



# OLLI E-News

The electronic newsletter for members of the  
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University



## NEW OLLI OFFICERS ELECTED JUNE 9, 2009



**Emmett Fenlon** President    **Manuel Pablo** Vice President    **David Mason** Treasurer    **Jack Underhill** Secretary

[OLLI Web Site](#)    [What's New](#)    [Catalog Info](#)    [OLLI Videos](#)    [Member Portal](#)    [Contact Us](#)

> **DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR CONFIRMATION EMAIL?** The office sent out confirmation emails for the summer term on Mon, Jun 8. If you did not receive yours, please [contact the office](#).  
> **SILENT AUCTION DINNERS/BRUNCHES/ETC.** Brief articles with a photo or two about any of these that you attend or have attended are welcomed; submit via email to the [editor](#).

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## WATCH FOR THIS IMPORTANT SURVEY

*From the executive director*



By [Thom Clement](#), Executive Director

**FROM TIME TO TIME** OLLI board members and committee leaders request information that could help them make better decisions for our wonderful Institute. Now that our membership exceeds 850 spread out over multiple locations, it becomes a challenge to gather this information in an effective and timely manner. Hence, the need for surveys. You will be receiving an email with the subject line "OLLI Summer Survey" on Mon, Jun 15. We have learned that more OLLI members respond to surveys if they are short and to the point so this survey has a total of only seven questions -- three on the first page, and four on the second page.

The first three questions relate to your most recent experience with the online registration system. If you registered by paper rather than computer, then you can skip to the second page. The four questions on page two all relate to the OLLI courses. Now that you have received confirmation of your summer schedule, were there courses that you wanted to take but could not? If so, we'd like to know which courses you couldn't take because of a conflict in the scheduling as well as courses for which you are waitlisted this summer. Finally, we'd like to know if there are courses that have been offered in previous terms that you would really like to see repeated.

This information will help OLLI leaders and staff provide better service to you while maintaining the extraordinarily high quality of our program. Analysis will be shared with everyone via *OLLI E-News*. Please take a few minutes to click on the survey link when the survey email arrives and respond to the questions on each page.

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

*Results of this past Tuesday's Board meeting*



By [Rod Zumbro](#), Board member

**THE OLLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET** on Tue, Jun 9. This was the first meeting of the newly constituted Board, now with four newly elected directors (Paul Howard, Carole Richard, Dick Young, and also David Mason,

who had been serving as an appointed director), two re-elected directors and 11 other directors (one position is currently vacant, to be appointed by the new president subject to Board approval). Twelve directors were present for Tuesday's meeting.

**The Board elected Emmett Fenlon as president, Manuel Pablo as vice president, David Mason as treasurer, and Jack Underhill as secretary, with each term of office to run for one year.**

Executive Director Thom Clement reported that financials through the end of April are satisfactory, with more income and lower expenses than projected. As of Jun 9, we have 859 members (749 full, 110 Loudoun-only) compared to 768 in June of 2008. OLLI member Suzy Jampoler is now the Loudoun Coordinator, with similar responsibilities for that site as Reston Coordinator Al Roe has for Reston.

This year's Silent Auction brought in \$6,882 for Friends of OLLI. As of May 31, there is an unobligated balance of \$10,341 in Friends of OLLI funds. The Board approved a resolution allocating \$7,964 from Friends of OLLI funds for audiovisual upgrades and enhancements, primarily at Reston, with priority and timing of actions to be jointly determined by the executive director and the Audiovisual Support Committee chair.

The Board also approved \$3,000 to be added to the 2009 facilities budget line item for construction and improvements to the attic of the Smallwood (the building that houses the four restrooms) for use as storage for OLLI materials and equipment.

The next Board meeting will be on Fri, Jul 17, at Tallwood. All OLLI members are invited to attend.

