

OLLI at UNLV

Where Mature Minds Bloom

(702) 774-OLLI

OLLI.unlv.edu

The Excellerate

2014 “Improving the Quality of Life” Edition

2014 – 2015 OLLI at UNLV Board of Directors



Standing Charles Vinnik, Fred Ehrlich, Don Silverman, Ed Devore, Cameron Ashby, Jr., Wally Stiegman

Seated Niels Clyde, John Macdonald, Mike Cutler, Cathy Lowe, John Hurley



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LEARNING INSTITUTE



OLLI PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by **Cathy Lowe**

A QUALITY YEAR IN REVIEW

The choice of "Quality of Life" as this year's theme for the Excellerate is right on target, since Lifelong Learning is, at its heart, a quality of life issue. The opportunity to explore new subjects, acquire new skills, try new activities, and make new friends ...to appreciate others' talents...to celebrate new life...and to honor those who leave us...these are the treasures that make all our lives more meaningful, day by day at OLLI.

It has been said that those who pass through OLLI's portals are the most interesting people you will ever meet. They are also the kindest, funniest, and in my experience, the most forgiving. In the classroom, they get your jokes. On the quad, they use, enjoy and appreciate every small improvement. And they speak their minds about what is yet to do.

During the next school year, the Board will continue to work on proposals aimed at further improving the quality of our lives, in study groups, on campus, and in the context of our larger University family.

By January, 2015, we hope, with your help, to qualify for Osher's favorable consideration of our second million dollar grant application. If we are selected, our annual interest income paid through the UNLV Foundation will double to a minimum of \$100,000 a year, in perpetuity. To qualify, we must establish "a culture of giving," and raise \$15,000 from 10% of our membership. That money will be directed toward our own program: diversifying our curriculum, expanding "faculty" and staff, upgrading our classrooms, initiating our own "Barrick"-style lecture series, increasing our community presence through volunteerism, and collaborating with the University in projects such as Establishing the Connection between Life-long Learning and Healthy Aging.

Every grant we bring to the University contributes to its establishment of "Tier One" status as a research-based institution of higher learning.

Also by January, 2015, OLLI will have completed its first long-range plan- one that should carry us smoothly over the next five years, until we are ensconced in the University's new building on the Paradise campus, which will house Educational Outreach and OLLI, and will offer flexible classroom space for as many as 800 students. Between now and January, OLLI's fund-raising committee will concentrate on approaching external donors to raise a substantial part of OLLI's two million dollar share of the new building's fifteen million dollar cost.

Senior citizens are the fastest growing demographic in Nevada, and we can expect to grow at roughly the same rate: 6% per year, minus normal attrition. If we are to share the many intellectual and social benefits we enjoy at OLLI, we must continue to be good stewards of our current accommodations on campus, since we can expect to continue to use them for some time after we take residence in the new building.

As your president, I'm overwhelmed by your good works and fine deeds during the last year and a half. It is truly a joy to work with you in the classroom, in the board room, in the coffee room, and in our greater Las Vegas community. You are the heart and mind of OLLI.

Thank you for your trust and confidence.

Cathy Lowe, President, OLLI at UNLV

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The True Quality of OLLI at UNLV

by: Dr. Peg Rees

UNLV and the Division of Educational Outreach are excited to host OLLI's 23rd fall semester of lifelong learning. Impacting the quality of life for members of the Las Vegas community is at the heart of the Division's programs. We strive to improve the world around us through the personal enrichment and professional development classes offered by Continuing Education, the survey assistance provided by the Cannon Survey Center, the protection and stewardship of Nevada's public lands championed by the Public Lands Institute, and the educational and social experiences for lifelong learners created by OLLI at UNLV. In these pages you will read about the classes, events and committees that contribute to the quality of OLLI life. But the main ingredient in our recipe for success is much more special: **You**.

You may be the one who devotes hours of time and preparation to conducting a class. Or you could be the one tackling the tough work of improving our processes and inventing new and creative ideas in our committee meetings. Maybe you are the one asking the thought-provoking questions to stimulate class discussion, or greeting each classmate with a smile and warm hello when you arrive on campus. Perhaps you have supported our recent fundraising efforts, or have brought a friend or loved one to share in our love of learning.

Whether you are a member, a Coordinator, or a part of our volunteer leadership, thank you for all you bring to our program. It is your involvement in OLLI at UNLV—in innumerable and varied ways—that makes us one of the highest quality senior education program in Southern Nevada.

Dr. Margaret "Peg" Rees

*Vice Provost for Educational Outreach &
Director, OLLI at UNLV*

OLLI DIRECTORY

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OLLI Administrative Report: Accomplishments and a Culture of Philanthropy

By: Rich Easter
Assistant Director

Earlier this year, OLLI at UNLV was invited to create a “culture of philanthropy”, in part to meet eligibility requirements for a second one million dollar endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation. Thrilled with the invitation, I worked with the Board of Directors and Fundraising Committee to establish the OLLI Annual Fund, the tangible representation of the culture we are trying to create. Your OLLI Annual Fund serves a dual purpose: it not only positions us for endowment consideration, it also provides us with resources that we can use to upgrade and improve our campus, our classrooms, and our program.

