



OLLI DOVER NEWS



Volume 1, Issue 9

Winter/Spring 2018

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) in Dover - 1201 College Park Dr., Suite 101, Dover, DE 19904 - 302-736-7450

www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/dover

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Hello Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Members,

Hope your holidays were merry and bright.

What does OLLI membership mean to you? Well, OLLI Dover's success is dependent on its members. To maintain a healthy and vibrant organization, members have to commit to recruiting new members from all over Kent County as well as introducing new members to what OLLI can offer them.

There's still time in the Spring 2018 course offerings to experience some really great classes.

You won't regret your efforts!!!

Cheryl Moore

OLLI -Dover Council President

Inclement Weather Policy

Because OLLI cares about the safety of its members, classes may be canceled due to inclement weather. Please visit www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/dover for weather updates or cancellations, or call the office at 302-736-7450.

Please check for information at the following:

Web: lifelonglearning.udel.edu/dover

Media: WBOC or www.w boc.com, weather closings



YOUR MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

OLLI 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 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 OLLI Dover.

FREE COFFEE

Thanks to a generous donation from a member, OLLI has been able to finance the coffee and eliminate the 50 cent donation for an entire semester. We are still accepting donations of homemade or packaged snack items to share. Also, we are trying to provide a healthier variety of snacks this semester. If you have any suggestions for healthy alternatives, please let us know.

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

Hi Fellow OLLI Members,

I can finally say “fellow” as I just turned 50 and am excited to have joined OLLI Dover! Welcome to a new semester. I hope you all are enjoying your courses. We have a wealth of knowledge among our instructors and students. I look forward to being a part of this learning cooperative.

I have had a few questions about catalog delivery (or lack of delivery). Once our catalogs are printed and addressed, they are sent to a mail-house. The mail-house sorts them by zip code and distributes them to the local post offices. This is typically where things can fall apart. To save a significant amount of money, the catalogs are mailed as third class mail (literature) instead of first class mail. We are at the mercy of the individual postal carrier to deliver your catalog. Sometimes we find that an entire stack of our catalogs are still on the floor of the post office. Please contact Diana (dsfaison@udel.edu) if you did not receive your spring catalog in the mail and include the name of your neighborhood. We will track that information to identify neighborhoods that are being missed and address the issue directly with the post office.

Next, the financial state of OLLI Dover is bleak. OLLI is a self-supporting unit at the University of Delaware (UD), meaning our revenue should cover all our expenses. As you can see below, we are projected to have almost a \$20,000 deficit this fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Also note that OLLI Dover is not currently paying rent or custodial services. UD is covering this amount (\$80,000/year). At the mid-point of the year the financial officer at UD Professional and Continuing Studies, Associate Vice Provost Dr. Jim Broomall (my boss), and I sat down to discuss a solution for the budget deficit. There were really only two options: raise membership fees drastically or work with bare-bones staff. The decision was to place the burden on staff vs. the membership. I hope you all understand that this decision was not made lightly and hopefully will not last for long. Please continue to sing praises about our program and encourage your friends and neighbors to join. Increased membership equals increased revenue. A generous donor or two would also be helpful!

OSHER DOVER – FY18 BUDGET		
	Budget FY18	Projected FY18 End of Year
Revenue		
Membership Fees	\$56,550	\$43,632
Summer Session Fees	\$4,800	\$4,800
Total Revenue	\$61,350	\$48,432
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$48,886	\$56,751
Rent/Custodial Services	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Printing/Internet/Phone	\$11,790	\$11,590
	\$60,676	\$68,341
Gain/Loss	\$674	-\$19,909

On a lighter note, we are preparing for the June session. The session fee is \$60. Just a little teaser, Bob Heifetz will be teaching “Frankenstein – How a Monster Became an Icon”, Rae Tyson will be back with his “Writing Memoirs” course, Jack Gardner will be teaching “All the World’s a Stage!”, and Jan Miller will be teaching three art classes.

I hope you all enjoy the rest of the semester!

