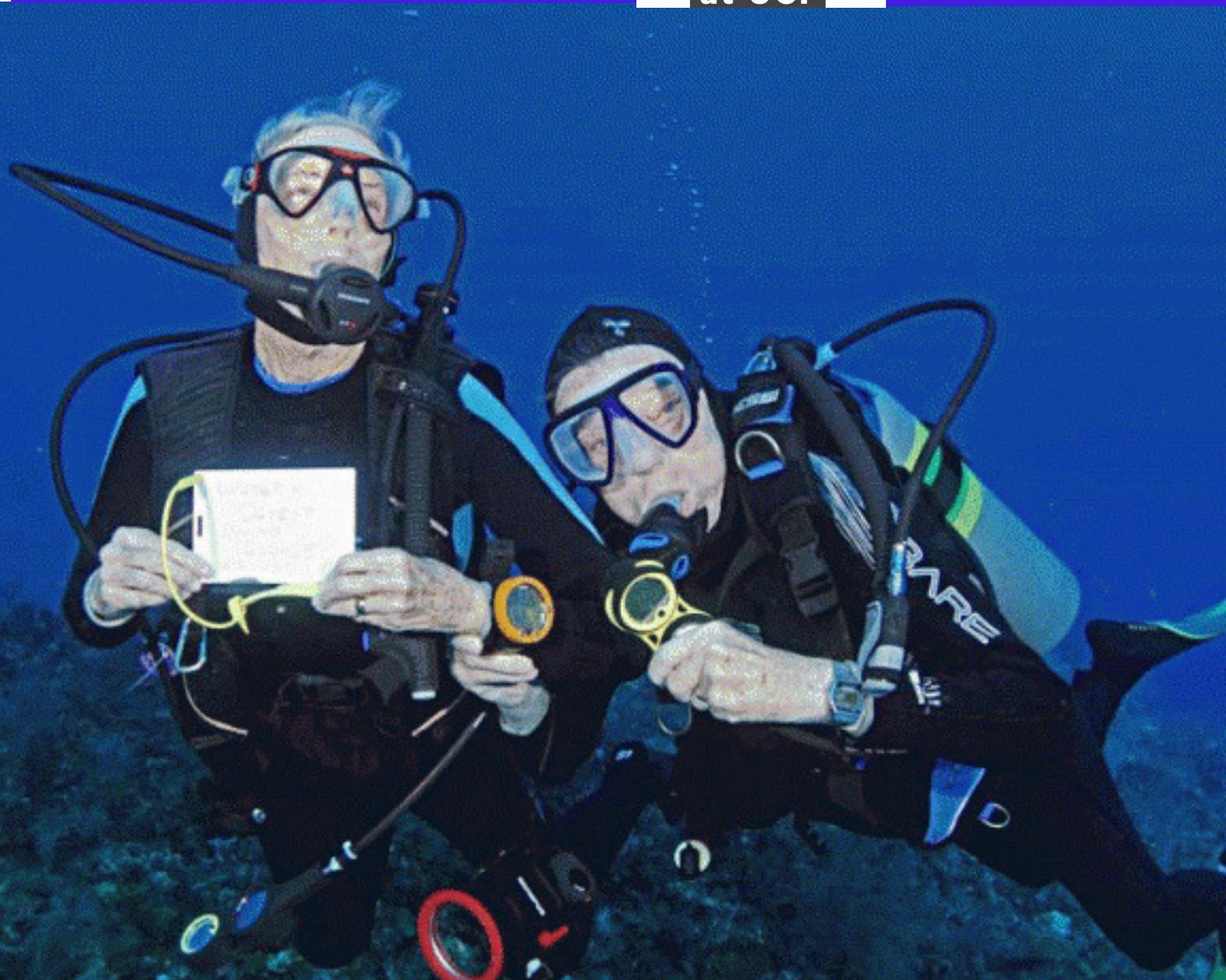


The LIFE Times



MARCH 2018

official publication
of the Learning
Institute For
Elders at UCF
View this
newsletter in living
color at
life.ucf.edu/newsletters/



LIFE: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Learn the storied history of our organization

