

## **President's Message**

*By Vickie Hite, President, OLLI-CSUF*

As I write this message, I have just returned from the national Osher Conference in Chantilly, Virginia, meeting



with many of the other 123 OLLIs across the country. It was a great opportunity to reaffirm that our organization is doing well. I came back with the understanding that "to know one OLLI is to know one OLLI." Every OLLI has similarities in aspirations and implementation. It was obvious that most OLLI chapters share

similar struggles, just at varying levels of intensity. There were differences in the execution of programs that piqued my interest and may help us to improve ours. It is always worthwhile to spend time with individuals who share common goals and ideals, inspiring us to continue the work that is done on behalf of our members. Our OLLI is recognized as a great example of a powerful and well-run chapter of OLLI, thanks to everyone's hard work and dedication within OLLI-CSUF.

Moving on to scholarships and academic financial awards: Two Aging Studies Scholarships for CSUF students were awarded in May. The award winners are Nora Mahmoud and Ben Le. Nora is a first-generation college attendee. She is working towards an M.D.-Ph.D. or M.D. program. Her area of research is the effect of microbiomes on aging and immune responses. Ben Le is a participant in the MSTEM Star Program. Ben's area of research has been in assistive robotics. Clearly, they are two qualified individuals for our scholarship program. Unfortunately, this year we did not have a qualifying candidate for our Betty Robertson Award for the mature graduate, nor a candidate for the Outstanding Master of Science in Gerontology Student Award. I think it may be time to review our scholarships fund's directions to see if we can create some flexibility in moving scholarship funds around when we are missing qualified candidates for a named award. We should not leave money on the

## **OLLI's Big Triple-Header Event Staged April 17**

*By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer*

### **Cheers to Volunteers Luncheon**

It was a cold, damp day when the OLLI volunteers began to gather in the Shapiro hallway. It did not take long for it to warm up as they spilled into the ABCD hall, seeking tables to claim and friends to gather. Laughter and chatter were the music of the afternoon. Our Hospitality Team of Tracy Hammel, Glen Lee, Jill Rodriguez, Kathleen Ego, Pauline Flanders, Tom La Casa, Anthony Gonzalez and Mark Hammel, led by Mickey La Casa, served up a fine luncheon of turkey and beef sandwiches and all the amenities you'd want or need on the sandwich plus salads, chips and chilled beverages or water, as desired. One hundred and twenty people attended. How do we know? Mickey counted the forks!

It was a leisurely afternoon. We felt free to move through the hall, go back to the lunch line for seconds or cruise around the room checking in on old friends we had not seen since that last class, movie or meeting. Chatting with Linda Lockwood, she observed that OLLI volunteers were indeed "the heart" of our programs. It was interesting that our volunteers were serving other volunteers as we celebrated this special day to honor them. Do you want to help out and make new friends? Become a volunteer

### **General Meeting and Election**

President Vickie Hite kicked off the General Meeting addressing the changes that have already taken place in this year. If you are an OLLI member who mostly attends classes on Zoom, or you are a member who just zips straight from your car to the Poker game, take a moment to visit the OLLI office. Surprise! Lovely new floors and arrangements and a brand-new front office crew are ready and willing to answer your questions or needs.

The OLLI Experience proved to be a great success. eighty-eight people registered and one person signed up for membership on the first day. And a fully trained OLLI

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## *President's message ... Continued from Page 1*

table, when there are so many students to assist. This is yet another item to add to our list of topics for review, as our new Board begins its work.

Our new Olli Board Trustees have been installed and have attended their first official meeting. I am grateful for the service of our retiring trustees: Maggie Giles, Joanne Hardy, Annette Lauritzen, Chris Milord and Tony Package. I am looking forward to a great year with our five new Trustees. All of our current Board officers now have at least one full year of experience, showing confidence and creativity in their various roles. It has been a successful term.

## *OLLI Big Triple... Continued from Page 1*

Trolley crew is now ready to provide service.

In addressing finances, a member of the audience asked about the amount OLLI pays to CSUF for facility services and was told \$1,200 to \$1,500 a month. Vickie countered that that sum is overshadowed by the OLLI-CSUF Collaboration program, whereby OLLI members contribute their time working with CSUF students and their needs. See Sue Mullaly or check OLLI's Announcements and Events Newsletter for opportunities to engage with the CSUF students.

As prices continue to rise, so do the needs of OLLI. We will have opportunities to support our programs

through fundraisers throughout the year. The OLLI Board has worked hard to keep our membership fees to a minimum. Last year members paid \$290 for their annual membership; this year we will pay \$295. We will be charged for only two semesters, fall and a combined spring-summer.

