



FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Hello to OLLI Dover members and friends. It's hard to believe that OLLI Dover, soon to be 8 years old, is so vibrant and able to provide such exciting and fantastic learning opportunities as well as paths to new friendships and social interactions. Join me in working to cement OLLI Dover's continued existence by letting friends know about OLLI by inviting them to sit in on one of the course offering in art, science, humanities and languages. Another way to ensure OLLI Dover is to pledge a yearly contribution of \$500.00 or more to offset expenses. The more the better!!!

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in Dover must and will continue with your help. Thank you for your support now and in the future.

Cheryl Moore, OLLI –Dover Council Chair

Instructor Recognition Lifetime Achievement September 2010 – April 2018

Taught 15 Plus Semesters

Alice Cataldi

Art McLaughlin

Taught 10 – 14 Semesters

**Don Blakey
George Christensen
Russell Endo**

**Bob Heifetz
Gail Johnston
Doug Miller**

**Jan Miller
Carol Neild
Daniel Pritchett**

Taught 5 – 9 Semesters

**Mike Apgar
Mary Boyd
James Brown
Terry Bryan
Kathleen Dunn
Jack Gardner
John Grady**

**Ray Hain
Roger Hazzard
Beth Jelich
Bill Jones
Sue Letavish
Kevin McGrath
Susan McLaughlin**

**Linda Medunick
Barbara Shalley-Leonard
Dave Skocik
Jeff Spiegelman
Gerri Street
Liisa Trala**

When You Give to OLLI, You Make Members' Dreams Possible

OLLI in Dover is a vital and vibrant part of our members' lives. Consider promoting lifelong learning with a charitable gift to OLLI. Checks can be made payable to University of Delaware with a note that the contribution should be directed to Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in Dover.

Mail your check to:

University of Delaware
Development & Alumni Relations
Gifts Receiving & Processing Office
83 E. Main Street, 3rd Floor
Newark, DE 19716

or OLLI Dover
1201 College Park Drive, Suite 101
Dover, DE 19904

You may also give online at www.udel.edu/makeagift or by calling the Development Office at 302-831-2104.

When you give back to OLLI, you make members' dreams possible, the University of Delaware stronger and our community stronger. No matter how big or small, every gift truly matters.

Spring 2018 End of Semester Luncheon



WHAT COURSES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OLLI OFFER?

The Course Development Team is currently planning for the fall semester. They would like to "spice things up" with some new and exciting courses. Would you like to help plan a holiday baking class, an international food class, or a wine tasting class? The team continues to have requests for more literature classes, book discussion groups, a tai chi class, the Great Courses series, etc. If you are interested or can talk a friend or colleague into being an instructor or facilitator, please contact Ronnie Grady at vagrady1@gmail.com.

The team hopes to offer a new course called "Voices of Immigrants". They are looking for persons who have recently immigrated to this country who would be willing and able to speak of their experience. If you know of someone who would be comfortable speaking, please contact a member listed below.

The success of the OLLI program depends, in part, on offering a wide selection of interesting classes. New ideas are always welcome. The team relies on members to help us find new members.

Course development team: Beth Jelich, George Christensen, Doug Miller, Carol Nield, Mike Apgar, Ronnie Grady



For some of our members learning doesn't stop at the end of the semester. An example is when you take French with Alice Cataldi. When OLLI is not in session members get together at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday at the Governor's Café. It is an informal time to practice speaking and listening to French. There is no agenda, just a social time to help carry on with what they have learned and prepare them for the next semester.

WHAT IS OLLI DOVER TO DO?

Submitted by Joe Bailey

I worked for Xerox Corp. during their heyday of the 1960's and the disaster of the late 1970's and early 1980's. I was there when they discovered the Ethernet whose offspring the internet has gained some fame. Al Gore was not involved in the engineering. In 1972 I was in Rochester, NY for a demo of what Xerox called "the office of the future". Today we call it Windows. I watched a computer screen as documents left a file cabinet in New York and entered a file cabinet in Los Angeles. I saw touch screens in action and watched as robots delivered mail and loaded and unloaded trucks.

I was there when Xerox bought a casualty insurance company shortly before claims caused by floods wiped out that insurance company. I was there when someone made the decision that the future was in copiers and not information systems. To save the company from total ruin research & development was practically eliminated. Many other divisions were closed. The information systems division (a fun toy) was left to be picked up by the likes of Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, along with a gang of brilliant engineers.

