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ISSUE DATE: Fri, Feb 1, 2008 [Click to read about this newsletter](#)

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**REMINDERS**

- > **NEW MOVIE SCREENING AT MASON TO BENEFIT TFA.** RSVP soon. [Read all about it.](#)
- > **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW TO HELP MASON STUDENTS.** [Read about this opportunity.](#)

**ARTICLES AND NOTICES**

- > **PLANNING FOR OLLI'S FUTURE.** From the executive director. *By Thom Clement*
- > **BASIC BICYCLE MAINTENANCE.** Gearing up for spring? Then this is for you. *By Ben Gold*
- > **OLLI HISTORY CLUB.** The decline of the British Empire following World War II.
- > **PROBLEM RECEIVING OLLI EMAILS?** Some things you can do. *By Rod Zumbro*
- > **TALLWOOD HOUSE HISTORY.** Read about Tallwood House.
- > **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES SIGN-UP.** A reminder about how to indicate your interests.
- > **IN SEARCH OF:** Members interested in science.

**DEPARTMENTS**

- > **MS. OLLIE ETTAKIT.** Answers to your pressing questions about OLLI etiquette.
- > **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.

**PLANNING FOR OLLI'S FUTURE**

*From the executive director*



By [Thom Clement](#), Executive Director

**THERE HAVE BEEN MANY STIMULATING DISCUSSIONS** among OLLI members about future directions for our organization. Many advocate looking to our rich history to provide a foundation for making wise decisions about the future. Others emphasize the importance of looking ahead to the tremendous changes in demographics, technology, and the whole concept of retirement.

OLLI member Don Yesukaitis recently shared some key findings from a May 2007 report of The Brookings Institution: The "pre-senior" age group (55-64) will expand by nearly 50 percent in this decade, followed by a "senior tsunami" beginning in 2011. Collectively, these folks will be more likely to continue working after retirement, and they'll be healthier, more technologically savvy, and more inclined to pursue intellectual and recreational opportunities than previous generations. Sounds like a bright future for OLLI, doesn't it?

Of course, we need to maneuver over and through many obstacles that could impede our development both in the near future and for the next decade and beyond. As we work together on issues such as membership dues, expansion to other geographic areas and possible moves to other facilities, we should remember that if we fail to plan, we will most likely plan to fail.

**BASIC BICYCLE MAINTENANCE**

*Gearing up for spring? Then this is for you.*



By [Ben Gold](#), Vice President



**THE OLLI CYCLING CLUB HAS ARRANGED** with a Northern Virginia bicycle sales and service company to conduct a special Basic Maintenance Class for all OLLI members at its Vienna store at 6:30 pm on Thu, Feb 7.

The session is free and open to all members of OLLI. It should be an excellent session and if you're thinking about

cycling in the spring, this is a "don't miss" event.

The session will be held at Spokes Etc., 224 Maple Ave East (Rt. 123), in Vienna ([Google map and directions](#)). It is a demonstration class, so you don't need to bring your bikes.

## OLLI HISTORY CLUB

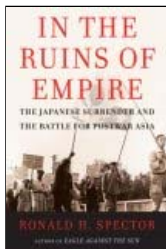


**THE OLLI HISTORY CLUB WILL MEET** on Wed, Feb 6, 2:00-3:30, at Tallwood.

OLLI's Jim Hubbard will discuss two books:

- Peter Clarke's *The Last Thousand Days of the British Empire*, and
- Ronald Spector's *In the Ruins of Empire*.

Both books deal with the decline of the British Empire following World War II.



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

## PROBLEM RECEIVING OLLI EMAILS?

*Some things you can do*



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

### SOME MEMBERS RECENTLY REPORTED PROBLEMS

-- they were not receiving emails from OLLI, including *OLLI E-News*. The office re-transmitted last Friday's newsletter to some members this past Monday. Since *OLLI E-News* is our primary means of communication, our goal is for all members with email to receive the newsletter in their inbox every Friday.



