



ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Academy of Lifelong Learning
University of Delaware

November 16, 2009

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Last month I had the pleasure of representing the Academy at the 6th National Osher Lifelong Learning Conference. I was one of 251 people representing 121 colleges and universities, and 86,000 seasoned adult students from all 50 states. It was exciting to be part of that talented, highly energized, and focused group of folks looking for new ways to enhance the learning experience in their home communities. Even though the programs differ in size, number and types of classes offered, and variety of classroom locations, they all have the same goal – quality lifelong learning.

I'll share one of the key observations I brought back with me. During the multiple opportunities to meet and chat with my counterparts, our conversations always followed a similar pattern.

What school are you from?

How big is your program?

Wow! Do you have rooms big enough to accommodate all those people?

Double Wow! You really have your own building and 660 parking spaces?

You are so lucky! (by now their jaws had dropped and they had turned green with envy).

So, PLEASE do not take what we have for granted. We are extremely fortunate to have one of the premier programs in the country. You can go to many places to take classes, but would be hard pressed to come close to what we share here. Enjoy it to the max.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and please continue to look for ways to contribute in the future.

Don Grimes
Chair, Academy Council



What is it? See page 4

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Save Friday, Dec. 11 at 12 noon for the ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON.

It's a great way to begin the holiday season and enjoy socializing with good friends.

The Italian buffet will be only \$12.00 and will include entrées, rolls, salads, desserts, and drinks. Vegetarian lunches will be available.

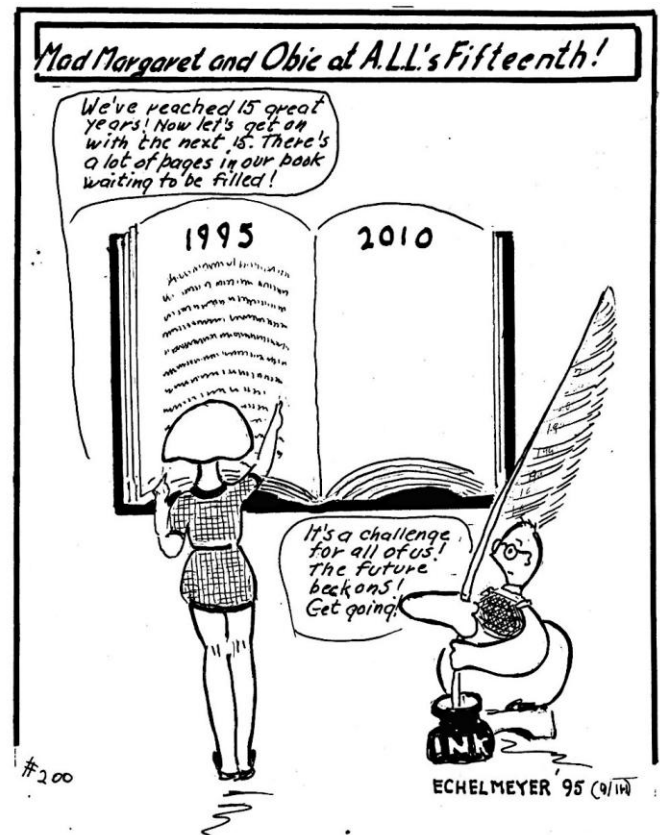
There will be music by "Sentimental Journey" during lunch and afterwards a sing along led by Carroll Humphrey.

Tickets are available before Thanksgiving from Ellen in the Office and after Thanksgiving in the Lobby.

Don't miss this festive occasion!

Nancy Smith
Chair, Luncheons

ALMOST THERE



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Schedule for the *Academy Newsletter*

<u>Submittal deadline</u>	<u>Issue date</u>
Fri., Jan. 15	Mon., Feb. 8

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

COMPUTERS! COMPUTERS! TROLLING FOR SUCKERS

The security and safety of your computer and your personal information is very critical. The dangers of viruses and spyware are well known. There are many programs to protect you. However, the one thing that no program can protect is you – the user.

A common method to harm you is known as “Phishing” or more accurately “Trolling for Suckers.” The sucker the sender seeks is you, the user. You may receive an email that is made to scare you, asks you to “confirm” a bank account number, and indicates you won a lottery or that you can make umpteen bucks by laundering some money from places like Nigeria. What the scam artist wants is for you to click on a link in the email and answer some questions such as what is your social security number, what is your bank account number, what is your birth date, what is your mother’s maiden name, etc. or in other words all of your personal information. Unless you know the link (normally colored blue) that you are being asked to invoke, DO NOT RESPOND.

