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OLLI E-News

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



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ALERTS

- > **TODAY 4:30-6:30: CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARSHIP.** [Gala reception](#) at Mason Hall Atrium, hosted by College of Humanities and Social Sciences and College of Science; free.
- > **"FOREVER YOUNG" LUNCHEON.** Mon, Oct 5, 12:30 at Fuddrucker's Restaurant, 4300 Backlick Rd., Annandale. The OLLI Players and Readers' Theater will present "Ollie Mason and The Great Art Heist," a spoof about aspects of OLLI by member Palmer McGrew.
- > **SPIRITWEAR.** Next week in class OLLI will have info and order forms for sweatshirts, caps, totes and long-sleeved twill & denim shirts with our "OLLI@George Mason University" logo.

ARTICLES AND NOTICES

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- > **OLLI WELCOMES THE CHAIRMAN.** Chairman Sharon Bulova speaks at Special Event.
- > **PROGRAM CORNER: TAKE A LITTLE TIME...** From the Program Committee chair. *By Kathryn Russell*
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- > **NEW MEMBER COFFEE.** Members, new and current, enjoyed Friday's New Member Coffee.

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"ADVANCING" WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

From the executive director



By [Thom Clement](#), Executive Director

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS is currently planning for an "Advance" to be held on Friday, October 23, in lieu of its regular monthly meeting. The purpose of this special event (usually referred to as a "retreat") is to examine several key issues that will affect our Institute over the coming years. The catalyst for this event is the *Pathways to the Future* report that was presented to the Board by the OLLI Planning Committee last week. *Pathways* is available for you to read at [this page \(pdf\)](#). Although the Board is still in the process of refining topics for discussion and decision, the framework of the *Pathways* report provides five basic categories in which most issues will fall: Membership, Program, Facilities, Finances, and Organization. What we hope will emerge from the Advance is a clearer picture of where we are headed and what steps we need to take to get there.

We are fortunate to have as our Advance facilitator Mr. Dave Buczek, the founder and president of David Buczek & Associates, Inc. He is an entrepreneurial management consultant specializing in strategic planning, process design, eCommerce, organization development, and change management. He is also the husband of OLLI Registrar and Administrator Maria Buczek.



The Advance will be held at the Point of View estate ([view pdf brochure](#)) operated by George Mason University's Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

The Advance will have negligible expenses because Mr. Buczek has offered his services gratis and we are being allowed to use the Point of View facility at no cost.

In future articles, I will share with you the topics that will be discussed at the Advance and, eventually, the plans that emerge. Stay tuned!

OLLI WELCOMES THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Sharon Bulova speaks at Special Event



From left: Executive Director Thom Clement, Senior President Emeritus Lilyan Spero, Chairman Sharon Bulova and President Emmett Fenlon. Photo by Tallwood Administrative Assistant Bill Walsh.

ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, OLLI members gathered for the Special Event "Greetings from the Chairman." Sharon Bulova, Chairman of Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors, spoke about the challenges facing Fairfax County under current economic conditions and shared her perspective on progress of the [50+ Action Plan](#) developed in 2006 by the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.

Chairman Bulova described her commitment to providing a variety of lifestyle

choices for older adults who wish to continue living in Fairfax through their retirement years. She outlined plans for development in the Tysons Corner area and along the new Dulles railway corridor. On a personal note, Chairman Bulova told the audience about her 87-year-old father's memories of World War II and his desire to stay mentally active.

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PROGRAM CORNER: TAKE A LITTLE TIME...

...to check your calendar!



By Kathryn Russell, Program Committee Chair

NOW THAT YOU'RE WELL INTO YOUR FALL COURSES, it may be helpful to check to see what else you've signed up for this term. You are probably enrolled in a class or two during the second four weeks. Or you're scheduled for a Special Event coming up. Whatever the activity, you don't want to miss out on anything this term. Yes, I know—life sometimes happens: a doctor appointment, a plumbing emergency, or even a terrific vacation.

