At REG functions one of the most common questions asked is “What is _______ doing now that he/she has retired?” The keynote article for this newsletter will seek to provide some answers to some of those questions. REG polled the best sources. Below you will find what a few of the Reading Department’s Emeriti Faculty members, Ash Bishop, Debbie Hancock, Norma Inabinette, Ruth May Siegrist and Brenda Spencer have to say about their retirement experiences.

Life During Retirement: Ash Bishop

Retirement is all that it's supposed to be. My time is spent in three areas - I'll list them in order of importance. I do apologize as this reads a great deal like a holiday letter:

1. Sue and I spend much of our time in the best possible activity - spending time with the grandkids. We just returned from Chicago where we took our two oldest granddaughters, Emerald (10) and Faithe (8) to visit their Midwest cousins. We babysit every other week in San Diego for our two youngest grandkids, Anika (3) and Ashton (1). We have season passes to Disneyland, Sea World, the San Diego Zoo, and the San Diego Natural History Museum. Sue is retired. Our daughter Carrie teaches in Irvine and our son Chad teaches in San Diego. For our 40th(!) anniversary we took the kids and grandkids to Maui this past July and had a tremendous time. Everyone's ready to go again.

2. I've been doing a good deal of writing. Hallie and Ruth Yopp were kind enough to invite me to co-author a text with them, *Vocabulary Instruction for Academic Success*, and it is now in print with a 2009 copyright date. Sue and I just finished *Teaching Word Analysis Skills* and sent it to the publisher. It will be out late Spring. I've cut way back on doing presentations - just the occasional parent group and presentations my publishers would like me to make. I will be presenting with Hallie and Ruth at IRA in Phoenix. Finally, I'm serving as President of the Orange County Reading Association and as Chair of the College of Education's (CSUF) Dean's Leadership Council. Incidentally, if you are
not a member of OCRA you should join. It is a great organization with amazing volunteers.

3. I'm playing golf as much as possible but not near as much as I'd like.

I wish all the best to the world's finest alumni.

Life After Retirement: Debbie Hancock

I’ve been retired so long—since the early 90s! Having my career cut short by back surgery was a difficult blow, but I’ve found ways to extend my interaction with Reading students and colleagues and even have a hand in shaping CSUF’s future.

Perhaps my most rewarding activity is getting to know students currently in the Reading program—winners of the scholarships established in memory of my husband Lewis Hancock and my mother, former faculty member Dorothy Klausner. Each year I am honored to serve on the committee which selects the winners. Then the fun begins. First I get to meet them at a lovely event, the College of Education’s Autumn Awards Dessert Reception honoring its scholarship winners. During the year following I enjoy getting together with the winners from time to time and hearing about their classes and the incredible faculty in today’s CSUF Reading Department. It’s inspiring to get to know each student and her family! [You can do this, too, by setting up a scholarship or providing other kinds of financial support at CSUF. Let me know if you’re interested: (714) 256-5943 or debohancoc@aol.com]

Lunching with former students every six weeks or so is a favorite activity of mine. The group began with Ann Coil, Mary Ellman, and Jane Hopper, who helped establish CSUF undergraduate Reading program. It has expanded to include current faculty (Kathi Bartle Angus, JoAnn Carter-Wells), retired faculty member Ruth May Siegrist, and others like REG Membership Chair Toni Maya Chambers. Let me know if you’d like to join us. We’d love to see you!

I’m also enjoying serving on two advisory boards at CSUF: the College of Education’s Leadership Council and the university’s Community Learning and Literacy Center, located on the CSUF Irvine campus. Both groups focus on expanding philanthropic and community support. Members include business and education leaders who have helped broaden my perspective about the communities we serve.

In February I’ll attend the university’s Strategic Planning Event, which gives me an opportunity to remind university leaders of the importance of its mission to prepare teachers and educational specialists for our area. Keep me in your prayers!

Life After Retirement: Norma Inabinette

There is a wonderful life after retirement. I should have retired years ago but then I wouldn't have had such wonderful years at Fullerton.

When I retired I got very involved in the community. Since we are an unincorporated area, Springville has little representation at the county level. I serve on an advisory board to help the Board of Supervisors make in-
formed decisions about what Springville needs.