I was there when Xerox created a new position, "Spin Doctor". The corporate vocabulary was modified. We were no longer faced with challenges nor did we have problems. We now had pockets of opportunity. Fellow OLLI members we are now faced with pockets of opportunity and a number of line positions are still available to be filled. Some positions have no openings. We don't need any whiners. People who can identify problems and fix the blame are not needed; however, people who can identify the problem and fix it are always welcome. People who can spot work that needs to be done and do it are vital. Things get dropped on the floor and trash cans need to be emptied. In the performance of their purpose lunchrooms get messed up. We don't have paid janitorial staff here and wherever we go we will probably share space. We want to be good neighbors.

Inside the front cover of the catalog is a list of the team leaders. They always need help. The Dover OLLI has by far the smallest membership of the Delaware OLLIs but the highest percentage attendance at the end of term luncheons. Each term it seems like Rosemary Engle and her team up their game. I was sorry to miss the last one. It sounds like it was great. The planning for these events is an ongoing process, but the closer it gets to game day the more help is needed. Contact Rosemary and learn how you too can share in the glory. Betty Ipnar's Member Relations team has peaks when more help is needed. It is hard to know what we will be faced with but pockets of opportunity are everywhere.

Every day comes with a choice. Have a good day if you want to.

We are adding a feature to the newsletter to help you meet the people you see at OLLI -- fellow members, teachers and others who make this program what it is. We spent years at a career so that we can have fun now. *Interviews were conducted by Joe Bailey.*

MEET THE TEACHER CAROL NEILD



Like many of us Carol and her husband Gil found OLLI via friends. Their friends invited them to join them at the Lewes OLLI. The Neilds are part of the charter members of the Dover OLLI. That small group tells stories of having class in one room divided by a partition. And we thought one room school houses were long gone. I may have failed as an interviewer because I was so interested in Carol's story that I may have forgotten to note some important facts.

Like many of our members, Carol is a retired teacher. She taught elementary school and was a reading specialist. At some point the Neilds decided that the Binghamton, NY winters were not for them. In 1962 they headed south. Florida was warm but too far from family and friends. Delaware is not cold like upstate New York is cold. It was closer to family and the tax structure was friendlier.

Carol has taught recorder and early music at OLLI. Young people would probably call it ancient music and suggest it be stored on the same shelf as the writing of Shakespeare and Chaucer. Other joys for Carol are gardening, sewing, and traveling. When asked about her favorite places to visit she said she would love to spend six to eight weeks in the cultural centers of Europe and soak up the art and music. As a traveler that sounds like a dream to me.

MEMBER VOICES

My Relatives: George and Martha Washington

Beth Jelich taught a course on George and Martha Washington last year. As part of the course, she covered the Parke family. Therefore, when I saw a book on Col. Parke at the Kent County Library sale, I grabbed it. The book mentioned the relationship of the Parkes to a child of Obedience Robbins of Northampton County, Va. I'm descended from another child. As a result I'm distantly related to George and Martha. I always tell my classes that you never know what you will find or where you will find it. My relationship is proven by records in Colonial Virginia.

What story do you have?

Submitted by Ann Happoldt

I joined Ann Happoldt's Beginning Genealogy course in October in order to start research on my paternal grandmother, Eunice Thorp Faucett's family. Ann suggested that since they were a local family, I should be able to find many original source documents in the State of Delaware Archives, which I have.

My great-grandfather, William D. Faucett, was the Town of Wyoming's blacksmith in the 1890's. I was able to find the shop's location on an 1880 map and documentation in the 1890 census of his occupation as a blacksmith and the owner of the shop. The 1900 census listed him with three young children, Eunice (my grandmother), Mae and William.

Since stories handed down by family told of his only son being killed on the railroad, I was curious as to what had happened. I found that a William D. Faucett died on May 4, 1909. Ann suggested I research local newspapers for more information. I found in the May 4, 1909 Wilmington, Delaware newspaper, *The Evening Journal*, a front page article entitled, "Two Children Carrying Violets For Teacher, Killed on Way to School". It describes a tragic, but such a sweet story of what happened to my great Uncle Willie. That article is included here. Genealogy is much more than names, dates and locations; it is stories like this one that bring meaning and life to our ancestors.

