

# THE LIFE TIMES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LEARNING INSTITUTE FOR ELDERLY AT UCF

## AUTUMNAL ADVENTURES

**Upcoming field  
trips and  
excursions**

## CLASS CUSTOMS

**Etiquette for lectures  
that even Ms. Manners  
would approve**

## THAT GIRL

**Meet LIFE's  
student  
assistant**





# ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The LIFE Times Newsletter is published monthly throughout the Fall and Spring semesters by LIFE (Learning Institute For Elders) at UCF.

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## MARRIED FOUR TIMES

BY GAIL AGOR

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.. "He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought... He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now - in her 80's - a funeral director. The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers. She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."

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# MIND STRETCH

DO SOME MENTAL GYMNASTICS WITH US IN THIS FUN ACTIVITY

By Gail Agor

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When you get to a “certain” age, none of us here at LIFE can argue that the mind needs more stimulation... after all... that’s the reason that most of us are LIFE members! Starting with this issue, we are going to have a column that will give you a MIND STRETCHING exercise. Once you begin, you won’t be able to quit! ENJOY your calisthenics! Years of participation in Odyssey of the Mind at various, elementary, middle and high school students taught me some strategies for creative thinking...you know...thinking outside of the box. SAMPLE: Name as many KINGS as you can. Possible answers: Henry VIII, King George, Richard. Let’s try a little harder: Burger; Elvis; stalkING; baKING Do you have the idea? I bet you can think of many more. Now for this months’ MIND STRETCH! Name as many things that you can that are “RED.” REMEMBER.....stretchhhhhhhh your mind! Stop by the welcome desk to give me (Gail) your answers. Some will be shared in the next newsletter!



Field trip photos courtesy of Richard Kushner

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# LIFE TOURS THE ORLANDO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

**BACKSTAGE ADVENTURES AND "MAN OF LA MANCHA"**

photos courtesy of Richard Kushner





# IN HIS OWN WORDS

## WE TALKED WITH LIFE MEMBER SAM SHUTT ABOUT WEATHERING AN INTERESTING CAREER

by Gail Agor

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Sam Shutt declares that his most memorable day of his life was the day he married his beautiful bride, but his work history is a fascinating story as well. This is a story I planned to write, but Sam's answers to my questions were worded so wonderfully, I decided that his tale was best told in his own words!

Shortly after I graduated in 1959 from High School in Roanoke, VA I joined the Navy where I was trained as a weather forecaster. I spent six years in the Navy and decided I wanted to do other things than make the Navy my career, so I was discharged in April of 1965 and shortly afterward was recruited to help develop a Meteorological service for the Grand Bahama Port Authority in Freeport, Grand Bahama. The airport in Freeport had been given an Air Traffic Control Zone and needed to provide weather services as a support to Air Traffic Control and to the aviation community. I arrived in Freeport in the spring of 1966 and helped get the weather department up and going. We provided weather observations for dissemination on a worldwide basis and also provided flight documentation to various airlines. British Airways pilots would comment frequently about the high quality of our documentation. Since the Port Authority was a private company, we also sought out private companies to which we could provide Met services.

An oil refinery was built in Freeport and needed wind and sea condition forecasts for their operations. Contracts were negotiated with the refinery and Chevron for forecasts to be furnished for their bunkering. Wind and sea height forecasts were most critical, as oil tankers, when empty, are much like a large sail. I remember on some windy nights I didn't sleep very well worrying about those tankers. During the first years of my employment with the Port Authority I was assistant to the Meteorological Supervisor. He retired in 1979 and I was promoted to Chief Forecaster.

The duties were about the same with funding for the Weather Department being questioned with each budget submitted. The Bahamas government required all expatriates to be in possession of work permits and to train Bahamian Nationals for these positions. I was successful in doing this and after twenty-five years with the Port Authority I returned to Florida. Before I left the Bahamas, I made many acquaintances and had the good fortune of to be considered by U.S. Immigration and Naturalization service for a position in Orlando as an Immigration Inspector. I reported for duty at Orlando International Airport in December of 1990. I was given to a trainer and put on the line admitting passengers under his supervision. It didn't take long to catch onto the basics of the job, but I soon realized there was a lot to learn.