MARITIME MAVENS

Pictured: Members Phil & Grace Hampton celebrate a world record

A CAT'S TALE

Recalling the fuzzy felines who once called UCF home

-
- 02 Publication notice
 - 03 Editor's Note & Inspiration
 - 04 Field Trip Sign-Up
 - 05 Greenwood Cemetery
 - 06 Humor & Photos
 - 07 Did You Know?
 - 08 Animal Archives
 - 09 spotLIFE
 - 12 Membership Committee
 - 13 Minutes of March Board Meeting
 - 14 Renewal Information
 - 15 Trivia Tangle

The LIFE Times newsletter is published monthly during the fall and spring semesters by LIFE.
Editor: Gail Agor
agorgail@gmail.com
321-438-6115
Associate Editor:
Allison Moss
allisonmoss@knights.ucf.edu



March is here and with that comes the time to begin the LIFE renewal process! Look elsewhere in this month's LIFE Times for information about LIFE renewal.

Additionally, by now, you should have received an email outlining the process! If you have not received the email or have additional questions, ask any of the Membership Committee at the Welcome Desk for information. The registration period is from Tuesday, March 13 through April 10.

Should you not renew by that time, your name will be removed from the LIFE membership roster... so register NOW!

Alli and I appreciate all the kind comments we have been receiving! Should you have any comments, criticisms and ideas for future issues of The LIFE Times, let us know. Both our email addresses are on the front of each issue.

*Laughter is timeless,
imagination has no age,
dreams are forever. -Walt
Disney*

WHOA! World

Record!

Phil and Grace Hampton, UCF LIFE members, have been awarded the world record for the "Oldest SCUBA Diving Couple" by the renowned Guinness Book! To be recognized in the record book, the couple had to dive to more than 40 feet for 30 minutes and have the dive witnessed by three independent judges. At the ages of 86 for him and 85 (one month shy of 86 for her,) this couple achieved the award after a dive at Cayman Brac with a dive that was number 2925 for Phil and 1524 for Grace. Congratulations to this energetic couple!



It's adventuring

season:

here's the inside scoop on signing up for LIFE field trips

Marie Ruckstuhl has been doing a magnificent job of scheduling and executing experiential learning tours for LIFE members. This year LIFE has streamlined the process for signing up, by making it easier for members to reserve a spot on each tour via an online procedure.

**Instructions to sign up to attend an event at:
LIFE.ucf.edu (LIFE website)
Click on LIFE Sponsored Field Trips.**

- A page with the sign-up section will come up.
(You may have to scroll down to the event desired if there is more than one event still open.)
- Enter your personal information: name, email, number of people, phone for contact.
Remember, this is the way we contact you for details of the event or in case of cancellation.
Email is the preferred method of contact, but we may need to phone you.
- Click on "submit" once you have completed the registration with your information.

If there is a cost associated with the event, you will be directed to PayPal and charged through PayPal.

You will receive a confirmation that you have paid and the LIFE tour director will receive your name and information as having paid.

If there is no cost associated with the event, you should automatically receive a confirmation from the site that you have registered. If, for some reason, you do not receive a confirmation of registration within 24 hours, please email the current Experiential Learning chairperson so that the confirmation is sent out. For 2018 that is marie.ruckstuhl@gmail.com.

****Note: Kindly let the chairperson know if you are unable to attend after you have signed up.**

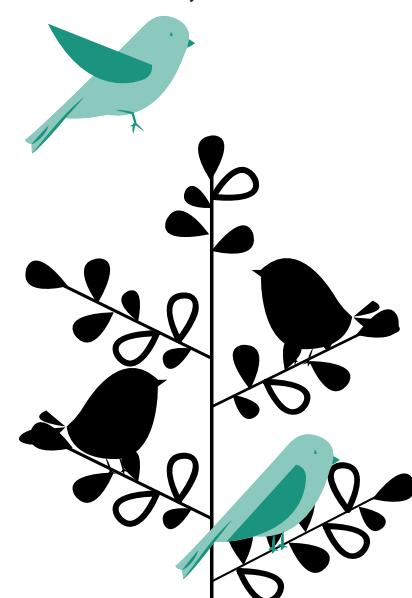
Sometimes there is a waiting list, especially on free events, and another person would be happy to attend.



If the event is a paid event, notify the chairperson at least 3 days in advance of the event, if you cannot go. If you or the chairperson can find a LIFE member who wants to go, you may be able to get a refund on the costs.

