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# ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

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Academy of Lifelong Learning  
University of Delaware

September 5, 2006

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## WELCOME FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR

Welcome! Whether this is your first semester or your twenty-first, the Academy in September is an exciting place. New faces, new courses, and new ideas all come together to energize and enrich your life.

In joining the Academy, you've made a big investment. Here are some ways to make the most of it:

**Visit the Reading Room.** Newly organized and rearranged, this room has daily newspapers, a selection of magazines, and materials related to current courses. You can spend a profitable hour here between classes. Don't forget to look up — Academy art work is on the walls.

**Stroll through the Gardens.** Goodstay Center gardens, behind Arshat Hall, have been extensively redone by volunteers. They are interesting in all seasons and glorious in some. A quiet walk there can refresh mind and spirit.

**Wednesday lunches are special.** Bring or buy your lunch on Wednesdays, and stay for a special program. See the Special Events listing in the Newsletter, your catalog, or pick up a flyer at the reception desk.

**Check out the Reception Desk.** On the counter here you will find everything you need to know, from weekly events schedules to all kinds of special notices. Keep up to date with what's going on.

**Get to know the Academy better.** Sign up at the Reception desk to volunteer, for anything from a one shot deal to on-going committee work or a special project. This place can't run without the hundreds of members who help out in all sorts of ways every day.

**Teach a class.** If you aren't doing so already. This is the ultimate return on your membership investment -- just ask any instructor.

Nan Norling

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

It's that time of year again. Your neighbors and friends have been talking about enrolling in the Academy and you've decided to try it, despite the fears you may have. You know: who, when, where, why and what?

All those "fears" can be put to rest immediately following the first Social of the semester on Tuesday, September 19, 2006 in Room 117, when the Member Relations Committee will hold a Q & A session. We even take suggestions, as you are all necessary cogs in the wheels that make this Academy run!

Mary Ann Dowd  
Chair, Member Relations

## BRING A FRIEND WEEK SEPTEMBER 18-22

Make someone happy, and create a lifelong opportunity. Don't just tell your friends and co-workers about the Academy. Do much better; invite them to visit during "Bring a Friend Week" which will be held from Monday September 18 through Friday, September 22. Enjoy the Social on Tuesday, September 19 at 1:45 p.m. This will give your friends an opportunity to experience the Academy's stimulating classes, its impressive facilities and its interesting people. Your efforts are important to build membership and ensure future Academy offerings.

As an incentive for your friends to join the Academy this semester, they can register during "Bring a Friend Week" for any classes still available for enrollment. Membership fees for these registrants will be reduced to reflect the classes missed

Bruce Morrissey  
Chair, Marketing Committee

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Schedule for the *Academy Newsletter*

Submittal deadline

Issue date

Mon., Sept. 18

Mon., Oct. 9

Mon., Oct. 23

Mon., Nov. 13

Submit articles to rehrlich@udel.edu, or place in the Newsletter mail slot on the rear wall in the Reception Area.

## **VOLUNTEERING**

Volunteering at the Academy presents a unique opportunity — a choice to sustain the founders' vision of a dynamic educational community enriched and supported by its members. Whether as a greeter at the door or an instructor in the classroom, volunteers send this unspoken message, "At this time in my life I can become part of a welcoming, vibrant community."

Many volunteers sign up at registration by choosing appealing activities that match their interests or the Academy's needs. A simple check list on the recruiting form, facilitates this choice, as well as an accompanying description of Academy Committees that might offer possibilities of service.

Other members wait until their schedule is fixed before committing to serve. After formal registration is closed, the Reception Desk in the lobby always has a supply of official forms to use. Complete the form, "Volunteering at the Academy of Lifelong Learning," and place it in the Volunteer Development box behind the Reception Desk as directed.

This year, September 25th – 29th will be set aside as Volunteers' Week, a chance to

celebrate and say "Thank you" to all who contribute to the success of the Academy. It is never too late to volunteer — to offer your energy and experience — to make a difference. Look for us in the lobby. Be sure to watch a delightful video that captures the essence of volunteering here.

