

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Connecticut is an academic cooperative that provides older adults with opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation, and social interaction.

Welcome to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Connecticut for the 2013-2014 academic year. From art history to computers, from culture & languages to horticulture, from poetry to personal development, and from the performing arts to philosophy & religion to hands-on experience with many aspects of the visual arts, it is here for you to explore at OLLI.

Welcome back to our continuing members and greetings to our new members. You will discover what TGIF means to many: the goal (of the week) is Friday, a day to learn and share in a setting provided graciously by a great university and its staff.

As president of the OLLI Leadership Council, I welcome you as do the other officers and the chairs of your many committees that make up that council. The hard-working members of those committees along with the fine presenters you are about to meet or revisit make the OLLI experience special—and you get to look forward to it happening every Friday of each seasonal session.

In addition to the efforts of presenters, officers, and committee members, the OLLI experience is enhanced by (wait for it) you. So share what your years of experience have given you, socialize and have a wonderful year of learning and sharing through your classes, socials, trips, and special events.

Richard K. Fogg

President, OLLI Leadership Council

Welcome to UConn Waterbury--

This semester marks our 14th semester of OLLI at the University of Connecticut--We are pleased to offer nearly ninety programs (courses, trips, special events, partnership events, etc.) this fall. There is space available for most upcoming trips through the Travel Committee (page 24, OLLI Fall brochure) and the very special trip to New York City on Saturday, October 5, 2013 through our Clubs and Activities Committee (not listed in our brochure--please see announcement in this newsletter). This is a NYC-based event designed exclusively for OLLI at UConn members and is a rare opportunity. Please call Friendship Tours today with questions or to reserve any of these trips today at 860-243-1630.

Member-Leaders OLLI at UConn, like all OLLIs across the nation, relies heavily on its Leadership Council, Committees, and volunteers. I encourage each of you to recognize these folks, get involved with committees if you would like, and send us your new ideas. Lifelong learning is a wonderful melding of University and member involvement. Deep gratitude to our volunteers—this is exactly what the Bernard Osher Foundation intended!

Enjoy the new challenges and great ideas you will experience here!

Brian G. Chapman, Ed.D.

Director of Outreach at UConn Waterbury and

Director of The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Connecticut

AND THE WINNER IS???

Phyllis Vincitorio is the winner of the annual membership – her name was drawn after the August 14th Open House!

MEET THE FAMILY

Susan Preston-Berlin, Ph.D., captivated the audience at OLLI Open House on August 14 with a lecture and slide show demonstrating how Charles Darwin and Lady Gaga share visions. Both champion the importance of genetic variation and human diversity. Dr. Preston-Berlin pointed out that every culture has its "creation song" and that she was presenting the "evolutionary biologist's song". She pointed out through a series of slides how everything is connected but not necessarily the same. Through the process of gene selection, each parent's gene pool becomes a part of you, but you are different from them which makes you a distinct individual while still being part of them. This process takes place with all species and combined with fossil findings and anthropological evidence, she makes the case that all life is connected. DNA evidence, which did not exist thirty years ago, proves that we are only 1.2 percent points of DNA away from our relatives, the other primates. Dr. Preston-Berlin emphasized that all this diversity took place over great spans of time. Using graphs, she showed that, while humans are a relatively late species, they learned to adapt quickly to the changing environments they encountered over the last 500,000 years. She revealed to us how close our family really is and asks what are we going to do about this realization. The current world and national news does not seem to be aware of this closeness. Dr. Preston-Berlin presented the solution-what makes man different? -and answers: His immense capacity to adapt to conditions. As the folk song says: "The answer, my friends, is blowin' in the wind", and the wind of time is constantly changing. **RJG**

OLLI Newsletters Go Internet

OLLI newsletters are available on our web page at www.waterbury.uconn.edu/osher

Then click on the left-hand index that says "Newsletters". They are available in PDF format, if you don't have the free reader, you can get it at www.adobe.com and click on the box that says "READER".

