Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCSC February, 2023

Volume 38, Issue 2



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

OLLI at UCSC is a community of women and men 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.

Editor: Barry Bowman Videographer: Dean M Gottehrer

OLLI Newsletter

February 2023

General Meeting

Sunday, February 19, 2023

10:00 AM Zoom Room opens 10:00 Breakout Groups (these are fun) 10:30 Business Meeting 11:00 Lecture

An in-person meeting in the College Nine/John R Lewis Dining Hall Multi Purpose Room.

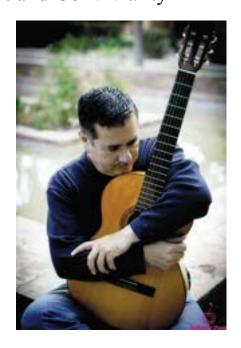
Free Core West parking and shuttle service to the meeting. https://olli.ucsc.edu/general-meetings/parking/index.html

Our Speaker

Russell C. Rodríguez, Assistant Professor of Music, UCSC

Mariachi: Accompaniment and Conviviality

Russell Rodriguez is Assistant
Professor of Music at UCSC. He
earned a BA degree at Santa Clara
University, an MA at Stanford and a
PhD at UCSC. For more than twenty
years he has been a professional
mariachi musician. He is also a
composer, arranger and producer of
documentaries and recordings of the
music of Mexico and Latin America.



Our Speaker cont.

From Professor Rodriguez: Utilizing the ideas of convivencia (convivial interaction) and Barbara Tomlinson and George Lipsitz' framework of 'accompaniment,' I suggest that the "modern-urban" mariachi, often characterized as an expression of standardization and commodification, has established a capacity for facilitating culture that contributes to the development of convivial communal spaces. In the midst of marginalization and systemic oppression migrant and aggrieved communities throughout Greater Mexico (Paredes) engage in cultural practices and actions to reaffirm a sense of belonging, to which mariachi musicians have contributed and at times served as cultural bearers. I examine mariachi practices of apprenticeship learning and chambas (contractual gigs), the emergence of the Misa Panamericana (the mariachi mass) in Cuernavaca, and the integration of Mexican cultural expressions in San José, California to illuminate the convergence of political, cultural and religious action and how the mariachi expression has played a role in these intersections.

President's Message

In separate mailings, we recently sent a Membership Directory and a letter that contained a wallet-size membership card and a name badge. You may have your old plastic name badge holder with a lanyard, but if not, you will be able to get one at the General Meetings. Interest Groups can also request these holders. In the Directory we list the Honorary Lifetime Members. Some of these have provided exceptional service in the governance of OLLI. Most Honorary Lifetime Members have been instructors in our courses. We do not pay our instructors, but if they teach two or more courses they become a Lifetime Member. This could be you!

After almost three years of the Covid pandemic we have a full calendar of courses, most of them in person at the Museum of Art and History. It is a nice venue with reasonable parking nearby. I know that our instructors are looking forward to interacting with

OLLI members in person. This newsletter provides descriptions of the courses, and a calendar (page 10). You can register online by logging into your UCSC OLLI account on the opening page of the OLLI website. Alternatively, you can register by mail. I hope to see you in a class.



Middle Class Tax Refund Did you know?!

Ginna Holcombe

These one-time relief payments are intended to help with inflated gas and other cost-of-living expenses. Last year the state enacted a program to send Californians earning less than \$500,000/year payments of \$200 to \$1,050, depending on income and family size.

Californians receive payments by direct deposit or debit card. **Direct deposits** are made to eligible taxpayers who e-filed CA tax returns. **Debit cards** are mailed to the remaining eligible taxpayers and arrive in an envelope like the one to the right, which reads *Not a bill or an advertisement. Important information about your Middle Class Tax Refund.*

To get cash without fees, (a) make purchases at merchants accepting Visa debit cards and request cash back, (b) withdraw cash from in-network ATMs identified by the Money Network Locator, or (c) transfer funds to your bank account.

Because these payments are federal income, 1099-MISC statements will be issued. You should consult the IRS or your tax professional regarding the federal tax treatment of these payments.