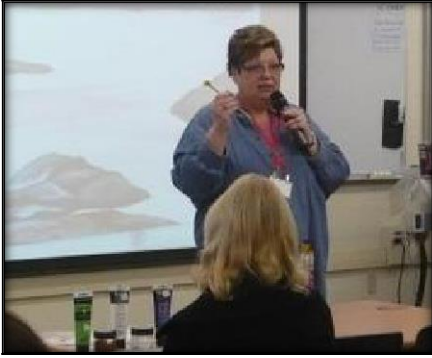
An OLLI culture of philanthropy will serve to strengthen our program by increasing our ability to meet our own needs. State budgets fluctuate, leadership changes, and priorities often shift. A member-supported Annual Fund will enable us to withstand these and other issues that may otherwise have an adverse effect on quality of our program. It will also allow us to take advantage of the countless unexplored opportunities that will present themselves now and in the near future — opportunities that will benefit our membership, enhance our program, and make a meaningful impact throughout the seasoned adult community.

You’ll be invited to help us build this culture of philanthropy throughout the upcoming semester, and I hope you will be an active participant in transforming our goals into our successes. With your support, we’ll be able to continue to improve the quality of the program we offer while maintaining a membership fee among the lowest in the country. Check out some of the ways we’ve enhanced our quality since the last issue of the Excellerate:

Recent OLLI at UNLV Accomplishments:

- Created the OLLI Coffee Lounge to better serve members in between classes
(Expansion coming soon!)
- Upgraded the technology in Room 401 and Room 512
- Approved funding to upgrade the OLLI Computer Lab
- Launched research study to examine the impact of OLLI at UNLV on successful aging
- Installed benches in campus common areas
- Increase our course selection to nearly 90 classes for the Fall 2014 semester

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



THE FINE ARTS

by Elena Cieslak



The Fine Arts are alive at OLLI. Members are reviving past talents or discovering them for the first time, apparent with our first ever silent art auction. Excitement accompanied the masterpieces hanging on our OLLI walls for all to enjoy. Bidding on the 50 Member-donated paintings and drawings ended at the Spring Luncheon when the suspense of who won their favorite piece was revealed. When all the bids were tallied, we were delighted to have raised over \$1,600.

OLLI offers a wide variety of art class choices - Watercolors taught by Martine Patton, pastels with Diana Maloney, drawing and acrylics with Elena Cieslak, photography with John MacDonald and our new pen and ink class taught by John Law.

Member, Alexis Carlson, an educator for 34 years, loves the many opportunities for growth in the arts OLLI offers and says she comes away with a sense of satisfaction and personal achievement. Ellen Sloane, another 30 year educator, says after many post-graduate classes, OLLI art has provided a welcome way to express her creative self. Anne Herrington, after being accepted into her first juried fine art show said, "I just can't express what the OLLI art classes have meant to me."



CLASS IN SESSION

Elena Cieslak, Coordinator

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SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



'FROM DEGAS TO DIANA... FUN WITH PASTELS'

by Diana Maloney



Teaching a class at OLLI was a wonderful experience for me. Although I was an art director/designer at educational publishing companies, I had never taught a class before. Because I prepared a weekly class, I learned more about art history and pastel techniques myself.

I enjoyed meeting and working with my talented students. As you can see from some of the art, one student modeled, and everyone did a portrait of him.

I look forward to teaching the class again in the fall.



SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



WATERCOLORS

by **Martine Patton**

Watercolors is a perfect pastime because it is a clean, portable painting medium. It makes you more aware of the world around you. For example, if my husband and I go for a hike and see a beautiful scene, he photographs it, I paint it, mat and frame it, and "viola" a lovely gift for a friend or a perfect piece for the family room. I share this passion in my classes and have turned several Olli members onto this hobby.

A special student of mine shared with me that because of the skills I taught her in 2011 she has survived a devastating illness. During the last two years, she was able to handle the treatment and pain by painting watercolors every day. Without that, she says, she probably would not have made it. The therapeutic power of art!

Martine Patton, Coordinator

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UNBLOCKING YOUR CREATIVITY

by **Sharon Gainsburg**

"The Artist Way" by Julia Cameron is a 12 week WORKSHOP where participants read one chapter a week and do the book's exercises, and participate in discussions in class. This theory is based on the FACT that we are all creative and only use 10% of our talents in our lifetime.

Along with keeping a daily journal of their thoughts, dreams, dissatisfactions, the actions they will take to improve their life, they open up channels for using all their creative talents. Through lively discussion and their self-discovery of how to move through their fears and their artistic blocks, students have discovered talents that they have never explored previously like writing, painting, sculpting, acting, music, songwriting, and public speaking.

Many have gone on to finish projects they started years ago; write their memoir or novels; teach an OLLI class; learn stone carving; paint in a new medium; enter their works in shows, and fulfill dreams of travel they never thought possible...and have more fulfilling and meaningful lives.

