

COURSE CATALOG
WINTER/SPRING 2018



The idea of continued learning ...

VISTAS Lifelong Learning was founded in 1999 by some residents of Santa Barbara who were interested in courses that had more breadth and learning than what is normally offered in adult education.

VISTAS is a nonprofit membership organization, providing adults in the Santa Barbara area opportunities for continued learning through in-depth study of courses in many different areas of human endeavor.

VISTAS seminars are for people who appreciate the relevance of our cultural heritage, like to think creatively, want to seek knowledge for its own sake, have the time to pursue these interests, and enjoy meeting like-minded people.

VISTAS is a self-governing, peer-led lifelong learning organization whose members organize seminars, occasional lectures, and social events. We are one of the few unaffiliated lifelong learning organizations in the United States.

VISTAS course instructors present their own views and opinions and not those of Vistas Lifelong Learning, Inc.

JOIN VISTAS!

Your VISTAS membership will contribute to the financial stability the organization needs to continue to flourish and provide lifelong learning in Santa Barbara. Joining VISTAS entitles you to exceptional benefits, including:

- ❁ Members-only discounted seminar fees — a one-third discount
- ❁ Advance notice and priority booking of seminars
- ❁ Invitations to members-only lectures and special events
- ❁ The satisfaction of knowing that you are helping support lifelong learning in our community

VISTAS annual membership extends from July 1 through June 30.

You can join by using the membership application form on page 19 of this catalog.

CATALOG COVER: *Agapanthus in bloom at the Music Academy of the West*, photograph by VISTAS member **Jackie Langley**. We encourage VISTAS members and supporters to submit their own art or photography, preferably evoking beautiful Santa Barbara, for possible use as our next catalog cover. Send your images to vistas@silcom.com and let us showcase your work!

CONTENTS

The Idea of Continued Learning; Join VISTAS!	2
Letter from the President	4
VISTAS VIPs	5
VISTAS Fall Program Overview	6
Bring a Friend!	7
VISTAS Winter Social	7
Nonfiction Book Club: History and Public Affairs (Deb Waller, coord.)	8
Documentary Film Club (Peter Searl & Mary Ellen Birkett, coord.)	8
Civil Unrest in the 1960s (Robert Benham)	9
Why Women Do the Housework: The Industrial Revolution (Richard Norwood)	9
Healthcare Beyond Bacteria: Other Factors in Illness and Health (Dr. Dennis Murphy)	10
The Craft of Writing Historical Fiction (Selden Edwards and Neville Frankel)	10
Poetry as the Language of the Heart (Perie Longo)	11
Liberty in the Land of Trump (David Bisno)	11
A Trip to Opera Santa Barbara: <i>The Barber of Seville</i> (Doris Frey, coord.)	12
The Narrative: We Tell Stories to Live (Sandy Jones)	12
Annual Short Story Seminar (Gene Waller)	13
Why Is the Sky Blue? The Pleasure of Finding Things Out (Phillip Sokolove)	13
Raymond Spruance, the Quiet Warrior (Mort Weisman)	14
Ludwig van Beethoven: Patrons, Players, and Posterity (Derek Katz)	14
Women and the Civil War—and After (Sarah Case)	15
Tunisia: From Hannibal to the Arab Spring (David and Jane DeSelm)	15
VISTAS Bulletin Board	16
Upcoming VISTAS Courses	17
How to Register for VISTAS Events and Courses	17
Registration Form	18
VISTAS Annual Membership Application	19
Volunteer for VISTAS!; THANK YOU to our Contributors	20
We Remember	21
Classrooms and Locations: Directions and Maps	22–23

Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the VISTAS Lifelong Learning Winter/Spring term of 2018.

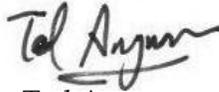
Shortening our course meetings from three hours to two and a half seems to be working well. I've had several positive statements and no negative ones. If you have feelings about the change, be sure to let me know in person or by email.

A huge thank you to our instructors — they teach with only the compensation of knowing that the audience is there because they are interested in the material and want to learn more about it. All instructors are volunteers who design their own courses.

I take some things for granted because I come from academia, but we should be explicit. We have academic freedom in VISTAS courses. Those who conduct our courses present their own analysis and opinions, not those of VISTAS, the board, the curriculum committee, or me. We don't endorse their views, and we don't censor them. We encourage our presenters to take an analytical view of the world, but part of that analysis and the freedom to make it is that they may come out on the conservative or liberal ends of the spectrum. And in the current political context, with the intense partisanship and polarization, we are bound to have strong opinions. It's the oldest adage in the book, but let me just urge toleration here; listen to what the other person is saying, and you might find partial grounds for agreement — you never know.

If you like the variety and type of courses we offer, I would urge you to personally thank Barbara Margerum, Jill Breedon, or Robert Benham, the three co-chairs of our curriculum committee, or any of the curriculum committee members (listed on page 5). They've worked hard to put together our program, juggling the availability of locations with instructor preferences and our need to have a varied schedule, among other considerations. They deserve a big thank you, and I am sure they would appreciate hearing it from you.

You can check out any of our courses and social events on our website: www.vistaslifelonglearning.org. Or feel free to talk to me or any board member at VISTAS events. Thank you for being part of our program.


Ted Anagnoson
President, 2016–18



VISTAS Officers, 2017–18

Ted Anagnoson, <i>President</i>	anag999@silcom.com	805-681-9994
Pat Sheppard, <i>Vice-President</i>	pat.sheppard@gmail.com	805-886-3359
Lois Kaplan, <i>Immediate Past President</i>	gklk@yahoo.com	805-692-5995
Sharon Alvarado, <i>Secretary</i>	seammk@verizon.net	805-964-9424
Ernie Marx, <i>Treasurer</i>	ebmarx@cox.net	805-969-4710
Sue Mellor, <i>Venues</i>	sbsuem@gmail.com	805-963-5023
Ben Kehela, <i>Arrangements</i>	kehela4836@cox.net	805-682-5184
Patricia Poilé, <i>Public Relations</i>	patricia.poile@gmail.com	916-717-2082
Robert Benham, <i>Curriculum</i>	benhamra@aol.com	805-770-7484
Jill Breedon, <i>Curriculum</i>	jillby@gmail.com	805-895-0508
Barbara Margerum, <i>Curriculum</i>	barbaramargerum@cox.net	805-969-5149
Marti Mangan, <i>Membership/Hospitality</i>	mpmang@gmail.com	805-964-7004