Otherwise, the costs are non-refundable. LIFE tours are at group rates and the venues do not offer refunds for those who do not attend.

LIFE members signed up for an event will receive an email reminder a few days before the scheduled program with details and directions, as needed.



Greenwood's ghosts & ghouls

**BY DEB
BARTON &
MARIE
RUCKSTUHL**

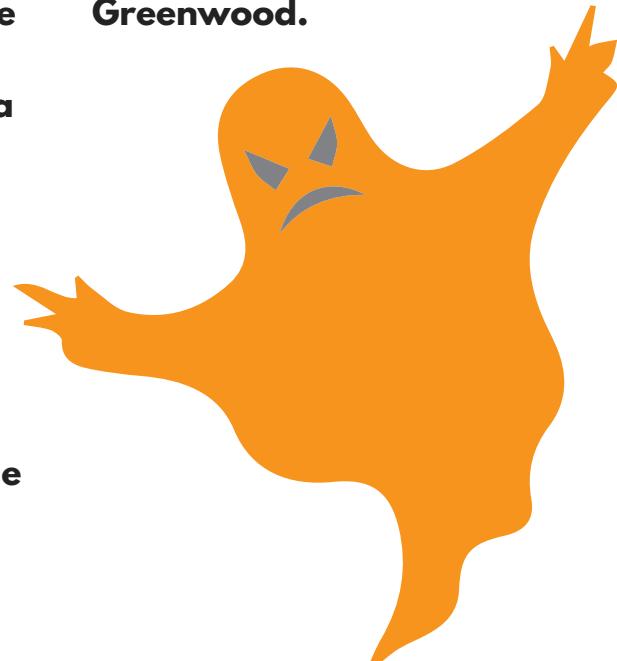
Don Price, Sexton of Greenwood Cemetery, a raconteur par excellence, led LIFE members through the History of Orlando, as we wandered through the silent residents in a gated community. Don is devoted to sharing history with people who visit the cemetery, either for tours he leads, or those he encounters who are visiting on their own. He shared history with over 50 LIFE members. It is hard to pick a few highlights of the LIFE tour, but I think among the tops were the Sperry Fountain, the Confederate Soldier statue, and the 1864 cannon from Lee Middle School.

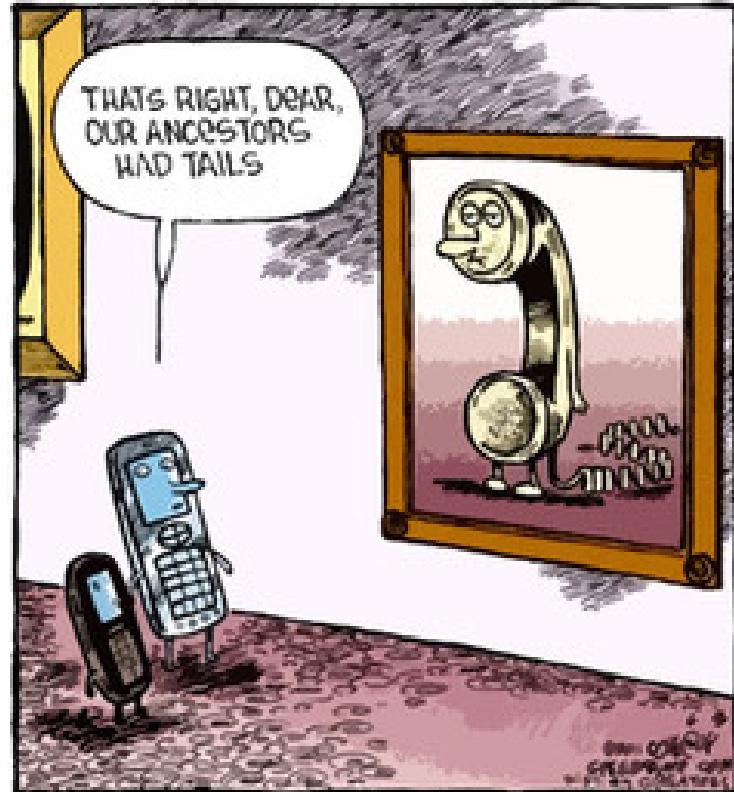
The original Sperry Fountain was donated by Orlando Mayor Sperry in 1914, who also donated the land next to Lake Eola



