

Osher Lifelong Learning
Institute at UCSC
September 4, 2020

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A publication of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCSC (OLLI), a UCSC Friends Group

Published in September, November, January, March and May with bi-weekly e-Bulletins published until we can meet again.

OLLI at UCSC is a community of men and women from diverse educational, occupational and geographic backgrounds who are devoted to the pursuit of learning. We enjoy spirited discussions, reading and exploring new interests. Money raised from our activities is used to fund scholarships for transfer and re-entry students at UCSC.

Publisher: David Lieby
Reporter: Johnna Laird
Ronnie's Videographer:
Dean M Gottehrer

OLLI Newsletter

Zoom General Meeting,
Sunday, September 20, 2020, 10AM

General Meeting



September 20th, 2020
10:00 AM
On Zoom
Prof. Ben Read



China under Xi Jinping



From Hong Kong to Xinjiang, from Covid-19 to WeChat, China is much on our minds and much in the headlines. Professor Ben Read has visited and lived in the PRC as long ago as 1982 (attending elementary school in Beijing) and as recently as 2019 (as faculty director for UCEAP in Shanghai). In this talk, he synthesizes scholarly perspectives on the Communist Party's approach to governance as it has evolved under President Xi Jinping and previous leaders, focusing on the sources of this system's surprising resilience. He punctuates this with ground-level glimpses of life in Chinese cities.

A Zoom link and password will be emailed to everyone before the meeting.

Like this Newsletter?

Be sure to join OLLI for the coming year so we can send it to you.

Sign up online at olli.ucsc.edu
or use the form at the end of the newsletter.

Continuing Class



The Current Crisis and World Affairs

with Prof Emerita Ronnie Gruhn

Ronnie's "Short Commentaries" series continues
with the latest installment on YouTube.
<https://youtu.be/z1P-vbDEhH0>

Dr Gruhn welcomes feedback and questions.
You can email her at ronnie@ucsc.edu



The President's Message

Message from the President

In addition to the Covid-19 pandemic, our area has also suffered horrendous fires that broke out and are still breaking out around California. *(Thanks to Shmuel Thaler and Cal Fire for the photographs)*

First we heard and saw beautiful lightning displays- never imagining the horror that would ensue. A few brave souls jumped out of bed and went to photograph this force of nature.



Then the fires began...



... and the smoke.

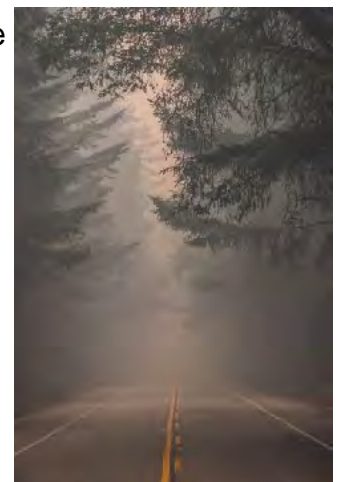
Many were evacuated from their homes; many sheltered inside away from the smoke that invaded even more areas.

At this time, we do not know how many, if any, OLLI members or families or relatives, have suffered losses from these fires, but we send empathy, our best wishes for recovery, and support to all.

If you have suffered a loss, know that your OLLI community is here for you. Please reach out if you need help of any kind- food, shelter, or just a sympathetic ear. If you need help locating contact information for a specific member, please email me at BonitaS@ucsc.edu.

Please stay safe and well,

Bonita Sebastian



New Zoom Courses

WOMEN IN THE ANCIENT WESTERN WORLD



Thursday mornings, September 24, October 1, 8, 15 10 a.m.

This is a Zoom class. No advance registration is necessary. You will receive a Zoom registration notice a day or two before the class.