Additional Board Members

Allison Grosfield
Peter Kruse

Curt Mosso
Charlie Schneider

Gene Waller
Tom Wolf

Curriculum Committee Members

Robert Benham (<i>co-chair</i>)	George Frakes	Peter Kruse
Jill Breedon (<i>co-chair</i>)	Doris Frey	Sue Mellor
Barbara Margerum (<i>co-chair</i>)	Barbara Huemer	Jan O'Dowd
Sharon Alvarado	Brian Johnson	Patricia Poilé
Ted Anagnoson	Johanna Johnson	Charlie Schneider
Gerry Corrigan	Lois Kaplan	Gene Waller
Steve Ebbin	Ben Kehela	Mort Weisman
Sarah Fox	Barbara Krahn	Diane Wolf

VISTAS Business Manager

Lynn Shively

vistas@silcom.com

805-967-6030

VISTAS Winter/Spring 2018 Program Overview

Day(s)	Date(s)	Time	No. of sessions	Course/Activity
SPECIAL EVENT:				
Sunday	Jan. 28	2:00	1	VISTAS Winter Social
Thursdays	Started Sep. 14 Every 2nd Thursday through June	1:30	10	Nonfiction Book Club
Thursdays	Started Sep. 21 Every 3rd Thursday all year	2:00	12	Documentary Film Club
Tuesdays	Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6	1:00	5	Civil Unrest in the 1960s
Mondays	Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5	1:00	3	Why Women Do the Housework: The Industrial Revolution
Wednesday	Jan. 31	1:00	1	Healthcare Beyond Bacteria: Other Factors in Illness and Health
Wednesday	Feb. 7	9:30	1	The Craft of Writing Historical Fiction
Monday	Feb. 12	9:30	1	Poetry As the Language of the Heart
Wednesdays	Feb. 14, 21, 28	9:30	3	Liberty in the Land of Trump
Sunday	Mar. 4	1:45	1	A Trip to Opera Santa Barbara: <i>The Barber of Seville</i>
Tuesdays	Mar. 6, 13, 20	1:00	3	The Narrative: We Tell Stories to Live
Wednesdays	Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28	1:00	4	Annual Short Story Seminar
Mondays	Apr. 9, 16, 23, 30	9:30	4	Why Is the Sky Blue? The Pleasure of Finding Things Out
Wednesdays	Apr. 11, 18	9:30	2	Raymond Spruance, the Quiet Warrior
Wednesdays	Apr. 25, May 2, 9	1:00	3	Beethoven: Patrons, Players, Posterity
Monday	May 7	1:00	1	Women and the Civil War—and After
Tuesdays	May 15, 22	9:30	2	Tunisia: From Hannibal to Arab Spring

See following pages for full descriptions of these courses and activities.

Bring a Friend!

DID YOU KNOW that VISTAS members are permitted to bring a guest to one session of a regularly scheduled course in which they are enrolled?

If you know someone who might be interested in becoming a new member of VISTAS, and you would like to introduce that person to our organization, you may invite him or her to sit in on one session, free of charge.

Please note that our Business Manager must be notified in advance to determine if space is available. You can contact Lynn Shively by phone (805-967-6030) or email (vistas@silcom.com).

Also, please note that this policy excludes our two popular catered social events, the annual Fall Picnic in September and Winter Social in January, although non-members may attend those events at the same cost as members.



VISTAS Winter Social

Sunday, January 28, 2018

2:00–4:00 p.m.

Lehmann Hall, Music Academy of the West

1070 Fairway Road, Santa Barbara

VISTAS members and non-members:

\$30 in advance; \$35 at the door



Please join us at this elegant setting to share in a bit of afternoon music, featuring a delightful blend of youthful voices and classical repertoire.

Afterwards, we'll enjoy some socializing along with excellent wines and scrumptious hors d'oeuvres provided by a VISTAS favorite, Omni Catering.

Guests are welcome! This is a great opportunity to introduce your friends to VISTAS Lifelong Learning. Note that guests pay the member rate for this event.



 MUSIC ACADEMY OF THE WEST®

Nonfiction Book Club: History and Public Affairs

Second Thursday of each month, from September through summer
1:30 p.m. / First Winter/Spring meeting Jan. 11, 2017

Vista del Monte, Sierra Madre Lounge

3775 Modoc Road, Santa Barbara

VISTAS members only: \$25 for the year

Coordinated by:
Deb Waller



Our nonfiction book club focuses on history and public affairs. Books are proposed and selected by the members each month. Each discussion is led by a different group member, who comes in with suggested questions (which we are all free to supplement). Books we've read and discussed so far include *The Swerve*, by Stephen Greenblatt; *The Sixth Extinction*, by Elizabeth Kolbert; *The Pigeon Tunnel*, by John le Carré; *The Churchill Factor*, by Boris Johnson; *Hillbilly Elegy*, by J. D. Vance; *The Art of Rivalry*, by Sebastian Smee; *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*, by Barbara Demick; *Homo Deus* by Yuval Noah

Hariri; *The Zookeeper's Wife*, by Diane Ackerman; and *Where the Water Goes*, by David Owen.

Our upcoming selections are:

11 January: *Deep Down Dark*, Hector Tobar

8 February: *Evicted*, Matthew Desmond

8 March: *Hidden Life of Trees*, Peter Wohlleben

12 April: *Ninety Percent of Everything*, Rose George

10 May: *Lab Girl*, Hope Jahren

14 June: *The Warmth of Other Suns*, Isabel Wilkerson

12 July: *Waiting for Snow in Havana*, Carlos Eire

9 August: *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry*,
Neil deGrasse Tyson



Documentary Film Club

Third Thursday of each month, from September to June
2:00 p.m. / First Winter/Spring meeting: Jan. 18, 2017

Maravilla Theater

5486 Calle Real, Goleta, Santa Barbara

VISTAS members, \$25 for the year; non-members, \$30 for the year; or \$5 each month at the door

Coordinated by:

Peter Searl and Mary Ellen Birkett



This ongoing film club runs from September through June each year.

We invite you to join other interested VISTAS members to view and discuss a wide range of documentary films. Members select films for both the filmmaking and the subject. Our discussions begin with the question, "What did the film's creator want us to conclude?" Background material, including fact checking, sources of financing, opposing points of view, and notes from reviews, is presented when appropriate. We occasionally have filmmakers come to speak and show their work.

