AN OLLI WEDDING!

At an SSU OLLI Open House in 2008, two strangers, each attending an OLLI function for the first time, sat side by side. They introduced themselves to each other. Vicky Hedstrand met Charlene Lohmeier, and they marveled at the greetings going on around them. Hugs and smiles all around. “It feels like a high school reunion,” Vicky said. The presentations of the teachers were enticing, and both signed up for their first OLLI classes, sitting next to each other in class. It wasn’t long before they met other students and became part of the welcoming community. Vicky’s enthusiasm for OLLI brought her husband George Steed into the group.

In 2012, Charlene’s high school boyfriend contacted her through a classmates website. They rekindled the romance they’d lost over 40 years prior. Jerry O’Rourke moved up from Los Angeles to live with Charlene, and became happily enmeshed in the OLLI world as a student. He helped Charlene research, design and deliver the courses she was now teaching for OLLI. Their life together was very full and rich. Back in the late 60s they had dreamed of getting married, but college and the draft got in the way, sending them on different paths. They had married different people, had children, divorced. Now reunited, they had a chance to complete that dream. With the blessings of their children, they decided to marry. They chose to marry on a beach at Bodega Bay, because both of them had grown up as Navy brats on beaches around the world.

On January 3, 2016, Charlene and Jerry held hands while their dear friend George performed his first wedding ceremony as minister of the Universal Life church. They stood on the beach with rain pouring down and wind blowing, making it hard for the official witness and photographer Vicky to snap pictures with one hand holding an umbrella. With the help of Vicky and George, Jerry and Charlene became Mr. and Mrs. O’Rourke. There were smiles and hugs all around.

– submitted by Charlene Lohmeier O’Rourke

Congratulations Charlene and Jerry!
We in the OLLI community wish you a happy and joyful life together.

HELP KEEP OLLI IN THE NEWS!

As part of our efforts to raise awareness about our OLLI program and get more students to OLLI, we encourage you to write a letter to the editor of your local paper extolling the virtues of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

OLLI WEBSITE!

Here is the link to find us and all things OLLI:

http://www.sonoma.edu/exed/olli/

On the left side of our home page, there are categories for registration, program calendar, course materials, locations and parking, membership benefits, donor information, Gray Matters Newsletter, prospective teachers, and OLLI staff. Click on any of these for detailed information.
CALL FOR ENTRIES: 'THE GOOD LIFE’ ART EXHIBITION

An OLLI Student (Juried Show) Art Exhibition
Sonoma State University

Deadline: April 4, 2016
Opening Reception: June 16, 2016 4:00 – 6:00pm
Exhibition Dates: June 13 – July 29, 2016
Location: 2North Blue Gallery, 2nd Flr.
Jean and Charles Schulz
Information Center, SSU

- Artists must be students of OLLI SSU, or have taught in the OLLI SSU program, at either of our two locations (main campus or Oakmont).
- Accepted work must be 2-D, framed and ready to hang.
- The work selected will be appropriate to a public space and a diverse audience.
- Only 2 images per artist may be submitted.

Entries should be submitted on a cd or via email.
Each entry should include the artist’s name, contact information, title of the work, year it was made, and a brief artist statement of no more than 150 words.

Entries sent via email should be directed to: carin.jacobs@sonoma.edu.

Entries sent via US Mail should be sent to:
Carin Jacobs, OLLI Director
School of Extended and International Education
Sonoma State University
1801 East Cotati Avenue
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

MUSICAL INSIGHTS UPDATE

The musical concert scheduled for Sunday, April 10 with Peter Serkin at Weill Hall has been postponed. This performance will be rescheduled to next season.

SPRING COURSES ANNOUNCED!

Mark your calendars! Here’s the lineup for OLLI’s Spring Courses:

SSU Campus: April 4 – May 12

Monday mornings, Robert Eyler
Understanding the International Economy

Monday afternoons, Barbara Spear
Screwball: Hollywood’s Madcap Romantic Comedies

Tuesday mornings, Charlene O’Rourke
The Stuart Dynasty: A 17th Century Soap Opera

Tuesday afternoons, Warren Wiscombe
Goldilocks Planet: Earth’s Climate History

Wednesday mornings, Robert Kirk
Theodore Roosevelt & America’s Coming of Age

Wednesday afternoons, Pete Elman
Turn, Turn, Turn: A History of Rock and Roll

Thursday mornings, Carl Pilcher
Life in the Universe: The Science of Astrobiology

Thursday afternoons, Michael Ezra
Understanding How Racism Works Today

OAKMONT Campus: April 11 – May 19

Monday afternoons, Mick Chantler
Statesmen and Rogues: The Founding Fathers

Wednesday afternoons, Dianne Smith
Folklore, Magic and Ritual

Thursday afternoons, Perry Ritenour
The Cobra and the Mongoose: China and Japan in Conflict

HAHAHA…..

Little old lady is sitting on a bench in Miami Beach. A man walks over and sits down on the other end of the bench. After a few moments, the woman asks, ”Are you a stranger here?” He replies, ”I used to live here years ago.” ”So, where were you all these years?” ”In prison,” he says. ”For what did they put you in prison?” ”Oh,” says her, and very quietly says, ”I killed my wife.” ”Oh,” says the woman. ”So you’re single…”