We are now well into the Winter Quarter of the 2012-13 academic year and this issue is somewhat late in getting to you. Mea culpa…I will not bore you with inane apologies, so let us move forward.

The fall quarter was exciting for those of us who were present, primarily with the recent election. Many bright and erudite people presented aspects of the election and there was much discussion about the post election process…suffice to say, that no matter your leanings, we wish President Obama a fruitful presidency where many issues get resolved.

This new quarter is abuzz with a number of exciting offerings and our class rooms and lecture halls are filled to capacity. On Wednesday mornings we have been treated to stimulating lectures about our brains and on Thursday mornings Steve Cassedy, a long-standing friend of Osher, has raised many issues on where we stand in this world. Neil Heymann and Michael Caldwell continue to engage us in stimulating dialogue. We note with regret that Barbara Greer is unable to continue to facilitate the short story class, but her devoted followers have stepped to the plate and accepted the responsibility of continuing stimulating discussions. Our peer presenters continue to amaze us and remind us of the wealth of talent we have in our midst.

Welcome to our snowbirds. Sorry that the weather this year has been somewhat erratic and downright cold. Yet, there is warmth and sunshine in our rooms and we look forward to many good times together.

Enjoy!

Susan Shirk
Susan Channick
Lei Guang
Stephan Haggard (L) Steve Clarey
Every 18 months the Osher Foundation provides an opportunity for Osher Leaders to meet and share their progress and future planning. Last November two representatives from each of the 115 OLLI programs across the country gathered together. The three day conference at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs included staff from the Osher National Resource Center at the University of Southern Maine and members of the Osher Foundation in San Francisco. As your president I was fortunate to attend this important meeting along with James Forcier, the UC Extension Manager of the Extension and our liaison to the University.

The Broadmoor is not your common Motel 6. It is a staggeringly beautiful piece of property located at the bottom of Pike’s Peak. The entire conference was funded by the Foundation and we did not want for a thing. Bernard Osher is not your common neighborhood glad-hand, but a philanthropist of the most honorable and generous nature. He is establishing grants at two university medical centers in order to further his well-being objectives. He has also initiated a new program in which he offers grants for the “re-introduction” of younger people who were unable to complete a college degree at a previous time in their lives.

The conference included a number of general sessions as well as break-out meetings covering specific topics of interest. The two I chose to attend were Administering an Olli Program, and Curriculum—What Works and Why?

One of the most revelatory things I learned in the Administration session was that our program at UCSD is quite unique in its self-government. Among the 115 OLLI programs represented, I learned that three quarters of them have paid directors, some holding the title of Associate Dean. For the most part they are full-time and are responsible for the direction of the program, budgeting, curriculum, scheduling and planning and catalog preparation. They all report to the OLLI National Resource Center.

A majority of members in one-third of the programs plan and recruit facilitators; however, in most cases the Curriculum Committee is led by a paid director. Another revelation came in learning that well over half of the OLLI’s do not compensate for lecturers or facilitators; thus creating an environment whereby topics presented are driven by the interests of the lecturers and facilitators rather than by the interests of the members. Therefore they appear less cohesive than the programs planned by our own Curriculum Committee.

A number of the OLLI’s include disciplines and areas we may want to consider presenting in order to improve our already wonderful program. These may include active health management programs that encompass exercise, jazzercise, Zumba as well as CPR and AED training. Many offer technology classes that span the gamut from e-mail to social networking and accessing smart phones.

A hand-raising poll revealed the fact that half of the OLLI members at the Conference do not own a smart

(Continued on page 4)
RESPONDING TO A CHALLENGE
THE CENTER FOR ETHICS AND SPIRITUALITY AT UCSD

When President Barack Obama assumed office in 2008 he presented a “challenge” to colleges and universities designed to engage in interfaith community service projects. The intent was to involve people from different religious and non-religious backgrounds to work together. More than 250 institutions of higher learning responded to this challenge and the Center for Ethics and Spirituality (CES) at UCSD was one of them. According to Katy Swanson, Administrator of CES, the local response was more than just one project, but a whole program which has taken on a number of dimensions over the years.