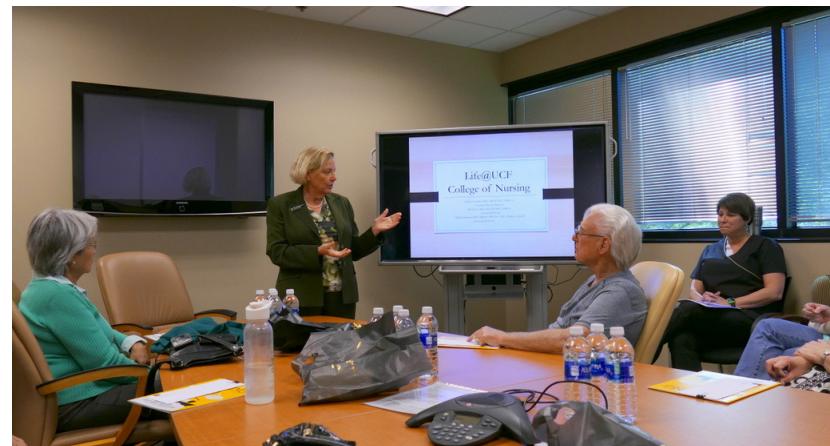
on which the fountain stood. The fountain, with swans around the base and a turkey on top, was created in the Sperry foundry. This fountain was considered the first public art piece in Orlando. The Cemetery also boasts a wonderful marble memorial to the Confederate Soldier, which was originally placed on Magnolia Avenue in 1911, then moved to Lake Eola in 1917. In 2017 the statue was moved to Greenwood. The Lee Middle School cannon was moved to the cemetery in 2017

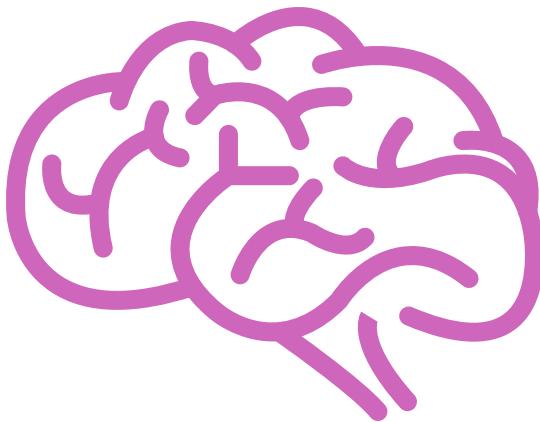
and is dated at 1864. The cemetery is open to the public to walk or bicycle through. Don also conducts moonlight tours. Check it out if you have not yet been to Greenwood.





Members tour the UCF School of Nursing:





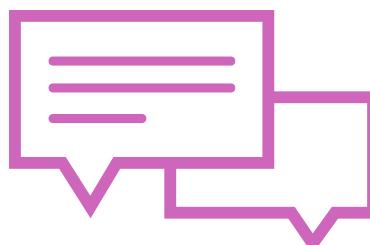
Did you know?

by Lee Cross

Often LIFE members or community members would like to make an announcement to LIFE participants during the 8:45-9:00 am time slot. While many of the announcements are of interest and relevant to our LIFE community, the Board felt that there was a need to limit the announcements due to time restrictions. Currently the morning announcement period prior to the beginning of classes each Tuesday is reserved for UCF-affiliated events/organizations. Outside groups may place approved pamphlets/flyers in the hall on a one-time basis approved by the Vice President. Displayed material should not contain offensive language, nor espouse a political agenda of any kind.

Heads up:

a word from Gail Agor



In addition to our weekly sessions, membership comes with many, many benefits. These perks vary from an annual parking decal for UCF to discounts at restaurants and theaters! We also get admission to UCF sporting and arts' programs for free and/or reduced fees. One of the few things we do not get is discounts to local attractions like, Disney, Sea World or Universal. This is understandable since each student who takes credited classes at UCF is required to pay an Activity & Service Fee of \$11.67 per credit hour or \$208.80 for a student taking 12 hours a semester/24 a year (some take more and thus pay more). This is NOT a fee that we LIFE members incur. UCF students who pay these fees have a limited number of discounted passes they can purchase. As LIFE members, we have the responsibility to behave ethically and not put students on the spot by asking them to buy discounted tickets for us.



