



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 2016

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

From the President

What a pleasure it is each February to attend our Asilomar conference, held over Presidents' Day weekend in Pacific Grove. The weather this year was ideal for being outdoors in the woods, but the speaker lineup kept most of us enthralled inside. Not that we didn't have time for a walk along the coast or time to enjoy watching the resident deer population from our balconies. I counted ELEVEN in the herd, which is a "personal best" for my Asilomar attendance.

Deirdre Frontczak deserves an Oscar for coordinating the event again. The eight speakers (see pages 3 and 4 for photos and more) provided something for everyone. On Friday evening we learned about Dr. Ed Ricketts' work at The Great Tidpool, just up the coast from Asilomar itself. Dr. Mary Albert, with her husband Dr. Steven Albert, has made a riveting film about Ricketts and his pioneering work.

On Saturday we heard three speakers: Christine Schulze, VP for Concordia Language Villages (Concordia College, Moorhead, MN) talked about language-learning as a necessity in today's global environment. Cheri Mah, one of our scholarship recipients, talked about her work on sleep-deprivation in elite athletes, and the need for a MINIMUM of seven hours' sleep for optimum function. Our third Saturday speaker was also our first Sunday one: Dr. William Beeman of the University of Minnesota first regaled us with his experiences as a member of a German opera company, then, on the following morning, enlightened us about life in modern-day Iran. Sunday's speakers continued with Bryan Yazell, another of our scholarship recipients, discussing the Joad family of *Grapes of Wrath* as icons of migrant workers in the Depression. In the evening,

Mark Burstein shared his work as editor of the 150th anniversary release of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, with new illustrations by Salvador Dali. Imagine someone who owns 3000 editions of that book – Mark does!

Monday morning, Llisa Demetrios told us about her grandparents, Charles and Ray Eames and their "mid-century modern" furniture of the 1950s. (Llisa and Mark are married and live in Petaluma. I envision a future ΦBKNCA excursion to see their work *in situ*!)

I am delighted to report that our entire Board has re-upped for 2016-17.

THANK YOU
 ALL!

Please join us on the afternoon of Saturday 7 May at the Bancroft Hotel in Berkeley (note change of date and location) for our Annual Meeting, at which everyone will be voted upon and reinstalled, and at which our Teaching Excellence awards and Scholarship recipients will be announced. See you there!

Mary Turner Gilliland President 2011-17

Mary T. Gilliland

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Submit your Excellence in Teaching Award Nomination

We 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. Awardees nominated in 2015 will be honored at the PBKNCA awards dinner on May 7. (See page 5).

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 2017 must be received by November 30, 2016. Please use the webform at 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

As 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 to join. We have to verify each member manually, so please email Pat Kenber at kenber@sbcglobal.net if you requested to access the group and feel that we've taken too long to process the request.

ΦBKNCA 30th Annual Asilomar Conference – A great success! Presidents' Day Weekend, February 12-15, 2016.

Tax-Deduction:

If you paid \$125/person registration, your deductible amount is \$70.88/person.

If you paid \$80 (single day), your deductible amount is \$45.36/person.



The 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."

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 30th Annual Asilomar Conference

More information may be found on our website at

<http://www.pbknca.org/asilomar/asilomar.2016.phi.beta.kappa.pbk.php>



Friday evening, Dr. Mary Albert, Film maker: The Great Tidepool: The

Story of Ed Ricketts' Scientific System showed her documentary film *The Great Tidepool* that uncovers the pioneering scientific system of Edward Flanders Ricketts, the renowned Californian marine biologist who in the 1930s wrote the world's most famous and influential seashore guidebook – *Between Pacific Tides*. Based on their research centered on the Ricketts' collection at Stanford University Library, Steven and Mary Albert piece together Ricketts' own explanation of his groundbreaking ecological scientific system.



Saturday morning, Christine Schulz, J.D. World Fluency: A Critical Skill for the 21st

Century. A globally focused curriculum, including languages, is not a luxury but a necessity our nation's schools. Four key points support a comprehensive educational framework with world fluency at the core: international business; national security; better scores, better students; and responsible, global citizenship. In a "world café" format, participants will explore some of the opportunities and obstacles for ensuring that our nation's youth have the requisite skills for success in the 21st century.