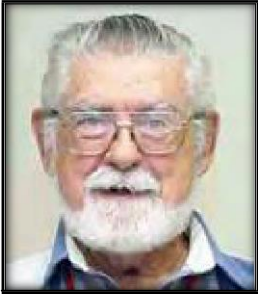
In opening up these channels of positive thinking, quiet the voices of negativity, the universe opens up energies to assist them in making it all happen.

Sharon Gainsburg, Coordinator

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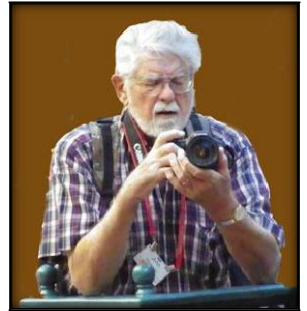
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SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



QUALITY PHOTOGRAPHY AT OLLI

by **John Macdonald**



“Photography for Everyone” has been offered for several semesters at OLLI. Its purpose has been to make all those who participate into better photographers; who make images for their own satisfaction and the pleasure of others who view them. It is open to anyone who wants to take better pictures, regardless of the camera one uses.

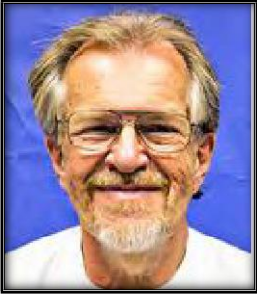
The basic feature of the course is the emphasis on composition. Exercises are suggested based on the nature of the lecture of the day. Samples of class exercises subsequently are reviewed in class and critiqued.

Interesting field trips are arranged for photographic adventure. Techniques learned in class are practiced during these trips.



Field Trip to Valley of Fire

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



How “**BEGINNING UKULELE**” Improves the Quality of Life

by **Niels Clyde**

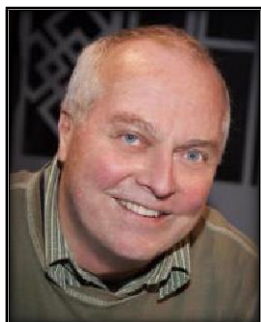
Ukulele has been called the happiest instrument in the world. It is indeed difficult to be sad when playing a ukulele.

Quality of life is the general well-being of individuals and societies. The United Nations developed “The World Happiness Report”; other efforts to quantify the quality of life are called “The Gross National Happiness Index” and “The Happy Planet Report”. These reports are attempts to see if people are living in harmony.

Harmony is defined as: agreement, accord, a consistent or orderly, pleasing arrangement of parts, congruity. In music it is the simultaneous blending of tone especially when pleasing to the ear. Students of “Beginning Ukulele” bear witness to harmonious action. When we play and sing together all of the definitions of harmony are made manifest. Isn’t obvious when the facts are all added up that the “jumping flea”, the uke, in everyone’s hands would solve all the problems of the world? Here’s a great irony. A video on YouTube has been credited with starting the latest ukulele craze, bringing the happiest instrument into the home of millions. The video? Jake Shimabukuro playing George Harrison’s “While My Guitar Gently Weeps”. Go figure.



SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



SENIOR THEATER

by **Phil Randall**

I am not sure how Senior Theatre improved anyone's quality of life except to say that the arts in general tend to do that. In the few semesters of this class, dialogues and monologues have been created that deal with not only senior issues, but general life issues that have been presented and discussed and explored. Two full length plays for children have been developed that deal with childhood issues from a senior perspective and life experience. It is hoped that participating in a free, creative class has improved the lives of the participants...I know it has mine.

Phil Randall, Coordinator

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IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION WORKSHOP

Improving the Quality of Life

by **Martha Carrell**

There are questions raised in one's mind when asked to ponder ways of improving the "quality of life."

Quality of life for whom? Where? What is quality? The list of questions continues.

As with questions raised, there are numerous answers to consider, answers with varying degrees of universal appeal.

For me, one answer containing elements of universality has to do with recognizing the importance of being curious ... then keeping this curiosity alive through the process of learning. OLLI continually helps individuals in their quest and desire to learn.

The pursuit of knowledge and ideas can provide a wealth of nourishing experiences. In turn, these experiences significantly help to improve the quality of one's life.

The idea for the In-Depth Discussion workshop evolved from an insatiable curiosity about ... what has been...what is now ... and what could be in the future.

Martha Carrell, Coordinator

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SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



WINDOWS PC BASICS and BEYOND

by Pam Noyes

Computers permeate our daily lives, lurking silently for the next victim. You've seen them. They're everywhere – the grocery store at the “self-checkout” lanes, at the library, and the DMV kiosks. Yes, even in your hands, masquerading as a telephone.

The “Windows Basics and Beyond” class participants have learned techniques to conquer these fearsome devices, bending them to their will. They have learned how to use a mouse, do word processing, use email, use social media, and much more. Their fear of computers has diminished. Computer use makes more sense now. And, they can more effectively communicate with the grandkids!

Pam Noyes, Coordinator

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WATCH OUR WEIGHT AT OLLI (WOW)

by Eileen Augente

Olli is an organization that promotes healthy aging. We encourage our minds to bloom, but quality of life is more than an alert mind. WOW, (watching our weight) encourages healthy eating and an active lifestyle. Members weigh in weekly and share successes and failures. Most of us participate in the Chair Exercise program as well. Every week we discuss nutrients, calorie counts and meal planning. Someone asked, "what's the best way to keep our brain healthy." The answer. "Treat it like your heart, eat healthy foods and keep your body moving.

