



The Tides...

Breaking News from

Lifelong Learning



Vol. 12, No. 4, 2022

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Kent/Sussex County

Annual Report to the Members From the Chair



OLLI K/S is moving along toward normalcy this year with some strides forward with a few steps back. This spring we have begun to gather some momentum and with the help of OLLI members we will begin to see the OLLI program back to the way that we so fondly remember, but now even better.

I am pleased to announce that Sally Cole has been named the Manager of OLLI K/S. She has done an amazing job completing the work of two positions. Lisa Seifert is back with us again, and we are looking forward to having a Program Coordinator on staff beginning this summer. The assistance of Bill Ashmore, Trish Dennison, Dan Edwards and Chet Poslusny has been invaluable.

Lewes introduced hybrid classes this year which incorporate both the in-person experience with the online component giving our members a choice of modality. Classes are now also being taught in the hybrid modality in Dover and Wilmington. Our thanks to Paul Collins for developing this technique.

As of the spring semester, the Kent and Sussex membership was 404 with 1908 members statewide.

Registration for the summer has begun with classes beginning July 5th on Tuesdays through Thursdays for four weeks. Kent and Sussex instructors will be teaching 12 in-person, 6 online, and 4 hybrid classes in addition to numerous classes being taught by Wilmington instructors online.

The catalog with the fall courses will be available in August. The classes will be offered in all three modalities – in-person, online and hybrid with a wide array of subject matter. There will be something for everyone. The biggest problem will be deciding which classes you want to take and how to fit them all in!

A Communications and Marketing statewide committee has been formed to design materials and programs to focus attention on the value of OLLI to seniors across Delaware which will help to grow our membership. Watch your mailboxes for the new OLLI brochure later this summer. Enthusiastic word of mouth from you, the OLLI members, is still the best way to encourage members to return and invite new members to enroll.

This spring five in-person and online Focus Groups were held to survey a random selection of the active and inactive members to determine their priorities about the types of classes they prefer, the importance of socialization, the benefits of OLLI, the fee structure for the program and other issues. The

information that was gathered has guided the council in making decisions about the direction of OLLI. One of the decisions coming out of these discussions is the return to an all-inclusion \$250 fee for the Fall Semester which will be statewide and enable us to operate within our budget based on our current membership. There will be a discount of \$25 for instructors who are registering for classes. Numerous scholarships are available to members who apply in confidence.

I would like to thank Rosemary Engle, Ronnie Grady, Kathy Henn and Gerri Stephenson for all the years of work they have invested to make the OLLI program so successful. Rosemary and Kathy will be staying on Council as non-voting members in the positions of Membership Co-Chair and Secretary, respectively. Lee Stanford, who is completing an unexpired term, will begin a three-year term of his own. I will be beginning my second three-year council term. In accordance with the bylaws, there is no election for new voting council members in order to reduce the number of voting members to eleven. Trudie Thompson will be completing Gerri Stephenson's unexpired term as Social Co-Chair.

Lewes OLLI has a new home as of the beginning of Fall 2021 at the Trinity Church on New Road. A number of upgrades have been completed – a handicapped ramp, an automatic door opener, designated handicapped parking places, new chairs in the classrooms and LED lights in the art room. The library has been organized and the arts and crafts rooms have been set up. The parking lot will have been surfaced by the beginning of classes in September.

The reorganization into OLLI K/S about 1 ½ years ago necessitated the revision of the Bylaws, a new Strategic Plan and an updated Financial Manual. All of these have been completed and adopted by the Council. A Code of Conduct was adopted to foster mutual respect, personal and academic integrity, civil discourse and freedom of expression and from threats to safety --physical, psychological and emotional. The adoption of this code brought us into compliance with the University of Delaware. All of these documents are available on OLLI K/S Google website.

Nick Simmonds spearheaded the "I Heart UD" fundraiser on May 4h. Thanks to the support of our membership, we raised over \$21,000, including winning the Power Hour that added a bonus of \$5,000 to the amount raised. This was a day of socialization beginning at 8:00 am with a Continental Breakfast in Lewes, followed by a Trivial Reception from 11-12:00 pm in Dover and culminating with dinner at the Crooked Hammock in Lewes with 10% of the proceeds going to the campaign. "The Wind is in our Sails!"

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Council Chair during this very busy, successful year. Please join us for an Open House at 10:00 am on August 8 in Lewes, August 9 in Dover and August 10 in Ocean View. We look forward to seeing you in person and online to participate in the wide array of courses being offered and at the social events planned for the next year.

Enjoy your summer!

