

# DVCRA news and updates

Spring 2022



## Spring Luncheon and Campus Visit - April 29

Don't miss this chance to visit with old friends, meet new ones, raise money for students, and find out what's happening on campus! Scroll down for complete details.

## Keep up to date with DVC

Do you want to know what is happening on the DVC campus? Below is an example of what you will find when you visit the [DVC Campus Calendar](#).

<p>Student Art Show Submissions</p> <p>APR 4 WED APR 12 TUE</p> <p>Mon Apr 4 – Tue Apr 12</p> <p>Open to all currently enrolled DVC students that have created artwork in an art or art digital media class with the assistance of faculty and staff no matter if the work was created online or in perso...</p>	<p>Financial Aid for Transfers Workshop</p> <p>APR 4 WED</p> <p><b>Transfer Services Events</b></p>	<p>Drop-In Virtual Personal Counseling</p> <p>APR 5 TUE</p> <p><b>Wellness Drop-In Personal Counseling</b></p> <p>Tuesday 2:00-5:00 pm</p> <p>Drop into chat with a counselor for virtual peer, one-on-one support. Share concerns, learn stress management techniques, and get in a healthy mental space this semester.</p> <p>Register here: <a href="https://dvc.zoom.us/j/95920257254">https://dvc.zoom.us/j/95920257254</a></p> <p>See you soon! Charlita Harrington-Hall DVC Wellness Counselor</p>	<p>"How to Appeal if Denied" Workshop</p> <p>APR 6 WED</p> <p><b>Transfer Services Events</b></p>
<p>Outdoor Wellness Walks</p> <p>APR 6 WED</p> <p><b>Outdoor Wellness Walks</b></p> <p>Wednesday 2:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Meet at DVC Counseling Center</p> <p>"Used to being behind a screen?" Does it seem like you don't meet people at DVC or outside?" Join DVC Counselor and other students for a walk on campus. Depending on interest, sessions can include a guided meditation or journaling prompts.</p> <p>Pre-Register Here: <a href="https://forms.gle/5W86C6aZQ73E9W46">https://forms.gle/5W86C6aZQ73E9W46</a></p> <p>See you soon! Charlita Harrington-Hall DVC Wellness Counselor</p>	<p>College Success Workshop: Writing</p> <p>APR 6 WED</p> <p><b>College Success Workshops</b></p>	<p>Out of State Workshop</p> <p>APR 11 MON</p> <p>Mon Apr 11 @ 3:00pm</p> <p><b>UPCOMING EVENT</b></p> <p><b>OUT-OF-STATE WORKSHOP</b></p> <p>Monday, April 11th, 3pm-4pm</p> <p>Learn tips to make the application process for out-of-state schools less daunting.</p>	<p>UC TAG Webinar: Hosted by DVC</p> <p>APR 12 TUE</p> <p><b>Transfer Services Events</b></p>

Diablo Valley College Retirees Association NEWS



## The Spring DVCRA Luncheon is on April 29

No matter how hard it tries, COVID19 will not defeat us! On Friday, April 29, the DVC Retirees Association will once again meet for its semi-annual in-person luncheon. **Barring significant changes in CDC guidance**, we will hold the spring luncheon outside in the beautiful DVC Commons area in front of the Bistro (the cafeteria), where we can safely gather with old friends and colleagues to touch base and catch up.

### **Luncheon details at a glance:**

**Date: April 29, 2022**

**Time: 11:30am -1:30pm**

**Location: DVC Commons**

**Luncheon cost: \$15**

**Parking:** Parking will be available in Lot 7 or 8 free of citation. The Commons area is straight up the main stairs from Lot 8. There have been many changes on campus, but Student Ambassadors will be present to help you navigate the campus!

If you would like assistance, please park in Lot 7 and the college's Disabled-Assistance vehicle will pick you up by the BFL Community Conference Room and shuttle you to the Commons.