Quality of Life -That's the goal of WOW.

Eileen Augente, Coordinator

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SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



OLLI @ UNLV BOOK CLUB

by Lynne **Boone**

"...human connections are increasingly more important as we age..."-Carol Wagers

Stories invite us to reflect on our lives. Sharing our reflections builds community. Since I picked the first book for November 2012 (*The Woods* by Harlan Coban) I have rediscovered the joy of talking books.

The challenge of choosing books that provoke a good discussion has improved the quality of my life. Even the one book everyone agreed was terrible led to a wonderfully lively discussion of what we, as a group, expect from a good read.

(*"A Killer Stitch"* by Maggie Sefton)

We keep up with each other. We want to know why someone missed a meeting; and we welcome newcomers. We don't want to skip any month so we meet at Starbucks when OLLI is on break. Even when people can't make the meetings, they still want to stay on the email list.

Recommendations have led to nonstop laughter such as provoked by the hysterical "*100 year old man who climbed out of the window...*" and to realizing that we all have important stories to tell such as found in the Story Corps Project. (*"Listening is an Act of Love"*)

A book club member sums it up: "I've gotten recommendations of good books I may have missed otherwise, but even more importantly the club gives us an opportunity to get to know other OLLI members in a deeper and more meaningful way than is possible sitting in a classroom listening to a lecture. These human connections are increasingly more important as we age. Yeah, OLLI!" (Carol Wagers)

OLLI and the Book Club have enriched my life.



Lynne Boone, Moderator

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SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



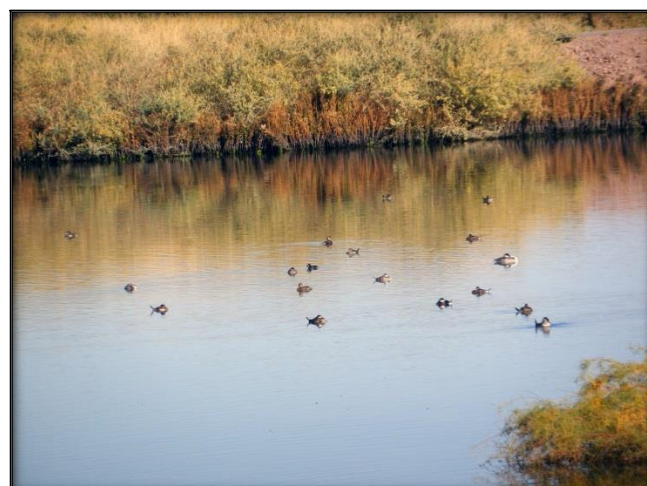
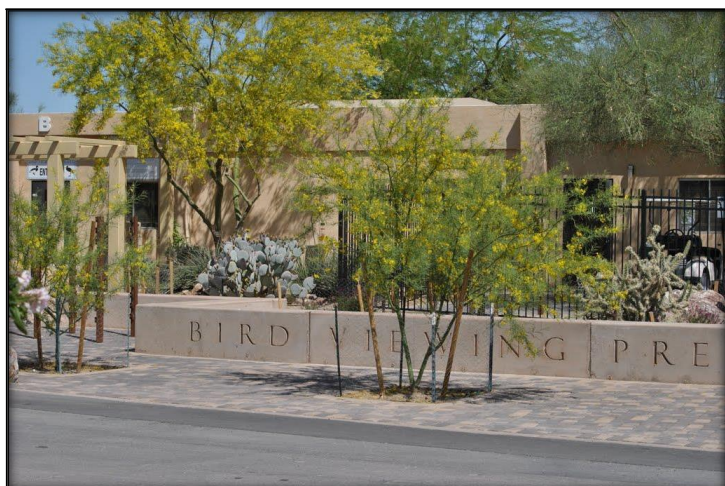
HOW THE OLLI HIKING CLUB ADDS TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OLLI MEMBERS

by Karen Harbour

OLLI members expect to have their brains exercised when they join our ranks. Our quality of life is greatly enhanced when we exercise our bodies as well – especially in a social setting. In our second year, 197 people in the OLLI Hiking Club went on eleven hikes. While most hikes were led by OLLI volunteers, a few were led by Rangers or docents at local Preserves and historic trails. Combining learning and hiking made those hikes among our most popular.

We offer a wide range of hikes – accurately describing for difficulty and length. Our goal is to offer hikes for every level of physical ability and in varying parts of the valley, allowing OLLI members to pick according to their interests and ability.

Our e-mailing list has over 130 OLLI members, and for the two Fridays prior to the hike, the OLLI News You Can Use advertises the hikes with a link to the description and directions. If you want to be on the e-mail list, please contact Karen Harbour at toltecdreamer@cox.net.



Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve – one of the hiking sites

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



TUESDAY, BROWN BAG LUNCHES

Fall Semester, 2013
Spring Semester, 2014

by **Marge Gately**

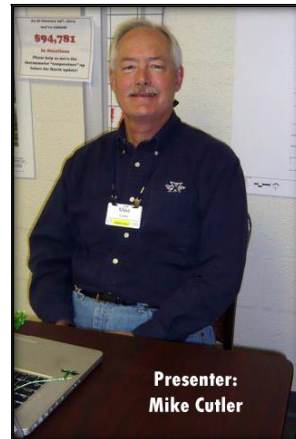
Every Tuesday during the Fall and Spring semesters the Brown Bag Lunches are offered on the Paradise Campus for the enjoyment of the OLLI members. These presentations, which are a balance between informational and entertainment sessions, can improve and enhance the lives of the members because of the interesting and instructional topics presented.

The Brown Bags are presented from 12:55 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 511 following the very popular class "Soap Box".

Some of the topics that have been presented during 2013-2014 are:

- An overview on the topic of "Identity Theft Protection".
- Members of the writing class orally shared their selections written by the members.
- Mike Cutler shared his expertise on TV News.
- The OLLI Ukulele Class presented an outstanding show.
- OLLI member, Donna Newsom, shared her love for the city of New Orleans.
- The "Solaris Dance Theatre" presented a wonderful program of senior dancers.
- An OLLI TALENT SHOW, performed by the members usually ends each semester.

Hope to see you during the upcoming Fall, 2014 semester where the topics will improve and enhance your life in many ways.



Marge Gately, Coordinator

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SPOTLIGHT ON STUDY GROUPS



PARADISE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

by Joy O'Neill

Our OLLI tutors are just completing our fifth successful year assisting students at the Paradise School. We all enjoyed our experiences with these dear children and have hopefully enhanced their skills.

Six OLLI members were trained in November, and started tutoring in January! Our OLLI - Paradise Elementary School Partnership is vital and growing!

We had a very beneficial Turkey Drive which made 100 students' Thanksgiving more special. What a fun year!!



Volunteer reading to children



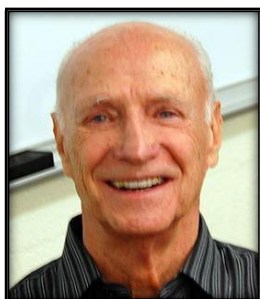
Results of Thanksgiving Supply Drive

Joy O'Neill, Coordinator

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



FUNDRAISING

by **Ed Devore**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Separate committees have been established to handle the Annual Fund and the OLLI Building Fund.
- A "Thank you note" group led by Mary Pace is expressing our gratitude to donors.
- We are currently contacting outside groups for donations to the building fund.
- Our goal of a minimum two million by the end of 2015 remains the same.



Ed Devore, Board Member & Fundraising Chair

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256-0820



BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

by **Don Silverman**

The By-Laws Committee is unique. Our goal for 2014-2015 is to do nothing whatsoever! We have engineered comprehensive revisions to former outdated By-Laws, and if we have done our job well enough, we hope no further amendments will be necessary in the near future. We only meet and go into action if and when we receive proposed By-Laws amendments. Contrary to all other Committees, if we never meet, it means we have done and are doing a great job.

Don Silverman, Board Member & By-Laws Chair

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



LONG RANGE PLANNING

by **Mary Pace**

The committee was asked to develop a five year plan and budget to accommodate an anticipated increase in membership and a new Educational Outreach building on the northwest corner of the Paradise Campus.

With conditions and the many challenges facing OLLI at UNLV so fluid, the committee drew up a report listing steps the committee took, information that was gathered and recommendations for the next year(s) for the Board and Committee Chairs.

We looked at three areas: room space; parking needs and services to members.

Room space will not be a problem. UNLV has consistently accommodated OLLI as study groups expand. Since income-producing programs have been transferred from Educational Outreach to other divisions of the university, Educational Outreach has been relying more on renting room space. OLLI may need to be flexible, but there are creative ways to deal with room space needs that we have not yet needed to utilize.

Our very active and thoughtful Curriculum and Membership Committees work to plan programs and activities that provide enjoyment, as well as intellectual stimulation. OLLI is fortunate in having Chairs of every committee that strive to keep our program growing.

The constant gorilla in the room, no matter the year, is the parking problem. David Frommer and Tad McDowell have stated that UNLV will share its plan to solve our needs once construction plans and a beginning date are firm.

This committee has made seven recommendations to the new Board. The most important two are: meet with David Frommer and Tad McDowell to discuss solutions to OLLI's parking needs as the building plans firm up; and, establish yearly measurable Board goals, reporting regularly on the progress toward these goals.

Each Board member, Richard Easter, Dr. Peg Rees and Long Range Planning Committee members all have the complete report, if members are interested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS



CURRICULUM

by **Ann Tate** and
JoAnn Parochetti



OLLI is about improving the quality of life for our members through a variety of stimulating classes. New ideas, new skills, and new friends keep us thinking, moving, creating and learning. Keeping our program fresh is the responsibility of the Curriculum Committee, which coordinates a schedule of over 150 different OLLI classes each year. Each term sees the introduction of new classes, from tai chi to philosophy, often bringing new adventures for class members. For example, the Photography class was on a field trip at the Las Vegas Wash when a fire broke out! The Japanese Pop Culture class dined out at a Japanese restaurant, and the Shakespeare classes visit the Utah Shakespearean Festival each summer.

