

# TOWN CRIER

University of California, Irvine, Town and Gown



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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

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*Our membership is open to everyone in the community (Town) and University faculty and staff (Gown). We support our unique scholarship program for students returning after a break of five years or more in their education. We offer social and educational opportunities enhanced by our association with the campus environment.*

## THE UCI TOWN AND GOWN BOARD THANKS YOU FOR RESPONDING TO OUR SURVEY MONKEY EMAIL

The results were encouraging and very helpful as we move forward in search of supporting our interest group programs in more normal times.

**We are currently working on arranging a UCI student musical concert via zoom\* for February 2021.**

All of us owe a sincere debt of gratitude to Professor Nina Scolnik of the UCI music department with whom our Music Interest Group has worked closely for many years. Nina plans to organize some of her students to perform for us in the February Zoom, and perhaps also to curate the music that we will enjoy. As soon as this is finalized, we will provide all necessary details to you via email: Date, time and Zoom link.

**Meanwhile, please continue to wear a mask, socially distance, wash those hands... and all of this to Stay safe and healthy!!!**

**\*Past President and ZOOM expert Cathey Ryder has volunteered to assist with any help you might need to utilize ZOOM. Please feel free to contact Cathey at [the4ryders@gmail.com](mailto:the4ryders@gmail.com).**

President's Message



A new year. A time to reflect. A time to plan. A time to hope. A time to appreciate what is truly important. As I think back over 2020, I am constantly amazed at the strength, humor and kindness of friends. I am especially grateful and proud of the current Town and Gown Board members who have served so selflessly beyond their term and -- along with all our 140 plus members -- have committed to continue to support UCI Town and Gown. The work we do is so rewarding.

I hope you had a chance to see and hear the Zoom performance by the UCI Chorale students in December, curated by Professor Messoloras. We are also planning another on-line musical performance, arranged by Professor Nina Scholnik, for February or March. Watch for emails with more information.

We are continuing to focus our efforts to stay in touch with you and find creative ways to share time together, while we cannot yet be together. Some Interest Groups are able to meet either on-line or outdoors. In November via Zoom, with Kathy Frazer's excellent instruction, several of us met and made beautiful velvet pumpkins. In about 20 minutes! How fun it was, like an old fashioned quilting circle, to talk and watch each other make something together. Kathy is already planning projects for the next Holiday season.

Going forward, we will continue to take this pandemic one day at a time, adjust where we can and find new ways to proceed with the future of Town and Gown. Remember, any organization, no matter how worthwhile their mission, succeeds only with support from its membership. So, if you are approached by the Nominating Committee and asked to serve on the Board, please give it serious thought. The future of Town and Gown depends on our seating a full Board, including a new President, for the 2021-2022 term.

I wish you all good health in the new year. Stay in touch with each other and share something that makes you happy whenever possible. We are all in this together – and together we can do anything.

Judith Larson  
President, 2019-2021

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**COURTESY PROGRAM:**

Whenever a member of Town and Gown passes away, the Treasurer makes a \$25 donation in memory of the deceased. The Corresponding Secretary writes a note of condolence, informs the family of the donation, and requests that a notice be placed in the Town Crier, In Memoriam. When anyone in a member's immediate family passes away, the Corresponding Secretary writes a note of sympathy to the member. Please notify the Corresponding Secretary, Carolyn Woolhouse (714) 401-0821, or by email at: [eclectic.sentiment@att.net](mailto:eclectic.sentiment@att.net).

## Meet the Scholar

### RICARDO CEBALLOS

Ricardo will graduate this Spring, 2021, with a degree in English, leading to his pursuit of a Masters in Library and Information Services so he can be a librarian and archivist. His experience at UCI has broadened his ambition, and he has developed an interest in Film and Media Studies in addition to archival work. After attaining his Masters Degree, Ricardo is also interested in obtaining a PhD in Media Studies at UCI in order to continue researching popular culture in our society. After a 9-year break in his education, Ricardo pursued his studies at Cerritos College before transferring to UCI where he has excelled. We were impressed by his Wonder Woman expertise and his devotion to his wife and daughter, Aubrey. And now we all welcome Emily!

