



President's Message

By Ellie Monroe, President, OLLI-CSUF



I am so filled with joy that so many of you have come back onto campus since the semester began. Our Welcoming Social was so much fun with faces I had not seen over the last few years. It was extremely encouraging to see our newest

members join in on the fun. If you were not there, you missed a great Social.

Our OLLI campus has been filling up with members in our classrooms and the OLLI Trolleys have been running on Fridays to accommodate the small number of members who have parked in Lots A or G. Most of the time our Lot J still has many spaces available throughout the week, so if you are worried you will not find parking, it is very unlikely to happen at this point.

The requirement to be vaccinated prior to coming on campus is still there. Although we are not required to mask, we encourage all our members to mask indoors.

We have several festivities coming in November and December. Join in on the holiday fun planned for November 17 and December 7. It will be great seeing you all have fun.

We are working on the spring curriculum, and we plan to bring more classes back on campus in the spring 2023 semester.

As always, I will remind those of you who are not receiving your newsletters for our announcements of cancelled classes, changes in classes or important member information, be sure to contact the office. Don't miss out on useful information about the activities at OLLI.

Hope to see many of you at our OLLI events. Take care and stay safe!! Cheers!!

OLLI Board of Trustees Openings and Application Process

By Chris Shaw, Editor

This is OLLI members' chance to become part of managing OLLI. Each year approximately half of the officers and trustees at large complete their two-year terms of office (one-year for the president) on the Board of Trustees. New members are elected to replace them at the General Meeting and Election in April.

Following are the Board positions that will be up for election in April 2022:

- **President**—OLLI's chief executive officer presides over meetings of the Board of Trustees, Executive Committee and other meetings, implements decisions at those meetings and keeps OLLI's membership informed.
- **Vice President Programs**—Responsible for supervising the Curriculum Committee, Computer Education Committee, Transitions in Retirement Committee, Trips Committee, Performing Arts Committee. Creates the curriculum descriptions for the Blue Book, schedules the classrooms and assures the training of instructors and coordinators.
- **Vice President Membership**—Responsible for membership registration, membership orientation, Demographic studies, member scholarships, volunteer recruitment and recognition, the Friendship Committee (In Memoriam) and OLLI docents.
- **Vice President Facilities**—Responsible for facilities operation, property management and the kitchen.
- **Vice President Hospitality**—Responsible for themed Hospitality events each semester and for providing food and refreshments at general member meetings, including the election, open house and other social meetings and activities.

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President. Ellie Monroe
 Vice President Administration Bill Sampson
 Vice President Programs Renee Cabrera
 Vice President Communication Chris Shaw
 Vice President Membership Shirley Smith
 Vice President External Relations Robert Kovacev
 Vice President Facilities. Tony Package
 Vice President Hospitality Lisa Sewell
 Vice President Technology. Jim Monroe
 Treasurer Ann Sparks
 Secretary Vickie Hite
 Chris Shaw (tashawc01@gmail.com), Editor; Keni Cox, Assistant Editor; Denny Bean, Alice Gresto, Elaine Mitchell and Mary Sampson, Staff Writers

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What Does a Trustee Do On the Board of Trustees?

By Chris Shaw, Editor

OLLI at Cal State Fullerton was founded on the idea of community seniors banding together, volunteering their time and contributing their skills and knowledge developed over a lifetime, to provide a low-cost, no-tuition, perpetual college of lifelong learning for seniors. There are numerous opportunities for OLLI members to contribute their time and talent, from teaching courses to support services to managing the organization.

It is this last function, managing OLLI, that the Board of Trustees fulfills. There are 11 elected officers on the Board, including the president, eight vice presidents, a treasurer and a secretary. Their responsibilities are fairly obvious from their titles, but the Board also includes nine elected “trustees at large” whose responsibilities are not self-evident and are largely unknown by OLLI members. The most common question I get about OLLI’s elected offices is “What does a trustee do?”

Trustees need no prior experience of any kind, making that position the easiest entry onto the Board. To apply for some officer positions, like

treasurer, it’s helpful to have accounting or other experience in your pre-retirement life; for other positions it’s helpful to have experience on related committees. But all candidates for officer positions benefit from experience on the Board as a trustee.

