

# ViewPoint

Summer 2009



# editorial viewpoint



EVERYBODY'S TWO CENTS (TYPED AND TOLD)  
by Lainey S. Cronk

We had 84 alumni from 1919 (really?! ) to 2007 participate in our online survey, giving us much-needed feedback on *ViewPoint*. All the survey takers were anonymous, but if you were one of them, thank you! Your suggestions are helping guide changes and assessments with *ViewPoint*. Here are excerpts from the comments section:

"I wish there was more information about the alumni — I love the articles about what alumni are up to — it is something to be proud of sharing a common history with someone who has really gone out and made a difference in the world."

"I enjoy topics/discussions about relevant issues that are not just specific to PUC (the issue this past year re: Racial issues/history/current debates was really enlightening and something I could share with friends/colleagues who are not Adventists...)"

"It has become a brag sheet, touting the merits of a president and school. The editorial direction needs to be changed to treat people as people — not elevate people or accomplishments or goals of specific individuals."

"Having individual stories, not just the entire magazine as a PDF would be really helpful for sharing online. In fact, it would be nice if *ViewPoint* could have its own website the way other magazines do."

"It's great to hear from 'home.'"

### Why We Like Pennies (in the form of stories and ideas)

Your survey feedback pointed out areas you're likely to read or things we should include more often. Here's the challenge: To make some of those things happen, we need you. For instance,

many of you requested a letters to the editor section. We'd love to include one. But that means each person who requested it needs to start writing us! Here's what you can contribute:

**Class Notes:** Drop us a few lines about what you're up to now (including weddings and births). Photos are great, too. We want to move away from our current process of collecting Class Notes from a variety of sources, and instead have them come directly from you.

**Fun Stories:** Have more stories like those that appeared in last issue's very popular "Stories & Snapshots"? We want short stories and photos from any and all times in PUC's past.

**Letters to the Editor:** Was an idea sparked by one of the articles? Do you have comments to add about an issue? Write!

All these can be sent to us at [viewpoint@puc.edu](mailto:viewpoint@puc.edu) or mailed to the office. Or you can call the editor at 707-965-6303.

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## viewpoint

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**Vision Statement:** *ViewPoint*, the Journal of Pacific Union College, aims to be a vehicle for the school's motto: "Thinkers, not mere reflectors of other men's thoughts." *ViewPoint* provides PUC's alumni and friends with features that further the college's educational and spiritual ideals, with news about the college and its alumni, and with means to unite, motivate, and inspire.

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# Going Places in a beat-up old trailer

Karen Ong defers Ph.D. studies for a year to come back to the Napa Valley and fulfill a dream that started when she was a student **By Elizabeth Rivera**

When you meet Karen Ong, '06, you quickly become aware that she is going places. What you don't know (yet) is that she's getting to those places in a beat-up old trailer packed to the brim with toilet paper, toothpaste, groceries, and clothes. She sits in the passenger seat, maybe fiddles with the radio; the driver revs up the engine and it is the start of another day as the first full-time volunteer coordinator for JPPM.

JPPM is Jail, Prison, and Program Ministries, an organization in California's Napa Valley that ministers to prisoners and their families. About three years ago, Karen was at PUC finishing up her senior year as a bio-chemistry major and heading the ministry KidzReach, JPPM's children's program. KidzReach takes children from unstable homes and gives them a weekly day of fun filled with loving adults and activities. But Karen's route from PUC to KidzReach to JPPM was indirect.

It began with a phone call she received while working as an assistant in the PUC chaplain's office. Someone was looking for college students to help at-risk kids. Karen volunteered herself, helped found KidzReach, and went on to become its leader her senior year.

Then she received a diploma and said a sad goodbye to KidzReach. She had wanted to keep working with JPPM, but the lack of a real position and funds made it impossible. She moved to Washington, D.C., and became a fellow with the National Institute of Health (NIH), where she spent the next two years doing medical research.

And then she began applying to and interviewing at graduate schools. She woke up in hotel rooms across the country and thought not about interviews, but about those kids who needed her. Something inside Karen kept pulling her back to JPPM. "I just couldn't stop thinking about it," she says.

She woke up to the same idea morning after morning, hotel room after hotel room — "I have to work with JPPM." She knew if she didn't she'd regret it, but doing so was seemingly impossible. There was still no position available at this grassroots non-profit organization with no official support, and no means to do it on her own.

But Karen decided to look past the impossibility of the situation and try anyway, despite the fear. And things began to fall into place. First, the expansion of JPPM and a full-time position for this grossly understaffed organization that has helped over 1,000 families during its 20-year run. Then Karen's parents moved to Oakland, which provided her with housing. She was accepted to New York University's M.D./Ph.D. program and was allowed to defer until July.

Karen now juggles her various duties at JPPM while working toward three major goals: getting JPPM officially recognized; establishing an official taskforce position so that there will be another full-time worker next year; and getting more people involved through public relations. Her days are unpredictable. A Monday of bouncing back dozens of e-mails and working on the website will be followed by a Tuesday registering cars donated to JPPM and a Wednesday doing homework



Karen's work with JPPM includes everything from riding around in a trailer to Sabbath song services in the park.

with a handful of girls. Last week she unexpectedly spent four hours in the emergency room helping a woman with health issues and also driving around in that old trailer packed to the brim visiting families and helping meet their basic needs. She drives around checking up on families, some of which

don't have phones, and connecting one-on-one. These families have a parent in jail or dealing with drug addiction (or both); and they also have kids, and usually a few adults, in need of some love. And that's what JPPM is all about — not raising money or amazing programs, but love. Its focus is love in action. A love that reaches out to a community in need of healing and trying to put a stop to the vicious cycle of incarceration and poverty by providing some basic necessities like toothpaste and a hand to hold during rough times.

To an outsider, this year working for JPPM might look like a lateral move, but as Karen says, "I'm not sure how it fits in with my long-term career goals, but I'm sure that it's really important." The enthusiasm in her voice is evident.

She speaks passionately about the needs she sees in the community, of the people she's helped and of all the big dreams she has for JPPM. And it all started with the simple idea: "If I want to see this, I have to make it happen." It started with taking responsibility for the direction she wanted in life and for the kind of changes she wanted to see.

Of working with JPPM and KidzReach, Karen says simply, "It sets your life in the direction that you've wanted it to go, but weren't sure you had the strength to do." And without meaning to, Karen and her stories inspire others to ask, What am I scared I can't do? What direction have I been aching for my life to go in? Her story provides a few answers as well: Start now; the rest will fall into place; take the first step now and jump. **VP**



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)

Our tendency to gather in small(ish) groups has meant everything at PUC from touring with the 1919 Glee Club (5) to current gatherings such as “Jamnesty” concerts with Amnesty International (4), community projects with the Students In Free Enterprise (3), Parkour Club members leaping around campus (2), and casts creating Dramatic Arts Society productions (1).

# We Gather Together to snowshoe, pray, and track down our great-great uncles

By Lainey S. Cronk

Marshal George heads to the sauna to tell the guys how he has seen Christ in the last week. Jason Lee leaves his food-dispensing classmates at the tables and sits down to listen to a homeless visitor’s story. Vicki Saunders leads a small troupe of aspiring genealogists to the five levels of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Recent decades have seen Americans gathering more and more into small groups that offer support, provide a social unit, or are based on areas of interest. Back in 1994, Robert Wuthnow in his book *Sharing the Journey: Support Groups and America’s New Quest for Community* cited his research showing that “40 percent of the adult population of the United States claims to be involved in ‘a small group that meets regularly and provides caring and support for those who participate in it.’”<sup>1</sup> This astonishing figure, he explained, “means that approximately 75 million adult Americans are meeting regularly for some kind of small-group interaction and support.”<sup>2</sup>

A 2003 article by Paul G. Harwood suggested that such groups are growing even more lasting and tight-knit by using “information communication technologies” such as e-mail, cell phones, and instant messaging to stay in touch even between their normal meeting times.<sup>3</sup> And it doesn’t take much Internet research to find just about any kind of group. The Dayton Folk Music Sing-Along Meetup, the Parents of Type 1 Diabetes, the

California UFO Research Society. A college campus is a slice of that variety.

## Leaping Obstacles – Literally

One group makes a weekly practice of climbing and jumping around the campus. Parkour is a “movement discipline” in which the basic idea is efficiently using your body to get from point A to point B in the fastest and most effective way. Non-competitiveness is a basic concept of parkour, making the PUC Parkour Club more of a community than a competitive team. Club founder Jason Robinson, a junior, explains that group experience allows members to learn from more experienced “traceurs” and also to work together to discover ways of overcoming obstacles. It can also lessen the pressure, he says. “While on your own, things may look scary or intimidating, but if you are in a group and you see someone overcome the same obstacle, it helps build both your confidence and your desire to train.” The Parkour Club meets every Friday and encourages new people to come. “Really, anyone with a desire to learn can participate ... as long as you want to learn, you will.”