All the best,

Anna Moshier

Manager, Osher Learning Centers
Kent and Sussex Counties

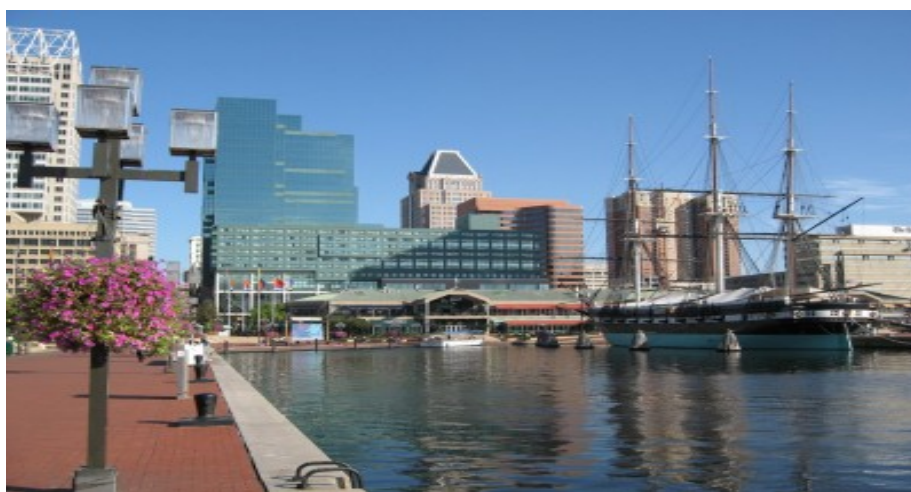
SAVE THIS DATE!

Thursday, April 19, 2018

OLLI Dover has planned a trip to the National Aquarium at the Inner Harbor in Baltimore. The group will travel by bus from OLLI Dover and has a 1 p.m. reservation at the aquarium.

Cost: Members \$60

Non Members \$65



COME LET YOUR HAIR DOWN!!!!

From Sue Letavish

Hair –The Musical Experience is being presented at the Dover OLLI on March 15th beginning at 2:20 p.m. 2018 is the Fiftieth Anniversary of the opening of *Hair* on Broadway. Sue Letavish will be leading the celebration which will begin with a presentation of the history of the musical, followed by a sing-along of many of the musical's memorable songs. You are invited to bring snacks to share and bring your own beverages, which will be enjoyed after the presentation. We will also be playing additional music from that era for dancing too if you are so inclined.

You are also encouraged to dress in your best Hippie clothes! It will add to your experience. Come to the OLLI *Hair* Be-In and be prepared to have a Blast!

Space is limited so sign up early. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board or you can call the office at 302-736-7450.

Peace and Love



SPRING 2018 CALENDAR

- Monday, February 26:** Second session begins
- Thursday, March 15:** *Hair: The Musical Experience*, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, March 23:** End of semester celebration
- Thursday, March 29:** Last day of classes
- Thursday, April 19:** Trip to National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland

About OLLI in Dover

We hope that you have taken the time to read Page 1 of your OLLI catalog which gives information about the program. Over the next few issues of the newsletter we are going to try to supply more background information on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and its founder, Bernard Osher.

WHO IS BERNARD OSHER, ANYWAY?

By Betsy Patterson

In the winter of 2017, our OLLI manager for the Dover program asked me if I wanted to go with her to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute's National Conference. Each program across the country sends one staff member and student. On April 3-5, 2017, Anna Moshier and I attended that conference in Irving, Texas. Yahoo! (It only added to the adventure that my granddaughter, Kate, was in graduate school nearby in Fort Worth.)

There was little time to visit, though. Morning, after lunch and after dinner, workshop of all kinds were offered. There was an absolute buzz in the air as you met people from other states who shared answers about how their programs were run, what works and what doesn't, in particular situations for both staff and students. The energy shared at these sessions together showed we all had something in common: to make our programs better by learning from each other.

On our last evening together, dinner was a casual affair on the grounds of our hotel. Old and new friends shared beer, wine and a delicious barbecue supper. Everyone chatted together, shoulder to shoulder. In my hunt to find one of my new friends, a bespectacled man bumped into me. "Hello," I said, "I'm Betsy Patterson from Delaware."

