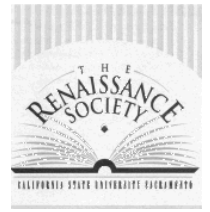




The Renaissance Recorder

Lifelong Learning

California State University, Sacramento



September 2019

Lifelong Learning for over 30 years

Issue 186

President's Corner

By David Abelson



Greetings and welcome to the start of the fall semester at the Renaissance Society. Our organization is celebrating its 33rd anniversary as the premier life-long learning program in the Sacramento region, and we are happy to have you aboard!

Founded at California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), the Renaissance Society provides *unique* learning opportunities for older adults. Our educational and social programs are conducted *entirely on a peer-to-peer* basis, wherein members *volunteer* to teach each other and learn from each other constantly. Using this approach, we have grown from approximately 40 people in 1986, to over 2,300 members in 2019.

This past year the Renaissance Society offered more than 150 seminars, speakers and other social events on the CSUS campus. In addition, our members gave dozens of presentations at off-campus locations, including assisted living facilities, public libraries, and other venues throughout the greater Sacramento area.

The year ahead will provide an equally wide-range of seminars, speakers and activities, highlighted by programs celebrating the centennial passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, giving women the right to vote. In addition, we are looking forward to socializing with each other and the many fascinating people who will cross our path.

The Renaissance Society is a great place to learn, contribute, and just plain have lots of fun. So welcome aboard to each and every one of you!

ORIENTATION

Friday, August 30, 2019

The RS semi-annual **Orientation** is scheduled for **Friday, August 30th** in the CSUS Union on the Sac State campus. New and prospective members are encouraged to attend the Orientation in Ballroom III from **9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** to learn the ins and outs of the Renaissance Society. Topics will include seminars, the Forums, parking, transportation, extracurricular activities, service opportunities and places for lunch on campus. No reservations needed to attend.

There will be an optional walking tour of the campus following the Orientation. Please note for prospective members who join RS after the Orientation, you will get much faster service by using your credit card for payment, rather than cash or check.

If you have questions, comments, or need more information, please contact Membership, Diversity, and Community Engagement (MDCE) Committee Chairperson Ken Cross at kencross@kencrossconsulting.com or call (916) 995-8288.

RENDEZVOUS

Friday August 30, 2019

Only a couple more weeks until a NEW and EXCITING Renaissance begins! We have a vast array of seminars waiting, including several that will only last half of the semester—allowing you to pick another topic for the other half. There are many options for attending symposia or hearing speakers off campus and even on Saturdays this year.

The Seminar committee invites you to attend the **Rendezvous on Friday August 30. It will be held in Ballrooms I and II** in the University Union, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

This will start the fall 2019 semester in a fun way for all. Talk with seminar leaders about the seminars you are considering, welcome new members, chat with continuing members, enjoy a cup of coffee and a cookie with friends. Get all your questions answered about the many NEW ways to 'learn in retirement.' NOTE: Online registration will be required for all seminars, unless the offering is designated as "drop-in" and those for which "contact leader for registration" is indicated.

New Member Welcome Dinner



September 27 at Pita Kitchen Plus,
2989 Arden Way, 4:15 – 6:00,
no-host.

A great way to meet Renaissance members and enjoy delicious food. Cash only please.. Lots of parking! See you There!

FORUMS

Fridays at 3 pm, Del Norte, Room 1004

****Room exception as noted below**

September 6: Steve and Susie Swatt, Steve Swatt, Political Analyst and author, "Paving the Way: Women's Struggle for Political Equality in California." **Ballroom III Student Union.

September 13: Garen Wintemute, Director, Arms Violence Center, UC Davis, "Understanding and Preventing Gun Violence."

September 20: Scott Gordon, Professor of Artificial Intelligence, CSUS, "Artificial Intelligence: What it is, its Current Uses and Future Possibilities."

September 27: Rick Braziel Former Police Chief of Sacramento, and Public Safety Consultant, "The Future of Policing: The Events and Trends, Myths and Facts."

DOCUMENTARIES

10:00 to 11:35 am, Library 3023

Drop-in; no registration required

Allan Keown, Mary Hyland

This semester's documentaries seminar will be a "cutting edge" meditation on America. How did we get to where we are, and where do we go from here? We'll take a look at documentaries focusing on events in law, science, popular culture, politics, music, and athletics from our collective past, the present, and what the future may hold for us. We shall feature more discussion and interactive learning than in past semesters.

