Monday, January 13: “The Beatles on Film”

Richie Unterberger, Rock Music Author and Historian

Fifty years after they broke up, the Beatles remain the greatest and most popular rock group of all time. At our program, Richie shows and discusses uncommon film clips of their performances from 1962 to 1969. This spans the period from their days in a Liverpool club to their wild Beatlemania concerts and the psychedelic era. These clips illustrate how they changed during that time, and how enormously they changed popular music.

Richie is the author of numerous rock history books and teaches courses on rock history at several Bay Area colleges including the University of San Francisco and San Francisco State. His next book, to be published in 2021, is “San Francisco: Portrait of a City.”

The meeting will be held in The Rosa Parks Room, Cesar Chavez Student Center at 1:00 p.m. Social time will follow. For hospitality, members HARDEMAN to HUG are requested to provide treats. If you are not attending, make sure you contribute or arrange to have someone bring something for you.

Monday, January 27: “Battle of the Big Bands – Benny Goodman vs. Artie Shaw”

Mark Levy, Performer and Music Educator

Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw were two of the top big band leaders starting in the 1930s. Both were from Jewish backgrounds. Both played clarinet and were rivals from the 1930s to 1950s. In this presentation, we see rare film clips and hear recordings of their brilliant playing, with interviews and commentary on their careers and what made them both so popular.

Mark Levy has traveled across the country performing and teaching adult classes for over 40 years. He brings film and audio clips, stories and anecdotes to make the history and music come alive.

The meeting will be held in The Rosa Parks Room, Cesar Chavez Student Center at 1:00 p.m. Social time will follow. For hospitality, members IMPERIALE to KIRCHHOFF are requested to provide treats. If you are not attending, make sure you contribute or arrange to have someone bring something for you.

Shuttle Bus Time: Pick-up time for the January 27th program only is at 12:15 p.m. at the Lake Merced parking lot at the foot of Sunset Blvd. A second bus will be available if necessary. The return trip leaves at 3:00 p.m. from in front of the Creative Arts Building on Holloway Avenue.

Monday, January 13: NO Shuttle Service

Monday, January 27: Shuttle Service Available
President’s Message — January, 2020

A New Year – and Storm Clouds

First off, Happy New Year to all our Sixty Plus members, and here’s wishing everyone a prosperous, healthy and safe 2020. I’m sure we all deserve it.

As we cross into 2020, I want to start bringing all of you up to date with the problem the Sixty Plus board has been working on for well over a year – in fact, several years. If you are a longstanding member, it doesn’t take but a look around to know what the main problem is – and that is a continual decrease in our membership.

Just ten years ago our total membership numbered over two hundred, and we were consistently seeing eighty to ninety members in attendance at our General Membership Meetings to view our programs. We now seem to be able to draw only about half that.

The board has been trying to find ways of increasing members, and we have added a few members recently; however, the decrease in our members has also meant a depletion of our funds to continue what we are doing.

Past president Chris Malfatti even formed an Ad Hoc committee to try to find solutions to this nagging problem, but we have been unable to keep up with our lowering membership rate. I have asked some of the Sixty Plus board members to examine our rates of reduction, as well as where we’ve been in the past and where we’re going in the future. We need to examine the worth of the organization.

I’ll have more to discuss with you as we reflect on our problems and try to find answers.

Ray Sarakaitis, President, Sixty Plus – OLLI at SFSU
raysarakaitis@aol.com

Membership

New Members, 2019 - 2020

A warm welcome to all of our new members from all of us continuing members! Please feel free to approach any of us at any meeting, and we’ll be delighted to make your acquaintance. We hope your membership is productive of new friendships, fun, and adventures.

We’ll be looking out for you and hope to welcome you personally.

Mary Clare Bennett, Membership chair: marycbennett@gmail.com
Hospitality Committee

Members are asked to provide refreshments such as cookies, fruit, or other finger food for general membership meetings according to alphabetical order. Please make a note of your turn and bring refreshments on your assigned day. In case you cannot attend your assigned meeting, please exchange with someone in another alphabetical group.

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Ann McGuire, Hospitality Chair, anniem681@icloud.com

Arts and Entertainment

Chris Botti, SF Jazz Center, Saturday, January 11, 5:00 p.m.
201 Franklin Street, SF; Cost: around $20.00
Chris Botti is one of the world’s top popular music interpreters. He has sold the most records of any popular music instrumentalist. He puts on a show full of guests, music of all stripes and an on-stage presentation that includes glorious music and lots of just plain fun. To evaluate this statement, just talk to anyone who went to last year’s performance. Contact Erwin Kelly at 415-552-9435 for ticket availability.

