

Academy By the Sea

SDALL NEWS

Volume 19, Issue 4

302-645-4111

July 2009

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 27-31	Fall Catalogs mailed
Aug 27	Priority Registration closes
Sept. 4	Mail member's course list
Sept 10	New member orientation
Sept 14	First Day of classes
Oct 12	Back to school picnic
Oct 19	Begin Second 5 week session
Oct 23	Opera Delaware Performs at Cadbury
Nov 20	Last Day of classes

SDALL Moves To New Digs

No, we're not "on the road again," just around the corner and down the hall—and still on the first floor of the Lewes School. Now that the 9th grade has moved into the new high school, there has been some adjustment of space occupied by the current tenants. The Sussex Consortium, which serves a growing population of students with autism and other learning disabilities and the Little Vikings Preschool are expanding into the space we have been using. Our landlord, the Cape Henlopen School District, will continue to use some rooms for interim equipment storage and for a few programs whose space is not quite ready in the new high school.

The SDALL office/library is now located in Room 109, and classrooms in Rooms 108, 110, 107, and 115 are being prepared for our use. These rooms are somewhat larger than the ones we have been using, and Room 110 is especially adaptable as an art room. We're particularly pleased with the increased storage space we've inherited.

18 handicapped parking spaces at rear of building

The parking circle will be used by others and only 3 handicapped spaces will be available to us, but we have 18 handicapped parking spaces and a large number of regular spaces in the rear of the building, off of Sussex Drive. Most of us will enter the building through the rear entrance, which has a ramp. If you park on Savannah Road, you may use the building's main front entrance (not the one we have been using), which has steps, but no ramp. Our office staff will have a security TV monitor for both entrances and will "buzz" us into the building.

Our current three-year lease expires June 30, 2010. After participating in several months of discussions about the building's future use, we're quite optimistic that the lease will be renewed and SDALL will continue to prosper at the Lewes School.

Easy access through the back door

The Academy office is located in Room 109 - at the opposite side of the building from its former location. The easiest access is through the back door entrance behind the building. Use the door nearest the handicapped ramp. **The current code does not work.** Members must use the buzzer and identify themselves to the school office.



From the Chair



Welcome to our 21st consecutive year of educational, social and enlightening classes. I have been a student member since the fall of 1998

and an instructor for seven of those years, yet this is only the fourth time in the decade starting in 1998 that the Academy has offered fifty five classes in one ten week semester. That's just marvelous.

I am certain that by now each and every member has received the letter stating that the Delaware Academy of Life Long Learning is invited to become a member of the Osher Life Long Learning network. The only notable change that we will see is our name must now include "Osher" in its title and with some good luck our tuition will not increase for a few semesters.

are on the first floor of the building but on the opposite side of the Lewes school building from where we presently are situated. The one glaring concern that we the council have, is that everything up until now has been done by word of mouth - Nothing is in writing. OH MY!!

Be advised that the Cape Henlopen School Board still requires all Academy members to wear name tags while in the Lewes school, not an unreasonable request since there will be about 200 children in the wing that we are vacating.

Please invite your friends and relatives to join our illustrious Academy so that our membership; will continue to grow.

Thank you.
Richard Sciorra,
Council Chair.

Our new "digs" as Bob Comeau so aptly titled them

Enriching Lives for 20 Years

On April 8th, 2009 SDALL members and guests celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a luncheon at the Atlantic Sands Conference Center in Rehoboth Beach. More that 200 attended the event which included a special presentation to retired Program Director, Bill Sharkey; special memories from members, and a Champagne toast. Attendees were treated to music preformed by Recorder and Friends and displays of SDALL arts and crafts during the pre-lunch social hour. Everyone marveled at the innovative and beautiful table center pieces fashioned by members to represent some of the various course offerings. Council Chair, Richard Sciorra thanked Bernie Fiegel and his committee for all the time and effort it took to put on the event, the instructors who allow SDALL to offer an "ever-widening selection of courses", Renee Moy, "our gifted secretary", who has served for the entire 20 years, and all those who have served on the governing Councils during the past 20 years. After songs preformed by the Elder Moments Chorus, attendees left with a souvenir program, a white chocolate treat and looking forward to the next decade of "Finding Broader Horizons".

See Page 3 for pictures.

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 Kay Greene or Ron Reese of the Academic Affairs Committee.



BADGES

Everyone is required to wear the SDALL badge at all times when in the building, no exceptions. See Renee if you forget yours or you bring a guest.



SDALL Celebrates 20 Years April 8, 2009



Summer Session—Complete Pleasure

“Two hours of complete pleasure.” These words are just a few of the positive comments we’ve received after the Summer Session this June. Hopefully you were one of the 215 people taking some of the twenty-four courses offered.

You may have been trying a new skill such as basketry or watercolor, discussing The Dark Ages, making or listening to music, or practicing some Tai Chi moves. While learning grilling hints, perhaps you welcomed someone new to our area. SDALL is a wonderful place to socialize and be part of a learning community.

“The class sharing was very powerful. Each person had a wonderful story to tell.” Our varied student body has so much combined knowledge and experience. Here we have the chance to share and appreciate our life adventures.

“Her classes are well planned and executed. And as a bonus, she has a wealth of background information.” Our volunteer instructors are a vital part of SDALL bringing with them years of experience. We thank them for their hours of preparation and sharing.

