



President’s Message

By Ellie Monroe, President, OLLI-CSUF



Thank you all for making OLLI so successful this year!! This past year has been a real challenge for all of us, but I can truly say, it has brought me great opportunities to grow and to form new relationships. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you over this

past year. You have adjusted to our virtual classes, and I am so proud of how well you have learned new computer skills even though some initially thought it overwhelming.

I have been warmly touched as you all enjoy greeting each other in every class. New friendships have blossomed from these very trying times and there have developed closer bonds with our fellow members.

I have been extremely rewarded with getting to know so many of you, something I was not able to enjoy while we were on campus. I now have time to stop to visit with you, instead of rushing from one end of the RGC complex to the other in order to get my tasks done.

Our summer semester will once again be held virtually. We are adding a few new programs and restructuring some of our existing programs to bring us together to learn new skills; keep us informed about the latest important changes happening in our communities and the world that impact us; and offer us an opportunity to exchange ideas through the many discussion courses that are being offered.

We have seen positive CSUF announcements, indicating that some return to campus will happen in the fall. We do not have enough information at

General Meeting and Election

By Chris Shaw, Editor

The annual General Meeting and Election was held April 15 via Zoom webinar. It included an overview of OLLI’s current state of affairs and presented the recommended slate of nominees for the open Board positions for 2021-2022. Attendance totaled 124 OLLI members.

President Joyce Ono welcomed attendees and gave instructions on how to ask questions and vote for the nominees on Zoom. She went on to discuss highlights of the past year. OLLI was challenged by the pandemic, but we persevered by successfully transitioning to virtual, video-conferenced programs and an expanded Distance Learning library. She thanked the members of the 2020-2021 Board of Trustees for their exceptional service during this time.

Treasurer Ann Sparks reported on OLLI’s financial health, which suffered a loss of revenue from member dues due to reduced membership renewals. But OLLI’s reserve funds, donations and endowment income remain strong, and the Board decided to continue the same membership dues rate of \$260 per year.

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this time to determine the changes we will face, but we will be sharing information with you throughout the summer months with specific guidelines the campus will put in place to assure our safe return.

I feel honored to serve as your OLLI President for this coming year. The Board this year is made up of very dynamic and knowledgeable individuals who have volunteered to ensure OLLI remains the organization we have been so proud to be members of. Enjoy your summer experience!!!

President Ellie Monroe
 Vice President Administration Mike Stover
 Vice President Programs Renee Cabrera
 Vice President Communication Ginger Barnhart
 Vice President Membership Bill Sampson
 Vice President External Relations Susan Mullaly
 Vice President Facilities Tony Package
 Vice President Hospitality Lisa Sewell
 Vice President Technology Bob Newcomb
 Treasurer Ann Sparks
 Secretary Chris Shaw
 Chris Shaw (tashawc01@gmail.com), Editor; Denny Bean, Alice Gresto, Susan McNamara, Elaine Mitchell and Mary Sampson, Staff Writers

Desktop Publishing: Celia Reynolds



By Chris Shaw, Editor

More than 50 OLLI members attended a Zoom birthday bash on April 11, organized by Ellie Monroe to celebrate Desireé Engel’s 100th birthday and to give OLLI members an opportunity to show Desireé all that she has meant to OLLI throughout her 20 years as a member.

Desireé led quite an interesting life. Born in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, now Croatia, she fled to Italy when the Germans invaded in 1941. She was 19 years old. Two years later she crossed the Alps to sanctuary in Switzerland, where she was separated from her husband and lived in a “displaced persons” camp. This was no country club. She was forced to work darned socks. But she made the best of it, teaching English to the refugee children in the camp. Asked what message she would give the world, she said, “If life gives you lemons, make

lemonade.”

After the war she came to the United States and remarried. She had been interested in art as a child, but it wasn’t until after her youngest son was a senior in high school that she pursued her love for art. “And that,” she said, “changed my life.” She entered Cal State Fullerton at age 52. “I was surrounded by all those kids. I was grandma.” At age 74 she received her Master of Arts.

One of Desireé’s professors at CSUF in the ‘90s, Jade Jewett, celebrated her attitude of hard work and tenacity and her message that it’s never too late to learn.

