



The Tides...

Breaking News from
Lifelong Learning



Vol. 10, No. 2, 2019

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Lewes/Ocean View

From the Chair



Finally-and happily-we can talk about mid- term plans toward an eventual permanent home for OLLI. During her talk to membership, here on November 25th, Provost Robin Morgan announced the University's approval for us to lease a building, for three years initially, at the Trinity Faith Center on New Road in Lewes. We would retain classroom space at the Fred Thomas building, but move the office to New Road. The new space will alleviate the parking problems we have. It is a wonderful facility but there is a price. Paul Collins will have much more about this.

Robin spoke in Room 102 to a standing room only crowd. Sincere thanks to all who attended. We were concerned that only a few would attend, creating for Robin, a sense of apathy on our part. So thanks again. It was a very useful session for all. A special thanks to Paul and Anna for the superb meeting prep with Robin's staff.

I have heard nothing but praise for the recent Mix and Mingle, held on November 13th upstairs at Lewes Irish Eyes. There were lots of heavy hors d'oeuvres, music by the Slow Jam and the Elder Moments, displays of OLLI arts and crafts and plenty of opportunities to schmooze. Thank you Connie Benko and all those who helped make the event so much fun.

I am writing this on Tuesday November 26th. The no-nonsense editor of the *Tides*, Lynn Kroesen, established Friday as the deadline. It dawned on me last evening that due to Thanksgiving travel, which begins tomorrow morning, I must do this today. Lee's daughter Jody and her husband, whom I believe are possibly in the witness protection program, live on the top of a mountain along the Shenandoah River in Front Royal, Va. We park at a little store along the river and they pick us up for the mostly vertical trip up there. Once there, the view is amazing. Of course, first we have to get across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, a crossing which has had a nightmare dimension to it lately.

Calendar of Events

Nov 27-29 -- Thanksgiving break. Office closed.

Dec 24- Jan 1 -- Office closed, winter break

Jan 8 -- Lewes Open House, Walk-in Registration, Fred Thomas Bldg., 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Jan 16 -- Priority Registration Deadline

Jan 20 -- Martin Luther King Day, Office closed

Jan 22 -- Ocean View Instructor Orientation, Ocean view Town Hall, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Jan 23 -- Instructor/New Member Orientation, Lewes, Fred Thomas Bldg., 10-10:30a.m. coffee social, 10:30-11:30 a.m. orientation

Jan 27 -- First Day of classes

Feb 5 -- Happy Hour, Irish Eyes, Lewes, 3-6 p.m.

Feb 17 -- Presidents Day, no classes

Mar 3 -- Second session begins

Mar 4 -- Happy Hour, Irish Eyes, Lewes, 3-6 p.m.

Apr 1 -- Happy Hour, Irish Eyes, Lewes, 3-6 p.m.

Apr 6 -- Last day of classes

Apr 10-17 -- Spring break, Office closed

Apr ?? -- Lewes End of the semester event

Friday, December 13th (Oh My!) is Renee's last day in the office. To say "the end of an era" would be an understatement. You will be missed by your many fans, Renee. Good fortune and happiness in the future.

Happy holidays to everyone. Look for the Spring Catalog before Christmas.-Looks like another great semester.

Bill



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 or the OLLI Lewes office.



Updates from the Development Committee

More Classroom Space Approved

On Monday morning, November 25, we had a standing room only crowd in room 102 at the Fred Thomas Building, gathered to hear Provost Robin Morgan discuss UD's commitment to OLLI and answer our pressing questions. I sincerely thank all of you who attended and demonstrated to the Provost our deep and sincere interest in OLLI in Sussex county. A special thanks to Connie Benko and the social committee for providing refreshments and a venue for pre and post talk social interaction.



In preparation for the Provost's visit we had submitted questions compiled from a survey of our membership. She and her staff had time to review these questions and prepare answers. The Provost spoke for about 75 minutes answering those questions and taking questions and comments from the audience. She demonstrated an understanding of the specific needs of the adult learner and spoke about UD's desire to address education for all life phases. She indicated that UD is interested in making investments in Lewes on UD's Sharp campus and she will be bringing John Long, the new Executive VP, to Lewes next week which will include a visit to the Fred Thomas Building.

