



OLLI E-News

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



**From All of Us at OLLI E-News,
HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND BEST WISHES
FOR A HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS 2008!**

ISSUE Friday, December 21,
DATE: 2007

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FLASH	TODAY, DEC 21: WINTER REGISTRATION ENDS.
ALERTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from Mon, Dec 24, through Fri, Jan 4. > NO OLLI E-NEWS FOR NEXT TWO WEEKS. First issue of 2008 will be Fri, Jan 11. Please submit articles/notices by Wed, Jan 9. > LOUDOUN OPEN HOUSE: 11:00 Tue, Jan 8. All members invited.
ARTICLES AND NOTICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > MEET THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. From the president. <i>By Pat Carroll</i> > FAREWELL AND THANK YOU. From the departing executive director. <i>By Dick Chobot</i> > BOARD HIGHLIGHTS. Last Friday's meeting. <i>By Susanne Zumbro</i> > OLLI BOOK CLUB. Meets at Tallwood at 10:00 on Wed, Jan 9. > MADELINE LYNN. Photo of our Loudoun Site Administrator. > DO-NOT-CALL REGISTRY. No need to re-register.
DEPARTMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > OLLI'S SPECIAL FORCES. Emmett Fenlon: History/International Studies/Current Events Resource Group co-chair and Board member. <i>By Elizabeth Crawford</i> > MASON HIGHLIGHTS. Events at Mason. <i>By Barbara Kyriakakis</i> > COMING ATTRACTIONS. Upcoming non-class events.

MEET THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

From the president



By Pat Carroll, President



Thom Clement
Photo by Gordon Canyonck

IN MY SEPARATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OF TUE, DEC 18, I informed you that Thomas Clement is our new executive director as of 2008. Mr. Clement, who goes by "Thom," and I reached agreement this week on his terms of employment effective Jan 1, 2008.

Thom graduated from Old Dominion with a degree in psychology, received his master's degree in education from James Madison, and obtained his Postgraduate Professional Certification in Elementary School Administration from George Mason.

The local *Connection Newspapers* ran an interesting feature story about Thom when he retired last year from the Fairfax County School System after 31 years in education – see <http://tinyurl.com/2ey4bd>.

Thom told the OLLI Board he was looking for a new challenging career and I think we make an excellent fit for him.

Related link:

[President's Message of Dec 18, 2007](#) (announcement concerning new ED)

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FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

From the departing executive director



I WISH I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY A PERSONAL FAREWELL AND THANK YOU to all members of OLLI. *It has been a pleasure to be a part of this community these last 28 months. I will carry away fond memories of talented and dedicated members and an outstanding program of which we all can be proud.*

With the outstanding staff in place, committed volunteer leadership, dedicated volunteers, a supportive University administration and faculty, and the addition of an excellent new executive director, all of the ingredients are in place for OLLI's continued growth and success.

For those who might wish to reach me, my personal email is richard.chobot@cox.net.

It has been my privilege to serve you ... farewell and thank you.
 -- [Dick Chobot](#), Executive Director

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BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Last Friday's meeting



By [Susanne Zumbro](#), Secretary

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE OLLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS was held at Tallwood on Fri, Dec 14, at 10:00.

President Pat Carroll called the meeting to order and welcomed guests and new Board member Al Roe. Board members were urged to attend the open house at our Loudoun campus on Jan 8.

Development Committee Chair John Woods reported that so far \$7,900 has been contributed to OLLI in response to the Friends of OLLI solicitation

Treasurer Gordon Canyock introduced two resolutions on behalf of the Finance Committee, and both were passed by the Board.

- Resolved: That in case there is no executive director on board, the Treasurer will assume the responsibility to act as required under the provisions in the Board Handbook related to Authorization for Expenditures, Program Expenditures, and Budget Overruns.
- Resolved: The OLLI Board of Directors approves the proposed FY2008 Budget for the Loudoun Program as presented by the Finance Committee.

