



**PHI BETA KAPPA**  
 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION  
 THE GAMMA ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
 Association Chartered June 14, 1946

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Φιλοσοφία Βίου Κυβερνήτης

SALUS PATRIAE

Founded December 5, 1776

**March - April 2015**



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[Asilomar tax deduction](#)  
 See page 3.

**From the President**

**Volunteers are being sought for a one-year term on the Nominating Committee; no meeting attendance required, just a willingness to help ΦBKNCA find candidates for our various offices and committee chairs. Please contact Mary Gilliland at [MLtg@aol.com](mailto:MLtg@aol.com) for further information.**

I am still basking in the lovely glow of this year’s Asilomar conference, held over Presidents’ Day weekend at one of my favorite locations in Monterey County. Deirdre Frontczak again did a superb job of coordinating the event, with presentations to interest every attendee. See pages 3 - 5 for pictures and more. Friday evening began our weekend of amazing speakers. Dr. Karen Frindell-Teuscher introduced us to *Bio-inspired Materials in Daily Life and Beyond*. Who knew that slug slime, spider silk, and abalone shells could save the world?

Saturday was packed with great speakers: Dr. Robert Chester related the history of the Comstock Lode, Dr. Patti Simone (a 2014 ΦBKNCA Teaching Excellence Awardee) took us on “*A Walk Down Memory Lane*,” giving us many suggestions on how to improve our cognitive abilities (if I could only remember them!), and Dr. Beth Shapiro showed us “*How to Clone a Woolly Mammoth*.” (It’s NOT a good idea.)

Sunday morning, first-year medical resident, Catherine Spaulding M.D., explored how a hospital passes patient information from one shift to the next. That afternoon, Dr. Leilani Miller expounded on DNA profiling, what it can and can’t do, and how much we should rely on it. Saturday evening Dr. Frank Farris, a mathematician, delighted us with his knowledge of “patterns” in plane symmetry. As a quilt maker, I was fascinated by how he manipulated photos to make

beautiful “wallpapers.”

Finally, on Monday morning, we explored the history of Asilomar with Dr. Michael Meloy, an official historian for the California State Parks, specializing in Asilomar. As usual, a good time was had by all.

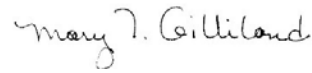
As frequently happens at this time of year, members of our Board leave to pursue other activities, and new members step up to keep us going forward. We thank our departing Board members, First Vice-President (Programs), Judy Hardardt; Corresponding Secretary, Brenda Shank; Recording Secretary, Inta Hasenkamp; and Chapter Liaison Chair, Melissa Getz. We welcome Jon Strolle, First Vice-President (Programs); Susan Jenkins, Corresponding Secretary; Stacy Croll, Recording Secretary; and Amanda Sanyal and Luke Yancy, Co-Chapter Liaison Chairs. Board members for the 2015-16 year will be elected and installed at the Annual Meeting, to be held Sunday May 3, 2015 at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club. Check this newsletter on page 2 for bios and on page 6 for reservations.

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I look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming activities, and I thank you for your continued support of Phi Beta Kappa, Northern California Association.

Mary Turner Gilliland President 2011-15



### Submit your Excellence in Teaching Award Nomination

**W**e are seeking nominations for this prestigious award, which carries an honorarium as well as a certificate. Please nominate a professor you consider to be outstanding: someone who taught an especially memorable course or who impressed you as an unusually skilled educator, who had a special impact on your education, career, or life, or whom you found inspiring and admirable. Making such a nomination is an appropriate and satisfying way of expressing your gratitude to that person. Winners will be honored at the ΦBKNCA Annual May Dinner on May 3 (See page 6).

Faculty members of any rank (including lecturers and emeriti) at the following schools are eligible for nomination: Mills College, San Francisco State University, Santa Clara University, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, and The University of the Pacific. Please give as complete information as possible. Your nominees need not be Phi Beta Kappa members. You may make more than one nomination, but please use a separate sheet for each nomination you make.

Nominations for spring 2016 must be received by November 30, 2015. Please use the webform at [www.pbknca.org/teaching/](http://www.pbknca.org/teaching/) (preferred), or the hardcopy available by printing the pdf there.