I am now serving my 4th term as President of the Springville Community Club which is a group of about 100 ladies who raise money for local projects, the school, and scholarships. We do everything from holding a fashion show, to spaghetti dinner, to raffling off quilts. We just finished an Angel Tree project where community members bought gifts for some needy children. This spring we are instituting a Literature High Tea Party where folk can share their love of books while enjoying their tea and crumpets. This group keeps me very busy and are a warm and supportive group of colleagues.

I continue to volunteer at Story Hour at the library and help with the six week summer program. I am proud that our story time attendance has gone from about 6 on a weekly average to about 30. I also volunteer at the local day care center. I get to play with the children and even work with those students who need extra help. I hardly do any professional work anymore, except for consulting with the local school who may have a problem reader and working with my chiropractor who is treating a group of severely learning disabled kids.

My biggest passion is quilting. I never thought I would sew together little pieces of cloth and love it so much. I belong to a group who makes little quilts for the local hospitals and crises centers, and cradle quilts for the Christmas gifts that a local group of woodworkers make for needy children each year. We have also made replicas of Civil War quilts for the families of soldiers from Tulare County who died in Iraq.

I do newsletters for several organizations and since my computer skills are still greatly lacking, the chore is often daunting. I am doing some editing for a local author. While it is fun to be involved in the publishing process, her books are amateurish and not very interesting.

We have had Chinese students stay with us for the past 5 summers. We are seriously thinking of returning to China (we were there 3 years ago). Since all the students are here to learn English and American ways, I have suddenly become the American consultant to the English First schools there. I also manage to get to edit essays and term papers of the kids who have stayed here.

As you can see, life is never dull and I often meet myself coming through the revolving door but loving every minute of it.

Life After Retirement: Ruth May Siegrist
Why I’m going to Liberia

As many of you know, I was raised by parents who taught the importance of service to others and my life has been enriched by service in many ways. In a few weeks I plan to go to Liberia on a short term mission trip to minister to orphans of whom there are thousands in a country that is rebuilding after two decades of civil war. I will also conduct training symposia for teachers many of whom don't have professional training. This, as you know, is my field.

I was invited to go to Liberia by a wonderful Christian woman who is founder and head of Restoration of Educational Advancement Programs (REAP). Christine Tolbert Nor-
man is the daughter of the late Pres. William Tolbert who was assassinated in April 1980. That was the begin-
ning of great political unrest and eventual two decades of civil war. Liberia is now stabilizing un-
der the bold leadership of Pres. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf but the country is facing daunting challenges
for its population of three-and-a-half million people.

One of the enormous challenges is to restore education for its youth. The educational system is critical because it helps build man-
power to sustain the system. The quantity and quality of professional teaching has been seriously affected due to the death of many profes-
sional teachers, the departure of professional teachers from the coun-
try, and the flight from the profession because of poor salary and teaching conditions. During the restoration period of Liberia and its educational system, there is a great demand to upgrade the perform-
ance of teachers currently in service.

The children in post war Liberia presently have poor reading skills and need quality education to up-
grade the degenerated standard of education. This goal can be achieved if the teachers who serve as role mod-
els and mentors are themselves given the prerequisite training and incentives to motivate and keep them in the classroom. Many of the teachers are high school graduates who themselves have been poorly schooled over the past fifteen years. REAP is confident that if the teachers are given quality training, it will greatly help to positively improve the educational sector of Liberia.

Christine Norman learned about me through an organization called God’s Kids that is doing a wonderful job of building and maintaining Christian orphanages in Libe-
ria. Christine is on its board of directors. She visited my website [grahambooks.com] and learned about my work to revive my father’s books about Liberia. Christine invited me to come to Liberia, bring some of the Graham books to share with the schools and libraries, and, along with a small team joining me, conduct inservice seminars for teach-
ers who have had limited training.

It is an exciting and challenging venture. I feel I will be going full circle since my mother and father met in Liberia in the 1920’s when they were both missionar-
ies. I’ve always had a heart for the people, and I feel that finally the Lord is giving me the opportunity to go there to serve. I’ve recruited two other teachers from So. Calif. to accompany me both of whom are extremely capable. In a few days we will have our visas in hand and will have had all our immunizations updated. Mate-
rials are being prepared and packed and Lorenz Graham books have been sent courtesy of the publisher.

