



## OCTOBER 2018

# SPOTLIGHT ON OLLI COUNCIL

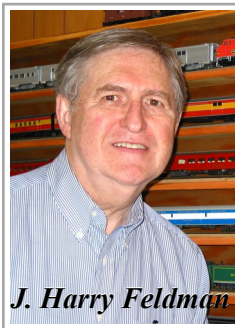
by Susan Arruda

Everyone at OLLI is issued a nametag. We ask all members to wear their nametags. Why? It's to let staff know you have paid for the semester or year, to be able to identify you in case of an emergency, or just to say hello. New members have a star sticker. You may have noticed that some members have a nametag with a red ribbon stating "Council." Who are these people and what do they do?



Managing OLLI is an interesting process. In addition to the paid staff, consisting of 14 full- and part-time employees, many of the major decisions are made by a 15-member Council. According to the By-Laws, "Members of Council shall oversee the activities of OLLI and shall assist in the implementation of OLLI's Vision and Mission." Council members serve a three-year term and five new members are elected each March. Council meets once a month during the academic year.

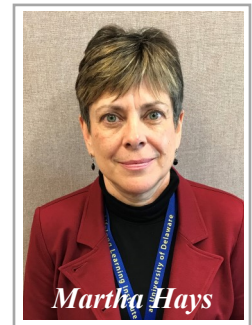
### Who are we?



*J. Harry Feldman*

The current Council Chair is **J. Harry Feldman** (2019). His duties are to preside over all meetings of Council and the Executive Committee and to take responsibility for certain committees: Financial, Fundraising and Strategic Planning and Implementation.


**Martha Hays** (2020) serves as the Executive Vice Chair, as well as the Chair of the Facilities, Equipment and Safety Committee. In addition she has oversight over the following committees: Book Sale, Bulletin Boards and Displays, Café, Duplication, Facilities, Equipment and Safety, IT Pro Team, Reading Room, Reception, Travel, and Wireless Device Registration. Generally, the Executive Vice Chair becomes next year's Chair.





*Martha Hays*

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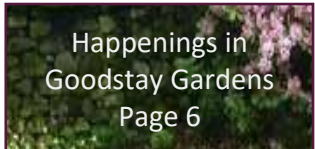
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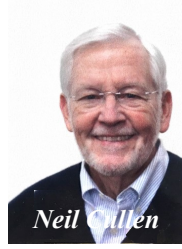
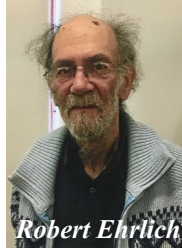
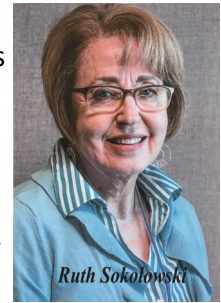
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Vice Chair Academics is **John Fulgoney** (2020). His committee oversight responsibilities include: Art, Computer Coordination, Curriculum, Distance Viewing Team, June a la Carte, Music, Special Events Wednesdays and Summer Session.



**Ruth Sokolowski** (2019) serves as the Vice Chair Membership, and is responsible for: Marketing, Diversity Team, New Member Relations, Social, Newsletter, Outreach, Registration, Volunteer Development and Weekly Activity Notice.



Each member of Council is asked to be a chair, co-chair or active member of at least one committee. Here are the current Council members:

**Bob Ehrlich** (2019) has been the long-time chair of the monthly Newsletter Committee.

**Myriam Medinilla** (2019) is chair of the Outreach Committee.

The Financial Officer, **Phil Weinberg** (2019) oversees all financial matters, including working with the Manager and the Chair to prepare the budget.