Sometimes these email problems seem to be unexplainable, but there are things you can do to help ensure that you receive email communications from OLLI. The first thing is to [email the office](#) whenever you do not receive *OLLI E-News* on Friday. Tallwood Site Administrator Ann Hartmann will make sure that your correct email address is in the OLLI email groups used to send mass mailings to the membership. If everything goes right, this should take care of getting OLLI emails sent to your email address.

But this does NOT mean that the messages will actually reach your inbox

because they could be captured by your Internet Service Provider's spam or junk-mail filter (almost all ISPs now have some type of spam/junk filter). So the next thing to do is to check your preferences for how spam or junk mail is handled by your ISP (i.e., AOL, Cox, Comcast, Earthlink, Verizon, etc.).

It's fine for your ISP to automatically filter out suspected spam/junk mail and deliver it to a spam/junk folder rather than your inbox ... but you should regularly review the spam/junk folder since sometimes legitimate mail (like *OLLI E-News*) can inexplicably find its way into spam/junk folders. If you DO find our newsletter in your spam/junk folder, "unjunk" it (e.g., mark it as "This is NOT spam"); thereafter, future messages from OLLI should go directly into your inbox.

**As a 'fail-safe' measure, I suggest that all members add the OLLI Office's email address, [olli@gmu.edu](mailto:olli@gmu.edu), to their list of contacts or address book.**

**NOTICE.** If you change your email address, be sure to [notify OLLI](#) right away. This is important not only so you will continue to receive *OLLI E-News* but also because the office and course instructors and coordinators use email as their primary means of communication with members to pass on class information, changes and updates.

## HISTORY OF TALLWOOD HOUSE



**TALLWOOD HOUSE** was the largest building on the OLLI campus. It was standing tall from 1937 until 2006, when it was dramatically demolished on a cold February day (see a short movie of what happened on that fateful day at [OLLI Video News](#)).

You can now read the full [story of Tallwood House \(pdf\)](#) in the latest addition to the OLLI Website. (To find the story in the future, just hover your mouse cursor over the **About Us** menu and select **All About OLLI**; the story of Tallwood House is near the bottom of the page, in the paragraph about OLLI's history.)

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES SIGN-UP

*A reminder about how to indicate your interests*



Bulletin board in social room annex; photo by Gordon Canyock

**CARDS FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF OLLI** are posted in Tallwood and on the back table of the main classroom at Lake Anne.

Reminder: add your name to the back of any card describing an activity in which you are interested. For details, see Debbie Halverson's [article](#) from last week's newsletter.

### HOW TO EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS ABOUT OLLI Questions/Comments/Suggestions

**PUBLICLY:**

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

**PRIVATELY:**

- 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).

### IN SEARCH OF



**DO YOU RECEIVE SCIENCE MAGAZINE?** Are you an American Association for the Advancement of Science member?



Would you like to meet with OLLI colleagues to discuss interesting journal articles – weekly, biweekly or monthly? If so, contact Ave Tombes.

### MS. OLLIE ETTAKIT

*Answers to your pressing questions about OLLI etiquette*



By Ms. Ollie Ettakit, OLLI E-News staff manners expert

*Why not post permanent signs in classrooms about nametags, trash, etc.?*

Dear Ms. Ettakit:

I want to voice a small complaint based on casual conversations with other OLLI members. The complaint is that we are tired of receiving the same information at the beginning of every class: wear nametags, sign in, turn off all electronic devices, and get rid of trash. Yes, it is important information, but it can become somewhat irrelevant when it is heard over and over again.

Here is my suggestion: Create a large, easy-to-read, and permanent sign in every classroom that will include those procedures. Then the liaisons will be free to introduce the speaker, to make certain that the speaker's handouts have been distributed, and to announce the really important news of the week.

At the first class session of the semester, the liaison could easily point to the sign to inform new members and remind others of their obligations.

Perhaps someone with the artistic talents that I lack would be willing to create the signs – and the sooner the better!

