

# OLLI at UNLV

**Where Mature Minds Bloom**

**(702) 774-OLLI**

**OLLI.unlv.edu**

## THE EXCELLERATE

**2013-2014 "Vision" Edition**



**UNLV** | OSHER LIFELONG  
LEARNING INSTITUTE



## OLLI PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### PHILOSOPHY

About 40 years ago, a corporate consultant named Robert Greenleaf\* developed a concept called "Servant Leadership" and convinced a number of corporate leaders to think about their roles in a completely different way. His premise, drawn from Herman Hesse's *Journey to the East*, is that real leaders serve the needs of their constituents. Leaders respect and acknowledge the experience, the creativity and the potential that everyone brings to a group or organization and provide the tools and resources for them to flourish.

### IMPACT ON PLANNING AND GROWTH

This philosophy is borne out here at OLLI with this year's development of prospective planning and budgeting. By the end of spring term 2014, OLLI will have not only adopted a value statement, but also a Long Range Plan to guide us into our planned, state-of-the-art building on the Paradise Campus. The building is presently in the design phase and is expected to accommodate roughly double the population we can serve on site today. Our challenges will be to balance space availability with projected population growth and, at the same time, to develop an expanded curriculum of undiminished quality.

We so highly value the opportunity to participate in life-long learning that we are engaged in a major publicity campaign to bring its benefits to as many retired and semi-retired men and women across our Las Vegas Valley as we can and have seven satellite campuses which donate their meeting facilities at no cost.

### A NATIONAL MODEL?

Last spring, we met with a UNLV social research team to help design a study to demonstrate the connection between healthy aging and lifelong learning. Participation is voluntary and will probably consist of a written survey, focus groups and individual interviews. If the study produces positive results, it has the potential to become a national model.

### "SERVANT LEADERSHIP"

Our OLLI is a member-driven organization. Everyone who serves as a Study Group Leader; everyone who serves on a working committee, everyone who serves on your Board is a volunteer whose goal is to serve the needs of a burgeoning membership, both now and in years to come. So we ask for your participation. We invite you to serve so you can **lead us** and make it possible for us to better **serve you**.

### Cathy Lowe, President, OLLI at UNLV

*\*For additional information on Robert Greenleaf, "Google" the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership in Indianapolis, IN.*



## A VISION OF UNLV & OLLI

By Neal Smatresk, UNLV President

While we are all catching our breath from a busy spring semester and an exciting legislative session, there is a deep sense of excitement about the new year and moving the UNLV vision forward. This year we have a great incoming class of students of all ages. On the traditional side we have one of the most talented entering classes we have ever seen, with six national merit scholars and over 40 valedictorians swelling the ranks of our rapidly growing honors college. In OLLI, we have a record number of entering members and the program is reaching all-time high enrollments thanks to all the volunteers who teach, work on committees and give their time and effort to support your vision. I would also like to salute the incredible commitment and leadership of outgoing President Ed Devore, the energy of incoming President Cathy Lowe and the great job done by Rich Easter.

UNLV and OLLI have so much to look forward to as we chart the course for our future. UNLV will be launching our "Tier 1" initiative that will help us achieve our goal of becoming a nationally prominent research university recognized in the top Carnegie classification. I hope to come to Soapbox and share this vision with OLLI this fall. We are also planning and getting ready to launch a major new capital campaign to build a new home for OLLI and Educational Outreach. This building will be a major campus feature, a great recruiting tool for OLLI, and a point of pride for all Rebels. Plans for this facility are being developed, and we hope you will all work with us to help raise the necessary funds from our community. The new building should help make the "Paradise Campus" a physical reality. Our work on the UNLV Stadium will enter a new and exciting phase, and we continue to make strides in developing our campus master plan to support our emerging national reputation.

It is great knowing that as our campus grows and thrives, we have a growing and thriving OLLI organization as committed patterns to our mutual success. Debbie and I look forward to seeing you at athletic events, the OLLI at UNLV Open House, Brookings and Barrick Lectures, performances and other events. We are both excited about working with you, and wish you all the best.

