



The Tides...

Breaking News from Lifelong Learning



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Lewes

Formerly Southern Delaware
Academy of Lifelong Learning

Spring 2011

Report from the Council

Our Health: We continue to grow in membership. We had 528 members enrolled in one or more sessions in June 2010, Fall 2010, and Spring 2011. That number is up from 504 for the previous year. There were 49 courses offered during the semester just completed, and in the June session we will be choosing among 31 courses—up from 26 last year. Our financial health is sound—but only barely—and requires the long-delayed membership fee increase described elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our Council: The initial terms of three of our nine council members—Bob Comeau (Chair), Anne Carol Finley (Scholarships), and Frank Meredith (Community Relations)—end in May, but all three were eligible to serve a second term and in March the members reelected them. They are joined by council members Ron Reese (Vice Chair/Long Range Planning), Donna Beecher (Secretary), Jack Boettger (Finance), Diana Beebe and John Coleman (Academic Affairs), and Lynn Kroesen (Communications), by Past Chair Richard Sciorra, and by committee chairs Joan Sciorra and Mary Folan (Travel), Bernie Fiegel (Social), and Lou Archdeacon (Librarian/Archivist).

Our Communications: In addition to our quarterly newsletter, now titled **The Tides**, we continue to alert our members of special events, schedule changes, and other important matters via email, and encourage our instructors to do the same within their classes. Before each semester, we delivered catalogs to several

libraries in our region, and sent news releases to the local media. We staffed a cottage at the annual Rehoboth Art League tour, and an information table at the University of Delaware's Coast Day. The University has produced a nine minute video, previewed at the Spring luncheon, about our program and our sister Osher programs in Wilmington and Dover.

Our Travels: In addition to the ever-popular May trip to New York City, we traveled to Philadelphia, Washington, Wilmington, and Newark in search of music, theater, and the visual arts.

Our Honors: Last summer, a \$5000 grant from the Freeman Foundation enabled us to buy new laptop computers for the increasing number of courses in that area. The Lewes City Council honored us by proclaiming December 13, 2010, "our" day; our own Elder Moments returned the compliment by serenading all in attendance. These honors, though, were dwarfed by the many individual honors bestowed on our members for their contributions to our communities.

We are so proud of all that you do!

Got a Bright Idea?

If you have an idea for a course or are willing to serve as an instructor or instructor's helper, write and submit a proposal. If you have questions, contact Diana Beebe or John Coleman of the Academic Affairs committee.





From the Chair

Friends, the day of reckoning has come, and your council has voted to increase our membership fees. They were last increased—by \$5—in 2002. Since then, we’ve steadfastly avoided any increase. But:

- Our rent has increased 167% to \$25,000 per year.
- Our staff salaries and benefits increase each year at a rate determined by the University.
- The University now charges an administrative service fee (\$3,700) which will increase by a University-determined inflation rate (now 2%) AND by our membership growth.
- Printing our catalog, formerly paid for, now comes out of our budget and is only slightly offset by ads; we continue to pay for mailing, and those costs have increased. And, we’re printing more catalogs.
- We continue to have technology and other equipment needs as the number and variety of our classes increase and many have moved on-site.

- Our unanticipated move within the building to accommodate the Sussex Consortium cost \$10,000 – fortunately paid by our initial Osher grant. The building isn’t ours, and our lease doesn’t prevent this from happening again.
- Each year, we barely break even and worry about our future.

We now have an income stream from part of the interest on the University’s Osher endowment, depending upon the return on its investment, our membership numbers, and the size of the Wilmington and Dover programs. This year, we used that income to meet our operating budget. Starting next year, we’ll put that income into a rainy day fund called “Future Planning Fund,” building it so it can meet major needs such as a facility move, if that’s required when our lease expires in 2013, or later.

The new fee structure, beginning in the Fall 2011 semester, is:

Full year membership, up from \$195 to \$225;

Single semester membership, up from \$120 to \$130;

June session, up from \$40 to \$50.

Bob Comeau

Calendar of Events

- May 12 — Summer Session priority registration closes
- May 23 — Class assignments mailed
- June 6 — Summer classes begin
- June 30 — Last Day of classes
- Aug 5 — Fall catalogs mailed
- Aug 25 — Priority registration closes
- Sept 8 — New member/instructor orientation
- Sept 12 — Fall classes begin

Howard Parker R.I.P.

On Wednesday, April 27, we lost one of our longest-serving members, Howard H. Parker, at the age of 92. After a 43 year career with Hercules Powder Company, Howard and Alice moved to Lewes. In 1989, Howard was elected as the first chair of the Southern Delaware Academy of Lifelong Learning. In addition to his long service to the City of Lewes and the Lewes Presbyterian Church in many capacities, he was a dedicated lifelong learner and attended classes regularly until this Spring. His memorial service was held Friday, May 6, at the Lewes Presbyterian Church.

