

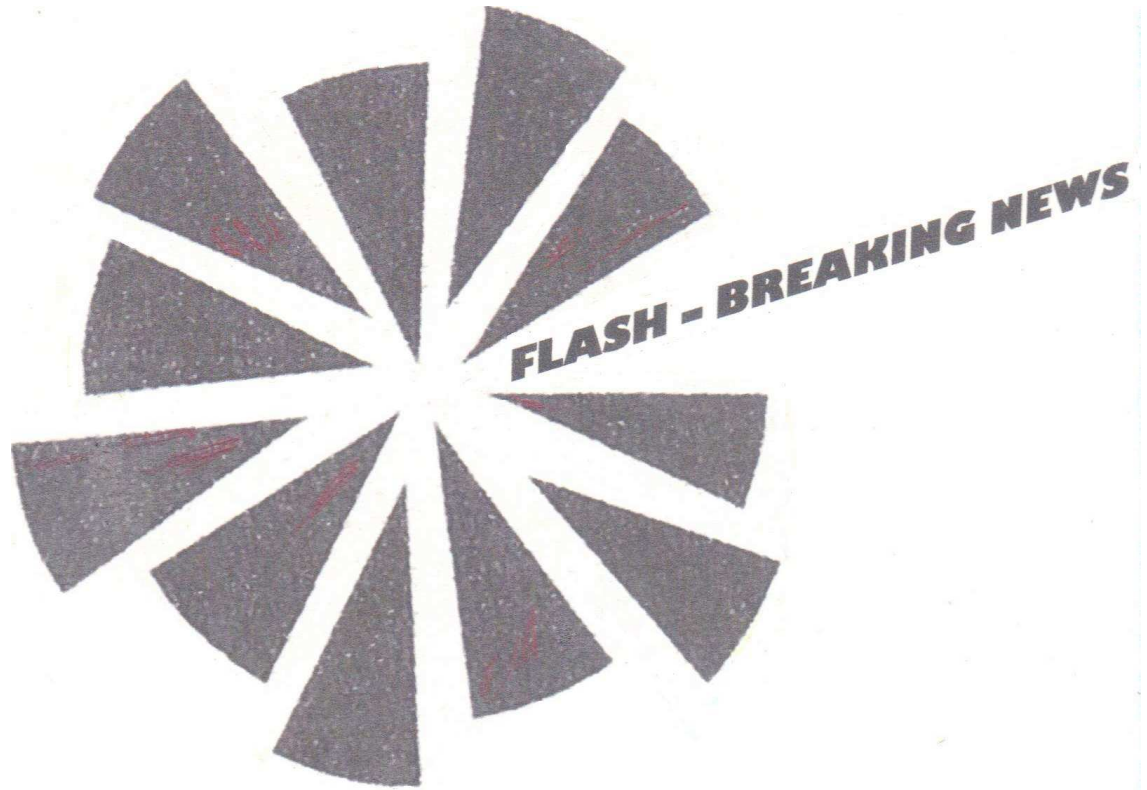
**College of Marin**

November 2011 • Vol. 38, No. 9

SENIOR  
**EMERITUS**

**STUDENTS NEWSLETTER**

LIFELONG LEARNING



You are cordially invited to the

*Winter Holiday Party*

Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

1:30 to 3:30 PM

\*

Fun, Food, Friends,  
Shopping & Music too

\*

*SPECIAL DRAWINGS  
FOR FABULOUS PRIZES*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
14 LAGUNITAS in ROSS

## ESCOM NEWSLETTER

835 College Ave.

Kentfield, CA 94904-2590

Pres: Marian Mermel (mmermel1@yahoo.com)

Editor: Don Polhemus (dondorpol@aol.com)

### ESCOM BOARD MEETS IN SEPTEMBER

Vice President **Dick Park** chaired the meeting of September 15, 2011, as the first of a round of rotating chairmanships announced by President **Marian Mermel** at the August meeting. Newly appointed Director of Community Education, **Jason Lau**, PhD, was introduced, and in turn the members of the Board introduced themselves and gave a thumbnail sketch of their activities in the organization.

