



April 2017

So Long and Thanks For All the Fish

by Thom Remington, Chair, Council

I've borrowed the title from a Douglas Adams book, So Long and Thanks For All the Fish.

No, I'm not leaving OLLI, but by the time this article is published, I will have finished my one-year term as Council Chair. It's been an interesting ride, and I've learned a lot, including a great deal about how OLLI works.



It's been an honor to serve.

Our OLLI is a marvelous place, as we all know. From what we've seen, it's likely the best OLLI in the nation.

And we can keep it that way. How? Well, here are a few thoughts on that:

- Volunteer: We need a steady supply of volunteers, people who will serve on Council and on the 30+ committees that make OLLI a success.
• Teach: We have more than 250 instructors, and we always need more. We need to have instructors to take over when others leave; we need instructors who will bring in new ideas for courses.
• Donate: You didn't think I'd leave this one out, did you? Thanks to Neil Cullen and his incredible fundraising team, we've surpassed our \$1.5 million Renewing the Dream goal. That's the good news. The bad news is that we always need donations. The other good news is that we have always stepped up and donated when it's needed. Please keep it up!
• Recruit: There is turnover in membership. We lose a percentage of members every year. People lose interest; they move; they have health issues. Bring a friend to Bring-a-Friend Week.
• Be creative: Got a way to make things better? Speak up! Tell a Council member or someone in the Office.

Thank you for all the fish.

Volunteer Week April 24-28

by Bill Rowe and Ruth Sokolowski
Co-Chairs, Volunteer Development

Without our Volunteers, OLLI would not be the place that we all enjoy. Therefore, in the spring we recognize our volunteer members who help us all by generously giving of their time and talents.

You can thank a volunteer if you have eaten a cookie or two at a social, enjoyed a lobby concert, or admired the art on display.



This year we will be saying "Thank You" to our hundreds of volunteers with a special pin for their name tag and a coupon for an ice cream cone at the UDairy Creamery store or at the Moo Mobile. If you have been a volunteer this past year, look for the Volunteer Appreciation table in the lobby the week of April 24th to claim your pin and cone coupon as a special thank you from your fellow students.

If you are not a volunteer, please consider serving on one of our committees that interest you. It is a great way to get to know your fellow students. All you have to do is fill out the back of your fall or spring registration form!

Thank you and have a wonderful summer and fall semester.

Noteworthy

- ◆ Giving to OLLI (page 2)
◆ Profiles of new Council members (page 3)
◆ Focus on History, Philosophy and Religion (page 4)
◆ News coverage of the Phillies (page 4)
◆ Earth Day at OLLI (page 5)

### Plan your Gifts by Neil Cullen

Thankfully, many of us support OLLI financially, as the 86% member participation in our Renewing the Dream Campaign attests. These generous donations will support the Arsht Hall renewal project and ongoing OLLI programs.



Estate planning offers an additional way to support the institution we love, and a recent gift demonstrates its power. Walter G. Peters, a former OLLI member, left us \$173,000 in his estate. Walter lived in the Country House in Wilmington before his death, was an active member of the Limestone Presbyterian Church and was on Council and Social Chair at OLLI. Martha Mitchell, the Senior Director of Gift Planning at University of Delaware (UD), consulted with his heirs, and they chose to name a room in Arsht Hall and to include these funds as a part of our Renewing the Dream campaign. The family thereby honored Walter and played an instrumental role in assuring that we reached and exceeded our campaign goal.

Have you included OLLI in your estate plans? Would you like to learn more about how to do so? Please contact Martha Mitchell, the Senior Director of Gift Planning at UD, (302) 831-8633 or martham@udel.edu.

### Renewing the Dream (RTD): Over the Top by Neil Cullen

The Walter G. Peters estate gift (see article above) brings our RTD total as of March 14 to \$1,697,000. This figure includes 1,980 individual gifts and pledges from 86% of our members, a remarkable proportion. The campaign continues through June 30, 2017, and I urge new members particularly to join the effort. This level of success has enabled us to broaden the scope of our campaign to include planning for additional parking, scholarships and program investment. Remember, every new gift received before June 30 will help us reach our goal of 100% member participation. Thank you all for your continued support.