Doing Life Together groups exemplify inclusiveness as well. “DLT” is a program supported by the PUC Church that links and advertises 25



The whole point of the Homeless Ministries group is to work together to make a difference for others, regularly prepping and taking food to People’s Park in Berkeley.

community groups. Business professor Richard Voth kicked off the program several years ago when PUC Church staff were looking for ways to get community members better connected. He compiled a listing of existing groups and made it easy for new people to get involved. For example, Vicki Saunders, a dietitian at the St. Helena Center for Health, heads up the “family history” group. An avid genealogist, she’s pursued her family tree about as far as she can go. But she’s helping other people research their family histories by meeting with them, sharing resources, helping them sleuth, and taking some research trips. Six others went with her this last year on her annual trip to the archives at Salt Lake City.

## From TLC4 to the Sauna

Monday night, the busy sauna at Newton Hall hosts a group of guys who have a worship time that lasts as long as they can stand the heat! It started when a few guys wanted “to come up with a relaxing, unique spiritual meeting,” as student Marshal George says. “We had gone to the sauna together and would talk about God, so... we decided that we would do a men’s group focused on guys’ issues and on how to be Christian young men.” George calls the group a “testament to the truth that God is looking to transform commonplace activities into Christian space.” Student Robert Abdul Karim agrees that it’s “a time for guys to hang out and get closer to God in a setting that normally is not thought of as being spiritual. But after starting this ministry, it seems like the norm.” Notably, George adds, a gathering like this is “a step closer to forming a healthy community. By uplifting Jesus in an event that many enjoy, a camaraderie has developed that was lacking in their lives.”

The sensed lack of camaraderie and community may be the driving factor in the small groups movement. “Community is what people say they are seeking when they join small groups,”<sup>4</sup> Wuthnow says. He suggests that small groups help people experience “belonging” but don’t solve the deeper problem. “Small groups make it possible for us to survive, even as market pressures, jobs, and disrupted personal relationships make greater demands on our lives... Their weakness lies in their inability to forge the more enduring bonds that many of us would like or to strongly resist the fragmenting forces in our society.” Many small groups, he argues, are so fluid that they may perpetuate the lack of deep ties. At the same time, the number of people involved in such groups shows that we are not just “self-interested individualists.” Small groups “provide a way of transcending our most self-centered interests; they temper our individualism and our culturally induced desire to be totally

independent of one another.”<sup>5</sup>

This seems to be especially true of spiritual or faith groups, which Janeen (Lonberger), ’71, and Gary, ’78, Galusha found in a Sabbath School class called TLC4. They felt a bit lost in the large PUC Church until they found TLC4. “We felt at home the very first Sabbath we attended TLC4. It felt like family,” they recall. In addition to nurturing spiritual needs, TLC4 provides “a sense of care and connection that meets our social needs as well. Each member is important to the group as a whole and their well-being and what they have to say and contribute to the class matters.”

## Taking the Group to People’s Park

Small groups tend to be of a nurturing or interest-led nature, valuable to the members but not as likely to affect larger-scale change as some larger civic-oriented or service-oriented organizations may be. But

there’s a special category of small groups that feeds and fuels the members but also effects change for others, and a college campus lends itself especially well to small groups that *do* affect change outside of their membership.

One long-standing ministry group is Homeless Ministries. Jason Lee got involved with the ministry last year through a friend. The group gathers to make food and takes it to People’s Park in Berkeley, a park where homeless people gather in significant numbers each day. The group sets up, distributes the food, and builds connections.

For Lee, the highlight of these trips is getting to know people personally. “It’s not just about going and giving out food,” he explains. The group hands out copies of *Steps to Christ*, which Lee did at first — but he recounts how one man asked, “Why are you passing out these pamphlets? It’s totally conditioned. You expect us to read it because you give us food, so in return you want something.” That really made Lee think. “We still pass [copies] out,” he says, “but we make sure and let them know we’re only

passing them out if they’re interested.” In the meantime, he says, “what I found more beneficial was just having casual conversation with them and getting to know them, rather than throwing ourselves at them.”

Though many who participate in this ministry are new or people who come occasionally, the group does build a kind of internal relationship. “We all have the feeling that we’re not just here to give out food, but to actually do a mission work,” Lee says. “We’re all going there for one purpose.”

It’s not just formally service-oriented groups that get directly involved in their communities, though. As the Galushas found at TLC4, “The class is very involved in the community. If anyone brings a need to the class they don’t just talk about it...they do something about it. Usually a decision is made at that moment when to meet to do yard work, construction, aid the homeless, or give food, gas, or money to someone in need.”

## Growing Together

Getting connected with a small group can make a big impact on personal experiences both at a college and in any community. Becoming a key member of the Dramatic Arts Society helps a disconnected freshman find a niche; joining the Social Work Forum helps a Christian student find a way to make their studies real in their own society; and a weekly time of prayer and communal quietness can bring calm and connection to a stressed-out over-achiever. What Robinson describes for the Parkour Club can be true with many kinds of gatherings, and for the communities they touch: “We grow together as a group.” **VP**

1. Robert Wuthnow. *Sharing the Journey: Support Groups and America’s New Quest for Community*. The Free Press, New York, 1994. p. 45
2. Wuthnow, p. 45
3. Paul G. Harwood, “Cyber Interaction Matters: Sharing the Journey Online?”
4. Wuthnow, p. 3
5. Wuthnow, p.12

# The Gathering Tradition

**Glee Clubs and M.V.s:** Early groups on campus were much like today’s — and yet so different! The October 18, 1935, *Campus Chronicle* reported the 30 members of the Ladies’ Glee Club were practicing the “Lady of Shallot” while the 25 students in the Men’s Glee Club worked on sacred and secular songs. That same year, the M.V.

**REACH:** A new group that formed in 2003 with the help of student Cody Bolluck, REACH aimed “to send PUC students off campus to do ministry,” reported Jon Thornton (now youth pastor at the PUC Church) in a 2004 CC. REACH continues to be active on campus.

**Speech Forum Takes Largest Enrollment:** In the fall of 1935, the CC reported that “Extra-Curricular Clubs Will Organize Friday for Activities of the Year” and “Speech Group Largest.” Already, 325 students had signed up, with the top number — 69 — in the Speech Forum. Other clubs were Premedical, General Culture, Elementary Education, Commercial, Biology, Language, Physical Science, California Native Sons, and Stamp. In February, 1936, the Commercial Club hosted a Sunday morning waffle feed — at 6 a.m.!



**A Cappella Verse-Speaking Choir:** The March 21, 1935, CC reported that the A Cappella choir was leaving for its second tour of the season to perform at Boothby-Spillman tabernacle, do radio broadcasts on KPO and KTAB, and perform at Mountain View and Burlingame high school. “The A Cappella Verse-Speaking choir of 12 members; Herbert Work, clarinet and saxophone artist; a vocal trio and several soloists add variety to the program.”

**Recycling Against Apathy:** A 1993 article written by Aimee Wyrick (now a biology professor at PUC) announced a new “Green Earth Club.” As she said, “On campus there seems to be a lot of apathy toward environmental issues... The Green Earth Club is a club that wants to make a difference.”



One day in 1948, the **Teachers of Tomorrow Club** presented during the chapel hour, providing a play about a teacher, a devotional talk, and a piano solo.



**Theatricals:** The Dramatic Arts Society was founded by students in 1990. Their first two plays were *Alone Together* and *Steel Magnolias*, followed by everything from *The Ugly Duckling* to *The Taming of the Shrew*.

(Missionary Volunteer society) officers gave a program, and a Speech Forum

organized due to popular request with a large enrollment anticipated. Just below this announcement, in world news, was the heading, “Hitler May Surrender.”

In 1992, **Team Grainger** formed to “unite the mountain bikers of Pacific Union College and race in the Northern California area,” reported a 1993 CC. Their first year, the team had 22 members and participated in many races.





## REVOLUTION, TAKE TWO

A student-led humanitarian movement makes its second PUC appearance

By David Ranzolin

The solidification of Revo as an official campus club this year sets the movement as more than a fad at Pacific Union College. It is the student body's lasting commitment to social justice. Revo PUC 2009 proves that last year's movement and event (and \$10,000 raised for trafficked children in Peru) was by no means an anomaly.

