Editor’s note: Most Board meetings include guest speakers who help UCLARA stay in touch with campus and make our organization more visible to leadership.

Martin Jarmond, the Alice and Nahum Lanier Family Director of Athletics, accepted the job at UCLA in May 2020. It was, he told the April Board meeting, a particularly challenging time. The pandemic had upended collegiate athletics, and vaccines were not yet available. The NIL rights (name, image and likeness) of student athletes were beginning to transform the landscape. Whether you called it “change” or “chaos,” it could be overwhelming. “You don’t know what's coming,” he said.

Old-school athletic directors were often former coaches. In today’s environment, the preferred background is management and business. Jarmond holds both an M.B.A. and a Master’s in Sports Administration. His previous experience includes stints in athletics at Michigan State, Ohio State and Boston College.

Jarmond gave a spirited spell-out of the “ELITE” mindset: Energy, Leadership, Integrity, Toughness and Excellence. His evocation of “energy” was particularly appropriate to the occasion: “Bring energy to a room, to a Zoom,” he said.

At the February meeting our visitor was May Hong HaDuong, director of the UCLA Film & Television Archive. She shared an anecdote about a phone call back in 2007. A local film lab invited UCLA to look through their old film reels before they were discarded. The archivists spotted a treasure: Wanda, a 1970 Venice Film Festival entry by director Barbara Loden. Restored from the rescued reels, Wanda has since enjoyed 126 showings around the world. Continued on Page 2

Emeriti art is back! The Sylvia Winstein Emeriti Arts & Crafts Exhibit will return in person to the Faculty Club on Tuesday, May 17. Exhibit hours are 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Morrison Room. The introduction and reception is scheduled for 2 p.m.

The exhibitors, including former UCLARA board member Adrian Harris, are Emeriti Association members and spouses. Exhibition categories include acrylic painting, calligraphy, jewelry, oil painting, photography, and watercolor painting. This is the 44th year for the event, and the first year in person since 2019.

Advance registration is advised; see retirees.ucla.edu for a link. Attendees will be asked to show a photo ID and a vaccination record or proof of a negative COVID test within 72 hours. Masks are required.

UCLARA sponsored its own Arts and Crafts Exhibit from 2005 through 2019, when the event was reluctantly discontinued due to expense and attendance concerns.
Stay Connected and Engaged

Spring is here! The days are longer and warmer. The sky is clear and blue! It is so tempting to leave the comfort of our homes and seek adventure.

Many of us have become accustomed to staying at home. Yet...more of us are venturing out...going to visit family, friends...and "play."

Undoubtedly, our goal has been to regain a time that we deemed to be "normal." The "new normal" is being careful...being mindful of our surroundings and always trying to maintain "good health" — wearing a mask when deemed appropriate or required, being vaccinated and boosted, eating well and exercising.

Most importantly during these strange times, we strive to stay connected and engaged!

Our UCLA Program Committee and the ERRC are here for you to do just that! We are able to join in and enjoy the wealth of webinars, classes, and online programs offered to stimulate and entertain. With the onset of warmer weather and seemingly healthier times, more activities and programs are being planned for in-person attendance...many in the outdoors and some at museums and iconic Los Angeles venues ... while we continue to offer so much more on Zoom.

Be sure to visit the UCLA website for program updates. Enjoy!!! You won't be disappointed!

Take care and be well...

Elaine Fox
UCLARA President
Welcome to UCLARA!

UCLARA welcomes the following new members.

- Jean Berchem
- Ronald Biduk
- Elmer Borun
- Lucia Brandt
- Karen Brodkin
- Dawn Canfield
- Lucinda Daniels
- Helen Davis
- Dorothy George
- Gracie Go
- Eileen Hansen
- Nancy Hart
- Jason Huang
- Barbara Kahn
- Jacqueline Krisher
- Marina Lawson
- Richard Lew
- Joan Loof
- Lam Luu
- Christine Mikels
- Cheryl Noda
- Elizabeth Rubien
- Babek Saben
- Mary Ann Swartzlander
- Sharon Webb
- Jeri Williams
- Janet Winikoff
- Grant Yano
- Teresa Zaroda

Anyone for Mah Jongg? You’re Invited

We would like to introduce ourselves and invite anyone who wants to join us — as a new learner, or as an intermediate or advanced player. We play in the San Fernando Valley in Canoga Park.

