We are the People Who Print the Newsletter--the College of Marin Reprographics Department. Left to right: Michael Klein, Clerk; Albert So, Technician; Annie Ricciuti, Director; Jesse Harbison, Technician. Our Department provides complete copying and printing services to administrators, faculty, and staff. It produces approximately four million copies and hundreds of offset print projects per year. We offer full color offset printing, full black and white and color copying plus complete finishing and bindery service. Our pricing is just a small amount above cost for paper and supplies. Nothing for labor. Emeritus College has its own budget to cover these charges. We enjoy printing and perhaps reading the Newsletter. It serves its purpose well.
Accreditation Woes Resurface -- The (ACCJC) Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges has again issued a formal warning to College of Marin officials that they have failed to make progress toward several improvements recommended a year ago. Among the shortcomings cited by the commission are online curricula, short hours at the library at the Indian Valley campus, the need to update the college's facilities master plan, development of a better technology plan and the college board's need to focus more on supporting student learning and services. Every six years COM and other member institutions agree to undergo a comprehensive process to determine if accrediting standards are being met. There are four phases to an accreditation process, concluding with the 19 commissioner ACCJC which represents the interests of the general public and regional member institutions. The commissions are comprised of faculty, administrators, public members and representatives from educational entities. Since 2005 more than one-half of California's 110 community colleges have been issued sanctions. Many four-year institutions accept only transfer credits from accredited community colleges.

Recent Drop in Enrollment -- Full-time Spring enrollment at COM has dropped from 7,862 credit students in 2011 to 7,337 in 2012, a drop of 525 students, bringing to an end a four-year period of growth for College of Marin. This drop is mostly attributable to rising fees, cuts in classes and new requirements on students not making academic progress. Direction has been focused on career technical education, transfer requirements and basic skills. Many avocational courses could be moved over to the Community Services at College of Marin in order to still be offered but paid for by those taking these courses, rather than by California taxpayers. This has occurred at COM where many programs popular with the local senior population have been shifted into the community educational area. College of Marin is a "basic aid" college relying on local property tax revenues rather than state funds for meeting its budget requirements.

Measure C Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee Solicits New Members -- (Deadline to Apply: March 28, 2012.) Five new committee members are being sought. The committee is seeking applications for members representing these categories: (1) community at large, (2) a bona-fide taxpayers' association, (3) a community college support group, (4) the student body. New members will be appointed by the COM Board of Trustees at their April meeting. The application deadline is March 28, 2012. Applications and information can be found online at: www.marin.edu/MeasureC or by calling the Office of the Superintendent/President at (415) 485-9502. The committee is responsible for ensuring the College of Marin's financial accountability for projects funded by a $249.5 million bond passed by Marin County voters in the November 2004 election and earmarked for modernization of college facilities.

Submitted by: Alicia Warcholski

FEBRUARY MEETING OF ESCOM BOARD

John Felling, recently appointed to the Council, chaired the February meeting in exemplary fashion, demonstrating his leadership abilities which will serve the Council well in the future. The meeting was conducted at the Indian Valley Campus Emeritus Center where Gloria Kopshever, IVC Representative to the Council, made the members welcome in her customary gracious way.

President Marian Mermel reported that she had several contacts with co-sponsors of a proposed lecture series to begin in September, and has Terry McGovern to moderate the first panel of three speakers on the topic “Hooked on Marin”. Stay tuned for date, time and place.

Treasurer Art Ravicz provided a written report on the financial status of ESCOM and obtained approval for a purchase order covering recent art reception expenses.

Chairman of Clubs Bill Raffanti reported that a club named “Great Minds of Western Philosophy” was ready for approval by the Council, and that additional new clubs were also in formation. The new club was readily approved and a separate article in this Newsletter will give particulars. Bill also voiced the hope that there may be future formations of language clubs, currently none in exis-
tence. Interested parties may wish to contact him at 415-883-4079.

Dick Park indicated that the Curriculum Committee will meet soon to interview potential instructors for new courses. A number of course offerings are “in the hopper.”

Financial Grants Chair Bev Munyon received excellent support from the College of Marin Foundation for grants to twenty-one applicants. A decline in applications for the Spring Semester prompted a suggestion that the availability of grants be publicized in this Newsletter, but it was decided that this information is readily available in every edition of the Community College Catalogue which reaches every household in Marin County.

