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OLLI E-News

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



- [OLLI Website](#)
- [What's New](#)
- [Catalog Info](#)
- [OLLI Videos](#)
- [Suggestion Box](#)
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- > **ESTATE-PLANNING TALK.** Wed, Oct 29, 9:30-11:00, Tallwood. Details next week.
- > **FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY:** Do you remember Tallwood House? Visit the [OLLI Home Page](#) to see Tallwood House as it once was ... and then watch it being demolished.
- > **OLLI VIDEOS:** One-click OLLI videos have been added to the [OLLI Video News page](#) so you can watch a short video instantly without opening a separate media player. Check it out.
- > **POSITIVE AGING CONFERENCE:** Wed, Nov 12, 8:30-5:30, Falls Church. See [pdf flyer](#).

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THE IMPORTANCE OF ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT FOR "EXPERIENCED" AMERICANS

From the executive director



By [Thom Clement](#), Executive Director

OLLI MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY LEARNED

about the rewards of active involvement in learning and socializing with other intellectually curious "experienced" adults. Many of you already contribute your time and talents throughout the community – I saw one of our members (Bill Ackerman) being interviewed on channel 9 news this past Monday night in a story about volunteerism in the presidential campaign!

While most older Americans (55%) believe they will leave the world in worse condition than they inherited it from their parents, tens of millions of these Americans want to increase their levels of civic engagement, according to a report released at the ServiceNation Summit by AARP and Civic Enterprises, a public policy firm that promotes innovative solutions to strengthen communities.

"More to Give: Tapping the Talents of the Baby Boomer, Silent and Greatest Generations" outlines a 12-point plan to engage older Americans in tackling challenges across the nation, such as epidemic levels of high school dropout



and the need to help millions of elderly continue to live independently in their homes. This breakthrough report was authored by three leading experts in American civic engagement: John Bridgeland, CEO of Civic Enterprises and former Director of the USA Freedom Corps; Robert D. Putnam, the author of *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*, and former U.S. Senator Harris Wofford, who served as Special Assistant to President Kennedy during the launch of the Peace Corps.

Their report is available [here as a pdf document](#).

TRIP TALES NEEDED

Share your excellent trip with your colleagues



Previous Trip Tales have included, left to right, Tunisia, Kenya, and Italy.
Photos by Rod Zumbro.

AS PLANNING PROCEEDS FOR THE SPRING TERM, longtime Trip Tales Coordinator Virlinda Snyder is looking for OLLI members to share their trips with their colleagues. Our popular Trip Tales presentations will be given on Wednesdays at 11:30 during the eight-week term from Mar 23-May 15, 2009.

Please call Virlinda or contact Beth Davis in the office if you have a trip to share. Thank you!

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Selected by the OLLI Photography Club



"Killarney Fjord" by Joan Axilbund

(The photo in its original size of 1024x683 pixels can be seen at [this page](#))

YOU CAN VIEW MANY OTHER PHOTOS taken by OLLI Photography Club members on the club's [Web site](#).

SPECIAL NOTICE ABOUT COURSE #702

"America and the World"

LONGTIME COORDINATOR CARLYN ELDER for "America and the World," course #702, asked that the following information be provided to the membership.

- The speaker on Mon, Oct 27, in the "America and the World" course at the Church of the Good Shepherd will be Patrick Clawson speaking on "Where Iran's Nuclear Program Fits into its Ambitions and the Implications for the United States." This class was originally scheduled for Mon, Oct 20. The Oct 20 class will be "China and the World," presented by Robert Sutter. All members are welcome to attend this offsite 'classroom' with plenty of seats.
- **Someone inadvertently picked up Carlyn's red class folder, which contains important course (and personal) papers that she needs. Please check to see if you have this red class folder and if you do, please contact Carlyn as soon as possible.**
- The new course coordinator is Elizabeth Hammer.

PHOTO CLUB PRESENTS "BEAUTY OF LIGHT"



THE NEXT MEETING OF THE OLLI PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB will be at 9:30 on Fri, Oct 24, in TA-1. A special class on the "Beauty of Light" will be presented by William B. Folsom, Resident Photographer at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and a full-time, McLean-based, commercial photographer.

Mr. Folsom has assembled a collection of images that depict different lighting conditions common to each 24-hour period. He will examine the types of light associated with different times of day, give suggestions on how best to photograph under clear conditions, and discuss how clouds can impact lighting. Also covered will be photography under other atmospheric conditions such as rain, snow, and fog.

All interested OLLI members are welcome to attend.

-- Contributed by Dan Feighery

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HOW TO EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS ABOUT OLLI

PUBLICLY:

- Email your "Letter to the Editor" (see [recent sample](#)) or "Letter to Ms. Ollie Ettakit" (see [recent sample](#)) 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 to a letter to the editor 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.

- Attend monthly meetings of your Board of Directors and make your views known during the period for public comments.