President Mermel announced that ESCOM will be represented at the Senior Fair of October 19 and requested volunteers to work at the booth in two-hour increments. Several members signed up and preparations for the event are proceeding. Marian also announced that a survey will be conducted among the ESCOM membership and students of Emeritus classes to help introduce fresh thinking into ESCOM's future functions and programs. Also in prospect is the sponsorship of one or more free lectures by C.O.M. faculty, and paid for by recent bequests made to the Emeritus program.

Vice President Park asked the Board to review the current Mission Statement to determine whether it reflects the present focus of the organization, and suggested that a discussion be held at the November meeting of the Board. It will be placed on the November 17 Agenda. As chairman of the Curriculum Committee he announced that the committee will be meeting on September 21, to consider new applications of courses for the Winter and Spring 2012 semesters, with instructor interviews to follow in October and November.

Treasurer **Art Ravicz's** report was read and a number of Purchase Orders were approved for payment.

Director of Student Affairs **Arnulfo Cedillo**, PhD, announced that his duties had been expanded to include Veterans' Affairs and a program called Single Stop, that places a number of financial

functions and services to students into a single office.

Art and Exhibits Chairman **Len Pullan** announced a coming exhibit of **Christine Cohen's** work that will remain in the Emeritus Center until the end of the year. A reception for the artist is scheduled for Monday, October 24, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

Clubs Chairman **Bill Raffanti** announced that three clubs are being formed: Italian Culture Club, Tell your Story Club, and a DVD Club at IVC.

Financial Aids Chair **Beverly Munyon** reported that 39 grants of \$50 each for the fall semesters were approved and processed. She expressed her appreciation to the C.O.M Foundation for funding this program.

Newsletter member **Paul Tandler** reported favorable comments he received on recent editions, which included new features, occasional full color printing, and more. The October issue lists some of the changes and improvements made in the past 18 months under the leadership of **Don Polhemus**, Editor.

Student Trustee **Raemond Bergstrom-Wood** attended the entire meeting and reported on the coming Board of Trustees Election.

**Donna Posard** will again chair the Annual Winter Holiday Party, scheduled for Saturday, December 3, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Ross. She will anticipate assistance in setting up, cleanup afterwards, bake goods from the members, etc.



The October 20, 2011, meeting will be held at the IVC Emeritus Center, chaired by **Cole Posard**.

*Reported by Paul Tandler*

Hope to see you all at the

### Holiday Party

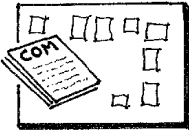
**Saturday, December 3, 1:30-3:30 PM**

Greet old friends, enjoy Music, Vendors  
and Drawings or, as they say:

**Eat, Drink and be Merry.**

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## COM IN THE NEWS



### Remembering September 11th

-- College of Marin held remembrance ceremonies at both Kentfield and Indian Valley to mark the 10th anniversary of the Sep-

tember 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States. The American flag was flown at half-staff at both campuses on September 11th and raised on the morning of September 12th. A brief presentation was made by **Dr. David Wain Coon**, COM President, at the Kentfield Campus and by **Dean Nanda Schorske** at the Indian Valley Campus. (Twin-Cities Times - 9/13/11)

### Poet Laureate Wins "Genius Grant" Award

-- Awards continue for Marin County poet **Kay Ryan**. In addition to being a Pulitzer Prize honoree and former U. S. Poet Laureate, Ms. Ryan has won the "\$500,000 Genius Grant" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The fellowship intended to fund a recipient's career for five years came as a surprise to Ryan, who being "age 65" never imagined anyone would invest in her career for an additional five years. The award is given to "talented individuals" who have exemplified extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits as well as a marked capacity for self-direction. Only two California residents were honored to win a MacArthur Grant this year, Kay Ryan being one of them. Ms. Ryan was U. S. Poet Laureate from 2008 to 2010 as well as winning the Pulitzer Prize for her poetry earlier this year. Her immediate plans are to continue writing some "really good poetry". (I. J. 9/20/11).