New Web address:

www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/lewes/

Exciting and Diverse Summer Session Classes Offered

What an exciting and extensive array of courses we have for you in this year's summer session! There are 31 course offerings. We have a handful of new instructors, 12 brand new courses, as well as some new courses offered by such outstanding teachers as Ellen and Russ Notar, who have been away for awhile. There is practical instruction in everything from your air conditioning system, to spreadsheets, to bridge lessons. There are classes in fund raising for non-profits, how to teach (so you, too, can join the ranks in sharing your expertise) and the power of language, which will help teachers and facilitators improve their communication skills. There are classes to enhance your creativity, in writing fiction, beginning watercolor, oil painting, stained glass and more. There are courses for literature enthusiasts, for film buffs, and for art lovers and opera lovers. There is history, sociology, and law. There is cooking and T'ai Chi, and frankly something for just about everyone!

Wouldn't you love to learn more about Constitutional Law, or explore the story of *The English Patient* through the novel, the film, the screenplay and the musical score? Or how about delving into the life of Ralph Nader, or the poetry of Robert Frost, or the paintings of the Louvre, or the culture of India, or the humor of four different countries in comedic films?

The only problem for most of us is that we will not be able to fit in all the courses we want to take. And what a bargain!!! The fee for the summer session is only \$40, for which you can take as many courses as you want (or as many as you can fit into your schedule). The catalogue was mailed to members in April, is available online, and is available in paper at the school office and many other locations around town. **Remember** -- Registration must be received by 2:00 pm on May 12. Classes begin on June 6.

Use your Priority Choices wisely.

If the class you want has a limited enrollment or frequently has a waiting list, put it down as your First Choice. (*However, please do not sign up for more than one class in a given time period and do not sign up for more classes than you intend to take.*) Using the priority process will increase, but not guarantee, your chances for getting that favored class because there may be many others also picking that class as their first choice. If you were wait-listed previously in that class, write that on your registration form. The surest way to get into a special class is to be an instructor. Teachers do not get paid, do not get special parking, and do not get tuition discounts, but they **do** get into one class of their choosing during the semester they teach.

Day Trip to NYC

Osher Lifelong Learning in Lewes is organizing a day trip to New York City for Thursday, June 2, 2011. The cost is \$50 which must be paid by Thursday, May 12. If you would like to go on this trip, contact the office **today**.



2011 COTTAGE TOUR

Osher Lifelong Learning in Lewes will again host a home on the Rehoboth Art League's annual Cottage Tour, scheduled this year for Tuesday and Wednesday, July 12 and 13. In past years we have consistently received many compliments from the touring public and the Art League for the knowledge, courtesy and enthusiasm displayed by our docents. The number of docents we will need for the event will depend on the size of the home assigned to us, which has not yet been announced. A number of members have already volunteered through the sign-up sheet we posted at the Spring Luncheon. Others who wish to volunteer should contact Renee or John Coleman (johnvcoleman@comcast.net).

**Check Bulletin Boards for
"Happenings"**

Salty Brine's Seaside Chat:

AHOY, Osher shipmates!

If you were AWOL for this luncheon, you missed a "winner." It was a seasonally warm April day when the USS Osher Lifelong Learning - Lewes Queen dropped anchor at the Sands Hotel and disembarked for a day of Humor - Laughter - Music. Two hundred plus crossed the gangway into a sea of white and green and with each table adorned with a different mask - painted in bold colors and decorated with beads, jewels, and ribbons. The masks were made by the *Oil Painting Workshop* group the leaders being Sandy Moore and Carol Halloran (don't think they considered it work, more like "just" fun!). Masks were also on display at the registration table and throughout the arts/crafts room...an added attraction in the arts/crafts room was the continuous play of the new University of Delaware's promo video highlighting lifelong learning on the three campuses - Wilmington, Dover, and Lewes...several of your fellow members are featured on the video.

The multitude of arts/crafts exhibits by talented Osher members improves with each luncheon as does the singing of our very own the *Elder Moments* under the baton of Roo Brown. Lunch was a choice of lemon rosemary roasted chicken, teriyaki grilled salmon, and veggie lasagna - the salmon was a runaway winner with 125, chicken placed with 58, and veggie lasagna held up the rear with 24; but each luncheon it increases its numbers. At the conclusion of dessert (which everyone loved); the instructors were recognized for their volunteer efforts and just before the entertainment was to begin, something that really caught Salty by surprise was the wonderful tribute to the "twofigs" (aka Bernie & Dolores Fiegel) given by Bob Comeau - they were completely caught off guard and I detected a little bit of a blush on both of their faces as they stood, and waved to the applause.