The Franchise Tax Board, as of 12Jan23, has issued more than 7 million direct-deposit payments and 9.1 million debit cards, relief payments amounting to more than \$8.7 billion in total. The vast majority will have been issued by the end of January. Debit card recipients whose address has changed since filing their 2020 tax return will be issued payments early February. For further information, consult one of the following sources:

Online:

mctrpayment.com

https://www.ftb.ca.gov/about-ftb/newsroom/middle-class-tax-refund/index.html?WT

https://www.kcra.com/article/california-inflation-relief-payments-timeframe-update-direct-deposit-debit-cards/42477328

<u>Customer Support</u>: 800-542-9332 (weekdays, 8am-5pm) Debit Card Questions: 800-240-0223 (available 24/7)

The Silver Years

When asked if anyone in my family suffered from mental illness, I reply, "No, we all enjoy it."

Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say, "Close enough."

I don't have gray hair. I have wisdom highlights.

One minute you're young and fun. Next, you're turning down the car stereo to see better.

Some people are like clouds, once they disappear it's a beautiful day.

I'm at a place in life where errands count as a social life.

I don't always go the extra mile but when I do it's because I missed my exit.

I may not be funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented... I forgot where I was going with this.

Having plans sounds like a good idea until you have to put on clothes and leave the house.

Courses

International Affairs

Monday, February 6 and continuing every other Monday

Location: Online at OLLI YouTube channel Instructor: Professor Emerita Ronnie Gruhn



We are again fortunate to have Ronnie Gruhn,

Professor Emerita of Politics at UCSC, as one of our teachers. She has a passionate and undiminished interest in reading, writing, and talking about world affairs. Her courses offer powerful insights into what is happening today. Ronnie has been very generous in sharing her knowledge with OLLI members, and her courses have been exceedingly well attended.

Watch your inbox for an email from OLLI with a link to the commentary. Subscribe to the OLLI UCSC YouTube channel by going to:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU7U1Mly RuSsk4QjQD4WNw

Cosmology

Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1; 10:00 am - Noon. Location: Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, and on Zoom.

Instructor: Roger Knacke



The course will be a discussion of transformative discoveries in cosmology, the history and evolution of the Universe. We will include current research being conducted with the James Webb Telescope on the formation of the first stars and

galaxies in the Universe's earliest years. Background in science is not necessary. Meetings: 1. Galaxies and the Universe; 2. Cosmic Expansion; 3. Cosmic Background Radiation, Inflation; 4. Dark Matter; 5. Dark Energy, Formation of the First Stars and Galaxies.

Roger Knacke is Emeritus Professor of Physics and Astronomy, Penn State Erie, where he retired as Director of the School of Science in 2010. He has AB and PhD degrees in physics from the University of California, Berkeley. His research focused on interstellar matter and planetary atmospheres. He has taught nine courses for OLLI.

Beyond the Binary: New Ways of Thinking About Sex and Gender

Thursdays, February 9, 16, 23, March 2; 10:00 am - Noon Location: Museum of Art and History, 705 Front Street,

Instructor: Mary Crawford

Gender used to seem so simple. Men were manly and women were womanly, and everyone was (assumed to be) heterosexual. But John Wayne and Marilyn Monroe are long gone, and today more and more people are claiming a spectrum of gender identities and sexual orientations. In reality, intersexed, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and nonbinary individuals have existed throughout history and across



cultures. In this course, we will explore the biological, psychological, social, and cultural factors that influence formation of gender identity, sexual orientation and gender expression. We will address questions such as, what are the psychological effects of intersex conditions on identity? Is there a difference between gay behavior and gay identity? Is there a gay gene? How does the psychosexual development of gay men and lesbians differ? We also will explore transgender and nonbinary identities? Throughout the course, there will be plenty of time for questions and discussion. My perspectives will be

grounded in empirical social psychology, and I will engage in a critical analysis of recent and current research.

Mary Crawford, PhD is Emerita Professor of Psychology and Women's Studies at the University of Connecticut. Her research has focused on women and gender, particularly in contexts of health, sexuality, and communication. A Fellow of both the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society, she has authored more than 120 journal articles and chapters and written/edited 10 books including a widely adopted text for students, Transformations: Women, Gender, and Psychology. (3rd Ed, 2018).

Shakespeare: The Season's Plays

Tuesdays, February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28; 10:00 am - Noon

Location: Museum of Art and History, 705 Front Street

Instructor: Michael Warren

The texts for this series of five lectures will be two plays that will probably be familiar to local audiences: *The Taming of the Shrew* and *King Lear*.