Although Desireé was educated in many forms of art, her first love is ceramics. She has created hundreds of ceramic pieces and displays them at art shows. So, it was only natural that she started OLLI’s “Ceramics” course when she became a member of OLLI 20 years ago. She fired ceramics pieces for class members in her own kiln at home until “Ceramics” became so popular that OLLI bought a kiln.

Seven years ago, she started OLLI’s “Scrabble” course, teaching the strategy of scrabble. It turns out she plays Scrabble in clubs and competes in tournaments. She even competed in a national spelling bee.

At age 94, Desireé joined OLLI’s band, playing percussion. Rayleen Williams described her as the “Cheerful heartbeat of the band.”

She has made many friends at OLLI over the years, and they took turns during the party recounting their fond recollections of learning from her, performing with her and just enjoying their friendships with her. Mike Stover summed up the many comments, saying “OLLI is a better organization for what you do.”

You can see the entire video of Desireé’s party, including an interview about her life, on the OLLI website under [Distance Learning](#).

At the close of the festivities, Ellie expressed to Desireé “I’m in awe of you” and presented her with a lilac azalea bush and a chocolate mousse cake with glazed toppings in appreciation for what she has meant to OLLI. Desireé’s response was: “I’m overwhelmed. What people have said made me feel that I haven’t wasted my life.”

General Meeting ...Continued from Page 1

Mike Stover, Vice President Administration, reported on OLLI's plans to return to campus and changes in campus parking facilities. Mike said we can see the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel. The Board is planning for a return to campus for the fall 2021 semester with possible limitations to class size and probable safety protocols that are not yet determinable. The new eastside parking structure is done and will be available to OLLI members in the fall, but we will lose all of Lot E (south of the Gastronome) to new student housing, which is under construction. Lot J, on the east side of the Ruby Gerontology Center, will continue to be reserved for OLLI.

Chris Shaw, Chair of the Policies and Procedures Committee, reported recent updates. One new procedure approved by the Board stipulates the handling of complaints under OLLI's civility policy. Changes to OLLI's Policies were: 1) Changes in the titles of CSUF's University Extended Education (UEE) to Extension and International Programs (EIP), OLLI Historian to OLLI Archivist/Historian and Computer Education Committee (CEC) to Technology Education Committee (TEC); 2) Revision of OLLI's annual budget policy to conform to recent changes in CSUF's policy; 3) Giving OLLI's Secretary responsibility for maintaining a list of OLLI's committees; 4) Limiting OLLI member spouses from serving together on the Board as president, treasurer and/or VP administration and certain committees and 5) Guidelines for plaques and other tributes to OLLI members.

Ellie Monroe, Vice President Programs, reported some program changes and introduced several new programs for the intersession, including "Cooking Potpourri," "OLLI Happy Hour" and "The Crafty Social." These three programs will continue in the summer session, which will offer a total of 66 courses and events. All summer programs will be via Zoom only.

Phil Barnhard, OLLI Parliamentarian, explained the nomination process for electing new Board members, and thanked the other Nomination and Election Committee members, Janice Jeng (Chair), Ken Luke, Rayleen Williams, Debbie Maxwell, Vickie Hite and Jim Monroe. Phil then

presented the slate of nominees for the election: Ellie Monroe for President, Renee Cabrera for Vice President Programs, Bill Sampson for Vice President Membership, Tony Package for Vice President Facilities, Lisa Sewell for Vice President Hospitality, Ann Sparks for Treasurer and for Trustees at Large Rosalind Charles, William Clark, Michele Frankel, Tom La Casa and Pete Saputo (see their pictures in this issue). Phil then conducted the election, and the slate of nominees was approved via online vote. The newly-elected Board members will be officially installed at the Board meeting on May 13.

Elaine Mitchell, Vice President Hospitality, compensated for the lack of the usual Ice Cream Social with a prize drawing. Ten lucky attendees received gift certificates for ice cream. She also asked members to save the date for the OLLI Fiesta event on June 19, featuring dancing with professional dance instructor Kim Roberts to a live performance by Mariachi Divas de Cindy Shea.

Joyce Ono gave closing remarks, thanking Board members and other volunteers for their support during her two-year term as President of OLLI-CSUF. She is turning the presidency over to newly-elected Ellie Monroe. Ellie thanked Joyce for her wonderful service, particularly during the difficult pandemic year.

