



## President’s Message

*By Joyce Ono, President, OLLI-CSUF*



President Fram Virjee and First Lady of CSUF, Julie, together provided a much-appreciated welcome to the new academic year in OLLI’s first virtual Open House. The [recorded video](#) of this event is available on

OLLI’s website, which has been refreshed, thanks to the creative work of our webmaster and team, Dan Coby, Melinda Wiltsie and Vice President External Relations Susan Mullaly. You’ll see that the website has new navigation tools that make it easier to locate important information while we are in virtual mode.

The OLLI membership numbers reported weekly by Vice President Membership Services Debbie Maxwell are quite dismal. We are ~50% the usual number of members at the end of August as I write this monthly musing and ten times lower than usual for new members! OLLI usually loses about 200 members every year, but that is usually compensated for by that many new members. So the news that only ~20 new members have joined at this time does not bode well. The OLLI Board has made plans to market OLLI, something we have not had to do for almost five years because it appeared that a membership level of ~1,500 brought in sufficient revenue and our facilities could adequately accommodate that many members.

The current shutdown has brought on challenges, but some good changes are in store for us. The reliance on technology now and in the near future suggests to me that OLLI may need to consider having a staff member with technology expertise

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## OLLI’s Sunshine Social Callers

*By Denny Bean, Staff Writer*

OLLI’s Sunshine Social Callers is a group of a couple dozen volunteers led by Tony Package (pictured). The purpose is to maintain contact with our members who are sheltering at home by calling them occasionally.



Each caller is given a list of 50 members to call each month. Tony tried to match the caller’s city with the member’s city. That way volunteers get members in their vicinity. The La Habra Heights volunteer was unaware that there were eight other OLLIans in the same area. This activity

began in June, and over 1,000 calls have been completed each month. The callers talk to each person to find out how they are doing in these difficult times. They offer advice about problems members are encountering, and inform them of coming events like the beginning of membership renewal in July and OLLI’s Open House in August.

The called members appreciate OLLI contacting them and knowing they can ask questions and get answers. In one case, the wife let it be known that the OLLI member, her spouse, had passed away. Tony contacted the OLLI office so that his information could be compiled for an announcement. If members don’t respond after three left-messages, they are removed from the list. The callers do not over burden members with a lot of unnecessary information. But in one instance, Tony spent 45 minutes with one member who was pleased to have someone to chat with. Some members are by themselves and miss interacting at

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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  
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 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

## **Ginger Barnhart** **Vice President Communications**

*By Chris Shaw, Editor*



Ginger grew up in Burbank, California. She raised her family in the Bay Area, and later moved to Arizona to care for her mother before coming home to Southern California.

She has had a lot of organizational experience.

She was an HR manager of One Step Beyond, responsible for training families and caregivers, and issuing information about and explaining updates in state regulations. She was also Director of Education and Training, Raising Special Kids, IDEA-mandated Parent Training and Information Center for the state of Arizona.

Ginger has been co-editor of the OLLI newsletters for four years. She does Calendar entry and maintenance of the OLLI website. She has also served on the Curriculum Committee and as an OLLI office volunteer. Ginger was elected Vice President Communications in April.

The job of Vice President Communications is to oversee a large assortment of electronic and print media that communicate information to OLLI members. Some of these also represent OLLI to the public.

The Blue Book course catalog is OLLI’s oldest (going back to 1979) and most relied-upon source of information, which is printed and electronically distributed each semester. It focuses on describing the courses offered and their schedule, but it goes beyond that, providing information, maps and other references. Chris Shaw is the editor and the four copy editors are Judy Alter, Susan Hanna, Linda Kapiloff and Susan McNamara. The Blue Book is also OLLI’s printed “face to the public.”

The ChroniCLE also goes back to OLLI’s roots. This monthly newsletter is published like a newspaper and emailed to all members monthly (except July and December), and available in printed form. It reports on what is going on at OLLI, giving profiles and photos of courses, activities and the people who make it all happen. Chris Shaw is the editor of the ChroniCLE, and Denny Bean, Alice Gresto, Elaine Mitchell, Susan McNamara and Mary Sampson are staff writers.

OLLI’s weekly electronic newsletters are distributed via email and provide weekly curriculum updates. They also provide announcements to members, volunteer opportunities and other handy information. Ginger is a co-editor of the newsletters along with Melinda Wiltsie. They also team-up to produce stand-alone emails to members with important time-sensitive information.

An electronic bulletin board in the lobby of the Shapiro Wing lists the calendar of classes for the week, plus rotating features pulled from the weekly newsletters and the ChroniCLE. This is maintained by Melinda Wiltsie.