Connie

Summer Walk-in Office Hours

Main Office- Lewes
Trinity Education Bldg.
Tuesday-Thursday
10 a.m. -- 2 p.m.
302-645-4111



Thank You to Our Instructors & All Our Volunteers

Thank you volunteers, for your amazing generosity and dedication. All our volunteers are special. To our Instructors, we appreciate your ongoing resiliency, flexibility and dedication to sharing your knowledge, experiences and expertise with fellow lifelong learners. A special Thank you to the **Instructors who delivered courses in person and/or online during the spring 2022 semester:**

The Arts		Health & Wellness		Information Technology	
Diana	Beebe	Ted	Mason	Barbee	Kiker
Roo	Brown	Sallie	Ridgway	International Affairs	
Ben	Calamia	Maureen	Sherlock	Sergei	Boboshko
George	Christensen	Tamara	Steele	Lee	Stanford
Joe	DeFeo	Carol	West	Trudie	Thompson
Chris	Dodd	Dan	Bilharz	Languages	
Pete	Feeney	History		Alice	Cataldi
Rodney	Lau	Dan	Pritchett	Life Sciences	
Art	McLaughlin	Michael	DiPaolo	Denise	Bridgens
Maurice	McGrath	Don	Egan	Bill	Fintel
Mary Kate	McKinley	Rosemary	Engle	Ptery	Iris
Karen	McKinnon	Ray	Glick	Joan	Mansperger
Pam	McMillan	Pat	Hall	Michael	Salvatore
Carol	Neild	Pete	Harrigan	Neil	Sullivan
Jon	Newsom	Beth	Jelich	Literature	
Diana	Pollisino	Frank	Powers	Paul	Collins
Paul	Puch	Bill	Sharkey	Russell	Endo
Debra	Roberts	Pat	Weaver	Peg	Fisk
Karen	Schaub	Connie	Benko	Bob	Heifetz
Harriett	Smith	Humanities		Bobbi	Neaton
Rich	Ward	Gil	Kaufman	Pat	Thompson
Larry	Watkins	Cathy	Kennedy	Philosophy & Religion	
Susan	Watkins	Michael	Kramer	Deb	Brown
Economics, Finance, Political Science, Law		Bruce	MacGloan	Claire	Brown
Ralph	Begleiter	Melanie	Moser	Physical Sciences & Math	
Larry	Klepner	Carol	Pollio	Jim	O'Leary
Michele	Procino-Wells	John	Roberts	Writing	
Erv	Schleifer	Ronnie	Grady	Rae	Tyson
Amber	Woodland	Kathy	Henn		
		Boyd	Sorenson		

Education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire.

William Butler Yeats

Annual Report from the Program Manager

Possibilities for the Future are Limitless



I will celebrate my 3rd anniversary with OLLI on October 28 of this calendar year, but I largely think in terms of *fiscal years* when I reflect upon my time with OLLI since “OLLI-as-I’ve-come-to-know-it” began at the beginning of Fiscal Year ’21 in July 2020. Prior to that time, my experience with OLLI was marked by a visit from then-Provost Robin Morgan in November 2019, the start of the 2020 Spring Semester, and then one cancellation after another. And another. And another. We’re all painfully familiar with this part of the story, and now it seems so long ago. Our lives have changed, and our program has changed.

The OLLI program prevailed through my first full fiscal year - 2020 Summer, 2020 Fall and 2021 Spring – thanks to the sheer will and determination of our OLLI instructors, members and staff throughout the state who refused to be kept down by a world health crisis. We built connections with one another via Zoom. And we benefitted from the expertise and experiences of others.

The second full fiscal year – 2021 Summer, 2021 Fall and 2022 Spring -- brought even more changes as our instructors, membership, and staff continued to roll with the punches and strived to find balance between often-conflicting demands, priorities and parameters. Enter the return to in-person programming and the introduction of the hybrid modality. We found strength in ourselves, and we found strength in collaboration.

In an effort to better understand the needs of our membership – both current and former, I have sought opportunities to listen to and learn from our volunteers and members. Here’s a little about what I’ve learned, in no particular order.

OLLI members prioritize social interaction above all else. While members long for more in-person opportunities, they also value the relationships they have made throughout the state over the past two years and they don’t want to lose those connections. A friend is a friend. Geography no longer matters.

OLLI members see OLLI as an opportunity to pursue interests that may have been back-burnered while pursuing careers or raising families – or to discover interests that they never even knew they had. Members want to learn for the sake of learning, not to fulfill an education requirement.

Access to instructors and courses throughout the state has really expanded opportunities for personal growth and enrichment.

