

## Sale comes back an accomplished poet



Adrienne Graham | FOGHORN

Dr. Richard Sale, a former DMC student, reviewed some of his poems during a presentation at the college, Dec. 1. He is a DMC Hall of Famer and former DMC student and professor. He is shown posing in front of his 1950 DMC Hall of Fame photo located in the second floor of the Harvin Center. His photo is on the top right.

By Teresa Tran  
FOGHORN

Dr. Richard Sale, a renowned Texas poet and a former Del Mar College student and faculty member, has released his fifth book of poetry titled "Freeze and Thaw."

Sale, who was a faculty member here from 1955-1965, returned to his community college roots to read his works in Room 433 of the White Library, Dec. 1.

Sale, a 1950 graduate of DMC is in the college's Hall of Fame and is a former adviser of the *The Foghorn*. He has an impressive resume of anthologized works and has been mentioned numerous times in well-known reviews.

He is a professor emeritus at the University of North Texas.

Sale has been an editor for several publications and is presently editor of the *Trilobite Press* at the University of North Texas.

Sale said he has fond memories of DMC.

He said his most memo-

rable moment at Del Mar was when his English instructor, Katherine Evans, published a sheaf of his poems which she entitled "Gran Barrata" (Spanish for Big Sale).

Evans also sponsored a poetry reading for Sale and was an "inspiration" while he attended DMC.

Another great inspiration was former English professor Aileen Creighton.

Sale said Creighton and Evans both opened his eyes to literature and convinced him he could make a living writing poetry.

The one moment that sparked Sale's fire to write was an assignment in class to write a poem, he said.

Sale wrote a parody and decided to "think big" and sent it in to *The New Yorker*.

They returned a standard rejection letter, but at the bottom, scribbled in pencil was "Try us again."

"That started the infection," Sale said.

Sale published his first poem in a literary magazine

10 years later when he was an instructor at DMC.

Being inspired by professors led Sale to influence many others, namely Don Henley of the Eagles.

"He [Henley] has been kind enough to mention several times that he remembers the literature class of mine he took at the University of North Texas," Sale said.

Sale hopes to see former fellow-teachers who have lasted this long and students with the same interest and ambitions from when he left in 1965 along with an interested audience.

Sale said future writers should read all the time, imitate writers that interests them, broaden the lists of their favorites, discover the delight in literature and don't let life slip by.

While at Del Mar College Sale was a Fulbright Professor and taught in Morocco.

He has written several books and continues his education career at the University of North Texas in Denton.

### STUDENT PROFILE | MARGUERITE JOFFE

## Adjusting to college life

By Edwin Vasquez  
FOGHORN

Coming back to college this fall semester was not an easy task for Marguerite Joffe.

After all, she graduated from Tilden High School, New York City in 1942.

Today, at 82 years of age, the vibrant and Joffe is adjusting quite well and has no problem keeping up with her classmates, most of whom could be her great-grandchildren.

Behind a vibrant smile and a pixie haircut is a person who has quite possibly had more experiences in life than all the other students in her journalism class combined.

Those who know her know she is a very exciting person who enjoys sharing and helping anyone who asks.

From her gentle and positive demeanor, few would suspect that Marguerite is a "jarhead" and served in World War II.

But she is a veteran of the Marines. During the Veterans Day celebration at DMC she "very proudly" was among the veterans honored.

She served as a radio operator in the Hawaiian Islands, for three years, during WWII.

But, even her fellow students are aware of one thing - Del Mar College and Marguerite Joffe were made for each other.

Dr. Manuel Flores, associate professor of journalism at DMC, recalls when Joffe first inquired about attending DMC.

"Here comes this quaint little old lady into my office and she proceeds to tell me she will be in my reporting class in the fall," Flores recalled.

"She said she wanted to write and I assured her she would write, and get better by taking the class. Neither of us was disappointed."

Her return to education is a way of completing a mission she set out to do long ago.

She recalls her parents not being excited about her desire to delay her education to join the service, but her grandmother was able to persuade her parents to allow her to serve in the military.

During this time, it was uncommon for women to serve in the military at all, but it was her dream, she said.

"I did not want to serve in the Army or Navy, I wanted to serve in a really tough group," she said. "I wanted to serve in the Marines."

Her military tour of duty required her to postpone completing her college education at Brooklyn College. She earned her bachelor's degree from Mexico City College in Mexico, D.F. in 1949.



Harley Doerfler | FOGHORN

Marguerite Joffe returned to college after 56 years.

Completing her education was important to her, as she wanted to teach, she said. A career in education of 30 years followed. She taught English in Mexico City, where she raised her family.

She has three daughters and one son and if you ever spend even a little time with her you will know that she is very proud of all of them, as well as her 9 grandchildren.

Because of her husband's travels, one of the children was born in the United States but the other three children were born in Mexico.

Her daughter, Dr. Sandra Joffe-Othpha, an optometrist, lives with her husband in Mexico City, and has three of Joffe's nine grandchildren.

