Carole's Corner

Happy October! Another busy fall! Later this month I will be giving a talk, Communicating the meaning of place: Landsat images, art and discovery, [Talk abstract] at the Pecora 22 Celebrating 50 Years of Landsat Conference in Denver, Colorado on the OLLI-UHM Spring 2022 course, Opening the Aperture: Interpreting Satellite Imagery through Art, which many of you participated in. Guess I'll have to repeat the talk for OLLI when I return :) 

Kaimuki yard beauty break: One of the benefits of washer and dryers being outside in Hawaii! My view while I fold clothes as I take them out of the dryer:) 

Carole Mandryk

OCTOBER CLASS START AND KEY DATES

Oct 11: Garden Walkabout: Ornamental Nurseries; Women Leaders in Hawaii: Suzanne Vares-Lum; The Cold War
Oct 12: Aging & Dying w/ Dignity; History of the Hawaiian Language
Oct 13: Intermediate Backgammon
Oct 16: 27 Club; Smart Games; Public Policy
Oct 18: Hawaii's Natural History; Pacific Encounters
Oct 19: Hiking for Novices
Oct 24: Barbershop 101
Oct 25: Astrological Analysis; Connect Learn, & Share
Oct 26: Falun Gong Meditation; Culinary Conversations
Oct 27: Topics in Astronomy; Colonialism; Sorting Your Photos; Soundtrack: A New American Genre
Oct 28: The US Vice Presidency
Oct 30: The Best Apple Pie (I)
Oct 31: Daily Life Meditation; Spring 2023 Course Proposals due, click here
We are sad to share that OLLI-UHM has lost both beloved instructors and members this past summer. These include long time instructor Joel Merchant, profiled in our June newsletter, former instructor Imra Sowers, her husband Leonard Sowers, and member Rhonda Burke.

Memories of Joel from two of his students:
From Celia Hills - Joel was a very special person and a unique teacher, always creating a level of intimacy that enabled class participants to learn and talk about a topic that many people shy away from. He modeled aging and dying with dignity to the last moment. He will be sorely missed by his many friends all over USA and beyond.

From David Friedman - “Thinking of Joel during his final days, I painted this portrait of him as a tribute to remember, celebrate and honor him. It is from the screen image of him leading one of his last End of Life Issues group conversations on Zoom. I call it, Joel Zooming.”

Fellow instructor Laurel Lindenbach shared this on Imra Sowers: Imra and I met in Ann Rayson’s Life Writing Class in 2015. Both new to OLLI, we became close friends. Besides taking OLLI classes, Imra also taught several, offering her insight of women depicted in scripture of the Old Testament Bible. I will always remember her laugh, and how much she loved to entertain. Imra truly was the “hostess with the mostess.”

Rhonda Lee Burke 2/21/65-6/28/22
Rhonda Burke is another OLLI member lost too soon that many of you will have encountered in the numerous OLLI classes she took including many calligraphy and art courses, Tai Chi and yoga and many more.
TIP from a member re Hawaii Book & Music Festival

“The lectures on line from the festival (free) have been great so far. Many more available now through end of month” - register for free and choose any of the interests here.

Pfizer mRNA flu vaccine Research Opportunity

Looking to make an impact on the health of your community and the world? There is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to medical science by joining a clinical trial here in Honolulu on an mRNA flu vaccine being developed by Pfizer. If you are 65+ and haven’t gotten your flu shot yet, please consider the trial information here: https://bit.ly/3UPr2Lh.

The trial is enrolling now! And participants receive compensation for time and travel. Email Ron Ruhaak, ron@eastwestresearch.com with questions.

Fall 2022 Class Helpers Still Needed!

From monitoring the chat box to logging into the Zoom account, there are many levels from easy-peasy to slightly more complex. All are needed! Training and mentorship will be provided. Let us know if you are interested in helping in a class by answering this survey. https://forms.gle/1rtsh28aL6CmtQCr5

OLLI Instructors and those who would like to be!

Spring 2023 Course Proposals are Due October 31st! Spring Term runs January 17 to April 14th. Click here for Spring Course Proposal Form.

More OLLI Announcements

- Please see the letter here for our updated COVID 19 policies and procedures.
- There are still many classes with open seats available! Click here to view the classes with unlimited seats.
- If you have not already submitted a waiver for the 2022 calendar year and are in a course that requires a waiver please visit our website to access the form and see further instructions.
- The holidays will soon be upon us! If you’d like to share your recipe for Thanksgiving for a chance to be featured in the November newsletter, please fill out this form: https://forms.gle/YCYmZvZRRtXhc48d9. If you submitted a recipe last year, you are eligible only if you submit a new recipe!

