

[Print a condensed .pdf copy](#) of this newsletter, two web pages per sheet of paper.



[Website](#) [What's New](#) [Catalog](#) [DocStore](#) [Facebook](#) [Officials](#) [Member Portal](#) [Contact Us](#)



Photos from Stephanie Trachtenberg, Apr 2014

*Beginner Chen-Style Tai Chi Class Taught by Jerry Cheng, Spring 2014*

# October 17, 2014

**Editor of the Week: Sheri Siesseger**

## Table of Contents

- [Alerts & Notices](#)
- [Meet OLLI Original Members: Jan DeWire](#)
- [Two New Fitness Classes at the Reston Community Center](#)
- [Audit a Class at Mason! It's Worth the Effort!](#)
- [Photo of the Month](#)
- [Poet's Corner](#)
- [Arts & Music at George Mason](#)
- [Mason Highlights](#)
- [Meetings & Clubs](#)
- [About OLLI E-News](#)

## Alerts & Notices

The Board of Directors will meet at 10:00 on Fri, Oct 24 at the UCP in Reston. All members are welcome to attend.

Reminder: The OLLI Holiday Party will be [Fri, Dec 5](#) at the International Country Club, Chantilly; \$30 per person. Register at your site.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Inside OLLI-Mason

### Meet OLLI Original Members: Jan DeWire





**By Alice Slayton Clark, Communications Associate**

If you need a trusted resource on the history of OLLI, Jan DeWire is it. Eighty-seven years young, Jan can still recount names, dates, and even minor details about the founding of OLLI. Jan is the fourth person to be profiled in this series on OLLI founding members.

The Learning in Retirement concept was championed by Lilyan Spero, Shirley Fox and Ellis Wood, who all served on the Fairfax Council on Aging and worked with Kathryn Brooks to develop an advanced educational program for retirees, Jan recalls. Lilyan’s husband Abe Spero served on George Mason University’s Board of Visitors and convinced Mason to donate the space at Tallwood to the nascent Learning in Retirement Institute (LRI). Parking was limited, however, so OLLI negotiated “top dollar” for spots at the Fairfax Pool, she reports.



Jan joined the LRI in 1992 after receiving a “wonderful letter of introduction” from Judith Lieberman, the first membership chair. Little did she know she would soon be thrown into many leadership positions, including: curriculum chair (program chair), president of the Board from 1996-98, vice president of the Board, special events coordinator, and member of the Board.

During these years, LRI membership boomed due to effective public relations (particularly the placement of news articles in local papers and *The Washington Post*) as well as program development by Kathryn Russell. Jan led a Board planning committee to address the growing concerns about space and oversaw the acquisition of trailers for TA-2 and TA-3.

In 1998, the Board agreed to open a campus in Reston after Norma Wade and Lydia McDonald found a church to host classes. When Mason asked the Board also to expand into Loudoun, they reluctantly complied, fearing they had bitten off more than they could chew with the new site in Reston. The Board declined suggestions to expand into Arlington and Manassas, largely because of space limitations.

Though Jan has hung up her Board duties, she remains an active OLLI member, co-chairing the literary roundtable in Reston, one of the longest-running OLLI courses. She still takes classes, preferring more “unusual” topics such as Chinese literature and films about the war. She proclaims she is “thrilled to be learning into the advanced age of 87” and is immensely proud of the way OLLI has developed over the years.

Jan was born and raised in New York, receiving a MA in education from Syracuse University. She taught second grade for several years, but put her career on hold to raise her three children. Jan claims she “wasn’t very good at teaching” because she had trouble managing kids with discipline issues, so she decided to run day care centers when she re-entered the workforce later in life. Married for 52 years, Jan and husband George traveled significantly in retirement before George became ill. She continues to enjoy her five grandchildren and two great grandkids, and hopes this spring to visit her son who is working in Japan.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Two New Fitness Classes at the Reston Community Center

In response to member requests for fitness classes in Reston, OLLI has arranged special access to two fall classes at the Reston Community Center. The RCC is offering OLLI members reduced rates to join Tai Chi and Yoga classes. We are excited about this wonderful enhancement to OLLI program offerings in Reston and for the ever strong relationship between the RCC and OLLI. More details about the classes are available on the OLLI website. If interested, please register via the Member Portal or with an add/drop form at the OLLI office. Note - space is limited. Act quickly if you want to enroll in the following classes:

### **R810 The Eight Ways of Tai Chi Chuan**

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30, Nov 3-24, Dec 1-15

No class Nov 26

OLLI Student Limit: 7

Class fee is \$20, payable at time of registration

**R811 Gentle Yoga**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:00, Nov 4-25, Dec 2-18  
 No class Nov 27  
 OLLI Student Limit: 5  
 Class fee is \$20, payable at time of registration

[Back to Top of Page](#)

**Audit a Class at Mason! It's Worth the Effort!**



**By Alice Slayton Clark, Communications Associate**

Have you thought about auditing a class at George Mason University and don't know how? Under Virginia law, residents who are 60 years and older can audit up to three academic credit courses per semester FOR FREE at any Virginia institution of higher education. Some OLLI members are taking advantage of this benefit. Why not you?