**Neal Smatresk, UNLV President**

## OLLI DIRECTORY

### EXCELLERATE STAFF

**Karen & David Minnicks, Editors** .....877-2809

### OLLI at UNLV ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Margaret N. Rees, OLLI Director**..... 895-3394  
**Rich Easter, Assistant Director**.....895-2872  
**Veronica Carrillo, Administrative Assistant**..774-OLLI  
**General Information**.....774-OLLI  
**Registration Desk**.....895-3394

### OLLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2013-2014)

**Cathy Lowe, President**..... 436-7096  
**Vickie Pieper, Vice President**..... 732-8412  
**Mike Cutler, Secretary**.....808-2655  
**John Macdonald, Finance Officer**.....513-2229  
**Ed Devore**.....256-0820  
**Fred Ehrlich**.....456-7920  
**Elise Hanseman**.....221-9121  
**John Hurley**.....641-2364  
**Mary Pace**.....658-3395  
**Don Silverman**.....242-6843  
**Charles Vinnik**.....340-4007

### OLLI COMMITTEE CHAIRS & LIAISONS

**By-Laws, Don Silverman**.....242-6843  
**Curriculum, Ann Tate**.....646-3430  
**Curriculum, JoAnn Parochetti**.....722-2262  
**Elections, Linda Vish**.....451-3672  
**Elections, Mary Ellen Cardenas**.....260-1364  
**Events, Marge Gately**.....898-0318  
**Events, Pat Thorn**.....898-1951  
**Fundraising, Ed Devore**.....256-0820  
**Long Range Planning, Mary Pace**.....658-3395  
**Membership, Niels Clyde**.....622-5137  
**Membership, Karen Harbour**.....233-4236  
**Photographer, John Macdonald**.....513-2229  
**Publications, Karen Minnicks**.....877-2809  
**Publications, David Minnicks**.....877-2809  
**Publicity, Mike Cutler**.....808-2655  
**Short Range Planning, Fred Ehrlich**.....456-7920  
**Technology & Facilities, John Hurley**.....641-2364  
**Technology & Facilities, John Macdonald**..513-2229  
**Volunteers**.....TBA



## **OLLI Administration Notes: Accomplishments and Plans**

by **Rich Easter**

As we prepare to enter our 23<sup>rd</sup> year of lifelong learning on the UNLV campus, the air is full of electricity and our program full of promise for the year to come. In these pages, you'll read about the various goals, ideas and dreams that OLLI at UNLV has laid out for its future.

Collectively, these wide-ranging plans come together to create an important part of our identity: our vision.

Vision is often (and often correctly) thought of as a long-range tool. Our vision of more than 2,000 active retired OLLI at UNLV members filling the halls of a brand new building is a prime example. But vision impacts the here and now as well. This fall, you'll see our vision of utilizing our largest classrooms to increase accessibility to our courses realized through our new schedule and pre-registration procedure. You'll experience our vision of bringing the OLLI at UNLV community closer together with special events, tours, and member-centric activities. And we invite you to help us further define and refine our vision by participating on our committees and volunteering with your fellow members.

The truly exciting part is that we have not only our own goals to aspire to, but are part of a larger and dynamic University vision that will strengthen our program and impact our entire community. I look forward to working with you and bringing the vision of OLLI at UNLV into focus -- now and in the future.

### **Recent OLLI at UNLV Accomplishments:**

- Added Veronica Carrillo, our outstanding OLLI at UNLV Administrative Assistant, to our team.
- Approved an annual budget to prioritize and plan program goals and initiatives.
- Received University support and approval for a new Educational Outreach building (aka: OLLI's new home).
- Increased our Spring and Summer enrollments by 48% and 56%, respectively.
- Increased class capacity by adopting an expanded daily schedule.
- Introduced Line Dancing and Tai Chi to promote whole person wellness.
- Streamlined the Open House and improved the registration/parking credentials process.

### **On the Horizon:**

- Activating a \$2 million fundraising campaign to begin construction of our new home.
- Adopting an official values statement to help guide our short and long term decision-making.
- Developing an immersive OLLI at UNLV community service program.
- Continuing to recruit Coordinators to offer new and interesting classes
- Developing new and innovative ways to provide the best experience possible for all OLLI at UNLV members, coordinators, and supporters.



