

GRAY MATTERS

News of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute | Sonoma State University

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ADVENTURES OF YOUR FAVORITE VOLCANOLOGIST, NICOLE MYERS

By Grace Burroughs

Did you know Nicole dreamed of being a volcanologist at the age of 10? Nicole was born in Boulder, CO where she remembers growing up in the mountains and playing with rocks. A fond memory of her childhood was getting 5 dollars to spend at the local rock shop. Her amazement with geology and volcanoes started young and led her to University of Oregon and then the University of Texas. A quick and unexpected application to Sonoma State landed her a teaching position and eventually led her to OLLI.



Nicole has been to over 20 countries with Tanzania next on her list to see "Ol doingo Lengai." Her adventures have included scuba diving in Iceland and climbing volcanoes in Guatemala and Costa Rica! Bali was also on her list of favorites as she visited Mount Agung. Her local "happy place" is Mount Lassen.

Nicole has two cats named Topaz and Tux and enjoys sci-fi movies like *The Lord of the Rings*. She has also been teaching strength and yoga for over 10 years. Nicole enjoys teaching for OLLI and appreciates the challenge and curiosity students bring to class. She welcomes the tough questions that may send her down a rabbit hole of researching more volcanoes in places like Madagascar. To keep up with Earth education opportunities and resources and to join Nicole on local geology walks, visit appreciatingearth.com.

Sign up for Geology of Alaskan National Parks & the Beringia Land Bridge on August 10th. You will not want to miss it!

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SAVE THE DATE!

ED STOLMAN 20TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE

Friday, September 10 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Keynote Address: Chris Smith, local favorite columnist with the *Press Democrat*

Chris has written hundreds of local heartwarming stories for over 30 years and will share a few of his favorites with OLLI!

OLLI MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: *Brian Lloyd*

by Grace Burroughs

Brian has worn many hats throughout his life, including physicist, cellist, sailor, architect, grandpa, traveler and semi-pro basketball player! He majored in physics at Earlham College, then continued his studies of molecular biophysics at Amherst College and the University of Vermont (UVM). After obtaining a Master's degree, Brian served two years of Alternative Service as the first environmental coordinator for the State of Vermont. He was an Assistant Dean at UVM and head of the Living Learning Center. He joined IBM in 1980 and worked for 25 years as a scientist and manager. After retiring from IBM, he continued to work for five years as an international consultant in semiconductor physics. The hard work as a consultant was balanced by the gifts of living in other countries like Japan, the former East Germany and Israel, observing daily life and culture. Brian is skilled at playing the cello and has even taught two students who went on to be professional artists! He enjoys playing in the Sonoma County Philharmonic (Community) Orchestra (SoCo Phil) and is very happy that so many of his OLLI friends attend SoCo Phil concerts.



OLLI is a special place and opportunity because of the passion and scholarly dedication of the teachers and staff, and the friendship and lively participation of his fellow students. Brian and his wife Anne were inspired to vacation in Sicily after classes with Douglas Kenning on Grecian culture. The Sicilian people were warm and gracious and the food and wines were delicious. The ancient Greek ruins were pristine and as beautiful as Doug had said. Brian and Anne's other travels have included trips to France, Spain, Portugal, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Costa Rica, Mexico, Ecuador, Galapagos, eastern China and Alaska. When asked about OLLI, he mentioned that SSU has some of the "best teachers I have experienced in my academic career." Brian especially enjoys classes taught by Mick Chantler and Nicole Myers, admiring their enthusiasm, dedication to research and thorough prep for each class.

Brian met his wife, Anne, while backpacking in the Grand Canyon. They are proud 'parents' to three children and five grandchildren whom they plan to visit this summer on the East Coast.

OLLI ART CLUB HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Sonoma Valley Museum of Art

551 Broadway, Sonoma, CA

- 10:00 a.m. – Museum tour
- 12:45 p.m. – Optional lunch at the Red Grape
529 First St. West, Sonoma

RSVP now to Nanette Garner:

nanetteg@sonic.net | 707-888-1285

Find additional information about the OLLI Art Club at:

<http://olli.sonoma.edu/olli-activities-and-events>

or contact Linda Loveland Reid, OLLI Art Club Coordinator and OLLI instructor at lindalreid100@gmail.com

OLLI CINEMA CLUB HAPPENINGS

The June meeting of the OLLI Cinema Club will take place on **Friday, June 25** in person at the Rialto Theaters in Sebastopol. For details, contact OLLI Cinema Club Coordinator and OLLI Cinema Class Instructor, Barbara Spear at spearb@sonoma.edu.

The OLLI Cinema Club meets the last Friday afternoon of each month.

FUN THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER

June 25

Prune Packers Baseball Game at Healdsburg Recreation Park (University and Piper Streets)

- 100th Anniversary of the Healdsburg Prune Packers – California Collegiate League, wood-bat summer baseball.
- For more information and game dates, visit prunepackers.org.

June 26

Forest Therapy at Sugarloaf State Park

- 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with a \$20 fee
- Visit Sugarloafpark.org for more information.

June 27

Artxcursion – Sunflower Paint Party @ 1:00 p.m. for \$75

- Create your own Masterpiece at Flying Cloud Farm in Petaluma
- Visit Artxcursion.com for more information.

