



November 2015

Dreaming the “Possible” Dream

By Neil Cullen, Chair, OLLI Fundraising Committee

OLLI overflows with dreamers—Instructors who share their passion each week; students who eagerly take one to five courses each week to learn, perform and join animated discussions; administrators who work tirelessly to enable members to fulfill their dreams.

We teach, bake cookies, serve on committees, volunteer in countless other ways and support our Renewing the Dream (RTD) Campaign. As contributors, we have “skin in the game” and thus value OLLI even more profoundly. Made a gift? Please pick up a “DREAM DONOR” button in the office and wear it proudly.

RTD Week contributions provide an important measure of the breadth and depth of member support. From October 19 to October 28, our Osher Office alone received 150 donations totaling more than \$26,000. Wow! And additional gifts arrive daily. Look for new dollar and participation figures soon.

Key volunteers made the RTD Week a success.

- ✓ 67 instructors either encouraged their class members to donate or welcomed trained volunteers in to do so.
- ✓ 14 member presenters visited 37 classes.
- ✓ Nine OLLI Fundraising Committee members fielded questions at the RTD table.
- ✓ Carol Bernard and her amazing staff members provided support.
- ✓ Members Don Byrne and Betsey Cullen coordinated the Week's activities. All in all, an extraordinary effort yielded a superb result. Thank you.



Noteworthy

- ◆ Social committee (page 2)
- ◆ 35th anniversary poems (page 3)
- ◆ Courtesy (page 5)
- ◆ OLLI at the Ocean (page 7)
- ◆ Holiday programs (page 8)



Weather closings

Osher office
302-573-4417

www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/wilmington/

WDEL/KYW

Welcome Mid-Autumn

On October 15 the Confucius Institute at UD introduced Osher members to the traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival. Institute members who are OLLI instructors spoke about Chinese culture and the festival background. Attendees then sampled festival mooncakes and Chinese tea while they listened to music played on the *guzheng*, a traditional instrument.



Genesis of Arsh Hall

This is from an interview Debra Haskell conducted in March with Rich Fischer, associate director of Statewide Planning at UD in 1980.

We were in the Wilmington Country Club [Wilcastle] and it was in a pretty sad state of disrepair and we had outgrown the space quickly. There weren't that many classrooms. I was walking through the building there one day and this little diminutive woman, whose name was Roxana Arsh, came up to me. and she always called me by my last name. She always said "Fischer..." and she would tap the center of my chest. I think I have a permanent bruise there. One of the first things she said was: "We shouldn't have to pay parking dues." "Okay," I said, "but that's something I don't control." This was all under the Continuing Education Division. I said, "Everybody on campus pays parking fees." She replied, "Well, we're not gonna and I want you to check into that." We did and the outcome of that is the Academy of Lifelong Learning is the only organization at the University of Delaware, including the football team, employees and everyone else that doesn't have to pay a separate parking fee. This tradition continues today. But she also came up to me one day and she said, "We need more space. How do we get a building up here?" And I said, "I would like to tell you that things are dealt with very logically in the university. A need is identified, it is designed, a building is created. But that isn't the way it happens." "How does it happen?" she asked. "Well, somebody shows up with money," She wanted to know what kind of money are we talking about? I answered, "You're not going to get people to listen to you unless you're talking about a million dollars." She replied, "Okay" and she went away.

About two days later I got a call from the President and he says: "I had this woman, Roxana Arsh, come and see me and she said the Academy needs a building and she's going to get the million dollars. How soon can they start?" [Rich laughs.] So we formed a fundraising committee and our goal was

(Continued on page 4)

Social Committee

The Social Committee has seven volunteer members: Ann Dively, Joan Ellis, Barbara Golin (the one who does the table decorations), Annamarie MacKeand, Barbara Malin, Linda Miller, and Debbie Williams. The Committee recruits at least 50 Bakers per Social of which there are three each semester. They recruit bakers, tray all the cookies, serve the cookies and then do clean up.