Generally, a trustee’s responsibility is to learn how the organization functions and how the various officers manage their areas of responsibility. Specifically, OLLI’s Bylaws direct the Board to promote the training of trustees-at-large for greater future responsibilities by assigning them to work with and assist OLLI officers. In this way, the trustee may become a potential candidate for an officer’s next term of office. Trustees may also be asked to join operational planning committees.

Perhaps the trustee’s most important job is to represent the interests of all OLLI members in Board meeting discussions and decisions on issues that determine OLLI’s direction and how its resources are used to best serve OLLI’s members. The title “Trustee at Large” means each trustee represents all of the OLLI membership, as opposed to any one person or group.

The Board of Trustees is the decision-making body of OLLI. As such, it is vital that it be regularly refreshed with new members joining in the process of discussing and deciding the myriad issues faced by the Board, like how to mitigate the negative impact of COVID-19, as a recent example. New trustees are the principal source of new perspectives and ideas for the Board, often representing the interests and needs of incoming, younger generations.

As are all officers, approximately half of the nine trustees’ two-year terms of office end each year and are replaced by other members, who are elected by the OLLI membership each April. Applications for nomination to next April’s election are being accepted now.

The Board is very eager to get more applications from OLLI members who are new to the Board. In fact, OLLI’s Constitution states: “Officers may not be elected for two consecutive terms in the same capacity except the president who may be elected for a second one-year term.” To some it could

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Poetry for Pleasure

By Alice, Gresto, Staff Writer

The “Poetry for Pleasure” classes meet Thursday afternoons from noon to 2 p.m. throughout OLLI’s full academic year. Poetry written by the class poets are published in Poetry for Pleasure anthologies and available on Amazon. Royalties are donated to OLLI. Selected poems from these anthologies will appear in the ChroniCLE periodically.

can you cut my onion?

you can look
but you can’t tell
that I am hiding
in my shell
peeking out
or looking in
i am safe
in onion skin
just being safe
is life not real
am i the onion
you will peel?
through bars and locks
and wall so thick
freeing me
no easy trick
onions live
with prison gates
my flowing tears say
“life awaits!”

By Michael Sultan MD FAAP

Published in “Spend Time With a Poem” and sold at amazon.com.

Michael served as a pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente 1968-2009 and was a member of the Board of Directors 1986-1995. He joined OLLI in 2008 where he has lead classes in improvisational acting and coordinated post-film discussions in “Critics Choice: The Movies.” He attends classes in “Storytelling & Drama & Improv,” “Poetry for Pleasure,” “What’s Behind the News?,” “Wisdom Exchange,” “Exploratory Discussion Group,” “The American Presidency,” “Sports Talk,” “The New Yorker Magazine Discussion Group” and science

courses. For fun, Mike likes films, sporting events, travel, novels, hikes and social events and loves to share a good joke.

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- Treasurer—Approves the receipt and disbursements of fund and ensures that records are kept. Chairs the Budget Committee, prepares the annual budget, reports the financial statements and monitors and reports the endowment fund to the Board
- Trustees at Large (five positions)—Learn about how OLLI functions and various officers’ areas of responsibilities; back up officers at Board meetings; assist officers on various committees; and represent general OLLI members’ interests by participating in Board meeting discussions and decisions.

All OLLI members are encouraged to communicate their interest in being nominated for any of these positions by completing a short and confidential application form and submitting it to the OLLI Secretary, Vickie Hite. Download the fillable application form at http://olli.fullerton.edu/_resources/pdfs/NominationApplication.pdf, complete the form and email it to Vickie at white418@gmail.com. All applications must be received no later than **November 15, 2022**.

All applications received will be considered by the Nomination and Election Committee along with all other applicants for nomination. Applicants will receive further notification from the Nomination and Election Committee.

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seem like there is a “good ol’ boy” network of the same people running the Board year-after-year, but if that happens it’s only by necessity when not enough new members step forward to apply.

Importantly, any OLLI member may apply to be a nominee for trustee at large (or any of the open Board positions) simply by submitting an application. So, help the Board refresh itself, and download an [application from the OLLI website](#), complete the fillable PDF form and send it to Vickie Hite, OLLI Secretary, at white418@gmail.com no later than November 15.