September 6: "The King" by Eugene Jarecki. Forty years after the death of Elvis Presley, two-time Sundance Grand Jury winner Eugene Jarecki's film takes the King's 1963 Rolls Royce on a musical road trip across America. From Memphis to New York, Las Vegas, and beyond, the journey traces the rise and fall of Elvis as a metaphor for the country he left behind. It is a portrait of the current state of the American Dream and a powerful statement for reflecting on where we are headed.

September 13: "Bisbee '17" by Robert Greene. The story of a town's attempt to recreate a startling event in its history when on July 12, 1917, 2,000 townspeople rounded up 1,300 striking copper mine workers from the Phelps Dodge Mine and deported them to the New Mexico desert. The townspeople struggle to come to terms with the event by dramatizing and re-enacting the day of the deportation on its 100th anniversary. The scenes are based on subjective versions of the story and offer conflicting views of the event, underscoring the difficulty of collective memory -- while confronting the current political predicaments of immigration, unionization, environmental damage, and corporate corruption. Beautifully written, acted and filmed. Revolutionary filmmaking. A new genre?

September 20: "On the Basis of Sex" by Mimi Leder. Inspired by the powerful true story of a young Ruth Bader Ginsburg, this film depicts a then-struggling attorney and new mother facing adversity in her fight for equal rights. When Ruth takes on a ground-breaking case, she knows that the outcome could alter the judiciary's view of gender discrimination. She teams up with her husband, Martin

Ginsburg, to fight the case that catapults her into one of the most important public figures of our time. Inspiring and highly relevant.

September 27: "Apollo 11" by Todd Douglas Miller. On the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing, this documentary is crafted from a newly discovered trove of 65mm footage and more than 11,000 hours of uncatalogued audio recordings. It takes us to the heart of NASA's most celebrated mission -- the one that first put man on the moon. Immersed in the perspectives of the astronauts, the team in Mission Control, and the millions of spectators on the ground, we vividly experience those momentous days and hours in 1969 when mankind took a giant leap into the future. To what end?

Seminar Committee's End of Year Check-Up Survey

By Virginia Sturdevant

At the end of last spring semester, the Seminar Committee (SC) asked Renaissance Society members to rate their seminar experience during the 2018-19 academic year. It also asked members to share their thoughts on what they liked and didn't like about those experiences and to give the SC any suggestions they had. Here's what members told the SC.

Who responded?

The questionnaire was emailed to 1,993 members of whom 344 or about 17% responded.

27% (92) of respondents have been members 1 to 2 years
51% (175) of respondents have been members 3 to 8 years,
and
22% (77) of respondents have been members for 9 years or more.

Survey questions and responses:

1. What is your preferred seminar learning style? The most popular style was Lecture by Leader receiving 156 out of 344 responses (about 45%), followed by Discussion style at 112 responses (about 33%), Presentation style at 36 (about 10.4%) and Activities/Social style at 16 (about 4.6%). Twenty people responded to the "Other" option stating they preferred a combination of two or more of the styles.

2. Which category(s) of seminars most interests you?

Members could choose as many categories as interested them.

(continued on Page 5)

Travel & Adventure

10:00 to 11:35 am, Library 2031

Richard Fuller—916.409.9209

September 6: Bruce Quick, Hiking Budapest to Vienna.

Bruce Quick wasn't sure what to do when he retired at 65. Inspired by the story of a man who walked across Spain on a pilgrimage called Camino de Santiago, Bruce knew what he wanted to do. He not only walked across Spain but has returned for three more walking journeys that have now extended from Budapest across Europe to Porto, Portugal – about 2500 miles. He is excited to share his adventures.

September 13: Dorene Clement and Bud Getty, Puerto Rico. Eighteen months after Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico's most devastating natural disaster, Bud and Dorene visited. They explored the historic cities of San Juan and Ponce, the lovely island of Culebra, and Guánica dry forest and El Yunque rain forest. There was much visible damage, but also substantial recovery. They found the lush, diverse island well worth visiting, and especially enjoyed meeting the friendly people.

