2008!!!

To begin, let me wish you and your family a happy New Year. And what a year this will be. Unless I’m wrong, 2008 promises to be a historic year on nearly every front. Yes, it is a presidential election year. By next year at this time we will know who will be the next President. But whoever gets the nod, it feels as though we, as Americans and as citizens of the world will be asked, because of the now apparent enormity of the consequences of climate change, to consider dramatic changes in the way we do things. Can anyone who attended Lisa Sloan’s presentation at our November general meeting be thinking that we can just go on as we have?

The maps in Dr. Sloan’s powerpoint showed downtown Santa Cruz below sea level within a generation or two. Vast heavily populated coastal areas around the world will be submerged by the sea’s advance. The world is surely going to respond, don’t you think? It will be big news in 2008.

No matter who we Americans elect as President, or whatever the political makeup of Congress, surely there will be calls on all sides for new policies that will change our lives. What will they be? Will we see new efforts to change the way we eat, the products we buy, the places we go and how we get there? What else?

Wherever I go people are concerned and wondering what will happen. I’ve encountered a number of responses from folks. Some have rolled up their sleeves and are busy trying to reduce their “carbon footprint” or even to figure out what that means. Others have responded with a sense of hopeless abandon: sort of “this is way too big, I can’t do anything, so leave me alone and let me enjoy today.” Still others are getting involved in a political process, hoping to get the government to do something. We seem to have reached a tipping point, however. Everyone’s paying attention. 2008 will be different.

I’m looking forward to an exciting and interesting year. The environment and a whole lot of other concerns are on the table. We’re all seeking ideas, approaches and solutions to enormous problems. It will be a fascinating time to think things through, talk to neighbors, listen to each other about things that really matter to our lives. Perhaps, ironically, it’s fortunate that we’re having such a long runup to this election. It takes more time than we maybe thought to reflect on what scientists, candidates and ordinary citizens are saying and to make sense of it all.

It’s a remarkable thing we do in this country every four years. And once in a while a really big historic year comes along. I think this could be it. While the subjects are really serious, still it ought to be fun. Enjoy. I’m wishing you a healthy, rewarding and stimulating 2008.

Mark Gordon
New Venue for General Meeting

We’ve all noticed that over the past year our monthly meeting at the Stevenson Coffee Shop has been uncomfortably crowded. Even with more chairs being brought in from the plaza, not everyone has found a seat. And it’s way too hard to move around.

We’ve loved meeting at the Coffee Shop. It is a warm, friendly spot. But we just have to have more space. So, starting with the January 20th LLL General Meeting, we’ll try using the Stevenson Event Center just across the plaza from the coffee shop. We’ll set it up with tables and chairs to accommodate many more members. Eventually, we can hold our lectures right there, as we did last year when our lecture hall, room 150, was closed for upgrading.

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We on the LLL board hate to change, but we’re hoping our new digs will meet our needs for a long time to come. We welcome your feedback and suggestions on how to make our new space as comfortable as possible.

So, our next meeting, on Sunday, January 20th, from 10 a.m. to noon, will be at the Stevenson Event Center.

The agenda will include coffee, cake, socializing and an LLL business meeting until 11:00. Our talk this month is described in the column at right.

LLL membership and interest-group fees are used to support re-entry students. Regardless, we would never want fees to prevent someone from participating in our activities. To discuss fee waivers, please call Mark Gordon, 458-2208, confidentially.
Interest Group News and Activities

For the latest schedule of activities, consult the website. See page 6.

Two New Interest Groups: Wine Tasting and The Great Books

• Lifelong Learners new wine tasting interest group will have its first event on January 31st. We will tour and wine taste at the Bargetto Winery. Anyone interested can call Brooke Ewoldsen at 475-6188 or email Marilyn Wingfield at marilynw2@netzero.net. Please RSVP if you want to go.

