



THE EXCELLERATE

September 2010 - Fall Issue

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MEMBER NEWSLETTER FOR OLLI at UNLV

A PROGRAM FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

President's Message, by Mary Pace

It is an honor to serve once again as your president. Each year brings new opportunities and challenges. Each year, your Board, with the guidance and resources of the university and the Osher Foundation, meets both. Just a few short years ago, our membership averaged 250 per semester. Now we are over 800 and still growing. We have gained not only in membership, but in the number and variety of our study groups. We have our own OLLI@UNLV offices in the 500 building.

Lori Slinn won the first Osher Foundation grant in 2005. We voted to change our name from EXCELL to OLLI@UNLV in 2006, a requirement if we were to accept Osher money. Debbie Smatresk enthusiastically followed through and gained four subsequent grants totaling \$275,000 and now the one million dollar endowment. Lest anyone thinks we can now go on a spending spree (Board meetings in Hawaii, anyone??), we can only spend the interest on the endowment. In these days of abysmal interest rates, that is roughly \$20,000. The Osher Foundation outlines categories in which we can spend the funds. We "have come a long way, Baby," but we have miles to go still.

Besides responding to needs and carrying on the business of our excellent program, I see this year as time to take a breather and codify much that we do as a matter of course: an updated Policies and Procedures Manual to guide new Board members (finished) ; an updated Member Handbook(our next project) to answer questions for new members; a new handbook outlining the services we deliver to our growing list of satellites; and a new handbook for our committee Chairpersons that will not only list what they do, but how to go about it.

We have needs as an organization - a photographer, members who would like to explore a new course offering, coordinators willing to lead groups at our satellites, folks to back up our coordinators and Chairpersons, just for starters. This is your organization. Share ideas you have to make it better or more efficient. Members are always welcomed at every Board meeting (a schedule will be on each bulletin board in September) and you will be recognized to speak.

You have elected a superb Board of Directors: Elise Hanseman; John Hurley; Jeff Kaiser; Bert Kulic; Lidia Mauer; Bruce McCleod; Perry Pearlstein; and Judy Silverman. All people who care about OLLI@UNLV and work respectfully together. Please share your thoughts with your Board and the Osher office, so that our program will continue to flourish.

Mary Pace, President

OLLI Name Badges

The OLLI at UNLV Board approved a policy designed to get to know each other and serve as a method to verify OLLI membership. All OLLI members will be given a name badge with a lanyard to wear when attending classes.

On the Paradise Campus, see Trude Thomson in room 502 to get your name badge when the semester begins. The badges will be available from an OLLI representative at the satellite locations. Name badges must be worn to enter an OLLI class. Please keep your badge in a safe location as they will be worn throughout the semester. In the event that you forget your name badge, please obtain a Guest Pass for that day.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

NO LEFT TURNS

Please drive safely. **Left turns are NOT allowed** onto Tropicana Ave., from the Paradise Campus parking lot. **DON'T BECOME AN ACCIDENT STATISTIC.**

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TEAMING UP WITH YENI

Three years ago Donna Newsom, coordinator for OLLI and UNLV's English Department's ESL (English as a Second Language), introduced me to Yeni Aguilera. She was from Cuba and wanted a tutor to assist her. I was pleased to say yes. Yeni was tall, beautiful, large dark eyes, and a captivating smile. We set up an appointment to begin our studies together. I learned she was a graduate pharmacist from a Cuban University. Her goal was to become a licensed pharmacist in the US. She was working as a pharmacist technician at a CVS store and had already passed the pharmacist equivalence test.

and Yeni was always prepared. We developed a unique friendship. Because she had to speak English to me, she shared her family and work situations with me. She took the TOEFL examination about seven times during the period we worked together. Each time her scores were higher than the previous test. Finally she passed all the written portions and needed only a few more points to pass the English speaking portion.

However, in July she decided to move with her new baby and her mother to Miami. Her reason was to be closer to family. She has a good job at one of the CVS stores in Miami and will soon take the examination again.

I enjoyed every session I had with Yeni. It was so rewarding to me to see her read the New York Times front page articles and understand them or to have her explain to me accurately and clearly her problems with a customer at the store. She said the NY Times was like a mountain she thought she could never climb. She studied very hard every day from the TOEFL books of examinations.