The Taming of the Shrew is an early comedy. Set in Italy, it concerns the wooing of the two daughters of Baptista, a wealthy citizen of Padua, and in so doing explores the nature of love and marriage. The wooing of Bianca is a conventional comic plot of disguise and deception, with youthful lovers and a wily servant. The more famous comic wooing of the reluctant and spirited Kate by the persistent Petruchio and the early days of their marriage present a contrasting vision of human relations that merits more serious consideration than it is often afforded.



King Lear is one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies. Written at the peak of his powers, it is an intense and powerful drama about the consequences of an old king's bad judgment in relinquishing his rule to his daughters--his suffering, his madness, and his recovery before his death of his relationship with one loving daughter. With a subplot that concerns the painful relations of the Earl of Gloucester with his two sons, it is a profound exploration of the nature of human behavior and moral choice. And much else.

For the first class please read *The Taming of the Shrew* to the end of Act 3. If you wish to purchase editions of the plays that are both responsibly annotated and inexpensive, I recommend either the Pelican or Folger series. One can access the Folger texts online for free at <shakespeare.folger.edu>, but they are without notes. Michael Warren, a very knowledgeable and entertaining Shakespeare scholar, will discuss with us the two plays that Santa Cruz Shakespeare will be presenting next summer. We will send out a notice when the plays are announced. Over the years our members have found that taking this class greatly enhances their understanding and enjoyment of the plays.

Professor Warren is Emeritus Professor of Literature at UCSC and Textual Consultant and Dramaturg to Santa Cruz Shakespeare since its inception, earlier, as Shakespeare Santa Cruz.

Toolkits in World History: The Spread of Innovation, 500-1500

Thursdays: March 16, 23, 30; 10:00 am - Noon

Location: Santa Cruz Museum of Arts and History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz

Instructor: Terry Burke



The three sessions propose some elements of a global history of technology.

It focuses upon the global transmission of innovative technologies in the period 500-1500 C.E. It seeks to answer one of world history's most important questions: where and when did the building blocks of the modern world first emerge? The answer, you may be surprised to learn, is not Europe.

We identify the ten major technological networks ("toolkits") that together made possible the emergence of the modern world. Rather than being of European origin, we'll discover

that, they originated elsewhere, and gradually diffused to the lands of Islam where they were identified and made available for adoption. Each session will explore the tangled histories of two toolkits..

March 16: water management and writing/information storage

March 23: maritime navigational and pyro-technological

March 30: medical/pharmacological and weapons/warfare

Edmund ("Terry") Burke, III is a retired UCSC world historian with many years of experience teaching and research in the histories of Europe, Asia, the Islamic world and world history. He was the founder of the UCSC Center for World History, as well as an originator of "World History For Us All," an innovative NEH funded online world history curriculum. (https://whfua.history.ucla.edu)

The Personal is Political: The Evolution of Spain and its Citizens from Dictatorship to Democracy

Friday, March 3; 10:00 -11:30 am

Location: On Zoom Instructor Isidra Mencos



When a country is sick, the population shows the symptoms. In this presentation Isidra Mencos

examines the intersection between politics and private lives at a pivotal time in the history of Spain. Mencos grew up under the Franco dictatorship. She was 17 when

Franco died in 1975. The transition to democracy took some years, but the cultural and sexual revolution happened fast. It was a time of hope, but also of political and social conflict. With democracy under threat around the world, Mencos reflects on the impact that authoritarianism has in every aspect of a person's life, and the decades-long shadow it casts.

Isidra Mencos is the author of *Promenade of Desire—A Barcelona Memoir*. She holds a PhD in Spanish and Latin American Contemporary Literature from the University of California, Berkeley, where she taught Spanish language, literature, and creative writing. Her essays and articles have been published in *Diálogo*, *WIRED*, *Chicago Quarterly Review*, and *Stirring Literary Journal*, among others. Her piece, "My Books and I," was listed as Notable in *The Best American Essays* 2019. Originally from Spain, Isidra lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

There is no charge for this class, but you need to register in order to receive the Zoom address. To register send an email to dennis@valsys.com.

Modern Molecular Biology

Saturdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22; 10:30 - Noon

Location: UCSC, Physical Science Building, Room 240, and Zoom.

The course will be taught by four Professors from the Department of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology at LICSC.

and Developmental Biology at UCSC.

