



UCSC LIFELONG LEARNERS

# General Meeting, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> Stevenson Event Center

## General Meeting, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. Stevenson Event Center, UCSC

### Guest Speaker:

**Dr. Gage Dayton, Administrative Director  
of the UCSC Natural Reserve system**

*From Deserts to Shining Seas:  
The University of California Natural Reserve System*

Dr. Gage Dayton, administrative director of the UC Santa Cruz Natural Reserves, will talk about the UC Natural Reserve System, a unique assemblage of 36 wildland sites throughout California. These reserves, the largest such university system in the world, support outdoor laboratories and living classrooms for researchers and students to study nature in a natural environment.

Dr. Dayton will discuss its history and describe some of the research projects being conducted at the five reserves

that are administered by UCSC. Spread across 60 miles of the central coast, they include both terrestrial and marine sites, including: Año Nuevo Island, Landels-Hill Big Creek, Younger Lagoon, and portions of Fort Ord and the UCSC campus itself.

He is passionate about the environment and a very engaging speaker, as members of the LLL Discovering UCSC group found out from their recent visit to the Younger Lagoon.

## The John Dizikes Concert

Longtime LLL friend and frequent LLL course teacher John Dizikes will again be honored this year with a concert performance.

Musicians in the Thiermann exhibit will perform "Music She Wrote" at the annual John Dizikes Concert, Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m. at the Cowell College Dining Hall.

The Art & Architecture group is planning to meet at one o'clock at the Smith Gallery to view the exhibit "Visual Conversations with Women in the Arts" after which they will go to the concert. All are invited to attend. Admission is free. Find more details on the Art & Architecture web page.



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2009 – 2010

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## President's Message

Now that the Osher vote is over, those who were unable to attend the last meeting would probably like to know the outcome, so let me start there. The vote was strongly in favor of proceeding with an application for funding from the Bernard Osher Foundation. There were 184 votes cast, with 161 members voting in favor of becoming an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). I want to thank everyone who voted. We had a turnout of nearly 60%, and I think that is very good for an organization like ours. It demonstrates the high level of commitment of our membership. That's what makes Lifelong Learners such a success.

The next step is for the University to apply formally, on our behalf, to the Bernard Osher Foundation for funding. I have asked the University to proceed with that application and will advise you of the outcome.

In the meantime, I thought you might like to know the University's view. Shortly before our last meeting, I received a letter from Felicia McGinty, UCSC Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. In her letter, she states that she believes that support from the Osher Foundation will greatly benefit our organization. She assures us that, "The relationship between Lifelong Learners and the University will not change as a result of becoming an Osher institute." UCSC Services for Transfer and Re-Entry Students (STARS) will continue to provide us with the same excellent support it has in the past, and, "Lifelong Learners and [its] Board of Directors will continue to make decisions about budgeting and the allocation of funding on

behalf of its members...." She concludes, "The Lifelong Learners are a valued part of the UCSC community, and I hope the opportunity for additional financial support from Osher will help sustain and grow the group for many years to come." Vice Chancellor McGinty's complete letter is available on line.

We have also recently learned that the Osher Foundation is giving an additional \$25,000 to each OLLI to help with challenges imposed by the difficult economic climate in the country today, and more importantly for us, that we will also receive that additional grant when we become an Osher institute. The grant will be spread over the two years, so we will receive grants of \$62,500 in each of the two years during which we are working on bringing our membership total up to 500 members.

Finally, I want to say a bit about the challenges we face in the coming year. Clearly, one of our tasks will be to grow our membership so we reach the goal of 500 members in the two years we have. We have 323 dues-paying members at this time. So we need to find 177 new members, plus some more for ordinary replacement. It's obvious that if each of us brought one new member into the organization, we would make the goal with ease. But, of course, we need to be more disciplined and directed than that. Your ideas will be welcome. I believe this goal is very achievable—it is a matter of rolling up our sleeves and getting to work.

