



GCCCD Grapevine

Volume 6, Number 1

April, 1996

Stop at the Top



Grossmont College's front entrance no longer is just the front entrance. It's been expanded and upgraded to be the Grossmont College Transportation Facility, part of the county's plan for a regional network of multi-model transportation centers. Also called "The Stop at the Top," it's serving bus patrons, bicyclists and dial-a-ride passengers, and will also serve transfer patrons from the Grossmont and Santee Trolley centers. The expanded facility, funded by the county, went into service in January.

Board OKs Arms for District Officers

Firearms will be carried by District Public Safety officers, probably in the fall, following an affirmative vote by the District Governing Board on April 2. The question of arming campus security personnel had been discussed for months before the Board approved the move. Only POST-Police Officer Standards and

Training-certified personnel will be hired as District Public Safety officers, the Board said. Already some of the present campus police force are POST certified; others will come from other police and law enforcement agencies. The total number of officers to begin with, will be five. POST certification of individuals makes the District a POST agency.

The annual cost to the District of POST certification will be about \$33,000. In addition, the District will require and fund ongoing progressive training "beyond POST" such as quarterly firearms training, or any training which will minimize the potential need for the use of firearms.

One policy mandated by the Board is that District administrative procedures for the use of firearms must be at least as restrictive as relevant sections of The San Diego County Sheriff's Department, the City of San Diego Police Department, and surrounding municipal police department procedures.

In addition to the five officers, there will be two supervisors; Chief Joel Javines will be one. The 18 brown-uniformed community service officers, now on the rolls will be retained according to Jim Austin, District Vice Chancellor for Business. They will continue to handle such chores as monitoring campus parking. When the new plan is in effect, at least one Public Safety officer will be on each campus while classes are in session, Austin said. During nonclass times, at least one officer will be on duty to cover both campuses. The officers will operate out of the District Public Safety Office, and will not be split formally between Grossmont and Cuyamaca.

Grapevine Now On-line

by Tom Scanlan

Our newsletter went on-line as an interactive publication this February 26. It's located at the GCCCD website (<http://www.gcccd.cc.ca.us/>) under Grossmont College, Publications. Denis Angleton, a SDSU graduate student serving as GCCCD's web author, working with materials provided by Sirkka Huovila (Grapevine Desktop Production and Layout), helped Grossmont College become the first community college in California to have their retiree newsletter on-line.

How do I know that we're the first? I searched an on-line listing of all California community colleges. Of the 107 community colleges in this state, only 33 were listed as having websites. I paid a quick visit to each. Many were still primitive and "under construction", only a few had faculty pages, and very few had a publications section. Of those showing publications (Palomar College has a snazzy campus newsletter with an archive of previous editions), only Grossmont College has a retirement newsletter. I'd say that Grossmont College has one of the more extensive and sophisticated websites of all the California community colleges, and

one that surpasses some of the four-year college and university websites.

Among other internet developments, the number of faculty with home-pages at GCCCD's website has increased since last October from 20 to 50, including 13 new home-pages at Cuyamaca College. 72 faculty and staff now also have campus e-mail addresses, all listed on the GCCCD website under Faculty on the Grossmont page, where you'll also find a complete telephone directory for all college faculty and staff. In addition, the college is looking for a dial-up provider that can provide low cost internet access to our students. The college is also searching for a new webmaster. Denis Angleton was hired away from us shortly after he completed our newsletter site.

Editor's Comments

by Pat Higgins

I can't remember-if I ever knew-who said the only constant in life is change, but I think he or she hit it right on the nose.

As I write this, the Governing Board and District officials are deciding whether to change the District name. Perhaps by the time you read this we may be getting used to a new name.

If it occurs, the name change will be the second for the District; the first came when Cuyamaca College was started and became part of the name. The current change, if it's made, may be the last; institutions much older than the district have existed without ever changing their names. But nobody knows what future factors will prompt consideration of another name change.

More interesting are personnel changes, and the question of what effect they have on the colleges. Since I retired six years ago, almost all occupants of the top District administration and college jobs have changed.

What started me thinking about change was the realization that two dozen certificated and classified staff members will have given up full-time chores in 1995 and the first half of 1996.

All the departures have, I think, been voluntary, some eagerly taken. So, we're not talking about shaken morale, such as must have been the case among AT&T employees who were not listed among the 40,000 slated for a pink slip. More directly, how has the departure of administrative, support, and teaching staff members affected the work of the colleges?

