



Vaguely
necessary

By JAPNEET
KAUR
Photo editor

Photos don't hurt

I'm a photographer. I'm not a professional – I'm not even very good, really. I love taking pictures, though, and would have my camera with me all day, every day if I could. Friends who look through my pictures sometimes comment that I take pictures of the weirdest things – that I'll take a picture of anything. This is pretty true, but there's one thing I have problems with, and that's taking pictures of people.

It's different when I'm on assignment interviewing someone or shooting a game or event. There's a specific reason for me to take pictures of those people who are involved, and they usually know beforehand that I'm going to be taking pictures of them. When I'm on my own though, and just happen to see someone who looks cool or is doing something interesting, something stops me from taking a picture.

There are certain laws concerning photography in public places, and it's usually okay to take pictures of people, so that's not the problem. Then what is the problem? Why can't I talk myself into street photography, and taking candid portraits of random strangers? It's not a legal issue – it's a moral one. Though I've thought about it before, I had silenced the inner debate by subconsciously deciding to abstain from photographing strangers. The topic has been brought to my attention with a bang once again, however, as I found a camera aimed in my direction by an unknown person on the bus. I'll never know if the person behind it took a picture of me or not, but the very idea of being photographed by a complete stranger brought up a mental shield, as well as an old dilemma.

Many photographers, including myself, post pictures online to share with others. If this person does the same thing, and did take a picture of me, it could very well end up online – a thought I find myself unhappy with. So is it right to do the same thing to someone else? I've become so used to being behind the camera and very, very rarely in front of it, that I've never put myself in my subjects' shoes. Is it fair to people that photographers take pictures of them and use them wherever they like? We already have to worry about various legal issues in nearly every situation, so worrying about this may seem like an extra burden. It's an important issue, however – there's such a thing as personal privacy even in public places. Every person has a right to live his/her daily life in the knowledge that their face isn't going to end up online for anyone in the world to look at. It's another small downside to advancing technologies, and for photographers, definitely something to think about.

Music and coffee at Building 1

By NAZIA MASTAN
Staff writer

The Coffee Cart Music Series offers students a way to enjoy their walk up the grueling Ohlone stairs, or to showcase their own talents. These talents don't have to be music however, artwork and photography can also be put on display. We all visit the Ohlone Coffee Cart for our much-needed boost of energy from coffee or sugar.

The first performance was on Tuesday, and featured a professional saxophone player who ser-

enaded students in front of Building 1. Although music was being put on display on Tuesday, Mitch our resident barista said, "we are allowing a broad range of art."

The next scheduled performance is on Tuesday, March 31 after Spring Break. If you are interested in performing or having your art work on display, there are many opportunities to do so. There are two people you can talk to who are taking sign-ups for the Coffee Cart Music and Art Series. Mitch, or Renee Gonzales, a member of the Campus Activities Board.

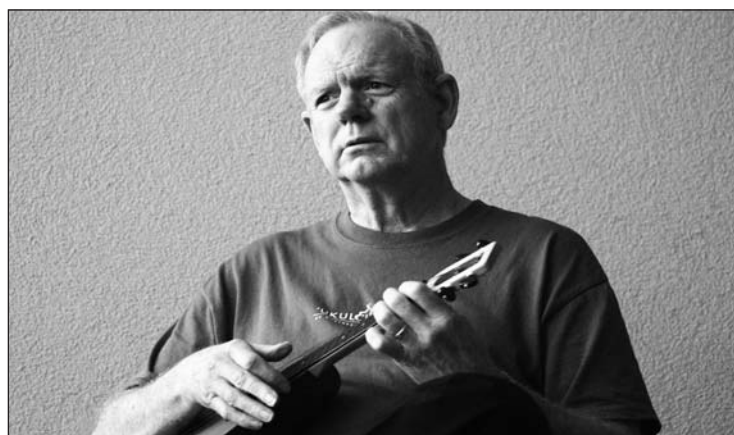


Photo by Jeff Weisinger
Hal Griffin of the mailroom plays ukelele his at the Coffee Cart.

Planning the future of Ohlone

By NAZIA MASTAN
Staff writer

The Ohlone Planning Summit conducted by Dr. Gari Browning was held on Thursday, March 12.

The purpose of the Summit was to discuss Proposed College Goals that Browning will be implementing after college input is taken into consideration. All college instructors and staff as well as some ASOC students were invited to provide input on the Proposed Goals which

are viewable to anyone on Dr. Browning's website.

Many tables were set up in Ohlone's gymnasium with six faculty members and several students at various tables. Each table received pink forms with a Proposed Goal on it and were asked to research the goal on their own and provide input on what they found and how the goal can be altered to fit the needs of Ohlone. Roughly two tables were dedicated to each of the seven proposed goals and three to

goals one and four, which were a bit more extensive in comparison to the other five.