“Into the Woods,” Sunday, April 19, 8:00 p.m.
San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 50 Oak Street, SF Free!
A production of Sondheim’s musical delight.
We’ll be doing money and tickets for this event starting with our first meeting in January.

San Francisco Youth Symphony, Sunday, May 10, 2:00 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Avenue, SF
Cost: $12.50

Theater: “The Band’s Visit,” Wednesday, June 17, 2:00 p.m.
Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor Street at Market Street, SF
Seats are only in the Mezzanine (note: NO ELEVATOR in this theater).
Contact Eileen Ward: 415-405-0489 or email: sixty@sfsu.edu
This critically acclaimed smash-hit Broadway musical is the winner of ten Tony Awards, including Best Musical, making it one of the most Tony-winning musicals in history. In this joyously off-beat story, a band of musicians arrives lost in a small desert town. Under the spell of the desert sky, the band brings the town to life in unexpected and tantalizing ways.

Sand Box Theatre, Date TBA
Sand Box theatre is the “experimental” arm of San Francisco Playhouse. It holds its productions in a venue that will be new to most of us. The plays have been hand-picked by Bill English, Director of SF Playhouse. They are brand new world premieres and invariably fascinating, insightful views of the human condition. They are always entertaining as well as thought-provoking.
The following information is taken from the newsletter News and Views, produced for the retirees of the City and County of San Francisco. This article, reprinted with permission from their December, 2019, issue, was written by John “Skee” Tostanoski, who found the folks at ReCARES very helpful.

The article was forwarded by Sixty Plus member, Marti Lewkowitz. If you come across information that might be helpful to fellow members, please forward it to Jeanne Glennon at jfglennon@comcast.net

**MEMBER CONNECT**
**BY JOHN “SKEE” TOSTANOSKI**

Being very frugal, I like to save money, as well as donate items that others can use. ReCARES is a remarkable nonprofit that accepts donations of medical equipment and supplies, and then donates them to people in need. So, if you need a wheelchair, walker, crutches, bathroom items, etc., you can get them at ReCARES. Then when you’re done with the item you can donate it back to ReCARES.

Talk about a win-win!

Their San Francisco location is open every Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. They also have Oakland and Marin locations, as per below-listed information.

**Bay Area locations**

**San Francisco**
63 Dorland St., (in alleyway next to building), San Francisco, CA 94110
Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Marin**
3100 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael, CA 94901
Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Oakland**
2619 Broadway (in parking lot behind building), Oakland, CA 94612
Fridays, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Second & fourth Saturday of each month (no redistribution, just donations) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Questions? Comments? Please feel free to contact me at 1 (415) 699-1050 or sfskee@sbcglobal.net
January Mini-courses

January mini-courses are individual presentations, usually 2.5 hours in length. They are scheduled for mornings or afternoons from January 7, 2020, to January 10, 2020.

- Creating an Outline: Turn Your Life into a Bestseller in 2.5 Hours, Barbara Rose Brooker
- The Importance of Being Ernst, Joseph McBride
- What's Your Boomer EQ?, Claire Barnes
- Emerging Dynamics of the Presidential Campaign, David Peritz
- OLLI in Dialogue: Television Journalism with a Purpose, Journalist Doug McConnell in Conversation with Rosemary Cameron, Doug McConnell, Rosemary Cameron
- The Impeachment of Donald J. Trump: Background, Legal Issues, and Potential Political Ramifications, David Peritz

Courses: Winter Session

Winter courses are five or six sessions, running from January 20, 2020, to March 6, 2020. For a detailed list of offerings and information about days and times, go to OLLI.SFSU.EDU

Not-quite-gourmet Dining…

Causwells
2346 Chestnut St

Tuesday, January 28, 11:30 a.m.

This Marina District bistro, specializing in contemporary American cuisine, has been drawing crowds with its famous all-American beef burger and variations of it. The former comes with American cheese, Causwells’ sauce, lettuce, pickle, and onion, and the latter variations are composed of your choice of grilled or fried chicken or falafel, piled high in a crisp sesame bun. If bready entrees aren’t your thing, there are other options, such as a tender and moist pork chop with spaetzle, short ribs with fingerling potatoes, and parpadelle with red-wine meat ragu. Desserts include a bread pudding and a rich and creamy chocolate pot de crème.

