



President’s Message

By Joyce Ono, President, OLLI-CSUF



As I write my monthly message at the end of January, the new year has arrived ominously, with the storming of our capitol followed by the subdued Presidential inauguration. The inauguration took place while I was in OLLI’s “Drawing for the Fun of It” class, but I managed to watch replayed snippets of the event, including the mesmerizing delivery of Amanda Gorman’s poem, “The Hill We Climb.” Her words and delivery gave me “chicken skin” (Hawaiian version of goose bumps—growing up in Hawaii, we weren’t very familiar with geese) and a feeling of optimism for the year to come and the generation she represents.

OLLI held an Open House on January 9 that was open to the public in lieu of our usual Spring Preview. I held my breath as we incorporated Zoom breakout rooms to simulate the tents in our usual Open House, in which class representatives promoted their classes. Thank you to the many instructors and coordinators who participated and endured the two practice sessions and to those of you whom Ellie Monroe invited to serve as mock participants so we could identify potential problems prior to the event. Thanks, too, to Bill Reilly, Jim Monroe, Bob Newcomb and the many members of OLLI’s Technology Education Committee, who helped to manage and support the breakout rooms. OLLI’s August Open House always produces an energized buzz for me as the work of so many comes to fruition for the few hours of the event. I felt that buzz again, and even though the event

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OLLI-CSUF Board Election

Coming April 15, 2021

By Chris Shaw, Editor

All OLLI members are encouraged to join the General Meeting/Election on April 15 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom to meet the nominees and vote to elect the new officers and trustees of the Board of Trustees (Board).

In accordance with OLLI Bylaw BL-9, the Board appointed the following OLLI members to this year’s Nomination and Election Committee (Committee): Ken Luke and Rayleen Williams (representing the general membership); Debbie Maxwell and Vickie Hite (representing the Board); Jim Monroe (Immediate Past President); Phil Barnhard (Parliamentarian) and Janice Jeng (Chair). The Committee was tasked with nominating a single slate of candidates for election to replace the members of the Board who are completing their terms of office in May 2021.

In October and November of 2020 all OLLI members were invited via emails, OLLI Announcements & Events newsletters and the ChroniCLE to submit an application if they were interested in being a candidate for the election. Those applicants and other OLLI members were considered by the Committee for the Board positions up for election. Their deliberations were confidential and independent of the Board.

The Committee nominated **Ellie Monroe** for President; **Renee Cabrera** for Vice President Programs; **Bill Sampson** for Vice President Membership; **Tony Package** for Vice President Facilities, **Lisa Sewell** for Vice President Hospitality; **Ann Sparks** for Treasurer and **Rosalind Charles, William Clark, Michele Frankel, Tom La Casa** and **Pete Saputo** for the five Trustees at Large. Thanks to the Committee

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President Joyce Ono
 Vice President Administration Mike Stover
 Vice President Programs Ellie Monroe
 Vice President Communication Ginger Barnhart
 Vice President Membership Debbie Maxwell
 Vice President External Relations Susan Mullaly
 Vice President Facilities Pete Saputo
 Vice President Hospitality Elaine Mitchell
 Vice President Technology Bob Newcomb
 Treasurer Ann Sparks
 Secretary Chris Shaw
 Chris Shaw (tashawc01@gmail.com), Editor; Denny Bean, Alice Gresto, Susan McNamara, Elaine Mitchell and Mary Sampson, Staff Writers

Desktop Publishing: Celia Reynolds

**Ellie Monroe, Nominee
 President**

By Chris Shaw, Editor



A California native, Ellie Monroe graduated from CSUF with a degree in Finance and Marketing and was employed in that field for over 30 years.

Ellie is best known at OLLI for her music classes, such as the “History of Broadway,” “Great American Songbook:

The History of American Music,” and “History of Rock ‘n’ Roll,” “Musical Performances” and “Noontime Student Piano Performances” courses. She works closely with the CSUF School of Music as an OLLI Collaborator and often performs for the OLLI Socials. She has coordinated the Sock Hop, the Cinco de Mayo Celebration and many other courses and socials. She is the instructor and/or coordinator for the “CSUF Faculty/ Student Performances,” the “Guitars/Strings—Jam Session,” “Transitions in Retirement Essentials,” “Line Dancing—Beginner’s Level” and “The OLLI Pops Combo” courses. Ellie also assembles pictures of OLLI members who served in the military during previous wars, and shows them,

OLLI is a program of the CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Services Corporation administered by University Extended Education, California State University, Fullerton

accompanied by patriotic music, during the Fourth of July and Veterans Recognition event each year.