However, your diligence in attending all the activities you're signed up for will help us diminish the problems caused by "no-shows." Our dedicated volunteers invest untold time and energy to recruit outstanding teachers, who, in turn, give of their time and efforts gratis (no honoraria paid here!). When members don't show up, we all suffer the consequences. We're embarrassed for the small turnout, of course, and we know that without OLLI member support, we won't be able to get that teacher to return. Also we face real obstacles when we try to recruit other Mason professors, OLLI member teachers, and teachers from outside venues. Word gets around.

OLLI members also pay the price for "no-shows." Some get waitlisted for the large, oversubscribed classes and would like the opportunity to fill the slot of someone who doesn't plan to attend. It's equally important to show up for the smaller classes with limited numbers, as there is usually a waiting list.

A quick check of the calendar, then, can help us minimize the "no-show" problem. The most important reason for doing so, though, is that you'll be taking full advantage of the fun, camaraderie, and learning offered by our wonderful OLLI program. Enjoy your fall term.

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NEW CLUB LAUNCHES

Let's do some creative cooking



By Debbie Halverson, Membership Committee Chair

“Nothing says lovin’ like somethin’ from the oven,” or so that old jingle would say.

My OLLI friend Doris Bloch and I are proposing to start a new club that features, along with stuff from the oven, stuff from the stovetop.

As some of you may recall from my previous articles on this subject, I've taken a few OLLI members into my kitchen to show them my ideas on how to make our tired-out cooking ideas, especially for one or two, take on new life. Those who have joined me have had a good time together while looking at our meal prep with new eyes.

So, why not start something more permanent? Our idea is that we gather a club of however many folks want to participate and divide into groups of three people. Cook with those three for several sessions in one of their homes and then switch around into new groups. The group could decide what kinds of dishes to make, costs involved, where and when to meet. Men and women can participate, and all would operate according to a set of guidelines that the entire club establishes. Sharing is the name of the game: each of us has ideas that have worked for our own pared-down cooking needs.

So where does the *lovin'* come in? Those who cooked in my kitchen didn't even know one another prior to entering my front door. Between stirring and peeling, chopping and eating, we learned so much about one another as our conversational topics moved from food to larger issues of family and the world. *Lovin'* comes from sharing, and one could measure that by the spontaneity of hugs that closed our sessions.

Contact me or Doris Bloch (email dbloch50@hotmail.com) if you would be interested in a club launch meeting. Let us know which days work well for you during this busy fall term, and we will get back to you.

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HISTORY CLUB

Topic on Wednesday: "Tonkin Gulf Incident"

THE OLLI HISTORY CLUB WILL MEET on Wed, Oct 7, at Tallwood from 2:00 to 3:30. OLLI's Ben Gold (*photo at right*) will present on the "Tonkin Gulf Incident." Ben was present during this critical incident when the destroyers *USS Maddox* and *USS Turner Joy* were engaged with North Vietnamese forces. Or were they? Come hear Ben relate this first-hand story.

OLLI members and guests are always welcome at any of the club's meetings. Bring a friend.

Submitted by Bob Persell, History Club Coordinator.



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NEW MEMBER COFFEE

Members, new and current, enjoyed Friday's New Member Coffee



Hospitality Committee Chair Sandra Driesslein (left, in Halloween garb) arranges the refreshments table. Above photo and banner image at top of this newsletter by Dan Feighery.

NEW OLLI MEMBERS FOR THE FALL TERM met with current members and some of OLLI's leadership last Friday morning to enjoy conversation and goodies furnished by the Hospitality Committee before sitting down to learn more about OLLI. After a brief welcome by President Emmett Fenlon, Executive Director Thom Clement spoke about our Institute and then turned the microphone over to several key individuals who explained various aspects of the OLLI experience. The speakers included Membership Committee Chair Debbie Halverson, Program Committee Chair Kathryn Russell, and Audiovisual Support Committee Chair Paul Howard. Also, *OLLI E-News* Editor Rod Zumbro encouraged members to write articles such as human-interest stories related to OLLI and submit them for publication in this newsletter.