Some comments that arose during the College Planning Summit were in conjunction to our College's motto "Cultures United in Learning." A staff member advised Dr. Browning to put this motto on display in several different languages in Building 1 or Hyman Hall. Another staff member suggested that English be the uniting language of Ohlone, which would allow a greater sense of

unity throughout our college instead of pockets of students speaking different languages.

The Ohlone College Planning Summit is just another way we are reminded that our input is greatly needed and appreciated in order to make the college a better place for everyone. Dr. Browning is extremely open to comments and suggestions, especially pertaining to her Proposed Goals for the College. For more information, visit <http://www.ohlone.edu/org/president>.

Mendoza off to protect country

By SEAN NERO
Staff writer

"If I don't go, someone else would have to."

These were the words that Campus Police Officer Miguel Mendoza told fellow Officer Ben Peralta and Chief of Campus Services, Safety and Security Steve Osawa regarding his reactivation to active duty in the U.S. Army.

Officer Peralta said that Mendoza "has relatives in Mexico and in San Jose, but only had a month to get his family and friends squared away before having to report to his base for duty. Osawa said "Prior to his departure the department held a going away ceremony in his honor. Peralta said, "Miguel is an infantry-

man" meaning, he is specifically trained in the area of attack operations and is usually on the frontline during hostile situations. According to Peralta, "Mendoza has been an employee at Ohlone for about two years and has shown an impeccable work ethic and values, that closely mirror what Ohlone is all about" As an employee, Chief Osawa described Mendoza as a "friendly, hard working, conscientious person who got along with his co-workers, staff and students here at the college" Peralta shared those sentiments describing Mendoza as "One of the bright stars here at the college" due to his loyalty, reliability, overall kindness and contributions to society. Peralta noted Mendoza's ability to adapt to stressful situa-

tions seamlessly and transcend the expectations of a Campus Police Officer to become one of the better-spoken people on campus. Peralta says that Mendoza's Service reach "far beyond his duties as an Officer" extending to a protector and server of the entire Ohlone district. Osawa and Peralta both say that they are "saddened by Miguel's absence."

"Miguel is scheduled to be back on the homeland in August but could be called upon to serve longer due to stop-loss Mendoza" according to Peralta. According to Osawa, Stop-loss is the involuntary extension of a soldier's tour of duty. Stop loss prevents a soldier from returning on their scheduled date due to shortages or necessity. President assistant & Adjunct Faculty Sarah

Daniels and fellow faculty members would like to gather items in order to send a care package to Mendoza. "We're putting together an Ohlone 'care package' to send to Miguel, along with a card that's available for signing," said Daniels. She also said that students are encouraged to donate items to the care package. If you would like to donate or sign the card go to Room 1216 on or before March 27.

Proposed items for the care package include microwavable popcorn, nuts, sunflower seeds, beef jerky, dried fruit, cookies, powdered drinks, sunscreen, disposable cameras, hand sanitizer, handheld games and playing cards. For more information, contact Sarah Daniels at 659-7369.

Yee still making Ohlone proud

By THEODORE HARRISON
Staff writer

When the Argus newspaper named Garrett Yee as one of "10 People to Watch in 2003" no one could have known at the time (except maybe Yee) how far his future success would go. Yee, former president of the Ohlone College Board of Trustees, Iraq veteran and published author, was recently promoted by the U.S. Army Reserves to the rank of Colonel.

In 2006, Yee was re-elected to Ohlone Board of Trustees while stationed in Iraq on active duty. Prior to being elected to the board Yee, participated in the Community Task Force for Ohlone College and served as president of Citizens for Better Community.

Both experiences gave Yee the

opportunity to achieve one of his most rewarding community projects: "Measure A." Measure A was the bond measure that brought us the Newark Campus and the new Student Services Center currently under construction.

Yee and his family have a long connection with Ohlone. His father was an adjunct instructor at Ohlone for several years. Growing up, Yee frequently spent time at the old Ohlone site along Washington Boulevard where he took swimming lessons.

In addition, Yee and his wife, Maria, both attended Ohlone as students. Yee later received his bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University. In 1987, Yee received his officer commission through Santa Clara's ROTC program. He later received an MBA from Golden

Gate University. He is currently enrolled in a Master's in Strategic Studies program through the Army War College.

Yee is currently the Commander of the 650th Regional Support Group, which is located in Las Vegas. As the commander he is responsible for overseeing 1,300 personnel assigned to units located throughout California, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado and Hawaii. Prior to being promoted to Colonel, Yee served in Iraq where he was stationed in Baghdad serving with the Center for Army Lessons Learned.