UCF Animal Archives, part II

by Diane Wink



One of the current resident cats of Apollo, a possible descendant of Mr. Kitty.

College Deans love to have lots and lots of FTEs - full time equivalents, each of which results in funding to the college. FTEs are based on student enrollment but there are times UCF deans may wish they also came from other campus residents - some furry and some furry with wings.

UCF is well known for its very large number of students (64,000+) but at one point it was also known for its large population of cats left on campus by students and members of the surrounding community. Being cats, they were prolific breeders and as early as 1982 there were so many that UCF began a cat eradication program. In response, a caring collection of students, faculty and staff created CAA - Community Action for Animals to address the problem. Through donations and low-cost care provided by a local veterinarian, the cats were neutered, vaccinated and received health care. There were also feeding areas across campus where devoted volunteers served up a variety of nourishing wet and

dry cat food every day. The CAA also ran a Cat Relocation Program to promote adoption of the UCF Cats.

1988 found one of the more famous, of the still prolific cats, Mr. Kitty still active in his territory; the area near the buildings now housing Technology Commons, Mathematical Sciences, and the Library. He received special care and love from many students, faculty, staff and the owner of the small hot dog stand in the area. One day said hot dog aficionado sent a message via some nursing students that a major (and it turned out very effective) cat round up was imminent.

Staff from the nursing department scurried out to find Mr. Kitty (I am sure they were on break at the time!) and hid him in an office storage area. A desperate call went out about Mr. Kitty's need for a permanent home. After being briefly fostered by the then chair of the nursing department, he went to the home of a faculty member where he was welcomed by another adult cat whose litter mate had recently died. All was well for a few weeks as Mr. Kitty learned to be an indoor cat - happily finding the (always full) food bowl, clean litter box, fresh water and petting on demand.

Amazingly, there was no cat fighting.

Unfortunately, that did not last.

Turns out Mr. Kitty was used to being a top cat on the UCF campus and wanted to be THE top cat in his new home. So, he set out to make it clear he was the one who would get ALL the love and attention as he snuggled up to the house humans on the couch. When he realized that behavior was not enough to get rid of that annoying other feline, Mr. Kitty took decisive action by identifying all of his house mate's hiding places and favorite sleeping spots, taking action to pee on each of them.

Mr. Kitty lived his final years happily back at the home of the chair of nursing!!

Assistant Editor's Note: You can still find as many as five cats living around the Apollo housing community. Some are friendly, some are skittish, but all get very excited when a student with a plastic bag walks by-they know that goodies like chicken and tuna come out of those bags!





LIFE @UCF turns 27

Close your eyes...think back...way back....27 years ago to 1991. Can you remember? Tim “The Tool Man” Taylor was making us laugh in the first year of Home Improvement; Seinfeld was only in its second season and the New York Giants won the Super Bowl by one point! We sat uncomfortably in our seats while watching Silence of the Lambs and sang Everything I Do, I Do It for You with the radio... and a group of 150 people were organizing the very first LIFE meetings at UCF.

With the College of Arts and Sciences as our original Academic Sponsor, weekly classes were held on Tuesdays and Thursdays (2 each day). Additionally, once a month, LIFE held a luncheon/lecture meeting at the Holiday Inn across from the UCF campus. Our campus meeting locations bordered on the nomadic;

classroom space was not available so we met in a number of campus venues including the President’s Conference Room and the Skybox at the old

Arena. (Needless to say, UCF was not as large as it is today; less than 21,000 students; still large, but not today’s campus of 65,000.)

Then, Dick Tucker, the man behind the “Origin of LIFE” as we know it, noticed that a small theater, Cinema 7, across the street from UCF, opened at 12:30pm each day. Since UCF was in immediate need of more classroom space for lectures, they were eager to rent the seven theaters/classrooms from 8 a.m. to Noon. UCF agreed to allow LIFE members to use one of the classrooms on Tuesday and Thursday. LIFE found a new home! So, LIFE at UCF became “LIFE across the street from UCF,” until the



theater went out of business in 2000. Fortunately, the Pegasus Ballroom had just been completed and the Dean of Arts and Sciences requested that LIFE be allowed to use it. Since we had already reduced our classes only to Tuesday, the Student Union agreed. So once again, we were truly LIFE AT UCF!

