



ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Academy of Lifelong Learning
University of Delaware

October 12, 2009

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Do you ever wonder what makes the Academy so special? I do.

Is it the wonderful building and setting we take classes in? Or could it be the terrific relationship we enjoy with the University of Delaware – our staff, the visiting lecturers, use of the University library, student fitness center, and computer network services? Or could it be the variety of over 200 classes offered each semester?

Well, let me suggest that it is YOU!

With that said, let me offer a few things you and I can do to help ensure our success and continued growth as one of the nation's premier lifelong learning programs

1. Enjoy yourself! A satisfied student is our best advertisement.

2. Get involved! Volunteer to help out or consider teaching a class. New ideas and approaches help keep us vibrant and energized.

3. Encourage a friend to come and take a look. I bet they will thank you for introducing them to the life changing possibilities present here.

4. Consider including the Academy in your annual giving plans. Your gift would help offset our increasing annual expenses, or it could become part of our endowment and thus help the Academy for years to come. If you have any questions about donations, please see Basil Maas, our University Coordinator.

Enjoy the semester and thank you.

Don Grimes
Chair, Academy Council



HALLOWEEN BREAKFAST

The annual Halloween Breakfast will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2008, from 8 to 10:15 a.m. There will be prizes for best costumes. However, costumes are not necessary to attend the breakfast. Just come and have a nice morning with friends and fellow academy members. Look for details in *This Week* and on the bulletin board.

Nancy Smith
Chair, Luncheons

SAFETY ON CAMPUS

- The **speed limit** on the University's Wilmington Campus is 10 MPH. Please be mindful of your fellow members and observe the speed limit at all times.
- Please pay particular attention to observing the **Stop sign** across from the main entrance to Arsht Hall.
- Please park in one of the more than 630 marked parking spaces. Do not park along the evergreens in the top lot. Illegally parked cars will be ticketed.
- **A special note:** If you accidentally hit a parked car at the Academy, please advise the Academy Office immediately. Failure to report can result in being cited for leaving the scene of an accident as well as hit and run.

Corporal Paige Seppanen



Academy Newsletter
www.academy.udel.edu/newsletter
Academy of Lifelong Learning
2700 Pennsylvania Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19806
(302) 573-4417

Robert Ehrlich Editor

Associates

Susan Arruda Mary Ann Dowd

Cree Hovsepian Anna Maria MacKeand

Schedule for the *Academy Newsletter*

Submittal deadline

Issue date

Mon., Oct. 30

Tues., Nov. 16

Submit articles to rehlich@udel.edu, or place in the Newsletter mail box in the Reception Area.

COMPUTERS! COMPUTERS! OH WHAT FUN

With the addition of 13 new computers to the 13 installed last year, the Academy now has top of the line equipment. The computer classes permit you, the Academy members, to improve or learn a new skill, and at the same time have fun. Computers allow one to communicate with each other and to have access to the world. The Academy instructors enjoy teaching and make sure that you also have fun. Typically, more people sign up for courses than there are instructors. Join the instructor staff or at least volunteer to be a teaching assistant..

Kenneth Mulholland and William Heaney
Curriculum Committee.

TIPS FOR AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ACADEMY

Here are a few small ways that all of us can help save the earth:

- Bring any unwanted paper home to recycle or have a volunteer for your class collect unwanted paper.
 - Have class material emailed to you, then print it double sided.
 - Instructors: Use the white board or overheads instead of the paper pads.
- Susan Kaye

ALLSTEL 2009 AND 2010

In May 2009, 111 academy members and their spouses invaded the shores of Rehoboth Beach for the 23rd annual ALLSTEL. The program was varied and enthusiastically received. There were sessions on Underwater Research, Irish Weddings, Nanomaterials, Islam at the Crossroads, Today's Economy in the Financial Aftermath, Do Guerillas Always Win, Our Healthcare System, and an annual favorite evening of An American Songbook. The wine tasting visit in Lewes was enjoyed by many on the free afternoon. Most special were the sumptuous breakfasts and the opportunity each evening to socialize during the cocktail hour and sample the wonderful hors d'oeuvres provided by the Hanaks' social committee.