Here is the exciting news! The Provost began her presentation by announcing that our lease has been signed for the school building at Trinity Faith Christian Center on New Road in Lewes. This space option for us has been in the works for quite some time. Anna Moshier and I visited with Reverend Jones and toured the facility more than a year ago. Once we learned that the Virden Center was not going to be available to us, we started a campaign to secure a lease for the Trinity school. We discovered that the space approval process at UD can be tedious. So, kudos to Anna Moshier, George Irvine, and Provost Robin Morgan for helping to push this through. The lease will be for 3 and ½ years and we plan to start classes there in Summer 2020.

The school is at the back of the church property which is about ¼ mile up New Rd from Pilottown Rd. There are 5 classrooms, several offices, space for a break room and a library. There are approximately 50 parking spaces currently with lots of space to create additional parking. One of the first priorities of our fund-raising efforts will be to create additional parking.

Our lease on the Fred Thomas Building currently extends to June 2021. We plan to continue using classroom space in that facility, the auditorium at the Moorings, and offering some classes on the Sharp campus as we develop plans to best utilize the space available to us.

The Development Committee will meet in December and formalize the "EXPANDING OUR HORIZONS" fund-raising program so all of you can see the resources we need to optimize this new space. This is a great opportunity to have more classroom space as well as more space for social interaction. The Development Committee looks forward to working with everyone to make this happen.

Paul Collins, Development Committee Chair

OLLI Artists Exhibit at Lewes Library

The 2019 Lewes Library Art Exhibit was well attended by our OLLI art students. This year we invited well-known local artist Mary Beth Patterson to judge and award ribbons to the exhibitors.

We congratulate First place winner Chris Dodd for her painting

“Ponies”

Second place-George Farrah “Ready for Adventure”

Third place-Georgia Foard “Waiting

Honorable mentions to Marie Isola “A Walk in the Woods”

and Curt Smith “The River in Winter”



Thanks to all the talented artists who entered their artwork in the exhibit.

Submitted by Marie Isola and Pete Feeney

Photos by Pete Feeney



Georgia Foard & George Farrah

Weather Closings

Lewes – When Cape Henlopen School District classes are canceled, OLLI classes are canceled. When the school district has a delayed opening, OLLI activities will begin on time.

Ocean View – When Indian River School District classes are canceled, OLLI classes are canceled. When the school district has a delayed opening, OLLI activities will begin on time.

For all other locations, contact the instructor.

Check for information:

Phone: 302-645-4111 (recorded message)

Web: www.oli.udel.edu/kent-sussex

TV: WBOC or www.wboc.com, weather closings

Even when OLLI is open, members should come to classes only if they personally judge it is safe to do so.

• OLLI Partners with Lewes Loves Books

OLLI Lewes has partnered with other local community organizations to offer Lewes Loves Books. Visit leweslovesbooks.com to learn about this exciting community event. More activities will be added regularly to the main site. The below OLLI sponsored lectures are free and open to the public but **do** require pre-registration. <https://www.campusce.net/lewes/course/course.aspx?C=3062&pc=126>



- **Tuesday, December 10, 2019**, 10-11:30 a.m., Denise Bridgens and Linda Rancourt will present **Introduction to Beekeeping and Gardening for Pollinators in Lower, Slower Delaware**. This presentation will introduce the real work (and play) of beekeeping on a season by season basis as well as review the best flowers, herbs, shrubs, and trees to support our pollinators.
- **Tuesday, January 14, 2020**, 10-11:30 a.m., Bill and Sally Fintel will present **Birding**. Bill and Sally will recall their friendship with Jennifer Ackerman and include a pictorial review of the many coastal sites near Lewes they visited together. Of course, birds were a primary viewing target, but we also loved to experience the great coastal ecosystem that we share with our wild friends.
- **Wednesday, January 15, 2020**, 10-noon, Suzanne Thurman from the **Marine Education, Research and Rehabilitation Institute (MERR)** will present a program that will provide information about the more than 32 species of marine mammals and sea turtles that can be found along the Delaware Coast. Species identification, ecology, case studies, and conservation efforts for these protected and endangered species will be presented. Participants will also learn more about strandings and the role of the MERR Institute as Delaware's official marine mammal and sea turtle stranding response organization.
- After Suzanne's presentation, Joan Mansperger will present **Adventures of a MERR Volunteer**. All MERR volunteers receive mandatory training on the laws and regulations protecting marine mammals and sea turtles, personal and animal safety, and other interesting topics. This opens the door to many varied and rewarding opportunities that a 5-year volunteer will share.
- **Friday, March 13, 2020**, 10-11:30 a.m. Ptery Iris will present **Gardening with Native Plants to Sustain Wildlife**. You've heard it said: "Think Globally, Act Locally!" Nowhere is more local than your own yard. You can start right away; right at home, to make a difference in combatting climate change and wildlife habitat loss. This lecture, based on the seminal work of UD professor of entomology and wildlife ecology Doug Tallamy, will address the importance of gardening with native trees, shrubs, and flowers, to provide food and habitat for wildlife and sustain healthy ecosystems. You can help restore and support wildlife in this area where nature is fast disappearing. You can make your yard a place that supports not only adult birds but their babies as well. You can be a part of the solution!

