



# The Tides...

Breaking News from Lifelong Learning



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Lewes

Fall 2013

## 15th Annual Picnic — A Success in Spite of Rain

### Salty Brine's Seaside Chat



AHOY, Osher shipmates! As Snoopy would say “it was a dark and stormy night” only for our picnic it was the beginning of a fall nor’easter with plenty of strong winds and accompanying rain as the OLLI Queen weighed anchor and set sail, in rough and choppy waters, for Cape Henlopen State Park to attend the Osher 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Homecoming Picnic on Wednesday, October 9, 2013...it’s the only time since we held our first Homecoming Picnic on October 12, 1998 that it “rained on our parade.” There has to be a first for everything, right?...but on the bright side though, No Bugs!

Before we go any further let’s give a tip of Salty’s cap to all those who helped make the beginning of a fall nor’easter picnic day a “windy, rain-driven” success including every one of the “hale and hearty” who attended and a double tip of Salty’s cap to those grill masters who braved the elements to grill burgers, dogs, portabellas - think we’re on the verge of creating a “portabella cult” - multi-colored peppers, sweet onions, and zucchini to feed the masses...it was a challenge to put cheese on the burgers because of the gusting winds, you remember the “Flying Nun” well we had “flying cheese” on the grill, on the ground, and we think some of it might have made it to the ferry slip, but some did make it on the burgers though?

About 125 of the 147 registered members arrived in the choice apparel of the day – multi-colored rain slickers and ponchos of all sizes and shapes; we aborted checking in and name tags, you guessed it – the beginning of a fall nor’easter; the groaning boards were loaded with soo many delicious goodies too numerous to name and Osher members, all but guaranteed, that two tables of desserts would satisfy the “sweet tooth” of everyone in attendance with any leftovers back to school for Monday morning munching...

Some comments we heard were...good sports all and bad weather didn't seem to hold up fun conversations, delicious foods...fun time; a GREAT success in spite of the nasty weather, I enjoyed grilling veggies and eating them as well; and someone wondered aloud while the Elder Moments were performing if they knew *Singing in the Rain* or *Stormy Weather*... guess we’ll have to ask Roo Brown, Elder Moments choral director about those...?

Salty says...mark your calendar for the fall **Instructors’ Recognition Luncheon**, theme still in the planning stages, on **Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at the Atlantic Sands** in Rehoboth Beach...and arts and crafts members start thinking about what you’re going to display?

Contributing writer – Cera Belum



See photos on page 6 and 7



## From the Chair and the Council

As we await the passing of the mid-Atlantic monsoon season, I'm happy to report that our numbers keep going up – 540 and climbing this fall! Operations in our new Lewes home have gone well, with more space and better audio-visual capability, and we seem to be coping with the parking challenges. Remember to walk or bike if you're close enough, carpool if you can, and be nice to our neighbors, who are a bit overwhelmed by our numbers!

You've managed to fill three buses for next April's ever-popular New York City trip, with a small waiting list of hopefuls. Other trips are in the offing as well. As is reported elsewhere, a large band of hardy souls braved the wind and rain for our picnic in the park. We were especially pleased at your response, since we sent this year's notice via email – and plan to do the same for our December 4 fall luncheon. That saves us lots of money and labor!

The weather thinned the crowd at Coast Day on October 6 at the UD Lewes campus, but we managed to spread the good word to several newcomers and even some possible instructors.

Because of some apparently insurmountable audiovisual problems at Cadbury, our Opera classes will come home to one of our classrooms beginning in the spring semester; we'll squeeze as many as possible into the room. We're also beginning to explore additional facilities in the Bethany Beach area so we can expand our programs "south of the bridge." As Roseanne Roseannadanna (Gilda Radner) used to say on SNL, "it just goes to show you, it's always something--if it ain't one thing, it's another!"

Bob Comeau

### Meet Bill Ashmore — Bethany Beach Instructional Support Staff

I am a graduate of Rider University. After graduation I went to work for the Boeing Company where I was employed in a variety of positions for over 30 years. The responsibilities included Industrial Engineering, Business Planning, Marketing positions and twenty years in Information Technology where I became a director.

My wife Eileen and I lived in the Wilmington area for many years before accepting a job transfer to the Silicon Valley. Upon retirement we relocated to the Hilton Head, S.C. area, but our large family in Delaware has brought us back to the Delaware Beaches.

I heard about the U of D Osher position in Bethany Beach through a newspaper ad. Having previously attended several Osher courses I like the concept of offering these learning opportunities to the community. Happily I was hired and now get to

attend the classes held in the Bethany Beach Municipal Building while doing my job. I am responsible for assuring the rooms are set up, video, audio and other teaching requirements are satisfied and interface as needed with class attendees. I feel in addition to helping meet a community need it is great fun and I hope to continue doing it.