2009 will be a tough ALLSTEL to beat but we're going to try. Your committee is already hard at work putting together plans for next year. We welcome your input and solicit your recommendations. One change for 2010 will be the final dinner. We have always had a sit-down meal, but due to the limited kitchen facilities the caterer has had difficulty serving the food warm. In 2010 we plan on all the dinners being buffets and believe this will address previous concerns.

ALLSTEL has reserved the Brighton Suites from June 1 through June 4; so put the dates on your calendar and plan to join us and make the Academy 2010 "Holiday at the Beach" another memorable event. Flyers for the program will be available at the reception desk after the Thanksgiving holiday.

Chuck Hober
ALLSTEL Chairman

ALL BOOK DISCUSSION MEETING

Join your fellow Academy members in discussing current and classic books. We meet for stimulating discussions on the first Wednesday of the month at 3:20 p.m.

November 4, the discussion will focus on Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's book, *Purple Hibiscus*.

December 2, we'll read *Welsh Girl* by Peter Ho Davies.

Everyone is welcome!

Mary Lew Bergman

THE PHOTO-TECH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (A.K.A. PT-SIG)

Meets Mondays, 3:20 to 4:20, Room 117
All Academy members are welcome -- no registration required.

The PT-SIG is an informal and interactive get-together where members interested in digital photography, computers, and digital photo editing with Photoshop can demo and/or discuss any topic about photography and digital photo editing, including tips, tricks, techniques, etc.

Together we will explore all the wonderful things you can do with your camera and your personal computer. Users of all camera and computer makes and models are welcome.

Here's a list of topics we will cover (in no particular order):

- Tripods, and why you should use them
- Taking RAW versus JPEG photos
- Cleaning your d-SLR sensor
- Your digital image workflow - from camera to computer and beyond
- The image histogram - what does it all mean?
- Color management and calibrating your monitor
- Photography learning sites on the Web
- Slide and film scanning
- Slideshow tips
- Creative output

For more information go to our website:

www.PTSIG.org

Sandro Cuccia, Facilitator

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AVAILABLE

Do you need someone to visit with an ill family member while you come to the Academy? A trained hospice volunteer with Compassionate Care has volunteered her services. See the Reception Desk for details.

ORCHESTRA

Musicians wanted: All instruments are needed. Please join our growing orchestra led by conductor, Dr. Peter McCarthy on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Attend our concert in the Lobby on Dec. 2 at 11:45.

NAMETAGS: WHEN 1+1=3

There were some butterflies in my tummy last week, on the first day of school...excitement, nerves, impatience and more. But when I pulled into the parking lot, everything fell into place... parking at a premium, my parking sticker expired and, most important, remember where the car is parked at the end of the day: yes, everything was normal.

And I did remember to bring, and to wear, my name tag, an annoying necessity which reluctantly has become a habit. Why reluctant habit? For some it may be just one more thing to take to school, like the notebook and pencil. For others, it may not "add anything to the outfit" and/or not always be "readable."

One day, someone explained the social reason for the name tag, and, as simple as $1+1=2$, it fell into place. Everyone likes to be known by name. "Hi, Myra." "Good Morning, Myra." "Good point, Myra." Moreover, it also helps those of us who might need a little help to be able to greet the same person the next day or the next week, when their name has totally been lost in that neverland of lost names.

But, when my friend fell, by accident, on the first day of school, another reason for the name tag hit me: it could save our Academy staff very valuable EMT minutes if she was unconscious and they couldn't identify her. She was, in fact, fine and we went off to our Jane Austen class after some first aid and rest.

And that's WHEN $1+1=3$.

Myra Hochman



THE BRASS YEARS by Betty Marroni

GARDENING SPEAKERS

Academy members are invited to attend individual programs that interest them. The class meets Tuesdays at 2 p.m. in Room 108.

10/13 Controlling Invasive Plants Tom Brightman, Longwood Gardens.

10/20 New & Unusual Plants Nancy Bell, Master Gardener
New varieties of plants are introduced every year. Some are remarkable improvements while others may be inferior to historically available selections.

10/27 Caring for Trees in the Landscape
Dr. Neil Hendrickson, Bartlett Trees
Contrary to popular belief, trees need intelligent care, including timely pruning. Reliable watering of newly-planted trees is essential.