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to our wonderful and generous Osher bakers without whom there would be no Socials and of course to the committee members for doing such a super job.

Please note that the only place to set up for the Social is the Reading Room which gets closed at noon on the day of the Social. We appreciate your cooperation



Barbara Golin



Annamarie MacKeand



Photos by Gerry Hapka

35th Anniversary Poems



A feature of the 35th anniversary luncheon celebration was the reading of the OLLI poems printed below.

Photos by Ron Yabroff



Osher Del

By Frank Gay

If you're sitting, feeling low
Think your kids are shunning you,
Claim you bore, your spouse does too
Osher Del's the place to go.

Charming people, many classes
Subjects you've not had before.
Not enough? There's always more
Just remember. Bring your glasses.

Take this knowledge to your home
Startle husband, startle wife.
Get a zing into your life.
Dump your rep as dumb old gnome.

You can back up your attacks
With information, new and hot
On what is what and what is not.
Hit 'em where their skills are lax.

Stretching brains is not too hard.
It's not a muscle—so—no cramps
Our normal players are our champs
Come and lose cerebral lard

By the way, there's one thing more
When the teacher dims the lights
And you make up for sleepless nights
We request 'control your snore'.

I Take You OLLI

By Patricia L. Goodman

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today
to witness a declaration of devotion:

I, Patricia, promise to respect you, OLLI,
to give you the best of myself.
I will trust, encourage and celebrate you,
for when my house weighs empty

or when my words fail me, you are a bouquet
of birthday balloons; you lift me to those who sing,
those who write, those whose teaching light
spreads like sunshine through stained glass windows.

Before gods and man, therefore, I promise:
I will be yours, not to have, but to be
guide and companion; not to hold,
but to share and enrich life. Despite

snow days, rumbling HVAC systems,
mysterious WiFi; despite inoperable elevators,
crowded hallways, overtime classes,
I will cherish and love you forever.

I take you, OLLI, to be my partner
from this day forward, for richer, for poorer,
for better, for worse, in sadness and in joy,
so long as we both shall study.

Follow the Money—Osher Financial Accounts

By Carol Bernard, manager

Let's set the stage. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is a membership cooperative and is part of the University of Delaware's Division of Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS) under the leadership of Associate Vice Provost Dr. James Broomall. Members pay a fee to join the cooperative and are responsible for operating the program. Membership fees support 75% to 80% of the annual operating budget; none of these fees support any other University of Delaware program or administrative departments. The 20 to 25% balance of the operating budget not covered by membership fees is supported by endowment income. Endowment income is interest earned on the principal of endowment funds. Where did these endowment funds come from? The endowment funds came from the generosity of members fortunate enough to be able to donate from \$50,000 to \$1 million and from the national Osher Foundation endowments. These endowments are invested and help ensure that Osher remains solvent and membership fees remain reasonable.

As part of PCS, Osher receives multiple supports from the University of Delaware for operating the program. Osher staff salaries and benefits are managed by the UD Human Resource Department at no cost to Osher. Osher is protected

by the UD legal department which handles any law suits that have been brought. Osher members receive multiple UD benefits, some at no cost to members such as the UDelNet ID accounts and the UD Photo ID, and some with modest costs to members such as the gym fee which is charged to all UD undergraduate and graduate students and all staff. In addition, PCS has financially supported multiple aspects of Osher Wilmington programming and staffing. Osher does pay rent for the use of Arsh Hall like all other UD departments pay for space. This rent includes heat, air conditioning, electricity, water and custodial and set-up crew services. Osher does not earn any money from the operation of the café. The café is managed by Aramark which is the official UD vendor for food services on all UD campuses.

Osher Wilmington is fortunate to benefit from the generosity of its members both past and present resulting in having our own building with free parking. Most Osher programs nationwide do not have this luxury. If you have further questions related to Osher finances, please stop by my office, call me at 573-4416 or email me at cbernard@udel.edu.

Thank you for being a member!