*Narcinda Lerner, Teaching Excellence Chair*

### We Have a LinkedIn Group Just for Our Members

**A**s a member of the Northern California Association, you are eligible to join our private LinkedIn group. Our group, "PBK, Northern California", is restricted to members of the Northern California Association, so you will know with whom you correspond. Go to [www.pbknca.org/linkedin](http://www.pbknca.org/linkedin) to join. We have to verify each member manually, so please email Pat Kenber at [kenber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kenber@sbcglobal.net) if you requested to access the group and feel that we've taken too long to process the request.

### New Board Nominee Bios for 2015-2016

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS Jon M. Strolle**, A.B., Spanish (*magna cum laude*), Oberlin College, 1962; Ph.D., Spanish Philology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1968; Assistant Professor of Spanish, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN; Dean of the Spanish School and Assistant Professor, Middlebury College, 1976-1980; Fellow of the Education Policy Fellowship Program, George Washington University, 1980-1981; assigned to the Office of the Secretary of Education with focus on international collaborations; Dean of the College, Sage College of Albany, NY, 1981-1985; Dean of the School of Languages, Monterey Institute of International Studies, 1985-1995; Associate Provost for special programs; Fellow of the National Foreign Language Center, 1994; 1995-2000; Professor of Spanish, 2000-2010; Lecturer in Spanish, California State University, Monterey Bay, 2002-2013. Board member of all major international exchange programs between 1985 and 2010 and extensive participation in evaluation teams for the National Endowment for the Humanities. Frequent speaker at regional conferences of language educators. Academic and general articles on language policy in the United States, texts published by UC Berkeley on their eScholarship site. Paleographer of texts from the Spanish Southwest of the United States with a focus on New Mexico. Articles and notes on academic administration published and forthcoming from Johns Hopkins University Press. Avid traveler.

RECORDING SECRETARY **Stacey Croll**, B.S. Human Biology (*magna cum laude*), University of California, San Diego 2014; Phi Beta Kappa 2014. Research Associate, UCSF Cardiovascular Research Institute.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY **Susan Jenkins**, A.A., Liberal Arts, University Studies (honors), Gavilan College, 1995; B.A., History (honors) Santa Clara University, *magna cum laude*, 1998; Phi Beta Kappa 1998. Alpha Sigma Nu, national Jesuit honor society, lifetime member. Community volunteer, most recently Board member Santa Clara Chorale (2008 – 2013), serving as fundraising chair, grant writer, and annual campaign manager. Over 10 years experience working in Silicon Valley for various high-tech companies focused in the areas of finance, legal, and HR. Avid reader, gardener, wantabe chef, theatergoer, and traveler.

CO-CHAPTER LIAISON **Amanda Sanyal**, B.A., Communication Studies and Cultural Anthropology, UC Santa Barbara 1997; Phi Beta Kappa 1997; Golden Key National Honor Society 1997; Order of Omega 1996; Delta Delta Delta 1995; Consumer technology, public relations, and social media 1998-present.

CO-CHAPTER LIAISON **Luke Yancy, Jr.**, B.S., Computer Science (minor in Mathematics), *summa cum laude*, Morehouse College, 2011; Phi Beta Kappa 2010; The American Society of Human Genetics, 2014-present; The American Medical Informatics Association, 2014-present. Currently a Ph.D. candidate in Biomedical Informatics, Stanford University, and Data Scientist at NunaHealth, Inc. Enjoys singing, dancing, and producing/directing theatrical productions.

Bios of returning Board and Nominating Committee members are located at <http://www.pbknca.org/bios/2015-2016.phi.beta.kappa.pbk.php>

**ΦBKNCA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Asilomar Conference – A great success!  
Presidents’ Day Weekend, February 13-16, 2015.**

**Tax-Deduction:**

**If you paid \$100/person registration, your deductible amount is \$67.89/person.**

**If you paid \$125, your deductible amount is \$92.89/person.**

**Sign up now for the 20<sup>th</sup> Asilomar (Feb 12-15, 2016, Coupon on back page)**



**T**he good weather on Presidents’ Day weekend once again added to the high spirits and lively discussions that make the Asilomar conference a highlight of early spring. Based on the feedback, attendees enjoyed an inspiring weekend, with speaker presentations variously described as “spectacular” and “superb.”