Ellie has a great deal of experience on the Board of Trustees, serving as Trustee at Large, Treasurer and Vice President Membership. She is currently serving as Vice President Programs.

She is well known as a tireless volunteer and a major contributor to OLLI’s curriculum, and her experience and dedication to OLLI will serve her well as President.

**Renee Cabrera, Nominee
 Vice President Programs**

By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer



Music is Renee’s first passion. She left college to join the United States Air Force Band in 1974. After leaving the Air Force she was employed by the University of California, Irvine for 28 years at UCI Medical Center in Orange, California, where she had administrative and financial responsibilities including Pharmacy Office Manager, Administrative Analyst and Senior Analyst. Before she left UCI her duties included billing, systems audits and training staff on audit policies and procedures.

After Renee retired in 2015 she learned about OLLI and its musical performance courses. Currently she sings soprano in the OLLI Chorale, (Voce D’Oro), plays the French horn in the Curtain Call Band and plays a mean trumpet in the OLLI Jazz Band. Occasionally, she can be heard performing in one of the OLLI concerts as a member of a group honoring the Andrew Sisters.

She is also a member of the OLLI Curriculum Committee and the Musical Performances Committee, and she is a section editor (Fine Arts) for the OLLI Blue Book. She is currently serving on the Board of Trustees as a Trustee at Large.

Her rich background and experience with OLLI programs makes Renee a fine choice to represent us as a board trustee.

Bill Sampson, Nominee

Vice President Membership

By Denny Bean, Staff Writer



Bill was born and raised for a time in Chicago. A television program displayed the sunny warm weather in California. So in 1960, it was off to the golden state, and of all places Beverly Hills. The city was selected

based upon mom's study of school districts.

Bill graduated from Beverly Hills High and was off to UCLA, earning a degree in History. His ability in dealing with people led to sales of window coverings, where he spent 38 years including some time with Hunter-Douglas. Retiring in 2012, he joined OLLI. But after a year he found he missed his calling and returned on a part-time basis with Lowe's.

Retiring again 2019, he rejoined OLLI. His wife of 43 years, Mary, is our Monday movie maven, who also teaches other classes. Bill's interests have been trips to LA airport and the Rose Parade float viewing, and he enjoys Mike Stover's excellent presentations.

Bill was a member of the Parking Restrictions Mitigation Committee, and he is now using his considerable sales experience to develop advertising for OLLI to help recruit new members. He is currently serving as a Trustee at Large on the Board of Trustees.

Tony Package, Nominee

Vice President Facilities

By Denny Bean, Staff Writer

Tony Package was born in western Pennsylvania, but he grew up in Seattle where he graduated from Seattle University with degrees in marketing, accounting and philosophy. He then received an M.B.A. from UC Berkeley. He worked as a marketing executive in companies that supply the dental industry.

Tony enjoys sports, gardening, yoga, reading mysteries and collecting coins. He did a Rainier

Beer commercial with Mickey Rooney, and he sparred with Mohammed Ali a week before the Michael Spinks fight. As Tony recalls, Ali was out of shape. In 1969 his band, The Rum Runners, served as backup for several bands during the infamous Woodstock concert.



Tony's OLLI interests include courses in classical music, Spanish, history and poker. He is the Lead for the OLLI Library Team. He worked for years to develop the OLLI Library, building new shelving, soliciting donated books and

developing lending procedures. Tony served as Vice President Facilities from 2013 to 2015, when he had the flooring redone and chairs replaced in Mackey Auditorium and had Shapiro Wing carpeted. He is currently a Trustee at Large on the Board of Trustees.

Tony's executive career and previous experience as Vice President Facilities make him an excellent choice for another term as Vice President Facilities.

