

THIS MONTH AT OLLI JULY 2018

by Joe Bailey

In case you missed it, OLLI is a beehive of activity this month. The move is underway and what was in Dover is moving to other places in Dover and beyond. We are preparing for our move to the Wyoming Methodist Church and getting set up. If you haven't seen the new location don't miss the open house on Monday July 23rd from 10:00AM – 1:00PM. I think you'll like the easy traffic flow of the new floor plan.

Our new address is 216 Wyoming Mill Rd. Dover, DE 19904. If you plug that address into your GPS device it will direct you to the Wyoming Methodist Church. The USPS likes to say that they are not part of the Federal Government. I like to say that our government works in mysterious ways its blunders to perform. The Wyoming Methodist Church is 3.8 miles from the Dover Post Office. It is .8 miles from the Camden/Wyoming post Office.

Enough with picking on government inefficiency; let's start thinking like the sales people we are. The success of our OLLI rests with us, its members. Many of us are here because a friend told us about OLLI. All of our neighborhoods are changing. Our populations are aging because people are retiring here to make their money go further. My wife says that soon we will be the people in the neighborhood with the funny accents. We have new 55 Plus communities popping up everywhere. Many of our members live in these communities. Please come to the open house and bring a friend or neighbor. Word of mouth really is the best advertising. As I write this I am reminded that we just got a new neighbor that we are planning to invite down to meet their new neighbors. I must remember to invite them to visit OLLI.

You get the point. OLLI is not an, "If you build it they will come" sort of thing. It is more of an, "If you come you can help us build it" sort of thing. It is true that we need money to operate. It is good to have the University behind us but as our membership grows our skill sets grow. We all bring something to OLLI. I am glad that the best teachers found out that they missed the classroom when they retired and OLLI came to their rescue. They sure came to mine. Along with the professional teachers came a group of other teachers with special skills and knowledge to share. Only today at lunch with friends from high school I was talking about how much fun learning has been. They all knew that wasn't the Joe they remembered from high school.

Life is a continual learning process. I'll leave you with a final thought. My daughter was thirty two when she got married. By that time she had worked as a reporter for two newspapers in Virginia, for the Associated Press in Richmond and Kansas City, and for the News Journal in Wilmington. She owned a car and had bought a house, all on her own. With her education and life experience this is what she said to me one day. "Dad, do you know who the most important person in a single woman's life is? Her auto mechanic. He must be able to fix her car, tell her honestly what it needs, and charge a fair price for what he does."

She has been married for nearly sixteen years. She has had the same auto mechanic for seventeen. A friend she worked with recommended the mechanic. Come to think of it her husband is the brother of a reporter she worked with in Virginia. You can see an ad in the paper. You can do research on the internet, but when a friend recommends something, now that has real value. A friend told me about OLLI in 2012 and I have been here ever since. Maybe you found OLLI this way too. Make someone happy. Bring them to the open house on Monday July 23rd.