**COVID Safety:** Although vaccinations and boosters continue to make us safer and cases have been declining, (at least at the time of this writing) Omicron has taught us not to be too confident. We will once again provide individual box lunches (with a vegetarian option) thanks to DVC's Culinary Arts program. There will be ample outdoor tables and chairs to allow for social distancing based on your personal comfort level. We recommend that you bring a mask in case you want or need to enter a building. Hand sanitizer and extra masks will be available.

**Silent Auction:** Don't forget to bring your checkbooks so you can bid on silent auction items (see the article on the Silent Auction for more details). As always, every penny of the proceeds goes to scholarships for deserving DVC students.

**Reservations:** Please make your reservation by sending a check for \$15 per attendee.

**Make check payable to:  
DVC Retirees Association**

**Memo:** Please indicate if you would like a vegetarian meal.

**Mail checks to:**

**DVC Retirees Association  
Diablo Valley College  
321 Golf Club Rd  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523**

**We need to receive your check by Wednesday, April 20, 2022.**

For questions, please contact [Irene Menegas](mailto:imenegas@comcast.net) at [imenegas@comcast.net](mailto:imenegas@comcast.net) or (925) 286-3692.

**Scholarship Donation:** You may make a scholarship donation by adding any amount to the cost of the luncheon OR by including a separate check made out to the **DVC Foundation**, with **DVCRA Scholarship Fund** written in the memo line.

Thank you for pre-paying promptly. Your cooperation means that we avoid paying for lunches we don't use.

**IMPORTANT:** As much as we would miss your presence, if you are feeling unwell, experiencing any COVID symptoms, or have tested positive for the virus in the week before April 29, please help us to keep everyone safe by not attending.

If at some time after you have paid, but before the event, the continuously shifting COVID situation leaves you no longer comfortable about attending, please notify Irene Menegas, and let her know if you would like a refund (or if you prefer to apply your payment towards the scholarship fund).

We are looking forward to seeing you on April 29!

Submitted by **Rachel Westlake**



## **DVCRA Board Allocates \$500 to Build Its Membership**

**WELCOME** to our newest members who joined DVCRA in 2021: **Julie Catalano, Steve Coccimiglio, Sue Handy, Ray Gilmore, Milagros Ojermark, and Lee Rode!** We are very happy to have you join us and hope you find DVCRA an excellent way to

stay connected to friends and colleagues and continue to support students at DVC, particularly through our scholarship fund.

As of December 2021, we have 148 members who paid their dues for 2021-22. That number is a slight increase over the previous year, which is very good, but still much lower than where our active membership stood in 2015-16, which was 173 dues-paying members. The DVCRA Board has continued to look for ways to increase our membership, and at its most recent meeting in January, voted to allocate \$500.00 toward instituting ways to communicate to DVC active faculty, staff, and management about DVCRA's mission and activities.

One way you can help build our membership right now is to **invite a colleague to our luncheon on April 29**. If you know a retiree whose membership has lapsed or who hasn't joined, or someone within five years of retiring and interested in knowing more about DVCRA, invite them to join you on April 29 and their lunch will be **FREE**. Just let **Irene Menegas** know that you are inviting someone when you RSVP for the luncheon.

It's still too early to pay your dues for 2022-23 but watch for an email message in mid-June for information about membership renewal and scholarship donations. In the meantime, if you have any questions about membership or have any suggestions for how to build the DVCRA membership, please contact **Sue Shattuck at 925-855-5534**.

Submitted by **Sue Shattuck**

## Financial Report

January 1 to December 31, 2021

The primary purpose of the DVCRA's fundraising is to award scholarships to DVC students. The association has awarded scholarships for many years. From 2008 through 2021 we have provided 126

scholarships to our worthy students. Our major fundraising efforts occur during the summer and we award and fund scholarships in the spring. In other words, the funds raised in 2021 will be used to fund scholarships in 2022.

