



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

November 2009

Time to renew your membership

It is time to renew your membership in ΦΒΚΝΑ. Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed membership envelope and send it back with your check.

Membership benefits:

- Membership for the full year January to December, 2010.
- All contributions are fully tax-deductible.
- Monthly events* with other Phi Betes and guests. Many are special tours specially designed for ΦΒΚ - past examples include the SF Mission mural tour, Blackhawk Automotive Museum, USS Potomac, Jack London State Park, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, and the Turtle Rescue Center. See pages 5-7 for upcoming events.
- Presidents' Day Weekend conference at Asilomar Conference Center* (near Monterey). Interesting lectures, good food, good company, walks on the beach and historic building tours. This event is described on page 5.
- Awards for excellent scholars - last year's contributions provided six \$5,000 scholarships. See Page 3.
- Excellence-in-Teaching awards to professors nominated by their ΦΒΚ students.
- Annual Awards Banquet* where you can meet the scholarship and teaching award recipients.
- A newsletter four times a year (snail or email, your choice) listing events, awards, and more.
- No more requests for money until this time next year!

*Note: There is a charge for these events.

Membership is open to anyone who has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa at any school in any state.

Regular dues are only \$30 (\$10 for full-time students), although we invite you to contribute more since it is your dues and contributions that make our awards possible. Because the Association is staffed entirely by volunteers, all your money - except for printing and mailing expenses - goes to the awards. From 1982 through 2009, the Association has awarded 231 scholarships totaling \$743,600 to outstanding Phi Beta Kappa graduate students.

Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed membership envelope and send it back with your check. Be sure to include your email.

If you would like more information about the Association and about our awardees, visit our website at www.pbknca.org.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Ellen James".

Jean Ellen James, President

From The President

Dear Fellow Phi Betes,

As we begin to enjoy the change of seasons and start to look forward to the coming holiday celebrations, please take a moment to renew your membership in ΦBKNCA. You may not realize that all current memberships expire on Dec. 31, 2009. And some of you may think you have already joined our Association, as you have sent a check to National this year. (See "Membership Fact Sheet", on the web at <http://www.pbknca.org/factsheet.htm> If you did not receive a September newsletter, it was because you had not paid your 2009 dues.

Why should you part with \$30 to renew your ΦBKNCA membership, or even contribute more? Membership in our Association offers you an opportunity to help fund scholarships and teaching excellence awards, meet new people, attend enjoyable, intellectually stimulating programs, and benefit from being part of an award-winning organization. Membership contributions and participation in our programs are fundamental to our success.

Because volunteers run our Association, your contributions directly benefit our scholarship and teaching excellence recipients. Your generous support in 2009 enabled us to award five \$5,000 graduate scholarships and three \$500 teaching excellence honoraria. A list of these extraordinarily talented academics appears on page 3 of this newsletter. In these challenging financial times, our deserving graduate students need your help more than ever.

Every membership counts. Please take time today to return the enclosed envelope with your 2010 dues and donations.

Now that you have responded to the above plea and filled out your membership envelope, I would like to bring two further subjects to your attention. First, in the September newsletter in which I thanked the outgoing Board members and welcomed the newcomers, I completely forgot about our Asilomar leaders. Jae Emehiser, who, along with his wife Pat, has run the program for the past three years has handed over the responsibilities for Asilomar 2010 to Calvin Wood and his wife Dixie. Thanks to the Emehisers for services rendered and to the Woods whose services we will soon enjoy. (See page 5 for details on this year's Asilomar conference.)

Finally, if you are interested in saving money for the Association and helping the environment, you might want to receive this newsletter electronically. You can find out how to do this from the notice below.



Jean Ellen James, President

Go Green, Get the ΦBK Newsletter by Email

Help us go green by signing up for the ΦBKNCA newsletter online. Simply put a checkmark in the box on the membership envelope and give us your email address.

Why switch?