1 April -- Barry Bowman - Introdution to Molecular Biology

8 April -- Bill Saxton – The Biology of the Cell

15 April -- Olena Vaske – The Genetics of Pediatric Cancer

22 April -- Dan Turner-Evans - Neurobiology

A typical plant or animal cell contains more than 40,000 different kinds of molecules. Great progress has been made in understanding how these molecules combine and interact to form a living creature. In this course four UCSC Professors will talk about recent discoveries in molecular biology.

Professor Barry Bowman, the course coordinator, will begin with a basic review of genes and proteins. Professor Saxton will explain the basic structure and function of cells. Professor Vaske is focused on understanding the mutations in DNA that cause childhood cancers. Professor Turner-Evans is using marvelous new tools to see how neurons in the brain generate memories and responses.

These talks are intended for a general audience. A scientific background or knowledge of biology is not expected.

Women in the Ancient Western World

April – Exact dates to be determined

Location: Museum of Art and History, 705 Front St.

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 storyteller changes; though the 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.



OLLI Course Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 February Cosmology	2	3	4
5	6 Intl. Affairs	7	8 Cosmology	9 Gender	10	11
12	13	14	15 Cosmology	16 Gender	17	18
19	20 Intl. Affairs	21	22 Cosmology	23 Gender	24	25
26	27	28 Shakespeare	1 March Cosmology	2 Gender	3 Spain	4
5	6 Intl. Affairs	7 Shakespeare	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Shakespeare	15	16 History	17	18
19	20 Intl. Affairs	21 Shakespeare	22	23 History	24	25
26	27	28 Shakespeare	29	30 History	31	1 April Biology
2	3 Intl. Affairs	4	5	6	7	8 Biology
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Biology
16	17 Intl. Affairs	18	19	20	21	22 Biology
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Intl. Affairs					

Newsflash: Essay Writing Workshop

To kick off her new *Essay Writing* interest group (in last month's newsletter as *Nonfiction Writing*), Leader Sally Grey is offering a workshop to improve writing skills. As a teaching assistant, Sally taught beginning composition at Colorado State University. She has an MA in Creative Writing and hopes to help others improve their essay-writing skills. In the



workshop, members will write and review various essay types, including description, narrative, exposition, comparison/contrast, and persuasion. Depending upon workshop size and member interest, this interest group will meet at least monthly, if not more frequently. Please contact Sally at (831) 325 0541 or saligrey@mac.com.

Gentle Reminders



According to the California Department of Public Health, there are 25 patients in county hospitals with confirmed COVID-19, down 11% from two weeks ago. As of 23 January, the 7-day average of new cases was 24 and the 14-day change had improved neary 30% (*LA Times*). For maximum protection, the bivalent booster is your best bet against the Omicron variant — along with responsible spacing and masking behavior. Please do NOT attend an interest group if you are unvaccinated or feel unwell. Interest Group Leaders, please ensure your group members are boosted when indoor meetings are scheduled.

Flu season is here and expected to be severe, partially because masking and cautious socializing reduced exposure to flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). As a triple threat of respiratory illnesses (flu, RSV, and Covid) sweeps the nation, health officials urge us to get vaccinated, wash hands. frequently, and mask.



Interest Group Directory

Much was changed by the pandemic, including our interest group line-up. We have several new groups and some groups have been retired, at least temporarily. Check out the OLLI website and below for the latest directory. Interest Group Leaders, thanks in advance for updating Dennis (dennis@valsys.com) and me (gogetter9503@gmail.com) whenever your group info changes.

* full: ** Zoom only: New for 2022-23

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Interest Group	When	Leader	Phone (831)	Email
Adventuring	contact leader	Kathryn Nance	332 8051	momokat13@gmail.com
American History & Literature	4th M 10:30a	Virginia Law Ken Burson	425 5453 475 2121	veelaw29@gmail.com kenlburson@gmail.com
Art & Architecture	contact leader	Marc Manger		mri.manger@gmail.com
The Atlantic Readers	3 rd F 1p	Bill Patterson	479 3729	wilderwill@comcast.net
Bagel Ladies *	Tu 10:30a	Mary McKane	400 8799	omforest9@gmail.com
Basketball Women	M 9-10a Holy Cross gym	Sally Grey	325 0541	saligrey@mac.com
Biographical Fiction	1st Th 1-2:30p	Jan Mintz	(714) 719 0694	musicmintz@gmail.com