*Dear Town and Gown members and the UCI Foundation:*

*“I wish to thank everyone at the UCI Town and Gown committee for this extremely generous scholarship. Your contribution has helped to alleviate the potential stress that can come from earning a prestigious education which will help me accomplish my career goals. It is deeply humbling to have earned your confidence in my endeavors and I promise to continue to work hard to live up to this award both during and after graduation. I would also like to thank you on behalf of my wife, Breana, our daughter, Aubrey, as well as the newest addition to our family, Emily, who was born this October. The Town and Gown committee has been an enormous help to our family and I look forward to hopefully thanking all of you in person as soon as we are all able to meet again.”*

*Ricardo*



If you need **directions** or a ride to any event, please call the Chair of the Interest Group or one of the Board members. We will do everything we can to help you with transportation. **Your \$3.00 donation when attending and participating in the various Interest Groups helps us grow our Scholarship funds.** Last year, Town and Gown raised over \$4,000 from these Interest Group donations!

**NOTE: ALL PLANNED DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION DUE TO THE PANDEMIC. CONTACT CHAIRS TO CONFIRM EACH MONTH. STAY SAFE EVERYONE**

### **Appreciating the Past**

#### **ALL THINGS VINTAGE**

##### **JANUARY- FEBRUARY**

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, January 27 at 10:00 a.m.

SUBJECT: YouTube **BBC Parts 1 and 2 “Treasures of the Louvre, Paris”**

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting/Zoom Meeting Coordinator is Cathey Ryder

DETAILS: Please email Cathey if you plan to join Zoom for this meeting

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, February 17 at 10:00 a.m.

SUBJECT: **The History of Chocolate**

SPEAKER: Darrell Rivers, President of the Huntington Beach Re-enactment Society

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting/Zoom Meeting Coordinator is Cathey Ryder

DETAILS: Please email Cathey if you plan to join Zoom for this meeting

CHAIRS: Denise Bletsos (714) 969-6413, Carol Cowden (949) 645-2922

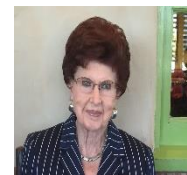


#### **FAMILY HISTORY WRITING**

##### **JANUARY- FEBRUARY**

Please contact chairs for information

CHAIRS: Deb Penley (949) 559-6726, Bonnie Feers (949) 786-4020



## Enjoying Nature

### BIRDERS

JANUARY- FEBRUARY

Town and Gown Birders are not meeting in the field at this time. You may contact the group leaders to inquire about their virtual meetings or to be put on an interest list to be notified when they return to their regular schedule.



CHAIRS: Mary Anne Skorpanich (714) 299-1863 Marlene Brajdic (714) 905-6641.

[towngownbirders@gmail.com](mailto:towngownbirders@gmail.com)

## Book Discussion Groups

### BOOK CLUB

JANUARY- FEBRUARY

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, January 19, 1:00 PM  
BOOK: On Gold Mountain by Lisa See  
DATE/TIME: Tuesday, February 16, 1:00 PM  
BOOK: The Dutch House by Ann Patchett  
DETAILS: BOTH MEETINGS WILL BE ON ZOOM  
CHAIRS: Connie Nelson (714) 540-4902, Lea Lowe (714) 469-9588



### LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS

JANUARY- FEBRUARY

Join me for a zoom meeting to talk about books. It can be a book you are currently reading or a favorite book or author. Zoom link will be emailed to you. RSVP to [the4ryders@gmail.com](mailto:the4ryders@gmail.com).



DATES/TIME: January 25 and February 22 at 7p.m.  
WHAT: Talk about books  
PLACE: Zoom  
CHAIR: Cathey Ryder (714) 470-1353, [the4ryders@gmail.com](mailto:the4ryders@gmail.com)

## Games

JANUARY- FEBRUARY

### BRIDGE

*No bridge dates are planned yet – stay tuned.*



The Bahia Yacht Club is still not open for play or lunch. We will advise if things change. Remember to stay in touch with one another – take care and stay safe!

CHAIRS: Judith Larson (714) 969-4415  
Mira Craig (949) 786-4250

## MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

**JANUARY- FEBRUARY**

We will certainly look back on 2020 as a year none of us will ever forget. Even the holiday season was different for most of us too. I hope you felt joy during the holidays and grateful for everything we do have. I know I do. Until we can once again play Mexican Train Dominoes, stay safe and healthy! Dominoes is INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.



