



# OLLI News

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
at George Mason University



Spring 2005, Issue 1

[www.olloi.gmu.edu](http://www.olloi.gmu.edu)

March 28, 2005

## Board Candidates Named

Classes haven't been in session, but the Nominating Committee has been busily reviewing and evaluating qualifications and has developed a slate of ten nominees for election to the six vacancies on OLLI Board of Directors. The candidates are Garrett Cochran, Abbie Edwards, George Ewing, Ben Gold, Carol Henderson, Bruce Reinhart, Elaine Schwartz, Jack Underhill, Don Yesukaitis, and Susanne Zumbro.

To help you recognize them, photos and brief bios are posted on the OLLI WebSite on display boards at Lake Anne and in the Social Room at Tallwood, and you can identify them by the green and gold ribbons on their name tags.

You are urged to get acquainted and to let them know your wishes for the future development of OLLI.

Voting will commence at the Annual Meeting on Friday, May 6, and end at 11:30 on Wednesday, May 18.

The election process and voting procedures will be described in the next several issues of *OLLI NEWS* -watch for them.

Art Cook

## Lilyan Spero OLLI Honorary Director

At its March 18 meeting, the OLLI Board of Directors passed a motion naming Lilyan Spero, founding member and senior president emeritus, Honorary Director for Life with all the rights and privileges of board members except the right to vote.

Lilyan and her late husband, Abe, were among those instrumental in convincing GMU to assist in starting a program in 1991. A few years later, Lilyan and Abe convinced the university to allow the Institute to use the Tallwood Annex. In 1999, Lilyan led the effort to convince Fairfax County to make a \$25,000 grant to acquire the TA-3 modular building. She considers OLLI her "baby" and has made numerous other contributions to the growth and health of that "baby." Last year she was appointed by Governor Mark Warner to Virginia's Commonwealth Council on Aging.

Carol Henderson, Publications Committee chair

## New Member Coffee

All members are cordially invited for coffee and conversation at 10:30, Friday, April 1, at Tallwood. Ann Shell, Events Chair, encourages all new members to attend. Here's an opportunity for you to meet some of the OLLI instructors, staff, Board and committee chairs, to get answers to any questions you may have and to tell us about yourself and your interests. There will be plenty of refreshments and enjoyable conversation.

Sandra Driesslein, Hospitality Committee chair

## **Old Friends Return, New Classes Begin**

What a happy week this is for OLLI members—returning for spring classes, greeting old friends and comparing notes about our off-term activities!

The Membership Committee continues to monitor your apparent needs. You will again see me on varying days at my "Talk to Me" stations in Tallwood's social room and in the hallway of the Washington Plaza Baptist Church in Reston. Please use these opportunities to tell me your interests, concerns, and your suggestions on how to make your OLLI experience better. The winter term "Talk to Me" yielded many helpful ideas from course suggestions to practical matters to length of the session to cheers and kudos. Seated at a table in Tallwood's social room, I witnessed smiling members greeting each other, exchanging pleasantries, munching cookies and sipping coffee, enjoying, if you will, the soul of OLLI, its members.

Please remember to write your name in your home state's section of the map on the bulletin board in the social room annex, and then check back at a later date to see who else in OLLI shares your state. And another reminder: be sure to mark May 13 on your calendar as the date of the OLLI Expo, our membership wingding, which is not to be missed.

Welcome to new members, welcome back to you all!

Debbie Halverson, Membership Committee Chair

## **OLLI Staff and Office Hours**

At Tallwood:

Jennifer Maloney, Administrator  
Carol Ferrara, Program Coordinator  
Anna Hartmann, Financial Assistant  
Under recruitment, Administrative Assistant  
Travanta Thompson, Student Assistant

At Lake Anne:

Mathilde Speier, Administrative Assistant

Tallwood office hours during class weeks:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 to 4:00

Friday, 9:00 to noon

Jennifer Maloney, Administrator

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## **Open Classes Listed**

Many courses and events are still available to members. A list was sent with your confirmation letter. Lists of open classes are posted and Change of Schedule forms are available in each classroom and in the Social Room.