Navigating the Mason admissions and registration system can be intimidating if you don't know how to do it or don't feel computer savvy. OLLI Board Vice President Stan Schretter has audited dozens of classes and has words of advice for OLLI members interested in doing the same. The registration and admissions process can be difficult and slow the first time you approach it. Stan says, "Leave plenty of time to get this done ahead of the term for which you will be registering. Act now if you want to take classes in spring 2015!"

OLLI has created a step-by-step guide posted on the OLLI website in the DocStore to help guide you through the process. The guide provides helpful links and contact information for the Mason offices involved.

According to Stan, Mason courses are "excellent" for those seeking to delve more deeply into subject matter. The reason for this is that there are more class hours during a college semester than there are in an OLLI term. Like OLLI, there is no pressure to do homework, take tests or write papers; but if you want to keep up with the subject matter, you might want to read the textbooks from time to time, according to Stan. And be assured, OLLI students are most welcome in Mason classes. The professors really enjoy the insights and new visions we bring to their classes, he boasts.

Beware, however, says Stan. Although audit students get free parking at Mason, they often find they have to walk half a mile or more to get to their classes. And although you will be issued a shiny new Mason student identification card, you will have to give up your OLLI Mason ID and reduced admission to the athletic center. Mason auditors are not entitled to this privilege.

Also take note that you can be declined admissions altogether if you don't qualify for Mason's admission standards. Have your high school or college transcripts handy, preferably in electronic form, to facilitate the admissions process.

For more information on this process from Mason administrators, contact the Office of Admissions at 703-993-2400 and/or the Office of the Registrar at 703-993-2441.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

**Photo of the Month**





The October Photo of the Month theme was Street Life. We selected Susan Roose's photo "Paris Street Scene," which may also be viewed at [this page](#). To view other photos by members of the Photography Club, visit the club's [website](#).

-- By **Dan Feighery, Photography Club Coordinator**

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Poet's Corner

*Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop*

### Limerick

There once was a student at Tallwood  
 Who when asked to join walks in the Mall, would  
 Feign interest in classes  
 Or buxom young lasses  
 Or claim he needed extra help with his poetry, meter and rhyme to avoid doing  
 his duty as all should.

Manuel Pablo

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Arts & Music at George Mason



**Performances, next two weeks**

**By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer**

For tickets for either CFA or Hylton, call 1-888-945-2468, buy tickets online through the event calendar (see links below), or visit the venue's box

office. For more information see the CFA [ticket page](#) or the Hylton [ticket purchase page](#).

### At the Fairfax Campus Venues

#### **Dr. Ralph Stanley and The Clinch Mountain Boys: *An American Icon***

Fri, Oct 17, 8:00

This is the mountain music legend's farewell tour.

Pre-performance discussion: Randy Barrett, President, DC Bluegrass Union.

Concert Hall

Admission: \$48, \$41, \$29

#### **Fairfax Symphony Orchestra**

Sat, Oct 25, 8:00

Copland: *Quiet City*

Stravinsky: *Concerto in E-flat "Dumbarton Oaks"*

Copland: *Appalachian Spring*

Stravinsky: *Suite 1 and 2 for Small Orchestra*

Harris Theatre

Admission: \$60, \$45, \$25

[Back to Top of Page](#)

### Mason Student & Faculty Performances

(see [music.gmu.edu](http://music.gmu.edu) for additional student recitals)

#### **Anjanette Trebing, Voice Graduate Recital**

Sat, Oct 18, 7:30

St. Georges United Methodist Church, 4910 Ox Rd, Fairfax

Admission: Free

#### **CJ Redden-Liotta Choral Graduate Conducting Recital**

Sun, Oct 19, 7:30

Harris Theatre

Admission: Free

#### ***The Mystery of Edwin Drood***

Fri, Oct 24, 8:00  
 Sat, Oct 25, 2:00 and 8:00  
 Sun, Oct 26, 4:00  
 This is a bi-annual event presented jointly by Mason's School of Theater and School of Music.  
 Concert Hall  
 Admission: Adults, \$25; seniors, \$15.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

**At the Hylton Center**

**Nature Visions Photo Expo**

Sep 28–Nov 16  
 The Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue–Sat, 10:00 –6:00; Thu, 10:00–8:00; and two hours before performances.  
 Admission: Free

**The National Acrobats of the People's Republic of China:  
 Cirque Peking**

Sun, Oct 19, 4:00  
 Pre-performance discussion: Zhou Zhongtao, Director  
 Merchant Hall

**Swing Machine Big Band: Tribute to Glenn Miller and the Big Band Era**

Sat, Oct 25, 7:30  
 Swing Machine Big Band is comprised of many current and former members of the Air Force Airmen of Note, Army Blues, Navy Commodores, Glenn Miller Orchestra and other professional musicians from the Washington DC area. For more information about Swing Machine, please visit [SwingMachineBand.com](http://SwingMachineBand.com).  
 Gregory Family Theater  
 Admission: Adults, \$29; seniors, \$20

