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President William Mitchell Andrews Retires From Bakersfield College

By Bob Covey

William "Bill" Andrews, the current President of BC, will retire in May, 2008 after three years at the helm. He was born on October 20, 1946, in Marshalltown, Iowa, and was raised on a nearby farm. He attended kindergarten through eighth grade at tiny Van Cleve, Iowa, in a class of seven students. Besides school his interests were music and athletics. Andrews attended Marshalltown High and graduated in 1964. At Marshalltown he was in choir, the band, and on the swim teams.

After high school he entered Marshalltown Junior College, earning his Associate of Arts degree in 1966. He entered the University of Northern Iowa (NIU) in Cedar Falls, married Jean Louise Cooper on January 20, 1968, and graduated in the spring with a B.A. in English. He signed his first contract to teach English at Grundy Center High School.

Andrews taught at Grundy Center until 1970 and then returned to NIU to work on the first of two Masters Degrees, completing the first in Library Science in 1972 and the second in Educational Media in 1976. These were great accomplishments, but his greatest reward came on May 27, 1973 with the births of his and his wife's twins, Allyson Marie and Amy Louise.

In 1977 he was hired as an Assistant Professor and Director of Learning Resources at the University of Minnesota, staying until 1981. In that year he moved his family to El Paso Community College, where he was the Director of Learning Resources. In 1989 he entered New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, to complete a Doctorate in



Bakersfield College President Bill Andrews.

Administration of Higher Education with a minor in Management.

In 1991 he applied for and was hired as Vice President for Instruction at Saddleback Community College in California. Then in 1998 he moved to Riverside Community College as Vice President of Academic Affairs, and two years later, in 2000, he left Riverside College to become President of Porterville College.

Since coming to Bakersfield, he has enjoyed being President of BC, but it was an "all-consuming" job. At age sixty, he said, "It is time to retire." He and his wife Jean will move back to his family farm near Marshalltown where they can spend more time with their daughters and two granddaughters, and he will be able to play more golf.

However, don't be surprised if you hear that Andrews is doing some special projects for Marshalltown Junior College. An educator is who he is. ☺

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Gerald Haslam: A True Favorite Son Of Bakersfield College

By Greg Goodwin

Gerry Haslam attended BC over fifty years ago. He went on to become one of the state's finest and most recognized authors of novels, short stories, and essays. And he has not forgotten his roots. He was part of the "move to the hill" in 1956 and was a member of the state championship track team coached by John Collins. He has always credited the college with giving him the education and motivation to pursue his vocation. Indeed these are the inspiration for most of his writing.

Gerry was an early supporter of the Archives, financially and donated signed copies of his books. He expects to donate some original manuscript material as well. At the Archives' "Move to the Hill" dinner in April of 2006 he offered to come back to help the Archives with a special fundraiser.

In November 2007 the Archives worked with the Levan Institute for the Humanities to invite Gerry to become the first scholar-in-residence at BC. He visited classrooms and held meetings with faculty and students. On November 6th, 2007 Archives supporters were invited to a dinner in his honor in the Renegade Room and the event sold out.

Wonderful memories were shared at the dinner. Students in the Culinary Arts program led by Chef Suzanne Davis prepared and served a delicious meal. Master of ceremonies Jack Hernandez, in his usual entertaining style, kept the program running smoothly. After an introduction by President William Andrews, Haslam read selections from his writings, followed by personal comments by John Collins, his BC track coach, and Ken Byrum and Jim Wren, former classmates. After the dinner, Gerry autographed copies of his books made available for purchase by Russo Books. The Archives netted almost a thousand dollars from the evening. Thank you, Gerry Haslam.

We look forward to a continued relationship with Gerry and his wife, Jan, a BC Alum who was outstanding student and Homecoming Queen. 🐾



Author Gerald Haslam (right) chats with President Bill Andrews before dinner.

Selected Publications by Gerald Haslam

Okies: Selected Stories

Masks

The Wages of Sin: Collected Stories

Hawk Flights: Visions of the West

That Constant Coyote: California Stories

Great Tejon Club Jubilee

Straight White Male

Coming of Age in California

The Language of the Oil Fields

Workin' Man Blues: Country Music in California

The Great Central Valley: California's Heartlandia

Visit geraldhaslam.com for more on Gerald and a list of numerous other publications.