**Nedda Barth** (2020) assists with a variety of committees.

**Joan Van Oosterhout** (2020) chairs the Reception Committee.

**Karen Ingram** (2020) is the chair of the Diversity Team.

**Boyd Sorenson** (2021) chairs the Strategic Planning and Implementation Committee.

**Susan Arruda** (2021) is chair of the Café Committee.

**Lucie Shader** (2021) chairs the Volunteer Development Committee

**Neil Cullen** (2021) chairs the Fundraising Committee.

**Ellen Goldstein** (2021) chairs the Café and New Member Relations Committees.

There are also several ex-officio (non-voting) members; these include **Joan Miller**, immediate Past Chair; **Ken Mulholland**, Council Advisor; **Marcia Adato**, Secretary; and **Jennifer Merrill**, OLLI Wilmington Manager.

All Council members have mailboxes in the Reception area; feel free to offer suggestions or concerns or tap their wealth of information.

During this month, Council will begin looking for interested members to serve during the 2019-2022 term. Please consider submitting your name, or the name of a friend, to Joan Miller at [vgm612@gmail.com](mailto:vgm612@gmail.com). Let's continue to provide members with an active, lively and interesting program in which they can learn and grow in a diverse community that is focused on lifelong adult education.

## Become “1 of a 100” by Jim Krum

“1 of 100” is a new campaign to enroll 100 OLLI members in the school-based Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring programs at Shortlidge (K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grades) and Warner (3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>) elementary schools on 18<sup>th</sup> Street in Wilmington. Both mentoring rooms are supervised by a mentor coordinator.

Currently, we have 35 OLLI mentors who are returning or being trained. **It is not necessary to enroll in the mentoring class to become a mentor.** A series of training sessions will be offered to new mentors. Mentoring takes no special knowledge; it simply involves committing one hour a week to show up and be present for a student who might see you as a grandparent. The second time I showed up, my student said “You, again?” He may not be accustomed to adults showing up consistently in his life.

These young people need our help. Here is a comparison of statistics from the Delaware Schools Profiles for 2016/17.

In North Star school in Hockessin, between 72 and 83 percent of third- to fifth-graders were proficient in reading and between 63 and 84 percent were proficient in math. The comparable numbers for an inner-city school were 6 to 17 percent of third - to fifth-graders proficient in reading and 2 to 4 percent proficient in math.

Differences in intelligence or aptitude are not the critical variables that explain these differences. Reading differences may be explained by exposure to reading in the home. Another is inadequate state funding for largely segregated inner-city schools.

Mentors are not tutors. You might read to or with your student, simply talk, or play games. It's likely your student has never met anyone like you. Thus you become a role model.

Become **1 of 100**. More information and application forms are available on the front table by the lobby entrance.

You will change a child's life. Or even save one.

As a bonus, you may experience more fulfillment in your own life.

### Hidden Benefits of OLLI Membership

J. Harry Feldman presented these benefits at the OLLI Update and New Members Recognition

#### **With a UD email address\***–

Eduroam: if you have a limited data plan on your smart phone or tablet, you'll want to use the eduroam Wi-Fi network here at OLLI – and at universities and museums around the world. Then you won't be using up your data quota when you go to a website, check email or otherwise access the internet. See the Wireless Device Registration group in the lobby during lunch on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

#### **With a free UDel email address\***

– As a student and you can get: Amazon Prime for \$6.49/month

– half the regular subscription cost;  
NY Times digital subscription at \$4.00/month;  
Wall Street Journal at \$100/year.

**With a UD Student ID card\*** – available for \$10 – you can get student prices at:

- Apple Store
- Academic Super Store
- Barnes & Noble UD Bookstore (OLLI teachers get an additional discount!)
- A.C. Moore
- JourneyED
- Off-Broadway shows
- Attractions and museums nationwide and abroad.

Not to be overlooked is FREE online access to the UD Library's hundreds of databases:

- The Value Line database of stocks and bonds would cost you at least \$695 a year to subscribe on your own.
- Ancestry.com
- The Oxford World Art database
- Public Polls by many different firms from 1935 forward.

