

# After-Words

A NEWSLETTER FOR RETIREES OF THE FOOTHILL-DE ANZA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

VOLUME XXIX, ISSUE 4

September 2012

## FODARA's October Pizza Thing Thursday, October 25 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Come and join us for our 6<sup>th</sup> fall gathering — at the same location as last year:

Tony and Alba's Pizza and Pasta  
3137 Stevens Creek Blvd., San Jose  
1-408-246-4605

They're at the northwest corner of Stevens Creek and Winchester, next to BevMo and across from Santana Row.

For only \$12.00 per person, you get 'The Deal,' including Tony's Special Pizza, Diana's Chicken Pizza, or Keep Fit Pizza (vegetarian). Italian garden salad, foccacia bread, soft drinks and ice tea are also included. You're on your own for wine and beer, which can be purchased at the bar.

If you can make it, please fill out the form on page 7 and mail it in, along with your check made out to FODARA. Your \$10 membership dues and a scholarship donation are appreciated but voluntary.

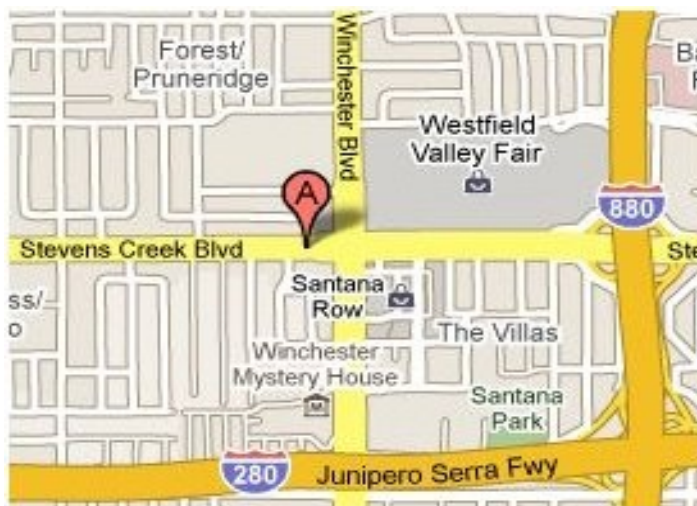
## ANNUAL JUNE PICNIC LOTS OF FUN FOR ALL!

The attendance at the June picnic was down a little bit, but those who came enjoyed the delicious food supplied by Armadillo Willy's. Many exclaimed over the barbequed ribs, chicken and roasted turkey, and there was so much food that we had considerable amount left over for people to take home. Two chocolate cakes served as dessert, but oddly enough we barely had enough.

Good friends enjoyed seeing each other and we could catch up on family situations. The weather was much better than last year and we had plenty of space to spread out and relax under the shade trees in the barbeque area at Cuesta Park in Mountain View.

If you didn't make it to the picnic this year, consider contacting a friend or former colleague and coming next year—it really is lots of fun! Hope to see you there!

Tom Moore



More picnic photos, page 5 + golf pix, page 6

## Board of Directors 2012-2013

Interim President .....Tom Moore (**until someone steps up**)..650-969-3847.....tomandcary@comcast.net  
 Vice President .....**needs someone** (See Tom Strand article, next page)  
 Secretary..... Marlene Larsen.....malarsen@aol.com  
 Treasurer.....Ed Burling.....edburling@gmail.com  
 Member At Large.....**needs someone**  
 Member At Large.... Janice Carr.....650-941-2567.....janicecarr@pacbell.net  
 Member At Large....Randy Dunn.....lrdunn6@comcast.net  
 Member At Large.....Claudette Penner.....408-736-6481.....claudette@penner.org  
 Newsletter.....Bruce Sturm.....530-470-9004.....bruce.sturm@gmail.com

