



## **President's Message**

*By Ellie Monroe, President, OLLI-CSUF*



Welcome to the fall 2022 semester. To those who ventured out into distant parts of the country and overseas travel, we hope you all had enjoyable trips. To those who stayed close to home, enjoying family visits and getting together with close friends, we trust you had a great summer.

My August was filled reconnecting with OLLI members at the Open House; gathering with high school classmates; spending time with out-of-state siblings; and organizing my living spaces. As I prepared for the start of classes in September, I was excited to bring back my pre-pandemic classes. I hope to see many more on campus and online as the semester progresses.

Remember, OLLI members are required to be vaccinated prior to coming on campus. Although we are not required to mask, we encourage all our members to mask indoors.

CSUF is bouncing back from the effects of the pandemic. The College of the Arts has a robust schedule of events; the Athletic Department will be providing OLLI with a list of home games which will be offered free; and the Arboretum has scheduled "Evening Strolls"—the last one is on September 20, featuring CSUF School of Music students. There are whispers they plan to continue these during the semester. I encourage you to explore the campus offerings.

Our Annual Welcoming Social on Saturday, September 24. Join us to greet OLLI members in person.

Our program offerings in the fall will continue as a mixture of in-person classes, online classes, and a combination of both. We plan to offer a few new

classes and a few additional programs.

If you are not receiving your newsletters for our announcements of cancelled classes, changes in classes and important member information, be sure to contact the office. Don't miss out on useful information about the activities at OLLI.

I am looking forward to greeting all the new and familiar faces at OLLI as we start our fall semester. Take care and stay safe!! Cheers!!

## **A Dazzling Open House**

*By Denny Bean, Staff Writer*

Late Friday afternoon after the Texas Hold'em championship, Dennis Wilson asked the players to move tables and chairs into the courtyard in preparation for the Open House Saturday morning. Then early the next morning, many volunteers hauled out more than twenty heavy canopies. Some were extremely large and awkward, and all required many hands for their setup. Each tent required tables, chairs and other items.

All this took place before 9:00 a.m. when the OLLI Trolley drivers began delivering the many guests, volunteers and OLLI members to our illustrious OLLI facility.

There were oils, ceramics, watercolors, books, dancers, musicians, hosts, and much more to see. The registrars signed in 367 folks, composed of 151 guests, 13 former members and 203 current members, including over 150 volunteers. Mickey La Casa and her team of hosts were everywhere assisting and guiding our guests with great success. In fact, one of them could not contain herself when the Snappy Tappers were performing as she sprang into action by dancing right along with them.

Our President, Ellie Monroe, led off the auditorium program at 10:00 a.m. speaking about

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## Betty Robertson Award 2022

*By Mary Sampson, Staff Writer*

Each year, the Betty Robertson Award is presented by OLLI to an older CSUF student graduating with high recognition for their



achievement in their devotion to lifelong learning. The award includes a gift of \$1,000. This year's winner is Mavis Gonzales.

Mavis' lifetime has been marked by a love of reading. A degree in English literature was the beginning of what she

thought would be a future of reading, writing and sharing her passion with professors and peers. She was somewhat diverted from that path by a friend who suggested that she pursue a teaching credential because she had a gift for teaching. She completed a degree at UC Irvine and began UCI's teacher credentialing program.

She went on to become a media specialist at an Irvine elementary school where she shared her love of books with entire classrooms of students. She

toyed with the idea of getting a graduate degree, but she found that due to Proposition 13 her chances of being hired with a graduate degree were limited. She worked at a Christian school for a while and then eventually obtained a position in the Irvine Unified School District and has been there for 37 years.

Mavis applied to a graduate program at Chapman University and was accepted. Almost simultaneously, she discovered she was pregnant. She paused her studies, but continued teaching.

She found that not all of her students were as passionate about reading as she was. Many students struggled to decode and comprehend what they were reading. Some were English language learners. Mavis sought out programs about teaching literacy so that she could help these students become lifelong learners. She was encouraged by an administrator to complete her master's degree. She applied for and was accepted into the Reading and Literacy Master of Science degree at Cal State Fullerton. She took a new position as Literacy/Instructional Coach at her school site where she can help her students to achieve and learn to love reading.

