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*Friends of the International Center,  
at UC San Diego*



# *Newsletter*

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Volume XXXIX No.1

September 2011

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## President's Message



How inspiring it was on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate 50 years of the Friends activities in international education. So many dedicated people and so many successful programs have continuously extended hospitality

to our international visitors, provided scholarship money for students abroad, as well as at UC San Diego, and sponsored exciting events for the campus community at the Center.

Now, as we begin our next half-century, we continue to advance the Friends' activities in these three arenas. Despite modern technology, despite the huge growth in the numbers of internationals here and students abroad, and despite the increase in the International Center staff—it is still the person-to-person interaction that we provide that is so necessary, and works!

In June, at its annual retreat, the Friends Board agreed that developing our membership is essential for the Friends' programs to continue and to grow. We have already begun work on designing a new brochure and developing our outreach methods, as well as streamlining our communications procedures for prospective and current members.

Right now, please consider what you can do to enhance the Friends' work in support of the International Center. We are a service organization and you, our volunteers, make our programs work.

- Volunteer in the Resale Shop to raise money for scholarships

- Join the Family Orientation "team" helping international families adjust to life in the U.S.
- Participate in the many Wednesday Morning Coffee activities (crafts, book discussions, language table, Mommy & Me group—or suggest something new)
- Share your cooking skills—in the International Kitchen, Cooking in America classes, Ethnic Dinners
- Help organize or publicize Friends' events (e.g., Holiday Lunch, ArtPower dinners, I-Café, Resale Shop Holiday Sale, Annual Awards Dinner)
- Tutor an international student or scholar
- Host an international student or scholar for a few days (since the I-Center can no longer run this program, it is now organized by the Solana Beach Presbyterian Church)
- Help serve at the Orientation Dinner on Wednesday, September 21
- New ideas? Let us know your idea and how you would implement it.

You can find out more about these volunteer opportunities on our website: <http://icenter.ucsd.edu/friends>, or by e-mailing: [icfriends@ucsd.edu](mailto:icfriends@ucsd.edu), or by calling us: 858/534-0731. Let us know your volunteer interests soon.

As I take up the reins as President of the Friends, I want to thank **Eleanor tum Suden** for her excellent leadership over the last two years, for her example, and her ongoing tutoring. Eleanor continues on the Board as our Financial Advisor, handling all the paperwork required for our tax-exempt and campus Support Group status.

As we jump now into our 51<sup>st</sup> year, I look forward to working with our fine Board, and all of you, to sustain the Friends' spirit and vitality, and to grow to meet new needs and challenges.

*Joan Adamo*

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# Annual Friends Membership Dinner and Awards Ceremony

The Friends Annual Membership Dinner and Scholarship Awards Ceremony, held on May 24 at the International Center, went off this year like clockwork. Vice Presidents **Joan Adamo** and **Barbara Fitzsimmons** were seasoned co-chairs and knew exactly what to do, as did President **Eleanor tum Suden**, who, among endless other things, did a skillful job of seating the guests, while Scholarship Committee Chair, **Ruth Newmark**, kept track of which Friends Scholarship recipients would attend the dinner and whether they preferred a regular or vegetarian meal. **Gail Fliesbach** took care of the printed programs and the scholarship certificates. **Renate Schmid-Schoenbein** prepared the nametags, and Joan Adamo, Barbara Fitzsimmons, **Arline Paa**, Renate Schmid-Schoenbein, **Alice Blake-Stalker**, and Eleanor tum Suden set tables. **Candace Kohl** came laden with flowers, including gorgeous roses provided by **Cathy Reed** from the Del Mar Rose Society; blue and gold balloons, compliments of the International Center Office, added to the festive spirit. The heat lamps kept the evening chill at bay. **Ginny Young**, **Jennie Chin**, **Alma Coles**, **John Filoso**, and **Keiko Hirai** worked in the kitchen; **Lou Adamo**, **Nancy and Bill Homeyer**, and **David Paa** tended bar. **Carol** and **Stu Smith**, as well as **Betty Burton**, documented the event by snapping pictures. **Lynn Anderson**, Director of the International Center, was involved with planning and coordination. A large contingency of the International Center staff attended (Lynn Anderson, **Danelle Boone**, **Kim Burton**, **Gladys Calderon**, **Tricia Chan**, **Dulce Dorado**, **James Galvin**, **Charmagne**

**Herlien**, **Horst Hoffmann**, **Karla Macias**, **Sophia Marshall**, **Tonia Pizer**, **Rachel Rigoli**, **Carol Robertson**, **Ruby Rosas**, **Layla San Jose**, **Kelly Schober**), each assuming the position of table host and helping with service.

