



## SEPTEMBER 2021

### The Doors are Open for Some In-Person Classes



## Welcome to OLLI-W

Linda Kellogg, Chair of Council, Wilmington

Welcome to all returning and new OLLI-W members. You deserve congratulations for handling the many uncertainties since March of 2020 in both your personal and OLLI lives. Since my first day at Arsht Hall in September 2014, I have been amazed by the energy, inventive spirit and dedication of the OLLI membership as well as the truly devoted support of each staff member.

Together we came through the sudden termination of the person-to-person interaction and challenges of mastering Zoom. We continue our appreciation for the numerous volunteers who conducted training sessions until we became



comfortable with the format. Our instructors learned advanced techniques for teaching over Zoom by contributing additional time and accepting personal expense for home equipment.

Did you know Arsht Hall was off limits to staff until August 2? Did you know that our staff put in extra hours to support us and worked under a 10% UD pay reduction mandate while all part-time employees were furloughed? Our Finance Committee, Facilities/Equipment/Safety Committee, Curriculum Committee, Virtual Learning & Socialization Committee and Council constantly reviewed multiple scenarios to position our

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program for success. This work had to be completed four to five months in advance of program deadlines, under UD and state regulations, using the lens we had back in the spring. OLLI-W's 40th Anniversary celebration was thoughtfully revamped into a virtual history book. And, all of us missed the camaraderie of our class and volunteer activities.

Our results speak volumes: 1,976 members participated online during Spring 2021. July online courses plus 13 Wilmington and five Kent/Sussex on-site courses provided 545 members with a four-week summer session. Our online statewide Fall catalog provides 177 course options plus 83 in-person classes in Wilmington and 57 on location courses for Kent/Sussex. As of August 16, fall registration numbers show 734 members registered for online classes, 751 for in-person Wilmington classes and 311 K/S members returning to their various locations. All of the numbers add up to distinguish us as the premier OLLI in the Osher Lifelong Learning family.

Looking ahead, we have an opportunity to continue our evolution and success. We've proven

to ourselves that there is a valuable future in providing virtual classes, five-week mini-classes and a statewide cooperative curriculum with the Kent/Sussex OLLI. We have a renewed sense of the value lifelong learning at OLLI-W brings to our well-being and have a chance to recommit our time and resources to its success. We have an opportunity to continue to raise our profile as a standout program within the UD Department of Professional and Continuing Studies that oversees OLLI. In many ways, our potential has been expanded.

Your Council members have missed hearing from you and look forward to reconnecting as quickly as possible. You will find updated Council and Committee information on the OLLI-W website (<https://www.oli.udel.edu/wilmington/directory/>). And we now have a direct email link for you to reach us whenever you have an idea or question that Council can address: [oli-council@udel.edu](mailto:oli-council@udel.edu).

We look forward with excitement and determination to a renewed version of our tradition for lifelong learning excellence and spirit of community as we plan for Spring 2022.

Best wishes for a fulfilling fall experience.

## Special Thanks: Our Benches Have Been Given a New Life!

Jen Merrill, Manager, OLLI-W



Jim Hainer and a rehabilitated bench in front of Arsht Hall

While many members may have been starting to travel this summer and enjoying newly returned freedoms, Dr. Jim Hainer had other distractions. Jim single-handedly refurbished the benches surrounding Arsht Hall. Long a staple of OLLI Wilmington, these benches were in dire need of repair. Rather than disposing of the concrete and wood benches, Jim secured the materials, prepped the wood and repaired every bench. No matter the heat or humidity, Jim was on-site getting the job done. They are now good for another 40 years! Thank you, Jim!

## Manager's Report

Jennifer Merrill, Manager, OLLI-W

Welcome back, whether you are joining at Arsht Hall and/or online! OLLI Wilmington continues to evolve and after the past year of accomplishment we can add “nimble” to the program’s characteristics. Our instructors, volunteers, members and staff pulled together to create a program to serve you in a wide variety of ways even while we are still riding out the pandemic.

