

# LIFETimes

April 2019



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**Inside UCF: What's bugging you? This month's LIFEtimes hosts the second of a series of articles outlining tours of UCF buildings and the surprises within. More on page 7**

**LIFE members enjoyed an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of UCF's athletic facilities last month. More on page 8**

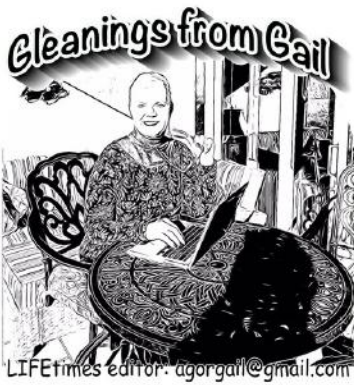
## Rewarding faculty excellence

A reception for recipients of the Women Faculty LIFE@UCF Excellence Awards was held March 22, 2019. This award recognizes novel and often grassroots efforts that positively transform the lives of UCF students. Pegasus Professor of Sociology and Vice-Provost for Faculty Excellence, Dr. Jana Jasinski, announced the winners who each received a \$250 gift certificate for Barnes and Noble from Julian Meitin, President of LIFE@UCF. The recipients were: Dr. Karin Chumbimuni-Torres, of the Chemistry Department in the College of Sciences spearheaded the Internationalization Program for STEM-Students Through Learning and Research Experience which was designed to expose low-income students to research conducted in different countries. Their first program was in Peru.

Marisa Macy is a lecturer in the College of Community Innovation and Education, School of Teacher Education. Marisa was responsible for developing four new partnerships (including the 4C Early Head Start program and PUSKids of WUCF) in which students participate. Dr. Jacqueline Towson is an Assistant Professor and Undergraduate Program Co-Coordinator in the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders. With two other faculty she started Project ASD (autism spectrum disorder) to address a critical need for speech-language pathologists and special educators to serve the growing number of children on the autism spectrum. The project, with funding by the US Department of Education, will support 36 graduate scholars preparing for state endorsement in autism.

Jessica Wickey is an instructor and program director at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management. With two colleagues she created the Leadership Development Workshop Series to help students move from "operational" to "leader-driven." The program provides a safe space for students to ask questions, learn about new and exciting trends in the industry and connect with professionals many major local hospitality organizations.





It seems impossible that our LIFE year is almost at an end. We have had an incredible plethora of lectures this year...kudos to the Curriculum Committee for its hard work! Rest assured that they are already hard at work for next year's offerings. Many of you have had comments/suggestions about the classes... consider joining the Curriculum Committee. They always welcome new talent to their midst. Speaking of committees that are "in the know," Membership would also like to have you on board! This crucial committee is in the

process of renewing current members and will soon invite individuals, on our waiting list, to apply! Don't forget, the renewal window closes next week on April 16th ...don't let your membership lapse!

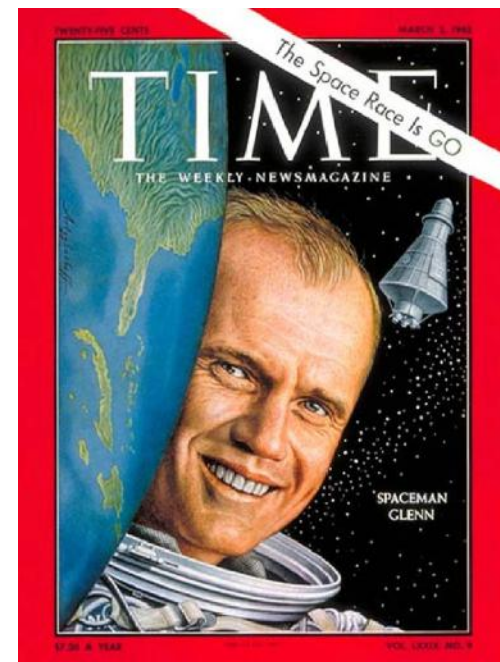
Next Tuesday, April 16th, is the LIFE Showcase! The morning will begin earlier than usual, 8:30am, with a continental breakfast after which we will have a short Annual Membership Meeting to vote on new LIFE Board Members. This will be followed by our recognition ceremony, celebrating the 10 and 20-year members of LIFE...what an accomplishment. Congratulations!!! Committee members of all LIFE's volunteer opportunities will also be recognized along with Gerontology Applied Research Award recipients and LIFE Appreciation Awards. The morning will end with 'Just Jazz,' a presentation from the Jazz Studies Department headed by Jeff Rupert