Cash only. No credit cards
Muni lines 22 and 30

RSVP Required: Cecilia Lim: cec639sf@att.net, or 415-957-1602
This feature reports on our program speakers, especially for those who are not able to attend our meetings. We can feature the first speaker of the month in the subsequent month’s newsletter, but the second meeting is beyond our publication date. A report for that meeting should be available on our website, www.sixtyplussf.org. If you know people who cannot attend out meetings, please help them locate the Applause section of our website.

This review was prepared by Maryann Swazo. If you would like to report on future meetings, please contact Jeanne Glennon at jfglennon@comcast.net.

At our December meeting we were treated to an entertaining presentation about Gene Kelly by Bonnie Weiss.

While Fred Astaire danced with an unattainable gentlemanly style, our introduction to Gene Kelly defined his boy-next-door style and accessibility. Although a gifted, polished dancer, he also received acclaim as an accomplished choreographer and innovator of film technique and direction. Most memorable were his appearance in “Singin’ in the Rain,” and portrayal of a sailor in “On the Town.” His distinguished work as a choreographer appears in “Cover Girl” and dancing with cartoon accompaniment in “Anchors Aweigh.”

Born in 1912, Gene Kelly was the son of a frustrated dancer and family dance promoter. Unable to afford dance lessons for her kids, Mrs. Kelly acquired a secretarial job at a dance studio to fund their training. Gene taught choreography while a law school student, but he always wanted to pursue a dancing career. And eventually he contributed choreography and took a key role in “An American in Paris,” which won an Academy Award in 1943. On the way he performed in “Leave it to Me” on Broadway, also worked in the Catskills and other venues, leading to the starring role in “Pal Joey.” After much coaxing he moved to Hollywood with his new bride. However, his first film roles were not musical. Eventually he starred in “For me and my Gal” with Judy Garland.


Gene enlisted in the Navy during World War II. Following his service, in 1947 he purchased a farmhouse in Hollywood. He starred in another film with Judy Garland called “Pirate Ballet,” and his revealing costume received some notoriety. He was at the top of his game in 1950 - 1953. After that, he lived for a time in Paris and London, performing more classical ballet roles. He came back to America and started directing on Broadway and in films. One notable example was Barbara Streisand’s film version of “Hello Dolly.” He developed a television show which promoted dance for males, which successfully induced many boys and men to pursue dance as a hobby. Gene was described as a “closet intellectual” and avid reader, traits he kept hidden to focus on his boy-next-door image.

Eugene Curran Kelly died in February of 1996, famous for his energetic and athletic dancing style, his good looks and the likable characters that he played on screen.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all Sixty Plus members, their families and loved ones, from the Sixty Plus Board.

Bonnie Weiss
Calendar of Coming Events

January 3  Friday  11:30 a.m.  Tour: Salesforce Park Stroll, Luncheon at Palace Hotel  
Meet at Salesforce Gondola, Mission St. at Fremont St., SF

January 7 – January 11  Various  OLLI Mini-courses

January 11  Saturday  5:00 p.m.  Chris Botti, SF Jazz Center  
201 Franklin St., SF

January 13  Monday  10:30 a.m.  Executive Board & Committee Chairs, Rosa Parks Room D  
1:00 p.m.  General Program Meeting, Rosa Parks Room  
Cesar Chavez Student Center, SFSU  
No Shuttle Service Available

January 27  Monday  11:00 a.m.  Tour Committee meeting, Rosa Parks Room D  
11:00 a.m.  Program Committee meeting, Rosa Parks Room D  
1:00 p.m.  General Program Meeting, Rosa Parks Room  
Cesar Chavez Student Center, SFSU  
Shuttle Service Available

January 28  Tuesday  11:30 a.m.  Not-quite-gourmet Dining  
Causewells’s 2346 Chestnut Street, SF

April 19  Sunday  8:00 p.m.  “Into the Woods,” Sondheim musical  
San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 50 Oak Street, SF

May 10  Sunday  2:00 p.m.  San Francisco Youth Symphony  
Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van ness Avenue, SF

May 11–16  Monday  TBA  Chicago Odyssey

June 17  Wednesday  2:00 p.m.  “The Band’s Visit”  
Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor St, at Market Street, SF

SIXTY PLUS 2017 – 2018

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Programs  Eileen Ward – pro tem  
Publicity  Jeanne Glennon  
Special Events  Karen Grech  
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Sixty Plus – OLLI at San Francisco State University

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Sixty Plus Highlights

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Distribution Manager: open Managing Editor: Eileen Ward

Items for the February Highlights should be submitted by January 20 to Jeanne Glennon, jfglennon@comcast.net

Since 1975

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