The following DVCRA financial information is for the period January 1 to December 31, 2021:

- We have **\$36,397** in cash held in our bank accounts with Travis Credit Union and the DVC Foundation.
- These monies will be used to fund the 20 scholarships approved by the DVCRA Board for 2022. Additionally, we have two scholarships in 2021 that were awarded but not claimed as of December 31, 2021. If these two scholarships are not claimed by June 30, 2022, the funds will revert back to the DVCRA.
- Our fundraising activities (including donations, memberships, and auctions) generated **\$21,135** available for scholarships.
- We had **\$17,147** in expenditures. Included in this total were: **\$16,000** in scholarships, **\$835** for fall luncheon expenses, and **\$262** for office expenses.

The DVCRA Board has approved 20 scholarships of **\$1,000** for 2022. This will bring our total to **\$146,000** in scholarships awarded to students since 2008.

### 2022 scholarships to be awarded:

- 11 continuing student scholarships
- 6 transfer student scholarships
- 1 transfer student scholarship for a Puente student
- 1 transfer student scholarship of an Umoja student
- 1 transfer student scholarship for an Umoja student in Bernice Dandridge's memory

We want to thank our membership for their continuing generosity to the students of DVC.

Submitted by **Chris Leivas**



## A Message From Our Association Coordinator



### Welcome Back

Spring has sprung

Now that we are emerging from two years of restrictions, I am really looking forward to returning to the great social and cultural opportunities that DVC and the Bay Area provide.

I am looking forward to:

**Seeing** everyone in person for lunch, on April 29, at DVC. We exercised the outdoor option in October 2021 and it was SPECTACULAR. The weather was great, the company better, and we were able to enjoy our remodeled campus beauty. Please reserve your spot today. If the weather is bad, we have shelter contingency plans.

**Contributing** to our students' success by giving to the DVCRA Scholarship fund. We are inviting some of these extraordinary young folks to join us on April 29 and to share their amazing, inspiring stories. I feel privileged to help in their journeys. I hope you too will contribute and share the joy.

**Sharing** the community that the DVCRA brings to us all. I know that lots of folks have ideas, creativity, and at least a little time to commit to helping. **PLEASE, PLEASE** let me or your favorite board member know. We need new folks to help keep DVCRA the living, changing organization that we all want. You all have skills and ideas that would be great either on your own or as new governing Board members. Commitments range from minimal to moderate, so don't hesitate to explore the possibilities.

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Thank you all for making this such a great organization.  
Best,

Karen

Submitted by **Karen Castle**, DVCRA Association Coordinator

## Spring silent auction

Our silent auctions have been a mainstay in helping us reach our goals of providing scholarships to DVC students for a number of years now. Here are some great items you can bid on in person at our upcoming DVCRA Luncheon on April 29. All proceeds go toward scholarships for DVC students. Remember to bring cash or your checkbook to the luncheon. **Remember, bidding generally starts at 50% of the values listed, so there are potentially some great bargains!** Even if you don't bid, you can add something to the fishbowl to help support the students.



**Diablo Foods Gift Card (a grocery store in Lafayette)**  
**Value: \$50 donated by Diablo Foods**

**Jack's Restaurant Gift Card**  
**Value: 2 @ \$25 donated by Jack's Restaurant**

**DVC Book Center Gift Card**  
**Value: \$25 donated by the DVC Book Center**

**Trader Joe's Bag of Goodies**  
**Value: \$50 donated by Trader Joe's in Concord**

**Two Tickets to a Giants Game at Club Level, Section 224, 3<sup>rd</sup> Base Side, date to be determined before the silent auction**  
**Value: \$200 donated by Clark Sturges**

**Two Tickets to a Giants Game at Club Level, Section 224, 3<sup>rd</sup> Base Side, date to be determined before the silent auction**  
**Value: \$200 donated by Chris Leivas**

**Hand-crafted pens by Gary Goodshaw made from assorted woods and metals**  
**Value: \$30 donated by Gary Goodshaw**

**DVC Football FA22 Game Passes**  
**Value: 12 @ \$8 per pass donated by DVC Athletics**

**DVC Athletics Branded T-shirts (Nike)**  
**Value: 10 @ \$35-45 per T-shirt donated by DVC Athletics**

**6-month E-Books subscription (6 books)**  
**Value: \$90 donated by Libro.fm**

This is a partial list as more auction items will be coming in.

