

## Lois Douglas Says She's a Refired Up Retiree—Going From Nurse to Actress

#### **By Lois Douglas**

Acting! "Wow" is what people say when they see me in a commercial. And, then they start calling me "movie star" and asking for my autograph! Then the next questions they ask are "how did you get started? And "What can I do to get started?" and "I bet you make lots of money!" It still tickles me that people seem to be so excited about seeing me. I feel like such a small fry in the entertainment industry, yet so often people look at what I'm doing with such awe! I laugh because my start was in supporting my son's desire to get into acting, and yes, anyone can do it. I have also made some substantial money for a project or two but unfortunately nothing that would sustain and support me financially in the style I've become accustomed to in retirement!

Many times, friends have contacted me with the question, "Didn't I see you

BECOME

on a commercial?" To which I answer Yes, that was me. Recently while I was flying to another state, a lady stopped me and said, "I've seen you before. Have you done acting or commercials?" I told her yes that I had a commercial running now, and she replied, "I knew you looked familiar when I saw you on the airplane!!" It still surprises me that someone recognizes me from a 15 or 30 second commercial.

When I retired in 2011, I was happy and jazzed at being able to have time to myself and get paid while doing it. I've never been bored or wished I could go back to work part time.

Then acting came on the scene, and I thought it was a great opportunity for personal growth.

Our son as a teenager had expressed a desire to do some acting and indeed did a little play at church for which he got much recognition. But school and athletic pursuits pushed aside those acting thoughts for a time. Then one day a few years after college, he asked us to accompany him to an audition event for those interested in acting hosted by AMTC, (Actors, Models, Talent for Christ) so we did. It was a huge event that was well organized and inspiring. I was impressed! When it came my son's turn to be interviewed, the runner asked if my husband and I were also there to be auditioned, and we said no. The runner very kindly persisted in encouraging us to try since there wasn't a cost and it could be a fun thing to do. My husband said, absolutely not. However, I finally said OK because it was something new to explore. I guess I've always been somewhat of a "ham" and funny person.

It turned out to be a great experience, so my son and I signed up for the

#### **Continued on Page2**

Geniuses aren't just smart. They share knowledge and inspire students with their wisdom and guidance. Become a Genius and earn \$25 an hour from the comfort of your home.

## Yes, Lois Was in Those Commercials

program which was to teach us the ins and outs of the entertainment business. I had never taken classes in theater nor had any serious interest before this! For the next nine months, our weekends were spent taking courses that gave us real insight into the business. Modeling classes, makeup, wardrobe, entertainment industry etiquette, head shots, showcases, talks from industry experts and working actors. Wow, it was a whole new world for me, and I was enjoying it.

The culmination of the program was a huge showcase at a beautiful hotel in Florida. There we would have the opportunity to show off our talents and all that we had learned. Some had been honing their talent for years. The showcase was filled with agents and managers looking for new talent to represent to their agency listings! Besides agents, there were hundreds of family members and working actors watching and encouraging us on to do our best.

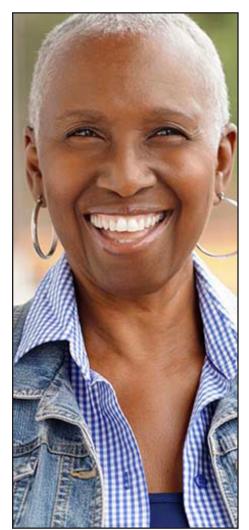
I was nervous and excited. Nervous because I was wondering who in the world would be interested in a retired nurse from Pasadena with no theatrical background—a little old lady from Pasadena!

We gave out head shots and had interviews with agents and managers who expressed interest in us from our individual showcase performances. Amazingly I got several interested agents, and in fact, I am still represented by the agency I originally signed with.

We can all attest to the fact that 2020 was a challenging year. When the industry was shut down, I thought I would be idle for at least a few months. As it turned out I had lots of auditions I did two projects from home and three on sets that were closed to only essential staff, talent and managed by COVID-19 set managers.

So, eight years later here, I am still doing commercial acting and still enjoying every minute of it. However, my son was not able to continue pursuing acting because he had to work a full-time job and couldn't take time off for auditions and bookings. However, since COVID-19, he has had a more flexible working schedule, so he has been able to do a few acting jobs himself.

As for me, I am in the perfect position to pursue my acting because I'm free to audition and book projects anytime not having to worry about trying to support myself! It's fun, it's totally different from my career of 40 years in nursing and nursing education, and I'm loving life! I'm a REFIRED retiree!





## Judith Branzburg Brings the Extraordinary Memoir of Well-Known Feminine Activist Ivy Bottini To Life

#### **By Judith Branzburg**

In 2014, I was recently retired from the Division of English at PCC and attending the Veteran Feminists of America Conference in Los Ange-

les. There I had lunch with friends, Lynn Ballen and Jeanne Cordova, both well-known feminist activists, and with Ivy, then 87 years old, mentioned she wanted to write her memoir, but she wasn't a writer.

I didn't know her well but I had always admired her. I had just finished another writing project, so I offered to help. That's how the venture that resulted in *The Liberation of* 

*Ivy Bottini: A Memoir of Love and Activism* as told to Judith V. Branzburg (Bedazzled Ink Publishing 2018, winner of the 2019 Goldie Award in Combined Non-fiction) began.

Over the next four years or so Ivy and I worked together on her memoir sitting at the dining room table in her bright condo on Kings Road in West Hollywood.

In the early days of our work, we used transcripts of prior interviews and her memories to assemble and make sense of the pieces of her life. Later, my partner Amy and I spent many afternoons reading aloud portions of the text for the by then legally blind Ivy's review.

In a way the question we were trying to answer was how did a middle class housewife and mother in her forties go from living the so-called American Dream in the Long island, New York suburbs of the fifties and sixties to becoming a much lauded leader in two of the most revolutionary movements of the last 50 years, the women's and lesbian and gay liberation movements. Moving between her personal life and the political, the memoir gives the reader an insider's view of these revolutions and the lives of the people and times NOW's infamous lesbian purges.