### FODARA CALENDAR

**Please take this opportunity to mark your calendar.**

Oct 25, 2011, Thursday, Fall Pizza Thing, 3:00-5:00 PM; Tony & Alba's on Stevens Creek  
 Nov 1, 2011, Thursday, Board Meeting, 10:30 AM; District Board Room  
 Dec 14, 2011, Friday, Holiday Party, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM; Hinson Campus Center, De Anza College  
 Jan 3, 2012, Thursday, Board Meeting, 10:30 AM; District Board Room  
 Mar 7, 2012, Thursday, Board Meeting, 10:30 AM; District Board Room  
 Spring 2012, FODARA Golf Tournament; Location and Date To Be Announced  
 May 2, 2012, Thursday, Board Meeting, 10:30 AM; District Board Room  
 Jun 20, 2012, Thursday Spring Picnic, 3:30-7:00 PM; Cuesta Park in Mountain View

### FODARA COMMITTEES

District Benefits..... Tom Strand, + **Needs someone**  
 After-Words E-Mail.....Randy Dunn  
 Friendship.....Bobbie Prouty  
 Scholarships..... Val Hardy  
 Social..... **Needs two people**  
 Mailings.....Charlotte Thunen  
 Janice Carr

## IN MEMORIAM

James Feng

## FODARA'S DEMISE— CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL

FODARA's continued existence is in serious jeopardy because our current executive officers are chronically tired of re-upping for the umpteenth time because no new candidates step forward from our ranks to serve. Consider: The overriding issue that binds retirees to the FHDA District is health benefits. FODARA certainly has other important functions like communications via the AfterWords Newsletter and Directory, scheduled social functions and scholarships, but the existence of an organization that can speak for retiree interests earns FODARA a seat (albeit a non-voting one) at the Joint Labor-Management Benefits Council which formulates and recommends benefit changes to the FHDA Board. Without FODARA, we have no formal representation at that Council.

For whatever reasons during my tenure as your representative over the last 18 months, the District and the unions have listen carefully and responded very well to retiree interests presented at the Council (in part, I suspect, because all of them know they'll eventually become FODARA members). And notwithstanding the grumbling I've heard about the Benefits Unit, I personally think they're doing a terrific job for retirees, especially being as understaffed as they are. We have just undergone a sea change in health benefits to contain costs, and we retirees have required a disproportionate amount of effort to track, inform, counsel and help because we're a scattered, hard-of-hearing and sometimes obstreperous group often with complex problems.

So, my plea to you local retirees is: throw your hat in the ring for some office in the next FODARA election. The workload is modest, the meetings are infrequent and casual, and in my opinion, we absolutely need a credible FHDA retirees' organization to earn a seat at the Council.

Tom Strand FODARA Benefits Committee

## WE NEED HELP KEEPING TRACK OF FOLKS

We need your help. It's difficult keeping track of folks who move or become ill, or even pass away and we don't know about them. If you have a friend or colleague who fits into one of these categories please help us by sending a note or email to Edith Cunningham-Limon or Charlotte Thunen. Thanks so much!

Edith Cunningham-Limon, 18960 Sara Park Circle, Saratoga, CA 95070-4175

Email: [elcandy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elcandy@sbcglobal.net)

Charlotte Thunen Email: [reachct@gmail.com](mailto:reachct@gmail.com)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

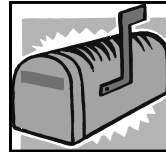
FODARA starts the 2012-2013 academic year with \$6,280 in the coffer, a wee bit better than the \$6,020 we had on hand last year at this time. In the last 12 months 150 of you sent in your \$10 membership donations. You also contributed an additional \$2,300 in scholarship funds. And, our 2012 Scholarship Golf Tournament netted another \$540. So, our total income for last year came to \$4,340. FODARA is in good shape to continue its annual \$4,000 donation that funds four student scholarships in the spring. Thank you for your support.

Keep the ball rolling and make your annual \$10 voluntary membership donation. This can be done when you register for the Pizza Thing (see page 1) or when you register for the annual Holiday Party in December. Or, you can just send me a check, made out to FODARA.

