

Stuff Worth Knowing!



LIFetimes

Gail Agor, Editor trippin@lifeatucf.org

LIFE at UCF Board of Directors

President

Rich Sloane

Vice President

Mike Agor

Secretary

Mo Cortese

Interim Treasurer

Mike Agor

Directors

Gail Agor

Beth Barnes

Anne Barretta

Todd Bowers

Sue Chapman

John Cooper

Marcia Enos

Brian Goldiez

Nick Guerra

Zalpha Hashem

Marty Lee

Ed Schons

Bob Shannon

Linda Thompson

Executive Director

Jacqueline Ulacia

Ex-Officio Members

Wayne Bowen, UCF Liaison

Dick Tucker, Board Member Emeritus

The first month of 2024 is now in the rearview window...kinda scary, really...how quickly time goes by! But, with the passage of time comes new opportunities and responsibilities to/for our LIFE members. As you dive into this month's *LIFetimes*, you will learn that membership renewal is just around the corner. Additionally, our Annual Meeting is on the schedule. This is where we will be able to vote/accept new members to our Board of Directors, honor the volunteers who are the lifeblood of our organization...and just have a fun time! Before that, UCF Celebrates the Arts will take over the Dr. Phillips Center for Performing Arts...I encourage all of you to plan to attend one, some...all... the events that makes this event so incredibly special and unique.

The Diversity Committee is asking each LIFE member to fill out a short survey that will be an aid to understanding the diversity within LIFE's membership. Look for the link inside these pages.

Although we have had many extremely successful Trippin' through LIFE events since the beginning of the year... quite a few more, are on the calendar. Make sure you check them out and register when registration opens. Reservations are limited, even for the \$2 events. We have had a huge number of "no shows" recently, which keeps other LIFE members from being able to participate. Please cancel your reservation, or contact me or Jacqueline if you are unable to attend so someone else can go. -Gail





of LIFE's membership committee. Don't be bashful; let us know and we'll be on the go.

Thanks to those members who took one of the LIFE car magnets that were distributed. If there's a demand for more of them, they can be made available.

A number of opportunities are available for you to help steer the "ship" of LIFE at UCF. Serving on the board of directors is a meaningful way to help shape the direction of the organization and set a course for the future. If you would like to serve on the board please speak with me, our executive director, or one of the current board members. New ideas and insight come from new board members, and you can be that person. Election of board members is held at the end of the spring semester so now is the time to explore the opportunity. I look forward to hearing from those who want to serve.

Each week I enjoy seeing our members engage with the presenters at the end of their talks. The speakers are almost always able to take time and remain in the room after the conclusion of their presentation and interact with you. The interest shown by our members is a sign of our appreciation of their talk.

"See you on the beach!" -Rich

February!



Valentine's Day,



President's Day;

what happened to January?

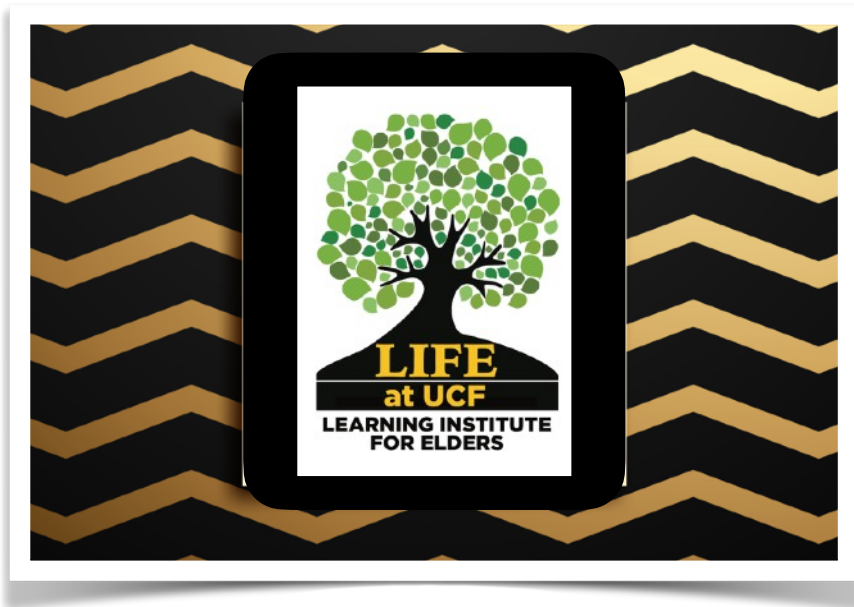
That went fast. In some circles the winter months are known as "the Dark Ages." But the light shines bright at LIFE at UCF. And speaking of birthdays...LIFE at UCF celebrates its 33rd birthday in February. Dick Tucker, the founding member of LIFE, reminded me that while LIFE operates on a calendar year of August to July, LIFE was founded in February, 1991. So Happy Birthday LIFE at UCF.