\*For a free UD email address and/or Student ID (\$10) see Brian Medina in the Lobby on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch or in Reception at other times.

## In Praise of “Amateurs” – Jagdish “Jag” Deshpande – Teacher of Abstract Painting

by Pradip Khaladkar

“In Praise of Amateurs” celebrates instructors who, in retirement, passionately share their avocations through preparing and delivering courses at OLLI. These individuals spend a great deal of their time and resources to create very enlightening and, yes, entertaining products. In the third in the series, this month we feature an architect turned painter turned teacher of Abstract Art, **Jag Deshpande**

Jag came to Delaware in 1974 and ran his own architecture firm until 2007 when he retired. He joined OLLI in the fall of 2008 and started taking lessons in beginners’ watercolor from Cynthia Kaufmann. More classes followed under Marvin and Eva Stone, ending with Olga Van Dijk who taught Abstract Art. After three semesters, to his amazement, Van Dijk asked him to take over the class when she decided to retire. When Jag expressed his concern, she waved it off saying, “Oh, you will grow in the job.”

Indeed, grow he did. In the beginning he was more focused on art and math as a theme. Later on, he branched out to landscapes and precisionist style of painting, using hard lines and flat colors. His favorite artists include Mondrian, Sheeler, Demuth, Diebenkorn and Stuart Davis. As a friend and neighbor, I was aware of his forays in painting. However, when I visited a group exhibition in 2010 where his work was displayed, I knew he had “arrived” — a remarkable journey given that just two years before he was only a student. A short time later he had a solo exhibition at the Newark Art Alliance, further evidence of his arrival. He has had 12 group shows since. Currently, he teaches Abstract Art at OLLI jointly with **Eric Sallee**, who was earlier a student of Jag’s.

As a teacher Jag is equally successful. He says that the best thing about teaching is how much you get to learn about the subject matter you are teaching. His preparations include

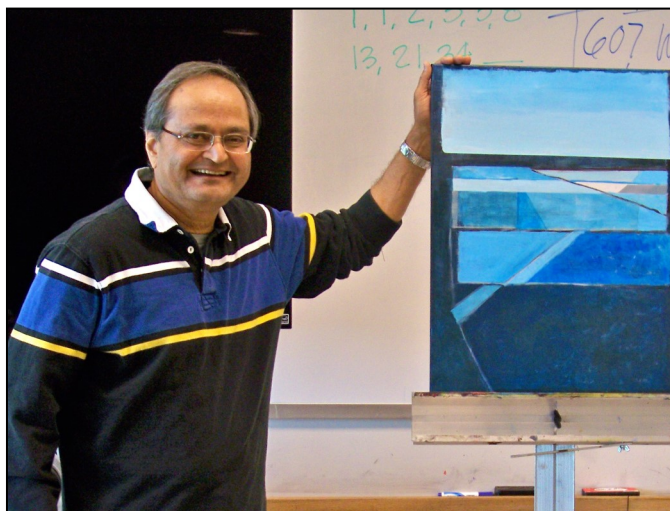
researching online, visiting museums and art galleries and talking to the artists. A traumatic experience with calculus from an unsympathetic teacher in his college days taught him the importance of immediately connecting with the student. This is something he has stayed with at OLLI as his students testify.

**Brenda Ferris**, a student in his class, says “I have a long history with Jag and the Abstract Art class. In fact, with one or two exceptions, I’ve been in the class since it started. While Jag may not have a background in art, he obviously is well versed in art movements and shares his knowledge with us; ... as he does with painting techniques, new and old. Jag offers encouragement and support to all of us; he offers thoughtful suggestions when we get stuck; plus he has a good sense of humor! It’s a joy to be in his class ... and I’ll keep coming back!”

