



LIFELONG LEARNING NEWS in Wilmington

OCTOBER 2019

OLLI Members: We Are All Volunteers

OLLI is an educational cooperative. We operate successfully because our membership provides students, instructors and volunteers who donate their time and talents to fill Arsht Hall with lifelong learning and socialization opportunities. The University of Delaware provides the staff and facilities while our OLLI membership provides the human vitality, the “heartbeat” of life, essential to the success of our almost 40-year-old educational cooperative and lifelong learning experience.

The Volunteer Development and Engagement (VDE) Committee is hard at work on 2019-2020 programs that will continue to recognize current OLLI volunteers and encourage members to participate in OLLI volunteer programs. OLLI provides many volunteer and engagement opportunities. Just look through this newsletter, or study the Arsht Hall bulletin boards to see all the ways you can get involved.

The VDE Committee is looking for more volunteers and team members to help with each of

our 2019-2020 VDE programs. Here is a summary of our plan:

- Create an outstanding Volunteer Appreciation Week (April 20–24, 2020) event that recognizes individual volunteers and helps celebrate OLLI’s 40th Birthday. We need organizing leadership and team members.
- Communicate volunteer opportunities with This Week “Want Ads” and OLLI newsletter articles featuring individual and group volunteer efforts.
- Work with the OLLI Executive Committee and standing OLLI committees to define and staff specific volunteer opportunities.
- Choose and implement at least one more VDE program. For example: Write a short history of OLLI membership volunteers over the last 40 years; produce a video history (5–10 minutes) of several long-term volunteers for the OLLI-W web site; etc. What are your suggestions?

Boyd Sorenson (boydsorenson@verizon.net)
and the VDE Committee

Financial and Estate Planning Panel Neil Cullen

Please mark your calendars for Friday, November 8, 2:15 p.m., and plan to join us for our review of financial, tax and estate planning as you prepare for the end of the 2019 tax year. We will provide an overview of common estate planning errors, any significant changes in federal tax regulations and the importance of making charitable donations within the context of your financial plan.

We will also discuss the options available to members over 70 1/2 who must take a required minimum distribution (RMD) in 2019 as well as the OLLI-W Legacy Society. The Legacy Society was created to recognize those members who remember OLLI-W in their wills and estates.

Please join us after Ray Callahan’s lecture on Friday, November 8. Free and open to the Public.

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Art and Craft Sale Karen Foster

OLLI members can get an easy head start on their holiday shopping by checking out the Art and Craft Sale in the lobby November 4 through 7. Not only are all the items handmade by OLLI members, 20% of the proceeds go to help fund our programs.

Many talented artists will bring acrylic, oil, and watercolor paintings. There will even be some miniature paintings perfect for little gifts. Barbara Hoffman will continue the sale of paintings and prints done by her late husband Keith, a professional painter who taught at OLLI for many years.



Nancy Butler, Amethyst and sterling silver

Jewelry is a popular item every year—for gifts and for shoppers themselves. Nancy Butler is bringing handcrafted jewelry made from semi-precious stones, pearls, lamp work and Czech glass. Many of the polymer clay artists at OLLI will have their colorful, lightweight pendants, necklaces and earrings for sale.

Cynthia Miller has jewelry made from African beads. Her profits are all going to a charity that digs wells in Kenya to provide safe and clean water sources for small villages. Marty Gross will have some painted magnetic scarf/brooch pins.

Anyone who has walked through the lobby at past sales has seen the colorful, sparkling jewelry made by Doortje Shover. Besides Swarovski crystal and glass, Doortje also uses unique Nepalese and Tibetan beads. As a child, Doortje suffered through the terrible conditions in the Netherlands during World War II. She has been making jewelry

since she collected, dried, painted, and strung seeds from a very precious melon her family got shortly after the war.

Paul Woolf's wood turned bowls, plates, platters, and vases are made from box elder, cedar, cherry, oak, hickory, poplar, and walnut. Some are made from solid blanks; others from alternating stripes of different woods and grains. They all make very special gifts.



Paul Woolf, Wood turned bowls and plates

Kathy Smith will be back with her quilts—she makes them for babies and adults, but her “learning quilts” for toddlers incorporating the alphabet, shapes, maps, and colors are very special. Her placemat sets and table runners make great gifts.