who will be joined by select students. An incredible morning is promised to all who attend! The last recognition I should mention is one that is very personal to me. Alli Moss, student assistant extraordinaire, is graduating. Alli has been extremely visible at the Welcome Desk each week, Board Meetings, and many many "other duties as assigned" locations during her sojourn with LIFE. She never shirked any assignment to which she was charged. Selfishly, I think her most important job was that of Assistant Editor of the LIFETimes. Without Alli, I would have floundered dramatically when I assumed the Editorship from Jim Burr many months ago! Her creativity and talent have been evident and lively in every issue of the newsletter and I will miss her dreadfully! The solace that will serve me well is the knowledge that she is continuing onwards in her successful life-forward journey and has secured a fantastic paid internship...they will be very fortunate to get her! Even though I will not have Alli at my side when we return in August, I hope that I will see each and every one of the rest of you. Have a wonderful hiatus!



**"Too many people, when they get old, think that they have to live by the calendar."  
John Glenn (1921-2016)**

As the oldest person to board a U.S. Space Shuttle at age 77, Senator John Glenn exemplified the view that we shouldn't let age define us. The calendar is a useful way to let you know the date, but if you let yourself be hemmed in by your chronological age, you may lock yourself out of potentially valuable opportunities.



# CHARGE ON:



## A 04 WORD FROM OUR LIFE PRESIDENT

In composing my final letter to the membership as my two terms of office as President ends in May, I am still in a thankful mood.

I am most thankful to a wonderful couple Phil and Jayne Easterling for hounding me until I joined LIFE. For about four years my wife, Sheryl, was Chairman of the Foundation Board of Orlando Regional Health and we saw Phil and Jayne regularly at charitable functions. Phil kept telling me that I should join him on Tuesday mornings at UCF. Eventually, he wore me down and I joined. I discovered that I liked it and was next elected to the Board and in two years found myself in a two-year term as President of this great experience we call LIFE. I am grateful for the opportunity and have enjoyed the enriching experience in this office.

Upon election I quickly realized that I had the bear by the tail and did not know quite what to do with it. So, of course, I looked for advice. Some parts were very well covered by experienced

leaders like curriculum and membership but I could see gaps in my knowledge in University policy and relationships. Dick Tucker provided me with valued advice and gave me valuable insight with his knowledge of 27 years in creating LIFE and nurturing LIFE Presidents along the way. No one could ask for a kinder or better Mentor.

Many of you in the membership don't realize that LIFE historically was a "do it yourself" operation; sink or swim in day-to-day operations with very little administrative assistance. I found my first year very challenging, but in the spring of 2018, we decided to hire a Program Coordinator, Leslie Collin, and the rest is wonderful new history. We sent her to our national summer conference and she hit the ground running. She has quickly learned her position, established her university contacts and made the life of your President so less tiresome so now we can focus on the future and policy. I have confidence that Leslie can

continue LIFE on an ever upward path for years to come.

I have never experienced someone so ready to assume leadership as Todd Bowers. I know he does not wish for me to toot his horn, but never has LIFE had an incoming President with the University contacts and the background in the details of University operations as we shall find in Todd. To my friend Todd I wish much success in office and hope you have as much pleasure and feelings of accomplishment in your years of service as has been my pleasure.

**Sincerely,**

*Julian Meitin*

*President*

# Remembering John Bersia

05

by Dick Tucker

On March 21, 2019, LIFE at UCF lost one of its strongest advocates and contributors.

John Bersia, aged 62, died of metastatic cancer. After a successful editorial career with the Orlando Sentinel, including a Pulitzer Prize for his series on predatory pay-day loans, John accepted President John Hitt's invitation in 2001 to develop and direct The Global Perspectives Office. The goal was to increase awareness of significant international issues for the UCF Community.

He came to UCF the same year that LIFE at UCF moved their classes to the Student Union. At that time, the LIFE office was housed in the Department of Psychology on the 3rd floor of Phillips Hall; Global Perspectives was on the 2nd floor. After learning about the LIFE program John volunteered to offer presentations.

Since then, annually, we have had at least four weeks of presentations arranged by Global Perspectives. Past President and longtime Chair of the Awards Committee, Doug Garner, met with John Bersia early in our relationship about forming a partnership/sponsorship between LIFE and Global Perspectives, with an annual directed grant of \$2,500; this hand-shake agreement, approved by the LIFE Board, continues in coordination with Lee Cross.