The entertainment was a resounding **10**. Beginning with the *humor* - The best of Mark Twain with interviewer Margo [Ramage] and interviewee Mark Twain [aka Gary Ramage] left the audience wanting more...and more they got in *laughter* with Sister Wilhelmina [aka Bill Sharkey] and Rabbi Lena Musseltoff [aka Lee Mussoff] left them rolling in the aisles...tough act to follow but the Elder Moments

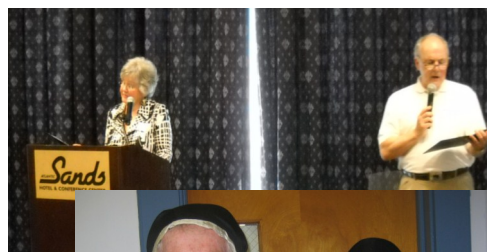
were up to the task under the direction of Roo Brown closing the show with Roo's arrangement of Edgar Allen Poe's poem "The Raven" to the music of Oklahoma which erupted in thunderous applause...heard members saying..."best luncheon ever"... "what's planned for fall"... "everyone was great"... "most laughing in quite a while"...and so on and so on!" They're already saying the April 20, 2011 luncheon will be a hard act to follow. They say you have to juggle about 100 balls to successfully pull off any given luncheon. Hopefully Salty and his/her shipmates will be up to the task of juggling the 100 balls...stay tuned. Members are already signing up for the *June 2011 session* - don't miss the boat [no pun intended] and sign up early...lots of great classes!

Next port of call for the USS Osher Lifelong Learning - Lewes Queen social ship will be the annual homecoming picnic in October as we drop anchor in Lewes Bay. We'll also be ashore for the New Member/New Instructor Orientation in September; and before you know it - we'll set sail for the fall luncheon, and juggling those 100 balls... To contact Salty send your email to:

LIL-Lewes@udel.edu

Contributing writer - Cera Belum

Photos: Jay Wheeler



New Library Catalog

In the library, located in the Lifelong Learning office, the answer to the question, "Where can I find such and such book, video, DVD, etc.," is now a mute point since the location of any item in our collection is in our new catalog. This three-ring binder catalog titled "Library Catalog" has three sections titled "Author", "Title", and "Subject". To look for the material you want, just note the call number and then find the item on the shelf.

To check the material out, sign your name and the date borrowed on the 3 x 5 card that is paper clipped in the book or within the case of a DVD or video.

The self serve "circulation desk" is on top of the little cabinet in the library area.

Happy Hunting, and Happy Reading !

UD Video Available

The University of Delaware's promo video highlighting lifelong learning on the three campuses - Wilmington, Dover, and Lewes and featuring several of your fellow members is now available in our library for you to check out. It is a very nice portrayal of why we love our school so much. You will find it at 307 on our library shelves.

Please borrow it and show it to your family and friends—you will have no trouble convincing them to join our group and share in the fun too!

Attention All Music Lovers

We have learned of an upgrade policy from the Teaching Company to exchange our boxed sets of How to Listen to and Understand Great Music and How to Listen to and Understand Opera to DVD's for a nominal sum. However, we must know who originally purchased the sets. By chance, did you donate either of these sets to the library? If so, please contact Louise Archdeacon at 644-1484.

Members On the Road Again

Piffaro, The Renaissance Band

Our March 13th trip to Wilmington for the Piffaro Renaissance band's performance was a special treat for all in attendance. With the added addition of the King's Noyse, an early music ensemble performing on Renaissance style violins of several sizes, along with Ellen Hargis who specializes in repertoire ranging from ballads to opera and oratorio, our musical experience was three-fold.

David Douglas, Director of King's Noyse gave a pre-concert talk "PLAYING Down Low" on the use of the different violins used by the ensemble which was very informative. A most enjoyable evening was had by all.

Thanks to Win Mroz and Cissy Johnson for suggesting this trip.

Paris Through the Window: Marc Chagall and His Circle

March 25th found some members of Lifelong Learning at the Perelman Building in Philadelphia viewing works of Marc Chagall and his colleagues; Leger, Lipchitz, Modigliani, Pascin, Soutine, to name a few. Many took advantage of the guided tours at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and visited the Roberto Capucci fashion exhibit along with the museum's other collections.

Word has it that Sandy Moore is planning a trip back to the museum in the fall for the Rembrandt exhibit. We will keep you informed.



NEW YORK NEW YORK

Our eighth annual trip to Manhattan was a huge success. Theatre, museums, ballet, performances at Lincoln Center and the Met, tour of Harlem, Statue of Liberty, Gracie Mansion, Battery Park, Chelsea, Central Park, walking across the Brooklyn Bridge, lots of restaurants, shopping, visits with friends and relatives did keep us busy. Some were able to see President Obama and his motorcade on its way to his first stop at the firehouse on 8th Ave. and 48th Street.

Now that we have left our money in NYC we will have to start saving for next year's trip. Thanks to all who attended for making the trip possible.

Travel Committee - Mary Folan & Joan Sciorra

Spring Semester Memories

A rousing “Thank you” to all of our instructors, as well as to the members whose participation deserve much of the credit for the continued success of this program.



Photos by: Dolores & Bernie Fiegel, Anna Moshier & Jay Wheeler

Lost and Found: A CD dated May 1955, labeled Donna, Buck & Grandpa

Coats and umbrellas — Check the coat rack

Free to good home:

HP printer cartridges, New Dell inkjet printer

Contact the office.

Check Out Climate Blog

Check out Bill Fintel’s website www.finblizclimate.org and his climate blog site, <http://finblizclimate.blogspot.com/> for an insight on recent weather phenomena. Watch the Fall catalog for another class about our changing climate.