• Summer term has begun and runs through July 30. If you are registered for a course/event you cannot attend or no longer want, please contact the registrar (email ollireg@gmu.edu) and drop it.

• The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, July 2; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, June 29, at 6:00.

• As a reminder, OLLI classes will not be held on Monday July 5, in observance of Independence Day.

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 first half of this year.

June 25
A five-year contract for the use of the Fairfax swimming pool parking lot was signed in 1996.

Summary of the Board of Directors Meeting June 18

By Rita Way, Secretary

President Paul Howard opened the meeting by welcoming the newly elected board members, Toni Acton, Zachary Teich, Camille Hodges, Debby Mossburg, and Charles Silver.

The first order of business was the election of board officers. A vote was taken by virtual technology and ballots counted by Mike Sargent of Earthcare. Lillian Brooks, chair of the Governance Committee, announced the results as follows:

President – Paul Howard
Vice President – Mel Russell
Secretary – Rita Way
Treasurer – David Osterman
Executive Director Jennifer Disano reported that ramp construction at Tallwood has started. Much activity is happening at the site and the new ramp is taking shape. Additionally, the Audiovisual Committee (“Tom Swift Club”) is working in TA-1 to improve equipment in our classrooms. As of now, all classes for summer and fall are planned to be held on zoom.

The promotional rate of $300 is working to bring in new members. However, the membership is in a downward trend and all members are encouraged to promote OLLI. Word of mouth is the best marketing tool.

Site assistants and staff have been working long hours to prepare for summer and fall terms with very little turnaround time. Please give kudos to them at your next opportunity.

More help is needed producing the catalog. Several editors and proofreaders have moved on to other activities. Putting out the catalog is a very large project and it is an important marketing tool.

The old OLLI Handbook is now titled, The OLLI Manual. Lillian Brooks and the Governance Committee have worked very hard to bring the manual up to date. This will be an ongoing process.

Current OLLI membership is 1,034 (1,030 full members and 4 introductory members).

Poet’s Corner

Birding

Once I hiked up mountains
Armed with binoculars
Tripod camera and patience
Scanning the skies
To spy on birds

Now I walk softly
Through subdued woods
Sit quietly in parks
Set out feeders and suet
So birds can come
To spy on me

Betty Webb

Arts & Music at George Mason

No Performances until September

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.

All Mason Arts & Music events are postponed until September.

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
Sat Jun 26  10:30 am  Tai Chi Club
Tue Jun 29  4:30 pm  Tai Chi Club
Wed Jun 30  2:00 pm  Memoir and More Writing Group
                      Ethnic Eats Club
Thu Jul 1  4:30 pm  Tai Chi Club
Fri Jul 2  9:30 am  Craft and Conversation
               Homer, Etc.
Sat Jul 3  10:30 am  Tai Chi Club
Tue Jul 6  4:30 pm  Tai Chi Club
Wed Jul 7  4:00 pm  Mah Jongg Club
Thu Jul 8  12:15 pm  Special Events Program Planning Group Meeting
                      Tai Chi Club
                      Craft and Conversation
                      Homer, etc.
Fri Jul 9  9:30 am  Photography Club
                    Craft and Conversation
                    Coffee and Trivia
                    Homer, etc.
                    Cooking Club
                    2:30 pm  Tallwood Book Club
Sat Jul 10 10:30 am  Tai Chi Club

About OLLI E-News

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

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel
Associate Editor: David Gundry
Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siossager, 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: ollienewseditor@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:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.