OLLI members enjoy supporting and advocating for the program AND for one another. Our volunteers – including but not limited to council members, committee chairs and members, instructors, virtual assistants, hybrid assistants, “grounds”-keepers – are EXTRAORDINARY and I thank them for all they continue to do on a daily basis to move our program forward. I have also been touched by the care and concern our members and staff have for one another in times of isolation, injury, illness and loss. ***Thank you for your ongoing support of the OLLI program and one another – human connection is everything!***

Continued on page 5

And here is what I pledge to our members during Fiscal Year '23:

- ♦ **More opportunities for social interaction and a return to the rituals you have missed!** Happy hours, lunches, special events, field trips...COFFEE! Open Houses that focus more on instructors and the classes they are offering, and less on the details of your last booster. And it's about time we celebrate our instructors and volunteers! Our Social Committee Co-Chairs are ready to restart their committee and will be seeking new members.
- ♦ **A commitment to expanding our curriculum!** While I am delighted to announce the addition of multiple new instructors and courses this fall, as well as the return of many of our popular courses to the IN-PERSON format, OLLI's Academic Affairs Committee is committed to filling the gaps across programming to provide a more robust curriculum.
- ♦ **Communication will continue to be a priority!** Because there is no one-size-fits-all solution, we will be trying different modes of communication in an attempt to reach the largest (internal AND external) audience. Look for simplified weekly communication, a return to membership meetings, and monthly opportunities to ask questions and provide YOUR feedback *live* whether in-person or virtual.

I truly appreciate opportunities to learn more about the parts of OLLI that our current and former members so desperately miss, and so I hope that you will please continue to share with me what I may be overlooking. That said, while perhaps not immediately comfortable for everyone, *so many* of the changes over the past two years are POSITIVE for our program and for our members, especially the expanded accessibility of our programming as well as the access to more instructors and courses. I hope you will join me in not limiting possibilities by thinking in terms of "either-or" especially when the success of the last two years shows us that we CAN have both-AND...

Sincerely yours and always with gratitude,
-Sally Cole, Program Manager

Calendar of Events

July 5 -- 4th of July - office closed

July 5 - 28 -- Summer session, via Zoom & in-person, 3 days per week (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays)

July 26 -- Fall Catalog available

Aug 3-17 -- Priority Registration for Fall

Aug 8 -- Lewes Open House: Trinity Bldg.,
10 a.m.- noon

Aug 9 -- Dover Open House, Wyoming Church,
10 a.m.-noon

Aug 10 -- Ocean View Open House, Ocean View
Community Ctr., 10 a.m.-noon

Aug 29 -- Lewes & Ocean View Instructor
Orientation, Trinity Bldg. 10 a.m.

Aug 30 --Dover Instructor Orientation, Wyoming
Church, 10 a.m.

Sept 5 -- Labor Day - office closed

Sept 6 -- First day of Fall 2022 semester

Oct 10 -- End of first 5 weeks

Over \$20 K for K/S OLLI from I Heart UD Day



Attending the Continental Breakfast at the Trinity Bldg., was L to R (standing) Trudie Thompson, Connie Benko, Lynn Kroesen, Jay Wheeler, Paul Collins, (seated) Nick Simmons.



OLLI members Karen & Joe Schaub celebrate with Sally and many others at the Crooked Hammock Restaurant.



Denise Kaercher and Rosemary Engle lead a lively Trivia game for Kent County OLLI members at the reception held on I Heart UD Day, at the Wyoming Church in Dover.

Chet Poslusny provided the entertainment for the celebration.

Photos by Sally Cole & Lynn Kroesen



Junto Forum -- A Different Approach to Class Dialogue

OLLI volunteer development and engagement saw new challenges with our shift to virtual education over the last two years. The UD/OLLI adjustments have been outstanding, evidenced by the fine programs in 2021-22. The Junto Forum is a different approach to address engagement of instructors and students in the virtual adult education space. Instructor Boyd Sorenson organized the first Junto Forum program during the spring of 2022.

Junto Forum Concept and Structure

The Concept: A 5-week structured OLLI team-taught program with virtual lecture/discussion patterned after Benjamin Franklin's "Junto Club." The course provided a platform for instructor advocacy, education and class dialogue on positive matters related to civic improvement and the happiness of humankind.

The Structure: The OLLI Junto Forum consisted of 5 sessions led by 5 different instructors. Each session allowed time for introduction, lecture, discussion and instructor directed key questions to promote class interaction.