There was no formal agreement between UCF and LIFE for the first 12 years, the organization was always a part of the university...we were KNIGHTS! It was more of an “understanding” with the Office of the President.

When Dr. Hitt assumed the presidency in 1992, he continued that strong commitment to LIFE at UCF. In 2003, under the guidance of Ray Jones, who at that time, was affiliated with the Astronomy Club and the Department of Physics, the UCF and LIFE partnership was formalized in writing.

With our new celebrated relationship, as well as academic sponsorship, we were allowed to use this new space, at no cost. Lucky for us! The weekly Tuesday classes we now enjoy, became the norm. When the College of Arts and Sciences was reorganized into the College of Sciences and the College of Arts and Humanities in 2004, our sponsorship was under the College of Sciences. In 2008, our sponsorship moved to the Office (now College) of Undergraduate Studies and the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. Under our partnership agreement UCF provides administrative office space and

classroom space for the weekly meetings during the academic year. In reciprocation, LIFE allocates a significant portion of its excess operational funds to a program of annual research grants and awards. This partnership agreement was renewed in September 2014 for another 10 years and reflects the very beneficial relationship that has been forged between the university and LIFE. To date, LIFE has donated over \$650,000 through annual grants and awards!

Although LIFE's membership has grown from 150 to 750 (and next year to 800 members), some things have not changed. LIFE remains a program in which its members are 50 years of age and older. It offers weekly educational programs for its membership. LIFE members are considered UCF students and, carry a UCF "LIFE Student" ID card,

allowing discounts at local restaurants and movie theaters nationwide! We have been given special UCF parking permits for student parking that cost regular UCF students over \$100 each year (LIFE members have the only permit that allows parking through September instead of the usual student parking, only good through August!) We continue to receive special membership benefits with our student ID cards. LIFE at UCF! We receive free and/or reduced fees to most UCF cultural activities and sporting events. In fact, a LIFE member can obtain discounted season tickets to see our nationally ranked football team! Two years ago, we began offering Experiential Learning (field trips) which have proven to be extremely popular! This summer will be our third to offer summer sessions that alternate between the

main campus and the College of Medicine at Lake Nona. Bus transportation from UCF to Lake Nona is offered for these summer sessions, free of charge. We are given opportunities to participate in educational research studies on campus. Last month, LIFE tested live streaming its weekly sessions; a huge jump due to the technology awarded us through our partnership with the university! LIFE is so popular over 400 people had been added to the Wait List in only 15 months!!

LIFE comes from a rich background and a holds a firm place in Central Florida due to its members, volunteer opportunities, relationships in the community and at the University of Central Florida. Since its inception, UCF has provided a faculty liaison to LIFE to serve as advisor to the group and as a facilitator for LIFE at UCF's interactions with the university.

From day one this role has been filled by Dr. Richard Tucker, Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Aging Studies, who was mentioned earlier as one of the organizers of LIFE. 27 years of his continuous dedication and effort providing LIFE with a vital link to the university, has contributed significantly to the overall successes of LIFE, both past and present. His continuing support, in the role of (relaxing) member versus (active) liaison, will propel us to the future! As we continue to grow and partner with the rewards and opportunities UCF offers, it is only in our imagination that we can see what will occur during the next 27 years for LIFE at UCF.





Learn and grow : 12

experience the fun of volunteering with LIFE

Are you interested in getting to know more LIFE members? Then please volunteer to join the Membership Committee. Each week you will meet and greet LIFE members , answer questions about LIFE membership, field trips and other LIFE items, and participate in the Orientation of New Members. Please contact Tim Matthews (tmatthew@msn.com) or Mike Agor (mikeagor53@gmail.com).



Rollin' on the river:



upcoming field trip opportunity

What: Guided cruise in the Winter Park chain of lakes.
When: Friday, April 6, 2018
Meet at dock at 312 East Morse Blvd, Winter Park, FL 32789

Please be at the dock at 10:50am so that we can check in and be ready for the 11AM cruise.

Costs: \$16 per person, including tip.

Minimum number: 10

How to sign up: Go to LIFE.ucf.edu and click on



LIFE sponsored field trips; this will take you to the sign in page. Once you complete your contact information and pay for the trip through PayPal you will receive a confirmation that you are registered and paid for the trip.