In May of '91, I was packed off to Glynco, GA to attend the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Academy. I had a little trepidation as I had heard how hard the school was and the last class had a 25% washout rate. Sure enough, after the first exam we lost two students and they had to return to Guam not knowing if they had a job or not. In brief, the academy taught Immigration Law along with firearm training and physical techniques.

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I was able at the tender age of 50 to pass all the phases which included five weeks of intensive Spanish (still can't speak it very well) and returned to Orlando that fall. I was put on the admission line to gain experience in passenger processing and try to detect individuals who were traveling with fraudulent documents. We also were interested in apprehending people who were wanted by other law enforcement agencies. Invariably we would find a couple traveling together where one had placed a restraining order on the other to keep their distance. When confronted they would explain they had since made up and no longer wanted the order to be in effect. We told them they could explain that to the judge where ever they resided.

Over the next few years I ran the gamut of catching fake passports and visas along with alien smugglers. All of these events tend to meld into memory with a few standing out. I remember one case in which an airliner landed at OIA because a passenger had died on board. He had swallowed drugs and one of the stuffed condoms had broken and gotten into his system. His traveling partner confessed he had also swallowed drugs and wanted to be taken to the hospital to have them removed. On another occasion a male passenger arrived from Columbia with a large bag of candy suckers.

We asked him why he had so many suckers and he said he just loved suckers. We unwrapped one and asked him to take a bite. He adamantly refused and a field test on the suckers showed them to be black tar heroin. Some sort of minor or great excitement was almost a daily occurrence. Of course, the event that changed everything was Nine Eleven. Four, of the original twenty hijackers, attempted entry through Orlando at different times. Three were admitted because all of their paper work was in order. The twentieth one was sent home because the Immigration Inspector in the Secondary Inspections Office had a gut feeling and suspected the passenger of being dangerous due to arrogance and a military bearing that the Inspector had seen before. He was sent back to Saudi Arabia on the next flight. When he was later captured in battle, his fingerprints were a match to him being refused entry in Orlando. The inspector who refused him was hailed as a hero. Unfortunately, the other three were part of the hijack team of infamy. In 2003, the One Face at The Border program was enacted with INS and Customs being merged into The Department of Homeland Security.

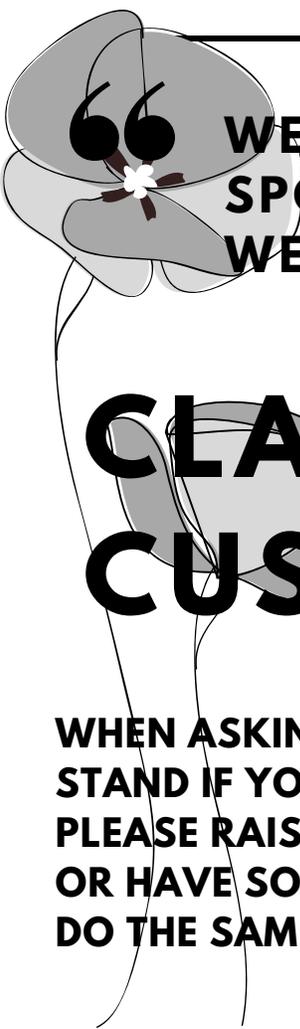
My duties changed a bit and I was put on the Contraband Enforcement Team. Our main duty was the interdiction of drugs and large amounts of currency. In 2012 I decided, that with some of the characters I had to deal with and my advancing age, I could no longer run with the big dogs. I retired in January of 2013 and haven't missed being at work yet. Retirement has allowed me to enjoy more bike riding, both bicycle and motorcycle, and an occasional round of golf.

I feel very fortunate to be part of LIFE, and as Dr. Hitt put it recently, "You, LIFE members have a hot ticket." Weekly, I am amazed how the most mundane sounding subjects presented are made most interesting by lecturers who are fabulous and very knowledgeable speakers.