At the conclusion of priority registration we have 1,795 members. Registration in Wilmington, or in Kent-Sussex, includes access to OLLI Online classes. Some have opted to attend classes solely online. What is interesting to me is the heavy participation in online classes by members who also intend to be with us in person. Schedules balanced between travel to and from Arsht Hall and convenient class access from home or elsewhere are likely here to stay. Online classes have enriched our Wilmington program by introducing us to new and dynamic instructors as well as new course formats and content. Many friendships and collaborations are blossoming across the state and between programs. Our Wilmington program, and integration with the Kent-Sussex program that allows for cross-registration of members, must continue to evolve and allow for administration of a statewide program.

What does that mean for members? That’s not yet clear. As a cooperatively governed self-supporting program within the University of Delaware, OLLI Wilmington and OLLI Kent-Sussex are responsible for generating sufficient revenue and gifts to operate each distinct



program. Although the programs receive substantial support from UD, including fundraising professionals, data management, legal and HR support as well as facilities and property management, the OLLI program does not receive direct financial support from the University. Our membership fees and donated funds are retained

100% by our OLLI program and are used to pay for 100% of our program. That means all of the staffing, program materials, business and facility expenses are borne by our two OLLI programs. Over the past year our team of staff has successfully integrated many of our processes to be able to serve members no matter their zip code, but we cannot do that efficiently yet. We will need to amplify our efficiencies to provide clear guidance for our instructors, customer service for our members and still fulfill our program responsibilities for reporting and co-op and University governance.

What needs to remain is the sense of place for both Wilmington and Kent-Sussex members. Arsht Hall is the “sacred space” for OLLI Wilmington where so much creativity and joy bolster our members and program. OLLI Kent-Sussex is settling into new space in Lewes and re-establishing classes in Bridgeville and Ocean View. Dover classes are resuming this fall. On behalf of the staff, I confidently note that our commitment to the members, to maintaining the quality of the programming and to the variety of spaces and offerings, will not waver despite the changes necessary to successfully administer the OLLI program.

Welcome back! We’ve missed you!



## Merger of OLLI Kent and Sussex Councils

Connie Benko, Chair of Council, OLLI K/S  
Rosemary Engle, Vice-chair of Council, OLLI K/S



Connie Benko



Clockwise from upper left: OLLI centers at Dover, Ocean View, Lewes and Bridgeville



Rosemary Engle

The academic year 2020-21 has been an important year for the OLLIs in Kent and Sussex counties — we merged our councils into one council. This merger permits the OLLI K/S Council to better serve the needs of all our members and to share resources equitably.

We have shared Program Manager Anna Moshier and Program Coordinator Sally Cole, since December 2019. We have had a common fee structure for registering for classes. For the past several years we have had common catalogs of class offerings, and members have been invited to take classes in both counties. Some instructors taught in both counties before Covid.

Kent and Sussex counties have been cooperating very successfully. After Covid forced us to cancel in-person classes in March 2020, we began to work even more closely to institute online Zoom classes beginning in July 2020. The success of our Zoom experience was possible only through the cooperation of staff and volunteers from all three counties. Through their help and all the members who were willing to try something new by learning to “Zoom.” Because they taught and attended classes during the summer, fall, January, and spring sessions, OLLI Delaware has grown into the largest program in the United States.

It soon became obvious that Kent and Sussex OLLIs would be stronger both financially and as a program, and our members would be better served

if we combined into one council. The individual councils continued to meet monthly. The council members from both councils were invited to attend each meeting, become acquainted with one another and learn the strengths and concerns of each council.

With a merger in mind, a committee made up of an equal number of members from each council met and drew up a new set of bylaws to govern OLLI K/S. After they met for several months, the bylaws were presented and adopted at the first meeting of the merged council on February 23, 2021.

The council will eventually consist of a total 11 members representing the two counties. Presently, there are 13 council members. When terms expire, voting council members will not be elected to replace them until the council is reduced to 11 voting members representing both counties in 2024.

The financial funds have been merged to better serve everyone -- one exception is the Expanding Horizons fund which was created to fund the expenses involved in the move into the Trinity Church Building in Lewes. These funds will continue to be dedicated to that purpose.

Each of the council members has a committee responsibility and is looking to the membership to assist in fulfilling these duties. Some council members are serving as co-chairs with one living in each county to better serve the members.