The OLLI website holds a vast array of information for members and the public, including calendars of courses, with descriptions, for the entire semester at <http://olli.fullerton.edu/>. The webmaster is Dan Coby, and he is assisted by editors Ginger Barnhart, Steve Kernes and Bev Risse.

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The OLLI Photo Archive is a repository of all photos taken of OLLI members and activities. Will Cornell leads the Photo Resource Team of OLLI photographers who attend and immortalize OLLI's events and take portraits of OLLI members, which are used in OLLI's Blue Book, ChroniCLE, TiR Open to the Public brochure and various other venues for both members and the public.

OLLI's newest communication medium is our Facebook page, managed by Janice Jeng. This social medium focuses on pictures and videos of people and activities at OLLI with short descriptions. This is a fun way to keep up with what's going on at OLLI, and it is another way we promote OLLI to the public.

As you can see, keeping OLLI members informed takes a village of talented and committed volunteers, along with the talented leadership of Ginger Barnhart.

## **Creating Certainty in Uncertain World**

Join us for two PERSONAL BUDGETING AND ESTATE PLANNING webinar workshops:

- 1) "Personal Budgeting During the Pandemic: Take Control of Your Financial Future!" on Tuesday, October 6 at noon.
- 2) "Estate Planning 'Musts' During the Pandemic: Wills, Trusts and Creating Peace of Mind!" on Thursday, October 15 at noon.

You must register at <https://events.attend.com/f/1383792562#/reg/0/>. Prior to each workshop, you will receive an email with the Zoom link to join.

Workshops provided by Cal State Fullerton Philanthropic and the Meier Law Firm (<https://www.meierfirm.com/>). Should you have any questions, please reach out to Hart Roussel at [csufplannedgift@fullerton.edu](mailto:csufplannedgift@fullerton.edu).

## **Suspended Fall Programs**

The following programs listed in the fall Blue Book are suspended for the remainder of the fall semester, unless or until in-person classes are resumed or Zoom classes are arranged for them:

A Course in Miracles; Arboretum and/or Campus Walk; Bridge, Duplicate; Bridge, Intermediate; Bridge, Really Beginning Bridge and Supervised Play; Curtain Call Strings; Dynasties, Wars and Nations—The Political Evolution of Europe; French Discussion; Hearing and Hearing Aids; Introduction to Strategies of Poker; Jazz Band; Jazz Series at Florentine's Grill; Musical Performances; Musical Performances/Rehearsals; OLLI Holiday Luncheon; OLLI October Dinner; OLLI Social Rollers Open Bowling; Recorders/Guitars & More Ensemble; Social Science in the News; Spanish 2; Spanish 3-Vocabulary; Strategy of Poker; Strategy of Scrabble; Tai Chi; Tennis; Voci d'Oro Chorale.

Watch the weekly OLLI newsletter emails for any changes.

## **Collaboration Steering Committee**

*By Susan Mullaly, Vice President External Relations*

The annual Steering Committee meeting between the CSUF associate deans and OLLI Collaboration Committee met via Zoom on July 7.

This meeting gave us an opportunity to share the many Collaboration projects that our OLLI volunteers have engaged in with the CSUF students and faculty in the previous year and to solicit input from the associate deans to identify new opportunities to assist them, the professors and the students.

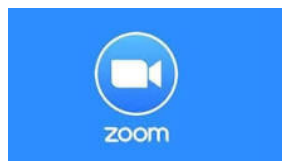
In attendance were Associate Deans Dr. Arnold Holland (College of the Arts), Dr. Sang June Oh (College of Engineering and Computer Science), Dr. Cindy Greenberg (College of Health and Human Development), Dr. Paul Levesque (College of Humanities and Social Sciences), Dr. Sean Walker (College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics), Dr. Jenny Zhan (Mihaylo College of Business and Economics), and Ms. Christina Kim, Associate Director, Programs for Extension and International Programs. The meeting was facilitated by Sue Mullaly, OLLI's Vice President External Relations, and included 15 other OLLI members.

We began with introductions and updates from

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## Virtual Open House Staged

By Chris Shaw, Editor



On Saturday, August 22, OLLI's first virtual Open House showcased OLLI's programs and benefits, encouraged membership renewal and solicited new

members in anticipation of the new academic year. An exceptional 310 participants registered for the Zoom webinar; 19% of them were guests.

OLLI President Joyce Ono began by explaining the webinar format and how to ask questions. Information in response to these questions is included in the following.