Each annual dinner gets evaluated carefully. By 2010, the number of awards given had grown to such an extent that the program became so long that many of the students left early to study for their final exams, leading to the decision this year to separate the Chancellor's Awards (see p. 4) from the Annual Membership Dinner. Although there was some hesitation that by doing so, we might lose a considerable segment of the audience, this fear proved unfounded, as attendance, albeit slightly lower than usual, exceeded 100.

The Friends were pleased to see among the many guests Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs **Ed Spriggs**, Dean of Graduate Studies **Kim Barrett**, and **Kim Signoret-Paar**, Student Affairs' Director of Development. Regretfully, Dr. **Carolyn Kelly** from the School of Medicine was detained by having to tend to a student emergency. **Kwan So** (his wife, **Marion**, was in Hong Kong) was there to greet the



JoAnn and David Wirth with Bianca Strosnider

recipients of the So Scholarship, as was Dr. **Ernest Mort**, retired Dean of Revelle College, who was seated with the recipients of the Mort Scholarship. Past Friends President **JoAnn Wirth** and her husband **David** came down from Northern California and brought their granddaughter to the dinner.

The evening proceeded smoothly, beginning with time for mingling in the Zonta Lounge, followed by a Thai dinner served outdoors in the central courtyard. The program began with words of welcome by Eleanor tum Suden and a brief business meeting that included the election of officers for the year 2011-12. Nominating Committee Chair Alma Coles placed the proposed slate before the membership. The slate was enthusiastically received and

## Friends Officers 2011-2012

President:	<b>Joan Adamo</b>
1st Vice President:	<b>Arline Paa</b>
2nd Vice President, Membership:	<b>Renate Schmid-Schoenbein</b>
Recording Secretary:	<b>Nancy Homeyer</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Jeri Abernathy</b>
Corresponding Secretary:	<b>Betty Shor</b>
Nominating Committee:	<b>Alma Coles, Josie Foulks, Candace Kohl</b>

unanimously approved. Once the Friends Parliamentarian, **Betty Shor**, had determined that the number of members voting represented a quorum, the elected officers were introduced to the assembled dinner guests.

Lynn Anderson expressed her thanks to the Friends for their continued support of International Center programs. Ruth Newmark spoke about the Friends Scholarship program, pointing to the fine cooperation between campus staff and volunteers, and acknowledged the financial assistance that make these international scholarships a reality. Students receiving scholarships were asked to come to the podium to receive their awards and to have group photos taken. Many students commented afterwards on how much they enjoyed the exceptional mix of people from different parts of the campus and the local community, and marveled at the ease with which everyone communicated. This exchange of information and ideas is as important to the Friends as it is to the students.

Our thanks go to all who helped to make the 2011 Annual Dinner and Scholarship Awards Ceremony a rousing success!

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## Notice of Dues Increase

After careful review and discussion, the Friends Board of Directors decided to increase regular dues to \$35.00 per year, effective October 1, 2011. Other categories of dues remain unchanged. Since the last dues increase in 1998, basic operating costs have increased considerably, and the Board felt that this change is necessary to continue operating effectively.

*Eleanor tum Suden,*  
Financial Adviser

Thank you! Obrigado. Gracias. Danke. Arigato.  
Tak. Merci. Mahalo. Dziękuję. Xie xie. Kiitos.  
Dhanyawaad. Toda. Grazie. Asante.



## Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

—by *Lynn Anderson*, Dean of International Education

On May 17, 2011, the International Center hosted the first annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. We recognized all of the volunteers who donate their time and resources to the programs and services of the International Center that support and engage our international students, international scholars, and study-abroad students. We honored volunteers who work in the Resale Shop, provide tutoring through the English in Action program, plan and offer Wednesday Coffees and our Wednesday Family Orientations, assist with Cooking in America, prepare and serve our delicious Friday Café lunches, tend the Kitchen Exchange, prepare this *Newsletter*, serve on the scholarship selection committee, and so much more.

Approximately 100 volunteers plus almost the entire IC staff were in attendance. We enjoyed a delicious meal together; volunteers received IC mugs, pins, and well-deserved appreciation; and we enjoyed a delightful vocal performance by **UCSD Frequency**, an all-male a capella group. **Eleanor tum Suden's** 75th birthday was celebrated with cake and song.