Paul Tandler of the Newsletter Committee advised the Council that only some twenty members thus far have opted to receive the Newsletter by e-mail. He encourages members to contact the office if they wish to join this group, as they would receive their Newsletter some two to three weeks earlier than by mail, besides enjoying the full-color pages throughout.

Student Senate member Raemond Bergstrom-Wood reported that the College of Marin has been placed on “Warning Status” as to its accreditation, due to some delayed actions on earlier recommendations. He is certain that the administration will strive towards early compliance. The subject of budget cuts by the state and the necessary reordering of priorities was discussed.

Paul Tandler announced that he has agreed to serve as Nomination and Election Chairman, and will make contacts with Council members and others to determine their availability.

Council member Bev Munyon will chair the next meeting of the Board, to be held at the Kentfield Campus Emeritus Center at 10 AM on March 15, 2012.

Reported by Paul Tandler

EDITOR’S NOTES

The next newsletter staff meeting will be held Thursday, April 5, 2012, 10:30 AM, at the Emeritus Center, Indian Valley Campus.

MY TREASURE

What is the most important possession in your life?

Answer: My immediate family.
Yes, they're important, but not exactly your possession. I want the most valuable thing you possess.

Answer: My computer?
No, that will be obsolete before you know it.
Answer: My golf clubs?
Maybe for Tiger Woods.
Answer: My money?
No. That comes and goes.
Answer: My diamonds?
No, their value goes up and down.
My good looks?
And how will you look in fifty years?
My beautiful home?
Subject to earthquake, fire, or flood.
Answer: My brain?
No. It often gives up before your body.
WHAT THEN?
I suggest your automobile!!!!!! This is your indispensable servant. It takes you where and when you want to go. It is strong and reliable. For nourishment all your car demands is gasoline and a bit of oil. If something goes awry, it can usually be quickly fixed. When it gets dirty, you can make it clean and sparkling. Whether we own a Rolls or a rattletrap, it can be our pride and joy. But this is all true only if we keep this servant well maintained.

Do you know what happens to old cars?
Yes, they are crushed flat, loaded on a truck and taken to a scrap yard. The lesson here is to be as diligent with your body’s care as you are with your auto’s. You don’t want to visit the scrap heap before your time.

Gigi Welch

SECOND ANNUAL HAIKU CONTEST

Last year we had a lot of participation in the spring haiku contest, and we hope there will be even more this year. (See article on Page 9.) Start thinking spring thoughts and weave your feelings into seventeen graceful syllables. Poet Vince DeMaio has agreed to be our judge again. You may send haiku to the Editor any time by e-mail or regular mail: dondorpol@aol.com or Don Polhemus, 41 Club View Dr., Novato 94949. Closing date is April 30.
Emeritus Bridge Club: If you are an intermediate level bridge player and enjoy a friendly game, join us on Monday afternoons in the Cafeteria. Our requirements are minimal: the ability to complete four hands each half-hour, and some current basic conventions—Convenient Minor, Stayman, Blackwood and Gerber.

You won’t need to bring a partner, and because we use tallies we change tables every half-hour. In an afternoon you get to play with 18 different players. Many of our members have been coming for years and find time to share what’s happening in their lives. New players are warmly welcomed.

Time: Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:30 PM; however, you need to arrive at least ten minutes earlier.

Players usually start drifting in around 1:00 and have pick-up games until the official session starts. If the College is closed for a holiday on Monday, we play on Tuesday afternoon that week.

Contact: Lynn Mason 415-456-2508, or Tom Metzger 479-8290.

Moral-Ethical & Legal Issues Roundtable: Get excited! Turn on to ideas. Tune into the world just beyond your front door and explore your own mind. Find out what you think and why you think it.

At the Roundtable our table is not actually round. But we do cherish a 360-degree view on each and every topic taken up. We discuss your world in a civil and courtly manner. We’re looking for the truth and we’re willing to go wherever facts take us. The truth we seek is a moral-ethical one, not a convenient truth. What is the greater good of the matter and is it for the short or long term - and does that make a difference? We believe such conversations matter. Why, because they are the glue that binds our democracy. Why have democracies if We the People remain silent? No one died on a battlefield for that.

Past topics have been: In Dollars and Cents, How Much is One Life Worth? / Why is the Size of Government a Moral-Ethical Issue? / Is How Neo-Liberalism Expresses Capitalism Compatible with Democracy?