It was in L.A. that Ivy discovered her talent as an actress which led her to two national tours with the one woman show, "Many Faces of Woman," accompanied by the love of her



they transformed.

A cultural as well as personal history, it reminds us of how far we have come and how far we have still to go. Ivy transformed her life in 1966 when she was 40 years old and got intrigued by the just announced National Organization for Women. She became a charter member of NOW and co-founder and early President of the first NOW chapter, NYC NOW. She even designed NOW's now famous logo.

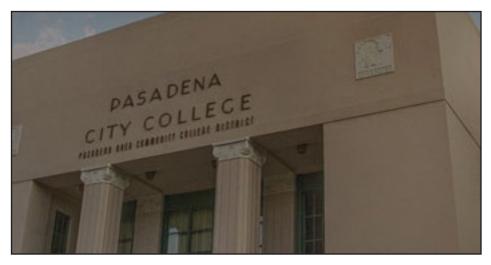
From that point on, we become witnesses to history as Ivy plunges into activism.

In the memoir, we have front row seats as the movement expands in numbers and concerns, including moving inward with feminist consciousness, a mode of discussion that Ivy spearheaded that eventually touched thousands of women throughout the country. Ivy moved to Los Angeles in 1971 after her break with NYC NOW when she came out as a lesbian and became a victim of life, whom she met in 1975. But history did not leave Ivy content to be a lesbian feminist crusader. The devastating AIDS epidemic, the 1978 homophobic Briggs Initiative that targeted education, and the 1968 Lyndon Larouche California Proposition that threatened to quarantine all people with AIDS, brought Ivy into the trembling heart of the gay and lesbian liberation movement.

She moved from her women focused campaigns to dedicating herself to grass roots organizing and the gay and lesbian liberation movements. But we also see that her commitments to her causes has a cost as her personal relationships flounder. We watch, too, as she finds the strength to emerge from various other health and personal crises.

Amidst it all, Ivy never ceased crusading, from getting Triangle Square, the first in the nation low income housing for gay and lesbian seniors, open in 2007 to helping to organize successful efforts to rescind the statute of limitations on sexual assault in California in 2015 when she was 90 years old. And she never stopped creating, continuing her painting (she had trained and worked as a graphic artist) and acting pursuits to the end of her life.

In March, 2021, at the age of 94, Ivy passed away in Florida where



Workers at PCC will soon be adding a new name to the front of the college 's administration building. It will no longer be called the C Building.

### C Building Gets a New Name Dr. Jack Scott Honored by Trustees

Anyone who has worked at PCC or gone to school there has gotten used to the fact that the buildings on campus are all referred to by letters. For as long as anyone can remember, the administration building has been called the C Building. Why? Nobody knows for sure. But things are about to change now that the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name the C Building after Dr. Jack Scott, former president/ superintendent.

When Dr. Scott arrived at the board meeting, the Circadian room was packed full of politicians, friends and associates.

However, he was not aware of what was to come. When the board of trustees voted to name the administration building after him, he said he was surprised. You could see the emotion when he said that "I am so honored and overwhelmed."

The crowd was there to congratulate the man who has done more for students at PCC and throughout the state than any other person. After retiring from PCC, he was elected to the State Senate for two terms. When he left the Senate, he accepted the position of Chancellor of the California Community College System.

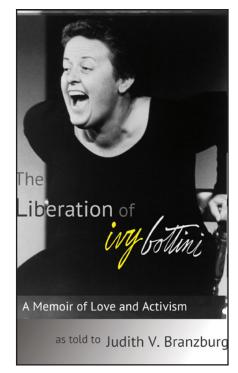
Dr. Scott is on the board of several non-profit organizations in the community, including the PCC Foundation.

The college expects to honor the former president again when the new name on the building is unveiled.



The popular former president's photo can even be seen on a billboard in the Paseo . The sign encourages people to give to the PCC Foundation and Impact Communities.

Photo by Marcie Ambrose Ivy's Story is Now Ready for You To Read; Check Amazon or a Bookstore



she had recently moved to be with a daughter.

In the end, *The Liberation of Ivy Bottini: A Memoir of Love and Activism* is the story of an ordinary woman who became extraordinary and helped transform the world so that she and others like her could live fuller and truer lives.

In our contemporary world, when many of the issues of gender and power argued in Ivy's early movement days are being revisited, when activists are looking for inspiration, guidance, and models of those who have been able to transform themselves and survive, the tale of Ivy's five decades of navigating the chaotic seas of change in *The Liberation of Ivy Bottini: A Memoir of Love and Activism* is invaluable.

It was one of the great pleasures and privileges of my life to bring this story to life.

(The book is available in print or e-version on Amazon or by order from your local bookstore.)

## Scholarship Students Tell Riviting Stories of Their Hardships Trying To Get an Education

#### By Alan Lamson Scholarship Chair

This year's Retirees scholarship awards luncheon at the University Club on October 8 was a heartwarming affair. The student's personal stories of struggles were especially riveting.

One had been so paralyzed by drug addiction that she didn't leave her bedroom for ten years.

Another was homeless for several months, spent considerable time in public parks and often crashed on couches in apartments where drug dealing was often in evidence. Two students now at Berkeley lived through harrowing teenage years.

One was sex trafficked in Germany, another was abandoned by his mother, never knew his gang member father, and grew up with no adult supervision. He ended up in prison for several years. He comments that PCC became the family that he never had.

But the saddest tale of all comes from a middle-aged student with two daughters who had been living in her car for two years before getting an apartment. She was recently in a serious auto accident (she was an Uber driver) that resulted in a concussion and second degree burns over her whole body. Because she is unable to work, she is in danger of losing the apartment she only recently acquired.