CHAIR: Pam Kirkendall (949) 422-4579, or pamelakirk@cox.net

## Arts Appreciation

### MUSIC

**INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**

We look forward to resuming our usual schedule as soon as possible. Meanwhile, all Town and Gown music is cancelled indefinitely. Social Distance. Wash those hands!!! **And, PLEASE, wear a mask when in public.** The Music Group typically meets at 1:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of most months. We usually do not meet during July, August, or September.



DATE/TIME: First Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m.  
WHAT: Music Department students perform miscellaneous classical pieces  
PLACE: **TO BE DETERMINED**  
CHAIR: Paul Kanter (310) 991-8519

## NEEDLEWORK AND FRIENDS GATHERING

**JANUARY- FEBRUARY**

DATE/TIME: Friday, January 15, at 10:00 a.m. (because the Town and Gown Board Meeting will take place on January 8, Needlework's usual second Friday meeting date).

PLACE: Zoom meeting set up by Cathey Ryder  
DETAILS: Cathey Ryder - Scavenger Hunt  
Carolyn Woolhouse – TBD  
Carol Freund – Kitchen Sharing  
Cathey Ryder – “The History of Embroidery”

DATE/TIME: Friday, February 12 at 10:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Zoom meeting set up by Cathey Ryder  
DETAILS: Cathey Ryder – scavenger hunt  
Carolyn Woolhouse – needlework tools  
Carol Freund – Kitchen sharing  
Cathey Ryder – Bingo by Zoom!

CHAIRS: Carolyn Woolhouse (714) 401-0821, eclecticstiment@gmail.com  
or Carol Freund (949) 786-7828, ecfreund1@cox.net



## **PLEIN AIR PAINTING**

We meet at various outdoor scenic locations, focusing on seascapes, mountains, shore life and quaint and/or historical buildings. Watercolors, acrylics, oils, charcoal – any medium you prefer is welcome.

### **JANUARY- FEBRUARY**

CHAIRS: Magda Abramson (714) 960-0887, Eula Casselman (714) 639-1226



## **Food, Fun, and Friends**

### **SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST**

Well, our gathering with friends for breakfast is still on hold. We hope to see you at one of our favorite spots sometime in 2021.

CHAIRS: Cathey and Bob Ryder (714) 470-1353



### **HAPPY HOUR IN HISTORIC OC**

Eventually, we will gather for a social hour in an historic spot in Orange County. We are looking forward to seeing you then.

CHAIRS: Cathey and Bob Ryder (714) 470-1353, or the4ryders@gmail.com

### **WEDNESDAY AFTEROON AT THE MOVIES**

Stay tuned as we navigate our new “normal”. I will be looking for matinee movie deals once it is safe to go to the movies.

CHAIR: Cathey Ryder (714) 470-1353

**NOTE: ALL PLANNED DATES/ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION DUE TO THE PANDEMIC. CONTACT CHAIRS TO CONFIRM EACH MONTH. STAY SAFE EVERYONE**

## **JANUARY-FEBRUARY INTEREST GROUP CALENDAR**

### **MONDAY:**

9:30 a.m., Plein-Air Painting (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday) **Please contact chairs for information**

7:00 p.m., Let's Talk About Books (4<sup>th</sup> Monday)

### **TUESDAY:**

8:30 a.m., Birders (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – **Indefinitely postponed**)

1:00 p.m., Book Club (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)

### **WEDNESDAY:**

10:00 a.m., All Things Vintage (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in January)

11:30 a.m. or after 1:00 p.m., Wednesday Afternoon at the Movies **Indefinitely postponed**

1:00 p.m., Family History Writing (4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday) **Please contact chairs for information**

1:30 p.m., Music (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday) **Indefinitely postponed**

4:30 p.m., Happy Hour in Historic OC **Indefinitely postponed**

### **THURSDAY:**

10:00 a.m., Bridge (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) **Indefinitely postponed**

1:00 p.m., Mexican Train (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday) **Indefinitely postponed**

### **FRIDAY:**

10:00 a.m., Needlework and Friends Gathering (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday) – January's meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday

### **SATURDAY:**

9:00 a.m., Saturday Morning Breakfast (4 times a year) **Indefinitely postponed**