Revo is a student-led movement now nationwide, to host events that raise awareness and funds for various humanitarian causes. It plays off the word "revolution" and is as much a mindset as it is a cause. According to [www.startarevo.org](http://www.startarevo.org), Revo is "based on the concept of LOVE. To live the Revo everyday is to think beyond ourselves and redefine our modern conception of necessity. It is taking a homeless man out to dinner. It is seeing beauty in the disfigured, seeing wholeness in the lame, seeing a dance in the invalid."



## REVO PAY UP

Faculty and staff made bold promises of what they'd do if Revo raised over \$5,000. The cafeteria was packed for the resulting "Pay-up Party."

### Shaved Head

Chaplain Roy Ice lets the Revo leaders shave off (completely) his longish locks.



### Green Bangs & A Cappella

The Teaching and Learning Center staff dye their bangs green and sing "You Are My Sunshine" (a cappella, with harmony).



### Vocalscape

Dean Jonny Halversen performs a rambling "whatever's in your head and heart" guitar/vocal song.



### Blue Hair

Psychology professor Aubyn Fulton finds a way to turn his black hair bright blue.



### Rap

Academic dean Nancy Lecourt (and backup rappers) perform her hugely popular lyrics for "Angwin Paradise."



Student leader Grace Jung and alum Rachel Thompson, '08, planted the Revo movement at PUC and nurtured its foundation. "Post-Revo PUC 2008, many people expressed their anticipation of the 'next' Revo and that they couldn't wait to make Revo happen again," says Jung. "So, Revo is back by popular demand!"

Although Revo 2008 addressed global concerns (supporting the Not For Sale campaign in Lima, Peru, by building a vocational school and home for street and slave-trafficked children), Revo 2009 decided to engage more local needs. All the proceeds went to the Napa Valley Food Bank, a program that distributes food to low-income residents of Napa County.

The student leaders decided to support the Food Bank because they realized that the issue of hunger is becoming more and more real in this

country. No longer just a poverty-related problem, hunger is working its way into the middle class, impacting everyone from children and senior



Student talent provided live music at the Revo event.

citizens to single mothers and business men.

People may not realize that this is an issue in the prestigious Napa Valley area, but it's very real here. "There is also such a large disparity between the rich and poor in our Napa Valley," Jung explains. "We often don't openly see the hungry within

our community, but they are there and increasing in number because the standard of living in Napa County is so high. The Napa Valley Food Bank reported at least a 20-30 percent increase in recipients within the last year. For the first time ever, they ran out of food and had to begin purchasing food."

Students wanted to make two points with their choice to support the Food Bank: One, that you don't have to travel long distances to help people. "There are people in our own backyard that desperately could use our help," as Jung says. And two, that we can and should be making a difference in our own community. "The food bank has many beneficial programs other than a food pantry, servicing at least 11,000 people per year. They are an amazing and necessary asset to this community, and we'd like to make sure they are able

to continue for as long as possible."

The Revo PUC 2009 event featured a benefit sale, food drive, auction and fashion show. Students flooded the campus mall (the area outside the Campus Center) as their peers showed off their musical talents and fashion chic. Although it is a festive event, Revo means to remind students of their natural abilities that they can use to change the world.

Jung explains: "The event couples action with will. Rather than just thinking about a pressing issue or learning more about hunger, we are getting up and making things happen. Revo promotes the idea that



anyone, especially young people, can change the world into a better place from where they are NOW, with what they have NOW. They don't need a college degree or a stable salary to help improve the world. By putting



While the concerts and fashion show took the stage, the rest of the campus mall was dedicated to the rummage sale and silent auction—featuring all donated items—and various concessions.

passionate people to work for Revo we are empowering students to stand up and believe that they are capable of doing amazing, revolutionary things for their world."



The Revo event lasted for three hours on a Sunday evening. Students (and faculty and staff) gathered around the stage, spread out picnic blankets on the grass, and browsed through the rummage sale tables.

A few weeks before the event, PUC faculty and staff challenged the student body to raise over \$5,000. If the students could meet this goal, individuals pledged to shave their heads, dye their hair blue or green and even “rap” before the student body. Needless to say, the student body answered the call. Over \$8,500 was raised for the Food Bank, and the “Pay-up Party” proved to be a huge event, as students packed the cafeteria to see their professors and administrators fulfill their pledges.

Aubyn Fulton had committed to dyeing his hair blue but found that it was a challenge to get his black hair to bright blue. His female family members helped him try several products before they ended up basically spray-painting his hair. “You were much more successful at raising money than I was at dyeing my hair blue!” he told the students with some chagrin, then commended them for their dedication to Revo. “I want to say how really blessed I am to be part of this community.”

Roy Ice had his hair (which was formerly none too short) completely shaved off by several student Revo leaders, as he had pledged. “I’m so proud of all you guys... I did not think

**\$8,541.14**  
The student movement raised well over its goal, enough money to be a truly substantial gift that’s especially valuable as the Food Bank experiences some tough times.

you could raise five grand,” he said just before they began trimming. “The coolest thing about Revo is you guys are saying ‘Hey, we understand — we have everything necessary to change the world.’”

To conclude the festivities, Jung presented a giant \$8,541.41 “check” to Shirley King, director of the Napa Valley Food Bank. “I commend the staff,” King said. To the students she said, “I think it’s amazing that you’ve got them shaving their hair and singing

rap.” Then she grew a little more serious with gratitude. “The other thing is that for this many people to actually take into consideration people they don’t know, to actually care about something they may not have experienced themselves, that’s huge!” she said. “The spirit that you guys have is obviously contagious.”

King talked a little bit about what the money would mean for the Food Bank. “In Napa alone in the first quarter of this year we served 872 households — way more than we even thought,” she said. “You guys are actually allowing us to provide the food.” The Napa Valley Food Bank facility recently closed down due to rodent infestation

and has since functioned out of various sites, besides having to throw away spoiled food. The money will help them replenish their supply during a particularly hard time. “Knowing there’s a body of people that actually care makes a big difference for us,” King said.

Revo is proving to be more than a passing fad on our campus. As Jung says, “We do not need to wait for the ‘right time.’ The right time is right now.” VP

# In the Space Between

Cast and audience take a journey into new spiritual and theatrical territory

By **Lainey S. Cronk**



Audience members tended to look a little confused at the beginning of *Clay Feet/Wire Wings: The Space Between*; at the end, they looked deeply thoughtful. Through layers of poetry, sculpture, narrative, singing, choreography, and audience interaction, this original work by the PUC Dramatic Arts Society was, as student and cast member Timothy Widmer says, a way “to express what is at the heart of humanity.”

We introduced the project in the winter 2009 *ViewPoint*, when it was still in the formative stage. Drama program director Mei Ann Teo, '02, and the cast and crew worked with English professor John McDowell’s “Angel Poems” and “God Poems” and developed the March

and April performances of what Teo describes as “collage ensemble experimental theatre.” Experimental, because it was new territory; ensemble, because they created it together. And collage because, “as opposed to linear narrative, we instead explore certain ideas, pasted together and over each other so that the sum of the parts is ultimately greater.”

Because it was collective, it was also intensely personal. “It was to me a spiritual journey with friends, where I was free to question, explore and experience faith and doubt,” says cast member Heather (Fenderson) Denton, '97. Teo hoped audiences would catch some of that, would “taste of the many months of collective questioning,

passionate searching, explosive frustrations, moments of helplessness, and many more of sweet inspiration that we have been fortunate enough to feast upon.”

Audience members traveled through the foyer and two rooms, all transformed by local artist William Calnan III, before entering the main theatre space. Calnan called it “a set of installations that serve to envelop the audience, including them as part of the production, casting them as actors themselves and not just spectators.” The audience, he said, would join the cast to “actively delve into an examination of the nature of God, of Angels and of themselves.”

That examination could be emotional. Denton called the experience “cathartic.” Widmer adds, “PUC has suffered a lot of loss in the last nine months, and for me *Clay Feet/Wire Wings* was about releasing that grief. ... Being involved in this particular DAS production facilitated emotional and spiritual growth.” This didn’t just play out in preparation; it was also a key element of the performance itself, something audiences were invited to explore for themselves. “When I was angry,” Denton says, “I was able to



yell at God. When full of sorrow, I cried with God. And when overcome with emotion, I sang, to my God.” VP

# Open the Doors

A composer and director talks about energy, teaching, breaking down barriers, and the mystery of Adventism

Asher Raboy only had to think for about 20 minutes before he accepted an invitation to teach at PUC. He took on a few classes and the leadership of the wind ensemble. In 2008, Raboy signed on full-time as an artist in residence.

A conductor, composer, lecturer, writer, teacher, and music leader who's a bit legendary in the Napa Valley, Raboy has announced that he'll step down at the end of the 2009-2010 season from his role as music director of the Napa Valley Symphony, an organization he helped transform from a community orchestra to a professional ensemble. He plans to stay in the area, however; and many music students at PUC are counting on that.

