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ALERTS

> **OLLI AT RESTON NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** for the Reston membership committee, to distribute flyers to various Reston locations, and to work on resource groups for future Reston courses. If you can help, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Janet Cochran.
 > **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.** Mark your calendar for Fri, Nov 6, 10:00-noon, Tallwood.

ARTICLES AND NOTICES

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REPORT ON THE SIXTH OSHER CONFERENCE

From the president



By Emmett Fenlon, President

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY to report to you and share some thoughts from the Sixth Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes National Conference, which Thom Clement and I attended on October 12-14. The conference provided an opportunity to appreciate both the similarities and the differences of OLLI programs. There are 120 lifelong learning programs with 86,000 members on university campuses located in D.C. and all fifty states. All institutes are committed to providing their members with intellectually challenging courses and activities. However, in discussions, it soon became clear that they accomplish this in many different ways.

The institutes vary in operation, number of students, course offerings, member involvement, use of technology, and structure. While all OLLIs have some type of university affiliation, most are located within a university department or office. Very few institutes are similar to our OLLI, which is an independent corporation.

My impression is our Institute at George Mason University has faced and met many challenges that some newer/smaller institutes are now addressing. In conversations during the conference, I was told by at least two people how their OLLI often referred to the content of our Web site to obtain guidance. In summary, the conference had a spirit of contagious enthusiasm from both the presenters and the attendees.

Related Web link: [Conferences page](#) of the OLLI National Resource Center's Web site, where you can view a description of the conference program and sessions (and other conference information).

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

From the executive director



By [Thom Clement](#), Executive Director

UNLESS YOU ARE A BRAND-NEW OLLI MEMBER, I'm sure you are aware that we are trying a small but significant change in the

daily schedule in Fairfax and Reston this fall. In order to allow adequate time for a safe and orderly transition between the daily sessions for OLLI classes, we made a 15-minute adjustment to the mid-day time slot. Beginning in this fall 2009 term, the mid-day slot is 11:45 to 1:15. This allows 45 minutes between each of the three time slots at Tallwood and Reston. OLLI/Loudoun is slated to move to the same schedule beginning in spring 2010. This new schedule also allows for travel time between OLLI campuses for members who take classes at more than one location.

As we plan for future terms, we'd like to get your thoughts about the OLLI daily schedule. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey questions that are found by clicking on [this link](#) (if that does not work, you can copy the following link and paste it into the address field of your Web browser).

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?
sm=cwH_2b0Q29XFgQsvJjYuogJg_3d_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=cwH_2b0Q29XFgQsvJjYuogJg_3d_3d)

BUS TRIP TO THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY

First-ever trip from Reston



By John Meier, OLLI member



"On the way" by Stan Schretter.

CAPPING A SERIES OF THREE CLASSES, more than 40 OLLI members and guests enjoyed a comfortable and first-ever bus trip from Reston to the lower Shenandoah Valley last Friday, October 16. On the way to the Valley, the group was provided with overviews of the Civil War during the critical year of 1864 and the significant Battle of Cedar Creek, which occurred 145 years ago just south of Middletown, Virginia.

After viewing the battlefield, we toured Belle Grove Plantation, a finely restored manor house, dating to 1797. Included in the tour was an excellent description of the battle and how its favorable outcome for the Union aided Abraham Lincoln's reelection to a second term. The grounds around Belle Grove were filling with Civil War reenactors. After an active morning, everyone enjoyed a pleasant lunch at the Wayside Inn in Middletown.

From there, the group journeyed to White Post, Virginia, for a tour of Long Branch Historic Home and Farm. The house, dating to 1811 and fitted with an amazing "flying" staircase, is filled with beautiful antiques and furnishings. The grounds were being occupied by various stalls and attractions in preparation for the 14th Annual Wine Tasting and Balloon Festival. The weather would not accommodate any balloon launches but throughout the day, no rain fell on our parade -- at least, while walking! Indeed, this was an excellent adventure, and you can view the highlights in [this online album](#) of Stan Schretter's photos (click "Slideshow" at upper left of album to see the slideshow of 21 photos). That this

trip was highly successful is due in no small part to the skillful work of Tallwood staff members Maria Buczek, Beth Davis and Karen Nash.

Related Web links--

- Web site of [Belle Grove Plantation](#), with [Battle of Cedar Creek](#) info
- Web site of [Wayside Inn](#)
- Web site of [Long Branch Historic Home and Farm](#)

HORSESHOES ANYONE?

Did you know Tallwood has a horseshoe pit?