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization, and we are sharing the good news about LIFE at UCF with community groups. Recently I spoke to a seniors' group at a local church, and to members of a senior living community in Central Florida. If you know of a group or organization that would appreciate learning about LIFE at UCF, I'd be pleased to spend some time with them, as would members



LIFE at UCF

33 years and going strong!

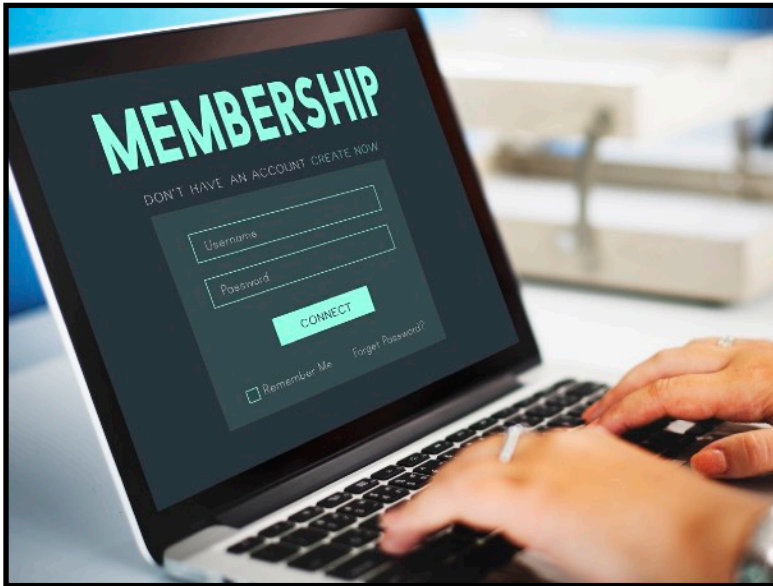


LIFE at UCF **Appreciation** **Awards**

Mike Agor, Vice President

Annually, LIFE at UCF provides monetary awards to those UCF departments which supported LIFE at UCF during the previous year. The purpose of the LIFE Appreciation Awards program is to provide basic funding for UCF departments to enhance education and learning opportunities. This year LIFE awarded \$39,500 to the following departments.

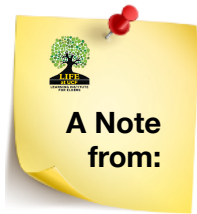
- UCF Celebrates the Arts - \$15,000
- Student Union - \$6000
- College of Interdisciplinary Studies - \$3000
- College of Sciences - \$2500
- Global Perspectives-\$2000
- College of Nursing - \$2000
- UCF Parking Services \$1500
- UCF Card Services - \$1500
- UCF Library - \$1000
- UCF Athletics - \$1000
- College of Arts and Humanities - \$1000
- College of Arts and Humanities (Writing and Rhetoric) - \$1000
- College of Diversity and Inclusion - \$1000
- College of Medicine - \$1000



Nick Guerra
Membership Committee Chair

- Our current membership is 859 and our Strategic Plan is a NET growth of 50 members per year for the next 3 years. Make sure to spread the word of LIFE at UCF to your friends.
- The annual LIFE Membership Drive is scheduled for 1 March-1 May 2024. Please let the Membership committee know if your community would like a LIFE presentation during this time.
- Renewal for current members starts March 1, 2024 and New Member enrollment begins May 1, 2024.
- The Membership Committee recommended that fees for the upcoming year remain the same for 2024 and it was approved by the board of directors. (\$225 renewal & \$250 for new members)
- Our “Gift a LIFE Membership” will be available for \$260 and the details along with the effective date will be announced in the March newsletter.
- We are inviting prospective members to join us for class on March 5th & 12th. When you will notice people walking around with a guest name tag, please extend a warm, **LIFE Welcome!**

Don't forget to wear your LIFE name tag to class.



Bring your friends!

LIFE is having a special invitational.

Let's FILL the CHAIRS!



Do you know someone who may be interested in joining LIFE? We are inviting prospective members to join us for two special lecture dates in March!