The Potential Advantages of Junto Forum Approach

1. Team teaching; commits instructor to only one session
2. Team approach; requires coordination with instructors for program development
3. Virtual training opportunity for new instructors
4. Provides a platform for instructor advocacy and education
5. Creates a forum for class discussions and interaction
6. Requires team building and leadership for programmatic themes

Kent/Sussex instructors **Trudie Thompson** and **Pat Thompson** participated as co-presenters, instructors and planners, conferring many times with Boyd and the other presenters to launch this course. The class was well received by those who attended. Lori Yadin and James Moser are working with Boyd to develop a Junto Forum program for the fall 2022 semester. The program title: "Peace and Propaganda" a lecture and discussion orientated class with different presenters following the Junto Forum format. Check the fall catalog for the day and time.

Submitted by Boyd Sorenson, Instructor



Dover Focus Group, March 29th

Kent/ Sussex Council members met with a focus group of Kent County OLLI members at the Wyoming Church in Dover, on March 29th, to get their insights thoughts and suggestions on several important issues currently being considered by the Council.

Jack and Nancy Gardner, Peggy Abbott, Beth Jelich, Kathy Crowell and Wendy Leitch

Spring Semester 2022 -- Fun and Learning



Instructor Connie Benko included the history of St. Peter's Episcopal Church Cemetery during her Historic Lewes Walk & Talk.

*Photos by: Sally Fintel,
Lynn Kroesen, Joan
Mansperger*



*UD students Bastian Munch (top) and Meaghan Lightfoot (left) presented 2 of the 5 lectures on **Climate Change**.*



Instructor Bill Sharkey discusses the history of Shipcarpenter's Square during Historic Lewes Walk & Talk.



*Students in Instructor Bill Fintel (center) practice using what they learned in **Moths, Birds and Nature** on iNaturalist.*

OLLI Instructor Profiles

By Wendy Leicht



Dan Pritchett

"I have come to believe a great teacher is a great artist. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit". (John Steinbeck)

The definition of instructor as "one who imparts knowledge "

would seem inadequate to anyone who has taken Dover instructor Dan Pritchett's enormously popular OLLI courses. His presentation on Hamilton during a UD By the Sea program, got a standing ovation. The large number of students who registered for his Zoom courses during the peak of the pandemic, helped to make Delaware's OSHER program the largest in the country.

Dan spent his professional career teaching American History for 34 years in the Capital School District, followed by 7 years as an adjunct professor at Delaware State University.

He joined OLLI 10 years ago, and immediately began work as an instructor. The subject of many of his classes is famous men in American history, John and Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Lincoln and Hamilton. Dan says; "They all appeal to the better angels of our nature. What they wrote could have been written yesterday."

He's also done courses on Music in Broadway Shows and Alfred Hitchcock movies and this spring Semester, "The American Revolution", a conflict he describes as "complicated" what might be called our first Civil War, Americans fighting Americans." And, his Trivia classes continue to provide an enjoyable challenge for members.

Dan has always believed in using visuals to engage students. Graduating from slides to videos, to

Power Point, he integrates provocative, unusual illustrations and videos, unearthed in rigorous research, which often provide unexpected insights in his classes.

Have course, will travel, could also be said about Dan, who generously agreed to teach his classes this spring semester at different OLLI locations, in Zoom, hybrid or in person formats. He is also an enthusiastic OLLI student, who always takes classes despite his heavy teaching commitments.

Dan's expertise and presentation skills, have also led him to be asked to participate in programs such as the Delaware Humanities or Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Dan continues to be an avid student of history, politics and current events, and is fully engaged in teaching and learning at OLLI. He says "teaching is teaching." Those who have been "taught" by him, would say, he is the master, the "artist" as defined by Steinbeck. Stay tuned for his next course offerings.

Got a Bright Idea?

OLLI classes are taught or led by volunteers. If you would like to share a special interest with other members and you have an idea for a course or are willing to serve as an instructor or instructor's helper, write and submit a proposal.

If you have questions, contact

Sally Cole in the Kent/Sussex

OLLI office.



Another Day, Another Play (Or Opera)



Members of the Dover Theatre Appreciation course and George Christensen's Opera classes, undaunted by changing mask and Covid vaccination requirements, continue to attend Delaware's live theatre and Opera Performances.

Delaware Opera Board Member, and frequent chauffeur, for both opera and theatre performances, OLLI instructor John Roberts, is shown left, wearing a "gift" from his thankful passengers at dinner after the Delaware Opera's Performance of "The Marriage of Figaro". On the right above, are OLLI Theatre class members Bob and Sandy Heifetz, Peg Prouse, instructor, Deb Roberts, Bobbi Neaton and Barbara Trent after seeing "Brighton Beach Memoirs" at The Delaware Theatre Company.

Submitted by Wendy Leicht

UD By the Sea -- A Four-day Statewide OLLI Event in Rehoboth Beach



On May 24th OLLI members from around Delaware gathered for a 4 day program of activities and social time at the Atlantic Sands Hotel in Rehoboth The attendees participated in one of four learning tracks featuring guest speakers and UD experts. The event began with a reception with plenty of food and entertainment.



