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Christian Godart, Docent at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, Presents Women in Aviation, March 31

April 16, 2021

Editor of the Week: David Gundry

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Alerts & Notices

- Reminder: The OLLI Personal Computer User Group (OPCUG) meets Saturday, April 17 (tomorrow), at 1:00; [click here](#) to join the webinar and use passcode 093811.
- Spring-term registration continues on a space-available basis ([click here](#)). A few spring-term courses have been added, changed, or canceled since catalog production; click [here](#) for a full list.

- Annual membership meeting and first day of voting in Board of Directors election, Friday, May 7; detailed information is available at [this link](#).
- The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, April 23; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, April 20, at 6:00

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Fun Facts for OLLI's 30-Year Anniversary



By Ray Beery, OLLI Member and Former President

In 2021, OLLI celebrates its 30th year of classes for seniors. This feature provides fun facts and interesting milestones about our institute each week that *E-News* is published throughout the year.

April 16

In February 1993, the Virginia General Assembly passed a resolution "That...Commonwealth's institutions of higher education be encouraged to support the establishment of Learning in Retirement Institutes and organizations." The resolution was introduced by Delegate Ken Plum in the House and by co-sponsor Senator Joseph Gartlan in the Senate.

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Presentation to Mason's School of Music



By Michelle Calhoun Blandburg, Member of OLLI Board and Friends of Music at Mason

The *Friends of Music at Mason Newsletter* for April 2021 includes the third installment of my series on Erroll Garner and my father Eddie Calhoun. My father was the bassist of the Erroll Garner Trio for more than 10 years. The article is different because it includes my father's own words and recollections verbatim taken from his unpublished memoir *Big-Time Sharecroppers*.

Following the article, there is also information about the lecture I will be presenting (via Zoom) about Erroll and Daddy to George Mason's School of Music on Monday, April 26, 2021, from 12:30 to 1:30. To see the article and its following information on the lecture, [click here](#).

If you are interested in seeing my lecture, please email Dr. Darden Purcell at dpurcel2@gmu.edu. Dr. Purcell will provide you with Zoom access information.

Please feel free to share this message with any jazz lovers who might be interested. All are welcome!

I hope you enjoy my efforts to share this history and to honor both Erroll Garner and my father Eddie Calhoun!

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Reston Book Club Meeting





By Nancy Scheeler and Luci Martel, Reston Book Club Coordinators

The Reston Book Club will meet on Thursday, April 29, 4:00, via Zoom. The selection will be *Moonglow* by Michael Chabon. It unfolds as the deathbed confession of a man to his grandson and chronicles the life of Chabon's grandfather, a World War II soldier, engineer, and rock enthusiast, who marries a troubled Jewish survivor from France and lives a challenging, wandering life in postwar America.

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OLLI ChatLine Specific Topics and Times



By Doris Bloch, Program Committee Co-chair

Talk with OLLI friends at any time on this 24-7 open ChatLine. Arrange a time to meet friends online or drop in for an organized discussion. We have organized a few specific times and topics for chats this week including:

- **Monday, April 19, 4:30-5:30**—Your thoughts on returning to the classroom vs. staying on Zoom. How would you like to see OLLI's classes delivered post-pandemic? Contribute feedback on your preferences or suggestions for the transition
- **Wednesday, April 21, 4:30-5:30**—Do you think that George Mason University should change its name to disassociate with Mason's plantation history? What are your thoughts on changes to the local history names associated with the Confederate cause? Jefferson Davis Highway? John Mosby Highway? Robert E. Lee High School?

Look for links to this and any future ChatLine events in your inbox as part of the Daily Schedule email. Have feedback or an idea on a time/topic? Click [here](#) to email Doris Bloch.

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Photo of the Month



Streaking Fast Racer

The April 2021 Photo of the Month theme was Motion. We selected Edward Marion's photo "Streaking Fast Racer," which may also be viewed at [this page](#). To view other photos by members of the Photography Club, visit the club's photo [website](#).

-- By John Olsen and Ed Marion, Photography Club Coordinators

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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

Wistfulness

I used to dream that I could fly
 just think myself into the air
 escape Earth's gravity as easily
 as a bird, a bat, a butterfly.
 I'd be amazed to find myself away up there
 above the house, the town, the state
 near to the stratosphere
 tween light and dark
 so high the air was thin
 a place where quiet reigned and all was possible.
 Then I'd hear a harsh voice speak:
 You don't belong in this exalted realm.
 Suddenly I'd crash to earth
 not float but plunge
 and wake.

Carolyn F. Wyatt

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,



A recent *OLLI Communicator* led me to the frivolous suggestion that someone should do some research and perhaps write a story for the *OLLI E-News*. Every time I see the following classroom tips, I think there must have been some interesting incidents which prompted these repeated warnings:

Zoom Classroom Tips

Always Remember...

Remain muted when not speaking.

Dress appropriately; you may be on camera.

Avoid distracting activities while attending class.