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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 ([email](#))
- 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

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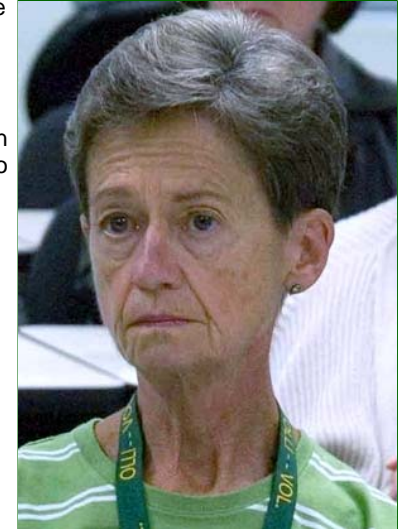
OLLI'S SPECIAL FORCES

Profile of Lynda Hollidge, chair of Loudoun Programs



By Elizabeth Crawford, *OLLI E-News* Staff Writer

AMONG THE WAYS TO INCREASE our Institute's membership, OLLI member Roxie Sullivan chose one that all of us might try: talking to our local relatives. Intrigued by Roxie's enthusiasm, her son-in-law's mother, Lynda Hollidge of Round Hill, Virginia, started taking courses at OLLI-Loudoun in 2007. Within two years she volunteered to chair Loudoun Programs.



Lynda has been impressed with the interesting people she has met at OLLI and at the synergy she has observed in classes such as writing, history, and politics. This summer Lynda held two meetings at which, she says, a "dynamite team" of Loudoun member/volunteers agreed to chair groups modeled after OLLI resource groups. With the help of additional member/volunteers, they are planning future Loudoun courses in art, music, literature, history, science, and technology.

Lynda has an Ed.D. in Curriculum Instruction from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia. She has taught Advanced Placement English on the high school level and also served as assistant principal and principal. On the university level, she has taught at George Washington, George Mason, and Shenandoah (Winchester, Virginia).

Outside of OLLI, Lynda is busy with her elderly mother and five grandchildren who live nearby. She enjoys volunteering in the children's schools. Also, Lynda is a world traveler; so far, she has been to Europe, Africa, Russia, China, and South America.

Photo of Lynda by Suzy Jampoler.

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MASON ARTS AND MUSIC

Upcoming Mason performances, Oct 2-11



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](#).



Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
Glenn Quadar, conductor
Jon Manasse, clarinet



Sat, Oct 3, 8:00

The group, under the direction of the associate conductor, Glenn Quadar, will perform an all-classical concert that will include Mendelssohn's Overture to *The Fair Melusina*, Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 4.

Admission: \$55, \$45, \$35, \$25
Concert Hall

Come at 7:00 for a free pre-concert lecture on Grand Tier III.

Studio Series #1
Fuddy Meers

by David Lindsay-Abaire
directed by Dannie Snyder

Thu, Fri, Sat, Oct 8, 9, 10, 8:00
Sat, Sun, Oct 10, 11, 2:00

The play is a postmodern absurdist comedy presented by the GMU Players

Richard Alston Dance Company

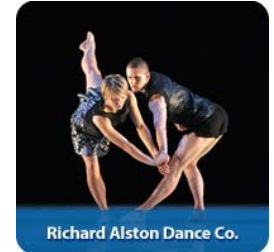
and the Department of Theater. Claire is a wife and mother with a rare form of amnesia whose memory is erased whenever she falls asleep. As she begins to reconstruct her life, she is kidnapped and her adventures begin. The title arises as Gertie, who purports to be Claire's mother, pronounces the words "funny mirrors" since her stroke. The director has received an OLLI scholarship for her artistic efforts in the community as she studies theater and film at George Mason.

Admission: Seniors/students \$3, other adults \$6

Purchase tickets at door one hour before performance

Black Box Theater

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



Richard Alston Dance Co.