These are some of the students whose stories captivated the audience. All of the students have experienced challenging life struggles, and all have managed to change the course of their lives while at PCC. They are survivors indeed.

This year's luncheon was funded by the Foundation as it has been in past years. Both the President Endrijonas and Director Abram introduced scholarship winners.

Bobbi's student, Cecilia Bachman, is now at Cal Berkeley as is Michael Garcia, a formerly incarcerated student. What inspiring stories we heard. These students will make a difference in whatever paths they take.

As always, we welcome all contributions in order to carry on our work of selecting deserving students for our annual scholarships.

For those who are able to make large donations, the Retirees Association has an unique Adopt-a-Scholar program. What that means is that the person adopting agrees to fund one scholarship at \$1,000. In some cases, two donors have gotten together and split the adoption by each giving \$500.

With so many deserving students in need of financial assistance, that program allows the association to give more scholarships.

Several of those who agreed to adopt a scholar were so delighted with the program, they immediately signed up to do it again the following year.

Just don't think the Retirees Scholarship program is only seeking big donations. We depend on a lot of smaller amounts that will add up to fund an award.

It is not only easy to donate, it is tax deductible. Every donation, no matter what the amount helps.

Just go on to the PCC Foundation website Pasadena.edu/foundation, and click on the Donate link. It will ask you for your payment information, the amount you want to give, and the recipient. A drop down menu will give you a number of choices, but we hope you will choose PCC's Retirees Association Scholarship as the recipient.



Several of the scholarship winners, donors and members of the Retirees Association Board gathered for a photograph after the awards ceremony at the University Club.

## Mike Bloebaum Returns To His Original Profession and Passion—Filmmaking

#### By Mike Bloebaum

Things are going well up here in Grass Valley. I have returned to my original profession and passion - filmmaking. If you want to see what types of things we are doing, you can check out MB2 Commuications' web site.

I recently did a half hour film on the joy of singing called "The Singing Life" featuring the world famous men's ensemble Chanticleer which was syndicated around PBS— including KQED. As a result, Chanticleer hired us to do a DVD that accompanies their latest CD "Mission Road."

I have also just completed a one-hour film that profiles five young people in our community to whom music is their life. It is called "My Musical Life" (are you getting a theme here?).

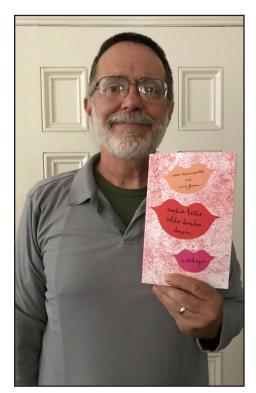
I'm on the Board of Directors of Music in the Mountains, an organization that presents great music festivals up here with a \$1 million plus budget. And I'm head of the judging committee for the Wild and Scenic Film Festival in Nevada City. That is Grass Valley's twin, just three miles away. And my wife Margaret and I sing in the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra, which did a concert tour of China a couple of years ago.

We're coming down to Los Angeles to take possession of a tiny studio condo we bought in a converted downtown office building, Neither of my kids nor any of our friends have houses that we are comfortable in, and we come down so often we're tired of being guests.



Mike is involved in every aspect of his film. He works with the camera crew, the musicians and the soundman. He even has time to go to lunch with the music festival's board of directors.

## Robert Oventile Publishes His Latest Book of Poetry, 'Sophia Lethe Talks Doxodox Down'



#### By Robert Savino Oventile, soon to be retired PCC English professor

In June of 2021 Atmosphere Press published *Sophia Lethe Talks Doxodox Down*, a poetry collection I co-wrote with Sandy Florian. Sandy and I met at a writers' retreat in France in the summer of 2007, and a couple of years later, via email and a private blog, we started to work on the poems that eventually became the book.

An East Coast resident, Sandy would write a poem; then, on the West Coast, I would write a poem, and so the manuscript developed, cross-country ping-pong style. Oakland's Walden Pond Books included the book in its "New Poetry You Should Know About" list for the summer of 2021.

What should you know about the book? Here's some of what the publisher has to say: "Sophia Lethe Talks Doxodox Down tells of Doxodox's not quite requited amorous entanglement with Sophia Lethe. The story takes the form of brief poetic dialogues between the two. Each dialogue exercises a specific trope, the name of which lends the given dialogue its title. Doxodox implores; Sophia Lethe demurs. Though their standoff becomes infernal, the two maintain their mordant and sometimes lewd humor as they muse on the possibilities and impossibilities of desire, life, and fate."

The book is available online from Amazon and from numerous independent bookstores, including Pasadena's very own Vroman's Bookstore. And by the way: on the book's back cover, readers will find a very thoughtful and engaging blurb by Ron Koertge!



### Do You Remember When Houses Were Built on Campus?



## A Big Change on Campus The U Building Met the Wrecking Ball





Armen Sarafian Hall, more commonly known as the U Building, was demolished recently to make room for a new \$42 million state-funded science facility. The U Building was only 38 years old, but it was declared seismically unsafe in 2012.

When the building met the wrecking ball, it looked like it had been hit by the earthquake that scientists predicted would bring down the structure if it wasn't retrofitted. Studies indicated that it would be cheaper to demolish the building than repair it.

Employees who worked in the U Building complained for years that they could feel the structure moving.

Photos by Daisuke Yamaguchi



## Susan Kamei Writes Historical Account of Japanese Internment— 'When Can We Go Back to America'

#### By Susan H. Kamei

When Can We Go Back to America? Voices of Japanese American Incarceration during World War II by Susan H. Kamei (Simon & Schuster, September 2021) has been hailed as a "landmark historical account [that] shines a light on a part of American history that must be remembered" (Kirkus Reviews, August 15, 2021).

First-person accounts of American

citizens of Japanese ancestry tell of their fear at being ordered from their West coast homes under military orders to hastily-constructed detention facilities in desolate interior locations, simply because they looked like the enemy that bombed Pearl Harbor.