## Students say you have a refreshing teaching style, emphasizing the practical. What motivates that?

I do come with a slightly different attitude. I'm a composer and I have to

be played, and I know if an audience cheers or boos. So to me it's fundamental — does the piece speak from the part and is it articulate, does it communicate?

So when a composing student comes in, it's not about tonic chords and dominant chords — I mean, you have to know that stuff. But it's about how you take this vocabulary that you've been speaking since you were young, and ask, how do you now speak it in a way that can teach somebody? That's really the only question.

## How do you approach a "survey of music" course for non-music majors?

Music has followed a historic path. People build on what comes before it. So you try to show this historic path so that people understand why somebody did what they did... What you really want to see is the trend. Then people can say, "I'm a very emotional person,

give me the romantic." Or, "I'm embarrassed by those emotions, give me form." You begin to know where these things fit in a continuum and why they fit there. You really try to put it in a context for understanding.

## What do you mean when you talk about "taking down barriers" in music?

What I really want to do is turn on some people to how classical music can be powerful for them. The problem with classical music is we have immense barriers to entry. People don't know how to dress, they don't know when to clap. There's so much history and people get so involved in that — it's classical vs. romantic and it's Beethoven or it's Schubert and if you sit in a room and you don't know who Schubert is, you feel like an idiot. And if you feel like an idiot, you can't enjoy it.

So I'm trying to take the barriers down — to say, "If you have this

knowledge, you can stand in the lobby with anybody and feel like you belong." And then the world's open to you. You can choose to take advantage or not, that's a personal decision, but I just want to bring those barriers down. It's been fun to come [to PUC] and take people who have not been in that environment and just take those barriers down and open the door.

## What do you enjoy about teaching at PUC?

The most rewarding thing is the enthusiasm of the students. There are a lot of people who are pre-med so they're going to be doctors and make some money, but I don't sense it's about the money. I sense it's about something entirely different.

There's an enthusiasm and ... I find that so refreshing. I think the world got cynical, pecuniary. But here, it's not. It's still about exploration, creativity, and humanity, about people. So it's

restored a lot of my faith and taken the cynicism away.

## What's it like to suddenly be in the middle of an Adventist institution?

Not being an Adventist, when I first came to the Valley, it was a mystery — to people that aren't Adventists, Adventism is a mystery. There are many myths, all of which are false. But I'll tell you what makes it different from the rest of the world: There's a community of people here who like each other and help each other — well, like any family! I know that's not all Adventism, but I watch people who are all trying to get into med school actually study together. That doesn't happen in other schools because the competition for med school is so intense.

The faculty knows everybody by name and tries to help them. We don't have faculty meetings and say "So-and-so is a bad student, we don't

like him or her." Instead, it's "How do we reach this person?" There's a sense of community in caring that I think is unique. And part of it is that everyone grew up together, and they're going to stay together.

There was a lot of time this past year spent on things like spiritual authenticity. I know that's very important to the campus and to individuals. Those things are a little mysterious to me, but I think that understanding why we're at a job is really important. A lot of people go to work and don't know why they're there. Especially when your job is to help others and you're in a community based on service, it's really important to understand these things! **VP**



# A Weekend Back Home



Hundreds of alumni return to Angwin to reconnect and remember

Homecoming 2009 brought several hundred PUCites back to their alma mater for an unusually warm weekend. Events included traditions from the signs with the school song lyrics to the usual scramble to take Honor Class photos; there were also some less-traditional elements to the weekend, including a special alumni showing of the play *Clay Feet/Wire Wings: The Space Between* (see page 15), a department fair during the Alumni Potluck, and an interactive lecture from a current professor.

You can view more photos from the weekend at [www.puc.edu/alumni](http://www.puc.edu/alumni).



The Strawberry Shortcake Reception (top) on Sabbath evening featured worship with Student Association president Scott Brizendine — and, of course, plenty of strawberries!

A special farewell for retiring business professor Richard Voth (bottom photo) was held during Sabbath's Alumni Potluck and was attended by many of Voth's former business students.

## Honored Alumni & Pioneer

This year, Phyllis Edmonds, Ezekiel and Laretta Ramirez, and Roy Gane were recognized as the 2009 Honored Alumni for their "enduring search for truth, excellence, integrity in human relationships, and dedication to Christian witness, service, and community."

Phyllis (Pelote) Edmonds, '69, served as a women's dean and an administrator of public housing before earning her Juris Doctor degree. She worked as a district court clerk and served as an employment and labor attorney. She is now the director of claims and legal services for Adventist Risk Management in Silver Springs, Maryland.

Ezekiel Ramirez, '43, entered naval officer school and was sent to Germany in 1945. He was assigned to the intelligence service and debriefed



Left to right: Duane Wall receives the award on behalf of Honored Alumni Ezekiel and Laretta Ramirez, along with Honored Alumnus Roy Gane, Honored Pioneer Elisa Stevens, and Honored Alumna Phyllis Edmonds.

German officials on their knowledge of progressing hostility with the Soviet Union. He married Laretta (Fickess), '43, '49, in 1947, and after Ezekiel completed his doctorate, they went on to distinguished careers for the United States government and lived all over the world as diplomats. Retiring in 1973, Ezekiel returned to work as the Diplomat in Residence at University of the Pacific in Stockton, California.

Roy E. Gane, '77, is a professor of Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Languages at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. He taught in the PUC religion department for two years, and has authored seven books, articles for the Adult Bible Study Guides, a section of the *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Background Commentary on the Old Testament*, and portions of *The Andrews University Study*

*Bible*. He has spoken at meetings and conferences across the world.

An Honored Pioneer is a friend of the college who makes a significant difference at PUC through volunteering, investing, working or other support. Elisa Stevens, the 2009 Honored Pioneer, came to the United States from Argentina at age 27 and worked at the University of California, San Francisco for 18 years as a nurse. In 1981, living in Angwin, Stevens recognized the need in her community — unemployment rates were high, and many people lived out of their cars. The Salvation Army teamed with Stevens to create Neighborhood Table, and it has provided meals in the Angwin community for 28 years. With a team of volunteers, Stevens prepares meals each Thursday, with leftover food donated to needy community members.



Craig Newborn, '69, pastor of the Oakwood University Church, used the Irwin Hall pulpit when he spoke for the first church service on Sabbath morning.

## Honored Classes



1939

Each Homecoming Weekend, alumni celebrate their 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 and 60-year reunions with Honored Class parties in people's homes, at restaurants, or at various campus locations. This year, the Class of 1989 took the cake for parties – they had class get-togethers on Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday!



1949



1959 SHSHSN



1959



1969



1979



1989



## Charles Bell Receives Weniger Award



Charles Bell, a PUC academic dean emeritus, received a 2008 Weniger Award for Excellence. The award was presented in January 2009 at the annual meeting of the Charles E. Weniger Society, at Loma Linda University.

The Weniger Award honors the memory of scholar and public speaker Charles E. Weniger, who graduated from PUC in 1918 and served as a professor

here. He also served as professor and dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary in Washington, D.C., and on the Andrews University campus. The Charles E. Weniger Society, organized by former Congressman Jerry Pettis and composed of former students, colleagues, and admirers, has given the award since 1974 to Seventh-day Adventists who exhibit Weniger's qualities of inspiration, motivation and excellence.

Bell has exhibited these characteristics throughout his career, including his 15 years as PUC's academic dean. Bell

was originally trained as an electrical engineer, serving as a professor and lecturer of physics and engineering and as the dean of the School of Engineering at Walla Walla College (now University).

Since retiring in 1999, Bell has "been enjoying expanded opportunities for activities with my family and church." He continues to teach college classes in engineering, mathematics, and physics; and he's devoted more time to musical performance and teaching.

## Board Welcomes New Members

Two PUC alums, Clyde Holland, '83, and Esther Chambi Herold, '98, joined the PUC board of trustees this past school year. Herold earned her PUC degree in government and history and went on to law school at Georgetown University Law Center. She is currently an administrative appeals officer for U.S.

Citizenship & Immigration Services in Washington, D.C. She lives in Maryland.

Holland worked at Peat Marwick Mitchell after earning a degree in accounting at PUC. As a student, he was involved in many aspects of PUC life, from being a part of the business club to helping Helmer and Sons build

Chan Shun Hall. He is currently the chief executive officer and chairman of Holland Partners and resides in Vancouver, Washington, with his wife and two sons. "PUC has the opportunity to reach great goals and I am privileged to be a part of making that happen," he says.