We depart Jan. 17th and return Feb. 1, and will visit Ghana for a few days.

**Life After Retirement: Brenda Spencer**

There were some big changes and many uncertainties for my husband, Jay, and me when we retired in July of 2008. We left our children, friends, and colleagues, and successful careers to move to the east coast to our new house on a salt marsh near Savannah, Georgia. We now live on one of the barrier islands that are located between the mainland and the At-
lantic Ocean. More specifically our house is on Modena Island, a small peninsula that juts off the north-east end of a much larger island called Skidaway. The back of our house
faces south-east towards the marsh and the Wilmington River and the front faces north-west toward the Skidaway River that lies just across the street. These rivers are part of a network of waterways that run from Maine to Florida, called the Intercoastal Waterway, which boaters use to access the ocean and to find safe harbor.

When I was talking to Jay about writing this piece, he said that one of the most important things that he has learned in five and a half months of retirement is that you don’t have to work to live a good life. That conclusion resonates with me as well. For most of our adult lives we defined ourselves by our work, and it is a delightful surprise to learn how satisfying life can be without it.

One important aspect of our retirement life is our appreciation of the area where we live. Retirement has meant that life has slowed down enough that we have time to observe our surroundings in ways that were not possible when we were working. Although one of the reasons that we chose to move here were the magnificent views of the marsh and the river, we did not expect the nature around us to have the impact that it has on our quality of life.

We wake in the morning to the sun rising golden over the marsh and from our front yard have seen the river and sky turn blood red as the sun sets. We have watched the marsh turn from a vibrant green in the summer to a golden brown color in the winter months. We regularly see deer grazing in empty lots (and in people’s yards). A pair of bald eagles fish in the river and will soon nest in a tree not 150 yards from our house. Dolphin come so close to the banks of the river to fish that you can hear them breathe. Tree storks, blue herons, and egrets nest in the trees around the lagoon. We are deeply grateful that we have the opportunity to live in a place of such beauty.

There are other things that keep us busy and help to make our life here full. We have rekindled a friendship with a couple who live nearby that we knew when we lived in Florida. We have enjoyed getting to know our neighbors, who are warm and gracious. We joined the local art museum, attend plays, movies, and concerts, and enjoy trying area restaurants. We are regulars at the Wednesday farmers market and are learning the best places to buy fresh seafood.

I have not completely left education behind. A vocabulary strategies book I co-authored with Andi Guillaume was released in October. Andi and I will co-present on vocabulary strategies for mathematics at a conference in Washington, D.C. in April. I am helping Kim Norman revise a paper we co-wrote and am exploring the possibility of teaching some courses on-line. I enjoy staying in touch with a number of my friends and colleagues at Fullerton.

Neither Jay nor I were sure what retirement would be like for us. We loved our work and were afraid that there would be a gap in our lives without it. But so far we have no regrets. Retirement is a new adventure that is suiting us just fine.
New Year – Expanded Giving

To borrow a timeless idea from John F. Kennedy, ask not what your Reading Department can do for you, but what you can do for your Reading Department!

Every worthy organization whose mailing list includes your name will be soliciting a donation in these frightening financial times, and if you are gainfully employed, you are the philanthropist of 2009. CSUF’s Reading Educators Guild wants to be at the top of your donor list, but why should you put us there? We intend to ensure that your CSUF Reading Department can, in fact, do something for you, a reading professional and for the wide community that the university serves and benefits.

Specifically, your gift to REG’s Hancock Fund will provide
1. scholarships for graduate students and Reading Center clients
2. texts and journals for the department library in College Park (with alumni access)
3. curriculum, children’s books, and materials for the Reading Center, at two locations.

We hope you are convinced and ready to make your tax-deductible gift. For an explanation of REG’s important work and directions on how to make an online contribution see New Year – New Organization below.

New Year – New Organization

As many Americans reevaluate and take stock of priorities in the new year, REG has been doing a bit of reflection and reorganizing as well. Our Reading Department continues to train reading specialists and promote literacy throughout southern California. The current times and political climate has seemed to underscore the importance of a literate citizenry capable of critical thought. REG’s mission has from its inception been two-fold. Our primary focus was to provide continuing professional development and networking opportunities for our alumni. But a second part of our mission is to support the Reading Department. We have traditionally offered scholarships for graduate students, scholarships for Reading Center students who demonstrate financial need, an IRA membership for the Faculty and Graduate Student Library, and funds for Reading Center curriculum through the Hancock Fund.