We will be screening the following films, starting in January, 2018:

18 January: *The Great Invisible* (2014), by Margaret Brown

15 February: *City of Gold* (2015), by Laura Gabbert

15 March: *The Last Lions* (2011), by Dereck and Beverly Joubert

19 April: *The Hobart Shakespearians* (2001), by Mel Stuart

17 May: *Food, Inc.* (2008), by Robert Kenner

21 June: *Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision* (1994), by Frieda Lee Mock

Civil Unrest in the 1960s

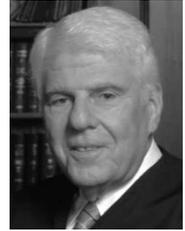
Five Tuesdays: January 9, 16, 23, 30, and February 6
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Farrand Hall, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

2559 Puesta Del Sol, Santa Barbara

VISTAS member price: \$60; non-member price: \$90

Presented by:
Robert Benham



The 1960s were a tumultuous era in the South. The quest for social justice resulted in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. This course traces major events in the South beginning with the murder of Emmett Till and ending with the strike of the sanitation workers in Memphis and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In between, we will visit the Montgomery bus boycott, sit-ins, Freedom Riders, Birmingham, Selma, and the quest for civil and voters' rights. We'll re-climb the mountains that African Americans faced in order to achieve justice

and equality. And, finally, we will consider whether, fifty years later, these goals have been achieved.

Robert Benham, a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, received both his BA and JD degrees from Vanderbilt University. He retired after a 50-year legal career in Memphis, where, in his last 15 years, he served as a state trial court judge.

Both in Nashville and Memphis, and with clients in Mississippi and Arkansas, Robert witnessed many events in the civil rights movement.



Why Women Do the Housework: The Industrial Revolution

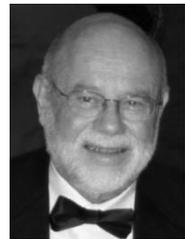
Three Mondays: January 22, 29, and February 5
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Goleta Library

500 N. Fairview Avenue

VISTAS member price: \$35; non-member price: \$52.50

Presented by:
Richard Norwood



The Industrial Revolution was the single most important event in human history. Society was completely upended and rearranged. Mechanical power replaced human and animal power. The workplace shifted from family cottage industries to factories. The roles of men and women also changed drastically. Children were forced to work in dangerous jobs for long hours, at little pay.

The Industrial Revolution swept the world. It began in Britain, spread to the United States, then Europe, and finally the entire world. Today we are facing the worldwide crisis of global warming, which is a direct result of the

Industrial Revolution and the burning of carbon for a power source. How did all this happen?

Richard Norwood's 30-year career at IBM included work in advanced technology and product development. He also taught mechanical engineering at the National Technical University in Quito, Ecuador, during a two-year leave of absence. After retiring from IBM in 1991, he taught for ten years at the University of Colorado in the Mechanical Engineering department. He holds a BS, MS, and ScD from MIT. He and his wife, Anne, live in Boulder, Colorado, and stay in Santa Barbara during the winter, where they enjoy the VISTAS program.

Healthcare Beyond Bacteria: Other Factors in Illness and Health

One Wednesday: January 31

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Valle Verde Social Room

900 Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara

VISTAS member price: \$18; non-member price: \$27

Presented by:
Dr. Dennis Murphy



Many non-disease-associated factors contribute to wellness and illness in our population. In this engaging seminar, Dr. Dennis Murphy will activate his “Retrospectoscope” — an instrument for looking back at recent medical literature to find answers to current questions. We’ll discuss a number of factors that affect our life experiences, such as the relations between healthcare and both financial status and geographical location; the benefits that result from becoming actively engaged in the medical decision making process; practices that can improve safety for hospitalized patients; how home healthcare and family

support can affect outcomes; a look at gun violence, suicides, and mortality rates; and prescriptions for a healthy future.

Dr. Dennis Murphy is a retired Internist and Endocrinologist who chairs the Institutional Ethics Committee at Evanston (Illinois) Hospital for Northshore University Health Systems, an affiliate of the University of Chicago. His work in ethics involves consulting, education, and policy formulation. Dr. Murphy has taught courses on ethical dilemmas in medicine for VISTAS for the last several years.



The Craft of Writing Historical Fiction

One Wednesday: February 7

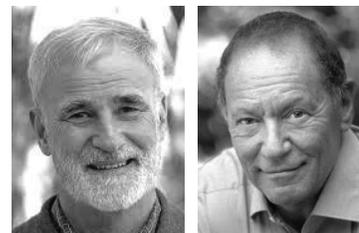
9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Valle Verde Social Room

900 Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara

VISTAS member price: \$18; non-member price: \$27

Presented by:
**Selden Edwards and
Neville Frankel**



Every writer of historical fiction reaches a point where fact evaporates. What’s left is supposition, inference, and the storyteller’s art. Is the writing of historical fiction an act of passionate engagement with the past, or is it purely an intellectual endeavor? Does it depend more on creative impulse or historical curiosity? Is the writer motivated by a commitment to character, or to a fascination with a particular historical period? Two very different authors of historical fiction come together in this original forum to discuss and compare their interests, approaches, and techniques. Discover what motivates and excites them; how they resolve murky historical issues; and how each deals with the way characters

influence the telling of their stories. This session promises to be a sparkling interchange between two engaging authors who hope you will join in the dialogue. Bring your questions and challenges!

- *Selden Edwards, an educator and nationally recognized speaker, is the author of the New York Times best-selling novel *The Little Book and The Lost Prince*.*
- *Emmy award-winning writer Neville Frankel is the author of *The Third Power*; *Bloodlines*; and a Soviet-era novel, *On the Sickle’s Edge*. His work has been published in *Lit Hub*, and he is a contributor to *The Huffington Post* and *The Good Men Project*.*

Poetry as the Language of the Heart

One Monday: February 12

9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Valle Verde Social Room

900 Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara

VISTAS member price: \$18; non-member price: \$27



Presented by:
Perie Longo

In honor of Valentine's Day, selected poems that deal with matters of the heart will be presented — with an emphasis on language that is true, original, and musical. Sometimes people ask, "What makes it a poem if it doesn't rhyme?" While rhyme is one of poetry's "tools," it is the repetition of sound and the beat of the heart that awakens the poem and brings the darkness within to light. Imagery is one of the main ingredients of a poem, along with simile, metaphor, and emotion. We will read the poems aloud to sense the music, consider lines close to our hearts, and, inspired by their words, write our own, with time for sharing and feasting on each other's creativity.