### New H. Thomas Francis Scholarship Fund

by Jenna Ford

On March 3, 2017, the family of H. Thomas Francis finalized the creation of a new scholarship endowment fund in memory of Tom. Tom joined OLLI in summer 2010, enjoying the diversity of courses offered and volunteering his time with the Duplicating Committee until his passing in March 2016. During his career, Tom spent many years in higher education. He also had a commitment to service that was exemplified by his work in the Peace Corps at Dahomey (Benin) in West Africa. Susan Dion, Tom's wife, notes that "it is especially fitting that the establishment of the H. Thomas Francis Scholarship was finalized" only days after National Peace Corps Week. Through the creation of this scholarship fund, Tom is remembered for his love of education and service. The new scholarship fund will support membership fees for those in need. Two other scholarship funds exist to support member needs — the Reilly Scholarship Fund and the Lundgaard Scholarship Fund. Donations to any of these funds are accepted anytime and help to support the needs of others. To apply for financial assistance, please contact Joni Bero in the Office for a confidential application.

### Thank You, Carolyn, for the Spring Break Adventure! by Carol Bernard

A hearty "Thank You" goes out to Carolyn Stankiewicz for all her efforts providing off-site, off semester activities to OLLI members. For many years on her own, Carolyn has planned and implemented activities during the winter semester breaks in January and during spring breaks. Recently, Carolyn offered "Downsizing and Decluttering WILL make you happy!" at the Brandywine Library on Tuesday, March 28, where she showed several videos, facilitated discussion and provided a guest speaker. Over 50 members and non-members attended. So, the next time Carolyn plans an off-site activity during semester breaks, you will certainly want to attend! Currently, Carolyn is chairing Summer Session 2017, which will take place at A. I. duPont High School from July 11 to August 3. In addition, she has served on Council and continues to teach at OLLI.



### Profiles of New Members of Council

The nominees were approved at the March meeting of Council and will join Council at the April 10 meeting.

#### Nedda Barth



Attending Osher Lifelong Learning Institute has enriched her life academically, culturally, and socially. The opportunities that are offered here have enabled her to expand her horizons, and to learn about new and varied topics. Nedda co-teaches the Connections course. She feels very fortunate and privileged to expand her role here and become a member of Council.

#### John Fulgoney



John is a retired attorney, former CEO and President of BNY Mellon Distributors, and former counsel for ONC Global Investment Servicing Inc. In addition to taking courses at OLLI, John teaches history courses

summer, fall, and spring. He also has been a greeter, Newsletter contributor, and a volunteer for the summer program at DuPont High School.

#### Martha J Hays



Martha has been a member of OLLI since 2012. Martha served as an appointed member of Council from 2014-2016, serves as chair of the Facilities, Equipment and Safety Committee and a member of the Curriculum Committee.

She has served on several ad hoc committees. Martha teaches finance courses.

#### Anthony Jones



Anthony is a retired attorney who came to Delaware to take care of his father. After his father passed away, Anthony became involved in OLLI. Anthony takes a variety of courses

and he recently taught a course on presidential politics. He is also teaching adults to read with the Delaware First collaboration started at OLLI by Elliot Keta.

#### Joan Van Oosterhout



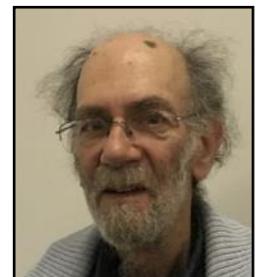
Over the years that Joan has been coming to Osher, she has enjoyed taking a great many and variety of courses. She has been co-chair of the annual book sale. Joan has worked at the Reception Desk for years and is currently co-chair.

In addition, Joan has helped with registration, parking tags, and name tags. Joan also volunteers with the various social events at OLLI.

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#### Robert Ehrlich

Robert has been appointed by Council to fill a vacancy. He has served previously on Council, on the 25th and 35th Anniversary committees and as editor of This Week and is currently on the Curriculum Committee and editor of the Newsletter. He teaches courses in history and computers.



Photographs by Joan Miller

## Focus on History, Philosophy and Religion by Susan Arruda

A recent news article noted that today's college students are not studying the humanities, but are being pushed by their parents into STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), accounting, law and medicine. While we'll always need doctors, accountants, lawyers and scientists, it's important to know about our past (history); ideas about knowledge, truth, nature and meaning of life, how to live (philosophy); and systems, beliefs and worship (religion). So, if you didn't get an opportunity to delve deeply into these areas in your past, here's your chance!