## Traditional Ice Cream Social

After the General Meeting and Election, we strolled back over to the Shapiro wing where we were greeted by Lisa Sewell, OLLI Vice President of Hospitality, and her team of volunteers, who were ready to scoop up yummy treats of chocolate and/or vanilla ice cream and squares of chocolate brownies. They were carefully served by none other than Celia Reynolds, who recently retired from her OLLI office position. Celia tirelessly answered the phone and solved our problems for many years, and now she's an OLLI member. Delicious syrups in three flavors, freshly sliced strawberries and chopped nuts were available to complete our personal best sundaes. Elaine Mitchell greeted us at the end of the line with cups of chilled water, which Pete Saputo hauled in from the kitchen.

Volunteers and other OLLI members hung around to chat with our newly elected OLLI Board officers and trustees. Those trustees at large will become the voices of the OLLI community.

## **New Programs for Summer Session**

*By Chris Shaw, Editor*

### **ABC's of Medicare**

This course via Zoom highlights the importance of knowing when to sign up for Medicare to maximize your benefits and avoid late enrollment penalties. It's also essential to understand that you can modify your existing plan to suit your specific needs better. The course consists of three Medicare-related classes. The first, "Medicare Basics," is an overview of the four parts of Medicare: Part A-Hospital Care, Part B-Medical Care, Part C-Medicare Advantage, and Part D-Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage. The second, "Plan Comparisons," will break down the differences between HMO, PPO, and Supplemental/Medigap plans. The third, "Understanding Medical Bills," will provide guidance on how to interpret your medical bills, and help answer questions such as, "I just received a bill from my doctor. Do I need to pay it or will my insurance company cover it?"

This three-part course is offered by Instructor Diana Dillman, Medicare Options Specialist, Live Well Insurance, and Coordinator/Tech Coordinator Tom La Casa via Zoom and livestream. The course runs from 10 a.m. to noon on May 27, June 3 and June 10.

### **Biblical Wisdom: How Cohesive? How Persuasive?**

Focused on the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament), this course immerses you in biblical “wisdom,” a message-rich form with no single definition but having distinctive, compelling and unexpected viewpoints. The course will explore it as a cosmic concept and conduct code, as an ancient imperative and premodern experiment, from which we will build diverse “wisdom models.” Please pre-read the Books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes as a baseline. It is highly recommended to bring a Bible of your choice to class.

Instructor Dr. Craig Miller and Coordinator/Tech Coordinator Dr. Ben Hubbard offer this course via Zoom from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, June 25 and July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30.

### **Looking at Theology through the Lens of Mission**

Did you know you are a theologian? In fact, everybody’s a theologian because we all have ideas about God, the afterlife and what God is doing. This four-session course looks at what God is doing through the lens of mission. Mission will be defined as cross-cultural communication of the gospel. The course asks and seeks to answer: 1) What is the role of God in mission? 2) What is humanity’s role in mission? 3) What is the role of geography and migration in mission? and 4) What is the role of one’s view of the end of time and mission? We will also address the role of seniors in mission. Feel free to bring any Bible translation of your choice.

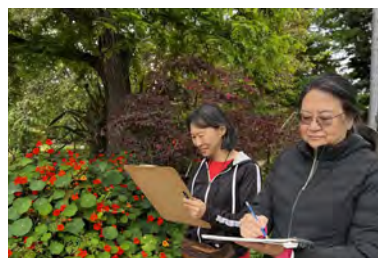
Instructor/Coordinator Ted Proffitt offers this course in Room 21 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. on alternate Mondays, June 9 and 23, and July 7 and 21.

***“Mission will be  
defined as cross-cultural  
communication  
of the gospel.”***

## ***“An Outing for Art at the Arboretum.”***

Class members of “Drawing for the Fun of It” and “Watercolor Workshop” joined together on April 30 for drawing and painting in the open air with the beautiful inspiration of nature at Cal State Fullerton’s Arboretum. Carol Carson, an instructor and coordinator for both courses, led the outing.

*Photos by Nicole Perez and Carol Carson.*



## ***Art Class***

*An Outing for Art ... Continued on Page 9*



# Cheers to Volunteers, General Meeting/Election & Ice Cream Social

*Photos by Hsien Chen, Mary Crouch,  
Jim Di Tota & Diana Guerin*



## *Newly Elected Members of the Board of Trustees*

### **Vickie Hite**

*President*

*(reelected for second one-year term)*



### **MaryLouise Hlavac**

*VP Programs*



### **Anthony Gonzalez**

*VP Facilities*



### **Ann Sparks**

*Treasurer*



### **Eileen Gomez**

*Trustee at Large*



### **Diana Wright Guerin**

*Trustee at Large*



### **Debra L. Kegel**

*Trustee at Large*



### **Judi Marsh**

*Trustee at Large*



### **Britt Wachsman**

*Trustee at Large*





## Ron Osajima, *Godfather* of OLLI-CSUF Collaboration

*By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer*

Before retirement, Ron Osajima had been a Chief Information Officer responsible for determining the needs of the company regarding networking and software development for long-term planning. Ron brought those skills to OLLI. Soon he was working with George Killianey and others on the OLLI Board to collect data on the state of OLLI membership and the curriculum to determine whether changes to the programs were necessary to keep the organization relevant.