### Calendar of Events

Nov 11 — No classes - Veterans Day

Nov 20 — Last Day of Classes

Dec 4 — Instructors' Recognition Luncheon

Atlantic Sands, Rehoboth Beach

## Osher Programs Promoted at Coast Day

Nestled in the University of Delaware tent, in between the conflict of dueling crab cakes and the whirling and swishing of the fly casters' reels and tackle, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute - Lewes information display held forth with volunteers from council and staff describing the opportunities of OLLI participation and the pleasures of continuing education not to mention the accompanying fun. Programs and curriculum choices were explained and the visitors' questions were answered. Our visitors were given explanatory handouts as well as the coveted OLLI pencils. The visitors were a varied lot but all expressing interest on what is no longer such a well-kept secret in Sussex County.



Many thanks to Bob Comeau, Donna Beecher, Jack Boettger, Bo French, Joan Sciorra, Anna Moshier, and Carrie Townsend for their strong support and commitment to the OLLI - Lewes mission.

*Story and pictures submitted  
by Frank Meredith*

## WHAT'S A SIG?

Many OLLIs have started Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These groups offer OLLI members a way to carry learning beyond the classroom into continuing groups for fun and practice. You might say we have some special interest groups now, for example German Conversation, Open Handiwork and..., and Oil and Acrylic Painting Interactive Workshop. Over the next several months the Academic Affairs Committee and the Social Committee will consider how we might adopt this concept and expand it to other topics.

The general idea is that someone would volunteer to convene a SIG. Interested members would be invited to sign up and get together on a scheduled basis. Some issues to be addressed include: Would space be provided in the Fred Thomas Building?, Would the process for sign-ups be part of the course registration process?, Would there be course prerequisites?. Your ideas are most welcome. Please send them to Donna Beecher at [donnadbeecher@aol.com](mailto:donnadbeecher@aol.com).

### REMINDER

**The office is closed on Fridays.**

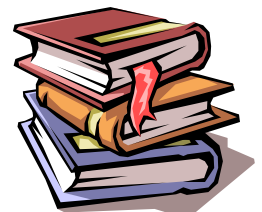
## In the Library

Well, the shelf labels are finally adhering to the shelves here and there, even as some of the pictures have released their attachment to the walls. But these are small glitches in the new location. The number of members who are signing out books has increased greatly this semester, and I believe the library is proving to be a useful resource.

Here is a reminder that the benefits of OLLI membership include access to the libraries of the University of Delaware. Use the website [www.udel.edu/library](http://www.udel.edu/library) for the catalog of the Morris Library Commons. The Morris Library contains an extensive film and video collection. There are also branch libraries: Chemistry Library ([www2.lib.udel.edu/branches/chem.htm](http://www2.lib.udel.edu/branches/chem.htm)); Physics Library ([www2.lib.udel.edu/branches/phys.htm](http://www2.lib.udel.edu/branches/phys.htm)); and the Marine Studies Library, which is here at the Virden Campus, ([www2.lib.udel.edu/branches/mars.htm](http://www2.lib.udel.edu/branches/mars.htm)). Materials will be delivered by UPS to the Fred Thomas office. See Renee for the access code used by our Lewes branch.

Other benefits of student membership include the ability to audit one UD credit course per semester, and to obtain internet access through the UD system (for full year registrants only).

*Submitted by Ruth Barnett*



## OLLI Members Visit The Brandywine River Museum



The Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of works by N.C., Andrew, and Jamie Wyeth. OLLI Lewes members visited the Museum and Andrew Wyeth's studio on beautiful, sunny Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. We were fortunate to have knowledgeable docents as our tour guides for viewing the collections of N.C. Wyeth, famous



illustrator of Robinson Crusoe and Treasure Island and of Andrew Wyeth known for his realism, in addition to his studio where he did his paintings. His studio contained some of the costumes he used for his models in his paintings. Also in this room were collections, encased in glass, of some of his miniature

toy military figurines which he had been collecting since his early childhood.

We also were treated to the special exhibit of Rockwell Kent and Jamie Wyeth, grandson of N.C., of their paintings of people and landmarks of Monhegan Island, Maine, a remote island off the coast of Portland which is a well-known artist community.

As we sat and had our lunch in the glass walled restaurant room, the tranquil setting enabled us to enjoy a lovely view overlooking the Brandywine River. The wooded flat nature trail along the river outside the museum offered easy walking for some and the wildflower gardens featuring native plants captured the attention of others. Where are we going next, Sandy Moore?