CES is not new to our campus. If you look for it on the UCSD website you will find it under Student Services for Wellness. It has its own website and of course a Facebook page as well. The physical facility is tucked away on Myers Drive among a myriad of indiscrete campus buildings in a storefront-like office. Each of the affiliates maintains a private space with select hours for counseling and work connected with the CES program.

With more than 60 spiritual “clubs” recognized by UCSD, CES has a formidable challenge to be sure that anyone and everyone who is in need of service or who requires or requests a need to explore one’s own identity is served. The official members of CES are the Episcopal and Methodist Campus Ministry, Hillel of San Diego, Newman Center Catholic Community @ UCSD and the Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministry. Each affiliate provides a staff person who has office hours and office space to be available to the students and to advise them about the activities of the Center. Each organization pays a small fee for maintenance of the office space and the part time administrator, Katy Swanson.

The Center for Ethics and Spirituality (CES) promotes dialogue on moral, ethical, spiritual and theological issues, questions and concerns regardless of one’s faith tradition. Its mission is to promote interfaith discussion and relationships on campus and help students explore life’s central questions: “Who am I?” and “Why am I here?” CES provides an environment where participants build relationships that go beyond the academic daily life of the classroom and academic study. There is an accepted policy of no proselytizing for anyone.

Father John Paul Forte has been at the Center for 10 years. He maintains office hours three days a week in order to be available for the students; however, his full time work is Director of the Newman Center, which is off campus. He has observed that in this day and age the technology in the broader culture appears to become authority. He notes that often the students express a need to go beyond their cell phones, Facebook and Twitter accounts and ask if there is more to life than just financial security. He feels they are seeking intimacy rather than the isolation propagated by the technological advances in their lives.

There are many practical questions that the students need answered. Notably, how do they make connections, what should their major academic focus be, what kinds of jobs and internships should they be seeking. In seeking answers to these questions they begin to find their own voices and establish their individual identities and become part of a community. CES programs such as involvement in MLK days of service or the interfaith mixers, as well as the Burke Lectureship on Religion and Society, are just some of the ways they transcend individual differences.

Father John Paul grew up in Los Angeles in a family that was always involved in volunteerism and church activities. He claims he fell in love with an “ideal” espoused by his Dominican tradition: To seek God and truth and to allow oneself to be transformed by those things and to give to others and be of use to them.
ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Linda and Pete Levine gathered in Philadelphia with family and friends to celebrate the wedding of their son A. Eric Levine to Autumn Burdo on December 16, 2012. Eric is a real estate attorney and Autumn is a high school teacher. They have known each other for nearly six years and met while Eric was in law school at Rutgers University.

Marcia and Jim Wyrtenz became first-time grandparents to Ava Eftahia Wyrtenz on November 28, 2012. They were with her for the first four weeks of her life and cannot wait to get on a plane to New Jersey to see her again soon. (Eftahia means “happiness” in Greek and is her yai yai’s name.)

Transitions

Ralph Vissell a long time member of Osher died in September. Ralph had served in many positions in the organization but had his greatest impact on the Theatre World program. He brought many of the people into the program that keep it alive today. His advice, his criticisms, his plaudits, and, most of all, his friendship, will be sorely missed. He is survived by his long term partner, Gene Long.

Don Snyder (Dr. Donald Smith Snyder), long time Osher member and enthusiastic participant in several Osher classes passed away in November 2012. Many of us will miss his thoughtful and provocative comments.

A message from Erika Kingett: "My heartfelt thanks to OSHER members for their expressions of sympathy to me in the loss of Val (Val Villareal). It is truly heartwarming to experience OSHER, besides its other attributes, as a caring community."

Sara Meriwether, a long time active Osher member and frequent lecturer of mythology, died peacefully on January 20, 2013. She will be remembered with great admiration not only for her knowledge but also for her acting skills and her unfailing kindness to all of us. She will be greatly missed.

Hedda Fish writes, "I thought that Dave's friends at Osher might want to know that Dave passed away on Saturday night, January 26 after a long bout and some final difficult months with pancreatic cancer. His death was actually a blessing. He was the best husband and father ever, and our family feels great sadness and emptiness without him."