This investment by LIFE has brought in distinguished speakers from the nation and the world on a range of topics, including the Kurdish State, India, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, the New China, Peace and Reconciliation in South Africa, and many other global issues.

Speakers have included the authors of the Kurdish constitution and the Kurdish oil agreement,

a survivor of human slavery from Africa, a local survivor of human trafficking, the daughter of Desmond Tutu, the son of Nikita Khrushchev, an American who had just authored a book on "The New China", a native American who overcame racial stereotyping to become an actor, dancer, author and activist. This partnership has broadened the perspective of LIFE members on world issues by providing us an opportunity to hear outstanding speakers on many global issues that we would not have had access to without this relationship.

In addition to his role as Director of Global Perspectives, John also was an influential professor and mentor to many students.

While we look forward to continuing our partnership with Global Perspectives and working with Assistant Director, Jessica Squires, one of John's graduates, we will miss the strong international leadership and friendship of John Bersia.



**John Bersia**  
**UCF Class of '77**  
**1957-2019**



A husband and wife are on the 9th green when suddenly she collapses from a heart attack. "Help me dear," she groans to her husband. The husband calls 911 on his cell phone, talks for a few minutes, picks up his putter, and lines up his putt. His wife raises her head off the green and stares at him. "I'm dying here and you're putting." "Don't worry dear," says the husband calmly, "they found a doctor on the second hole and he's coming to help you." "Well, how long will it take for him to get here?" she asks feebly. "No time at all," says her husband. "Everybody's agreed to let him playthrough."



## Did you know? The library is for you, too!

A series of Experiential Learning tours of the UCF Library helped LIFE@UCF members learn about 21st century libraries and new approaches to how data, books, journals and other documents are accessed. Services of the library available to all LIFE@UCF members include online searches of the library's book and public document collections from anywhere (with your UCF NID (ID #) and its password) and the ability to borrow books just like any UCF student. (Note: Most every book mentioned by recent speakers is in the library!) While the focus of the book collection is needs of the UCF's students, researchers, faculty and staff, there is also a full wall of current novels and books in addition to a large video collection available for checkout.

If physically at the library, members can go to the information desk to get a one-day ID and password which allows searches of the databases to which the library subscribes as well as access to individual articles in the large digital journal collection.

(Unfortunately, access to these services and materials is not possible from our homes because very strict contracts with these database vendors require UCF to limit access to individuals formally admitted to or employed at UCF.)

Also seen were the many changes within the library structure itself. Most significant is movement of much of the book collection to the new building under construction on the back of the library which will house an Automated Retrieval Center (ARC). When a user requests a book (or books) housed there, a digital message is sent after which the tray where the book is stored is identified and moved to a location where a library staff member selects the desired book(s) and sends it (them) to the main circulation desk for pick up. (Videos of this process are available at the UCF Library web site:

<https://library.ucf.edu/21st/arc/>) Changes are also underway to enhance seating for both individual and group study.

Work stations, wired to allow keeping digital devices fully charged, are throughout the library. Of special note are the many group work areas with seating, tables, white boards and digital devices designed to promote collaboration. Looking around you could actually see and hear collaboration happening. The fifth floor was dramatically different with its multiple individual work stations in an area designated as a "Quiet study zone". When the renovations are completed, there will be a new entrance just opposite the Student Union. This new structure will connect the oldest UCF building with the newest and house additional work space, the circulation desk, a digital commons, and designated space for graduate students among other features. There will still be more than 300,000 books and a large collection of journals for whom reading digitally is just not enjoyable. More on all the library changes can be found at: <https://library.ucf.edu/21st/>.



# Tour de UCF: Part 2

07

take a walking tour of some of UCF's buildings with this guide

by Diane Wink

This is the second of a series outlining tours of UCF buildings to help you discover surprises within.

Exit the Student Union on the Library side, turn left, go around the curve, cross the road and head through the alley between Business (left) and College of Sciences (right) until you pass the Theatre building (right). Cross over to Biology and take the middle entrance. Turn right down the long hallway to see displays of Central Florida's preeminent collection of antipodes AKA the UCF Bug Closet started by Stuart Fullerton in 1993. The closet itself is located in a room on the left. (info can be found online at: <http://sciences.ucf.edu/biology/bugcloset/history/>). As you continue down the hall, you will come to displays of flying insects, birds and nests, and other creatures of nature. Exit on the side of the building you entered, using the stairs at the far end of the hall (or via the entrance originally used), turn left, and walk to the UCF Theatre - on your right. Once a lecture hall, and called the Science Building, it has housed theatre productions since 1972 until renovated and renamed Theatre in 1983. This small building houses two theaters, stage and costume shops, and cast dressing rooms in which faculty, students, and staff of the School of Performing Arts work miracles with each production. If the doors are unlocked, enter to view the display of pictures from recent productions in the sloping hall between the Main Stage and Black Box Theatres. These provide a view into the quality of the costuming and production details of each play. Midway down the hall is an art work, The

