By: Jim Kelley

Since the ship is never fully booked on these positioning trips, I invited Judah Rosenwald to come along. It was something he had never experienced even though he is an accomplished world traveler. In September the Rosenwalds had a party to celebrate the retirement of Jeff Baker from the U.S. Department of Education where he went after leaving SFSU and where he was in charge of Student Financial Aid Policy for the entire country. At the party Jeff heard about Judah’s upcoming trip and asked if he could join us. He wanted to keep it a secret from Judah until we reached Portugal, and we managed to do that. The night before we sailed the three of us had a wonderful dinner in Lisbon together.

We had a great time sailing down the Atlantic. We left Europe in the middle of Fall and arrived in South America in the middle of Spring, so we had great weather. We also enjoyed getting to know our 42 shipmates and partaking of the excellent cuisine and wine selection on board. The galley used the opportunity to experiment with a variety of new menus and it was, altogether, a terrific experience, made especially enjoyable for me having Judah and Jeff as shipmates. We recommend it!

My retirement gig is working for Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic. We operate ten small expeditions ships around the world. You can find more at www.expeditions.com. I work as an Expedition Leader and present talks on geology and oceanography along with a natural history and cultural history staff specializing in other fields. Most of us are retired academics, so it is a very congenial team.

I particularly enjoy sailing on our positioning voyages when we move the ships from, for example, Europe in the Northern Hemisphere summer to Antarctica for the Southern Hemisphere summer. Last October I had the opportunity to lead a trip on National Geographic Orion, one of our larger vessels which accommodates 102 guests. We sailed from Lisbon to Puerto Natales in Chilean Patagonia. We were at sea for 28 days and had a wonderful voyage with mostly excellent conditions, allowing us to observe 19 different cetacean species and numerous birds.
Did You Know There Are “Dark Sky” Preserves?

By: LaVonne Jacobsen

“Less than 100 years ago, everyone could look up and see a spectacular starry night sky. Now, millions of children across the globe will never experience the Milky Way where they live.”

In a nutshell, the statement above explains the movement to preserve and protect areas in which the stars are visible. It matters to astronomers, naturally, and began as an effort to manage the amount of artificial light near astronomical observation areas. Furthermore, light pollution is considered to have serious environmental consequences for humans, wildlife, and our climate.

An organization was formed to identify dark sky areas and provide education and outreach to the public and nations. The International Dark Sky Association (http://www.darksky.org) recognizes and promotes excellent stewardship of the night sky. They have certified more than 65 Dark Sky Places worldwide across six continents, comprising more than 21,200 square miles.

There are even 16 communities, such as Flagstaff AZ, that have been certified as showing “exceptional dedication to the preservation of the night sky through . . . quality outdoor lighting” and other characteristics.

Among the 53 national parks certified, the majority are in the United States. Here is a sampling in the west:

- Big Bend National Park
- Canyonlands National Park
- Capitol Reef National Park
- Cedar Breaks National Monument
- Chaco Culture National Historical Park
- Craters Of The Moon National Monument
- Death Valley National Park
- Grand Canyon National Park
- Hovenweep National Monument
- Joshua Tree National Park
- Natural Bridges National Monument
- Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park (Canada/U.S.)
This year’s annual technical conferences ushered in the highly-anticipated introduction to professional IP-based networked media as the new standard for content production and distribution. These technologies are increasing cloud-based media workflows as an alternative to building and maintaining private local network centers. Instead of having separate sets of routing and switching: SDI switches for professional media and Ethernet switches for general data, facilities can utilize one common data center and prioritize with intelligent switching.

There were close to 100 presentations given at the conference, each one highlighting one of the many facets of the industry, from virtual reality streaming to change management. Each presentation was given by an expert in the field and was filled with attendees from around the world. Beyond the conferences, there were two exhibition halls filled with vendors from the industry. It was a good opportunity to network with people and learn more about new products.

It is imperative for the new facility now currently underway to incorporate the media standards that are now becoming endorsed by the industry. If neglected, the department will be marginalized with its relevance with to the new media production workflows.

