

FROM THE EDITOR

Your thoughts and suggestions regarding the newsletter are important and will influence future issues. Please send your comments to Toby Winer, Assistant Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200.

ANR RETIREE NEWSLETTER

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Office of Development Services

ANR Retiree Newsletter

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

January 2002

A CONVERSATION WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT

Vice President W.R. Gomes reflected on several key questions and responded in a personal interview with Luella Zamzow on the following topics:

LMZ: Please share your thoughts on the impact of terrorist activity on the Division's work, especially regarding food and water safety, emergency preparedness and citizen safety.

VP Gomes: Interestingly, the kinds of questions that have arisen in the Division as a result of the terrorist attacks — questions relating to food safety, security of our research, operations, and water and emergency preparedness — aren't new. We had been doing a good deal of thinking about how we could address those issues even prior to September 11. Putting this in perspective today means a different level of interest and a new approach to these questions. These are issues on which we continue to work very, very closely with the State of California, USDA, the National Academy of Sciences and many other organizations.

LMZ: What are the directions for the Division in 2002?

VP Gomes: Our directions are not terribly different from what they were when I addressed our retirees at the past reunions. Perhaps one change is the speed at which we hope to reach certain goals as a result of terrorist activity. Another is the California economy. We are facing cutbacks in next year's budget and don't know how long the economic downturn will last. The key is to set priorities.

LMZ: What opportunities for continuing service do you see for CE retirees?

VP Gomes: We intend to keep our retirees informed of our goals and to get their input on what they see as the issues and problems of California and America.

Additionally, we would like their help in promoting these goals to their neighbors, our supporters and themselves. It is important to have a cadre of people who know the organization, are informed, and understand where we are trying to go. Our people are one of the greatest strengths we have. I will look forward to being with you in Palm Springs this coming spring.



2002 ANR Statewide Reunion Co-Chairs, George Rendell and Evelyn Wunderlich

COMING EVENTS

2002 ANR Statewide Retiree Reunion, Palm Springs, April 21 - 23, 2002

Reunion Co-Chair George Rendell

The regional retiree events last year in Fresno, San Diego, and Chico were so pleasant, seeing old friends and colleagues, and enjoying the activities. We trust you have penciled the above dates on your calendar and will be there with many of us. Recently, Sandy and I made the trek to Palm Springs to check out some of the venues and, at the same time, we went on one of our hiking adventures. November is a little late for hiking up Mt. San Jacinto but, as it turned out, the weather was perfect. While not everyone would be interested in hiking, the tram ride up to the trail head is a spectacular trip. This unique tram offers a 15-minute ride from the desert floor to an elevation of over 8,000 feet that is just simply breathtaking. The tram slowly revolves to afford each passenger a 360-degree view. Those with acrophobia may be a little nervous and we are not great at heights ourselves, but we found it a comfortable ride. At the top of the ride is a lovely chalet type building with a restaurant and a gift shop. The view was stunning.

We stayed at the hotel that has been designated as the reunion event headquarters - the Holiday Inn. This is a pleasant hotel with a central courtyard pool and spa. The hotel is conveniently located just a block away from the Palm Springs Museum (which was closed when we tried to visit it on Sunday morning but we hear that it is a lovely museum). The sculpture gardens certainly were inviting. The Palm Springs Follies (which we hear is a must for any Palm Springs visit) is only two blocks away. We were delighted to find that everything is within easy walking distance. We strolled the main street in the evening and the crowds were festive and interesting. There are many restaurants along the main street, but we opted for breakfast in the restaurant in the Holiday Inn and we were pleased with the service and food.

In summary - the plans for April 21-23, 2002 look great. Coincidentally, they mesh with many of our favorite things to do: beautiful weather, interesting show, first-class museum, stunning wilderness scenery, and many interesting things within walking distance. We hope you will agree that this will be a delightful way to meet with and spend some time with friends and colleagues. Watch for your invitation. We look forward to seeing you in Palm Springs in April.

Reunion Co-Chair Evelyn Wunderlich

The Planning Committee has done a great job planning a variety of activities. The tentative itinerary includes: a Sunday afternoon matinee — The Palm Springs Follies (*don't miss it!*); Vice President Gomes; Allan Muth, Director, Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center; excursions to the Date Farms, Windmills (power generators) and the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway; Estate Planning, Retirement Benefits and 'Living Life in the Fun Lane.' We hope you will join us!