June 27 –
July 31

Art Quilt Exhibit: 'Pointless Sisters in Occidental' from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

- Visit <https://www.occidentalcenterforthearts.org/> for more information.

July 3

Lavender Daze at Bees N Blooms

- Petaluma Hill Road, Santa Rosa
- 10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. | \$10 per car and reservations required
- Visit beesnblooms.com for more information.

July 10 – 11

Lavender U Cut Experience

- \$5 per bunch
- Register here: www.sonomacounty.com/sonoma-events/lavender-u-cut-experience.

LOOKING FOR SUMMER WINE COUNTRY EVENTS?

Check out: Happenings in Sonoma County – a calendar of authentic and eclectic Wine Country activities

Visit www.happeningsonomacounty.com/

June 22 –
August 17

VIRTUAL ADVENTURES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

- Take a class and have a getaway with OLLI at SSU! You will travel the world... and beyond over eight weeks of classes.
- OLLI Travel Itinerary:
 - June 22 – The Hidden Treasures of Florence
 - June 29 – Exploring Opera: Sensational Seville
 - July 13 – A Paris Getaway to the Musee d'Orsay and the Louvre
 - July 20 – The Barnes Collection: The Battle for Art
 - July 27 – Sicilian Travelogue
 - Aug 3 – A Stroll through Venice: City of Masquerade and Intrigue
 - Aug 10 – Geology of Alaskan National Parks & the Beringia Land Bridge
 - Aug 17 – A Brief Tour of Planets and Moons Inside and Outside our Solar System
- Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | \$25 per class
- Register at olli.sonoma.edu or call 707-664-2691

* All OLLI summer classes will be delivered on Zoom. You will receive your class Zoom link on Monday.



ENJOYABLE SUMMER READS



- *The President's Daughter* by Bill Clinton and James Patterson – A fast action thriller!
- *The Saboteurs* by Clive Custer and Jack du Brul – An Isaac Bell Adventure!
- *Golden Girl* by Elin Hilderbrand - It isn't summer without a new Elin Hilderbrand novel – and this one is another immensely satisfying page-turner from "the queen of beach reads" (*New York Magazine*).
- *People We Meet on Vacation* by Emily Henry – Most anticipated book of 2021 by Oprah and Newsweek.
- *Arctic Storm Rising* by Dale Brown – Adventure and intrigue in the Arctic frontier with Russia and America squaring off.

Other Great Reads

- *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead – now an original Amazon Prime video series.
- *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara – A National Book Award finalist.
- *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens – A worldwide sensation with over 10 million copies sold.
- *The Anthropocene Reviewed* by John Green – "*The Anthropocene Reviewed* is essential to the human conversation." – *Library Journal*, starred review
- *On Juneteenth* by Annette Gordon-Reed – Pulitzer Prize winning book provides you with the history behind Juneteenth.
- *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder – Pulitzer Prize Winner – "Stunning... Mountains Beyond Mountains will move you, restore your faith in the ability of one person to make a difference in these increasingly maddening, dispiriting times." – John Wilkens, The San Diego Union-Tribune

And a Fun Travel Read

- *World Travel: An Irreverent Guide* by Anthony Bourdain and Laurie Woolever – A fun journey with a culinary traveler, Anthony Bourdain

A BIG THANK YOU TO OLLI DONORS ON SSU GIVING DAY!

OLLI raised \$3,395 in donations during the First Annual SSU Giving Day on Thursday, April 29, 2021. OLLI had the most donors of any SSU Giving Day group fundraiser with a total of 43. Way to go OLLI members!

Thank you for your generosity and support of OLLI!

DO YOU HAVE OLLI STORIES TO SHARE? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

OLLI is looking for fun stories from the last 20 years of OLLI classes, instructors, events, outings, adventures, trips, and more! Send your stories to: olli@sonoma.edu.

STAY TUNED

Look for the late Gray Matters Summer #2 Newsletter coming to you around July 25. There will be updates on fall 2021 classes, the Fall 2021 Course Preview event, and the Ed Stolman 25th Anniversary Lecture.

VACATION FRUIT CRISP

Recipe by Beverly Mills and Alicia Ross, *The Press Democrat* (from many years ago)

I have used this simple recipe almost every summer for years, especially in July when my berry bushes are plentiful and I can get Dry Creek peaches. Feel free to alter the recipe with different fruits and layers. I love to make a crisp with layers of sliced peaches on the bottom and topped with berries. You can use any combination of berries in the crisp and even pitted cherries. Top with vanilla ice cream.

Recipe:

4 cups berries	1 cup lightly packed brown sugar
1 stick cold butter	1 tsp cinnamon
½ cup all-purpose flour	1 tsp almond extract
½ cup quick (not old fashioned) rolled oats	

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- Rinse the berries in a colander and drain.
- Cut the butter into teaspoon-size pieces and place in a mixing bowl.
- Add the flour, oats, brown sugar, and cinnamon.
- Using 2 knives or pastry blender, cut the butter into the flour mixture until it is chunky, resembling small peas.
- Use the wrapper from the butter to lightly grease an 8-inch square baking pan.
- Shake any remaining water from the berries and pour them into the baking pan. Sprinkle the almond extract over the berries and stir to blend. Sprinkle the flour-oat-sugar mixture over the berries.
- Bake 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Serve at once. Serves 6.

Enjoy!

Leslie

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