What a wonderful experience tutoring Yeni has been for me. I would encourage OLLI members to grab a student by the hand and begin to make English an enjoyable language for those who seek help.

Gay Goldstein

Volunteers Needed

- 1. Photographer** - to take photos at various OLLI events. Call **Debbie Smatresk** (895-1827) or **Bert Kulic** (837-6467) to volunteer.
- 2. Events Committee** - call **Fay Chan** (281-300-1057) or **Mary Ann Molinaro** (547-3798).
- 3. Fund-raising Committee** - call **Mary Ellen Cardenas** (260-1364) to help raise money for OLLI.
- 4. Coordinators for Brown Bag Lunches on Monday and Tuesdays** - our very popular **Brown Bag Pot Luck videos** (from TedTalk.com) need 1-2 members to handle Mondays and Tuesdays from noon to 1:00 PM. Minimal familiarity with computers and the internet is required. To volunteer, please call either **Debbie Smatresk** (895-1827) or **Bert Kulic** (837-6467).

The CVS stores offered a unique program for foreigners who were pharmacists in their country. If they passed the pharmacy equivalent test and the TOEFL Examination (required in the US for all foreign professionals who want to work in their professions) they could enter an internship program for 12 months and then be declared a licensed pharmacist by the American Pharmacy Board. The TOEFL examination requires reading, writing, comprehension from written materials, and verbal statements. All portions are timed. Many foreign professionals take the the exam 5-10 times.

We worked together two hours each week. I made assignments

Tutors Needed for ESL

If YOU would like to volunteer as a tutor for English as a Second Language (ESL), please contact coordinator Donna Newsom. You can call Donna at **458-3332**, or e-mail her at DNEWSOM21@COX.NET.

Curriculum Report

With 32 study groups at Paradise and 2-3 at each satellite, this promises to be an exciting semester. The wide variety of topics will stimulate our brain cells and enrich our understandings of this wonderful world we inhabit. In addition, plans are underway to add three more satellites: one at the Ruvo Brain Center and two at Humana locations. Both sponsors are offering their facilities and support.

Stephanie Smith and Shirley Harris, our co-founders, dreamed of creating a learning in retirement program here in Las Vegas similar to the one they attended at Harvard University. I doubt they had envisioned the program expanding in so many directions.

Save Saturday Sept. 11th for the Open House at Paradise Campus. Please bring a friend or neighbor!

Mary Pace, Curriculum Chair

New Member Lunch Sept. 28th at Noon

If you are a New Member who joined OLLI for the first time in the Summer or Fall 2010 term . . .

YOU are invited to the New Member Lunch on Tuesday, Sept. 28th, from Noon to 1:30 PM.

- A buffet lunch will be served.
- You will meet OLLI @ UNLV Board members and staff.
- You will get an orientation to OLLI programs and benefits.
- New member photos taken at 1:00 PM, for publication in the 2010 Member Directory.

*Donna Newsom, New Member Chair
Please RSVP to Donna - 458-3332*

Bring A Friend to OLLI

We hope that each OLLI member will bring 1 or 2 friends or relatives, either to our OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, September 11th, or to one day of OLLI classes. If you bring a friend to an OLLI class, please accompany them to see Trude in room 502, to get a Guest Pass and a one-day UNLV parking pass.

Elise Hanseman, Publicity Chair

Dec. 11th Luncheon

Our Gala Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, December 11, 2010, from **noon to 2:15 PM**, at the Stan Fulton Building (corner of Flamingo and Swenson).

We will have delicious food and wonderful entertainment that will rival our last luncheon, which received superlative reviews from our members. Put it on your calendar now, so you won't miss the OLLI social event of the year. Further details will follow.

Judy Silverman, Luncheon Chair

Sunshine Report

The following members received cards from the Sunshine Committee:

- John Kelly
- Family of Ray Guerci
- Bea Belcove
- Tony Kouffman
- Josephine Krug
- Mo Payne
- Tobey Rothbard
- Ron Stein
- Diane Kaiser
- Lynn Rudolph
- Arthur Dobbs
- Family of Rinay Baff

Please call 914-7520 if you know somebody who would appreciate a card from their friends at OLLI.