Thank you:

Ed Burling FODARA Treasurer

## THE MAIL BOX



I recently took a trip to Carpentaria, my home town, to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Class of '62, one of the Carpentaria Union High School classes that I taught back then. At the time I was teaching print shop, drafting and photography. It was heartening to find out how many former students had made a career of the printing industry or, "Mr. D, I was a building contractor and I sure made good use of the drafting class I took from you." There were 76 students in the original class and although there were 80 people at the party 40 were in the Class of '62. There were also four of us original teachers present. I graduated from CUHS in 1943. Most of the Class of '62 were born the following year as early Baby Boomers.

—Lescher Dowling

Say "Hi" to all. —Venice Ostwald

Thanks for keeping me informed re: CALPERS Health Insurance. I have just received 2 pieces of paper from CALPERS — one re: an update on my date of birth and two re: my separation from CALPERS-covered employment. I guess we are in for a rocky ride: Hang on everyone.

—Dorothy Coltrin

First, I can't believe I'm sending Tom Moore money [for the June picnic]! More importantly: The three page summary of our health benefits change provided by FODARA was more accurate, clear, and useful than the 40 page package (s) of paper out of the district or that "so-called" meeting they held. God, what a mess. You folks keep up the very good work."

—Bill Cleveland

In February 2012, my wife and I toured South America and saw the Iguassu Falls, a grand canyon of waterfalls. We witnessed the excitement of pre-carnival street parties (continued above...)

continued...

in Brazil and tango dancing in Argentina. Our added excitement was living in a hotel close to an active volcano and crossing a Chilean town with volcanic ashes in the air, for the scenic lake district. In 2011, my third book of an English translation of ancient Chinese poetry came out. Entitled "Claw Prints", it is available through Amazon.com.

—Kwan Chan

Just got back from a two-week road trip and family reunion; we enjoyed beautiful scenery and weather except for one sudden, powerful rain and thunder storm which interrupted a dance at the Flathead Lakeside Lodge in Coeur d'Alene, ID. The reunion had extended family from six states—66 folks in all. We took up most of the spaces on a "Far West" cruise boat and in general thoroughly enjoyed this tradition started by my parents many years ago. Our trip included stops at Bozeman's Museum of the Rockies; Yellowstone Park,; Mountain Home, Idaho and Lake of the Woods. Since returning home we've also visited Crater Lake, taken a bus ride to two ghost towns and enjoyed an anniversary dinner and dance with eleven members of my Medford family. Blessings to all.

—Louella Rowe-Jensen

## ANNUAL FODARA SCHOLARSHIPS

De Anza College:

Syed Ahmad

Deepika Sharad

Foothill College:

Niloofer Shahmohammadhamedani

Du Yile

## MORE PHOTOS FROM THE JUNE PICNIC AT CUESTA PARK



Cindy Castillo & Margaret Obenauer



Tom Strand & Jim Rowe



Ron Bottini and Elly Smith



Bob Hubbs, Claudette Penner, Ruth Savage

### CAMPUS PARKING

Retirees can receive a new District parking permit by showing their gold card and drivers license at the campus police office. Current permits expire October 12. New permits are available now.

### Receive Newsletter via E-Mail

To receive the FODARA Newsletter via e-mail just let Randy know. Please set any spam blocking software you may use to allow Randy access to your email account in order to respond.

Randy Dunn Irdunn6@comcast.net

### The 408 Area Code

After October 20, 2012, all calls made inside the 408 area code, will require dialing 1 plus the 408 area code. A new 669 area code will be layered upon the 408 area code region. So, after October 20, all 408 calls placed without dialing "1408" before the seven digit telephone number, will result in a recording. It will advise the caller to dial one plus the area code and the telephone number to complete a call.

## BENEFITS UPDATE

A new Open Enrollment period is upon us. The September 10-October 5 enrollment is for calendar (and plan) year 2103. Here are some recent benefits highlights.

