



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 2011

Time to renew your membership

It is time to renew your membership in ΦBKNCA. Please take a moment to fill out the attached membership form and send it back with your check, or now for the first time, pay by PayPal or credit card online by going to the address in your hardcopy newsletter or by contacting membership@pbknca.org.

Membership benefits:

- Membership for the full year January to December 31, 2012; no more requests for money until this time next year!
- All contributions are **fully tax-deductible**.
- **Monthly events*** with other Phi Betes and guests. We try to provide you with a good mix of activities such as docent-led tours at our many area museums, visits to historic sites, wineries, gardens, shows and even more. Past examples include live theater at Cinnabar Theater, visits to the Federal Reserve Bank, the Walt Disney Museum, the Tutankhamun exhibit at the de Young, the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, a Chocolate Fest, and the Turtle Rescue Center. (See pages 6 - 7 for upcoming events).
- **Presidents' Day Weekend (Feb 17-20) conference at Asilomar Conference Center*** (near Monterey), featuring interesting lectures, good food, great company, walks on the beach, and historic building tours. (This event is described on page 5.)
- Tours outside the United States. For the first time, our Association has offered an event outside the country. Not only have we enjoyed the opportunity to have a Burt Wolf-led tour of Paris, but we cruised with him from Lyon to Arles, France. **Walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain is being planned for next year*.**
- **Awards for excellent scholars** - last year's contributions provided eight \$5,000 scholarships. (See page 3).
- **Excellence-in-Teaching awards to professors** nominated by their ΦBK students.
- **Annual Awards Banquet May 6, 2012***, where you can meet this coming year's scholarship and teaching award recipients.
- **A newsletter** four times a year (snail or email, your choice) listing events, awards, and more.
- **The first 25 to join at the \$100 or above level** will receive the just-published Northern California Association of Phi Beta Kappa Directory of Members at no additional charge.

*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.

Please take a moment to fill out the attached membership form and send it back with your check, or pay by PayPal or credit card online by going to the address in your hardcopy newsletter or by contacting membership@pbknca.org.

From the President

It's time again to renew your membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association. This year, in addition to being "green" by receiving your newsletter *via* e-mail, you can pay your dues online, too! Our Treasurer Robin Fuller and Webmaster Ray Hendess have set up a PayPal account for ΦBKNCA, allowing members to pay their membership dues through their own PayPal accounts or by credit card. (Please note that online payment is **ONLY** for dues; program payments continue to be by postal mail.) So you can pay by postal mail using the form that came with your newsletter; or online by entering the web address printed in the newsletter, or by scanning the QR code on the first page of the hardcopy to continue your membership.

Your membership contribution is totally tax-deductible, so please be generous. We fund Graduate Student scholarships and Teaching Excellence awards through your donations; the more money we receive, the more we can give to worthy candidates. This past year's awardees are listed on pages 3-4. ΦBKNCA does **NOT** receive any funds from The Phi Beta Kappa Society in Washington, D.C., and a donation to them does not give you membership in our Association.

As an active (dues-paying) member, you'll be able to enjoy monthly activities in various sites around the Bay Area. Check the list in this newsletter on pages 6-7 and sign up for one or more. You'll meet other ΦBK members and visit unusual places in our own backyard. Consider joining us over Presidents' Weekend (February 17-20, 2011) at Asilomar, near Monterey, for our annual conference (see page 5). Good company, fascinating speakers, beautiful scenery: what more could anyone want?

I look forward to meeting you at one or more of our activities, so I may thank you personally for supporting ΦBKNCA. Without our loyal members, we are nothing.

Mary T. Gilliland

Mary Turner Gilliland, 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 form and give us your email address.

Why switch?

More than 1/3 of our members have!

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

- Earlier delivery than the printed edition
- Download any time, 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

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Teaching Excellence Nominations Due November 30, 2011

Have you attended classes at Mills College, San Francisco State University, Santa Clara University, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, or University of the Pacific? Did you experience great teaching there? **Nominations for the Teaching Excellence Awards close on November 30, so you still have time to nominate your favorite teacher.** It is not necessary to be a recent graduate in order to nominate an inspiring professor. Any Φ BKNCA member can make a nomination. The only requirements are that the nominator must have taken a course from the nominee and that the nominee be on the faculty of one of the eight Bay Area colleges listed above. The nomination form can be downloaded from the Φ BKNCA website at www.pbknca.org/pdf/ExcellenceInTeachingAwardNomination.pdf. Fill it in and mail it, or submit it electronically (PDF, FAX). Addresses are on the form, but the nomination must be received before midnight on the 30th of November to qualify for awards to be made in the Spring of 2012.