The group started out originally as beginners, taught by Karen Fond. We quickly advanced to intermediate level and several seasoned players joined us. There are currently six players (prior to Covid we had 11) who regularly play at the intermediate level, but we would love to have advanced players join us to challenge our game. Karen Fond will teach anyone who wants to learn how to play at the beginners level, and we will entice you with a free large-print official Mah Jongg card! We play for fun and not money.

We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Henri’s Restaurant, 21601 Sherman Way. We start at 10:15 a.m. and usually play until 1 or 2 p.m. We play in a separate section, away from the main part of the restaurant—less noisy and crowded. We are asked to purchase something to eat and/or drink, so we usually break at noon to eat lunch and socialize. The menu is varied and the food is quite good and reasonably priced. All of us are fully vaccinated and boosted, and for now we wear a mask when not eating or drinking. There is sufficient parking.

People give many reasons for playing Mah Jongg. It stimulates the brain, requires cognitive strategies, enhances attention, focuses visual recognition and provides many social aspects of enjoying one another’s company and trading helpful information. It is just a lot of fun.

We are all UCLA retirees who have joined the Retiree Association as members. The wonderful thing about having a closed UCLA group is that we share our “old” careers and experiences and find out shared connections. What fun! Contact Pat Lotker, pathl@verizon.net, and/or Karen Fond, kfond@hotmail.com.

— Valley Mah Jongg Interest Group

(There is also a West L.A. Mah Jongg Group, but currently it has no openings.)

Note: the iStock photo above gives a general idea of a Mah Jongg table, but the tiles we use look a little different.
Travel Talk from Dolores

The weather is warming up. Passports are ready. Time to unclutter our suitcases or buy new ones. Call friends and family members, it’s time for a much-needed vacation! UC travel has so many trips planned, some close by and some exotic and far away.

Friendly UC escorts (I’m one of them) travel with you on these all-inclusive adventures from Collette Travel.

Islands of New England 2022
Aug. 26–Sept. 2. Beautiful scenery, majestic mansions, local sea food.
gateway.gocollette.com/link/1063056

Canadian Rockies by Train 2022
gateway.gocollette.com/link/1046225

Christmas on the Danube 2022
December 2–10. Features a 6-night Danube River cruise. Explore charming Christmas markets and see Europe dressed in its holiday best.
gateway.gocollette.com/link/1055724

Spectacular South Africa 2023
February 5 through 19. Includes Kruger National Park, Capetown and vineyards.
gateway.gocollette.com/link/1076610

Shades of Ireland 2023
April 24 through May 2. Dublin, Waterford, Blarney Castle, Derry and Belfast.
gateway.gocollette.com/link/1088433

Magical Rhine and Moselle 2023
August 27 through September 4. River Cruise, Amsterdam to Strasbourg.
gateway.gocollette.com/link/1098560

Talk to Dolores!
If you have any questions please give me a call: Dolores Dyer 805-758-0053, or email ddyer44@verizon.net

Looking ahead to 2022-23

We are beginning to eat out with friends, socialize, travel, and attend events. We are more relaxed and enjoying the freedom of getting out.

However, we still hold on to some technological advances from the past couple of years, such as the benefits of Zoom meetings and presentations. We saved time in driving to destinations and saved money for gasoline. Virtual programming enabled participants to join us who otherwise might have found physical travel difficult or impossible.

As the university, city, and community begin to open, UCLARA members are looking forward to getting together for programs and events in-person once again, enjoying interest groups in-person again, and joining travel excursions, often accompanied by a concierge leader. For those who are not quite ready for in-person events or don’t want to battle the ‘405’ and ‘101’, we will continue to offer Zoom opportunities and hybrid possibilities. In other words, 2022-23 will be exciting.

So, if this is piquing your interest, be sure to renew your membership at the beginning of July 2022. You’ll receive a renewal reminder via email, and you will see that there will be no dues increase in the coming year. You can expect to receive many benefits for your $25 individual membership or $35 individual plus spouse/partner membership annual dues.

And if you know anyone retiring this year, be sure to tell them about the possibility of a First Year Free Trial Membership.

— Membership Marketing Committee
SHARE YOUR RECIPES

What's Cooking?