Classes ready for fall semester

Even now, our instructors are getting ready for the SDALL fall semester. There will be nearly 60 classes, so you’ll have opportunities to try a new skill or return to hear more from a favorite teacher. There will be such classes as Ben Franklin, Film Appreciation, Fall Birding, Basic Meditation and Beginning Watercolor. Be on the lookout for the Fall Catalog and don’t miss out on the chance to be part of this vital community.

Kay Greene
Co-chair Academic Affairs

How does SDALL Assign classes?

Needless to say, this has been an area extensively studied by various “SDALL Councils” over the years. The conclusion was and is that the current process using a cut-off date and random selection is the fairest process for the most people. This process puts every person on a level playing field.

The reasons for this are as follows:

- Mail delivery of catalogs to various zip codes varies widely
- People travel
- People become ill
- People have previous schedule conflicts which must be resolved.

In addition, the ability to indicate first, second and third choice helps to guide people to the courses of most interest.

With respect to situations regarding persons attending classes for which they were not accepted, this is a continuing problem.

- At the beginning of each session, if a person misses the first two sessions without prior arrangement with the instructor, that person is “cut” and the next person on the “wait list” is accepted.
- Historically, after the initial sessions (re above), attendance diminishes and seats become available on any given class day. Interested attendees have been invited to join the class on an informal basis. This is the instructor’s call.

Hopefully, this explanation helps your understanding and appreciation of the course assignment system.

YOUR NEWSLETTER

The SDALL Newsletter is published quarterly, with special editions as appropriate. If anyone has information, news or items of interest to share, the Council wants to hear from you. Please contact Lynn Kroesen at lkroesen@yahoo.com or (302) 934-6363

SDALL Members Visit New York City



One activity that many Academy members look forward to each year is the trip to New York City. The Academy charters buses and arranges for hotel rooms while members arrange for theater tickets or plan museum visits. This year over 100 Academy members invaded New York from April 21st to the 24th. One member related this: **UNIQUE NYC EXPERIENCE**

You may not be aware but not many NYC cabs are insured to carry five passengers. On the rainy night of Wed., April 22, 2009, we, a group of five SDALL members attempted to taxi from the Hotel Edison up to Julliard School to see their performance of the opera "Falstaff". The hotel doorman flagged at least eight yellow cabs but to no avail. The group decided to break up, but at that instant along came a stretch limo (at least a block and a half long) driven by a Georgian, not the State of but the Country of and for \$5.00 apiece plus gratuity the five of us hurriedly entered the limo because of the heavily falling rain.

We were confronted with a full service eight glass cocktail bar including wine, hard liquor and soft drinks. One of the passengers hollered up to the driver/owner "Is this included?" pointing to the bar. Driver's answer was "Do you want to break the bank?"

We did arrive in time for opening curtain and the performance was one of the best we have seen over the years.



Begin to plan now for 2010 (April 27 thru April 30). Watch for sign-up sheets on the bulletin board.

Visit Xian Terra Cotta Warriors

See the terracotta warriors of Xian at the National Geographic Association in Washington, D.C.
January 20, 2010.

This trip is open to all SDALL members. The cost is \$35, which includes transportation, gratuity and admission to the exhibit. There are 45 openings on this trip. Reservations will be accepted beginning September 14. To reserve a space, give a check (made out to the University of Delaware) to Renee in the office. In case of a no-show or last minute cancellation, no refund can be made for the transportation part of the ticket



SDALL Receives \$20,000 Grant

The Bernard Osher Foundation has awarded \$100,000 to the University of Delaware for exclusive support of lifelong learning. SDALL has received \$20,000 from this grant. The award will provide direct support of the Academy's programs and activities and allow access to the Osher network of more than 120 institutes of lifelong learning at colleges and universities throughout the U.S. In addition to this gift, the Osher Foundation intends to consider total endowment support of \$2 million for lifelong learning at the University of Delaware. If awarded, the Southern Delaware Academy would receive an endowment gift of \$1 million. Earnings from this proposed gift would be used to support ongoing Academy operations, which could assist in minimizing annual increases to the membership fee.

The Academy would be designated as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware if this additional endowment gift is received. According to Richard Sciorra, Academy Council Chair, "The Academy's mission, governance structure, and programs would remain unchanged by association with the Osher network."

Editor's note: This information was sent in a special letter to all members on June 26, 2009.

SDALL Council 2009—2010



Left to Right standing: Bruce Collins, Finance; Bernie Fiegel, Social Committee; Lynn Kroesen, Communications; Anne Carol Finley, Scholarship; Richard Sciorra, Chariman; Mary Folan, Travel; Earlene Gillan-Smith, Ex-Officio; Ron Reese, Academic Affairs; Frank Meredith, Community Relations
Left to Right seated: Dorothy Danegger, Council Secretary; Kay Greene, Academic Affairs; Martha Savage, Librarian; Anna Mosier, Program Coordinator; Renee Moy, Academy Secretary. Robert Comeau, School Liaison , not shown.

**Tell Your Friends and Neighbors
about SDALL!!**

New Members always welcome.

Share the FUN!!

***Turn Off Those Cell Phones,
PLEASE***

PLEASE turn **off** your cell phones while in SDALL classes as a courtesy to your fellow students and the instructor.