*Submitted by Joan Sciorra Pictures by Sandy Moore*



[www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/lewes/](http://www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/lewes/)



### Turn Off Those Cell Phones

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



### YOUR NEWSLETTER

**The Tides** is published quarterly, with special editions as appropriate. If anyone has information, news, pictures or items of interest to share, the Council wants to hear from you. Please contact Lynn Kroesen at [Lkroesen2@gmail.com](mailto:Lkroesen2@gmail.com) or the Lifelong Learning in Lewes office.

## New Members/New Instructors Greeted at Fall 2013 Orientation



### Salty Brine's Seaside Chat

AHOY, Osher shipmates! The OLLI Queen was ship shape top to bottom as we got underway on Thursday, September 5, 2013 for the Fred Thomas Building in Lewes...you ask why? Because we were eager to meet and greet the New Members/New Instructors; boy, we were more than pleasantly surprised as we mosey over from the OLLI Queen to our new digs and were greeted by an enthusiastic group of more than 80 plus new and long-time members/instructors as they all gathered around the groaning board of pastries, fresh fruit, and coffee from Azafran Café in Lewes. OLLI council and committee members mixed and mingled with the new, the current, and may I dare say it – the older members. The orientation programs were presented by Bob Comeau, council chair, and Donna Beecher and Carol West, co-chairs of academic affairs. It was an exciting day for OLLI in our new digs to kick off the fall 2013 semester.....Oh! Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, December 4, 2013** when the OLLI Queen will anchor in Rehoboth Beach, get our sea legs, and take liberty to head for the **Atlantic Sands Hotel.....watch the BB for continuing news!**



Contributing writer---Cera Belum

Pictures by Bernie Fiegel

## The OLLI Garden Begins to Take Shape



Anna Moshier approached Eddie Filemyr and Ellie Mesner with the proposal for a charming, welcoming garden at our new location. Eddie drew up a plan for a garden space with a bench and a picnic table that would give members a place to meet, wait, and walk to the door from their car. The Council approved the plan and the budget. The garden is being implemented by OLLI member volunteers under the direction of Eddie, a Landscape Designer. Three and 1/2 tons of pebbles have been moved to create the walkways and picnic table areas. Key plants have been purchased and all the remaining plants have been donated by members. We hope to have a bulletin board showing the work in progress and crediting the volunteers.

Our planting was rained out on Friday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, but we plan to plant and mulch Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. "The plants were especially chosen for the garden because they bloom when the school is in session", said Eddie our landscape designer. Particularly exciting are the deciduous winterberry holly, and the February blooming witchazel tree. The purple leaf lorepetalum adds interest all year. Daffodil and crocus bulbs will greet members this spring! We can't wait to use the space once the bench and picnic table are installed!

Submitted by Eddie Filemyr and Ellie Mesner

# 15th Annual Picnic — A Success in Spite of Rain



## Picnic Continued



*Photos submitted by Jay Wheeler,  
Lynn Kroesen, Bernie & Dolores Fiegel*

## OLLI Fall Field Birding



Our fall OLLI birding class has had some great experiences, with lots of good birds, and amazingly good weather....well until Wednesday, Oct. 9, the day of the "Survival Picnic". But even that day we had some awesome views of Peregrine Falcons loving the strong winds. This compared nicely with some close scope views of a Merlin 2 weeks previously also at Cape Henlopen.

Our other highlights were mostly seabirds, waterfowl, and shorebirds. Fowler Beach on Prime

Hook NWR was a top location for such magnificent seabirds like Caspian and Royal Terns. Broadkill Beach Road offered up many early waterfowl, such as N. Shovelers, Pintails, Green and Blue-winged Teal, and an occasional Bald Eagle looking for a tasty duck dinner.

This fall we have observed 96 species of birds so far, and are hoping to close out our six week class with over 100 species. We are offering Field Birding in the Spring from April 8 to May 27. Classes will be on Tuesdays 8 to 11 am.

*Submitted by Bill Fintel*

### First Half Fall Semester Activities



Dr. Mary Emily Miller displays a Traverse Board (old navigation aid) to her Maritime History Class.

Dr. Miller continues her interesting series on people and ships during the colonization period in her **Maritime History class**

Dean Hoover displays models that illustrate symmetry to his class called **Godel Escher Bach**. Look for more symmetry in the spring.



Dean Hoover holds a wooden box he constructed which not only shows he is a talented woodworker but also illustrates symmetry.

Photos by Anna Moshier & Maureen Sherlock

### Kitchen Kapers XXII — On the Road Again

Thanks to five Osher members, who volunteered their home kitchens, the instructor and students went “On the Road” to prepare and cook recipes planned by the hosts and to dine and to socialize.

Submitted by Dolores Fiegel & Bernie Fiegel



# Happy Halloween