## OUR VISION OF OLLI

by

**Karen & David Minnicks,  
Editors**

When we retired about a year and a half ago and moved to Henderson from Los Angeles, we didn't have a clear vision about what our life would be. We left behind our careers and our close friends and came to uncharted territory.

We didn't have a vision – but we had a hope, a hope that we would find fulfillment in our lives on all levels – emotional, mental, physical, and social.

A flyer at the Paseo Verde Library gave us the key to that broad-based fulfillment – it described upcoming classes at OLLI at UNLV. We joined OLLI in Fall of 2012, and our lives as retirees have broadened and deepened beyond our wildest dreams.

OLLI isn't just a place where people "of a certain age" take classes. It's an opportunity. It's all here for the taking – you just have to reach out for it.

If you're looking for mental stimulation, for creative expression, for physical activity, and for social interaction with a diverse bunch of interesting people, lucky you, you've found OLLI at UNLV!

**OLLI's in growth mode along with you – so enjoy – and bring a friend!**



Karen & David Minnicks, Chairs, Publications

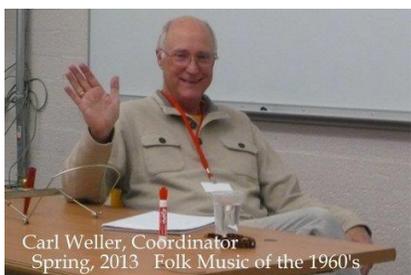
[mini1coop@yahoo.com](mailto:mini1coop@yahoo.com)

877-2809

## STUDY GROUP SPOTLIGHT

### COFFEE HOUSE: MUSIC, ART, POETRY, PROSE...

by **Carl Weller**



In its inaugural semester, this class was named 1960's Folk Music. We covered the folk music of the popular entertainers of the era, such as The Kingston Trio, Peter, Paul & Mary, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, etc. There were individual presentations, class sing-alongs and small group presentations.

As the semester went on, the concept broadened and became more of a re-creation of the 1960's Coffee House. With that new title, the Fall Semester will embrace this broadened format.

We will sing, play instruments, read poetry and memoirs, display and discuss arts and crafts, tell stories, relate experiences, and explore life together. Participation as a presenter is encouraged but not required – some people just like to enjoy as "active listeners" or background singers.

I look forward to being the "Ed Sullivan" of the "shew" and will also sing and play folk and original songs and tell my politically incorrect jokes. Come join the class and keep the spirit of the 1960's alive at OLLI.



**Carl Weller, Coordinator**

[cwell@cox.net](mailto:cwell@cox.net)

**592-6798**



## Tuesdays are Special Because of “BROWN BAG” Lunchtime Learning Sessions

by Marge Gately

After many years of successful presentations of “Brown Bag” luncheons, we are now preparing events for the Fall 2013 OLLI semester. As usual, the Brown Bag Lunches are offered on the Paradise Campus during the Spring and Fall semesters. We try to provide a balance between informational and entertainment sessions that will be presented on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 511 following the very popular class “Soap Box”.

After surveying participants to ascertain their favorite presentations, we plan to present the following topics in the upcoming Fall semester:

- ❖ Musical and dramatic presentations by OLLI members and the LV community
- ❖ Reading and photos shared by Chris Cutler of the UNLV Memoir Project.
- ❖ Interesting speakers from diverse fields of interest
- ❖ Paradise Elementary School Singers - Christmas Program

***See you in September at the  
Brown Bag Lunchtime Happening!***





## IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MEMBERS

by **Karen Harbour**

The vision of the Membership Committee is to create the best experience for all OLLI members and to provide ample opportunities for fun and socializing. We start at recruitment and the Open House and keep going with enjoyable, diverse events where members can enjoy food, entertainment and each other.



The Membership Committee hosts a range of events throughout the year in appreciation of OLLI members. We present a New Members' Lunch and an all-OLLI End-of-Semester Lunch each spring and fall with an emphasis on food, fun and friendships. We also have at least one special outdoor "social" event each semester, such as a Root Beer Float Social, where OLLI members can get together casually and enjoy each other's company.

To support the vision of a growing OLLI membership, our Recruitment sub-committee gives presentations at satellite classroom locations and senior venues throughout the valley. We encourage potential students to come to the Open Houses to learn about OLLI, find courses that interest them, and to register for the next semester.