Connie Pearlstein, Chair - 914-7520

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EXCELLERATE

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Debbie Smatresk895-1827

Suellen Pirages.....566-5999

OLLI ADMINISTRATION

Assistant Director,

Senior Programs.....895-2872

Administrative Assistant,

Trude Thomson.....895-0453

OLLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bert Kulic,

Vice President.....837-6467

Perry Pearlstein,

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John Hurley.....641-2364

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Lidia Mauer.....869-6527

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Bert Kulic.....837-6467

Publicity & Long Range Plans

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Nominations

Bea Levinson731-6960

Elections, Linda Vish451-3672

Events Committee co-Chairs

Fay Chan (281) 300-1057

Mary Ann Molinaro547-3798

Fund-Raising

Mary Ellen Cardenas260-1364

Historian, Martha Wood ...454-5643

New Members & Phone Calling

Donna Newsom.....458-3332

Sunshine

Connie Pearlstein914-7520

PhotographerNeed Volunteer

By-Laws..... Vacant

OLLI @ UNLV FALL 2010 CLASS SCHEDULE

UNLV Paradise Campus, 851 E. Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas 89119

Fall Term is September 13th to December 10th

Morning Classes	MONDAY 10 AM to Noon	TUESDAY 10 AM to Noon	WEDNESDAY 10 AM to Noon	THURSDAY 10 AM to Noon	FRIDAY 10 AM to Noon
Room 511	Great Decisions <i>Bob Lafleur Charles Vinnik</i>	Soap Box <i>Ed Devore John Wooding George Cohan</i>	Buddhism <i>Paul Imahara</i>	Great Battles: Ancient World <i>Howie Sussman John Hurley</i>	Shakespeare - A Mixed Bag <i>Mary Pace Chris Urago</i>
Room 401	Billy Wilder: Life and Career <i>Bob Mirisch</i>	Toxicology: the Dose Makes the Poison <i>Suellen Pirages</i>	The World Today <i>Dennis Evans</i>	Healthy Aging and Self-Discovery <i>Cameron Ashby</i>	Fun With Oral Interpretation <i>Steve Duffy Shirley Hurt</i>
Room 400	Health is Wealth <i>Fred Greenberg</i>	French II Part 2 <i>Martine Patton</i>	Bestseller Books That Shaped America <i>Martha Wood</i>	Paris 1919 - Six Months that Changed the World <i>Fred Ehrlich</i>	
Room 403			Philosophy of Fraternalism <i>J. H. Hoffmann</i>		
Afternoon Classes	MONDAY 1 PM to 3 PM	TUESDAY 1 PM to 3 PM	WEDNESDAY 1 PM to 3 PM	THURSDAY 1 PM to 3 PM	FRIDAY 1 PM to 3 PM
Room 511	Professor's Choice <i>Brian Clayton</i>	Russian History Part 1 <i>Dave Dameron</i>	Jazz Appreciation <i>Chuck Carter Wayne Echt</i>	Great Music <i>Ken Hanlon Tom Lyon</i>	
Room 401	Medications & Successful Aging <i>Eileen Augente</i>	Mystery Readings and Movies <i>John Wooding S. Kouffman 12:45 - 2:45 PM</i>	Unblocking Your Creativity <i>S. Gainsburg</i>	Philosophy, Religion & the Meaning of Life <i>Len Grossman</i>	Bridge Conventions <i>Judy/Bert Kulic Ends on Nov. 19</i>
Room 400	Brief History of Time: Big Bang to Black Holes <i>Wayne Bosze</i>	Writers' Workshop <i>Silverman, Lyon, & Theile</i>	Invest Like Warren Buffett <i>Jack Dien</i>	Tweak Your Mind <i>Ruth Elliott</i>	
Room 403	The History of Fine Dining <i>Ve Nette Tivey</i>	Classic Movies: Hollywood Musicals <i>Marge Gately Ends on Nov. 16</i>	Spanish <i>Lidia Mauer</i>	Fundamentals of Nutrition <i>Elena Cieslak</i>	

**Courses and room changes may occur after printing
the Excellerate or the Fall Catalog.**

Please check out the OLLI web site: [HTTP://SENIORPROGRAMS.UNLV.EDU/OSHER.HTML](http://seniorprograms.unlv.edu/osher.html)

The web site will contain the latest class schedules, including any date or room changes.