Sarah Parker

New Archives Assistant Sarah Parker

Sarah Parker began her part-time position as the Archives Assistant in February, replacing Christian Torres who left last summer. From Delano High School, Sarah went on to graduate from BC in the 1970s, serve a hitch in the U. S. Army, and earn both a BA and MA in Public Policy and Administration from California State University Bakersfield. She has worked for the State of California Employment Department and the Kern County Human Services Department. Sarah is an adjunct professor in the Business Department at BC.

Please come by and meet Sarah sometime. We are very pleased to have her as part of the Archives. Her youth and energy belie the fact she is a mother and grandmother.

Welcome, Sarah. 🐾



Dr. Edward "Si" Simonsen

Dr. Edward Simonsen

By John J. Collins

John Collins' eloquent funeral eulogy of Simonsen will be available on the Archives Website

Edward Simonsen, or "Si" as he was familiarly called, spent most of his professional life at Bakersfield College, serving in many administrative assignments before he became President of the college in 1958. He was the first Chancellor of the Kern Community College District, serving from 1968 until his retirement in 1978. Ed died on December 12, 2007 after leading a very active life in retirement for 29 years.

A Marine pilot during WWII, Simonsen joined the Bakersfield College staff in 1945 as the war ended. At that time the College was located on the Bakersfield High School campus on California Avenue, and in 1956 Dr. Simonsen was in charge of moving the college to its present location on Panorama Drive.

Si was the leader of the college during what many called its "golden age," a time when the college grew and prospered under his leadership, and he was instrumental in recruiting and retaining a remarkably talented faculty. Bakersfield College during Ed's years established a noteworthy reputation for academic excellence, as well as in athletics and student activities.

Ed Simonsen had the trust and respect of those who worked under his leadership. His style of administration was effective without being demanding. He was noted for keeping everyone "a little loose in the harness." Mainly, we all called him "Si", and he knew everyone of us by name. To this day, students of that era remember Ed Simonsen, and look back on their years at BC as a wonderful experience in their lives.

Today Bakersfield College lives on as a great institution, carrying the mark of Edward Simonsen. We remember him fondly, salute his many achievements, and never forget the magic of the years he spent at Bakersfield College. ☺

Come See the Archives!

The BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE ARCHIVES has photos and memorabilia on display and a wealth of fascinating old documents on BC's history. We are located on the 2nd floor of the new Grace Van Dyke Bird Library.

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HOURS FOR SPRING SEMESTER 2008

Monday:	1:30 – 4:00 PM
Tuesday:	8:00 – NOON
Wednesday:	8:00 – NOON
Thursday:	2:30 – 4:30 PM
Friday:	8:00 – NOON

Other Hours By Appointment

INTERESTING ACQUISITIONS

The most exciting acquisition was an almost complete set of The Weekly Blatt for the year 1960. This was sent by Hank Russell, whose mother had kept the copies. (See more elsewhere in this issue.) We had doubted that any existed. Now we are hunting for copies from 1961.

Chris Hitchcock in the Records and Admissions Office donated a binder of records from 1959 through 1989 for C.L.U.B. (College Ladies United in Bondage), a secretary's organization.

Dr. John Collins donated an invitation to a 1983 fall potluck of BC Faculty Wives and Women being held at the Collins home. He also gave a photograph from the 1974 Homecoming showing John and some of his family riding in John and Sammie Jelletich's 1922 Franklin with John Jelletich at the wheel.

Pat Parsons donated a newspaper clipping from 1976 that featured a Personality Profile of Wylie Logan Jones.



Renegade Band at the 1962 Seattle World's Fair, Ken Fahsbender, director, Victor Book drum major, and Jay Eisen announcer.

Defining Events in Music at Bakersfield College

By Dr. Kenneth Fahsbender

Note: This is a shortened version of a longer article by Dr. Fahsbender. The original version will appear on the Archives Website.

After the College moved to the new "campus on the hill" in 1956, growth appeared inevitable at Bakersfield Junior College. Performing music, however, had not kept pace. President Simonsen decided to replace his choral director and his band director in 1959.

I was hired to be director of Instrumental Music and participated in the selection of Joseph Huszti to be director of Choral Music. Huszti's choirs and my band began with low enrollment, but grew in numbers and quality each year. Each organization had a special year which became important in the history of performing music at Bakersfield College.