Jennifer Maloney, Administrator

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## **OLLI Book Club**

The OLLI Book Club at Tallwood will be meeting on Wednesday, April 13, at 1:30 to discuss *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon. All interested OLLI members are invited to attend. For more information contact Kathryn Russell at 703-323-0168 or at MKRussel@aol.com.

Ceda McGrew

## What's That Date?

How do you keep track of what's going on at OLLI when there are so many special events, clubs and social gatherings? What should you do when you need the dates of the next class term?

There are a few easy ways to keep track of the OLLI calendar, both for the immediate future and for several terms ahead. Just keep on hand two printed items. During class terms, the latest issue of the OLLI News will include on the last page the schedule of events for several weeks ahead. You'll find special events, club meeting dates, luncheons or social events and committee meetings listed there. The latest OLLI Catalog always includes future term beginning and ending dates for the upcoming three OLLI class terms. You'll also find these items on the OLLI Website at [www.lli.gmu.edu](http://www.lli.gmu.edu).

Last minute updates are often sent to the entire OLLI membership via email. List your email address on the registration form when you sign up for classes to receive occasional email messages. And be sure to adjust your computer's spam blocker so that OLLI messages are not blocked. Add [olli@gmu.edu](mailto:olli@gmu.edu) to your address book, follow your spam blockers procedures for email addresses not to be blocked, or ask a techie friend to help make sure you are receiving OLLI emails.

Carol Henderson, Publications Committee chair

## Where, Oh Where, Did the Spring Catalogs Go?

That was the question asked by many of us who live in Reston, Herndon and elsewhere in the Dulles corridor as our spring catalogs remained undelivered. The catalogs were sent out from the OLLI office on schedule and yet many members living in certain areas of Northern Virginia got their catalogs about two weeks later. This is very upsetting because it delays members registering for classes and makes it difficult for the office staff to complete their records of the roster of spring classes in a timely manner.

I went to the Reston post office with a catalog in hand and asked one of the supervisors just what caused the delay. The answer appears to be that at the nonprofit rate OLLI pays for bulk postage, USPS is not obligated to get the catalogs to us as quickly as we would like to receive them. They can deliver the catalogs within a window of four weeks. Usually catalogs arrive fairly promptly, but obviously the spring catalog did not. We want those catalogs on time!

Despite the late arrival of catalogs and the delay in many member registrations, everyone who registered for the spring term got their first choice of classes. Further, OLLI's bulk mail contractor is being asked to investigate bulk mailing postage categories to see if any change should be made in our bulk mailing permit.

We hope to have the issue resolved by June when the summer catalog will be sent out to OLLI members. If this problem should happen again, and we hope that it won't, you can print the catalog from our Website at [www.lli.gmu.edu](http://www.lli.gmu.edu) or call the OLLI office and a replacement catalog will be mailed to you by first class mail.

Abbie Edwards, Reston Support Committee chair

## GMU Activities

From time to time we will run notices of events on the GMU campus of interest to OLLI members. For further details, call 703-993-8888.

### **Mikel Rouse**

***Failing Kansas***, a multimedia opera  
Wed., Mar. 30 at 8:00  
\$20 adults, \$10 students/seniors  
Harris Theater

### **GMU Music April Fool's Concert**

Thurs., Mar. 31 at 8:00

#### **Free**

Harris Theater

### **Kirov Orchestra**

**Valery Gergiev, Music Director and Conductor**

**Yefim Bronfman, piano soloist**

Sat., Apr. 2 at 8:00

\$50, \$42, \$25

Concert Hall

Call 703-993-8888 for tickets

### **Thomas Brawley Memorial Chamber**

#### **Recital**

Sun., Apr. 3 at 3:00

#### **Free**

Harris Theater

### **American Youth Philharmonic**

Sun., Apr. 3 at 6:00

\$14 adults, \$10 students/seniors

Concert Hall

### ***Power in Print*, a printmaking exhibition**

Mar. 21 – Apr. 4

For information on artist's talks and receptions, call 703-993-8865

#### **Free**

Johnson Center Gallery/Fine Arts Gallery

Jan Bohall

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