### Board of Trustees Upcoming Election - Seven Candidate Hopefuls

-- There are currently seven potential candidates vying for four seats available on the Board of Trustees for the upcoming November ballot measure. Three incumbents -- **Eva Long, Philip Kranenburg and James Namath** are seeking re-election in addition to four challengers -- **Joan Lisetor, Stephanie O'Brien, Jack Wilkinson and Peter Romanowsky** -- now hoping to fill the four open Board seats. Six of the respective candidates appeared at Marin Civic Center outlining their platforms with the exception of Romanowsky who responded via telephone to questions asked. Each candidate voiced his/her opinions as to what were the most pressing and important issues currently at stake in the overall day-to-day operation of College of Marin. Under

the present leadership of **President David Wain Coon**, College of Marin has exhibited a renewed focus on cooperation, candor and community involvement currently bringing the college to a peaceful era after long periods of internal dissension. (I. J. 10/3/11).

*A recent development:* Candidates for the College of Marin Board of Trustees have been invited by student government leaders to participate in a debate on Oct. 20, 2011, from 6 PM to 7:30 PM in the Deedy Staff Lounge located in the Kentfield Campus Student Services Building, 835 College Ave., Kentfield, CA. The event is open to the public and is free of charge. The following candidates have confirmed their participation: incumbent Philip J. Kranenburg, Joan Lisetor, incumbent Dr. Eva Long, Stephanie O'Brien, Peter Romanowsky, and Jack Wilkinson. Incumbent Dr. James Namath is unable to attend the debate. Candidates will be asked a variety of questions by a three-person panel, which will include a member of College of

Marin Faculty Senate, an Associated Students of College of Marin (ASCOM) member, and a community at large member. A moderator and timekeeper will be provided by the Marin League of Women Voters.



*Submitted by: Alicia Warcholski*

## NEWSLETTER BY COMPUTER

For those of you who receive the Newsletter by e-mail or by accessing the College website, and who want to make it up in the same format as you receive by mail, here's how. Bring up the issue you want on your computer screen. It doesn't matter what page. Set your printer to make pages 1,3,5,7,9. These will come out with page 1 on top because the last pages are printed first. Remove the small stack. Do not turn over, but rotate half way around so you can insert the pile top first to print the other side. Set your printer to make pages 2,4,6,8,10. Check the **reverse** box, which will cause it to print page 2 first, on the back of page 1, etc. Remove the pages and put 2 or 3 staples along the left margin.

### **BAKERS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAY PARTY**

Please phone **Donna Posard**, 491-4118.

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## WELCOME, DR. JASON LAU



Our new Director of Community Education will be the main link between ESCOM and the regular college. **Dr. Jason Lau** was born in, and spent his early years in Hong Kong, where he began his studies in Social Work, always with an interest in youth. After he received his A.A. degree, his aptitude was noticed by a visiting Educator from Iowa, who arranged for a scholarship and an

opportunity to pursue his doctorate in that state. He became involved in a large program known as Camp Adventure, which provided the children of the military in various parts of the world to a camp-oriented summer experience. He also managed a private consulting company for developing similar programs. Dr. Lau's doctoral dissertation was on the use of non-academic personnel in higher education. His accomplishments and honors are too numerous even to list. But best of all, he had the good fortune to meet and marry a young lady who had also come from Hong Kong to study in America. Dr. Lau, we wish you a challenging, satisfying, and productive life in California.

*A recent development:* the University of Northern Iowa Alumni Association has just announced the winners of this year's Heritage Honors Awards. Director of Community Education, Lifelong Learning, and International Education **Jason Lau, Ph.D.** has been selected as the recipient of 2011 Young Alumnus Award, which recognizes graduates of 40 years of age or younger who have excelled in their professions at a young age. Congratulations on your amazing range of accomplishments.

*Don Polhemus*

### NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

Those of our readers with computers may now get their Newsletters by e-mail. The advantages are that it will reach you two weeks earlier than through the print shop and post office. In addition every issue will be in full color. You will continue to receive your printed copy unless you advise us to discontinue it. If you want this service, just let me know by e-mail.

*Don Polhemus, Editor, dondorp@aol.com.*

## RETURN TO THE HOLIDAY INN

Last month we printed a humorous story about staying at a Holiday Inn rather than a retirement home. Many readers told me they enjoyed it. Actually, this tale has been in my computer for a very long time -- so long that I've forgotten its source and never knew the author. Someplace between my computer and the print shop some gremlin added my name as having written it and I must apologize for this. My only contribution was updating the prices. For care at a retirement center the cost is quite variable, depending upon how much care you need. But then you don't get much care at the Holiday Inn either. For a price of a long term stay at the hotel I chose a middle-of-the-road Inn and spoke to the reservations clerk. She quoted the figure of \$59, which seems low, partly because after 30 days you're no longer a "transient" and not subject to the local hotel tax, which can be considerable. So you see, the whole thing is doable. Enjoy your stay!