Narcinda Lerner, Teaching Excellence Chair

Scholarship Awards - Your dues and contributions go mainly to scholarships

Due to space limitations, the full text of the scholarship awards cannot fit here; the full text appears on the web at <http://www.pbknca.org/newsletter/2011-11November.htm>

Noël Bakhtian—Stanford—Aeronautics and Astronautics (Reed Scholarship)

Noël has always wanted to be an astronaut. As she wrote in her application, "I see the exploration of space as an attempt to answer the ultimate questions concerning our origins and significance in the universe while laying down a framework for our future." She has a B.S.E., Engineering, from Duke; a M. Phil. from the University of Cambridge; and a M.S., Aeronautics and Astronautics, from Stanford.

One of her professors called her "highly motivated, hardworking, uniquely gifted, and a natural organizer." Another noted that Noël "challenged me good-naturedly when I glossed over important details." Still another noted her "irrepressible and endearing enthusiasm" and her "coherent vision of purpose for her career the likes of which I have never observed in a student."

Maya de Vries—UC Berkeley—Integrative Biology

The title of Maya's dissertation explains her investigation: "Testing Form and Function: Ecological and Morphological Specialization in Mantis Shrimp." Her early results already run counter to the expectation that form follows function in suggesting that "smashers" actually consume a wider range of prey types than "spearers" do. Much of her research is

done in Panama at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute's Galeta Marine Lab.

Letters of recommendation note that Maya is "bright, creative, resourceful, dedicated, and unusually hard-working," "curious and inquisitive with outstanding interpersonal skills" (she was adept at involving local Panamanian students and support staff in her research program), and that she "was fearless . . . in conducting her field experiments in crocodile-laden waters and in truly challenging living conditions."

Jenny Lane—UCSC—Ocean Sciences

Jenny is studying algae blooms (*i.e.*, "red tides"), which seem to be expanding globally and causing more economic losses than had been thought.

Her research shows that both ocean upwelling and river flow are influential in causing the algae blooms. The research has primed a ground-breaking statewide effort at a time of significant funding shortfalls, with the California Ocean Protection Council awarding \$792,000 for implementation of her models as part of a California-wide effort to develop a forecast system for harmful algal blooms.

According to her professors, Jenny is "constantly asking: What is the big picture?" She is doing "truly interdisciplinary work at the interface between pol-

icy, management, and science." She is "a dream student."

Michael Levien—UC Berkeley—Sociology

Michael is investigating "The Land Question: Special Economic Zones and Accumulation by Dispossession in India." His study contrasts two strategies of development: state-led high modernization revolving around massive projects (*e.g.*, dams) and market-driven projects associated with Special Economic Zones. Basically, this is a study of conflicts over land, land use, and government policies, dispossession with and without development that benefits the original landowners.

His professors call him a "consummate, intrepid, imaginative ethnographer," a "tireless researcher and devoted theorist," and a person who "weds intellectual sophistication and civic idealism with economic and political realism."

Feng-Yen Li—UCSF—Biomedical Sciences

Feng-Yen's dissertation is "The Etiologies of Primary Immunodeficiencies," in which she defines the molecular basis of immunodeficiency in children with congenital abnormalities of the immune system. Her research has led to the discovery of a second messenger role for magnesium in biology that is particularly important for T-cell activation and the development and function of a normal immune system in humans.

As her professors note, she is a "tenacious, creative researcher" and is "flexible in her thinking." Even more significant, she has made "one of the most important discoveries in the past several years" in this area. "Her work will lead to a revision of the textbooks."

Shane Morrison—Medicine—Stanford

In his opening statement, Shane noted that "the initial impetus for my career in medicine . . . [came from] the death of the man who raised me: my grandfather. In fact, a five-gallon metal pail became my primary inspiration." This pail, which held his grandfather's catheter bag, served as a physical reminder of his prostate cancer.

Shane's current work is on treating diabetic wounds through gene therapy. He combines a passion for scientific research with an interest in public health, often volunteering in public health clinics.

His professors call him "clear thinking, energetic, and enthusiastic," with "great initiative and creativity," "impeccable integrity," and "extraordinary energy and enthusiasm." There are "not enough superlatives to describe Shane."

Wei-chung Wang—UC Davis—Psychology

His focus is on the physical components of behavior: using neuroimaging and neuropsychological methods to test the hypothesis that the perirhinal cortex contributes to conceptual priming. "His research has challenged strongly held beliefs in our field."

His professors note that he combines "drive, mental horsepower, and creative spirit." He is "modest, friendly, easy-going" and an "independent thinker [yet a] team player" who is "an exceptionally clear communicator" "liked by everyone in the lab."