**Judy Holton**, another student of his says, “Jag is an understated, gentle man who leads with kindness, a sense of humor, and meticulous preparation. He makes us believe the learning process is collaborative by quietly establishing a dynamic where skills, talent, curiosity, and creativity are

generously shared. He laughs easily and praises sincerely. Jag’s paintings reveal his background as an architect in their precision and symmetry, but his palette is lyrical, an invitation to “stay a while.” Jag is an inspiration, teaching us by example to be humble explorers and curious navigators of beauty.

*(Continued on page 5)*



Jag Deshpande

*(Continued from page 4)*

His co-instructor **Eric Sallee** says, “Jag has brought this love of learning and critical eye to our classroom through his research of artists’ works, his presentations, his own work and his comments on the work of others. He has learned much in a short time and continues to learn and provide encouragement to both me as co-instructor and our students through his knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject of abstract art. These qualities, coupled with his steady and always pleasant demeanor, have formed the major part of making this class a

success.” Their class had 14 students on the wait list this semester, a clear indication of their success. Fortunately, an adjoining studio was made available to accommodate all.

A constant theme in the “Amateurs” we have featured is the importance of having fun in the class. So far, we are three for three! Well done Jag – and good luck.

Readers are encouraged to suggest names of other “Amateurs.” Please contact Pradip at [khaladkarpr@gmail.com](mailto:khaladkarpr@gmail.com) or 302-245-8426.

## Use it or lose it. Stretch your brain in the MALS Program

by Carolyn Stankiewicz

Use it or lose it! Stretching your brain keeps your mind sharp. People who attend OLLI are already in a mentally challenging environment. Don’t stop learning. Flex your mental muscles. There is an opportunity for all OLLI members to continue their education at the “big” campus in Newark. MALS (Master of Arts in Liberal Studies) is an interdisciplinary program taught by faculty from across the College of Arts and Sciences to explore the big questions. Each MALS course invites broad thinking in a small seminar setting. Your life experiences and those of your classmates create a stimulating and dynamic learning experience.

I received the MALS degree (M.A.) in 2008 and the advanced MALS degree in 2010. I continue to take MALS courses on an audit basis. Currently I am auditing a course called “How to Read an Election” touching on not only the stats involved but the psychological aspect of the electorate. Previous courses included learning more about the theater and what it takes to make a good production and diving deeper into the aspects of being human.

There seems to be a lot of confusion about how an OLLI member can attend classes here and also attend classes in Newark. This article is being



written to get the word out! There are basically two opportunities:

OLLI offers audit privileges to members, one for each semester they are registered at OLLI. It's important to note is that these audited courses don't count toward

the MALS degree--they would have to be taken for a grade to do that. OLLI members are welcome in any MALS class as long as there is space in the class. To audit a MALS class, an OLLI member should contact Tara White Kee ([mals-info@udel.edu](mailto:mals-info@udel.edu)); Tara will give the go ahead. Then the member will need to obtain a UD registration form from Pamela Vari in the OLLI office, fill it out and return it to Pam. Pam takes it from there (she has to get the ACCESS Center in Professional and Continuing Studies to register the students). Here is a website with all the details: <http://www.OLLI.udel.edu/wilmington/info/#auditing>

Any Delaware resident over 60 years of age can get free tuition at the University of Delaware, if they are matriculated in (admitted to) a degree program. This applies to any degree program at UD. So if you did not finish your undergraduate degree for any reason, you are encouraged to complete it. If you are desirous of a graduate degree you can look into that opportunity.