*(OLLI Kent and Sussex Continued on page 5)*

*(OLLI Kent and Sussex Continued from page 4)*

As soon as the merger was complete, a committee of representatives from each county began meeting to create a Strategic Plan to address and guide the changes and growth in the merged council. The Strategic Plan was adopted at the July meeting of OLLI K/S Council.

The Financial Manual has also been updated and will be voted on at the September Council meeting.

The Social and Travel Chairs from Kent and Sussex counties are planning activities to help the members in the two counties become better acquainted. Due to the travel distances, social activities are also being planned for the individual

counties with invitations to members in the other county to attend. Our Council meetings have been on Zoom so far, but we are planning to have one in-person meeting each semester. Getting to know each other and work together is vital to the success of our merged program.

The template that came out of the various statewide committees, arising out of the initiation of the online programming, has been essential in guiding the success of the OLLI K/S merger. We have all grown and gained so much through the "ill winds" of Covid. We value the friendships that we have made with the members of OLLI Wilmington and look forward to continuing to work together.



Every Tuesday in July the Eco Team met in the peony garden on the Wilmington campus. Surprisingly, it was pleasant to be outside in this shady, breezy spot. Sweetening the experience was Andrea handing out popcorn with her sidekick, Tim.

It was a beautiful setting in which to discuss environmental issues. Our mission was to focus on our Fall curriculum. Out of a multitude of issues, which ones can we tackle? Which ones are in our wheelhouse? Can we come up with actions that begin carbon drawdown from the atmosphere? Stay tuned to find out. Better yet, join us!

Judy Winters

I loved the idea of the outdoor classes and was glad members and staff were so flexible to hold all these different classes outdoors during a heat wave! It was neat to see a yoga class contentedly working out under one tree, drumming going on under another and a lecture in progress in the peony garden.

Jean Youkers

Photos on this page and on page 6 by Tim Ward.



Eco Team



Drum Circle with Sid Datskow and Peter Popper



## The Future of OLLI Online by Lew Martin

The Councils of OLLI in Wilmington and OLLI in Kent and Sussex have approved the establishment of an ongoing OLLI Online Committee with leadership and members from both OLLIs. Lewis Martin of OLLI-W will chair the committee. Paul Collins of OLLI-K/S will be the co-chair. As of August 8, the committee had six other members from OLLI-K/S and four from OLLI-W.

The OLLI Online Committee will address the question: "What should virtual/online learning look like at OLLI?" Among the committee functions will be to:

- Advise UD staff and the OLLI Councils on the OLLI Online program.
- Identify opportunities for growth of the OLLI Online program including programming and partners.
- Advise on appropriate pricing structures for the online component of the UD OLLI program.
- Review criteria for distance viewing.
- Explore opportunities for mixed-modality and new approaches to online instruction.

In the spring of 2020, OLLI established a statewide Virtual Learning and Socialization Taskforce, chaired by Lew Martin, to prepare members and instructors for online learning. This led to the successful pilot program in summer of 2020 and continued popularity in subsequent semesters.

Instructors and members embraced this online learning technique, and the Distance Viewing Committee recorded several statewide classes during the ensuing semesters for the Distance Viewing program.

OLLI thanks members of the Virtual Learning and Socialization Taskforce for their valuable input and diligent work in establishing a successful online learning environment and in spending many hours providing training to the over 200 instructors and 2,400 members.

Some benefits of maintaining online learning are:

- Continuing the OLLI program in a safe home setting, eliminating the need to travel.
- Maintaining social connections (an important component to our demographic).
- Offering expanded learning opportunities for the Delaware OLLIs.
- Getting to know members of the other Delaware OLLIs.
- Creating cohesiveness among the statewide OLLI members.

Members have requested the opportunity to select online classes to allow participation from their home for those with difficulty traveling. Online learning can expand OLLI's offerings to partnering organizations such as assisted living residences.