11/3 Women in Horticulture Jenny Rose Carey, Temple University

11/10 The Garden in Winter Walter Cullerton
Gardeners frequently ignore their grounds during the winter. Walter will show us how to find beauty even in winter.

11/17 Visiting English Gardens Jeannette Lindvig

The Garden Speakers Class is taking a bus trip to nearby Chanticleer Gardens and Scott Arboretum on Fri. Oct. 23. Guided tours will be given of both gardens. Lunch will be at Scott Arboretum. We leave the upper parking lot at 9 a.m. and return at 4:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to see two of the area's premier gardens in fall color and fall blooms. The cost is \$38. Academy members are invited to join us. Contact Tom Maddux, tcmaddux@verizon.net. Or 302 328 8990.



Academy Band, Bellevue State Park, Aug. 13

BEAT IT DRUM HEAD ART SHOW

"BEAT IT!" was the title of the unusual art exhibit, held September 21-25, in Room 105. A drumhead is a membrane that is stretched taut over a drum. This spring, at the end of the Academy's spring semester, Olga van Dijk, an Academy art instructor, challenged her students and other Academy artists to create, over the summer, special pieces of art from the drumheads. The show encompassed this colorful and creative artwork in all mediums on the original drumheads, donated by Dick Lewis, a member of the Academy. Over 30 drumheads were exhibited and ribbons awarded by Juror Alice B. Hupfel, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts. Drumheads were judged for creativity, originality, design, technique, and presentation. Sharon Bromley's "Sweat Equity" was cited for "outstanding design, very unusual materials, unique" and was awarded 1st place. The work was inspired by summer renovation work at her house and included screws, nails, and broken glass. Jerie Kunitsky received 2nd place for "What's It All About?," Judy Holton 3rd place for "Rumors from the Sun," and Beryl Bouck, Honorable Mention for "I See Serpents?"



Sharon Bromley, *Sweat Equity*

Ron Yabroff

See www.academy.udel.edu/newsletter for more pictures in color.

BEAT IT



Pictures by Ron Yabroff



Jerie Kunitsky *What's It All About?*, 2nd place

Robert Ehrlich

Watch a video of the exhibition at:
<http://www.academy.udel.edu/images/movies/index.html>

“MUSIC MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND”



Rhoda Dombchik

Robert Ehrlich



Judy Wright



Judy Wright *Faux Vitraux*

Judy Wright

WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT?

Hint: It is at the Academy. See the next Newsletter for the answer.



Judy Wright

A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

In 2010 we will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Academy. Thirty years ago this month, a small steering committee chaired by George Kazan was putting the final touches on the new project, and in February, 1980, the new Academy opened with 100 members and 21 courses. My, how we have grown!

Not every adult learning program is successful, but, thanks to excellent planning, our Academy has become one of the largest and best. As we celebrate our history and look to the future, let's reflect on some of the factors that made us what we are today.

A Great Model. The Academy's organizational structure, an academic membership cooperative, is not unique, but it has served us well. Annual membership fees allow us to pay our own way, as the University requires, and give each member equal access to all courses. Member instructors donate their time and expertise for the satisfaction that teaching provides. And a large corps of volunteers provides the day-to-day services that keep the Academy running and allow us to operate with a very small paid staff.

Good Demographics. The original planners reasoned that greater Wilmington had a large number of retired professionals and other interested folks who would respond enthusiastically to the new Academy, and they were right. The membership doubled in our second semester and kept on expanding to its present size of about 2100, proving that the program meets a strong demand for intellectual and social stimulation.

Technological Change. As the use of personal computers expanded, so did the popularity of our computer courses. Many individuals joined the Academy in order to learn computing skills and then got "hooked" by our other offerings and stayed on.

University Support. Where else can you get the services of a major University so inexpensively? From the library to the gym, from faculty lectures to auditing privileges and to discounts on performing arts programs, Academy members can take advantage of

many excellent resources at the University of Delaware.

A Close Community. Unlike many adult learning programs, we have our own building, thanks to the generosity of Samuel and Roxana Arsht, matching funds from the University, and financial support from Academy members and the general public. As a result, we have many spaces and opportunities for members to gather and socialize informally. Think of the central lounge, the Reading Room, the lunch room, the back patio, and the wonderful surrounding gardens. These and other spaces have brought us together in a unique energizing and supportive community.

