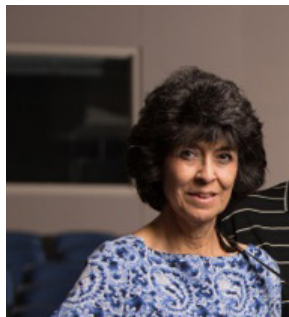




President's Message

By Ellie Monroe, President, OLLI-CSUF

The Spring Preview was very festive with



President Virjee's heartfelt dedication honoring Kirt Spradlin; Provost Thomas honoring instructor Judge Cardenas; and a tribute to 101-year-old member, Desiree Engel. We also celebrated our 90+ Club members with

individualized cakes.

OLLI is enjoying the frequent attendance of our members as they return back to campus. It has been wonderful seeing not only those familiar faces from our past, but the new members who have recently joined us. Join us for upcoming socials and special concerts. Watch for announcements in your newsletters.

March 8 is OLLI's annual day of giving, when we partner with Cal State Fullerton to solicit donations to OLLI from our members and others during a single, 24-hour "Titans Give" event. Past donations helped us to survive the pandemic downturn in membership revenues, install equipment to offer hybrid virtual classes on campus, and make needed repairs and equipment replacements. Watch for more information in our weekly newsletters and help us continue to offer the best learning and social activities by donating.

Save the date for another important event: The General Meeting/Election on April 20. Come to meet and vote for the nominees for OLLI's Board of Trustees. This ChroniCLE contains short biographies and pictures of the nominees. And we will have our traditional Ice Cream Social following the election.

Take care and stay safe. See you soon! Cheers!!

Board of Trustees Election on April 20

By Chris Shaw, Editor

All OLLI members are encouraged to join the General Meeting/Election on April 20 at 1:30 p.m. 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: Jim Ertle; Rayleen Williams; Renee Cabrera; Jim Monroe; Joyce Ono; Phil Barnhard; and Bob Kovacev.

The Committee nominated one person to replace each Board member who will complete their term of office in May 2023. Short biographies and pictures of all the nominees are shown in this ChroniCLE.

Last October and November, 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 **Mike Stover** for President; **Ellie Monroe** for Vice President Programs; **Debbie Maxwell** for Vice President Membership; **Pete Saputo** for Vice President Facilities; **Vickie Hite** for Treasurer and **Jim Di Tota, Maggie Giles, Joanne Hardy, Chris Milord** and **Tony Package** for the five Trustees at Large. There's no nominee for Vice President Hospitality. Thanks to the Committee members for recruiting and vetting a fine slate of nominees.

No petitions were received from non-nominated applicants to be placed on the ballot.

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

Desktop Publishing: Celia Reynolds

Mike Stover, Nominee President

By Elaine Mitchell, Staff Writer

Mike Stover uses his excellent organizational and leadership qualities in service to OLLI and its



challenges. He joined in 2009 and has served on many committees, from Transitions in Retirement to Collaboration. He also has served as Vice President Administration; President; Vice President External Relations; Trustee at Large; Chair,

Policies and Procedures Committee; Chair, 35th Anniversary Committee; Chair, 40th Anniversary Committee; Chair, Parking Mitigation. And, all the while, he has been Instructor/Coordinator of some of the most popular OLLI courses, like his current “American Presidency,” “The People’s Houses” and “Money News.”

Mike is currently serving on the Board of Trustees as Trustee at Large and is Chair of the Development/Philanthropy Committee and Co-Chair of the Long Term Plan Committee.

A career in government as Lakewood Assistant City Manager for 22 years; Deputy Executive Director, Municipal Redevelopment Agency; and Association of Water Agencies Joint Water Quality-Communications Committee Co-Chair have provided excellent skills for OLLI’s benefit.

Of course, Mike volunteers in his own community too. He serves as Chair of the Chino Hills Planning Commission. His past volunteer service includes the Chino Hills Public Works Commission; Boy Scouts Volunteer of the Year Committee Chair; and the Pi Alpha Alpha Chapter President, Long Beach State University.

Ellie Monroe, Nominee Vice President Programs

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.” She works closely with the CSUF School of Music as an OLLI Collaborator and often invites students to perform at her monthly Socials.