Right: Kent/Sussex members gather for a game of Trivia.

Left: Erv Schleifer & Denise Kaercher .

Photos by Sally Cole & Lynn Kroesen



Marketing Committee Supports Membership Growth Goals



The Kent/Sussex Council created a new Marketing Committee to help attract new members to OLLI, particularly as the 50-plus population continues to grow in both counties.

In addition to supporting the Kent/Sussex Council, the Committee is working with the Wilmington Marketing Committee and UD-OLLI staff to develop an integrated, statewide campaign to boost membership. The collaboration is aimed at exchanging ideas and, when possible, sharing products to avoid duplication and conserve funds.

OLLI members already should have seen one of the statewide Committee's initial efforts, a new, full-color tri-fold brochure that can be mailed or distributed at businesses, professional offices and other locations.

The Marketing Committee also is assisting the Kent/Sussex Community Relations and Membership Committees in their efforts to revitalize the speakers' bureau and to find new ways to reach the many OLLI-eligible newcomers to Delaware, particularly in Sussex County.

Contact any of the Committee members – Denise Bridgens, Paul Collins, Pete Harrigan, and Nick Simmonds – if you would like to learn more, or become involved.

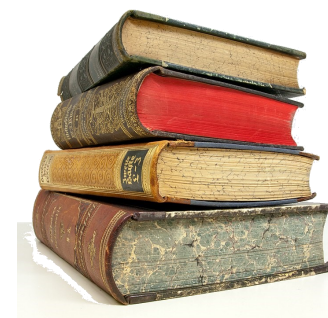
Submitted by Pete Harrigan

Library News

The following is a selection of books added recently, listed by title so you can find them when you go to the library in the Trinity Education building:

- 158.1 The Power of Habit: Why we do What we do in Life and Business by Charles Duhigg
- 387.15 Lighthouse: an Illuminating History of the World's Coastal Sentinels by R. G. Grant
- 551.6 The Atlas of Climate Change by Kirstin Dow and Thomas Downing
- 599.88 Mama's Last Hug: Animal Emotions and What They Tell us About Ourselves by Frans Waal
- 748.5 How to Design for Stained Glass by Kazanjian & Rosey
- 909.83 21 Lessons for the 21st Century by Yuval Harari
- 917.52 Tubman Travels: 32 Underground Railroad Journeys on Delmarva by Jim Duffy
- 940.54 The Splendid and the Vile: a Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz by Erik Larson

Submitted by Madeleine Nichols, Library Chair



www.OLLI.udel.edu/Kent-Sussex/

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM KENT/SUSSEX COUNCIL

Development Committee



Members: Diana Beebe, Bob Comeau, Pete Feeney, Gary Grunder, Ed Hynes, Joan Mansperger, Rob Morgan, Bill Sharkey, Nick Simmonds, Trudie Thompson, Connie Benko

UD Members: T J Cournoyer, Andrew Walpole, George Irvine, Sally Cole

Mission: OLLI Lewes requires a facility to accommodate the growth of our program while providing for a superior learning environment with strong social interactions.

Our mission is to identify that facility and then create a fundraising program both short and long term which would allow us to acquire and maintain that facility.

We did not hold any committee meetings this past year. UD suspended most fund-raising activities until the annual spring giving campaign. Due to the success of our statewide OLLI Online program, Lew Martin and I were asked to be signatories on an appeal letter which identifies the Expanding Horizon fund as one of the areas to donate.

Our only other initiative was promoting the I Heart UD Giving Day where we had an outstanding response from our members with over \$20,000 collected to date. We should be seeing some of that money by July.

We started in-person classes at our Trinity Church School site. The Expanding Horizon fund was used to pay for:

- * Touchless automatic entry doors
- * Handicap ramp and stair rails
- * New chairs for the facility
- * Cameras and other gear to enable hybrid classes

UD has been reluctant to release funds for major items like paving the parking area because of the lease status. A new lease has been submitted to the church and we hope to have that signed very soon. This will allow us to do the paving and then evaluate our next steps.

The Expanding Horizon fund now stands at \$168,914.

Paul Collins

Chairman. Development Committee



Library Committee Annual Report 2022



Thank you to Library Committee members: Mary Carty, Dale Ervin, Lisa Freeland, Mary Ann Gillette, Bernard Gilmore, Lynn Kroesen, Linda Levin, Cynthia Opderbeck, DeAnna Poling, Francis Riley, Nancy Sakaduski, Maggie Salamon and April Wiaczek.