I'd write the story myself, but I don't know what behavior prompts those reminders and I'd resort to my imagination to describe my classmates interacting lasciviously with their video turned on or shouting "Hogwash!" while unmuted during an authoritative philosophical lecture. Don't let my mind wander to the possibilities of what might have been an example of failure to dress appropriately. Besides, I'm too busy to investigate because I enrolled in too many classes. And "no homework" is a myth.

Nothing truly disruptive has occurred in any of the classes I have been taking. That's why I am amused that someone apparently thinks the repeated reminders are needed, and then I try to imagine what could have happened to necessitate the original warnings. My imagination is overactive and a bit warped.

-- Ms. I. M. Bemused

Dear Ms. Bemused: We may resemble your "overactive and warped" imagination—what's wrong with that? Some of us have lived with that for years!

We have seen the problem of people not muting themselves after asking a question or making a comment. And, of course, there is the perennial problem of off-topic comments, and those haven't anything to do with Zoom. There seem to be remarkably few instances of bad behavior in Zoom sessions—just occasional instances of unmuted distracting noises, almost always quickly corrected. There have been unmuted ringing phones (sometimes belonging to the instructor!), conversations with people not in the class, barking dogs, etc. In these cases, the OLLI site assistant usually mutes everyone.

Thankfully, we haven't seen instances of inappropriate dress. We wonder if the continued reminders in the communicator might be just that—"continued reminders" and filler! Perhaps the authors of the Communicator can enlighten us if there have been problems. Thank you for your letter.

The Editorial Team

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Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, April 16 through April 26



By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

Virtual Performances

Although Mason's campus is shut down, online entertainment continues for us to access and enjoy. Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just send an email to Brianna Schoen at bschoen@gmu.edu. Also, the Center for the Arts has a website [Mason Arts at Home](#), which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances. Information can also be found at [CFA ticket purchase page](#) or the [Hylton ticket purchase page](#).

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At the Fairfax Campus Venues

The Barclay Brass

A. Linwood Holton, Jr. Plaza, Mason Pond Area
Sun, Apr 18, 3:00

[TICKETS](#)

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Mason Student & Faculty Performances

(see [music.gmu.edu](#) for additional student recitals)

GMU Tuba Euphonium Chamber Ensembles: *Concert in the Park*

Sat, April 17, 11:00

Olney Park Shelter located at 1840 Olney Road, Falls Church

Registration information will be posted at [music.gmu.edu](#).

Horn Day (Virtual)

Sun, April 18, 10:30

Registration will be posted at [music.gmu.edu](#).

Sibbi Bernhardtsson Masterclass, violin

Fri, April 23, 12:30

Information will be posted at [music.gmu.edu](#).

Pete Folliard Masterclass, euphonium

Mon, April 26, 12:30

Information will be posted at [music.gmu.edu](#).

New Sound Collective, Percussion Ensemble, and Wind Symphony Chamber Concert

Mon, April 26, 8:00

Information will be posted at [music.gmu.edu](#).

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At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Hylton at Home Story Corner: *What a Wonderful World*

Sat, Apr 17, 10:15am

Hylton Center [Facebook](#) page, and [YouTube](#) channel.

Asaph Dance Ensemble

Thu, Apr 22, 7:15

Hylton Center [Facebook](#) page, and [YouTube](#) channel.

Mason Opera - *Acts of Love and Marriage*

Sat, Apr 24, 8:00

Sun, Apr 25, 3:00

[TICKETS](#) for April 24

[TICKETS](#) for April 25

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

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Meetings & Clubs

Please note: Physical meetings for clubs and activities are canceled until further notice in accordance with Mason's guidelines. OLLI is conducting its classes and activities online. Refer to the university's [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates and check the [OLLI calendar](#) for revised information.

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office. The list is accurate as of mid-week but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast of coming 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, kick-off coffees, etc. The OLLI office has sent (or will send) emails with links and meeting passwords to club members; you may also log in at the [member portal](#) and click on ZOOM CLASS LINKS.*

Sat Apr 17	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
	1:00 pm	Personal Computer User Group
Tue Apr 20	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed Apr 21	4:00 pm	Mah Jongg Club
Thu Apr 22	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Apr 23	9:30 am	Craft & Conversation
	11:00 am	Classic Literature Club
	11:00 am	Homer, etc.
	12:00 noon	Photography Club
Sat Apr 24	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Tue Apr 27	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed Apr 28	4:00 pm	Spanish Club
		Theater Lovers' Group
Thu Apr 29	4:00 pm	Reston Book Club
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Apr 30	9:30 am	Craft & Conversation
	11:00 am	Classic Literature Club
	11:00 am	Homer, etc.
Sat May 1	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club

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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: Paul Van Hemel

Associate Editor: David Gundry

Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siessesger, Paul Van Hemel

Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Tom Appich, Roz Stark, Jane Hassell

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: ollinewseditor@gmail.com.

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

Search E-News: You can view past issues of OLLI E-News at [ENews Archives](#). To search the content within issues, use [Search](#) or enter your search term(s) in [Google](#) followed by "site:ollu.omu.edu/" without the quotes.

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