Bridge	M 1p	Jo Anne Dlott	688-1607	jjdlott@gmail.com
Concept Exchange *	1st Su 10:30a	Peter Marks	464 8300	peter@designinsight.com
Current Affairs *	3rd W noon	retel ividins	404 0300	peter@designinsignt.com
Digital Photography	4th M 1:30p	Cindy Margolin	688 8129	crmargol@gmail.com
Digital Photography	3rd Tu 6:30p	Diane Zacher	786 9550	0 00
Dining Out	3rd W 6:30p	Kathy Hatfield	431 3587	dianezacher@gmail.com b40mom@gmail.com
English in Action	contact leader	Annette Morris	(310) 375 2091	annettemorris45@gmail.com
Essay Writing	tbd by group	Sally Grey	325 0541	saligrey@mac.com
Evening Book Group *	1st W 7p	Dusty Miller	426 0835	hndmiller@hotmail.com
Explore Santa Cruz County	contact leader	Kathryn Nance Sue Myers	425 4569 818 6450	momokat13@gmail.com suemyers85@gmail.com
Folk Singing	Hiatus	Lou Rose	477 0360	ramblingroses@yahoo.com
French for French Speakers *	2nd M 1:30p	Beatrice Barbakow	661 5444	bbarjac@gmail.com
Future of Capitalism	2nd Tu 1:30p	Barry Bowman	423 1450	bbowman@ucsc.edu
Great Books I *	1st Th 1:15p	Faye Alexander	476 8575	qtpie95010@gmail.com
Great Books II *	1st W noon	Susan Gorsky	234 4590	sgorsky@sbcglobal.net
Great Decisions	M 10a-noon (27Feb- 24Apr 2023)	Joya Chaterjee Gaby Litsky	458 9008 462 9023	joya_chatterjee@yahoo.com glitsky@aol.com
International Cuisine	2nd Th 1p	Irene Lennox	457 2690	irenefraetroon@gmail.com
Mahjongg Beginners *	M 1:00	Ginna Holcombe	689 9503	gogetter9503@gmail.com
Memoir Writing I *	2nd Th 1p	Richard Bruce	427 7334	richard.bruce@gmail.com
Memoir Writing II *	1st and 3rd Th 1p	Kathryn Cowan	431 6114	kathrynocowan@gmail.com
Mexican Train	to be determined	Marian Disperati	438 2561	raymard@pacbell.net
New Yorker Aptos *	alternate Th 2p	Joan Rose	477 0360	ramblingroses@yahoo.com
New Yorker (fka Capitola)	4th Tu 1:30p	Barbara Banducci	234 7906	bbanducci43@yahoo.com
New Yorker SC I *	3rd W 2p	Dena Taylor	462 5548	denataylor22@gmail.com
New Yorker SC II (open)	2nd Th 2p	Helen Jones	420 1220	helenjones815@gmail.com
Newcomers	as needed	Kate Erstein	454 8578	kate.erstein@gmail.com
Nonfiction East Side **	4th M 1p Frederick St	Owen Brown	234 4903	wowenbrown@mac.com
Nonfiction Santa Cruz	4th Tu 2p	Rabia Barkins	566 4276	7rabia7@gmail.com
Philately Club	1st W	Bill Patterson	479 3729	wilderwill@comcast.net
Ping Pong	to be determined	Lois Widom	423 0184	lowidom@yahoo.com
Puente Project	contact leader	Richard Bruce Sesario Escoto	462 1280 212 7184	richard.bruce@gmail.com sesarioescoto@gmail.com
Read & Socialize *	4th F 10a	Edna Elkins	454 8611	ednautah@msn.com
Read It Again, Sam *	4th W 1p	Joan Rose	477 0360	ramblingroses@yahoo.com
Reading Circle	3rd M 1:30p	Irene Lennox	457 2690	irenefraetroon@gmail.com
Recorder Playing	Tu 2:30p	Marilyn Rigler	423 2505	mprigler@gmail.com
Social Science *	3rd Tu 12:30p	Dusty Miller	426 0835	hndmiller@hotmail.com
Spanish Conversation	alternate W 2p	Dolores McCabe	588 5195	dmccabe47@gmail.com
Spanish South	alternate W 3p	Peter Andrews	688 3545	peterandrews2000@hotmail.com
Sustainability	3rd Tu 3p	Mark Folsom	601 3770	mffolsom@gmail.com
Tennis Doubles	Tu & Th 10:00a	David Brick	325 7380	dbrick@cruzio.com
Travel Treasures	Th 1p London Nelson March 2023	Joya Chatterjee Gaby Litsky	458 9008 462 9023	joya_chatterjee@yahoo.com glitsky@aol.com
Walking	W 9:30a	Anandi Paganini	252 8980	anandipaganini@sbcglobal.net
Wine Tasting	contact leader	Margie Lafia		mlafia56@gmail.com
Writing Genealogy *	3rd W 1-3p	Pamela Roby	247 0675	roby@ucsc.edu