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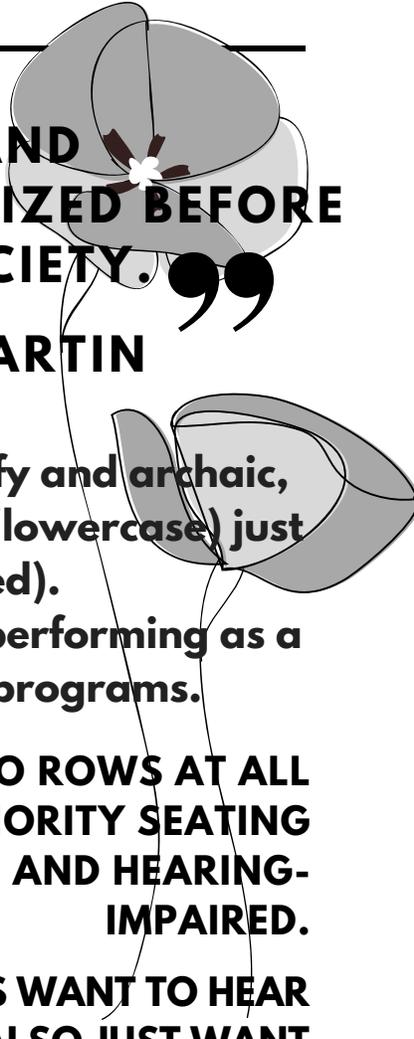
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**“ WE ARE BORN CHARMING, FRESH AND SPONTANEOUS AND MUST BE CIVILIZED BEFORE WE ARE FIT TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY. ”**

**JUDITH "MISS MANNERS" MARTIN**

# **CLASS CUSTOMS**



**Etiquette. It sounds stuffy and archaic, but it is essential in life (lowercase) just as it is in LIFE (capitalized). Here are some tips for performing as a proper pupil at all LIFE programs.**

**WHEN ASKING A QUESTION, STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE. IF NOT, PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND HIGH OR HAVE SOMEONE NEAR YOU DO THE SAME.**

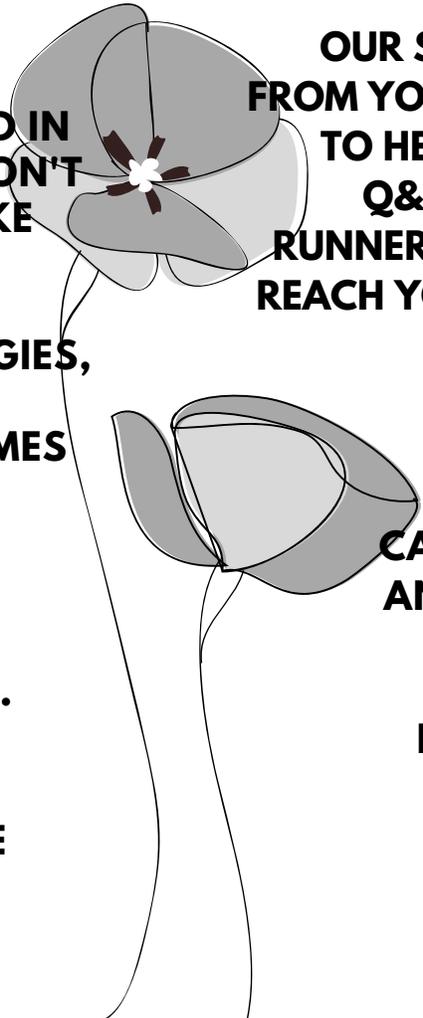
**FIRST TWO ROWS AT ALL LECTURES ARE PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE SIGHT- AND HEARING-IMPAIRED.**

**SOMETIMES WE'RE PACKED IN LIKE SARDINES, BUT WE DON'T HAVE TO BE AROMATIC LIKE SARDINES.**

**OUR SPEAKERS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. THEY ALSO JUST WANT TO HEAR YOU, PERIOD. DURING Q&A, PATIENTLY WAIT FOR A RUNNER WITH A MICROPHONE TO REACH YOU BEFORE ASKING YOUR QUESTION.**

**IN CONSIDERATION OF CLASSMATES WITH ALLERGIES, PLEASE REFRAIN FROM WEARING STRONG PERFUMES ON LIFE DAYS.**

**SPEAKING OF SARDINES, FISH AND GUESTS AREN'T SO GREAT AFTER A WHILE. YOU MAY BRING A GUEST ONCE PER SEMESTER TO ANY LECTURE HELD IN THE PEGASUS BALLROOM. NO GUESTS IN SMALLER VENUES, PLEASE.**