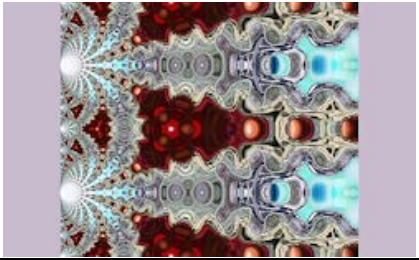

**Reservations are now being accepted for the next Asilomar on Presidents’ Day Weekend, February 12 – 15, 2016.**

Questions regarding registration, lodging and so forth may be directed to Barry Haskell, at [bghaskell@comcast.net](mailto:bghaskell@comcast.net).

Thanks go out to all our speakers, to Mike Sitzer who provided the audio equipment free of charge, and to ΦBK volunteer Barry Haskell, whose constant vigilance and patience allowed both registrations and the weekend to proceed smoothly.

### Highlights of the ΦBKNCA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Asilomar Conference

 <p>Friday evening began our weekend of amazing speakers. Dr. Karen Frindell-Teuscher introduced us to <i>Bio-inspired Materials in Daily Life and Beyond</i>. She discussed the chemistry behind several natural materials, and the progress we have made trying to imitate them. Who knew that slug slime, spider silk, and abalone shells could save the world?</p>	 <p>Saturday morning Dr. Robert Chester related how the discovery of the Comstock Lode in the 1850's made the Sierra Nevada region a site for economic and technical innovation, the building of new homes and communities for immigrants, and rapid and profound environmental changes that remain visible through the surrounding region.</p>	 <p>Saturday afternoon Dr. Patti Simone (a 2014 ΦBK-NCA Teaching Excellence Awardee) took us on "A Walk Down Memory Lane," to explore what cognitive neuroscientists understand about how memory works, including why we remember some things easily and forget other things. She gave us many suggestions on how to improve our cognitive abilities.</p>
 <p>Saturday night Dr. Beth Shapiro showed us "How to Clone a Woolly Mammoth." (It's NOT a good idea.). The discovery of a well-preserved 10,000 year old mammoth in the islands off Siberia has revived speculation about prospects of reviving long-extinct species from tiny fragments of genetic code.</p>	 <p>Sunday morning, first-year medical resident, Catherine Spaulding M.D., explored how a hospital passes patient information to/from the patient and from one shift to the next - sometimes not very well. She offered some suggestions for making this process better.</p>	 <p>Sunday afternoon, Dr. Leilani Miller expounded on DNA profiling, what it can and can't do, and how it has solved many cold crime cases. She discussed how DNA matches are determined, if we should worry about being in a DNA database, and if we should worry about criminal relatives.</p>

 <p>Saturday evening Dr. Frank Farris, a mathematician, delighted us with his knowledge of “patterns” in plane symmetry. He showed many examples of a picture transformed to a quilt-like pattern by mathematic manipulation. On the right is an original image, below it is the “wallpaper” created from it. See it in color in the web version of this newsletter at <a href="http://www.pbknca.org">www.pbknca.org</a>.</p>	<p>This combined picture</p>  <p>Transforms to this</p> 	 <p>Monday morning, we explored the history of Asilomar with Dr. Michael Meloy, an official historian for the California State Parks, specializing in Asilomar. How does a place conceived for the moral, spiritual and physical uplifting of young women become a globally recognized place for exchange of ideas ranging from housing discrimination to recombinant DNA?</p>
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For more details about the next Asilomar, watch our website [www.pbknca.org](http://www.pbknca.org).

*Deirdre Frontczak, Asilomar Chair*

## Upcoming Events

**Historic Stroll through Suisun City with Gary Holloway: Early Days, Refuge for Earthquake Victims, Today.**  
**Saturday, April 18, 2015**



Suisun City is a small suburban city set amidst the bulrushes and marshes of Solano County. It is one of the oldest cities in California, having been established shortly after the Gold Rush as a port to handle agricultural and timber products for this newly settled part of our state. This area was inhabited for over ten thousand years by the Suisunes, a branch of the Patwin tribe. The name Suisunes means the "west wind". This small city of just a few hundred people

became a backwater area, even though it is located on the main transcontinental railroad line, due to the establishment and growth of other nearby better-located places such as Vallejo, Benicia and Fairfield. On our stroll, we will walk Main Street, and find that the three famous large hotels there are all gone, having burned down. And the tallest building in the city, the Masonic Lodge, was pulled down many years ago. From Main Street, we will go through the City Plaza, along the waterfront promenade and through the historic small back residential streets that still contain post-1906 Earthquake housing, all of which capture the unique flavor of this very special place.

