



THE EXCELLERATE

November 2008 Issue – View online at <http://seniorprograms.unlv.edu/osher.html>

MEMBER NEWSLETTER FOR OLLI at UNLV

A PROGRAM FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE –Don Silverman



I am what is known as a "Lame Duck" president (does that sound familiar?), and although I have one more year on my second two-year term on the Board, I will then become subject to the "Term Limits" provisions of our By-Laws (which may also sound familiar). It's not too early to expound on my legacy, except that whatever has been accomplished during my two terms should truly be credited primarily to a support team of Board members, Committee Chairmen, volunteer Coordinators, and especially during the last year, huge and effective support from the University, through the efforts of Dr. Richard Lee and his staff.

Dr. Lee often accomplishes minor miracles for OLLI which do not get proper publicity. I strenuously complained to him when the UNLV parking authorities started cracking down on our parking area, announcing that anyone parking in a handicapped spot would have to first purchase a UNLV handicapped identification at a hefty purchase price, even if they had a Nevada handicapped placard and a paid up student parking permit, and that none of us could park in the many spots designated as "staff parking." Dr. Lee jumped into it and successfully negotiated an agreement whereby, with the student parking permit we all have, we are now all free to park in those "staff" spaces; and the student parking permit with a Nevada handicapped placard are sufficient for handicapped spaces. In addition, when I asked him if we could possibly get some UNLV music group to entertain at our December luncheon, Dr. Lee once again jumped on it, and obtained for us a UNLV jazz group at no cost to OLLI. When we started our satellite program, he personally volunteered to coordinate a class at Las Ventanas. These are just a few examples of his help, not to mention the two \$100,000 grants from the Osher Foundation that he has already obtained for us.

In my previous messages I have extolled the virtues of the Board Members, Committee Chairmen, Coordinators and member volunteers, but I have not yet said enough about the contributions of Dr. Lee's newest staff members, Debbie Smatresk and Genene Boldt. These two women are technically both part-timers, but I can assure you that they jointly accomplish as much for us as any team of full timers. They are tireless workers, fiercely dedicated to improving our image, streamlining our procedures, and facilitating our quest to reach a membership of 500 and make us eligible for a \$1,000,000 endowment from Osher. And they are succeeding in all those efforts beyond my expectations. The fact that we now have more than 400 paid members and excellent prospects to reach the goal of 500 members by the end of the year is due, to a very large extent, to their efficient and determined efforts, working together with Board members and Committee chairmen.

We are right now in the process of starting satellite classes at Sun City Aliante, Las Ventanas, and Sun City MacDonald Ranch Recreation Center, with excellent prospects for several more locations.

I can take some credit for instituting and pushing the ideas of starting satellite location classes and recruiting UNLV professors to teach some of our classes, but it was clearly this support team that made those things happen. Winning coaches often receive a great deal of credit, but it is the players on the field who win the games. Genene and Debbie are richly deserving of the heartfelt thanks of me personally, and of all OLLI members.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008
Do not miss this one.

OLLI WINTER LUNCHEON
with ENTERTAINMENT

The annual OLLI Winter Luncheon will be held on December 13th at the Stan Fulton building.

We will have a wonderful menu, and entertainment by a UNLV Jazz Band. We will hold down the price to \$22.95, which is our cost for the meal alone. The room charge and other expenses will be subsidized by OLLI at UNLV.

The room has limited seating, and last year we had 96 members at the luncheon. Our membership has almost doubled since then, so it will be important to sign up as soon as we notify you (by flyers and e-mails) that we will be taking reservations, so save the date.

Saturday, Dec. 13th
If you snooze, you will lose.

Roz Braverman Tribute

Special thanks to **John Wooding**, who worked diligently to put together the collage which adorns the Tribute photograph given to Roz Braverman for her dedication to EXCELL/OLLI.

Thank you, John. OLLI is very lucky to have you as a member. Also, thanks to **Connie Pearlstein** who was my cohort in creating this piece.

Arlene Cohen

Curriculum Committee – Mary Pace

Our Fall 2008 semester started with a record 26 study groups. With returning coordinators and new coordinators, continuing topics and new, there are wonderfully diverse courses from which to choose. Our semester is off to a wonderful start.