Humor writing with Jean Youkers and Addie Cole



Bill Lawrence's class on foreign currency exchange

## FY21 Giving Supports OLLI Wilmington

Marty Marston Guglielmetti and Betsey Cullen, OLLI-W Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs

As we begin our fall semester, let's celebrate the past year's success. We are where we are today thanks to the generous support of our OLLI Wilmington (OLLI-W) family.

In FY21, the year ending June 30, 2021, OLLI-W's fundraising efforts rivaled our pre-pandemic levels, with \$95,095 raised for the Gift Fund and \$570,546 for our endowment. Approximately 20% of OLLI-W members supported the program we all care about. Council members will work with Jen Merrill to allocate Gift Fund donations based on the greatest need. All donations designated for OLLI-W support programs on our campus.



One notable success was OLLI's participation in the University's annual I Heart UD Giving Day on May 5. Members and UD staff sought gifts from the

OLLI-W community through a giving challenge and virtual power hours. Our total of \$17,103 from 187 donors on the crowdfunding platform made OLLI-W the second-highest University fundraising project overall. Showing success statewide, OLLI Kent and Sussex raised \$11,902 from 157 donors on their giving day page and won an hourly participation challenge to help achieve their fundraising success.

Over the past year, we also raised awareness of the Osher Lifelong Learning Legacy Society which honors members who include OLLI in their wills and estate plans. Staff members from UD's Office of Development and Alumni Relations held 20 conversations with members yielding four new bequest intentions. The OLLI-W Fundraising Committee members spoke with an additional 17 members. Launched in 2018, the Society has 33 OLLI-W members. We aim to reach 40 members by June 2022.

Thanks to all who supported OLLI-W in FY21.

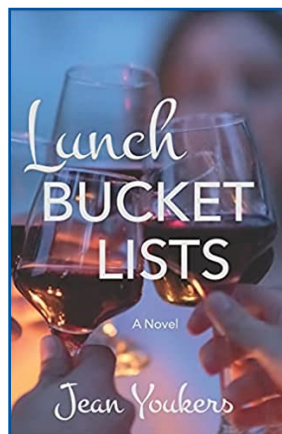


## OLLI Authors

### Jean Youkers

OLLI-W instructor and author, Jean Youkers, has published a new novel set in Delaware, *Lunch Bucket Lists*. As the description notes, it "explores themes of honesty, vulnerability and forgiveness among friends. Orchid, Laura, Elizabeth and Clarissa love living full-time in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware's popular vacation destination."

The book is available from Amazon in Kindle and paperback editions.



### Addie M. Cole

*Mrs. Creasy Jones Simmons* 1883-1984 is the story of a classy lady who through her 99 years "exemplifies the characteristics of a person on a mission to overcome trials, tribulations, obstacles, and the era in which she lived." Her story offers with humor the message that life is worth living. Addie has two other published books, *Faith Conquers Determination* and *The Joy of Marriage*.

The book is available from Amazon in Kindle and paperback editions and from Barnes and Noble in a paperback edition.



## Become an OLLI-W Council Member!

Each year, five of the 15 members of Council “graduate” and must be replaced with OLLI members who are willing to serve for the next three years to make sure OLLI is well run and has a strong future. This year’s “graduating class” consists of Les Breedlove, Marcia Halio, Linda Kellogg, Carolyn Stankiewicz and Mike Walsh.

Are you interested in serving on Council – or know an active member who should be? This year’s Nominating Committee consists of:

Les Breedlove\*

Marcia Halio\*

Lew Martin\*

Larry Peterson\*

Gerri Sanchez\*

Mike Walsh\*

\* Current or previous service on Council

Information about what is involved and what the committee needs to know from applicants is available. If interested, contact Nominating Committee Chair, Larry Peterson (peterson@udel.edu).

From early September through October 31, the Committee will be receiving information from members who are willing to serve. In January and February, we will meet with them to answer questions and to consider their backgrounds and experience and the needs of Council. In February, the committee will confidentially recommend to Council five to eight members we consider well qualified to join Council and who will add to its overall strength and OLLI’s leadership. Council elects the new members in March and their terms start April 1.

OLLI is an educational cooperative. To keep it thriving, Council needs new members who are enthusiastic, knowledgeable and bring skills and experience to the table. Please fill out and submit the information/nominating form for yourself – or give it to someone you think should be on Council.