**Sophia Marshall** organized the event with terrific help from many IC staff members. The International Center looks forward to hosting this luncheon each year and honoring our many wonderful volunteers.

Prof. **Kim Barrett**, Dean of Graduate Studies, concluded the event by presenting the 2010-2011 Chancellor's Awards.



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## CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS 2010-2011

### *Friends Member of the Year: Betty Shor*



Dean Kim Barrett and Betty Shor

For many years, Betty Shor has been a member of the Friends of the International Center and a volunteer at the Friends Resale Shop. There she regularly brightens things up by bringing in succulents and other small plants that many regular customers are eager to buy. She reviews books donated for sale at the Shop, prices them, and restocks when those placed out have been sold.

Betty has served on the Friends Board of Directors, as Parliamentarian, where she keeps the group functioning properly. For the past two years, Betty has also served as one of the Friends Corresponding Secretaries.

During the past year, Betty has assisted **Ruth Newmark** in compiling the history of the Center and the Friends, searching through files and other sources to document many facts about our history.

### *New Volunteer of the Year: Jennie Chin*

Jennie Chin is a delightful contributor to several of our programs, and has increased her efforts following her retirement last year. She regularly helps in the kitchen with events such as our ethnic dinners that help support the Friends scholarship program. She has also assisted with other special events, including the Fourth of July celebration, as well as with the Friday International Café.



Jennie Chin and Kim Barrett

Wednesday Coffee has appreciated her efforts, and **Georgina Sham**, one of the coordinators, notes that "Jennie arrives at the Center by 9:30 every Wednesday and opens our cupboard, puts out the sign-in book, and generally gets the place ready for the activity of the day. She has led crafts in Kumihimo loom braiding, knitting, and beading." Jennie's cooking skills are appreciated during the Coffee's international lunches. She even persuades her father to contribute his talents as a chef when he is here on his annual visits.

In addition to these activities, Jennie is a sound source of advice and has offered suggestions with possible solutions several times during the year.

### *International Visitor of the Year 2010-2011: Moira Igor*

A visitor from Argentina, Moira Igor is here with her husband, a marine biologist at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Moira volunteers in the Resale Shop. She came to help with the special Holiday Sale, and quickly became a regular Shop volunteer in January.

On occasion, she also volunteers with the Friday International Café. Her bright, outgoing, and helpful contributions add to two of the programs at the Center.

Moira is artistic, and besides enjoying her volunteer efforts at the Center, is interested in photography.

### *Study Abroad Returnee of the Year: Amber Robinson-Siddiqi*

Amber Robinson-Siddiqi is an International Studies major with a focus in African Studies. She studied abroad for the 2010 Fall Semester at the University of Ghana, Legon. She excelled academically during her time abroad and continues to do well here at UC San Diego as a Sixth College student with a current GPA of 3.55.

Upon returning to UC San Diego, Amber was ready to share her experiences and inspire others to study abroad. She has enthusiastically volunteered her time by helping with the Ghana applicant interviews and pre-departure orientations. Amber understands that her contributions as a returnee are crucial in order to provide departing students with essential information before they study abroad in such a unique environment.

Amber's connection with her study abroad experience continues with her motivation to start an internship program in Ghana. Her idea is to have the

study abroad students teach at a night school for the youth in the area who cannot attend school during the day for various socio-economic reasons. Her “commitment to action” has already been accepted by the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U). An excellent student, an ideal returnee, Amber Robinson-Siddiqi is the Returnee of the Year!

### ***I-Club Member of the Year: Pauline Dizon***

Pauline Dizon is a senior in John Muir College studying psychology with a minor in sociology. She is also a dedicated member of the I-Club and is its Events Coordinator. In her position, she has worked diligently to construct all club events, coming up with “Grilled Cheese Day” and “That’s Amore” as her concepts. Both events, as with all I-Club events, were highly successful.

As a member of I-Club, Pauline has done shopping for events and conducted outreach efforts to make I-Club a well-known student organization on campus. Her involvement with I-Club started with her experience as volunteer Orientation Assistant for fall 2010. Ever since then, she has enjoyed being a part of the international events that take place at our Center and beyond.

### ***English in Action Tutor of the Year: Dana Johnson***

Dana Johnson has been a volunteer for the English in Action (EIA) tutor program since January 2011. As a tutor, Dana works with **Saeah Shon**, an EAP student from South Korea. During their tutoring sessions, Dana helps Saeah practice her English by reading movie scripts.

