

TOWN CRIER

University of California, Irvine, Town and Gown



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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

VOL. LVII NO. 2

EMAIL: ucitownandgown@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.ucitownandgown.com

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.

**UCI TOWN AND GOWN INVITES
ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS
TO A SOCIAL LUNCHEON**

**On the patio at
Seasons 52 Restaurant
3333 Bristol Street, at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa
Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.**

This is a social get-together

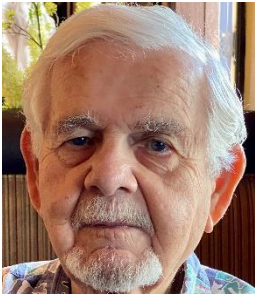
Come for lunch and visit with friends and members!

Enjoy a three-course meal with your choice of entrée and dessert.

\$50 per person

Respond ASAP, but NLT 11/15/21. See tear sheet on page 8.

President's Message



It was quite wonderful to see so many of you at our Sherman Library and Gardens annual Coffee and Conversation event in September. We were able to renew friendships, make some new ones, and in some instances see folks for the first time in over a year. We are very fortunate and appreciative to continue to enjoy the support and generosity of everyone at Sherman Gardens, helping us to slowly struggle out of our recent many dark days and resume a level of normalcy. I do hope we can get back to enjoying next year's event with all the usual "bells and whistles."

We enjoyed our Interest Group Coordinator, Sheyla Nelson, and her associates who reminded us of so many of the educational and fun activities available to our members. And then came a highlight of the morning, listening to URSS Chair Kathy Frazer's inspirational words of introduction to our \$5,000 scholarship recipients: Kyle Woodruff (English and Education Science), Andrew Truong (Sociology), Amira Abed (Criminology Law and Society), Karla Galvan (Clinical Psychology), Juanita Lopez (Political Science), Bernardo Cortez (Public Health Policy), Naja Christmas (Asian American Studies), and Carissa Nihart (Film and Media Studies).

Every student who spoke represented a bright and diverse future. I was especially touched by meeting and watching Bernardo Cortez and his grandmother who, although blind for many years, raised Bernardo to be a superb young man, one who served in our military and is now able to pursue his educational and career goals just a little more easily.

I am very pleased that we have been able to schedule a social luncheon for November 30th on the patio at Seasons 52, South Coast Plaza. Details as to menu and reservations are on the front page of this Newsletter and also on page 8. Meanwhile, let's all enjoy a new bit of freedom to live our lives. And please stay healthy.... We want to see you again and again!

Paul Kanter
President

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@gmail.com

In Memoriam
Jane Werner

Meet the Scholars



CARISSA NIHART

Carissa received our scholarship in 2019, and she has continued to impress us with her academic achievement. She is more committed than ever to a career in the entertainment industry and is completing her degree in Film and Media Studies. She attended Irvine Valley College before transferring to UCI where she continues to maintain an above average grade point average.

Dear Town and Gown members,

I would like to convey to all of you who make the UCI Town and Gown scholarship possible how truly beneficial this scholarship is for non-traditional students like myself. The opportunity this scholarship creates for students is incredibly impactful, and I am both honored and grateful to be a recipient. With my Pell grant funding expiring at the end of the prior academic year I was uncertain if I would be able to complete my Bachelor's Degree at UCI. This scholarship has transformed my financial prospects and my outlook towards the coming year. I feel joyful and full of renewed hope when contemplating what lies ahead, instead of feeling stressed about the pressure of affording an education while taking care of my basic needs. Thank you so much for this transformation; its positive effects on my mental, emotional, and scholastic life cannot be overstated. You are enabling me to continue working towards my dreams as a writer, screenwriter, and director.

Thank you again for all you do.

Gratefully,
Carissa Nihart



ANDREW TRUONG

Andrew is pursuing a degree in Sociology, Psychology, and the Behavioral Sciences to become a counselor with an M.A. in Social Work. For 9 years he served in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he worked with local communities, coached physical fitness, mentored junior Marines, and learned that “learning never stops”. Through a special program in partnership with the U.S. State Department, he was contracted to safeguard personnel and properties and embassies and consulates around the world. In Okinawa, he served as the workplace health and safety officer, giving him a new perspective on environmental safety. Andrew also assisted asylum seekers who migrated from Central America to our international border. We thank Andrew for his service to our country and know he will be an asset to UCI.