Tom La Casa

Tech Expert and More

By Denny Bean, Staff Writer



Tom La Casa was born and grew up in the Bronx and graduated from St. John's University in Queens, New York. During the Vietnam War, the government began a lottery system to draft soldiers, and as Tom indicated, "This is the one and only lottery I have ever won." His

unlucky number 25 came up. Not wanting to crawl through rice paddies, Tom elected to join the Air Force. He applied and was accepted for Officer Training School ... the "90 Day Wonder" program. He attended helicopter pilot training, but hovering a chopper at a consistent three feet above the ground (after only 10 hours of flight training) proved difficult. So, he opted for and was trained as a Weapons Controller in the Air Defense Command. Weapons Controllers direct interceptor aircraft to engage enemy aircraft targets.

Tom spent nearly nine years in the USAF, and his duty locations included South Korea at a radar site high on a mountain near the DMZ and Iceland which is home to volcano inundations.

While overseas Tom met his lovely wife Mickey, who provides us with those wonderful social feasts including her exceptional brownies. He was also stationed at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma, where he performed his duties in an aircraft called AWACS (Airborne Early Warning & Control). It was during his time with AWACS that Tom took a keen interest in teaching and spent nearly four years instructing USAF personnel in the strategy and tactics of air defense.

After nearly a decade of military life, he chose civilian life and joined Hughes Aircraft Company here in Fullerton and worked in Command and Control Systems. Tom found himself right back in air defense and was able to leverage his knowledge and skills. Tom worked in the test and verification area, where he wrote test plans/procedures and verified that the developed systems met customer

requirements. He participated in numerous on-site final acceptance testing overseas. During these test activities, Tom taught system utilization to his customers, many of whom were foreign nationals.

Tom decided to retire and the La Casa family became members of our fine organization. He has given three superb lectures for "CLECAT": 1) Windows 10 vs. 11; 2) 3G cell phone transition to 4G/5G; and 3) scams/fraud. His classes demonstrate the amount of research and compilation that created these memorable events. On Wednesdays, Tom is one of the technical coordinators for "Watercolor Workshop" working behind the scenes to make Zoom available to all of us at home. On Fridays, Tom can be found at the "OLLI Tech Help" assisting OLLI members with their device issues. Tom likens this assistance to teaching as he shows members how to use their equipment. Tom is the Chair of the Technology and Education Committee (TEC). Tom is also a technical coordinator for "Transition in Retirement Essentials." And if this is not enough, when you attended any of Mickey's social food events, Tom is there at the front of the line handing out the paper plates.

Lastly, Tom enjoys engaging with others and sharing his knowledge. He takes great pride in his efforts to present educational material in a manner that is concise, thorough and easy to understand and retain.

The Writers Are Coming! The Writers are Coming!

By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer

The OLLI writers are coming to the CSUF Pollak Library for a book signing!

Mark the date: November 10, 2022, 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Pollak Library is located in the first-floor lobby, north wing across from Starbucks.

The authors are all OLLI members who participate in OLLI's writing courses, including "Authors' Central OLLI-CSUF," "Kick Starting Your Writing," "Poetry for Pleasure," "Women Writers' Workshop," "Write Now!" and "Writing with Feedback."

"The Good Virus" by Stephen Sixta is a satirical

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Annual OLLI Welcoming Social—September 24, 2022

Photos by Jim DiTota



Award-Winning Member of OLLI's Phocus Photography Club

By Jim DiTota, Phocus Club



Jim DiTota took this picture, which he titled “Laying Down The Bunt,” in April of 2022 while watching his nine year old grandson, Nathan Meisner, at his little league game. “I was out taking random shots at the little league games of my three grandsons. This was the first week Nathan’s age group was allowed to bunt. The photo captures Nathan’s surprise of bunting the ball showing the ball in flight, the catcher’s reaction to the bunt and the fans looking on.”



Jim retired in February 2018 and joined OLLI for the summer session that year. He has been active in OLLI since then. He joined the Phocus Photography Club to improve his photography skills. Club members share photos they have taken and ask for input on how they could be improved. Members can also submit entries into the Southern California Council of Camera Clubs (S4C). Jim won an Award in the April competition and then an End of Year Silver Award for this photo. End of Year Awards are selected by a panel of external judges from among all of those who won awards and Honorable Mentions at the same skill level during the regular competition year.

The Phocus Photography Club meets once monthly, and we also try to have a monthly local field trip. See the Blue Book for more information.

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novel that considers what might happen if a virus made grumpy, impolite people happier and more considerate.

