

Fall
2025

Inside this issue:

Know Your Board: 2
Katherine Tollefsen

CARE Grants 3
Resume

College News - 4
Chabot Auto Tech

Chabot Auto Tech 5

New Retirements 6

In Memoriam

2025 Dues Form 7

Address Changes

CARE Reunion 8
October 10 -
Reservation form

Visit us online:

www.care-news.org

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Newsletter

Chabot-Las Positas

Association of Retired Employees

2025 Reunion!

Greetings, to all of you lucky fellow CLPCCD retirees! Last year's CARE reunion on the cafeteria patio at Las Positas College was such a great success that we have decided to do it again. It's a chance to reunite with friends and colleagues from your years at CLPCCD, to reacquaint, reminisce, and share retirement experiences.

You are cordially invited to join us for our annual

CARE Reunion Luncheon

Friday, October 10, 2025, from 11AM to 2PM

Las Positas College, Rm 1620/Patio

We will have a delicious buffet luncheon provided by Fresh and Natural, LPC's catering service and, thanks to the efforts of LPC's Viticulture Program's "Campus Hill Winery", we will be enjoying two wines from the program with our lunch! There will even be a chance to take home a bottle as a winner in our CARE Luncheon raffle! No purchase necessary, every attendee gets a raffle ticket.

Our luncheon program will feature short presentations of particular interest to retirees, including an update from CARE Board member Carol Edson on the new Las Positas Columbian mammoth exhibit.

So, please sign up soon (form is on page 8 – deadline is October 1). You won't want to miss this annual opportunity to reconnect with former colleagues, meet new ones, and enjoy a wonderful afternoon dining outside eating a delicious lunch and drinking fine wine with friends. Afterwards, if you so choose, you may take a guided adventure tour of the campus featuring the new exhibit of the oldest Columbian mammoth bones to be discovered in these foothills. We look forward to seeing you there!

REGISTER using form on page 8 by **Wed, October 1**.

DRIVING: Las Positas College is off 580 at [3033 Collier Canyon Road, Livermore](#).

- ◇ From 580, coming from the east bay / Hayward direction: take the Airway Blvd exit, turn left at the light, turn right at the next light (N. Canyons Pkwy), turn left at Collier Canyon Rd.
- ◇ Turn right into Las Positas College at Campus Loop.
- ◇ Follow Campus Loop to the second parking lot entrance, and turn left into Lot C.

PARK FREE in Lot C as shown at right.

WALKING: From Lot C, follow yellow line shown at right to the Faculty Dining Patio.



Meet your board

CARE's board is comprised of CLPCCD retirees like you who volunteer to direct the operations of the organization.

Front: Tom Gerrits, Rachel Maldonado Aziminia, Carol Edson

Rear: Katherine Tollefsen, Mark Smythe, Scott Hildreth, Bill Threlfall, Irene Plunkett, Art Tenbrink



Scott Hildreth & Katherine Tollefsen join CARE board

We are delighted to announce these terrific additions to CARE's leadership. Recently retired, both Katherine and Scott are widely known in the college community for their enthusiasm, organization, and positive social interactions. Welcome!

Board Bio: Katherine Tollefsen

In my twenties, I had been taking different classes at Chabot working slowly toward an AA, but I wasn't sure what my major was yet. I also took classes like typing and word processing to improve my office/job skills. One of my teachers, Jane Berg, was the one who recommended that I apply for jobs at the college, so that's how my twenty-eight-year career began with CLPCCD.

I first started working at Chabot College in January of 1992. I was hired by Dr. Ruth Self and Carlo Vecchiarelli. I was the "Active Records" clerk in Admissions & Records. My supervisor was Susan Ludwig Clark. I learned a lot in A & R and enjoyed working with a very nice group of people. In my job I interacted with the counseling department, so I had easy access to asking the counselors academic questions about my goals. Working in A & R also gave me direct access to the records evaluators, so when I submitted the form to have my transcript evaluated, I was very pleased to find out that I was very close to earning my AA. I graduated from Chabot in 1993. By this time I had decided I wanted to be an elementary school teacher.