Dear Town and Gown Members:

Thank you for selecting me for the Town and Gown Scholarship. I am extremely grateful for this generous gift. This past year has been filled with uncertainty and hardship to say the least. With this scholarship, I can focus on my education at ease. Specifically, I will be able to dedicate more time towards studying and being part of the UCI community, without the need to look for a part-time job. I plan to utilize the award to purchase textbooks and supplies required for my courses in Sociology. Again, thank you for your generosity and kindness. My gratitude knows no bounds.

Sincerely,
Andrew Truong

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.**

Appreciating the Past

ALL THINGS VINTAGE

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



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

PLACE: 6462 Doral Dr, HB (Denise Bletsos' home)

SUBJECT: Vintage Cookbooks and family recipes with sayings and food tips

SPEAKER: Carol invites you to bring examples of your family recipe books and/or handwritten family sayings and tips.

NOTE: Please come fully vaccinated and masked. This is an indoor event.

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, December 15, 10:00 a.m.

DETAILS: TBD

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

FAMILY HISTORY MEMOIR WRITING GROUP

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



Our new and improved schedule is the second Thursday of the month at 11:00 a.m. Members are welcome to bring lunch. Our suggested topic is "Your Favorite Toy as a Child," or any story of your preference. Location as yet to be determined. Please call Deborah Penley with any questions - (949) 559-6726.

DATE/TIME: Thursday, November 11, 11:00 a.m.

DATE/TIME: Thursday, December 9, 11:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Locations to be determined

CHAIR: Deb Penley (949) 559-6726

Enjoying Nature

BIRDERS

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



We meet the first and third Tuesdays. Lunch optional. Please arrive at the location by 8:15 so we can begin birding promptly at 8:30 AM. Call us if you are running late and want us to wait for you. If it is *really* raining or windy the trip is cancelled. Masks may be required for the trail and the restaurants to best protect our members and those who serve us. If you're not sure, call one of the chairs: Marlene Brajdic (714) 905-6641 marlene.brajdic@outlook.com, Mary Anne Skorpanich (714) 299-1863 skorpanich@icloud.com

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, November 2

PLACE: **Santiago Oaks Regional Park**, 2145 Windes Dr, OR. Fee \$3.00 or Regional Parks Pass. Take Jamboree as far as it goes, turn left onto Santiago Canyon Rd, then turn right onto Windes Dr/Meads, and follow signs to Santiago Oaks Regional Park. Bring a picnic lunch.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, November 16

PLACE: **Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve**, 28000 Pacific Coast Hwy, HB. Free. The reserve is along PCH on the inland side between Goldenwest and Warner. Meet in the parking lot. Bring a scope if you have one. Do not leave valuables in your car, thefts have occurred here. We will lunch at the Blackboard Bistro in Seal Beach. Turn right on PCH and drive into Seal Beach. Restaurant is on your left at 12th St. Parking in rear.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, December 7

PLACE: **Muth Interpretive Center**, 2301 University Dr, NB. Free. From the 73 or Bristol St, take Irvine Ave toward the ocean and turn left on University Dr. Parking lot is on right. Lunch is at the Chateau Garden Bistro in the Ayres Hotel at 325 Bristol St. Turn left out of the Muth parking lot onto University, then right on Santa Ana Ave and right on Bristol. Turn right into the hotel parking lot. The restaurant is in the back.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, December 21

PLACE: **Mason Regional Park**, 18712 University Dr, IRV. Fee \$3.00 or OC Parks Pass. University Dr borders Mason Park between Culver and Harvard. Turn right at the entrance and park in the first parking lot. Lunch will be a holiday potluck and gift exchange at a location to be determined. Bring a dish to share, your own plate, cup, utensils, and something to drink. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped, inexpensive "birdy" gift.

Book Discussion Groups

BOOK CLUB

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



DATE/TIME: Tuesday, November 16, 1:00 p.m.

BOOK: *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell

PLACE: Home of Connie Nelson (714) 540-4902

LEADER: Barbara Paulson

DATE/TIME: December – To be determined

CHAIRS: Connie Nelson (714) 540-4902, Lea Lowe (714) 469-9588

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

LET'S TALK ABOUT BOOKS AND AUTHORS Via Zoom and the comfort of home. Join us with a cup of tea or a glass of wine to share what you have been reading.