Other authors presenting their work include: Ann Casas, Marty Cole, Keni Cox, Alice Gresto, Patricia Cline Higgins, Jennie Lance, Stephanie Leon, Larry Macklin, Veronica Michalowski, Florine Miller, Ron Osajima, Betty Redman, Jeanette Reese, Barbara Unsworth and Fritz von Coelln.

Holiday Mingle and Jingle Luncheon

By Elaine Mitchell, Hospitality Committee

The best part of OLLI is sharing time, joy and friendship, and the best time of year to do that is during the Holidays. This is the season when many folks take time to spend with family and friends—and to give back.

The very popular annual holiday luncheon is back this year as the Holiday Mingle and Jingle Luncheon at the beautiful Alta Vista Country Club in Placentia on Wednesday, December 7. Sign-in begins at 11:30 a.m. with luncheon at 12:15 p.m. The traditional turkey dinner will be served with mashed potatoes, gravy, seasonal vegetable, salad, dessert and coffee and tea for all. There will also be a vegetarian selection.

It will be a special treat to be entertained by our own talented OLLI Snappy Tappers, Voci d’Oro Chorale, All That Jazz Band and Curtain Call Band.

The amazing raffle baskets are also returning. Every attendee receives free raffle tickets for the chance to win a beautiful and valuable themed basket.

The Hospitality Committee wants to bring some of OLLI’s famous give-back flare to the holiday luncheon. Santa has agreed to attend and, for anyone who chooses to, he will accept toys for the Toys for Tots program that services Orange County. Your gift should be a new toy that costs at least \$10, or three books in lieu of a toy. Please bring it unwrapped. If you decide to participate, please consider children of all ages through their teens.

Digital event flyers with a coupon are distributed

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with this ChroniCLE and printed copies are in the OLLI office. Registration opens Monday, October 24 and closes Friday, November 11. We have been able to keep the cost at just \$40.00. Please don't miss this special event; seating is limited. Let's mingle and jingle together.

OLLI Flash Mob in the News

By Fritz von Coelln

The Orange County Register interviewed our



OLLI Flash Mob and took photos of our dance routine, "We Will Rock You."

The photo's front line shows Jeanette Reese with Fritz von Coelln (left) and Edward Dunvan on air guitars. Yes, that is Lissa LeMorte and Debbie Maxwell in the second line.

The September 25 OC Register's headlines read: **"SoCal, U.S. populations growing older, and fast."** "Over the next decade, the number of Americans 65 and older will roughly double. Soon, older people will outnumber children ..."

"Jeanette Reese leads a flash mob class offered by Cal State Fullerton Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The organization encourages retired and semi-retired people to remain active physically, mentally and socially through classes and programs."

What's Happening at the Board

By Keni Cox, Assistant Editor

Following are highlights from OLLI's Board of Trustees Meeting, September 8, 2022

- Fiscal year 2021-22 financial reports are expected at the October Board Meeting.
- Sixteen OLLI volunteers provided 81 sessions, a total of 46 hours of assistance to OLLI members needing help with registration and other issues over the 13 days following the Open House, compared to 165 individual sessions and 13 Zoom sessions in 2021.
- There were 1,053 members registered as of fiscal year-end June 30, 2022. As of the September 8 meeting, 819 members were registered for the fall semester or the full academic year with more registrations expected.
- Forty new members attended the New Member Orientation.
- An information table for new members was provided during the first week of the fall semester.
- OLLI-CSUF Collaboration is seeking volunteers for a CSUF student's attractiveness survey.
- EIP (Extension and International Programs) is working to secure vaccination exemptions for OLLI members that replicate exemptions given to CSUF students.
- Campus upgrades: Shapiro floor covering replacement and moveable wall repairs have been delayed.
- VP Administration Bill Sampson is working with various CSUF departments and services on campus to confirm discounts and privileges for OLLI members.
- VP External Relations Bob Kovacev is attending community events in local cities to promote membership in OLLI at CSUF.
- Annual Fall Tax Appeal Donation letters will be sent to members in October; OLLI received \$40,000 in event donations last year.

Next ChroniCLE January

As usual, we are skipping December. The next issue of the ChroniCLE will be a combined December/January issue, and it will be distributed around December 20.



OLLI

at California State University, Fullerton

"A Continuing Learning Experience"

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If you still have trouble receiving emails from OLLI, send an email to 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 for the upcoming month with links to view or download the publications. You can also access the most recent ChroniCLEs through links in the weekly OLLI newsletters 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 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