Instructor: Gail Greenwood

Have you ever wondered what we're doing with bunnies bringing eggs at Easter, and pine trees covered with baubles to celebrate the birth of a Jewish baby? Gail Greenwood did, and it never made sense to her until she learned about women's history. She is now offering us an 8-hour survey course she's calling "Women in the Ancient Western World." The primary idea examined will be that the story changes when the point of view of the story teller changes; though the actual facts may be the same, the significance of the facts and even which dates matter alter when viewed from women's rather than from men's perspective. The course will begin with Prehistory — The Great Mother and her cave children, with an examination of why we don't begin with the Greeks — followed with the Ancient Near East, Egypt, and Crete. Then we will (in a great sweep of thousands of years in an hour or two) look at ancient and classical Greece, Rome, and the Judeo-Christian heritage.

Gail Greenwood is a retired community college history teacher. For thirty-four years, she taught survey courses in American History, Western Civilization, and Women in both American and Western Civilization. In the 1970s she created the first Women in American History courses at American River College. Her students kept asking her to explain all the odd assumptions of the founding parents and wouldn't accept her answer that "They brought the beliefs with them along with their Bibles, pots, and pillows." She had to return to reading and studying and then she created a course about Women in Western Civilization. Her first startling discovery for one trained in modern Western Civilization with a focus on the Third Reich was that she ended up clear back in archaeology. Fortunately this multidisciplinary approach didn't bother folks at the community college and she hopes it will also be accepted by lifelong learners willing to gallop through history.

MAJOR SUPREME COURT DECISIONS THAT CHANGED AMERICA



Wednesdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28 10 a.m. on Zoom

You will receive a Zoom invitation from Barry Bowman before each class
Instructor: Arthur Rolston

Some Supreme Court decisions are simply more important than others due to their impact on ordinary Americans' economic, social, cultural, and/or political lives. We'll look at a number of them over the course of American history and place them in historical context as both indicators and agents of cosmic changes in American life.

The first class on October 7 will look at *Dartmouth College vs. Woodward* (1819) and *Charles River Bridge vs. Warren Bridge* (1837) in the context of the social, transportation, and early industrial revolutions during the first half of the 19th Century. This class was taught in the Spring but will be repeated for those who missed it, and those of us who will enjoy hearing it again.

Next, on October 14, we'll focus on *Dred Scott vs. Sanford* (1857) and the coming of the Civil War.

Then on October 21 we'll address *Brown vs. Board of Education* (1954) and America's Second Reconstruction.

Finally, our last class on October 28 will examine the influence of the libertarian resurgence in three cases: *District of Columbia vs. Heller* (2008) on the Second Amendment; *Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission* (2010) on corporations and free speech; and *Obergefell vs. Hodges* (2015) on marriage equality.

While there's no assigned reading, Google searches of the cases will lead to numerous links to the Court's majority and minority opinions.

Arthur Rolston is new to Santa Cruz, arriving in 2017, and this is his first time teaching for OLLI. He has a JD from UC Berkeley (1967), and a PhD in History from UCLA (2006). Prior to moving to Santa Cruz Arthur practiced law in Los Angeles for over 30 years and then taught history at UCLA as an adjunct lecturer from 2006-2016. He taught a class at Cabrillo College this past spring.

Instructor Profile, Roger Knacke



A successful course on Climate Change

By Johnna Laird

Astrophysicist Roger Knacke has gained a reputation and following for his OLLI courses offered over the last six years. His latest course, “A Primer on Climate Change,” seemed to strike in a different direction from his usual cosmology focus. Yet, an astronomy conference last January in Hawaii planted the seed for the climate change course offered over four weeks in August.

Another well-known astrophysicist and writer speaking at that conference encouraged astronomers to take action to include climate change in introductory astronomy classes.

“Jeffrey Bennett argued that introductory astronomy is a good place to introduce these ideas and an important thing for astronomers to do. Not that many climate courses are offered to general students. It seems like a natural concept since scientists learn about Earth’s atmosphere by studying atmospheres and climates of Venus, Mars, and Saturn as well as stars,” says Roger, who began offering OLLI courses after his retirement from Penn State Erie as Director of the School of Science and his move to Santa Cruz to be closer to family. Roger, a past president of the Santa Cruz Symphony League, continues to serve on the symphony board.

With climate change in the news daily, Roger, who thrives on research and teaching, concluded “A Primer on Climate Change” held the makings for an OLLI course. Simultaneously, it offered Roger the opportunity to make a contribution as a scientist. Roger designed the course following the outline of Bennett’s book, *A Global Warming Primer*.