This year, the Curriculum Committee also expanded its support program for coordinators. Among other activities, this support includes individual interviews with new coordinators, classroom observations to ensure that all new classes are running smoothly, and an enhanced evaluation process to provide better feedback to improve our classes.

In addition, we provide professional development through full-day Coordinator Orientations each term. The theme for the fall program is teaching and learning, while the January orientation focuses on our connections with the greater Las Vegas community.

Ann Tate, Committee Co-Chair

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JoAnn Parochetti, Committee Co-Chair

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ELECTIONS

by **Linda Vish**



Yippee!!!! Our first electronic computer elections did not "CRASH".

I was pleased as to how quick and efficient the process worked. In addition to the electronic voting, we also provided sixty five paper ballots to members who do not use computers.

I hope everyone has a COOL summer and is looking forward to classes this fall. I want to thank Rich and Veronica for their help, in addition to Gene Geller, Mary Pace, and all others who gave their time and effort with respect to this project.

Linda Vish, Committee Chair

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COMMITTEE REPORTS



FACEBOOK

by **Marge Gately**

I feel we can make our FACEBOOK PAGE an active and vital part of our program. There is great potential here for publicity, curriculum improvement and interaction with other OLLI programs throughout the country. This page will help improve the quality of life we are seeking with our OLLI membership.

I asked the OLLI Board of Directors to appoint me as the “FACEBOOK moderator/promoter” so we can begin to promote our page and make it an active and vital addition to our program. The Board approved my appointment and I have become a member of the Publicity Committee.

Let's work together to make our OLLI FACEBOOK page the greatest and best in the country.

Marge Gately, Committee Chair

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MEMBERSHIP

by **Karen Harbour**

The Membership Committee has all the fun! We provide social events to bring OLLI members together, provide Mentors to help new members navigate the Paradise Campus and provide the Sunshine Club which reaches out to all OLLI members. We really are charged with the “care and feeding” of OLLI members.

We start the Fall and Spring semesters with an Open House which brings coordinators to one place so that OLLI members can make class choices for the coming semester. All new members are invited to a free New Members Luncheon where they learn more about the OLLI program and get to meet other new and seasoned OLLI members. Our End of Semester Lunch allows us to share a meal, enjoy entertainment and socialize with new and old friends. Each semester we also provide a free Social Event on the Paradise campus that offers such fare as cider & donuts, pizza & soda, or root beer floats.

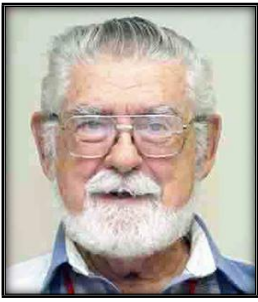
Most of the activities are free to OLLI members and are great ways to enjoy old friendships and make new ones. Most OLLI members treasure the social experiences in addition to the learning opportunities. The Membership Committee is always working to improve the quality of life for OLLI members.

Karen Harbour, Committee Chair

toltecdreamer@cox.net

233-4236

COMMITTEE REPORTS



FINANCIAL OFFICER

by John Macdonald

MAKING OLLI MORE ENJOYABLE WITH THE MONEY WE RAISE

At OLLI we have made every effort to make our presence on campus more enjoyable. Initially, the Board of Directors directed that benches be ordered so that those who wait for busses could have a reasonable place to sit. As the benches proved a popular place for people to gather and visit, more benches and a table were ordered.

It was observed that many people had difficulty with doors to the classrooms. Coffee was spilled and ambulatory assistance devices were awkward to manage while opening classroom doors. The Board of Directors requested handicapped door openers be installed.

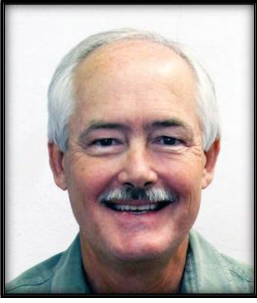
The coffee and cookies were located in the hallway leading to our Assistant Director's office. People would stand and visit while trying to get access to the coffee pot. Passage along the hallway was difficult. The Board of Directors elected to have some little used space remodeled into a coffee room with a larger refrigerator and tables and chairs for members to use while waiting for classes or a place to sit, visit and enjoy lunch. It has been so popular that the Board is considering further expansion.

Earlier, UNLV had agreed to provide technology upgrades to rooms 511 and 401 if OLLI would commit to part of the expense. Room 511 was done. Since the commitment was made, UNLV funds have vanished. The Board of Directors agreed to fully fund the technology upgrade to room 401. Since then, the board has agreed to remodel the room and upgrade the technology in room 512.

OLLI funds come from several sources. The Osher Foundation has provided OLLI at UNLV with a \$1,000,000 endowment that guarantees OLLI a minimum of \$50,000 annually. Additionally, OLLI has the funds derived from member registrations. The sale of coffee mugs and the OLLI Journal generate a small amount of revenue. Grants and donations have helped OLLI along.