*Don Polhemus, Editor*

## WHO SAID THAT?

### A literary quiz

1. After I have stripped your glorious armor, Achilles, I will give your corpse back to the Achaians.
2. It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in need of a wife.
3. My soul is more than matched, she's overmanned, and by a madman!
4. You appeared to be surprised when I told you on our first meeting that you had come from Afghanistan.
5. Does a boy get a chance to whitewash a fence every day?
6. Abhorred monster! fiend that thou art! the tortures of hell are too mild a vengeance for thy crimes.
7. The fish is my friend, too. But I must kill him.
8. A knowing wife, if she is worth her salt, can always prove her husband is at fault.
9. How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
10. Chance and necessity concern me not, and what I will is fate.

Answers are on Page 7.

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## Today

Imagine today is the last day of your life ...

See beauty through soft eyes of love  
Hear the divine speaking quietly from above

Feel the heaven within, an ever-present peace and joy  
Think optimistically, every opportunity as a brand new toy

Listen to lines between lines, the soul whispering through  
Speak words that are beneficial, pleasing and true

Release your dark side, attachments and fears  
Embrace life's lessons, be moved to tears

Celebrate life, amidst the good and the bad  
Remember you are rich, when you are glad

Experience every moment, every encounter with depth  
Give thanks for every blessing, every breath

Prepare a radiant future, learn from the past  
Aspire to live each day as if it were your last.

By *Kim A. Jones* (formerly Botenhagen),  
Emeritus Instructor of Strength and Fitness Training since 1999.  
This poem is dedicated to my beloved husband, John R. Jones,  
who assisted my classes from 2002 to 2008.

## The Garden

I step into my garden heeding a summons  
Only my ears can perceive.  
Was it the infants cry of thirst  
Of my just planted rhododendrons?  
Or the parched throats  
Of my capricious trees?

I go there called by voices  
In a language strange, unknown,  
The idiom song of a bumblebee.  
One, only I can vaguely perceive  
With the skin of my eyes,  
The membranes of my ears,

I sit upon a rough hewn stone  
Planted at random here and there  
By fire gods beneath my feet.  
And listen to the melody  
Played by the flutter of a fallen leaf  
Or by the wing of a costumed butterfly.

Soft music, vaguely perceptible  
Drifts across the fragrant, seed-laden soil  
The whisper of a million reedy stems  
Of wild oats swaying on the slopes  
Bowing in unison to the salty wind  
The song a promise of another day.

I listen to their tune  
Of eon days as yet unknown to me,  
Unknown to other men  
Of days gone by, of days to come,  
Of days we shall be one  
The earth, the seed, and I.

*Oskar Klausenstock*

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## COULD PENGUINS BE MOVED NORTH TO THE ARCTIC?

Everywhere in the world a balance has developed between the various species which share the same territory. There must be sufficient food for all, and no animal can devour another species faster than it can reproduce. Introduction of a new animal type disturbs this whole balance. A century and a half ago the great auk filled the arctic niche into which the penguin might lodge, but his presence was terminated primarily by whalers, who ate altogether

too many. In the case of penguins their young and their eggs would be food for polar bears. But the close proximity of man would likely be the disturbance they could not survive.



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## CLUB NEWS

**Club Chairmen, please submit Kentfield club news to Bill Raffanti.**

**Shakespeare Reading:** No meeting in November. Twelfth Night Potluck Party at **Margot Jasie's** house. When? Dec. 12, of course. 8 Scott Lane, Larkspur.

**Book Banter Club** will meet on Nov. 11 at Noon. Come join your fellow club members; read passages from favorite books, magazines, poetry collections etc. and in addition you may bring books to trade. The goal is two-fold: (1) to share our personal love of an author or writing and (2) to enrich our exposure to good writing, fiction or non-fiction. Call **Len Pullan** at (415) 381-6952 with any questions.

**Opera Club** now meets on the last Wednesday of each month instead of the fourth. Bring a favorite selection, not just opera, but songs or ballet.