## Cooperative Research



Brian Wong juggles teaching classes such as microbiology with ongoing cancer prevention research.

This past school year several students had the opportunity to collaborate on research with PUC professors. Senior physics major Jerilynn Rada helped professor Vola Andrianarijaona analyze data for "An Investigation of Charge Transfer in Low Energy D2+ + H Collisions using Merged Beams," presented at the Division of Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics convention in

May. Biology professor Brian Wong was joined this past year by senior biochemistry major Rachel Devadhasan and senior biology major Tom Nguyen. "Suddenly, analytical chemistry, biochemistry, and biology all came alive as I used techniques from each in our research," Devadhasan says. The three presented their research at an American Association of Cancer Research convention in November.

## The Ecology of Hope



PUC's second annual Green Week was celebrated

**Placing new bark in a local park was one method of celebrating Green Week.**

on and following Earth Day. About 50 students, faculty and staff planted 10 trees in a St. Helena park, placed new bark around playground equipment, and washed the equipment. "Green art" posters from local elementary schools were displayed and the campus enjoyed a documentary screening, a nature walk, an Earth Week Fair, and two lectures

from Dr. Cheryl Charles, president of the Children & Nature Network. Green Week is part of what vice president for student services Lisa Bissell Paulson calls "an all-year process of getting students to emotionally connect [to nature] and see why, in the long run, this will make a difference."

## National Award and DreamWorks Internship for Film Students

Peter Han, a freshman film & television and biology major, won first place for public service announcement (PSA) in the "Preserve Our Planet" National Geographic college film and PSA contest this spring. His PSA, "Why Would You," earned him \$3,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., for the global convention of National Geographic Explorers. "Why Would You?" was broadcast for National Geographic Channel's Earth Day programming and will be screened at the convention.



Peter Han films "Why Would You?"

Craig Church, a senior film & television major, completed a 13-week internship at DreamWorks, one of

the leading animation studios in Hollywood. Church received a rare opportunity to work with top professionals. He worked on the feature-film "How to Train Your Dragon," primarily in the story department, where he assisted the story production supervisor in processing and preparing storyboard panels for editorial. He was also involved with several other departments and voice recording sessions, and was the first intern to be invited to one of the professional voice recording sessions at the famous LA Studios.

## Angwin Ecovillage Update

Things have been quiet with the Angwin Ecovillage project (see [www.puc/endowment](http://www.puc/endowment) for a project overview). The debates, decisions, and media coverage of recent months have focused on land use rights and zoning designations in Angwin, including PUC property. These issues naturally have the potential to influence the course or possibility of the Ecovillage plan, but they are larger in scope.

In February 2009, the Napa County Board of Supervisors decided to limit land use in the Angwin "urban bubble" but not impose limits that would automatically preclude the Ecovillage

from consideration. They asked the Planning Commission to create a "public institutional" zoning designation.

The resulting April proposal from the Planning Commission included limits on PUC's ability to develop land, but left the 63 acres proposed for Ecovillage use alone until June 2010. Then, if the Ecovillage has not been approved, the Supervisors could consider zoning those acres as institutional. The Planning Commission's proposal led to a late April vote by the Supervisors to apply this plan in Angwin, which limits the devel-

opment potential in the Angwin urban bubble but leaves the opportunity for the Ecovillage to complete its Environmental Impact Review (EIR) and come before the County.

The EIR process for the Ecovillage was put on hold during the land use debates, but will now recommence. When completed, probably in late 2009 or early 2010, it will be submitted to the County for consideration.



## Great Things About Endowments

There are many great reasons to establish an endowment at Pacific Union College. Here are three to consider:

### 1. Endowments Give.

Every year, each endowment is valued. Once we know the value, we then apply a "payout" percentage to determine how much we are able to use to fulfill the purpose of the endowment.

For example, let's say the John Jones Endowment for Nursing is worth \$40,000 on January 1. If we were to apply a five percent payout rate, \$2,000 would be available for a scholarship grant.

Each year the endowment would produce money for a scholarship grant. This is one reason why people like endowments. They like the way this provides regular annual funding even after they are gone. In other words, these funds can endow, in perpetuity, your regular giving to PUC.

### 2. Endowments Grow.

Our Endowment investment policy is designed to not only provide enough cash for an annual payout, but also to help the fund appreciate over time. Our goal is to keep pace with inflation and to make sure that each annual endowment payout retains the same or greater value year after year.

### 3. Endowments Glow.

Creating an endowment with PUC is like lighting a perennial candle. The light of steady financial support shines from one generation to the next.

But there is another kind of glow our endowments create, and that is found on the faces of those individuals who benefit directly from your endowment. For example, the student who receives an endowment grant will be smiling with gratitude as he or she gains further knowledge and skills in his or her chosen field of study. Another kind of glow appears on the faces of those who establish the endowments. These donors have a keen sense of satisfaction as they consider the unending good their endowment will accomplish.

### Additional Information

We would like to send you some additional information about launching your own endowment at PUC. You will discover how easy it is and why so many other friends of PUC are taking advantage of this opportunity to endow a scholarship ... and how this enables a donor to create a lasting legacy.

To receive your complimentary material, you can contact our office — see "How to Learn More" for several ways to reach us.

### HOW TO LEARN MORE

The easiest way to get complete information about these and other options is to contact us directly. You can:

- Request free information on creating an endowment at PUC
- Request free information about other planned giving opportunities
- Ask us questions about any planned giving topic or get help creating your own plan

### How to reach us:

**E-mail:**  
[estateplanning@puc.edu](mailto:estateplanning@puc.edu)

**Local Phone:**  
707-965-6596

**Toll Free:**  
1-800-243-5251

**Website:**  
[www.pucestateplanning.org](http://www.pucestateplanning.org)



# class notes

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## Staying in the Loop

Class Notes is one of the most popular *Viewpoint* sections, with at-a-glance news on your colleagues. But we need your help to keep current. Drop us an e-mail at [viewpoint@puc.edu](mailto:viewpoint@puc.edu) to let us know about your adventures, jobs, and family. Our news currently comes from a variety of sources, so if you have further information for us on a note that's already been printed, let us know about that, too!

## Former Faculty & Staff

**Niels-Erik Andreasen**, associate professor of religion at PUC from 1970 to 1976, has been recently honored by Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich., as its "longest-serving president."

A Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat story notes that **Scott Ormerod, '81**, owner of the Leap Solutions consulting firm, has merged with Chuck McPherson's IMSI Consulting and IMSITrackMeet firm to form Leap Solutions LLC, which provides organizational development, management, human resources and non-profit administration. PUC's human resources director for a number of years, Scott now also teaches human resources and management at PUC and at the University of San Francisco.

**Donald Warren, '47**, whose 21 years of service at PUC included teaching in education, being the first chair of the behavioral science department, and serving as vice president for student affairs, summer session director, and associate academic dean, now makes his home in Glendale, Calif., where for the past 10 years he has been teaching part time at Glendale Academy. After his service at PUC, Don was vice president for education at Glendale Adventist Medical Center. Don and **J. Paul Stauffer, '41, '44**, were recently cited as some of Lodi (Calif.) Academy's all-time favorite teachers at the school's 100th anniversary celebration. Don was the convocation speaker for that event.

## Alumni

### 1920

**Marge Jetton, '25, '45**, who enjoys life at age 104 in Loma Linda, Calif., continues to speak to the world through entertainment and news print and electronic agencies about what

makes a healthy lifestyle. In early April, 2009, Marge's message of good health was again presented nation-wide on the Oprah Winfrey television program.

### 1950

**Harold J. Lance, att. '50-'52**, retired after 32 years as a trial lawyer in Ontario, Calif., and began full-time volunteer service as president of the Adventist lay-supporting ministry Outpost Centers International, an organization with some 65 ministry institutions on all continents. Harold and his wife, Joan Dirksen Lance, have been involved for over 30 years in Adventist-layman Services and Industries (ASI), and they continue to serve with ASI Missions Inc., the project arm of ASI. The Lances live in Ukiah, Calif.

More than a year and a half after their home and ranch near Santa Ysabel, Calif., were destroyed in a massive wildfire, **Elwin, '54**, and **Beth, att. '50-'52**, Dunn are back in their new home on the ranch. "There are still lots of odds and ends to complete, but we are in fact physically back," writes Elwin. "The hillsides are green, the hummingbirds. . . are back in force, along with flocks of turkeys (counted 74 a few days back), along with deer and other wildlife."

**Reuben A. Ramkissoon, '55**, now retired from a 36-year pathology practice and Founding President of DuPage Pathology Associates, keeps active in his hobby of philately. His medical practice and hobby have taken Reuben and his wife, Connie, to 60 countries, their latest overseas journey being to an international philatelic exhibition in Bucharest, Romania, where two of Reuben's exhibits won gold awards. A widely recognized specialized stamp collector and writer of philatelic literature, Reuben's writings and exhibits have won some 50 name and gold philatelic awards.