Poems are fires for the cold, ropes let down to the lost ... as necessary as bread in the pockets of the hungry. —Mary Oliver

Perie Longo is Santa Barbara Poet Laureate Emerita and author of four books of poetry, with individual work published in over 100 literary journals, anthologies, and texts. For thirty years she has conducted poetry writing workshops for the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, Hospice of Santa Barbara, Sanctuary Centers, and California-Poets-in-the Schools. She also teaches privately. As a psycho-therapist, she integrates poetry for healing and is poetry chair of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

Liberty in the Land of Trump

Three Wednesdays: February 14, 21, and 28

9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Valle Verde Theater

900 Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara

VISTAS member price: \$35; non-member price: \$52.50



Presented by:
David Bisno

With a new justice at the Supreme Court and a new president in the White House, Chief Justice John Roberts and his brethren will be making decisions that will affect all of our lives and those of our children and grandchildren.

David will help us understand how the Trump Administration is redefining the meaning of "Liberty" and how the Court is likely to treat the re-fashioning of regulations — "those wise restraints which make men free." Together we will tease apart the struggle between individual liberties, corporate freedom, and governmental power in the era of Trump.

Attendees of David's previous VISTAS lectures have come to expect clear and understandable presentations of nuanced and complex issues. Discussion is expected to be relevant and lively!

David Bisno, M.D., a retired ophthalmologist with degrees from Harvard, Dartmouth, and the Washington University School of Medicine, has been an enthusiastic discussion leader within institutes for lifelong learning across our country and overseas on a myriad of topics for 24 years. David has studied constitutional law at the Harvard Law School with Laurence Tribe and at the Law School of the College of William and Mary.

A Trip to Opera Santa Barbara: *The Barber of Seville*

One Sunday: March 4

Pre-opera talk 1:45; curtain 2:30 p.m.

Granada Theatre

1214 State Street, Santa Barbara

VISTAS member and non-member price: \$72

Coordinated by:
Doris Frey



You are invited to our third annual “Sunday afternoon at the Opera.” We have reserved good orchestra seats for Opera Santa Barbara’s performance of *The Barber of Seville*, an opera buffa (comedy) in two acts by Gioachino Rossini. The libretto by Cesare Sterbini was based on Pierre Beaumarchais’s French comedy *Le Barbier de Séville* (1775). The opera’s première took place in February 1816 at the Teatro Argentino in Rome. Rossini’s *Barber* is regarded as one of the greatest masterpieces of comedy within music and has been described as “the opera buffa of all opere buffe.”

The barber of the title is Figaro, whose grand entrance aria, “Largo al Factotum” — with its repeated proclamations of his own name — is one of the best-known of all operatic arias. The opera is really a prequel; Beaumarchais’s original *Barber of Seville* was the first in a series of dramas. The second was *The Marriage of Figaro*, the source of Mozart’s great opera from the previous century. The characters in *Barber* continue their story in *The Marriage of Figaro*. In fact, the Barber of Rossini’s opera is Figaro — pre-marriage.

A pre-performance talk is included in the ticket price. Come and enjoy!



The Narrative: We Tell Stories to Live

Three Tuesdays: March 6, 13, and 20

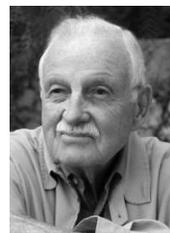
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Venue to be determined:

The site for this course will be announced at a later date.

VISTAS member price: \$35; non-member price: \$52.50

Presented by:
Sandy Jones



The ability and need to connect experiences into emotionally satisfying narratives is found in all human cultures, ancient and modern. Sandy will briefly visit some ancient narratives, including Sumerian, medieval British, Athenian, and Roman, and will identify echoes of those narratives that can be heard today. He will also dissect a contemporary political narrative to identify its elements and techniques and will show how the same narrative can support opposite political biases. He’ll show why eyewitness accounts are both unshakable and often wrong. Time permitting, he will look at some examples of narrative technique in modern fiction, such as point of view, voice, setting, foreshadowing, and pacing.

He will also disclose the premise of his own work-in-progress, an unfinished mystery novel, and invite suggestions on how to advance that narrative.

Weyman “Sandy” Jones enjoyed a 30-year career creating and defending corporate narratives at Grumman. He developed advertising and public relations campaigns, wrote congressional testimony and executive speeches, represented the public point of view in policy formation, and spoke for his company to the national and international press. Along the way he wrote three books for children that were published by Dial Press and Dell. He has also written five mystery novels published by Five Star/Gale.

Annual Short Story Seminar

Four Wednesdays: March 7, 14, 21, and 28

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

The seminar will be held in a private home:

The address will be provided to seminar participants.

VISTAS member price: \$50; non-member price: \$75

Presented by:
Gene Waller



VISTAS is again conducting a seminar to discuss short stories written by acclaimed writers. Each session will involve group discussion of, typically, three short stories from an anthology. Participants read the stories prior to the meeting and then take part in the discussion during the meeting. The stories chosen for discussion are contained in *The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction*, Seventh Edition (ISBN 0-393092611-7). None of the stories selected for discussion will have been discussed in prior VISTAS seminars. We expect that this anthology will be used again in future seminars. Participants should obtain a copy of the collection in advance of the seminar. Used copies

of the book are available at Amazon, Abebooks, and other internet used-book sellers. The group will be limited to approximately 16 persons.

Gene Waller was raised in Minnesota and moved to California upon receiving a degree in Electrical Engineering at NDSU. He spent five years working as a field engineer for Hughes Aircraft and the Dept. of Defense before obtaining a master's degree in Economics from UCLA. He founded a consulting company in the early 1980s, with emphasis on employee ownership. Though a specialist in technical fields and a technical writer, he has always been a literature buff.



Why Is the Sky Blue? The Pleasure of Finding Things Out*

Four Mondays: April 9, 16, 23, and 30

9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Venue to be determined:

The site for this course will be announced at a later date.

VISTAS member price: \$50; non-member price: \$75

Presented by:
Phillip Sokolove



“Supposing is good, but finding out is better.”
—Mark Twain

Have you wondered why the sky is blue? What else have you wondered about? This participatory “graduate” seminar will be limited to 12 curious seekers of “finding things out.” It will be led by Dr. Sokolove, a university teacher who believes, as Albert Einstein said, “I never teach my pupils, I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn.” Bring your questions — large and small — and learn with your fellow VISTAS members, accepting the premise of science that despite our “finding out,” nothing is certain or proved beyond a doubt.