OLLI at UNLV has an ongoing fund-raising program that is to assure the continued success of our OLLI. A successful fund-raising effort will make us eligible for an additional \$1,000,000 endowment from the Osher foundation. If granted it would guarantee OLLI an additional \$50,000 minimum for our operating fund.

COMMITTEE REPORTS



PUBLICITY

by **Mike Cutler**

The word is out! The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNLV is no longer the best kept secret in southern Nevada. A surge in membership during the past year can be attributed to a combination of outreach by the publicity committee and the support of current OLLI members.

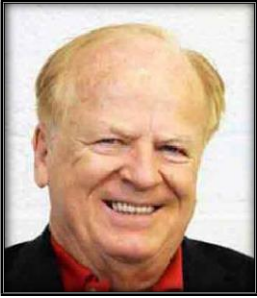
For the first time, the board of directors authorized a two-pronged media campaign recommended by the Publicity Committee. In August 2013 and January 2014, the committee worked with B&P Advertising to increase community awareness of OLLI and promote recruitment of new members. The online campaign targeted the most appropriate demographic to deliver more than 20 million impressions via Facebook and other online sites. The media campaigns also used radio to create brand awareness of the OLLI program, utilizing the two southern Nevada radio stations most listened to by retirees in the market.

Word of mouth continues to be our best sales tool. While more than two dozen speeches were given to various groups in southern Nevada, presentations to residents of senior living communities and social groups, such as the Westside Newcomers Club, resulted in the most genuine interest in the program. In the end, the “tell a neighbor, tell a friend” approach appears to be most effective in getting the word out.



“Publicity Committee members Elise Hanseman and Bob Marcus recruit a new OLLI member during the annual Retiree Appreciation Day at Nellis AFB.

COMMITTEE REPORTS



OLLI GRASPS 21st CENTURY TEACHING TECHNOLOGY

by John Hurley



Our OLLI Motto: “Where Mature Minds Bloom”

“No Coordinator or OLLI Member Will Be Left Behind!”

My contribution as Chairman of the Technology/Facilities Committee and as an electronics engineer is to bring modern teaching technology designs and layouts into our classrooms. Our OLLI Paradise campus classrooms have come a long way thanks to the Osher Foundation, the University, and a proactive UNLV/OLLI board interested in 21st century learning environments. There's been an exponential growth in education technology advancement over the past few years. Our efforts have resulted in a significant change in teaching tools for our coordinators and participants. Audio, video, computers, and Internet access meet or exceed 21st century demands for excellence in education, particularly for our senior citizens.



Our Coordinators and students often hear such terms as:

1. “Education finds the 21st Century” and
2. “Learning is a major 21st Century challenge,”

a lot these days. Your UNLV-OLLI program continues to push learning technology forward within available resources. Our coordinators are also quickly adapting to the upgraded OLLI classroom.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The OLLI upgraded classrooms continue to reach out as never before to our 21st century senior citizens who wish to maintain a discipline of life-long learning. We have found that our senior students come into our classrooms with a desire to increase their awareness and maybe even adopt the enhanced technology skills found in today's learning environments (classrooms, home theaters, computers, smart phones, digital libraries) for their personal use.

Your UNLV-OLLI representatives have continued to retain a "can-do" attitude towards these goals in order to offer our highly valued senior members, from all walks of life, the educational growth expected from their membership in a dynamic organization such as the OLLI program.

Our five classrooms now have significantly improved audio/video presentation capability; reliable access to worldwide Internet resources; support for mobile devices, iPods/iPads, and computer/Internet training all geared toward the senior citizen. Coordinators and staff members are trained on current and popular technology tools in order to implement them correctly. There may be some Coordinators in our OLLI classrooms who have access to all of these new assets but who do not use them yet but that will change in time.

OLLI will continue to incorporate online learning such as the "Great Courses," which are now available to OLLI members either in the classroom or online. This allows our senior members who may not be able to attend our campus classes to enhance their educational experience from home. Now you can continue to learn without even setting foot in a classroom.

There are also many colleges/universities that can be accessed from your home, libraries, or our computer labs. Some programs are also available to teachers who wish to attend whole or partial classes and lessons online. Many of these tools can be accessed by the teacher from home and created by them to meet the needs of their students.

Our Coordinators and OLLI seniors can now easily access skills for: information and communication, thinking and problem-solving, interpersonal and self-directional, digital technology and real-world technology. These technologies were created by teachers, industry leaders, business people, and policy makers to meet the growing demand to interact in the global community.

For our seniors who are intimidated by computers and keyboards we offer basic (introductory) hands on instruction for PC and Mac operating systems, application software (word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, photography, and internet browsers). Additionally OLLI offers access to a 9 computer classroom in the Building 500 office area. It is there for our convenience to use outside of normal classroom hours.

Regards and keep on learning for life.

John Hurley, OLLI VP, Coordinator, and Technology Committee Chairman.



Video



Audio



Wireless



Internet

COMMITTEE REPORTS



OLLI FALL 2014 EVENTS COMMITTEE PLANS

by Pat Thorn

This Committee will focus on arranging for exciting special events for OLLI members who choose to participate in settings “outside-the-classroom”. Our goal is to provide opportunities for socialization among our members while exploring intriguing sites in the Las Vegas area.