Power of Passage, created by Jonann Eyfells. Additional displays related to the current play may be mounted throughout the hallways. If you see staff or students, you can tell them who you are and ask if you can peek inside one or both theaters. Access varies depending on what stage construction and rehearsals are in progress. Exit via the doors by the box office and cross over to Chemistry, but don't go inside. While full of learning and science there is not much of beauty there and they have no bugs to show off. Chemistry's gem is its outdoor atrium where its lush courtyard, quiet solitude and seating are open to the sky above. This is one of two original buildings. Return to the walkway, turn left and walk to Mathematical Sciences. Another early UCF building, it housed Engineering, Health Sciences, Nursing, and Physics over the years. (Note the lack of windows - something rumored to be because the building was constructed in the early 1970s era of student protest or designed to reduce air conditioning needs by keeping the sun out.) Enter via the entrance up the walkway after the loading dock to see a functioning Foucault Pendulum which demonstrates the rotation of the earth. Take the short staircase to observe the pendulum from varied perspectives. Note the Florida Technological University (FTU) seal on the floor below. The pendulum ceased working in the 1990s and remained dormant until a UCF alumna, Eileen Swindling, raised funds for repairs in 2016. Look up to see the balconies of the 3rd, 4th and 5th floors. The UCF Citizens Band Radio Club once worked out of a tiny space on the 5th floor. There are exits to the roof - once a popular spot for watching launches.

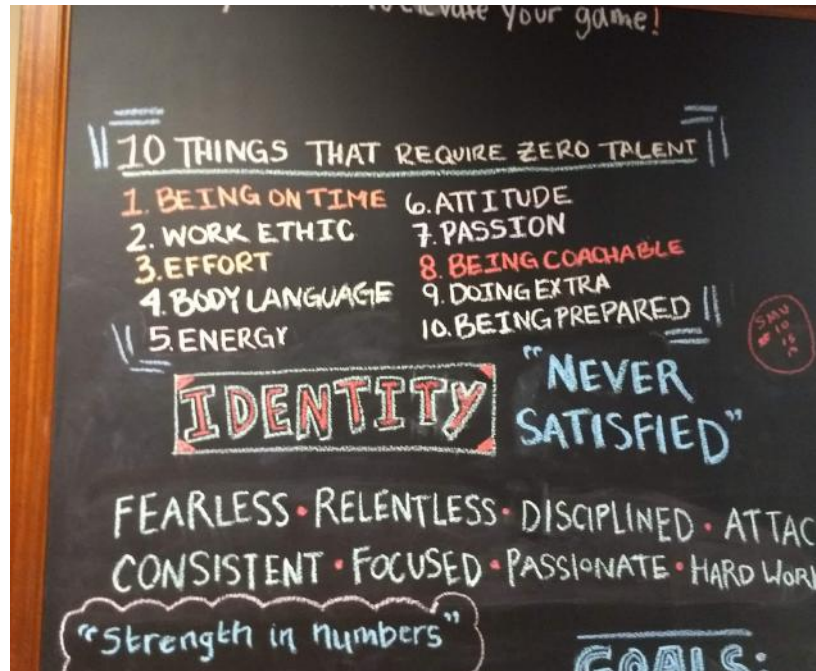
Next, step out onto the large covered patio. If time allows, go through the far doors to check on the theatre style lecture hall once big enough to hold the entire faculty. (Carefully, open the door in case a class is in session.) The lawn spreading out in front of Mathematical Sciences houses a memorial to staff under its huge oak and is where students and faculty gathered during fake bomb threats. Walk down the sidewalk a bit to see more of the early UCF campus. Far to the left behind the trees is Ferrel Commons, initial location of many student services. To its right is the Apollo Housing Community, the original dorms. Continue to the end of the sidewalk and look across the reflecting pond to the left to see Millican Hall, UCF's administration building, the 2nd campus building, named for UCF's 1st president. In the distance is Howard Phillips Hall, the original classroom building, named for an Orlando businessman and current home of multiple student services, academic departments and a few classrooms. Completing the circle to the right is the John C. Hitt Library named for UCF's 4th president. When opened, the library was the ONLY completed building and also housed administration, faculty offices, classrooms, and the bookstore. The Genesis stained glass window over its entrance and Flame of Hope sculpture between the library and the reflecting pond, both by Leonardo Nierman, were featured in the Art at UCF presentation at LIFE@UCF. The Reflecting Pond was initially bordered by a circular road and was once the site of graduations. Since 1995, when the student body president was thrown (...or fell...or jumped) in during Homecoming Week, it is the location of Spirit Splash.