### 1960

**Chuck and Janice (King) Hackett, both '62**, retired from medicine in 2006, and, according to Janice, their lives got busier. Chuck bicycled solo from Washington state to the Maine coast, and from Canada to Mexico along the U.S. west coast. For the past two years the Hacketts have lived "off the grid" in two 30-foot-diameter yurts, and plan a move to Cookeville, Tenn., where Chuck plans to build a passive solar home that will be shared with several members of their family.

Four alumni were recently honored by Andrews University for their long periods of service: **Peter Wong, '62**, was honored for 40 years of service, while **Nancy (Nixon) Carbonell, '74**, **Rudolph Maier, '73**, and **Scott Moncrieff, '82**, were each presented with 20-year service awards.

**Elaine (Stickle) Hagele, '65**, is now the vice president for finance for the Mid-America Union Conference. "That means plenty of meetings and travel throughout the six conferences that are within our nine-state region," writes Elaine. "Representing Mid-America Union on various boards and committees frequently takes me both east and west outside our union territory."

A new devotional commentary book, *Exploring the Letters of John & Jude*, is one of the latest of **George R. Knight's, '65**, books. His other biblical commentaries include *Exploring Hebrews*, *Exploring Mark*, *Exploring Galatians & Ephesians*, and *Exploring Ecclesiastes & Song of Solomon*. These, and his book *The Apocalyptic Vision and the Neutering of Adventism*, are available at Adventist Book Centers.

**William T. Johnson, '66**, was named the 2008 Physician of the Year by the Maricopa (Ariz.) Integrated Health System. Chair of the department of anesthesiology and medical director of perioperative services at the Maricopa Medical Center, Johnson's background includes a two-year stint of Teacher Corps service for Appalachian children in East Tennessee, where he wrote and published a mathematics textbook. He

nearly completed a Ph.D. in math at Purdue University before he changed course to obtain an M.D. degree at George Washington University's School of Medicine.

**Ronald Rau, '68**, served at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., as a "Whitecoat" volunteer in the U.S. Army. Then came restaurant management, a license in nursing home administration, and service as treasurer of Newbury Park (Calif.) Academy. After serving at Loma Linda (Calif.) Medical Center, Ronald was administrator of a medical group in Grants Pass, Ore. Laid up by a chronic illness since 1995, Ronald writes, "The Lord has blessed me and my family. . . . I am a much better person for having spent five great years at PUC, 'way back when!' Thank you for that education."

**Gary Waterhouse, '68**, is planning to retire later this year from his pastorate in Juneau/Sitka (Alaska), after pastoring in Minnesota, California and Alaska for 39 years. "We love Alaska, however cannot see Russia from our house," jokes Gary. "I do run into Sarah Palin at the gym occasionally though. I have offered to teach her racquetball, but so far (she) has declined." Gary's PUC memories include **Carl Coffman's, '50, '63**, homiletic and pastoral training classes, and playing golf with **Carl and Leo Van Dolson, '45**.

### 1970

**Keith Knoche, '70**, teamed up with his father, long-time Adventist evangelist Philip Knoche, to record "Father & Son: 50 Years of Original Music," available in Adventist Book Centers.

**Joyce (Orr) and LeRoy Washington, both '71**, now live in Kamuela, Hawaii. Joyce is the chief financial officer for the Island of Hawaii YMCA, and LeRoy is retired from service with the U.S. Probation Department. "We have three children and two beautiful granddaughters, all living on the Mainland," writes Joyce. "We have lots of memories of PUC, plus we are always surrounded here by other PUCites."

## Births



Leah Jane Vanderveen, daughter of Katie (Donaldson),

'00, and Joel Vanderveen of Laguna Beach, Calif. Born: 6-30-08.



Gavin Thomas Moya, son of Stacey (Siccama),

'00, and Mervin Moya, '01, of Loma Linda, Calif. Born: 10-25-08.



Eleanor Grace Thornton, daughter of Deborah

(Gorbenko), '03, and Jonathan Thornton, '04, of Angwin, Calif. Born: 1-20-09.



Ian Makoto Fujimoto-Johnson, son of Jeremy ('96) and

Sharon ('97) Fujimoto-Johnson of Rocklin, Calif. Born: 2-7-09.



Kyle Alejandro Jimenez, son of Dileanny and Yonny,

'06, Jimenez of Lancaster, Calif. Born: 2-22-09.

**Linda Wright Wysong Becker, '72**, the vice president for student services at Union College, Lincoln, Neb., has recently been named president-elect of the Association of Adventist Women (AAW), which seeks to develop and promote women as leaders in Adventist organizations, congregations and communities. **Carolyn (Slepnikoff) Lacy, '57**, is treasurer of AAW and serves as editor of its *The Adventist Woman* publication.

The Corning (Calif.) Chamber of Commerce recently highlighted **Richard Dunbar, '77**, in the *Red Bluff Daily News*. Richard is a dentist in Corning, and the article cites Richard making use of the latest applications in dentistry. Richard's wife, **Sharon (Mellor), '76**, has been a court reporter in Red Bluff for 25 years.

**Millie (Israel) Haemmerle, '77**, has been living in Shelbyville, Tenn., since 2005, and in addition to preparing her "Tullahoma Esquestrians" Pathfinder club members for participation in an upcoming international camporee, she works at a hobby that may one day become her business — fish. "I have three strains of Guppies I'm developing . . . I hope one day to get them fancy enough to start selling them." Millie also participates musically in her local church.

**Sukhoon Wilamart, '77**, is now serving as pastor of the Thai Seventh-day Adventist Church in Redlands, Calif. Sukhoon also ministers to those who speak the Laotian language. His church is one of 11 foreign language Adventist churches in the South-eastern California Conference.

After 11 years at their medical missionary post at Ile-Ife Hospital in Nigeria, **Gail (Muir), '79**, and **Herbert, '88, Giebel** find that the unreliable supply of electricity, difficulties with water supply, and the hot, humid climate haven't changed, but the hearts and lives of many of those they have introduced to salvation's story have. "The material challenges are surmountable," writes Gail, but "the challenges which affect our work most are things like keeping the right focus and having the right priorities." Herbert is a physician and directs the post-graduate medical education

program that runs a rotating internship and residency in family medicine. Gail teaches their two teen-age daughters, Melissa and Tarri, and partners in various spiritual outreach missions.

## 1980

**Paul M. Evans, '80**, currently a doctoral candidate at Andrews University in Michigan, is now teaching at the Sahmyook Univesity in Seoul, Korea.

Three alums from the Portland, Ore. area — **Sam Vigil Jr., '80, John Korb, '80, and Steven Vistaunet, '78, '79**, recently teamed up to send the 100-member Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus on a highly successful April 2009 choral tour to concert halls and churches in Romania. Sam is currently the major gifts officer for "LifeWorks NW," a nonprofit agency that provides mental health, addictions and prevention services to children and adults. He also sings in the "House Blend" barbershop quartet, and is a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society. John is executive director of the Adventist Medical Center (of Portland) Foundation, and in his spare time serves as board chair of Portland Adventist Community Services, the largest single site provider of emergency food in the Oregon Food Bank network of agencies. Steven is assistant to the president and communication director of the of the North Pacific Union Conference.

U.S. Army Brigadier General **Loree K. Sutton, '81**, director of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury, was the Percy T. Magan Memorial Lectureship speaker at the 2009 Alumni Postgraduate Convention of the Loma Linda University School of Medicine. Sutton spoke on "Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury: Our National Challenge."

**Lori (Trip) Peckham, '84**, editor of *Women of Spirit* magazine, was the editor of the recently published book *Guide's Greatest Grace Stories*, from Review and Herald and available at Adventist Book Centers.

**Harry "Chip" Gabriel, '86**, a member of PUC's Board of Trustees, and his son Max, recently went on a mission journey to southern Ethiopia, where they helped construct a school for adult Ethiopian women and participated in medical work. After the work was done, they finished off their travel abroad with a safari in the East African country of Tanzania.

**Holly (Kalua) Igarashi, '86**, is married to **Keith Igarashi, att. '78-'80**, and she is the regional director of case management at St. Helena (Calif.) Hospital. Both Holly and Keith work at the hospital, and at the time of this printing they were looking forward to soon being first-time parents.

**Christian R. Gullon, '89**, a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney since 1995, was named a superior court judge in Los Angeles by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on March 27, 2009. A graduate of the McGeorge School of Law of the University of the Pacific, Gullon's earlier legal career included serving as an attorney for the U.S. Small Business Bureau. Gullon joins a growing number of PUC graduates who have been named California superior court judges in recent months.