Study of the data resulted in the identification of long-range plan implementation strategies; one such strategy was to provide more volunteering opportunities within the CSUF community.

It was important to create a steering committee with influential people to help develop a collaboration project. Ron contacted Assistant Dean Dave Fromson, who invited other assistant deans to join the steering committee. The assistant deans were supportive and helped to establish connections within the university.

In 2010, OLLI member Jane Moon established connections with Cynthia Grauvogl in the School of Nursing. Student nurses have since been visiting OLLI to observe the “well elders” in action and conducting interviews with individual class participants to learn what makes healthy seniors “tick.” Retired teachers were recruited to help nursing students edit and improve their report writing skills.

More OLLI members made connections. Ellie Monroe worked with the CSUF School of Music and soon OLLI was providing opportunities for students to perform concerts in front of live audiences at the Ruby Gerontology Center. In support of CSUF’s Concert Under the Stars, one quarter of the attendees were from OLLI, giving strong financial and moral support to CSUF students. Marge Osborn obtained student tutors to work with OLLI members who wanted to play in a band. Then she obtained a student to conduct the OLLI musicians in concert. And Lee Ann Donaldson, who was involved in Collaboration projects in the areas of counseling, human services and psychology, reported that CSUF instructors and administrators “... are delighted to see

the OLLI-CSUF Collaboration involved with the students and faculty.”

Collaboration continues to evolve as volunteers invite others at OLLI to join them in the interactions with students and departments on campus. OLLI-CSUF Collaboration now has connections with every school within the University.

The latest reports regarding our aging community indicate that people are living longer and are more productive in giving back to society. Collaboration gives members of OLLI the opportunity to give back through university volunteer work. Those interactions are beneficial for students as they wipe away old stereotypes and begin to realize that there is life after 60. In our mobile society we often miss the inter-generational connections which can be developed within our collaborative contacts.

We appreciate the current efforts of Sue Mullaly in working with OLLI CSUF Collaboration.

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## In Memoriam Observed

The silent In Memoriam presentation, shown on campus on Friday, April 25, 2025, honoring OLLI members who passed in the last year is available to view on the OLLI website under the [Events section of Classes/Activities](#) on the home page.

The passed members who were honored were: Barbara Bevans, Virginia Bower, Waylin Chu, Richard Clement, Patricia “Pat” Duffie, Rich Eaton, Linda Ganda, Jerry Hays, Eddie Hlavac, Richard “Dick” Kaufman, Len Leventhal, Janet McNeill, Dorothy Mary Morgenstern, Ron Osborn, Mike Shelton, Richard “Steve” Stevens and Terry Tushla.



# A Star-Spangled Celebration

## Saturday, June 21, Noon-3:00 PM in the Shapiro Building

*by Elaine Mitchell, Hospitality Committee*

At OLLI, as we celebrate our 45th anniversary, our nation is approaching its 250-year birthday! The Hospitality Committee invites you to join us in remembering some of the remarkable eras and people of USA history.

We will supply a delicious lunch of roasted chicken and plenty of salads for vegetarian choices. The OLLI Ukuleles will offer their fun entertainment and assist with a sing-along. You can contribute by dressing as your favorite person from USA history. This could be a real person, such as Ben Franklin, Betsy Ross, General U. S. Grant, Pocahontas, Harriet Tubman, Grandma Moses or Teddy Roosevelt, or it could be a fictional character, such as Uncle Sam, Lady Liberty or Paul Bunyan. You can also dress to represent an important or notable historical era or event, such as the Boston Tea Party, Manifest Destiny, the Railroad Age, the Jazz Age or the influence of hippies and Rock 'n' Roll. All choices can be serious or a spoof. If you would like to share and present to all the guests, just let us know so we can schedule your mic time. You can join other folks, two or more, to do a short skit, dance or sing (any fife and drum

players out there?) for your presentation.

Your imagination is the only guideline as to your costume, but please be considerate of others' feelings and sensibilities. Default dress is as much red, white and blue, from head to toe, as you can find in your closet! (this is event SE#705) and costs only \$10, payable

***All event details are on the flyer  
included with this ChroniCLE issue, in  
the OLLI office and Shapiro lobby, and  
posted around the RGC. Registration is  
June 2 through June 16***

by credit card only online through TouchNet (help is available in the OLLI office). See the event flyer for the TouchNet link.