"Hello," he said, "I'm Bernard Osher from San Francisco." After I recovered and reassured what I heard by looking at his name tag. I countered, "Yes, but you came by way of Biddeford, Maine, and we have a friend in common, Jim Flood from Dover, Delaware." Mr. Osher looked stunned.

I explained that Jim Flood was formerly the publisher and editor of our local newspaper, the DOVER POST, and that he often reminisced about his home town of Biddeford, Maine, in his weekly column, "Overlooking the Lake". When Jim heard that I was happily involved in the Osher program, he let me know that Mr. Osher was a native, too.

Although it was a chance meeting, it was a wonderful opportunity for me to say thank you for his founding and continuing support of our OLLI program. And then he thanked me for reminding him about his lovely Biddeford home.

We are adding a feature to the newsletter to help you meet the people you see at OLLI -- fellow members, teachers and other 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 DOUG MILLER

Doug came to Dover like a lot of people via the US Air Force. See the piece he wrote about coming to Dover as a nineteen year old airman in this newsletter. He joined the Air Force out of high school. Doug was interested in forestry and after he was discharged went to Penn State to study it. He found the program to be more about science and math than trees and bushes.

Doug was interested in math and science and a variety of things offered in elementary education. He changed majors and became an elementary school teacher. Teaching school is not a path to riches so Doug stayed in the Air Force reserves to supplement his income. This became a parallel career. I sometimes think he can identify every airplane the military has on sight.

Doug is a student of Revolutionary War history. He volunteers at the Dickinson Plantation. He and his wife Jan have taught a number of classes at OLLI over the years; and, hopefully, they will continue to help us learn.

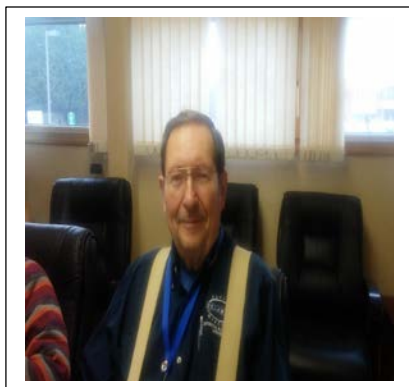


Photo on left – Doug Miller

Photo on right – Larry Klepner



MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHER LARRY KLEPNER

Photography has been Larry's hobby for fifty years. Retirement gives him time to indulge this hobby and OLLI gives him subjects and a reason for his art. We are fortunate to have someone of Larry's skill who is willing to work for gratitude alone. Larry and his wife Rita have been with OLLI Dover from the beginning. They donate a wealth of wit, wisdom, and skills to our success. If you have been around Larry very much you know that he harbors an inner stand-up comic longing to be free. He once did a humorous lunchtime talk here at OLLI and with only minimal begging can probably be talked into doing another one.

Larry came to Dover from New Brunswick, NJ. He is a product of Rutgers University and was active in the Lions Club up there for many years. An ad posted by DelDOT in the New York Times brought the Klepners to Dover. After finishing a career with the State of Delaware in the technical field, he worked for a period of time in technical services at the University of Delaware.

Here are a couple of little known facts, but not very closely guarded secrets about Larry. He was once a welfare case worker in Harlem and the South Bronx. He could probably write a book about those experiences. In high school he was the president of the Chefs Club. It is our good fortune that DelDOT snapped Larry up before Le Be Fin knew he was available.



Calling all OLLI artists!

Statewide OLLI Juried Art Exhibit

Dover Public Library

March 10 – April 14, 2018

Reception and Award Ceremony

March 18, 2018 – 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

OLLI artists are invited to submit their work for a juried show.

- Deadline for completed submission forms: February 28, 2018
Forms are available at lifelonglearning.udel.edu/exhibit
- Artwork intake for exhibit setup: March 9, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Linda Medunick

302-242-2396 or hollybranchamerpenwomen@gmail.com

Volunteers are needed to help with show, please contact Linda

MEMBER VOICES

By Doug Miller

One of the major benefits of being a member of OLLI at Dover, often overlooked by many who have not become quite familiar with our program, is the fellowship involved in meeting people in class who have similar interests (but often conflicting opinions). With this in mind, I have found it amazing just how few of our members are actually “native Delawareans”.