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 10:00 AM to Noon at Conference Room A above the Cafeteria. We are always looking for more voices at our meetings, more points of view that seek out and nail the truth of things. Even the topics selected for discussion can be what individuals suggest the Roundtable consider.

A Bulletin goes out in advance of our discussion, which gives you time to think about the upcoming subject. But don’t be surprised to find yourself changing your mind as the discussion bounces around the not-round table. And don’t be surprised that after a few meetings those voices you listen to have become friends.

If you wish to be part of the Bulletin emailing for the Roundtable, please send your email address to: colemanposard@att.net. Cole Posard

Current Events Club: Our challenge is to extricate from the media barrage, to which we are exposed, those subjects from which we can learn through sharing personal interpretations as seen through the lens of our individual values. Each topic is filtered to separate conviction from fact. This effort requires recognition of facts that have no basis in the truth. For this we can always use help! We welcome new participants and one-time guests to enter respectful discourse on difficult subjects. Of course, each session is concluded with a non-Medicare covered prescription, a joke. Laughter is cheap medicine! Contact: Jerry Weisman, 383-1831 [gweisman@sprintmail.com] or James Kennedy, 388-3939.

The Shakespeare Club has been reading (aloud) its way through the History plays, beginning with Richard II and continuing through Henry IV, Parts 1 & 2, and Henry V. When there is a film available, we watch it - often on video. The purpose of the club is to share and enjoy the plays as drama, rather than to study them as "literature." We took a break from the histories at Xmas time with a detour to Twelfth Night and a lovely Xmas party on December 12. We meet on the 3rd Monday evening of the month in various members' homes - Henry VI coming up in April/May. New members welcome! Call Valda Carter, 388-6335, for info.

Great Minds of Western Philosophy: We will meet on the first and third Mondays from 10 AM to 12 noon at Emeritus Kentfield, starting with Monday, April 2. We will watch the Great Minds of the Western Intellectual Tradition from The Great Courses 1/2-hour videotape series of The Teaching Company. At each session we will watch one or two tapes followed by discussion. The course is an 84-lecture, 12-professor tour of Western philosophical tradition and covers more than
60 of history’s greatest minds. Each lecture is given by a university scholar who is an expert in the topic and a gifted teacher, with teaching awards and top rankings from students. Chairperson: Arlene Stark (925-1214), e-mail address arlenestark@att.net.

**Scrabble Club** has been meeting every Thursday, 2:00 - 4:00 PM in the Kentfield Cafeteria for over 4 years now. We have a range of Scrabble talent and welcome all levels of playing. There are usually 3-4 tables of 2-player games. We are a warm, friendly, group. Join us!

**Sing-along Club:** We are enjoying our second year of existence, meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We have a marvelous accompanist who plays three songs each from all of the participants—show-tunes, old standards, Hollywood, even Beatles. It's like a party without the food! One need not worry about voice quality. Just join us and have fun!  

_Marlene Knox_

**ESCOM/IVC NEWS/EVENTS/CLUBS**

**Questions please call:**
Larry Witter 883-6889  G. Kopshever 883-7805  
Bill Raffanti 883-4079  Rudy Ramirez 491-0522

**Following events will be held in Bldg 10, 140AS:**

**Opera at ESCOM/IVC:** April 16 at 1:00 PM.  
*The Barber of Seville* (Il Barbiere Di Siviglia) 2004, 154 minutes DVD. In one of Gioachino Rossini’s most popular and enduring operas, Maria Ewing sings her heart out as the young woman pursued by her jealous guardian. Not to fear, all ends well when she ends up in the arms of a romantic aristocrat thanks to the help of a wily barber who dons some clever disguises. Performed in Italian at Glyndebourne Opera House in England, this entertaining production features the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Cast: Maria Ewing, John Rawnsley, Max Rene Cosotti, Robert Dean. Director: John Cox, Language: Italian (subtitles).

ESCOM member Marilyn Seiberling has a long time love affair with opera and is bringing this showing in the hope of interesting a sufficient number of members to form a new club at IVC.