Be there.

Your LIFE depends on it!

Our Celebration of LIFE is Tuesday, April 10 at 10:30AM. Help us recognize our volunteers and 10, 20, and 25 year members. We will also share the Annual Report and conduct Board Member elections. There will be refreshments and entertainment.



Minutes of March Board

Meeting

One of the most exciting pieces of news to come from the LIFE Board meeting is the report that the live-streaming of our lectures on February 27 was a great success! The speaker's words were clear and concise, and the images of their presentation were clearer on television sets or computers at home than they seem on our giant screens in the ballroom!!! Now comes the difficult part - how will we make the decision about how to use this knowledge? What will the cost be? Would our speakers be willing to have their presentations shared so widely? Would we have good attendance at our weekly programs if members can stay in their

comfy homes and still hear the speeches and see the images? So many factors to consider, and so many decisions to be made! It will certainly be awhile before we have all the questions answered.

And then there are the decisions about which of many grants might we support? So many good projects waiting to be explored that could benefit us - or our children - as we and they age. We especially want to support the projects connected to gerontology studies - isn't that what we're all about? The most-timely 'news' to come from the board for the moment is the fact that our dues for the 2018-2019 'school' year will be collected soon- beginning

on Tuesday, March 13 and continuing until April 10. Be looking for an email with more details! And look too for news of our annual meeting, at which our volunteers will be honored and at which time we will elect some new members to our board. So much to think about!

Minutes of LIFE @ UCF Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Cape Florida Ballroom

The annual business meeting of LIFE was held at 8:45 AM with a quorum present.

President Vonne Bradbury called the meeting to order and asked for the approval of the General Meeting minutes as printed in the March newsletter. Ann Funk moved to approve the minutes and Roy Scherer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vonne Bradbury then called on Treasurer Ann Brarettta to provide a Treasurer's Report.

Ann reported that LIFE@UCF was on budget for the fiscal year Aug. 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017.

Nominating Committee Chair Jack McGuire announced the retiring Board Members. They are Beverly Bressant, Steve Hall, Ray Jones, Basil Pflumm, Ludy Pulido, and Judy Thames. Then Jack presented the slate of members to be elected to the board, class of 2020.

The following were presented: Arnold Bierman, R. Todd Bowers, Ida Cook, James DeRose,

Jean Seigfried, and Diane Wink. All nominees will serve a 3-year term. It was moved and seconded to approve the slate. The motion was approved by the membership. Jack shared that Judy Luckett has been appointed to serve the remainder of Aaron Liberman's term. Aaron resigned his board position effective May 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 AM.

Renewal Info

LIFE membership dues for 2018-2019 are \$185.

1. The membership renewal period is Tuesday, March 13 until Tuesday, April 10, 2018. All LIFE membership renewal payments must be made no later than Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

2. Dues collection will start Tuesday, March 13, 2018.

3. An email will be sent to all LIFE members containing a web-link, and password to complete the renewal process. A valid credit card is required for renewal.

LIFE uses PayPal as the credit card payment processor. Our renewal webpage has detailed instructions on how to complete your membership renewal.