Lisa Sewell, Nominee

Vice President Hospitality

By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer



Lisa was born in Coronado, California, raised in Orange County and received degrees in History and Curriculum & Instruction from CSUF and holds a California teaching credential in Elementary Education. She taught for the

Rowland Heights School District at Blandford School for 39 years, 30 years teaching 4th grade.

Friends introduced her to OLLI in 2012, and she began taking classes here in the afternoons even before she retired. She has been a member of the Hospitality Committee for the past seven years, where she has been active in planning and carrying out events, delighting in the camaraderie involved and the satisfaction of hosting events enjoyed by our OLLI members.

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Lisa Sewell ...Continued from Page 3

Lisa is an avid reader and loves working in her garden or cooking up tasty dishes in her kitchen. She currently leads Kitty's Book Club and coordinates the "GROW Gardening Club." She also is a member of the Trips Committee, where she developed and carried out plans for bus trips to the Flower Fields and Leo Carrillo State Park. Given her enthusiastic history of work with the Hospitality Committee and her desire to be the liaison between the Board of Trustees and that committee, Lisa is highly qualified to be Vice President of Hospitality.

**Ann Sparks, Nominee
Treasurer**

By Denny Bean, Staff Writer



Ann's life began in Des Moines, Iowa where she lived until the age of four. The family then moved to New Jersey where she really experienced a difference in culture and geography. At 14, they closed the loop by moving back to her

beginnings.

In 1976, she moved to Cypress where she attended Cypress College. Then it was off to our very own CSUF, where she graduated with a degree in Business Administration and Accounting, followed by an M.B.A in Finance. She was not done until she gained a School Business Operations Certificate.

Her career began in the saving and loan industry followed by various positions in education, ending as the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services at Bonita Unified School District.

Ann attended the Saturday "Transition in Retirement Essentials" classes before she retired in 2017 and joined OLLI. Her favorite classes are "What's Behind the News?," "The New Yorker Magazine Discussion Group" and "The Trump Presidency." She admires how OLLIans respect each other's opinions and the deep knowledge some possess.

Ann served on the Board of Trustees as Trustee

at Large and Secretary. In 2020 she was appointed as Treasurer to fill a vacancy. Her education and experience in accounting and finance, along with her recent experience on the Board as Treasurer makes her an excellent nominee for Treasurer.

**Rosalind Charles, Nominee
Trustee at Large**

By Susan McNamara, Staff Writer



Rosalind Charles is a Southern California native. She grew up and completed her K-12 education in Los Angeles County. Roz earned a B.S.B. in Information Systems and an M.B.A. in Technology Management from the University of

Phoenix.

Roz was a 40-year employee of Los Angeles County's Department of Public Social Services. She worked on various projects including the development and implementation of LEADER (Los Angeles Automated Development and Reporting system) and served as the Education Committee registrar for Los Angeles County's Management Council where she played an integral part in the cross departmental registrations for educational classes and seminars for managers.

Roz has been a member of OLLI for three years and has enjoyed attending lectures, book clubs and presentations of CSUF student work. She has contributed to OLLI through volunteering for a variety of OLLI functions such as OLLI's Open House and is currently working with the OLLI technical help team.

Roz has gained valuable experience on the Board of Trustees, appointed Trustee at Large to fill a vacancy. She enjoys working with others to solve problems and to develop and implement new projects. In the position of Trustee at Large, she would use these skills to bring fresh ideas and vision for the future of OLLI.

William F. Clark, Nominee

Trustee at Large

By William Clark, Nominee



A graduate of Cal State Fullerton, William majored in Political Science and later went on to obtain a master's degree in Behavioral Science at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

He retired in 2009 after a long public service career in city government, serving in his hometown of Norwalk, California.

William has been an OLLI member since 2011. He and his wife Mary Ann are course coordinators for the "Mastering Retirement" course. He also serves on the Dean's Advisory Board, UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare and the Music Associates Board, Cal State Fullerton. In their spare time, William and Mary Ann are full-time pet parents to two rescued pups named Bonnie & Clyde.

Passionate about lifelong learning, William is most inspired by the many new friends and mentors he has discovered as a result of his involvement in OLLI. It is his personal goal to promote the idea that every participant in OLLI matters. William comes to the position of Trustee at Large with the understanding that to be an effective leader, one must first be an effective team member. His experience in previous leadership roles came only after having served in multiple board positions. He feels it is important to embrace an organization's mission, culture and values.