OLLI @ UNLV FALL 2010 CLASS SCHEDULE

Three Satellite Campuses:

1. **Sun City MacDonald Ranch**, 2020 W. Horizon Ridge Parkway, Henderson NV 89012
2. **Sun City Summerlin, Sun Shadows**, 8700 Del Webb Boulevard, Las Vegas NV 89134
3. **Las Ventanas Retirement Community**, 10401 W. Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas NV 89135

Fall Term is September 13th to December 10th

SATELLITES	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sun City MacDonald Ranch Desert Willow				Russian History Part 1 <i>Dave Dameron</i> 10 AM to Noon	
Sun City MacDonald Ranch Desert Willow				Spanish <i>Mary Ann Molinaro</i> 1:00 to 3:00 PM	
Sun City Summerlin Sun Shadows Center	Buddhism <i>Paul Imahara</i> 5:30 to 7:30 PM		Short Stories <i>John Wooding</i> 3:30 to 5:00 PM	Soap Box <i>Ed Devore</i> <i>John Wooding</i> <i>George Cohan</i> 10 AM to Noon	
Las Ventanas 10401 W. Charleston	Portraits: Stories in Paint <i>Pamela Osborn</i> 10 AM to Noon Sept. 13-20-27				Billy Wilder: Life and Career <i>Bob Mirisch</i> 10 AM to Noon
Las Ventanas 10401 W. Charleston	Great Books that Made History <i>Ron Kay</i> 10 AM to Noon Oct. 4 – Nov. 1	← New Class NOT Included in Fall Catalog			
Las Ventanas 10401 W. Charleston	Arts, Crafts, and Aging <i>John Van Vactor</i> 10 AM to Noon Nov. 8 – Dec. 6	← New Class NOT Included in Fall Catalog			

Do YOU Want Access to the Great Courses Online?

We now have 56 “Great Courses” (from The Teaching Company) online, available on the internet using UNLV’s “Web Campus” distance learning system.

The “Great Courses” are available in the following subject areas: Art, Books & Language, Economics, Emotions & Reasoning, History, Math, Music, Philosophy, Politics, Religion, and Science.

If you are interested in viewing “Great Course” lectures at home, please call Bert Kulic at 837-6467, or e-mail him at BERTKULIC@COX.NET, to get a log-on ID and a Password.

20 NEW Courses Offered During the Fall 2010 Term

Billy Wilder: His Life and Career

Director, writer, producer, Billy Wilder is one of the most honored filmmakers in motion picture history. We will explore his life in pre-war Europe, his move to escape Nazi persecution, his development as a writer and then as a director. We will look at what made this man unique and how he excelled in numerous film genres, including comedy, film noir, romance and drama. This course will be offered over two semesters. View some of the best films from the 1930s through the early 21st century, including full viewings of: Ninotchka, The Major and the Minor, Double Indemnity, Sunset Boulevard, Ace in the Hole, Witness for the Prosecution, Some Like It Hot, and The Apartment. We will watch clips from other films with "the Wilder touch."

The History of Fine Dining

Food, fine dining, and you can do it! Join us for an overview of what is set on the dining table and how it got there. This is an in-depth look at how to plan a dinner party and setting the table for that 10 course meal with at least eight corresponding wines. Learn about dressing the table with everything from 36" napkins to 3" ramekins, serving forks to ice cream sporks, and menus by Escoffier to what you might consider serving today, except ortolans!

Medications and Successful Aging

Modern medications have contributed to increased longevity, improved health, and enhanced

quality of life for older people. When not used appropriately, medications can have devastating effects. The physiological changes that occur with aging make older adults more vulnerable to the full array of medication-related problems, many of which are predictable and therefore preventable. This course will discuss adverse drug effects, side effects, polypharmacy and medication-related problems.

This course will review the normal functions of the nervous system, cardiovascular, respiratory, muscular-skeletal, digestive and endocrine systems. It will identify common changes and ailments that affect these systems as we age. The medications most frequently prescribed for these conditions will be studied, including how they affect normal body function.