The Bakersfield Junior College Renegade Band joined their football team at the 1961 Junior Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Junior college bands from Mississippi, Texas and California competed during a parade down Colorado Boulevard on the morning of the game. When the Renegade Band was announced as the winner of the band competition at the Rose Bowl prior to the game, Bakersfield's fans and the band realized that this was a special moment for music at Bakersfield College.





Left to right: Rebecca Brooks, Jean Dodson, Dale Brooks, Jane Kubota, Joe Huszti

Success in that event brought an invitation to appear at the Seattle World's Fair in May of 1962. and money from sales of a band recording paid for a United Airlines chartered plane to fly the band and equipment from Meadows Field to Seattle. This defining year for instrumental music was later surpassed by Joe Huszti and the Bakersfield College Choir.

In 1964, the choir raised funds and received support from the college and the community to compete at The Musical Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales in the summer of 1965. In choral music, this competition is the equivalent of football's Super Bowl, except this competition includes adult choirs from around the world.

With determination, honed skills and national pride, the Bakersfield College Choir was awarded the Ordo1-Mixed Chorus. This marked the first time an American choir had ever won this prestigious award.

Ironically, Jim Clark of Clark Pest Control had arranged for an audience with the Pope as part of the choir's planned trip to Europe. Following this great achievement, the choir not only had a private audience with Pope Paul VI, they sang for the private audience and were presented the Ecumenical medal by the Pope.

The choir's return flight was interrupted with a request to appear before President Lyndon Johnson in the Rose garden of the White House. When the Bakersfield College Choir finally returned to Bakersfield, they were met by hundreds of relatives, BC staff and community leaders. In more ways than one, the choir had truly arrived!

Joe Huszti left BC in 1966 and became a national figure in choral music. He is currently Head of Choral Music at the University of California Irvine. I turned the band over to Charles Wood in 1964 and finished my educational career in 1981.

Two dedicated professors and two talented groups of students contributed two special years to the history of music at Bakersfield College. 🎵



The Instructional Computer Revolution at Bakersfield College

By Olin C. Kirkland

Edited and shortened by Don Stansbury. The original and longer article by Kirkland will appear on the Archives Website.

Bakersfield College joined the instructional computer revolution in 1976. The personal computer had not arrived, and only a few colleges used large computers and cards on a "card-punch" machine. This "batch processing" worked very well in many situations, but it was not what most faculty and students wanted: direct, immediate interaction with the computer. Some colleges used "time-sharing," where the computer system allocated a fraction of time to one job, and then in slack time worked other jobs.

This "time-sharing" feature made faculty around the country hungry to use the computer. With batch processing an operator used a "terminal," a cathode-ray tube, a keyboard for data input, and a printing terminal. Using a terminal seemed to open wonderful vistas of possibility for faculty.

Before coming to BC I had used the computer in classroom work, so in 1969 I sought out Lanning Flint, the legendary BC computer guru. Later in 1972-73 Rob Parsons, Engineering/Math/Physics, and I were temporarily assigned to replace instructors at Porterville College. Rob had arranged for access to the District computer one or two afternoons a week, so I tagged along. Then Rob began agitating for an instructional computer at BC and gathered support among many departments. President John Collins appointed a large faculty investigation committee in the fall of 1974, but most people dropped out of active participation. Finally, George McGee, Rob Parsons, and I remained.

In the spring of 1976 we requested bids on a time-sharing computer system, and DEC was the low bidder on a DEC 11/70 time-sharing computer. It was enormous: a floor-standing monster with some twenty terminals, a card reader, a fast line-printer, an 88 megabyte disk unit, and 128K of memory. The DEC technician and I brought the system "up and running" for the first time on August 4, 1976.

Other faculty became interested. Stephen Smith, and Bob Allison joined in, and we three continued the implementation of the new system. After it was installed, Collins offered me the job of Coordinator. Lloyd Hokit in Agriculture soon appeared with a program, marched to a terminal, and keyed the program in to the terminal. It ran with no bugs, so Lloyd pronounced his hearty approval and left. The system was finally christened!



From left, Ken Lautenschlager Olin Kirkland, and Bob Allison



Legendary BC computer guru Lanning Flint.