**Global Issues Club:**

**Friday, 4/20, 2 PM, War Made Easy.** Based on Norman Solomon's book by the same name, the documentary *War Made Easy* exposes a 50-year pattern of government deception and media spin that has dragged the United States into one war after another from Vietnam to Iraq. Narrated by actor and activist Sean Penn, the film exhumes remarkable archival footage of official distortion and exaggeration from LBJ to George W. Bush, revealing in stunning detail how the American news media have uncritically disseminated the pro-war messages of successive presidential administrations. 72 minutes.

**Philosophy Club:** *Buddhism* with Professor Malcolm David Eckel, Boston U., 24 lectures. A religion without a god? On April Thursdays, the IVC club will learn how in 2500 years Buddhism has grown into a movement that spans the globe. Two lectures each week are followed by discussion and questions from an accompanying study guide.

**Film Noir:**


**Humanities Club:**

4/07 Lecture 23, Plutarch, Seutonius & Tacitus; Lecture 24, Marcus Aurelius and Conclusion of The Famous Romans Series.


**IVC Book Forum:** When *Paris Wife* was discussed in March, comparisons were made with the film *Midnight in Paris* (2011). Why the current interest in Henry James, Hemingway, Fitzgerald, James Joyce, and Gertrude Stein.

4/23  *Buddha in the Attic*, Julie Otsuka

5/21  *The Train in Winter*, Caroline Moorhead  
(Please note: 3rd Monday)

**Great Books:**

3/27  Flannery O’Connor: *A Good Man Is Hard To Find*

4/12  David Wagonner: *The Shooting of John Dillinger*

4/26  Julia Reed: *Lady Killers*
READING HIEROGLYPHICS
(Fourth in a series on displaced national treasures)

In 1798 Napoleon left with his army for Egypt seeking more victories and greater glory. The ostensible long term reason was to impede Britain's control of India. Surprisingly, he took a contingent of scientists with him to evaluate anything unusual which they might come upon. Were it not for this the understanding of Egyptian Hieroglyphics could have been delayed indefinitely.

In the delta town of Rosetta one of the party stumbled upon a 1700 pound smooth stone with peculiar letters. The linguists among them immediately recognized three kinds of writing: Greek, Egyptian Demotic (used by ordinary people in past centuries), and Hieroglyphics, priestly writing. The inscriptions seemed to have the same meaning and it was hoped they could be the key to decipherment.

Egyptian Hieroglyphics began about the time of the pyramids, some 4500 years before Napoleon. Understanding them was never widespread because only the scribes were literate. Eventually they were simplified but went out of use altogether by the Roman period. Yet their curious designs retained a puzzling fascination, though deciphering them seemed impossible.

The French army did not achieve its intent, but was defeated by the British. As a condition of surrender the British demanded the inscribed stone, now known by its town of discovery. Numerous copies of the lines were already in general circulation, but the stone itself, like so many other treasures, was quickly transported to the British Museum, where it still resides.

Epigraphers from various countries attempted to decipher the Hieroglyphics, but Jean Francois Champollion is given major credit for accomplishing this. Since the stone was of fairly recent origin as these things go, less than 2000 years, it contained known names of rulers, readable from the Greek and matched to the Hieroglyphic. That the names of royalty were enclosed in elongated ovals with a terminal vertical line (see illustration) was a great help in this matching. To the French soldiers these enclosures were shaped like cartridges so they called them cartouches, a name which is still in use.

Despite the useful information given by the proper names, deciphering was still a problem. Reasons for this were that (1) characters sometimes stood for objects and other times for individual letter sounds, (2) the language had no vowels as we know them, (3) characters were not necessarily placed in the sequence they were to be read, and (4) pronunciation was, and is still, mostly unknown. In later years several other multilingual inscriptions were found, so the meaning of Hieroglyphics would not have remained forever lost. But the Rosetta Stone was the first and is for that reason a national treasure. The Egyptians have petitioned the British for its return but were rejected. They offered to settle for a three-month loan but this has not materialized. As with similar important artifacts or works of art, possession trumps all other considerations. And as for Champollion, he died at a young 41. The curse of the pharaohs?

Don Polhemus
THE BOOK THIEF

I am a thief. Yes, I am a thief. It is time to admit it. Our library has two large bookstands next to the checkout counter and they have filled it with used books which they are selling, large $1.00, medium 50 cents and small 25 cents. Many of these books are in excellent condition and look like they have never been opened. I bring all my unwanted books here and usually find them on the shelves a day or two later. And so if I see something I want, I help myself. Is this not just? Fair is fair, I always say.