Joyce opened the program spotlighting OLLI's affiliations to The Osher Foundation and the Extension and International Programs (EIP) and Auxiliary Services Corporation divisions of Cal State Fullerton (CSUF). Joyce then introduced Chris Swarat, Associate Vice President of EIP, who profiled the current state of CSUF and lauded OLLI's on-going contribution to the University.

Joyce cited OLLI's 41-year history, members of the 2020-21 Board of Trustees and OLLI office staff. She explained OLLI's organization and benefits of membership, pointing to OLLI's Open to the Public Gatefold, the Blue Book catalog of programs and the OLLI website as the best sources of information about OLLI.

Ellie Monroe, Vice President Programs, gave a comprehensive presentation of OLLI's programs, pointing to the success of 50 summer programs offered virtually. She thanked the instructors and coordinators, as well as OLLI's technical and administrative volunteers, for adapting our programs so quickly and so well to virtual classes using Zoom. Over 80 programs will be offered via Zoom in the fall semester, and guests were invited to attend any virtual class. Zoom class links will be provided on the website and in newsletters. A few courses (like computer courses) require pre-registration, which is detailed in the Blue Book. The Blue Book lists some programs that are not available via Zoom, which won't be available until we are back on campus. Links are available

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the associate deans related to the challenges and opportunities of their specific colleges in the midst of the pandemic. Recent graduate Robert Ortiz Archila spoke about the benefits of the mentor program for CSUF students, then OLLI members gave presentations: John Blaydes shared the efficacy of collaboration with future teachers in the School of Education; Betty Johnson spoke about the impact of OLLI volunteers sharing their career experience with CSUF students; and Ellie Monroe shared the benefits to students and OLLI members in the finely-tuned, mutual exchange of talent, knowledge and appreciation between OLLI and the School of Music.

Several recommendations were made to expand our visibility and strengthen the Collaboration Program across the CSUF campus. In this time of Zoom meetings, we still have many opportunities to provide student mentoring, both one-on-one and in groups, share our life experience in panels, workshops and teaching classes as requested, and continue to expand our other collaborations with the students and faculty.

The meeting began and ended with the excitement of seeing each other virtually after many months and the enthusiasm generated by our plans for continuing OLLI-CSUF Collaboration in the upcoming school year.

To learn more about OLLI-CSUF Collaboration and our volunteer opportunities, email Sue Mullaly at [olli-vpexternalrelat@fullerton.edu](mailto:olli-vpexternalrelat@fullerton.edu) or visit our web page at [OLLI.fullerton.edu](http://OLLI.fullerton.edu) and click on the Volunteer tab.

### **OLLI in the News**

A story about OLLI's own Dr. Joe Lawton appeared in the June 26 Orange County Register. Dr. Lawton, famous for his "Jazz Series" courses, playing at Florentine's Grill and Belage Gournet Restaurants in Fullerton, found himself without a venue when COVID-19 shut everything down. But that didn't stop him from performing weekly for his neighbors. See the story at <https://tinyurl.com/OLLIDrJoe>.

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to provide the training and continuity of operations and interfacing with the campus technology group. The office currently is reliant on knowledgeable volunteers and the services of CSUF's Extension and International Programs (EIP) personnel to help with technology issues. The current need to have a wholly electronic procedure for OLLI members to audit CSUF classes has led to the creation of an online form that appears to make the process much more efficient and timely. More new procedures such as this will be in place when we return to campus. OLLI Treasurer Ann Sparks is working with EIP to streamline how we obtain timely financial reports while we are minus one staff member and this is a potential long-term positive change.

Our Distance Learning video library has ballooned, thanks to Bob Newcomb, Vice President Technology, and the student assistants that OLLI has hired. Together, they edit the raw video files from the current Zoom recordings of certain classes so that these recordings are available very quickly for view from links at our [Distance Learning webpage](#). OLLI will continue to offer these recordings and real-time virtual participation in certain classes when we return, but we will need to equip our classrooms to permit this.

By the time you read this message, OLLI will have contacted you about our annual donation drive to help fund efforts such as this and to continue forward with our plans to renovate the Shapiro patio so it can be used year round. This will allow the full use of the Shapiro AB classroom for larger classes. If you haven't sent in your support to make our programs and facility even better than before, please consider doing so. With this downturn in our membership, we will need all the support we can muster! All our donations to OLLI will also be counted toward CSUF's "It Takes a Titan," multi-year, comprehensive campaign to raise \$200 million for the campus. With budget cuts, hiring freezes and unanticipated expenses due to the pandemic, the campus is in dire need of support.