Inflation Reduction Act: What's It All About?

Ginna Holcombe

Because most, including myself, are unfamiliar with the details of this historical act, the following article is intended to provide important information about its inclusions and intentions – and is NOT a political statement.

OVERVIEW After the *Build Back Better Act* stalled in the Senate due to Joe Manchin, Democrats spent more than a year narrowing the package to pass the *Inflation Reduction Act*. Signed into law 16 August 2022, this act directs \$369 billion toward renewable energy and emission reduction, the largest federal investment in US history to fight the climate crisis. Generally in the form of financial incentives such as tax breaks and rebates, this investment intends to help cut greenhouse gas emissions 42% below 2005 levels. Since this is a 10-year plan, changes will not happen immediately.

HEALTHCARE Americans pay 2-3 times more for prescription drugs than in other wealthy countries. This act caps out-of-pocket prescription drug costs at \$2,000/year for seniors and disabled persons, caps insulin prices for seniors at \$35/month, provides additional free vaccines for Medicare beneficiaries, lowers prescription drug costs for seniors by allowing Medicare to negotiate the price of high-cost drugs and requiring drug manufacturers to pay Medicare a rebate when they raise prices faster than inflation. It also prevents premium hikes for those who receive insurance through the *Affordable Care Act* marketplace (Obamacare).

Cost The cost of the *Inflation Reduction Act* is covered by tax law changes that raise revenue by ensuring the ultra-wealthy and large corporations pay their share, taxing large corporations (>\$1 billion in annual profits) paying little or no income tax, setting a new minimum corporate tax, and imposing a 1% excise tax on stock buybacks. This act is more than fully paid for and is predicted to drive deficit reduction over the course of the coming decade.

\$7500 TAX CREDIT FOR CLEAN VEHICLES This bill extends existing tax credit to consumers who buy electric cars, plug-in hybrids, and hydrogen-fuel-cell vehicles. Buying a new or used clean vehicle earns a tax credit up to \$7,500 or \$4,000, respectively. Adjusted gross income and vehicle cost regulate these tax credits.

30% Tax Credit for Home Efficiency Homeowners can get tax breaks, capped at \$1200/year, to defray costs of installing energy-efficient upgrades such as skylights, insulation, and exterior doors and windows; installation of more expensive items, such as heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, or biomass stoves and boilers is capped at \$2000/year. The average residential solar electric system costs \$15-25,000 prior to this law. This tax credit extends existing tax breaks for about a decade and also extends to batteries.

\$8,000 REBATE FOR HOME ENERGY UPGRADES Two rebate programs are grant programs administered by state energy offices. States must apply for grants. Unlike tax credits, these rebates at the point of purchase, meaning upfront consumer savings. Benefits vary by income and energy savings. Homeowners who cut home energy use are eligible for 50% rebates for efficiency retrofits, such as insulation, air sealing, ventilation, electric wiring, or HVAC installation.

\$14,000 Rebate for Efficient Appliances Consumers may also be eligible for up to \$14,000 by buying electric appliances such as a heat pump water heater, a heat pump for space heating or cooling, or an electric stove or heat pump clothes dryer. Consumers with income below 80% of the area median can

claim a rebate for the full cost of upgrades, up to \$14,000; households earning between 80% and 150% of the area median income are eligible for rebates of 50%, up to \$14,000.

HIGHEST REBATES FOR NEEDIEST Tax payers who cut energy use 20% are eligible for \$2,000 or half the retrofit cost, whichever is less. That threshold rises to \$4,000 with 35% energy use cuts. These rebates double to \$4,000 and \$8,000, respectively, for lower-income (≤80% of the area median income) households and households earning more than 150% of the area median income are ineligible.

The Passing of Robert Franson

Mark Gordon



life and culture.

