
June 4, 2021
Editor of the Week: Sheri Siesseger

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Print a condensed .pdf copy of this newsletter, two web pages per sheet of paper.

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From the Desk of the Executive Director: OLLI’s 30-Year Anniversary Teacher-Appreciation Event

By Jennifer Disano, Executive Director

Our annual OLLI Mason teacher-appreciation event (via Zoom) occurred on May 26 during this 30th anniversary of our institute’s founding. The event included remarks by OLLI President Paul Howard and Kathryn Russell of our Program Committee. Also speaking were special guests and OLLI instructors Dr. Peter Stearns, Mason University Professor/Provost Emeritus; John Rybicki, retired pastoral associate at the Riderwood retirement community in Maryland; Ben Gold, long-time docent at the US Supreme Court; and Dr. Linda Apple Monson, Director of Mason’s School of Music.

Dr. Stearns presented a great lecture on the history of pets, and Dr. Monson gave a wonderful piano performance. Fortunately, this event was recorded, and I encourage you to click on this link to share in appreciating OLLI’s terrific volunteer instructors and to enjoy the remarks and presentations by our special guests. You will be glad you did!

Fun Facts for OLLI’s 30-Year Anniversary

By Ray Beery, OLLI Member and Former President

Alerts & Notices

- Priority registration for the summer term ended June 1, but registration continues on a space-available basis. The online catalog is available at this link.
- The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, June 18. Submissions are due by 6:00 pm, Tuesday, June 15.

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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.

June 4
The open house on September 5, 1996, was held in “the most awful weather imaginable” due to Hurricane Fran. The electricity went on and off, but 100 people attended, and 11 were interested in joining the Learning in Retirement Institute (LRI). (LRI News Oct 96)

Summary of Special OLLI Board of Directors Meeting, May 21

By Marguerite Johnson, Secretary

A special meeting of the OLLI Board of Directors was held May 21, 2021, to review and approve the replacement of the OLLI Board Handbook with the OLLI Policies and Procedures Manual.

Resolution 210521-01 “Resolved, that the Board approve the replacement of the OLLI Handbook with the OLLI Policies and Procedures Manual” passed with a unanimous vote.

Governance Committee chair Lillian Brooks stated that the Policies and Procedures Manual is the bedrock of the organization as it explains who we are and how we operate. This new document is more readable and up to date. Procedures that were unclear or missing have been added.

President Paul Howard thanked Lillian and her team including Peter Ansoff, Janet Geffner, and Dick Crawford for all their hard work over the past 15 months.

The new Policies and Procedures Manual can be found on the OLLI website under Main Menu – Documents.

Loudoun and Reston Program Planning Groups to Meet June 8 and June 15

By Shannon Morrow, Program Associate

All OLLI members are welcome to join us for the next Loudoun Program Planning Group meeting on Tuesday, June 8, at 10:00. No experience necessary; we would love to have your ideas. Click this link to join the Zoom meeting on June 8 (meeting ID: 830 4090 2833; passcode 645321). Or dial in at 301-715-8592.

Please also join us on Tuesday, June 15 at 10:00 for the next Reston Program Planning Group meeting. Click here to join the Zoom meeting on June 15 (meeting ID: 846 5570 5699; passcode: 246810). Or dial in at 301-715-8592. Again, your ideas are encouraged.

Thank you.

Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group to Meet June 10

By Michele Romano, M.D., Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group Co-chair

The Science, Technology, and Health Program Planning Group will meet on Thursday, June 10, at 4:00 via Zoom. Please come with your thoughts and ideas for future courses and hear what is in the works for upcoming terms. If you are not presently a member and would like to join the group, we would love to have you. Please email me at tufax2@gmail.com and we will add you to the list. The Zoom link will be sent in a separate email, and it will also appear in the daily schedule email for June 10. We look forward to seeing you.

Computer Club to Meet June 19

3rd Saturday, June 19 via Zoom

The History of Technology: From Fire to Fiber Optic

A Space to Work In—or Two or Three

By Paul Howard, OPCUG Program Chair

The Computer Club (OLLI Personal Computer User Group, or OPCUG) will meet with its partner, the Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS), on Saturday, June 19 at 1:00 via Zoom.

The History of Technology – Presented by Ray Van Dyke. From humankind’s earliest days, tools were key to survival. From the first days, technology has driven us to new heights, and many cultures have shared in this endeavor. This lecture will explore many of these contributions and showcase the acceleration of technological innovation. Contributions of the Egyptians, Romans, Greeks, and others, through to the critical revolutions of today, will all be discussed in a lively format, placing various inventors in their times.

Ray Van Dyke is an intellectual property/patent practitioner and educator in the Washington area.

Learn in 30: A Space to Work In—or Two or Three – Presented by Tom Gutnick. There’s a
great productivity feature that seems to be a secret, whether you’re working with Windows, MacOS, or Linux. If you only ever do one thing at a time on your computer, you can skip this, but if you’re frequently juggling lots of open windows for various projects, here’s a way to work more effectively. Virtual desktops (also called spaces or workspaces or virtual displays) allow you to organize related windows into independent compartments, with a few clicks or keystrokes. Tom will show what it can do for you and how to set it up.

PATACS member Tom Gutnick is the owner of Sunny Banana IT Consulting—Technology without the Turmoil, and is an instructor at NOVA Community College.

See full details on this meeting by clicking here. For information on the Computer Club, see the OPCUG Website. OPCUG dues are $5 for 2021—see http://olligmu.org/opcug/comm.html for details on making payment.