“I realized this course would be slightly different than previous courses,” explains Roger, who has an asteroid named for him and made a major discovery of silicates in the disk around the star, Beta Pictoris, giving astronomers a glimpse into a forming solar system.

“I was not bringing a lifetime of work to this area. In some sense I am a student of it, which has advantages and disadvantages. I approach it more like students, and I think sometimes students may understand the material better as a result of this approach. But I don’t bring a lifetime of cultural background, going to meetings and doing research.”

What Roger brings is a love of teaching. Chaucer in *The Canterbury Tales* ends the description of a character who loves books with these words that also aptly describe Roger: “And gladly would he learn and gladly teach.” Admittedly a bit of an actor who enjoys being in front of an audience, Roger finds ways to weave humor into his teaching, even on a subject that can leave people feeling despair, wondering how to alter the course of Earth’s increasing temperatures, rising seas, and worsening storms.

More than 60 people tuned in weekly for the Zoom course until the final session when the numbers grew to 80. Based on questions posed in class and on the chat during the course, Roger concluded his primer got some participants thinking more deeply about the issues the planet faces.

Not until I delved into the subject preparing for this course did I feel the urgency. I knew climate change was an important issue. I knew it was significant. I had not sensed the degree of danger, the dangerous situation we are already in,” he says.

The current temperature change—a one-degree Celsius (2° Fahrenheit) rise since 1880 with two-thirds of that increase starting in the 1970s—represents the highest temperature for more than 800,000 years, with 40 percent more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Earth’s temperature has changed during its history but over centuries, not decades as is happening now. A recent United Nations report found that “around 1 million animal and plant species are threatened with extinction, many within decades, more than ever before in human history.” Roger pointed out monarch butterflies have declined by 99 percent while increasing global temperatures have also led to an explosion of bark beetles that are decimating millions of acres of forests.

“We don’t know what even small increases in temperature will do. In all of humankind’s history, our species development took place at a lower temperature. I find this scary and dangerous. One and a half to two degrees is the best scenario that we have and it could go higher. It’s what the Paris Climate Agreement is shooting for. I hope people get that while two degrees by itself doesn’t sound bad; over decades these small changes have huge effects on what happens. That is the theme I am emphasizing. This is very significant.”

To help the public understand the significance of a global change, NASA explains “a one- to two-degree drop was all it took to plunge the Earth into the Little Ice Age. A five-degree drop was enough to bury a large part of North America under a towering mass of ice 20,000 years ago.”

As a scientist, Roger views his role as providing background information to help people better understand complex issues of changing climate and their ramifications. His hope, however, is that participants will be motivated to take action, political or otherwise, to mitigate climate change. “It is a matter of urgency,” he points out.

Like Bennett in his book, Roger ended his course on a hopeful note, pointing out that solutions already exist to eliminate the use of fossil fuels. In the United States and Europe, coal use is on the decline.

Renewable energy sources are replacing coal, with solar and wind power reaching the point where they are cheaper than coal. Germany, heavily coal dependent, has committed to phase out coal use by 2038. China, the world’s largest coal-user, has committed to limit coal to 58% of its energy mix by 2020.

While China is the largest carbon dioxide emitter, the United States emits more than twice the carbon dioxide per person as China.

Bennett, whose book can be read online, recommends that readers write a letter to their grandchildren and explain actions they took to make a difference in global warming.

As the fourth class concluded, Course Coordinator Lois Widom encouraged participants to follow Roger’s lead and use their interests as a springboard to present a new OLLI course. “

For those interested in learning more about global warming Roger mentioned the book found using this link:

<https://www.globalwarmingprimer.com/primer/>

Sharing Good Thoughts

By Johnna Laird

Four months into the pandemic, OLLI member Gary Oing launched a weekly email to “Share Good Thoughts.” The idea came after he first began searching the Internet “for material that gave me good thoughts” and then realized that “good thoughts” could be helpful to his circle of friends and family. Now his “Share Good Thoughts” email reaches at least 40 family and friends throughout the United States and Ethiopia. Likely the reach is much greater since Gary has encouraged his readership to send “Share Good Thoughts” to their family and friends.

