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ISSUE DATE: Fri, Jan 25, 2008 [Click to read about this newsletter](#)

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REMINDERS

- > **WEATHER CLOSINGS.** OLLI will not hold classes or events, and the Tallwood office will be closed, when Fairfax County schools are closed for the day because of inclement weather or area-wide emergencies. When schools open late, OLLI will open at its normal time and classes will meet at their regular times.
- > **DONATIONS FOR TROOPS.** See [article](#) and box in Tallwood social room, by bookcase.

ARTICLES AND NOTICES

- > **FLYING HIGH.** Septuagenarian brothers at play. *By Michael Coyne*
- > **REFLECTIONS.** From the executive director. *By Thom Clement*
- > **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS.** Summary of last Friday's meeting. *By Susanne Zumbro*
- > **LATIN.** Anyone interested in a course?
- > **JOIN THE TOM SWIFT SQUAD.** Calling all techies. *By Paul Howard*
- > **WHAT'S NEXT WITH THE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES?** Getting together outside of OLLI. *By Debbie Halverson*
- > **SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING OF NEW MOVIE.** Proceeds to benefit Mason's Theater of the First Amendment and Mason Festival of the Arts.

DEPARTMENTS

- > **CENTER FOR THE ARTS.** Arts and music events. *By Jan Bohall*

- > **MASON HIGHLIGHTS.** Other events at Mason. *By Barbara Kyriakakis*
- > **COMING ATTRACTIONS.** Upcoming non-class events.

OBITUARY

MADELINE RYAN: An OLLI member for many years.

FLYING HIGH

Septuagenarian brothers at play



By Michael Coyne, Webmaster



At left: underway; at right from top down: setting up, Monterey Bay, landing.

WHAT DO TWO SEPTUAGENARIAN BROTHERS DO when the older visits the younger in California? On my visit earlier this month, the younger took the older for a flight in his powered parachute.

My brother Don, a retired adjunct professor of physics at the University of California, Santa Cruz, developed an interest in this sport while still teaching, but to actually get into the air took years. First he built a hangar behind his

mountain-top residence in Bonny Doon. Then he assembled the machine in the hangar. Next was a flight training course with an FAA-certified instructor. The flight instructor in turn told the FAA that Don was ready take its required flight rating test, which included a flight with an examiner in the passenger seat.

Finally, Don was ready to load the plane on his new trailer and take it to a pasture on the other side of the mountain, where he stored it in yet another hangar during flying season. By the time I arrived in the pasture more than a year had gone by, and Don had logged many hours flying alone and with his children and colleagues.

As a passenger, I sat behind Don in a motorcycle-rider stance on a seat overlooking his helmeted head. He taxied to a road running through the pasture, spread out the parachute on the ground behind the machine and, after a brief run to raise the chute into the air, increased to full speed to get the chute to lift the plane. Less than an hour later, when the wind began to pick up, we returned and landed on the pasture.

Normally I get a little queasy standing near the edge of a tall building, but the 1500 feet we eventually got to on this flight did not bother me. Things below seemed too toy-like to be real. Nevertheless, this probably will be my only flight in a powered parachute.

All but one picture was taken by Melanie Mayer, UCSC Professor (emeritus) of Psychology, owner of the pasture, ground radio operator, and wind balloon deployer. I took the picture of Monterey Bay below my brother's foot.



REFLECTIONS

From the executive director



By [Thom Clement](#), Executive Director



Typical OLLI scenes

THE FIRST WEEK OF THE OLLI winter 2008 session at Tallwood and Lake

Anne has been exciting for me. As the "new kid on the block," I am witnessing the wonderful mix of participants, volunteers, and instructors for the first time. Each person I have met has his or her own story to tell, and I've enjoyed listening.

I'd like to encourage each OLLI member to think about how you came to be involved. Chances are great that you heard about this organization from another member. The best marketing for OLLI is word of mouth. Friends bring friends. People are always attracted to a peer group with which they share common interests and concerns.

This presents a challenge to us if we would like to increase diversity in our membership. How can we spread the word about OLLI to the very diverse broader community in Northern Virginia?

I'd like to encourage each of you to think of ways to reach out to people who may not be represented in our current membership, but who share our thirst for lifelong learning. Let's make this part of our conversation as we strategically plan for the future of OLLI.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Summary of last Friday's meeting



By [Susanne Zumbro](#), Secretary

THE OLLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS met at Tallwood on Fri, Jan 18, at 10:00.

President Pat Carroll informed the Board that Mason has a warehouse with used furniture such as chairs, tables, file cabinets, etc., all of which are available to OLLI. Pat and Executive Director Thom Clement visited the warehouse and brought back several chairs that will be placed in various classrooms for testing. Pat has asked the staff to stop by the warehouse on a regular basis to see if there are any items that might be of use to OLLI.