Staffing Updates

Dr. William J. Pizzuto, Director of the Waterbury Campus and Interim Director of the Torrington Campus, has announced that **Aleta Staton** has been hired on a one year appointment in the role of OLLI Coordinator. Aleta will oversee the entire day-to-day operations of OLLI during this time with emphasis on coordinating and leading all academic programming, planning, new initiatives, and partnerships. I will remain in place as Director of OLLI, but will be called on to assist with additional University duties, as it relates to my broader role as Director of Outreach for the campus. **Rita Quinn**, a University Program Assistant, continues in her same role related to publications, marketing, registration, and other business and member-related services. The position was re-classified by Human Resources from Program Assistant I to Program Assistant II, over the past year, to accurately reflect the position responsibilities. OLLI Associates (UConn undergraduate students) such as **Jon Draper**, **Melody Gonzalez**, and **Shafaq Mian** continue their fine work supporting the OLLI Program, its presenters, and members. Longtime OLLI Associate, **Victoria Bauer**, has been elevated to an Information Technology Associate to support OLLI Presenters and guest speakers each Friday regarding technology throughout the building. **Victor Schiavi** and the I.T. team are very pleased to welcome her to their department. She will continue to support the OLLI Office on other days of the week. **Kathy Houlihan** has led our volunteers in the VIP program this past year, particularly for Open House. The entire campus continues to provide unwavering support to OLLI through nearly every department in the building including administration at all levels, facilities, police, event planning/room reservations, information desk, finance, bursar, registrar, academic departments, library, and UConn Co-op Bookstore.

Brian Chapman



OLLI Café'

September 13

Emily Dickinson – Her Life and Her Poetry

Regarded as one of the world's great poets, Emily Dickinson lived a privileged, though reclusive, life in Amherst, MA. Learn more about her fascinating story, and some of her great poetry and letters.

David Garnes is currently a guide at the Emily Dickinson Museum in Amherst, and also served as house manager, trainer and workshop facilitator. An English teacher at private schools in New York and head of Book Acquisitions at Columbia's library, he later held the same position at the Babbidge Library at UConn Storrs. Dickinson was the subject of his Master's thesis at Columbia University.



September 20

Andre Simonpietri

Life is Like Riding a Bicycle – You Only Fall Off When You Stop Pedaling.

BOOK CLUB

Sept. 16 **Canada** by Richard Ford
 Oct. 21 **Ella Grasso** by Jon Purmont
 Nov. 18 **My Beloved World** by Sonia Sotomayor
 Our meetings are from 1:00 to 3:00 in room 102D...UConn/Waterbury—contact **Nancy Via**
 e-mail nvia@sbcglobal.net

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Please provide us with your suggestions, submissions and comments praises and/or critiques.

What do you want to read in the Newsletter ?

Contact or send your ideas to:

Bob Grady 860 274-9389

yvoorg@aol.com

OLLI MEMBERS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

***Please give us the name of someone who you think would make a good presenter of an OLLI course. You can even give us your own name!**

***Please include phone number and/or email if possible. Also, tell us what topic you think the person might be interested in presenting.**

Make referrals to:

Richard Albro – ralbro@optonline.net

Nancy LaGrave –
nancylagrave@gmail.com

Sheila Morissette – ctscout@aol.com

Delma Way – delvilway@aol.com

recruitment of new presenters subcommittee (a subcommittee of the curriculum committee)

You may also make referrals to Brian Chapman, Brian.Chapman@uconn.edu,
 203-236-9881

OLLI POETRY COFFEE HOUSE

2nd Thurs at John Bale Bookshop –10:00am

Contact Denise Whelan (denisewhelan@yahoo.com)

For more information

The Clubs and Activities Committee is sponsoring a great trip to New York City on **Saturday, October 5, 2013**. This event was not featured in our fall brochure but was the subject of an email that went out to all members recently. This "Special performance" (designed for OLLI members and involving OLLI members) will be featured in an upcoming newsletter.