## CLOSED SUMMER COURSES

*Most courses are still open*



By [Maria Buczek](#), OLLI Registrar

### YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED YOUR EMAIL CONFIRMATION

showing the courses in which you have been enrolled. Most courses are not full, and it's not too late to sign up ... preferably online (see note below) or otherwise by filling in a Change of Schedule Request form in the office or by [emailing](#) the office with your request. Here is the list of closed courses and events for the summer term. All other courses are still available for you to sign up.

## CLOSED SUMMER COURSES AND EVENTS

### Fairfax Courses

F102 Introduction to Buddhism and Early Buddhist Art  
 F301 Charles Darwin and His Big Idea  
 F302 A Brief History of Mankind  
 F304 Why the British Lost Their Colonies in Africa  
 F308 Pompeii and the Roman Villa  
 F309 The Acadians  
 F310 Gutenberg and Luther  
 F311 The Battle of Culloden  
 F402 The Bloomsbury Group  
 F405 History and Film: Twentieth Century Women's Roles  
 F406 History and Film: American Politics  
 F601 Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece  
 F701 Inside the U.S. Supreme Court  
 F702 Iraqi Forces Stand Up: Or Will They?  
 F703 Iran Update: Internal and External Developments  
 F806 SPYCRAFT

### Loudoun Courses

L109 Watercolor Painting  
 L210 Investment Forum ( *canceled* )  
 L813 PowerPoint Basics and Beyond

### Reston Courses

R410 Literary Roundtable

### Special Events

None

## CHANGES TO COURSES

- Loudoun course L210, Investment Forum, has been canceled.
- F803, Bob Ryan on Global Warming, has been moved to The Church of Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road.

**Note:** You are encouraged to add or withdraw from courses using the online registration system at the [Member Portal](#). **To add a course:** after logging in, click the Courses menu and select Register/Add Course; on the OLLI Registration Page, select the desired course(s), and click Submit. **To withdraw from a course:** after logging in, click the Courses menu and select My Schedule; on the My Schedule page, select the course on the left side, click Delete under the Up/Down arrows, and click Submit. Remember that you may also update your personal info such as postal address, phone number, email

address and license tag through the system (click Membership/Edit Personal Info).

**You must first create a user account before attempting changes.** Follow the instructions on the Member Portal. Please contact the staff by [email](#) or phone (703-503-3384) if you need assistance in setting up your user account.

## SUMMER FITNESS OPPORTUNITY

*Reduced rate at Mason's Aquatic & Fitness Center*



**OLLI MEMBER DICK CHEADLE ADVISES** that he recently was able to purchase a 'summer-session membership' (June, July and August) at Mason's Aquatic and Fitness Center for only \$50 -- a \$125 discount on the regular annual membership of \$175 available to OLLI members with a GMU ID card. Dick added that the "kids" at the desk were unsure about what to do about Dick's unusual request (normally, OLLI memberships are only offered in annual terms) so he dealt directly with Membership Director Nathan Dougan (phone 703-993-3934), a process he would recommend to other interested OLLI members.

Dick reports that the membership includes a free parking pass for Lot C (just southwest of the center, where the police station is located). He says, "Not only do you get full usage of the competition pool and the recreation pool (with Jacuzzi) and the weights and aerobic stations but also you could use the free parking pass for other activities at Mason (if you don't mind the long walk)."

To read Elizabeth Crawford's amusing article entitled "Shake, Rattle and Roll" about this fitness facility, [click here](#). For detailed information about the Aquatic and Fitness Center, see its [Web page](#) and its [Memberships page](#)

A reduced rate at the Aquatic and Fitness Center is just one of the many benefits available to OLLI members with a GMU ID card (see this [list of benefits](#)). To apply for or renew an existing ID card, visit the Tallwood office; you will be given a form to take to the main campus for your photograph to be taken and an ID card issued.

### TRIBUTE TO OLLI MEMBERS WHO "JUST DO IT"

**IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT MOST OLLI MEMBERS KNOW** about the benefits

of regular exercise even if they do not, or are unable to, exercise regularly. ***This is a tribute to the many OLLI members who follow the Nike motto and "just do it"*** (walk or swim or do aerobics and strength training at a gym or whatever). Some of these members participate and win medals in events like Masters swimming, the Virginia Senior Games, and the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics.