A recent edition featured 13 different, upbeat quotes including Michelangelo’s “The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark.” In the same issue was Audrey Hepburn’s quote: “For beautiful eyes, look for the good in others; for beautiful lips, speak only words of kindness; and for poise, walk with the knowledge that you are never alone.”

While lifting up himself, Gary has been lifting up others. He is now offering “Sharing Good Thoughts” weekly email to OLLI members. If you are interested in receiving, contact Gary at gmo4321@yahoo.com. An important note, says Gary, “ALL email addresses of recipients are hidden/not-visible because they are on the ‘bcc’ line of the message I send to protect individual email privacy and to minimize people doing a ‘reply all’.” To see the links to the content mentioned in the past weekly emails go to the website -- http://www.eoing.com/gk/good_thoughts/ .

Gary retired in 2002 from the computer industry in Silicon Valley and moved to Santa Cruz in 2013 when he joined OLLI seven years ago. An active member, Gary has served as a volunteer webmaster for the interest groups Current Affairs led by Mark Gordon and Great Decisions led by Joya Chatterjee and Gaby Litsky.

Our OLLI Reporter, Johnna, sent me the following: I would also be interested in people's pandemic tips, kind of a round-robin article with snippets from about 30 different people of how they keep their spirits up and themselves growing in meaningful ways.

This would be very helpful to all of us. Please email her directly at aleena12teacher@yahoo.com

Thanks for helping us.

Interest Groups



OLLI's
Digital Photo
Interest Group
looks at
Piotr Zimniak's
amazing
photo.



**Is your Interest Group
meeting and keeping active?
Let us know!**

Send us your thoughts and ideas for inclusion in future biweekly newsletters. We are interested in the well-being of our members and what everyone is doing to cope with the rules created to help us weather the pandemic. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this effort.

Please send your input to: olliucsc@gmail.com with "Newsletter" in the subject line.

Heartfelt condolences to those who lost everything... how may we help?

Climate change, Covid, lightning strikes, forest fires, gagging smoke, snowing ash... What next? Raining toads?! We'll mangle, thanks to community. Stay strong. Reach out –



In Switzerland, it is illegal to own a single guinea pig? Because they're so very social, it's considered animal abuse to have only one.

Otters hold hands so one won't drift away.



Because cheetahs are very shy, some zoos provide support dogs like those for humans.

In ordinary times, we look forward to our September general meeting annually devoted to interest groups: introduction of new groups, face-to-face Q&A with interest groups leaders, and enrollment in your favorite groups. Alas, these times are not ordinary - my fun table signs remain in storage - boohoo! However, there remain more than 60 interest groups and I do hope new ones are being conjured! Please contact interest group leaders (directory below) to enroll.

* full; virtual meetings

Interest Group	Leader	Phone (831)	Email
Adventuring	Kathryn Nance	332 8051	momokat13@gmail.com
All Things Classical	Jay Stoffer	(310) 923 3099	jaystoffer8@gmail.com
American History & Literature	Virginia Law Mark Ordway	425 5453 295 2542	veelaw29@gmail.com meordway@gmail.com
Art-Joy of Painting	Gayla Pius	464 6559	gaylapius@gmail.com
Art & Architecture	Lois Widom	423 0184	lowidom@yahoo.com
Bagel Ladies	Mary McKane	419 4588	mmckane9@me.com
Baroque Festival	David Copp	708 2206	dhcopp@yahoo.com
Basketball Women	Mary Carvalho	332 2361	marycarvalho@gmai.com
Biographical Fiction	Jan Mintz	(714) 719 0694	musicmintz@gmail.com
Bridge	Jo Anne Dlott	688-1607	jldlott@gmail.com
Concept Exchange	Peter Marks	464 8300	peter@designinsight.com
Current Affairs I	Mark Gordon	(408) 314 4802	mgordon@cruzio.com
Digital Photography	Cindy Margolin	688 8129	crmargol@gmail.com
Dining Out	Diane Zacher Kathy Hatfield	786 9550 426 6399	dianezacher@gmail.com b40mom@gmail.com