That summer Rob Parsons moved to Monterey College, Bob Allison in Chemistry became the Physical Sciences department's interest in the computer. He, along with Steve Smith, were able to obtain grants from the National Science Foundation that were of great value to the Department and the Instructional Computer Center as a whole.

Other instructors became interested in using the computer: Peter McKay in History/Future Studies, Jim Glynn, Sociology, Sharon Edgmon, Math, were a few. They had to learn the programming language, BASIC, and write their own instructional programs. We increased the hours of the Computer Center from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m to seven-days a week in 1981, hired student operators, and expanded the capacity of the system. By 1988 we had more than 30,000 programs in use and at least 2,200 users of the computer;

Even though the system was eventually supplanted by the personal computer, the original computer configuration lasted until 1990, far beyond our early ideas. Thousands of students received instruction, ranging from astronomy, through programming to police science and physics, in addition to those noted above. And the instructional uses of computing were just beginning.



Here a student enters data into an early computer, 1970.

Publications We Need

Every time we publish a list of publications and papers we know we need, a few more come in to us. Here is the updated list. We can often use a second copy of an item and there are many items, reports, and brochures not listed here, so please let us check before you throw out any BC item. REMEMBER THE ARCHIVES!

The Blatt: any copies of the 1961 issues of this "underground" newspaper.

The Weekly Blight: any copies of this counter-counter underground newspaper

BC President's Annual Report (aka Report to the Community): any before 1947, 1948 thru 1963, and 1972 thru 1998.

Oracles: 1913 thru 1922, (one more copy needed 1923 thru 1927, 1930)

Raconteurs: 1934, 1936, 1940, 1943, 1972, 1973, and any years after 1997.

Reneguides: 1938-47, 1952-54, 1968, 1995-96, any after 1997.

BC Catalogues: 1929-31, 1943-45, (one more copy needed 1928-29, 1935-36, 1994-95 regular binding).

BC Class Schedules: any before 1990.

Honor Brunch Programs: 1957-1961, 1966-67, 1969, 1973-75, (one more copy 1993-1996-2000-2004)

Campus Arts Magazine: 1968, 1979, (one more copy 1957 thru 1980)

Commencement Programs: 1913 thru 1926, 1928 thru 1931, 1976, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1993, 1996 thru 1998.

Trivia : Nicknames In Use At Bakersfield College

1. Who are the RENEGADES?
2. Who are the MERMEN?
3. Who are the RENEMAIDS?
4. Who are the RENEBABES?
5. Who are the GADETTES?

Answers on page 11.



The WEEKLY BLATT

The Weekly Blatt articles in the November 2007 Archives Newsletter written by Warren Coats and Dr. John Collins generated an exciting flurry of emails from those involved in the “renegade” publication. For the archives the happy result was the donation of one year of Weekly Blatt issues. The mother of Hank Russell, Chief Justice of Student Court in 1961, had saved The copies, even though Hank was not involved in the writing. Bill Hulsy emailed the following:

“The Blatt was started by Warren [Coats], Mike Burnaugh and I. We were all imbued by Goldwater’s Conscience of a Conservative. We all attended Bakersfield High School and had spent four years in Frau Bello’s German Class. The word ‘blatt’ means leaf in German and is also a synonym for sheet, and in Germany the word “blatt” is often used for newspaper. Hence, the name. ... We put the Blatt together at my father’s law office where there were five or six typewriters. We had about 10 students who helped. We had some secret contributors (whose names I never discovered) ...Warren had ‘connections’ with the nascent conservative (adult) movement and had the paper printed somewhere and he had some advertisers and a financial backer (very secret). Our best writer was Mike Burnaugh. He could really turn a phrase.”

When President Collins ran the unofficial Blatt off campus, they found a way back on through the sponsorship of Wesley Fellowship, a Methodist affiliated club. The November 9, 1960 Blatt reports that “After much discussion the Wesley Student Group decided that although they are not necessarily supporting the views of The Blatt in any way....they nevertheless feel that The Blatt deserves to be heard!!” This sponsorship enabled it to be distributed on campus.”

By December, 1960 the writers of The Blatt held the first meeting of The Bakersfield College Society of Individualism with The Weekly Blatt its official publication. The faculty advisors were Bob Fricke and John Zimmerman. The Blatt ended in Spring of 1962 though we have no copies from the second year.

