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How Do Airplanes Fly?

But Bernoulli's Principle is only one reason why airplanes fly - there's another!

It's called "momentum". (My father used to say you can't have momentum until you have some maintain)

So, with reduced air pressure over the top of the wing, air will "replenish" from the air pushing the wing up.

We have "LIFT". The force that pushes the airplane up!

This is a picture of air flowing smoothly over and under an airplane wing. The air is experiencing laminar flow. Airplanes must have laminar flow of air over their wings in order to have lift.

If the angle of the wing isn't right (this is called the angle of attack) or if the air is unsettled and not flowing smoothly, we don't get laminar flow. Instead, we get turbulent flow. Can you see why this wouldn't give you lift?

A spinning propeller creates a low pressure area in front of the propeller and a high pressure area behind the propeller. The difference in pressure is called "lift" and is what makes the airplane go forward.

The very strong vibrations in air pressure on the wing create drag and interfere with the laminar flow. Aileron roll over the wing creates a low pressure area in front of the wing and a high pressure area behind the wing.

By angling the wings backward, the wings are behind the shock waves and this allows air to flow more normally over the wings.

So, how does Bernoulli's Principle help explain why an airplane flies?

West Daniel Bernoulli (1700-1782) In 1738 Bernoulli published an article which showed that the faster a fluid flows, the lower the fluid density. Bernoulli also invented the first method of measuring blood pressure!

By the way, exhaust gases leave the jet engine at a typical speed of 1300 Miles per hour. This means there is a lot of momentum transferred to the plane!

Mark Dodge (Via Zoom): How Do Airplanes Fly? January 24

January 31, 2025

Editor of the Week: David Gundry

Table of Contents

- [Alerts & Notices](#)

- [History Club Meeting Announcement](#)
- [Tallwood Book Club Meeting](#)
- [Dabbling Artists Group](#)
- [Mason Jazz Festival - February 15 \(Harris Theatre\)](#)
- [Calling All OLLI Caregivers](#)
- [Biweekly Team Bloch Wednesday Conversation Topic for February 5](#)
- [Poet's Corner](#)
- [Arts & Music at George Mason](#)
- [Meetings & Clubs](#)
- [About OLLI E-News](#)

Alerts & Notices

- Nominations are open for Board of Directors candidates for the 2025 election. Click [this link](#) for details.
- The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, February 7; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, February 4, at 6:00.

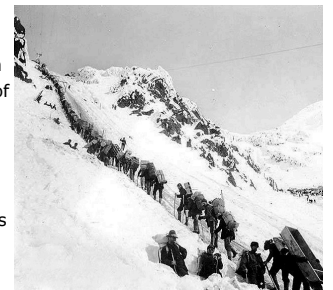
[Back to Top of Page](#)

History Club Meeting Announcement



By Doug Snoeyenbos, History Club Coordinator

The OLLI History Club will meet via Zoom at 4:00 on Wednesday, February 5. The presenter will be Jim Anderson, who is well known to OLLI members for his wonderful and very popular "Frontiersmen" series. Next Wednesday, Jim's presentation will be titled *Stampede to the Klondike: The Last Great Gold Rush*. The news of the discovery of gold in the Canadian Yukon territory in 1897 electrified millions suffering from the effects of an economic depression. The sensational and often inaccurate news stories led to an epidemic of "gold fever" and sparked a stampede to that remote and forbidding region. The results were dramatic and heroic for the lucky few; but tragic and often lethal for the vast majority seeking instant wealth. Hubris and greed were on full display; brotherly love was in short supply.



[Back to Top of Page](#)

Tallwood Book Club Meeting



By Betty Ellerbee, Tallwood Book Club Coordinator

The Tallwood Book Club will meet via Zoom on Friday, February 14, at 2:30; check the OLLI daily schedule email for the Zoom link. Our book for February is *Erasure*, by Percival Everett. The March selection is *Say Nothing* by Patrick Radden Keefe.

Contact Betty Ellerbee at ellerbetty@aol.com for additional information.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Dabbling Artists Group



By Christine Narbut, Dabbling Artists Group Coordinator

Welcome to all artists and anyone interested in learning more about art and creating art. The Dabbling Artists Group comes together to discuss, create and inspire OLLI members in the visual arts. Members can work on projects and receive advice from other members and provide suggestions to plan for a future Visual Arts Program at OLLI.