During casual conversation last Friday at the OLLI-Reston picnic, I learned about the admirable exercise habits of two OLLI members.

- One member (age, low 80s), goes to a gym four days each week and, on alternate days, does aerobics (Stairmaster, stationary cycling, etc.) for lengthy periods, weights, and other specific exercises.
- Another member (age, mid 70s), walks for a half hour every day and has done so for years (reports not having missed a single day in the last 16 months).

It takes considerable personal discipline for anyone to carve time out of a busy schedule and set it aside for exercise. The individuals mentioned above are just two of the many OLLI members who quietly go about their daily exercise routines. They are an inspiration to all of us!

-- [Rod Zumbro](#), OLLI E-News Editor

## OLLI TRIATHLETE ON RESTON TRIATHLON BOARD

*Abbie Edwards accepts award*



Abbie Edwards (left) and another longtime Reston Triathlon board member accepting the "Best of Reston" award given to the Reston Triathlon organization.

**OLLI MEMBER ABBIE EDWARDS**, a former six-year Board member and Reston Support Committee chair, is also a triathlete and has served on the Board of Directors of the Reston Triathlon organization for 14 years. Recently she and another director accepted on behalf of the Reston Triathlon organization the "Best of Reston" award. The Reston Triathlon is an Olympic-distance triathlon that consists of a one-mile swim in Lake Audubon, a 22.3-mile bike race on rolling Reston roads, and a 10K (6.2-mile) run on shaded Reston pathways. Started in 1984, the Reston Triathlon continues to be one of the prime sports events in the Northern Virginia area.

OLLI's Abbie Edwards completed *four* Reston Triathlons between 1986 and 1992 -- a most impressive accomplishment! She says that no other OLLI member has run in this triathlon. This year's race, to be held on Sun, Sep 13, has over 650 triathletes registered, with more than 400 volunteers lined up to put on the event. If there are any other OLLI triathletes out there, here is your opportunity to participate in an excellent triathlon in our own region.

**DEPARTMENTS**

**KEY CONTACT INFORMATION**

*How to contact OLLI*

**HERE IS A READY REFERENCE** on how to contact OLLI. For email addresses and phone numbers not listed below, please consult the online

Membership Directory (log in to [Member Portal](#)).

- President: Emmett Fenlon
- Executive Director: [Thom Clement](#), phone 703-503-7866
- [OLLI Office](#), phone 703-503-3384
- Tallwood Administrator/OLLI Registrar: [Maria Buczek](#), phone 703-503-3384
- Board members: See [Organization page](#) (to send an email to the entire Board, send it to the [office](#) or the *OLLI E-News* [editor](#), and your message will be forwarded to all members of the Board)
- Committee chairs, resource-group chairs: See [Organization page](#)
- Suggestions: [Online suggestion box](#)
- Letters to the editor or letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (etiquette matters): *OLLI E-News* Editor [Rod Zumbro](#), phone 703-569-2750

 **EYE ON RESTON**

*About the Reston picnic and more*



By Sharon Gilman, *OLLI E-News* Staff Writer



Photos taken by Abbie Edwards at last Friday's OLLI-Reston picnic at the Roes' home. Forty-five OLLI members and guests were in attendance. Slideshow by the editor.

**OLLI'S RESTON-AREA SUMMER PICNIC** was held on Fri, Jun 5, at the home of gracious hosts Al and Alice Roe. Due to the rain we were only able to glimpse the wonderful garden, but the rain didn't dampen our spirits or the good time had by all. Linda George led a sing-a-long. The food was great and the camaraderie even better! It put some 'sunshine' into an otherwise gloomy day! And it was a relaxing way to meet other OLLI members and get to know each other a little better.

Visitors are always welcome at OLLI classes. Why not consider bringing a friend or neighbor to class with you this summer to try us out? Non-member visitors can attend one or more classes that are not oversubscribed during one consecutive two-week period while we are in session; check with the OLLI office to find out whether the class has space available.

