Greetings to all OLLI - Dover members

The OLLI-Dover site is growing at an amazing rate and in ways we as members can be proud of. It doesn't seem possible that OLLI - Dover is in it's 7th year! If it weren't for the staff at Dover and all the dedicated instructors who all have brought inspiration, talent and dedication to Dover, the site would be just limping along. Instead it's soaring!!!

Many thanks to Caroline Baxter and Joe Bailey who will be producing the Newsletter and Diana Faison and Paula Wood who will be staffing the Dover site on a daily basis. As Chairperson of the OLLI-Dover Council, I invite any member to attend a Council meeting and experience first hand the talent and dedication that the Council members put forth to make the OLLI - Dover program the success it is.

Cheryl Moore, Council Chair
OLLI - Dover

55+ Expo

The 55 Plus Expo on April 18, 2017 in Dover. Wow! Did you ever see so many people? Getting older doesn’t mean you can’t get around. Traffic past the OLLI booth started at a brisk pace and picked up from there. The chance to win a $25 Wawa gift card produced a lot of contacts that could yield some new members. All and all it was a good day and well worth the effort. A big thank you to all our volunteers.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware is an all-volunteer organization established by the University of Delaware to provide intellectual and cultural development for people 50 years of age and older. Membership is open to all and is in compliance with the University’s Equal Opportunity Policy.
Along the Tracks

The Pennsylvania Railroad tracks that run next to our parking lot at OLLI have special meaning to me. I was born and raised in Dover. The house where I grew up is about two blocks south of Walker Road and four blocks east of those tracks. It was all farmland west of home and from our front porch I could see the trains as they passed. As young boys in the summer my brother and I went to bed before it was dark. If the wind was blowing from the west or southwest, I could hear the train whistle as the trains approached the crossings. The first crossing was at North Street and then Loockerman Street, and Division Street. As the trains approached Walker Road, I could hear the clickety-clack of the wheels as they passed over the track joints. The blast of the whistle got louder as the train got closer to Walker Road and faded as it neared State College road, and then it was gone.

Until about 1965 there was regular passenger service on the tracks. There was one train each way between Delmar and Wilmington. Until 1991 an occasional “Special” may have also run. As a little Boy, I remember hearing stories after WW II of hobos riding the rails. I suspect many of these were war veterans who may have been homeless.

The Air Force Base and low taxes have caused quite a few people to retire here. Long before Connie and I started traveling, we went to school with Air Force kids who had lived all over the United States and abroad. We were able to visit many places through their stories. Now we go to school with much older kids; many from New York and north Jersey who share stories from the big city.

With a few paragraphs in each issue of the newsletter, I will share stories of the Dover where I grew up. We will leave Pennsylvania Railroad tracks and ride the metaphorical tracks back to visit the people, buildings, and businesses that are no longer there.

Joe Bailey

YOUR MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Dover is a place where your membership matters.

Members volunteer their wealth of talent and experience in planning and implementing high quality educational experiences to form an educational cooperative. The members are the instructors and students, and through a committee structure guide the operating policies, develop curriculum and help with the daily operations.

All members are encouraged to become actively involved in the Osher (Dover) programs.

Council Chair – Cheryl Moore
Vice Chair – Ronnie Grady
Secretary – Caroline Baxter
Members – Joe Bailey, Rosemary Engle, Phyllis Handler, Betty Ipnar, Betsy Patterson, Madelyn Wright

Team Leaders –
Administrative Assistance – Cheryl Moore
Course Development – Ronnie Grady
Member Relations – Betty Ipnar
Faculty Relations – Phyllis Handler
Community Relations/Diversity – Betsy Patterson,
Co-Lead Joe Bailey, Co-Lead
Special Events – Rosemary Engle
Travel – Madelyn Wright