Our Mentor Program utilizes experienced OLLI members, who are always available to answer questions and help new members settle in. We also have sub-committees for communication with ailing members (Sunshine) and for OLLI members who do not use computers (Phone-tree.)

We commit to do everything possible to enhance your OLLI experience and to have an even wider range of activities as OLLI membership increases.

The Membership Committee is the "fun" committee, both for us and for the members of OLLI.

**Karen Harbour, Co-Chair, Membership**

[toltecdreamer@cox.net](mailto:toltecdreamer@cox.net)

**233-4236**



## FUNDRAISING FLASH!

by Ed Devore

The new OLLI building is no longer a rumor or fond wish. At the corner of Swenson and Tropicana, a 52,000 square foot edifice, housing classrooms and office space sufficient for OLLI's projected 2,500 members will be built. Total cost is estimated by UNLV to be approximately \$15 million. Despite draconian budget cuts, our host university thinks so highly of the OLLI program and the Division of Educational Outreach that they have agreed to provide up to \$13 million - **if OLLI raises \$2 million**, which is less than 15% of the total.

The timing is perfect, this will be a stand-alone, state-of-the-art facility in which our program will grow and accommodate a wide variety of classes. Ample parking will still be available with shaded places to sit, converse and relax. Artist renderings of the new building will be posted in classrooms throughout the Paradise campus.

**A complete fund raising package will be presented to all Fall classes showing how you can participate in this tax-deductible, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to give back to the OLLI program which has enhanced our lives. With your generous help, we will occupy our new home within 24 - 36 months.**



Ed Devore, Board & Chair, Fundraising

[EdDevoreLV@aol.com](mailto:EdDevoreLV@aol.com)

256-0820



## OLLI VISION: A NEW BUILDING AND A FIVE-YEAR PLAN

by **Mary Pace**

With a new building coming to the Paradise Campus to house Educational Outreach and OLLI, there will be inevitable changes to challenge us all. With that in mind, President Cathy Lowe established her charge for the Long Range Planning Committee: set up realistic goals for OLLI and plan a five-year program to meet those goals.

Tentative goals have been drawn up and were submitted to the Board at the June meeting for their perusal. Once the goals are approved by the Board, they need to be detailed, Committee Chairs involved in the process, a timetable established, and members informed of the completed plan.

Growth and change are in the wind, and at every level, member input is needed. **YOU** are encouraged to attend Board meetings, listen, question, and make suggestions. A **Suggestion Box is in the OLLI office** for just that purpose. Working in concert, OLLI will continue to be a special place – and the best bargain in the valley.

**Mary Pace, Board, Long-Range Planning**

[wmandmarylv@cox.net](mailto:wmandmarylv@cox.net)

**658-3395**

---



## OLLI CURRICULUM: A BROADER, MORE EXCITING VISION

by **Ann Tate**

While we continue to focus on providing quality classes at Paradise and our satellite locations, the potential of a new building at the Paradise campus provides a much broader and more exciting vision.

That building will provide more and improved classroom space, and more classes can be scheduled to further increase the opportunity for OLLI members. Progress was made in that direction this summer with the increase to three classes each day. That change enabled us to provide 15 more classes in Fall 2013 at the Paradise Campus.

The future may see evening classes and perhaps special events on weekends, as well as a variety in scheduling, including shorter, longer, or continuing class options. In order to deliver multiple options to our members, thinking “out of the box” is a goal.

*Our vision is a parking lot full of cars, classrooms full of happy learners, and a grid full of exciting, interesting, and relevant classes in which all of our members can participate and enjoy.*

**Ann Tate, Curriculum Committee Chair**

[ann.tate@unlv.edu](mailto:ann.tate@unlv.edu)

**646-3430**



## FINANCIAL OFFICER'S VISION STATEMENT

by **John Macdonald**

The OLLI Board of Directors has embarked on a financial plan that should lead into the next five years and beyond. The goal is to allocate a specific percentage of operating funds to each of several categories of activities such as Curriculum Enhancement. The goal is to permit the various committees that make OLLI “tick” operate within a prescribed budget without board approval for each committee’s expenditures.