# Hoop scoop:

## Members tour UCF Athletics facilities

Walking the tunnels taken by the basketball teams to get to the arena floor  
 Seeing a light show in the baseball locker room  
 Walking the floor of the Volleyball court  
 Exploring the locker rooms of varied sport.  
 Seeing the UCF Track and Soccer Stadium morph from a track and field facility to a soccer field.

These were just a few of the experiences of LIFE@UCF members as they toured multiple UCF sports venues and facilities on a recent tour lead by Rachel Galatowitsch, an Intern with UCF Athletics. From some of the oldest UCF athletic facilities (the original arena now called the Venue) to the newest (the club area in the Baseball Stadium) participants got the inside scoop about the athletic programs as they explored where the student athletes practice, relax and play.





# Finding adventure close to home: Terry & Marty Lee

09

LIFE started for us on a cold January day in 1979. Terry had moved to Titusville, Florida from Union City, New Jersey in 1966 and I arrived in 1975, a transplant from Connecticut where I had attended UCONN. She had finished college at Florida Southern in Lakeland and took a job as the first public school kindergarten teacher in North Brevard, working for the Brevard County School System while I worked as a pharmacist for Walgreens. I had the good sense to ask her on a date, and that cold January day found us driving north on A1A to St. Augustine. We entered the Old City over the Bridge of Lions, had coffee and pastries at a French bakery (Noel) and a late lunch at Chimes Restaurant across the street from the Castillo de San Marcos. It was the day that changed both of our lives forever. I knew it then and I celebrate it still. Fast forward 40 years and much has changed. Terry is now 5 years retired from the school system having worked 45 years, the last 17

as an elementary school principal. I still work, but very little. Our time is largely our own now. Work doesn't get in the way. For her that means being involved in service organizations that primarily raise money for college scholarships for women, and our local hospital including a Children's Center that provides family support, child care, education as well as primary and specialized health services. Additionally, she serves on the school board for our local Catholic school. At a recent LIFE Global Perspectives presentation on the subject of "Young China", the presenter Zak Dychwald asked a simple question. "Who has been to China?" To his amazement and to ours, all around the room hands shot up into the air. It was a testament to the fact that LIFE at UCF members are a well-traveled group. My wife and I are not. Except for a wonderful vacation to Italy in 2015 our travels have been limited to visiting family no further

away than New England. But that doesn't mean we don't enjoy traveling. We have discovered the joy of day tripping through Florida. As a sophomore in college I owned a 1967 Austin Healey Sprite. Middle age prompts us to revisit those days and in 2004 I bought a Honda S2000. A two-seat sports car that's just fun to drive. I soon found myself planning long rides on winding Florida roads sometimes at speeds frowned upon by local police. Those rides evolved from trips through the Florida countryside to day long rides that always included points of interest or historical significance, lunch at anything from fine dining to a roadside bar and grill, the occasional picnic lunch and sometimes dinner. The pre-planning became more and more important and included turn by turn directions and plenty of research. The rides included visiting the remaining pieces of the Florida Barge Canal, major construction sites that were left standing or stopped in progress when the project was abruptly abandoned in 1972. We saw Kingsley Plantation, a

poignant reminder of Florida's slave owning past. The Devil's Millhopper Geological Park north of Gainesville. Railroader Henry Plant's trail of hotels that included the Belleview in Belleair and the Old Tampa Hotel that is now part of the University of Tampa. We've spent a day visiting old Florida theaters, railroad stations, battlefields and state prisons. In a single day we visited five county courthouses, all constructed in the late

1800's and early 1900's, still in remarkable condition and open to the public. They provide an incredible architectural picture of Florida history. We've seen Florida's first elevator. Although the places provided us with wonderful pictures of Florida, it was the people who we met along the way that made the lasting impressions. Whether it was the Community Development Director in Dade City or Tom Sanders, the Madison County Clerk of

Court who not only took us on a personal tour of the courthouse but helped with dinner recommendations. It was the girl who acted as our personal docent at the Old Clay County Jail and the people on the street who were happy to steer us to their favorite lunch counter. We learned that the best sources for lunch information wasn't YELP or TripAdvisor or the reviews in a Google search but the local sheriff's deputy or the lady walking out of the drug store. They knew. Their advice was never wrong. We can hardly wait for the next ride.

