

Contra Costa Chapter, Chevron Retirees

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- Web Site: [www.chevronretireescontracosta.org](http://www.chevronretireescontracosta.org)

## NEXT MEETING

One of the next chances to attend a Social Hour / Luncheon in our area to see some of your retiree friends and hear a Senior Chevron Executive presentation is the "Chevron Graduates 50th Annual Holiday Luncheon" on Friday December 5th at the Crowne Plaza Concord Hotel California Ballroom (45 John Glenn Dr., Concord). This function is organized by the "Graduates Committee" (not part of the CRA chapter) and all Chevron and legacy company retirees, spouses & guests are welcome to attend.

The Graduates Committee has sent a notice of the luncheon and reservation details to their list of potential attendees which many of you are already on. **For those not on the list, a summary of the Graduates Committee notice and their reservation form is included in this Newsletter (page 4-6).** If you wish to get on their list and receive future notices you must provide your mailing address or e-mail address (preferred) to the Graduates Committee Chairman, John Dewes, by e-mail; [john.dewes@alumni.nd.edu](mailto:john.dewes@alumni.nd.edu) or phone (925) 939-1988.

The next Luncheon meeting of our CRA Contra Costa County Chapter is currently scheduled for February 23, 2015 at the Contra Costa Country Club. Our speaker is scheduled to be Bill Andrew, General Manager, Marine Transportation, Chevron Shipping Co., LLC. Other details will be in our January Newsletter.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Chevron's Graduate Holiday Luncheon:

December 5, 2014

### CRA Contra Costa Chapter Luncheons:

February 23, 2015

June 22, 2015

September 28, 2015



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To my relief, my freshman year in this post has not generated any great crises. That result occurred because of the support from a first class Board whose members knew what do and did it. However, at yearend we will lose two long time contributors to our Board activities – Larry Muth and Bill Scott. Larry's job as VP-database will be assumed by our current Treasurer – Cathy Kerns. She will be succeeded by our Compassion Committee chairman – Adrian D'Souza who in turn will be replaced by our director-at-large Deborah Seminick. Finally, Bill Scott will yield his position as Chair- Website and Newsletter to Helen Romain who will continue as chair of our scholarship committee.

This job-juggling shows our need for some new members on the Board. They would not be expected to immediately take on a particular responsibility. As directors-at-large they would have time to see how CRA works before taking on a job but they would be in position to contribute their ideas on how our Chapter can better serve you, our members. Think about it; if you are interested contact me by phone at 925-938 3841 or by email at [ckscanlan@aol.com](mailto:ckscanlan@aol.com)

We hope to see many of you at the Chevron Graduates Holiday luncheon on December 5. This is the golden anniversary event –the fiftieth year! John Dewes and his committee sent notices to those retirees who have attended in the past but if you are a recent retiree or new to this area, and have not heard of this great party, contact me. I can give you information and the name of a committee contact.

It is amazing how fast the year 2014 has passed. This will be the last “Report” for this year so even though it is only November, I wish all of you a happy and blessed holiday season. We look forward to an eventful 2015.

Chuck Scanlan

## COMPASSION COMMITTEE REPORT

The following is a list of members of the Contra Costa Chapter of Chevron Retirees who have passed away since the issuance of the last newsletter:

**West Alexander**  
**Willard Beards**  
**Len Course**

**Hy Resnick**  
**John Watkins**

A complete list of Chevron retirees' deaths is published quarterly in the retirees' magazine Encore and in the Chevron Retirees' website ([www.chevronretirees.org](http://www.chevronretirees.org)). If you come to know of any Chevron Retiree members from the Contra Costa Chapter who have passed away, please let us know immediately at [compassion@chevronretireescontracosta.org](mailto:compassion@chevronretireescontracosta.org).

## MEMBER NOTES

**Doug Phillips:** I have sad news on behalf of my mom & dad, Eric & Lynn Phillips. My dad passed away September 2nd after a stroke. It was very quick, he didn't suffer and had loved ones around him at the hospital. Our family is grieving but we are taking good care of my mom and she is doing well. All four sons and their wives are either here at her home or on the way, even my brother Jim coming from Kenya.

My father Eric H. Phillips worked for Gulf Oil and later with Chevron for his whole career. He started as a field geologist in Ventura, CA and finished as a General Manager in Casper WY and in San Ramon, CA. I will be creating a memorial page that will include some of his geology career.

**Angela C. Backman:** On behalf of my late husband, James L. Backman, I would like his Chevron friends who read this newsletter to know that we now have a new grandson. He will be known, as was his grandfather, as James Backman. I just regret that Jim is not here to enjoy him as I do. May he grow to be the kind and thoughtful man that his grandfather was.

**Sandra Garcia:** Just purchased the perfect travel/camp trailer for Rich and I. Planning some local trips to Napa and coast this fall and maybe winter... Then we will plan longer trips out of state. Life is good!