Now is the time to let us hear from you!

**OLLI Monthly News in Wilmington**  
<http://www.oli.udel.edu/wilmington/newsletter/>  
**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**  
**at the University of Delaware in Wilmington**  
**2700 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19806**  
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 Cree Hovsepian, Joel Roisman, Margaret Wang

**Next Submittal deadline:** Friday, October 15

**Issue date:** By Monday, October 25

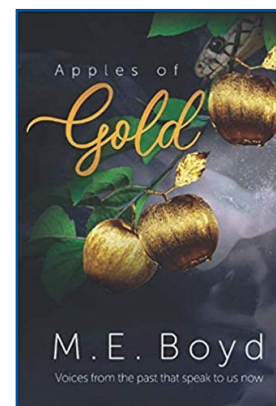
Submit articles to rehrlich@udel.edu.

## OLLI Author

### Mary Boyd

Mary E. Boyd’s book, *Apples of Gold: Voices from the Past that Speak to Us Now*, looks at the impact of various philosophies, religions and cultures on our country’s history. The voices are from well-known and some relatively obscure writers. Mary has taught constitutional law at OLLI Sussex and this semester she is giving single-day extracurricular classes at Dover and Lewes.

The book is available from Amazon in Kindle and paperback editions.



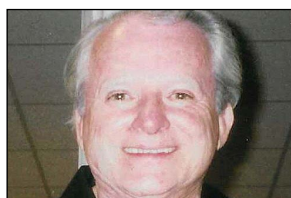


## Volunteer Spotlight

Jean Youkers, New Member Relations & Volunteer Engagement

### Don Byrne

Don Byrne has been a volunteer instructor at OLLI-W for more than a decade and a student for 20 years. Currently teaching a two-semester course on James Joyce's *Ulysses* and *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Don has a passion for the works of Irish writers, famous playwrights, Shakespeare, and the great philosophers.



A native of the Bronx, Don spent four years in the Air Force, then began his career as a banker and later a salesman. He completed his BBA at Pace University.

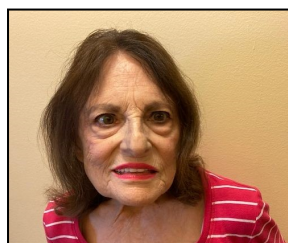
He is married and the father of six, with 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Don is a dynamo. Besides his work at OLLI-W, he walks several miles daily, meditates and plays softball in the Delaware Sports League, where teammates are in their 20s and 30s! Other interests include classical music, Buddhism, and opera.

His OLLI-W teaching career was prompted by Dave Morrison, whose Shakespeare class was the first course Don took. Don began by teaching a class on Mel Brooks movies, then progressed to Oscar Wilde and other playwrights. His long-standing mentor was literature professor John Snyder, who has since moved to New Jersey.

"You learn much more when you prepare for classes," Don said. "I also learn from my class members." He enjoys continuing to learn and socializing with like-minded others.

Don has also worked on Book Sale and was especially gratified by collaborating with Neil and Betsey Cullen and Pam Meitner on the successful *Renewing the Dream* Campaign.

"Osher is a jewel," said Don, who is certainly among the most devoted of volunteers who make it shine.



### Cree Hovsepian

A Shakespeare class inspired Cree Hovsepian to join OLLI-W. Almost immediately Bob Ehrlich recruited her to write *This Week*, a weekly activities

notice, paper then electronic, and she wrote it for the next 15 years. Cree continues to be on the OLLI-W Newsletter staff, serves as the art co-rep to the Curriculum Committee and leads the extra-curricular bridge group.

Cree is a native of upstate New York, with a B.S. from St. Lawrence University and a M.S. from The University of Wisconsin/Madison, where she met her husband and, a month before their wedding, joined him in Wilmington to work for DuPont. They have one son.

In addition to Shakespeare, Cree has taken courses in art, Spanish, finance and more. She served on Council for five years, including as Council secretary.

"When people retire, they look for something different to do, especially in the arts," says Cree, who had worked as a chemist for 40 years. "Art and music, like science, require basic learning. You never stop learning."