She has coordinated the Sock Hop, the Cinco de Mayo Celebration and many other socials. She is the instructor and/or coordinator for the “CSUF Faculty/Student Performances,” “Recorders/Guitars & More Workshops.” Strings & Things Music Jam,” “Transitions in Retirement Essentials,” “Line Dancing,” “Happy Hour” and “The OLLI Pops Combo” programs.

Ellie also coordinates the “Fourth of July and

Ellie Monroe ...Continued on Page 3

Ellie Monroe...Continued from Page 2

Veterans Recognition,” “Volunteer Recognition” and “In Memoriam” events each year.

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

She is well known as a tireless volunteer and a major contributor to OLLI’s curriculum and administration.

Debbie Maxwell, Nominee Vice President Membership

By Chris Shaw, Editor

Debbie Maxwell says she is “almost a native of California.” Her family moved here from Georgia



when she was 4 years old. She grew up in the San Fernando Valley and attended college there. She worked 25 years in the banking industry, working her way up to Operations Officer/ Assistant Manager.

Then she worked at the University of California, Irvine for 15 years as a financial analyst and supervisor, working with professors on grants. She enjoys working with people, having worked for many years in customer-oriented jobs.

Debbie and her husband joined OLLI in 2016 and have enjoyed it ever since. She enjoys “Line Dancing,” “OLLI Flash Mob,” “Longevity Stick Exercises,” “Money News,” “OLLI Social Rollers Open Bowling” and day trips. She is a Coordinator for the “Line Dancing” course and the annual Volunteer Recognition event.

Debbie is Co-Chair of the Friendship/In Memoriam Committee. She also enjoys serving on the Hospitality and the Membership Services Committees and helping with OLLI socials, Open House, Spring Preview, the 90+ Club celebration etc.

Debbie served two years on the Board of Trustees as Trustee at Large and is ideal as a nominee for Vice President Membership.

Pete Saputo, Nominee Vice President Facilities

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.

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 Magazine Discussion Group.”

Pete previously served on the Board of Trustees as Vice President Facilities and is currently serving as Trustee at Large. He is more than qualified for a second term as Vice President Facilities.

Vickie Hite, Nominee Treasurer

By Mary Sampson, Staff Writer

Vickie is a second-generation Californian currently living in Placentia. She is married and has three children in a blended family, plus four grandchildren.

Before there was Costco, there was Price Club,

Vickie Hite ...Continued on page 4

Vickie Hite ...Continued from Page 3

and Vickie worked there. After it became Costco, Vickie was a founding member of the Journeys Program to help develop women in leadership



positions. At the time, there were very few women in management at Costco. She worked at the eleventh Price Club in the country, which was in Fountain Valley. She spent thirty years in management at Costco,

and had a lot of opportunities to do team building and problem solving.

She is justifiably proud of her more than 75 blood donations to the Red Cross.

At OLLI, Vickie is the instructor for “Ukulele: Symposium” and a coordinator for “Tap-exercise.” She is also a member of the Snappy Tappers. She especially enjoys being able to perform with the Snappy Tappers group at various venues around the area.

Vickie was elected Trustee at Large in 2020, and she is currently serving as Secretary. She is well prepared and well suited for the Treasurer position on the Board of Trustees.

Jim Di Tota, Nominee Trustee at Large

By Chris Shaw, Editor

Jim Di Tota was born in Cleveland, Ohio and



graduated from Miami University in Ohio. He later earned a MBA. He was first employed by Anaconda, a copper and brass manufacturing company sold later to ARCO, in sales and marketing. Over the years he worked in Atlanta, Dallas and Northern

California, ending up in Southern California in 1984 where he worked until his retirement in 2018.

Shortly after he retired, Jim heard about OLLI from his neighbor, Margie Sepulveda. Jim liked the social element OLLI offered—interacting with

other retirees instead of just sitting at home. He started with “Ceramics” and added “Spanish” a year later. He also enjoys Jim Monroe’s “Boundaries of Science” and Susan Hanna’s and Rick Hearn’s “Science for You.” He recently joined the “Poker” group on Fridays.

He volunteers as coordinator for “Ceramics” and the “Phocus Photography Club.” Over the last two years, Jim has attended most of OLLI’s general meetings and social events taking photographs for OLLI’s Digital Image Archive, which are used in the ChroniCLE, Blue Book, and other publications and presentations.