Chelsea Wood—Stanford's Hopkins Marine Station—Biology

Chelsea is studying the impacts of fishing on tropical marine ecosystems. As she noted in her application, "Fishing is among the most economically important human uses of the world's oceans, but it may come with costs [we haven't] accounted for." Her research takes advantage of the presence of a pristine, unexploited fish community on Palmyra Atoll, where she is monitoring experimental treatments that simulate "pristine" and "fished-out" conditions there. She hopes that her work will permit the development of baselines for ecosystem function and service provision throughout the U.S. Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, the Republic of Kiribati, and other Pacific island groups.

"Exceptional" was often used in her letters of recommendation: "exceptionally talented," "exceptionally motivated," "simply exceptional." Her "logical and technical rigor" was also commended.

Joanne Sandstrom, Second Vice President, Scholarship

**ΦBKNCA 26th Annual Asilomar Conference, Pacific Grove, CA
Presidents' Day Weekend, February 17-20, 2012. Deadline December 1, 2011.**



Don't miss this great event. Send the form from page 8, along with your deposit, now.

Noël Bakhtian, who received the Phi Beta Kappa E. B. Reed Memorial Scholarship in May 2011 has entitled her talk "From the Slow to the Super Fast" (the Flight of Birds to Supersonic Jets).

Noël Bakhtian is a Ph.D. candidate in the Aeronautics and Astronautics Department at Stanford University, working in the Aerospace Design Laboratory. As a graduate student, Noël has been the recipient of the Boeing/Flight Global Engineering Student of the Year Award, our E. B. Reed Memorial Scholarship, the Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship, a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Award, and the Churchill Scholarship.

Betsy Gilliland will give a talk on the "Academic Literacy for California's Adolescent English Language Learners". She is the daughter of our Association president, Mary Turner Gilliland.

Betsy Gilliland (ΦBK Brown 1995) is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Education at UC Davis, with an emphasis in Language, Literacy, and Culture. Her dissertation research is an ethnographic study of three English classrooms at one Central Valley high school, examining the ways that English-language learners develop an understanding of academic language and literacy practices. Prior to starting her doctoral studies, Betsy taught English as a foreign language as a Peace Corps volunteer in Uzbekistan. She will be talking about her current research and the implications for high schools in preparing California's linguistically diverse students for college and beyond.

Kip Cranna, the Director of Musical Administration for the San Francisco Opera San Francisco Opera's longtime Director of Artistic Administration, Dr. Clifford ("Kip") Cranna, will illustrate how composers use their personal artistic instincts to find inspiration in works by great writers, transforming their sources in fascinating and unexpected ways. Video examples will compare print, film, and operatic versions of works like Johann Goethe's "Faust," Pierre Choderlos de Laclos' "Les Liaisons Dangerousness," and Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire."

Ranger Roxann Jacobus will again lead a tour of the Asilomar campus on Monday morning with ever new and interest-ing insights into Julia Morgan, the architect of Asilomar.

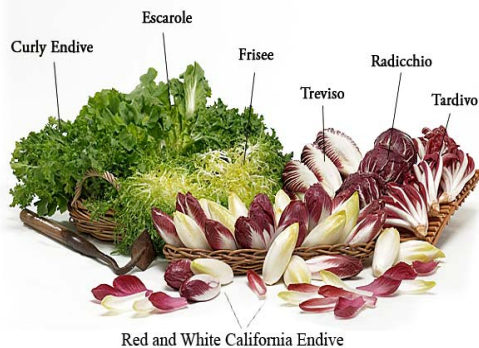
There will also be several more speakers who have not as yet been confirmed. However, as those of you who have attended our conference before well know, the speakers are only a part of the experience. What makes the weekend special (besides the always gorgeous ocean setting just south of Monterey) is the opportunity to get to know and mingle with our extraordinary members.

Contact Cal Wood, Asilomar Chair, 925-447-8666, calandix@comcast.net

Upcoming Events

Be sure to read this important information about our enrollment, refund and cancellation policies. Most events can accommodate you and any friends or family you'd like to bring along. Occasionally an event will have a limited enrollment, in which case we may not be able to accommodate more than one member and one guest per enrollment. As for refunds, if you call in advance they may be available unless ΦBKNCA will lose scholarship money — that is, unless we are financially committed, based on your enrollment, to an organization at which the event will be held. If we can find someone to fill your space, we may be able to refund your payment, but that is not always possible. Members who do not come to an event for which they have registered will not receive a refund. The ΦBKNCA Board is most grateful to those who prefer to donate the program fee to the scholarship program in lieu of a refund. You will not receive written confirmation of your reservation for the events. Directions are available from the event websites, Google.com, your GPS, or on the day of the event, by calling Judy at (707) 696-9498.