Sat, Oct 10, 8:00

Richard Alston, founder and choreographer of the group, is noted for having a close relationship with his music. He combines movement with melody to create dance "that is simply breathtaking." This is the group's debut at the Center.

Admission: \$42, \$34, \$21
Concert Hall

Come at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion on Grand Tier III.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers



Flying Karamazov Brothers

Sun, Oct 11, 4:00

Although they are not Russian—and not brothers—and cannot fly, this four-member comedy troupe of jugglers continues to entertain us with appearances from

Faculty Artist Series
Piano Trio

Sun, Oct 11, at 7:00

This presentation will include performers Anna Balakerskaia, Zino Bogachek and David Teie from George Mason University's School of Music.

Admission: Free, no tickets required
Harris Theater

"Seinfeld" to Broadway. They offer a zany combination of theater, comedy, music and juggling, with a bit of philosophy thrown in.

Admission: \$42, \$34, \$21

Family friendly: Youth grade 12 and under, half-price with an adult. (Note change from "age 12 and under" last season.)

Concert Hall

Come at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion on Grand Tier III.

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MASON HIGHLIGHTS

Other events at Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News Associate Editor

- [Astronomy Observing Session](#) – Tue, Oct 6, 7:15, Research I Observatory. Attendance is open to the public. Free. Observing session will be canceled if sky is more than half overcast one hour before the session is scheduled to begin ([check Web site](#)).
- [Star Kid 8K Run and Walk](#) – Sat, Oct 10, 8:00 a.m., Patriot Circle. Benefits the Inova Pediatric Heart Program. Registration \$25; \$20; \$10. Check Web site for more info.
- [Harry Markopolos Lecture](#) – Come hear Harry Markopolos, the 30-year veteran of the financial industry who blew the whistle on Bernie Madoff and his \$50 billion Ponzi scheme, unearthing what is believed to be the largest financial fraud in history. Concert Hall Lobby, Thu, Oct 15, 3:00 to 4:30. A reception will follow. Free and open to the public. On the [Web site](#), watch a "60 Minutes" video segment about Harry Markopolos.
- [Vision Series Speaker: Prof. Margo A. Mastropieri](#) – "How We Learn: Human Exceptionality and Cognition." Mon, Oct 19, 7:00, Concert Hall. Free. [Order tickets](#).

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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, with direct Web links added when available. 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 Oct 2	9am	Recorder Lessons - TA-3
	10am	Drama Club - TA-3
	10am	Recorder Consort - TA-2
	11am	Homer Group - Social Room Annex
	1pm	Special Event - F955, Native Plants - Tallwood
Tue Oct 6	11am	Knitting and Needlework Club
Wed Oct 7	1:45pm	Bridge Club - TA-3
	2pm	Special Events Resource Group Mtg - TA-2
	2pm	History Club - TA-1
Fri Oct 9	9am	Recorder Lessons - TA-3
	10am	Drama Club - TA-3
	10am	Recorder Consort - TA-2
	10am	Travel Club - TA-1
	11am	Homer Group - Social Room Annex
	1pm	Special Event - F956, Defeating Cancer - Tallwood
Tue Oct 13	11am	Knitting and Needlework Club
Wed Oct 14	1:45pm	Book Club at Tallwood - TA-2
	1:45pm	Bridge Club - TA-3
	2pm	Special Event - F957, Speak Up for a Child - Tallwood
Thu Oct 15	11am	Fiction Writers' Club - OL-TBA
Fri Oct 16	9am	Recorder Lessons - TA-3
	10am	Drama Club - TA-3
	10am	Recorder Consort - TA-2
	11am	Homer Group - Social Room Annex
	1pm	Special Event - F958, The World's 10 Greatest Ocean Liners - Tallwood
	1pm	Flu Shot Clinic - TA-1 and Annex
Sat Oct 17	1pm	OLLI PC Users Group (OPCUG) - Tallwood

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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).
- **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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