Hospitality looks forward to sharing a great time with our OLLI friends as we celebrate —  
**Happy 250th Birthday, USA!!!**

### ***Book Your Mexican Riviera Cruise Now November 8-15, 2025***

Join OLLI for a cruise on the Royal Princess cruise ship for a seven-night cruise to Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta (disembarking at ports in Mexico are optional), and you don't even have to fly anywhere. The cruise departs from Los Angeles on November 8 and returns to Los Angeles on November 15.

Bookings are being accepted now.  
Space is limited.

Note: To sign up for this cruise, do not contact

the OLLI office. Bookings must be made directly with Bridget Ambrose at Good Times Travel. See the instructions in the "To Book" box in the trip flyer. Deposits are refundable.

See the flyer for more details or email questions to Judi Marsh at [2impress45@gmail.com](mailto:2impress45@gmail.com).



# Cinco de Mayo Event Held April 3

*Photos by Jim Di Tota*



## Dana Point Whale Watching Cruise & Ocean Institute Tour Trip

Please join us onboard the research vessel Sea Explorer as we look for whales, dolphins, sea lions, sunfish and who knows what else ... Afterwards we will split up into three groups and take a docent-led tour of the Ocean Institute and check out a variety of educational exhibits. And don't forget to visit the gift shop. Finally, we will enjoy a seaside lunch at Dana Wharf, where there are a variety of restaurants to fit every budget.

Signups begin June 30. Watch the Announcements and Events Newsletters for more details, including a link to the TouchNet signup page for this trip.



Coming Monday,  
September 22, 2025

## Do You Want to Write for the ChroniCLE?

*By Chris Shaw, Editor*

OLLI's ChroniCLE has an opening for a staff writer. Staff writers are assigned to write an article on average once in six or eight weeks, usually about a person, group or event within OLLI, and they may contribute their own ideas for articles, subject to approval by the editor. This typically involves meeting and interviewing the subject of the article, drafting an article that observes a defined length and style standards, and submitting it by a due date for publication with the writer's byline.

If you want to provide in-depth stories about OLLI, its activities and its members to the OLLI membership and participate in chronicling OLLI's history, contact Chris Shaw at [tashawc01@gmail.com](mailto:tashawc01@gmail.com).

## 'Sports Talk' Tours Angel Stadium

On April 16, 22 members of the "Sports Talk" course, led by Coordinator Carl Richards, visited Angel Stadium in Anaheim (The Big A) for a guided tour by a representative of the Los Angeles Angels baseball team.





## What's Happening at the Board

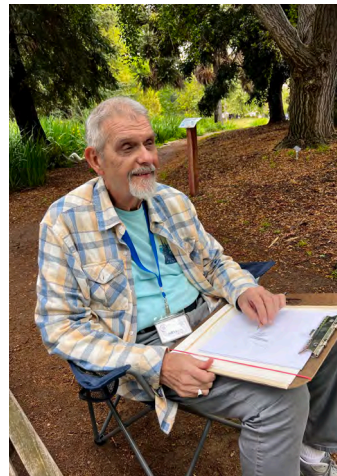
By Chris Shaw, Editor

Following are highlights from OLLI's Board of Trustees meeting on April 10, 2025:

- President Hite reported that, as of April 10, 63 non-members registered to participate in the OLLI Experience to attend OLLI classes free of charge.
- Dr. Sean Walker, CSUF Deputy Provost, joined the Board as a new CSUF representative.
- Dr. Walker, Daisy Thomas and Corina Pineda completed a new, improved process to recruit, train and schedule new OLLI Trolley drivers.
- OLLI will have an information table to answer questions about OLLI from students and their parents at the Experience CSUF event on April 12.
- Executive Director Daisy Thomas and OLLI President Vickie Hite attended the Osher Conference on April 28-30 and will focus on workshops on fundraising and increasing membership.
- Member Diane Wallace brought OLLI an opportunity to apply for a grant funded by Ocean Subaru of Fullerton for support items, like appliances and furnishings, rather than cash.
- Victoria Edge Minion, director of the Basic Needs Service, sent a very lovely thank you to all the OLLI Donors who contributed to the Basic Needs Program.
- The Board is considering a summer-only registration option.
- The Curriculum Committee approved an overnight Mexican Riviera Cruise trip for November 8-15, 2025.

## Art at the Arboretum.

*An Outing for Art at the ... Continued from Page 3*



Arboretum.



## OLLI

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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, including the ChroniCLE emails. If, for any reason, you are **not** already receiving OLLI emails about upcoming classes, events, the ChroniCLE and special notices, you can subscribe (or re-subscribe) by going to <http://bit.ly/OLLISubscription> and entering your email address, first name and last name.

If you still have trouble receiving emails from OLLI, send an email to [ollinebytes@hotmail.com](mailto:ollinebytes@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)

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Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/ollicsuf/>