*Richard P. Feynman (winner of the 1965 Nobel Prize in Physics), *The Pleasure of Finding Things Out* (Helix Books, 2005).

Prior to his retirement in 2016, Dr. Phillip Sokolove was a Professor at the Univ. of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), where he began as a member of the Biological Sciences faculty in 1974. He holds a PhD in Biophysics from Harvard and a BA in Physics from UC Berkeley. He was appointed UMBC Presidential Teaching Professor 2006–2009. In addition to research publications on evidenced-based science teaching and learning, he has published refereed journal articles in a number of areas of bioscience.

Raymond Spruance, the Quiet Warrior

Two Wednesdays, April 11 and 18

9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Venue to be determined:

The site for this course will be announced at a later date.

VISTAS member price: \$25; non-member price: \$37.50

Presented by:
Mort Weisman



Raymond Spruance, called “The Quiet Warrior” by the biographer Thomas B. Buell, was the commander at Midway, the Marianas, and the Central Pacific during World War II.

Samuel Elliot Morrison, the great naval historian, said of him, “Spruance emerged from the Battle of Midway as one of the greatest fighting and thinking admirals in American naval history.”

Other historians credit Spruance’s coolness under fire and his tactical decision to launch all available aircraft against the enemy fleet as contributing to what has been described as the

turning point in the Pacific naval war, an engagement no less significant than Salamis (Greece vs Persia, 480 BC), Lepanto (Christians vs Ottomans, 1571), or Trafalgar (England vs French and Spanish, 1805).

Mort Weisman, a publisher of books (The Swallow Press) and games (Fasa Corporation and others), retired to Seattle, where he served for eight years as a docent at the Museum of Flight. He and his wife, Judy, moved to Santa Barbara part time about eight years ago and full time three years ago. He has been both a student and, several times, a presenter at VISTAS and is a current member of our Curriculum Committee.



Ludwig van Beethoven: Patrons, Players, and Posterity

Three Wednesdays: April 25, May 2, and May 9

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Venue to be determined:

The site for this course will be announced at a later date.

VISTAS member price: \$35; non-member price: \$52.50

Presented by:
Derek Katz



This seminar will center on the changing relationships between aristocratic patrons, professional players, and audiences in Vienna around the turn of the 19th century and extend to Beethoven’s influence on the later 19th c. The first class will begin in the 1790s with a discussion of Mozart and the circle of Bach and Handel enthusiasts around Baron Gottfried von Swieten, continuing on to Beethoven’s efforts to establish himself in Vienna as a virtuoso pianist and improviser. The second session will center on Beethoven’s string quartets and argue that changing relations between players and audiences led to changes in musical texture and substance.

The third class will move to the decades after Beethoven’s death and examine the ways in which both the idea of the composer as genius and also the characteristics of specific works by him shaped compositions (especially orchestral works) in those years.

Derek Katz is Associate Professor of Music History at UCSB. He holds a BA in Music from Harvard and a PhD in Musicology from UCSB; he also studied at the Free University of Berlin. He specializes in Czech music and also teaches courses in opera, string quartet, nationalism, and modernism. His popular VISTAS presentations are celebrated for their clarity and wit.

Women and the Civil War—and After

One Monday: May 7

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Venue to be determined:

The site for this course will be announced at a later date.

VISTAS member price: \$18; non-member price: \$27

Presented by:

Sarah Case



This talk is an overview, based on recent scholarship, of how women of various social classes and on both sides of the conflict participated, directly and indirectly, in the Civil War. We'll explore how their lives were changed as result of the war and its aftermath.

We will also discuss women's participation in the creation of Confederate monuments and Lost Cause ideology.

Sarah Case is an adjunct instructor of history at the University of California, Santa Barbara and managing editor of The Public Historian. She previously was associate professor of history at Salisbury University (Maryland). She graduated from Brown University (A.B., History) and the University of California, Santa Barbara (M.A., Public History and Ph.D., U.S. History). She published a book last year, titled Leaders of their Race: Educating Black and White Women in the New South (University of Illinois Press, 2017).



Tunisia: From Hannibal to the Arab Spring

Two Tuesdays: May 15 and 22

9:30 – 12 noon

Venue to be determined: The site for this course will be announced at a later date.

VISTAS member price: \$25; non-member price: \$37.50

Presented by:

**David DeSelm and
Jane DeSelm**



Tunisia is a small, picturesque country located midway along the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, opposite Sicily. Its strategic position on the Mediterranean helped influence the ancient and modern history of the entire region.

In this two-part seminar, we will discuss the role of Tunisia as the "Land of the Lotus Eaters," the site of Carthage, the breadbasket of Rome, the location of Islam's fourth most important mosque, a haven for the Barbary pirates, a strategic WWII battlefield, a popular tourism destination, a film location for *Star Wars*, a temporary headquarters for the PLO, a catalyst for human rights, and the flashpoint for the Arab Spring.

David and Jane DeSelm were Peace Corps volunteers in Tunisia from 1968 to 1970. Jane taught English as a second language to Tunisian Lycee students. David worked as an architect for the Tunisian Directorate of Historic Monuments. Their experiences led them both into international careers.

As an architect registered in Washington, DC, David followed a career in planning and design of major international development projects in North Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, California, and Hawaii. With a Masters in Linguistics from the University of Hawaii, Jane taught and administered English-as-a-Second-Language programs at UC Irvine and in Virginia, Morocco, Asia, and Latin America. David and Jane have lived in Santa Barbara since 2008.

VISTAS Bulletin Board



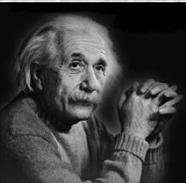
“I got so involved with my hero Theodore Judah from the RR class [*The First Trans-continental Railroad*, Jan. 2016] I had to climb the mountain named for him. It was nearly my undoing! But I did it!” —Sue Mellor, 9/2017

Man’s mind stretched to a new idea never goes back to its original dimensions.

—*Oliver Wendell Holmes*



We kicked off our fall 2017 schedule of courses with “Nabobs and Memsahibs: The British in India,” brilliantly researched, illustrated, and presented by John Ledlie and Sharon Alvarado. John’s uncle was married to a maharani; pictured above is her family residence at Mayurbhanj, which she insisted was *not a large palace!*



Education is what happens after one has forgotten what one learned in school.