Thank You Volunteers

A BIG thank you to the 55+ EXPO volunteers: Joan Sciorra, Nikki Roberson, Lynn Kroesen, Eileen Redden, Sally Fintel, Bernie Gilmore, Gerri Stephenson. We had many people inquire about OLLI.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that have given their time in 2019. We have volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering.

Submitted by Gerri Stephenson, Community Relations Chair

Telephone 302-227-2651 gerristephenson23@comcast.net



Meet Sally Cole, Program Coordinator



A native Virginian, Sally spent most of her adult life living and working in Washington, DC. She worked for the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro as a project manager specializing in the development and implementation of practice-specific innovative technology solutions. She also managed the development of the firm's Information Services department in their New York office, and served as chief liaison to the Operations, Human Resources and Accounting departments headquartered in the Washington office.

After moving to Lewes in 2009, Sally turned her attention to supporting local educational and outreach initiatives. She served two terms on the Board of the Cape Henlopen Educational Foundation. She also served on the Leadership Committee that expanded the charter of Sussex Academy to include grades 9-12.

Drawing upon her contacts from her years of work in Washington and New York City, in 2016 Sally started a boutique trial consulting firm. She has been proud to provide litigation and trial support services to companies such as General Motors, Arthrex and Tiffany & Co. As gratifying as she found this venture, she was entirely delighted to turn the reins over to her husband so that she could return to working within the community.

Sally resides in Lewes with her husband Derek, their five children, and their very spoiled standard poodle, Hattie. She currently serves on the Sussex-Kent Development Committee for Children & Families First, and chairs the Youth Activities Committee for the Lewes Yacht Club.

Members Celebrate End of the Semester Mix and Mingle

The members celebrated the end of the fall semester with a Mix and Mingle at Irish Eyes on November 13th. The food was wonderful, and the opportunity to talk with friends and get acquainted with the new members we see in the halls and in classroom were added bonuses. Mother Nature treated us to a beautiful sunset over the wetlands and canal.

Be sure to join us for next “end of semester” event in the spring.



Photos by Jay Wheeler & Lynn Kroesen

Remember
Priority Registration for spring semester
Deadline is
Thursday, January 16, 2020

Osher Annual Trip to Opera Delaware’s Spring Festival

20% ticket discount for those travelling with Osher
(discount code: Osher2020)

THE CORONATION OF POPPEA

Monteverdi's decadent drama about the scandalous affair between Roman Emperor Nero and his mistress Poppea, who will stop at nothing to become queen.

Saturday, May 2, 2020: 2 pm performance at the Baby Grand
Tickets \$29-\$99

THE TALES OF HOFFMANN

Offenbach’s sublime *opéra fantastique* about a tortured poet brooding over three doomed romances.

Sunday, April 26: 2 pm performance at the Grand Opera House
Tickets \$35-\$99

For choice seating purchase your tickets now from Opera Delaware –
Call 302-442-7807 or order online: operaDE.org
(Transportation cost and details will be announced later)

Hope you can join us

*Joan Sciorra (302-644-4105) &
Dolores Fiegel (302-645-4568)*



Web Address: www.oli.udel.edu/kent-sussex/

Mark Your Calendar for 2020 OLLI Activities

The Social Committee will host the Walk-In Registration for the spring semester on January 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fred Thomas Building. and the Instructor/New Member Orientation on January 23rd from 10 to 11:30 a.m..

Join Us for Happy Hour

Do you want to get to know some of the other people in your classes? Meet new friends and renew old friendships. Come to the **Happy Hour at Irish Eyes Pub & Restaurant on the Lewes Canal, 213 Anglers Rd, Lewes, DE.** on February 5, March 4, and April 1 from 3 - 6 p.m.

Just come -- no reservations are needed. There will be a Cash Bar.

Submitted by Connie Benko



Save the Date -- UD By the Sea -- May 19 to 22

Save the Date - UD by the Sea: An Osher Lifelong Learning Event at Rehoboth Beach, Tuesday, May 19-Friday, May 22, 2020, Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center, 1 Baltimore Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971.