## 1990

**Heather (Preston) Wheeler, '96**, started "Grant's Gift," a blanket collection program for parents whose babies die before, during or shortly after birth. After her second son, Grant, was stillborn, Heather deeply regretted that she hadn't asked for the blanket he had been wrapped in and determined that the same thing wouldn't happen to other mothers. To date, Grant's Gift has donated around 300 blankets to hospitals on the West Coast. Heather, a senior communication coordinator for Adventist Health in Roseville, Calif., and her husband, **Kevin, '96**, live in Rocklin, Calif.

## 2000

After serving for the past seven years as a Bible teacher/chaplain at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy in Michigan and Spencerville Adventist Academy in Maryland, **Gregory**

**Taylor, '01**, recently accepted the position of youth pastor of the Glendale Adventist Church in Indianapolis, Ind. "I have very fond memories of PUC," writes Gregory.

**Christiana (Bishop) Naus, '04**, and her husband, Rion, recently returned from Korea to Pismo Beach, Calif., to resume jobs in teaching after a three-month stint as English-language teachers with the Seventh-day Adventist Language Institute. During their return trip to the States, Christi and Rion took a month-long holiday that included travel to Australia, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Tahiti, French Polynesia, and Hawaii. dinary scholastic performance and leadership abilities.

## Updated Class Notes

**Walter D. Hofmann**, listed in the spring Class Notes as a '46 graduate, is actually Class of '49.

**Diana Wallace** was incorrectly listed in the winter Class Notes as Diana (Gramyk) Wallace.

## Be a PUC Facebook Fan!

PUC now has a Facebook page representing the campus, with updates on what's going on, video and photo posts, and a chance for fans to join the commentary. Go to [www.puc.edu/facebook](http://www.puc.edu/facebook).

## Weddings



Jerald Magbanua, '01, and Amy Peat, '05, in Vallejo, Calif. 4-6-08.



Dustin Jones, '97, and Heidi Hiebert in Bonner's Ferry,

Idaho. 6-29-08.



Jack Bandy, '06, and Christy Garcia, att. '03, in Angwin, Calif. 3-22-09.



# obituaries

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## Former Faculty and Staff

**Elmer Beck, '73**, who had served as a Pacific Union College staff member with the Food Service Department, died January 10, 2009, in Pope Valley, Calif. He was born on February 2, 1931. Elmer also served in business administration and management at St. Helena (Calif.) Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Lucy (Williams) Beck; and a son, Henry.

**Frances May (Sherman-Duman) Doss, att. '42-'44**, died February 3, 2009, in Piedmont, Ala. She was born in Pekin, Ill., on January 24, 1922. Florence worked in the PUC bindery, was a hospital accountant, a published author, world traveler and ham radio operator. She was predeceased by her husband, Desmond T. Doss, and is survived by sons Thomas and Michael Duman; eight grandchildren, several great-grandchildren; and a sister, Elizabeth Manley-Kemmerer.

**Charles Moore, '35**, who worked for PUC for almost 30 years from the early 1950s to the late 1970s, died on January 6, 2009, in Deer Park, Calif. Most of his service was in the college press. Charles is survived by his wife, Doris; and his son, Larry.

**Evelyn Alvena (Cordis) Plummer, '46**, who worked in the PUC bindery in the '40s, died on November 8, 2008, in Lakeport, Calif. Born in Los Angeles, Calif., on February 26, 1924, Evelyn served in the Voice of Prophecy Bible School in Glendale, Calif., for 11 years. She is survived by her husband, Paul; daughters, Emily Boyd and Nancy Wilkinson; and her son, Charles.

**Helmuth Carl Retzer, '44**, a member of the PUC Board of Trustees from 1963 to 1979, died January 19, 2009, in St. Helena, Calif. He was born January 10, 1916, in Hoven, S.D. Helmuth served as an Adventist pastor and administrator for 37 years and volunteered at St. Helena Hospital for 17 years. He is survived by his sons, Darold and Verlyn;

daughter, Cheryl Bariel; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**Judith (Russell) Vance**, who was an assistant professor of English at PUC from 2001, died on April 6, 2009, at her home in Angwin. Born in Denver, Colo., on July 2, 1956, Judy specialized in composition and children's and adolescent literature. She also taught at Union College in Nebraska. She is survived by her husband, Robin; daughter, Ashley; son, Christopher; her parents, Dean and Donna Russell; sisters Denise Romano and Deanna Engen; and brothers Elwin and Frank Russell.

**Dorothy (Roberson) Simmons Westphal, '48**, who was a reference librarian at PUC in the early 1950s, died in Loma Linda, Calif., on March 2, 2009. She was born on December 4, 1920, at Takoma Park, Md. Dorothy was also an executive secretary at the St. Helena (Calif.) Hospital and a librarian at the Loma Linda University Library. She is survived by her sister, Marjorie Callender; and nieces and nephews.

## Alumni

**Ida (Dulcy) Bergold, '47**, died on February 12, 2008, at Loma Linda, Calif. She was born on June 9, 1926, at Sao Paulo, Brazil. Survivors include her brothers, Orlando and Lindolph.

**Lois E. Wheeler-Berry, '23**, died on April 8, 2009, at age 105. She was born on June 19, 1903, in Healdsburg, Calif. She married Vernon Ernest Berry, '33, who was one of the more than 50 homeless or orphaned children adopted into her father's home. Lois and Vernon served as foreign and domestic missionaries in 13 countries; Lois served as nurse and food service director at several Adventist schools. Lois's sister Vera Johnson, '34, died in her 100th year, and her sister Lela Baldwin, '28, died in her 102nd year. Vera, Lela, and Lois were each PUC's oldest alumni at the time of their deaths.

**Stanley C. Chaffee, '52**, died January 1, 2009, in Loma Linda, Calif. He was born on August 5, 1910, in Pine City, Minn. Stanley taught academy English and music and then was a truck driver for Loma Linda Foods. Stanley is survived by two sisters, Margery Ferguson and Verna Tennent.

**Alvin L. Chaffin, '44**, a physician, died on February 22, 2009, in La Jolla, Calif. He was born on April 23, 1921, in Jaroso, Colo. Alvin is survived by his wife, Roberta; a daughter, Katherine; a son, Steven; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**Leota (Higgins) Chinnock, '38**, died on December 31, 2008, in Loma Linda, Calif. She was born on October 13, 1919, in Sweet Sage, Idaho. Leota is survived by her sons Elmer, Bob, Gerry and Richard; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Glenn C. Corwin, '52, '58**, an educator, died on January 5, 2009, in Visalia, Calif. He was born on September 25, 1928, in Loma Linda, Calif. Glenn was an educator in Oregon and California. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary; daughters, Sharon Foster and Michelle McConville; sons, Gerald, John and James; a brother, Duane; 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Ferne V. Findley, att.**, was a former school teacher. Ferne died January 29, 2009, in Fresno, Calif. She was born on February 7, 1923, in Manford, N.D. She is survived by her husband, Eldon; a daughter, Eldona Hamel; and five grandchildren.

**Suzanne Michelle Hamilton, '90**, a dentist, died January 24, 2009, in Saratoga, Calif. She was born on June 13, 1969, in Ceres, Calif. Suzanne practiced dentistry for 15 years. She is survived by her husband, Paul Wasseem; daughter, Zoe Anne; her mother, Joan Rogers; her father, Douglas Hamilton Sr.; a sister, Amy Spajic; and two brothers, Douglas and Lance.

**Grace M. Harvey, '53**, an Adventist teacher for 33 years and Bible instructor in Paradise, Calif., died January 10, 2009, in Paradise. She was born on June 6, 1926, in Ohio.

**Thelma (Harrison) Jones, '41**, died December 17, 2008, in Chico, Calif. She was born on February 20, 1920, in Nashville, Tenn. Thelma is survived

by her son Larry Kile; daughters Karen Rae Graham, Pat Brydges, Karen Michael, and Nancy Adams; 11 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

**Ruby Eileen (Davidson) Lapree, '72**, a dietitian and elementary school teacher, died March 29, 2009, in Richland, Wash. She was born on May 20, 1923, in Ridgetown, Ontario Canada. Eileen is survived by her daughters, Ruby E. Davidson and Margaret Davidson; a sister, Leora DeWitt; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Sharon D. (Walker) Lemin, '63**, died on February 1, 2009, in Napa, Calif. She was born on July 6, 1943, in Provo, Utah. Sharon worked at St. Helena (Calif.) Hospital and for Napa County Social Services. She is survived by her husband, William; and siblings, Elaine Smith, Elizabeth Carroll, Rebecca Olson, Jean Walker, Carl Walker and Randy Walker.

