

*A program of Santa Monica College for older adults*

### Who We Are: Walter Coronel

Profile of an Emeritus Student *by Ada Hollie*



Walter Coronel volunteers as chairman of the critically important Emeritus College Fundraising Committee. He and the committee work tirelessly to raise money for important projects. Walter has been chairman of the Fundraising Committee since 2010 and his goals of increasing the amount raised

and the percentage of students who donate each year has been achieved with the exception of 2015 when the percentage of students donating dipped slightly. His warmth and friendliness are assets he brings, continuously, to this endeavor.

Walter was born in Amsterdam, Holland. Because his family was Jewish, his parents went into hiding during WWII when the Nazis invaded. A local farmer hired Walter and his brother to work on his farm. The farmer, who was very religious, never asked about their religion. Walter and his brother attended the Catholic church with the farmer's family and they worked on the farm until the war ended. After the war, Walter and his brother were reunited with their family and, in 1947, the family moved to the U.S. Walter attended Hollywood High School and so he felt lucky that he had already studied English while in school in Holland. After graduating, he went on to attend Los Angeles City College and California State University, Northridge.

Walter was drafted in 1952 to fight for the U.S. Army in the Korean War even though he had not yet become a citizen. He became a U.S. citizen in 1954.

The education Walter received from college, combined with the skills he developed in the Army, allowed him to obtain a job as a technician for... *(Cont'd on Page 2)*

### From the Corner Office

*by Gita Runkle, Associate Dean*

In the Fall 2015 term, Emeritus launched a process for students to evaluate their instructors, which is consistent with SMC's college-wide practices. Some of you may have already filled out the evaluation forms for your Emeritus faculty, while others may not see them for a while. The reason for this variance is that student evaluations will only be distributed in classes where the faculty are going through a peer evaluation that term.

In order to help you better understand this new process at Emeritus, we have created some helpful questions and answers below.

#### **What is the purpose of the evaluation forms that students fill out?**

The purpose of the evaluation forms is to provide feedback to faculty to help them continuously improve their courses and, ultimately, your educational experiences.

#### **Why are there 2 evaluation forms?**

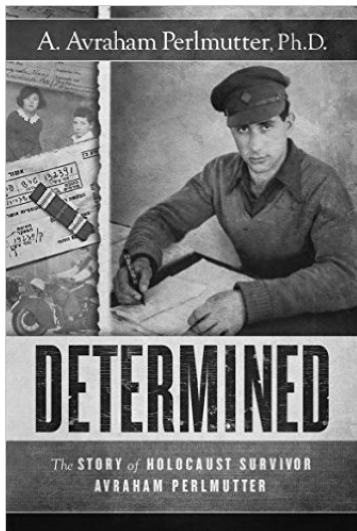
The Instructor Evaluation Form is the small green and white form where you bubble in your answers on the front side only. Student responses are then sent to the Information Technology department for scanning and processing. A summary report of the student responses is shared with the faculty member, evaluator and appropriate academic administrators (it is only placed in the faculty member's personnel file if requested by the faculty member). The Instructor Evaluation Comment Form is the larger form where you can... *(cont'd on Page 3)*



*Portrait by Audrey Roll*

A. Avraham Perlmutter, Ph.D.

## Schmoozing With Shirl: A Determined Man *by Shirl Grayson*



Holocaust survivor, successful entrepreneur, inventor, Oscar winner and lecturer summarize the life story of Emeritus student, Dr. Adolf A. Perlmutter. Born in Vienna, Austria, Perlmutter spent his childhood in Vienna and the Netherlands.

When Hitler came to power in 1939, his parents sent him to the Netherlands for safety. In 1940 the Nazis occupied the Netherlands and Jews were sent to Amsterdam and Austria. Twice the Nazis captured the young Perlmutter and twice he escaped being sent to Auschwitz death camp by jumping off the transports and residing with non-Jewish families. He eventually joined the British army as an interpreter. In 1945 he traveled to Palestine to join his mother, but she died two weeks before he arrived. He went on to join the Jewish underground.

Perlmutter took an entrance exam to continue his education in London and then attended Princeton University where he met theoretical physicist, Albert Einstein.

He received his masters at Princeton and his doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Perlmutter started a successful company, Byna Sciences, and invented a stabilized movie camera that won him an Oscar in 1969. In time, he sold his company and moved from Philadelphia to Los Angeles. He retired at age 88. Dr. Adolf A. Perlmutter is the author of the book "Determined", the story of his life.