Dana deserves this award because she so clearly illustrates a tutor who has gone above and beyond for her tutee. Not only do teacher and student enjoy working together, but Dana has persisted in finding a solution to a common problem for Saeah: meeting people. Addressing this problem, Dana has carefully researched organizations on the UC San Diego campus that might be of interest to Saeah and that she might join.



Dana Johnson and Kim Barrett

### ***Organization of the Year: UC San Diego Peace Corps***

Life is calling, how far will you go? This year the Peace Corps is celebrating 50 years of promoting peace and friendship around the world.

With 67 alumni currently serving as Peace Corps volunteers, UC San Diego ranks 14th among all large universities, up from 22nd last year. UC San Diego and the Peace Corps, both turning 50 this year, have partnered to bring 678 UC San Diego alumni as volunteers.



Kim Barrett and Diana Gomez

**Diana Gomez** has been instrumental in creating partnerships here and abroad, and in particular in the International Center. To wit: she sends potential Peace Corps volunteers to the English in Action tutor program to experience teaching English as a second language. The Peace Corps also sponsors one of our Friday Cafés each year.

We are delighted to honor the Peace Corps with the 2010-2011 Organization of the Year award.

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## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Books**

—by *Ruth Newmark*

After I mailed a copy of the Friends anniversary book, *Celebrating 50 Years of the International Center at UC San Diego: 1961-2011*, to **Heather Smedberg**, the Geisel librarian who had helped me with my research. Heather replied: “Thank you for sending over the book; it looks great. And thank you for the kind words in the acknowledgements. We are delighted to add this to the **Special Collections/University Archives** for future generations to enjoy. I’ve passed it along to **Lynda Claassen**, who will make sure it gets into our new books processing stream.”

By now most of the Friends and all contributors have received a complimentary copy of the anniversary book. If you haven’t as yet received yours or would like to purchase an additional copy, available at \$10 each, you may e-mail your request to [icfriends@ucsd.edu](mailto:icfriends@ucsd.edu) or leave a voicemail message for the Friends at 858/534-0731.

# International Center News

—by Lynn Anderson, Dean of International Education and Director of the International Center

For those of us in higher education, fall is the beginning of the year. This fall, much will be the same, but much will also be different. What remains the same is our commitment to providing our incoming international students and scholars with the best possible welcome, support, and professional services. You, the Friends of the International Center, are key in helping us provide a warm and personal welcome. What also remains the same is our commitment to providing access to high-quality programs abroad for all of our students. Again, the Friends play a crucial role in providing scholarships for our students (\$57,000 last year for our incoming international students and our outgoing students). We are deeply appreciative of your involvement in both areas.

I want to begin by thanking **Eleanor tum Suden** for her two years of outstanding leadership as President of the Friends Board—her accomplishments are numerous and the Friends are in a great place because of her leadership. I also want to say how pleased we are to welcome **Joan Adamo** (an alum of PAO) as the new President of the Friends

What is new at the IC is the dramatically increasing number of international students attending UC San Diego this fall. Last year we had 100 new freshmen and this year we will have about 330. We'll also welcome about 450 new international transfer students and approximately 200 EAP reciprocal exchange students. We are in the process of hiring two new staff members to assist with additional advising, services, and programming for our increasing

number of international students. New and exciting programs, workshops, and services are in the works for our international students—stay tuned!

We also have several staffing changes to share with you. As many of you know, **Dr. Horst Hoffmann** retired from his position as Director of the International Scholar Office after nearly 30 years at UC Riverside and UC San Diego. We miss him.

It is my privilege to introduce to you our new Director of the International Scholar Office, **Dr. Roark Miller**. Roark earned his baccalaureate degree from Oberlin College, a master's in Piano Performance from New Mexico State University, and a second master's and a doctorate in Musicology from the University of Michigan. He taught at Southern Methodist University and at Emory University. Since March 2004, Roark has directed the International Program Services at the Morehouse School of Medicine. Roark studied and lived in Italy.

I am also pleased to announce that **Shelly Taskin** joined the International Students and Programs Office team. She replaces **Sophia Marshall** as the Programs Coordinator/International Student Advisor. Shelly's immediate responsibilities include English in Action Tutor Coordinator, Orientation Assistant Program Coordinator, and I-Club Staff Advisor. For the last five years, Shelly worked as a Program Representative and Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Student Advisor at the English Language Institute at UC San Diego Extension. She grew up in South Dakota and graduated from Fort Lewis College

in Durango, CO with a B.A. in Business Administration. Shelly also received her Professional Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language from UC San Diego Extension, which prepared her for teaching English in Turkey.