Next ChroniCLE August

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

OLLI in the News

On the occasion of OLLI member Desireé Engel's 100th birthday, the Orange County Register did a nice article about Desireé's life and art, mentioning she teaches at OLLI at Cal State Fullerton. The article, "More Than a Survivor, at 100, She's Still Making Art," was published in the OC Register on April 18, and you can read it by [clicking here](#).

OLLI Volunteer Recognition Presentation and Concert

By Chris Shaw, Editor

OLLI's army of volunteers were recognized in a virtual presentation attended by 64 OLLI members and guests on April 15, followed by a live smooth jazz concert.

It is our volunteers who provide the many wonderful programs OLLI members enjoy each year, and this last year has been particularly challenging for our volunteer program instructors and coordinators, our Board and volunteers on other committee and the many other behind-the-scenes volunteers. They make OLLI-CSUF so successful.

Ellie Monroe, Vice President Programs and President-elect, started the program and welcomed Chris Swarat, Associate Vice President, EIP, CSUF, who complimented OLLI at CSUF for rising to the challenge of the pandemic, adapting to providing virtual programs by learning how to use Zoom videoconferencing and ramping up our Distance Learning program. Cal State Fullerton had to do that, too. The transition was difficult, but we did it. Chris gave kudos to all of OLLI's volunteers who make OLLI stronger. He said the new University Provost, Carolyn Thomas, is looking forward to working with OLLI.

Bill Sampson, Trustee and Vice President Membership-elect, congratulated OLLI's volunteers for successfully converted 96 programs to virtual mode via Zoom just weeks after the pandemic shut down the campus.

Jim Monroe, Immediate Past President, thanked the Board of Trustees, who had to quickly handle the effects of a pandemic that could not have been foreseen: Phil Barnhard, Ginger Barnhart, Renee Cabrera, Rosalind Charles, Kathryn Cozza, Vickie Hite, Janice Jeng, Debbie Maxwell, Elaine Mitchell, Elie Monroe, Jim Monroe. Sue Mullaly, Bob Newcomb, Joyce Ono, Cynthia Owens, Tony Package, Arie Passchier, Bill Sampson, Pete Saputo, Chris Shaw, Ann Sparks and Mike Stover.

Jim thanked OLLI's Archivist/Historian Joanne Hardy for taking on the role of organizing OLLI's records and documents into a digital archive.

Thanks to the Nomination and Election Committee: Phil Barnhard, Vickie Hite, Janice

Jeng, Ken Luke, Debbie Maxwell, Jim Monroe and Rayleen Williams.

Thanks to the President's Advisory Council, comprised of past OLLI presidents: Barry Escoe, Jim Monroe, Dave Musante, Joyce Ono, Chuck Ritz, Mike Stover and Barbara Talento.

Thanks to the Development/Philanthropy Committee: Barry Escoe, Don Lake, Ellie Monroe, Jim Monroe, Sue Mullaly, Joyce Ono, Arie Passchier, Chris Shaw, Mike Shelton, Ann Sparks and Mike Stover.

A special thanks to our Distance Learning crew Don Lake, Jim Monroe, Bob Newcomb and Bill Reilly for stepping up this year, raising the library of class videos to around 300.

Ellie congratulated all the Board members and committee chairs who attended training sessions to learn Zoom and thanked the instructors and coordinators who worked hard to learn how to present their programs virtually. offering 50 programs last summer. Thanks to the Curriculum Committee for their role in making this happen: Judy Alter, Ron Baesler, Ginger Barnhart, Sue Batie, Richard Eaton, Dennis Hudson, Joe Lawton, Ken Luke, Russ MacKeand, Ellie Monroe, Jim Monroe, Jim R. Monroe, Joyce Ono, Carol Thurk and Fritz von Coelln.

Thanks to the Transitions in Retirement Committee: Tom La Casa, Russ MacKeand, Ellie Monroe, Joyce Ono and Mike Stover.

Thanks to the Blue Book team: Judy Alter, Sue Batie, Renee Cabrera, Dan Coby, Vickie Fears, Susan Hanna, Joanne Hardy, Susan McNamara, Ellie Monroe, Jim Monroe, Helene Moss, Bill Reilly, Beverly Risse, Chris Shaw, Ann Sparks and Carol Thurk.