Submitted by **Rachel Westlake**



## October 2021 Silent Auction Donations - Thank you! Thank you!

Thank you to all who made our Fall 2021 Silent Auction such a success. We raised over \$1500 in 2021 toward scholarships. These are the folks in our community who made that possible.

Our heartfelt appreciation to these generous businesses for donating their products and services.

**Crispian Bakery** - bag of goodies  
**DVC Book Center** - gift cards  
**Diablo Foods** - gift cards  
**Jack's Restaurant** - gift certificates  
**Libro.fm** - six-month audiobook membership and a free audiobook for up to 300 people  
**Lunardi's Market** - gift card  
**Orinda Books** - gift card  
**Sloat Garden Center** - gift cards

**And a shout out to all of our DVCRA members who stepped up and shared their talents:**

**Chuck Cottril** once again donated one of his creations, a hand-crafted wood box of coasters with its own lid.

**Gary Goodshaw** donated seven hand-crafted pens made of various woods and metals.

**Gene Hamblton** donated a copy of a cookbook and a memoir that he wrote.

**Ellen Kruse** donated several bottles of wine and solicited donations from many businesses.

**Tim Murphy** donated a two-night mini-vacation at the Hyatt Carmel Highlands Inn.

Submitted by **Nancy Zink**

## April 2022 Donations Needed

Would you help us with our upcoming silent auction?

We hope that these donations inspire you to think of something you would like to donate for the silent auction coming up on April 29 (or next fall perhaps), or if you are willing to solicit donations from any of the restaurants or other businesses you frequent, please contact **Irene Menegas** at [imenegas@comcast.net](mailto:imenegas@comcast.net).

Submitted by **Irene Menegas**

## A New State Senate Bill -

### Divest From Fossil Fuel Holdings



The Fossil Fuel Divestment Act (SB1173), recently introduced by Sen. Lena A. Gonzalez, D-Long Beach, would require The California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) and the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) to divest from fossil fuel companies by 2027. Gonzales said the bill would help leverage the earnings of nearly 3 million active and retired public school teachers, college instructors, state and local employees in the effort to draw down greenhouse gas emissions and prevent the worst effects of climate change. The bill is co-sponsored by Fossil

Free California, the CSU Faculty Association, and Physicians for Social Responsibility (Sacramento and SF). You can find out more about the bill at the [Fossil Free California website](#) or by contacting retired DVC instructors Deborah Silvey (Fossil Free California, [deborah@fossilfreeca.org](mailto:deborah@fossilfreeca.org)) or Marge Lasky (Ashby Village Action Committee, [marpla@earthlink.net](mailto:marpla@earthlink.net)).

Submitted by **Deborah Silvey**

### Community Education Programs at DVC

Looking for ways to get some additional enrichment in your life? Are you interested in sharing some of your knowledge and experiences with others? [Community Education at DVC](#) offers a wide selection of self-supporting and not-for-credit classes and programs to the central Contra Costa community. Learn some new recipes for this summer's barbecues, take a creative writing or fitness class, learn why Duke Ellington was such a great musician, and more!

Classes are available at both DVC Pleasant Hill and San Ramon campuses as well as online. The Community Education Program is also hiring. If you'd like to teach a class, just submit a course proposal. For more information, email [communityed@dvc.edu](mailto:communityed@dvc.edu).

Submitted by **Sue Shattuck**



## In Memorium

### **Richard Perin (Pete) Goodson** **April 13 1932-November 1, 2021**

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Pete Goodson on November 1, 2021. Pete was deeply loved by his family and his many friends. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Marianne Goodson and 5 daughters.