As chair of the Art Committee, she and Kay Young planned two successful open-to-the public Osher art exhibits at the Delaware Art Museum and The Lorelton. Cree now chairs The Art Instructors' Meeting and championed development of the Art Sampler class which gives members a "sample" of the basic art techniques of drawing, watercolor, acrylics, and oil.

Cree regards the art people as family. Her talents and enthusiasm benefit Osher and our program.

## UD Honors OLLI-W Member, Bebe Coker

On April 21 UD President Dennis Assanis awarded OLLI-W member Bebe Coker the UD Medal of Distinction. UD's highest non-academic award, the Medal of Distinction is given in "recognition of contributions to human progress, primarily through sustained service to others in the community, state and region."

President Assanis recognized Bebe for her lifetime work as a "tireless advocate for equitable education and racial justice." The award followed a Presidential Lecture by Bebe titled, "The Visibility of Growing Up Invisible."

Bebe admonished people not to assume "we know others by their appearance, the color of their skin, their looks, their dreads, their braids, whatever." Noting that she is a third-generation college graduate, she added that what is invisible to many are the achievements of African-American families and a person's own potential for achievement.

She had been taught that the "primary reason of your living and learning was to serve other people." President Assanis pointed out that she has done this through community service, focusing on public education and black history.

Since the award could not be presented in person, the actual delivery of the award was done by Bebe's daughter, Dr. Joan Coker.

President Assanis invited Bebe to come teach at the University. Bebe responded, "I enjoy teaching or facilitating classes with the lifelong learning center" and she added, "I can't wait to get back."

Bebe Coker is back this fall. Along with Jim Krum she will be facilitating G216 *Legalized Racism*.



Bebe Coker with her daughter, Dr. Joan Coker, a UD trustee. [Still shot from the video of the event]

**Watch the video of Bebe Coker's talk and award ceremony**

WELCOME TO A PRESIDENTIAL LECTURE FEATURING  
**BEBE COKER: THE VISIBILITY  
OF GROWING UP INVISIBLE**

<https://youtu.be/LRVZF-lrYTw>

## Other Members Who Have Received UD honors

Bebe Coker is not the first OLLI member to receive high UD honors. The University's Medal of Merit was given in recognition of contributions to human progress, primarily through sustained service to others in the community, state and region. In 1995, this honor was consolidated with the UD Medal of Distinction.

1985 Anna Janney 'Jan' DeArmond, professor emeritus of English, was the first faculty member to receive the Medal of Distinction. She was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 1993. At the Academy of Lifelong Learning, she taught courses on "The Bible as Literature and History," "Apocrypha" and Australian literature.



1986 Charles Blake, a retired foreign language educator from New Rochelle, NY, received the Medal of Merit. He was one of the founders of the Academy of Lifelong Learning (predecessor of OLLI) and first chair of the Curriculum Committee. He served as vice president of the Newark Senior Center, on the board of the Walnut Street YMCA and as a member of the Newark Housing for Senior Citizens Committee. He taught classes in Italian at the Academy of Lifelong Learning



1989 Roxana Arsht, a retired family court judge, was honored for her judicial service. She and her husband, Samuel, initiated the move of the Academy of Lifelong Learning from its original home (Wilcastle, now demolished) to its home in Arsht Hall and provided about a third of the funding for the building. Roxana was an enthusiastic student of Shakespeare and organized trips to the Folger Library.



1992 Robert Grimble, a retired DuPont executive who headed international operations, chaired the Academy of Lifelong Learning fundraising effort to build Arsht Hall. He received the Medal of Merit. Bob was a charter member of the Academy of Lifelong Learning and served two terms as Council Chair. He taught courses on the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and early American History at the Academy for nearly a quarter century.



1999 Yetta Chaiken was cited as an innovative junior high school history teacher who has been active in the community and who, with her late husband Frank, contributed a special gift for advancing Jewish studies at UD, establishing the Frank and Yetta Chaiken Center for Jewish Studies and helping to build the Hillel Student Center.