Michele Frankel, Nominee

Trustee at Large

By Mary Sampson, Staff Writer

At the first OLLI holiday party she attended, Michele Frankel looked for the one person that she knew at the time, but she did not see her. A woman jumped up and invited her to join her table. Michele said she would continue looking, and the woman said that if she could not find her friend, she could come back and join her. The woman who

gave her such a friendly invitation was Jean Bryant.

After retiring from Experian, where she was always seeking self-improvement by taking classes and working her way up, she brought her excellent technical skills to OLLI.



When she joined OLLI about three years ago, she was looking for an opportunity for socialization.

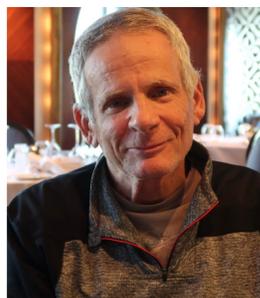
She is reserved, but is always willing to learn new skills and meet new people. The Hospitality Committee gave her a chance to make friends and help to organize events. She most recently contributed heavily to the Hospitality Holiday Photo Book and Hospitality Recruitment Brochure.

Michele is not a person who seeks the spotlight, but she loves to work as a part of a team. She loves troubleshooting and figuring out how to make a plan work. She will be an asset to the Board of Trustees as Trustee at Large.

Tom La Casa, Nominee

Trustee at Large

Elaine Mitchell, Staff Writer



After his first years as a boy from the Bronx, Tom has traveled the world with his eight-plus years in the Air Force, and then, beginning with Hughes, to finally retire from Fullerton Raytheon after 35 years. His bachelor's degree in business at St.

John's University led him to Air Force officer training school and then earning his M.B.A. in Oklahoma.

Tom, a real multi-tasker, also met and married Mickey (also an OLLI member), and they had two children during this time. Depending on the length of the posting and the children's ages, the family sometimes traveled together. The two years, stationed in Korea, gave them an opportunity to spend time with extended family and ancestry.

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Tom La Casa ...Continued from Page 5

Between both careers, Tom has lived and worked in Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, England, Scotland, Korea, Japan and Iceland.

Tom is enjoying volunteering with Transitions in Retirement and the Technology Education Committee and helping other members with technical challenges. He also attends many of the more thoughtful OLLI courses, such as Mike Stover's political and financial lectures and discussions.

With a strong background in training, management and interfacing with a diverse client base, Tom is an excellent choice for Trustee at Large.

Pete Saputo, Nominee Trustee at Large

By Elaine Mitchell, Staff Writer

Pete Saputo was born in Chicago into a large, close, traditional family. He developed a strong work ethic, a drive to always learn more and to dream higher. Pete became a true jack-of-all-trades, studying mechanics, hydraulics and electronics; but concentrating on basic physics.



Following an accident with a long recovery period, Pete decided to move to Colorado and bought mountain property near Denver. He built his family home and barn himself. He moved from repairing to selling heavy equipment and was recruited by a large corporation to open a California office. He started his own company to engineer, manufacture and supply unique tooling, usually for manufacturing large items.

Pete retired early, dreaming of teaching science. So, he went back to school and earned a B.S. in Geology from CSUF. Afterwards, he was asked to join the Field Investigation for Science Teachers (FIST) Program, where he taught earth sciences to science teachers.

Pete enjoys all OLLI science classes, "Mystery Book Club," and discussion classes such as "The New Yorker." He served as OLLI's Vice President

Facilities from 2009 to 2011, and he is currently serving in his second term in that office. His past service on OLLI's Board of Trustees, his life experience and his education make him eminently qualified for Trustee at Large.

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was virtual, the buzz was real! 210 people attended the event, of which 57 were nonmembers, so even though our event was virtual, as with the fall Open House, we had almost twice the number of people in attendance than when our event is face to face.

This issue of the ChroniCLE presents the nominees for the upcoming Board of Trustees who will be elected by acclamation in April. We are fortunate to have an impressive slate who will oversee a crucial transition of OLLI back to the new normal. The current Board is developing detailed plans and involving these nominees so there can be a smooth handoff of responsibilities.