As I write this article, we are in the middle of a search for a new Director of the Programs Abroad Office. **Kim Burton** has taken over the responsibilities of the Director of EAP, a position vacated by **Jinous Kasravi** in late May. Kim served as Director of PAO for over 19 years—what an accomplishment! In late June we said goodbye to **Molly Ann McCarron** who has retired after decades in PAO.

**Sarah Ross**, Director of International Education, joined our staff in March and has been a tremendous addition. Sarah is implementing the Global Leadership Certificate that **Shahla Akbari** (a volunteer intern) and I began developing last year. We have conducted focus groups with UCSD students and believe we will have a lively response to the GLC. Sarah will launch the program this fall. **Stephen Gotfredson** has been interning with us since late spring and is developing a series of new initiatives that connect study abroad and sustainability. We are partnering with Earthwatch Institute and hope to offer the first of these new programs in spring, 2012.

As you might imagine, and as many of you have seen, the expanding number of students, programs, services, and staff at the International Center has us even more cramped than before. However, the IC is not the building, but the programs, services, and people who engage with each other at the IC. We are appreciative of

all that the Friends do to assist us in this critical mission. The ripple effect of our work is felt, literally, throughout the world.

As chair of UC's Senior International Leaders Council this past year, I volunteered to develop a set of talking points about international education at the University of California that President **Yudof** and Provost **Pitts** (and others) could use in presentations to students, parents, alumni, faculty, administrators, etc. I was very fortunate to engage **Ann Craig**, Provost Emeritus of Eleanor Roosevelt College, to work with me in preparing these talking points. They were sent to Yudof and Pitts in early August. You can read the 2.5 pages of talking points and 7 pages of background material at <http://icenter.ucsd.edu/pdfs/talkingpoints.pdf>.

There is much, much more to share but I don't want to take up the entire *Newsletter*! The exponential growth, the great new programs we are developing and launching, our plans for a new building, the excitement of welcoming our new colleagues, many new Friends board members, and the beginning of a new year helped me decide to offer a "State of the International Center" address during the first week in October. This will be a chance for Friends, Oceanids, UC San Diego students, staff, faculty, and administrators to learn about who we are and what we are doing—and to ask questions! Please plan to join us; details to come.

With best wishes for the start of the new year!

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## July Fourth Celebration

—by Jennie Chin

This year's July 4<sup>th</sup> festive picnic celebration (for a nominal fee of \$6.00) was hosted on the lawn outside the International Center for about 55 newcomers and familiar faces. There is nothing quite like the laughter and fun of a picnic, of people reaching out to each other regardless of where they come from around the world. The Friends/Oceanids July 4<sup>th</sup> picnic is a wonderful venue to celebrate those differences and similarities, and especially the spirit of community and generosity.

Thanks to **Georgina Sham**'s crafting abilities we had beanbags to toss, sack races to run, and first place blue ribbons to handout to winners. Since we had several children and teenagers this year, activities from rock painting to *kumihimo* (a Japanese braiding technique), and balloon animals to face painting, were also included. The face painting (compliments of two very artistic young women—**Dagmar Bocacova** wth **Keiko Hirai** assisting—was so successful that even the adults wanted in on this event.

The menu included the traditional American "fixins" of hotdogs, baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad, watermelon, and brownies, prepared under the talented supervision of **Ginny Young** and her helpers, who put in several long hours to cook, serve, and clean up for the event.

Sincere thanks also go to **Barbara** and Prof. **Randolph Bank**, who kindly provided the decorations; to **Alice Blake-Stalker** for running the races; to **Liz Fong Wills** who called us from Boston with useful advice; to **Eleanor tum Suden** and **Barbara Starkey** for registering the guests and finalizing the arrangements for people to carpool to La Jolla Shores; and to **Bob Starkey** for leading the troops into La Jolla to watch the fireworks.

### September Calendar

Sept. 1-16: **Resale Shop** hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30-2:00

Sept. 7, 21: **Family Orientation**, 9:30

Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28: **Wednesday Morning Coffee**, 10:00-Noon

Sept. 19: **Fall Quarter Begins**

Sept. 19: **Resale Shop** resumes regular academic schedule, Monday-Friday, 10:00-4:00

Sept. 20: **Board Meeting**, 10:00

Sept. 21: **Orientation Dinner and Square Dance**, 5:00-9:00

Sept. 28: **International Kitchen**, *Oktoberfest*, Noon

Sept. 30: **Friday International Café**, Noon-1:15

## Donations

Friends Treasurer **Jeri Abernathy** reports that over the summer months the Friends received a significant number of contributions to our scholarship fund. First, **Therese Tanalski** sent a gift, followed soon by donations from **Ray & Debby Park**, **Sally Ashburn**, **JoAnn & David Wirth**, and **Barbara Baehr**.