Last fall, architect/designer Barry Howard (2nd from left) and associates presented a fascinating insiders’ view of the conception, design, and operation of the American Freedom Train, which traversed the country in 1975–76 to help celebrate our nation’s Bicentennial, telling America’s story through a priceless collection of historic artifacts.



COFFEE, COOKIES, AND CONVERSATION

One of the most agreeable aspects of VISTAS classes is that they provide excellent opportunities to enhance our social connections as well as our intellect!

Upcoming VISTAS Courses

Here are some of the courses/events now being planned or considered for our Fall 2018 program:

VISTAS Annual Fall Picnic at Tuckers Grove. Renew your VISTAS friendships — and perhaps make some new ones! Enjoy an excellent catered lunch — wine included! Learn about our Fall schedule of courses!

The Peace Corps Experience, presented by David and Jane DeSelm.

The Archers: Some of the Best Films You Probably Don't Know, presented by Mort Weisman. Screening of films plus discussion.

1848: A Year of Destiny, presented by P. J. Ryan.

Getting Your ZZZZZs: A Prescription for Better Sleep, presented by Dr. Daniel Lewin.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR VISTAS EVENTS AND COURSES

Applicants may register for VISTAS courses and activities in any ONE of the following three ways.

1. Send in the form on p. 18, with your check (please don't forget to sign your check, and in the memo space please note which course(s) you are registering for); **OR**
2. Fill in the registration form included on each course flyer, which will be sent (via email or post) to all VISTAS members in advance of each course; **OR**
3. Register online using PayPal or a credit or debit card. Here's how:
 - ☼ Go to www.vistaslifelonglearning.org. Click on the "Upcoming Events" button. When you have chosen a course, use the small dropdown menu below the name of the course to select "Member" or "Nonmember." Then click on the "Add to cart" button.
 - ☼ On the window that appears, you can edit your selection (change number of registrants, or delete the selection), then click on either "Continue shopping" or "PayPal Check out" or "Check out" (Pay without a PayPal account).
 - ☼ If you select "PayPal Check out," a new window will open in which you can enter your PayPal member ID and password.
 - ☼ When entering your information in PayPal, please look for the line that says "Instructions to Merchant" or "Instructions from Buyer" and be sure to enter your phone number and, if appropriate, the name(s) of any other person(s) you are enrolling, if doing so for more than just yourself. If you don't see a place to enter that information, please send a list with the names of other people you are enrolling, along with your name and number, to our Business Manager, Lynn Shively (vistas@silcom.com).

REGISTRATION FORM

VISTAS member name(s) _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

COURSES/ACTIVITIES	No. of registrants	Member rate		No. of registrants	Non-memb. rate		Subtotal
VISTAS Winter Social	_____	@ \$30	+	_____	@ \$30	=	_____
Nonfiction Book Club	_____	@ \$25			(available to members only)	=	_____
Documentary Film Club	_____	@ \$25	+	_____	@ \$30	=	_____
Civil Unrest in the 1960s	_____	@ \$60	+	_____	@ \$90	=	_____
Why Women Do the Housework: The Industrial Revolution	_____	@ \$35	+	_____	@ \$52.50	=	_____
Healthcare Beyond Bacteria: Other Factors in Illness and Health	_____	@ \$18	+	_____	@ \$27	=	_____
The Craft of Writing Historical Fiction	_____	@ \$18	+	_____	@ \$27	=	_____
Poetry as the Language of the Heart	_____	@ \$18	+	_____	@ \$27	=	_____
Liberty in the Land of Trump	_____	@ \$35	+	_____	@ \$52.50	=	_____
A Trip to Opera SB: <i>Barber of Seville</i>	_____	@ \$72	+	_____	@ \$72	=	_____
The Narrative: We Tell Stories to Live	_____	@ \$35	+	_____	@ \$52.50	=	_____
Annual Short Story Seminar	_____	@ \$50	+	_____	@ \$75	=	_____
Why Is the Sky Blue? The Pleasure of Finding Things Out	_____	@ \$50	+	_____	@ \$75	=	_____
Raymond Spruance, the Quiet Warrior	_____	@ \$25	+	_____	@ \$37.50	=	_____
Beethoven: Patrons, Players, and Posterity	_____	@ \$35	+	_____	@ \$52.50	=	_____
Women and the Civil War—and After	_____	@ \$18	+	_____	@ \$27	=	_____
Tunisia: From Hannibal to the Arab Spring	_____	@ \$25	+	_____	@ \$37.50	=	_____
GRAND TOTAL \$							_____

Please mail this form and your check (payable to Vistas Lifelong Learning) to:

VISTAS Lifelong Learning, P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121

Note: When enrolling more than one person, please include a list of the names of those enrolling in each course.

VISTAS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Name **MEMBER 1** _____

Name **MEMBER 2** _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone **MEMBER 1** _____ Email **1** _____

Phone **MEMBER 2** _____ Email **2** _____

Individual annual membership: \$45 (or \$35 if you agree to receive all VISTAS communications by email) \$ _____

Household annual membership: \$65 (or \$55 if you agree to receive all VISTAS communications by email) \$ _____

VISTAS is also delighted to accept your tax-deductible 501(c)(3) supporter donation in any amount. A receipt will be sent to you for your tax purposes. \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please mail this completed form along with your check to:

VISTAS Lifelong Learning
P.O. Box 23228
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

Check
number

Or you may visit our website
www.vistaslifelonglearning.org
and pay by credit card or PayPal

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS: Please remember to sign your check; and in the memo space on your check, indicate what it is for (e.g., annual membership, or name(s) of course(s)). Also, please write your check number on this form. And finally, please submit the membership forms at their full original size; do not cut them down to a smaller size.

Note: Please circle below any of your personal information that you do *NOT* wish to have included in a roster that may be made available to VISTAS membership:

Name	Name	Address	Phone	Phone	Email	Email
1	2		1	2	1	2

VOLUNTEER FOR VISTAS!

VISTAS NEEDS YOUR HELP! We need volunteers to do a wide variety of tasks. They vary in frequency and may be one-time-only events, monthly commitments, or something weekly for a period of time. Please look over the list below and consider volunteering your time.

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Serve on the curriculum committee.

_____ Assist with refreshments at seminars by bringing a baked good or other refreshment, or by substituting for someone and picking up coffee (usually from Spudnuts on upper State Street).

_____ Join the technology group to assist with the computer and projector at presentations.

_____ Share your expertise or interests by becoming a course presenter (consider taking our yearly VISTAS Presenters Workshop). Topic(s) you are interested in?

