



**David Williamson**

I am married to a perpetual student. My wife has four degrees from the University of Delaware, an A.A., B.A., M.Ed. and her latest, an M.A. through the MALS program. When she returned home from class we would have spirited discussions about what she had learned and while she wrote her thesis, I witnessed her excitement and was both proud and somewhat envious of her accomplishments.

Aware of my interest, she suggested I enroll in the MALS program. A half century ago I graduated from the University of Rochester and the prospects of reading and absorbing a thick book a week seemed like too much of a challenge. I scanned *The New York Times* and watched the History Channel...wasn't that enough? I had many interests that occupied my time: photography, woodworking, traveling, running an antique gallery and learning about repairing antique furniture.

Then, as Christmas present four years ago, I received enrollment in a Winterthur Institute program. For two weeks, I was back in school and was bitten by the learning bug. I subsequently applied to the MALS program and was accepted.

I now read more of *The New York Times*, occasionally watch the History Channel (although with a different perspective), and still do woodworking and continue to enjoy photography. The MALS experience has expanded my interests in areas I never thought I would enjoy. It has enriched my appreciation for learning, which I talk about with anyone who will listen.