**Moral-Ethical Roundtable** Topics selected previously have included legality of euthanasia, moral aspects of raising the debt ceiling, and rationing health care.

## ESCOM/IVC NEWS

**Questions please call:**

**Larry Witter 883-688, G. Kopshever 883-7805, Bill Raffanti 883-4079, Rudy Ramirez 491-0522.**

**Annual Harvest Lunch:** A COM Indian Valley Tradition. November 17, 2011; Building 12 Rm 100; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. COM Student Services and Indian Valley Organic Farm welcome students and staff. Fall produce and flowers will be sold.

**Aquatic Exercise Class News:** Students of **Russell Robles** not only enjoy sharing the water while exercising, but they share a sense of community that enjoys camaraderie outside of class. As reported earlier, they ended the summer session with a luau at a Novato home. On October 21, they carpooled for lunch at the California Culinary Academy, SF, where a student's husband is a faculty member. The class reserved ESCOM/IVC for a holiday potluck after the last class on Dec. 8.

**Events below take place in ESCOM/IVC Meeting Room, Building 10, Rm 140AS.**

## Monday Afternoon Opera @ESCOM IVC:

Nov. 21, 1 PM. *La Traviata*, Franco Zeffirelli's breakthrough version of Verdi's classic opera is unlike any other. Instead of a traditional filmed stage performance, Zeffirelli's *La Traviata* is an exquisitely designed, opulently mounted production made expressly for the movie medium. Placido Domingo makes his cinematic debut in this "opera film", which also marks the first starring role for soprano Teresa Stratas. Loyal to Verdi's original score, the critically acclaimed production features the music of the New York Metropolitan Orchestra and Chorus under the baton of Met conductor James Levine. 1 hr 45 min.

This marks the third time ESCOM members have met informally in the Emeritus IVC meeting room to share operas from their personal DVD collections. Thanks to **Marilyn Seiberling** and **Dolores Gahan**, who have sparked opera fans in ESCOM. If you have opera-related DVDs you would like to share with others, come Monday Nov. 21 and a future date will be set for viewing.

**Global Issues Club:** Friday, November 18, 2 PM. *Blood on the Tracks, The Life and Times of S. Brian Willson*, a film of Brian's book presentation on July 15 in San Rafael. Follow the unimaginable journey of an American peacemaker from high school jock to Viet Nam commander, to peace activist seeking right livelihood; and now cycling from town to town with his new book. Note: Before the film, **Colleen Rose** will give a brief report on her participation in a delegation to Honduras in September.

## IVC Book Forum

11/28 *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, Helen Simonson.

12/19 Please bring books to be considered for the 2012 Reading List to be finalized at Dec. 19 meeting. This is a good time to join the IVC Book Forum and influence reading in 2012!

## Great Books Discussion Group

Oct. 11 - (1) *Comrades*, Gordimer: A short story depicting problems of integration in South Africa. (2) *Frankel*, *The War and the Law: Problems with prosecuting war criminals*. (3) *Wong*, *Safeguard Your Lives: A live account of the Tianamen Square Massacre*.

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Oct. 25 - (1) *Red Scarf Girl*, Ji-li Jiang: Pressures on youth to desert their families and join the Chinese Communist Party. (2) *My Forbidden Face*, Latifa: Restrictions on Afghan women by the Taliban.

Nov. 8 *Perplexities of the Rights of Man*, Hannah Arendt.

**IVC Philosophy Club:** *History of Freedom*, 36 Lectures by Professor Rufus Fears, U. of Oklahoma, 2 lectures each week followed by discussion using the accompanying study guide.

### **IVC Film Noir Theater Club**

11/12 *Cause for Alarm*, Loretta Young, Barry Sullivan, Bruce Cowling. Director: Tay Garnett.

11/26 *Armored Car Robbery*, Charles McGraw, Adele Jurgens, William Talman. Director: Richard Fleischer.

### **Humanities Club**

Beginning September 17, a new 24 lecture series *Famous Romans*, Professor J. Rufus Fears. This course teaches lessons about statesmanship, politics, liberty and virtue that remain relevant and vital today.

11/05 Lecture 7, Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus; and Lecture 8, Crassus.

11/19 Lecture 9, Julius Caesar; Lecture 10, Caesar and Vercingetorix.

12/03 No lectures this week.