Kathy Smith, quilt

Whether you're searching for a special present for someone close to you or simple hostess gifts to have on hand for the holidays, check out the OLLI Art and Craft Sale. You may find just what you need without having to brave the crowds at stores.

The sale will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, November 4, and run from 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Thursday, November 7.

NOTE: The sale cannot take credit cards. Cash or checks only! Each vendor operates independently, so be prepared for separate payments.

Recycling Dos and Don'ts

The ECO team at OLLI is working hard to improve our recycling efforts on campus and in our homes. One of the major issues with recycling is what NOT to include in your recycling. The following information is for all those who reside in Delaware, regardless of county and regardless of which company picks up your recyclables.

All of the recycling in Delaware ends up at one of two DE Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) sites.

DSWA prefers all recyclables to be loose in your recycling container. If your items arrive at DSWA in an opaque bag, they will be thrown away! For more information go to www.dswa.com.

If your recyclables are contaminated with non-recyclables, they will be thrown away.

Please be careful about what is placed in your recycling container:

NO plastic bags of any kind.

NO food

NO utensils or any small pieces of plastic.

NO napkins, tissues or paper towels

NO wrappers of any kind

NO styrofoam

NO shredded paper

NO greasy cardboard or greasy paper

NO straws

NO hot-drink cups

A word about lids — if a plastic lid is attached to a plastic bottle, it can go in recycling. But if it is loose, it must go in the trash. Small pieces of plastic drop through the DSWA conveyor belts and end up in the trash. (More on the ECO TEAM's efforts to capture those small plastic bits later.) Even small metal lids like those on glass bottles must go in the trash.

PUT THE FOLLOWING IN RECYCLING: (Ideally, recyclable containers should be EMPTY and CLEAN!):

1. Paper (other than the kinds listed above which are too flimsy to recycle), mail (regular and junk mail, catalogues and magazines, newspaper, office paper and manila folders, paperback books (no hard backs, please).
2. Cardboard: it is best if large cardboard boxes are flattened.
3. All EMPTY cans that are rinsed out. The clean, metal lid you remove with a can opener can go in recycling.
4. All EMPTY bottles, plastic or glass.
5. EMPTY plastic containers.
6. Rigid plastic like old buckets or plastic laundry baskets.
7. Milk cartons, juice boxes, broth cartons, etc.
8. CLEAN foil. You can ball it up once it is clean.

If you are interested in helping out on this or other important environmental issues? Please visit our ECO TEAM meeting in Room 225 on Thursday afternoons at 2 to 3:15 p.m. It is a community service class, (Y04) so it doesn't count against your five-class limit at OLLI.

Interested in Serving on the OLLI-W Council?

Pick up an information sheet at the Reception Desk in the Lobby

Listen to the Music Maxine Modell

Collectively, OLLI's Performing Arts classes comprise a treasure within a treasure!

If you are part of the OLLI family and love music then you already know you've hit the trifecta! Love Opera? Choral Music? Concert Bands? Orchestra, Jazz, Rock, Horn and String Ensembles? Check, check, check, etc. In fact, 65% of OLLI members are involved in some music groups.

And, as with all things OLLI, newcomers are truly welcomed.

Whether your interests focus on instructing, performing, listening, learning ... or all of the above, OLLI's ever-expanding musical options reflect many music lovers' favorites. The remarkable array of choices in the catalog will turn skeptics into believers! This semester includes the return of many ever-popular classes such as concert band, orchestra, chorus and chamber choir: just a few choices enjoyed year after year by OLLI members.

This semester, several new music classes have been introduced. Four new classes exploring opera appreciation will delight lovers of this genre, as well as devotees of Richard Wagner. New options also include string orchestra fundamentals and an opportunity to play old-time string band music. The prerequisite spectrum ranges from an ability to read music and to perform at intermediate/advanced levels, to including folks returning to music, starting out, or playing at beginner level.

OLLI is a fabulous Delaware resource. OLLI's Performing Arts classes deserve standing ovations!