If you are uncertain about the scary email, you should call by telephone or go to the internet and then to the site directly. AGAIN – DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS TYPE OF EMAIL.

Kenneth Mulholland
Curriculum Committee

OPEN HOUSE

On Jan. 6, 2010, from 9 a.m.-12 noon, the Academy will once again have an Open House to welcome prospective members. Please invite your friends, relatives, neighbors to experience the wonderful intellectual and social opportunities available at the Academy. Guides will be available to show them the facilities and demonstration classes, such as Tai Chi, computer, music groups, sculpture, carving, and gardening. Catalogs describing the wide variety of courses offered in the spring session will be available. Visitors will have an opportunity to talk with some of the Academy instructors and with current members -- and to sample home baked cookies. Those who choose to join the Academy will be able to do so the same morning.

Nancy Wolfe

HALLOWEEN BREAKFAST

The annual Halloween Breakfast was a huge success and great fun. There were many super costumes, but the winners and their Halloween identities were:

Anne and Dean Reese
(*elegant, old-fashioned couple*)

Ed Flexman (*Liberian*)

Cynthia Miller (*Vincent van Gogh*)



Elegant Couple

Nancy Smith
Chair, Luncheons



Liberian and Betty Wier



Vincent van Gogh

Photos by Don Whiteley

MUSIC IN THE LOBBY



THE BRASS YEARS by Betty Marroni

TRIBUTE

"---The involved and inspiring women and men are a vivid demonstration of the value of an engaged intellect at any time of life. --- Your current affairs forums are among the most challenging in which it has been my good fortune to participate affording me the challenge of civilized skepticism sharpened by many years of experience."

From Senator "Joe" Biden on the 10th anniversary of the Academy.

GARDENING SPEAKERS

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

11/17 Visiting English Gardens Jeannette

Lindvig

Jeannette is a garden guide specialist at Winterthur.

11/24 Garden Tools, etc. Peter Lindtner

Peter has been head horticulturalist with the E.I. DuPont Garden at Hagley Museum and is a prize winning photographer.

12/1 Next Year's Garden: Plan Now John Dietz

12/8 Vertical Gardening Tom Maddux

The last weeks of the semester are an opportunity to hear the results of a semester of preparation by various Academy music groups. The following events are all held in the Lobby at 11:45. Group leaders are indicated.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Tues., Nov. 17 | Flute and Piano, Susan Ryan and Linda O'Conner |
| Thurs., Nov. 19 | Recorder, Don von Schritlz |
| Tues., Nov. 24 | String Ensemble, Geraldine Burke |
| Mon., Nov. 30 | Chamber Choir, Dana Ulery |
| Tues., Dec. 1 | Intermediate Band, Lloyd Maier |
| Wed., Dec. 2 | Orchestra, Peter McCarthy |
| Thurs., Dec. 3 | Flute Choir, Dorothy Boyd |
| Mon., Dec. 7 | Circle Singers, Ellie Munson |
| Tues., Dec. 8 | Silver Winds. Howard Smith |
| Wed., Dec. 9 | Latin Jazz, Steve DeMond |
| Thurs., Dec. 10 | Jazz Band, Bert Damron |



Academy Orchestra Spring 2009

CHAD TOLMAN WINS AUDUBON AWARD

On October 9 Academy member, Chad Tolman, received the 2009 Delaware Audubon Conservation Award.

The Delaware Audubon Society Newsletter noted that, "Chad has followed energy and climate change issues for over 20 years, and has written and spoken about them extensively." He is currently energy chair of the Delaware Sierra Club. He has taught courses and given talks on environmental issues at the Academy.

ART AT THE ACADEMY

The first semester I attended the Academy, I viewed the exhibit from the “Beginning Watercolors” class. As I walked down the hall, I said, “These people can’t be beginners! Their work is just too good!” Someone from the class, standing nearby, said that everyone was indeed a beginner. I thought that if they could produce such quality work, it was worth a try. After all, weren’t we there at the Academy to learn new things?