The next meeting of the Dabbling Artists Group is Wednesday, February 5 at 1:30 via Zoom. The group provides socialization and opportunities for support and practice in a group setting, whether your medium is pen and ink, pastels, pencils, watercolor, or other visual arts. During the winter term, Dabbling Artists meet via Zoom every 2 weeks. With the start of the spring term, the meetings are hybrid at Fairfax (Tallwood) and via Zoom.

For questions or more information contact, Chris Narbut at nickelpickel.chris@cox.net.

Below is the December painting from a Dabbling Artists member.



[Back to Top of Page](#)

Mason Jazz Festival – February 15 (Harris Theatre)

By Darden Purcell, D.M.A, Director of Jazz Studies, Jazz Voice

Happy New Year! For OLLI members – Free concerts (no tickets required) on Saturday, February 15, as part of the Mason Jazz Festival.

MASON JAZZ FESTIVAL

Saturday, February 15

10:00am – 10:00pm

Harris Theatre: 4471 Aquia Creek Ln, Fairfax, VA 22030

All concerts are FREE and open to the public – no tickets or registration required.

Free parking in LOT K

music.gmu.edu/visit-us/mason-jazz-festival

The Mason Jazz Festival is a yearly invitational, non-competitive event open to middle school, high school, college, and community jazz ensembles. The closing concert is at 7:00 and will feature the Mason Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Jim Carroll, and the US Army Blues! Join us for a full day of jazz music and community.

[Back to Top of Page](#)



Calling All OLLI Caregivers



By Doris Bloch, Caregivers Support Group Coordinator

Rosalynn Carter once said, "There are three groups of people: those that are currently caregivers, those that receive help from their caregivers, and those who will be caregivers." Are you in one of those groups? If the first one is a match for you right now, OLLI may be able to give you some support.

The OLLI Caregivers Support Group meets via Zoom every second week throughout the year to offer practical and emotional support to the participants. We meet for an hour and a facilitator from the George Mason School of Social Work joins us. Sometimes we share our thoughts and concerns; sometimes the discussion is about resources and suggestions. The group is listed for registration on our member portal, and if you register there, you will receive all messages addressed to the group. Our next meeting is scheduled for 3:45 on February 4, and you can find the link in the daily schedule email.

There is also a mailing list, separate from registration, for those who don't want to commit to a regular meeting but want to remain informed. For the latter, and for any questions, please contact Doris Bloch (dbloch50@hotmail.com).

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Biweekly Team Bloch Wednesday Conversation Topic for February 5



By Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch,
Co-Moderators

The January 17th *Washington Post* published a fascinating article titled "Who are the top readers for 2024? And where do they get their books?" ([Click here to read the article.](#)) YouGov (survey firm) crunched the data and found that 63% of us read at least one book last year. Did you read more than 20 books last year? If yes, you are a Super Reader in the top 11%.

The article also has data on the use of digital versus physical books and the use of libraries. One of the surprises was that older Americans tend to use libraries less for both digital and physical books.

We invite all OLLI book lovers to join us on February 5th at 4:00 for the conversation, regardless of whether or not you had an opportunity to read the article. Look for the Zoom link in the OLLI Daily Schedule.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

Retirement Mornings

Roused by a swoosh of my loose CPAP mask,
I yank it off my face and sling it on the pillow.
Stumbling around the bed, I pull the linens up,
smooth out some wrinkles, fumble for my glasses,
my phone, my watch, stagger like a drunk downstairs.

I open the curtains, blind myself with the sun,
squint and shuffle to the Kitchen God of Keurig
for a pure black cup of Maxwell House coffee,
without which I am not truly alive.

My reliable friend Mac opens the world for me,
shouting headlines of current world conflicts,
up-to-date political polls, the next hurricane
gathering, and the usual congested traffic reports.
I skim the main stories, hurry on to essential news—
the Mini Crossword and today's Wordle.

Sipping my caffeine elixir, I knock my calendar
off the desk that is my couch—its way to remind
me to check my schedule for the day.
Dismayed, I see a meeting, which violates
my planned every-other-day shower,
and even worse, I must prepare my face.

How did I rise so early all those years,
don my business casuals and spend hours
solving problems, sharing information,
helping others, modeling decision-making?

I did what I loved,
what rewarded my heart.
Now all my "calling" is for Me,
or whatever I want it to be.
I inhale a breath of relief.

—Margie Wildblood

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, January 31 through February 9

By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer



For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468. You can also buy tickets online through the event calendar (see the CFA ticket page link below) or visit the venue's box office. For more information, see the [CFA ticket page](#) or the [Hylton Center ticket purchase page](#).

Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of information on interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just sign up at [this link to stay in touch](#). 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.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

At the Fairfax Campus Venues

Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra with Branford Marsalis

Sat, Feb 1, 8:00

A pre-performance discussion will take place in Monson Grand Tier 45 minutes prior to curtain.

Concert Hall

Admission: \$60, \$51, \$46.

Mike Super – Magic & Illusion

Sun, Feb 2, 4:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$40, \$30, \$20.

The Constitution and *Loving v. Virginia* (a panel discussion)

Thu, Feb 6, 7:00

Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center
3740 Blenheim Boulevard, Fairfax, VA 22030

Admission: Free, but registration required.

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sj/r7oTPP0/loving>

Sarah Sherman: Spring Comedy Headliner 2025

Thu, Feb 6, 8:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$15.

Fairfax Symphony: *Love is in the Air*

Sat, Feb 8, 8:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: \$65, \$55, \$40.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Mason Student and Faculty Performances

(see music.gmu.edu for additional student recitals)

GMU School of Theater: *Mason Cabaret 2025*

Fri, Jan 31, 8:00 (at Gregory Family Theater, Hylton Center)

Sat, Feb 1, 2:00 and 8:00

Sun, Feb 2, 2:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: \$30 Adult, \$15 Senior.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Virginia Opera: *A Taste of Opera*

Wed, Feb 5, 1:30

Jacquemin Family Foundation Rehearsal Hall

Admission: \$40 (Concert and dessert reception).

Elena Moon Park & Friends

Sat, Feb 8, 11:00

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: \$15.

Dylan Triplett: *Blues and Soul*

Sat, Feb 8, 5:00

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: \$30.

Robinson Secondary Gala Concert with Vienna Choral Society

Sun, Feb 9, 4:00

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$25 Adult, \$20 Senior.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

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

[Back to Top of Page](#)

Meetings & Clubs

Please note: OLLI Meetings and Clubs may currently take place in several formats: some are in person only, some are online only, and some are hybrid, meaning that they take place in person and are accessible online simultaneously. OLLI events and activities meeting online bear the identification "Z" in their course or event number (except clubs; you may need to check the [OLLI calendar](#) and daily schedule email for location and other event information). Refer to the university's [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates.

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 Feb 1	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online
Mon Feb 3	4:00 pm	Chair Yoga and More – online
Tue Feb 4	2:00 pm	Chair Yoga and More – online
	3:45 pm	Caregivers Support Group – online
	4:00 pm	Mah Jongg Club – online
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club – online
Wed Feb 5	12:00 noon	Chair Yoga and More – online
	1:30 pm	Board Game Club
	1:30 pm	Bridge Club
	1:30 pm	Dabbling Artists Club – online
	2:00 pm	Memoir and More Writing Group – online
	4:00 pm	History Club – online
	4:00 pm	Spanish Club – online
	4:00 pm	Team Bloch Wednesday Conversation – online
Thu Feb 6	3:00 pm	Chair Yoga and More – online
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club – online
	6:00 pm	Ethnic Eats Club – online
Fri Feb 7	9:30 am	Crafts and Conversation
	10:00 am	Mah Jongg Club
	10:30 am	Dance Club

	11:00 am 12:00 noon 2:00 pm	Homer, etc. – online Chair Yoga and More – online Classic Literature Club – online
Sat Feb 8	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online
Mon Feb 10	9:30 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	What's in the Daily News? – online Family History/Genealogy Club – online Chair Yoga and More – online
Tue Feb 11	1:00 pm 2:00 pm 4:30 pm	Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Chair Yoga and More – online Tai Chi Club – online
Wed Feb 12	11:50 am 12:00 noon 1:30 pm 1:45 pm	Investment Forum Chair Yoga and More – online Bridge Club Spanish Club
Thu Feb 13	11:50 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:30 pm	All the News Stay Active and Independent for Life – online Chair Yoga and More – online Tai Chi Club – online
Fri Feb 14	9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 11:30 am 12:00 noon 2:00 pm	Photography Club Crafts and Conversation Homer, etc. – online Cooking Club Chair Yoga and More – online Classic Literature Club – online
Sat Feb 15	10:30 am 1:00 pm	Tai Chi Club – online Personal Computer User Group

[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: 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, Martha Kossoff, Anne Hartshorn, Bonnie Becker, Carol McManus

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.

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](#)