Along with the copies of The Weekly Blatt from Hank Russell came one edition of The Weakly Blight. Who can tell us anything about that?

What happened to the men who were part of The Blatt? Of the ones we know, Bill Hulsy is a local attorney at law, Warren Coats spent many years with the International Monetary Fund, Rob Parsons taught at Bakersfield College, and Hank Russell is currently the Mayor of Sonora. In 1969, Jack Reynolds was interviewed by Dr. John Collins, then the founding president of Moorpark College. Jack said, “During the interview, I mentioned my connection to The Blatt and confessed that I was the John Galt character who had caused a minor ripple in the BC pond. John hired me anyway and I taught at Moorpark College until I retired in 2003.”



Officers for 1961 dinner party at Woolgrowers. Seated: President, Mrs. Omar Scheidt; Left to right: Mrs. Avery Allen; Mrs. John Collins; Mrs. Allen Berardi.

BC’s Faculty Wives and Women

By JoAnn Slate

In 1956-57, Jessie (Jack) Frost was organizational president of Bakersfield Junior College Faculty Wives. The group provided new residents with helpful advice as well as warm greetings. After the “Bakersfield Junior College” separated from the Kern High School District in 1966, the “junior” name disappeared, and the district became the Kern Community College District.

The BC Faculty Wives held annual September potlucks where newcomers were introduced and “big sisters” assigned to new members. These first year members received their potluck dinner assignment: “Bring a loaf of French bread.” But when they saw such dishes as enchilada pie, taco salad, or barbecued lamb, some newcomers felt culture shock. When they saw dessert boxes labeled Smith’s Bakery, wives from small towns were aghast, since tradition prohibited store-bought contributions. They discovered that Smith’s could bake better than most people, their hesitation vanished and they too went to Smith’s.



FACULTY WIVES, continued

Monthly meetings involved handmade invitations, program themes, and tasty refreshments. Faculty wives served tea and cake during receptions that followed presentations by such notables as anthropologist Dr. Louis Leakey, vocalist Marni Nixon, and humorist Bennett Cerf. Some compiled booklets featuring local shopping and dining. Gourmet group members exchanged recipes and served specialties at monthly mini-luncheons. Members had get-togethers for creative arts, gourmet cooking, and bridge. Arty folk enjoyed meetings involving decoupage, stitchery, and quilting and began invitation-only bazaars. Proceeds from these successful fund-raisers provided scholarships for selected BC students.

When in the 1970s BC's women faculty expressed interest in participation, the group chose a new name, "BC Faculty Wives and Women," and extended membership invitations to interested employees. Between 1971 and 1974, three vice-presidents were pregnant during their terms, prompting prospective officers to re-consider their qualifications. Members wore dresses to all functions at that time, before pantsuits became appropriate attire for women,

Numerous faculty wives had successful careers in professions, including education, medicine, or legal work. By the mid-1980s, so many wives had resumed occupations or re-trained in other fields that active membership dwindled, so that eventually the group dissolved. Remembering friendships formed, skills learned, and scholarships awarded, members nevertheless remain connected well beyond their spouses' retirements. And now they all wear pantsuits. ☞

Confessions of a Hottie Wannabe

by Dr. Jack

I confess: I've always envied hotties. Hottie professors, that is. Oh, sure, publicly, I praised the great teacher, while my inner hottie murmured, "whatever..." But after semesters of vainly checking RateMyProfessors.com for chili peppers after my name, I fought and vanquished this unacademic impulse—so I thought, until last fall the *Renegade Rip* published a student survey identifying the hottest professors on campus.

And my secret desire was reborn.

BC has always had hottie professors. I remember...and then there was...(whew, there's a burning in my brain). Actually, there is a hottie track parallel to the academic one: Assistant Hottie Professor, Associate Hottie Professor, and Full Hottie Professor. O to make Full Hottie Professor! Nirvana was, of course, to be a Great Teacher, Outstanding Leader, and Full Hottie Professor. That would be the trifecta of faculty accolades.