These funds are available on an as needed basis, but are not a “use it or lose it” allocation. Any remainders in the various funds will carry over into the general budget for the following year. Unless there is a board approved addition to a fund, that fund will receive the same percentage allocation the following year.

A reserve fund has been established that becomes available should any activity such as “Publications and Printing” exceed its percentage allocation. Board approval is needed to move funds from one category to another.

Each month at the OLLI Board of Directors meeting, committee expenditures will be reported. All OLLI members are invited to the board meetings to observe how they are being served by the board and its various committees.

The board’s goal is to serve the membership and enhance the pleasure of belonging to OLLI.

**John Macdonald, Financial Officer**

[jgmacdonald80@gmail.com](mailto:jgmacdonald80@gmail.com)

**513-2229**

### *OLLI at UNLV 2013-14 Board of Directors*



Front Row (left to right): Ed Devore, Don Silverman, Charles Vinnik  
Center Row: Elise Hanseman, Cathy Lowe, Vickie Pieper  
Rear Row: Mary Pace, Fred Ehrlich, John Macdonald, John Hurley, Mike Cutler

*Where Mature Minds Bloom*



## IT'S NO LONGER A SECRET!

by **Mike Cutler**

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UNLV has been called southern Nevada's best kept secret. But that was yesterday, when a few hearty souls first gathered for study groups on the UNLV campus. Today, our membership tops 1,000 and we're busting at the seams. It's a good thing plans are being finalized for a new building on the Paradise campus!

In the past year, the publicity committee helped spread the word about OLLI. 36 appearances at libraries, luncheons, senior events, health centers, Nellis AFB, and senior communities kept the committee very busy.

In the year ahead, we plan to really kick it up a notch as OLLI undertakes its first major media campaign. The marketing objectives are to increase awareness and attendance of our program and the variety of classes, and educate the community on the benefits of participation. The media campaign will be a three-pronged attack, utilizing online media and radio spots. The advertising push will target the month immediately preceding the Fall and Spring terms, August and December. Look for our message, everywhere!

Yet, even as our media campaign begins in earnest, word of mouth is still our most successful publicity effort. The best OLLI pitchmen will always be our members. Nobody knows the value and benefits of OLLI at UNLV better than they do.



**Mike Cutler, Board Secretary, Publicity**

[mikecutler5@aol.com](mailto:mikecutler5@aol.com)

**808-2655**



## CHALKBOARD TO IPAD – TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM by John Hurley

*"In the fall of 2000, the Osher Foundation began to consider programs targeted toward more mature students, not necessarily well served by the standard continuing education curriculum ... By contrast, the interest of older adults, many of whom are at retirement age, is in **learning for the joy of learning** – without examinations or grades." – Bernard Osher Foundation*

Our OLLI classrooms on the Paradise campus have come a long way over the years and have moved from chalkboards to iPads.

Overhead projectors and large screen displays, complete audio systems, laptop computers, presentation software, internet availability (direct connect/Wi-Fi) contribute significantly to providing our OLLI members with an increased "joy of learning."



Video



Audio



Wireless



Internet

For our OLLI members who are intimidated by computers, we offer a basic introductory hands-on class with instruction of PC and Mac operating systems, application software such as word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, photography, internet browsers, etc.

There is also a terrific computer installation in the Building 500 office area that offers up to nine (9) PC workstations for convenient use by OLLI members outside normal classroom hours.



## **VOLUNTEERS - REACH OUT!**

by **Vickie Pieper**

**Volunteers are always needed** for the many events planned at OLLI, functions like:

- ❖ OLLI Open House
- ❖ Ice Cream & Lemonade Socials.

OLLI is committed to make the community, especially retired and semi-retired adults, aware of the educational and social opportunities available to them here at the OLLI campus. OLLI's goal is to have 2500 members, and all the OLLI Board and committees and members work toward that goal in one way or another.

**The more we let our community know we care about them by volunteering for them, the more the community will care about helping OLLI.**

You may just find yourself volunteering in such diverse, interesting venues as:

- ❖ PBS-TV Fundraising
- ❖ AARP National Convention
- ❖ Main UNLV campus booth
- ❖ Paradise Elementary School.