The Academy! — What a gift!

Bobbette Mason  
Chair, Volunteer Development

## **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE**

What do we want our Academy to be like in five years? How can we get there? These and other questions will be explored this year by the Long Range Strategic Planning Committee under the direction of the Academy Council. The planning process will focus on four broad issue areas – our membership, our facilities, our programming, and our organization. We hope to determine what challenges we might face in each of these areas and to develop responses to help us meet them.

"Is anything wrong?," you might be wondering. The answer is definitely, "No." The Academy continues to average above 2000 members, making us one of the largest older adult educational institutions in the country. We have a fine building, a beautiful campus, and programs that never fail to attract and excite. Our paid support staff of University employees is outstanding.

But like many successful organizations, we believe that prudent planning is the key to staying relevant and responsive as times change. So the Committee will be meeting monthly throughout the year, to discuss these issues and to come up with recommendations as needed. We will be bringing you more information as the work proceeds, and we invite your questions, comments, and suggestions. Catch me or any Council member in the halls, or put a message in my box or the Strategic Planning Committee box on the back wall of the Reception Area.

Steve Dombchik, Chairman

## SUPERMAN RETURNS

As you enter Arsht Hall, be sure to turn right and witness “Superman.” Maybe you will find him/her dressed as Clark Kent and/or Lois Lane now, in their office attire, but they will save the world by helping you with your greatest needs each day in your experience at the Academy.

These dedicated volunteers at the Reception Desk will help you find answers to so many questions such as: Where do I get my parking hang tag? How can I use a handicapped tag after knee surgery or other temporary conditions? Where oh where is the sculpture studio? Where is room 114B? The coffee machine doesn't work, how can I get a refund? Where do I take my home baked cookies? Do we have a public phone in the building? Someone fell in the cafeteria, who will help her? I have a serious complaint. Whom can I tell? How do I contact an instructor? I'd like to volunteer. Whom can I talk with? My car won't start or my coat has disappeared, what shall I do??

Our Reception Desk volunteers not only have the answers (or will find out for you), but we also distribute smiles and kind words to make your day a little better. Visit us often, and if you have extra time to help, join our group.

Peggy DeCoursey  
Chair, Reception Desk

## SAFETY ON CAMPUS

You've left the busy roads and turned in to the leafy campus but you should not forget that there are still “rules of the road.”

Paige Seppanen, UD Public Safety Officer, cautions motorists to obey the posted speed limit, stop fully at the Stop sign and watch out for pedestrians. Paige also cautions members to be alert because there will be some changes in the signs and markers. When parking or pulling out of a parking space be careful of other vehicles and pedestrians. Should you have a fender-bender be sure and report it without fear of a traffic citation.

Please remember to have your parking hang tag updated for 06-07. Hang tags for new members and updated stickers for existing

hang tags are available in the lobby of Arsht during the first weeks of class or at the Reception Desk.

Public Safety also provides lockout service if you left your keys in the vehicle or jump-start service if you left your lights on.

## CANNON READING ROOM COME SEE OUR NEW LOOK!

Whether you are a long-time user or a member who has never put his/her foot in the door, now is the time to stop by the Cannon Reading Room and take a look! Over the summer some changes have been made for your added comfort and convenience.

First, what is the Cannon Reading Room? The Cannon Reading Room, on the first floor just past the Reception Desk, is a quiet, comfortable place for reading, writing, or silent contemplation. Note the art exhibits on the walls. On one side of the room you will find class-related materials placed there by your instructors, while on the other side is a selection of general reference resources, including the minutes of Academy Council meetings from the very beginning. In addition, the Academy provides three daily newspapers for the reading enjoyment of members: *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Wilmington News Journal*. Finally, there are some magazines available that may be of interest to Academy members.