OLLI member Suzy Jampoler is the new Loudoun Coordinator. The OLLI sites at Reston and Loudoun, separated by less than eight miles (about 15 minutes' driving time), will be working together in an effort to add value to the OLLI membership.

We plan to distribute another issue of the *Eye on Reston Extra* newsletter next Wednesday to 254 members in the Greater Reston area (Reston, Herndon, Oakton, Great Falls and Vienna). If you wish to be added or deleted

from our mailing list please advise Tallwood Administrator [Maria Buczek](#).

## MASON ARTS AND MUSIC

*Mason performances Jun 12-21*



By Jan Bohall, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

**FOR TICKETS**, call 1-888-945-2468 (phone orders are handled by [tickets.com](#)) or visit the Center for the Arts Box Office, Tue-Sat, 10:00-6:00. More info on tickets at the [CFA tickets page](#).



### **Theater of the First Amendment** **Staged Readings of Professional Plays and Screenplays** **First Light Discovery Program**

TFA's signature program, First Light provides playwrights and screenwriters the opportunity to continue to develop new plays along with professional directors, dramaturges and actors. Week-long workshops culminate in staged readings with audience feedback.

Sat, Jun 13

Admission: Free, no tickets required

TheaterSpace (Lower level of Performing Arts Bldg, adjacent to Concert Hall. From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on the left and follow hallway; go through the gray doors and downstairs).

At 12 noon

#### **The Bay of Fundy by Sherry Kramer**

The world's most valuable antique table in an ordinary home, a plan to sell it, a troubled marriage, a mysterious malaise and a rising tide – where is all that water coming from?

At 3:00.

#### **Refugee Blues by Wendy Anderson**

Against a backdrop of red-hot funky music, Refugee Blues follows a talented singer-songwriter as she reclaims her life in the protean, ravaged mecca of post-Katrina New Orleans.

At 6:00

#### **24, 7, 365 by Jennifer Nelson**

What would the world look like if people were satisfied? Educated African

Americans' attitudes about race, class and social activism are put under a humorous microscope as two Washington couples set off on a very civilized weekend camping trip for a birthday celebration and end up illuminating their inner and outer lives.

**McLean Symphony**  
**Sounds and Sights of America!**  
**Music, Words and Images from American History**  
**Dingwall Fleary, Music Director**  
**Roger Mudd, Concert Host and Narrator**  
 Sun, Jun 14, 3:00

Journalist-broadcaster Roger Mudd will narrate Tom Sawyer's *Saturday* in this Flag Day concert. The McLean Symphony will perform *Battle Hymn of the Republic* or *Testament of Freedom* from writings of Thomas Jefferson, featuring the Voce Chamber Singers. The program will include *Armed Forces Salute*, the traditional *Clementine*, and Duke Ellington's *Harlem*.

Roger Mudd will sign copies of his memoir, *The Place to Be: Washington, CBS and the Glory Days of Television News*.

Admission: \$10 seniors/students, \$15 other adults  
 Concert Hall

Come early at 2:15 for a pre-performance discussion with Mr. Fleary and Mr. Mudd in Grand Tier III.

**Theater of the First Amendment**  
**The Generations Playwriting Project**  
 Sat, Jun 20, 2:00

Mason's Theater of the First Amendment, Acting for Young People, and OLLI join forces to present staged readings of four new one-act plays, written and performed by young students and seniors working together. Don't miss the Greatest Generation and Generation Y together on stage!

Two of the four plays were written by OLLI students in the winter term workshop, "Generations Playwriting." The four plays, all directed by OLLI members and performed by OLLI members and students of Mary Lechter, are--

- *I'd Rather See You in Your Grave*, by Sharon Roslund (OLLI);
- *Molly's Valentine*, by Nancy Jarvis (OLLI);
- *Old Bones*, by Daniel Seidman (AFYP); and
- *The Royal Huntresses*, by Alex Wingate.

The performances are an OLLI Special Event (#951).  
 Admission: Free, no tickets required

TheaterSpace (Lower level of Performing Arts Bldg, adjacent to Concert Hall).