PRIVATELY:

- Contact any [Board member](#), [committee or resource group chair](#), or the [executive director](#);

- Send an email to the entire Board (directors are listed on the [Organization page](#), and email addresses are listed in the online [Membership Directory](#) ... or you are welcome to email the [editor](#) or the [office](#) to have your message forwarded to all members of the Board);

- Submit a suggestion [online](#) or in the suggestion box in the Tallwood social room; or

- Contact the office by [email](#) or phone (703-503-3384).

DEPARTMENTS

PROFILE

Manuel Pablo, Board member and Audiovisual Support Committee Co-chair



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

"AND WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT OLLI?" I queried.

"The classes, the people ... and the chocolate chip cookies," Manny replied. "And if I had thought a minute about it, I may have put the chocolate chip cookies first." We both laughed.

Manuel Pablo's charming, comedic personality kept me chuckling throughout the interview. But his intelligence, humility and shy nature, as well as his excitement and love for OLLI, crept into our conversation repeatedly.

Born in Manila, Republic of the Philippines, Manny spent his early childhood there. He came to the U.S. in 1945, was repatriated with his mother and family in 1947, and returned to the U.S. in 1949. Eventually Manny ended up in Washington, D.C., where he graduated from Gonzaga High School and went on to receive his bachelor's degree at Georgetown University and his master's at Catholic University of America, both in physics. He then settled into a job with the Navy as a civilian technical program manager.

"I am really very shy and retiring," Manny said. "My biggest challenge in life has been to overcome these drawbacks." He joined Toastmasters and OLLI's Readers' Theater in an effort to conquer his timid temperament.

Manny's sense of humor stayed the course when I asked about his goals in



Manuel Pablo
Photo by Abbie Edwards

life. "Well, since I am the product of Jesuit teaching ... both high school and college ... that's easy: *do good and avoid evil.*"

But his serious side suddenly burst forth. "I think I have an obligation to give back. My goal is to do that. I teach an AARP driving course for Prince William Senior Center and have been a Boy Scout scoutmaster off and on since 1980. Someday I would like to teach an OLLI class," he said. Then, with what I perceived as the slyest of grins, he followed up with: "It would be a challenge, since I don't know enough about anything to teach a course. My biggest fear is someone finding out how little I know."

In concluding the interview, I asked Manny about other activities in his life. He has been active in local civic associations and has been longtime president of his local swim club. He likes to cruise. His favorite activity is sitting on the balcony of a cruise ship in the Caribbean watching the waves go by.

"I do it every chance I can afford," he chuckled.

EYE ON RESTON

Monday lunches between classes



By Sharon Gilman, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

ON MON, OCT 13, FROM 1:00 TO 2:00, sitting at a round table and swapping sandwiches, a group of about eight OLLI participants lunched together at the Lake Anne church. Each person brought a favorite sandwich and was prepared to give it away to someone else at the table. The group also had chips, pickles, dessert and beverages.

This time period falls after the 11:30 class (Freud) and before Gloria Sussman's music-listening class. It is a most pleasant way to get to know one another better.

We will continue to do this each Monday during the term and welcome everyone who wants to participate.

MASON ARTS AND MUSIC


Upcoming performances at Mason, Oct 17-25



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.

<p>GMU Opera <i>Trouble in Love: An Operatic Double Take featuring Bernstein's Trouble in Tahiti and Scenes from Donizetti's The Elixir of Love</i> Fri, Sat, Oct 17, 18, 8:00 Admission: \$15 seniors/students, \$20 other adults Harris Theater</p>	<p>Virginia Opera <i>Il Trovatore</i> Fri, Oct 17, 8:00 Sun, Oct 19, 2:00</p>  <p>In Verdi's classic, a wealthy Count de Luna sets his forces against those of a troubadour, Manrico, to win the love of beautiful Leonora. Unknown to the rivals, they are brothers separated at birth by an old gypsy bent on vengeance. It will be sung in Italian with English supertitles. Admission Fri: \$86, \$72, \$44 Admission Sun: \$98, \$80, \$48 Concert Hall</p>	<p>Turtle Island String Quartet with the Assad Brothers <i>String Theory</i> Sat, Oct 18, 8:00 Joining this Grammy-Award winning quartet known for its bold, new trends in chamber music for strings will be Sergio and Odair Assad, guitar virtuosos, with music "from across the globe, from Africa and India to the Appalachian Mountains, to the rhythmic poetry of the Balkans, to the warmth and passion of Brazil." Admission: \$42, \$34, \$21 Family Friendly: Children 12 and under, half price with an adult Concert Hall Come at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion on Grand Tier III.</p>
<p>GMU Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra Wed, Oct 22, 8:00 Admission: \$10 seniors/students, \$15</p>	<p>GMU Players #1 <i>Shakespeare in Hollywood</i> Written by Ken Ludwig Directed by Mary Lechter</p>	<p>Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Marcelo Lehninger, Conductor Featuring Angela Cheng on Piano</p>

other adults
Concert Hall

Thu, Fri, Sat, Oct 23, 24, 25, 8:00
 Sat, Oct 25, 2:00
 Also, Oct 30, 31, Nov 1, 2
 Set in 1934, fairies Oberon and Puck play in a Hollywood version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This comic romp was written by the author of Broadway's *Crazy for You* and *Moon Over Buffalo*, among other hits. **The October 25 matinee is an OLLI Special Event (Fall Catalog, page 21) featuring a post-performance discussion with the director and members of the company.**
 Admission: \$8 seniors/students, \$12 other adults
 TheaterSpace (Lower level of Performing Arts Bldg, adjacent to Concert Hall. From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on left and follow hallway, go through gray doors and downstairs).