May the Year of 2018 be
A Year of Health and Happiness
A Year of Wonder and Wisdom
A Year of Peace and Prosperity
A Year of Joy and Jubilation
And a Year of Love and Laughter
Happy, Healthy New Year!

Free Online Genealogy Advice

People are interested in finding out about their ancestors and their family’s history for a variety of reasons. It could be a hobby, curiosity, medical or religion reasons or to prove heritage and cultural origin. People often research this topic in much more detail than just names, dates, and events. Family historians try to find out life stories and interesting details about their ancestors, such as what color eyes they had, what kinds of jobs they worked, or if they were famous. They usually need to find corroborating documents such as birth, death, and marriage certificates. It is very likely that in your library you have been asked to help customers with all of these questions. In the latest free module from the Infopeople Academy—Genealogy—you will learn more about how to research family information, vital statistics and information on specific genealogy topics.

This resource was designed for library workers by Infopeople. It is free and accessible to you: https://my.nicheacademy.com/infopeople/course/31
http://infopeople.org/
What We’ve Been Up To
From the Top of the Dome to the Top of the Mount—Italy & Sicily, October 2017

By: Richard Giardina

Seventy-three-year-old men with temperamental backs have no business climbing anything; so why I was climbing to the top of the Duomo in Florence, I counted 453 steps, or the top of Mount Etna in Sicily, I stopped counting, has no rational explanation except that one does it because it’s there to be done! As you might imagine, the views were wonderful. And, what is perhaps more important, I was able to be in some pretty good photos—and to give free publicity to a famous northern California institution of higher education!

This was my fifteenth trip to Italy and one of the most enjoyable. First there was a wonderful week in Venice and Florence. Then a second, equally wonderful, week in Sicily. The highpoints, no pun truly intended, were the dinners and day tours with the eighty cousins who joined together in Sicily for a worldwide reunion of Australian, North American, South American, and Italian family members in our ancestral hometown of Capo d’Orlando on the northern coast of this beautiful island. A time never to be forgotten!

Needless to say, throughout the entire trip the food was fantastic and the fine Italian and Sicilian wine flowed freely. Furthermore, I also had more than enough opportunity to massacre one of the world’s truly beautiful languages. But I truly “mangiato, bevuto, e parlato” with abandon and merrily enjoyed every minute of all three. There is a delightful Italian saying: “A tavola non s’invecchia mai” — “At table one never grows old.” So maybe there’s hope for this seventy-three-year-old Sicilian American yet!
Greetings from Cartagena, Colombia, on Christmas Eve, or maybe, depending on the date of publication and mailing, Merida, Mexico.

As you all know, retirement doesn’t mean inactivity. Since saying hasta luego to the Journalism Dept. in ’05 and moving to Santa Fe, NM full time, my wife Dorothy and I have remained involved in various non-profits here in our rather amazing, and intellectual, community. She has been very active on various boards including the Museums of New Mexico, the foundation for the Inst. of American Indian Arts and served a term as president of the board of the School for Advanced Research.

I served on the national board of the Society of Professional Journalists, the board of our local public radio station and, just this month, have joined the board of the NM Foundation for Open Government. About three years ago, I kicked off a local initiative, It’s The People’s Data, an effort to get government at all levels to post, by default on the WWW, essentially all of the data that taxpayers have been paying government for centuries to collect, maintain and administer. It is, after all, “the people's data.” Technologies are challenging, but changing cultures is a long, long slog, but we persist with small victories.

We would love to hear from colleagues and friends visiting Santa Fe.

Tom Johnson, Professor Emeritus of Journalism — tom@jtjohnson.com
I was delighted when Bob said he wanted to extend the University Women’s Association cruise by 3 weeks; somewhat less enthusiastic when he suggested Croatia as a destination. The last time I was in Croatia it was 1969 and it was still Yugoslavia. It was the dead of winter, cold and dreary. The landscape was brown. Plus, I feared that the Homeland War in the early 1990’s had probably devastated the country. But, in fact, the Croatia we visited in September was lush, green, and picturesque. The few remaining bombed-out buildings were abandoned and overgrown. Everything else had been restored to Disney specs: it looked like Fairyland. And the roads were unbelievably good, especially compared to our own. The highways wound through an idyllic landscape making it a pleasure to drive from one sight to the next.