Teagan has no thoughts for the October newsletter but instead would like to humbly present this cartoon that made her chuckle.
Dos and Don'ts of Emailing OLLI and WHO to Email

DO

- Do email olluuhm@hawaii.edu, wbarr@hawaii.edu OR mandryk@hawaii.edu
- Compose a NEW EMAIL
- Write a descriptive subject line that tells us what you are emailing us about.
- Be kind, courteous and patient when writing an email and waiting for a response.
- Be clear with your language. Do you need a Zoom link? Which one? To add a class? Which one? There are over 70 classes. Please be specific.

DON'T

- Don’t email osheruhm@hawaii.edu. We do not monitor that inbox. Your email will not be seen.
- Do NOT email all 3 OLLI staff with the same question.
- Do NOT reply to a general announcement or otherwise unrelated email with your questions. It WILL get lost.
- Do not write your entire email in the subject line!
- Do NOT write an email that says “I'd like to drop my Monday class” without telling us which class you mean, requiring us to email you to clarify.

Who do I email?!

- Email EITHER Teagan (olluuhm@hawaii.edu) or Ninia (wbarr@hawaii.edu) about:
  - Registration, dropping a class, adding a class, questions about Zoom links
- Email Ninia (wbarr@hawaii.edu) about:
  - Waivers (this is an important one), fiscal questions (for instructors), questions about getting to campus
- Email Carole (mandryk@hawaii.edu) about:
  - Administrative questions (for instructors), questions about teaching for OLLI, ideas for new courses or instructors

All About Zoom Links

Things you can do if you THINK you did not get a Zoom link for a class you are enrolled in:

- Check your spam folder.
- Look in your past emails for the last time it was sent.
- Keep in mind with classes that meet weekly that THE LINKS ARE THE SAME EVERY WEEK.
- Save class links in a document on your computer for easy access each day.

TIP: To ensure that future messages from us are delivered properly to your inbox (and not your bulk or junk mail folders), add olluuhm@hawaii.edu to your Address Book or Safe List! Try it!
Note that you will not get a reminder for classes that meet in person. Those are only to provide Zoom links. If there is no link, there is no reminder.
Over the course of his time at OLLI, having been with us for well over 10 years, John Hall has worn several hats: as a member, as an exceptional hiking leader, and even as an instructor of evolutionary psychology at one point. Prior to being a beloved part of OLLI, John was a professor of Microbiology here at UH Manoa, holding the distinguished title of Professor Emeritus. John is most well known for his hiking groups he offers as OLLI students clamor to be a part of his Hiking for Novices class every session without fail. Even now, the class has nearly as many people on the waitlist as there are students enrolled! As he reminisced on his early days as a hiking instructor for us, John recalled his fond memories of when he “initiated the hiking program and started out with fairly small groups, (and was in much better shape to hike), [he] really enjoyed showing the people some of my favorite little-known trails, and [he] loved the people who joined [him on the hikes].” When asked about how being a part of OLLI has positively impacted him, he simply said; “I’ve made a lot of good friends and met so many great people.” I think many of our members would say the same and would probably include their time with John Hall as their hiking leader amongst their favorite experiences.

John has the unique experience of seeing OLLI through both sides of the looking glass as both an instructor and a student, so of course I had to ask him what his favorite class has been. Of course being the kind soul that he is, his immediate response was that it was hard to say because there have been so many good ones. As he elaborated, however, he pointed out that “Joe O’Mealy always offers a stimulating class” but a class that stuck out in his mind in particular was the class Tom Sheeran offered in 2008 that detailed the 6 most significant US presidential elections. (If that sounds like a topic that interests you, there is still space available in Tom’s class 245. The US Vice Presidency: From Afterthought to Irrelevance to Power that starts on 10/28 and you can also read our feature on Tom from back in April).

Even when he’s not doing things with OLLI, John keeps extremely busy, hiking at least once a week (no surprise there), aqua-jogging every Monday and Friday with a group that is made up of many old hiking friends, and volunteering at the Aina Haina library for a couple of hours on Thursday afternoons. He is also Chair of the Faculty Retirees organization, and Secretary of the Friends of Aina Haina Library. As if all that weren’t enough, John always finds the time to read, reading several books at a time that consists of “non-fiction books on history, ancient pre-history, archaeology, or biology, or etc. and etc.” as well as 1 to 3 fiction books, usually mysteries. He also “subscribes to a large number of magazines which [he] tends to read while eating.”

Suffice to say, we at OLLI are so happy to have John as a part of our community and thank him for his invaluable contributions over the years.