What does a Library Committee do in a year of social distancing, in-person classes, online classes and hybrid classes?

We met together for in-person volunteers' orientation in September in the Trinity Education building. Another all-committee meeting took place in January, on Zoom and using Signup Genius.

We checked in with one another by email and sometimes phone, all year.

We experimented with an online Google volunteer scheduling sheet, along with email and phone as a supplement, flexing with a changing schedule for gaining entry to the Trinity building.

At the August Lewes OLLI Open House we helped welcome fellow students and others, assisting with member registrations for fall classes and verifications for Covid vaccinations.

We re-created "fiction shelves" on a cart in the hallway.

We drafted and utilized a working tool: OLLI Library: Learn How to Add a Book to Our Collection. That helped us learn and re-learn, so we could be consistent.

We added books to the library. And we saw we were running out of shelf space.

We deployed the method other libraries rely on when making decisions to identify a book as outdated or "inactive," known as CREW for Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding.

We donated our largess to local charities that welcomed the books, a path to grow community relations.

We enjoyed. It was fun working with one another to help the OLLI program, instructors and members. As DeAnna Poling recalls, "Exciting - we have finally made it to the Dewey Decimal 900 books! This process is much easier as rarely do we discard any, but the process is valuable as we make sure the books on the shelf coordinate with our cards and spreadsheets."

We reserved books for classes as instructors chose that option. We watched the trickle of borrowings and returns, and reshelfed the returns.

We connected with several instructors to explore how we might be of specific service for their courses.

We gave up stress over our own changes of schedules and circumstances and disappointments over not being able to do what we thought we could do and we wanted to do. Instead, we valued the team, especially those who discovered that only 2 or maybe 3 people can work inside the library room at any one time. The ideas and expertise of others on the volunteer team charted the path for an operation as smooth as Ruth Barnett's library in prior years. Kudos to April Wiaczek and DeAnna Poling who formed a dynamic working twosome onsite at the library, entering data on spreadsheets and checking book by book, video by video, disk by disk.

Future work will be a posted vision statement and collection development policy; integrating with UD/ OLLI digital equipment so we are not relying on our personal equipment; and evolving teamwork that is low-impact, flexible, and fun for volunteers while mentor-members give a focus forward to OLLI's Kent-Sussex library at its best.

Madeleine Nichols, Chair, Library Committee

Academic Affairs Committee Annual Report 2022

Although we are not back to pre-pandemic numbers, 2022 marked a welcomed return to in-person classes. Thanks to Paul Collins and some of our trail-blazing K/S instructors, we were able to pilot and roll-out hybrid classes which offer the social benefits of in-person classes and the flexibility and geographic reach of Zoom.

On-going technical training for members, instructors, volunteer virtual assistants and hybrid operators was, and will continue to be, critical to ensuring an enjoyable class experience. We could not accomplish this without the many volunteers who support the instructors behind the scenes.

To encourage new and prior instructors, we held outreach meetings this spring which resulted in excellent questions and discussions, and led to the return of a number of past instructors and several new ones. We plan to continue with more opportunities in the fall for potential instructors to meet and learn about available teaching options and resources.

The Academic Affairs Committee is looking for additional volunteers, preferably with OLLI instructor experience, willing to make a time commitment to assist with instructor development and training.

Finally, I would like to recognize and thank Ronnie Grady who has completed her second term as a Council member for her leadership and dedication. At the same time, I welcome Deb Roberts who has agreed to Co-Chair Academic Affairs.

Submitted by Joan Mansperger & Ronnie Grady, Co-Chairs



Thank you Rosemary and Ronnie !

Kent County OLLI instructors gathered informally at the Harvest Ridge Winery June 1st in Marydale, to thank Rosemary Engle and Ronnie Grady for their many contributions to OLLI, as they complete their terms on the Kent-Sussex Council.



Their strong commitment to OLLI is ongoing however, as both continue to apply their considerable talents to work on OLLI committees to attract members and instructors and develop courses.

The day also included a brief tribute by Bob Heifetz, to dear friend and colleague Art McLaughlin, whose recent loss was keenly felt by all present.

Submitted by Wendy Leicht

Social Committee Annual Report

April 30, 2021 – April 30, 2022



To quote last year's annual report: This year has been a year like no other! Almost no events were held in person due to the Covid pandemic situation, which began with the complete shutdown of all OLLI activities on March 10, 2020. We managed Open Houses for the Fall Semester in August without calling on the Social Committee to participate. We were not permitted to consume food inside the building, so we did the Open Houses primarily to show members the new facility at Trinity Church in Lewes, and to assist members in registering, since all registration had to be done on-line and was very confusing. Thanks to OLLI Wilmington, the Moo-Mobile was sent to Lewes and Dover, and that was extremely popular with everyone – although it was a bit difficult since we had to eat the ice cream outside, and the weather was very hot!