**Another Look at the Prohibition Era:** For those who enjoyed the recent Ken Burns PBS TV series on the 1920-30s, the 1927 film *Chicago* was recently viewed at the Film Noir Club. *Chicago* is part of a 2-disc collection that includes two excellent bonus films, Cecil B. deMille's original nitrate print of *The Golden Twenties* mastered in high definition, and *The Flapper Story* mastered from a composite print from producer-director Lauren Lazin. If interested in continuing your learning about this period of US history, contact **Gloria Kopshever**, gloriakopshever@yahoo.com (415-883-7805) to arrange a time at ESCOM/IVC to see these recently discovered and digitalized films from the era around the 18th Amendment.

### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

The next newsletter staff meeting will be held Thursday, November 3, 10:30 AM, at the Emeritus Center, Kentfield.

### **ANSWERS TO "WHO SAID THAT?"**

1. Hector, just before being slain by Achilles, wants assurance that his body won't be desecrated. *The Iliad*.
2. Jane Austen's novels deal with women's search for the best husband. These are her opening words in *Pride and Prejudice*.
3. First Mate Starbuck knows that Ahab's pursuit of *Moby Dick* is insane but hasn't the strength to oppose him.
4. When *Sherlock Holmes* first meets Dr. Watson he startles him by his powers of observation.
5. *Tom Sawyer* persuades his friends that it's an honor to do his work for him.
6. *Frankenstein* responds to his monster's murderous behavior.
7. *The Old Man and the Sea*.
8. The Wife of Bath in *Canterbury Tales* likes marriage but abuses her husbands.
9. Elizabeth Barrett Browning tells Robert of her love in *Sonnets from the Portuguese*.
10. Though Satan has the best lines in *Paradise Lost*, God has some like this.

### **DO HUMMINGBIRDS HUM?**

Their wings vibrate so fast that they make a sort of humming sound, but that's not the most interesting thing about these little birds who live only in North America. They're extremely acrobatic, being the only bird that can fly forward, backward and upside down. They can also go from stationary to flight speeds near 25 mph almost instantly. Unlike those of other birds, the hummingbird's wings move forward and backward instead of up and down, and each entire wing rotates in a figure-eight formation.



While it's undoubtedly effective, this unique flying technique is inefficient, and the hummingbird therefore needs the highest metabolic rate of any animal, and a heart rate approaching 500 beats per minute. This requires the bird to consume enormous quantities of food each day in order to stay alive.

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## THE CLUELESS MIND REDUX

One year ago, in the Summer doldrums, I had reason to ponder if the unhappy events I had suffered could be charged to the mysterious workings of the Universe which cause things suddenly and all at once to deconstruct, disintegrate and generally go to hell.

These "things" involved all items with dials, knobs, timers, heating and cooling elements listed under plumbing, electric, minor technology and everything else that comprise a house and environs. My last interchange with that Little Green Man I'd left lounging on my back fence, implied with an unpleasant smirk, that malign Cosmic Forces were indeed fogging up my atmosphere. Not much I could do. Grin and bear it!

This year, with some uneasy anticipation, I was advised to expect a replay of such mischief since Mercury was ascending (or descending). I must say, when I became aware that an enterprising gopher (and large progeny) had burrowed underground in my garden and was busy chewing up my sprinkler system followed by a major rupture of a water main flooding the front of my house ... oh well, if that is all ... could accept this with some stoicism.

But, of course this was just an appetizer; this time misfortune came from afar and I offer this tale with a Warning! Over a static connection an obviously harried young man addressing me as "Grandma" called from what he implied was a dungeon in a foreign place (Edmonton, Alberta in Canada) where he was in trouble when he had been arrested due to an accident and a DUI and was now held prisoner by villains who would release him only on payment of a fee! This matter was to be facilitated by an obliging and authentic-sounding person claiming to be with the Public Defender's office. I fell for it ... imagining my sweet little!! grandson (whom I knew from the day he was born and is now over six feet and just graduated from college with honors) ... was in terrible peril and so ran to the bank and sent a not insignificant amount of cash via Western Union and only when ugly suspicion brought me to my senses, got him at home in L.A. and asked him what he was doing out of jail! ... It took some explaining, but I assured him Grandma hadn't quite lost all her marbles. He thanked me anyway.