Their voices describe their ordeals in imprisonment behind barbed wire for the duration of the war, and tell of their resiliency in rebuilding their lives following the crushing destitution of their unjust long-term incarceration.

The legacy of their experiences is to stand in allyship with others who face similar injustices today.

The author's mother, Tami Kurose, was a PCC student after she was released in September 1945 from the Heart **Mountain Relocation Center** near Cody, Wyoming.

Unable to return to the

Little Tokyo neighbor in Los Angeles where she and her parents lived before the war, Tami was able to get a reservation at the Friends of the American Way Hostel in Pasadena.

The hostel was run by an organization co-founded and chaired by William C. Carr in 1944 to support the return of Japanese Americans to the Pasadena area in the face of strong anti-Japanese sentiments.

Tami found employment as a "house-

girl" (a combination of a nanny and maid) to a family living on El Molino and started taking classes at PCC. Through a blind date arranged by mutual friends in the Pasadena area Japanese American community, Tami met her future husband. Hiroshi Kamei.

Hiroshi had been incarcerated with his family at the Poston II camp in Arizona, and following his release from camp, was drafted to serve in the Army in occupied Japan.

After his military service, Hiroshi entered Caltech, graduating with bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering.

From their shared days as students, Tami and Hiroshi held many fond memories of their post-war lives in Pasadena.

Because of their deep connections here, their daughter Susan came to live in Pasadena; she remains grateful to PCC and all those who supported her parents and the other Japanese Americans in the aftermath of the war.

The book is available on Amazon. Reviews of "When Can We Go Back to America?" were called the book "riviting," Another person said it was an important document for the historical record. Others said they found out things they never knew.

### **Rob Lee's History Continues**

#### **Continued From Page 10**

extra special for all who attended.

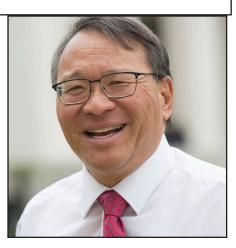
Rob was the Writing Center Coordinator for his last 14 years at PCC. He loves fishing, and now that he is retired, he has started building model airplanes again after a 40-year gap.

Rob also has some interesting family history. My dad was a student of Bruce Lee and introduced Tai Chi to the (non-Chinese) residents of the San Gabriel Valley in the early 1970s. Betty Kovacs learned Tai Chi from my dad!

My maternal grandfather operated the first Chinese restaurant in Pasadena (The Mee Jin Inn).

My mom and most of her 7 siblings graduated from PCC (she was a member of OMD). Two of my three children attended PCC before transferring and earning their bachelor's degrees.

Now that Rob has joined the Retirees board, we all expect that he will bring his enthusiasm and his fun personality to help make the Retirees Association enjoyable for all its members.



## Retirees' Board Adds Four New Members

### **James Arnwine**

James Arnwine has lived in the Pasadena/ Altadena area since 1976. He graduated from UCLA in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in Music Education and earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in Tuba Performance in 1981.

His career in education began as teacher of instrumental music at Pasadena High School from 1981 to 1985 before moving to Pasadena City College as an instructor and band director in the Music Department.

However, his association with PCC had begun earlier. From 1980 to 1984 he

### **Rob Lee**

Rob Lee was born in Alhambra and has lived in the San Gabriel Valley almost all his life. The only year that he wasn't in Southern California was spent teaching English at a teacher's college in China. He graduated from John Muir High School, UCLA (BA in English), and USC (MA in Applied Linguistics).

After working at South Pasadena High School for 6 years (the first fulltime ESL teacher at the school), he came to PCC as a full-time ESL Instructor in 1992.

He has served on the Academic Senate twice, and he was one of the founding members of the Social Activities Group.

The most fun he had at PCC was leading the cheering from the PCC grandstand on New Year's Day for over 20 years!

Anyone who attended the New Year's Day activities at PCC, will recognize Rob as the cheerleader who made that day

#### **Continued on Page 9**



served as a college assistant coaching the low brass for the Tournament of Roses Honor Band, then was an adjunct instructor for the band in 1984-85.

In 2005, after directing the bands and teaching a variety of other music classes for 20 years, James took over as Dean of the Performing and Communication Arts Division upon the retirement of Paul Kilian.

James retired from PCC in January 2019. He continues to have great respect for PCC and its long history of success serving students and the community.

### Jo Ann Lee

During my 33-1/2 years at PCC, I taught courses in business management, accounting, business communications, business English, and office administration. I was the first exchange teacher to Taiwan (1980-81) as part of the Sister Cities Agreement with Shih-Chien College, Taipei.

I have continued volunteering as mediator for LA County small claims court cases; participating in the Speakers Bureau, an affiliate of the L.A. Philharmonic; and being an active Friend of the Pasadena Playhouse.

Recently I became a STAR (Storytelling and Reading) reading to young children at a Los Angeles Library.

On recent travels, I have "discovered" many of the small, quaint, and charming cities and towns along the Mississippi, Tennessee, and Ohio Rivers, as well as the Columbia and Snake Rivers, on paddlewheel boat cruises with the American Queen Voyages (formerly American Queen Steamboat Company).

Cruising has been an ideal way to

### Elizabeth Polenzani

Originally from Chicago, Elizabeth and Tom Polenzani moved to Pasadena in the early 70s. With two toddlers traveling along, jobs were their first priority.



Tom continued in the insurance business, eventually opening his own employee benefits agency – Polenzani Benefits; while Elizabeth began teaching high school mathematics. A few years later, there were four little ones, but having the desire to teach at PCC, Elizabeth obtained her MBA at Cal Poly Pomona. She has vivid memories of preparing for classes while watching the kids play Little League at Marshall High School. When an opening for a math-oriented person occurred in the Business Division, Elizabeth jumped at the opportunity and thus began a career of over 25 years.