Eunice Z. Craig
March 22, 2018

A copy of the original article is on the next page.

TWO CHILDREN CARRYING VIOLETS FOR TEACHER, KILLED ON WAY TO SCHOOL

Little William Faucett and Nellie Marker Run Down by Train at Wyoming Today

Special to THE EVENING JOURNAL
WYOMING, Del., May 4.—On their way to school after gathering violets to give to their teacher, fourteen-year-old William Faucett and twelve-year-old Nellie Marker were struck by a north-bound Delaware Railroad express just below Wyoming today, and instantly killed.

The Marker girl had one arm and one leg completely severed from the body, while the boy had his skull crushed.

Hurrying across the track to escape an approaching freight train the children stepped in front of the express coming from the opposite direction.

Fletcher Marker, the father of the girl, was working in a section gang

nearby and viewed the accident. He did not know that his child was one of the victims until he approached the mangled corpses and recognized the clothing of his daughter that he had assisted her to put on many times.

The father collapsed when he beheld the form of his little one, and he had to be taken away by his fellow workmen who were greatly affected by the scene.

The children were on their way to the Wyoming school, but had tarried to pick some violets from a bed down the railroad. Bearing their violets for the teacher, they had resumed their trip to the school, when express train No. 46, of which William Fleming was conductor, swooped down upon them from around a curve.

The children were directly in the path of the train, which could not be stopped in time to save them. The bodies were removed to the late homes of the children, and an inquest will be held this afternoon. The Faucett lad was a son of William Faucett, a blacksmith of Wyoming.

Spring 2018 End of Semester Luncheon



CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. FISHER AND MRS. ABBOTT

George Fisher and Peggy Abbott, OLLI Dover members since 2010, were married on February 22, 2018. In the early years of OLLI Dover, they rarely were in the same classes. George is very history oriented and Peggy is into literature and art. However, they did serve on Council together. They really got to know each other on an OLLI trip to the Newseum in Washington, DC. They shared a seat on the bus, and since they each had made the trip alone, they spent the day together.

After that momentous day, they started to spend a lot of time together. They visited area parks and local sites. They also visited Virginia and North and South Carolina. George has taken Peggy on some wonderful trips to Europe and Central America. They are heading to France in April for a river cruise through wine country and then on to Paris.

They have been living together since 2015 in Camden. They decided to get married on the spur of the moment and after the ceremony, went to class.



Peggy Abbott & George Fisher
February 22, 2018

**OLLI in Dover has some terrific news
To share with our member "family"
Oh my...a recent marriage...whoever could it be?
Just read on and listen to their wonderful story!**

**On Council for a while, of course, together
Taking trips everywhere in all kinds of weather
Enjoying each other's company which is a must
We don't mean to make a fuss!**

**Meeting at OLLI...a friendship that grew and grew
Solving puzzles together and other interests too
We are all so happy for both of you!
Peggy and George...Congrats you two!**

By Ann Kemmerle



George and Peggy celebrating with their OLLI family at the Spring 2018 End of Semester Luncheon.

MEMBER VOICES

Announcements over the past few months have OLLI members thinking about the future, some of our members would like to share their memories and show how far OLLI has come.

In early May of perhaps 2006 or 07 I got a letter from the University of Delaware saying adult education classes would be offered in my area and would I be interested. As a lifelong learner I had been hoping for an opportunity such as this. A group of approximately 30 people met at the Smyrna Middle School one evening a week for perhaps a month. Emily Miller was our instructor and the subject was Early Delaware History. Was this the birth of OLLI in Kent County? Possibility. Those present were asked to give input on their experience and preferences as to subject matter for possible future classes.

Then in September 2010 Osher Lifelong Learning Dover became a reality. The first classes began at the Modern Maturity Center. Members were welcomed by our support staffer, Carrie Townsend, and directed to our one classroom. Yes, one classroom. It was divided to make two and each class competed with the other for noise control and privacy. The first instructors were Bob Heifetz, the late Charles Burris and Margaret McKay and subject matter respectfully was literature, civil war history and current government. There may have been more instructors and classes at that time but those are the ones I remember. Students from that year that I remember are – Peggy Abbott, Bonnie Hironimus, Janice Hess McGraw and Phyllis Handler. I'm sure there are others.