Thanks to the Communications Team: ChroniCLE—Benny Bean, Alice Gresto, Susan McNamara, Elaine Mitchell, Mary Sampson and Chris Shaw; Electronic Bulletin Board—Melinda Wiltsie; Social Media—Renee Cabrera, Janice Jeng and Sue Mullaly; Newsletters—Ginger Barnhart and Melinda Wiltsie; Website—Ginger Barnhart, Dan Coby, Steve Kernes, Bob Newcomb, Joyce Ono, Bev Risse and Melinda Wiltsie.

Bill Sampson thanked the Collaboration Committee: Ed Batson, Marlene Burnett, Carol
OLLI Volunteer ... Continued on page 6

Welcome New Board Members



Ellie Monroe
President



Renee Cabrera
Vice President Programs



Bill Sampson
Vice President Membership



Tony Package
Vice President Facilities



Lisa Sewell
Vice President Hospitality



Ann Sparks
Treasurer



Rosalind Charles
Trustee at Large



William Clark
Trustee at Large



Michele Frankel
Trustee at Large



Tom La Casa
Trustee at Large



Pete Saputo
Trustee at Large

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Carson, Jim Cename, Fran Colwell, LeeAnn Donaldson, Alice Gresto, Mark Hammel, Jerry Hunter, Joan Levine, Jeanne Lichman, Chris Milford, Ellie Monroe, Ellie Page, Christine Roberts, Diane Sanchez, Ann Sparks, Fritz von Coelln, Dianne Wallace and Marc Wynne.

Thanks to the Hospitality Committee: Tom Barry, Jean Bryant, Tina Ernsting, Michele Frankel, Wendell Hanks, Bonnie Harrington, Ofelia (Ofie) Igasaki, Annette Lauritzen, Judy Lech, Elaine Mitchell, Gail Nitta, Nancy Parker, Lisa Sewell, Donna Spradlin and Marie Stiegler.

Thanks to the Trips Committee: Rosi Cayuela, Fran Doble, Jan Friel, Bonnie Harrington, Joyce Keitel, Ken Luke, Liz Lincoln, Lorraine Miller, Pearl Miller, Ellie Monroe and Elizabeth Oates.

Thanks to the Member Scholarship Committee: Pat Fox, Alice Gresto, Judy Randlett, John Sawyer and Fred Shecter.

Thanks to the Membership Committee: Susi Attal, Judy Brazell, Linda Callen, Kathryn Cozza, Marietta Davis, Eleanor Dortman, Vickie Fears, Mark Hammel, Susan Hanna, Richard Harbert, Joanne Hardy, Rick Hearn, MaryLouise Hlavac, Betty Jura, Karen Katz, Amy Kernes, Steve Kernes, Mickey La Casa, Tom La Casa, Debbie Maxwell, Jim Medici, Harriette Millman, Ellie Monroe, Elizabeth Oates, Joyce Ono, Mary Sambrano, Bill Sampson, Mike Shellman, Patricia Silvestri, Carol Thurk, Kay Tu, June Watanabe, Cindy Welch and Anita Widmayer.

Thanks to the Sunshine Callers: Mary Alice Blydes, Georgina Browne, Elizabeth Burrell, Sara Clark, Jim Ertle, Mary Ferris, Chuck Geitner, Young Kea, Leonard Leventhal, Joan Levine, Maureen Mcconaghy, Chris Milford, Peggy Misra, Lois Monroe, Tony Package, Ann Porter, Richard Short, Shirley Smith, Maryann Strosser, Elizabeth Strauss, Jeanne Tarbell, Tammy Tran and Diane Wallace.

The program ended with The Cal State Trio—Alex Flavell, Freddy Uyehara and Andy Dominguez—performing cool, smooth jazz versions of “Bye Bye Blackbird,” “There Will Never Be Another You,” “Black Orpheus” and “Have You Met Miss Jones.” Thanks to Bill Cunliffe and Alex Flavell of the CSUF School of Music. I found the concert to be a wonderful interlude from a long,

cold COVID winter.

The next issue of the ChroniCLE will pay tribute to the many program instructors, coordinators and co-hosts that Ellie thanked.