Her four adult children and nine grandchildren bring lots of smiles and activity to Elizabeth and Tom's retired life. Just recently they joined the Pasadena Village, giving them the chance to meet amazing seniors.

Elizabeth is an active member of Assistance League Pasadena (ALP) and the enjoyed *Staying Connected* and kaoping up

historic beauty, and geography of these

appreciate the arts, culture, scenic/

*Connected* and keeping up with the adventures and news about fellow retirees. I value the on-going work of the scholarship committee, organization of retiree get-togethers and fun day trips out

parts of the USofA!

I have



and about the community, and current goings-on at the college.

Thanks for the invitation to join the Board, whose members continue to support Pasadena City College with its mission!

Altadena Guild of Huntington Hospital.

Both groups have given her the opportunity to meet great people while serving the community. She particularly enjoys her volunteer time at the ALP Thrift Store, Treasure Fair, and partaking in the Guild's annual Altadena Home Tour. This year it will be on May 1, featuring Mendocino Lane.

Travel has been a top fun priority for Elizabeth and Tom. The first post COVID trip is scheduled for May to Paris and Provence. Here's hoping!!! Elizabeth is excited to once again see PCC faces through her service on the Retirees Board. Just being on the campus brings back many memories.

## In Memoriam Inger Moen, professor of ESL and Reading

Inger Moen passed away this spring at 85-years old. She was a faculty member in the English Division and taught ESL, English, and reading. She supervised the reading center in the 1990s.

Inger was born in Oslo, Norway (1935). She had one sibling, a younger brother Helge. On April 9, 1940, when she was five years old, Inger remembers being lifted by her father to look out the kitchen window. Together they watched the German airplanes bomb the Oslo airport. This was the beginning of the five-year occupation by Nazi Germany during World War II. Her young life was changed forever.

Inger put on her first pair of skis at age two and like most Norwegian



Inger and two of her mobility impaired students celebrate after they cross the finish line in Colorado.

children would ski to school during the winter. She loved swimming, diving, and gymnastics but the winter sports were her passion. She became a certified instructor for cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, and ski jumping. Women were not allowed to compete in ski jumping, but they were allowed to "test" the jumps prior to the men's competition. In 1952, the Winter Olympics were held in Oslo. What a wonderful time to be a "tester".

Inger's career in education spanned over 40 years. She graduated from Oslo Teachers College in 1957. Her first class at Manglerud Skole in Oslo consisted of 19, 7-year old girls. At this time in Norway, boys and girls were taught separately and the teacher moved with the same students through the elementary grades. (Can you imagine having the same students for six years?)

In the 1960s, Inger earned a Master's Degree in English from the University of Oslo, and she immigrated to the United States. In 1970, Inger moved to southern California and served as South Pasadena Unified School District's reading specialist. Sjoined the faculty of Pasadena City College. When she was offered an adjunct position teaching ESL, English, and reading by Rae Ballard, Dean of the English Division, she thought she had died and gone to heaven.

When Inger retired in 1999, she immediately contacted Ski for Light, a Norwegian inspired organization that teaches blind and mobility impaired adults to cross-country ski. For the



next 15 years, Inger traveled across the country (Alaska, Colorado, Michigan, Oregon, New Hampshire, Utah) to volunteer as a guide/ski instructor and to share her life-long love of skiing with these amazing adults.

Inger's positive energy, enthusiasm, and adventurous spirit seemed endless. From white-water rafting for 13 days, 225 miles down the Colorado River to mushing a team of six sled dogs for three days in Denali NP. From soaring in a hot air balloon over the Serengeti in Kenya to skiing past Old Faithful on her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Inger's heart, mind, and soul remained forever young.

Inger lived in Altadena and she leaves behind her partner of 45 years, Becky Prosser.

### Dr. John Tulley, PCC's Counseling Psychologist

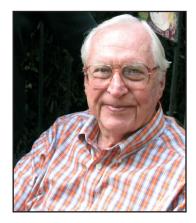
Dr. John Tulley, counseling psychologist for PCC, passed away in November at the age of 92.

Dr. Tulley began his career as a middle school teacher in Duarte. He left the classroom behind when he was hired at PCC where he worked as a supervisor in psychological services department.

His work involved testing students and ensuring they were placed in the appropriate classes. He oversaw the testing of thousands of students each year. In addition to testing, Dr. Tulley was also responsible for student health services, psychological services and disabled student assessment. He became head of the department and associate dean of special services.

Dr. Tully earned his doctorate degree from USC. He was a licensed psychologist which meant that he was also able to provide individual services to students and staff.

Everyone who knew Dr. Tulley described him as a very kind, caring man. He leaves behind two sons, Steven and Jeff.



## Lacreta Scott, Wife of Former President Dr. Jack Scott, and Longtime Supporter of PCC



Lacreta Scott, a longtime friend of Pasadena City College and wife of former PCC President and California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott, passed away. Ever since her husband served as PCC President, Lacreta has been a steady force in the life of PCC and of the entire community college system. Most recently, the Scotts were substantial supporters of the PCC Foundation's major gifts campaign, which resulted in more than \$16 million in donations for student scholarships and college programs.

Lacreta Isbell Scott was born on July 18, 1934. She graduated from high school in Elk City, Oklahoma, in 1952 as valedictorian of her class. She then enrolled in Abilene Christian College. There she met Jack Scott, and they were married in 1954. She later received her bachelor's degree from Pepperdine University and a master's Degree at California State University, Long Beach.

### Jim Clark, Author and Chairman of Business Department for 17 Years

James L. Clark, Jr., passed away at his home in Northridge on May 1, 2021, at the age of 91. He leaves his wife Lyn of 61 years, son William, daughter Karen, and grandsons Jordan and Kasey.

After graduating from Compton High School, Jim—as he was called by all who knew him—joined the United States Air Force where he served in England for three years and then in the Korean conflict for one year.