Saturday afternoon, Cheri Mah, M.S., Biology and Cognition: Sleep! Who Needs It?

Cheri Mah, 2015 PBKNCA Scholarship Awardee, developed a fascination with sleep in athletes in 2002. A double major in psychology and biology, she noticed several collegiate swimmers who walked into the lab grinning, having set multiple personal records while on a schedule to eliminate accumulated sleep debt. Does getting extra sleep actually elevate your game? Here, Cheri shares her research on the relationship between sleep and performance in elite athletes, including work with Olympians and international sports organizations.



Saturday night, Dr. William Beeman, Anthropology

The Meistersingers:

Opera Performance in Germany This delightful talk was centered on Dr. Beeman's experience as an opera performer in a leading German opera house. In this talk, he shared this experience and explored some of the differences in musical performance of western and middle-eastern traditions.



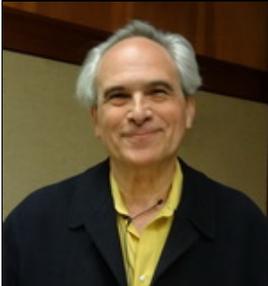
Sunday morning, Dr William Beeman The U.S. and Iran: So, What's Next? An

expert in Iranian culture and linguistics, he is author or editor of more than 100 scholarly articles, 500 opinion pieces and 14 books, including *Language, Status and Power in Iran*, and *The "Great Satan" vs. the "Mad Mullahs": How the United States and Iran Demonize Each Other*. He has consulted to the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the United Nations and the European Union on Middle Eastern affairs.



Sunday afternoon, Bryan Yazell, Ph.D. Candidate, Literature

John Steinbeck and Migrant Labor Policy. We know society is revealed in literature – but does literature also shape social values and norms? Bryan explored the role of John Steinbeck's iconic migrant family from *The Grapes of Wrath* in the development of 1930s New Deal welfare policy, addressing the problems of poverty and homelessness on a national scale.



Sunday night, Mark Burstein, Literature. What Is It About Alice? In 1865 Charles Lut-

widge Dodgson, an Oxford mathematician and Anglican deacon, published a story about a little girl who tumbles down a rabbit hole. Mark Burstein, president emeritus of the Lewis Carroll Society of North America and editor of the 150th anniversary edition, discussed the far-ranging, highly symbolic imagery of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland as this work been reimagined through the decades. The new edition, published last year by Princeton University Press, is lavishly illustrated by Salvador Dali; it has been honored with a 2015 Gelett Burgess Children's Book Award.

Asilomar Chair, Deirdre Frontczak and Lliisa Demitrios



Monday morning, Lliisa Demitrios, Sculpture / Design

"Making the best for the most for the least": a Childhood in the Eames tradition. Best known for their "mid-century modern" furniture designs, Charles and Ray Eames epitomized the modern era. They believed in the honest use of materials in their furniture, films, and architecture. "We wanted to make the best for the most for the least." Their hands-on, learning-by-doing process explored the possibilities of materials new and old, like fiberglass, aluminum, wire, plastic, and molded plywood.

Upcoming Events



Friday, April 8, 2016, Fremont Patterson House. Deadline: March 15, 2016

The 16 room Victorian-era Queen Anne mansion is seated on 205 acres in the heart of Silicon Valley. Filled with original furnishings, it is operated as a museum offering a multitude of events and programming for the community. The earliest parts of the house date to approximately 1857. The original house was a relatively simple, with only 5 rooms; a parlor, a dining room, two bedrooms upstairs, with a shed style addition containing the kitchen on the rear of the building. It is still a part of the Queen Anne addition! There is still some space available for this event. See the [December newsletter](#) for more information.



Saturday, May 7, 2016, 4 p.m. ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner. Deadline: April 16, 2016

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 Bancroft Hotel on Bancroft Ave. next to 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: Saturday, May 7, 2016 Time: 4-8 p.m.