In mid-July, a number of **Ruth Newmark**'s friends made donations to the **Newmark Scholarship** in honor of Ruth's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. For these we thank **Candace Kohl**, **Manny & Paula Rotenberg**, **Audrey & Mel Spiro**, **Avrum & Mary Stroll**, **Nick & Peggy Stamon**, **Chris & Liz Wills**, and **Gina Wright**.

We extend our appreciation to all who continue to support the Friends scholarship program.

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## Membership News

While the Friends did not learn of **Anna Skalak's** death on April 24, 2011, at the age of 86, until we read her obituary in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* in the middle of June, it prompted discussion of her life. Anna Skalak and her husband moved to San Diego when **Richard Skalak** (1923-1997) joined the faculty of the Department of Bioengineering after retiring from Columbia University, where he taught for more than 40 years. **Geert Schmid-Schoenbein** tells that Renate and he knew the Skalaks long before Richard, a pioneer in bioengineering and biomechanics, joined him as a UC San Diego colleague, and **Renate** believes that she was responsible for encouraging Anna to become a member of the Friends. There is no doubt that Anna also learned about our organization's activities from another bioengineering family and life members of the Friends: **Y.C. and Luna Fung**.

We took pleasure in the happy news of the induction of **Anne Cleveland** into the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame. On June 17, her proud mother, **Mildred Cleveland**, wrote: "Anne left this morning for New York City—very excited for many reasons. One of which is that this is her first visit to NYC. She says she will take a photo for me of The Little Church Around the Corner. It's where my parents were married in 1925."

We extend congratulations to **Renate Berthold**, who sent a picture of her new granddaughter, Ruby, born June 16, 2011, in Stockholm, Sweden. In a follow-up note, Renate wrote: "We are still in Switzerland; will go to Sweden next week. I want to thank you for the anniversary issue of the *Newsletter*. Very well done, and interesting to see that the Friends have been going so strong for such a long time. Fifty Years! Just amazing. Congratulations to all. I wish I could have joined the celebrations."

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## Wednesday Morning Coffee

—by *Georgina Sham*

Active the year around, here follows this month's Wednesday Morning Coffee Hour schedule:

**Sept. 7: Discussion of the evolution of social and political roles of women** in our visitors' home countries, with **Alice Blake-Stalker** as moderator. **Mommy and Me** class will meet at **Keiko Bott-Suzuki's**; please e-mail her for more information: keikobottsuzuki@gmail.com

**Sept. 14:** Since the International Center will be taken up entirely with Orientation activities, **we will meet at Doyle Recreation Center** (8175 Regents Road, San Diego 92122) from 10 - 12. Please bring your handcrafts; we can work and chat sitting at picnic tables, while the children play in the playground. Refreshments will be provided. **Mommy and Me** class will meet at Keiko's.

**Sept 21: Make stuffed animals.** We will start the year by making stuffed animals for ourselves, then for the children at our holiday party on December 7. Animals may be knitted, crocheted, or sewn. We have patterns and materials. **Book discussion:** **Letty Ponomareff** will lead a discussion of *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak at 10:30.

**Sept. 28: Oktoberfest.** We will all help to prepare a lunch of bratwurst, potato salad, sauerkraut, and rolls with apple strudel for dessert. Lunch will be served at noon for \$5/person.

## Resale Shop

—by *Joe Nichols*

The summer is zipping by and it has been a wonderful one for us who live in the San Diego area. The Friends Resale Shop, although on limited hours, has been buzzing along generating scholarship money. We go back to our yearly schedule on Monday, September 19, with hours Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**ALERT:** For the incoming students there is a great need for blankets, sheets, flatware, utensils, lamps, and other household goods. Check to see if you have unwanted items and donate now. Donations need to be clean and in good repair.

**Gayle Barsamian** entered the names of all those who had volunteered 50 hours in the Resale Shop this past year in the University's "Volunteer 50" contest and, voilà, **Joe Nichols** was one of the winners with a Chancellor's Award and a training session at Rimac. Thanks, Gayle!

Here's betting on the best year ever in sales.