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The real challenge as we grow, however, will be to hold on to the features that make Lifelong Learners such a wonderful organization. It would make no sense to work on growing our membership if Lifelong Learners lost the attributes that we love in the process. Many proposals will be made in the coming months about how to attract new members and for new services that we should offer. We need

to focus very carefully on whether they fit comfortably with our organization. My own view is that the peer-led interest groups and series, the public lectures, and the courses offered by volunteers from the UCSC faculty are at the core of who we are, and that we should not stray too far from that core.

We had a good debate leading up to the Osher vote. I would like for us to continue in that vein, and to that end I

plan to keep going the blog that we started, and broaden it a bit. I hope many of you will contribute ideas. For my part, I will continue to use the blog to post news and answer any questions that are sent my way.

Robert Franson  
Friday, October 23, 2009

## Interest Groups & Short Series

Interest groups with limited membership that are full are not listed here. Short Series are described on page 4.

LLL members who have registered in the interest group program may participate in any open group. Check with the group leader before attending. Use the coupon on page 5 to register for the program.

**Literature Discussion — New Section.** Discusses fiction, non-fiction, and poetry from recent *New Yorkers*. Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. Faye Alexander, 476-8575, qtpie95010@sbcglobal.net



**Philosophy — New** — Meets monthly to study different philosophy topics, using articles and chapters of books as bases for discussions. Discussion leadership will be shared among the group. Paul Seever, 440-9018, pseever@prodigy.net

**Social Sciences — New** — Share your interests and knowledge of various fields within social sciences: psychology, economics, sociology and anthropology. Members provide information on a particular area and lead a discussion. All viewpoints are welcome. Starts in January. Contact Jan Jaffe, 684-0470, janjaffe@charter.net

**Creative Writing — New members are now welcome.** Meets every Friday at 10 a.m. throughout the year to share members' writing projects. We welcome writers of fiction, memoirs, plays and poetry. Elaine Heyman, 423-0513, elaineheyman@sbcglobal.net

**Science Discussion — New section** meets monthly (1<sup>st</sup> Mon., 1 to 3 p.m.) to study different science topics, Judy Wollowitz, 464-3068, judyL@ebold.com, Kathy Brooks, 684-2929, Kathyzbros@sbcglobal.net

**Lunching Out — New** — Sherry Eissendorf, sherrye139@gmail.com, 458-2459, Irene Lennox, 457-2690, scotirene@yahoo.com

**Adventuring** — Organizes "adventurous" outings, sometimes local, sometimes in SF Bay or Monterey Bay locations, e.g., trips to San Francisco by train and ferry, visits to botanical gardens, manufacturing plants, county fairs, Teatro Campesino shows and more! Craig Miller, 426-0835, craigs-em@cruzio.com

**Art & Architecture** — Visits places of architectural and/or artistic interest all over the Bay Area. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, Smith Gallery. Lois Widom, 423-0184, lowidom@yahoo.com

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## Interest Groups & Short Series

(Continued from page 3)

**Dining Out** — Meets monthly, usually two sitting choices, 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. & Wed., 6:30, at different restaurants. Chris Le Maistre, 471-2396, clemaistre@sbcglobal.net

**Discovering UCSC** — Visits a different UCSC department each month, going behind the academic scenes to discover what makes the department tick. Sandy Brauner, 477-7081, sanjan@cruzio.com

**Great Books Discussion** — Meets monthly (1<sup>st</sup> Thurs., 1:15) to discuss the classics. Faye Alexander, 476-8575, qtpie95010@sbcglobal.net

**Horticulture** — Meets every Thursday (9:30 – noon) at the Cabrillo College Horticulture Department to work on plantings. Pat McVeigh, 475-9357, pmcveigh@baymoon.com

**Play Reading** — Meets monthly (1<sup>st</sup> Mon., 1:30) to read plays selected by the members. Shirley Forsyth, 477-1796, shirlclu@gmail.com

**Reading Circle** — Meets monthly (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon, 1:30) to discuss books selected by the members. Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, *Atlas of Unknowns* by Tania James. Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi. Irene Lennox, 457-2690, scotirene@yahoo.com

**Volunteers in Action** — An outreach program, we are an on-call action-response team for service. See website. Bill Patterson, 479-3729, wilderwill@comcast.net