## Happenings at Goodstay Gardens

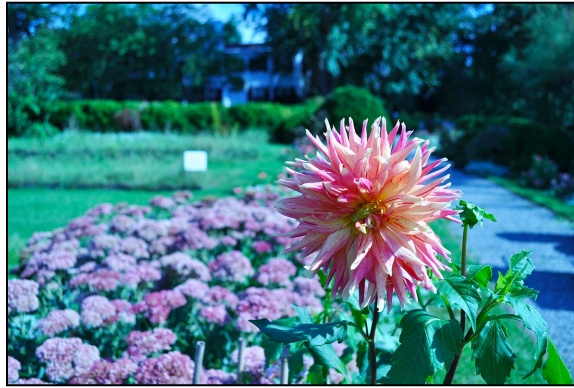
by Rebecca Harkin, Friends of Goodstay

Although there has been uncertainty surrounding the closure of Goodstay Mansion, one thing is certain and that is that Friends of Goodstay Gardens will continue to maintain and improve the gardens OLLI members have come to appreciate in Arsht Hall's backyard. As always, the gardens are free and open to the public, so don't hesitate to stop by, have a picnic, or do some plein air painting.

The gardens are taken care of by Beth Stark, our part-time gardener, and a dedicated group of volunteers, most of whom came to us from OLLI. Thanks to the summer rains, and our hard-working volunteers, the gardens are looking magnificent this fall! Beth has taken care to plant for an

extended season of color that bustles with pollinator activity in the month of October. Visit on your way to class, and you may glimpse monarch butterflies fluttering around the asters, salvias, dahlias, and zinnias.

New garden signage was recently installed by OLLI woodworking enthusiasts led by Jim Hainer. They've also repaired our rickety fencing and cleaned up our teak benches for everyone to enjoy. We are so thankful for the help!



Dahlia . Photo courtesy of Friends of Goodstay

For information about joining the Friends of Goodstay Gardens, contact Beth Stark at (302) 584-3404. Volunteer days are Wednesdays, March through November, 9-2 p.m.

### Notice to Poets

Poets interested in publishing their poems in the November Newsletter should email poems to Betsey Cullen at [betseycullen@me.com](mailto:betseycullen@me.com) by October 19. Guideline: no more than **30 lines**. Include name and phone with your submission.

### Spotlight on Osher Poets

#### The Great Chain of Being

In his classic study of the history of an idea, Prof. Arthur O. Lovejoy explains that it follows from Plato's Idea of Ideas, the Idea of Being that "every sensible thing that is, is because it- or at all events, its sort cannot but be, and be precisely what it is." Professor Lovejoy is awesome.

In Las Vegas, Nevada at the Sands Hotel Mr. Sammy Davis, Jr. belts out "I gotta be me. I gotta be me." I dig Sammy.

**Herm Glotzer**



- Which candidates are on your ballot?
- What are their positions?
- Are you registered to vote?

Visit [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org) to find out!





- April 6, 2019 **Springtime at Mount Vernon**
- May 17–May 23 **Enchanting Southwest**
- August 20–August 25 **Niagara Falls, Canada and Shaw Festival**

For further information on these trips and more, visit the Travel Desk in the Lobby on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

### Theatre at UD

Enjoy quality, professional theatre at UD in Newark. Remaining shows are:



- Nov. 8 to Dec. 2, 2018 *Woman in Mind* by Alan Ayckbourn
  - Jan. 24 - Feb. 10, 2019 *Minor Fantastical Kingdoms* by Michael Gotch
  - Mar. 7 - Mar. 24, 2019 *Inherit the Wind* by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee
  - Apr. 17 - May 12, 2019 *Mauritius* by Theresa Rebeck
  - Apr. 25 - May 12, 2019 *Fences* by August Wilson
- <http://www.rep.udel.edu> or (302) 831-2201

## Special Events Wednesdays (SEW )

News by Ben Raphael

SEW would not be complete without music. Of course, we will again have our three wonderful concerts at the end of the semester. OLLI would not be the same without them. But, we also have some special musical treats: please join us October 17 for a concert featuring Gus Mercante and Hiroko Yamazaki. Hiroko is the associate chair of the piano department at the Music School of Delaware and the pianist of the Pyxis Piano Quartet, which performed here some years ago. If you have never heard countertenor Gus sing, just relax and enjoy. You might even close your eyes, as I did. No matter: You will be amazed. Last but not least, Conductor David Amado, music director of the Delaware Symphony Orchestra, and one of the most engaging speakers ever, is returning on October 31. He will speak about *Music and Revolution: The Music of Beethoven and Cherubini*.