Historic Philadelphia September 22- 24, 2013

Make plans now for this unique trip back into Colonial America. Witness the birth of this nation. The trip includes a leisurely visit to the expansive **Longwood Gardens** and welcome dinner at the **Chart House**. The next day includes a visit to the **National Constitution Center** and lunch aboard the 108 year old clipper ship: **The Moshulu**. This afternoon includes a guided tour of the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and Elfreth's Alley and more. This evening includes an optional visit to the Sugar House Casino with dinner on your own. The third day includes a guided tour of the **Philadelphia Museum of Art** followed by ample time to explore this wonderful museum on your own. Join old friends and new ones to discover or revisit historic Philadelphia. See the colorful flyer or spring catalog for more details. Call **Friendship Tours**, overnight department, at **860-243-1630** to make early registration now or for specific questions or arrangements for special needs.

PARKING

UConn Police Officers conduct routine parking enforcement in the attached campus parking garage and all cars will be ticketed for parking violations. These violations include, but are not limited to:

Failure to display a UConn parking decal, parking in an unauthorized area

NO PARKING ON LEVEL ONE, fire lanes, handicap and reserved spaces.

Parking fines can be as high as \$150

OLLI Travel Announces NEW DEPARTURE LOCATION for All Future OLLI Trips

Starting this semester, the Peter Pan bus for all OLLI Travel trips will depart from a new location. This location is the St. Anthony/DOT Commuter Lot in Prospect, CT. It is located in the center of Prospect on Rt. 69. Route 69 is the same route that our former departure lot (Hamilton Ave. DOT Lot) is on and the new lot is only about 4 miles further down that route (or about 10 minutes) into the center of Prospect. The lot is between St. Anthony Church (on the intersection of RT. 69 and RT. 68) and Dunkin Donuts (on Rt. 69). Trip participants are asked to use the area of the parking lot closer to Dunkin Donuts since the lot is also actively used by St. Anthony Church.

Hand-outs with directions and map to the new lot will be at the OLLI Information Table next to the Travel Flyers at all Friday sessions. If you are coming from I-84, the easiest directions would be to use the same exit for the old lot (Exit 23) and travel south on RT. 69 to the center of Prospect. If, however, you are a resident of Naugatuck or Cheshire, coming by way of Rt. 68 would be more advantageous to you.

Using this lot for our trips will start with our first trip this fall, the Philadelphia overnight trip, Sept. 22 -24, 2013, and will continue with all OLLI Travel Trips in the future. Please note that this does not refer to the OLLI Clubs & Activities Committee's trip to the NYC Cabaret. For parking information for that particular event please refer to the Clubs & Activities Committee.

As usual, we hope to see many of you on all our adventures, which are always filled with so many good memories.

Ann Rompre, Committee Co-Chair

for parking in handicap spaces or misuse of a handicap permit. The fine for not displaying a University decal is \$30.

. Reminder of the importance of parking your vehicles correctly while in the UCONN parking garage. As everyone knows, parking is limited and every parking space is needed. So please, once you park your vehicle in a space, make sure it's within the space provided

ALL REPLACEMENT PARKING STICKERS – including newly purchased vehicle stickers: \$10.



A farm boy accidentally overturned his wagonload of wheat on the road. The farmer who lived nearby came to investigate. "Hey, Willis," he called out, "forget your troubles for a while and come and have dinner with us. Then I'll help you overturn the wagon."

"That's very nice of you," Willis answered, "but I don't think Dad would like me to."

"Aw, come on, son!" the farmer insisted.

"Well, OK," the boy finally agreed, "but Dad won't like it."

After a hearty dinner, Willis thanked the host. "I feel a lot better now, but I know Dad's going to be real upset."

"Don't be silly!" said the neighbor. "By the way, where is he?"

"Under the wagon," replied Willis.

Bob had finally made it to the last round of the \$64,000 Question. The night before the big question, he told the M.C. that he desired a question on American History. The big night had arrived. Bob made his way on stage in front of the studio and TV audience. He had become the talk of the week. He was the best guest this show had ever seen. The M.C. stepped up to the mic.