September 20: Donn Miller, England, Scotland, & Ireland. Staying with friends in Scotland, we explored castles and breweries, and then traveled by train from Edinburgh to London, staying in Newcastle and York – which has the biggest train museum in world. In London, we visited museums and sights within city limits for another seven days. Finally, we flew to Ireland and explored four cities – Waterford, Cork, Limerick, and Dublin, for still more side trips and castles.

September 27: Julie and Chris Smith, Egypt. Egypt. Wow. It's hard to put into words a country that is thousands of years old but still alive and vibrant. We'll share with you our experience living with a family in Cairo, visiting Alexandria, cruising the Nile, and stepping into King Tut's Tomb. You will learn a little hieroglyphics and see how the residents of Cairo enjoy a birthday party. Join us for audio/visual journey from pyramids to shopping malls.



Past President Doris Keller receives a gift honoring her service as RS President. (Photo courtesy of Muffy Francke)

On-Campus Speakers Series

(Formerly Mini-Seminars)

10:00 to 11:35 am, Alpine 204

Ed Speegle, Seminar Leader

September 6: William Terrell, The History of the Buffalo Soldiers. The History of the Buffalo Soldiers with Trooper William Terrell of the 10th Cavalry, Company G, of Northern California. A look at the history, traditions and outstanding contributions of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry regiments in the defense of the United State of America. A short video will be shown together with a presentation of the Buffalo Soldiers' including the first African American West Point Graduate.

September 13: L. "Rico" Ozaki, The Truth About Human Trafficking in Our Region. What is human trafficking? What does it look like in our region? Is Sacramento really a hub? Where do we rank in the nation on human trafficking? How does it affect boys and men? We will discuss some of the myths and realities of human trafficking in our region, and how community members are addressing the issue.

September 20: Richard Lui, Find Your Calling at Any Age. All of us are called to uncover our gifts and passions and follow them at any age. In fact, as we age, new gifts emerge and we are inwardly nudged to reinvent our lives for our own happiness and maybe to assist the well-being of others. This safe supportive class will show you simple, practical, proven steps using evidence-based mindfulness tools for more aliveness and clarity in your retirement, or with new hobbies or a part time or encore career. Drawing from grounded spirituality, poetry, science, and philosophy you will learn hands-on practices to explore what you were born to do as a gift to yourself and others.

September 27: Peter Kosar, Julia Morgan: Architectural Pioneer. Come meet Julia Morgan, the architect who designed Hearst Castle and several other iconic California buildings. She was the first woman architect licensed in California and designed over 700 buildings. We'll talk about her growing up in the Bay Area and her rise to prominence in the male-dominated profession of architecture. Along the way, we'll take a look at some of her more famous buildings.

DINING TOGETHER



Dining Together will meet at LEMON GRASS, 601 Munroe Street (lemongrassrestaurant.com), at **5:30 PM on September 11, 2019**. Dining Together members who wish to attend should **RSVP** to Cheryl Nelson: slynnsearch@yahoo.com, or phone (916) 421-040, no later than September 8, 2019. Separate checks will be provided. Parking is in the rear of the restaurant.

Member Profile *by Judy Lewis*

Maryellen Burns—A Self-described Chameleon

Trying to summarize Maryellen Burns’ life is like emptying a pitcher of water into a thimble. She grew up in Sacramento’s public housing development of New Helvetia. Her family, she says, was “eccentric,” with her mother serving as a shop steward for the Teamsters Union in the trucking industry. Maryellen describes her father as “a stay at home dad” for herself and her two brothers, along with his working at flea markets.



Growing up, her goal was to become a musical comedy star. Word games, math and language fascinated her. She reports that she was “always intellectually curious,” and wrote her first

play at the age of nine.

As an adult, Maryellen worked to provide skills to New Helvetia residents, in order to help them to set goals and create a plan to move up.

During her years at CSUS, she earned degrees in journalism and government, and served as editor of the Hornet newspaper.

Maryellen describes herself as a multi-tasker, always project-oriented. While employed at Mills College, she wrote grants to fund one of the first women’s resource centers in the country.

Returning to Sacramento in 1976, she worked in media, politics, art and design education, as well as consulting with museums, libraries, and educational institutions. She developed her own special events and catering firm. Maryellen reports that she has assisted more than 200 individuals in getting their written work published.