Your Board, the Long Range Planning Committee and Educational Outreach have worked feverishly to spread the word about OLLI. We are very close (may even be there when this is printed) to the magic 500 number for the one million dollar Osher endowment. To continue the momentum in advertising our program, the Spring catalog will be printed earlier this year. Current coordinators have been asked to fill out a form regarding their decision about next semester. While the decision can certainly be changed later, it does give Education Outreach and your Curriculum Committee a good idea of the number of Spring classes.

With our satellite sites and times now set, changes are definitely coming. Our program will be evolving and growing in previously unanticipated ways. We will always offer classes to retired and semi-retired people wishing to share life experiences, to actively pursue knowledge in a vibrant lifelong learning setting. Enjoy a terrific semester!

Sunshine Committee Report

RUTH GREENBERG has moved to Calgary Hospice in the Bronx, NY, to be near her son and family.

JOHN WOODING got a leg infection while visiting family in Chicago. He has returned to Las Vegas and is well.

DAVE DAMERON was hospitalized and did not have a heart attack. He would not miss the second season in Cedar City.

BRUCE McLEOD has gone to California for surgery on his thyroid.

HOWARD SUSSMAN's wife, **Barbara** passed in October.

Procedures to Use UNLV Library System

Your Student ID (Rebel Card) is a valid identification, as well as a valid driver's license. The first time you wish to use UNLV library facilities, you must register at the Lied Library Circulation desk. The library registration is valid for one year from date of issue.

If you wish to take books out of the Library, you must also allow UNLV to place an imprint of a valid major credit card on file, and allow the Library to charge your card for uncollected fines, late fees, and replacement costs of items that have been damaged or not returned.

If you don't wish to leave a credit card on file, you may not take out library books nor use their online system.

You may use the UNLV computer system from within the Library.

Events Committee – Arlene Cohen

Campus Tour and Open House

The overcast sky turned a beautiful blue, allowing 26 or so members of OLLI to tour UNLV's main campus. It was quite a treat to long-standing members who remembered attending classes on the campus.

There are several new buildings. The architecture is very exciting and very 21st century. We saw the Barrick Museum and toured the Boyd Law School. There was a visit to the Lied Library just to give everyone an idea where it was located. Two UNLV students took us around the campus.

After the tour a group had lunch in Moyer Student Union, which is a beautiful new building. I hope we can do the tour again so that we can see the Greenspun Urban Affairs building. My thanks go to Gene Geller who made all the arrangements for the tour. She is a tireless worker and boy am I glad to have her on my Committee.

As Events Chair, my very special thanks go to Mary Pace who worked tirelessly to make our 2008 Open House a great success. Mary works endlessly for OLLI in many capacities and we owe her a great deal of appreciation.

Upcoming Events

The Committee is looking forward to the "76 Trombones Plus Four" concert on November 2nd. We have 102 OLLI members attending. Thanks to a hard working committee – Mary Ellen Cardenas, Gene Geller, Pauline Greenfield, and Lidia Mauer. See you at the Winter Lunch on Dec. 13th.

During the spring term we will have a trip to the Spring Preserves, hopefully an "Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social," and our spring luncheon when the term ends.

Any and all suggestions for additional events, please give me a call. **Arlene Cohen, 435-6557**

Your Old Usable Eyeglasses Needed

Donna Newsom wishes to remind you to bring your old eyeglasses to OLLI'S office in room 509. Your unwanted glasses will go to an organization called "**Doctors Without Borders**," who will give them to opticians to mark the prescription on each lens so that doctors in third world countries can prescribe them. The Doctors Without Borders box is in room 509 for your continuous contributions.

Emergencies in Classrooms

Should a medical or any emergency arise in any OLLI classroom, please do the following:

1. Immediately call 911.
2. Also place a call to the UNLV Campus Police (**895-3668**) who will intercept the ambulance and quickly bring it to the emergency site.

2008 Fall Class Picture Roster – Bert Kulic

We expect from 300 to 325 members' pictures to be included. By the time you read this, the Class Roster will be at UNLV's Reprographics & Design Services, for layout and color printing. The Picture Roster should be ready for distribution to members before Thanksgiving.