Interest Group	Leader	Phone (831)	Email
Ears in Action	Florence Orenstein	427-2380	santacruzflors@aol.com
English in Action	Karin Grobe	427 0984	karingrobe@gmail.com
Evening Book Group	Dusty Miller	426-0835	hndmiller@hotmail.com
Explore Santa Cruz County	Kathryn Nance Sue Myers	425 4569 818 6450	momokat13@gmail.com suemyers85@gmail.com
Favorite Flicks	Bill Patterson	479 3729	wilderwill@comcast.net
Fiction Writing	Leader needed		
Financial Education	Steve Edmonds	338 3106	steve2rr@gmail.com
Folk Singing	Lou Rose	477 0360	ramblingroses@yahoo.com
French for French Speakers	Beatrice Barbakow	661 5444	bbarjac@gmail.com
Future of Capitalism	Barry Bowman	459 2245	bbowman@ucsc.edu
Great Books I *	Faye Alexander	476 8575	qtpie95010@gmail.com
Great Books II *	Susan Gorsky	688 5371	sgorsky@sbcglobal.net
Great Decisions	Joya Chatterjee Gaby Litsky	458 9008 462 9023	joya_chatterjee@yahoo.com glitsky@aol.com
Horticulture	Pat McVeigh	566 4553	pmcveigh@baymoon.com
Lunchtime Dining Out	Irene Lennox	457 2690	irenefraetron@gmail.com
Memoir Writing I	Joyce Burt	464 3470	sandplay@ix.netcom.com
Memoir Writing II *	Kathryn Cowan	431 6114	kathycowan43@yahoo.com
Natural History	Jeff Manker	763 0725	fireweed8@gmail.com
Navigating Retirement	Katrina Cope Nancy Calvin	713 8440 466 0720	katrina.cope@gmail.com nancycalvin52@gmail.com
New Yorker Aptos *	Joan Rose	477 0360	ramblingroses@yahoo.com
New Yorker Capitola	Faye Alexander Barbara Banducci	476-8575 234-7906	qtpie95010@gmail.com bbanducci43@yahoo.com
New Yorker SC I *	Peggy Williams	476 2965	pegwil.atty@gmail.com
New Yorker SC II *	Helen Jones	420 1220	helenjones815@gmail.com
Newcomers	Kate Erstein	454 8578	kate.erstein@gmail.com
Nonfiction East Side	Owen Brown	234 4903	wowenbrown@mac.com
Nonfiction West Side *	Mary Carvalho	332 2361	marycarvalho@gmail.com
Play Reading	Billie Harris	600 8315	billie@cruzio.com
Puente Project	Richard Bruce Sesario Escoto	462 1280 212 7184	richard.bruce@gmail.com sesarioescoto@gmail.com
Read & Socialize *	Edna Elkins	454 8611	ednautah@msn.com
Read It Again, Sam *	Joan Rose	477 0360	ramblingroses@yahoo.com
Reading Circle	Irene Lennox	457 2690	irenefraetron@gmail.com
Recorder Playing	Marilyn Rigler	423 2505	mrigler@gmail.com
Short Stories	Kathryn Cowan	431 6114	kathycowan43@yahoo.com
Social Science *	Dusty Miller	426 0835	hndmiller@hotmail.com
Spanish Convers Beginning	Helene Weil	332 0547	helene.ggd@gmail.com
Spanish Conversation *	Dolores McCabe	588 5195	dmccabe47@gmail.com
The Sun Magazine	Dale Zevin	818 8059	soqueldale@gmail.com
TED Talks	Constantine Lackides	(310) 505 6900	cnlackides@gmail.com
Tennis Doubles	David Brick	325 7380	dbrick@cruzio.com
Theatrics	Margot Hoffman	295 4144	margothoffman@gmail.com
Travel Treasures	Joya Chatterjee Gaby Litsky	458 9008 462 9023	joya_chatterjee@yahoo.com glitsky@aol.com
Walking	Anandi Paganini	334 3328	alicer@cruzio.com
Wine Tasting	Margie Lafia		mlafia56@gmail.com
Writing Geneal History *	Pamela Roby	247 0675	robby@ucsc.edu

Labor Day

<https://nationaltoday.com/labor-day/> <https://www.dol.gov>

Labor Day, created by the labor movement, is **dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers** and constitutes a yearly national tribute to contributions made by workers to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

The first state bill was introduced by New York but the first to become law was Oregon in 1887, when four more states – Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York – created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade, Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit.