From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on the left and follow hallway; go through the gray doors and downstairs).

<p><b>The In Series</b>  <b>Exploring Zarzuela</b>                  Sat, Jun 20, 8:00                  Sun, Jun 21, 3:00                  Enjoy treasures from zarzuela, the Spanish musical theater/light opera shows. Soaring melodies, clicking castanets, dance and romance and comedy.                  Admission: \$15 seniors/students, \$25 other adults                  Harris Theater</p>	<p><b>Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra</b>                  Sun, Jun 21, 7:00                  Jim Carroll, director of Jazz Studies at Mason and director of the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra, presents an evening of West Coast and East Coast Jazz. Top D.C.-area jazz musicians will gather for an afternoon jam of audience favorites. The program will include the music of Stan Kenton, Gordon Goodwin, Alan Baylock, Gerry Mulligan, Benny Goodman and more.                  Admission: \$10 seniors/students, \$15 other adults                  Concert Hall</p>
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**COMING ATTRACTIONS**

Non-class events at OLLI for the next two weeks

**T**HE FOLLOWING LIST covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master calendar maintained by the office (see [Upcoming Non-Class Events](#) to view the real-time OLLI online calendar used by the office). Note: Board, committee, resource-group and 'membership-type' meetings/events below are **highlighted in bold**. OLLI members are welcome at all Board, committee and resource-group meetings (except during executive sessions).

Fri Jun 12	10am	Recorder Consort - TA-2
	10am	Travel Club - TA-1
	11am	Homer Group - Social Room Annex
Mon Jun 15	10am	Bridge Club - TA-3
Tue Jun 16	10:30am	Knitting and Needlework Club - Lake Anne Coffee Shop
Fri Jun 19	10am	Recorder Consort - TA-2
	11am	Homer Group - Social Room Annex
<b>Mon Jun 22</b>		<b>Summer Term begins</b>
	10am	Bridge Club - TA-3

Tue Jun 23 11:30am Knitting and Needlework Club - Lake Anne Church  
 Fri Jun 26 9:30am Recorder Consort - TA-2  
 9:30am Photography Club - TA-3  
**10am New Member Coffee - TA-1**  
 10:30am Classic Fiction Book Club - Cascades Library  
 11am Homer Group - Social Room Annex

About *OLLI E-News* and the member/volunteers who produce it



Rod Zumbro  
**Editor**



John West  
**Deputy Editor**



Barbara Kyriakakis  
**Associate Editor**

**Review Team:** Gordon Canyock, Michael Coyne, Barbara Kyriakakis, John West, Susanne Zumbro

**Database Manager:** Barbara Kyriakakis; **Photo Editor:** Michael Coyne

- **About this newsletter.** OLLI's weekly newsletter, *OLLI E-News*, is emailed to current OLLI members with email addresses on Fridays. When classes are in session, printed copies of this newsletter are distributed in classrooms. Comments, suggestions or complaints? Please contact Editor [Rod Zumbro](#) or Communications Committee Chair [Gordon Canyock](#).
- **Submissions.** We encourage members to submit news items, articles and photos for this newsletter. **The deadline to the editor is 7:00 pm Wed** (7:00 pm Mon for letters to the editor for which an OLLI response is appropriate) for that week's issue; **submissions earlier in the week are strongly encouraged and greatly appreciated.** Please limit articles to about 250 words. Submit material via email to Editor Rod Zumbro (email [rzumbro@gmu.edu](mailto:rzumbro@gmu.edu)).
- **Read the latest issue early.** The new weekly issue of *OLLI E-News* is posted to the OLLI Web site Thursday evening. Read it by visiting <http://www.oli.gmu.edu/pubs.htm#enews>, where you will find a list of the last 12 issues; click the latest issue listed.
- **Viewing or searching past issues.** Your options for finding items in past issues of *OLLI E-News* include viewing the [last 12 issues](#); [searching the content](#) of ALL issues for any word or words; and [searching our archive](#) of all past issues by date or issue number.

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