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## Friday Café

Interact with members of the UC San Diego community from all over the world while eating a delicious meal during the International Center's International Café held every Friday during the academic year from 12:00-1:15. Cost for the lunch that includes an entrée, drink, and dessert is \$5.

The Café coordinator, **Ginny Young**, has planned a varied bill of fare for the Fall Quarter, beginning with a Mexican meal on Friday, September 30 sponsored by the **Division of Social Sciences**. For an itemized menu, please consult: <http://icenter.ucsd.edu/cafe/index.html>.



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# SCHOLARSHIP LETTERS

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Dear Friends of the International Center,  
It has been a wonderful four weeks in Seoul so far and I am a bit sad that I only have a little over two weeks left.

Seoul is a lively city. Yonsei University, where I am studying abroad this summer, is located in the area of Sinchon near Ehwa Womans University. Filled with college students and young families, this part of town is lively day and night. Only when 10 p.m. hits will you see everyone wandering home.

Born and raised in Southern California, subways are not part of my available modes of transportation. Learning to navigate the Seoul Metro Lines Subway system was therefore a brand new eye-opening experience. What amazes me the most is that some subway stations are connected to giant shopping centers, supermarkets, and one is even connected to an amusement park. The subway system is very efficient, with signs and announcements available in Korean, English, Japanese, and Mandarin.

My most memorable experience on the subway would have to be going across town during rush hour. People squeeze together back to back. There is no room to move, and if you need to get off at a stop, all you can do is simply push and shove. Though I would not call it a comfortable ride, traveling during rush hour allows me to experience living in Korea from the perspective of a local.

One cannot talk about summer in Seoul without mentioning the weather. First of all, I arrived on the first day of monsoon season and therefore did not experience a sunny day in Seoul until a week after my arrival. When it rains, it pours. Moments when I am caught in the middle of a thunderstorm make me regret not bringing my rain boots. Rain or shine, humidity never ceases to exist. The weather definitely takes a couple of days to get used to.

Thank you for helping to make my goal of studying abroad happen. I will continue to learn and enjoy the experience of being on this side of the world

*Amy Lam*

On July 13, I celebrated my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Rather than presenting me with unneeded gifts, a number of my friends made contributions to the Newmark Scholarship. Naturally, I was thrilled; the more so, since I could share with them the following note from the most recent recipient: **Tara Whitty**, a Scripps Institution of Oceanography Ph.D. candidate whose special interest is in marine conservation with a focus on dolphin populations.

While I regretted that Tara could not attend the Friends Scholarship Awards Ceremony on May 24 because she was hosting a workshop she had organized, I had a chance to speak to her at length at our house on a subsequent date. I learned that her mother is Japanese, her father Irish; that she is a graduate of Princeton University; and that her dedication to her studies, world travels, and charm stand out.

The Friends Scholarship Committee was so impressed by Tara's work and her 2010 scholarship report that we awarded her a second scholarship this Spring. —**Ruth Newmark**, Scholarship Committee Chair

Dear Ruth,  
I'm writing to you from Puerto Princesa, the capital city of the province of Palawan! I arrived in the Philippines this past Sunday, and I already feel like San Diego was eons ago. I am very, very excited about the coming months—as you may recall, I received a Fulbright student scholarship to do research here for 9 months. The Fulbright covers my travel and living expenses, while the generous support from your scholarship, and funds from the National Geographic Society-Waitt grants will provide for my research expenses (boat rental, field assistants, and equipment). I am so grateful to have your support, as it allows to me to maximize the research that I can do

during my time here!

I wanted to let you know about my research blog, <http://ofdolphinsandfishers.wordpress.com/>. There already is background about my research ("About my Project"), and I will be posting information about my field experiences, as well as some background information on the general area of my research. If you get a chance, I hope you enjoy reading what I manage to post!

I hope this e-mail finds you and your family happy and healthy!

Thank you again (or, "Maraming salamat po!"),

*Tara*

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Dear Friends,

My time here in Mongolia has been wonderful! Although the plane ride seemed forever and the hot weather really surprised me, I'm loving my time here.

On weekdays, I study at the Epidemiology Hospital of Mongolia. Following the doctors as they examine patients, I have seen many infectious diseases that I wouldn't have seen in United States, such as mumps, erysipelas, and chickenpox (which interestingly is consisted of blue rashes, like finger paints!). At home, my host family shares their family photos with me, as well as cooks me delicious Mongolian food. Even though the ingredients are limited here, I feel like I have tried more than dozens of different dishes with just lamb, potato, carrots, and onions!