Although it was tough to work with students and complete her master's program during COVID, Mavis was up to the challenge. She worked to get students on Zoom. Out of necessity, she developed a full year of online curriculum. She is grateful that her professors were flexible with her own work during the pandemic lockdown.

Receiving the Betty Robertson Award is, to Mavis, the "cherry on top of a lovely cake." She is humbled and honored to receive the recognition for all her years of hard work. She believes in setting goals and never giving up. Embrace the journey!

## OLLI Social—Bingo: October 20

The social starts at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 20 in Shapiro ABCD. Food and drink will be provided along with 10 games of Bingo with prizes.

**Space is limited** to the first 80 members to sign up in person in the OLLI office, starting October 3 to 7.

*A Dazzling ... Continued from Page 1*

OLLI's COVID-19 response and how it relates to our activities. She introduced Dr. Debra Leahy, Dean of Extension and International Programs, which is OLLI's connection to the University. She is experienced in adult education and lifelong learning, and she told us to flourish at CSUF with a growth mindset. Ellie then introduced Trustee and Past President Mike Stover. He explained OLLI's history and told us 300 members volunteer their services at OLLI, he talked about our 1,000+ members who may choose among over 100 courses, most of them held on campus. He explained we have over \$3 million in endowments and reserves. Members may take as many classes as they want for a single membership fee without grades or attendance requirements. Many benefits are given to members by the University and there are opportunities for members to support CSUF students. Our unofficial motto is "Come for the classes, stay for the people," recognizing the friends members make at OLLI.

The video of the auditorium program is available to view under "View Videos ..." on the Welcome to OLLI webpage at <http://olli.fullerton.edu>, or [click here](#).

Tina Ernsting was busy with her Hospitality Team of 15 preparing complimentary lunches consisting of a sandwich, grapes, cookie and a choice of drinks. After the program, 260 people enjoyed the lunch together in Shapiro and the courtyard. Colin Chan and I were entering the courtyard with our lunches when we were both surprised to see Evonne Magbee. Colin, Evonne and her husband had attended college together, and decades ago, Evonne and her husband were part of our tennis group. Then my wife appeared, after six years of coaxing her to come to OLLI. She was part of that tennis group, and she was so excited to see Evonne.

In one of the classrooms, the CSUF Kinesiology representative was advising that they have a gym facility for seniors. In the PC lab, Joanne Hardy led the team providing registration help for 92 folks; 37 of them were new members.

After the Trolleys returned everyone to their cars, I looked around to see all the canopies, tables, chairs etc. still in place. Then I noticed Gene

Hiegel, Jim Hutchinson and Ken Leech working the take-down, so I lent them a hand. On my way out, I noticed Tina was still in the kitchen cleaning the refrigerator.

Later, I asked Dennis Wilson how he perceived the event: "This year's Open House was the best publicized and organized that OLLI has ever had. The goal of Razzle Dazzle was definitely exceeded."

## **A Veteran's Pride and Reverence for America**

*By Sandy Wessel, Artist*

This painting fills me with emotion. I was raised to realize how lucky I am to have been born in this



country and kept safe by the men and women of the military who protect our way of life. This veteran holds the American flag with pride and reverence, exactly how I feel.

"Watercolor Workshop" meets every Wednesday from 1:00 to 3:15 p.m. in Shapiro ABCD (and on Zoom). This course is an open workshop

for all levels of watercolor artists. Members share what they have learned in workshops or



experimental techniques, and they may share their paintings with each other, reviewing each other's work. "Introduction to Watercolor Painting" will also be offered in the fall semester (only) on alternate Mondays from 1:00 to 3:15 p.m. in Shapiro AB (Sandy is one of the instructors in both courses). See the fall Blue Book for full

course descriptions and class meeting dates.

## Ask the Board

*By Chris Shaw, VP Communications/ChroniCLE Editor*

Charlotte asked why she was not listed in the “OLLI Honors Its Donors” article in the September ChroniCLE.

Mike Stover, Chair of OLLI’s Development/Philanthropy Committee found that her record with the Cal State Fullerton Philanthropic Foundation (CSFPF) was marked “Gives Anonymously.” Charlotte and 37 other donors were included under “Anonymous (41 donors)” in error.