_____ Provide a ride for someone who needs a ride to a specific class (you'll be asked whether the particular class and ride will work for you)

Please mail this form to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228.

Thank you!

A huge THANK YOU to the following VISTAS members who have contributed financially to our nonprofit organization from July through November, 2017. *We appreciate each and every contribution.*

Ted & Louise Anagnoson	Gordon Durenberger	Lois Kaplan	Maryan Schall
Robert & Ann Benham	George Eskin	Jean Keely	Eleanor Scott
Jorgia Bordofsky	Barbara Fitzgerald	Johan Koornwinder	Pat Sheppard
Jill Breedon	Sarah Fox & Denny Klos	George & Dona McCauley	Bob & Linda Short
Jean Campbell	George Frakes	Albert Melkonian	Caroline Timlin
Susan & Claude Case	Virginia Gardner	David & Barbara Mizes	Paul & Lorraine Tugend
Sylvia Caseberg	Karen Howsam	Curt Mosso	John & Dorothy Warnock
Margaret Casey	Karl Hutterer	Bob Myers	Judy & Mort Weisman
J. W. & Sue Colin	Joan Jacobs	Dick & Anne Norwood	Charles Whitney
James Conger	Joan Jennings	Don & Jan O'Dowd	Ernie Witham
Louise Dunn	Brian & Johanna Johnson	Robin Rickershauser	Mike & Lani Wolff

VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation.

❁ We Remember ❁

❁ **Dwight Clay Coffin.** Dwight was born in Indiana in 1938 and grew up in Illinois. He had a brilliant career as a Human Resources executive, first with Chase Manhattan Bank and then for forty years at Continental Grain Company in New York. Dwight retired to Santa Barbara in 2001 and was active in the community, serving as president of the Ensemble Theatre Company board and as a docent at the S.B. Museum of Art, a sponsor of the Music Academy of the West, a member of the Resident's Council at Casa Dorinda, and a member of All Saints by the Sea Church. He was an early supporter of VISTAS and attended many classes. His friends in our organization remember his intellect and his much-valued opinions.

❁ **Gordon Durenberger.** A Minnesota native, Gordon was born in LeSueur and attended St. John's U. in Colledgeville before joining the U.S. Army and serving in Europe in Gen. Patton's 76th Div. during WW II. After the war he graduated from Marquette and was hired by the A.C. Spark Plug Division of General Motors. In 1972 he was transferred to their Goleta plant. Gordon retired from GM in 1989. He joined the Santa Barbara Courthouse Docent Council and served as tour guide and treasurer for many years. He was also a member of the Garden Club and a supporter of the SB Symphony and Opera as well as VISTAS.

❁ **Richard Johnson.** Dick Johnson was born in 1934 and grew up in rural northwest Pennsylvania. He entered Penn State as a Petroleum Engineering major before joining the armed services and serving as a cryptographer in Germany during the height of the Cold War. Later, he was a sales engineer in the industrial gas pipeline business in PA and TX as well as England and Belgium. While living in Europe Dick became interested in wine and eventually purchased vineyard property in the Napa Valley. He also was a hiking and climbing enthusiast. In 1998, Dick and his wife, Pat, relocated to Santa Barbara, where he became active in the Music Academy of the West, SB Opera, and the History Forum as well as Direct Relief International. As an early supporter of VISTAS, Dick attended numerous courses and also helped set up venues.

❁ **H. Peter Karoff.** A renowned contributor to the world of philanthropy and a business leader in Boston, Peter was a champion of civil rights and social justice. He founded The Philanthropic Initiative, a pioneering non-profit consulting firm dedicated to increasing the impact of philanthropy in society. Peter frequently spoke and wrote on philanthropic and social issues. His book on philanthropy, *The World We Want*, was published in 2007, and he was the editor of the 2004 collection *Just Money—A Critique of Contemporary American Philanthropy*. Peter's love of poetry was legendary. Many of our members attended—and were deeply affected by—a VISTAS seminar he taught in 2016. A book of his poems, *Parable*, was published in 2017.

❁ **Charles Gordon Mendelson, MD.** "Dr. Chuck" received his medical training at Ohio State University and went on to work as a dermatologist at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, at Syntex Corp. in Palo Alto, and in private practice in San Francisco. After retiring, he moved to Paso Robles and then Santa Barbara, where he lived at Valle Verde for the past 13 years. Chuck was proud of his work as a founder of the Santa Barbara City College Memory Care Program. He loved being with people, procuring the perfect food, liberal politics, college sports, a bargain, and live Dixieland jazz. He was a VISTAS member until last year.

❁ **James Gilmore Mills.** Local pharmacist Jim Mills was perhaps best known for his lifelong interest in the outdoors, wildlife, and hiking our county's back-country wilderness. He worked tirelessly for the preservation of our San Rafael Wilderness, the adjacent Dick Smith Wilderness, and the Channel Islands National Park. He was a recipient of the SB County Trails Council's Lifetime Achievement Award as well as the Pearl Chase Historic Preservation and Conservation Award. He also served as president of the SB chapter of the National Audubon Society. He was a founding Board member of VISTAS; he also led courses on the chemistry of DNA, endangered species, and other topics. Jim and his wife, Alice, were active participants in VISTAS programs and made valuable contributions to our organization for many years.

Classrooms and Locations

Most VISTAS classes meet at one of the following locations:

VALLE VERDE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY, 900 Calle de los Amigos, Santa Barbara.

Directions: Take 101 to Las Positas; turn south, away from the mountains. Take a right at the first light, which is Modoc Road. In about a half mile, turn left onto Calle de los Amigos and proceed about three-quarters of a mile. The entrance is on the right. We usually use the Social Room or the Theater. Look for the VISTAS sign. **PLEASE NOTE:** Valle Verde requires us to limit our use of on-street parking by “car sharing.” VISTAS participants should go to the First Baptist Church parking lot (949 Veronica Springs Rd., Santa Barbara) 15 to 20 minutes before class time, and then group 3–4 per car for the short drive to Valle Verde. That car can then park in a visitor space on campus or on the street. Valle Verde informs us that “Those who need to park in handicap spaces may do so on campus, but others must make an attempt to carpool from the church.”

MARAVILLA THEATER, 5486 Calle Real, Goleta.

Directions: Take 101 to Patterson; turn north, toward the mountains. The first left is Calle Real. Go approximately one-half mile on Calle Real to Maravilla Retirement Community. Turn right into the community. Please park in guest spots or any spot not marked with a residence number. Maravilla Theater is to the left of the putting green; walk down the hallway past the Valencia room and take the first elevator on the left to the second floor. Please note that parking is limited at Maravilla; carpooling is strongly encouraged.