A life-long learner, she has earned more than 70 units in community colleges and universities, traveling to participate in lectures. One of her favorites was a symposium at Radcliffe which focused on reading and researching historic cookbooks. She is the author of six books, including Lost Restaurants of Sacramento and Their Recipes and Extracts, which she describes as mostly true stories with a sprinkling of recipes, due out this summer.

Always aware of the Renaissance Society, but feeling that she was too young to join, Maryellen says she “illegally took classes,” becoming an official member in 2016. She has not yet retired, and has no plans to do so. Maryellen describes herself as “pretty multi-faceted. I consider myself a chameleon.” During the fall semester of 2019, she plans to co-teach with Dan Cross, Jay McKeeman and Lisa Frank an off-campus seminar “A Cook’s Tour of Sacramento—Art of the Libation,” a series of 12 talk and sip sessions.

CLASSICAL MUSIC SEMINAR

by Bob Seyfried



For a number of reasons, this spring’s 2019 Classical Music Seminar truly surpassed all of our previous music seminars. First, our partner Leo Eylars’s presentations were most professional and fast-paced. Not once did he “teach down” to his class of mainly non-musicians and each us took away from his most enjoyable lectures

musical insights that will not be forgotten.

Additionally, our most talented musician friends from the faculty were most generous in sharing their artistry with us and we thank them all.

However, the generosity of our classmates truly put this seminar over the top. A friend of two of our classmates donated a very fine violin of Parisian make to the School of Music and a deserving student is now the owner of that fine instrument. Additionally, another of our classmates made a most generous donation to Conductor Eylar’s California Youth Symphony and at the closing session of the semester the seminar presented a check in excess of \$5,200 to the School of Music for their scholarship fund.

My sincere thanks go out to all of my dear classmates for their most kind generosity.

In Memoriam



Mel Bisgay, a long-time Renaissance member, passed away on May 13 at the age of 92. His wife Mary, also a member, preceded him in 2016.

Chuck Scarcliff, a member since 1995, passed away on May 14. He had led many seminars over the years, particularly ones concerning poetry. His wife, Dexa, was a long-time member who passed away several years ago.

Priscilla “Bunny” Alexander passed away in July, 2019.

Bruce Moon, seminar leader on China, passed away unexpectedly on July 11, 2019.

Change of Terminology: Speakers Series

By Sharon Anderson

You may have noticed, if you attended the Summer Speakers Series, that they were called the Summer Speakers Series, rather than Mini-Seminars. We have changed the terminology of our several speakers series to more closely reflect what they are. The name is modeled after the

(continued on Page 7)

**RENAISSANCE INFORMATION TABLE
CSUS LIBRARY FIRST 2 WEEKS OF FALL
SEMESTER**

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

*Ask anything: I forgot my catalog, where is my seminar? Where is the Tahoe building? What is the program this morning?

*Seminar Committee members will staff the information table the first two Friday mornings of every semester in the lobby of the Library.

*Please stop by to ask a question, or just chat. We love solving problems and welcome new (and returning) members..

CLINICAL PEARLS

By Dolores J. Eitel, BSN, MA, cNY
Family Nurse Practitioner

What You Should Know About the 2019-2020 Flu Season

Preventable influenza takes the lives of many older adults per year. An annual flu vaccine is the best way to reduce your chances of getting seasonal flu, and being at risk for severe complications and/or spreading the disease to others. While the vaccine does not always prevent you from getting the flu, it will build up antibodies to the strain of the identified 4 viruses for this season. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends annual influenza vaccine for everyone 6 months or older.

It is predicted that the flu season will start in September and end in May. The World Health Organization (WHO), endorsed by the Centers for Disease Center (CDC) and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have identified the viruses for the trivalent vaccine and the quadrivalent virus for this season. It takes approximately 2 weeks after the vaccine is administered for antibodies to develop in the body and provide protection against the viruses. It is recommended that you receive the Flu vaccination no later than October if possible. The vaccine is expected to be available at the end of August. The vaccine is effective in older adults for approximately 1 year.



You should also be up to date with your pneumococcal vaccines.

The recommended vaccines for this season are Fluzone (Brand Name) intradermal ages 13- 64, Fluzone High Dose or Fluad High Dose (Brand Names) intramuscular ages 65 and over.