**OUR SPEAKERS DON'T INTERRUPT YOUR PHONE CALLS. RETURN THE FAVOR AND SILENCE OR TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE.**

**DON'T LIKE THE SPEAKER? Q & A IS NOT THE FORUM FOR COMMENTS. TELL US IN THE WEEKLY SPEAKER EVALUATION SURVEY INSTEAD.**

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# LIFE SAFETY PLAN for Student UNION

## LIFE Safety/Evacuation Plan

The UCF Safety/Evacuation Plan has been reviewed and approved. Jennifer Hartman, Assistant Director of Event Planning for the Student Union, assures us there is an emergency/disaster plan in place for the Student Union Building. Please follow instructions from the Student Union officials. Members of the Police and Fire Departments are in charge in the event of an evacuation.

### Health Safety Guidelines

When one of our members has a health emergency, the Safety Committee Chair or representative will call 911 and then call the Student Union Information Desk – (407) 823-0001. All emergency procedures will be performed by the first responders. Automated external defibrillators (AED) are located at the Information Desk and are available to the trained personnel for health emergencies.

**In the event of a fall**, the person should be instructed to remain on the floor until he or she has been evaluated by emergency personnel. If the person insists upon getting up, it should be on his/her own. Please do not attempt to help or provide assistance. You may cause more harm than good to the individual as well as yourself. When emergency personnel arrive, it is important that all members remain at a distance. In accordance with HIPPA requirements, that distance is approximately 8-10 feet. This ensures as much privacy as possible and gives the first responders sufficient room to work.

### Emergency Exit Guidelines

In the event of fire, bomb threat, power outage and other facilities emergencies, it is mandated that we leave the building. The elevators stop running, lighting is deactivated, and an alarm sounds accompanied by the following verbal warning: “An emergency has been detected, please leave the building.” Members of Police and Fire Departments are in charge of the evacuation.

**Pegasus Ballroom:** Everyone in Pegasus must evacuate through the side doors into the hallway and out the nearest exit. In the event of fire, a partition in the hallway will descend from the ceiling to prevent entering the Atrium.

**Cape Florida Room:** Everyone in Cape Florida will exit the side doors and down the stairs located in the back hallway.

To assist with the evacuation of the disabled, members of the Police and Fire Departments and authorized UCF staff will sweep through all rooms starting on the fourth floor all the way down to the first. They are authorized to override the stopped elevator if there is no fire. However, in the case of fire, the stairwells are fireproof for up to two (2) hours.

**In a fire situation**, the stairwell is the best place for the disabled to wait for assistance from the Fire Department personnel. An Evac Chair, specially designed for stairway use, is readily available for use by evacuation personnel.

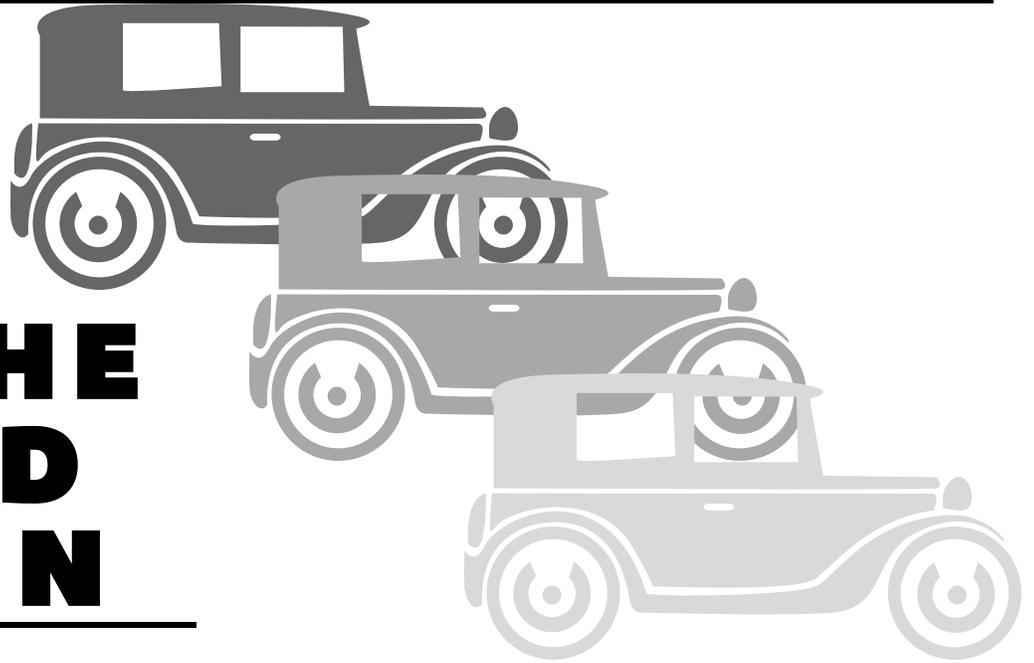
The LIFE board members will provide leadership during an emergency.