If you like your current plan and your dependent situation is unchanged, you can do nothing; that rolls over your entire current election to the 2013 plan year.

If you just retired, want to change your current election, have a new dependent situation, or change your Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) account, then you must submit the proper paperwork during this election. Even though the CalPERS mailing materials say to send your paperwork directly to CalPERS, don't do it. Instead, send all your paper work to SECOVA in Newport Beach, CA. They've been hired to check all paperwork for accuracy and completeness, to notify you of any problems and to submit your completed paperwork to CalPERS.

Since many retirees will roll over their current election and the District is working out kinks in reimbursements to EFT accounts, this enrollment should be far easier than the last.

The PERS Select-Medicare plan is now available in all California counties but not out-of-state. Since this makes little sense the District is urging CalPERS to offer this plan to both out-of-state and California Medicare eligible retirees.

Reminder 1: If you (and your spouse, if any) are Medicare eligible and you live in California, choosing between PERS 'Select' and 'Choice' is easy; coverage for both plans is identical, but PERS Select is cheaper, so choose PERS Select.

Reminder 2: The PERS Care, Choice and Select network restrictions do not apply to retirees on Medicare. Their network is all Medicare providers, both in- and out-of-state, with Medicare as the primary insurer and Blue Cross as secondary. But be careful: if you use a non-Medicare provider, you may have to pay the entire tab.

Reminder 3: For retirees, paying your monthly healthcare *Required Contribution* (the subsidized rate agreed to in collective bargaining) is a two-step process. First, a *CalPERS Premium* will be deducted (the rate that most

## MAY GOLF TOURNAMENT



Truman Cross, Jay Patyk, Phil Green

CalPERS members pay state-wide) from your retirement check. Then, near first of the month, the District deposits the difference between the *CalPERS Premium* and the *Required Contribution* into your EFT account (all retirees must have one). Sorry, there's currently no way around this.

A Warning – Kaiser Contributions Going Up: The Joint Labor-Management Benefits Council recommended that the District subsidize PERS Select the most, to make it the most affordable plan, within reach of all District employees, with all other plans being buy-ups. Before the move to CalPERS, the District subsidized Kaiser coverage to make it the most affordable plan, so many employees and retirees joined Kaiser. Recently Kaiser *CalPERS Premiums* have risen sharply. To protect the shrinking benefits stabilization fund and to give employees and retirees time to transition from the previous to present most affordable plan, the Council recommended that the Kaiser *Required Contribution* be heavily subsidized this year but then rise substantially in 2014 and 2015 to reflect real costs, although the final rates have not yet been negotiated.

Tom Strand

# FODARA “THING” RESERVATION

Thursday October 25 from 3:00 – 5:00

Tony and Alba’s Pizza and Pasta

3137 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose, CA

(On Stevens Creek near the Intersection with Winchester)

Retiree: \_\_\_\_\_

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



**Fill out any information in the box below that may have changed– otherwise please leave blank.**

Pizza, Salad, & Soft Drinks will be served; wine and beer are extra.

Mail this reservation and your check to arrive not later than WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17.

Ed Burling

17700 Bruce Ave.

Monte Sereno, CA 95030

Too late to mail? Then just email Ed by October 21 at [edburling@gmail.com](mailto:edburling@gmail.com)

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Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the FODARA “THING”

\$12.00 is enclosed for each person attending .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 for the 2012-2013 FODARA voluntary membership dues.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

An additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for FODARA scholarships..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL.....

.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to “FODARA”

<<<<<<< FOLD, PUT IN YOUR CHECK, ADD A STAMP AND MAIL >>>>>>>>

**PLEASE WRITE US A NOTE TOO!**

We appreciate hearing from you! Email any director (addresses Page 2)

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STAMP

FODARA c/o Ed Burling  
17700 Bruce Ave.  
Monte Sereno, CA 95030