Although my Mom-mom was born in Little Creek, and my Aunt Lizzy lived in Bowers Beach, I am a transplanted Pennsylvanian, having arrived as a result of orders from the Air Force. I knew very little about lower, slower Delaware. I associated Delaware with 2 locations; the Greater Wilmington Airport (which is where I thought the Air Force was sending me) and all the miniature golf courses along Concord Pike.

So here I am, a 19 year old Airman, at DAFB, with no clue. And you know the scary part of this; I don't remember how I was first transported here. I could have been dropped off by aliens, for all I know.

There were several things we learned about Dover as young men right from the beginning. One, we didn't get into the City of Dover very often, because we didn't have transportation. The Air Force's opinion on this was “If we wanted you in town, we would issue a bus to take you.” Seriously, they actually did bus us in on Wednesday nights to the USO club in Dover. If my memory serves me correctly, (a leap of faith) it was right on Kings Highway, in the immediate vicinity of where Merrill Lynch's present office stands. The USO held dances there, and the girls who attended were also bussed in, mostly from Wilmington.

Only a few of us had cars, so our main means of transportation other than by Aerospace Vehicle (bus) was basically to hitch-hike.

Many times, we hitched a ride home in our uniforms. We often went to Wilmington for USO dances at the YWCA on King Street on Saturday nights, or to dances at the Armory on Sunday nights.

You may ask why we didn't have more social interaction (disregard any Freudian reference there. We would never have such thoughts) with the girls in Dover itself? This is a question for which I have no answer. Perhaps those OLLI members originally from Dover may know.

Soon after my arrival at DAFB, there were a few revelations about Delaware that I felt lacked credibility. First, (as any military veteran will tell you), any time you arrive at a new base; there is a tendency for certain individuals who, having arrived there before you, and having a streak of devilment in them, feel compelled to make ridiculous statements regarding your new assignment. I confess that I came to Dover with an understandable degree of skepticism. Who wouldn't, after arriving at Amarillo AFB, TX, for school, and being informed that we were required to be in formation at **3 a.m.** prior to class. My question was “What kind of fool gets up at 0300 for school?” My question was not received with the same humor I had intended. First they told me, you can't go out on Rt 9, it's only half paved. After I finished laughing, I said “You expect me to believe the State of Delaware would only pave half a road. What do you think they

are going to do with the other half? Boy was I surprised when I finally did drive a car out there and saw it for myself. The other fact that I was presented with –Delaware schools were segregated! I thought “That’s not possible. I just came from a town in Pennsylvania, only approximately 80 miles to the north, where we had been integrated all my life.” We were also told they still had a whipping post in Dover. No one ever believed that, either, but the civilians we worked with on base delighted in telling us that if we got into trouble in Dover we would be whipped.

I never saw or heard of it happening, but years later, I ran across one of my former high school classmates. She had been in Dover at one time, and verified the story as truth.

What did you do in the war Daddy (or Mom)? Back by popular demand for the fall semester

Did your relative have a story about what they did in the war? Funny, serious, educational, perhaps even true, that you would like to share during a lunch time presentation. It doesn’t only have to be about someone in uniform. Did they work in the shipyards, build airplanes, serve at the USO canteen, etc.?

The story doesn’t have to be long – 5, 10 or 15 minutes during the one-hour lunch time speaker series.

Please contact Pat Weaver at pweaver42@hotmail.com if you are interested.



47s. The Dover Army Air Field was home to the P-47 Thunderbolts and served as a vital training ground for many Army pilots being trained on this state of the art fighter. (Delaware Public Archives, 1325.205, Box 1 Chapter 3.)



These photos are from DELAWARE IN WORLD WAR II by Peter F. Slavin and Timothy A. Slavin.

GREAT WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY

This course will be offered again in the fall semester

Do you have a favorite great American woman? Would you like to share something about her life and accomplishments with other OLLI members? This course was very successful in the 2017 fall semester with members' presentations on Emily Dickinson, Georgia O'Keeffe, Dorothy Day, Maya Angelou and others.