The Academy: What a gift!

Nan Norling

MATERIAL CULTURE LECTURES

Those who attended last spring's class on Material Culture will be happy to know that it will return next spring, with a new set of interesting and diverse presentations. In the meantime you can sit in on the University's Material Culture Studies Colloquium classes this fall. They are being held on Wednesdays, from 1:25 to 2:15 pm in Alison Hall, Room 326B, on the Newark campus. Academy members and the public are welcome!

Faculty from a variety of academic departments, including History, Art, Anthropology, English, and others, will talk on such topics as "The Retail Revolution: From Main Street to Mall," "Before FedEx and UPS: The Atlantic World and the Problem of Freight," "What their Garbage Tells us about People in the Past," and "Speaking Directly with the Artists: Focus on the Wyeths." Why not take a friend and go have lunch first? Look for a detailed schedule posted on our bulletin board.

Nan Norling



Drumhead Art

Ron Yabroff

 **Schedule of Events** 

SPECIAL EVENTS WEDNESDAYS
12:40-1:45 P.M. IN ROOM 105

These programs are free and open for all Academy members.

10/14 Opera Delaware Performs Highlights from *The Barber of Seville*

Stars of the opera will perform. Lee Kimball, director will lead a lively discussion of the fascinating composer Gioachino Rossini.

10/21 Fortepiano: Susan Duer
CANCELLED

"One-on-One" Robert Faatz, Executive Vice-chair of the Academy Council, will be interviewed by Howard Hoffman.

10/28 Cold Comfort Permafrost: Society & Climate Change Fritz Nelson

11/4 Academy Band Paul Hess, Conductor

The Academy Concert Band has been very active during this tenth year anniversary of its founding. The band has performed in many venues, entertaining music lovers from fourth grade (Warner Elementary School) to state park attendees and seasoned citizens. This concert will feature a premier of a work commissioned by our own Henry Gass. It is entitled "Fanfare and Decennial Jubilee."

11/11 National Endowment for the Arts

Meet Alice Whelihan, the lady called "the fairy godmother for the nation's art museums." Learn about the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program established in 1975 to minimize the costs of insurance for international exhibitions. In 2007 this program expanded to include domestic exhibitions. How does it work? Who does it? How does it affect us all?

Alice Whelihan has run this program since 1980. Over 900 exhibitions have been held saving the organizers more than \$230 million in insurance premiums and thus making art more available for everyone to see.

11/18 Moonlight Brass Quintet

Five local chemists and bankers continued moonlighting after getting together for a wedding performance. They enjoy playing everything from Bach and Gabrieli to Gershwin and Joplin.



2009

Tues., Dec. 8 to Fri., Dec. 11 – Christmas Extravaganza, Homestead, Hot Springs, VA

Thurs., Fri., Dec 17-18 – Christmas in Bethlehem, PA

2010

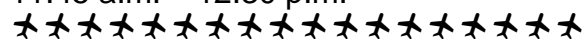
Mon., Jan. 11 to Sat., Jan. 23 – Cruise the Eastern Caribbean on the Celebrity ship *Mercury*

Mon., March 29 to Fri., April 2 – Asheville and the Biltmore Estate

Sat., May 15 – Mt. Vernon

Sat., July 10 -- New York *The Addams Family*

For more information on these and other Academy travel opportunities, visit the Travel Desk in the Lobby, Monday through Thursday, 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



SOCIAL

Our next social is on Thurs., Oct. 22, at 1:30 p.m. in the Lobby. Meet old friends and make new ones. Come and enjoy.

Linda Miller and Barbara Golin
 Co-chairs, Socials

ACADEMY CALENDAR

Thurs., Nov.26 – Fri., Nov. 27
Academy Closed, Thanksgiving
 Fri., Dec. 11..... Fall Semester ends

2010

Mon., Jan. 4 – Fri., Jan. 8
 Registration for Spring
 Mon., Feb. 8..... Spring semester begins
 Mon, March 29 to Fri., April 2 ..Spring Break
 NO CLASSES
 Fri., May 14Spring Semester ends