So I signed up for “Beginning Watercolors”. The art classes fill up fast, and I was lucky to get in! Armed with new paints, brushes, watercolor paper, sponges, masking fluid, a palette, and other tools of the trade (along with lots of enthusiasm, little talent and some doubt), I began painting...clouds, skies, trees.

My first efforts certainly didn’t look very professional, but, with the help and guidance of Cynthia Kauffman, it all came together and my paintings began to resemble the real thing. Then she announced that WE would be having an exhibit! We were to choose our best work, mat and frame it, and be ready for the show.

As our collective work was exhibited, I looked at how far the class members had come since that first day when we spread paint around on the paper and learned to do “washes”. A few days later, as I was walking from the lobby to get some lunch, someone I didn’t know commented, “These people can’t be beginners! Their work is just too good!” I told her that I was a member of the class and that most of the people were beginners with little or no experience. She stopped in front of one of MY paintings and said, “I really like this one and I’d like to buy it”. I told her that it was mine and that it was not for sale. I really felt like a “professional” that day; what a boost to my painting ego! The picture is hung in my house alongside the “professional” art that we have collected over the years. Of course, I went on to take “Intermediate Watercolors”.

Susan Arruda

ART IN THE SOUTH HALL

You can see the work of art classes that stirred Susan’s enthusiasm in the south hallway (the hall leading down towards the Garden Café. Scheduled class shows are:

Nov. 16 - 20 *Watercolor Bold and Loose*
Marvin Stone, Instructor

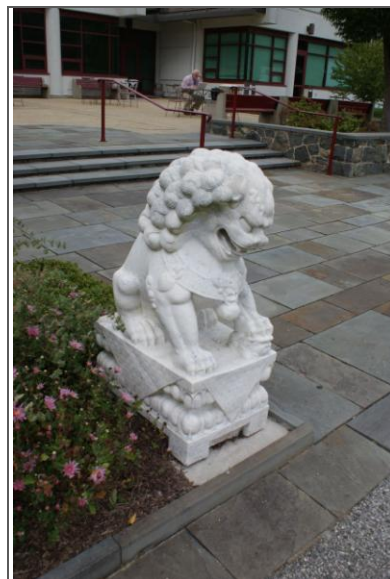
Nov. 30 - Dec. 4 *Oil Painting – Beginners*
Eve Stone, Instructor

Dec. 7 – 11 *Beginners Watercolor*
Cynthia Kauffman

SAFETY ON CAMPUS

- Follow arrows and signs posted throughout the campus. Do not use the service drive as an exit. This is dangerous and illegal.
- Please pay particular attention to observing the **Stop sign** across from the main entrance to Arsht Hall.
- Please drop off and pick up Academy Members in the circle, NOT along the main drive. This clogs up traffic.
- 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.

Corporal Paige Seppanen



Judy Wright

Answer: Guardian at rear of Arsht Hall

EARLY DAYS AT THE ACADEMY

When the Academy first opened on February 6, 1980, it offered 21 classes for 45 students. By the end of the week attendance had grown to 85, and within a few weeks to 135. The dues (a bargain!) were \$45, and included access to all classes and programs, the right to audit a University class each term, and a library card for the University's Morris Library. The catalog suggested that "for maximum enjoyment and retention of subject matter", two or three classes should be enough for most students.

Preserved files on a shelf in the office workroom contain statistical and written histories of our Academy. Here are some edited excerpts:

The Academy's first home was at Wilcastle Center, the club house of the old Wilmington Country Club that stood across the driveway from where Arsht Hall is today. Wilcastle was an ideal place for the Academy to spread its wings. Its faded grandeur pleased members, and its higgledy piggledy maze of rooms without corridors held no hint of institutional restraint. Some rooms were too hot, some too cold; restrooms were inadequate; some walls were so thin that lively discussions in one would interfere with a sober presentation in another. But it was here that Academy members began to create a place where adults with active minds could find intellectual stimulation, a sense of accomplishment, and daily social involvement. Some came to teach, some came to volunteer, all came to learn.

Then, as now, classes were the heart of the enterprise. They were taught at the college level. Ed Buxbaum, who retired from DuPont and then got a PhD in Anthropology, declared, "No bridge or macramé here!" He taught anthropology and archeology, others taught Classical Greek, 20th century American writers, and the History of Tudor England. Two other classes that appeared in the first catalog, Shakespeare and Travel, have been given every semester since then, without fail.