**Lillian Smithson:** I am recovering from a (this happened June 13, 2014) hemorrhagic stroke which is caused by blood vessel(s) breaking and leaking into the brain, high blood pressure is the primary cause of this type of hemorrhage. I was fortunate that I recognized the symptoms, numbness and tingling of my face and lips on my left side and call 911, at 5:15 a.m. and was receiving treatment and MRI within an hour in the emergency at Kaiser in Richmond. They were great. I am very fortunate. I still have numbness, am on beta block Atorvastatin and of course aspirin which I'm told I should have been taking at 60 years of age, also was advised to reduce the stress in my life. So that's my story, guess I'll be around a bit longer. Oh yes, I also do therapy once a week for balance, so I'm learning how to fall – or keep from falling.

**Cathy Kerns:** Tom and I are still section-hiking the Appalachian Trail. This year we hiked from the southern terminus of the Shenandoah National Park (VA) through to Greenwood Lakes, NY – 500 miles in 6 weeks. At home, we are happily awaiting the birth of our first grandchild, a girl, in October.

**Chuck McCoy:** Joyce and I are still cruising. We sailed to Hawaii and back on Princess this spring – too long, too dull, too much ocean. Then we had a beautiful cruise from Vancouver to Alaska and back. No deep sea stuff like Larry Muth – we stay on top of the water.

# Chevron Graduates -

Graduate Committee:

John Dewes, Chairman  
108 Poppy Court  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925.939.1988  
john.dewes@alumni.nd.edu

Shannon Cook  
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415.346.6981

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cave.ca@comcast.net

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## 50th Annual Holiday Luncheon

**Friday, December 5, 2014**

*New Location:*  
**Crowne Plaza Concord Hotel**  
**California Ballroom**  
45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, California

Make your reservations today for our joyful holiday celebration. Take advantage of this opportunity to visit with your retiree friends from all over the Bay Area and other locations.

This is a fun-filled event, long on sociability, with no other purpose than to please our participants. We're planning some special activities to celebrate the 50th! We will end with our traditional awarding of door and raffle prizes. Join us. You'll be happy you did!

11:00 a.m. Social Hour – Ballroom

12:00 noon Lunch

Salad and Dessert with choice of:  
Flat Iron Steak, Carmelized Fennel and Olive or  
Rosemary Grilled Salmon, Garlic-Lemon Butter or  
Vegetarian – Spinach & Ricotta Cheese Ravioli, Lemon Zest & Basil Cream Sauce

Masters of Ceremonies – John Dewes and Kathy Henschel  
1:00 p.m. – Senior Executive, Chevron Corporation

1:30 p.m. – Door Prizes & Raffle Ticket Prizes (three for \$1)

Cost is \$40 per person (includes tax and gratuity). Make your reservations early, and in any event, before the Wednesday, November 26, 2014 deadline.

All Graduates (Chevron and legacy company annuitants, retirees and former employees), spouses, and their guests are welcome to attend. If you know of anyone who has not received this invitation and would like to attend, or, if you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the Graduates Committee.

Please return the reservation form whether you are or are not attending this year's luncheon to let us know if you wish to continue receiving these announcements. See next page for directions, parking, and other helpful information.

## Directions to Crowne Plaza Concord Hotel – 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, California

### Driving Directions – Self-parking is complimentary

From Oakland - Take Hwy 24 East toward Walnut Creek. Merge onto I-680 North toward Concord/Sacramento.

Take the Concord Avenue/Burnett Avenue exit. Continue on Burnett Avenue. Turn left onto Diamond Blvd. Turn

Right onto Concord Avenue. Turn Left onto John Glenn Drive.

From San Francisco – Take I-80 East toward the Bay Bridge/Oakland/101 North. Take Hwy 24 East toward Walnut Creek. Merge onto I-680 North toward Concord/Sacramento. Take the Concord Avenue/Burnett Avenue exit. Continue on Burnett Avenue. Turn left on Diamond Blvd. Turn right onto Concord Avenue. Turn left onto John Glenn Drive.

From San Ramon/San Jose – Take I-680 North toward Concord/Sacramento. Take the Concord Avenue/Burnett Avenue exit. Continue on Burnett Avenue. Turn left on Diamond Blvd. Turn right onto Concord Avenue. Turn left onto John Glenn Drive.

From Martinez/Benicia – Take I-680 South toward Concord. Take the Concord Avenue/Pacheco exit. Go left onto Contra Costa Blvd. Turn left onto Concord Avenue. Turn left onto John Glenn Drive.