**Be an OLLI volunteer! It's fun and it's rewarding!**

**There are ample opportunities for all OLLI members to become more involved. Make your OLLI experience even better by giving something of yourself – you'll get even more back in return.**

**Vickie Pieper, Board Vice President**

**[vickiepieper@yahoo.com](mailto:vickiepieper@yahoo.com)**

**732-8412**



## OLLI ISN'T JUST CLASSES – IT'S OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES TOO!

by **Pat Thorn**

Educational enjoyment opportunities for OLLI members aren't just in classes! The Events Committee arranges interesting outings that broaden our learning - while giving us the opportunity to have fun and socialize.

Plans are underway to visit local venues of historic interest, like Gilcrease Orchard, Barrick Museum at UNLV and The Mob Museum. Tours will generally be within an easy commute distance of the UNLV campus – and we'll try to time those tours so they don't conflict with class schedules.

We are also planning for one tour out of the Las Vegas area each semester!

**As always, we're open to suggestions from all OLLI members – where would you like to go?**

Pat Thorn, Tours Coordinator

[pthorn1@cox.net](mailto:pthorn1@cox.net)

898-1951

---



## SUNSHINE REPORT

by **Fay Chan, Sunshine Liaison**

*Life brings us happiness and sorrow.*

*Happiness may not stay.*

*Sorrow may fade one day.*

*So, cherish our memories and friendships forever!*

On behalf of all OLLI at UNLV members, I send out GET WELL cards, THINKING of YOU cards, and SYMPATHY cards. If you know of an OLLI member who has health concerns and needs a card sent out, please contact Rich Easter (702-895-2872) or me (281-300-1057).

**NEW!** All OLLI members are invited to celebrate those whose birthdays fall in a particular month. We'll sing, take a group photo of the birthday honorees, and enjoy cake together! July and August birthdays have been celebrated. Dates, times, and locations of future birthday celebrations will be announced in the "News You Can Use"!



*Where Mature Minds Bloom*

774-OLLI (-6554) [OLLI.unlv.edu](http://OLLI.unlv.edu)

**OLLI News You Can Use July 19, 2013**

<p><b>NYCU Contents</b></p> <p><a href="#">End of Semester</a></p> <p><a href="#">Fall Catalog</a></p> <p><a href="#">Register for Fall</a></p> <p><a href="#">Office Volunteer Opportunity</a></p> <p><a href="#">Summer Evaluations</a></p> <p><a href="#">UNLV/OLLI Study Article Headline</a></p>	<p><b>End Of Summer Semester</b></p>
<p><b>Board Minutes</b></p> <p>Each month we'll post the most recently approved* Board minutes so that members can see the discussions, decisions, and hot topics being addressed at OLLI at UNLV.</p> <p><a href="#">June Board Minutes</a></p> <p><small>*Minutes are approved at</small></p>	 <p>Yesterday we wrapped up another successful semester of OLLI at UNLV! We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to UNLV's Client and Division Services staff (aka: the Building 100 team) for all of their hard work and help during the summer. We'd also like to thank our gracious hosts at each of our satellite locations for their amazing support of OLLI at UNLV. And of course thank all of you--our Coordinators and our members--for planning and participating</p>

**Do You NYCU?**

Stay connected to OLLI at UNLV and receive important updates right to your inbox with OLLI's *News You Can Use* e-newsletter. Call 774-OLLI to get on the list!

**BRING A FRIEND TO OLLI**

Invite your friends to visit OLLI at UNLV. If they sign up, you'll get a \$25 credit next term! GET A GUEST PASS AND A ONE-DAY PARKING PASS IN ROOM 502 OR 504.



**OLLI Fall Calendar 2013**

- Aug. 26 Monday ..... Pre-Registration Begins
- Sep. 9 Monday..... Fall Classes Begin
- Sep. 17 Tuesday ..... New Member Luncheon (12:45pm/Auditorium 133)
- Oct. 25 Friday ..... Nevada Day—No Classes
- Nov. 11 Monday ..... Veteran's Day—No Classes
- Nov. 28 - 29 Thursday-Friday..... Thanksgiving Holiday—No Classes
- Dec 6 Friday..... Semester ends
- Dec 7 Saturday..... End of Semester Luncheon