Dick Hibbert presented some preliminary ideas about upgrading the annex and social room to improve their functionality and appearance. The Board requested that Dick prepare a preliminary design and cost estimate.

Executive Director Dick Chobot thanked the Board for the recognition he received at the recent reception that was held in his honor. He reported on the following issues:

- Registration System: There was a minor glitch at the start of online registration that caused a few individuals to receive an erroneous communication. The problem was quickly fixed and the system is now operating normally.
- Catalogs: Many of our members had not received their catalogs at the start of registration. This was most likely as a result of bulk mailing and the busy time of year.

- Infrastructure: We are currently seeking a proposal for the cost of running an underground cable to replace our wireless connection in TA-2 and TA-3. This will improve the quality of online connections to these classrooms and the ED's office.

The Board passed the following resolutions:

- Resolved: The OLLI Board of Directors authorizes up to \$4,000 from the Friends of OLLI Fund for the purpose of upgrading the phone system at Tallwood.

- Resolved: Add Ann Hartmann, the OLLI Administrator, to the list of authorized signers at the bank. Also, have a credit card issued to be used for purchasing operating and administrative items such as paper, folders, printer supplies, coffee and cookies.

At 12:30, Thomas Clement (the candidate for the executive director position who had been recommended by the ED Search Committee) gave a short presentation in open session to directors and OLLI members present. The informal presentation covered his background, qualifications and interest in the job. Afterwards, he briefly chatted over coffee with directors.

Back in session, the Board passed the following resolution:

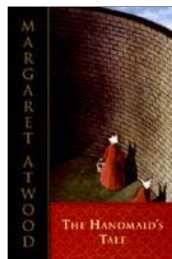
- Resolved: The OLLI Board of Directors empowers the president to make an offer to Thomas Clement for the position of executive director and to work out with him the details of a written employment agreement.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05. The next meeting of the OLLI Board of Directors will be held at Tallwood on Fri, Jan 18, at 10:00. All OLLI members are welcome to attend.

OLLI BOOK CLUB

Meets at Tallwood at 10:00 on Wed, Jan 9

THE HANDMAID'S TALE



THE OLLI BOOK CLUB will be meeting at Tallwood on Wed, Jan 9, at 10:00. The book for discussion is Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* (photo of Margaret Atwood at right). All OLLI members are welcome.

This winter Mason's Diane Coppage will be teaching "Margaret Atwood: A Sampler," course #402, on Tuesdays at Tallwood. See the catalog for course details.



MADELINE LYNN

Photo of our Loudoun Site Administrator



Madeline Lynn

Photo by Gordon Canyonk

When new Loudoun Site Administrator Madeline Lynn was first [introduced](#) in September, we did not have a photo of her. Now we do, and we welcome Madeline again.

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS ABOUT OLLI?

HERE'S HOW to express your views--

- **Publicly** (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.

• **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).

DO-NOT-CALL REGISTRY

No need to re-register

AN OLLI MEMBER pointed out that people who signed up for the Do-Not-Call registry in 2003 are nearing the registry's five-year time limit -- after which their numbers can again be used by solicitors. However, the [National Do Not Call Registry](#) provides some good news:

Your registration will not expire. The Federal Trade Commission will not drop any telephone numbers from the National Do Not Call Registry based on a five-year expiration period pending final Congressional or agency action on whether to make registration permanent. Read more about it at <http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2007/10/dnctestimony.shtm>.