I've just had my first COVID-19 vaccination, as have many other OLLI members, but there are still many, including my 90-year-old spouse, who have not. The distribution of the vaccine has been a dysfunctional scramble and counties have hired companies like Othena to manage scheduling and tracking vaccinations via technology. When California lowered the eligibility age to 65, it opened the gates to us baby boomers, and it appears that the Othena website and app were overwhelmed. This may have led to the eldest of the eligible population, who are also the most vulnerable, being shut out by the deluge of more technology-adept boomers. I'm feeling a bit guilty that I've had the shot when my spouse has not, even though he registered with Othena less than an hour after I had. But what about others, especially those who live off the internet grid and live independently? Do they have a family member or friends helping?

OLLI Board members have been considering the issue of requiring members to have proof of vaccination when we first return to campus. At the present time, CSUF does not require it. There is much we still don't know about this rapidly evolving virus, and during the interim while effective treatments are being developed and before

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the true efficacy of the vaccines is known, OLLI members will face a dilemma about who and how they interact with each other when we return to campus.

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members for recruiting and vetting a fine slate of nominees.

Bylaw BL-10 provides that any member who submitted an application, but was not nominated by the Committee, may submit a petition to be placed on the ballot. No petitions were received.

Short biographies and pictures of all the nominees are shown in this ChroniCLE.

What's Happening at the Board

By Chris Shaw, Editor

OLLI's Board of Trustees met on January 14. Following are highlights of the issues from that meeting:

- Treasurer's Report: \$14,800 in donations to OLLI and \$15,639 in membership dues were received.
- New procedures for investigations into, and penalties for, breaches in civility were approved.
- Work on the new 2016-2021 Long Range Plan was delayed to focus on plans for returning to campus in the fall semester.
- All Board officers began working together to determine what each needs to do, and by when, to accommodate OLLI members' return to the Ruby Gerontology Center in the fall.
- As of January 14, 26 new members have joined OLLI during the recruiting drive for the spring and summer semesters.
- OLLI membership recruiting flyers are available from Sue Mullaly.
- The Virtual Spring Open House video is on the Welcome webpage of the OLLI website, and will be available through the spring semester.
- A new "Tattler" newsletter with personal news about OLLI members was sent to former OLLI members to keep them engaged and encourage them to reregister.
- Zoom Buddies are now available for help with

Zoom by joining the "Free OLLI Tech Help" class on Friday afternoons or by calling 714-451-6698 and leaving a message.

- Thanks to all who helped put on the Virtual Spring Open House. 210 attended, of which 57 were prospective new members.
- Online payment options are coming for class fees, events and trips.

Ask the Board

By Chris Shaw, OLLI Secretary and ChroniCLE Editor

JoBeth and Bill asked why they received a "missing you" card and were added to the Heritage Club, even though they did renew their membership and paid their fees. Michelle from the OLLI office confirmed that they are still paid OLLI members. There was a delay in notification to OLLI of some members' renewals from the CSUF system.

Marietta asked if the shortfall in revenue due to low membership renewals can be made up from the Osher Endowment Fund. Jim Monroe, Immediate Past President and former Treasurer, responded that most years OLLI does receive investment income from the Osher Endowment Fund, and we commonly use that income to pay expenses that are not totally covered by membership fee income. We anticipate that OLLI will use both reserves and the endowment distribution to cover any shortfall this year.

Marilyn asked if the ChroniCLE could publicize volunteer and employment opportunities for her non-profit organization. After conferring with OLLI President Joyce Ono, I responded that we don't sponsor nor publicize organizations outside OLLI or Cal State Fullerton. We also don't publicize volunteer or employment opportunities for our members outside our organization.

If you have a question, send an email to Chris at tashawc01@gmail.com with your question. This is your one-stop, easy access to all things OLLI.

I will find the right person to get the right answer for you, and I'll email you the answer. I'll also share your question and answer in the next ChroniCLE, because if you wondered about something, other OLLI members may have wondered the same thing.



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Unless you elected not to receive emails from OLLI, you are currently receiving an email each month announcing the new ChroniCLE and calendar for the upcoming month with links to view or download the publications. You can also access the most recent ChroniCLEs and calendars through links in the weekly OLLI News Bytes and on the OLLI Website.

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