Common mild side effects are redness or tenderness around the injection site, or the arm and site might ache. Not very common, you may experience a slight elevated temperature. Side effects are short-lasting. These side effects may occur as your immune system reacts to the vaccine.

The flu vaccine will not give you the flu. However, you may be infected with flu viruses not covered by the vaccine. If you should develop symptoms of influenza you should consult your health care provider within 48 hours of the initial symptoms and receive antiviral medications as prescribed. Flu is contagious. Good hand washing techniques are necessary.

*** Always discuss having any vaccine with your health care provider.**

Further information: who.int, fda.gov, cdc.gov

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(Seminar survey continued from Page 2)

History got the most votes with 76% of respondents choosing this category, 57% chose the Art & Literature category, Music and Science were chosen equally at 44% each and Health & Wellness was chosen by 34% of respondents. Languages, Physical/Social and Hobbies/Crafts categories were popular with respondents getting from 15% to 20% of responses. The "Other" option received 59 responses with members liking Politics/Economics/Current Events, Travel, Film/Movies and Philosophy/Religion/Ethics categories.

3. How would you rate your seminar experience this last academic year?

90% of respondents or 310 out of 344 respondents rated their experience Excellent, Very Good or Good. 7% (25 respondents) rated their experience Fair and 3% (9) rated it Poor.

Excellent – 38% (131)

Very Good – 34% (118)

Good – 18% (61)

Fair – 7% (25)

Poor – 3% (9)

4. What did you like best about your seminar experience? 283

respondents answered this question. What they liked were well-prepared leaders, the good seminar subjects and/or presentations, the fact that they learned something new, the interaction and discussion with other seminar members and meeting new people. They enjoyed the Library and Symposia Off-Campus speaker series both for the topics and presenters as well as the ease of mobility and parking. A few respondents cited the opportunity to lead a seminar, being on campus with the young people and the relaxed learning atmosphere (with no tests!) the best part of their experience.

5. What did you like least about your seminar experience?

235 respondents answered this question. 49 of these respondents stated "Nothing" and that they were happy with their seminar experience. The remaining 186 respondents mentioned a variety of dislikes. In a few cases, they wished leaders had been better prepared, operated the classroom audio/visual equipment with more facility and allotted more time for discussion after presentations or viewing videos. Respondents didn't like that some classrooms were too crowded with desks, too small for the number of members or the wrong room configuration for the type of seminar, had poor lighting and/or HVAC and uncomfortable seating. One respondent complained "Small seats—darn kids!!!" They didn't like classroom disruptions such as side conversations, one or two members dominating a discussion or cell phones ringing.

Respondents wished the time periods for the Friday morning seminars didn't overlap so they could attend more than one morning seminar. Some wished for closer parking on campus and found walking to classrooms difficult.

6. What suggestions do you have for the Seminar Committee?

The respondents listed several suggestions related to seminars (Seminar Committee responses in parentheses):

More and varied off-campus seminars (SC will be reviewing)

More half-semester seminars (19 as opposed to 11 last spring)

(continued on Page 6)

DOUG FULTON HONORING HIS GENEROUS LEGACY

By Phyllis Mills



Doug was deeply devoted to the Renaissance Society, having joined during its early, formative years in 1992. He was a strong and far-sighted leader, serving as President from 1993 to 1995. He led the “Great Decisions Seminar” for many years and also served on the Forum Committee. He was co-founder with Lou Weintraub, and Chair of the Renaissance Scholarship Committee from 1993 until his death in January, 2019, at the age of 96. I had the honor of serving as co-chair of the Renaissance Scholarship committee after Lou retired from the committee.

Doug was a person who truly cared about the Renaissance Society, Sacramento State University, and the students attending the University. He had strong feelings about many issues and did not hesitate to express himself. Doug exuded leadership qualities, and Renaissance reaped the benefit of his willingness to lead.

The Renaissance Society Scholarship program began in 1993 when Lou Weintraub was the Controller and Doug Fulton was the President. Membership was about 200. Lou and Doug believed that Renaissance could afford two \$500 awards for Sac State students, and this was eventually approved by the Board. Over the past 26 years, the membership has grown to 2400 and the scholarships awarded each year have increased in amount and number, to six, three-thousand dollar scholarships. In 2018 a seventh scholarship was added in memory of Lou Weintraub, who passed away in December, 2017, one month shy of his 104th birthday.