• LLL will be offering a Great Books class as a new interest group. If you are interested, please contact Faye Alexander at 476-8575 or email: qtpie95010@sbcglobal.net.

Discovering UCSC

We will re-visit the Earth Sciences Department on Wednesday, January 16th, from 10 a.m. to noon.

We're delighted to be invited back by Dept. Chair Paul Koch to learn about three areas of study that were not covered in our visit last year: Great Earthquakes, Earth's Geodynamo, and Groundwater Recharge and Water Resources in California. For more information, see the Discovering UCSC web page.

Art and Architecture

On Wednesday, January 30th, we will visit the San Jose Museum of Art where three Spanish Artists will be showing: Joan Miro’s Fantastic Universe; Goya’s Caprichos; Dreams of Reason and Madness; and Picasso’s Etchings of Love and Desire. Meet at Gateway on River St. at 10 a.m.

Creative Writing

The Friday Writers' collection of short stories, poems and essays, The Sandbox, was published in November and has almost sold out.

All proceeds now go to the scholarship fund. To obtain copies, call Elizabeth Stockard, 768-1161, or email: estockard@prodigy.net.

Volunteers in Action

This new interest group, formed in November, is busy, busy, busy. Here is a list of what we have accomplished since then:
• Helped create a demonstration garden at the Santa Cruz Natural History Museum.
• Lent a hand at Santa Cruz’s Museum of Art and History, preparing for special programs.
• Arranged the exhibits at the Mill Art Gallery for a special presentation by the Santa Cruz Institute of Contemporary Arts.
• Provided ongoing help at Cabrillo College’s Horticulture Department.

We serve as an outreach program, an on-call, ready-response team, assisting worthy enterprises on short notice. We do not have scheduled meetings, only ‘doings.’ All are welcome to share in the fun.

Contact: Bill Patterson, email: wilderwill@sbcglobal.com.

Digital Photography

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 25th. Location and time will be announced via email. The assignment is any subject of interest photographed between December 1st and January 21st.

Adventuring
Craig Miller 426-0835
craigsem@cruzio.com

Art & Architecture
Lois Widom 423-0184
lowidom@yahoo.com

Creative Writing
Donna Love 479-9857
lovedonna@sbcglobal.net

Digital Photography & Dining Out
Steve Zaslaw 465-9451
zaslaw@charter.net

Discovering UCSC
Sandy Brauner 477-7081
sanjan@cruzio.com

Film
Jim Faris 458-1389
jefaris@cruzio.com

Great Books
Faye Alexander 476-8575
qtpie95010@sbcglobal.net.

Horticulture
Pat McVeigh 475-9357
pmcveigh@baymoon.com

Literature Discussion (Tues)
Virginia Law 425-5453
veelaw2@pachell.net

Literature Discussion (Thurs)
Joan Rose 477-0360
ramblingroses@yahoo.com

Opera
Alice Miller 661-0398
alimat@comcast.net

Play Reading
Shirley Forsyth 477-1796
shirelu@hotmail.com

Reading Circle (books)
Irene Lennox 457-2690
scotirene@yahoo.com

Volunteers in Action
Bill Patterson 479-3729
wilderwill@comcast.net

Wine Tasting
Brooke Ewoldsen 475-6188
How to Join an Interest Group

Membership in LLL interest groups is limited to members of UCSC Lifelong Learners. Members may join as many interest groups as they wish; however, some groups have limited space. Please consult our website for further information.

A contribution of $7 per person is expected for each interest group that you join. Your contribution is tax deductible and supports our scholarship program.

To join an interest group, please use the interest group registration form below.

Many interest group leaders use email to communicate with members. If you do not have email, perhaps a relative, friend, or neighbor would receive it for you.

Corrections to the Membership Directory
Ann Bodine’s phone is 600-7362.