Genesis of Arsh Hall (Continued from page 2)

to raise three-and-a-half million dollars. That's what the architect felt at that time would do it. And the Arsh family, of course were major contributors—not only Roxana and her husband Sam but her daughter too. There were several others. We approached other foundations and basically got the 3.5 million dollars necessary to do it. We worked with an architect with the understanding that this building had to be designed for older adult learners and that meant the height of a drinking fountain must be handicapped accessible and all sorts of tweaks that you wouldn't put in a normal classroom building. And we knew there

also had to be social space here. We had learned that from the IRP group of retired professionals and other places. Thus the Lobby was created, food services installed and so the building, while built as a multi-purpose building, was really designed to meet the needs of the Academy.



VIEW OF MAIN ENTRANCE

Let's Show Common Courtesy to Fellow Osher Members

By Susan Arruda

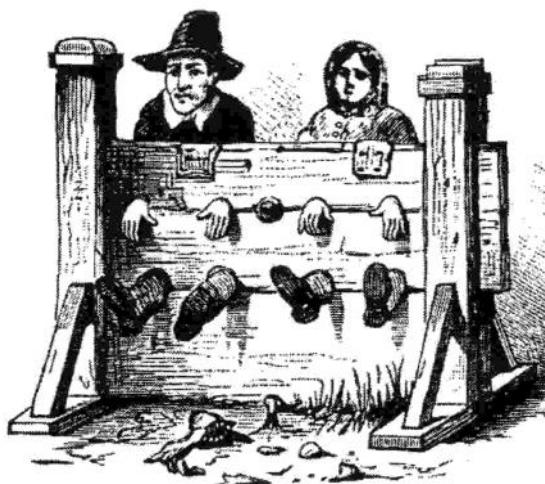
As a teacher for 30 years, I stressed the ideas of common courtesy and positive behavior with my students. Now I and others are witnessing examples of lack of courtesy here at Osher. Here are some examples:

- ☞ Loud conversations in the hallway make it difficult for those in the classroom to hear what's going on. **Please keep your voices low.**
- ☞ After a class is over, many members barge into the classroom without waiting for those inside to exit. This causes traffic jams and could be dangerous. **Please allow members to exit before entering the classroom.**
- ☞ Our hallways are narrow and we have members who use assistive devices. Congregating in the hallways to talk to friends creates an obstacle. **Please move your conversations to larger areas such as the Lobby.**
- ☞ Some people leave their cell phones on during class and then have conversations with a caller during class time. **Always remember to turn your phones off or on vibrate.** If you are expecting an IMPORTANT call, sit near the door so that you can leave to take the call.
- ☞ Rolling carts/book bags left in the aisles can be a danger to our members. **Please keep your belongings out of the way of others.**
- ☞ Many people leave class before the end, especially right before lunch. This is rude to the instructor and guest speakers. We know that the cafeteria lines are sometimes long, so **plan ahead and perhaps bring your lunch.**
- ☞ Some instructors do not end on time and allow class members to continue the discussion at the front of the classroom. This can hold up the people entering for the next class and does not allow the next instructor time to set up his/her materials. **Please finish on time and continue the discussion, if necessary, out in the hallway away from the classroom door.**
- ☞ In the lunchroom, it is rude to save a whole table for your friends. We often have limited seating, and many people can't find a place to sit be-

cause of this. **We encourage everyone to make new friends so please let others sit at your table and welcome them.**

- ☞ We have about 600 parking spaces in our lots. There are also posted speed limits, stop signs and pedestrian crossings. Many drivers have been observed paying no attention to these, putting pedestrian lives in danger. **And, when you are walking from your car to the building, please watch where you are going, walk on the sidewalks and cross at the crosswalks.**
- ☞ Occasionally, a member has a medical emergency that requires other class members to leave the room while the staff takes care of the situation. If this happens in your classroom, or in one of the common areas, **please go to the Lobby or someplace away from the area so that the appropriate medical/emergency staff can do their jobs.**

Thank you for taking the time to show common courtesy to all Osher members. Courtesy is contagious. If you practice it, others will too. If my high school students could manage to do this, so can we!