History is the most popular area of study for OLLI students. You can learn (or re-learn) about ancient and modern history, as well as the people, places and things that impacted history.

Interested in ancient history? Courses such as *Dark Ages in Europe* and *Pompeii: Time Capsule of Roman Life* explore history from long ago. Modern history topics include everything from *Truman: Guns or Butter*; *Lincoln Assassination: Fact and Fiction*; *The Cold War*; *Conflict in the 20th Century* and *The Holocaust*. We can explore our cultural history through such courses as *US History as Viewed by African Americans* and *Cultural Wars in America: Battle for Hearts and Minds*.

Famous and not-so-famous places play important parts in our historical knowledge. Visit *Ireland from the Beginning*; *Manhattan Island*; *Tombstone: An Epitaph*; *Delaware in the Civil War* and *Cathedrals in the Middle Ages*. I'm a Philly Girl,



and I enjoy taking courses that explore the people, places, industries, history, architecture, and educational institutions in the city of my birth!

We can't forget the history of specific areas: *Printing: History, Art and Science*; *Railroads and their History*; *Food: A Culinary History* and *The History of Aviation*. New

this year is *History of Baseball*, and there's even a *Fantasy Baseball Discussion Group* as an extracurricular activity!

And, if you like to explore history in person, take *Hike into History* and *Hagley Does History* and visit local museums and historical sites.

In the area of philosophy, students can explore issues about life and death. *Mysteries of Death and Dying*, a new course, safely explores issues of grief, hospice stories, finding meaning at the end of life and how different people look at dying and death.

Topics in the area of religion cover everything from the traditional religions (*How Jesus Became God*, *The Jewish Life Cycle*, *The Experiences of the Divine* and *Buddhism for the Secular Age*) to the modern interpretations of religious experiences. Learn about traditions, customs and spiritual growth by exploring these courses.

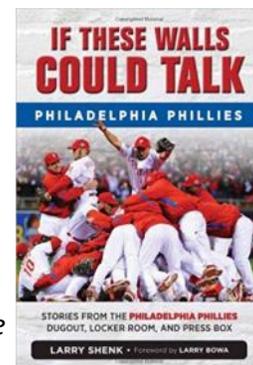
One of my favorite courses has been *The Truth- According to the God Squad*. Here, a rabbi, nun and pastor explore interfaith perspectives on various issues, such as the future of religion, intermarriage and abuse in religious settings.

### Play Ball!

Friday, April 28, 12:30 p.m., Room 108/109

Free and Open to then Public

Bill Fleishman, former *Philadelphia Daily News* sportswriter, and Larry Shenk, former public relations director for the Philadelphia Phillies and sportswriter for the *News-Journal* and the *Daily News* will share their experiences of their more than 44 years covering the team. As the official historian for the franchise, Larry will be signing copies of his two books about the team – *The Fightin' Phils* and *If These Walls Could Talk*.

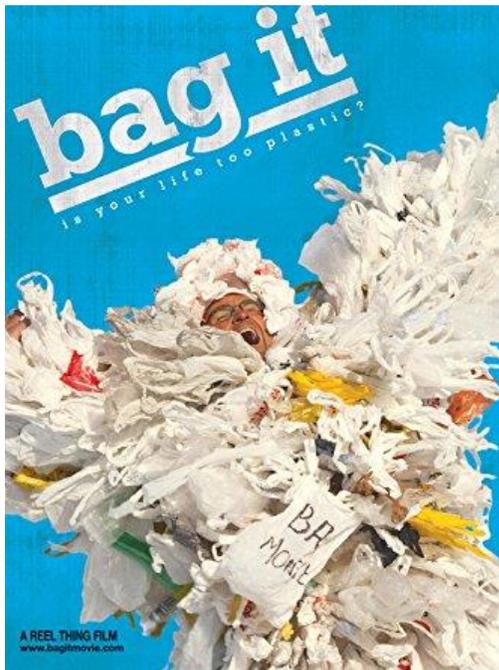


**Earth Day at OLLI**

**Friday, April 21, 12:30 p.m., Room 108/109**

**Bring or Buy Your Lunch**

*Bag It*, an award winning film  
 Talk by Dee Durham, Chair/Founder of BYOB  
 Delaware



For Benjamin Braddock in *The Graduate* the word was “plastics.” Find out what plastics means in your life and environment. Explore the world of plastics in *Bag It* with TV host, Jeb Berrier. The film won awards from more than a dozen film festivals. Independent Critic called it “a blending of interviews, archival footage, creative graphics and Berrier’s own antics into an argument that is well presented in a way that is quite easily understood even for the non-scientific mind.”