For example, a few weeks ago I picked up (I mean this literally) a beautiful children’s encyclopedia in pristine condition, original dust cover, priced $40.00, weighing in at about 7 lb., costing me $5.00 to mail to my great-granddaughter Marisa Ann in St. Louis. She loved it, especially the section on reptiles.

This is not a hasty decision. It goes against my basic personality. I peruse the staff’s daily discards, choose two or three, carefully move to a chair by the window so I have maximum light and examine each volume critically to be certain that it meets my standards. The pleasure center of my brain stands at alert. Making my decision, I tuck the book under my arm and nonchalantly stroll through the front door looking neither to the right nor to the left. I am always waiting for someone to tap me on the shoulder and say, “Ma’am, Did you forget to pay for something?” But so for this has not happened.

I now have an impressive collection of European history, the history of the United States, many of our past presidents and politicians. Coming from Missouri, I have a particular fondness for books on President Harry Truman. Some of the best books I now have in my library are on art history. It seems that people want to buy them and they want to give them; they just don’t want to keep them. The dust covers are always of excellent quality and professionally designed.

Who wouldn’t want a book on Ulm, written in German? (I know it is a city somewhere, exquisite color plates.) Or The Art of Postage Stamps, clearly a collectors’ item. Another one with detailed illustrations, Designing Indoor Gardens, dirty, messy – tried a few, had to clean the kitchen twice. The Way of Passion, no illustrations.

ART EXHIBIT

An exhibit entitled FIGURATIVE will be held for local artist Ron Kappe from April 3 through June 28, 2012, in the Emeritus Center, Kentfield. A reception for the artist is scheduled for Monday, April 23, 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

WHY DO I CRY WHEN I SLICE ONIONS?

Contained within onions are sulfur-containing amino acids, which in air decompose into propanthial S-oxide, which in turn breaks down into several other substances, one being sulfamic acid. This irritates the eyes which try to dilute it with tears. For this reason it is helpful to hold the onion as far from the body as possible and breathe through the mouth. If you can cut it under water, or at least keep the onion wet it will minimize the irritation.

I brought home a charming children’s book on toilet training (hardly used - slightly urine stained?) and mailed it to my daughter-in-law to read to Marisa Ann, but when she got to the end, she discovered that the little child in the story was a boy and she had to change the ending because she did not want Marisa Ann to be confused as to whether to sit down or stand up. I don’t want Marisa Ann to have any questions about her sexual orientation.

I think the best book I ever “borrowed”, um “got”, “whatever” was the one I brought home last week, called The Smithsonian, 9” x 12”, $60.00, looks like it has never been opened, published 1995, is only 17 years old and is elegantly illustrated. A Real Treasure.

The next time I go the library I will meet with the Library Director and give her a check to cover the approximate cost of the books that have found their way into my library. I will not promise that I will not do this again, as I do not believe that I will not do this again. I believe I am hopelessly addicted.

If you come to our home for a meeting or a visit, I will find an excuse to ask you to wait for a few moments in our study and you will have a chance to examine our vast collection of books. You will undoubtedly be impressed by how erudite and cultured we are. Good reading to you!

Iris Tandler
PIECES OF MY LIFE
by ESCOM President Marian Mermel

It all started in the BRONX! My childhood was filled with lots of Aunts, Uncles and Cousins! My grandparents had a house right near the Bronx Zoo so visits to the lion and ape houses both scared and amazed me. It was a time of candy stores filled with real penny and five cent candies. The jaw-breakers that barely fit in your mouth and that you kept taking out to check the color was a favorite. I loved the bakeries with things called charletroos, tubes with sticks that you used to push up the delicious cream inside. It was also a time when the Doctor would actually come to your house with his little black medical bag. The Natural History Museum with the dinosaurs was another place to be scared and amazed! I loved taking tap, toe and ballet. I did ballet on and off for many years. The last time I took a ballet class, actually was at the College of Marin. The instructor was from Canada and the class was one of the best I have ever taken.

When we moved to Los Angeles I took acting lessons. I wanted of course to be in movies! I performed in little playhouses and at The Santa Monica Civic Auditorium. I also played the flute in the school orchestra. The most surprising thing about all this performing was that I really was very shy!