(continued from page 3) CES

In his commitment to this program he is actually living out his ideals. How fortunate for this University to have him as part of CES along with the rest of the devoted counselors and staff.

To learn more about CES log onto it by name or onto Facebook by name, or just stop by and visit. You can call for an appointment at 858-534-2521.

(Continued from page 2) Trip to Colorado Springs

phone. The conference presenters noted that if a similar poll was taken for the undergraduate and graduate populations of the universities the result would be one hundred percent use of smart phones. Since I was among the fifty percent who do not have a smart phone, I believe we have some work to do to bring our membership into the 21st century.

At the conference it became apparent to me that another area in which we need to put greater effort is in development and fund-raising. We have all heard that the Osher Foundation makes a one million dollar grant at a level of 500 memberships and a second one million dollar grant at a level of 1000 memberships. However, it is not so straightforward. The OLLI must be demonstrating a viable fund-raising program of its own as one of the criteria to obtain these grants. There are some very interesting processes being used to develop fund-raising and we will need to incorporate some of these ideas if we are to grow in the future. One OLLI in the system has more than 3000 members and 47 have more than 1000; we are in the minority with our 650 members, as there are 55 with 700 or fewer members. In total, there are 112,108 Osher members located in 290 cities; a pretty impressive saturation.

Our OLLI is incredibly blessed to have the support of a man like Bernard Osher who acts on “paying it forward”. Together with our leadership, both past and present, we have made our program one of the most impressive OLLI’s in the United States.

Ain’t we got fun!
We all know Vivian Leahy. She provides the posters announcing the presentations, lectures and classes taking place in Room 129. She is the Treasurer of our organization and formerly was Activities Chairman par excellence, organizing local and out of town trips to many interesting places.

What we do not know about her, unless we ask, is the interesting life she has had. Vivian Mefferd was born in Ainsworth, Nebraska on May 22, 1927, one day after Charles Lindbergh landed in Paris. Her father, then 55 years old, was an optometrist and jeweler and her mother, 25 years old, had taught in a one room-country schoolhouse (all 8 grades) before she married. Vivian was born and lived in the same house until her family moved to Wyoming in 1944. If you have not done the math already, she will tell you she is 85 years young and that is the truth!

Vivian, the oldest of three girls in her dad’s second family, was an enthusiastic student throughout her twelve years in the Ainsworth Public Schools. She played in the band and sang in the chorus and double-mixed octet during her junior and senior years in high school. She was a University of Nebraska Regent’s Scholarship recipient. After a year as a Cornhusker from 1944-45, she completed a 5-week summer session at the University of Wyoming, and was granted an emergency wartime teaching certificate. She taught second grade in Basin, Wyoming for one year. One of her students was Dick Colley’s half sister, Frances, a fortunate coincidence.

Vivian and Dick Colley were married in 1946. When Dick went back into the Navy in 1949 Vivian followed him and taught at the NAS Whidbey Island, Washington Preschool, and later at NAS Barber’s Point, Hawaii’s kindergarten. Their older son, Victor, was born in Hawaii in 1952. The Navy next sent them to Kansas and California. Their younger son, Tom, was born in Oakland, California, in 1956. When the family was transferred back to Hawaii in 1960, Vivian pursued her education in earnest and obtained both a B.Ed. and an M.Ed, from the University of Hawaii, thus launching a long career teaching for the San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHS) when the Navy ordered them to San Diego in 1964.

It was not only the Navy that enabled her to travel. She spent her summers from 1973-1976 studying while traveling in Austria, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, Switzerland, and Italy. After 30 years of marriage and a divorce in 1976, Vivian entered a new phase of her life as a “single” person. She continued to teach, traveled in the United States, and became a mother-in-law when Tom and Linda Nelson were married in 1978.

She met and married Jim Leahy in 1981. They taught school, danced, traveled summers in China, the British Isles, and Europe. They divorced in 1985.