Here are just a few of the benefits of a digital newsletter:

- Faster delivery than the printed edition
- Download anytime, read anywhere
- Paperless, clutter-free archiving
- Save trees and landfills
- Save money for our Association
- Adjustable font size for easy reading
- Advanced search capacity
- Easy navigation to web content
- Full-color pictures
- This is what the online copies will be like

Inside this Issue	
President's letter.....	2
Paperless Newsletter.....	2
Teaching Excellence Nominations.....	3
Scholarship Awardees.....	3
2009 Triennial Report.....	4
PBK Fiscal Report.....	5
Asilomar 2010.....	5
Asilomar Form.....	8
Upcoming Events.....	6
Annual Meeting.....	6
SF Chocolate Tour.....	6
KQED Radio/TV Tour.....	6
Tutankhamun – de Young...	6
Board Positions Open.....	7
Event Coupons.....	7
ΦBKNCA Board.....	7

Teaching Excellence Nominations Due November 30, 2009

There is still time to nominate one of your favorite professors for this prestigious award!

Download the nomination form at <http://www.pbknca.org/pdf/ExcellenceInTeachingAwardNomination.pdf>. Fill it in and email it to nrlernern@netscape.net. **NOMINATIONS FOR THE MAY 2010 AWARDS CLOSE ON NOVEMBER 30, 2009.**

Scholarship Awardees

Your dues and contributions go mainly to scholarships.

What do James Dean and George Burns, Goldilocks and the three bears, and an ant lifting a crumb off the ground have in common? They are examples used by our scholarship awardees to help explain their research projects to people outside their fields.

We were pleased to hear from three of the awardees at our annual dinner meeting on May 3. The other three were unable to attend because they were doing fieldwork in Ecuador, Russia, and Bosnia. All expressed their gratitude to Φ BKNCA for our support of their work. We hope to tap them for Asilomar presentations in the not-too-distant future.

This year we received twenty-five applications. From these the committee had to decide on six, each of whom received a \$5,000 award. As always, given the high caliber of the applications, making the selections was difficult. Thanks to Jeff Fenton, Lynne Fovinci, Jean James, and Gerry Richards for reviewing the applications and coming together to deliberate over them. The task is time-consuming, but highly rewarding.

Two of the awardees are from UC Berkeley, two from Stanford, one from UC Santa Cruz, and one from UC Davis.

Esther Cole, Ecology, UC Davis

"Landscape Control of Disease Dynamics in a High Alpine System"

Esther is studying how changing climate may be affecting disease dynamics as snowmelt comes earlier and minimum temperatures rise. She has done extensive work in Ecuador, where her work generated several important results, including the discovery of a new species of frog, genus *Cochranella*. She will complete her fieldwork in the Trinity Alps here in California. As she writes, "This research will generate novel insights into how changing climate will influence natural disease regimes, potentially resulting in the extinction of native species."

Her professors called her "smart, articulate, self-confident," "a wonderful field biologist, incredibly well-organized," "intellectually nimble," and a woman with "a sense of humor and irony."

Jordan Gans-Morse, Political Science, UC Berkeley

"Out of Chaos? Business Elites and Property Rights in Russia"

"The collapse of the Soviet Union presented social scientists with a daunting set of challenges. . . . Comparativists . . . sought to develop theories capable of explaining transitions

Website: www.pbknca.org

from tradition to modernity, underdevelopment to development, and authoritarianism to democracy." Jordan's dissertation research analyzes why institutions that protect property develop in some countries, but not others, and why some laws and regulations remain mere scraps of paper. He focuses on the interest-group politics underlying institutional formation. He hopes to uncover valuable insights into the institutional foundations of economic prosperity. He was in Russia at the time of the Awards Banquet, testing the preliminary predictions of his model.

His professors noted his "extraordinary potential" and his "quiet determination and commitment" and they think that "his research holds the promise of improving the foundations on which policy prescriptions can be made." "He is a rising star in the field."