I continued to work in A&R for a couple of years before applying for a job in the Counseling department at Las Positas. It was a lateral move, but I enjoyed being a Counseling Assistant and interfacing more directly with students. By now I had transferred to Cal State Hayward but was only able to attend part-time while still working full-time. Sometimes it felt like I was never going to get my bachelor's degree.

After a few years of working at Las Positas, an opportunity came up to apply for an entry level job in the district MIS (later to be known as ITS) department back at Chabot. Since I was still attending Cal State, it would be easier to commute between Chabot and CSUH. Fortunately, I was hired by Tom Gerrits in 1999 as a User Support Specialist and set up the new MIS/ITS Help Desk. I enjoyed my new job with a great group of people.

By the time I graduated from CSUH in 2002 I was living comfortably on my ITS income, and I couldn't imagine giving up such a good job to go do a year without pay to earn the requisite teaching credential. The next eighteen years working in ITS just seemed to fly by.

Continued on p.3

Continued from p.2

When COVID hit and we had to work from home, that really made me reevaluate things. I started to feel that sitting in front of a computer all day was bad for my health. So, in 2021 I decided to retire early. (I was part of the “Great Resignation”.) In the four years since, I have focused on my health. I finally started a great routine most weekday mornings of going to Chabot to use the fitness center, walking around the football field/track, and taking Pilates and yoga classes. It has been great to do these activities with fellow retirees and new friends. I really appreciate being encouraged and motivated by the PE faculty/coaches.

I enjoyed my career working in different capacities for Chabot College, Las Positas College and District Services. I have so many good memories of all the nice people I have worked with over the decades at CLPCCD. I have always been proud to be a part of the community college system – both as a student and an employee.

Katherine



CARE Fund Special Projects Grants Resume

Each year, our grant program awards a portion of the earnings from our charitable **CARE Fund** to special projects that help Chabot-Las Positas employees do a better job of serving students, staff, and the colleges. These grants, funded by CARE member donations since 2011, were on hiatus during the peak of COVID but resumed in 2024 with fresh participation from the College Foundations and the District’s department of Public Relations, Marketing & Government Relations.

In 2024, CARE awarded \$3,316 in grants to these fine proposals from thoughtful applicants working in our District:

- Calculator Return by Mary Love
- Operation: Recognition by Gabriel Chaparro
- Field Trip to ACT by Shoshanna Tenn
- Counseling Tea Corner by Jasmine Garcia
- Learning Communities Unite by Michael Lai
- CLPCCD Foundation Outreach by Maisha Jameson

The CARE Fund, which underwrites these grants, is supported by the generous donations of CARE members like you. Contributions are fully tax deductible under federal and California law. The Foundation for Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501(c) (3) charitable organization. (EIN: 237074515)

We invite you to contribute to the CARE Fund:

CARE Fund Contribution: ☐ \$35; ☐ \$75; ☐ \$100; ☐ Other: _____ (Thank you!)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

Detach and return
or

Print form at
www.care-news.org/support

Please make check payable to **Chabot-LPC Foundation**.

In the "For:" or "Memo" section in the lower left, write in **CARE FUND**.

Mail to: Sharon Trethan, CARE Fund Manager, 5122 Blackhawk Drive, Danville, CA 94506

College News

Chabot's Automotive Technology Program continues to steer students towards success.

By Scott Hildreth, Chabot College Liaison



It's inevitable – at some point, we'll all be taking a family vehicle in for service or repair, and then possibly worry whether the shop will do the job right. And today's vehicles have more in common with your computer than vehicles of old. The extensive use of chips, networks, cameras, radar, and other advanced technologies have resulted in needing technicians who are closer to an engineer than the auto mechanics we might have known growing up.