What defines a Hottie Professor? The Rip article gave no criteria and the concept is notoriously subjective. But as a sometime philosopher, I thought I'd give it a try based on my dispassionate, objective, empirical observation of BC Hottie Professors through the years. One problem is the change in the hottie zeitgeist. The Hottie Professor of the sixties, with long hair, love beads and "groovy" on the tongue is not the same as the Saturday Night Fever polyester clothed, disco writhing Hottie Professor of the seventies. And today, it's cool running shoes, jeans and, well, more jeans. But there must be a core hottieness, one that persists whatever the outer fashion change. A kind of Platonic Hottieness ideal.

So here's a definition: Hottieness is next to godliness. Well, no, that's too broad, not to mention pure. How about Hottieness is the condition of being hot. Well, no, that's circular. Okay, Hottieness is in the lustful eye of the beholder, so maybe it can't be defined, just observed. Either you're a Hottie Professor or not.

That means you can't make yourself into a Hottie Professor. You can become a great teacher through work, practice, and pedagogy tips, but you are born a Hottie. And, this is the dagger to the heart of a hottie professor wannabe: once a hottie, always a hottie.

But that leads a hottie wannabe to despair.

I don't buy it, can't let my desire die. Thus, I'm going to suggest that we have a new Hottie Professor category: the Emeritus Hottie.

I might yet have a shot... ☞



Left to right: Possibly Joyce Sanden, Milt Sanden, Bennett Cerf.

Famous Ghost Voices at Bakersfield College

By Ron Dethlefsen, Jerry Ludeke, and Don Stansbury

In the late 1960's and throughout the 1970's Bakersfield College's "Eminent Speakers" program brought world and national figures into our local campus and helped make these personalities more real to us in that now-distant pre-CD, pre-DVD, pre-internet age.

The Archives records in *The Raconteur* and *Renegade Rip* over thirty speakers from a variety of professions and careers, such as Jane Fonda, Henry Kissinger, Art Buchwald, and many others. We suspect that the list is larger than what we have been able to compile. And there may have been others that are not in the Archives records. If readers of this article have recollections and anecdotes of any of the speakers, please call or send an email to the Archives office, as we hope to include additional stories relating to famous "ghost voices" once heard at BC.

Among the famous names who spoke at BC one well-known individual was the writer and publisher Bennett Cerf. Mr. Cerf spoke on campus at the BC Theater to a packed house. His subject matter related to the history and status of American comedy and humorous writing. He also spoke of his experiences on the long-running Sunday night question and answer show "What's My Line." He spoke affectionately of his colleagues on the show:

Arlene Francis, Fred Allen, Dorothy Kilgallen, and moderator John Daly. If you recall, "What's My Line" was actually "reality TV" for a number of years because the sponsor, Stopette Deodorant, didn't like the fuzzy quality of kinescoped TV. And so the owner of the deodorant company paid for a "live" coast-to-coast broadcast of the show that kept Cerf and his colleagues on their toes because they knew what they said was unedited.

Mr. Cerf stayed overnight at the Skyway motel at Meadows Field and presented a seminar for students in the Renegade Room. The next morning before he flew to Palm Springs to spend the weekend with Truman Capote, I recall that Cerf was asked if he thought American humor had become sarcastic and crude when compared to its contents in previous years. He said that there had always been such elements in American humor, and he gave as an example the "Little Willie" jokes of the very early 20th century:

"Little Willie, dressed in sashes, fell into the fire and was burned to ashes. Bye and bye the room grew chilly, but no one cared to stir up Willie."

Bennett Cerf was a delightful speaker who appeared to be exactly like the person we saw on "What's My Line." ☺

BC PEOPLE WE WILL MISS

Patricia Collins: Patricia, wife of President Emeritus John Collins, was an important member of Bakersfield College life over a span of many years. She was a welcome and delightful presence at campus gatherings and a gracious hostess in her home and beautiful backyard. She held a Master's Degree from UC Berkeley in Library Science and passed her passion for reading on to her three children. Though she was an invalid for the last five years of her life, Dr. Collins praised her by saying that "she was a remarkably good patient, never complaining, and never once asking, 'why me'."

Judy Clausen: Judy was editor of the Renegade Rip in 1946, which began her life-long career in writing, drama, and public information. She had a terrific sense of humor and was considered a "trailblazer" for women in the field of journalism.