I've decided with some qualifiers, that the effect on the institutions isn't great. The first qualifier is that the departing personnel are replaced, instead of leaving the post vacant, with work spread over the remaining personnel in a department. The other qualifier is that a college cannot already be at a low point because of incompetent and/or ineffective personnel among those retiring. So far as I know that hasn't been the situation at our colleges.

I think there must be momentary, minor tremors when a sizable number leave over a relatively short period. But they wouldn't register very high on an academic Richter scale. The colleges very quickly regain their equilibrium. The departed are missed, but not for very long, and their passing has little, if any, effect on the long term excellence of Cuyamaca and Grossmont Colleges.

I've never heard it said seriously that the colleges are going down the drain because they've lost retiring personnel, and I'm convinced that's not the case. Some of us, though, have had the never-so-good-as-when-I-was-there syndrome, and when things seem to be going very well at the colleges, much pride goeth before many falls.

Everybody, or almost everybody, learns that he or she can be replaced, and that learning isn't always easy. But for the well-being of the institutions to which we devoted our years, we really should be glad it's so.

Six More Retire

At the end of 1995, and in early 1996, six more members of the GCCCD family moved from active to retired status. In addition to those listed in the November 1995 Grapevine, retirees include **Mike Valverde**, District Purchasing Supervisor, who stepped out December 31, 1995; **Mary Moreau**, Administrative Secretary at Cuyamaca and **Paul Rodriguez**, senior Grounds Maintenance Worker at Grossmont, who both retired in January. Retiring in March were **Drafton Dunlap**, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor at Grossmont, and **Gene Murray**, Director of Accounting for the District. **Chris Bona**, who handled employee benefits for the District, retired April 1.

Biblio-Files

by Tom Scanlan

The two novels reviewed in this issue each focus on something we can all relate to . . . familial relationships and how young people from very different cultures and economic backgrounds deal with coming of age, going off to college and the prospect of marriage.

My oldest daughter, Karen, put me on to one of them, Vikram Seth's [A Suitable Boy](#), published in 1993. It's been on my list of favorite books ever since. It's a huge novel of 1350 pages which I'd have been totally intimidated by if I'd seen it while browsing in a library or bookstore. Don't be. By the time you finish it, you'll wish the book were longer.

The story takes place in India, shortly after World War II. India had finally gained its independence from Great Britain. Amidst this turbulence, the efforts of a mother to find her daughter a suitable husband are complicated by the daughter's coming of age among college students who no longer agree with many of the traditional Indian customs. There are further complications because of caste and religious differences among her various friends and suitors. You'll learn a great deal about India, its history, its politics and its people while enjoying this novel. I found myself totally immersed in the sights, sounds and smells of this country while becoming acquainted with the fascinating members of the several inter-related families whose college-age children are the focus of this novel. If you love a good story written extraordinarily well, don't miss this one. It's classic.

The other novel, set in contemporary Ireland, is Maeve Binchy's [Circle of Friends](#), published in 1991. Some of you may have seen the movie of the same title which made the rounds last year. The book is even better (heard that before?). Although beautifully filmed in Ireland, the movie leaves out a lot. The main character, Benny, is the daughter of a small merchant in the village of Knockglan, near Dublin. She and her childhood friend, Eve, an orphan raised by the nuns at a convent nearby, go off together to University College in Dublin. Eve, attractive and outgoing compared to the plain and introverted Benny, draws them into a "circle of friends" at the college, where their relationship to each other is complicated by a glamorous new friend and by various student romances and personal backgrounds that are not what they first seem. The characters are richly portrayed, and the unveiling of their backgrounds drive a complex plot that will keep you interested to the last page.

Finally, just a reminder that I welcome mail (snail or e) or phone calls if you'd like to comment on books recommended in this column or if there's a book or two you'd like your fellow retirees to know about. I'm listed in the retiree directory and my e-mail is tscanlan@mail.gcccd.cc.ca.us

Send Us Your E-Mail Address

A listing of all known GCCCD retiree e-mail addresses will be published in the next issue of Grapevine and in subsequent Retiree Directories. If you would like your e-mail address included in these lists, please e-mail your e-mail address to: tscanlan@mail.gcccd.cc.ca.us

Enter the word RETIREE as the subject. Also, if any of you have your own home-pages on the web and would like other retirees to "stop by", send your URL (Uniform Resource Locator, i.e., your web address) along, as well.