But CARE members everywhere can take heart that automotive technicians who graduated from Chabot's Automotive Technology program are still some of the best around.

With more than 250 students coming to Chabot with a declared automotive major, the program is thriving, and it remains one of the top disciplines at the college awarding certificates and degrees. It is accredited by the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Program, and not only are all faculty ASE Certified Technicians, most are ASE Master level; the current team all have more than 35 years as technicians and educators, and all continue to complete at least 20 hours a year of technical training to learn new systems and use new diagnostic tools and equipment. Indeed, most faculty far exceed that time, typically at their own time and expense.



Chabot's program includes more than 15 credit and non-credit courses that cover fundamental vehicle systems to technologies used on 2025 vehicles, and utilize state-of-the-art tools and equipment to provide students first hand-on experiences with what they will be using in the industry. Classes are scheduled mornings, afternoons, evenings, and even some online, to support students who might already be working.

Chabot was one of the first programs, not just in California, but across the country to offer Hybrid and Electric Vehicle instruction as a separate class, and also one of the first programs to offer Advanced Drivers Assistance System (ADAS) instruction as a separate class. The faculty and administrative team have forged partnerships with local, state and national employers, including: Ford, Hyundai, Mercedes-Benz, Subaru, and Volkswagen, as well as with tool & equipment companies like Hunter, MATCO Tools, and Snap On Tools. Chabot's Auto Tech graduates are employed throughout the Bay Area, the state, and our nation in automotive and related industry positions, including High-tech companies like: Tesla, Rivian, Lucid, ZOOX working on state-of-the-art vehicles and systems.



So the next time you take your car in for service, ask if a Chabot graduate is working there. You'll be in good hands!



Updates

Retirements Announced Since Fall 2024

Kathleen Aubel, Las Positas College, December 2024
Jaswinder Bhargal, Chabot College, June 2025
Norman Buchwald, Chabot College, August 2025
Barbara Chavez, Las Positas College, May 2025
Teresita Cua, Las Positas College, July 2025
Ana Del Aguila, Las Positas College, August 2025
David Everett, Las Positas College, January 2025
David Fouquet, Chabot College, July 2025
Gregory Fulsom, District Services, September 2024
Michael Garr, District Services, March 2025
Miguel Gonzalez, District Services, December 2024
Tina Inzerilla, Las Positas College, May 2024
Matthew Kritscher, Chabot College, July 2025
Jeffrey Lawes, Las Positas College, January 2025
Daniel Miller, Chabot College, July 2025
Thomas Orf, Las Positas College, December 2024
James Ott, Las Positas College, December 2024
Melissa Patterson, Chabot College, June 2025
Marvin Pugh, District Services, November 2024
Gregory Sanchez District Services, May 2025
Patricia Shannon, Chabot College, May 2025
Mark Stephens, Chabot College, June 2025
Patrick Taylor, District Services, December 2024
Clayton Thiel, Chabot College, July 2025
Rosalyn Tucker, District Services, December 2025
Scott Vigallon, Las Positas College, November 2024
Dale Wagoner, August 2025
Bella Witt, Chabot College, July 2025
Judy Wright, Chabot College, July 2024
Barbara Zingg, Las Positas College, 2025

Thanks, Chabot!

The CARE board recognizes and appreciates the generous efforts of the Chabot College President, President's Office staff, and Reprographics Center staff in the printing and mailing of this newsletter on a cost reimbursement basis, as provided by the CLPCCD Trustees in [motion #10 of their March 19, 1985 meeting](#). We value this cooperative working relationship!

In Memoriam

We have lost these valued CARE members recently. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

Seth Bailey	Joanne Neu
Susan Cota	Peggy Pettis
Peter Davis	Madgie (Faye) Roberts
Eugene Esquiedo	Jimmy Rumelhart
Robert Kint	Marion Sanchez
Arthur Larson	Richard Yeo
Jeanette Mo	

CARE publishes life tributes and profiles in the History Project of its web site. Family or colleagues who wish to submit a tribute for publication may send it to the newsletter editor by email to editor@care-news.org.