## A Stitch in Time in Popular Class *by Betty Herman*

Sweaters, afghans and friendship. All are a big part of the Emeritus Needlecraft class taught by Susan Ryza. The casual atmosphere encourages students to share ideas and knowledge as they work on projects of all kinds.

At a recent class, students described an "amazing class" where they are able to share fellowship as well as stitches. Personal enhancement, social interaction, cultural diversity, and a wonderful feeling of togetherness were some of the other things mentioned as enjoyed in the class. They talked about how much they learn from Ryza's amazing skills and knowledge in a wide range of needlework and said, "It's like having a private tutor."



One student joined the class to learn how to read a pattern. Another makes things in order to do things – try out patterns, try new stitches - and enjoys the social group. Some were working on sweaters. One learned to crochet there. Another was making small circles and squares to eventually put together into "something."

Over the years the group, as individuals, has donated lap blankets to convalescent homes, hats and blankets for premature babies, and yarn to women in shelters so they could do their own projects.

Ryza started teaching the Needlecraft class in 2004. She has an extensive background in her field, including a stint in the Peace Corps working with weavers in El Salvador. She envisions the class as a place for learning and honing needlecraft skills, and also a place for sharing ideas and socializing.

---

## Who We Are: Walter Coronel *(Cont'd from Page 1)*

... Pacific Telephone after returning from the war. He received several promotions over his 40-year career at Pacific Telephone and he rose to become a National Service Manager serving Lockheed Martin and Litton Industries. He traveled extensively and oversaw many other accounts for the company. Walter retired from Pacific Telephone in December of 1989.

Walter has two children and four grandchildren. He has taken many classes at Emeritus including Photography, Film, Novel and Proust. He shares his life with Emeritus student Edie London, his partner of 14 years. They love to travel and take at least one major trip each year.



**A Valuable Resource for Seniors** by Helen Wachs

The Ken Edwards Center at 1527 Fourth Street in Santa Monica houses WISE and Healthy Aging. Originally two independent organizations, WISE Senior Services and Center for Healthy Aging merged in 2007 to become WISE and Healthy Aging and pursue their mission of “enhancing the independence, dignity and quality of life of older adults through leadership, advocacy and innovative services.” Club 1527, also at the Center, offers classes, lectures, concerts, health screenings, and travel opportunities throughout the United States and around the world.

This article outlines just some services offered by the organization. We hope that you will remember them when you or someone you know faces an issue that the center can address.

- The **Benefits Enrollment Center** helps older adults apply for critical public services.
- The **WISE Diner/Senior Lunch Program** offers nutritious lunches and time for socializing at three sites.
- The **Adult Day Care Center** cares for frail, memory impaired older adults.
- There is information about **transportation alternatives**.
- **Care Management** is available for homebound older adults to connect to services and resources.
- **Mental Health** and **Peer Counseling** services are offered through a team approach.
- There are caregiver and bereavement **support groups**.
- WISE and Healthy Aging partners with organizations to provide **financial information** and **legal guidance**.
- For adults who live in long term care facilities, WISE and Healthy Aging operates the **LA City and County Ombudsman Program**, the largest of its kind in the nation. Its professional staff and sixty-seven volunteers visit facilities and investigate concerns and complaints of elder abuse and neglect.

To learn more, stop by the Center and pick up a copy of the *Westside Guide for the 50+* that WISE & Healthy Aging publishes. You can also visit online at [www.wiseandhealthyaging.org](http://www.wiseandhealthyaging.org) or call 310-394-9871.

**Wise and Healthy Aging could use your help. Please consider volunteering.**

**2015 Fund Raising Report** by Walter Coronel

Students responded strongly to our letter mailed in November requesting donations. We received \$39,817 during the months of November and December, which brought the total donations for the year to \$177,502. This is about \$1,100 more than was donated in 2014. However, the total number of participating student donors dropped by 3.45% to 37.35%. We are still aiming for 50 % participation and hopefully we can reach this goal in 2016. Thank you!



**Computer Savvy Volunteers Needed!**

Computer savvy volunteers are needed to help staff the Emeritus College mini-lab in room 207. Help your fellow students with the basics, such as registering for classes online and learning how to navigate the computer and software.

For more information, please contact the Program Coordinator, Vivian Rankin-Scales, at [rankin-scales\\_vivian@smc.edu](mailto:rankin-scales_vivian@smc.edu) or 310.434.3851.



**From the Corner Office** (Cont'd from Page 1)

...write open-ended responses. Comments on this form are only seen by the faculty member being evaluated.