Bob picked Croatia because of a Rick Steves’ article about the town of Hvar, situated on an island of the same name. According to Rick, our favorite travel guru, Hvar is a near-perfect medieval town, a two-hour ferry ride from Split, with a large historic town square that borders on the harbor. The old town ascends upward from the square, and a row of newer, luxury resorts flank one side of the harbor. The summer months in Hvar are hot and crowded, teeming with celebrities and royalty. Unless you are “someone,” you can’t get a table at any of the world-class restaurants in Hvar. But by September, the crowds have thinned. Our apartment was at the budget end of town, and we enjoyed a leisurely stroll to and from dinner in the balmy evenings. The restaurants of Hvar would thrive even in SF. I loved the hearty Croatian stews and gnocchi, but the seafood was fresh caught and perfectly prepared as well. On sunny days, we boarded a small boat taxi to take us to an even smaller island with a spectacular beach, a beach bar, a few lounge chairs and umbrellas, and a rustic bathroom—pretty much all it takes to make us happy. As ridiculous as it sounds, the cruise was exhausting—and it was heavenly to sit idly on a beach every afternoon and read a few good books. Rick Steves apparently

By: Lin Ivory
enjoys a good hike more than I do. He recommends hiking up the steep hill to the castle perched on a cliff high above Hvar—hundreds of ancient steps wind through the town and straight up to the castle. We asked at the Tourist Information Office if there was another way to get to the castle. "OF COURSE!" she exclaimed. Instead of the long hike, we hopped into our rental car and took a 5 minute drive up the hill. The views from the castle were stunning—beyond the town to the harbor and the surrounding islands. But mostly I enjoyed watching people collapse onto the top rung of the steps, hot and sweaty from their climb, many of them carrying the Rick Steves Guide to Croatia. I am not a nice person. En route to Hvar we stopped at Plitvice National Park, where we hiked 6 miles around two lakes and hundreds of waterfalls—a stunningly beautiful and tranquil place, except for the annoying tour groups. Fortunately, because we spent the night at a nearby B&B, we arrived at the park early and were able to enjoy the spectacular views before the tour groups arrived, avoiding crowds and selfie sticks. We began and ended our trip in Venice. On our drive back to Venice, we stopped at the seaside town of Opatija. A fashionable resort in the 19th century, they say that its glory days are gone. But we found it to be a charming place with classic luxury hotels and villas, and a pleasant path along the seashore that was a “walk of fame”—like in Hollywood—with stars for the notable poets, artists, athletes, and inventors of the area. In total, we were gone for 5 weeks, including the cruise—a fabulous trip from beginning to end. The cruise from Rome to Venice was a highlight in itself, but that's another story.

Please Join Us

A small group of UWA and SFSURA members meet for lunch at Nordstrom's Cafe in Stonestown the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Donna Ryan at: drsiaem@yahoo.com so that we have a table large enough to accommodate all.

Firestorm in the North!