Regarding the Trustee position, Jim said “I want to help out in this additional way to make the program stronger.”

Maggie Giles, Nominee Trustee at Large

By Elaine Mitchell, Staff Writer

Maggie is a native Californian; she and her



husband were born, raised and educated in Fresno. She left Fresno State after two years to be a mom of three daughters and homemaker. Her husband’s oil company career meant a new home every few years; they lived near Denver,

Chicago, Miami and in many California locations. Maggie maintained her sense of home in each community by her lifelong volunteerism, first at her church and adding other good causes. It is at the core of Maggie’s overall well-being.

When Maggie’s husband decided to take a very early retirement, she agreed. However, two months of their sharing what had once been her career, the household management, Maggie thought it might be her turn to join the corporate life. She says she was lucky that SCE recognized her years of experience in organizing, administering and leading groups as a volunteer; they also offered

Maggie Giles...Continued on page 5

Maggie Giles ...Continued from Page 4

her education in corporate life and technical skills including Microsoft Office, including PowerPoint and Excel. She became a Business Analyst and thoroughly enjoyed her sixteen-year career.

At Maggie's first introduction to OLLI nine years ago, she immediately recognized its core value of volunteerism. She plans to contribute her time and skills to ensuring OLLI's future.

Joanne Hardy, Nominee Trustee at Large

By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer

Joanne was born in Santa Barbara and raised in Culver City, she lived in Germany for three years during her husband's deployment in the Air Force.



For 30 years she served her community as librarian and library manager. She became successful working with a broad array of people and all the dynamics that encompasses, especially in group and committee situations. She reports that collaboration and consensus

are her touchstones.

She became a member of OLLI when her husband shared how much he was enjoying the diverse programs offered. She was soon a coordinator for the "Genealogy" interest group, a dancer for the Flash Mob and is currently a Trustee at Large by appointment after, once before, serving by election. She is currently Chair of the Policies and Procedures Committee, Section Editor for the Blue Book and Team Leader for Registration Assistance. She is working with Chris Shaw to develop a Digital Document Archive in which to store OLLI's history.

It seems that Joanne Hardy is already giving more than she takes from her membership. She is bound to be a positive advocate for general membership interests by representing those interests on the Board.

Chris Milord, Nominee Trustee at Large

By Keni Cox, Assistant Editor

Born in Wisconsin, Christian "Chris" Milord



grew up in Canada and for several years lived on Indian Reservations where his father taught. He graduated from high school in Tennessee before attending and graduating from the University of Winnipeg in Manitoba, Canada. After earning his Bachelor of Arts in

history, he joined the United States Coast Guard. In his words, "I did it backwards, first college and then enlisting."

Chris is an educator. He earned his teaching credentials and Master of Science in education at CSUF, working as a chauffeur to fund his schooling. His teaching career included both private and public schools. He taught English at Ball and South Junior High Schools the Anaheim.

Education remains his passion. During his five years in OLLI he has mentored individuals and groups of students in the School of Business, assisted Nursing School students in their writing and evaluated student engineering projects.

"Mentoring," he said, "helps them and makes me feel good." Chris also tutors those interested in mentoring.

Chris wants to to be a Trustee to learn how OLLI works behind the scenes and to be a liaison between members and the Board.

Tony Package, Nominee Trustee at Large

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

Tony Package ... Continued on Page 6

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 previously served on the Board of Trustees as Vice President Facilities and as Trustee at Large. He is currently serving his second term as Vice President Facilities.

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

Spring Preview Meeting

By Denny Bean, Staff Writer

OLLI President Ellie Monroe began the meeting by showing the Blue Book that contains information on all matters related to OLLI. She welcomed new members, stating that, in addition to learning, OLLI members develop relationships with people who come to their aid in times of need. She added that volunteering will enlarge their experience and help OLLI grow. Ellie advised new members to attend the OLLI orientation meeting on January 21, where they will learn about OLLI's benefits, e.g., campus discounts and free CSUF classes.

Ellie introduced CSUF President Fram Virjee, who stated that CSUF graduates more women than any other state campus. He stated that OLLI is a wonderful place and that we should audit CSUF classes. He congratulated Donna Spradlin on

OLLI's commemorative bench honoring the late, Past President Kirt Spradlin. He wished us all a happy New Year.