Attend via Zoom’s cloud meeting service, beginning at 1:00. Please click this link to join the meeting and use passcode 794756, or enter meeting ID 948 9296 8399 in the Zoom app and use the above passcode.

Photography Club to Meet June 11

Marie Joabar will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Photography Club, starting at 9:30 Friday, June 11. She will present tips and techniques for capturing the moon, snow scenes, waterfalls, and fireworks displays.

Marie has been immersed in photography and photography education for more than 20 years and is passionate about sharing her knowledge about photography, cameras, and digital technology with others. She finds just the right way to take complicated concepts and explain them in a logical, easy-to-understand way.

Marie founded Capital Photography Center in January 2012 to offer a range of photography classes taught by professional photographers and photographic educators.

In addition to running her business and teaching, Marie finds time to enjoy her own photography. Among her favorite subjects are people, both candid and posed; and country and city landscapes. Her work can be viewed on her website at www.mariejoabar.com.

Originally from Michigan, Marie has lived in Alexandria, Virginia, for the past 30+ years with her husband.

Tallwood Book Club to Meet June 11

The Tallwood Book Club will meet on the second Fridays during the summer months and throughout the fall.

The selection for discussion on June 11 is *The Splendid and the Vile* by Erik Larson. The July selection for discussion is *Hamnet* by Maggie O’Ferrell.

The meetings are from 2:30 until 4:00 via Zoom. Consult the emailed daily OLLI schedule for the meeting link and information.

Can You Help the Development Committee Find Grants?

The OLLI Development Committee recently met to plan a strategy for obtaining funds to help OLLI realize a hybrid program that will carry us into the future. One option is for OLLI to apply for grants from community-oriented partners.

Grants are highly competitive and, as such, much time and preparation is required to find grant opportunities, plan a project, and then develop a proposal. I am hoping that in our diverse membership there are members who have had grant experience and would be willing to assist OLLI in this effort. If you are that person, please contact Angie Talaber at talaber@comcast.net.

Thank you.

Share Your Family History with Mason Students!

By Camille Hodges, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Current Events Program Planning Group Co-Chair
We are happy to welcome Dr. Spencer Crew back to the Mason campus following his leave of absence working as the Interim Head of the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). He is currently looking for 10 OLLI members to participate in his fall 2021 course, “History of the Family.” This will involve being interviewed by Mason students in his course, which will be in session from September to December. OLLI members who previously participated in this intergenerational exchange described sharing their family history with Mason students as a personally rewarding experience. The class is currently scheduled to meet virtually on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30-11:45. However, you will not be required to meet with students every week.

If you are interested in participating or want more details, please contact Dr. Crew at srcrew@gmu.edu.

Poet’s Corner

Puzzled Light
by Lydia Lewis

My mind is a puzzle box with drilled holes lovingly spaced in artful random order.

At times inner light shines forth and casts a brilliant illuminating sense of wonder.

In other hours there is only shadow and I grope for pieces of flint and steel to ignite the divine spark.

Most days a half light shines leaving me to puzzle whether or not to just accept this twilight.

Arts & Music at George Mason
Performances, June 4 through June 24

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, Center for the Arts YouTube Channel, or the Hylton ticket purchase page.

At the Fairfax Campus Venues
No events scheduled. All events in Fairfax are postponed until the end of September.

Mason Student & Faculty Performances
(see music.gmu.edu for additional student recitals)

Lunchtime with The Arts at Mason: Mason Faculty Brass Ensemble
Reston Town Square Park
Thu, June 10, 12:30
Admission: Free.

Lunchtime with The Arts at Mason: Mason Cabaret
Reston Town Square Park
Thu, June 17, 12:30
Admission: Free.

Lunchtime with The Arts at Mason: Mason Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble
Reston Town Square Park
Thu, June 24, 12:30
Admission: Free.

At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Hylton on the Hill: Lua Project
Hylton on the Hill: Lua Project
Sat, Jun 5, 4:00
Pre-function: Beacon Hall Lobby
Admission: $25.
Boyle School of Irish Dance: Spring Recital
Sun, Jun 6, 11:30, 2:00, and 5:00
Merchant Hall
Admission: $15.

Sat, Jun 12, 4:00
Pre-function: Beacon Hall Lobby
Admission: $25.

Virginia National Ballet: Spring Recital
Sun, Jun 13, 12:00 and 3:30
Merchant Hall
Admission: $35.

The Ballet Arts Ensemble of Fairfax
Tue, Jun 15, 7:00
Merchant Hall
Admission: call box office at 703-993-7759.

Hylton at Home: Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra
Thu, Jun 17, 7:15
Hylton Center Facebook page, and YouTube channel.

Virginia Dance Center: Dancing in Wonderland
Sat, Jun 19, 11:00 and 3:30
Sun, Jun 20, 11:00 and 3:30
Merchant Hall
Admission: $20.

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.

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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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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. (bolded below). 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.

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Tai Chi Club</td>
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<td>Mon Jun 7</td>
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<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>What's in the Daily News?</td>
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<td>Wed Jun 9</td>
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<td>Thu Jun 10</td>
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<td>Fri Jun 11</td>
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<td>Homer, Etc.</td>
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<td>Cooking Club</td>
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<td>Tue Jun 15</td>
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<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Memoir and More Writing Group</td>
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<td>Thu Jun 17</td>
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<td>Homer, Etc.</td>
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<td>1:00 pm</td>
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About **OLLI E-News**

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel  
Associate Editor: David Gundry  
Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siesseger, 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 [E-News 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.

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