We have made the following changes over the last year. First, we increased the amount of the REG scholarship awarded to a graduate student who has completed 9 units and demonstrates academic and professional promise from $300 to $500. It was important to increase this amount as CSUF university fees for 6 units of graduate work now are $1394 per semester and will most likely continue to rise. (Over the last several years REG has been able to provide two scholarships due to a generous donation by Mr. David Reid who has funded a second scholarship.)

Second, we have instituted a policy of asking the Reading Center Director, Dr. Janice Crick, to identify if there is a student in the Reading Center who needs financial support in order to attend. Reading Center fees are currently $175 for a
semester session. While this is an incredible value, as students receive expert diagnosis and instruction from our graduate students, it is a cost some families cannot afford. [Please see “CSUF’s Reading Center” in this newsletter.]

Third, we have expanded our IRA membership for the department to Book Club status. The IRA Book Club membership includes subscriptions to The Reading Teacher, Reading Research Quarterly, and the Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy as well as the 8 to 10 books published by the IRA in an academic year. The Reading Department’s new home on the fifth floor of the College Park building on the main campus includes a library. The library houses the collection of reading texts and journals (previously in EC18) along with copies of all projects completed by Reading graduate students. This new home has provided room to grow along with a comfortable reading area. Faculty, graduate students, and alumni are invited to use the library during business hours. Please contact Kathi Bartle Angus (kangus@fullerton.edu) if you would like more information about contributing to or using the library.

CSUF’s Reading Center

The Reading Center on both the Fullerton and Irvine campuses provides a variety of reading services to meet the needs of struggling students of all ages. The services are coordinated by nationally recognized faculty and literacy experts in the Reading Department. Two facilities are designed to provide direct, individualized reading instruction for elementary and secondary students. Each facility features a variety of highly motivational materials aligned with the state standards, including quality literature, learning games, computers and audio-visual equipment.

Services are offered on the Fullerton campus on Monday and Wednesday afternoons during both the spring and fall semesters. The Irvine campus facility is currently operating on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons during the fall semester. The fee for a semester’s services is $175. Applicants may file an online application from the Reading Department website (Go to ed.fullerton.edu/reading/, select Reading Clinic. Then select *Submit an online application at the bottom of the page.) Or an application can be mailed by contacting Shannon Wilson in the Reading Office at 714-278-3497.

Scholarships are available for students who have financial need. The Reading Educators Guild has provided scholarships for many years. Recently this scholarship was renamed the Chris Campos Scholarship to honor Chris Campos. Chris was a high school student living in Anaheim. He had been a student at the CSUF Reading Center for four semesters and was making outstanding progress. He was recently stricken by an
undiagnosed heart condition and passed away in November. The REG board and Reading faculty voted to name the scholarship for this dedicated young man.

Kathi Bartle-Angus Named REG Volunteer of the Year

Each university support group is invited to participate in the Volunteer of the Year recognition sponsored by the Coordinating Council of Support Groups and Cal State Fullerton. The criteria for this award states “Your nominee should demonstrate service and commitment to the ideals of volunteer leadership, your support group and the university.” Kathi Bartle-Angus is the REG Volunteer of the Year 2007/2008.

Kathi, a member of REG for 30 years, has served as Faculty Liaison to our organization for 15 years, and is currently serving her 4th term as President. Her responsibilities for the year 2007/2008 were for the overall leadership of organization and the planning for the REG 50th Anniversary Reunion. She also hosted 2 tables at the Concert Under the Stars, planned the Graduate Reception in May following commencement, as well as authoring a regular column in the REG newsletter. Kathi’s efforts increased membership participation, and facilitated the presentation of scholarship awards to members and graduates.