His assignment focused on reconstruction efforts throughout the country and required extensive travel in the region."

In February 2007, Yee returned to his civilian job after 18 months

of active military service. In his civilian job, Yee worked as a manager at the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California. The following January, Yee chronicled his experiences in Iraq with a published book titled, "Greetings from Iraq," which is available on-line.

Yee was first elected to the Ohlone College Board of Trustees back in 2002. He was re-elected to a second term in 2006.

Yee believes the biggest challenge facing Ohlone is state funding and its impact on programs. He believes "the college is fortunate that Dr. [Gari] Browning has been working proactively with the staff at Ohlone to develop plans so that the college can be positioned to meet its short-term and long-term budget needs."

Mencher's artwork in 3 galleries

By **DEVERY SHEFFER**
Staff writer

A drunken game of telephone, film noir and photos found at a flea market are just three of several things used as inspiration for an Ohlone teachers' artwork. Kenney Mencher finished his sabbatical about two and a half years ago. This allowed him to get a good portion of his paintings done.

Mencher's art will be displayed in three different art galleries. Each show has a series of different paintings with different themes, but they all display Mencher's capabilities and talent as an artist.

Tango dancers and glasses half-full of water are the themes of the painting that are currently on display at the Amrithika Gallery in Palo Alto. This gallery is more spiritual and new age. Therefore, the paintings on display are non-aggressive, light and fun.

His artwork will be on display until March 31 and the reception will be on March 20 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Elliott Fouts Gallery in Sacramento has been showing Mencher's work for the last five or six years. Currently on display are 15 of his newest paintings.

Some of them are inspired from film noir, a style of film making in the 1940's and 1950's. These movies have striking black and white shots that are themed around crime and sexuality. Some films that Mencher has been inspired by are *Kiss Me Deadly*, *The Postman Always Rings Twice* and *Touch of Evil*.

Another series of paintings on display at this gallery is one inspired by a game of telephone played by Mencher's friends. Mencher's paintings appear to be based off of real pictures of people taken during the game. The paintings show the game from start to finish.



Photo courtesy of Kenney Mencher

Kenney Mencher's 'Still Life' painting is on display in gallery show.

These painting will be on display until April 3.

Mencher is most excited about the last gallery, ArtHaus in San Francisco. This show doesn't start until April 2 and will end on June 27. All of these paintings are done in black, white and sepia tones.

This artwork is based off film still and photos found from thrift stores and flea markets.

Mencher likes to find peoples old photos and "collage the images together [so] they tell more of a story."

These paintings are more ambiguous. The viewer creates their own story of what is going on. Also showing at this gallery with Mencher is Carolyn Meyer, a teacher at the Art Academy in San

Francisco. Her painting are done in the same tones as Mencher, but her painting are of cityscapes. The gallery owner James Bacchi wanted two perceptive, a view of the whole city, Meyer's paintings and what was going on in the city, Mencher's paintings.

The reception will be on April 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. Finger food and wine will be served so people can mingle and enjoy the artwork.

Mencher has been teaching at Ohlone for 10 years.

He teaches several art classes including, Life Drawing, Museum and Gallery Techniques and Survey of World Art History.

Mencher can be spotted around campus walking with his little yellow dog Chuck. Besides being a companion, Chuck is also a

subject for several of Mencher's paintings.

Typically his paintings sell anywhere from \$300 to \$3,000. He spends four to eight hours a day in his studio painting.

Along with teaching, Mencher is the curator for the Louie-Meager Art Gallery in the Smith Center on the Fremont Ohlone campus.

The current show at his gallery is *The Educated Eye*, a collection of photographs by Bay Area artists.

The show began Feb. 27 and will be showing until April 4. The reception will be March 21 from 7 to 8 p.m.

For more information about the galleries and to get a detailed view of Mencher's artwork you can check out his website at www.kenney-mencher.com.



Weighing Anchor

By **ERIC DORMAN**
Editor-in-chief

Biting hand that bails

In 2008, the word of the year was "bailout." In the aftermath of last year's calamity, 2009 is shaping up to be characterized by a different moniker—"bonus."

It's a nice enough word, but it certainly makes for a strange bedfellow. After we entrusted trillions of dollars in bailouts to save firms across the board on the verge of collapse last fall, we expected to see certain results from our money: increased stability and long-term viability for the firms, and a stabler economy for our country. So why are the first fruits of our hard-earned and reluctantly-parted-with bailout cash—executive bonuses?

It was hard not to feel outrage at last week's news that insurance giant AIG—which received \$182 billion in federal bailout funds last year—handed out \$165 million in bonuses to the same executives who had contributed to the firm's financial collapse. Clearly, in this brave new pseudo-socialist/quasi-capitalist world, the CEOs of our nation's largest firms are slow learners when it comes to grasping the concept of the public as shareholders. If they want to remain viable in the long term, though, these companies need to treat the hand that feeds them with more respect.