This year, 2019, a seventh scholarship was awarded in honor of Doug Fulton. Doug was the chair of the Scholarship committee for many years and he was active in leading the committee until the day he died. As the number of students enrolled at Sac State has increased and as the cost of attending is significantly greater, the Renaissance Society hopes that by increasing the donations to the Scholarship fund by members, the number of scholarships and the dollar amount of the scholarships can be increased in the future.

Doug was very devoted to his wife, Gini, who required care at home for the past 10 years. Gini was also an active member of Renaissance prior to her illness. Their daughter, Pam Cardoza, helped care for Gini and Doug during this extended illness.

(Seminar survey continued from Page 5)

- Better time scheduling so no conflicts between Friday AM/noon/PM seminars (will be reviewing)
- Start earlier on Friday and go past 3 PM (will be reviewing)
- More Saturday seminars
- Make Friday morning seminars drop-ins (there are 4 Friday morning seminars this fall)
- More Activity/Social style seminars on Friday PMs (will be reviewing)
- Repeat popular seminars off-campus and at different times (will be reviewing)
- Extend semester longer than 13 weeks (not this academic year)

Have a summer Library Speakers Series (will be reviewing)

Respondents submitted 35 different topics and subjects they would like to see offered and especially wanted more science and math seminars. Several wanted popular seminars repeated. Bigger rooms were wanted for Documentaries and Travel & Adventure—this still continues to be a problem for the SC but we try every semester for bigger rooms.

In response to several suggestions, Marian Kile will offer a Friday morning drop-in seminar entitled **Presenters’ Clinic** this fall semester to help leaders and those thinking about becoming leaders develop their presentation and classroom equipment skills. During the next spring semester, the SC will arrange a “Best Practices for Presenters” series of different speakers offering their ideas, techniques and tips to polish presentations.

(continued in next column)

THE NEXT STEPS: Thank you to those of you who took the time to respond. The information we received will help the Seminar Committee better meet what RS members would like to see. Your comments help us focus on the specific areas needing attention. The next step will be to review the comments and suggestions and prioritize those the SC will work to implement during the coming academic year.

If you have questions for the Seminar Committee, ask any SC members -- we wear green “SEMINAR COMMITTEE” badges. We are happy to answer your questions and, if we can’t, we’ll find someone who can. The Co-chairs of the Seminar Committee are Allan Keown (ahkeown@gmail.com) and Beth Mann (bethmann@comcast.net) should you have questions or ideas for them.

LGBTQ Meet & Greet



We are interested in learning about other members in the Renaissance Society who also identify with the LGBTQ community. Come join us for a casual Meet & Greet on Friday, September 20 at 4:30 pm (after the Friday Forum) in the campus Round

Table Pizza parlor in the CSUS Student Union. We look forward to meeting up with you.

For information contact: lindabirner@att.net or christie_brazil@hotmail.com.

Renaissance Singing Group Serenades Seniors

By Muffy Francke

On Tuesday, May 7, the Renaissance Society's Singing for Fun chorus serenaded the residents of Oakmont of Fair Oaks retirement community. The residents were treated to songs that many not only remembered, but enjoyed as a sing-along with the encouragement of Chorus Director Sara Zeigler.

The singers performed such tunes as "When You're Smiling," "It's a Wonderful World," "Up a Lazy River," "Jeepers Creepers," and "We'll Meet Again." The Uk-u-Ladies, the group's ukulele ensemble, provided toe tapping beats to tunes like "Ain't She Sweet" and "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby." There were train whistles for "Chattanooga Choo Choo," rhythmic maracas for "Lemon Tree," and chorus member Maryann Frantz entertained with a rousing tap dance during "On the Sunny Side of the Street." Narrator Bette Carr introduced each song with interesting and fun facts.

Singing for Fun is a class offered by the Renaissance Society, an organization in partnership with the California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), that provides opportunities for lifelong learning and community engagement for older adults. Society members choose to study topics proposed by peers who lead the seminars. There is a veritable smorgasbord of subjects which evolve from semester to semester depending on members' interests. Classes are held on the CSUS campus on Fridays and Saturdays during both fall and spring semesters. The Society also offers seminars, "birds of a feather" gatherings, book clubs and other activities such as Singing for Fun on other days and other locations. It also hosts a summer series of presentations where non-members are welcome. The schedule can be found at <https://www.csus.edu/org/rensoc/calendar.html>.