In addition to classes and socialization, members contributed their own interests to the group: Someone brought the Delos String Quartet to play during lunch. A noted

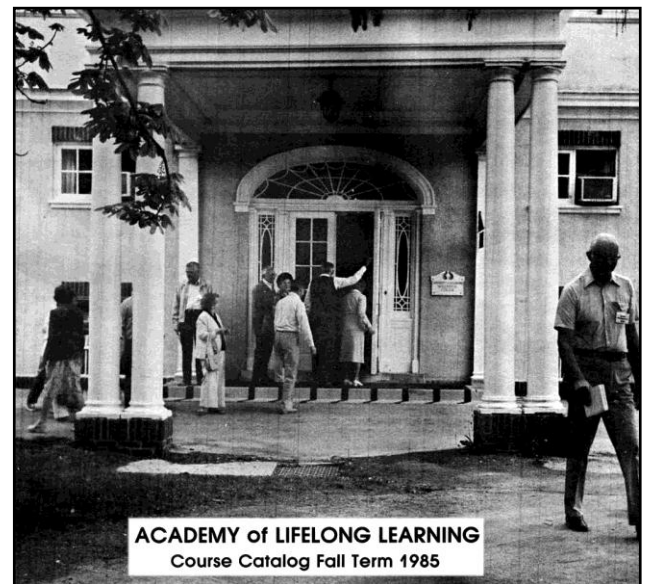
anthropologist from Penn came to talk about the Lenape Indians. Francis Leif brought Dr. E. Rosenberry from the University's English department to lecture on Shakespeare. One member started a newspaper. Others formed a travel group and in a few weeks Academy members would be going in buses to Wolftrap for a picnic supper and "Brigadoon".

Members also wrote by-laws, served on committees, poured coffee, and generally did whatever was required to keep things going.

As early as 1986, it became evident that we were outgrowing our early site. Sam and Roxana Arsht came to the rescue by offering University President Art Trabant \$2 million for a new building. Academy members raised another million, and the University put up the rest. In the fall of 1991 we moved from gracious, dowdy, and much loved Wilcastle to new, spacious, and user-friendly quarters in Arsht Hall. And here we have been for almost twenty years. Where will we be at our fiftieth?

Nan Norling

WILCASTLE





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.

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.

11/25 – No Program

12/2 Minding Your Brain: A Primer

How does our brain change with normal aging? With diseases of aging? How can we preserve maximum brain function as we age? Come to a lively discussion of how your brain works and how to keep it in top shape over your lifetime!

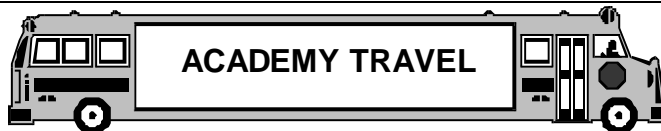
Rita Balice-Gordon is currently the Chair of Penn's Neuroscience Graduate Group. She and her laboratory study how connections are made and maintained in the developing brain, and how this process is impaired in neurodevelopmental and other disorders that affect cognition and behavior.

12/9 Academy Chorus

The Academy Chorus, newly under the direction of Henry Chisholm, will present its Fall Concert. The men will sing a beautiful four part harmony arrangement of *Tiny Little Baby*, and the women will get animated during *Born to Shop*. *Great Tidings of Joy*, *Sing We Now of Christmas*, and the lovely *Antiphonal Gloria* will bring seasonal inspiration, while *Santa's on his Way* and *Baby, It's Cold Outside* will be among the secular offerings. Audience participation will be encouraged this year.

SUMMER COURSE PROPOSALS

Dip your toes into teaching? The four week summer session is an opportunity. Course proposals are due Nov. 25. See the Office for forms and details.



2009

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

2010

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 final social is on Tuesday, Nov. 24, 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

Fri., Dec. 11 Fall Semester ends

2010

Mon., Jan. 4 – Fri., Jan. 8

..... Registration for Spring
Wed., Jan. 6 Open House

Mon., Feb. 8 Spring semester begins

Mon, March 29 to Fri., April 2.. Spring Break

..... NO CLASSES

Fri., May 14 Spring Semester ends

Tues., June 1 - Fri., June 4 ALLSTEL

Mon., June 14 - Fri., June 18

..... June Lectures

Tues./ July 6 - Thurs., July 29

..... Summer Courses