Yesterday, George and Martha were rude to fellow members—So today they have been rewarded with an afternoon in the sun and fresh air.

Caption by Tim Ward

Recycling — Plastic

Willi wants your PET*



Recycling water and soda bottles saves money and landfill space.

It costs \$88.50 to landfill a ton of bottles.

The same bottles, crushed and baled, can be sold for \$200–\$300.

How to recycle.

Empty the bottle.

Remove the lid. It is a different type of plastic and closed bottles can't be crushed. Trash the lid.

Place the empty bottle in the blue recycling bin.



Brought to you by your friendly OLLI ECOTEAM, which meets in 105 Arsh Hall, Fridays at 11:50

*PET or PETE is polyethylene terephthalate, the plastic used in these bottles. It is also used in polyester fiber. Recycled PET bottles are often used in making fibers.

Why I Love OLLI

By Lee Kaser

In this year of our 35th Anniversary and the Renewing the Dream Campaign, I was asked what I found so attractive about the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Why did I join in the first place? What made me volunteer in so many different areas? Why have I continued to stay so deeply involved?

I'm a typical Delawarean, meaning that I moved here from some other state to make a living. My children are natives here, and two still live here. Collectively they have earned six degrees at UD. After I retired from a career, I was at loose ends. I was driving my wife crazy. She knew of the



Academy of Lifelong Learning and that it had a band. She pushed me to try it, so I joined. Although I hadn't played an instrument for over 30 years, I found my old trumpet and began to bleat some notes. I met some wonderful people who encouraged me and have remained close friends to this day. I was

asked to join the Curriculum Committee. There I learned just how broad and wonderful a program

existed and I was glad to help any way I could. Working with the smart and accomplished people who are our members is a delight. I developed a great respect for our members who contribute their skills and knowledge in so many areas. I've taken classes, taught computer classes, participated in the band, orchestra and chorus, worked on several committees, and eventually was elected to Council and two years later became Chair of Council. I've had the full range of our Osher Institute's experiences and want to continue to contribute to its success as long as I can, joining the hundreds of other volunteers I see each day.



My wife asked me earlier this year "What would you do without Osher?" I didn't then, and still don't have an answer. I'm in Arsh Hall five days each week and don't count the hours, because they go by so pleasantly. I encourage all our members to expand their involvement here—I hope and believe you will find it very rewarding.

OLLI at the Ocean

By Nan and Parry Norling

Are you greatly enjoying your days at OLLI this fall? Can't get enough of your classes and your visits with friends? Well, keep in mind that you can extend the OLLI



experience at the end of the spring semester by signing up for OLLI at the Ocean, a four-day, three-night excursion to Rehoboth Beach. This mini vacation includes a hotel room (a suite), meals, and eight stimulating and entertaining lectures. There will be plenty of time for socializing with other OLLI friends, visiting

the beach and the shops, and seeing the nearby resort attractions. It all happens from Tuesday, May 24, to Friday, May 27, during the last week in May, after the semester ends.

Our Rehoboth hotel, the Brighton Suites, can accommodate about 100 people, many of whom return year after year. But there is always room for newcomers, so pick up a registration form when they appear in late November and join the group as soon as you can. Is there a cost? Yes, of course, but you will find it very reasonable for a relaxing beach vacation with interesting friends and some enjoyable and thought provoking programs. Sign up early to avoid being disappointed.



Tues., Dec. 8 to Fri., Dec. 11 A Magical Christmas in Newport, RI

Sat., March 19 King and I, Lincoln Center, NY

Sun., June 5 to Sun., June 12 Bermuda Cruise, Celebrity from Port Liberty, NJ

Mon., June 20 to Thurs., June 30 Fascinating Newfoundland and Labrador

Sat., June 25 to Thurs., July 7 French River Cruise

Tues., July 19 to Tues., July 26 Niagara Falls, Toronto, Shaw Festival

Metropolitan Opera Trips

The UD Department of Music runs bus trips to select performances of the Metropolitan Opera leaving from Clayton Hall in Newark at 7 a.m. and from Arsht Hall at 7:30 a.m.