By: Gary Penders

For me, the great firestorm in the North Bay started Sunday night, October 7. I could hear extremely strong winds blow things around my deck, making so much noise that twice I went outside to take a look. At four in the morning a neighbor’s call woke me with a simple admonition—run! I saw others in my 55 and older mobile home park packing and leaving, so I did the same! As I prepared to leave, I packed only my meds and not one single item from the house. For a person living with a lot of books, not one occurred to me to be so important I had to take it. Not the copy of the I Ching left in my care in 1967 by a guy from India, and not the old hard-bound copy of The Hobbit I found in a dusty bookstore near the British Museum on my first trip to Europe. Apparently I put less value on things than I realized! After a couple of hours in a parking lot in Healdsburg, I went home and sat it out. Fortunately for me, my town of Windsor was spared. The rest of the county did not do so well. 42 dead, more than 8,000 structures destroyed, 250 square miles burnt, and more than a billion dollars in damages. 5% of Santa Rosa’s housing stock was gone! Following the fire is the clean up, the claims, the rebuilding. Do you build where it may burn again? If not, where do you go? Where do you live while rebuilding? How do you restore your life? For everyone, there is a vague hope to go back to what we had before, but that is not to be! There is no return to normalcy—we have, as a community, passed through something which changed us in a fundamental way. The supports of our daily life now seem more fragile than we had assumed. Getting up in the morning, being warm and safe, making coffee, reading the paper—these simple activities were taken for granted, but not any more. Now we see them for what they are. They are the blessings of life, not to be underestimated, and never again to be unappreciated.
We always make an effort to acknowledge the lives of those who retired from the University but have passed since the previous issue of the newsletter. Thanks to Bob Cherny, there is also a brief obituary when information was available. Sadly, in this issue we have an unusual number of those remembrances. May they rest in peace.

**John De Cecco**, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, died on November 2 at age 92. His BS was from Alleghany College and his MA and PhD, 1953, were from the University of Pennsylvania. He joined the psychology faculty in 1960. De Cecco created the extremely popular “Variations in Human Sexuality” course, which met in McKenna Theater and enrolled 700–800 students every semester. He helped to found SF State’s sexuality studies program, led efforts to add minors in human sexuality studies and LGBT, founded SF State’s Center for Homosexual Education, Evaluation, and Research, which later became the Center for Research and Education in Sexuality, and served as editor- of the Journal of Homosexuality. He published scores of books, articles, and edited volumes, ranging from the psychology of learning to sexuality. He retired in 2003. De Cecco received awards from the American Psychological Association, the Gay Academic Union, other academic associations and organizations, the GLBT Historical Society, and SF State’s Department of Sociology & Sexuality Studies. He is memorialized by that department’s Dr. John P. De Cecco Endowed Lecture.

**Thanasis “Thomas” Maskaleris**, Professor Emeritus of Comparative Literature, Classics, and Creative Writing passed away Nov. 23 at the age of 87. Born in Greece, Maskaleris came to the United States at 17. His BA was from the University of Oklahoma and his MA from Indiana University. He came to SF State in 1967. In 1981, he founded the Center for Modern Greek Studies and raised funds to endow it as the Kazantzakis Chair in Modern Greek Studies. He retired in 1992. Maskaleris’s many publications included *An Anthology of Modern Greek Poetry*, *The Terrestrial Gospel of Nikos Kazantzakis*, and *My Life on the Ragged Paths of Pan: Selected Poems and Translations*, and a translation of Kazantzakis’s *Russia*.

**Manly E. “Tom” Staley**, Professor Emeritus of Management, died October 29. His BA from Grinnell College, 1966, and Ph.D. from the University of Texas, Austin (1975) were in economics. He spent his junior year at the University of Paris, Studies in Political and Economic Sciences and did post-doctoral studies in management at Northwestern University. He came to SF State in 1979 and retired in 2014. Staley served as managing editor of the SFSU School of Business Journal in the early 1980s, and published articles both in that journal and in other academic journals. Tom thrived on service, serving as department chair, on every departmental committee, several college committees, and prominent university committees, including the Academic Senate, the General Education Council, and the University Club Board of Directors. His ready smile and friendly manner meant that Tom had a wide acquaintance throughout the University.

**Stephen Rauch**, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, died on September 2 at the age of 94. He earned degrees at the University of Minnesota and Columbia; his PhD was from UC Berkeley in psychology. Rauch joined the psychology faculty in 1951, served for many years as chair of that department, and was involved in starting the graduate school psychology program.
Joseph L. White, Professor of Psychology and Dean of Undergraduate Studies in the 1960’s, helped found SFSU’s Black Studies Program and the CSU’s Educational Opportunity Program, EOP, and was Alumnus of the Year in 2008, died at 84.

William “Bill” Evraiff, Professor Emeritus of Counseling and department chair from 1963 to 1993, died in Pollock Pines, California at 93.