## OLLI Members Meet the Challenge

Submitted by Judy Winters

In honor of Earth Day 2021, the Delaware Environmental Institute and the UD Sustainability Council sponsored the Greenest Blue Hen Challenge 2021. Criteria for judging were:

- Message/theme: "Restoring our earth through creative climate communications" (40%);
- Communication effectiveness (30%);
- Originality/creativity (20%);
- Universal appeal (10%).

Two of the top three winners of this University-wide contest were members of the OLLI ECO TEAM: Lorie Tudor and Judy Winters.

Here are snippets of their winning entries:



### Small Things Can Make a Difference

In preparing to make the video, I realized that many of the things that I (and we) do are small actions, here and there – neither big nor dramatic. But small things can add up to make a difference – such as setting the thermostat a bit lower in the winter, adjusting the radiators in different rooms, composting, reusing the back side of paper for notes, requesting donations to causes rather than “stuff” when asked what gifts you might like, walking rather than driving when that’s an option – and so forth. The bottom line – which this really reinforced for me – is we need to do every little thing we can.

Lorie Tudor, member, OLLI ECO TEAM

### Winter Compost

I was looking for a way to compost all year long. I decided to use my raised beds which are just a few steps from my front door. This way I would not have to traipse through snow and wet grass to my larger bin in my back yard during the winter months. The video entry explained in detail how I accomplished that.

Judy Winters, Co-leader, OLLI ECO TEAM



## Special Events Fridays via Zoom by Ben Raphael, Chair

Welcome to Special Events Fridays! Ronnie Grady, as well as our committee co-chair, Joan Miller, and I are back this fall to host an interesting mix of presenters that we hope you will enjoy. OLLI-W manager, Jen Merrill, who has frequently joined us in the past, may have a few words for us every week. Please check the weekly updates for more details. Here is a little information to whet your appetite:

**September 10** You will first meet the three of us. Then, Ronnie will introduce our first speaker of the series — Ryan Schwartz, Interpretive Programs Manager of the First State Heritage Park. His topic will be “The Revolutionary War and Delaware’s role in it.”

**September 17** Author Beverly Bowers Jennings will present a program on the history of the commercial shrimping industry in the southern part of the United States. Her presentation is based on her research for her 320-page book on this topic. Beverly has over 800 pictures and images dealing with the shrimping industry.

**September 24 :** Joan will introduce Gerri Sanchez, our OLLI-W executive vice chair, who will lead an informative OLLI Overview. You will hear from Jen Merrill, OLLI-W manager and George Irvine, UD associate vice provost, Professional and Continuing Studies, about OLLI happenings and a proposed common administrative structure for OLLI-UD.

**October 1** Author Richard Haiduck will present a program on successful retirement based on his book “Shifting Gears: 50 Baby Boomers Share Their Meaningful Journeys into Retirement.” Real people sharing real stories.

**October 8** I will introduce Dr. Frank Mecklenburg, chief researcher of the Leo Baeck Institute, who will tell us about the Ritchie Boys, whose stories have finally come to light since this past May, thanks to CBS *60 Minutes*. During WWII, the U.S. Army formed an elite intelligence unit, including over 2,000 Jewish refugees from Germany, and trained them in counterintelligence at Camp Ritchie, Maryland. Tasked with devising ways to break the morale of the SS, these men are often credited with bringing an early end to the war. Their exploits remained classified for many years.

**October 15** Ray Callahan, retired UD history professor and ever-popular OLLI-Wilmington lecturer, will present the first of two lectures based on “Does History Have Lessons?” This lecture is entitled “Munich: The Long Life of an Analogy.”

**October 22** In 1928, Giuseppe Mario Bellanca, an Italian immigrant, and Henry B. duPont built an airfield, aircraft plant, and service hangar in New Castle. Located off Route 273, the plant produced approximately 3,000 aircraft before closing in 1954. Today, Major General Frank Ianni, U.S. Army, retired, a former Delaware National Guard adjutant general, will tell us about Delaware’s aviation history, Bellanca’s legacy and the museum which is dedicated to preserving our aviation heritage. Feel free to invite your friends and family. Please check the weekly updates for Zoom room access instructions.

**Our presentations begin promptly at 12:30 p.m. and end at 1:45 p.m.**