Most OLLI members seemed not to be terribly interested in the continuation of virtual social events, so the Kent/Sussex Social Committee did not plan or carry out many such events. We did have an end-of semester virtual

“Happy Hour” in the fall of 2021, with the participation of many musical OLLI members, but since we were not given permission by the University to start back up with in-person social events, such as Happy Hours, there were no such events planned.

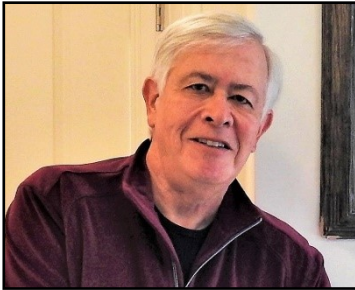
The Social Committee was asked to plan for Open Houses in Dover, Lewes, and Ocean View in January 2022, and we came up with a plan that would preclude any need for members to touch items – food or drink -- that others had brought. After putting out a call to the Social Committee that included a request for small, individually and commercially packaged items that could be consumed by one person, the Open Houses were cancelled at the last minute by the University of Delaware, thanks to the ravages of the Omicron Covid variant.

The next opportunity to have an in-person event of sorts was the Kent/Sussex I Heart UD program on 4 May. Along with Sally Cole, we planned a continental breakfast in Lewes before the start of classes for the day (8-9 am), and a trivia reception in Dover from 11-12, and Sally attended both events. Sally assisted greatly by putting together a Sign-Up Genius for food and drinks for each location, but the Social Committee chairs were less than impressed with the response from members of the committee, as only a few people signed up to bring things or to attend. Both events nevertheless turned out well, with about 15 people attending each one, and there was plenty of food and drink for each. However, since those who had signed up to be on the committee (admittedly quite a long time before!) did not seem very engaged, we asked everyone to please let us know if they no longer thought they wanted to stay on the Social Committee. Several people did so, but there remains a substantial list of folks who did not respond or indicated they wanted to stay on the committee. We'll see how it goes when we actually get to do something!

When we are given permission to hold in-person events, Marge will organize events in the Dover area, and Trudie will do so in the Lewes area. All members from both areas will be invited to all events and the co-chairs are also planning activities in a central location (probably in the Milford area) to encourage mixing and cohesiveness of the Kent and Sussex OLLI members.

Submitted by: Trudie Thompson & Marge Felty Cochairs

Annual Report Strategic Planning Committee



Members: Ralph Begleiter, Connie Benko, Paul Collins, Peter Feeney, Veronica Grady, Joan Mansperger, Deb Roberts, Susan Salkin, Karen Schaub

UD Participants: Sally Cole, George Irvin, Anna Moshier

The merger of OLLI Kent and OLLI Sussex Counties and the unprecedented challenges and opportunities created by the pandemic necessitated a rethinking and reimagining of the future of OLLI Kent/Sussex. An 11-person committee drafted a new strategic plan for FY's 2022-2024 with a longer-term vision

through the year 2030. The council adopted the plan unanimously at its meeting in July 2021.

The plan identifies six primary areas of focus, lays out strategies for each area, and assigns responsibility for developing specific goals and objectives to operationalize these strategies to the relevant council committees. The six areas of focus are: (1) Members; (2) Instructors; (3) Program --Academic--Social; (4) Financial; (5) Facilities; (6) Collaboration.

Recognizing that membership is the essential driver of all strategies, and that the Covid-19 pandemic has caused significant attrition in our membership base, the plan sets out an ambitious target to restore our paid annual memberships to pre-pandemic levels by FY 2023.

The Strategic Planning Committee is monitoring progress towards achieving the various objectives set out in the plan via periodic "check-ins" with OLLI Kent/Sussex committee chairs. Members interested in viewing the plan in its entirety may request a copy by contacting the program manager.

Submitted by Nick Simmonds, Chair

Communications Committee Annual Report



With the return of more in-person classes and activities, *The Tides* has tried to highlight these activities and the important connections that make OLLI the dynamic organization it is. With the help of my co-chair Wendy Leicht in Dover, we have featured our many outstanding instructors and our generous volunteers who make our OLLI Kent/Sussex program successful. We appreciate the submissions of pictures and articles and we welcome suggestions for future articles. By sending *The Tides* not only to currently active members but also many inactive members we hope to reenergize our membership in the year to come.