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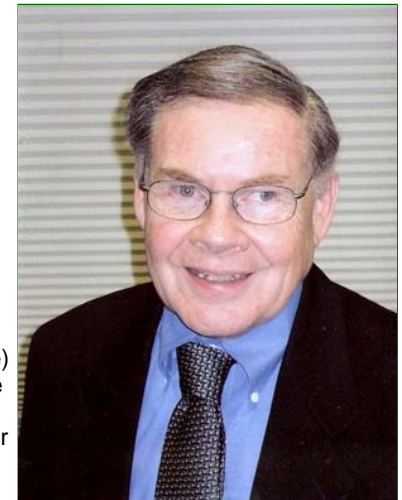
OLLI'S SPECIAL FORCES

Emmett Fenlon: History/International Studies/Current Events Resource Group co-chair and Board member



By Elizabeth Crawford, OLLI E-News staff writer

STARTING IN 2000 WHILE EMMETT FENLON was still working, he took one vacation day per week to attend OLLI courses. Eager to participate full-time when he retired in 2005, Emmett joined the History/International Studies/Current Events and the Economics/Finance Resource Groups. In the spring of 2007, he was invited to co-chair History/International Studies/Current Events with Bob Bohall and Phil True.



Following graduation from LeMoyne College, Syracuse, New York (BS degree) and from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University (MA degree), Emmett worked as an economist for the government. After completion of his law degree from Georgetown University, he worked in the counsel's office of the Federal Aviation Administration, where he served as a senior attorney and a subject-matter expert.

For the History/International Studies/Current Events Resource Group, Emmett enjoys planning courses and finding and encouraging potential instructors. Since his election to the OLLI Board of Directors in May 2007, he helped rewrite the job description of the executive director as a member of that committee and more recently has been serving on the search committee for the new ED.

Emmett considers his service to OLLI time well spent, a "giving back" in appreciation for what he has gained from our organization.

MASON HIGHLIGHTS

Events at Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI E-News assistant editor

- **Handel's Messiah** - The public is invited to a free performance of the

Christmas portion of George Frederick Handel's *Messiah* on Sat, Dec 22, 7:30 at Grace United Methodist Church, 9750 Wellington Rd., Manassas, featuring a community choir made up of members from Grace UMC, George Mason University, St. Mark's UMC, and McLean High School. Scott Glysson, a recent graduate of George Mason, will conduct the performance.

• **Women's Basketball** - One game before Christmas, and a doubleheader on Dec 30.

• The Mason women's basketball team will be in action on Sat, Dec 22 at 1:00 to take on Fordham at the Patriot Center. Adult tickets \$5; youth/senior \$2.

• The men's and women's basketball teams will host a doubleheader at the Patriot Center on Sun, Dec 30. The women will play Winthrop at 1:30 followed by the men's game vs. Liberty at 5:30. Take advantage of the Mason Holiday Special and purchase a ticket for just \$10. One ticket is good for both games. Tickets are available at the Patriot Center Box Office or at Ticketmaster.com.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Non-class events at OLLI for the next several weeks

The following list covering the next several 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, 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	Dec 21	Registration Ends
Monday	Dec 24	OLLI CLOSED until Jan 7 - Holidays
Tuesday	Jan 8	8:15am Reston Walking Group - Lake Anne Plaza 11am Loudoun Open House
Wednesday	Jan 9	10am Tallwood Book Club - TA-2 10am Bridge Club - TA-3
Thursday	Jan 10	10am Investment Forum Club - TA-1
Friday	Jan 11	9:30am Drama Club - TA-3 10am Recorder Group - TA-2 10am Italian Club - Annex 1:30pm Homer Etc. Book Club - Annex

Tuesday	Jan 15	8:15am Reston Walking Group - Lake Anne Plaza
Wednesday	Jan 16	10am Bridge Club - TA-3 10am Genealogy Club - TA-1 12:30pm Let's Do Lunch - Jasmine Cafe-Lake Anne
Thursday	Jan 17	10am Investment Forum Club - TA-1 11am Fiction Writers' Club - TBA
Friday	Jan 18	9:30am Drama Club - TA-3 10am Recorder Group - TA-2 10am Italian Club - Annex 10am Board of Directors Mtg - TA-1 1:30pm Homer Etc. Book Club - Annex
Monday	Jan 21	Winter Term Begins



Rod Zumbro
Editor



Karen Hamilton
Deputy Editor

View [last 12 issues](#)

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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.

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