You Say “En-dive” and I Say “On-deev” - Wednesday, January 25, 2012



Remind you of a song? But let's not call the whole thing off. This is a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the only place in the US where Belgian-style Endive is grown/produced. And it's in our backyard. We will visit California Vegetable Specialties in Rio Vista to learn all about endive from Richard Collins, the UC Davis grad who started the business. After our visit, we will adjourn to The Point Restaurant (www.pointrestaurant.com) for a special luncheon with lots of ways to continue learning about endive and to enjoy a very special surprise guest.

Time: 11:00 am, **Deadline:** January 16, 2012

Minimum: 5, **Maximum:** none

Fee: \$12 per person (lunch not included)

Directions: For a map and directions go to www.endive.com/contact_us

San Francisco Palace Hotel—Historic Tour - Tuesday, March 20, 2012



Majestic. Spectacular. Words fail to convey the extraordinary beauty of the elegantly restored Palace. See this 1909 Beaux Arts gem for yourself, and discover why it's consistently ranked as one of the top luxury hotels in the world! We will meet our tour guide on the right side of the hotel lobby at approximately 10:45 am. Consider staying for lunch at the hotel after the tour is completed. Be ready to learn lots of history! Enjoy checking out this site: <http://www.sfpalace.com/assets/u/PalaceHotelFamousGuests.pdf>

Time: 11:00 am, **Deadline:** March 11, 2012

Minimum: 8, **Maximum:** 20

Fee: \$12.50 per person

Directions: The hotel is located at 2 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco. Public transportation: MUNI/BART Montgomery Station; all Market Street buses & streetcars. See www.511.org for schedules and routes.

**ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner -
Sunday, May 6, 2012**



This year's ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner will be held from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm at The Faculty Club on the campus of UC Berkeley.

Our Annual Meeting is the occasion when we celebrate ΦBKNCA's primary mission: to award scholarships and teaching excellence awards to deserving scholars and professors, with the objectives of enhancing the scholars' educational and research activities and honoring those in their teaching of our next generation.

For those of you who have not been able to come to the Annual Dinner before, we encourage you to do so. In meeting some of these outstanding honorees and learning about their academic interests (as well as renewing old friendships and perhaps getting more involved in our vibrant organization, ΦBKNCA), you will be able to more fully

appreciate the value of the programs we offer throughout the year, the funds generated through the Asilomar conferences and the direct contributions you make!

Enjoy the food, wine and, best of all, the fellowship of kindred spirits.

Social hour begins with a cash bar; dinner, which includes white or red house wine, will be served at 5:00 p.m. Coffee and tea will be served with dessert.

Remember that the fee includes not only dinner, wine and parking, but also tax and gratuities.

Date: Sunday, May 6, 2012

Deadline: Wednesday, April 25, 2009

Time: 4-8 p.m.

Price: \$65.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity).

Coupon for this event is on page 8.

Coupons – more on page 8

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.

Endive – Wed., January 25, 2012, 11:00 am

Deadline: January 16, 2012

Attending _____ x \$12 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

San Francisco Palace Hotel – Tues., March 20, 2012, 11 am

Deadline March 11, 2012

Attending _____ x \$12.50 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

Note: Board members are listed on the web at:

<http://www.pbknca.org/contact.phi.beta.kappa.pbk.htm>



**PHI BETA KAPPA
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION**

Alex Harding
VP Membership, PBKNCA
4 Fern Road
Kentfield CA 94904-2810

Return Service Requested

Important membership renewal information
Open immediately

Note – Please do not return the Asilomar form if you have already paid a deposit.

ΦBK at Asilomar February 17-20, 2012
 Deadline for Reservations: December 1, 2011
 # Attending _____ x \$100/person = \$ _____
 (Check payable to PBKNCA Questions? Call 925-447-8666)
 Member Name(s): _____
 Address: _____

 Phone _____
 E-mail _____
 Guest name(s) _____
 Car Pool
 I am willing to offer a ride to _____ person(s).
 I would like to obtain a ride for _____ person(s).
 Mail coupon and payment to:
 Calvin Wood, 420 Lincoln Ave, Livermore, CA 94550-3440

Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner – Sunday, May 6, 2012
 Deadline April 25, 2012
 # Attending _____ x \$65.00 per person = \$ _____
 (Check payable to PBKNCA - **Enter Annual Mtg on check**)
 Dinner selection:
 # Beef _____
 # Seafood _____
 # Chicken _____
 # Vegetarian _____
 Member(s) _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____
 E-mail _____
 Guest name(s) _____
 Mail coupon and payment to:
 Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617