Art Larson, CARE co-Founder

Art Larson has passed at the age of 104!

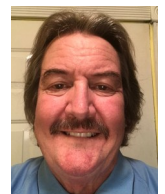
In his history article *The Birth of CARE*, Art described the origin of our organization: "CARE was conceived in 1983, born in 1984, and blessed in 1985." This fascinating article may be found in the "History Project" of CARE's web site at <https://www.care-news.org/history/pieces/larson-care.htm>

Art's career contributions are highlighted on pages 4 and 5 of the Spring 2019 CARE newsletter piece: *A tip of the hat to Art Larson*, which may be found at https://www.care-news.org/newsletter/spring_19_news.pdf

Retirement Board of Authority

By Mark Smythe

CARE board member Mark Smythe continues to serve as the retiree representative to the District's seven-member Retirement Board of Authority. This important board meets twice each year to provide oversight for the Futuris Public Entity Investment Trust, established in 2021, to fund the District's obligations to eligible retirees for health insurance and other similar benefits. For more details about this board, please visit <https://clpccd.org/business/retirementboard/index.php>



CARE BOARD

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Irene Plunkett
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Vacant
Vice-President

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Katherine Tollefsen
Activities Coordinator

Bill Threlfall
Director of Communications
Newsletter Editor

Mark Smythe
Director at Large

Contact the board:
www.care-news.org/contacts

Change of Address or E-mail

Please send your change of address to CARE Treasurer,
Sharon Trethan at www.care-news.org/contacts or
5122 Blackhawk Drive, Danville, CA 94506.

Please send your change of e-mail address to CARE Communications Director,
Bill Threlfall at www.care-news.org/contacts

District Retirement Benefits Contacts

Rosalyn Tucker 925-485-5504 rtucker@clpccd.org
Lety Macias 925-485-5505 lmacias@clpccd.org

Important reminder from District Benefits staff:

"Please note that you or your heirs must notify the District of any changes to your eligibility status within thirty days of the event (e.g. **marriage, divorce, death**). Any financial loss that the District incurs due to failure to notify the District will be the responsibility of you or your heirs."

C.A.R.E. Dues 2025

Your dues are used in direct support of our newsletter and web site.
No stipends are paid to board members, who volunteer their time and service.
Thank you for your support if you have already paid your 2025 dues!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____
(please print clearly)

→ ☐ **Yes, please add me to the CARE Member Directory.**
(E-mail address required—we'll keep it private.)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

☐ \$10 per year or ☐ \$100 lifetime membership (Thank you!)

Please mail this form and your check payable to **CARE** to:

CARE c/o Sharon Trethan
5122 Blackhawk Dr.
Danville, CA 94506

Detach and return
or

Print form at
www.care-news.org/support

**Reservation For
CARE Reunion and Lunch**

Detach and return

or

October 10, 2025, 11 AM
Location: Las Positas College Faculty Dining Patio, Rm 1620

print form at
www.care-news.org/form.pdf

Please complete this form, enclose your check payable to C.A.R.E., and mail to

Sharon Trethan, C.A.R.E. Treasurer
5122 Blackhawk Dr.
Danville, CA 94506

Name/Names _____

E-mail _____
(please print clearly)

☐ **Yes, please add me to the CARE Member Directory**
(E-mail address required—we'll keep it private.)

Number Attending _____ x \$25 = _____

2025 CARE Dues (If not already paid) \$10 = _____

Total Amount Enclosed = _____

Reservation Deadline:
Wednesday, October 1, 2025

Reservations must be prepaid.
There is no pay-at-the-door option.

Chabot College
25555 Hesperian Blvd.
Hayward, CA 94545
President's Office