Sharon Cohen Barry should be listed with the Bs instead of the Cs. Kathleen Carroll’s email is katecare@aol.com.
Sherry Eisendorf was omitted. She is at 2395 Delaware Ave #139, Santa Cruz 95060. Phone 458-2459, email, sherrye6228@sbcglobal.net.
Dixie Rutherford’s email is dixiejwr@cruzio.com.
Dick and Judy Zscheile’s email is dickz225@comcast.net.

Interest Group Registration Form
To join a Lifelong Learners interest group, please consult with the group leader and use this form.

Please make check payable to UC Santa Cruz Foundation and mail to Robert Franson, 216 National Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

A contribution of $7.00, used solely for scholarships, is expected for each interest group you join.

An interest group registration form is also available at http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/forms

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Winter Courses Begin January 8th

This winter LLL will again offer a stimulating series of courses, at minimum cost, beginning January 8th. You can register at the door.

Big Bands of the 30s and 40s
Doree Steinmann and Shirley Forsyth have put together an exciting four-week course called “Big Bands of the 30s and 40s.” They have collected video of such bands as Glenn Miller, Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Gene Krupa, Count Basie, Cab Calloway, Lionel Hampton, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, and many more. They expect a few guest speakers who were members of bands during that era. Find out more at http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/classes.

Doree taught fulltime for 22 years at Cosumnes River College in Sacramento. She was an adjunct instructor of broadcast journalism at Cabrillo College and teaches for SPECTRA and Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation. She also produces a weekly television program for community cable called “Your Second Fifty Years.”

Shirley Forsyth, Chartered Financial Consultant, taught Continuing Education requirements to financial professionals as Adjunct Faculty at Palm Beach Community College.

The course is at the Veterans’ Hall Auditorium, 846 Front Street, on four Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. There is free three-hour parking nearby.
Winter Courses

Four Philosophers Who Still Matter
The subjects are Socrates, Nietzsche, Benjamin, and Wittgenstein. The discussion will be led by Emeritus Professor of philosophy Robert Goff. Professor Goff’s principal interests are philosophy of religion, religious philosophy, philosophy in and as literature and movies, Kierkegaard, and Wittgenstein. Dates: The first four Wednesdays in February, 10 a.m. to noon. Place: Quaker Center, 225 Rooney St., Santa Cruz.

American Women Poets of the Twentieth Century
John Dizikes, Professor Emeritus of American Studies, will lead these sessions. We are fortunate that Professor Dizikes has taught a number of classes for us. His presentation, his depth of knowledge, and his passion for the subject matter are always admired. This is an opportunity for you to have a class with a master teacher. Dates: The first three Wednesdays in March, 10 a.m. to noon. Place: Quaker Center, 225 Rooney St., Santa Cruz.

Romanticism
An extension of last year’s excellent course on Romanticism will be offered in April. This year’s class will focus on British and Russian Romanticism, including prose, poetry, and music. Miriam Ellis, UCSC Lecturer Emerita in French, will lead. Time and place to be announced. Registration for this course will open in February.

Note
Only LLL members may attend a course. Others are welcome to join LLL and then register for a course. If a course is not full, an LLL member can be admitted at the door upon payment of $20. A non-member would have to pay an additional $30 membership.

Winter Course Registration Form
Use this form to register for the winter courses. One or two people can register with this form for one or more courses. Please make check payable to UC Santa Cruz Foundation and mail to: Robert Franson, 216 National Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

Courses are $20 each per person.

This form is also available at http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/classes

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Total Enclosed: $ 

If you would like to receive a confirmation, please print email address(es):
Lifelong Learners Membership Form

Use this form to join Lifelong Learners or renew your membership.
Please make **check payable to UC Santa Cruz Foundation** and **mail to UC Santa Cruz Lifelong Learners**, University Relations, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Enclosed is my membership contribution: $30 Individual; $50 Couple at same address.
I want to help LLL provide more book scholarships! I’ve enclosed an additional contribution of: $_____.

Thank you!

This form is also available from http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/forms

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