



FROM THE COUNCIL

Dear Osher Friends,

We are approaching the end of the spring semester and it is time to retire the chair and replace three retiring Council members. At the March meeting, the Council appointed George Fisher, Jim Brown and me (Peggy Abbott) to form the Nominating Committee to replace the Chair and retiring members. One of our Council members, Ann Kemmerle, the secretary, has resigned so that vital position is vacant. This election is very important. We need a new chair, vice chair and secretary, and we have three retiring positions to fill. The committee is diligently working to fill all of the vacancies. I am positive that by the next Council meeting, April 8, we will have a full slate. The election will be at the May meeting, scheduled for May 13.

The Council works with the University of Delaware to promote lifelong learning in the state of Delaware and to attract interested adults over 50 to learning interesting, enriching topics in a friendly, supportive environment.

Peggy Abbott
Council Chair



Carol Neild's class, *Play the Recorder*

MEET THE STAFF

Timothy Plimpton

Tim is the instructional support (aka audio visual/computer person) for Osher Dover. Tim comes to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute with a diverse combination of educational and work experience. A native of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, he first came to Delaware to study physics at the University of Delaware. After a few changes of heart, he received his Bachelor of Music degree and became the organist at Calvary Baptist Church in Newark, where he is in his fifth year of that role. Tim's musical endeavors include performing, teaching and writing music in the Delaware/Philadelphia area. Tim has also worked extensively in food service and retail, having held various management positions with the University of Delaware's Dining Services. He currently works with the Geek Squad at the Dover Best Buy. Tim lives with his wife, Steffi, who is a professional vocalist and music teacher in Dover.

Diana Faison

Diana comes to the Osher family with a varied career in education and business administration. She worked in adult and community education for 12 years in the Lake Forest and Polytech School Districts in the areas of instruction and administration. Her career started in the corporate world with over 25 years with AT&T. This was her training ground for her ultimate love of "lifelong learning." Born and raised in Delaware, she is a Delaware State University graduate, relocated to New Jersey for 25 years, obtained an MBA degree in business management from Fairleigh Dickinson University and returned to Delaware after an early retirement offer from AT&T. She holds officer positions on the Board of Directors of her church and state's adult education association. Diana and her husband, Jim, are currently residing with their daughter, Keanna, caring for Jim's mother.

Learn a new working method.

“What? Why?”

Step One: Draw a thumbnail sketch.

“Isn’t this a painting class? When do we paint?”

Step Two: Paint value masses, blocks of color and no details

“This is very foreign. We want to add details as we go.”

Step Three: Add halftones of color

“Oh good grief! Can we start over?”

“No? But we already added details!”

Stop and celebrate some birthdays.

Encourage the newbies

Support the experienced painters.

Step Four: Look at armatures, picture planes, centers of interest and flow.

“Now we can add the details. Yeah.”

Pictures are completed.

“Look at how differently we painted the same subject!”

“Let’s do another painting.”

“This is fun, great fun.”

“We have great memories of the wonderful class.”

“We are inspired to be creative.”

“In our own way and with our own style, we are ARTISTS”

November 2013

Sue Letavish

MEMBER VOICES

“Each week I eagerly look forward to Jan Miller’s drawing class. Not all artists can actually “teach” others successfully, but Jan is fabulous. She is a skilled teacher and her energy and enthusiasm are infectious! She works effectively with students of all levels of experience to encourage progress and impart technique. I will be sorry when this semester ends—it’s been so much fun!”

Elaine M Brenchley

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO THE SPECIAL EVENTS/TRAVEL COMMITTEE

The March 5th trip to “Costumes of Downton Abbey” at Winterthur was an excellent experience. The display made you remember how you felt when you first saw the PBS drama and appreciate how the show reflects the period in history. The tour of Winterthur helped to set the stage for the costume display. Even the weather cooperated to provide an excellent day. Thank you for your hard work to make the tour possible.

Caroline Baxter



Right: the final still-life project for Jan Miller’s *Drawing -- Beginners and Intermediate* class

MEMBER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Janice Hess

Our group was actively involved in Open House registration and escorting new members around the site. We also have been compiling information for our members to set up interest groups. Postings on the bulletin board for sign up will help in the formation of the groups. We volunteered to create and publish a newsletter for the Osher Dover site. Our group is also available to hear any suggestions/complaints to take back to the Council. Please feel free to speak to the members of our group:

Janice Hess, Liz Langham, Betty Ipnar, Barbara Trent, Caroline Baxter, Lydia Morrison and Cheryl Moore.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Submitted by Kevin McGrath

Even though everyone is really looking forward to the arrival of spring and putting their snow shovels into storage, the Curriculum Committee is busy preparing for fall. Classes will start on September 2. We have a number of very interesting classes and very capable instructors committed to teach classes in art and art history, music and music appreciation, literature, American history, foreign languages, science and a few surprises. We have also identified other exciting topics and instructors for the fall program. The committee is in the process of contacting and encouraging these new potential instructors to complete course proposals that could be taught starting in September. We hope to finalize the curriculum for the fall by mid to late April and have the most complete, exciting program that the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Dover has offered in our short history. Curriculum Committee members: Carol Neild, Gini Tate, Art McLaughlin, Doug Miller and Kevin McGrath.

FALL 2014 OSHER

With the spring classes ending, it is not too early to think about the fall. Catalogs are to be mailed July 15 with a priority registration deadline of August 15. Here is a “sneak” preview of some proposed courses:

- Art of the Bible
- History of the Revolutionary War
- Color and Composition
- Earth and Its Passengers
- American Sign Language



The curriculum committee meets to review course proposals for the fall semester.

JANUARY'S FRIDAY SPEAKER SERIES

Even though the January weather was miserable and the first session had to be rescheduled, the Friday morning speaker series was successful. Approximately 66 persons were registered for each session. The topics ranged from poetry, politics and public radio to an overview of Delaware's agriculture. Some of the Lewes members even braved the weather to join us for the presentations.

It was a great way to beat cabin fever.

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME SPEAKER SERIES

Join other members on Thursdays for special speakers bringing us an interesting array of topics. These programs are free for all members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware. You can attend every program or select the ones that you find most interesting.

Participants may bring lunch or just come and enjoy the programs. Sandwich platters are available for sale at the snack bar located in the Palmer Room in the West wing of the Modern Maturity Center building.

YOUR NEWSLETTER

Do you have news, information, photographs or items of interest that you would like to share with the OSHER members? We would like to hear from you because we wish to make this YOUR newsletter. Please contact the office with anything that you would like to contribute.

END OF SEMESTER LUNCHEON FOOD – ART – FUN

We will be having an informal luncheon at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8th to celebrate the end of the spring semester. Food will be provided, though we are looking for volunteers to bring sides and desserts. Join us as we recognize our instructors and share our experiences with each other. Sign up for food items in the kitchen.



Alice Cataldia's *French Conversations* class

Larry Klepner – photos
Caroline Baxter – editor

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.