Dr. Carolyn Thomas, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs was next. She honored Judge Luis Cardenas, who passionately presented classes in Roman history for 38 years at OLLI, and presented him with an elegant wood box containing a clock and an engraved plaque.

Judge Cardenas then spoke of his beginnings at OLLI when his classes were held in Mahr House on State College Blvd. Ted Smith encouraged the judge to join CLE, as OLLI was known then. He took his classes on tours of Rome, noting his wife said, "Just a bunch of rocks. When do we have lunch and go shopping?" He made a pragmatic decision to finally stop teaching after an exceptionally long tenure. He expressed his gratitude for Patsy Burns who helped him with parking and keys. He said Starkey kept things interesting by asking a lot of questions.

Ellie then introduced long-time member Desiree Engel, who is 102. She went back to college at age 52 and earned her B.A. here at CSUF. She participates in competitive Scrabble matches, and wins, all over the U.S. Desiree exercises every day. Ellie encouraged attendees to stop by to talk to Desiree at the reception following the meeting.

Ellie acknowledged the 90+ Club members in the audience. OLLI gives free membership to those with OLLI for five years or more when they reach age 90. A total of 53 OLLI members are in the 90+ Club, and many of them still volunteer on committees, etc.

Closing remarks were made by Mike Stover who thanked Ellie and our partners from the university and remarked about OLLI's nearly 50 years of learning. He said, "OLLI is the Costco of education." He advised us to find time to travel with our peers, develop new relationships and give back to OLLI and the university. He invited the audience to adjourn to the Shapiro Wing for cake and honor our 90+ Club members, adding that new members can enroll in the PC lab before or after dessert.



Huntington Gardens & Galleries Trip

Coming April 19, 2023

Sign-ups begin Monday, February 27 in the OLLI office. Don't miss this bused trip to the famous 16 themed gardens and art galleries in Pasadena. See the flyer for details and form.

What: OLLI's annual "Titans Give" day of giving in coordination with CSUF

When: Wednesday, March 8 from midnight to midnight only

How: Go to OLLI's one-day donation webpage at titansgive.fullerton.edu/olli.

Gifts to OLLI help us maintain high-quality programming, equipment and facilities. Our focus this year is on completing our return to a safe environment with a full slate of educational and social programs on campus, while retaining substantial options for online Zoom and livestream participation. Your contribution will ensure that we have the necessary resources to meet challenges, as we did with the pandemic, and opportunities in the future.



New Course Offered

Tech Wars: China and the U.S.

On two Thursdays (February 23 and March 9) from 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. in Room 21 and on Zoom, Jim R. Monroe will present "Tech Wars: China and the U.S." This class will spotlight the consequential struggle between China and the U.S. for global dominance of advanced semiconductor and artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. An important objective of this class will be to provide insight and understanding of these breakthrough technologies to OLLI members, as well as describe their early history beginning in California's Silicon Valley to a competition for global leadership.

What's Happening at the Board

By Chris Shaw, Editor

Following are highlights from OLLI's Board of Trustees meeting on January 12, 2023.

- After 25 new members joined for the spring semester, total membership now stands at 944.
- The Long Range Plan's membership research is complete and results are being reviewed by the Steering Committee.
- CSUF vaccination exemption policy has changed to allow OLLI members the same exemptions as students. New guidelines will be published in the newsletters.
- The Blue Book restructuring team shared the proposal details with OLLI instructors and coordinators and took their questions and comments. 82% of the participants approved of the proposal, subject to their input. The revised proposal will be submitted for approval at the Board's February meeting.
- The Nomination and Election Committee submitted their slate of nominees to the Board (The nominees for the April election appear in this ChroniCLE).
- Funding for major lighting upgrades and room refresh of Mackey Auditorium was approved. CSUF will pay for upgrading the audio-visual equipment.
- The three-year capital plan was approved. This is not a budget; it is a plan for future capital expenses.
- Funding was approved for handouts at local municipal health and senior expo events.
- Revisions in certain OLLI Policies to conform to existing practices were proposed. Vote for approval will be done at the February Board meeting.
- Recommendations for a modest increase the membership fee for 2023-24 were discussed.
- Shapiro Wing floor replacement is expected to be complete by January 13.
- Shapiro ABCD operable wall panel repairs are scheduled for the intersession following spring semester.





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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

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