In the plans this semester are visits to local museums exhibitions, sporting events, historical sites, military installations and places of beauty within easy commute of our central Paradise campus.

Examples of past adventures have included the Marjorie Barrick Art Museum on the UNLV campus, the “Mob” Museum in the downtown LV area, a LV Wrangler Ice Hockey Game and A day bus trip to Zion National Park in Utah.

Our members will receive notification for registration through our weekly e-mail “News You Can Use”. Flyers with upcoming dates will also be available during Fall Semester registration and on bulletin boards throughout the Paradise campus.

This semester Events Committee will continue to provide short topic presentations at “Brown Bag Tuesday”. These will be held in room 511, Paradise campus during class lunch break from 1:00PM until 1:30PM each Tuesday. These are offered in an informal setting, where you can munch on your lunch while learning more about the OLLI programs, presentations by fellow students and other information of interest to our student population group. Watch for the planned weekly topics on the Paradise campus bulletin boards and “NYCU”.

Forward all your ideas for inclusion in either of these programs to pthorn1@cox.net. See you all in September.



National Atomic Testing Museum
Girder from World Trade Center



Neon Museum and Boneyard

COMMITTEE REPORTS



VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mary Ellen Cardenas

During the past two semesters many volunteers assisted in the OLLI office with stuffing envelopes for mailing; making copies; picking up the bread, roll and pastries on Tuesdays from the Great Buns Bakery for OLLI members to enjoy; preparing for and working at the OLLI Open Houses; organizing a Food Drive for the 3 Square Food Bank; assisting with registration for a "New Vista Brew's" Best fundraiser at Lake Las Vegas; and serving as hosts for the American Council for the Blind's annual conference in Las Vegas.

Plans are in process for increasing OLLI's community presence by more volunteerism.



Volunteers Stuffing Envelopes for a mail-out to OLLI members

Mary Ellen Cardenas, Volunteer & Outreach Chair

MECardenas@embarqmail.com

230-1364

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Where Mature Minds Bloom

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OLLI News You Can Use
June 27th, 2014

NYCU Contents
[2014-15 Goals](#)
[OLLI at 51s](#)
[Class Updates](#)
[Volunteer Opportunity](#)
[OLLI on Facebook](#)
[UNLV Events](#)

2014-15 Annual Goals


Board Minutes
Each month we'll post
the most recently
approved* Board

Do You NYCU?

Stay connected to OLLI
at UNLV and receive
important updates right
to your e-mail inbox
with OLLI's *News You
Can Use*

E-newsletter.

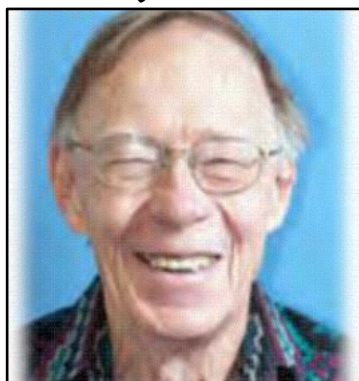
Call 774-OLLI to get on the list!

IN MEMORIAM

Of the several OLLI friends that we lost through the past year who contributed significantly to our OLLI family and are deeply missed.



Larry Groth



Faye Chan



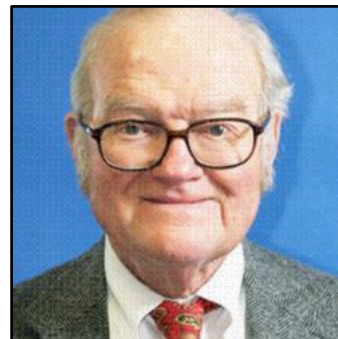
Alvin Esbin



Natalie Gordon



Jack Harvey



Not pictured are:

Mike Morelock

Michael Fishman

Lillian Perkal

OLLI at UNLV Donor Honor Roll

We are grateful to the following supporters of the OLLI at UNLV program:

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***Thank
you!***

Fall 2014 OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, September 25th – from 10:00 AM to

Noon UNLV Paradise Campus Auditorium
(room 133)

851 E. Tropicana Ave., across from Thomas & Mack Center

Call 702-774-OLLI for more information or driving
directions.

Pick OLLI classes for YOUR interests!



BE OUR GUEST or BRING A FRIEND

TO VISIT OLLI FOR ONE FREE DAY

Get a \$25 credit next term if your friend signs up for this term

GET A GUEST PASS AND A ONE-DAY PARKING PASS IN ROOM 502 OR 504.

OLLI Fall Calendar 2014

- September 8 Friday..... Fall Classes Begin
- September 22 Monday.....New Member Luncheon (12:45 pm – Auditorium-133)
- October 31 Friday.....Nevada Day (No classes)
- November 11 Tuesday..... Veteran's Day (No classes)
- November 27–28 Thursday-Friday.....Thanksgiving Holiday (No classes)
- December 5 Friday.....Semester Ends
- December 6 Saturday.....End of Semester Luncheon Gold Coast Hotel and Casino



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