-- Anonymous

*My Dear Anonymous:*

*What a great idea! When one hears the same thing over and over again, one does tend to tune it out.*

*Although Ms. Ettakit hesitates to speak for OLLI members, she agrees that class attendees probably would prefer the liaison to concentrate on telling them about the speaker's background/experience and then turn the class over to the speaker.*

*It is not good manners to annoy others, but Ms. Ettakit knows that the repeated announcements in class are intended to remind rather than annoy OLLI members (often one or more attendees will pull out a cell phone and turn it off after the announcement). She is confident that the writer's suggestion will be given due consideration by the OLLI powers-that-be.*

Email your OLLI etiquette questions to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (who is distraught that she cannot reply personally) via OLLI E-News editor [Rod Zumbro](#) or Communications Committee chair [Gordon Canyock](#).

**CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

*Arts and music events at Mason, Feb 1-10*



By Jan Bohall, OLLI E-News staff writer



**FOR TICKETS**, call 1-888-945-2468 (phone orders are handled by [tickets.com](http://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><b><a href="#">Vagina Monologues</a></b> <i>presented by Mason Sexual Assault Services, Alcohol, Drug and Health Education Offices</i></p>	<p><b><a href="#">Perú Negro</a></b></p>	<p><b>Faculty Artist Series</b> <b>featuring Kelly Ker Hackleman, piano; Peter Haase, violin; Loren Stephenson, cello</b></p>	<p><b>Studio Series #3</b> <b>After Ashley</b></p>
<p>Fri, Feb 1, and Sat, Feb 2, at 8:00 Admission: \$25, \$10 Mason faculty/staff, \$5 Mason students Harris Theater</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>Tue, Feb 5, at 8:00 Admission: Free Harris Theater</p>	<p>Thu and Fri, Feb 7-8, at 8:00 Sat, Feb 9, at 2:00 and 8:00 Sun, Feb 10, at 2:00 Admission: \$3 seniors/students, \$6 other adults</p>
<p><b><a href="#">A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant and A Prayer</a></b> Sun, Feb 3, at 2:00 Admission: \$15, \$10 Mason faculty/staff, \$5 Mason students</p>	<p><i>From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on the left and follow hallway, go through gray doors</i></p>	<p>Sat, Feb 2, at 8:00 Admission: \$40, \$32, \$20 Family friendly: Children 12 and</p>	<p>Black Box Theater (Lower level of the Performing Arts building, adjacent to the Concert Hall. From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on the left and follow hallway, go through gray doors</p>

	under may attend at half price if with an adult Concert Hall		and downstairs).
<b>Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra</b> <b>Jim Carroll, artistic director</b> <b>Byron Stripling, trumpet</b>	<b>State Symphony of Mexico</b> <b>Maestro Enrique Bâtiz, conductor</b> <b>Leonel Morales, piano</b>	<b>Young Artists Musicale</b>	<b>Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel</b> <b>Russia – Rebels on the Red Carpet!</b>
<i>This outstanding group of metro area jazz musicians welcomes Stripling, who for many years was lead trumpeter in the Count Basie Orchestra, and has played and recorded extensively with the bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman and Dave Brubeck.</i> Fri, Feb 8, at 8:00 Admission: \$38, \$30, \$19 Family friendly: Children 12 and under, half price with an adult Concert Hall Come early at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion in the Grand Tier Lobby.	<i>The program will include Buxtehude's Chacona in E-minor, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 5 in D-Major ("Reformation") and Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D-minor, Opus 30.</i> Sat, Feb 9, at 8:00 Admission: \$50, \$42, \$25 Family friendly: Children 12 and under, half price with an adult Concert Hall Come early at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion in the Grand Tier Lobby.	Sun, Feb 10, at 6:00 Concert Hall Lobby	<i>Mr. Siegel will present works of Shostakovich, Prokofiev and Rachmaninoff.</i> Sun, Feb 10, at 7:00 Admission: \$38, \$30, \$19 Family friendly: Children 12 and under, half price with an adult Concert Hall