March 5th

Michael Wainstein & Theater Students:

UCF Director of Performing Arts on UCF Celebrates the Arts production of *Sweeney Todd*

Dr. Deborah Bauer: Historical Insight and Unique Perspective on the Challenges and Individuals Involved into the Founding of Seminole County

March 12th

Forrest Ruhge: Siemens Energy Innovation Campus: Managing the Energy Transition

Declan Magennis & Delaney Warner: A Deep Dive into the World of Irish Dance

A parking pass will be provided for ONE date. Prospective members are allowed to attend both, but if they choose to attend a second date, they must buy a virtual parking pass. Click [here](#) to purchase your

To register a prospective member, please click [here](#) for the registration form.





LIFE at UCF Writing Workshop and UCF Celebrate the Arts

Attend Writing Workshops to Develop a Creative Non-Fiction Essay, a Memoir Excerpt, a Panel Discussion on Writing, or an Individual Poster Display.

Reading or Presenting Your Work at UCF Celebrates the Arts is not a requirement for participation.

Workshops are Every Friday January 12-March 8, 2024, from 10:00-11:30 am. Meet at the University Writing Center-109 Trevor Colbourn Hall.

Not able to attend the workshop in person? No problem! **Join us via Zoom every Wednesday** from 9:00- 10:30 a.m. Keep an eye out for our Tuesday post lecture email for the Zoom link!

If you have any questions about the workshop or need more information, please contact Deborah Weaver Deborah.Weaver@ucf.edu





Whether you have been to **UCF Celebrates the Arts** in the past, or if you are new to this incredible two weeks of indescribable talent, prepare to be amazed. From April 2nd through April 14th, UCF Arts Programs take over the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Orlando.



UCF Celebrates the Arts is an immersive and dynamic cultural extravaganza that fuses creativity, innovation, and community engagement. This annual festival showcases the artistic prowess of UCF's faculty and students and invites the broader community to enjoy performances, exhibitions, presentations, and interactive experiences. With a focus on accessibility, partnership and diverse offerings, UCF Celebrates the Arts is a unique opportunity for the community to experience the creative side of UCF's innovative spirit.

LIFE at UCF

has been a contributor to this exciting event for the past 5 years.

A complete description and list of events can be found at [UCF Celebrates the Arts](#). Many of the events are free or you can get discounted tickets with the code **ARTS4KNIGHTS24**. You must register for free events because you need either a registration or a ticket to enter the Dr Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.



Nearly 200 members have responded to our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion survey this year. We would love to include all our member's inputs so that we can continue to expand the diversity of our thoughts and experiences. One thing we have in common is our desire to learn new things throughout LIFE. You may complete the survey using the link below:

<https://life.member365.org/sharingnetwork/dashboard>

Raise your hand and get involved!

**The LIFE Board of Directors is looking for
volunteers to be on the board!**

**Ask any current board member for
information.**





They call us "The Elderly"

We were born in the 40-50-60's.

We grew up in the 50-60-70's.

We studied in the 60-70-80's.

We were dating in the 70-80-90's.

We got married and discovered the world in the 70-80-90's.

We venture into the 80-90's.

We stabilize in the 2000's.

We got wiser in the 2010's.

And we are going firmly through and beyond 2020.

Turns out we've lived through EIGHT different decades...

TWO different centuries..

TWO different millennia...

We have gone from the telephone with an operator for long-distance calls to video calls to anywhere in the world.

We have gone from slides to YouTube, from vinyl records to online music, from handwritten letters to email and Whats App.

From live matches on the radio, to black and white TV, color TV and then to 4D HD TV.

We went to the Video store and now we watch Netflix.

We got to know the first computers, punch cards, floppy disks and now we have gigabytes and megabytes on our smartphones.

We wore shorts throughout our childhood and then long trousers, Oxfords, flares, shell suits & blue jeans.

We dodged infantile paralysis, meningitis, polio, tuberculosis, swine flu and now, COVID-19.

We rode skates, tricycles, bicycles, mopeds, gas or diesel cars and now we drive hybrids or electric.

Yes, we've been through a lot but what a great life we've had!

They could describe us as "exennials," people who were born in that world of the fifties, who had an analog childhood and a digital adulthood.

We've kind of "Seen-It-All"!

Our generation has literally lived through and witnessed more than any other in every dimension of life.

It is our generation that has literally adapted to "CHANGE.

A big round of applause to all the members of a very special generation, which will be UNIQUE!

-Thanks to Nick Guerra for this submission.