He retired, in 1995, from Contra Costa College after serving as the director of the Disabled Students Program and Business Services Manager, but knew many people throughout the District both because of his positions at CCC and Marianne working at DVC as Director of the Disabled Students Program and a counselor.

A memorial service will be held to celebrate Pete in early spring 2022. Invitations will be sent in advance. Please provide your mailing address to the following e-mail if you would like to attend: [petegoodson1121@gmail.com](mailto:petegoodson1121@gmail.com).

Consider donating to the Contra Costa College Foundation or a charity that has special meaning to you, in his name.

#### **A note from Marianne Goodson:**

I contacted Irene Menegas about my husband's death to see if it would be possible to get an announcement out to the DVC retirement group. Even though he worked at CCC (as you can see in the obit), he knew many people at DVC because of me. When I would go to the retirees luncheon many people would ask about him.

We moved to Yuma last year so that my daughters could assist with his care. I miss my home in Benicia and all our friends in the Bay Area, but had to do what I believed to be right.

I'm still going to maintain my membership with the retiree group.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me-- Marianne [goodies28ford@yahoo.com](mailto:goodies28ford@yahoo.com)

### **Jann Jansen** **Apr. 15, 1935 - Sept. 4, 2021**

We are sad to report the passing of Jann Jansen, retired English instructor. Jann was hired in 1985 as full-time faculty and taught until 2005 when she retired. She returned as adjunct faculty in 2006 and worked until 2016.

#### ***Following is a message from Jann's family:***

On the morning of September 4th, 2021, Professor Emeritus of Diablo Valley College, Jann Jansen, passed away peacefully and was called to Heaven to join her daughter who had passed away long ago. As the matriarch of her family, she leaves behind seven children, twelve grandchildren, and fifteen great-grandchildren. Early in life, Jann explored several professions like acting, modeling, and becoming a concert pianist. However, her greatest passion was teaching. Jann Jansen had taught scores of students in primary and secondary school, but had also been a full-time professor of English at Diablo Valley College since the fall of 1985, and was tenured until 2005 when she retired shortly thereafter. She returned as an adjunct professor in 2006 and worked until 2016 after teaching for nearly 50 years of her life. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Creative Writing and two Masters Degrees in literature and psychology. She not only published many newspaper articles but also wrote five books, including a trilogy of memoirs. Jann was also a piano instructor, once operated a small dog shelter, and was a lover of pets to many of her other animals including cats, birds, fish, frogs, and turtles.

Jann's long and storied life was riddled with many heartbreaking moments and painful challenges. However, she'd always persevere and overcome these many obstacles and hardships throughout her life... much to the chagrin of some of her naysayers. Jann went on to achieve much acclaim from many in the community for whom she served. She was an accomplished author, and greatly respected educator- being voted best teacher on many occasions.

Jann was an amazing woman who gave her everything to anyone in need. She brought joy, wonder, and inspiration to not just her many students, but also her many friends, and family. She had a talent for building and molding one's own self-confidence, and for helping motivate others to realize their full potential... especially those she taught- both young and old. Jann had both sass and charm, but it was her empathy and compassion that really shined through. It was often said that she cared more about others than she cared about herself. She was a beacon of light for those who were surrounded by darkness. Though she is no longer with us in physical form, we shall take comfort in knowing that her life was full of purpose and that she dedicated her life to helping others. Jann Jansen's influence and the long-lasting effect of her spiritual glow will remain in our memories and will help us hold fast to our own dreams- very much like she did to hers. May her soul rest in peace, and her memory live on in the hearts of those who were fortunate to be graced by her presence, her love, and her care.

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### **Kathy Reilly**

We are sad to report that Kathy Reilly, retired Senior Administrative Assistant, passed away on October 8, 2021.

Kathy was hired at DVC in 1984 as secretary to the Assistant Dean of Instruction. In 1993 she became secretary to the Dean in the Instruction Office and transferred to the Dean of Student Services Office in 1998. She later relocated to the President's Office to assist Interim President Diane

Scott-Summers and retired from her position as Senior Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Student Services in July 2008.