How are each of you faring after this prolonged isolation? Hopefully, you have adapted to safe

means of maintaining some sense of socialization, which is important at this stage in our lives. Consider participating in OLLI's Collaboration with CSUF and imparting your knowledge of soft skills with CSUF students who are having to endure the lack of contact and usual networking with fellow students, where such skills are acquired. At the same time, you'll do yourself and society a favor and feel good about it!

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OLLI, so they have become very lonely. Another had food source difficulties, and arrangements were made to assist the member.

Since Tony is on OLLI's Board of Trustees, he keeps them abreast of the callers' activities. Vice President Programs Ellie Monroe and Past President Jim Monroe have contributed greatly, which isn't news. When the Sunshine Social Callers get a question from a called member they can't answer, Jim and Ellie are the go-to team. Jim has been very involved in helping members learn to use Zoom. Ellie has been very instrumental in getting people back on OLLI's email distribution list so they can follow OLLI news, as well as answering membership and program questions.

Thanks to Tony Package for conceiving of the idea and forming the group, and thanks to the following OLLI volunteers who are the Sunshine Social Callers: Mary Alice Blaydes, Georgia Browne, Elizabeth Burrell, Sara Clark, Jim Ertle, Mary Ferris, Chuck Geitner, Young Kea, Leonard Leventhal, Joan Levine, Maureen McConaghy, Chris Milord, Peggy Misra, Lois Monroe, Tony Package, Richard Short, Linda Smith, Shirley Smith, Liz Strauss, Maryann Strossner, Jeanne Tarbell, Tammy Tran, Britt Wachsmann and Dianne Wallace.



### *Virtual Open ...Continued from Page 4*

on the [Open House webpage](#) to around 30 videos highlighting the fall programs available at OLLI, plus a library of recorded past classes under Distance Learning.

Russ MacKeand, TiR Chair, detailed the Transitions in Retirement programs, and how to register online for classes that are open to the public. Dr. Joe Lawton promoted pandemic safety measures, then discussed his popular “Medical Series” and its purpose of promoting health literacy for seniors. Susan Mullaly, Vice President External Relations, described OLLI-CSUF Collaboration Program opportunities to volunteer to help the University and community, like mentoring students. Mike Stover, Vice President Administration, discussed planning for our return to in-person classes on campus. We have a strategy, with members’ safety as the primary goal, considering many issues including State, local and University guidelines. Debbie Maxwell, Vice President Membership, promoted renewal and new member registration with OLLI. Go to the OLLI website ([oli.fullerton.edu](http://oli.fullerton.edu)) and click on Join/Renew). Annual registration is \$260, or \$150 for the fall semester only. Help with registration and Zoom is available on the website from “our own geek squad.”

Joyce introduced CSUF President Fram Virjee. He recalled his many interactions with OLLI, and wished OLLI a happy 40th anniversary. CSUF students, faculty and staff are all lifelong learners, and are guided by the OLLI organization and its rich Titan history. OLLI is the campus “fountain of youth.”

Joyce closed the program by encouraging volunteering and recounting the benefits of volunteering on committees including the Board of Trustees. Volunteers are more essential now than ever with our pivot to virtual learning. She invited everyone to visit the Fall Open House webpage. It includes a gallery of videos about OLLI programs and a video recording of this Virtual Open House.

We missed the traditional post Open House reception with refreshments, but members were invited to a virtual Dance Party Social later in the day.

## **What’s Happening at the Board**

*By Chris Shaw, Editor*

OLLI’s Board of Trustees met on August 13. Following are highlights of the issues from that meeting:

- As of August 13, membership registrations were at 380, only 48% of the 792 registered last year at this time.
- If new and renewed membership rates don’t improve, OLLI could have a revenue shortfall of \$212,000, less an expected \$100,000 in lower expenditures.
- OLLI has sufficient revenue to continue even at 50% of current membership.
- OLLI’s virtual Open House is planned for August 22. In addition to the regular presentations about the 2020-21 program, instructors are recording about 30 short videos highlighting their courses, to be available on the OLLI website.
- We are publicly soliciting new members for the first time in five years.
- We will actively promote OLLI in diverse communities. A diversity course “Black Lives Matter” is scheduled for December 17.
- “Bring a Friend” campaign is encouraging OLLI members to invite friends and family to OLLI’s Zoom classes.
- OLLI’s website has a new welcome webpage for visitors, with links to the course highlight videos and testimonials.
- OLLI is preparing strategies for negotiating this year’s parking fees and next year’s renewal of our parking agreement with CSUF.
- We are working with EIP/CSUF and using State guidelines to develop campus reentry procedures. It’s unlikely that all programs will return to in-person meetings in the spring 2021 semester, but they may return in phases.
- In-person classes/activities will require a new normal that is perceived as safe by OLLI members.
- OLLI’s Sunshine Callers are continuing to call members each month to keep in touch.
- New procedures for auditing CSUF’s virtual classes are updated on the OLLI website.
- Board members are adopting CSUF best practices for organizing virtual meetings.
- Virtual Town Hall was well-attended (over 170

members) and well-received.