I decided to go to San Francisco State because as soon as I visited San Francisco I knew I was HOME. I loved the city and I loved the College. It was a perfect fit for me. I got a job in the School Library. One of my favorite jobs was gluing the loose pages of the newspapers together. I made $1.35 an hour and in my last year I got a raise: ten cents an hour more. I started out as a Social Welfare major and in my final year changed to teaching and early childhood. It is hard to believe, but at the time only two professions were really open to women -- teacher and social worker. During my College time I was involved in the Civil Rights and the Anti-War movements. I remember those early years in the Anti-War activity, how we met secretly. Those first marches were small. Oh, but I remember one of the last ones, 100,000 strong! And the war finally did end. Our voices were heard.

When I graduated from College I went to teach in Colombia, South America. The interview I had was the best and yet strangest one I have ever had. I met with the President of the University who told me about the job available. He explained that I would be teaching English in a formal setting and what method I was to use. When he finished he asked if I had any questions. I told him I had never taught on a College level and that English was not my major. He leaned forward and said, "Marian are you a teacher?" I said, "Yes." "Do you speak English?" I said, "Yes." He said that was good and offered me a Life Contract! I spent a little over a year and a half teaching in Colombia. It was an amazing, growing experience. I arrived back in San Francisco and got a job teaching in an elementary school. I spent the next 36 years in the Mission District. I taught in one school and one room for all that time! I also taught for many years at San Francisco City College. After 39 years of teaching and my "babies" started coming back with their babies I decided to close my career.

Retirement was an amazing feeling. Every morning I sat on my back deck and was filled with gratitude that I had made it! I took lots of classes at the College of Marin and found ESCOM. The last few years being President has been a wonderful experience. I have met incredible people who are willing to give of their time to volunteer. I have learned so much about how people use their retirement in a positive and productive way. Like all of you, I would need to write volumes about my life to tell it all.

Two last things I would like to share with you. First is that just before I turned 40, a most wonderful thing happened. I had my son, Jake David. He was a gift and the best piece of art I have ever created. He graduated from U. C. Davis, got his masters at Columbia University, and is now a staff geologist with an environmental company called RINCON. He is creative and gentle, possessing the best qualities that two parents could contribute. This May he is getting married! What more could a mother ask for? I know -- grandchildren.

And my other joy is this. I have been lucky to find love late in life. Glen has been the cherry on top of a delicious ice cream sundae. I may have started in the Bronx, but I eagerly look forward to where the rest of the story will take me!
JAPANESE HAIKU

Haiku is a centuries-old form of Japanese poetry that is an intriguing change of pace from the kind of rhythmic rhyming poetry that most of us are used to. The appeal of these seemingly simple verses probably stems from the unique messages that deliver succinct words of wisdom to the readers.

Several Japanese masters of the art of haiku were Basho, Buson, Shiki and Issa. They were poets who wandered the countryside for years, experiencing life and observing nature. Their work is still the model of haiku writing today.

**In summer rain**
**the leg of the crane becomes shorter**

*(Basho)*

***

**Old pond**
**a frog jumps in.**
**The water sound.**

*(Buson)*

When reading the poetry of these masters, it is important to remember the differences in the pronunciation and structure of the Japanese words. This is a language of syllables usually consisting of a consonant plus a vowel rather than individual letters. They use a minimal bit of metrical time in verse, more equal to a short English syllable. The poetry will not translate into another language and retain the five-seven-five line structure.

Haiku have been explored and expanded by writers so that we now have a fairly wide range of styles, techniques and methods from which to choose. They are written in many languages, but most poets outside of Japan are from English speaking countries. Common practices in this language follow the traditional use of three lines of seventeen syllables with the use of a season word ... a word that implies the season rather than actually specifying it. Sky, beaches, heat suggest summer. Blossoms, new plants, or warm rains can imply spring, etc.

Haiku should be like a photo that captures the essence of what is happening. The crucial element of the poem is the way it describes natural phenomena in so few words, yet making an indelible impression on the reader. The poems are based on the five senses. They are about the things one can experience, not on an interpretation or analysis of these things. The use of mostly objective rather than subjective words is emphasized.

**The first cold shower**
**even the monkey seems to want**
**a little coat of straw.**

*(Basho)*

If you need guidelines when you try your hand at this, here are a few:

Avoid references to yourself. Write in the present tense. Avoid rhymes. Alliteration is OK. End haiku with a noun. Avoid too many verbs. Use only one modifier per noun. Limit use of prepositions. Eliminate adverbs, and do enjoy creating your gem!