**Stephanie D. Moles, '04**, a registered nurse, died on March 29, 2009, in Visalia, Calif. She was born in Visalia. Stephanie is survived by her sons, Chase Welch and Chandler Moles; her mother, Sandra Martin; her step-father, Ronnie Martin; her grandmother, Bernice Diehl; her step-mothers, Doris Chavez and Debbie Thomas; a brother, Zak Martin; four sisters, Cindy and Melanie Thomas, Sarah Atchison and Shannon Thomas; and a step-sister, Tanya Farias.

**Oscar Munoz, '08**, died January 14, 2009, in Portland, Ore. Born on September 25, 1975, in Walla Walla, Wash., he was a student teacher at Portland Adventist Academy. Oscar is survived by his mother, Martha Carrera; his father, Abimael Munoz; and a sister, Maabi Munoz.

**Gail Richard Ness, att. '53-'54**, a public works employee, died in Turlock, Calif., on March 29, 2009. He was born in 1929, in Livingston, Calif. Gail served as a U.S. Army medic during the Korean War. He is survived by his daughters, Connie Ottinger, Bonnie Thiele and Kathy Trinchera; a brother, Ron Ness; and seven grandchildren.

**Rose (Scofield) Shafer Olson, '44**, died on March 9, 2009, in Loma Linda, Calif. Rose was the vice president of her graduating class. She taught music in several Adventist schools and directed church choirs. Rose is survived by her

## Our condolences to families and friends

*This section is our opportunity to honor and remember fellow alumni. We receive information from a variety of sources and it may not always be complete. If you are a family member with information on an incomplete obituary, please feel free to call 707-965-6303 or e-mail us at [viewpoint@puc.edu](mailto:viewpoint@puc.edu).*

husband, Robert Olson, '43; daughters Vickie Swanlund and Cindie Hamm; and a brother, Robert.

**Marian (Hopkins) Orser, '34, '65**, died on April 22, 2009 in Palm Desert, Calif. She was born on August 16, 1913, in Hancock Co., Indiana. She taught in Adventist and public schools, and finished her career in medical records. She is survived by her daughter Marjorie Orser and her brothers, Robert, William, and Donald Hopkins.

**Craig Pearson, '52**, a retired physician, died on January 31, 2009, in Loma Linda, Calif. He was born on January 4, 1928, at Rockford, Iowa. Survivors include his daughters Sharon and Eileen; a son, Ron; and two grandchildren.

**Elvin Leroy Rich, att.**, a laboratory technician who served many years as a church elder and Pathfinder director/coordinator, died February 10, 2009. He was born on June 5, 1923, in Upton, Wyo. Elvin is survived by his wife, Juanita; a sister, Ina Schneider; three sons, Jerry, Myron and Dennis; a brother, Ellis; 11 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

**Alta R. (Ellegard) Robinson, '30**, a retired Adventist missionary who lived in Apopka, Fla., was died. She was born on February 8, 1912.

**Lester Gerald Rose, att. '50**, a physician, died on January 18, 2009, in Sacramento, Calif. Born on February 8, 1929, in Sacramento, Lester practiced as an anesthesiologist and surgeon, including medical mission service in Kenya. He is survived by his wife, Joy; daughter, Ardella Koskinen; son, Gerald; sister, Barbara Tonsberg; brother, Richard; and half-brother, Kenneth.

**Stella Roselind Rouse, att. '89**, died January 12, 2009, in Colville, Wash. Born in 1916 in Bissell, Wash, Stella worked as a licensed vocational nurse at the California Veterans' Home in Yountville, Calif. She is survived by her daughter, Estelle Abbott; five grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Lloyd Kenji Sewake, '49**, an Adventist teacher and pastor for over 60 years in Hawaii, California and Japan, died on April 3, 2009, in Carmichael, Calif. Lloyd was born in Hilo, Hawaii, on January 19, 1924. Lloyd is survived by his daughters, Lavonne, and Annette Togami; and a grandson.

**Bradley K. Whited, att. '70**, died on August 13, 2008, in Riverside, Calif. An Adventist teacher, pastor and business administrator, Bradley is survived by his wife, Yvonne; daughters Rebecca Whited-Palaniuk and Christie Shine; and four grandchildren.

## In Memory of Three Families

On March 22, 2009, PUC lost six alumni in an airplane accident in Butte, Montana. The crash claimed the lives of 14 people. Brent Ching, '93, Kristen Mautz Ching, att. '96-'97, Erin Jacobson, '96, Amy Feldkamp Jacobson, att. '93-'95, Michael Pullen, att. '88-'91, and Vanessa Feldkamp Pullen, att. '89-'90, all attended PUC and went on to Loma Linda University. Close family friends, they often vacationed together. On this occasion, the friends were headed to a ski trip in Montana.

Three families were lost in the accident: the Chings and their children, Hailey, 5, and Caleb, 3; the Jacobsons and their children, Taylor, 4, Ava 3, and Jude, 2; and the Pullens and their children, Sydney, 9, and Christopher, 7. Amy Jacobsen and Vanessa Pullen were sisters.

Erin Jacobson was an ophthalmologist with practices in St. Helena and Napa. His family attended the PUC Church. Erin's wife, Amy, worked as a dental hygienist. Erin, his father, and brother — all physicians and alumni — funded the Breakthroughs in Science Lecture Series in honor of professor emeritus of biology Terry Trivett. Brent Ching had a dental practice in Chico, California, and his family attended the Chico and Paradise Adventist Churches. Michael Pullen, a dentist, and Vanessa Pullen, a pediatrician, lived in Galt, California, and their family were members of the Lodi-English Oaks Adventist Church.



The Ching Family



The Pullen Family



The Jacobson Family

# tribute to the president



The Courage and the Grace: Thanking Richard Osborn  
by Nancy Hoyt Lecourt, Academic Dean

A major event, Campus Colloquy, was inaugurated after Dick's first year in office. Dick observed a lack of campus community and worked to develop a weekly time when the entire campus community comes together to explore from a Christian perspective new horizons in art, music, intellect, religion, spirituality, service, cultures, and our own PUC community.

Jackson Boren, '08, offered this heartfelt and unsolicited comment when he heard the news of President Osborn's resignation:

*I recall talking to ...a fellow Newton resident in 2002...and him telling me, "President Osborn is the anti-Administrator. He is not some disciplinary figure sitting up in a figurative castle reigning over the student body with an iron fist. He's been here a short time and has already shown that he can blend with us. He knows how hard it is. He gets it." You walked with us. Not ahead of us.*

*You've always helped in fostering a strong sense of spiritual community on campus. And in times when it was needed most you sympathized with the challenges and pains of the student body and made it clear that our pain was yours. I'm reminded of my junior year when David Egwakhe passed away. The air on campus was filled with sorrow and yet your words of comfort reminded us to keep our minds and hearts on the truth of Salvation, and what it meant for David and us. You've had to take on this role of comforter twice more this year and continued to keep the campus's grieving focused on the promise of Jesus Christ through remembering the lives of those lost.*

Jackson goes on to thank Dr. Osborn for his attendance at so many student events and for opening the presidential home to so many groups. Like Jackson, I want to thank both Dick and Norma for their extraordinary grace in hosting an amazing number of students, staff, alumni, and friends

of PUC at their home over the years. Norma's gift for hospitality has truly made these events special.

I am also grateful for Dr. Osborn's twin commitments to spiritual formation and to academic freedom. These may seem like very different issues, yet they work together to create an environment where both students and faculty may explore, express both doubts and certainties, and walk together toward "Present Truth."

This twin commitment was most clear to me in Dick's involvement with *Red Books: Our Search for Ellen White*, the dramatic production written and produced on our campus. Dick didn't just support this ground-breaking work — he himself is portrayed in the play, searching to understand our Adventist identity.

The future of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America may well depend on such creative courage to support the next generation in its search to make Adventism its own. We cannot expect young people to be the leaders of our Church unless we welcome their efforts now to think about what the Church means to them, nurturing them as they worship and study and serve in the ways that make sense to them. This can be a daunting process, but if we wish to welcome our students into the Church, we must have the courage and the grace to listen to them and love them on their spiritual and academic journeys. In this, Dr. Osborn has led the way.

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# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS IN ANGWIN



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Join us in commemorating our centennial in Angwin.

**Featuring Dr. Louis Venden**

Pacific Union College Church  
Centennial Worship Service  
October 3, 2009, 10 a.m.

We'll also have a Sabbath potluck, historical campus tour,  
and hike out to Window Tree valley.

For more information call the office of Public Relations  
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