I was a victim of the well-known "Grandma

Scam" and a really nice Novato policeman came and took a crime report from a really mortified Novato citizen. So, *Beware*, you soft-hearted, soft-headed, unsuspecting Grandmas. I can't help but look on life with a certain fatalism for I fear these hapless misfortunes may become an annual event. It is now predicted that next Summer, Saturn will most likely reverse its course and things will again go to hell!

*Sandra Rosenberg*

## BOOK REVIEW: "I, MAYA"



This autobiography is a remarkable account of a dancer's life in the Soviet Union at the time of the Cold War and beyond. Ballerina Maya Plisetskaya says she wrote it all herself, and she surely has conveyed the feeling of the times to the reader. Because of her incredible talent she rose almost immediately after joining the Bolshoi to soloist rank. Further advancement seemed blocked because this company already had their *prima ballerina assoluta* in Galina Ulanova, who many believed to be the best in the world. Yet Maya does not record any unpleasant competition between the two and both were given important roles. Ulanova's career was near its zenith and perhaps everyone expected Maya eventually to replace her, which did in fact happen. A problem not of Maya's making delayed her recognition on the international scene. The Russians had recently been terribly embarrassed by the defection of Rudolf Nureyev and Mikhail Baryshnikov to the West. In fact they then resorted to very close supervision by guards accompanying the dancers on foreign visits. And in the case of Plisetskaya, now a national treasure, they barred her leaving the country altogether lest she also defect. Though Maya protests that she had no intention of leaving her native land, all her numerous attempts to secure permission to travel were refused -- no visa for her. In the meantime her performances within the Soviet Union were wildly successful. She records having danced Swan Lake more than 3000 times. Eventually, it must be noted, international tensions subsided, as did temptations from abroad, and Maya was finally allowed to be appreciated by western audiences.

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At the same time Ulanova was winding down her career. Amazingly, only one motion picture survives showing both dancers together in the same performance, thus allowing viewers to compare their techniques, side by side. Perhaps prophetically, the story in this ballet has Maya slaying her rival at the end.

But Plisetskaya's signature role was as *The Dying Swan*. The first time I saw her perform this ballet I was struck, as was everyone in the audience, by her amazing arm movements, graceful, yes, but seemingly boneless. As the five minute dance ended we were deafened by a full fifteen minutes of thunderous applause, only terminated by her encore. A moment I shall never forget.



*Don Polhemus*

## THE DOCTOR STORY

Where are the doctors of yesteryear? Where are the doctors we held so dear?

All I want is a doctor who has a sense of humor, who is kind, who has been through medical school and been up the ladder at MGM or RKO.

Example I: Being in a great deal of pain for several weeks, bland diet, etc. undiagnosed, my internist referred me to another doctor in her office. I arrived in his office promptly at 8:30 AM as scheduled and was told that he had just returned from a retreat. I politely asked him if he had had a good time.

“Meditation retreat,” he responded gruffly.

I silently prayed this had left him in a tranquil mood.

“How are you?” he asked.

I gritted my teeth through my pain. “Miserable, miserable, just miserable...” For some reason this angered him. “You said that three times. I heard you the first time!” Why did he think I was in his office at 8:30 in the morning – to offer him two tickets to the Giants game, to invite him to my Sabbath dinner?

“Get her husband in here,” he barked at his nurse. He turned to me. “What’s his name?” “Mr. T.,” I said meekly.

“I will give you a shot. It will hurt.” He came at me with a twelve inch needle.

“Close your door,” I said, “so the patients in your waiting room won’t hear me scream.”

He did! I did!

Example II: Those of you who know me know that I suffer from daily migraines, sometimes bad, sometimes worse. I called my newest neurologist (my original neurologist having retired) and went in with a list of my ailments - as recommended. She suggested I might be having a few too many Senior moments and was becoming forgetful.

“Iris,” she said, “I have told you this before. I am leaving for India to adopt a child. We are a perfect match. Adopting a child is not like it was a generation ago. It takes a lot of planning.”

I sat there trying to look intelligent, but my familiarity with reproduction and fertility was long forgotten, but when she mentioned “India”, it struck a spark.

“I just read a fascinating book, set in London in 1876 about a woman who had T.B. and went to India to save her life. I think you would enjoy it.”

“What was the name of it?”