*Emmett Fenlon (left) and Paul Howard enjoy a game of horseshoes during a class break.
Photo by Valerie Braybrooke.*

YES, COURTESY OF THE LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE, OLLI members can play horseshoes during class breaks, as our president and chief Swiftie (i.e., head of the Tom Swift Squad or Audiovisual Support Committee) are shown above doing.

Where, you might ask, is the horseshoe pit located? Well, it's in the southwest corner of the Tallwood property; walk south between TA-2 and Stallwood to the round picnic tables and chairs of OLLI's [Picnic Terrace](#), then walk west down the steps, and voilà, you're there.

OLLI SPIRITWEAR

Order sweatshirts, shirts, caps and tote bags with the OLLI/Mason logo at any time directly from the vendor for delivery to your home. Use [this Web site](#) (<http://olligmu.promoshop.com/>); click on "OLLI-GMU Store" to see the pictures, then click on each item to see more details. *Note: the pictures do not show our logo but it will be embroidered on the items that you order.*



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](#) (**Note:** 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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MASON ARTS AND MUSIC

Upcoming Mason performances, Oct 23-Nov 1

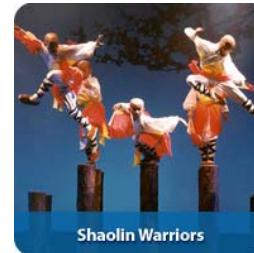


By Jan Bohall, *OLLI E-News* Staff Writer



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 Players Mainstage #1 Ah, Wilderness! written by Eugene O'Neill directed by Howard Vincent Kurtz Fri, Oct 23, Sat, Oct 24, 8:00 Sat, Oct 24, 2:00 Also Oct 29, 30, 31, 8:00 Oct 31, Nov 1, 2:00 This comedy, a departure for O'Neill, is set in an idyllic Connecticut town in 1906 and gives a glimpse of small-town family values, teenage angst and young love. Richard Miller, a young poet who rebels against the conformity of his middle-class life, is intent on exploring the mysteries of life through forbidden pleasures. (Note: The Oct 24 performance is OLLI Special Event F961. You are invited to stay for 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, next to Black Box Theater. From Level 2 of Parking Deck take the bridge. Enter first door on left and follow hallway; go through gray doors and down stairs.)</p>	<p>L. A. Theatre Works War of the Worlds and The Lost World Fri, Oct 23, 8:00 America's premier radio theater company re-creates Orson Welles' chilling broadcast of <i>War of the Worlds</i> from 1938, followed by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's comedy, <i>The Lost World</i>, the story of a hair-raising scientific expedition into the Amazon. Admission: \$36, \$28, \$18 Concert Hall Come at 7:15 for a free artistic discussion on Grand Tier III.</p>
<p>Shaolin Warriors</p>	<p>GMU Opera Review An Evening of American One-Act Operas Fri, Oct 23, Sat, Oct 24, 8:00 Two operas will be presented, <i>Gallantry</i> by Douglas Moore and <i>The Telephone</i> by Gian Carlo Menotti. Admission: \$15 seniors/students, \$20 other adults Harris Theater</p> <p>National Academy of Chinese Theater Arts Highlights of Classical Chinese Theater</p>



Sat, Oct 24, 8:00
 Sun, Oct 25, 4:00
 The group brings the skill, dramatic movement and imagery of the ancient art of Chinese Kung Fu to the stage. The artists are trained from a very young age in mental and physical exercises and are known for their discipline and ferocious martial arts skills.
 Admission: \$44, \$36, \$22
 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.

Freedom Without Walls: A Gala Commemoration
 Thu, Oct 29, 8:00



Mon, Oct 26, 7:00
 China's National Academy of Chinese Theater Arts will perform these highlights, including excerpts from some of the most famous Peking and Kunqu Operas--forms of traditional Chinese theater that combine music, vocal performance, mime, dance, and acrobatics with vibrant makeup and costumes. Peking Opera has been performed for more than 200 years and Kunqu Opera, often called the mother of Chinese Opera, has been performed for more than 600 years. ([See pdf flyer.](#))
 Prior to the concert at 6:15 pm in Harris Theater there will be a video on Chinese Opera.
 Admission: Free
 Harris Theater

GMU Symphony and Chamber Orchestras
Fall Concert
Featuring GMU Choirs
 Tue, Oct 27, 8:00
 Admission: \$10 seniors, \$15 other adults, students free
 Concert Hall