Vivian continued teaching at Earl Warren Junior High School until 1985 and then at Diegueño Junior High School until 2000. Some of her teaching assignments included English, Remedial Reading, American History, and Keyboarding and Computer Applications taught in a computer lab. One of SDUHS District’s graduation requirements was a semester of keyboarding (typing) that could be taken as early as junior high. Her love affair with computers began with an Olivetti electronic typewriter (1979), then a Lisa 2/10 (1985), numerous MACs, and four PC’s since then.

When Vivian retired she was “sold” on joining ICL, the forerunner of Osher, by Sara Meriwether’s enthusiastic descriptions. She began attending classes during the summer of 2001 after ICL’s trip to Italy. She has been active in the organization ever since. Over the years she has seen our program change with a broader offering of classes and stimulating speakers. The membership has increased and in some respects she feels we have outgrown our facility but loves being on the UCSD campus.

When she is not at Osher, Vivian enjoys reading, spending time on the Internet (an enormous time sinkhole), and assisting University City United Church and Osher with her word processing skills. She attends and supports several local theaters and the opera. She has two grandchildren, Patrick Colley (1987) and Kristen Colley (1985) who live in San Diego. She knows she’s one of the “lucky ones” having all of her family living in San Diego County.
In November I spent 12 days in Saudi Arabia. I obtained a Business Visa, since not tourist visas are issued, which arrived 45 minutes before the Saudi jet was taking off from Dulles to Riyadh (talk about close!)

My guide in Saudi was Turki, a young Saudi man, rather immature and unreliable since Saudi men are not used to working. The country is full of immigrants doing every kind of job. The city is dotted with ultra-modern glass and steel buildings, incredible traffic jams--there is NO public transport--6 million people, mosques, and small businesses. Hotel accommodations were good, food was fair, the museum excellent.

The huge landmark building there is Kingdom Tower, an ultra-modern office building/shopping center owned in part by King Abdullah and Bill Gates. Young girls enjoyed coming up to talk to me, but I was unable to take their pictures, lest a man might see them. There is now one co-ed university concentrating on the sciences; otherwise all education is segregated by gender.

From Riyadh we flew to a small town, Hail, where Turki's cousins live. We had lunch in their villa, which is a large 2-3 story house with 10-12 bedrooms to accommodate the 6-8 children and extended family. The women prepared a sumptuous meal of many courses, but to my palate, most of the food was rather bland.

Hail led to a part of the country where huge tombs have been found, related to the architecture in Petra. In that city I met some college girls who came back the next day with their teachers and other students to give me a party. Really cute and enthusiastic though it was hard to discern what their futures might be if they didn't marry and multiply. The teachers were 26 and 27 and didn't seem concerned about their single status.

Jeddah was the last stop, a much looser city on the Red Sea and a gateway to Medina and then Mecca. Many pilgrims come there. The women were properly covered according to Muslim law, and wore colorful, interesting costumes that did not hide their faces. Besides glass and steel buildings and the Mall of Arabia, there was also the old city with a souk and old wooden buildings similar to what I had seen in Kashmir. The Corniche area next to the sea has ultra-luxurious villas. Besides dates, there was nothing much to buy. We went to the fish market, chose our fresh fish, shrimp and crab, had them cleaned and cooked and served in a "family room" which is the only place in a restaurant where a woman can eat.

I returned on a Saudi plane and was the only woman dressed in Western clothes. No movies were shown--there are no cinemas in SA--there was a prayer area, lots of kids, and the flight was not full so quite comfortable.

Saudi Arabia is a stern, strict, austere, rather bleak country where there is virtually no art or music; but the government is generous in providing health care, education, and help with housing, though not efficiently or to everyone, and family ties are close. I'm glad I went; glad I didn't have to stay.
ON THE ROAD AGAIN WITH SANDY LONG

If you did not see me at Osher in the Fall it was because I was busy having some great cultural experience in a little different style than usual. First, I experienced two weeks of deep immersions into the cultures of Northern Portugal and Northern Spain highlighting visits with families in their apartments, farms, small businesses and art studios of various kinds. Culture Explorers takes only 10 people on a trip like this and Oporto, the Douro River Valley, Santiago de Compostela, Bilbao and the Basque region warmly embraced us with our people-to-people engagements as well as their tourist attractions. This is the same organization that sponsored a photo contest of images representing the mission of helping others to help themselves. Some of you Osher members voted for my photo in the contest. Thanks to all of you, I came in second.