Submit Recipes by: May 31, 2022

Calling on all UCLARA members to share their favorite food and drink recipes for our first-ever UCLA Retirees Association Cookbook! Please submit as many as 5 recipes. There is no guarantee that we can use all of them but there may be reason for a second volume.

We are looking for recipes that are:

• Not too complicated and you have already tested, i.e., cooked or tasted.
• On the healthier side (Don’t despair, chocolate is healthy for you, so we’re sure there will be a well-populated dessert section).
• Many categories, including appetizers, beverages and cocktails, plant-based, world cultures/ethnic, gluten-free, salads, vegetarian, meat-lovers, baked goods, desserts, you name it.

When you are ready, please:

• Send recipes as a Word attachment or in the body of an email. We will also accept other formats including scanned or index card recipes and will try to reformat as time permits.
• Include recipe name, category and your name, department and year retired. If it’s someone else’s recipe, you can give them credit, too.
• Add one or two sentences or an anecdote to go with the recipe. For example, “Guilt by Brownies: For years I used my mother’s brownie recipe, but then found an easier and better one. I feel like I have been disloyal to her brownies, but Mom would understand.” Or tie the recipe to a family or holiday event, “This was my late father-in-law’s turkey dressing recipe, which he made every year for 20 years. I have continued the tradition for another 20.”
• Also add a picture/photo (optional).
• Send recipes by May 31, 2022.
• Email recipes or questions to Margaret Johnson at mcjohnson244@gmail.com.*

We look forward to having as many UCLARA members participate as possible. Thank you.
Margaret Johnson, Cookbook Project Coordinator
Mary Petersen, Nancy Varat, and Pat Webber, Cookbook Committee Members

*Please share with UCLARA members who are without access to email and can contact Margaret at 310-254-8154 (includes texting option).
In Memoriam

The UC Office of the President has reported the deaths of the following UCLA annuitants. We are grateful for their service and extend condolences to their families and friends.

- Olga Samuel Alderson
- Margaret Benjimen
- Rosella Camara
- Reuben Carver
- Jian Ren Chen
- Jose Contreras
- Michelle Davis
- Mary Grace Dehaan
- Gustavo Del Cid
- Miriam Dudley
- Laurie Dale Edson
- Nancy Gray
- Daryl Helmer
- James Henry
- Ilse Horsting
- Neida Hyalla
- Jonathan Jan
- Andrea Jayne
- Mary Kimball
- Anne Krause
- Nieves La’O
- Jennifer Ladefoged
- Esther Lakin
- Karen Linda Lee
- William Levasseur
- Robert Mccluer
- Hilda Montero
- James Norbert Nais
- Eleanor Preston
- Sandra Claire Ransom
- Kenneth Richards
- Audrey Schwartz
- Annie Sheppard
- Ronda Solomon
- Arthur Strauther
- David Strelioff
- Demetrio Tabangcura
- John Tormey
- Earlean Walker
- N. Donald Ylvisaker

Date of death is considered private information. The date may have been in a previous season or year.

Welcome Lam Luu to the ERRC

Lam Luu joined the staff of the Emeriti/Retiree Relations Center (ERRC) in February as a retirement resource specialist. She joins Maria Lubrano and director Ayesha Dixon on the ERRC team.

While Lam is new to UCLA, she is no stranger to the University of California. Lam graduated from UC Santa Cruz with a B.A. in Psychology.

Lam was born in Vietnam and moved to the U.S. when she was 10 years old. After university, she worked in data entry and analysis. In her free time she enjoys movies, TV shows and music. “I love Vietnamese, Korean, and Thai food, and I'm a huge fan of anything mango and orange,” Lam tells us.

Board Member Steps Down

The UCLARA Board is losing a valuable member as recording secretary Mary Miller resigns effective July 1.

Mary first became involved with the Board in 2018 when she volunteered to assist then-Newsletter editor Hallie Masler. She quickly became assistant editor and took on new challenges as the Board’s historian. Most recently, she served as recording secretary. In all these roles, her inquisitive mind and eagle eye serve her well.

Her 10-year career at UCLA was short but memorable. She retired in 2014 from the School of Education and Information Studies, where she served as co-director of the UCLA History-Geography Project. In that capacity, she provided professional development support to K-12 teachers. Before that, she enjoyed a 40-year career teaching middle school.