**Manassas Symphony Orchestra: Mythus**

Sat, Oct 25, 7:30  
 The program includes Edvard Grieg's Concerto in A major and music by Jean Sibelius and Howard Hanson.  
 Merchant Hall

Admission: Adults, \$20; seniors, \$14

**John Tartaglia: *ImaginOcean***

Sun, Oct 26, 2:00 and 4:00  
 Puppeteer, actor, and singer John Tartaglia takes you through a whimsical trip to the depths of the sea.  
 Merchant Hall  
 Admission: Adults, \$15; children, \$5

[Back to Top of Page](#)

For further details on any of the above events, please see the CFA [event calendar](#) and the Hylton Center [event calendar](#)

[Back to Top of Page](#)

**Mason Highlights**



**Other Mason events, next two weeks**

**By Helen Ackerman, OLLI E-News Staff Writer**

**Exhibit.** Art as Research. This is a dynamic exhibition surveying 27 contemporary artists whose works creatively engage concepts of research. It explores experimental art practices across a wide range of research topics such as electricity, outer space, urbanism, labor practices, intellectual property, sustainable agriculture, race, water, debt, flags, anthems and borders. Fri, Oct 17, to Fri, Oct 24, 10:00 to 5:00. Fine Arts Gallery, Art & Design Building. Free.

**Film. *Earth to Echo*.** After receiving a bizarre series of encrypted messages, a group of kids embark on an adventure with an alien who needs their help. Fri, Oct 17 and Sat, Oct 18 at 6:00, Sun, Oct 18 at 3:00. Johnson Center, Cinema. Fresh popcorn and flavored seasonings with unlimited refills are free to all customers. Students, free with

Mason ID; general admission, \$3.

**Midnight Madness.** Share the excitement of the start of the men’s and women’s basketball team seasons. Players and coaches will be introduced, and the evening’s events will include student performances. Sat, Oct 18, 8:00. Patriot Center. Free.

**Panel Discussion.** *Operation Protective Edge.* Join members of the Middle East Studies Program, the Trans-Arab Research Institute, Arab Studies Institute, New Century College, and Global Programs for a panel discussion on Israel's offensive, Operation Protective Edge, in the Gaza Strip. Mon, Oct 20, 4:00. Johnson Center, Room C.

**Film: Jersey Boys.** The story of four young men from the wrong side of the tracks in New Jersey who came together to form the iconic 1960s rock group The Four Seasons. Sat, Oct 18, 9:00. Johnson Center, Cinema. Fresh popcorn and flavored seasonings with unlimited refills are free to all customers. Students, free with Mason ID; general admission, \$3.

**Speaker:** Tom Rath, author of *How Full Is Your Bucket?* Tom Rath is an expert on the role of human behavior in business, health, and economics. He has written five international bestsellers, which have sold more than 5 million copies and made over 300 appearances on the *Wall Street Journal's* bestseller list. Tue, Oct 28, 4:30 to 5:30, and 7:30 to 8:30. Free, but tickets are required. For tickets, click: <https://tomrathatmason.eventbrite.com>.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Meetings & Clubs

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office, with direct web links added when available. The list is accurate as of mid-week but to check anytime for the latest information, please view the latest forecast of upcoming events on our website (News/[OLLI Calendar](#)). *Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of*

*Directors, committees and resource groups, Kickoff Coffees, etc. (bolded below).*

Th

Sat Oct 18	10:30am 2:00pm	Tai Chi Club-TA-3 Computer Club-TA-1
Tue Oct 21	10:00am	Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Herndon
Wed Oct 22	1:45pm	Bridge Club-TA-3
Fri Oct 24	9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:00am 12:00pm	Recorder Consort-TA-3 Travel Club-Cottage <b>Board of Directors-Reston UCP</b> Craft and Conversation-Cottage Homer, etc-Annex Moby Dick Club-TA-2 Photography Club-TA-1
Sat Oct 25	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Tue Oct 28	10:00am	Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Herndon
Wed Oct 29	1:45pm	Bridge Club-TA-3
Fri Oct 31	9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:00am 11:30am	Recorder Consort-TA-3 Craft and Conversation-Cottage Homer, etc-Annex Moby Dick Club-TA-2 Cooking Club-Cottage

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## About OLLI E-News

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

### Editorial Staff

Chief Editor/Technical Editor: Irene Osterman

Associate Editor:

Weekly Editorial Team: Paul Van Hemel, Sheri Siesseger, Leslie Vandivere,

Proofreaders: John West, Gordon Canyock, Susan Van Hemel

Backup Chief Editor: Sheri Siesseger

**Submissions.** Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles and photos. Submit material

to: [ollienewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ollienewseditor@gmail.com).

**Deadline** – 6:00 pm Tuesday for that week's issue (6:00 pm Monday for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.

**Note:** You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

[Back to Top of Page](#)