The massive public outrage sparked by the bonuses has led to concessions (AIG said some executives have returned their checks) and excuses—AIG claims that the bonuses were not optional, but written into the contract. While the concessions are commendable, the excuses are ridiculous. AIG has not been forthcoming about the specific wording in the contract concerning the definition of the word "bonus," but Webster's definition is clear: "anything given in addition of the customary or required amount." That AIG would consider the performance of its executives sufficiently commendable to merit massive bonus checks "in addition of the customary or required amount," speaks volumes about the firm's skewed priorities.

We live in a changed world, and work in a changed economy. We've seen mainstays of American business, giants like GM, Lehman Brothers and Bear Stearns, require bailouts or fall by the wayside. They've fallen victim to factors beyond their control, such as economic hard times, but their collapse is just as much fueled by a failed way of thinking. It's a way of thinking that subscribes to the belief that their size makes them immune to market forces, and it's a way of thinking that leads them to reward their executives with massive bonuses made up of taxpayer dollars, just because they can. And if these giants of today want to exist tomorrow, it's a way of thinking that needs to stop.

Sweet Charity auditions being held

By **THEODORE HARRISON**
Staff writer

Auditions for Neil Simon's "Sweet Charity" of SummerFest 2009, will be held April 18, 1 p.m. at Jackson Theater. Hopefuls should bring sheet music: 18 bars for a ballad, 32 bars for up-tempo. An accompanist will be provided. Those who wish to audition for dance roles should be prepared to dance. All are advised to have appropriate clothes and shoes. Scenes will be given out at the auditions on Sunday, April 19 noon to 4 p.m.

"Sweet Charity," a comedy about a hopeless romantic, is an original Broadway production. It was directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse.

"Sweet Charity" opened on Jan.

29, 1966 at the Palace Theatre and ran for 608 performances. It starred Gwen Verdon, John McMartin, Helen Gallagher, Thelma Oliver, James Luisi, Arnold Soboloff, and Sharon Ritchie. The production was nominated for 12 Tony Awards, winning for Fosse's choreography.

You say "hey wait a minute I'm no Gwen Verdon, or John McMartin, I just like to sing and dance. I'm not ready to audition for a Summerfest." Well, according to Director Tom Blank, Ohlone has several courses designed to meet all skill levels. The "beginner-friendly" classes Blank recommends include "Introduction to Acting and Acting for Camera." These classes are a great place to explore performing either onstage or in video. For those who have stage fright and techni-

cal know-how, our Entertainment, Technology and Design program offers courses in lighting, sound, construction, costuming, make-up and other backstage skills."

According to Blank, who has directed most of the Summerfest shows since 1995, "There have been many exciting productions over the years that have included *Grease* with a full 1950's car show and festival, a glamorous and high fashion 1930's *Anything Goes*, an updated *West Side Story* and a gorgeous and touching *Miss Saigon* complete with helicopter (our official amphitheatre "Sold Out" play). Perhaps one of the most legendary productions was Sam Levine starring in *Fiddler on the Roof*. A statue and photo of him as Tevye stands in the lobby today."

Scholarships are being offered to all students who are selected for the cast. In addition, some will receive limited stipends.

If selected for the cast, rehearsals will start Monday, April 27 and include evenings and Saturday mornings as needed. There will be five performances from July 10 through 18.

Auditions will be available for roles such as: Charity, a comic, gullible, but full of life girl; Oscar, the funky neurotic with a heart of gold; Nikki and Helene, Charity's two dance hall pals; Big daddy, the rhythm and blues super star, etc.

For more information on what roles will be offered and details about Sweet Charity, contact Tom Blank at tblank@ohlone.edu or at 659-6209.

Ohlone Chamber singers: back again

By **NICOLE JOHNSON**
Features editor

The Ohlone Chamber Orchestra is at it again, with their 9th Annual Masterworks Concert: *Glory of the Baroque*. The concert will be held in the Smith Center's Jackson Theatre

as the Chamber singers are being led by Dennis Keller, "in celebrating the music of George Frederick Handel on the 250th anniversary of his death."

The Chamber singers will sing Handel's rarely performed "Dixit Dominus" for choir, chamber or-

chestra, and soloists. The program will end with "Gloria" composed by Antonio Vivaldi.

The concert will be on March 21 at 8 p.m. Student tickets for this event are \$10 apiece. Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office, next to the theatre. The Box Office is open

from Tuesday through Thursday from noon to 7 p.m. It is open on Friday and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. Tickets are also available one hour before the show begins.

For more information you can visit www.ohlone.edu/instr/music/concerts.html.