After he was discharged, he attended Pasadena City College and then transferred to the University of Southern California where he majored in business.

At USC he earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in business and a Master's of Arts in education. He taught high school business education courses for five years and then taught in the School of Business at California State University, Los Angeles, for three years.

Jim joined the Business Department faculty at Pasadena City College in 1964 and later became the department chair of this division.

He served in this position for 17 years. During his tenure at Pasadena City College, he was involved in several professional organizations such as the California Business Education Association, Delta Pi Epsilon, and the National Business Education Association.

He co-authored three business textbooks and was a national speaker for business and educational organizations. He retired from full-time teaching and administration in 1992, but he continued to teach part-time at PCC until 2001. His remaining retirement years were spent playing golf and traveling with his family. After raising her children, she began her career as a professor of English at Cerritos College in 1982 and continued for 20 years.

She wrote a monthly column for the Pasadena Star News titled "Life Lessons" (2002-2007). She was a partner with her husband in his career as President of Pasadena City College, California State Assemblyman and Senator, and Chancellor of California Community Colleges. They were honored as Contemporary History Makers in 2019 by the Pasadena Museum of History.

Lucreta passed away on Feb. 6 as result of COVID-19. She is survived by her husband, Jack Scott; her four children: Sharon Mitchell of Thousand Oaks; Sheila Head of Santa Clarita; Amy Schones of Waldport, Oregon; Greg Scott of McKinney, Texas; 11 grandchildren, and many great grandchildren. Her son, Adam, preceded her in death in 1993. She was 86 years of age.

### Carter Gengler, a Custodian For 34 Years at PCC

Carter Gengler, a custodian in facilities, was assigned to the U Building to clean the nursing department. He was very dependable and took his work seriously, according to Sarah Flores, facilities supervisor. He was special, and he had a sponge for a brain. You could tell him once, and he would store it in his mind. I was shocked one time when he said happy birthday Sarah. He remembered every year. Every day, he had a fact to share regarding the history of movie stars and inventions and such.

Flores said, when he was searching for the facts, he would stand there looking up in the sky with his hands up against his chest like he was searching the data banks in his storage.

Carter was German and one thing he was adamant about was that he did not believe that the Holocaust occurred. He did attend most of the retirement gatherings until they were canceled due to COVID. Carter retired in 2005. He worked in facilities for 34 years.



### PCC Veterans Lose a Wonderful Friend With the Passing of Dr. William Goldmann

#### **By Carol Calandra**

Bill Goldmann, former board member and advisor to the Foundation, passed away Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup>. He was 93 years old but lived an active and passionate life until just a few months ago. He was a former administrator at Pasadena City College, an advocate for veterans – especially PCC student veterans. He spent 47 years at PCC.

Dr. Goldmann has left HUGE shoes to fill not only in my world as he was one of the best mentors and friends that I have had in my entire life but also in our PCC Veterans community and for those that might have crossed his path. Bill was a staunch supporter of our Veterans' Resource Center and a Korean War Era Veteran who founded the Veterans' Emergency Fund with the La Canada Presbyterian Church (LCPC). He later established the Dr. William E. Goldmann VRC Scholarship.

For many, you may have never known the impact of his generosity as he provided food and gas cards, backpacks, hotel vouchers, and anything that I asked for when a veteran was in need. Many of us enjoyed the Silent, Men's, Women's, and Family retreats courtesy of Dr. Goldmann and LCPC. He also funded parenting/couples' classes provided by the Church.

Dr. Goldmann for years tutored in the VRC out of both his love for teaching/ learning and his love for our veterans. He was a beloved history teacher at both PCC and USC.

He also loved the arts, so he funded many trips for our veterans to concerts, museums, and sometimes crazy adventures! He attended almost every PCC VRC event for about the last 10 years, sitting right in the front with great pride, chatting and laughing away; always telling stories and advocating for bigger and better services for our veterans.

Oh, those stories, I had the honor to be his lunch date at least once a month for the past 10 years; sometimes, if I was lucky, twice a month. I will miss the history, the humor but mostly, I will miss his heart!

The gift of this friendship was precious, and I am so very thankful that our last words to each other were those of love.

Well Done, Dr. Goldmann, as you

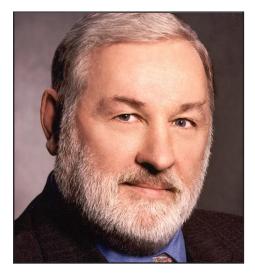
always told me that you wanted to walk in your faith, and you did just that. You lived a GREAT life and thank you for sharing some of it with me. Rest in Peace, Bill



## Ed Ortell, Math Professor, Chief Negotiator for PCC's Teacher's Union and College Trustee

Dr. Edward C. "Echo" Ortell, 82, passed away peacefully at his home in Duarte, California, last October.

He was born on March 4, 1939, in



Maquoketa, Iowa, to Edward D. and June (Sagers) Ortell.

He was married to Nancy Lee Klink on Dec. 27, 1959. The couple had three children— Sonia, Brian and Brenda. Ed grew up in Jackson County, Iowa, attended West Iron Hill Elementary School and was a 1955 graduate as salutatorian of Maquoketa Community High School.

Ed graduated from the University of Dubuque with his Ph.D., and he also attended California Western University and the Los Angeles College of Law.

He taught math at the Pasadena City High School, and for the remainder of his career taught business and computer technology at Pasadena City College, where he authored two college textbooks on mathematics and received several National Science Foundation grants. He was granted the title of professor emeritus in his fields of study.

During his tenure at PCC, he also represented the PCC faculty as the union's chief negotiator for many years.

He was also the former director of the Pasadena Education Association and received several other honors and awards.