During weekends, I participate in the activities set up by my program, Projects Abroad, and go to the countryside. Unlike the crowded city, the countryside is absolutely beautiful and the air is very fresh. It is exactly what it's like to be surrounded by nature. To my surprise, the country is pretty green. Before I came, I thought there would be mostly desert, like the Gobi, but it is covered with grass and mountains.

Looking out from the bus, I could always see *gers*, traditional Mongolian tents, and horses and cows. Even in modern times, a great percentage of Mongolians still live in gers, big white round tents that are a lot more spacious than they seem from the outside. Even in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, there is a ger district, and gers can be seen here and there when one walks around the city.

Only one and a half months have passed and I have already hiked the great Turtle Rock, visited the biggest temple in Mongolia, toured the Natural History Museum that has an amazing collection of dinosaur fossils, and shopped at various department stores. However, the best time was, of course, during Naadam Festival, the Mongolian national holiday.

This event is a huge sports competition, consisting of wrestling, archery, and horse racing. The first day started off with a huge ceremony at the stadium that had people dressed up in ancient clothing and walking around the stadium, dancing and singing. The president of Mongolia gave a speech. Surprisingly, there were many foreigners who came just for this festival. Afterwards, the wrestlers came forth in their traditional clothes and started the competition. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the archery competition, which was located at another stadium.

The next day, a group of us went by bus to the countryside where the horse races were being held. The ride, though, was quite unpleasant. We were cramped in the bus like sandwiches; additionally, the roads in Mongolia aren't in the best condition and due to the downpour the night before, the roads were flooded with holes. I really respected the driver's skill that the whole bus didn't just collapse!

When we arrived, it felt like the whole Ulaanbaatar population had come here. Rows and rows of gers were set up and the parked

cars reached beyond the horizon. We excitedly looked around only to find that every step we took, there were huge bugs flying out from the grasses, making big clap, clap noises. After some minutes of searching, we found an area for tourists that consisted of a few gers with each ger showing an aspect of Mongolian culture: folktales, Mongolian bows, art, writing, and more. Outside the tents, a musician played the traditional Mongolian horse-head fiddle. This was very beautiful and emitted a rather sad tune.

Finally, we gathered around the "benches," literally round sticks stacked together, and waited for the horse racing to begin. After two hours of waiting, the crowds started cheering and we knew the race had begun. We waited another thirty minutes or so before we saw dust flying in the distance. Slowly, we could see the horses. As they got closer, I realized that all the contestants were children! The small children, around age six or seven, raced like professionals on their full-grown horses. It was amazing! It was worth the long bus ride and two-hour wait.

I have so much more to tell you, but I have to get going now. Sorry for the late update, but I actually didn't have Internet till a few weeks after I arrived. I hope I didn't type too much due to my excitement!

*Annie Yu*

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**RESALE SHOP  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

Friday, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
weekly, beginning  
September 19  
contact **Gayle Barsamian**,  
[gbarsamian@ucsd.edu](mailto:gbarsamian@ucsd.edu)  
or phone the Resale Shop,  
858/534-1123

# Friends Fall Quarter Schedule of Events



Chiang Mai woman, Thailand

## SEPTEMBER

Wed. 21: **Orientation Dinner** for new international students and scholars

## OCTOBER

Sat. 22: Family Weekend/Scholarship Benefit: **Thai Ethnic Dinner** with illustrated talk by Prof. **Chris Wills**

## NOVEMBER

Tues. 1: Held in conjunction with a performance at the Mandeville Auditorium by the Creole Choir of Cuba, **ArtPower! Community Supper** will feature dishes with a Cuban flavor

Mon. 14 - Fri. 18: **International Education Week**

## DECEMBER

Friday 2: **Resale Shop Holiday Sale**  
**Friends sponsor Friday International Café**

Tues. 13: **Holiday Lunch**



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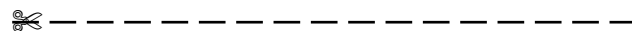
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The Friends Resale Shop 858/534-1124  
English in Action Tutor Program 858/534-0603  
International Center Main Office 858/534-3730  
Programs Abroad Office 858/534-1123

### *Friends of the International Center, UC San Diego*

<http://icenter.ucsd.edu/friends/friends.html>  
[friends@ucsd.edu](mailto:friends@ucsd.edu)

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Please report all address changes to the Friends of the International Center; the U.S. Postal Service will not forward the *Newsletter*.