Treasurer Gordon Canyock pointed out that we had budgeted for a \$47,000 deficit in 2007, but our income was \$19,000 more than budgeted and our expenses were \$19,000 less than anticipated; thus, the final 2007 deficit was about \$9,000. Key items impacting the budget include 19 more registrations than expected, a \$5,000 savings by not printing any OLLI brochures in 2007, and almost \$11,000 in staff payroll savings because of fewer hours worked than budgeted.

After the Finance Committee recommended a full audit again this year since we are changing executive directors, OLLI signed an agreement with Gurman & Co., our past auditor; total 2008 audit and tax-return fees are

projected to be \$6,750.

OLLI has received a proposal from KeySignature Music (OLLI's A/V consultant and installation/service company) to furnish and install upgrades to the existing Tallwood classroom audiovisual equipment based on Audiovisual Support Committee recommendations from 2007. Paul Howard, chair of the Audiovisual Support Committee, presented a resolution to allocate \$2,100 from the Friends of OLLI for this purpose; the resolution was passed.

Thom Clement reported that he has been spending much of his time meeting with OLLI officers, committee chairs and members. He will be meeting with Mason leadership, and he has drafted year-end reports for OLLI to send to the Osher Foundation and to key officials at Mason.

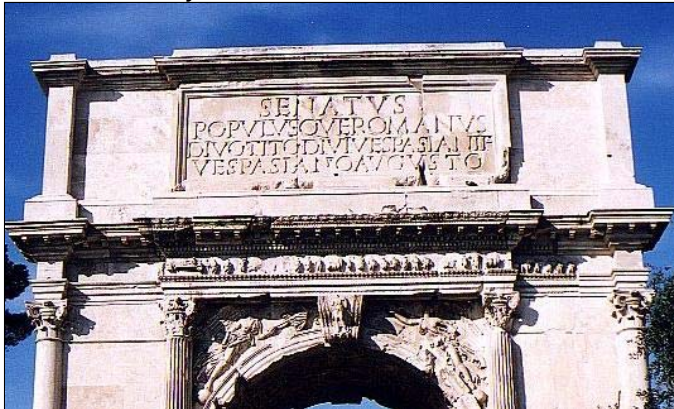
The Board passed a resolution authorizing \$8,000 from Friends of OLLI funds to be donated to Mason for scholarships as recommended by the Program Review Committee; scholarships would go to students of the Department of Music, Department of Economics, Department of Philosophy and College of Science.

Pat Carroll announced that so far he has not been able to find a member willing to chair the Nominating Committee for 2008 Board elections although several candidates have been approached.

The next meeting of the OLLI Board of Directors will be held on Fri, Feb 15, at 10:00 at Tallwood. All OLLI members are invited to attend.

LATIN

Anyone interested in a course?



Senatus Populus Que Romanus ("The Senate and the People of Rome"), widely abbreviated SPQR, on the Arch of Titus, Rome

THE LITERATURE, LANGUAGE AND THEATER RESOURCE GROUP is interested in knowing whether anyone would be interested in a course on the Latin language. If you are, please contact [Jane Tombes](#), [Kathie West](#) or [Doris Bloch](#).

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS ABOUT OLLI?

HERE'S HOW to express your views--

PUBLICLY	PRIVATELY
<p>IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR COMMENTS published in this newsletter, email your "Letter to the Editor" or "Letter to Ms. Ollie Ettakit" to the editor. Anonymous submissions are acceptable if you provide contact information so we can verify that you are an OLLI member. Whenever an official response is clearly appropriate, the editor will obtain and publish the OLLI response in the same issue so members will have more complete information and a balanced picture of the matter.</p>	<p>IF YOU WANT TO CORRESPOND PRIVATELY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact any Board member, committee or resource group chair, or the executive director; • Send an email to the entire Board (email the editor or the office to have your message forwarded to all members of the Board); • Submit a suggestion online or in the box in the Tallwood social room; or • Contact the office by email or phone (703-503-3384).

JOIN THE TOM SWIFT SQUAD

Calling all techies



By Paul Howard, Audiovisual Support Committee chair



OLLI'S AUDIOVISUAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE, a.k.a. The Tom Swift Squad, is looking for additional volunteers to help ensure the smooth employment of OLLI's A/V resources. Our primary mission is to help

instructors, liaisons, and staff with any A/V issues that might arise during the classes we attend.

Volunteers are particularly needed for the Reston campus, and Tallwood's busy schedule always requires additional helpers. You'll receive training on our A/V equipment and participate in planning for OLLI's future needs for A/V equipment, computer resources, and networking. We promise: You won't have to wear a pocket protector ... unless you want to!

Please contact me by [email](#) or phone (703-860-9041) if you are interested in helping.

WHAT'S NEXT WITH THE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES?