Deadline: Monday, April 16, 2016

Cost: (per person including tax, gratuities is less than last year!): \$60.00

Parking is available across the street from the Bancroft Hotel and is open to the public on Saturday afternoon. Social hour begins at 4:00 p.m. with a cash bar; dinner, including your choice of entrées (Halibut, or braised beef, or vegetarian-spinach and pine nut ravioli), white or red house wine, will be served at 5:00 p.m. Coffee and tea will be served with dessert.



Saturday, June 11, 2016, 10 a.m. Cruising the Bay from Alameda. Deadline: May 11, 2016

Starting at the Grand Street Marina in Alameda, we will cruise San Francisco Bay in the comfort of a launch that will take us through the bridges and around the islands and inlets. Here is our chance to get a new angle on familiar surroundings from a convenient starting spot. June 11, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Bring water and snacks and then enjoy one of Alameda's highly varied spots for exotic cuisine.

Date: Saturday, June 11, 2016

Deadline: May 11, 2016

Time 10:00 a.m.

Cost \$55.00

Directions: From 880, take exit 23rd St. to Park St. Bridge. Turn right on Lincoln Ave. to Grand St. Right on Grand to 2099 Grand St, Alameda, CA

Website www.grandmarina.com/



Saturday, July 30, 2016, 11:00 a.m. Visit to the Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin St, San Francisco, CA. Deadline June 30, 2016

Docent led tour of the “Great Works” of Asian Art. A premier city center location for a day visiting the area and time afterward to find lunch at one of the many restaurants in that region of the city. See greater details at www.asianart.org. This is one of the largest collections and a jewel in the region’s resources for the appreciation and study of the world-wide development of art and culture.

Date Saturday July 30, 2016

Deadline June 30, 2016

Time 11:00 a.m.

Cost: \$30.00 (seniors \$20)

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 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 Jon Strolle: cell (831) 917-2509

Coupons are located on page 7

If you subsequently can't make an event, others may be waiting. Kindly notify Jon Strolle: cell (831) 917-2509. **No acknowledgements will be sent.**

Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner
Saturday, May 7, 2016, 4 – 8 p.m.
Deadline April 16, 2016
Attending _____ x \$60.00 per person = \$ _____
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter “Annual Dinner” on check)
Dinner selection:
Halibut _____
Braised beef _____
Vegetarian _____
Member(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Guest name(s) _____
Mail coupon and payment to:
Jon Strolle, 989 Park St., Alameda CA 94501

Cruising the Bay
Saturday, June 11, 2016, 10:00 a.m.
Deadline May 11, 2016
Attending _____ x \$55.00 per person = \$ _____
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter “Bay Cruise” on check)
Member(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Guest name(s) _____
Mail coupon and payment to:
Jon Strolle, 989 Park St., Alameda CA 94501

Asian Art Museum
Saturday, July 30, 2016, 11:00 a.m.
Deadline June 30, 2016
Attending _____ x \$30.00 per person = \$ _____
(Check payable to PBKNCA- Enter “Asian Art Visit” on check)
Member(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Guest name(s) _____
Mail coupon and payment to:
Jon Strolle, 989 Park St., Alameda CA 94501

ΦBK Board July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

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

Board Nominee Bios for 2016-2017

Bios of returning Board and Nominating Committee members are located at www.pbknca.org/bios/2016-2017.phibeta.kappa.pbk.php

President **Mary Turner Gilliland**
First Vice President, Programs **Jon M. Strolle**
Second Vice President, Scholarship **Joanne Sandstrom**
Third Vice-President - Membership **Patricia Kenber**
Recording Secretary **Stacey Croll**
Corresponding Secretary **Susan Jenkins**
Treasurer **Duncan Missimer**

Committee members to be appointed by the board:

Asilomar Chair **Deirdre Frontczak**; Co-Chapter Liaison **Amanda Sanyal**; Co-Chapter Liaison **Luke Yancy, Jr**;
Communications Officer **Ray Hendess**; Teaching Excellence Chair **Narcinda (Cindy) R. Lerner**



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