**Eco-friendly giveaways to the first 50 attendees.**  
**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Replenish, Restore**

**More Ideas for a Sustainable Lifestyle**

Come to a Friday lunch meeting of the ECO TEAM in Room 114 to learn more about recycling and other green behavior.



**2017**

**Mon., June 19 to Thurs., June 22** Spotlight on Pittsburgh  
**Sun., July 16 to Sun., July 23** Colorado Rockies and Trains, Mesa Verde National Park  
**Tues., July 18** Afternoon Cabaret by the Sea, Point Pleasant, NJ

**2018**

**Thurs., Jan. 4 to Sun., Jan. 14** Waikiki and Hawaii cruise  
*For information on these trips and New York and Washington, DC trips, visit the Travel Desk in the Lobby on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

**News-Journal Recognizes Osher Artist**

On March 19, the News-Journal added a special section recognizing photographers who had contributed to their Delaware 360° panorama displays. A two page spread profiled Osher member Emily Reed and her post-retirement artistic achievements which followed a number of art classes at OLLI. The article is archived at <http://bit.ly/2n78FU1>



**Spring Socials**

Thank the Social Committee for arranging the three socials, the many cookie bakers for their delicious offerings and OLLI for providing the beverages. When registering in the fall check the back of the form to volunteer as a cookie baker.

**National Prescription Take Back Day**

April 29, 2017, 10 a.m.– 2 p.m.  
 Christiana Care Surgicenter Parking Lot  
 Drop off your unwanted, expired medications.  
 Must be in original containers.  
 No syringes or sharps (needles, injectors, etc.).

**Special Events Wednesdays  
12:45 to 1:45 p.m. in Room 105  
Announcements at 12:40 p.m.**

These programs are a benefit for members only of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Wilmington. Feel free to attend each week or select the programs that most interest you.

**April 12—Selections from *The Grand Duke* and other Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas**

The Ardensingers

**April 19—UD Lifelong Learning Orchestra**

Allen Tweddle, conductor

**April 26—UD Lifelong Learning Band**

Paul Hess, conductor

**May 3—UD Lifelong Learning Chorus**

Janet Taylor Miller, director



**Lifelong Learning News**  
<http://www.lifelonglearning.udel.edu/wilmington/newsletter/>

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**Submission deadline** Friday, August 18, 2017  
**Issue date** Monday, September 11, 2017

Submit articles to [rehlich@udel.edu](mailto:rehlich@udel.edu), or place in the editor's mailbox in the Reception Area.

**Friday Events**

**Fridays, 12:30 p.m., Room 108/109  
Free and Open to the Public  
See *This Week* for updates**

**April 14— Indo-Americans in America**

Representatives from the Indo-American Association of Delaware will speak about their organization and about the experience of Indo-Americans living in America. Homemade Indian treats will be shared! Sponsored by the OLLI Multi-Cultural Committee.

**April 21—OLLI Celebrates Earth Day!** Film, speaker and giveaways. See page 5 for details.

**April 28—Play Ball!** The Phillies, sportswriters, Bill Fleishman and Larry Shenk. See page 4 for details.



**End the Semester with a Jazz Party  
Friday, May 5, 12 noon**

Jazz band, dancing and food.

**Save the Date: October 20, 2017** by Neil Cullen

Hear ye! Hear ye! We will celebrate the successful outcome of our Renewing the Dream Campaign and our newly renovated Arsht Hall on October 20. Please plan to attend this OLLI community celebration. Look for more information in the fall.

**Calendar 2017**

**Week of April 17.....** Summer session registration in the Lobby.

**Fri., May 5.....** End of spring semester  
**May 8–September 8...** Arsht Hall closed for renovations. Staff support available by phone.

**May 30–June 2.....**OLLI at the Ocean  
**Tues., July 11–Thurs., August 3—**Summer Session held at A.I. duPont High School.

**Tues, August 1 to Friday, August 4 .** In-person registration at Goodstay for fall semester.

**Mon., Sept. 11 .....**Start of fall semester

**Thurs., Nov. 23–Fri., Nov. 24 .....**Thanksgiving  
**Fri., Dec. 8 .....** End of fall semester