Sincerely,  
Marty Lee



# Your Money at work! 11



LIFE @ UCF	
Statement of Financial Position	
as of February 28, 2019	
Assets	Total
Cash and Money Markets	131,086
Fixed Assets (Less Depreciation)	1,113
Deposit with UCF	942
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>133,141</b>
Liabilities	
Payroll Taxes Payable	1,791
Credit Card Payable	151
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,942</b>
Equity	
Retained Earnings: Restricted	54,993
Retained Earnings: Unrestricted	25,750
Current Year to Date Revenue	50,456
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>131,198</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>133,141</b>

LIFE@UCF  
Approved Budget  
August 2019 through July 2020

**Total Income**

**Expenses**

- Awards
- Curriculum
- General and Administrative
- Membership
- Committee Expenses
- President's Discretionary Fund
- Streaming
- General Reserves
- Total Expenses
- Net Income

Budget 2018-2019	Budget 2019-2020
151545	167545
54650	66100
9550	13800
61614	66258
14838	16674
325	325
568	588
10000	0
0	3800
151545	167545
0	0

## See you later, Alli-gator

Time flies when you're having fun. I can't believe it was nearly three years ago that I first joined LIFE as a Student Assistant. Since then, I have been the engineer of your weekly emails, princess of punny headlines, and conductor of the copier. Now I am preparing to graduate on May 3 and start my paralegal career in earnest. This job allowed me to pay for my groceries without taking on student debt, but it also brought me much more important things. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to befriend so many wonderful,

inspiring, and humorous people (I'm looking at you, Gail!) Between my colleague Sam Davis, your Program Coordinator Leslie Collin, and whomever my replacement may be, I am confident that I am leaving you in excellent hands. I would say "I aspire to be like you all when I grow up," but what many of you have taught me is that getting older doesn't mean you have to "grow up" and lose your youthful spirit. I will settle for saying that I aspire to be more like you all now. I will think of you often, but especially on bleary-eyed early Tuesday mornings.



all the best,  
**Alli Moss**  
UCF Class of '19



A little fun activity to start your summer: Remember the summer days when you called in the kids (who were **outside** playing with friends), having dinner and then cuddling up to the massive TV screen with your family? Bring on the memories...

## 1970s Television Trivia Tangle

1. Which show featured two young women who shared an apartment and worked in a bottling factory?

A) Laverne and Shirley    B) Joanie Loves Chachi    C) Two Broke Girls

2. Which show featured the characters Jack, Janet and Chrissy?

A) Charlie's Angels    B) The Partridge Family    C) Three's Company

3. What was Grandpa's first name on "The Walton's"?

A) Zeke    B) Zeb    C) Zak

4. Which show followed the on-duty action and off-duty friendships of three brand new police officers in the Santa Costa police department?

A) Police Story    B) Charlie's Angels    C) The Rookies

5. Nellie Olsen was one of the prime antagonists on which show?

A) Little House on the Prairie    B) Highway to Heaven    C) The Walton's

6. Which show featured a character whose closest companion was a grizzly bear?

A) Wild Kingdom    B) B.J. and the Bear    C) Grizzly Adams

7. Which show featured characters Pete, Linc and Julie avoiding jail by helping police catch the bad guys?

A) The A Team    B) The Mod Squad    C) Police Squad

8. In which show did Angie Dickenson portray Sgt. Pepper Anderson?

A) Baretta    B) Police Woman    C) Get Christie Love!

9. Which show featured Dan Rowan and Dick Marten and a cast of comedians?

A) Laugh-In    B) Laugh Off    C) Saturday Night Live

10. Which variety show ran from 1971-74 and featured comedy sketches and musical productions from this husband and wife recording team.

A) Tony Orlando and Dawn    B) Sonny and Cher    C) Pink Lady and Jeff

## 1970s Television Trivia Answers

1. Laverne & Shirley
2. Three's Company
3. Zeb
4. The Rookies
5. Little House on the Prairie
6. Grizzly Adams
7. The Mod Squad
8. Police Woman
9. Laugh-In
10. Sonny and Cher