The **first Labor Day** was celebrated in New York City. On the morning of 05 September 1882, a crowd filled the sidewalks of lower Manhattan to claim the best vantage points. A newspaper account described "...men on horseback, men wearing regalia, men with society aprons, and men with flags, musical instruments, badges, and all the other paraphernalia of a procession." The police, wary of a riot, formed columns and club-wielding officers on horseback surrounded city hall.



By 10 am, the Grand Marshall was in place but there were almost no marchers and those had no music! Suddenly, Mathew Maguire (the father of Labor Day) ran across the lawn and reported two hundred marchers from the Jewelers Union of Newark had crossed the ferry — and they had a band! Final reports ranged from 10,000 to 20,000 men and women Labor Day marchers. The New York Tribune reported "The windows and roofs and even the lamp posts and awning frames were occupied by persons anxious to get a good view of the first parade in New York of workingmen of all trades united in one organization." Post-parade festivities included speeches, a picnic, an abundance of cigars, and "lager beer kegs... mounted in every conceivable place." Until 9:00 that night, nearly 25,000 union members and their families celebrated the very first, and almost disastrous, Labor Day.

In May 1886, when most American laborers worked 18-20 hours daily, workers protested across the US. In Chicago, police attacked the peaceful protest, killing six. When outraged Chicagoans attended a protest the next evening in **Haymarket Square**, a bomb killed a police officer, police opened fire, workers and police died.

Chicago was also the setting for the bloody **Pullman Strike** in 1894 at the Pullman Company, the luxury-railroad-car manufacturer. While CEO Pullman lived in a mansion, his laborers were leased barracks-style dormitories. When the 1893 depression struck, Pullman cut wages 30% without reducing rents, ultimately leading workers to strike 11 May 1894. Supported by the nationwide American Railroad Union, the walkout led to a standstill of railroads west of Chicago and 125,000 workers across 29 railroad companies quit their jobs rather than break the boycott. Following a federal court injunction, President Cleveland deployed federal troops but realized the increasingly agitated labor movement needed appeasement. Not wanting to memorialize the Haymarket incident with a May holiday, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday.

Promotion Partners

**Santa Cruz Chorale
2020**

Guest Concert: New Choir
Sunday, March 22, 4pm
CANCELLED

JS Bach and Franz Schubert
(postponed from May)
Saturday, October 17, 8pm
Sunday, October 18, 4pm

Christmas with the Chorale
Saturday, December 19, 8pm
Sunday, December 4pm

All concerts at Holy Cross Church
Santa Cruz

Info and tickets:
www.santachoralechorale.org
(831) 427 8023




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scbaroque.org • 831.457.9693

OLLIwood Squares



Bonita Sebastian, Cindy Margolin, OLLI Badge, Dennis Morris
 Bill Patterson, Lois Widom, Mark Gordon, Ginna Holcombe
 Barry Bowman, Guenter Vorlop, Karen Gamell, , Sara Radoff
 DeShonne Keller, David Lieby, Kate Erstein, Gail Greenwood
 ~not shown. Chris Le Maistre

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*Elected office

**Replacing resigned officer

September 4, 2020

oli.ucsc.edu

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Services for Transfer & Re-entry Students
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Santa Cruz, CA 95064
Address Service Requested

Roger Knache, Who gave the recent course, “A Primer on Climate Change,” sent an interesting photo from:
<https://www.usgs.gov/media/images/el-nino-flooding-along-capitola-waterfront>
What will happen with rising seas due to climate change?
Read about Dr. Roger Knache's course on Climate Change on page 5.