UCCE Home Economists Reunion, April 23-26, 2002

In Pasadena

Co-chairs **Margaret Moore**, **Phyllis Davis** and **Genevieve Ho** are energetically developing an outstanding program for the Home Economists and their guests. Old favorites such as the Huntington Gallery, the Norton Simon Museum, and the Paseo Colorado (plus other sites) will probably be included in the program. Registration packets will be mailed in January 2002.

THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION FAMILY

(For the full text, visit <http://danr.ucop.edu/devserv/aer>)

Marie (Ferree) and Wade Brant married on February 3, 2001. They now live at the new University Retirement Center in Davis and have enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S. **Vern and Charlotte Burton** keep busy with travel, golf and Kiwanis. **Jack Chambers** and wife, **Joan**, enjoyed visiting the United Arab Emirates while awaiting the birth of a grandchild. Jack now has more time for painting. **Bob and Fran (Head) Davis** now live in Grass Valley and have been busy with anniversaries, weddings, travel, church and 4-H. **Ken Farrell** is serving as interim director of the Center for Cooperatives at UC Davis while they search for a permanent director. He looks forward to another retirement and more time for golf. **Alan and Joan George** continue to enjoy travel and studying California history. **John Inman** has been working as a consultant and writing for *Coastal Grower* and *Implement and Tractor*, and as a contributing editor of *American Vegetable Grower*. **Curt and Genada Lynn** work with their sons and their business in industrial gas discovery and environmental compliance. They look forward to the reunion in Palm Springs. **Bob Miller** continues to recover from a stroke. **Harry and Anne Miller** enjoyed a recent three-week trip to three National Parks, a trip they highly recommend. **Bill Moyles** has spent 4 years developing a public garden of semi-tropical rhododendrons (vireyas) at Lakeside Park in Oakland. Bill would like you to visit the garden or Web site at: <http://www.gardens.com/story/guest3.htm>. **Pete and Flo**

Passof have had many travel adventures around the United States and into Mexico (11,100 miles worth) in their newly restored 1950 Ford Woodie wagon. **Neil Quesenberry** is helping his wife, **Jane**, recover from a massive stroke. **Chloe (Beitler) and Don Rosedale** are settled in Florida and look forward to gathering in Palm Springs. **Warren Schoonover** has filled his retirement years with church administration and travel. Recently they moved to Minnesota to be near their daughter and granddaughters. **Ed Schrader** runs The Black Squirrel Inn, an antique store, and teaches at the University of Akron in Ohio. He'll see you in Palm Springs. **Steve Sibbett** consults international clients in the olive and almond business. He visits **Sheldon Jackson** weekly in his Visalia home and enjoys their lively conversations. **Juanita Turner** works with the California State Employee Association's Political Action Committee for Governmental Affairs. She and **Gerti Thomas and Margaret Flagg** will join the group in Palm Springs. **Marian Prentiss Watt** says the OSU Extension Service's *Looking for Oregon's Future — What is Sustainability?* is an excellent publication. **Linda Araujo-Wilson and Herb Weisheit** are working closely with **George Rendell** on the 2002 ANR Statewide Reunion. They assure us that there is much to see and do in the historically-rich Palm Springs area.



Mel Gagnon making an impressive recovery from hip replacement surgery.

Cooperative Extension Family Feature

We are pleased to feature Mel Gagnon, former Emeriti Newsletter co-editor (with the late Bob Kasmire).

Well, Hello again, y'all! And thanks to Administration for wanting to put on an Emeriti newsletter again. I think we're a bunch of neat people and it's fun to keep in touch, scattered as we are with our memories of such creative, fruitful and rewarding work in Cooperative Extension. Hardly a day goes by that I'm not bragging to a bystander (or trapped car passenger) about some taken-for-granted benefit in our lives created by UC researchers and you CE staff in the sciences, family life and 4-H.

And while I'm in a braggin' mood, the photo is me showing off from my recovery from a second hip replacement. I now have a matched pair. That was just in time to head off to a favorite place, Paris, with sweetheart Ginnie, for a couple of weeks. I did leave the skate board at home, of course, and used their metro-subway-bus system to explore around that beautiful city. Also got off to another special place, Troyes, an original walled city, founded as a trade center on the commerce route to the

rest of Europe centuries ago. A museum features the first knitting machines, invented there to replace hand-knitting of socks and nightcaps. Thanks to them for today's Izod (Alligator) tees, dresses and other knit goods for all scales. Another museum shows collections of some of our earliest hand tools. An orphanage founder channeled kids into various trades and they still restore ancient buildings using those old tools instead of today's Makitas and Black & Decker power tools. The Troyes Church of St. Madeleine has one of Europe's seven remaining "roods," an unbelievably lacy, carved stone arch suspended across the center of the sanctuary. Go see it!