One important point to remember is that items are **not** to be removed from the Cannon Reading Room, including the newspapers. This room serves as a resource similar to the reserve area in an academic library and **not** as a lending library. Also, given the nature of the materials, no food or drink may be brought into the room.

The Cannon Reading Room is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Friday. If you want to become one of our excellent volunteers who keep the Reading Room open on a daily basis, please leave your name and phone number in the Reading Room slot in the Reception Area.

Marcie Bierlein, Sara Lu Schwartz  
Co-Chairs, Cannon Reading Room

## FALL SOCIALS

The Academy will have three Social Hours in conjunction with special Academy events. There will be tea, coffee, delicious homemade cookies, and conversation. Mark your calendar with the times and dates:

**Tues., Sept. 19, 1:45 p.m.: Bring a Friend Week**

**Mon., Oct. 16, 1:45 p.m." Meet with Council and Committee Chairs**

**Thurs., Nov. 16 1:45 p.m.: Art Show**

If you haven't already signed up to bring a batch of homemade cookies, please do so at the Reception Desk. Thank you!

## CALLAHAN LECTURE – WINSTON CHURCHILL

University of Delaware Professor Emeritus Raymond Callahan will be lecturing on Friday, October 13, at 1 p.m. in Arsht Hall. This is the third annual Callahan Lecture and the presentation is on Winston Churchill. This lecture is free and open to the public; so invite your friends. Professor Callahan is greatly appreciated for his outstanding lectures. He is the author of "Churchill: Retreat from Empire." Come for a rewarding experience and learn more about Winston Churchill on October 13.

## CPR FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

"CPR for Family and Friends", offered as an extracurricular activity, will teach adult/child (but not infant) CPR techniques and the Heimlich maneuver.

This two-hour course will be given six times this semester at 2 p.m. on the following alternate Mondays, Sept 18, Oct. 2, 16 and 30 and Nov.13 and 27.

Sign up in the office.

Tom Marshall and Bob Wuertz

## ACADEMY COUNCIL

Sara Lu Schwartz has joined the Council to fill a vacant position through April 2007. Sara Lu is a graduate of the University of Delaware with a B.A. in History. After a career in Sales and Marketing, she has become an avid

volunteer. She is currently a member of the Marketing Committee and Co-Chair of the Reading Room Committee. When not at the Academy, you can find her volunteering in the Ornithology Department at the Delaware Museum of Natural History.

## ALLSTEL 2006

This year's program of lectures at Rehoboth Beach was fun and exciting for all. Once again the weather was beautiful, the talks stimulating, and the special visit to Fort Miles informative. If success is judged by repeat participation, we must be doing something right. More than half of the 118 attendees had participated before, and almost all indicated on the evaluation form that they plan to attend again.

Judy Munn, one of our participants wrote the following testimonial:

ALLSTEL at Rehoboth is a delightful experience... This year, I particularly enjoyed Russ McCabe's talk on the early history of Delaware and the evening with [Dick Park as] Caesar Rodney who explained his trip to Philadelphia to vote in favor of the Declaration of Independence... The food is excellent. Who can resist an omelet for breakfast? Of course, many of your friends are there and it is a good time to make new friends, too. My husband and I are planning to attend many more ALLSTELs.

We're not sitting back on our laurels. A committee is already in place to address next spring's program. May 29 through June 1, 2007 has been reserved at Brighton Suites and planning will start in early October.

Anyone who would enjoy the educational opportunity and the environment conducive to great social interaction, should consider joining us next spring. We plan to have the ALLSTEL flyer available after the Thanksgiving break. We had a full group of attendees in 2006 and had to turn down a few late applicants. So, talk with your friends who have participated, and if ALLSTEL is for you remember to get your application in on time.

Chuck Hober  
Chair, ALLSTEL

## SUMMER LECTURES

The 135 members who attended the Summer Lecture Series from June 19-23 were pleased with the diversity of subjects. A sample of the speakers included Superior Court judge, Susan Del Pesco; Maureen Lyons and Jose Verella from AIDS Delaware; Bonnie Maxwell on the life and art of Katherine Hepburn; and Drew Fennell of the DE ACLU.