From that one divided room and just a few instructors to a steady enrollment of around 150 members plus a great diversity in classes offered, we have progressed nicely. This has come about because of volunteers, strong staff and loyal members. Take a look where we have been and watch where we are going.

Submitted by Betty Ipnar

When OLLI Dover began the organizers worked hard to present many attractive classes, too many to be accommodated in the small "suite" of rooms in the southwest portion of MMC. An additional room was found in the east wing. It had a movable divider, thus making two rooms available. The idea was good, but in practice a problem. I had a class about the Civil War in one portion and another class was meeting in the other part. The Civil War class was mostly lecture by the teacher, while the other class had some loud music playing at various times during each class. When the music started, my class had to stop until the music ended. This was a regular problem.

Submitted by Carol Neild

ALONG THE TRACKS 2018-2

Submitted by Joe Bailey

I WRITE STORIES ABOUT GROWING UP IN Dover in the 1950s. Another Dover native, Doug VanSant wrote a little book about growing up in Dover in the 1940s. I don't know Doug. I have never met the man although I am familiar with the name. Recently I read a letter to the editor that he wrote in the Delaware State News in which he made reference to the lack of beauty possessed by the Dover Public Library. This is an opinion shared by many. I suspect the builder, Ernest DiSabatino and Sons, Inc., find the building useful. I remember that as the project ran further and further over budget the exterior materials had to be changed to meet the shortage causing the building to be covered in an incongruous conglomeration of materials.

Now picture yourself going into Lowes' to pick out a paint color for your kitchen walls. You have three hundred fifty square feet of wall and they want you to select a color based on a two square inch swatch. Now pretend that you are Mr. DiSabatino and John the architect comes in with a building plan and he is looking for a roofing or exterior covering product and wonders how it will look on a big building.

"Well John, let's go down to Dover and I'll show you a large building with several of the products you are considering already on it. The wise political leaders of Dover had the taxpayers pay for a more magnificent salesman's sample that I could have ever designed for myself. Afterwards we can go to 33 West and we can discuss your project over lunch."

I admit to thinking that at a time when printed books seem to be disappearing and e-books seem to be everywhere spending twenty million dollars to build a new huge library when it seems like cheaper options were available wasn't the best plan. To paraphrase Yogi Berra I feel like I'm having a déjà vu moment all over again. When I drive along Lookerman Street and the side streets parking spaces are available on the street and in the parking lots. I see empty storefronts. And yet nearly every day I read a story about Dover needing a downtown parking building. In the United State malls, strip centers, and downtowns, stores are closing everywhere. Is it different in Dover? Does someone see a "Field of Dreams", or just dollar signs?

I don't want to go back to 1955 and I would probably be disappointed if I could. I like it just the way I remember it. Doug VanSant's little book, *Hometown*, is about my hometown; a small town with a main street of locally owned businesses. Greed was years away. The Nehi bottling company on William Street was a place where a couple of young boys could watch the soda bottles being filled and if they were lucky the man running the machine would hand them a couple of the best darned orange sodas they ever tasted.



Here are some photos of members enjoying the Spring 2018 End of Year Luncheon and Hair, The Musical.

OSHER DOVER NEWS

The *Osher Dover News* is published for the information and entertainment of the members and those interested in lifelong learning by the Community Relations Team.

Co-Leads: Betsy Patterson & Joe Bailey

Photographer: Larry Klepner

Composition: Caroline Baxter

Team:

Betsy Patterson
Lissa Scott
Pat Weaver

To submit items to the newsletter please email carolinebaxter21@yahoo.com or contact any member of the team.

2018 – 2019 COUNCIL ROSTER

Council Chair – Cheryl Moore

Vice Chair - Ronnie Grady

Secretary - Caroline Baxter

Council Members:

**Joe Bailey
Rosemary Engle
Phyllis Handler
Bob Heifetz
Betty Ipnar
Pat Weaver
Madelyn Wright**

Team Leaders:

**Administrative Assistance – Cheryl Moore
Course Development – Ronnie Grady
Faculty Relations – Phyllis Handler
Member Relations – Betty Ipnar
Community Relations/Diversity –
Betsy Patterson & Joe Bailey
Special Events – Rosemary Engle
Travel – Madelyn Wright**

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Delaware is a learning cooperative 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