A valued resource to the Reading Educator’s Guild, she has a seemingly endless depth of knowledge regarding the history of the organization and works to chart a path for the future through increased scholarship awards for graduate students and in the procurement of resources for the CSUF Reading Clinic. Kathi’s enthusiasm for the REG is contagious. She has a talent for cultivating relationships with Reading Program graduates and REG Board members to the benefit of the organization which results in more active participation of members and a greater level of support of REG projects. Her dynamic leadership is an inspiration to reading educators in the context of her role as a leader in the REG, and as Lecturer in the Reading Department at CSUF. Kathi will be recognized at a luncheon hosted by President Gordon at El Dorado Ranch in the Spring.

The Hancock Fund: A New Way of Giving

The scope of and access to the Hancock Fund has recently been expanded. The Hancock Fund was established in honor of Dr. Deborah Hancock, former chair of the Reading Department, former Dean of the Education at CSUSB, and mentor to many of our alumni and current students. Its original purpose was to provide a source of monies to allow expansion and currency of curriculum and instructional materials in the Reading Center. There is no budget item from the CSU system for keeping materials in the center up to date. The Reading Department is very grateful to alumni who have consistently over the years made donations to the Hancock Fund along with their dues renewal. While continuing to support the original purpose of the Hancock Fund, the board has decided to make the Hancock Fund the source of monies for all of our support activities.
Left: Jan Bagwell, Kathi Bartle-Angus, Gena Lovett
Below: Kathi’s special appetizers

Left: JoAnne Greenbaum & Ula Manzo

Above: Robin Barry & Lesley Zarola
Left: Chris & Hal Parmenter

Above: Jordan Fabish, Jan Bagwell & Gena Lovett

Above: Kathi Bartle-Angus goes Hollywood
This means that donations to the Hancock Fund will support:
1. graduate student scholarships;
2. Reading Center student scholarships;
3. materials for the department library in College Park; and
4. materials for the Reading Center.

The REG treasurer, under the board’s direction, will transfer some of the monies collected in dues into the Hancock fund to supplement the giving commitments as needed.

The expansion of the scope of the Hancock Fund necessitated and inspired expansion to access. While REG will continue to gratefully accept contributions to the Hancock Fund that are added on to dues renewals (see insert), alumni and community now have an opportunity for on-line giving to the fund via CSUF website. This new form of access provides several advantages. It raises the visibility of REG’s contributions to the larger CSUF community and provides a way for non-REG members to contribute to the fund. Second, it provides the ease of on-line giving that many of us have become accustomed to, including the ability to set-up small automatic monthly donations and easy credit card donations. Also, the new online system allows for ease of documenting donations for income tax purposes and is set up to easily access matching funds that some givers are able to provide.

It is our hope that alumni and community will be moved in this time of prioritizing and reflection to consider supporting the Reading Department as it strives to meet the literacy needs in Orange County and southern California. REG will continue to recognize donors to the Hancock Fund through the newsletter and keep members apprised of how the contributions are used in a Hancock Fund column to appear in each edition. Below are directions for accessing the online giving opportunity.

To donate to the Hancock Fund online:
Access the CSUF website at www.fullerton.edu
1. Click on the Support CSUF tab in the upper right hand corner
2. Select the Make a Gift tab
3. Select Give Online
4. Beneath the If “other” please list box type in Hancock Fund. Or select Click here for a full list of fund designations and use the pull down menu to select Hancock Fund. Then click on Give to this fund now.
5. Complete the online form and submit. A record of your contribution will be sent to REG so that we may recognize your generosity.

Tutoring Anyone?

The Reading Department frequently gets calls for recommended tutors and only recommends graduates of the Reading Program. If you are interested in having you name and information added to the Tutor List, please indicate your interest on your membership renewal. You will be contacted for the pertinent information.
2008/2009 REG Board
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Vice-President Programs
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Faculty Liaison
Kathi Bartle-Angus

Web Page Coordinator
JoAnne Greenbaum

*Editor’s note:
Lesley Zarola has stepped in to take the place of Kim Stone who has resigned her board position. REG thanks Kim for her service to our organization. Welcome Lesley, we appreciate your willingness to serve.

We’re on the web!
www.readingeducatorsguild.org

Items of Interest for REG Newsletter???
We would welcome your submissions to the newsletter. Please send your article via email to lovett.gc@verizon.net. Please type “REG” on the subject line of your email.
Thanks, we’d love to hear from you!
Gena Lovett, Editor