MOMIX
Best of Momix
 Sat, Oct 31, 8:00

Join students and faculty from across the University for a gala concert commemorating the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The performance features an original movement piece performed by Artists in Action; readings and songs; and as grand finale, the exciting choral movement from Beethoven's majestic 9th Symphony-- the same work chosen by Leonard Bernstein for a performance in Berlin in 1989 to celebrate the Wall's demolition. Light refreshments will be served at a reception following the performance.
Admission: Free, no ticket required
Concert Hall

Choreographer/director Moses Pendleton has led these dancers through works of "delightful inventiveness and physical beauty," including floating them through extraterrestrial terrains and hurling them like baseballs. This collection offers unpredictable and sometimes bizarre performances.
Admission: \$44, \$36, \$22
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 Mason events



By Helen Ackerman, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

- **School of Art Building Dedication.** Join the celebration and hear remarks by Dr. Dorothy Kosinski, Director of The Phillips Collection. Fri, Oct 23, 2:00. School of Art Building, Gallery. Free, refreshments.
- **Veritas Forum:** Os Guinness ([bio](#)), Senior Fellow at the East West Institute, will speak on the topic "How Do We Face Evil?" Thu, Oct 29, noon. Johnson Center, Cinema. Free.
- **Cinema Series: *The Evil Dead*.** Get your Halloween goose bumps early with a creepy movie. Thu, Oct 29, 6:00 and 9:00. Johnson Center, Cinema. Mason students w/ID, free; Mason faculty and staff w/ID, \$1; general public, \$3.
- **Youth in Post-Conflict Settings: Toward Healing, Justice, and Development: Conference.** This conference focuses on the plights and prospects of youth in post-conflict settings. Presented by the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution. Fri, Oct 30, 9.30 to 4.30. Research I, Room 163. Free.

- **Bike to Mason Day.** Celebrate the great outdoors and ride your bike to Mason. Enjoy a free continental breakfast and pick up a free t-shirt and water bottle. Tue morning, Oct 27, 7:00 to 10:00. Join Vice Presidents Dr. Maurice Scherrens and Dr. Sandy Scherrens at noon for a bike ride around Patriot Circle. Gather outside Mason Hall.
- **Vocal Lecture Recital: Anne O'Dell.** Sun, Nov 1, 4:00. Performing Arts Building, Choral Room. Free.
- **Never Forget: World War II Veterans.** Enjoy a special viewing of the first two episodes of HBO's *Band of Brothers* series. Part of the Never Forget: World War II Veterans series, remembering the veterans of the Second World War. Mon, Nov 2, 2:00 and 7:00. Harris Theater. Free.

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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 23 8am - Special Event - F960, [It Smiles Even in its Tears](#), Bus Trip
- 9am Recorder Lessons - TA-3
- 9:30am [Photography Club](#) - TA-1
- 10am Drama Club - TA-3
- 10am Recorder Consort - TA-2
- 10am Special Event - R968, [Concert of Songs You Love](#) - Lake Anne
- 10am [Board of Directors Retreat](#) - ICAR
- 10:30am Classic Fiction Book Club - Cascades Library
- 11am Homer Group - Social Room Annex
- Sat Oct 24 2pm - Special Event - F961, [Eugene O'Neill's *Ah, Wilderness!*](#) - GMU TheaterSpace
- Tue Oct 27 11am Knitting and Needlework Club - Lake Anne Church
- Wed Oct 28 12pm Special Event - L971, [Discussion with Elderhostel](#) - Loudoun
- 1:45pm Bridge Club - TA-3
- 2pm Special Event - F962, [Fall Prevention](#) - Tallwood

Fri Oct 30 9am Recorder Lessons - TA-3
 10am Drama Club - TA-3
 10am Recorder Consort - TA-2
 10am Special Event - F963, [The Supreme Court](#) - Bus Trip
 11am Homer Group - Social Room Annex
 12:30pm Loudoun Let's Eat Out - Location to be Announced
 1pm Special Event - F964, [Tea Seminar and Tasting](#) - Tallwood
 Tue Nov 3 11am Knitting and Needlework Club - Lake Anne Church
 1pm Special Event - L972, [Storytelling Performance](#) - Loudoun
 Wed Nov 4 1pm Cooking Club Planning Meeting - TA-2
1:45pm Special Events Resource Group Meeting - Annex
 1:45pm Bridge Club - TA-3
 2pm Special Event - F965, [Disabilities at Mason](#) - TA-2
 2pm History Club - TA-1
 Fri Nov 6 9am Recorder Lessons - TA-3
10am Town Hall Meeting - TA-1

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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.olligmu.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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