DATES/TIME: Monday, November 22, 7:00 p.m. (No gathering in December)
WHAT: Talk about books and authors
PLACE: RSVP for the Zoom link. the4ryders@gmail.com
CHAIR: Cathey Ryder (714) 470-1353, the4ryders@gmail.com



Games

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

BRIDGE

There will be no bridge in November and December due to Covid and conflicting dates at the Bahia Corinthian. Unfortunately, events scheduled for 2020 had to be rescheduled during this time frame. I hope to have better information for 2022 in a couple of months. The Bahia Corinthian has promised to call.

CHAIR: Ann Shonstrom: (949) 786-3062; shonstroms@sbcglobal.net

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

Mexican Train Dominoes is back! We play on the third Thursday of the month. We will play outdoors if possible. Come and join in on the fun!

DATE/TIME: Thursday, November 18, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
DATE/TIME: Thursday, December 16, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Home of Cathey Ryder, 19882 Felcliff Ln, HB
DETAILS: Please RSVP to pamelakirk@cox.net or text (949) 422-4579
CHAIR: Pam Kirkendall (949) 422-4579



Arts Appreciation

MUSIC

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

HOPE IS STILL ON THE HORIZON!!



But, unfortunately, currently all Town and Gown music remains cancelled indefinitely. The UCI students and our friend, Professor Nina Scolnik, are ready to play for us; but understandably, Regents Point is not yet willing to allow “outside groups” in. Perhaps this will change soon, and we monitor the situation regularly.

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: **Regents' Point Senior Living Community***, 19191 Harvard Ave, IRV

CHAIR: Paul Kanter (310) 991-8519, Elisabeth Hoskins (949) 646-3074

NEEDLEWORK AND FRIENDS GATHERING

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER



DATE/TIME: Friday, November 12, 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Zoom meeting

DETAILS: Cathey Ryder will be the Zoom Hostess. Please RSVP to her if you will be attending the Zoom Meeting. Meeting will feature a scavenger hunt, a needlework project presentation, and kitchen sharing.

DATE/TIME: Friday, December 10, 10:00 a.m.

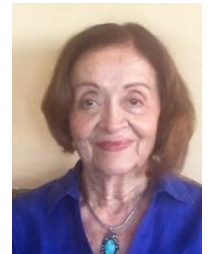
DETAILS: Cathey Ryder will be the Zoom Hostess. Please RSVP to her if you will be attending the Zoom Meeting. Meeting will feature a scavenger hunt, kitchen sharing, and other items of interest to be determined.

CHAIR: Lauren Nivans: (714) 748-2884

PLEIN AIR PAINTING

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

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



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

HAPPY HOUR WITH FRIENDS

Join us on Thursday, November 18 at 4:30 p.m. Playa Mesa, 4428 17th St, CM. RSVP is a must to save space on their patio. RSVP to the4ryders@gmail.com.

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

RSVP TEAR SHEET

UCI TOWN AND GOWN SOCIAL LUNCHEON

Seasons 52 Restaurant

3333 Bristol Street, at South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa

Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.

Lunch includes two Flatbreads, Roasted Tomato and Pesto Chicken and Fresh Mozzarella, plus your entrée, coffee, tea or soft drink, and your choice of one of their Mini Indulgence Desserts. You will order your lunch entrée at the restaurant from these three choices: Brick-Oven Vegetable Gnocchi, Cedar Plank-Roasted Salmon or Wood-Grilled Dry-Rubbed Pork Chop.

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

ALL RESERVATIONS & CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 11/15/21 so mail *early*. No late, email or phone reservations accepted this time.

**Send a check payable to UCI Town and Gown for \$50.00 per person to:
Maxine Boyett, 963 Magellan St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626-5811
714-546-5839.**

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER INTEREST GROUP CALENDAR

MONDAY:

9:30 a.m., Plein-Air Painting (2nd Monday)

7:00 p.m., Let's Talk About Books and Authors Via Zoom (4th Monday)

TUESDAY:

8:30 a.m., Birders (1st and 3rd Tuesdays)

1:00 p.m., Book Club (3rd Tuesday)

WEDNESDAY:

10:00 a.m., All Things Vintage (3rd Wednesday)

1:30 p.m., Music (1st Wednesday) *Indefinitely postponed*

THURSDAY:

10:30 a.m., Bridge (2nd Thursday) *No meeting in November or December*

1:00 p.m., Family History Memoir Writing Group (2ND Thursday)

1:00 p.m., Mexican Train (3rd Thursday)

5:00 p.m., Happy Hour with Friends

FRIDAY:

10:00 a.m., Needlework and Friends Gathering (2nd Friday)