Designed by and for members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware, UD by the Sea provides OLLI members and guests with programming, activities and social time in Rehoboth Beach. Registration includes:

- Attendance at two days of topical programs with guest speakers
- A choice of five educational programming tracks
- Opening Reception with entertainment and cash bar on Tuesday evening
- Buffet Breakfast on Wednesday morning
- Continental Breakfast on Friday morning
- Games and social activities
- Fun, new memories and friends

OLLI members and their guests can choose one of five programming tracks upon registration.

Tracks offered include:

- **Track 1: Dela-Where?** -- Aspects of Delaware's culture, history, environment, government and other topics related to the state.
- **Track 2: The Arts**
- **Track 3: U.S. Foreign Policy and Relations**
- **Track 4: Horticulture: Gardens and Growers**
- **Track 5: Local History**



Watch for more information and registration forms.

Learning for the **FUN** of it!!



Above left: Fun in the kitchen at **Kitchen Kapers XXXV-On the Road to Kitchen Delights**

Above right: Tasting goodies in **Eat for the Planet** class

Right: Instructor Eileen Zampini, **Refresher Bridge** explains the correct play

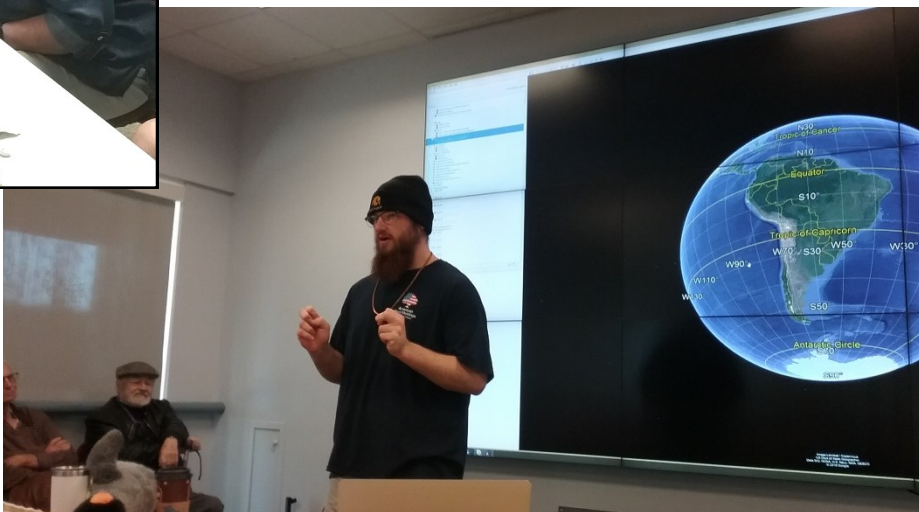


Photos by : Lynn Kroesen, Bernie Fiegel, Dorothy Greet



Above: Instructor Joan Mansperger, **Beachcombing 101**, identifies artifacts

Right: UD Grad student, Robert Roose explains Orb lab to **Maps and Mapmakers** class



Learning for the FUN of it!!



Fun at Halloween -- Guess who!!!!



Denise Bridgens, Joan Mansperger & Sally Fintel taste Seaweed salad as part of *Geoengineering to Combat Climate Change*

Photos by: Anna Moshier & Lynn Kroesen

OLLI OLLI IN FREE ... OFF-SEASON

Roses are red
The ocean is blue
Restaurants have specials
Off-season for you!

Burger nights, taco nights
Ten-dollar lobsters on Sundays
Wine with dinners for two
At special prices on Mondays.

No traffic to ride through
Just drive there to dine
No trouble parking
No waiting in line.

There's so much to be said
For the absence of tourists
We love living in Delaware
Being retired purists.

Submitted by Patty Perreault Bennett

Options for Giving to OLLI-Sussex County in 2019 & 2020

As a member of OLLI-Sussex County, there are several ways you can give back to your local OLLI program:

Annual Giving

Donors can make an annual gift or pledge payment to OLLI online (<https://ud.alumniq.com/giving/to/ollisouthernde>), by mail (83 E. Main Street, 3rd Floor, Newark, DE 19716), or by phone (302-831-2104) .