Robert Franson, a long time member of OLLI, has died. As President of Lifelong Learners in 2009-10 he played a leading role in the process of Lifelong Learners becoming affiliated with the Osher Foundation. OLLI has benefitted enormously ever since.

Robert was energetic, thoughtful and deeply committed to OLLI. He co-founded the OLLI Current Affairs Interest Group, and founded the OLLI Photography Interest Group. Robert and Bob Stamp offered an interest group in 2012 called "Canada, Eh?" which was an entertaining and fascinating view of Canadian

Robert grew up in Connecticut, studied engineering physics at Cornell University where he met his wife, Mary Ann Franson (She initiated the OLLI Recorder Interest Group). After receiving his JD at UCLA and post doctoral study at the University of Michigan, Robert taught law at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC from 1969 until his retirement. He and Mary Ann moved to Santa Cruz in 1999.

Robert was a talented artist. He produced beautiful watercolor paintings.

Robert and Mary Ann recently moved to Washington State where their son and his family live. A celebration of his life is being planned for a later date.

Board Of Directors



Row 1 – Mark Gordon, Ron Sekkel, Barry Bowman, Cindy Margolin, Karen Gamell

Row 2 – Bonita Sebastian, David Leiby, Ginna Holcombe, Lois Widom

Row 3 – Dennis Morris, Bill Paterson, Kate Erstein, Gail Greenwood, Dani Barker

President,* Program Coordinator Barry Bowman bbowman@ucsc.edu

Vice President,* Interest Groups Ginna Holcombe gogetter9503@gmail.com

Secretary* Ronald P. Sekkel, (831) 588-7004 ronsekkel@aol.com

Treasurer* Cindy Margolin, 688-8129 crmargol@gmail.com

Immediate Past President Bonita Sebastian, (503) 530-8673 bonitas@ucsc.edu

Website, Calendar Dennis Morris, 462-8827 (408) 497-4674 dennis@valsys.com

Course Coordinator Lois Widom, 423-0184 lowidom@yahoo.com

Membership and Events Karen Gamell, 905-6636 kgamell@yahoo.com

Facilities and Hospitality Mark Gordon, (408) 314-4802 mgordon@cruzio.com

Publicity David Lieby, 332-4303 dlieby@gmail.com

Scholarships Bill Patterson, 459-3729 wilderwill@comcast.net

Newcomers Kate Erstein kate.erstein@gmail.com

UCSC Division of Student Success Dani Barker dabarker@ucsc.edu

At Large Member: Gail Greenwood, 556-4276 msaspasia@gmail.com

^{*}Elected office

Course Registration Form

Select	Course #	Description and Venue. Suggested donation: \$20/course:	Donation
	2123	Cosmology — Roger Knacke, Feb 1, 8,15, 22, and Mar 1, 10 am — Noon Museum of Art and History, 705 Front St. and Zoom	\$
	2122	Beyond the Binary: New Ways of Thinking About Sex and Gender — Mary Crawford, Feb 9, 16, 23, and Mar 2, 10 am—Noon, Museum of Art and History	\$
	2124	Shakespeare – Michael Warren, Feb 28, Mar 7, 14, 21, 28, 10 am – Noon, Museum of Art and History and Zoom	\$
	2125	World History: The Spread of Innovation – Terry Burke, Mar 16, 23, 30, 10 am – Noon. Museum of Art and History	\$
	2115	Molecular Biology — Barry Bowman, Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 10:30 – Noon, UCSC Physical Science Bldg, Rm 240 and Zoom	\$
	2122	Women in the Ancient Western World — Gail Greenwood, April, specific dates not yet determined, Museum of Art and History, 705 Front St.	\$

There are mail, pick up, and manual entry times to be considered. It takes over a week for this form to get processed. If you are signing up for a course that starts very soon, please consider registering online. It is faster for you, saves us time and money, and helps ensure accuracy.

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All members will be sent an email link to a monthly OLLI newsletter.						

Contribution Information:

We ask a donation of \$60. Please consider an additional donation to the Silvia Miller scholarship program. If funds are limited, in confidence you may contact OLLI president Barry Bowman, bbowman@ucsc.edu. to discuss alternatives.

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^{*}Some interest groups have limited membership. You may ask a group's leader to be placed on a waiting list or get help from our interest-group coordinator to form a new group. See our website for more information.

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