Ed served on the Citrus College Board of Trustees for more than 50 years and was honored in 2020 for being the longest serving community college trustee in California. Those left to honor his memory include his wife, Nancy Ortell; his three children, Sonia (Cliff) Wurst of LaVerne, California, Brian (Michelle) Ortell of Ottumwa, Iowa, and Brenda (Mike) Fink of Rancho Cucamonga, California; 11 grandchildren.

### **Philosophy Professor Robert Levis III**

Robert Carter Levis III was born to his loving parents Robert Levis II and Kathryn Jackson Levis, on June 24, 1923 in Wilmington, Delaware.

He was the oldest sibling of brothers Jack and Bill. He grew up in Delaware with his family, and he met the love of his life Sylvie Monod at the closing of World War II.

The story goes that Sylvie and a friend snuck into a Red Cross officer's ball at the Hotel Crillon and shared her first dance with Bob. They were married on Nov. 22, 1952 in Paris by Sylvie's uncle Charles Westphal.

The couple later moved to Pasadena and lived on Putney Road for over 40 years, where they raised two sons, Alan and Marc. They were blessed with four grandchildren, Olivia, Julia, Robbie and John.

In the 1960s they helped to found a local French school in Pasadena. He and Sylvie served as leaders of the Alliance Française from 1965 to 1977, during which time the Alliance grew and prospered.

Bob graduated Newark High School in Wilmington, Delaware in 1941. He

spent two years studying mechanical engineering in Delaware. He then spent two years as First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

After the war Bob became interested in philosophy and pursued studies at the University of Delaware and Columbia University. He was recalled back into the Army for two more years in 1950 during the Korean War. He finished his studies and received his M.A. in Philosophy from Union Seminary in New York in 1957.

Bob went to Berkeley, California in 1957 and started his teaching career teaching French at a local high school. He later moved to Pasadena and started teaching Philosophy at Pasadena Community College. He taught at PCC for 30 years.

A Psalm of Life, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was his favorite poem and memorized as a child and found it uplifting throughout his life. His favorite stanza is below.

Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime, And, departing, leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time

### Maria Hinds Taught Clothing Construction

Marina Esther Hinds, Creator of the Drapery and Clothing Construction and Embroidery Class at PCC passed away on March 4, 2021 in Dallas, Texas.

Born on June 9, 1943 in Panama, Central America, Marina migrated to California in her teens and graduated from John Muir High School in Pasadena. Her love for sewing and fashion led her to successful completion of the



Fashion Design Program at L.A .Trade Tech College.

Prior to joining PCC in 1968, her sewing program began at the Saint Rafael Church in 1965. She taught only sewing there. In 1968 Drapery Technology was added to the sewing program, followed by a Computerized Embroidery and Digitizing Program in 1996; increasing the opportunity to prepare students for employment in the field.

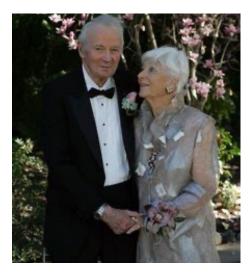
Marina was very involved in the community and knew the fashion world very well. She also knew the owners and staff of all 111 factories in Pasadena, where some of her students were placed after completing the Sewing Technology Program.

In 1969 she organized a successful fashion show at the YWCA in Pasadena.

Teaching was her life, so it did not matter where her students were from, China, Africa, Europe, Mexico, Central America, South America or India, she treated them all like family.

Her objective was to "help people accomplish their highest goal in life" and that she did that throughout her teaching career until her retirement in 2011. She spent 43 years teaching at PCC. Bob died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, Nov. 15. He is forever remembered for his devotion to his family and friends on both sides of the Atlantic and for his philosophical discussions, dignity and inner strength.

He leaves behind an enduring legacy of love, affection and respect for the many people whose lives he touched throughout his life.



### Patrick Pandolfi Helped His Students

Patrick Pandolfi, engineering professor, passed away at 73 after battling COPD for several years. Pandolfi was born in Chile and immigrated to the United States in the 70s. He retired from the Engineering and the Technology Division in 2011 after teaching at PCC for 30 years.

Patrick loved math and physics, and he worked on numerous projects with JPL/NASA. Whenever he could, he would include his students in those projects. He said that he liked having his students work on real projects because they got immediate feedback from professional inspectors and engineers.

Colleagues at JPL said Pandolfi had a reputation as being a "first rate manufacturing engineer passionately devoted to his students." One of the projects completed by Patrick's students was a round, 20-inch-high steel oven, which houses 14 computer operated furnaces. They were used for conducting exper-

#### **Continued on page 16**

# Stan Gunstream, biologist and vice president of instruction

Dr. Stanley E. Gunstream, former vice president of instruction, passed away at the age of 92.

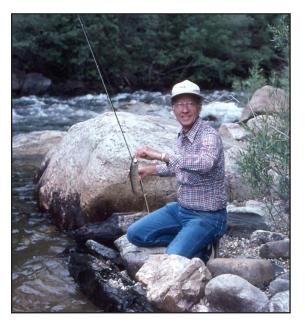
He admitted that he had very little interest in school, but his mother insisted that he go to college. It was at PCC that he was captivated by the biosciences. He taught high school for several years before earning his bachelor's and master's degrees from Cal State L.A. He enrolled in graduate school at USC where his research on mosquitoes earned him a Ph.D.

He accepted a position at Pasadena City College where he spent the next 39 years. He taught biology and authored two textbooks and coauthored two anatomy and physiology lab manuals that remained popular long after his retirement. As a matter of fact, his textbooks are still available on Amazon.

His son said that he seemed to know almost every insect, bird and mammal, and he enjoyed bringing nature to life for his kids, grandkids and later great grandchildren.

He loved nature, and he loved fishing.

Dr. Gunstream moved from the classroom to administration, and he finished his time at PCC as vice president of instruction.



### Savaletta Marie Duncan Gordon, a Lady Who Loved Being Around People, Passed Away at 102

Savaletta Marie Duncan Gordon, born November 03, 1919, a staff member at Pasadena City College, passed away on January 4, 2022 at the age of 102.

