- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Luncheon coordinator
- Scholarship coordinator
- Newsletter editor
- Member Directory maintainer
- Unions, District, benefits liaison
- Any other area the Board needs
- Immediate past Association Coordinator

Contested positions will be filled by the candidates receiving a majority of all votes received. Results of elections for open offices and area leaders will be announced during the last Association meeting each academic year. Uncontested positions will be filled by acclamation at that meeting. Each area group is responsible for recruiting her/his own members and assistants, and can ask via newsletter for further help. When a position is vacated before the end of a term, the Association Coordinator with the concurrence of the Board may appoint a member to serve out the unexpired portion of the term. If sufficient area leaders listed above, including an Association Coordinator, can't be found, the Association will have thereby indicated that DVCRA has lost its viability and will be dissolved within 60 days unless the area spot can be filled by appointment of the Board. Balance of treasury funds after outstanding bills will go to the scholarship fund at DVC.

The Board should meet at least four times a year to plan, evaluate, and facilitate Association activities. The Board is authorized to create Task Forces, fill empty positions, set membership dues, spend funds as needed, and set agendas for the three regular membership meetings.

#### **Description of typical work that needs to be done by each area leader and team members:**

**Association Coordinator:** The primary job is to announce needs, not to fill them him/herself, and to support

and facilitate work of area leaders. The Coordinator designates who runs the Board meetings and the three regular members' meetings, or does so him/herself. The Coordinator, or his/her designee, serves as the face of the organization to the college president, chancellor, and outside community.

**Immediate Past Association Coordinator:** The immediate past coordinator provides continuity with the past direction of the Association and chairs meetings of the Association and Board in the absence of the Association Coordinator.

**Treasurer:** The treasurer collects dues payments from the members, authorizes expenditures against the Association treasury, maintains the Association's financial records, and publishes a yearly Treasurer's Report to the members through the newsletter.

**Secretary:** The secretary sends out annual membership renewal reminders and scholarship solicitations, notifies Board members of meetings throughout the year, records actions of Board meetings, and notifies directory maintainer by email when a member dies.

**Luncheon coordinator:** The luncheon coordinator leads a team to make arrangements for three lunches annually.

**Scholarship coordinator:** The scholarship coordinator leads a team that works with the DVC Foundation and Scholarship offices annually to solicit and review scholarship applications and to award \$1,000 scholarships to as many DVC students as funds allow.

**Newsletter editor:** The newsletter editor produces the newsletter as needed throughout the year: writes articles, solicits and edits submissions, and distributes to members. The editor consults with the Board or its designee regarding controversial submissions.

**Membership Directory Maintainer:** The maintainer of the membership directory works with a team to invite new retirees to join DVCRA, adds new members to the list, updates contact information of members and notes deceased members. The maintainer also notifies members by email when a member dies and activates the phone tree.

**Union, District, Benefits Liaison:** The liaison works with a team to maintain relationships with DVC Local One representatives, United Faculty representatives, and District Human Resource personnel to learn of proposed changes to health benefits as early as possible, to protect the benefits of retirees, and to provide information to these groups of potential impact on retirees. This group also helps members identify District personnel to contact for assistance when necessary.