Paul Hess is chair of the Music Committee which communicates the needs of music instructors and music groups; acquires needed music and equipment; and arranges for musical groups' Lobby performances. Carol Hughes schedules these performances.

Paul and Joyce Hess teach the concert band class and conduct the Concert Band. Paul has 45 years of teaching at public/college



Paul Hess

levels. His various genres include string bass, electric bass and tuba. Joyce, an active member of The Delaware Music Educators, spent 50 years teaching music at public, private and college levels. Joyce leads the clarinet ensemble and teaches a sectional class for OLLI students who want to learn more about ensemble playing.

Norwood Coleman is curriculum coordinator for performing arts, participation. He approves and oversees curriculum-related matters including the approval of course proposals and class-related matters.

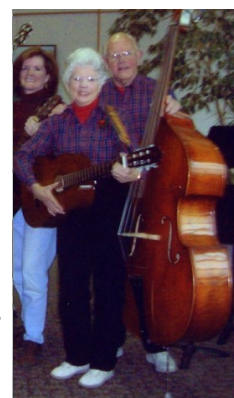
Norwood has a BS in Music Education. and has performed in bands and orchestras throughout his life, including the United States Air Force Band. He has been in a church choir that was a member of the Royal School of Church Music and served on several choir director selection committees. In addition to teaching jazz classes at OLLI, Norwood currently leads a professional jazz band.



Norwood Coleman

Ellie Munson, Sharing Songs and Memories

Coming at music from a different angle, Ellie was a registered nurse. She plays piano and guitar and has always loved to sing, providing a natural segue eventually leading to a 10-year tenure as director of *The Circle Singers*, a former in-demand OLLI Outreach program. Conceived in 1994 by Ellie's late husband, Dave Munson, the Circle Singers presented many happy in-house concerts, as well as performing "gigs" at nursing homes and retirement centers throughout the area. Ellie treasures memories of the many audiences who joined in singing familiar songs. According to Ellie, "music is a universal language that needs to be shared!"



Ellie and Dave Munson
Circle Singers

More on music at OLLI in upcoming newsletters.

Remembering Jim Weiher (1933-2019)

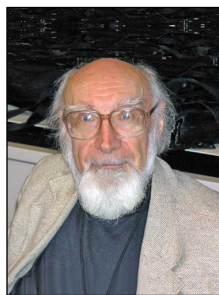
Jim Weiher, who passed on August 29, stood at the forefront of all of our 306 dedicated instructors. He served as an instructor for 23 years, including extended summer programs. Jim Weiher promoted our German classes like no other.

To say that we learned a lot of German in his seminars doesn't tell the whole story.

We listened to news broadcasts, played word games, watched travelogues, read about advances in science, learned geography and watched many great movies, all in German. Jim even found American sitcoms dubbed in German. Yes, there were subtitles, but these, too, were in German. Handouts galore! Jim was an *Energiehäuschen* (energy bunny) on steroids.

In 2010, the Honorary Consul Barbara Afanassiev presented Jim the Federal Republic of Germany's Friendship Award. This award recognizes Americans who had an impact in fostering positive German-American relations.

The Summer Sessions were often devoted to reading books. We would listen to German audio books and follow along on the written page. However, this couldn't be done within the four weeks of OLLI's scheduled Summer Session, so Jim's summer seminars would start at the end the spring



semester and continue non-stop until Labor Day. Some of these novels, such as Bernhard Schlink's *Der Vorleser* ("The Reader") were gripping. Others, such as Emil Kästner's hilarious *Drei Männer im Schnee* ("Three Men in Snow"), had us in stitches.

The weeks when OLLI's summer classes were not in session were the most challenging for Jim. The only room available was Room 114A, which now serves as an AV office. It has approximately 8' X 12' usable floor space and used to contain a large conference table and about eight chairs. It was tight, very tight with 11 students, and when the class grew to 14, there was no space for additional chairs. Our *Energiehäuschen* prevailed. We simply folded up the table, stood it on end for the duration of the class, and borrowed more chairs from another room. I dubbed that room "*Unser Mauseloch*" (our mouse-hole).

Jim was the consummate professor. His classes were always stimulating. In his last years, with deteriorating health, he continued to guide us from his wheelchair and did whatever he could to enhance our seminars.