Following is a very partial listing of retirees' e-mail addresses:

Don Anderson

danderso@mail.gcccd.cc.ca.us

Barbara and Lee Roper

b_roper@msn.com

Gay Russell

gmruss@theriver.com

Joan and Don Scouller

DScouller@aol.com

Virginia and Bob Steinbach

robert9510@aol.com

There are probably dozens more of you who are now connected, so help us stay in touch by sending in that address.

Riddell's Passing a Blow to Her Colleagues



Jeanne Riddell

A blow to Grossmont College people, particularly to her faculty colleagues, was the death in December of Dr. Jeanne Riddell, professor of psychology for 20 years. The breast cancer which eventually took her life was diagnosed three years ago, and radiation and chemotherapy treatments appeared to halt the cancer's progress. Then last summer, about 2« years later, the cancer reappeared. Treatment this time was ineffective, and the cancer spread to her liver, ending her life soon after. Jeanne grew up in Palm Desert, where her mother was bookstore manager at the College of the Desert. She attended San Diego State University, then headed east to the University of New Hampshire, where she got her master's and doctoral degrees. When she returned to the West, she joined the Grossmont College faculty in 1975. As a teacher, Jeanne was highly regarded by her students, not only for her classroom competence, but also for the time she spent out of class helping those who needed individual attention. Her faculty colleagues regarded her highly, not only as an instructor, but also for her involvement in the Faculty Senate, and as chair of her department.

One of her friends has described her as a "born traveler," and in the mid-80s she accepted a Department of Defense job to teach American students in Germany. During her years in Germany she traveled all over Europe, mostly in Eastern European countries, though she was particularly fond of the mountains of Bavaria and the Swiss Alps.

She had taken unpaid leave from Grossmont so she could go to Germany. When GC indicated it was time for her to return and resume teaching here, she came home. Despite the cancer, Jeanne never quit on life. Ten days before she died she invited 20 of her friends to a party they'll never forget. All the guests went riding in hot-air balloons. So did she.



Foundation Prospers, Wants More Members

Jesse Gates, Pres.

Increased membership, more knowledgeable fund-raising and wider awareness in the community are among the objectives of the Grossmont College Foundation, according to Jessie Gates, new president of the organization.

Gates, interim Supervisor of Admissions at GC, was installed at the Foundation's first recognition dinner in late March. She indicates satisfaction with progress made since the Foundation succeeded the GC Alumni Association in 1994. From 35 then, the Foundation's membership has risen to nearly 100, but Gates and her fellow officers and members want to achieve significantly larger numbers in the coming year.

Also in the organization's plans is the service of a fund-raising consultant to "help us learn more about fund-raising," according to Gates. Increased recognition in the community is also important because it will promote new membership and more funds, the Foundation believes.

Foundation membership is open to anybody who desires close contact with Grossmont; it's not necessary to be an alumnus or alumna or a present or former staffer. Dues range from \$20 to \$5,000 annually, with lifetime membership at \$300. It's not true, however, that a \$5,000 membership gives you ownership of the swimming pool and weight room.

The Foundation's prime reason for being is to help GC students and staff in areas not covered by regular budgets. For example, the 18-member board of directors each month hears requests, and then may provide unrestricted funds for scholarships, for example, or for art, or for equipment purchases. Expenses of staff development weeks are picked up by the Foundation, whose grants represent help for aspects of Grossmont's educational mission which might otherwise go unfunded.

Installed with Gates as new officers were Tom O'Connell, vice president; Alba Orr, secretary; and Kenneth Batson, treasurer. Richard Venancio was outgoing president; Felix Rogers was vice president, Gates was secretary and Orr treasurer. At the dinner, Presidential Awards, the Foundation's top honors, went to Chuck Buck, Senior, Joe Payson and Jacquelyn Winn for their hard work for the organization.

5th Annual Chancellor's Emeritus Club Luncheon, January 25, 1996



Good food and good conversation put members of the Chancellor's Emeritus Club in proper mood for this picture. Attending the annual luncheon, hosted by Chancellor Jeanne Atherton at the El Cajon Hungry Hunter restaurant, January 25, were front row, left to right, Marie Reynolds, Eve Lill, Pat Higgins, Ruth Coover, and Muriel Owen; second row, Don Anderson, Bob Rump, Wally Cohen, GC President Richard Sanchez, Erv Metzgar, Bob Danielson, and Bill Burns; third row, Bob Steinbach, Sam Ciccati, Dick Lantz, Bill Hansen, and Lee Hoffman.