**What do the evaluation forms measure?**

The smaller Instructor Evaluation Form includes questions to evaluate the following skill set of instructors: communication, organization, teaching methods, critical thinking, feedback and learning objectives. The larger Instructor Evaluation Comment Form includes questions on what you liked best about the learning experience, if you have any suggestions for improvement and any additional comments you may have.

We are excited to tell Emeritus students about our latest activities. During a strategic planning retreat, our advisory council, formerly known as the Emeritus College Executive Council, was re-named the Emeritus College Advisory Council to better reflect what we do. Our purpose is to advocate for students and ensure that the program is responsive to their changing needs. The Council serves as a voice to the Associate Dean advising on key improvements in certain projects and events. For example, we took an active role in planning and volunteering for the Emeritus 40th Anniversary celebration.

Each Council member this year has volunteered to work in one of four subgroups: Student Services, Student Feedback, Curriculum or Fundraising. We are a 12-member Council elected in late spring each year on a rotating basis. Toward the middle of the Spring 2016 term, applications will be available for four new members to be elected for a 3-year term. Feel free to check the Emeritus website periodically for posting of the new application. Membership is open to all Emeritus students and faculty and we hope that you will consider applying.

We look forward to an active year promoting communication between our Council and the student body. To identify our current council members, please visit the Emeritus website at: [www.smc.edu/emergitus](http://www.smc.edu/emergitus). From the left-hand menu, click on "Advisory Council" to see our pictures and biographies. A Council member may sit beside you in class.

### What's Happening: Emeritus Events

#### Kot Concert Series

*(Held at Emeritus Campus Rm 107, 3-5 pm)*

- Feb 25 Beth Sussman, Solo Piano
- Mar 10 Chika Inoue, Saxophone & Piano duet
- Mar 31 David & Junko Garrett, Piano & Cello
- Apr 14 String Quartet
- Apr 28 Woodwind Quartet
- May 12 Saxophone Quartet
- May 26 Aileen Gozali, Piano
- Jun 09 Jim Mooy, Trumpet and Piano

#### Emeritus Art Gallery Exhibits

- Mar 10-Apr 27 Annual Emeritus Student Group Photography Exhibition  
*Opening reception, March 10, 5-6:30pm, Emeritus Art Gallery*
- May 5-Jun 6 Annual Emeritus Student Group Art Exhibition  
*Opening reception, May 5, 5-6:30pm, Emeritus Art Gallery*

#### Emeritus College Concert Band, "Space" Themed Concert

**March 6, 2016 at 3pm**

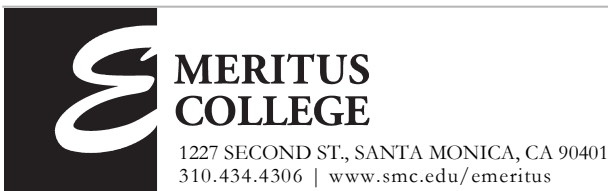
The Broad Stage at SMC Performance Arts Center  
1310 11th Street in Santa Monica

### T e s t y T r i v i a & B r a i n t e a s e r s

1. This lawyer presented 30 civil rights cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and won 29 of them. He was 32 when he won his first Supreme Court case, *Chambers v. Florida*, which established that confessions obtained as the result of police coercion didn't count as evidence. He later became a U.S Supreme Court Justice and in 1993, was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. Name him.
2. Dubbed "The First Lady of Song" this songstress shot to fame after recording a playful version of the nursery rhyme "A-Tisket, A-Tasket". She went on to win 13 Grammy awards and sold over 40 million albums. Name her.
3. This priest, who married Roman soldiers against orders from Roman Emperor Claudius II, was arrested and killed on February 14 in the year 270 A.D. Name him.
4. This state produces 60 percent of American roses. Name the state. **(See answers below)**

**Lovely Fact:**

*Research shows that long-term couples with deep, strong connections can successfully soothe each other in stressful situations or when one of them experiences pain simply by holding hands.*



Emeritus College is committed to life-long learning for older adults. From art and literature to health and safety, personal finance, and digital technologies, Emeritus College students connect, discover, renew, and reinvent. Classes are held at the Emeritus headquarters at 1227 Second Street, Santa Monica, as well as at community sites located throughout the cities of Santa Monica and Malibu.

*Brainteaser & Trivia Answers: 1) Thurgood Marshall; 2) Ella Fitzgerald; 3) Valentine or Valentine of Terni; 4) California*