November 21 Lulu

Further information : www.udel.edu/002636.

REP Theatre



The Resident Ensemble Players next production of their 2015–16 schedule of six plays at the Roselle Arts Center in Newark is:

Nov. 11 to Dec. 6 George Bernard Shaw, *Heartbreak House*

More information and purchases are available at: www.rep.udel.edu or call 302-831-2204.

Fusion Club

Fusion represents the future of energy. What are the issues? The problem is straight-forward. Astrophysical processes generate enormous energy. The sun combines hydrogen nuclei into higher periodic table elements through nuclear fusion. We can replicate this on earth in a fraction of a second (hydrogen bomb). The big challenge for humankind is mastery of controlled thermonuclear fusion.

There are two major facilities with two different strategies pursuing research in fusion energy: The ITER

Reactor in New Marseilles, France and the National Ignition Facility reactor complex in Livermore, California.

Karl Unruh, UD professor of physics has presented information on the basic processes and the current state of knowledge.

The discussion continues at the final monthly meeting of the semester, November 30, 3:20 p.m., in Room 213. New members welcome.

**Special Events Wednesdays
12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in Room 105
Announcements at 12:40 p.m.**

These programs are open to all members.

November 11—The Christmas Truce of WWI

Stanley Weintraub, professor emeritus,
Penn State University

November 18—UD Lifelong Learning Orchestra Allen Tweddle, conductor

November 25—No program, Thanksgiving week

December 2—UD Lifelong Learning Band

Paul Hess, conductor

Social on Wednesday, November 18

Meet fellow members and friends at the final social of the semester with coffee, tea and conversation plus homemade cookies from our many bakers. Gather in the Lobby at 1:30 p.m.



Lifelong Learning News
[http://www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/
wilmington/newsletter/](http://www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/wilmington/newsletter/)

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
at the University of Delaware in Wilmington
2700 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19806
(302) 573-4486

Robert Ehrlich, Editor
Pamela Finkelman, Assistant Editor

Associates

Susan Arruda	Edith Coleman	Cree Hovsepian
Anna Maria MacKeand		Patricia Rachek
Joel Roisman	Margaret Wang	Ilene Zapol

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1940 Revisited

Ray Callahan, UD professor emeritus of history

Fridays, 12:30 p.m., Room 108/109

Video in Room 117

Free and Open to the Public

Continue the celebration of "Churchill Year," the 50th anniversary of his death and the 75th of Britain's "Finest Hour." Professor Callahan is an expert on military history and author of *Churchill and His Generals*.

13 Nov. The Secret War: Summer 1940.

20 Nov. What it all cost: The death of Empire, Summer, 1940.

4 Dec. History, Myth and Legend: 1940–2015.

**Special Veterans' Day Presentation
"Odyssey of a Bombardier"**

Wednesday, November 11, 2 p.m., Room 117

John Hurt and Steven Sidebotham discuss the illustrated journal of Richard Mason, a local man who was a German POW after his plane was shot down in France in the final months of World War II..

Summer 2016 Courses

We are now accepting course proposals for the 2016 Summer Session. Need more time? Summer Session course proposals will also be solicited from February 8–18. Summer Session is July 5 to July 28 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Course proposal forms are available in the Office and online.

Summer Session is a terrific venue to try teaching skills, dust off an old course or test out a new one.

Calendar 2015

**Thurs., Nov. 26 to Fri., Nov. 27.. Thanksgiving break
Fri., Dec. 11.....End of fall semester**

2016

**Mon., Feb. 8Spring semester starts
Week of March 28.....Spring break
Fri., May 13End of spring semester
Tues., July 5 to Thurs., July 28Summer Session**