Born to James Alfred Ernest Duncan (Nassau, Bahamas January 5, 1891) and Corabell Aletha Lamar (Riverside,



California February 6, 1894), she was the oldest of 13 children, and the only one not born in Pasadena. She was born in Pittsburg, CA.

She and her parents arrived in Pasadena, CA in 1920. The Duncan Family was the first African-American family in St. Andrew Catholic Church parish and was also one of six families honored at the Pasadena Museum of History "Family Stories: Sharing a Community's Legacy," representing the African-American family.

She is sister of retired PCC professor, Mable Duncan and the grandmother of current PCC Supervisor of Grant Accounting, Brigitte Norsworthy.

Sally or Sal, as she was affectionately known, was widowed in 1951 and left to raise two young daughters. She picked herself up, dusted herself off and with resolve, prepared herself to face the challenges that laid ahead.

Knowing that additional education was key, she enrolled in the Pasadena Junior College business preparation program.

Upon completion of her classes, she was hired by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in 1952 and worked for that organization for 17 years until her retirement in 1969. However, retirement was only temporary.

Sally then went to work for Pasadena City College for 10 years in the Distribution and Duplicating Services department until her retirement in July 1979.

However, after her retirement from PCC, she continued to work parttime as a clerk in the Learning Center of the Community Education Center. After retirement she served on the Board of Directors for the PCC Retirees Association.

Upon leaving the Community Education Center, she continued to work. Sally became the night and weekend manager of Pilgrim Tower East, a residential senior citizen apartment complex where she resided. She was responsible for the weekly bingo games, opening and closing the building during the week and handled all that arose on the weekend. She received recognition from the City of Pasadena and the Pasadena Fire Department for her service at Pilgrim Towers. She remained in this position for 25 years, until 2018 at the age of 99 years old.

She is survived by 2 brothers, 2 sisters, 1 daughter, 3 grandkids, 6 great-grandkids, 4 great-great-grandkids and a host of family and friends. Sally really enjoyed being around people, which undoubtedly contributed greatly to her longevity.



### **Myron Tarkanian, PCC Sports Hall of Fame Coach**

The world of Pasadena City College Athletics was saddened by the loss of PCC Sports Hall of Fame coach Myron Tarkanian, 81, who died of a heart attack near his Arcadia home.

He had the distinction of coaching conference titles in football (1974), men's tennis (1992, 1998), women's tennis (2000), and won three consecutive men's soccer South Coast Conference titles (1999-2001) as the Lancers administrative head coach.

Tarkanian was inducted into the PCC HOF in 2018.

Tarkanian directed the last undefeated PCC football team in 1974 at 10-0-1 when the Lancers captured the Metropolitan Conference championship and were *JC Grid-Wire* regular season national champions.

PCC Hall of Fame offensive lineman Ned Vessey and NFL drafted players in talented quarterback Jim Lejay and defensive end Neal Skarin were among some of the top players from that magical '74 team.

The younger brother of PCC Court of Champions inductee and college basketball coaching legend Jerry Tarkanian, Myron passed away nearly seven years to the day after his older sibling died on Feb. 11, 2015.

A coach in five different decades here, Tarkanian retired from PCC in 2004. His 37-year career as a coach/



physical education instructor started in 1968 as a co-head football coach with another PCC Hall of Famer in Harvey Hyde. A year earlier, Jerry directed the '67 Lancers men's basketball team to a state title.

Tarkanian was known for his dry sense of humor and a jovial attitude that he displayed to both co-workers and students.

Even in retirement, Tarkanian showed great interest in the accomplishments of current PCC athletics teams and attended regular lunches with several of his close former colleagues. One of them was long-time friend Skip Robinson, a former PCC athletic director and a fellow school Hall of Famer.

"More than being a good coach, Myron was a great friend, and one that will be greatly missed by all he touched," Robinson said. "I learned a lot from Tarkanian's leadership early on in my career, and for that I'm thankful.

He was instrumental with guiding me and he went out of his way to show support during my time as AD. All he wanted was what was best for PCC Athletics. He was a winner as a coach and just a wonderful man."

Tarkanian, Hyde, Robinson and Bill Sandstrom were also part of a close-

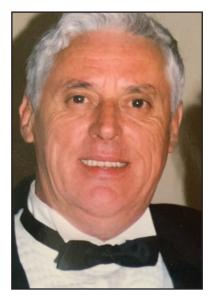
knit 1972 coaching staff that produced a 10-0 regular season, a conference title, a *JC Grid-Wire* national title, and two state playoff victories in a 12-1 season. Sandstrom was the head coach that year, then it was Tarkanian's turn in 1974.

It was two perfect regular seasons in a span of three years for the program. Originally from Ohio, the Tarkanian family moved to Pasadena when Myron was 4 and he later attended Pasadena High before playing four years of football at the University of Redlands.

His brother Jerry was 10 years older and served as a mentor for the younger Tarkanian.

Tarkanian's speech at the '18 HOF ceremony included individual shoutouts to many different coaches during his PCC career.

### Patrick Pandolfi



iments in a weightless and non-oxidizing environment while in orbit around the Earth aboard the space shuttle.

Pandolfi's students built more than 60 percent of the oven's parts in two years when no other school was willing to do the job.

Patrick's wife Gabriela said he was a wonderful storyteller. He loved stories about his youth in Chile. He lived in the countryside, and he planted sugar beets and worked in the milk industry.

She also said he was the perfect handyman around the house with his engineering skills. He could build or repair anything.

In addition to Gabriela, Patrick leaves two sons and two grandsons. He also has two brothers and one sister who still live in Chile. Family members and friends often choose a scholarship as a way of honoring the memory of a loved one. For those who wish to remember someone with a retirees' scholarship, they can either choose to adopt a student for \$1,000 or make a donation in any amount in that person's name to the Retirees' Scholarship