Emily Jacobs, Neuroscience, UC Berkeley

"Individual Differences in Cognition: Genetic and Hormonal Influences on Prefrontal Function"

Emily is determined to pursue science in combination with humanitarian values. Her research centers on how dopamine functions in the prefrontal cortex. As she put it, it's a Goldilocks and the three bears scenario: you don't want too much or too little dopamine – just enough. The key goal of her project is to understand how individual differences in baseline dopamine levels in adolescents lead to greater susceptibility to depression, early-onset schizophrenia, and ADHD. Being committed to sharing her work with the public ("secret knowledge . . . is less than science"), she helped found S.E.E. (Science Everyone Everywhere), a nonprofit organization aimed at bringing science and the public a step closer together. She also works with a "brain fitness" campaign in San Francisco geared toward raising awareness about the health benefits of staying mentally and physically active as we age.

Her professors commended her "maturity and curiosity," "dedication to service," and "boundless energy" ("bottle it and we could solve the worldwide energy crisis!"). Everyone noted that she is more like a colleague than a student.

Mariangela Lisanti, Physics, Stanford (Norall Family Scholarship)

"Physics Beyond the Standard Model at the LHC"

As Mariangela noted in her application, the Standard Model of particle physics cannot explain dark matter and dark energy in the universe, and says nothing about the gravitational force or how elementary particles obtain their mass. She works on

building and studying extensions of the Standard Model that address these fundamental issues. "Whether scientists explore the unimaginably large or the inconceivably small, they strive to comprehend some aspect of the unknown. The fact that the same fundamental laws of physics can explain dramatically different scenarios is nothing short of amazing; for instance, the same forces that explain how an ant is able to lift a crumb off the ground can also explain the interactions of particles a few seconds after the Big Bang." Mariangela worked at the Tevatron collider at Fermilab, outside Chicago. That work resulted in "a sea change in how to design searches for new physics."

She is "a role model for women students," "an effective mentor," and "a clear and organized speaker who can lay out the most complex arguments in a way her audience can grasp."

Laurel Seely, Literature, UC Santa Cruz (Elizabeth B. Reed Scholarship)

"The Transition to Postsocialism: Cultural Discourses of Bosnian Identity, 1980-Present"

Laurel's title is standard academese. The first paragraph of her application is not. "In winter 2008, the city of Sarajevo coated its sidewalks with a substance designed to prevent people from slipping on ice, an event that provoked outrage among some of Bosnia's Serb and Croat politicians. The problem: the coating was green, a color associated with Islam." In her work, Laurel uses an interdisciplinary approach to examine the intersection of culture and politics in transformations of identity in postsocialist Bosnia. Her dissertation examines transformations of Bosnian identity effected through key cultural products. By presenting and analyzing materials that

are lesser known or difficult to access (she has also translated Bosnian literary works into English), she aims to make a variety of texts available for the first time to English-speaking scholars.

Her letters of recommendation cite her "personal independence, perseverance, originality of thought, and her no-nonsense hard work." She is "critically innovative," "a model of the best kind of contemporary literary and cultural studies."

Amelia Wolf, Biology, Stanford

"Strategic Trade-offs in Ant-Plant Mutualisms Worldwide"

"Can a tree emulate James Dean, or bear a resemblance to George Burns? . . . James Dean famously lived fast and died young; Burns persisted in the limelight for years and years. Different trees, too, follow these divergent life trajectories," burning out after a short and productive life or fading away after persisting and reproducing for many years. Amelia works on ant-plant mutualisms that occur in tropical regions worldwide, including the neotropics. Her work in Costa Rica is yielding information similar to what she found in Kenya. Such cross-continental comparisons are rare and valuable, because they can help determine the degree to which ecological processes are generalizable. She is also an avid photographer and last year had a photograph (of giraffes in Kenya) published on the cover of *Science* (11 January 2008).

She was recommended for her "endurance, creativity, and imagination, and a willingness to take risks." She is a "broad, creative, synthetic thinker, and highly motivated." Her "wholly original research has already yielded amazing results."