A Brief History of Time: Big Bang to Black Holes

The textbook A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking (ISBN-13: 978-0553380163) is the closest readers will get to one of the greatest scientific minds of the 20th century. Professor Hawking takes us into the realms of physics and cosmology - from particles with whimsical properties called strangeness and charm, to multi-dimensional, vibrating strings that may underlie all matter, energy and force. He takes us on a journey to the intersection between science and philosophy, and to the inevitable convergence of quantum mechanics and general relativity. DVD's, videos, power-point presentations and class discussions will guide us as we explore modern physics.

Toxicology: the Dose Makes the Poison

Have you ever wondered how State and Federal agencies determine what is toxic and what is safe? Are you aware that any substance can be toxic to humans, not just substances produced by industry?

This course will explore the principles of toxicology, parameters that influence the toxicity of substances, different types of toxic effects, how health and environmental agencies determine toxic hazards and safe limits for exposure. During the final weeks, we will analyze real world exposures to mold, mercury exposure in the air, food and/or water, etc., applying the principles and concepts of toxicology.

Russian History: An Overview (Part 1)

We will start at 3000 BCE (migration of Slavic people from the Baltic to Russia), move by the Greek/Roman civilizations, trace Russia's Christian beginnings through Byzantine Culture for the roots of Russia's Orthodox faith, and look at the East-West links between Medieval Europe and Russia. As we proceed, we will pick up the Vikings, Kievian Rus, early Czars, the Orthodox Church, and the rise of the Boyar Class through Medieval Russia to Peter the Great.

Part 2 of this course will be continued in Spring 2011. We will pick up with Catherine the Great, and close out with the 19th century's roots of Russia's 20th century revolutions and an examination of communist Russia. Course is offered at Paradise and MacDonald Ranch.

20 NEW Courses Offered During the Fall 2010 Term

Classic Movies: Musicals Hollywood's Golden Era

The sessions will include viewing and discussions of selected films of classic musicals from Hollywood's golden era. Selections of various popular songs from the films will be discussed. If you enjoy musicals and movies, this is the class for you.

Philosophy of Fraternalism

This landmark course is a new world view of philosophy, layered over a lifetime of linguistic research, and based on 20,000+ conclusions on the human condition. Involved are those proverbial philosophic utterances that all men understand and NOT centuries of recorded postulations of great philosophers, be they secular, religious, or whatever.

It will cover philosophy's new 387 "categories of thought;" how man thinks; how man dreams; and how words and numbers work as survival tools. It is the ultimate education via the "poetic facts of life" and the Socratic question and answer format, augmented with lectures, guest lecturers, and Know Thyself questions.

Great American Bestseller Books That Shaped America

Do you know which American books were not only bestsellers but also helped change American history? This DVD series from The Teaching Company will shed light on the debate over slavery, the place of women in society, the plight of the poor and working class, the need for food safety laws, and many other genre books, such as mystery, westerns, self-help, biography, and political thrillers.

Invest Like Warren Buffett

You should learn how to invest properly because the last one that had your best financial interest at heart was probably your mother. You will learn how to properly manage stocks, bonds, and mutual funds.

The earliest sound investment advice came from Aesop who said, "A bird in hand is worth two in the bush." In more modern terms, Warren Buffett says, "A girl in your convertible is worth many telephone numbers." I expect you to be able to evaluate how many birds reside in the bush and how to get them.

Paris 1919 - Six Months That Changed the World

Between January and July 1919, after the "war to end all wars," men and women from around the world converged on Paris, France, to shape the peace. For six months, Paris was the effective center of the world as peacemakers carved up bankrupt empires and created new countries. Some say the peacemakers failed miserably. Above all they failed to prevent another world war. Others feel the peacemakers were unfairly made scapegoats for the mistakes of those who came later. This class is a good starting point to better understand the boundaries of countries and the geopolitics of alliances and conflicts in our world today.

Recommended text is Margaret MacMillan's "Paris 1919 - Six Months That Changed the World." ISBN-13: 978-0375760525.

We encourage you to begin reading before the class starts.