Ben Raphael

### Choices: One time use or use the OLLI bottle refilling stations



Production, transport and disposal of a plastic bottle requires three bottles of water and energy from a quarter of a bottle of oil.



Judy Winters enjoys clean, filtered water

Bring a refillable container and use one of the four refilling stations in Arshat at the ends of the halls on both floors.

Over 7,000 bottles have not wound up in the trash or recycling center thanks to our refilling stations so far



For environmental information, see the ECOTEAM bulletin board outside the Reading Room.

**Special Events Wednesdays  
12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in Room 105  
Announcements at 12:40 p.m.  
Free and Open to Members Only**

Bring your lunch or purchase lunch in the UDairy Creamery Mini Market. See page 7 for more information.

**October 17 — Music Concert**—Gus Mercante, countertenor and Hiroko Yamazaki, piano

**October 24 — Politics and Paint: Barbara Bodichon and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood** — Margaretta Frederick, Pre-Raphaelite curator, Delaware Art Museum

**October 31 —Music and Revolution: The Music of Beethoven and Cherubini** — David Amado, music director and conductor of the Delaware Symphony Orchestra

**November 7 — Analysis of the 2018 Election**  
Tom Evans, former U.S. Representative from Delaware

**November 14 — OLLI Orchestra** — Allen Tweddle, conductor

**Friday Programs**

**Free and Open to the Public, Room 108/109**

**October 12, 12:30 p.m. The War That Never Ended**, Second of a four part series exploring the end of World War I and its legacy. — Ray Callahan, Ph.D., professor emeritus of history, UD. The series continues on November 9 and November 16.

**October 19, 12:30 p.m. The Arm and the Sleeve — the Poet’s Relationship with Words**, Poetry Reading with David Kozinski, Delaware Artist Fellow.

**October 26, 13 p.m., Room 105 Senior Retirement Expo**, Visit with exhibitors and learn about retirement and senior care resources in our area.

**November 9, 2 p.m. Giving and Estate Planning under the New Tax Law** Special panel presentation for OLLI members and the public. Learn ways to save on your taxes and plan future giving.

**Social on Thursday, October 11**

Meet fellow members for coffee, tea and conversation plus homemade cookies from our many bakers. Gather in the Lobby at 1:30 p.m.

Join the much appreciated cookie bakers for this or the final fall social: Wednesday, Nov. 14. Leave a note, including contact information, with Joan Ellis in the Socials mailbox in the Reception Area if you can bake for one of these socials.



**OLLI News in Wilmington**  
<http://www.oli.udel.edu/wilmington/newsletter/>

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
at the University of Delaware in Wilmington  
2700 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19806  
(302) 573-4417**

**Robert Ehrlich, Editor  
Mary Pat Elmlinger, Associate Editor  
Associates**

**Susan Arruda, Lenore Forman,  
Cree Hovsepian, Joel Roisman,  
Lucie Shader, Margaret Wang, Rebecca Worley**

**Submittal deadline Thursday, October 25**

**Issue date Monday, November 12**

**Submit articles to rehrlich@udel.edu, or place in the editor’s mailbox in the Reception Area.**

**Calendar 2018**

**Tues., Nov. 6**.....Election Day, No Classes  
**Thurs., Fri., Nov. 22, 23** ..... Thanksgiving, No Classes  
**Fri., Dec. 7**.....End of fall semester

**2019**

**Mon., Feb. 11** ..... Start of spring semester  
**Mon. to Fri, April 1–5** ..... Spring Break, No Classes  
**Fri., May 17**..... End of spring semester  
**Mon., June 10 to Thurs., June 13**..... June à la Carte  
**Tues., July 9 to Thurs., Aug. 1** ..... Summer session