Getting together outside of OLLI



By Debbie Halverson, Membership Committee chair

THE CAMPAIGN TO HELP OLLI MEMBERS get together outside of official OLLI activity for social purposes is well underway, and those of you who have not indicated interest should decide shortly whether you wish to be included. We are campaigning on two fronts: for Tallwood area members and for Reston members, although anyone can sign up for either or both.

This past Wednesday, members dropped in to the Tallwood annex early in the afternoon and put their names on the back of cards naming individual categories of interest. All of those cards are now pinned to the bulletin board in the annex for any others who want to add their names to those cards. They will remain there for a few weeks.

The categories are as follows:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singles (including people living alone or married with spouses who enjoy different activity); • Museum goers; • Walkers and hikers; • Couples' bridge; • Sporting events; • Domestic travel; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International travel; • Overnights; • Happy hour; • Local movies; • Gourmet cooking; • Latin language study; • Apple support; and • Visiting public gardens.
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A few weeks from now, all of these cards will be gathered up, the names

collated as to categories, and the lists distributed to those whose names are on them. Someone on each of those lists will have to be proactive in gathering that group together and organizing how he or she wants to proceed.

In Reston a similar group of cards is on the back table of the main classroom along with a description of how each of these groups might respond to the suggested opportunities in the Reston community.

SPECIAL PREVIEW SCREENING OF NEW MOVIE

OLLI MEMBERS ARE INVITED to a special preview screening of a new feature film, *Familiar Strangers*, a heartfelt story about an American family, at 4:00 on Sun, Feb 10, at the Johnson Center Cinema on Mason's Fairfax campus. The screening will be followed by a coffee and dessert reception with the filmmakers and featured actors.

Donation: \$20 adult, \$10 children under 12. Proceeds will benefit Mason's Theater of the First Amendment and Mason Festival of the Arts. Because of limited seating, please RSVP via [email to TFA](#) as soon as practical. For more information, see [this flyer](#) (pdf) or call 703-993-2195.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Arts and music events at Mason, Jan 26-Feb 3



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](#).

Faculty Artist Series <i>Rick Novak, Tenor</i>	Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Masterworks 3 with Dean Woody, bassoon	Vagina Monologues <i>presented by Mason Sexual Assault Services, Alcohol, Drug and Health Education Offices</i>
Sat, Jan 26, at 8:00 Admission: Free, no tickets required Harris Theater	<i>Brahms' Fourth Symphony highlights the January concert. Dean Woody, the Orchestra's new principal bassoonist, makes his solo</i>	Fri, Feb 1, and Sat, Feb 2, at 8:00 Admission: \$25, \$10 Mason faculty/staff, \$5



Rick Novak

debut in Mozart's Bassoon Concerto in B-flat. Ticket-holders will also hear Wagner's suite from Die Meistersinger, including the Prelude (Overture), the Dance of the Apprentices and the Procession of the Meistersingers.
 Sat, Jan 26, at 8:00
 Admission: \$55, \$45, \$35, \$25
 Concert Hall
 Come at early at 7:00 for a free, pre-concert lecture.

Mason students
 Harris Theater

A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer

Sun, Feb 3, at 2:00
 Admission: \$15, \$10 Mason faculty/staff, \$5 Mason students

Perú Negro

Celebratory dances from Peru highlight the country's rich African heritage. The music of this energetic ensemble has a distinctive sound, partly due to their percussion instruments—a wooden crate, a tithing box and a donkey jaw—representing the drums banned by the Spanish colonizers.
 Sat, Feb 2, at 8:00
 Admission: \$40, \$32, \$20
 Family friendly: Children 12 and under may attend at half price if with an adult
 Concert Hall

MASON HIGHLIGHTS

Other events at Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News staff writer

• **Cinema Series** - [Dan in Real Life](#). Sat, Jan 26, 6:00 and 9:00. \$1 with Mason ID. JC Cinema.