Also in Mexico is daughter Norma Roose, her husband and two other grandchildren. Roose is a professional business administrator.

Two children live in the United States, Paula Collins, her husband and two children live in Palo Alto, Calif.

Her son, Victor, lives with his wife and two children in San Antonio.

Paula and Victor are both CPAs. The family gets together as often as possible, but with homes both in Mexico City and Corpus Christi, it makes the get-togethers difficult, Joffe said.

Her interest in helping people did not end with her retirement from teaching; she joined the Pink Ladies at the Medical Center in Mexico City from 1988 till 2005.

Today she continues her contribution to the program she started by collecting aluminum can pull tabs to raise funds to

buy and order wheel chairs for those in need.

She met her husband, Manuel, in Mexico and, as she said, she "knew that this was the man."

They were married for more than 52 years before his untimely death a few years ago.

Her husband was a refugee from Poland where he had the horrible experience of witnessing the murder of his parents by Hitler's army.

Because quotas granted to immigrants from Poland were filled, his family was unable to bring him into the United States, so an Aunt went to Mexico City and was able to bring him out of Poland and into Mexico where he was raised and continued to live.

Joffe's interest in Mexico City and her presence there comes from the fact that her father was a native of Mexico City but his desire to come to the United States eventually brought him to New York City where he met and married her mother, a native of Portugal.

Her mother and grandmother came to the United States during the Industrial Revolution. Joffe returned with her grandmother to Portugal to live during the Great Depression.

Her travels around the world never stopped, because her husband's work in the electrical mechanical engineering field took them to many countries where he worked and lectured, she said.

"He was invited to speak in many countries as he spoke perfect English, and was brilliant in his field," Joffe said.

"We received an invite to come to Corpus Christi to look at land available for sale on Padre Island. It was a desolate place; there was nothing built there then," Joffe recalled.

"But we fell in love with the area and bought a lot on the island." The family made many trips to Corpus Christi, and 13 years ago the couple bought a house.

In her spare time, she took up stamp collecting, mostly U.S.A, and the collection of cups from all over the world. Her cups now number around 300, she said.

She is always ready to assist students who need help, or just a friendly smile Cynthia Tamez said, "While sitting in the Harvin Center contemplating whether to keep trying or just giving up on my career because math was so difficult it would prevent me from getting into nursing, Marguerite approached me and encouraged me to continue. I did."

And so did Joffe. She has adjusted to college life and, for students like Tamez, has become a source of inspiration and even a mentor.

As for journalism, Joffe thinks she will just "keep on writing."

### WEST CAMPUS | HOLIDAY SPIRIT



Contributed Photo by Dinet Weed

Students in the Occupational Therapy program play Santa's elves, decorating tree in the Coleman center: left to right, Ida Stewart, Marissa Tyenna, Mary Moreland, Cindy Downs, Andrea Garcia, Nichole Overado, Rosabel Abad, and Corie Heck.

## James shows love for sign language, students

By Marguerite Joffe  
FOGHORN

Just like those of us born with the ability to hear, language barriers handicap deaf people around the world as well.

In France, Germany, Austria and several European countries, for example, the deaf communicate with their hands, but position their fingers differently from English speaking deaf people. This being the case, American signers are unable to communicate with signers from other countries.

But Lucy James, instructor of Interpreter Preparation, is attempting to rectify the situation. She teaches sign language and interpreting classes at Del Mar College and prepares her students for future teaching positions in the field of interpreting Sign Language. Next spring, she will be working with advanced students in interpreting events.

"Learning one form of sign language is not enough, there is still more to learn," James

said. However, for the deaf, "I love you," is identical in every language.

"To say [I love you] in Sign Language, on one hand, fold two middle fingers and stretch out the remaining three," she explained.

James has been teaching at DMC full-time for one year. James started as an adjunct professor in 1999.

"I love working with the students and helping them to fulfill their dreams of working in the field of deaf interpretation," James said.

James was born and raised in Texas.

When she was in the 7th grade, she used her hands and fingers to carry on a conversation with one of her classmates and, with time, James learned sign language she said.

"I didn't realize at that time that I was going to use it for the rest of my life," James said. Now, she is hoping to reach across borders to teach sign language students ways to communicate in all languages.



Harley Doerfler | FOGHORN

Lucy James, instructor of Interpreter Preparation, teaches sign language and interpreting classes at Del Mar College.

## OT students provide tree, cheer, fun to State School students

By Harley Doerfler  
FOGHORN

The Occupational Therapy Club hosted a party for the students at Corpus Christi State School.

The club served pizza, cake and drinks to 24 State School student. In addition, each State School student received a gift from one of the Del Mar College students, said Nichole Overado, president of the OT Club.

Homer Ramos, Director of Student Activities, provided the food for the gathering. This has been an annual project for many years, Ramos said. "The students enjoy the party as much as the guests do," he said. Curtis Lee, instructor of occupational therapy, helped organized and plan the event with the students.

Nichole Overado said, the club was proud to do the project and helped both the DMC students and State School students enjoy the cheer of the holidays.