GOLETA BRANCH LIBRARY, 500 N. Fairview Avenue, Goleta.

We use the multipurpose room. Look for the VISTAS sign outside, or just go in the main entrance and turn left.

Parking: VISTAS members are requested to park in the back lot of the Christian Science Church at 480 N. Fairview and walk next door to the Library. If mobility is a problem, you may use the library lot.

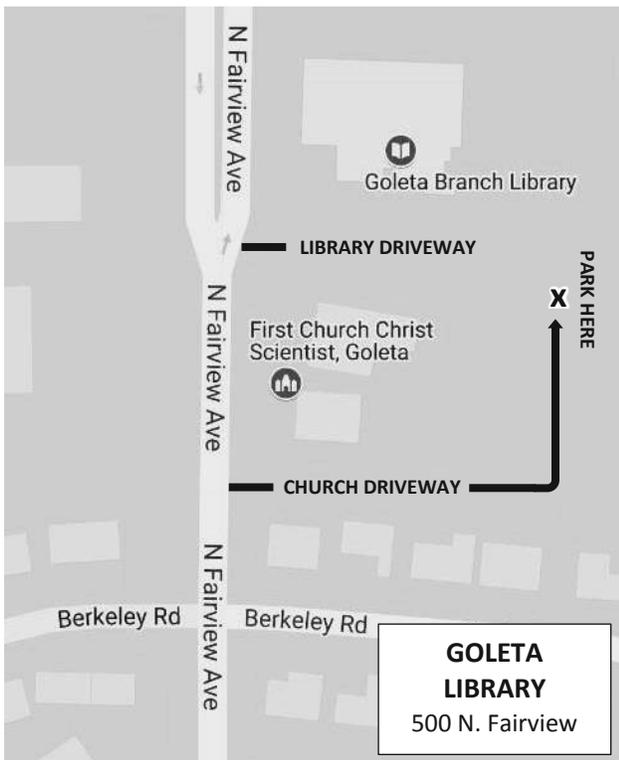
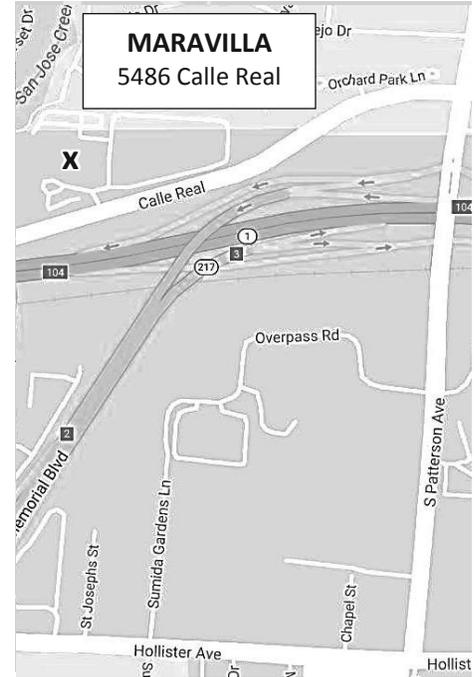
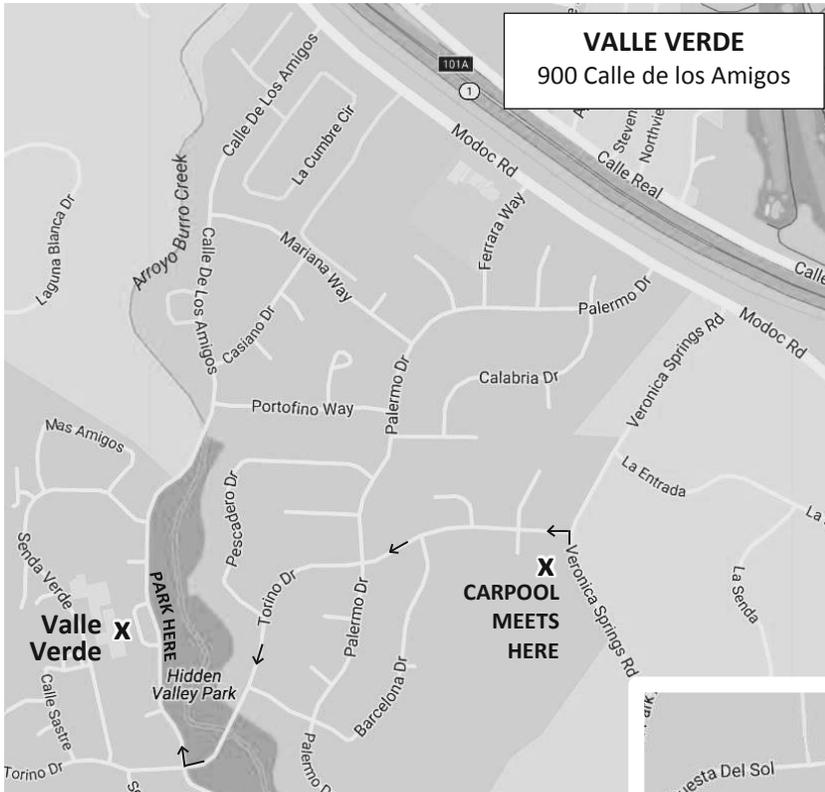
Directions: Take 101 to Fairview; turn north, toward the mountains. Go 0.4 of a mile. Once you go through the light at Berkeley, the next driveway on the right is the Christian Science Church parking lot; the one after that is the parking lot for the library.

SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 2559 Puesta del Sol, Santa Barbara.

Directions: Take 101 to Mission Street; turn northeast, toward the mountains. Where Mission Street ends, turn left on Laguna Street. When you reach the Mission, turn right on Los Olivos/ Mission Canyon. Turn left on Las Encinas, then left again on Puesta del Sol and enter the Museum parking lot. (Alternatively, you can take Foothill and turn south on Mission Canyon, then turn right on Las Encinas and left on Puesta del Sol.) Enter the museum through the open gate and go straight back toward the creek. Farrand Hall is on the right. Look for the VISTAS sign.

Classrooms and Locations

Maps are not to scale





P.O. Box 23228
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SANTA BARBARA CA
PERMIT NO 465



Eucalyptus blossoms (detail), photo by VISTAS member Jackie Langley