*Seasons Greetings*

### Helpful bits of information:

- Tickets, name tags and place cards can be picked up at the reception table at the ballroom door. They will not be mailed to you.
- The dining room will be open early so you can select your table and put your place card at your seat, and add your table number next to your name on the list posted on the rear wall. Unfortunately we cannot reserve seats on your behalf, but if you are with a group, you can designate someone to arrive early to place cards or markers at each seat you wish to hold.
- Racks for hanging coats will be available along the walls of dining room.
- The Social Hour will be held in the ballroom. Two no-host bars will be set up.
- Raffle tickets for hams, wine, See's candy certificates, and other items will be sold during the Social Hour in the ballroom foyer – three for \$1.00. Ticket sellers will be circulating in the foyer.
- Arrive early to have more time to enjoy being with your Chevron Graduate friends!

## **2014 Chevron Graduates Luncheon Reservation Form**

Return by Wednesday, November 26, 2014

To: John Dewes, Chairman  
Chevron Graduates Committee  
108 Poppy Court  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ (number) of luncheon reservation(s) at \$40 per person (including tax and tip), made payable to the Chevron Graduates.

**Luncheon tickets, name tags and place cards can be picked up at the reception table at the ballroom door. They will not be mailed to you.**

Name(s) for tags:  
(Please Print)

Retired from:  
(Company, Department and Year)

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Luncheon Selection:

Beef \_\_\_\_\_ (#)

Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ (#)

Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ (#)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

For future invitations – will be held in confidence

**Your luncheon tickets, name tags and place cards will not be mailed to you.**

I cannot attend, but please continue sending annual announcements: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Contra Costa Chapter's scholarship program begins when the 2015 dues notice is sent out. As in past years, the scholarships are for one year, and awards will be based on academic merit and ability. Scholarship America, a national non-profit educational support organization, will select the recipients and distribute the awards.

Students may apply each year they are eligible, but those who have previously been awarded a scholarship by our organization are not eligible to reapply. The criteria for eligibility are:

- Be a child, grandchild or great grandchild of a dues-paying member of the chapter.
- Be age 25 and under.
- Be enrolled, or plan to be enrolled, in the coming school year in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two or four-year college or university.

Submit your scholarship application to Scholarship America NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2015. The application may be completed online but it cannot be saved and sent directly to Scholarship America. Remember to print out what you have completed on the application.

This year we have increased the amount of each scholarship to \$2000 because of the support for the scholarship program by all of you. The number of scholarships approved by the Board of Directors is four. However, this may change depending on the donations of the members. We appreciate your support of this program and hope you will add some additional money with your dues payment to continue this support. The individuals we support may be future leaders of Chevron.

Application forms are available on-line on the chapter's website, [www.chevronretireescontracosta.org](http://www.chevronretireescontracosta.org) or by calling or e-mailing: Helen Romain, 925-833-8298 or [scholarship@chevronretireescontracosta.org](mailto:scholarship@chevronretireescontracosta.org).

### **Additional Note from One of the Scholarship Recipients:**

I would like to thank the Chevron Contra Costa Retirees Association for the generous scholarship and well wishes! I am so honored to be chosen as a recipient! With this contribution to my college fund, I am able to worry less about educational expenses and focus more on making a difference in my community (and later, with a degree from UC Berkeley, the world!) It is so inspiring to see such groups as the CCCRA have faith in young students; your support is invaluable. Thank you for investing in the future! Your support means the world to me! Sincerely, Madison Hight

## WEB LINKS OF INTEREST

Chevron Retirees Association, National Organization:  
[www.chevronretirees.org](http://www.chevronretirees.org)

Chevron Retirees Contra Costa Chapter:  
[www.chevronretireescontracosta.org](http://www.chevronretireescontracosta.org)

Chevron Corporation:  
[www.chevron.com](http://www.chevron.com)

California Initiative Program:  
[www.chevron.com/CA](http://www.chevron.com/CA)

Chevron Advocacy Network:  
[www.chevronadvocacynetwork.com](http://www.chevronadvocacynetwork.com)

Discounts & Deals:  
[www.chevrec.chevron.com/deals/default.asp](http://www.chevrec.chevron.com/deals/default.asp)

Chevron Matching Gift Program:  
[chevron.yourcause.com](http://chevron.yourcause.com)

## Bay Area Activities for Retirees: [chevrec.chevron.com/default.asp](http://chevrec.chevron.com/default.asp)

The Company Store:  
[www.chevronstore.com](http://www.chevronstore.com)

Information on Medical and Dental Plans:  
[hr2.chevron.com/retiree/](http://hr2.chevron.com/retiree/)

## What's new with you?

Your Friends enjoy reading about you and your activities. So jot down a brief note on what's new with you in the space below and send it in with your luncheon reservation or, **as we prefer**, email your note to the address below.

Please print your name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email to [newsletter@chevronretireescontracosta.org](mailto:newsletter@chevronretireescontracosta.org) or  
Mail to Chevron Retirees Assn., P. O. Box 371, Orinda, CA 94563