- **Recital** - Jessica Jones, flute. Sun, Jan 27, 4:00 at Grand Tier III in the Concert Hall. Free.
- **Sports Banquet** - 2007 All-DCSportsFan Football Celebration Dinner. Sun, Jan 27, 5:00, Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center. [Tickets](#) \$50.
- **The Vision Series** - "Foiling Fatigue: Can We Do It?" Mon, Jan 28, 8:00 in the Center for the Arts, presented by Lynn H. Gerber, MD, Director, Center for the Study of Chronic Illness and Disability. Free but [tickets](#) required (available the evening of the presentation). A reception will follow the event.
- **Focus on the Nation** – An educational program engaging political leaders regarding climate change. Featured guests: Lester Brown, President, Earth Policy Institute and Lee Bodner, Executive Director, ecoAmerica. Tue, Jan 29, 12:00 to 6:00 in Dewberry Hall, JC.
- **Men's Basketball** – Mason v. Virginia Commonwealth. Tue, Jan 29, 7:00, Patriot Center. [Tickets](#) \$14, \$8, \$6.
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Read-In** – with Professor Richard E. Rubenstein. Wed, Jan 30, 10:30 to 11:30, Room 240A, JC.
- **Public Choice Seminar** – Roland Benabou, Princeton University. Wed, Jan 30, 4:00 to 5:15, Carow Hall.
- **Chemistry & Biochemistry Seminar** – "Energy Transfer and Reversible Photoreduction of Polymer-dispersed Perylene Diimide Dyes," presented by Dr. Wade N. Sisk, UNC-Charlotte. Thu, Jan 31, 4:30, Robinson B, Room 205.
- **Convocation** – Music Education Convocation with guest artist, Tim Lautzenheiser. Thu, Jan 31, 7:00, Grand Tier III, Concert Hall.
- **Cinema Series** – [We Own the Night](#). Thu, Jan 31, 6:00 and 9:00. \$1 with Mason ID. JC Cinema.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Non-class events at OLLI for the next two weeks

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master calendar maintained by the office (see the [Forecast of Non-Class Events](#) for more details, including active links to more information on certain events, and to view the actual 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 executive sessions).*

- | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|---|
| Friday | Jan 25 | 9am | 952-Bus Trip Nat'l Building Museum - Departs Fair Oak Mall Lot#44 |
| | | 9:30am | Photography Club - TA-1 |
| | | 10am | Classic Fiction Book Club - Reston Regional Library |

10am Recorder Group - TA-2
10:30am New Member Coffee - TA-Annex
 10:30am 953-#1 Holocaust Museum - D.C.- Smithsonian Metro
 1:30pm Homer, etc. - TA Annex
 Monday Jan 28 1pm LA Bridge Club - Lake Anne
 Tuesday Jan 29 8:15am Reston Walking Group - Lake Anne Plaza
 Wednesday Jan 30 1:30pm Bridge Club - TA-3
 2pm 954-Paris to Berlin - TA-1
 Friday Feb 1 9:30am Drama Club - TA-3
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2
 10am Italian Conversation - Annex
 10:30am 956-#2 Holocaust Museum - D.C.-Smithsonian Metro
 1:30pm Homer, etc. - TA Annex
 Monday Feb 4 1pm LA Bridge Club - Lake Anne
 Tuesday Feb 5 8:15am Reston Walking Group - Lake Anne Plaza
Wednesday Feb 6 1:15pm Program Committee Meeting - TA-2
 1:30pm Bridge Club - TA-3
2pm Special Events Resource Group Meeting - Annex
 2pm History Club - TA-1
 Friday Feb 8 9:30am Drama Club - TA-3
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2
 10am Italian Conversation - Annex
 10:30am 956-#3 Holocaust Museum - D.C.-Smithsonian Metro
 1:30pm Homer, etc. - TA Annex

OBITUARY

Madeline "Maddie" Ryan, an OLLI member for many years

MADELINE RYAN

Madeline "Maddie" Ryan celebrated her 86th birthday on Nov 26, 2007. She passed away Dec 7, 2007 in the Hospice Unit at Greenspring Retirement Community, Springfield, Virginia. Madeline's funeral mass was at St. Mary's Parish Center in Fairfax on Jan 3, 2008.

She and her late husband, John, joined the Learning in Retirement Institute (now OLLI) in the early years of the institute and continued as members until 2004. They both loved OLLI and regretted that they no longer could participate once John was unable to attend, hence their



move to the retirement community. Madeline had many happy memories of OLLI.



Rod Zumbro
Editor



Karen Hamilton
Deputy Editor

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About OLLI E-News. *OLLI E-News*, OLLI's weekly newsletter, is emailed to OLLI members with email addresses on Fridays. When classes are in session, printed copies of this newsletter are distributed in classrooms, primarily for members without email. Comments, suggestions or complaints? Please contact the [OLLI E-News editor](#) or the Communications Committee chair, [Gordon Canyock](#).

Submissions. We encourage members to submit news items, articles and photos for this newsletter; deadline to the editor is 7:00 PM Wed (Mon for letters to the editor for which an OLLI response is appropriate) for that week's issue. Please limit articles to about 250 words. Submit material to editor Rod Zumbro (email rzumbro@gmu.edu, phone 703-569-2750); email strongly preferred.

Read the Latest Issue Before Email Distribution. Eager to read the latest news from OLLI? The new weekly issue of *OLLI E-News* is usually posted to the OLLI Website some time Thursday evening. So Thursday night or first thing Friday morning, just go to <http://www.ollie.gmu.edu/pubs.htm#enews>, where you will find a list of the last 12 issues, and click the issue with Friday's date.

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