Paulette Geller, LIFE Safety Chair

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# ON THE ROAD AGAIN

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## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS

### **Leu Gardens and House 1920 N. Forest Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803**

Fancy a stroll in the garden as cooler days come our way? This docent-led tour will feature a walk through the gardens and an optional tour of the historic house. The house is two floors and does not have an elevator for accessibility. 15 visitors may pass through the house at one time.

Tours take place every 30 minutes. No food will be permitted in the house. Please wear casual clothing and comfortable shoes. There are no food vendors on site, but you may bring your own picnic lunch to eat on the patio.

Cost for the tour is \$15 per LIFE member, including tip. Parking is free. Minimum of 20 people, maximum of 40 people. More information & sign up at <https://life.ucf.edu/life-sponsored-field-trips/>.





# That Girl

## ALLI MOSS -- LIFE STUDENT ASSISTANT

by Gail Agor

"I unfortunately lost all of my grandparents before I could really know them, so I'm so grateful to have been "adopted" by all of you here at LIFE!"

You've seen her sitting at the Welcome Desk, computer at the ready. You've seen her counting members as we listen to lectures. You've seen her carrying a microphone to individuals during the question and answer portion of each session...but it's time to get further insight into our incredible Student Assistant, Alli Moss! Seven years ago, with her parents, who wisely wished to pursue warm weather, Alli moved to Oviedo from Richmond, VA. Fortunately for LIFE, she decided to utilize her Bright Futures scholarship at UCF combining a close proximity to home with an amazing curriculum in Legal Studies, a degree with which she plans to combine with her passion for the environment

in a nonprofit, government agency and/or interest group.

As a junior at UCF Alli seems to be able to stuff more things in 24 hours of a day than most people do in a week! Besides her duties for LIFE, she works in the UCF SGA (Student Government Association) helping students to secure funding to attend conferences around the world. Her superior grades/study habits have earned her a third job in the Burnett Honors College as a teaching assistant/mentor to freshman students completing the required Honors course, Symposium. Add a full course load of her own classes, some special time to enjoy her family, boyfriend and dogs and we're left to ponder, "Does Alli sleep?"

Alli has voiced her appreciation to LIFE members who have chosen to "adopt" her as she lost all grandparents too early

to have been able to know them. It is us who should be appreciative! Alli's duties for LIFE include going to monthly board meetings to take notes, all the email blasts LIFE members receive, making tons and tons of copies and the assimilation of the LIFE newsletter you are reading right now! With her characteristic grin, she also says that she is having a lot fun although she's not sure that is part of her job description. When questioned as to her best talent that serves people of our generation Alli said, "I have terrible eyesight, as my thick glasses and contacts will attest. I try to be conscious of accessibility when I'm writing e-blasts or designing the newsletter and keep fonts nice and large. I'm not sure that counts as a talent, so I can sing, when forced." A great sense of humor is a talent!

I asked Alli if she has any quirks she'd like to share with us. Her answer might seem unusual to some of us, but a learning experience should be gleaned from her dedication and passion for the environment. "I try to reduce my trash and recycling as much as possible. I bring my own water bottle, coffee cup and utensils everywhere, and shop for most of my groceries at a special store where I can buy dry goods in my own jars or bags. I don't cook meat at home since it's so hard to find it without plastic wrap. I also hope to start composting soon so that I won't even need to have a trash can!" There is hope for the future of our grandchildren when young people care so much!