- Collaboration will sponsor a meeting between OLLI mentors and student mentees on August 17, and they encourage members to volunteer to mentor.

- Virtual Dance Party is happening August 22, and more are planned.

- Hospitality Committee is working on a virtual Halloween event. The 2020 Holiday Luncheon was canceled, but the Embassy Suites is already reserved for 2021.

## Halloween Costume Party

*By Elaine Mitchell*

Hello, OLLI Members, the Hospitality Committee has missed partying with you all. We are planning a fun virtual Halloween party; you are all cordially invited to attend on Saturday, October 24, 2020, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Please dress in a favorite costume. Also, if you have a funny, dramatic or interesting “story” that goes with the costume, we would love your sharing that with all of us. Therefore, if you come as a historic or classic character, tell us about yourself: Why were you important in history? What positive or negative thing about yourself saved you a place in a legend or a history book?

Acts do not need to be solos. If two or more of you want to do a skit, or a joke or a routine, that would also be fun; just, please observe the safety guidelines in the Age of COVID-19.

A poet in a Polynesian outfit can recite a Halloween poem or demonstrate their expertise with a hula hoop. Witches, ghouls, zombies and Frankenstein monsters are welcome; this is Halloween party. And, it is also Dia De Los Muertos.

Hospitality would love to prepare a meal for you, but unfortunately, we cannot do that virtually. But if you have special Halloween décor, treats or drinks, you can demonstrate and share those with everyone virtually.

We will observe a two to three-minute time slot for each presentation. Please contact me, Elaine Mitchell, at [papypete@aol.com](mailto:papypete@aol.com) or 714-992-6970 to schedule your place in the cast and ask any

questions about how to video, film or record your talent.

Hospitality is looking forward to seeing you at this event. It will be fun, and there are no parking hassles, event size limits or cost. You only need to schedule your presentation (if any) by October 17 and register your attendance by October 22. Hope to see you all soon.



## New Features in Electronic Documents

In the ChroniCLE, you can click on the footnotes at the bottom of the page that state “xxxxxx ... *Continued on Page x*” to jump to the page where that article continues. To go back, click on “xxxxxx ... *Continued from Page x.*”

Starting with the fall 2020 Blue Book, you can click on a section or program title in the programs and alpha indexes to jump to that section or program page. You can also open Bookmarks on the left side of the document for a list of sections or programs, and click on a bookmark to jump to that section or program page.

## Pros and Cons Presentation on Statewide Ballot Initiatives

A Webinar on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 from Noon to 1:30The LWVNOG will explain the 12 State Initiatives on the November 2020 ballot. Pros and Cons on each Initiative as well as the its fiscal impact will be offered. Information will be presented factually and without bias so you can make your own decisions.

Please submit your questions on the Initiatives in advance to [dvagts@gmail.com](mailto:dvagts@gmail.com) by Saturday, October 3. To access the webinar, OLLI members click on the following link: <https://fullerton.zoom.us/j/91279065040> (<https://youtu.be/F-KD8KLoKSw> for the public). A PDF of the Easy Voter Guide will be available for download at <http://www.easyvoterguide.org/>.

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### **Not Receiving OLLI Emails?**

If you have unsubscribed in response to **any** OLLI email, you have unsubscribed from **all** OLLI emails. If, for any reason, you are **not** already receiving OLLI emails about upcoming classes, events and special notices, you can subscribe (or re-subscribe) by going to <http://tinyurl.com/olliEmailSignUp> and entering your email address, first name and last name.

If you still have trouble receiving emails from OLLI, send an email to [ollinewsbytes@hotmail.com](mailto:ollinewsbytes@hotmail.com) and include your name and email address.



### **How to Get the ChroniCLE by Email - Save Trees and Stamps!**

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.

If you are receiving the ChroniCLE in the mail, but no longer want it mailed to your home, send an email to [olli-info@fullerton.edu](mailto:olli-info@fullerton.edu) with **your name and address** stating: "Do **not** send me a ChroniCLE in the mail." If you ever need the printed version, copies are always available in the OLLI office.

### **If you Need to Contact OLLI**

Website: <http://olli.fullerton.edu>

Email: [olli-info@fullerton.edu](mailto:olli-info@fullerton.edu)