The walk is easy and the terrain flat.

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2015

Deadline: April 3, 2015

Time: 11:00 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m. (please be there at 10:45 a.m. for check-in.)

Minimum: 15, Maximum: 25

Fee: \$20.00

Directions: We will meet at the southwest corner of Main and Solano Streets in downtown Suisun City.

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### **ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner - Sunday, May 3, 2015**



It is time for you to put this year's ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on your calendars!

Our meeting in May will be held from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at The Faculty Club on the campus of UC Berkeley. As you are aware, the annual meeting is the occasion when we celebrate ΦBKNCA's primary mission and 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 conference, the many monthly events, and the direct contributions you make!

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

Date: Sunday, May 3, 2015

Deadline: Monday, April 13, 2015

Time: 4-8 p.m.

Cost: (per person including tax, gratuities, parking): \$65.00

Social hour begins at 4:00 p.m. with a cash bar; dinner, including your choice of entrées (seafood, chicken, vegetarian), white or red house wine, will be served at 5:00 p.m. Coffee and tea will be served with dessert.

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### **Anything Goes! We Celebrate Summer at The Leshner Theater**

**Saturday, June 20, 2015**



You will absolutely love this show at the Leshner Theater in Walnut Creek. Winner of the 2011 Tony Award for Best Revival, *Anything Goes* begins with the SS American heading out to sea with two un-

likely pairs off on the course to true love, proving that sometimes destiny needs a little help from a crew of singing sailors, an exotic disguise and some good old-fashioned blackmail. Peppering this hilariously bumpy ride are some of Cole Porter's most memorable standards, including "I Get a Kick out of You", "It's Delovely", and of course, "Anything Goes".

Some basics: Presented by Center REPeratory Company; Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter; Original Book by P.G. Wodehouse & Guy Bolton and Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse; New Book by Timothy Crouse & John Weidman; Directed by Michael Butler.

Convenient parking next to the theater. Those interested in an early dinner after the show, include that information when you send in your coupons and checks.

Date: Saturday, June 20, 2015

Time: 2:30 p.m. (plan to arrive no later than 1:30 p.m. for check-in)

Minimum: 12 Maximum: none

Deadline: June 1, 2015

Fee: \$35.00 per person

## Information about our enrollment, refund and cancellation policies

**M**ost 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 refunds. 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.

## Coupons

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. **No acknowledgements will be sent.**

Stroll through Suisun City  
Saturday, April 18, 2015, 11:00 a.m. Arrive 10:45 a.m.  
Deadline April 3, 2015  
# Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter "Suisun" on check)  
Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail coupon and payment to:  
Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

*Anything Goes* at the Leshner Theater  
Saturday, June 20, 2015, 2:30 p.m. Arrive 1:30 p.m.  
Deadline June 1, 2015  
# Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter "Leshner" on check)  
Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail coupon and payment to:  
Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner  
Sunday, May 3, 2015, 4 – 8 p.m.  
Deadline April 13, 2015  
# Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$65.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter "Annual Dinner" on check)  
Dinner selection:  
# Chicken \_\_\_\_\_  
# Seafood \_\_\_\_\_  
# Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_  
Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail coupon and payment to:  
Judy Hardardt, PO Box 2038, Davis CA 95617

ΦBKNCA Board July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

Mary Turner Gilliland, President  
Menlo Park, (650) 321-9966, Mltg@aol.com  
Judy Hardardt, First Vice President – Programs  
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Ray Hendess, Communications Officer  
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Deirdre Frontczak, Asilomar Chair  
Santa Rosa, (707) 546-4238, dfrontczak@santarosa.edu

The editor wishes to thank Larry Lerner for his proofreading and invaluable formatting suggestions.



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 VP Membership, PBKNCA  
 1073 River Rock Lane  
 Danville CA 94526-4001

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*Note – Please do not return this form if you have already paid a deposit.*

**ΦBK at Asilomar February 12-15, 2016**

Deadline for Reservations: December 15, 2015

Registration fee: # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$125/person= \$\_\_\_\_\_  
 Please make checks payable to PBKNCA; enter “Asilomar” on check  
 Mail to: Barry Haskell, 1190 Fairbrook Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040  
 Questions? Call Deirdre Frontczak at 707 546-4238

Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is this the first time you have attended our Asilomar Conference? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Where initiated to PBK (For your nametag) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email (essential!) \_\_\_\_\_