While she pursues her studies, we are fortunate to have Alli! You've seen her at her computer, you've seen her in our lecture hall... you now know Alli a bit better. She has shared her passions and future plans with us and has served LIFE brilliantly, with her tech skills, talents and personality. Foolish are the individuals who cease to learn. We are privileged to have this wonderful young woman from whom we can learn so much! Stop at the welcome desk and say, "Hi" to our incredible Student Assistant, Alli Moss. Bring your pet pictures; Alli's profound love of pets has netted us an invitation to share pictures of our fur babies, something Jim Burr and I have, happily, already done!

"I try to be conscious of accessibility when I'm writing e-blasts or designing the newsletter by keeping fonts nice and large."

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LIFE is seeking interesting stories of members to feature in this newsletter. If you or someone you know recently traveled somewhere exciting, had an unusual career, has a unique hobby, or is otherwise newsworthy, contact Gail Agor at [agorgail@gmail.com](mailto:agorgail@gmail.com).

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**LIFE wants YOUR story!**

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## **calendar**

10/17: "Unexpected Hospitalization: Perspective of a Nurse and Family Member" & "The TRIO Project & STEM: Making A Difference in the Lives of Diverse Students"

10/24: "Updates to Stem Cell Research" & "Team Performance: From Cockpit Crews to Robotic Co-Workers"

10/31: "Forensic Archeological Research: Improving Search Methods for Human Remains" & "Greenwood Cemetery"

11/7: "New Technology/Simulation in Nurse Training" & "Behavioral Finance"

## Highlights of LIFE @ UCF Minutes

10/2/2017

### Dean's Conference Room, Psychology Building

**CALL TO ORDER**-Julian Meitin, President called the meeting to order at 9 am.

Julian introduced Paulette Geller to discuss the previous safety plan and procedures used by LIFE when an accident occurred. Paulette stated that there was a LIFE plan that followed the UCF policy. There is a need for a new committee and chairperson. Paulette said that LIFE averaged 3 incidents per years where 911 was called. One of the problems members get embarrassed and want to get up immediately. Don't do it. Look at UCF policy. Had 5 members on the safety committee. Need new committee. After the incident...assess the area.

Mike Agor, Richard Kushner, Ida Cook, Marie Ruckstahl volunteered to be on the committee. Ida and Richard agreed to co-chair the Safety Committee and Diane said she would serve as consultant.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President – Julian Meitin Knight's Pantry Food Drive was successful. \$500 has been given to food pantry. Debbie Barton will chair the Knight's Pantry food drive. It was suggested that we conduct the drive in October.

Livestreaming program Waiting list a membership where you have access to Livestreaming. Wayne.bowen@ucf.edu

**STANDING COMMITTEES** Curriculum – Jim Burr 70% of the class slots are filled. The committee will begin looking scheduling for summer at the next meeting. During the New Member Orientation people to volunteered for both the Curriculum Committee and Newsletter.

Grants & Awards Ray Jones. Moved to waive committee for directed grants. The motion was seconded and approved. Lee Cross will present draft of the Directed Grant recipients and amount of funding at November board meeting. Ray announced that the Undergraduate Research Award of \$500 had been awarded for the fall semester.

Membership – Mike Agor reported for Tim Matthews. Out of 750 members there are still 95 no-shows The wait list has 350 applicants We are averaging 10 new applicants a month.

Newsletter – Jim Burr (position open) Jim reported that the Newsletter will be published next week. 2 new members have volunteered.

Webmaster – Ray Jones encouraged board members to make suggestions for the web-site.

### **AD HOC COMMITTEES**

Experiential Learning - Marie Ruckstuhl reported that there were 26 people going to the Shakespeare Theater and the registration for Leu gardens was on the web.

Jim Burr and Marie reported on their attendance at the Conference at Eckerd College this summer.

### **Technical Equipment Needs UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Consultant/Program Director- Julian expressed the need for help in hiring a Program Director. Vonnie volunteered to chair the committee and will include some past presidents.

### **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**