*Barbara Tarasoff*

COUNCIL ELECTIONS COMING

The annual election of ESCOM Council officers and board members will be held in April/May this year with the offices of President, Vice President and a majority of the Council seats to be on the ballot which will be included in the May Newsletter. Officers are elected for one-year terms while board members serve for two-year stints. All are eligible for re-election.

You can show your interest in running for office by writing to the ESCOM Nominations and Elections Committee, Attention: Paul Tandler, Chairman, c/o Kentfield Campus Emeritus Center, College of Marin, 835 College Avenue, Kentfield, CA 94904-2590. A member of the Nominating Committee will contact you for an interview.

The Emeritus Students of the College of Marin remain strong and viable through the leadership and participation of all of its members. Being a member of the Council presents an opportunity to inject new ideas and initiatives into the process – a vital need.

More election news will appear in the May Newsletter.

*Paul Tandler, Chairman*
*Nominating and Elections Committee*
ADVENTURER’S CLUB: Call Ruth King, 898-5845, for information on next meeting.

BOCCÉ BALL CLUB: Bocce ball on Tues. at San Rafael courts, 9:30 AM. Call John Kouns, 332-5929 for other activities.

BOOK BANTER CLUB: 2nd and 4th Fridays (note this change) September to May, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, Emeritus Kentfield. Len Pullan, 381-6952, lenpullan@comcast.net.

BRIDGE CLUB: Mon. 1:00 - 4:30 PM, Cafeteria, Kentfield. Tom Metzger, 479-8290, tmetzger@comcast.net; Lynn Mason, 456-2508.

CURRENT EVENTS CLUB: 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 12 noon, Emeritus Kentfield. Jerry Weisman, 383-1831, gweisman@sprintmail.com; and James Kennedy, 388-3939.

FRENCH CLUB: Call Doyleen McMurtry, 472-4738, dmcmurtry@LVHA.net, for information on next meeting.

GLOBAL ISSUES CLUB: 3rd Friday, 2:00 – 4:00 PM, Emeritus IVC. Colleen Rose, 898-0131, colleenrose@juno.com.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10:00 AM - 12 noon, Emeritus IVC. Don Polhemus, 883-3567, dondorpol@aol.com.

GREAT IDEAS IN PHILOSOPHY CLUB: Thursdays, 1-3 PM, Emeritus IVC. Larry Witter, 883-6889, lswitter@sonic.net.

HUMANITIES CLUB: 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1-3 PM, Emeritus IVC. Rudy Ramirez, 491-0522, ruramc@mac.com.

ITALIAN CLUB: 4th Tuesday, 2-4 PM, Emeritus Kentfield. Mila Weed, 453-6054, unsarda@mac.com.

IVC BOOK FORUM: 4th Monday, 3-5 PM, Emeritus IVC. Louise Kerr, 883-2823, lkerr210@comcast.net.

IVC FILM NOIR DVD CLUB: 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 1-3 PM, Emeritus IVC. Rudy Ramirez, 491-0522, ruramc@mac.com.

MORAL-ETHICAL & LEGAL ISSUES ROUNDTABLE: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 10 AM - 12 noon, Emeritus Kentfield. Cole Posard, 491-4118, colemanposard@att.net; Len Pullan, 381-6952.

OPERA AND BEYOND: Last Wednesday of month, 1-3 PM, Emeritus Kentfield. Gil Deane, 456-2853, gildeane@aol.com.

SCRABBLE CLUB: Every Thursday, 2:00-4:00 PM, Cafeteria, Kentfield. Marlene Knox, 459-1427, marlsteve@comcast.net.

SHAKESPEARE CLUB: Third Monday. Please call Valda Carter, 388-6335, valdated@sbcglobal.net, for time and place.

SINGALONG CLUB: 2nd Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 PM, location TBA. Marlene Knox, 459-1427, marlsteve@comcast.net.

WRITERS’ WORKSHOP: 1st Tuesday of the month, 1-4 PM, Emeritus Kentfield. Shirley Pullan, 381-6952, shirlmv@comcast.net, or Marlene Knox, 459-1427, marlsteve@comcast.net.

CLUBS: Participation in all clubs requires an Emeritus Students Activities Card. For further information, call 485-9652.