You can view the video of the entire Volunteer Recognition Presentation and Concert on the OLLI website under [Distance Learning](#).

My apologies for any misspelled or missing names. Thanks to Renee Cabrera for creating the volunteer recognition presentation, and thanks to Ellie and Jim Monroe for hosting the Zoom program and concert.

Calling All OLLI Veterans 4th of July Celebration

Thursday, July 01, 2021 at 1-2 p.m. via Zoom



We will be honoring our OLLI veterans once again at our July 4th celebration. All branches of service will be

honored. We are asking those veterans who would like to be part of the presentation to send us either a photo in your uniforms or a photo from your past.

If you were not able to submit a picture for the previous year's events or you are a new OLLI member, please come forward and get your picture into our Honor Roll.

Take action from now till Friday, June 18 to have your photo included in our presentation.

How To Submit Your Picture: Please provide either a scanned jpeg file (at least 350 dpi) or an original picture (to be returned via mail) to be scanned. A photocopy cannot be used (they do not show up well). Include: 1) Your name and rank; 2) Branch of service; and 3) Dates of served (19XX to 20XX).

You may email your photo to Ellie Monroe at: jim.ellie@mindspring.com or mail your photo to Ellie at 28575 Evening Breeze Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92887.

What's Happening at the Board

By Chris Shaw, Editor

OLLI's Board of Trustees met on April 8. Following are highlights of the issues from that meeting:

- The budget was reduced to reflect the unfilled position in the OLLI office, but some budget was retained for possible part-time help.
- Treasurer Ann Sparks estimated 60-75% of the amount budgeted for the 2020-21 fiscal year will be spent.
- We don't anticipate any reduction to this year's parking charges from CSUF of \$63,260.
- Critical issues to be determined for return to campus will be classroom capacity restrictions and vaccination versus testing requirements.
- The Board is considering a member compact stipulating pandemic rules on campus.
- VP Technology Bob Newcomb is testing Ruby Gerontology Center rooms for Zoom and streaming technology equipment needs.
- Production has begun on the fall semester Blue Book with the assumption that we will have both in-person programs on campus and Zoom programs.
- No newspaper advertising is planned for summer, because the cost would not be justified by the small number of new members that usually join in summer, but we will continue to advertise on no-cost online media.
- SCAN interviewed OLLI member Jim Ertle for an article about OLLI planned for the May issue of their magazine.
- OLLI-CSUF Collaboration has more than doubled its mentor volunteers and is expanding its mentoring programs with CSUF, including the schools of business, communications and engineering & computer science.
- President Joyce Ono made a presentation about OLLI-CSUF to the Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Board.
- Half of the Board members will complete their terms of office and be replaced by newly elected officers and trustees at the May 13 Board meeting.
- OLLI's Fiesta event featuring virtual dancing and a Mariachi band will be held 3-5 p.m. on June 19.

Ask the Board

By Chris Shaw, Trustee at Large and ChroniCLE Editor

Kiyo asked: "What is the cost of just this summer session? I know someone who is considering joining if the price is right for her pocketbook."

The membership fee for the summer session only is \$85. Registering for the summer session is an inexpensive way to sample OLLI's programs, and it can lead to prospective members enrolling for the year later in the fall semester.

Jim asked: "You mentioned part of the budget shortfall was for the open office position but it was not filled and therefore the money was not spent. Does that still have to be counted as an expense and therefore dings our actual budget as an expenditure? I know we have to live under the school's rules and procedures, but do they still take that money even though we have not used it?"

The vacant position in the OLLI office was not filled, and the money that was budgeted for that position's salary and benefits was not spent. That means no expenditure was counted for this position in the Treasurer's report. The budget, after all is said and done, is only a plan; it doesn't mean the money must be spent, and it doesn't mean we lose the money in any way if we don't spend it. OLLI does not forfeit any budgeted but unspent money.

The Board of Trustees meets the second Thursday of each month. All OLLI members are welcome to attend these meetings. You can find the Zoom link from the OLLI Class Information and Updates Newsletter emailed to members each weekend or get it on the OLLI website.

If you have a question, send an email to Chris at 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 answer in the next ChroniCLE, because if you wondered about something, other OLLI members may have wondered the same thing.





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 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 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