The Fall 2018 course will look at 10 unheralded women who lived in the "shadows". We will bring them into the "light".

For more information, contact Ronnie Grady at vagrady1@gmail.com.

ATTENTION OLLI ARTISTS

In partnership with the Dover Public Library, the Holly Branch of National League of PEN Women has formed the Dover Public Art Gallery. We will be sponsoring shows at the library beginning in the Summer of 2018 and rotating every two months.

Interested in participating? Email the Gallery's Art Coordinator, Linda Medunick, at HollyBranchAmerPenWomen@gmail.com or telephone her at 302-270-2623.

There is no fee to participate, but certain conditions do have to be met.

ALONG THE TRACKS 2018 – 1

By Joe Bailey

Driving into Dover December 29th on business Route 13, I looked over to my right and saw the tree that I spent many hours sitting on as a boy was drooping into the lake. You could walk off the bank right onto the tree trunk. I parked on North Bradford and went to the park gate that was once bordered on both sides by bamboo. The plaque on the brick pillars supporting the gate bears the name Richardson Park. The gate was locked so I had to enter from a gate further down the road. The size of the park is much smaller than in my youth due to houses being built on that part of the lake. The area I walked into is still much like it had been in the 1950s. I walked over to see what had happened to my old friend. The path along the brick sea wall was still there as was the path several feet away that went up the little hill and back into the park. When the lake was frozen and snow was on the ground my friends and I would drag our sleds up the hill and along the path. We would go at a dead run, belly flop onto our sleds at the top of the hill, pull the sled handle at the bottom of the hill for a hard left turn and shoot off the wall into the lake hoping we had enough speed for a long slide on the ice. After several runs we would go over to **our** tree to rest and catch our breath. The bark on top of the tree was worn smooth from feet and butts sliding along its length over the many years. On this day I saw the problem. A series of deep cracks are running along the length of the trunk. This has allowed the tree to twist and sink lower resulting in what will no doubt be its end. So long old friend.

A few yards away is a park bench located between two trees. I decided to sit on the bench and make some notes about old times in this park. It is the Christmas season and looking up I saw that the trees had been decorated. Not this season, but probably over several summer seasons past. Hanging from the trees were more than a dozen fishing bobbers with lines attached. They were in various colors and shapes swinging in mute remembrance of a casting oops moment. It is cold out here today and the ink in my cheap pen is resisting my note taking efforts. We may have ice suitable for skating for the first time in years. I remember a year sixty plus years ago when I skated from my home to the lake. The ice melting chemicals used today weren't available then and the snow packed hard on the road. Hard enough to skate on. If people are skating on the lake this year I may drag my skates out and clean the dust off of them. Perhaps I'll slap on a little black polish before I put them back on the shelf and head down to the lake and skate vicariously for an hour or so.

Across the lake is a building of about five stories built by the late Mike Zimmerman, perhaps as a monument to self. It houses a McGlynn's Pub on the first floor and Mike's penthouse apartment on the top floor where I am sure the view from the balcony is far better than my view of the building from here. The space was once the home of the Blue Coat Inn where the wait staff dressed in colonial garb, the food was excellent, on weekends there was a piano bar,

and every day the bartender made the best darn Old Fashioned ever. This was a “white tablecloth” restaurant where the service was slow and professional. People came here to dine. Before it was the Blue Coat Inn it was the home of Lacey and Mable Griffith. They owned a pool room and a ladies dress shop downtown near where the Army Navy store now stands. George Bennett, an architect of local renown, made the transformation from home to restaurant.

I must go now. I see that 2018 is just ahead and I want to get there before it starts. Thank you for letting me share what for me is a warm memory on this cold day.

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.

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Photographer: Larry Klepner

Composition: Caroline Baxter

Team: Ken Garber, Ann Kemmerle,
Lissa Scott

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

2017 – 2018 COUNCIL ROSTER

Council Chair – Cheryl Moore

Vice Chair - Ronnie Grady

Secretary - Caroline Baxter

Council Members:

**Joe Bailey
Rosemary Engle
Phyllis Handler
Betty Ipnar
Betsy Patterson
Madelyn Wright**

Team Leaders:

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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 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