**Additional Donors to OLLI:** Judith Alter, Sara Clark, Stephan Collier, Joann Driggers, Melynda Sue Crabtree, Alison Crooks, Marietta Davis, Kathleen Ego, Kelly England, Salvatore Failla, Ankou Feng, Lyna Feng, Anthony Gonzalez, Susan Hanna, Eugenia Hathaway, James & Joan Herrick, Stella Hom, Hester Honda, Richard Kaufman, Debra Kegel, Barbara Kelley, Anna Kupfrian, Eileen Lozano, Deborah Maxwell, Brent Meredith, Charlotte Oliva, Joyce Ono & Richard McCaman, Lorelee Page-Ortez, Nancy Parker, Linda Petit, Christopher & Susan Ryan, George & Sandra Schiller, Kellie Simpson, Barbara Unsworth, Carlos & Juliann Venegas, Rayleen Williams, Melinda Wiltsie and Dian Wyman.

CSFPF manages donations to OLLI as well as donations to all other parts of the University. OLLI members who made some, but not all, of their OLLI donations anonymously were inadvertently left off the donor list. CSFPF is working to refine the process of how donors are listed.

If you have a question, send an email to Chris at [tashawc01@gmail.com](mailto:tashawc01@gmail.com) with your question. I will find the right person to get the right answer for you. I’ll also share your question and its answer in the next ChroniCLE, because if you wondered about something, other OLLI members may have wondered the same thing.

## Board of Trustees 2022-2023



## Hollywood Bowl Trip

*By Marjorie Mota*

On July 26, OLLI members embarked on the first OLLI Trip of 2022. There was excitement about returning to a group outing as we boarded the bus. The attraction was the 100-year-old Hollywood Bowl, paired with none other than Ludwig van Beethoven’s enduring music performed by world-class musicians.



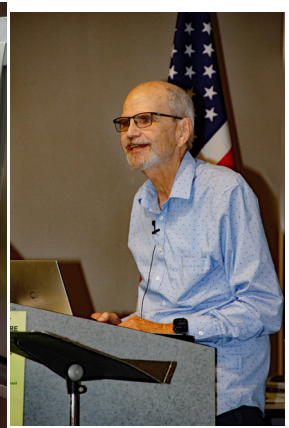
At the Bowl, you can always count on traffic, long lines, security checks, steep inclines, stairs and wooden bench seating (bring a cushion). The hustle and bustle is worth it! The program included Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Opus 73 (Emperor), featuring piano soloist, Seong-Jin Cho, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic conducted by Gustavo Dudamel. Seong-Jin Cho’s incredible performance earned standing ovations and an encore. After intermission, Dudamel directed the orchestra performing the Fifth Symphony.

Beethoven, an immortal genius, moves listeners and performers with his music 195 years after his death. We are still in awe, drinking in his blended sounds. A newer feature at the Bowl are large video screens mounted along both sides of the amphitheater. Down on the stage, as musical motifs float from the horns to the woodwinds and then taken over by yet another section of the orchestra, the audience can see this progression in close-up, real-time images on the well-placed screens. It’s a feast for the senses!

Thanks to Mark Rose for the photo of the Hollywood Bowl that night. And a special thanks to Diane Wallace, Fran Doble and the Trips Committee for their work in bringing this night of music to our members.

## Fall Open House: August 6, 2022

*Photos by Mary Crouch, Jim DiTota, Joyce Ono and Warren Wilson*



## **OLLI-CSUF Collaboration Meets With Associate Deans**

*By Susan Mullaly*

The OLLI-CSUF Collaboration Program offers OLLI members unique opportunities to share their knowledge and life experience to support CSUF student success. Integral to showcasing and planning the activities of the program is the annual Steering Committee meeting with the associate deans of the CSUF colleges, this year held via Zoom on June 13, 2022.

We shared the many Collaboration projects that OLLI volunteers have engaged in with CSUF students and faculty in the previous year and solicited input from the associate deans to identify new opportunities to assist with student success.

In attendance were Associate Deans Dr. Sean Walker (Natural Sciences and Mathematics), Dr. Jenny Zhan (Business and Economics), Dr. Kim Case (Education), Dr. Deanna Leone (Communications), Dr. Dave Mickey (Arts) and Senior Director Karen McKinley (Extension and International Programs). OLLI was represented by Collaboration Chair Sue Mullaly (Facilitator), President Ellie Monroe, VP External Relations Robert Kovacev and 14 OLLI members.