Healthy Aging and Self-Discovery

Growing old significantly differs from "getting old" and is unique for each of us. Coursework and discussion include the myths of aging, finding self-coherence, rediscovering the uses of the past, the subtle complexities of social relations, sexuality, and the enhancement of many dimensions that naturally occur at this stage of life. Emphasized throughout this curriculum are the specific strengths and capacities that come into being after adulthood.

Great Battles of The Ancient World

This class will focus on ancient battles, in all their fury and violence. We will chart the development of warfare from prehistoric times down to the glory days of the great states of the Near East and Egypt. Then we will turn to the Greeks, and finally the legions of Rome. DVD's from the Teaching Company will be used prior to class discussion of each topic.

Fun With Oral Interpretation

Are you expressive? We will read and act out folktales and legends from around the world, along with humorous dialogues and monologues and some legitimate drama. We want to bring out the hidden ham and drama star in everyone. The best part of Reader's Theater is we will enjoy reading and acting out the material, NOT MEMORIZING IT! All materials will be provided by the coordinators.

20 NEW Courses Offered During the Fall 2010 Term

Tweak Your Mind

The stress of today on all of us is probably more than we counted on before communication and transportation reached a higher level than before. Stress became a major study for some of those in the profession and for science writers. Together we will talk about those factors and see how many we can avoid, or learn to deal with, in a more positive way.

This is a class where your opinion counts and we can disagree with total respect for one another. We might just learn to avoid some of these dire warnings with a good sense of humor and a positive attitude.

Bridge Bidding Conventions

This course is aimed at intermediate bridge players, and will teach you commonly used bidding conventions when playing duplicate bridge. Each class will consist of a one hour lecture, followed by class members playing four pre-set bridge hands, to illustrate the topics covered in the lesson.

Short Stories (Summerlin)

You'll enjoy this course, and have no remorse; it's really quite concise, and very nice! Good writers convey their thoughts in a succinct way that we'll discuss every Wednesday, from 3:30 to 5 PM in the Sun Shadows Center in Summerlin!

Portraits: Stories in Paint

If you could conjure an image to represent yourself, what would it look like? For more than 3,000 years, people have employed artists to create portraits of themselves and their loved ones. What is the appeal? In this entertaining, image-rich presentation, we explore "face value" in portraits from ancient times to present-day masters. You will learn tools to discern the fascinating stories portraits reveal about the sitter, the artist, the commissioner, and their times. We will hone our esthetic taste in a discussion of beauty and meaning. We will examine why some of the most beloved art in history centers on the human form.

Sept. 13th through Sept. 27th (3)

Books That Made History: Books Can Change Your Life

We will listen to a half hour lecture by J. Rufus Fears, PhD, Professor at the University of Oklahoma. We will then discuss and analyze the subject of the lecture. The lectures cover a selection of great literature including as a sample, Homer's Iliad, Beowulf, The Divine Comedy, Plato's Phaedo, plus Shakespeare's Othello, the Koran, and the Gospel of Mark.

Oct. 4th through Nov. 1st (5)

Arts, Crafts, and Aging

Research has shown that senior citizens who keep their minds and bodies active (through poetry, listening to music, dancing, knitting, reading, starting new projects, etc.) lead healthier, more fulfilling lives. Each week will be a "smorgasbord" as different people involve the participants in thinking about how arts and crafts can enrich their retirement years.

Nov. 8th through Dec. 6th (5)

Calendar of Events - September to December, 2010

Sept. 11th.....OPEN HOUSE at UNLV Paradise Campus (10 AM to Noon) on Saturday

.....Please BRING A FRIEND (or 2) to the OLLI Open House

Sept. 13thFall classes begin a 13-week term on Monday

Sept. 28thNew Member Luncheon (Tuesday Noon to 1:30 PM, includes Taking Pictures)

Oct. 29th.....No classes on Friday, celebrating Nevada Day

Nov. 11th.....No classes on Thursday, celebrating Veterans Day

Nov. 25 & 26.....Thanksgiving Recess on Thursday and Friday (no classes held)

Dec. 10th.....Friday is last day of classes for the Fall term

Dec. 11th.....Winter Luncheon at the Stan Fulton Building (Noon)