

U-CLUB NEWS



Rogue River Valley University Club

June 2019

Club Finances Stabilized

Club Board Refinances Mortgage



At our March 28 Annual Meeting your Board reported on the Club's financial position and asked for your support in the form of a \$200 assessment to provide time in which to explore a more secure financial path. Thank you for your support in the form of that assessment!

Since then the Board of Trustees had renegotiated the Club's mortgage (at a reduced interest rate!) and drawn some equity from the building. This step has allowed us to stabilize that Club's financial position while we pursue new opportunities including the re-opening of the Holly Theatre and the new Young Professionals Recruitment program. Because of this step, the Club's need for special Member assessments will be significantly reduced (although perhaps not entirely eliminated) and we do not anticipate that any assessments will be required during the remainder of 2019.

While some Members have been worried about the Club's future, your Board does not believe such concerns are now warranted.

While social changes require our adaptation it is obviously important that the central elements that have made Club membership meaningful be preserved. However, it is equally obvious that we need to pursue initiatives which are attractive to younger, college-educated prospective members. Your Board firmly believes that the Club is now well positioned for that journey.

**Summer Party
Thursday
August 15
Hold the Date!**

In This Issue

- Club Finances
- Holly Theatre Dinner/
Tour - Recap
- Member Spotlight -
Charlie Versteeg
- Speaker Lunch
June 13 "Disaster Risks
and Preparation" -
Lee Mills
- Speaker Lunch Recap
May 9 - "Up Close with
the Presidential
Candidates" - Peter
Sage
- Windows in Time
Lecture on U Club
History, Jackson
County Libraries -
June 5/12

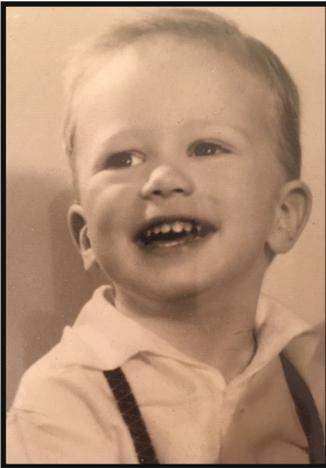
member

SPOTLIGHT

Charlie Versteeg

Charles Versteeg grew up in Cave Junction, and graduated from Illinois Valley High “back when it was a logging town, and before there was a counterculture. It was a very different place back then.”

His father was a family practice physician and Charlie was one of five kids. There were 44 in his high school class, so there was room for him on the basketball and baseball teams.



He had summer jobs setting chokers on a logging crew and working in a saw mill. “That did more to convince me that I had better get an education than anything my parents said. The sawmill was very tedious.” He worked on the “re-saw” station at the mill and kept all of his fingers, which turns out to be handy for his future career as a surgeon.

At Willamette he and a friend used to go to Corvallis to sneak into OSU Beaver football games. “The Beavers were really good then. Those were the Dee Andros days. We would sneak over the fence. It was only five feet high back then, and there wasn’t any barbed wire.

I actually got to see the famous 3-0 OSU victory over USC, sitting there in the rain. OJ Simpson was their star. Bill Enyart was the OSU fullback. We would sit in the student section and never got caught or thrown out.”

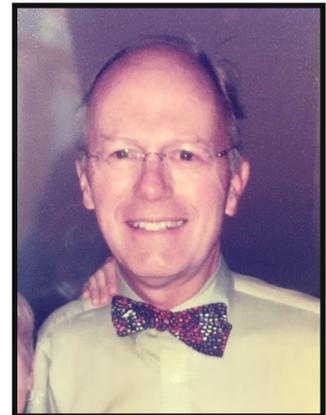
He graduated from Willamette University in 1967 and immediately entered Medical School at OSHU, which extended his draft deferment. After Med School he joined the Air Force “so I wouldn’t get drafted into the army” where he got exposure to orthopedic surgery. That brought him to Chicago for four years of training.



He returned to the Rogue Valley to begin his 37 years of practice because “if you live somewhere other than Oregon you get to realize that Oregon is actually a pretty great place to live.”

We asked what his favorite operations were. “Well, I fixed a lot of hip fractures,” he said. “And I did a lot of knee arthroscopic surgeries. I would go in there and take out or repair something torn. Cartilage, or the meniscus. It’s the pad in there. It starts to wear out.”