Lebe wohl (fare well), Herr Professor!

Ben Raphael

Vielen Dank, Dr. Weiher...

Predestination/coincidence? A few weeks after retiring from my wonderful work life I was coaxed to visit the Academy of Lifelong Learning in Wilmington on a Wednesday morning. Little did I realize how meaningful this visit would become in my life.

With my somewhat arrogant attitude: "This is for old people." I happened to walk into Dr. Weiher's German Wednesday morning classes. What a surprising group of mostly men! They were discussing all sorts of interesting ideas — and all in German, my mother tongue. Well, it did not take long for Jim Weiher to recruit me to teach German classes myself, which I now have enjoyed doing for

many years. Occasionally I ask myself how different my retirement might have been if I had not walked into Dr. Weiher's engaging class that Wednesday morning. I would have missed meeting all my wonderful students, acquiring new knowledge and expanding established skills. I even tried watercolor painting, although my first-grade teacher told me I would not amount to much. (He was correct!)

So, thank you, Dr. Weiher for enriching the senior years of my life and thanks to OLLI's hardworking staff for providing us with unique new learning experiences. We are lucky indeed to have this wonderful institution in our little town.

Vielen Dank, Jim.
Christiane Shields

UD by the Sea: Ecology by the Sea Allen Tweddle

Let me tell you about the most wonderful OLLI session. UD by the Sea was great from beginning to end. We met new people, saw and heard new things, were roundly and soundly entertained, feted, and rested. All this and more. Hosted at the Atlantic Sands in Rehoboth, there were three different paths: Delaware History, Entertainment, and Ecology. We went with the last.

The Ecology path found us well received and educated by the staff at James Farm, Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, the morning of the first full day. After a nice lunch with friends from one of the other paths, we were once again given a superb educational opportunity at UD College of Earth, Ocean & Environment. A certain OLLI Manager has an "in" with that program, and we were given an exclusive opportunity to get up-close and personal with UD's RV *Hugh R. Sharp*, with a



The research vessel *Hugh R. Sharp*. Photo by Allen Tweddle.

great informational visit from the head of that program.

We spent the second day in Lewes where, after the appropriate informational session and a visit to the undersea robotics lab, we found ourselves in the looming presence of the Wind Turbine. Lunch on our own at Lewes Marina, then '...a three hour tour...' aboard the good ship *DISCOVERY*, where we

were treated to another up close and personal experience with some denizens of the deep. The staff and managers who got all of this together should be commended for their effort. The accommodations were excellent and affordable with the same price for all. The social sessions and comestibles were great, and the

entertainment troupes from every campus were talented and well received. We do have OLLI in every county! See you next year...

November Newsletter: UD by the Sea: Words and Music by Hilary Shade

A New Member Looks at Delaware and OLLI-W

Forrest Frank interviewed by Carol Hansen

When and why did you move to DE?

We relocated from the Portland, Oregon area in May of 2019. We went there in October 2015 following my retirement from the Institute for Defense Analyses in Alexandria, Virginia, to help care for my father who was in an adult family home north of Seattle. Following his death in November 2016, we realized that as much as we liked the Northwest, we really did miss the East Coast. Phoebe (Eskenazi), my wife, was a Wilmington native, and my kids and grandkids are in the D.C. metropolitan area. So we concluded that Wilmington was a good location to be close to Phoebe's friends and my family.

How did you hear about OLLI?

We heard about OLLI from a number of friends who have been students here in Wilmington as well as in State College, Pennsylvania, the Chicago area and other parts of the country. We investigated OLLI courses when we "wintered over" in Tucson, Arizona, a couple of years ago. So we were pretty familiar with OLLI in general, but surprised and pleased to see the range of offerings available here.

(Continued on page 7)

Spotlight on Osher Poets

Submit poems for the November newsletter to the editor (rehrllich@udel.edu) by October 31. Guideline: no more than 30 lines. Include name and phone with your submission. Publication will depend on available space.

A Family Tree

There was you
and I.
We became us,
Commitment and trust.

Children born
and grow.
Adolescents become.
Responsibility and love.

New families formed.
Little people appear.
Grands and Greats
Especially dear.