**Opera** — Saturday Mornings at the Met on Santana Row. Trips to Santa Clara to watch live Metropolitan Opera broadcasts at the movie theater. Optional lunch at a Santana Row restaurant. Alice Miller, 661-0398, alimat@comcast.net

**Hiking** — Meets weekly (Wed. 9:30) for 1 to 2 hours of brisk walking, mostly in local forests. Alice Tarail, 334-3328, alicet@cruzio.com

**Walking** — Explores Santa Cruz Neighborhoods. Meets monthly (3<sup>rd</sup> Fri., 10:00 – noon). Easy walking & education while exploring local nooks and crannies. Lesley Franz, 425-4685, lesfranz@aol.com

**Wine Tasting** — Supports local vintners by visiting, tasting, and picnicking at their beautiful wineries. Meets monthly. Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188, Marilyn Wingfield, marilyn2@netzero.net

### Short Series

Use the form on page 5 or on the web to register for a short series. Please contact the leader before registering. Series details on website. A contribution of \$10 per person to Lifelong Learners is expected for each series.

**The Great Decisions**, a new series, will hold discussions based on readings in the *Great Decisions Briefing Book*. Ten participants, including series organizers Gwen and Dick Houk, will meet on eight consecutive Mondays, 10 a.m. to noon, at their Capitola residence. Starts 03/15/2010. Dgwebers1@aol.com, 916-965-6907

The **Film Series** offers several series of five films during the year. Meets weekly at the home of Jim & Paula Faris at 7 p.m. on Tuesday for each series. jefaris@cruzio.com, 458-1389

### New LLL Members

UCSC Lifelong Learners welcomes these new members:

*Faye Crosby, Marie Elich, Rudy & Donna Guttebo, Terry & Harry Hanson, Tracey Hawes, Jane Heyse, Sarah Howell, Kathleen R. Hughes, Nancy Huguenard, Ed Hutton, Helen B. Jones, Coeleen Kiebert, Jeffrey Killeen, Tom Kimple, Peg Lacey, Marian Langdon, Paul Latzke, John & Sandra Laue, Geri & David Lieby, Gertrude Miller, Judy Mock, Paul & Lois Murray, Bob Newman, Berna & Mark Nitzberg, Karen O'Connor & Charles Flowers, Janis O'Driscoll, Jeanne O'Grady, Patricia Roe, Robert Scott, Barb Sisson, Irisa Sorin, Peter Spofford & Lou Ann Linford, Jay Stoffer, Andrea Uram, Lisa Warshaw, Bobbi Wolner*



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1156 High Street  
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**Address Service Requested**

## LLL History Project Needs Your Help

Twenty Five years of Lifelong Learners. We know and enjoy who we are now, but where did we come from? Our LLL History Committee (Alverda Orlando, Nancy Mead, Mark Gordon, Florence Orenstein, Shirley Forsyth and Corinne Miller) meets regularly to try to find out. Each time we uncover an artifact about something that occurred in the past, it makes us want to seek out someone who lived it, to explain what it really was about. Since our history is just a collection of stories about how a group of seasoned adults sought intellectual rewards and community in association with a young university, we cherish the stories more than anything.

And, we think LLL's story is really terrific. Why? Because people who could have simply taken some courses and gone home, in-

stead had the wisdom to realize that the experience gets much richer when people get together and share what was happening in their classes and their lives.

Originally, in the 1970s there was a program called the Elders in Residence. A group of folks who lived on campus and enrolled as students along with the other, much younger, undergrads. At the same time, there were similar people in the community who didn't live on campus, but who took some courses at the university. It was all part of the Concurrent Enrollment program of the University Extension, something we still value today. Lifelong Learners as we know the organization began when Elders in Residence had to end as an on-campus program. But how?

We have found a very rich trove of documents in our archive, but I know the real story is in the hearts and memories of those who lived it.

So while we think we have a beginning understanding of the LLL story, we need you to help fill it in and tell us how it really happened. If you know a part of it, please call me at 458 2208 and I'll interview you. We hope to produce a little book by the end of this academic year to celebrate the quarter century of LLL.

AND...if you've been in Lifelong Learners for more than 20 years, we want to know that too. We have much to learn from you. Please let us know.

— Mark Gordon