Nicholas J. Certo, Professor and Department Chair of Special Education from 1992 to 2017.

Glenn P. Smith, Vice President for Administrative and Business Affairs to 1973, died in Medford, Oregon at 92.

Stanley Tick, Professor Emeritus of English, passed away on December 19 at the age of 89. He received his BA from Brooklyn College, 1949, MA from NYU, 1955, and PhD from UC San Diego, 1966. He joined the SF State English faculty in 1966. He retired in 2003. His dissertation was on the 19th-century novel, focusing on Dickens, Melville, and George Eliot, and he published many articles in academic journals and anthologies, most dealing with English or American novelists. He co-edited an anthology of 20th-century prose which went through several editions. His Essays on Charles Dickens, Henry James, and George Eliot was published in 2005.

Maurice Bassan, Professor Emeritus of English died November 6 at the age of 88. He earned his BA, 1951, and MA, 1952, from NYU and his PhD from UC Berkeley, 1961. He joined SF State English faculty in 1963 and taught 19th-Century American literature, composition, and the introduction to the English major. He was a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Valladolid (Spain) in 1967-1968. Bassan edited Stephen Crane: A Collection of Critical Essays, 1967, and was the author of Hawthorne’s Son: The Life and Literary Career of Julian Hawthorne, 1970, Stephen Crane’s Maggie, Text and Context, 1970, articles in academic journals, and also Haight Ashbury Sketches, 2003, Twice-Told Poems, 2008, and The Flying Padre – A Political Novel of the 1960s, 2009. After retiring in 1998, Bassan taught classes at the Fromm Institute at USF. He also managed the book-sale room of the Friends of the Library, FOL, and once said that, by doing so, he was fulfilling every English professor’s secret desire to run a small bookstore. Thanks in significant part to his work, the FOL made a substantial contribution to the library renovation.

Elinor Josephine Tilford Charleston, who turned 101 on May 1, died on Nov. 27. She was a graduate of Girls High School, class of 1934, and then attended San Francisco State Teachers College and Munson Secretarial College, graduating in 1937. In 1937, she married William W. Charleston, who became Chief of the Physical Plant of San Francisco State College in the early 1950’s. He retired from SF State in 1974, and both were members of the Retirement Association. After Bill’s death in 1985, Elinor joined the Doelger Senior Center in Westlake, where she spent many hours as a volunteer. In 2012 Elinor was named Daly City’s Unsung Hero Volunteer of the Year.

Mary Elise Ardourel, Librarian Emeritus from 1948 to 1987, died in Belvedere – Tiburon at 91.

Hind Malouf, Special Projects/Grants Accountant in Fiscal Affairs.

Thurston Womack, Professor Emeritus of English, head of the American Language Institute, ALI, and department chair, from 1954 to 1990, died in Marin County at 97.
SFSU — Retirement Association
Annual St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon
Basque Cultural Center
599 Railroad Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Who
You do not need to be a member to attend!

What
Visiting over lunch with old friends and new!

Luncheon Entrees:

├ Corned Beef & Cabbage
├ Sauteed Prawns
├ Cobb Salad

When
Friday, March 16, 2018
11:30 No-host Reception
12 Noon – Luncheon

Cost
$35 per person
Entrée, coffee & dessert are included in the lunch price.

We’ll be selling raffle tickets for the
Retirement Association’s Travel Grant Program,
supporting staff and faculty professional development.

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Please make your check payable to, “SFSU-RA”
and mail it by March 6th to:

Zelinda Zingaro
19164 Christensen Court, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Need a ride? Please send email to: zeezingaro@gmail.com
Now it’s your opportunity to share some news of your travels and plans with our members. Please complete the form and send to Kay McGough, 3742 Brunswick Court, South San Francisco, CA 94080 or email her at krmcgough@comcast.net. You can also FAX her at 650.878.4728. We eagerly look forward to your participation. It will appear in the next GRG. See pages 4 to 7 of this gazette for examples.

• Name: 

• Department retired from and when: 

• Brief description of your adventures: 

• A photo as a jpeg.