Nancy Peters  
Chair, Summer Lectures

## SUMMER COURSES

The Academy's Summer Courses met each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for the four weeks in July with 320 people attending 39 courses led by 37 instructors. Evaluation survey sheets indicated that this second year of the Summer Courses met with approval and a desire for the program to continue.

Among the courses receiving strong positive remarks were: Western Art: The Rise of Modernism; Value Concepts; Vienna 1939-1947; English: Grammar, Spelling, Style; and Hitler's American Helpers.

The structure and scheduling of the summer classes met with approval although several persons would have preferred a later starting time in the morning.

Many responses matched or were similar to the following: "stimulating and informative", "keeps the mind active", "good balance and variety", "enjoyed the interaction."

All told, the four weeks were a "satisfying experience" for those in attendance.

Jean Kennedy and Chenda Davison  
Co-Chairs, Summer Courses



Cannon Reading Room, New Look

## OPERA COMES TO THE ACADEMY

New York Metropolitan Opera star Nico Castel was a guest lecturer on April 18, 2006 in the "Lets Go to the Opera" class led by Dr. Angelo Di Antonio.. He was joined by his talented wife, Carol Johnson Castel. Carol is a native of Wilmington and still has family in the area. Nico and Carol Castel shared many of their experiences with the great talents of the New York Metropolitan opera that they gained during the past 45 years.

Nico has made over 800 appearances with the Metropolitan Opera in over 200 roles. Carol has directed a variety of operas all over the world. In addition to The New York Studio, the Castels offer workshops for the purpose of training and assisting opera performers. Nico is the diction coach for the Metropolitan Opera. He has written 21 volumes of opera translations together with the phonetics to assist opera singers. These books include Italian, French, Spanish and German operas and they are used all over the world.

Raoul Pagin, President of the James Parkinson Opera Foundation, Inc., gave a two part presentation on April 25 and May 2, 2006. Raoul offered insights into the life of Giuseppe Verdi and an overview of Verdi's opera Rigoletto in anticipation of the performances of Rigoletto by the Academy of Vocal Arts.

## BOOK SALE

Excitement is mounting as the Academy waits in eager anticipation of the annual book sale..Now is the time to start gathering together books, videos, and music CDs and tapes to donate to the sale. We will let you know when and where to bring them. Do not bring in your donations early as we have no place to store them.

Books make great gifts and many of the books in previous years were just like new. Proceeds from the sale go to the Academy music and art programs.

Howard Smith

## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE: WHY ARE THE ACADEMY COMPUTERS ALWAYS WORKING SO WELL?

Welcome to another fun-filled year at the Academy! Those enrolled in a computer lab class will enter room 202 or 214, sit down at a lab station and turn on a computer. In all probability it will start right up and present you with a list of places to go. The instructor of the class will instruct you as to how one opens a particular place (also called a profile) and you are off to a new and exciting learning experience. Did you ever wonder about how the computer lab was made ready for your learning experience? (If the answer to this question is “no”, move on to the next article) Like everything else in this world it “ain’t happening by itself!” If you have your own desktop or laptop computer you know that computers require maintenance. The same is true, if not more so, for the computers in our two lab rooms.

Our Academy computer labs are maintained by a group of volunteers who have a great affinity for these devices. Frank Romanelli and I are co chairs of the Computer Coordinating Committee involved in this maintenance. For the past two and a half years we have been working with the dedicated group of instructors who make our program successful. Within this group is a subgroup that is responsible for the maintenance of the 30 lab and four mobile computers that the Academy owns. Twice a year this subgroup spends one to two days at the Academy preparing the computers for a new semester.