Recent graduate Ryan Nadler spoke about the benefits of the mentor program for CSUF students. OLLI members Yolanda McComb and Debbie Williamson shared the programs that used the many talents of our retired educators to help future teachers. William Clark shared the benefits and joy he experienced in the Project LIFE service-learning program, in which OLLI members share their life experiences to bridge generations.

Sue Mullaly presented our new “Conversation and Coffee with a Titan,” wherein OLLI volunteers are matched with a student to teach conversational skills, share ideas and offer encouragement. Other opportunities include student mentoring, sharing life experience, helping teach classes and more.

Everyone attending the meeting expressed enthusiasm and appreciation of the value these programs add to the lives of the students and to our generous volunteers. We look forward to continued expansion of collaborations with students and faculty.

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

## **Vice President Communications**



Chris Shaw was appointed Vice President Communications by the Board of Trustees in their August meeting after Michele Frankel resigned. Chris will serve for the remainder of Michele's elected term of office.

## **Tech Support Fraud Targets Seniors**

*By Tom La Casa, Chair, Technical Education Committee*

If you receive a pop-up message on your computer screen, email, text message or phone call offering help with a problem on your computer that you are unaware of, it's probably a scam and you should not respond.

Read more about this problem in the Kiplinger online newsletter article, “Tech Support Fraud Targets Seniors” dated August 5, 2022, by [clicking here](#).

If you believe you have been a victim of tech support fraud, you can get help at the OLLI Tech Help lab in Room 20 or via Zoom, open every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m.

## **Ying Lu Honors Her Father**

*By Ying Lu, OLLI Office*

Ying has worked in the OLLI office since 2014 as the Accounting Assistant, with a two-year break in service to earn her bachelor's degree in accounting at Cal State Fullerton. At this year's Fall Open House, she shared something special.

Ying is shown with the Chinese brush painting “Wisteria,” which was painted by her father, Mr. Lu. Ying wanted to honor her father, who passed earlier this year, on the occasion of OLLI's Fall

*Ying Lu ... Continued on page 7*

## Open House.

Mr. Lu was a mechanic in China. When he retired, he started to study Chinese brush painting at an organization for seniors in China that is similar to OLLI. Chinese brush painting is the traditional art of painting on rice paper or silk with a natural animal-hair brush and ink, typically depicting scenes of nature. After only a few years, his paintings developed greatly, and he often participated in art exhibitions. Ying points out that, even in different



countries and cultural atmospheres, lifelong learning is the same!

In the upper right corner of the painting is the inscription in seal script (an ancient style of writing Chinese characters), quoted from the poem “Wisteria Tree” by Li Bai, one of the greatest poets in the Tang Dynasty: “Wisteria hangs over the tall trees, a beautiful damsel is captivated by its fragrance.” This painting is vivid in color and the skillful painting method makes the wisteria come alive on the paper, making us almost able to smell the fragrance of the wisteria flowers.

## What’s Happening at the Board

*By Chris Shaw, Editor*

Following are highlights from OLLI’s Board of Trustees meeting on August 11:

- As of August 10, 479 people had completed online registration for membership, up from 334 at this point last year.
- Expenditure was authorized for assistance from CSUF School of Business and Economics for research, analysis and development of a strategy for OLLI’s long term plan, specifically to attract new members.
- CSUF is reviewing their charges and discounts for all services to OLLI, so we need to be prepared for possible higher costs this year.
- The Athletic Department requested a

memorandum of understanding with OLLI for use of their services.

- We will reconfirm our 10% discount at the Gastronome.
- Chris Shaw was appointed VP Communications. (See separate notice in this Chronicle)
- Collaboration’s Project LIFE program was approved as a permanent service learning project with CSUF.
- Expenditures were approved for food and entertainment at the Welcoming Social on September 24.
- New flooring in Shapiro ABCD should be completed by September 9; there is no estimate yet on when repairs on the moveable walls will be done.
- Positive input was expressed by Board members on how well the Open House went. A full critique of the event will be done by the Board in a separate meeting.



A group of “Sports Talk” class members, (from left) Bruce Pilch, Carl Richards, Jim Ertle, Jerry Svoboda and Frank Morrow, go on a field trip to see the Quakes, a minor league baseball team, play in their stadium in Rancho Cucamonga.

Carl Richards is the coordinator for “Sports Talk,” which meets alternate Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. on Zoom (initially). See the Blue Book for more information.



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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 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](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)