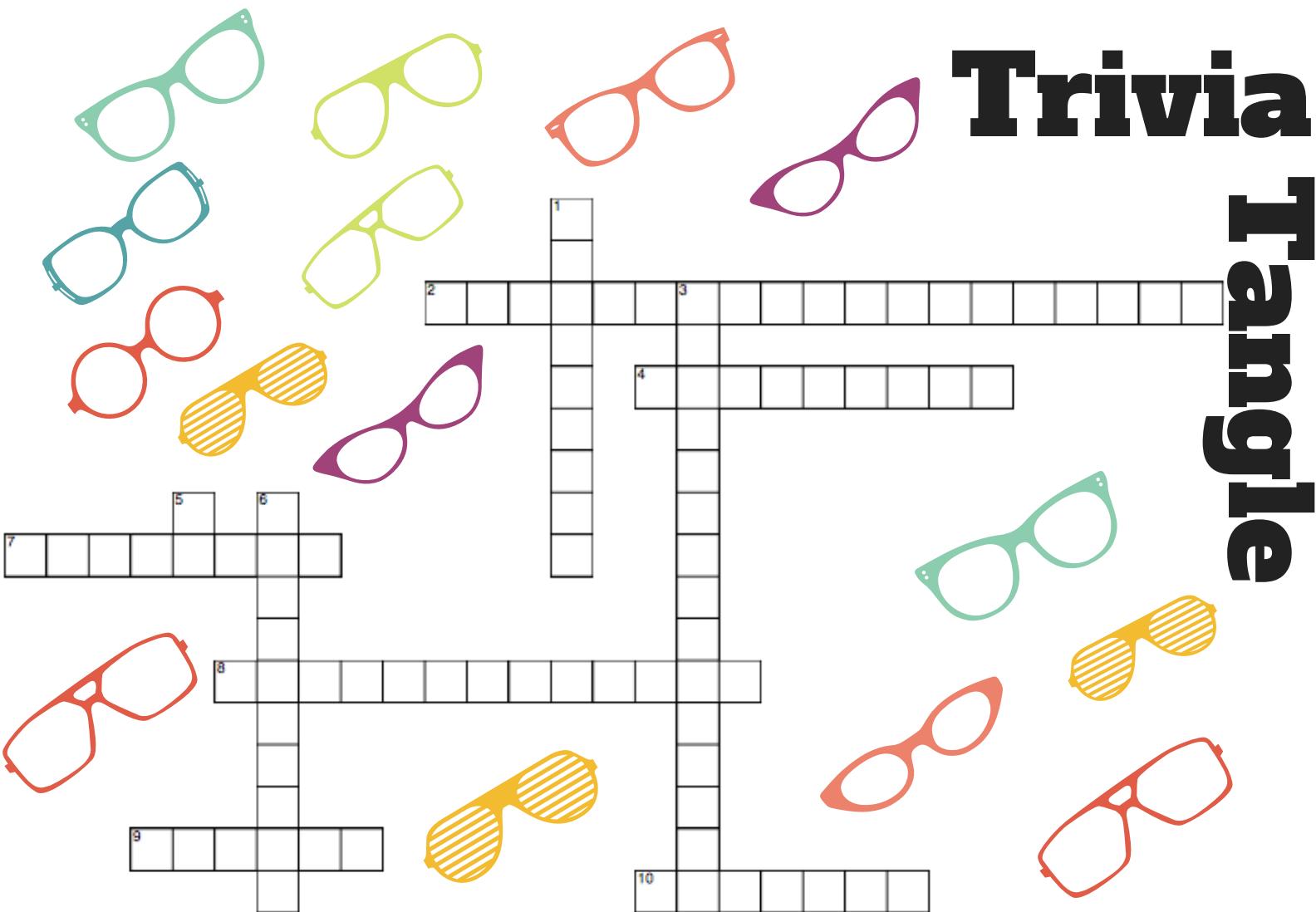
4. Members of the Membership Committee will be at the welcome desk each Tuesday morning during the renewal period to answer questions and help where needed.

5. On a limited case by case basis, the Membership Committee will accept a member's check for renewal. We will need to verify your personal information that UCF

requires LIFE to maintain. 6. If you have not renewed by the deadline, you will be removed from the membership of LIFE at UCF. If that occurs, you must reapply for membership via the LIFE at UCF website, and you will be placed on the membership waiting list. Renewals will not be accepted after April 10, 2018.

Nametags and parking passes will be distributed beginning the first day of classes, Tuesday, August 20, 2018.

Trivia Tangle



ACROSS

2. Name of LIFE couple who recently were awarded Guinness Book of World Records honor.
4. What was the name of the cemetery that hosted LIFE members on a recent field trip?
7. Who was the LIFE member responsible for the formal agreement between LIFE and UCF?
8. Who won the Super Bowl in 1991?
9. You must sign up for LIFE Experiential Learning tours _____.
10. Name of UCF resident feline who gained fame in the late 80's.

DOWN

1. What antiquated piece of technology was featured in the comic strip from this month's LOL?
3. From 1991-2018, who served as the UCF liaison to LIFE?
5. Is it ever appropriate to ask a UCF student or LIFE student assistant (to whom you are not related) to buy you discounted tickets from the Ticket Center?
6. Which LIFE committee has begun its annual drive?

ANSWERS

online; MrKitty
RayJones; NewYorkGiants;
Greenwood; No; Memberships;
DrRichardTucker;
PhilandGraceHampton;
telephones;