Sat, Oct 25, 8:00



The evening's program will include *The Little Train of the Brazilian Countryman* by Villa-Lobos, *Nights in the Garden of Spain* by Manuel de Falla and Rimski-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*. This second concert of the season brings a guest conductor, one of six finalists for music director, to succeed William Hudson. Mr. Lehninger of Rio de Janeiro serves as music advisor to the Youth Orchestra of the Americas.

Admission: \$55, \$45, \$35, \$25 Free student tickets available
 Concert Hall
 Come early for a free ConcerTalk by Mr. Lehninger at 7:00

MASON HIGHLIGHTS

Other events at nearby Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

- **Lunch and Learn – Breast Cancer Awareness Program** – Tue, Oct 21, 12:00 to 1:00, JC North Lounge. Registration requested.
- **Billiards Trick Shot Champion Exhibition** – Tom "Dr. Cue" Rossman is coming to Mason. This is your chance to see the WPA (World Pool-Billiard Association) World Artistic Pool Champion in action. Tue, Oct 21, 10:00 to 6:00, Sub I, Game Room.
- **Workshop in Philosophy, Politics & Economics** – "The Venturesome Economy: How Innovation Sustains Prosperity in a More Connected World," presented by Amar Bhidé, Columbia University. Thu, Oct. 23, 1:00 to 2:30, 318 Enterprise Hall.
- **Outstanding Research Lecture** – "Silicon on Insulator, nanoCMOST, and the Emergence of Nanoelectronics," presented by Dimitris Ioannou, Volgenau School of Information Technology & Engineering. Thu, Oct 23, 3:00, Mason Hall Meese Conference Room. Reception follows.
- **Cinema Series – The Dark Knight**. Fri, Oct 24, and Sat, Oct 25, 6:00 and 9:00, and Sun, Oct 26, at 3:00, JC Cinema. \$1.00 with Mason ID.
- **Health Care Issues and the Election – Obama v. McCain** (see [pdf flyer](#)). Presented by John F. Holahan, Director, Health Policy Research Center, The Urban Institute and Linda J. Blumberg, Principal Research Associate, The Urban Institute. Sponsored by Mason's Department of Health Administration & Policy and the Center for Health Policy Research and Ethics. Mon, Oct 27, 6:00, Mason Hall Meese Conference Room.



EDITOR'S NOTES

Reflections on this issue



By Rod Zumbro, OLLI E-News Editor

THE PROFILE OF DIRECTOR MANNY PABLO in this issue is a prime example of the extraordinary talents of OLLI members such as Barbara Kyriakakis and Elizabeth Crawford who volunteer as "OLLI E-News staff writers." Barb's insightful profile is informative and fun to read and does a great

job of capturing Manny's personality.

At the top of this issue are two alerts about one-click videos. Learning how to do these was a new experience for me. It turns out to be easy to upload videos to YouTube, the hugely popular video-sharing site that converts your videos to the one-click Flash format and hosts them for free. Plus, it's really cool that you can "embed" the videos into a Web page so they play instantly on that page (e.g., viewers looking at the OLLI Video News page need not visit YouTube, with all its distractions). If you like to make movies, I encourage you to try posting short videos to YouTube. Who knows? You might impress your grandchildren!

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 [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).*

Friday	Oct 17	9:30am	Drama Club - TA-3
	10am		Board of Directors Meeting - TA-1
	10am		Recorder Group - TA-2
	1pm		INOVA Flu Shot Clinic
	1:30pm		Homer, etc. - TA- Annex
Wednesday	Oct 22	1:30pm	Bridge Club - TA-3
	2pm		Special Event - 957 Run Away With the Circus - TA-1
Friday	Oct 24	9:30am	Drama Club - TA-3
	9:30am		Photography Club - TA-1
	10am		Recorder Group - TA-2
	10:30am		Classic Fiction Book Club - Cascade Library/21030 Whitfield Place/Potomac Falls
	1:30pm		Homer, etc. - TA- Annex
Wednesday	Oct 29	1:30pm	Bridge Club - TA-3
	2pm		Special Event - 959 Songs You Love Sung With Heart - TA-1
Friday	Oct 31	10am	Town Hall Meeting - TA-1
		1:30pm	Homer, etc. - TA- Annex



Rod Zumbro
Editor



Karen Hamilton
Deputy Editor

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 Editor [Rod Zumbro](#) or 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** (7:00 pm 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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