2009 Triennial Delegate Report

Three hundred members of ΦBK met in Austin, Texas on Oct. 1-4 for ΦBK's 42nd Triennial Council. Over 40 of the 60 chartered associations and almost 250 of the 267 current chapters on college and university campuses sent delegates to the Council.

As our Chapter Liaison, I had the privilege of participating as NCA's delegate. I also had the honor of being selected as one of 17 nominees for 11 Senator-at-large vacancies.

The Council alone has the authority to charter new chapters. Four new college chapters were approved by the Council out of almost fifty that applied.

Association delegates met on the first day to exchange ideas. I was proud to talk about NCA's outstanding record of raising funds for scholarships as well as how we participate in Chapter inductions and make Teaching Excellence Awards. With nearly 1000 members, we are among the largest and most active associations.

I also participated in the Western District meeting, which included chapters and associations from the thirteen western states. We discussed how our associations and chapters could better interact and how to increase the profile of ΦBK in our large public universities, which seems to be a particular problem in the West.

The Council approved structural changes to the ΦBK Constitution and Bylaws which should streamline processes between Councils and elected new officers.

Two of ΦBK's most prestigious awards were presented at the conclusion of the Council. John E. Seery, Professor of Government and Professor of Politics at Pomona College, received the Sidney Hook Memorial Award; Douglas Greenberg, Executive Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences at Rutgers University, received the Award for Distinguished Service to the Humanities. Each gave an insightful lecture. For the full text, go to <http://www.pbknca.org/triennial2009.html>

Janiece S. Nolan, PhD., jn1137@aol.com

ΦBKNCA 24th Annual Asilomar Conference
Presidents' Day Weekend, February 12-15, 2010. Deadline December 1, 2009.



Come to our annual conference, have fun with like-minded people, stimulate your intellect, relax, and contribute to ΦBKNCA graduate student scholarships. We strive to enjoy ourselves yet keep expenses low so that most of our registration fee, the majority of which is tax-deductible, goes to fund at least two scholarships.

If you are new to ΦBK or Northern California, you are especially welcome. Dress is casual. Do not be deterred by winter. February on the peninsula, with only occasional showers, is often more pleasant than the fog that settles in during summer months. And this is the time of the Monarch butterfly migration that fills many trees just a short walk from the conference site. There is ample opportunity to walk on the beach, tour the historic buildings designed by Julia Morgan, bicycle to Monterey, explore the Monterey Aquarium, visit the shops in Carmel, or settle down with a good book around the roaring fire in Hearst Hall. You may come late and leave early. You may even skip parts of the program. No one takes attendance or gives exams.

Our program, "Issues of Importance in American Life" includes a number of outstanding speakers:

Dr. Ben Santer, atmospheric scientist and author, "Global Warming"

Father Leo Arrowsmith, American Orthodox priest and artist, "The Use of Icons in Orthodox Worship." While Fr. Arrowsmith is talking, he will complete the painting of an icon, which will be auctioned for the scholarship fund.

Dr. Jay Davis, scientist and Past Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, "Reducing Nuclear Arms".

Mr. John Seager, President of Population Connection, "Population Growth and Sustainability".

Mr. Ron Umbel, Special FBI Agent, "National Security in an Uncertain World."

Ms. Marci Coglianese will talk about Delta water issues

Ranger Roxanne will not be there, but another Ranger will talk. Many of you responded positively in the past, so this year we are suggesting a common reading to go with Mr. Seager's

talk: Jeffrey Sach's *Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet*, 340 pp. Buy locally or at Amazon.com (\$11.26 in paperback; \$9.99 for Kindle). You may want to read this before coming to Asilomar. Following Mr. Seager's remarks on Sunday morning and a break for lunch, we shall discuss this important work with him.