The Singing for Fun group chooses a new slate of songs each semester, rehearses for approximately eight weeks, and then performs for up to five different senior communities. This spring in addition to the Oakmont show, they also entertained residents at Summerset Senior Living facility in Rancho Cordova, Sunrise of Fair Oaks, Aegis of Carmichael, and the Hart Senior Center in Sacramento. The chorus has been part of the Renaissance experience for almost thirty years. Each semester, there are about forty participants, many of whom have been singing with the chorus for years. The only requirement besides Renaissance Society membership is to enjoy singing and sharing the joy with others. Director Zeigler emphasized that the group has "fun" in its name so there are no tryouts and no requirement to read music.

(Editor's note: Marty Maskall, RS member, arranged to have this item published in a recent issue of the American River Messenger.)

Renaissance Society 2019-2020 Membership and Seminar Registration

There is still time to join the Renaissance Society for the fall 2019 semester. **NOW** is the time to reach out to your friends, associates and new acquaintances in the greater Sacramento community, to share the opportunities for adult lifelong learning, socializing, service and fun. Encourage your prospective members to visit the RS website at <http://csus.edu/org/rensoc/> where 95% of their questions can easily be answered.

Three key points to reinforce with your prospective members:

#1 Enroll NOW! The membership portal opened June 11th. New members as well as renewing can sign up on-line for 2019-2020 membership, annual parking permits and CSUS library cards: <https://apps.cce.csus.edu/sites/renaissanceSociety/index.cfm>. If you prefer to sign up manually and send a check in by mail, then follow the link to <https://www.csus.edu/org/rensoc/membership.html>. **#2 Sign-up for seminars** – The *Fall 2019 RS Activities Catalog for Members* has been mailed to members and was posted online **Tuesday, August 19th**. The important thing to remember is enrolling for membership **NOW** allows members to sign-up to choose their fall seminars. You don't have to wait until the Rendezvous, find your preferred seminar filled, and end up on a waiting list. **#3 Attend the RS Orientation & Rendezvous** – (see Page one of the Recorder for more information.) Questions, comments, or need more information, please contact Membership, Diversity, and Community Engagement (MDCE) Committee Chairperson Ken Cross at kencross@kencrossconsulting.com or call (916) 995-8288.



RS Singing for Fun

Photo courtesy of Muffy Francke

(New Terminology, continued from Page 4)

Sacramento Speakers Series in Downtown Sacramento. We have several of them: we have the On-Campus Speakers Series (formerly Mini-Seminars); and then there are all the library speakers series, which are off-campus, for example, the Arden-Dimick Speakers Series. Even the Symposia have changed, to Residential Communities Speakers Series. So: mini-seminars and symposia out; speakers series in. Hope you like it! And don't forget the end S on Speakers, with no apostrophe.

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The Renaissance Society
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30, 2019, but no later!

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THE HALF-SEMESTER SEMINARS: SOMETHING QUITE NEW!

(These were previously called short seminars.)

By Jeff Hendy

There is a new way to enjoy seminars at Renaissance. The previously named "Afternoon Short Seminars" are a half-semester long. These seminars are generally 6 to 7-week courses tailored to fit into the longer seminar time-frame. The half-semester seminars are like taking 2 for the price of 1. Listed as "Afternoon Half-Semester Seminars" in the fall catalog, the courses offer a large variety of subjects and nineteen different half-semester seminars to choose from. They generally start on September 6th, go for six or seven weeks, then another, entirely different series of half-semester seminars will start in late October and go through December 6th. (Check to be sure of the dates as a couple of half-semester seminars are only a few weeks long.)

What is the advantage of taking two half-semester seminars rather than one long one? You can sign-up for the shorter seminars and become informed in two entirely different subjects. Or, perhaps your circumstances are such that you'll only have limited time in the fall: a half-semester seminar might be just the fit for you.

The fall semester just became two times more interesting! The Half-Semester Seminars are offered in the catalog starting with number 40. Check them out!