New Format for 2008 Class Picture Roster - Based on the way most OLLI members use the picture roster (to match a face with a name), we split the publication into 2 sections:

1. **Front Section - Photographs** of OLLI members who had their pictures taken between Oct. 3rd and Oct. 24th, who signed a Picture & Contact Information Authorization form:
 - a. All pictures are alphabetized by last name & first name.
 - b. Member's name will appear below each picture.
2. **Back Section – Member contact information:**
 - a. Member name
 - b. Street address & city/state/zip
 - c. Telephone number
 - d. E-mail address

Any member can elect not to have their picture and/or their contact information included in the photo directory.

The team that put together the Class Picture Roster included OLLI members Elise Hanseman, Bert Kulic, and Bob McGarity, plus Nancy Cleveland from UNLV's Reprographics & Design Services.

Retiree Appreciation Day – Elise Hanseman

MANY THANKS to the volunteers whose hard work made the Retiree Appreciation Day Booth such a great success: Diane Haworth, Ann Lawbaugh, Bob McGarity, Mary Ellen Cardenas, Barbara Vivero, Fred Peters, Hughie Mills, Connie & Perry Pearlstein, and Linda Vish. Thanks, guys, YOU made it happen!

Editor's Corner – Bert Kulic

This is my first issue as Editor of the Excellerate. It is an honor to follow the path that Roz Braverman has blazed over the past 15 years. I hope I can live up to her high standards.

I joined OLLI during the summer of 2008, and I'm sold on the fantastic value that OLLI offers. I am taking classes all five days this fall for the incredibly low price of \$55. Everybody in OLLI has been very welcoming to new members like me.

I've enjoyed making many new friends, especially in my role as one of the two photographers, along with Bob McGarity, for the 2008 Class Picture Roster. While taking pictures, we have also been updating OLLI's computerized membership records with more accurate and complete information, including updated e-mail addresses. Thanks to everyone for being so patient and understanding.

Starting with this issue of the Excellerate, we will be e-mailing the newsletter as a PDF (Portable Document Format) attachment to all OLLI members with e-mail addresses. Because of the long lead times for printing, labeling, and mail delivery, those members with an e-mail address will receive their e-mailed copy 2-3 weeks before your paper copy arrives in the mail.

We are also posting the Excellerate on the OLLI web site. You may view the latest issue any time at:

<http://seniorprograms.unlv.edu/osher.html> (double-click on **Excellerate** bullet).

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EXCELLERATE POLICIES

EXCELLERATE will not run articles supporting or opposing political view points. We are merely a bulletin board for OLLI, its students and program.

We invite all members to submit items of interest to be published in the EXCELLERATE. Letters to the Editor are welcome. Articles will be printed based on space availability and may be edited to fit.

E-mail Excellerate Editor Bert Kulic at BertKulic@cox.net or call him any time at 837-6467 (home) or 374-1178 (cell).



OLLI at UNLV
 Box 452002
 4505 S Maryland Pky.
 Las Vegas, NV
 89154-2002

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Hughie Mills Honored by Columbia Univ.

Long time OLLI member **Hughie Mills** was recently informed that the Columbia Business School had established a professorship in his honor. The chair, titled the **Hughie Mills Professorship of Finance and Economics**, will retain its name in perpetuity.

**Congratulations to
 Hughie on this great
 honor!**

2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 11 No Classes Tuesday (Veterans Day)**
- Nov. 27-28..... No Classes Thursday & Friday (Thanksgiving long weekend)**
- Dec. 12 Last Day (Friday) for Fall Term**
- Dec. 13 Winter Luncheon at Stan Fulton Building – Requires \$22.95 & RSVP**

2009 Tentative Calendar

- Jan. 10..... Open House**
- Jan. 20..... OLLI Spring term starts on Tuesday, Jan. 20th**
- Feb. 16 President’s Day (No OLLI Classes)**
- April 6-10 UNLV is on Spring Break, but OLLI classes are held**
- April 17..... OLLI Spring term ends on Friday, April 17th**