Planned Giving

Individuals age 70 ½ and older can make direct transfers from IRA accounts to OLLI without having to count the transfers as income for federal income tax purposes. No charitable deduction may be taken, but distributions will qualify for all or part of the IRA owner's required minimum distributions. Donors can also transfer appreciated stock to benefit OLLI. For these giving options, please consult your financial advisor and contact the University of Delaware Development Office at 1-866-535-4504.

Renee, Thank you for Your Service to Lifelong Learning



Renee is retiring in December. Renee began working on the formation of this life-long learning program in 1988. She provided administrative support to the group of volunteers planning for it and typed the first catalog. Classes began in Milford in March 1989 with 54 members.

My earliest memory of Renee is from January 1995. I had decided to sign up for a foreign policy seminar (Great Decisions) then offered as a stand-alone “Winterim” program at the Virden Center. Although I had driven past the campus many times, I hadn’t explored it. I called for directions to the Virden Center. A pretty routine inquiry, but I will always remember it because of the quality of Renee’s directions, guiding me verbally with such clarity that when I turned into the campus, I knew exactly what I would see. No big deal, but after working with her I learned that clarity and empathy in understanding what the most helpful way to help someone is a Renee trademark.

Early in my stint as Program Coordinator, we were talking about what a small, inter-related area this is. Her advice was: “Bill, if you should ever find yourself in a cash register line and you’re with someone you know, don’t talk about anyone. You are probably in front of or behind that person’s cousin”.

When we moved to the Biden Center, we were told by State Park officials that we had to find some other place for our office. That place turned out to be a WWII vintage building down by what is now the fishing pier, but was then used as a place to load mines aboard Army vessels. The building, that we were later to call our office, was used to load the mine casings. In 2001, a large part of the building was used by UD to house a large wave tank used for research and the rest was storage or unused space. One could almost describe the place as spooky. Basically Renee was stuck in the office and I spent most of my time at the Biden Center where classes were held. One day, Renee arrived to open the office and found a very large black snake inside the outer entrance door. What a way to start the day! To this day, I believe, mentioning that place creeps Renee out.

I’ll stop at this point and simply say-Renee, thanks for the memories.
Bill

Renee,

Over the years I’ve enjoyed our working relationship on many SDALL/OLLI catalogs, social functions too numerous to mention, and in all those years you were a good, no, a great team player...thanks, good luck, and you’re the best...Bernie



Thank you Renee -- continued

I met Renee when I joined lifelong learning in 1994. My experience with Renee as a new member, as a new instructor and eventually as a Council member and Chair was positive in every way. She was patient, kind, informative and lightened my load throughout my journey. I consider her a good friend and wish her retirement to be as fulfilling as she made mine.

Dolores Fiegel

To Renee from Pete, Marie and the Monday Morning Art Group.

We could never have pulled off our art exhibits without your help. Preparing name tags, typing up exhibit paperwork, making copies, sending out group emails, letting us clutter up your office with our artwork and just putting up with the hundreds of questions and details we bothered you with. What will we do without you? You are the wind beneath our wings.

Dear Renee:

It has been my pleasure working with you for the past twenty-one years. You have been a most valuable asset to all of our members of Life Long Learning. You deserve your retirement. Your diligence and hard work greatly benefited the growth of our program. I am sad to see you leave but I know you will find much happiness in your many retirement years.

Fondly,

Joan Sciorra



Renee receives honors and gifts at our 25th Anniversary luncheon

Dear Renee,

I am so happy for you. Retirement is so wonderful. I wish you many, many days of enjoyment. I want to also take this time to tell you how much I have appreciated all your help from my first day at Osher to present! You have been a grand fixture. You will be missed. Hugs....

Gerri Stephenson

It was Renee's voice (on the phone) and her smile that welcomed me to Lifelong Learning. I had questions and she was always able to help. Over the years, I have shared much with Renee. That "over the desk" friendship always lifted my spirit. Thank you! Anne Carol Finley

For us 'newcomers' (only 15+ years) to Lewes Life-long Learning, you, Renee Moy were THE friendly, welcoming and familiar face and personality of our Osher experience. Your genuine warmth, caring and cheerful assistance made our lives as Osher instructors easier and more pleasant. You've always had good, prompt answers to our "how do I...?" questions enabling us to make our courses and classes better for enrollees. Your calm, reliable support and encouragement of new members, and nurturing assistance to us 'veterans', in the office, the classroom or at Osher social events, luncheons and annual picnics was often unsung, but always appreciated. Renee, you've played an important role in all of our lifelong learning lives. We will miss you. All best wishes for a well-earned, enjoyable retirement!

Margo & Gary Ramage