The conference begins with registration Friday, February 12 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in Hearst Social Hall and ends after lunch on Monday, February 15. There will be a reception for newcomers Friday from 5:00 to 6:00 pm. We eat dinner from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in Crocker Dining Hall. Opening remarks and our first speaker are scheduled for 7:30 pm in Fred Farr Forum.

How much does the conference cost? For three nights' lodging and eight meals beginning with dinner on Friday and ending with lunch on Monday: \$386.18 per adult double occupancy, \$618.68 single occupancy, and \$251.69 youth (ages 3-17). A fee for using Asilomar facilities is included in the price of housing. If you live off-campus, Asilomar will add this nominal amount to your meal ticket. The additional registration fee of \$100 payable to PBKNCA covers conference expenses, but mainly provides funds for our scholarships.

If you have not registered, it is not too late. Please spread the word. Bring guests, family or friends, and encourage your fellow Phi Betes to join us. Just fill out the coupon on page 8 and send a check payable to PBKNCA for your \$100 per person registration fee to Cal Wood, 420 Lincoln Ave., Livermore, CA 94550. Phone: (925) 447-8666. Email: calandix@comcast.net. As soon as I receive your check, I shall send you the housing form for you to return directly to Asilomar.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend Presidents' Day Weekend, February 12-15, 2010, at Asilomar's magnificent, 107-acre "Refuge by the Sea," in Pacific Grove between Carmel and Monterey. Your Phi Beta Kappa friends will be waiting.

Don't miss this great event. Send the form from page eight, along with your deposit, now.

For more information, contact *Cal Wood, Asilomar Chair*, (925) 447-8666, calandix@comcast.net

Upcoming Events

Note: Due to space limitations, all directions are located on the web at www.pbknca.org/1109/, or if you are not web-enabled, call Judy Hardardt at home (530) 297-7150, or cell, (707) 696-9498, and she will mail you a copy.

Our **Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner** will be held at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club on May 2, 2010. Be sure to put this important event on your calendar!

The San Francisco Gourmet Chocolate Tour still has room

Saturday, November 7, 2009, Time: 2:30 pm

See the web newsletter

<http://www.pbknca.org/1109/November2009Events.html#chocolate> or call Judy Hardardt: home (530) 297-7150, cell, (707) 696-9498.

San Francisco's KQED Radio and TV Education Network

Thursday, January 21, 2010, Time: 11 am to 1 pm



Cows in the KQED Studios? Take a nostalgic trip through KQED's history, starting in the 1950s.

Description: This docent-led tour will take us through the KQED facility and includes the history of public radio and television and the current challenges

they face, such as funding, political and other external pressures. Our tour will include the FM Master Control Room and a "working" studio, the videotape library, TV Facility (Studios A & B, Production Control Room, Equipment Rack Room, Edit Suite, Ingest Suites and Master Control Room). In addition, we will visit KQED Interactive and have an overview of their Web Site and the KQED Education Network.

Website: www.KQED.org

Date: Thursday, January 21, 2010

Deadline: December 20, 2009 **Time:** 11 am to 1 pm

Minimum: 8, **Maximum:** 15

Price: \$8.00 plus parking (approx. \$7)

There is a parking garage located at the back of the KQED building on York Street

www.pbknca.org/1109/November2009Events.html#chocolate

Tutankhamun and The Golden Age of The Pharaohs de Young Museum, San Francisco

Wednesday, March 3, 2010, Time 11:30 am

Website: www.pbknca.org

Here is a great chance to see the updated "King Tut" exhibition, especially for those of us who missed the one back in the 1970s.



More than 3,000 years after his reign, and 30 years after the original exhibition opened in San Francisco, Tutankhamun, ancient Egypt's celebrated "boy king," returns to the de Young Museum. It is a glorious exhibition of over 130 outstanding works from the tomb of Tutankhamun, as well as those of his royal predecessors, his family, and court officials.

Tutankhamun was one of the last kings of Egypt's 18th Dynasty and ruled during a crucial, turmoil-filled period of Egyptian history. The boy king died under mysterious circumstances at the age of 18 or 19, in the ninth year of his reign (1322 BC). Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings was filled with magnificent treasures meant to ensure his divine immortality. Many objects belonging to the young king—exquisite personal items used in his daily life—were placed in it.