Ginnie? We met through Hipsters, a volunteer support group for people having/needing hip and/or knee replacements. The UCD Med Center sponsors us because we help them erase some of the fear of these major surgeries. As Program Chair, I book speakers for our monthly meetings, and entertainment for our twice-a-year luncheons. Well, in came "The Happy Tappers," which Ginnie (Nordgreen) leads. These senior ladies do volunteer tap dance shows for nursing homes, senior centers and the like, just like the famous Sun City dancer lineups, though smaller in number.

Turtles and tomatoes were the draw for me back in May when I went to the Galapagos. Thirty years ago, Charlie Rick, UCD's incredible tomato breeder, planted the Galapagos "seed" in my mind with his stories of gathering plant stock there. Smaller than the tip of your little finger, these island tomatoes gave him genes to deal with salt tolerance, something increasingly necessary on our overburdened valley lands. I can now tell you, they taste good, too. And the turtles love 'em. In fact, Charlie had to run his first seed stock through the San Francisco Zoo's turtles so their stomach acids would soften the seed-coat for sprouting. See why I loved my CE job?

In closing, in case you're wondering what happened to the remaining funds from the old volunteer newsletter, I rounded up the \$378.35 balance and gave \$200 each to the Bob Kasmire and Milt Miller Scholarship Funds – two great guys.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Chloe Beitler has been instrumental in developing a support group for women who have had ovarian cancer. **Vern and Charlotte Burton** continue service as election judges at South Davis polling sites for all elections. **Dorothy Duncan** continues her rewarding English language skills work with visiting international scholars at UC Berkeley. **Mel Gagnon** continues volunteer service to UCD Med Center's hip/knee replacement center counseling service. **Bob Hagan** remains active and generously supportive of the International House programs in Davis. **John Pehrson** remains involved in farming and water issues, such as preserving the aquifer by elimination of gravel mining and biological integrated farming systems oversight committee from local to federal levels on sustainable agriculture. **Bill Sims** is on the Sutter Davis Hospital Board of Direc-

tors. **Luella Zamzow** is serving a 4-year term as Director of Environmental and Ecological Studies and Activities for the California Garden Clubs.

AWARDS

John Inman received the Annual Agricultural Leadership Award from the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce. **George Rendell** received the Award of Distinction from the UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

50th Anniversary Celebrations

Bill and Jewel Sims, 2001 **Bob and Pat Curley**, 2000 **Ken and Mary Farrell**, 2001

In Memory

Several have passed away since the last newsletter: **Ron Knight**, 2000 **Frank Smith**, January 2001 **Arman Sarquis**, October 2001 **Bob Rock**, December 2001. *If you know of others, please call Cindy Barber at (510) 987-9139.*

COMMUNICATIONS

Address Changes

Carol Adams has a new address - 430 Monte Vista Dr., Ashland, OR 97520. **Vince Rubatzky** has moved to New Jersey - 20 Birchall Drive, Haddonfield, NJ 08033-2710. Phone (856) 857-1544; e-mail vnvatnj@aol.com

Staying in Touch

To find other retirees on the internet, visit our Web site at http://danr.ucop.edu/devserv/aer/directory_page.htm

TRAVEL

Fall 2002 Heritage Tour

If you would be interested in a tour of classic New England and French Canada in the fall of 2002 (estimated cost of \$2,600 per person), contact Luella Zamzow at (530) 756-1700 or Zamzow321@aol.com. **This tour is not sponsored by the University of California.**

ON-LINE RESOURCES

ANR Home Page:

<http://ucanr.org/>

ANR Development Services:

<http://danr.ucop.edu/devserv/>

ANR Retiree Directory:

http://danr.ucop.edu/devserv/aer/directory_page.htm

ANR Retirees - What's New?:

<http://danr.ucop.edu/devserv/aer/whatsnew.htm>

UC Retirement Benefits:

<http://www.ucop.edu/bencom/>