Reminder-Retirement Has Its Perks

Retirement brings some benefits in addition to monthly money. In case you've forgotten or overlooked any, here are the perks which are yours as a GCCCD retiree. First, there's a retiree's Gold Card, which you'll need to claim the benefits. With it, you or your spouse can get a free parking card for staff lots, a library card and an athletic pass. Also, you can use athletic facilities on either campus, get discounts for on-campus concerts, lectures, theatre productions, seminars and at bookstores on both campuses.

If you or your spouse want to take classes at Cuyamaca or Grossmont, presentation of your Gold Card at registration will produce a waiver of tuition for regular classes, or a 50 percent discount for Extended College classes. There are a couple of minor qualifications on the tuition deals. If you already have a BA/BS or higher degree, you may not register sooner than the last day of registration before classes begin. Registration of non-baccalaureate degree applicants will be based on normal district registration priorities. You must show your Gold Card when registering to get your fees waived.

Certificated retirees who have qualified for the title of professor may get the title of Professor Emeritus/Emerita if approved by the Academic Senate and the District Governing Board.

Committee Ponders New District Name

To keep or not to keep—that is the question. Whether it is nobler to keep the long-known and long district name, or to select another title and perhaps suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous criticism.

A district committee, headed by Dana Quittner, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, Economic Development and Public Relations, and including members from various segments of the district, has been looking at suggestions for months, and will probably submit its recommendation to the Governing Board in May.

The name question arose when members of the Board and administration began to speculate on whether the present name "Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District" is so long as to be unwieldy. There also were echoes of the days preceding Cuyamaca College, when there was considerable public confusion of the college district with the Grossmont Union High School District, a problem which would seem long gone.

The Board and administration decided to take a look at some suggestions for new names, and the public was invited to submit proposals. By the time the suggestion period ended, March 15, nearly 50 names had been submitted.

There was Aguadulce Community College District, and Cuyamaca Valley Community College District, and Del Lago Community College District, and Del Rio Community College District and Del Valle Community College District
There was Grosscumaca Community College District, and Grossmaca Community College District. There was Las Lagunas Community College District, and Las Lomas, and Las Mesas and Las Montanas. There was Lomas del Este Community College and Los Cerros and Los Pueblos.

And from somebody who's apparently been a diehard for many years came the suggestion, Grossmont Community College District. It's unlikely to be chosen, but it does share the distinction with several other proposals of having the shortest number of syllables, 10, compared with 14 for the present title.

If the committee recommends a change "it can recommend not changing" and the Board assents, there will be some cost for renaming places and things now carrying the GCCCD, brand, but the cost would not be heavy, since only the district name would change; the colleges would keep their present identities.

By the time this Grapevine is published, the committee and Board may have made their decisions. That's unlikely, but if so, we'll give you the verdict next issue. Next, Dana Quittner's title.

More Addresses for Your Directory:

Judy Grobbel

9262 Camino Paz Lane
La Mesa, CA 91941
461-3478
Spouse: Bob

Connie Haltermann

6778 Bluefield Court
San Diego, CA 92120
582-1612
Spouse: Jim

Bob Haywood

7688 Flag Lake
San Diego, CA 92119
463-2303

Larissa Janczyn

6657 Brynwood Way
San Diego, CA 92120
286-6821

Angelita Martinez

1215 Crystal Spring Dr.
Chula Vista, CA 91915
479-5533
Spouse: Nino

Glen L. Meyer

9360 Urban Dr.
La Mesa, CA 91942
697-1820
Spouse: Onnie



GC Mystery Woman No Longer Mystery *Teri Hart Valverde*

In a picture taken in the early days of the college, one woman was unidentified among the group of staff members. Neither the photographer nor members of the personnel department, where the picture eventually wound up, could say who she was. The picture was published in the last issue of the Grapevine. Ray Reynolds, retired journalism and mass communication instructor, said as soon as he saw it, "That's Chuck Valverde's wife." And so it was.

Teri Hart Valverde, then Teri Hart, came to Grossmont in 1961 from a job at San Diego State, and shortly thereafter became secretary to John Burdick, Dean of Student Affairs. She worked for Burdick about a year, then married Charles Valverde, now owner of Wahrenbrock's Book House, in downtown San Diego. Shortly after her marriage she left Grossmont and began a career in real estate. Thirty-four years and three grown children later, she's still married to Valverde and still involved in the real estate field.

She remembers the days at Grossmont with pleasure, particularly the camaraderie among those who, with her, helped get the college off to a solid start.

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