### MASON HIGHLIGHTS

*Other events at Mason*



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News staff writer

- **Men's Basketball** - Mason v. James Madison. Sat, Feb 2, 2:00, Patriot Center. Tickets: \$14; \$8; \$6.
- **Cinema Series** – *Eastern Promises*, Sat, Feb. 2; *Imitation of Life* (1959), Thu, Feb 7; *American Gangster*, Fri, Feb 8; all movies 6:00 and 9:00, JC Cinema. \$1 with Mason ID.
- **Krasnow Monday Seminar** – "Semantic Information, Shannon Information and Entropy as a Mental Construct," presented by Harold Morowitz, Robinson Professor of Biology and Natural Philosophy. Mon, Feb 4, 4:00 to 5:00, 229 Krasnow Building.
- **Astronomy Observing Session** – Mon, Feb 4, 8:30, Research I Observatory. Check site for weather cancellation.
- **Black History Month Performance** – "Pinpoints Theater Troupe Presents: The Meeting." Tue, Feb 5, 6:00, Dewberry Hall, JC.
- **Faculty Artist Series** - Kelly Ker-Hackleman, piano. Tue, Feb 5, 8:00, Harris Theater.
- **Introduction to Library Research** – Basic elements of the research process and introduction to the Mason library system. Tue, Feb 5, noon to 1:30, 228 JC Library Room.
- **Public Choice Seminar** – Mark Smith, Political Science, University of Washington. Wed, Feb 6, 4:00 to 5:15, Carow Hall.
- **Black History Month Discussion** – "Legacy: Treasures in Black History, A Presentation and Discussion." Thu, Feb 7, noon to 2:00, Room C, JC.
- **Workshop in Philosophy, Politics & Economics** – "[Coordination in the History of Economics](#)," presented by Dan Klein, Economics. Thu, Feb 7, 1:00 to 2:30, 318 Enterprise Hall.
- **Chemistry & Biochemistry Seminar** – "An Introduction to Technology Transfer," presented by David Yee. Thu, Feb 7, 4:30, B205 Robinson Hall.
- **Visual Voices Series** – "Art & Discipline," presented by Steve Kurtz. Thu, Feb 7, 7:30, Harris Theater.

### 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 during executive sessions).*

Friday Feb 1 9:30am Drama Club - TA-3  
 10am Italian Club - TA-Annex  
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2  
 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  
**Wednesday Feb 6 1:15pm Program Committee Mtg - TA-2**  
 1:30pm Bridge Club - TA-3  
**2pm Special Events Resource Grp Mtg - Annex**  
 2pm History Club - TA-1  
 Friday Feb 8 9:30am Drama Club - TA-3  
 10am Italian Club - TA-Annex  
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2  
 10:30am 956-#3 Holocaust Museum - D.C.-Smithsonian Metro  
 1:30pm Homer, etc. - TA Annex  
 Monday Feb 11 1pm LA Bridge Club - Lake Anne  
 Wednesday Feb 13 10am Book Club at Tallwood - TA-2  
 1:30pm Bridge Club - TA-3  
 2pm 957- Presidential Lying - TA-1  
 Friday Feb 15 WINTER TERM Ends  
 10am Italian Club - TA-Annex  
 10am Recorder Group - TA-2  
**10am Board of Directors Mtg - TA-1**  
 10:30am 958-#4 Holocaust Museum - D.C.-Smithsonian Metro  
 1:30pm Homer, etc. - TA Annex



Rod Zumbro  
**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 the [OLLI E-News editor](#) or the Communications Committee chair, [Gordon Canyock](#).

**OLLI E-News Editorial Staff**

**Database Manager**  
 Barbara Kyriakakis



Karen Hamilton  
**Deputy Editor**

**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](mailto:rzumbro@gmu.edu), phone 703-569-2750); email strongly preferred.

**Photo Editor**  
 Michael Coyne

View [last 12 issues](#)

Search for items in *OLLI E-News*

**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.oli.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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