Since her retirement from UCLA, Mary has been busier than when she was working. She volunteers with several community organizations including the Huntington Library and the PLATO Society in addition to the UCLARA Board.

“Working with Mary on Connections made my life so much easier,” says Hallie Masler. “She’s an excellent writer, editor and proofreader, and because of her other activities she brings an extra dimension to her work.”

Mary has promised to stay involved. “Even though you will not be on the Board,” UCLARA President Elaine Fox wrote to Mary, “I hope that you will continue working on the Newsletter and on whatever other committees may interest you. … Thank you again for being you!”
Dr. Bradley Straatsma was at the start of his career and already demonstrating extraordinary talent and promise, doing two concurrent fellowships, one at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and another at Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute at Johns Hopkins University, when he happened to meet Dr. S. Rodman Irvine, acting chief of the then-Division of Ophthalmology at the UCLA School of Medicine. They were attending the same academic conference.

Soon after, Dr. Straatsma was invited to join the faculty and become associate professor and chief of the Division of Ophthalmology within the Department of Surgery at UCLA. “That was 1959,” Dr. Straatsma remembers. “So I was in at the beginning.”

“I had an idea, a concept, of creating a major eye program on the West Coast, here, on campus,” Dr. Straatsma explains. It was with this visionary goal that he convinced Dr. Jules Stein—an ophthalmologist by training and a brilliant businessman who had founded the Music Corporation of America (MCA)—to fund the creation of what is now the Stein Eye Institute. The Institute became reality in 1966. Under the leadership of Dr. Straatsma as its founding chair, the decades that followed were rich in accomplishments in vision-science research, multidisciplinary education, quality patient care, and community outreach.

In recognition of Dr. Straatsma’s seminal work and dedication to developing the Institute into the premier global vision research and care institution it is today, the trustees of the Stein Eye Institute established the Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology when he stepped down as chair in 1994.

Creating A Legacy

“Over the years, I made modest gifts to support the chair,” Dr. Straatsma explains, “but then came a time for careful planning of what comes next.” He decided to establish a charitable remainder trust. “This is a way to provide funds for something you believe is important while also providing support for members of your family,” he explains.

Dr. Straatsma split his gift into three charitable remainder trusts to benefit each of his three children. Eventually, the money will go to the endowed chair that bears his name. “I purposefully directed these gifts to benefit the chair,” Dr. Straatsma explains, “because when I held that position, I found that one of the most important things was having the flexibility to move forward with initiatives that can change the field and help science evolve very rapidly.”

For information about establishing a charitable remainder trust or any other flexible ways you can include a philanthropic gift in your estate plans, please contact Devon Brown, Director of Gift Planning, at devonb@support.ucla.edu or 310-794-2213.

Join the Play Reading Group

Open to new members as play readers or “audience.” Email Rochelle Caballero and tell her you read about the group in UCLARA Connections.

Thursday, May 12: The Petrified Forest by Robert E. Sherwood, 7 p.m. via Zoom
Thursday, June 9: Spotlight on Noel Coward, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Traditionally Play Reading has met at the Faculty Club. For the past two years, the group has relied on Zoom.
Upcoming Events for Retirees

For event details and registration, see the Events page of the UCLARA website, retirees.ucla.edu/Events.

**Wednesday, May 4: Virtual Tour of the Wende Museum**
This Culver City institution is an art museum, historical archive of the Cold War, and center for creative community engagement. 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. via Zoom.

**Thursday, May 12: After-Lunch Lecture with Dana Cuff**
Dana Cuff is an author, scholar and professor at UCLA Architecture and Urban Design. She will speak on the housing crisis in California and Los Angeles. 1:30 - 3 p.m. via Zoom.

**Wednesday, May 18: Mrs. Block’s Concert Series**
Live music by student performers at the Chancellor’s Residence, hosted by Carol Block. In-person event, 4 to 5 p.m. Attendance limited.

**Thursday, June 9: After-Lunch Lecture with Eileen Strempel**
Hear the Dean of the Herb Alpert School of Music. 1:30 - 3 p.m. via Zoom. Topic to be decided.

**Play Reading Schedule** (May 12, June 9) see page 7; **Emeriti Arts & Crafts Exhibit** (May 17) see story and photo on page 1.

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