Submitted by Lynn Kroesen and

Wendy Leicht, Co-Chair

Annual Report From Finance



The OLLI Kent-Sussex Fiscal Year 2022 (FY'22) goes from July 2021 through June 2022. In FY'22 we continued our partnership with OLLI Wilmington to provide online, in-person and hybrid courses for our members.

During this post-pandemic era it has been a financial challenge to meet our expenses. Our membership is down considerably (it is less than half of our pre-pandemic membership) and our former financial assistance from University of Delaware has not been reinstated. Therefore, we are dependent almost completely on tuitions from membership and class fees to cover all of our expenses. These expenses include all salaries/benefits, building rentals, utilities, internet services, phone services, building maintenance, catalog printing, office/course supplies, credit card fees and other miscellaneous expenses. While the final expenses and income numbers for FY'22 will not be available until after June 30th, it appears we may cover our FY'22 expenses and finish the year with our budget "in the black".

It is hoped that as our membership grows, we will be able to ease the strain of meeting our expenses and continue to offer great programs and courses to our members.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Schaub, Finance Chair

Annual Report Community Relations Committee – Kent County



Things with OLLI slowly began to build up during year two of the pandemic with marketing OLLI membership and courses with displays being set up at libraries in Kent County and at the Dover Modern Maturity Center during August. The Modern Maturity Center also included us in their monthly newsletter.

For the Spring semester, catalogs were made available at all the above sites with one catalog labeled as reference copy so that there would always be a catalog available.

In May, the plans for getting OLLI better known throughout Kent and Sussex Counties began to take shape with the development of the state-wide marketing committee. Discussions about doing in-person presentations, brochures and phone calls utilizing the new Marketing Committee, along with the Community Relations and the Membership Committee will no doubt provide greatly upgraded interaction with the community – the brochures are already printed and getting them to libraries, senior centers, over 55 communities and more will become a reality by the end of June.

Our quiet year at OLLI ended with new and exciting possibilities!

Submitted by Denise A. Kaercher, Co-Chair

In Remembrance of



Nina S. Patchell, 93, of Lewes, formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa., passed away Monday, March 21, 2022. She was a graduate of Winchester Thurston School and the Pennsylvania State University.

Nina volunteered her time and energies to many organizations.

Among them as a member of the Lewes Historical Society, where she organized and chaired the first Visitor Center at the Rabbit's Ferry House, their annual Oktoberfest, and established the society's Strawberry Festival. Nina was a member and past vice-regent of the Colonel David Hall Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

She was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, Edward Winslow Patchell.

an extended illness.

Bob was a graduate of William Penn High School in Wilmington, DE, and received both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in history from the University of Delaware, as well as a Master of Science in Library Science from Drexel University. After college, Bob served four years in the United States Air Force as a sergeant and a foreign language translator, at which time he also held the position of adjunct history instructor for the University of Maryland. Bob dedicated his life to his career in library services, serving as Assistant Director and then Director of the Cumberland County Library in Bridgeton, NJ, Director of the Dover Public Library in Dover, DE, and the Gloucester County Library System in Mullica Hill, NJ. Most recently Bob served as a technical consultant and E-books librarian for the Delaware State Library in Dover, DE.



Mary "Kay" Ryan, 88, passed away Saturday, March 26, 2022. She received her bachelor's degree from Emmanuel College, her master's in business administration from Boston University, and a law degree from Harvard University.

After earning her degrees, Kay joined the Foreign Service of the U.S. State Department, where she held posts in Ceylon and Buenos Aires. She had an extensive career with the U.S. Government, working at the Federal Trade Commission and serving as director of the Bureau of Compliance at the Consumer Product Safety Commission and deputy chief counsel at the Small Business Administration.

In 2001, Kay moved to Delaware. A love of theater led her to become council chair for Clear Space Theatre Company in Rehoboth Beach for many years.



Arthur John McLaughlin Jr., 74, of Dover passed away with his loving wife, Susan, by his side Sunday, May 15, 2022.

Art said, "I want to help sick people and I want to be around beautiful things," and he managed to do both.

After a career in health services during

which he served as the director of respiratory therapy for Wilmington Medical Center, he went back to school to earn his bachelor's and master's degrees in art history at the University of Delaware, where he won the Robert Silver Award for Excellence in teaching art history. He authored several books, most recently "Art and the Nazis 1933-1945 Looting, Propaganda and Seizure."

For the past 12 years, Mr. McLaughlin was a loved volunteer teacher with OLLI, where he shared his knowledge and passion for art history, medicine and science and rock 'n' roll with adult students throughout the state. He was also a valued member of the Collections and Education Committees of the Biggs Museum of American Art.



Robert Shaw Wetherall, "Bob," age 77, a longtime resident of Dover, DE, passed away on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at the George Washington University Hospital in Washington, DC, after