All of the treasures in the exhibition are more than 3,000 years old. **Note that this is not a docent-led tour as they are available only at 8 or 8:30am (before the museum opens). Audio guides will be available at additional cost.**

Website: www.kingtut.org and www.tutsanfrancisco.org/

Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Deadline: Friday, January 15, 2010

Time: 11:30 am

Minimum: 10, **Maximum:** 20

Price: \$29.00

Directions: The de Young is located at 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Cross streets are John F. Kennedy Drive and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. See note above.

Enjoy Brunch and Theater with Mark Twain!

Sunday, April 11, 2010, Time 11:30 am to about 4 pm

Deadline: March 5, 2010 (the earlier you can sign up, the better)



Is He Dead? by Mark Twain, adapted by David Ives.

After his obituary was mistakenly published in the American press, Mark Twain sent a cable from London stating "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." Unlike

what appeared in the newspapers, rumors of this play were not exaggerated - it received its world premiere on Broadway in 2006 - and it's a live one! Jean-François Millet, a brilliant but unrecognized painter, can't sell a landscape to save his life (literally). His wacky bohemian friends convince him that faking his death is just the ticket for raising his stock. So Jean-François disappears from life and re-emerges as his imaginary twin sister, a widow both mad and madcap. Here's gold dust in your eyes, as extended horseplay involving the stench of Limburger cheese and the deconstruction of a woman of "artificial parts" will make you howl for more.

Website: www.cinnabartheater.org
Location: Cinnabar Theater in Petaluma
Date: Sunday, April 11, 2010
Deadline: March 5, 2010 (The sooner, the better)
Includes: Sunday matinee brunch at 11:30 am at Jacqueline's High Tea in Petaluma; Show is at Cinnabar Theater in Petaluma at 2 pm, doors open at 1:30 pm
Minimum: 10, **Maximum:** 20
Price: \$65.00 per person, includes brunch with gratuity & tax
Directions: See Note above

Board Positions Open Starting July 2010

Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary needed July 2010. Contact Peete W. Baer, Chair Nominating Committee (peete.baer@c2002c.com 510-632-7000) if you are interested in one of these positions.

Treasurer needed starting July 2011. Mary Turner Gilliland has graciously offered to continue as ΦBKNCA Treasurer for the coming term of 2010-2011. During the coming year, we

shall be searching for her successor. Mary has offered to explain the requirements of the position and, also, to assist in the training of any one interested. You may contact Mary (Mltg@aol.com 650-321-9966) or Peete W. Baer, Chair, Nominating Committee (peete.baer@c2002c.com 510-632-7000).

Job descriptions: www.pbknca.org/JobDescription/index.html

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.

KQED Radio and TV Education Network
 Thursday, January 21, 2010, 11:00 am to 1 pm
 Deadline December 20, 2009
 # Attending _____ x \$8.00 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

Tutankhamun and The Golden Age of The Pharaohs
 Wednesday, March 3, 2010, 11:30 am
 Deadline January 15, 2010
 # Attending _____ x \$29.00 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

Brunch and Theater with Mark Twain
 Sunday, April 11, 2010, 11:30 am to about 4 pm
 Deadline March 5, 2010
 # Attending _____ x \$65.00 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

From the Treasurer

Members may obtain a copy of the FY 08-09 Financial Report from our website at <http://www.pbknca.org/financials/FY08-09CategorySummary.pdf>, or by mailing a #10 pre-addressed and stamped (44¢) envelope to the Treasurer, Mary Turner Gilliland, at 1040 Tehama Avenue; Menlo Park, CA 94025-1742.

Mary Turner Gilliland, Treasurer

Note: Board members are listed on the web
 at <http://www.pbknca.org/contact.phi.beta.kappa.pbk.htm>