More generations now,
Adults on their own.
Visits, phone, internet.
Independent, not alone.

Starting with two.
Roots deeply sown.
Branches, limbs, twigs,
A family tree is grown.

H. Denis Hanson, Sr.

OLLI Poets — Poetry Reading and Book Signing Event

Friday, November 22, 12:30 p.m.,
Room108/109

Free and open to the public.

New member (Continued from page 6)

What classes are you taking?

I am taking a computer course and beginning string band this semester. I did a lot of music as a kid, and this is an opportunity to work my way back into playing. And, since I've retired, I have been without IT support. I have multiple computers, printers, and network "stuff" that seems to require a lot of maintenance. I figured this would be a good time to figure out how to support my computer habit!

How would you rate the environmental efforts in Delaware?

Both Phoebe and I have been surprised and somewhat disappointed by the lack of attention and support for environmental protection and remediation activities throughout Delaware. In the Northwest, paper bags or reusable containers are pretty much mandatory in all retail shops. Drivers using carpools get preferential parking locations as well as restricted lanes on highways. We saw similar environmental protection measures in the Washington, D.C., area where I lived since 1976.

What could be improved?

I think the number of recycling containers scattered around the OLLI-W campus could be substantially increased. Larger signs on the recycle containers making them more inviting to use might also help.

Unlike the Portland area, the Wilmington area seems to have better recycling sorting capability which makes it much easier for folks to recycle. We had to separate paper from fiberboard as well as handling glass and many plastics separately. Having the ability to handle a mixed stream of recyclables should make it much easier to get folks to recycle.

I also think that carpooling should be encouraged by allowing drivers who use them to park closer to buildings. The push to use electronic documents in lieu of paper is helpful, bearing in mind that some electronic textbooks just don't meet the educational needs of our population.

Allen Tweddle and
the OLLI orchestra
May 2019



Friday Lecture Series

12:30 to 1:45 in Room 108

Free and Open to the Public

See full schedule and details at

<http://www.oli.udel.edu/wilmington/lectures/>

October 25 and November 1, 8 —

Ray Callahan: **How Did We Get Into This Mess?**

These talks continue the look at cases where the information needed to avert disaster was abundant, but brushed aside. These include World War I, an embarrassment of riches where disaster is concerned. We will finish with the colossal political and military catastrophe of 1940 that shaped the rest of the 20th century.

November 15

Jeff Heller, author and lecturer on North American colonial history. **Frontier Feminists: Game-Changing Women from America's Past**

This presentation will focus on three 18th century women who found their voices in order to rise above their circumstances at very difficult times .

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<http://www.oli.udel.edu/wilmington/newsletter/>

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Submittal deadline: Thursday, October 31

Issue date: Monday, November 18

Submit articles to rehlich@udel.edu, or place in the editor's mailbox in the Lobby.

Special Events Wednesdays

12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in Room 105

Free and Open to Members

Ben Raphael and Joan Miller

Our program begins at 12:45 but please take your seat by 12:40 for introductions.

October 16: Frank Mecklenburg of the Leo Baeck Institute will talk about **The Legacy of German Speaking Jews after the Holocaust**. The Leo Baeck Institute is a research library and archive focused on the history of German-speaking Jews

October 23: Keith Jackson, President of Newark's Pencader Area Association, will speak about **The Revolutionary War in Newark and Pencader Hundred, Delaware**.

October 30: Kate Hackett, Executive Director of Delaware Wild Lands, will tell us all about **Delaware's Wild Lands**.

November 6: Lisa Blunt Rochester, U.S. Representative from Delaware, will speak about **Current Issues**.

November 13: The OLLI Orchestra under the baton of Al Tweddle will entertain us with its fall concert. Highlight of the program will be Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 17*. In recent years, we have never heard a performance of a complete concerto at a Special Events Wednesday function. Bill Fellner is the soloist and will play all three movements.

Calendar 2019

Thurs., Fri., Nov. 28, 29 Thanksgiving, OLLI closed
Fri., Dec. 6 End of fall semester

2020

February 10 Start of spring semester
March 30 to April 3 Spring Break, OLLI closed
May 15 End of spring semester