Each computer in our computer labs has a backup image of its hard disk drive stored in either a separate hard drive or partition of a hard drive. This backup is there just in case the computer fails and has to be restored to a functional state. If the stored image is put back on the main disk drive (C:\), when the computer is restarted what you find is that computer has been restored to the state it was in on the day the image was made. Of course all information added to the computer after the image was made would be lost.

Before the start of each semester the

maintenance team performs the image restoring process on each computer that removes all of the previous semester’s data. Thus, at the start of each semester the computers are “fresh” and ready to go. Once the computers have been restored, a new set of places or profiles is created. These profiles correspond to the classes that are being taught in each lab. Then, instructors come in to make changes to their class profile so that the profile matches the curriculum they intend to use.

So the next time you are enjoying learning about Excel, Photo Editing, Desktop Publishing, etc., you can thank Gerry, Bill, Bob, Claire, Eleanor, Fred, Bob, Ralph, Joe, Royce, Richard, Don, Frank and Saul. Come to think of it, thanks are not really necessary because each member of this group does it to give something back to the Academy and to play with these fascinating toys!! During the semester group members are on call to make sure our computers are operating normally. We are truly self sustaining.

Saul Reine

## COMPUTER QUESTIONS

Come to PC Users Group, Mondays at 2 p.m. for Q&A on computer problems and updates on recent developments. New UD email accounts will be available after Oct. 1



## **SPECIAL EVENTS WEDNESDAYS (PROGRAM NOTES)**

Detailed notes for later programs will appear in upcoming Newsletters.

### **September 6: George Wilke “ Bird Flu – How You Can Prepare**

Federal and local agencies, health care organizations, and experts fear that an avian bird flu pandemic, major virus, or other natural or terrorist calamity could require all of us to be self sufficient for weeks, months, or longer. Learn about the threats and risks as well as what you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones. Academy member George Wilke will inform us about how to prevent the spread of disease and to know what is needed in a personal preparation plan. George worked in the fields of contamination control, prevention of transmission of micro-organisms and production of a nerve gas antidote.

### **September 13: Swing City Band with Elmer Dill**

Swing City Band has performed at the Academy many times. It is a big band and performs many standard songs of years ago that you will recognize. Many of the players are retired musicians from the area and some are also retired music educators. Elmer Dill is the leader, playing trumpet. Come out and tap your foot and hum along to music you will love.

### **September 20: Henry Gass Presents Landmark Jazz Recordings**

This program of landmark jazz recordings provides an introduction to a selected group of recordings that are regarded as marking major developments in jazz and introducing new styles in jazz music.

The music of jazz, unlike classical and most popular music, has never been and really cannot be studied as printed music. There are very few musical scores that can be examined for much of jazz because solo improvisations, which lie at the heart of jazz music, rarely appear in scores. Even when they do, the essence of important, improvised performances cannot be found in printed form. Such performances have to be heard.

Fortunately, recordings have existed

throughout all but the earliest days of jazz. This introduction to selected recordings will help the listener understand some of the principles that guided the organization and development of jazz over it's first 100 years.

### **September 27: Scott Mason as E. I. du Pont; Q & A and the Academy's Strategic Plan, Nan Norling, Council Chair, and Linda Osoinach, University Coordinator**

UD administrator Scott Mason made us laugh when he impersonated Dame Edna last winter. During the 200th anniversary of the DuPont company Scott brought E. I. du Pont, the company's founder, back to life. E. I. will tell us about his life: fleeing the Reign of Terror in Paris, settling on the Brandywine, and becoming a manufacturer of gunpowder.

Nan Norling, Council Chair, and Linda Osoinach, University Coordinator, will answer our questions about the Academy and about our Strategic Plan. If you would like to hand in questions in advance, please drop them off at the Reception Desk or put them in the Special Events mail slot.