He retired at the end of 2016, which gave him time to start some new retirement routines, so he joined the University Club, where we often see him for lunch.



Scholarship Luncheon — June 3

Thursday, May 16

Holly Theatre Dinner and Tour



On May 16 Club Members gathered for a special Holly Theatre Dinner and tour of the Theatre Restoration in progress.

After a great theatrically-themed meal, attendees were divided into two groups which were led by Randy McKay and John Snider into the Theatre where they explored the ground floor offices (which the Holly crew will begin occupying in July), the large second floor lobby/meeting

space before entering the auditorium. Gathered on the walk in the middle of the auditorium, McKay and Snider described the enormous care with which the building is being restored to its original splendor.

The U Club anxiously looks forward to the Holly Theatre's re-opening!



A new Member benefit is in the offing!

Due to the great work of our innovative Young Professionals Recruitment Committee, a new program has been developed which offers U Club Members a \$10/month gym membership with our neighbor, Aspire Fitness (which is located at 1 West 6th Street).

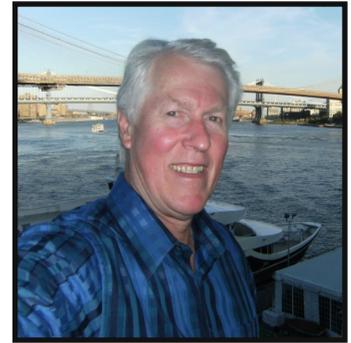
Details to be announced shortly.

**This year's Summer Party has been scheduled for Thursday, August 15
and will again be held at RoxyAnn Winery.**

Hold the Date!



June 13 Speaker Lunch



Disaster Risks and Preparation - Lee Mills

An OSU graduate with a degree in Nuclear Engineering, Lee Mills serviced in the US Army as a Preventive Medicine Specialist prior to earning a law degree at Willamette University. Following work in the Linn County District Attorney's office, Lee moved to Medford working at Brophy, Schmor, LLC until 2013. He recently taught a class on "Disaster Preparation" for OLLI/SOU and is currently writing a book entitled "Why and How to Prepare for a Disaster."

A member of MENSA, he can also boast as the Jackson County Bar's Poker Champion 2004-2005 and has served on the Bear Creek Greenway Foundation board since 1986.

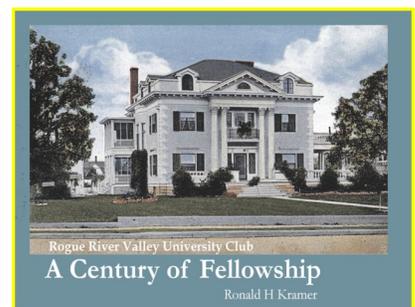
Reservations are due by Monday, June 10. Reserve now at [June Speaker](#) or by calling the Club at 541-772-4707.

U Club History Featured at *Windows in Time*

The monthly *Windows in Time* series is co-sponsored by the Southern Oregon Historical Society and the Jackson County Library System and offers a unique backward look at local history. The *Windows in Time* planners asked Ron Kramer to share the story of the University Club's history which will be presented at noon in the Community Rooms on Wednesday, June 5 at the Medford Central Library and on June 12 at the Ashland Public Library.

Ron's presentation "A Century of Fellowship" will be a newly updated version of the material originally presented at the first Founders Dinner which was held in 2014. Where the 2014 version covered the Club only until World War II, the updated version will cover the Club's entire 109 year history.

This presentation affords us a good opportunity to promote awareness of the U Club. *Windows in Time* is open to the public without charge. You're invited to attend.



The University Club Scholarship Foundation's Annual Recipients Awards Luncheon will be held on Monday, June 3. Please join us!



June Speaker Lunch - recap

A near capacity house gathered for lunch Thursday, June 23 to hear Club vice-president Peter Sage's presentation "Up Close with the Presidential Candidates."



Peter with Beto O'Rourke

Given the huge Democratic candidate field it was pretty remarkable that Peter was able to cover all of them, with photos and anecdotes during our lunch hour.

Time was only available for 3 or 4 questions from the audience after covering so much during Peter's prepared presentation. The last question was "who do you think will be the Democratic nominee?"

Let's see if Peter's prediction is borne out.

MEMBERSHIP

Do You Know Someone Who Would Like to Join the Club?

A Personal Membership Application can be
downloaded at:

[Personal Member Application](#)

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Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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