I was home for a week and prepared for the Cygnet Theater's theater tour to London for 4 nights, walking tours, etc. followed by a seven night North Atlantic crossing to New York City on the Queen Mary 2, culminating in 2 nights in New York. We got home just before Hurricane Sandy struck NYC having sailed 200 miles north of the usual route on the North Atlantic to mostly miss the hurricane’s route traveling north.

I managed to attend Sandy Lakoff’s lectures on the recent elections and remained busy with two photo classes that give me a lot of homework. My time was also full of rehearsals for a ballroom dance showcase in which I had two solo parts. It was a pleasure to perform with my partner, Jason Rivers, who is from Australia and a member of an internationally known family of champion ballroom dancers.

I hope to see more of you this quarter….got to keep the brain young by keeping on learning!
Flossie Riesner

Mixture problems involve creating a mixture from two or more things, and then determining some quantity (percentage, price, etc) of the resulting mixture.

Your school is holding a “family friendly” event this weekend. Students have been pre-selling tickets to the event; adult tickets are $5.00, and child tickets (for kids six years old and under) are $2.50. From past experience, you expect about 13,000 people to attend the event. But this is the first year in which tickets prices have been reduced for the younger children, so you really don't know how many child tickets and how many adult tickets you can expect to sell. Your boss wants you to estimate the expected ticket revenue. You decide to use the information from the pre-sold tickets to estimate the ratio of adults to children, and figure the expected revenue from this information.

You consult with your student ticket-sellers, and discover that they have not been keeping track of how many child tickets they have sold. The tickets are identical, until the ticket-seller punches a hole in the ticket, indicating that it is a child ticket. But they don't remember how many holes they've punched. They only know that they've sold 548 tickets for $2460. How much revenue from each of child and adult tickets can you expect?

To solve this, we need to figure out the ratio of tickets that have already been sold. If we work methodically, we can find the answer.

Let A stand for the number of adult tickets pre-sold, and C stand for the child tickets pre-sold. Then A + C = 548. Also, since each adult ticket cost $5.00, then ($5.00)A stands for the revenue brought in from the adult tickets pre-sold; likewise, ($2.50)C stands for the revenue brought in from the child tickets. Then the total income so far is given by ($5.00)A + ($2.50)C = $2460. But we can only solve an equation with one variable, not two. So look again at that first equation. If A + C = 548, then A = 548 – C (or C = 548 – A; it doesn't matter which variable you solve for). Organizing this information in a grid, we get:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>tickets sold</th>
<th>$/ticket</th>
<th>total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>adult</td>
<td>548 – C</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the last column, we get (total $ from the adult tickets) plus (total $ from the child tickets) is (the total $ so far), or, as an equation:

($5.00)(548 – C) + ($2.50)C = $2460
$2740 – ($5.00)C + ($2.50)C = $2460
$2740 – ($2.50)C = $2460
–($2.50)C = –$280
C = –$280/–2.50 = 112

Then 112 child tickets were pre-sold, so A = 548 – 112 = 436 adult tickets were sold. (Using "A" and "C" for our variables, instead of "x" and "y", was helpful, because the variables suggested what they stood for. We knew instantly that "C = 112" meant "112 child tickets". This is a useful technique.) Now we need to figure out how many adult and child tickets we can expect to sell overall. Since 436 out of 548 pre-sold tickets were adult tickets, then we can expect 436/548, or about 79.6%, of the total tickets sold to be adult tickets. Since we expect about 13,000 people, this works out to about 10,343 adult tickets. (You can find this value by using proportions, by the way.) The remaining 2657 tickets will be child tickets. Then the expected total ticket revenue totals to $58,357.50, of which ($5.00)(10,343) = $51,715 will come from adult tickets, and ($2.50)(2,657) = $6,642.50 will come from child tickets.