“I cannot remember”(\*)

I wish I had words to describe the expression on her face, but I do not. Disgust, dismay, disbelief. Is this why she had spent so many years slaving through medical school? From what planet had this woman fallen and what was she doing in her examining room. She gave me one more look that said “What are we both doing here?”, turned around and left the room. My list of ailments was forgotten.



I will call forth my inner strength. I will contact an Inuit shaman. We will burn a few twigs, blow a few smoke clouds and take it from there.

*Iris Tandler*

(\*) Name of the book – *The Mistress of Nothing*, Kate Pullinger. (Africa, not India.)

**Emeritus Students  
College of Marin  
835 College Avenue  
Kentfield, CA 94904-2590**

**TIME DATED MATERIAL**

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**CLUBS:** Participation in all clubs requires an Emeritus Students Activities Card. For further information, call 485-9652.

**ADVENTURER'S CLUB:** Call Ruth King, 898-5845, for information on next meeting.

**BOCCE BALL CLUB:** Bocce ball on Tues. at San Rafael courts, 9:30 AM. Call John Kouns, 332-5929 for other activities.

**BOOK BANTER CLUB:** 2nd Friday September to May, 12:00 - 1:30 PM, Emeritus Center, Kentfield. Len Pullan, 381-6952, lenpullan@comcast.net.

**BRIDGE CLUB:** Mon. 1:00 - 4:30 PM, Cafeteria, Kentfield. Tom Metzger, 479-8290, trmetzger@comcast.net; Lynn Mason, 456-2508.

**CURRENT EVENTS CLUB:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 12 noon, Emeritus Ctr. Jerry Weisman, 383-1831, gweisman@sprintmail.com; and James Kennedy, 388-3939.

**FRENCH CLUB:** Call Doyleen McMurtry, 472-4738, dmcmurtry@LVHA.net, for information on next meeting.

**GLOBAL ISSUES CLUB:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 2:00 - 4:00 PM, IVC, Room 140, Bldg 10. Colleen Rose, 898-0131, colleenrose@juno.com.

**GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10:00 AM - 12 noon, IVC, Room 140, Bldg. 10, near Admissions. Don Polhemus, 883-3567, dondorpol@aol.com.

**GREAT IDEAS IN PHILOSOPHY CLUB:** Thursdays, 1-3 PM, Room 140, Bldg. 10, IVC. Larry Witter, 883-6889, lswitter@sonic.net.

**HUMANITIES CLUB:** 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 PM, Room 140, Bldg 10, IVC. Rudy Ramirez, 491-0522, rurmac@mac.com.

**ITALIAN CLUB:** 4th Tuesday, 2-4 PM, Emeritus Center. Mila Weed, 453-6054, unsarda@mac.com.

**IVC BOOK FORUM:** 4th Monday, 3-5 PM, IVC, Room 140, Bldg. 10, near Admissions. Louise Kerr, 883-2823, lkerr210@comcast.net.

**IVC FILM NOIR DVD CLUB:** 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 1-3 PM, Bldg. 10, next to Admissions, Room 140, IVC. Rudy Ramirez, 491-0522, rurmac@mac.com.

**MORAL-ETHICAL & LEGAL ISSUES ROUNDTABLE:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 10 AM - 12 noon, Emeritus Center, Kentfield. Cole Posard, 491-4118, colemanposard@att.net; Len Pullan, 381-6952.

**OPERA AND BEYOND:** Last Wednesday of month, 1-3 PM, Emeritus Center, Kentfield. Gil Deane, 456-2853, gildeane@aol.com.

**SCRABBLE CLUB:** Every Thursday, 2:00-4:00 PM, Cafeteria, Kentfield. Marlene Knox, 459-1427, marlsteve@comcast.net.

**SHAKESPEARE CLUB:** Third Monday. Please call Valda Carter, 388-6335, valdated@sbcglobal.net, for time and place.

**SINGALONG CLUB:** 2nd Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 PM, location TBA. Marlene Knox, 459-1427, marlsteve@comcast.net.

**WRITERS' WORKSHOP:** 1st Tuesday of the month, 1-4 PM, Emeritus Center. Shirley Pullan, 381-6952, shirlmv@comcast.net, or Marlene Knox, 459-1427, marlsteve@comcast.net.