Kathy's former manager, Diane Scott-Summers, provided the following tribute to her colleague:

I knew Kathy Reilly for over 30 years. I first worked with Kathy in the late 80's in the Assistant Dean of Instruction office, then we moved to the Vice President of Student Services office, then we moved to the President's office, then we moved back to the VP of Student Services office, then we agreed to retire on the same day, which we did happily. Kathy was my support, my protector, my editor, my information link, my partner, and my friend. Most of DVC knew Kathy for her exceptional organizational skills and superior competence. All of which, of course, was true but only a few also knew her wonderful sense of humor and her fun side like I did. We worked hard and we laughed loud. We truly enjoyed each other's company. I counted on her and she never failed to deliver anything and everything I needed. She often anticipated what I needed before I asked for it. We were partners and friends at work and we stayed in touch and remained friends after we retired. She was a gift to my life. I think of her often with a smile on my face and I will miss sharing time with her.

Rest in Peace Kathy Reilly, you were very special to many.

**Diane Scott-Summers Ed.D, retired counselor and administrator**

## Lillian "Corina" Aguallo

We are sad to report the passing of Lillian "Corina" Aguallo on December 23, 2021. Corina began her career with DVC in 1981 as a counselor and retired in 2007. The following announcement was shared with us:

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Lillian "Corina" Aguallo the morning of December 23, 2021. She entered eternal rest peacefully surrounded by loving family that cared for her throughout her short battle with cancer.

Survived by her sister Barbara Graziani, brother-in-law Dave Graziani, niece Rachel Graziani, nephew Gabriel Graziani, his fiance Skye Woodrum and great-nephew Helix, and numerous cousins. Corina was born in Selma, California on August 11, 1950 to John and Juanita "Jennie" Aguallo. In 1971, she moved to Sonoma County to attend SRJC and Sonoma State University where she earned her Masters in Counseling. She finally settled in Concord which became her home for over 30 years. There she worked at Diablo Valley College as a counselor/instructor. Her career in counseling never stopped, even after she retired. She was always willing to share her expertise.

In 2019 she moved to Sonoma on a permanent basis to be closer to her sister and lifelong friends. Living near the bike path and close to the town of Sonoma, she continued her enjoyment of walking and meeting new people at her favorite restaurants she frequented. Corina caught the travel bug early in her life, having traveled to Europe with her sister Barbara, and friends Loretta and Paula shortly after she graduated high school. Mexico, Jamaica, Latin America, Canada, Europe, and parts in between were enjoyed with school colleagues, friends, and family. Easily making friends along the way she remained in close contact with many of them.

Her sharp wit and jokes will be missed by many. She was the life of the party and loved to dance to both Mexican and R&B music. Attending cousin Dave Aguallo's concerts was a joy to her.

## Miscellaneous

### **Benefits Checkup - Share your experience**

If you have had any notable experiences with Delta Dental or with Medicare reimbursement, would you please share?

Just send your thoughts to Karen at [castle.kg@gmail.com](mailto:castle.kg@gmail.com) Thanks much.

**Wanted:** Part-time help in one or more of the following: Ideas, recordkeeping, light computer work, personal relations. Pay nil. Rewards enormous. Can be done remotely. For more information Contact Karen [castle.kg@gmail.com](mailto:castle.kg@gmail.com).

[DVCRA | \[uf4cdretired.org\]](http://uf4cdretired.org)

Association Coordinator - Karen Castle

Immediate Past Association Coordinators - Judy Walters and Diane Scott-Summers

Treasurer - Chris Leivas

Secretary - Irene Menegas

Membership Meeting/Luncheon Coordinator - Rachel Westlake

Scholarship Coordinator - Mary Ulrich

Newsletter Editor - Chrisanne Knox

Member Directory Maintainer - Nancy Zink

Membership Coordinator - Sue Shattuck

New Member Recruiter - Linda Robbins

Unions, District, Benefits Liaison - Nancy Zink