Don Douville: Don was a professor at BC for 30 years in the Administration of Justice Department. He enjoyed not only helping many students choose law enforcement, but working with those already in the field. He retired in 2001.

Gary Galli: Gary served for 27-1/2 years as a custodian for Bakersfield College. He retired on his birthday, March 5, 2002. Though he was in ill health toward the end of his career, he was able to enjoy his children and grandchildren for six years after leaving BC.

Mary Jane Gragg: Served as a BC classified staff member with kindness and poise for approximately 40 years. Though she retired after 30 years in 1988, she was asked to return, and continued working until her second retirement in 1997. She was a lovely, genuine lady who loved Bakersfield College and its staff and students.

Bill Heffernan: Bill was a BC student before transferring to Cal in 1938. After serving four years in the military, he returned to Cal and earned his Master's Degree. He began his career at Bakersfield College in 1947 as a history professor, later became a counselor then served as Dean of Education for many years before retiring in 1983. Throughout his many years at BC, Bill remained dedicated to the welfare of students, including the many veterans who attended under the GI Bill during his tenure as an administrator.

Nancy Helmstedter: The wife of BC professor Warren Helmstedter, she and her children graduated from BC. She was an elementary school teacher and became a member of the Bakersfield College Faculty Wives Club in 1971.

Dr. Edward Laskowski: Ed taught geology, Russian, and cinema at BC, as well as extension courses at Edwards Air Force Base. He became a founding faculty member at CSUB where he taught Russian and geochemistry until his retirement.

Dr. Edward Simonsen: Served Bakersfield College and the District from 1945 until he retired in 1978. He was Dean of Men, Athletic Director, Vice President, President, and the first Chancellor of the separate Kern Community College District. (Please see feature article in this newsletter.)

Lucretia Shoemith: Lucretia and her husband, Walter, were well known for their gifts to Bakersfield College scholarships. She had a special bond for struggling students and was a dedicated friend to Bakersfield College. She died on February 27, at the age of 97.

Trivia Answers

1. The Renegade nickname is liberally applied to anyone connected with Bakersfield College, most particularly to a BC sponsored team, athletic and otherwise.
2. The BC men swimmers were called Mermen in the 50s. In 1960 the term Aquamen appears.
3. Renemaids was the name given to the women's swim club, led by Georgene Bihlman, which specialized in synchronized group swimming.
4. Fooled you? According to the 1949 Raconteur, Renebabes was the name given to the fulltime reserve men's football squad.
5. Gadettes was a nickname applied to almost any BC women's team, as well as to the drill team.

We want your email address!

Receive news of BC people, upcoming events, and updates on the Archives. Your address will not be shared with others without your permission. If your name is not listed below, please email bcarchives@bakersfieldcollege.edu and include your name and relationship with BC.



Email Contacts to date(not in alphabetical order):

Vince Barry; Tom Davis; Susan Tuttle; Sasha Honig; Sally Hill; Ron and Charliemae Littlejohn; Ron Allsman; Rob Parsons; Rick Wright; Richard Benston; Peggy Buckley; Patti Brommelsiek; Pat Shaffer; Nancy Edwards; Mike & Janie Budy; Merriem Palitz; Lydia Langner; Lowell Dabbs; Loretta Anderson; Larry Fanucci; Ken Fahsbender; John Collins KCCD; John (Home) Collins; Jim Young; Jim Carden; Jerry Ludeke; Jennifer Caughron; Jan Rockoff; James Whitehouse; Jack Hernandez; Jack Brigham; Howard Quilling; Harvey Warren; Harvel Pollard; Gene & Lois Kirchner; Gary Cox; Frances Teutimez; Edith Golmore; Ed & Marvene Simonsen; Don Stansbury; Don Rodewald; Don Johnson; Ron Dethlefsen; Al & Kathy Davis; David Scott; David Rhea; David Keranen; Clyde Verhine; Clif Garrett; Chuck and Di Wall; Charlotte Cox; Charles R. Carlson; Chalita Robinson; Carolyn Turner; Carol Moore; Carol A. Cunningham; Carl Benjamin; Bruce and Terry Meier; Bob Funk; Bob Dietz; Bob Covey; Bob and Jean Wickey; Bob Allison; Arnold Burr; Alan Slate; Al Naso; AB & Joan Silver; Walt Johnson; Olin Kirkland



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