### **October 4: Susan Duer “Fortepiano”**

Academy member Susan Duer describes the fortepiano as a “harpsichord with soft and loud.” This pre-1880 version of the modern acoustic piano is often referred to as a “Mozart piano.” In August Susan was a featured guest artist at the Endless Mountain Music Festival featuring Mozart. Susan will perform a solo concert on the fortepiano for us. Come, enjoy an outstanding musical experience performed in an entertaining and informal manner.

### **October 11: Dr. Gary Wray “Delaware in World War II”**

Dr Wray examines Delaware's involvement in World War II, discussing the lookout towers at Fort Miles, the surrender of a German U-boat, German prisoners in Delaware, Delaware heroes, and the contribution of Delaware's industries to the war effort. There are many surprises.

Lyn Newsom  
Chair, Special Events Wednesdays



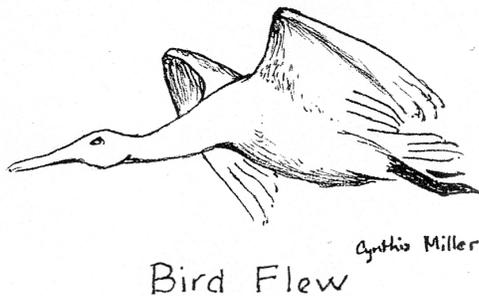
# Schedule of Events



## SPECIAL EVENTS WEDNESDAYS 12:45 TO 1:45 P.M. IN ROOM 105

Join us each Wednesday for Special Events that will be sure to enrich your day. Feel free to buy your lunch, bring your lunch, or just come and enjoy! Detailed notes on the programs through October 11 may be found on page 7.

- 9/6 George Wilke: **Bird Flu Personal Preparation Plan**
- 9/13 Swing City Band
- 9/20 Henry Gass: **Landmark Jazz Recordings**
- 9/27 **Double Bill:**  
**Scott Mason as E. I. du Pont;**  
**Q&A** with Nan Norling, Council Chair, & Linda Osoinach, University Coordinator
- 10/4 Susan Duer: **Fortepiano**
- 10/11 Dr. Gary Wray: **DE in World War II**
- 10/18 Jack Markell, DE State Treasurer: **Voter Issues & Protecting Your Nest Egg**
- 10/25 **One on One: Interviews with Interesting People**
- 11/1 Dr. Julia Ellis: **Seagulls and Their Lives**
- 11/8 John Taylor: **Election Results and DE Public Policy Institute**
- 11/15 **Academy Follies: A Musical Review of Aging**
- 11/29 Academy Band: **Fall Concert**
- 12/6 Academy Chorus: **Fall Concert**



- Fri., Sept. 8 – Dickinson Plantation/ Air Mobility Command Museum
- Sat., Sept. 23 – Fort Miles/Zwaanendael Museum/Downtown Lewes
- Sat. Sept. 30 – New York
- Sat., Oct. 7 – Dover/Archives/Legislative Hall/Biggs Museum of American Art
- Sat., Oct. 14 – Harrisburg/ PA Capitol/Hershey
- Fri., Oct. 20 – Dover/DE Agricultural Museum/Historic Dover
- Sat., Oct. 21 – Washington, DC/Roosevelt Memorial/Smithsonian
- Sun., Nov. 12 – Radio City Music Hall
- Sun., Jan. 21 to Mon., Jan. 29, 2007 – Mexico's Copper Canyon

For more information, visit the Travel Desk in the lobby, Monday through Thursday, 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



<b>ACADEMY CALENDAR</b>	
<b>2006</b>	
Tues., Nov 7.....	Elections, Academy CLOSED
Thurs., Fri., Nov.23-24.....	Thanksgiving Academy CLOSED
Fri., Dec. 8.....	Fall Semester ends
<b>2007</b>	
Wed., Jan. 2-Thurs., Jan. 10.....	Spring Registration
Tues., Jan. 9.....	Open House
Mon., Feb. 5 .....	Spring Semester begins
Mon., March 26- Fri., March 30 .	Spring Break <b>NO CLASSES</b>
Fri., May 11.....	Spring Semester ends