"Bob, you have chosen American History as your final question. You know that if you correctly answer this question, you will walk away \$64,000 dollars richer. Are you ready?"

Bob nodded with a cocky confidence-the crowd went nuts. He hadn't missed a question all week.

"Bob, your question on American History is a two-part question. As you know, you may answer either part first. As a rule, the second half of the question is always easier. Which part would you like to take a stab at first?"

Bob was now becoming more noticeably nervous. He couldn't believe it, but he was drawing a blank. American History was his easiest subject, but he played it safe. "I'll try the easier part first."

The M.C. nodded approvingly. "Here we go Bob. I will ask you the second half first, then the first half."

The audience silenced with gross anticipation.....

"Bob, here is your question: And in what year did it happen?"

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCONN, Waterbury

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
The University of Connecticut
99 East Main Street
Waterbury, CT 06702



NEWSLETTER CONTACTS

Bob Grady 860 274-9389

Email yvoorg@aol.com

or

OLLI Office, Room 103, 203 236-9924

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Our programs are centered around classes developed and taught by members who volunteer their time and talents to share their knowledge, life passions, and interest with other members. The OLLI program also sponsors special events featuring noted authors, scholars, and experts in respected professional fields.

OLLI Leadership Council

Council Members

OLLI officers are part of the Leadership Council, which is the principal representative body of the OLLI membership.

Council Officers

President - Richard Fogg
1st Vice President - Mary Lou Reigner
2nd Vice President - Delma Way
Secretary - Toni Escott
Assistant Secretary - Joyce Conlan



We're on the web! www.waterbury.uconn.edu/osher

OLLI Trip to Thousand Islands – June 3-5, 2013

The first day of the trip involved a bus trip to Alexandria Bay, NY, located on the St. Lawrence River. We stayed at the Riverside Resort where we all had views of the River and beautiful sunsets. There was some free time in the afternoon to explore about town, use the pool, etc. before we enjoyed dinner.

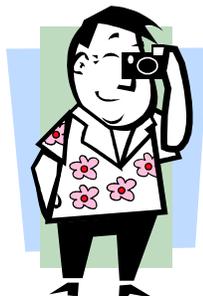
Tuesday morning we boarded Capt. Sam's tour boat for a two hour narrated cruise/tour on the St. Lawrence River through the Thousand Islands area in US and Canada. There are actually over 1800 islands and to be considered an island requires there be some vegetation. We saw many beautiful homes and it seemed as if each one was bigger and more impressive than the previous complete with boathouses and outstanding landscaping. We were fortunate to have a clear sunny day which added to the beauty.

After the boat tour, we went to Heart Island to tour the Boldt Castle. George Boldt came to America in the 1860's as a penniless teen-age orphan and eventually worked himself up to become manager of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in NYC . His other ambition was to build a castle like he remembered seeing in Europe. Mr. Boldt and his wife visited Thousand Islands in the 1890's and he found Heart Island – so named because of its shape. He purchased the Island and began plans to build a castle as a testimony of love for his wife. This massive project involved other buildings and several other islands as well. During construction, Mrs. Boldt died from TB, construction was immediately halted, and for seventy years the building was allowed to deteriorate from weather, neglect and vandalism. Since 1977, there have been efforts to restore and refurbish the Boldt Castle. Today the Castle and grounds are open to tourists – it's almost an unbelievable place to visit.

Later that day we went to a relatively new winery for a tour and wine-tasting. It was observed that many boxes of wine were being loaded into the luggage area of our bus.

Wednesday morning saw us packing up, leaving Alexandria Bay and going a short distance to Clayton, NY to the Antique Boat Museum. We saw many varied, old and beautifully restored boats. Among the most interesting boats we viewed was a 1903 106- foot house boat now being restored. We had a tour of this boat which had nine bedrooms, multiple bathrooms, a piano, and many other extras from a by-gone era.

We then boarded our bus and headed back to Waterbury having experienced a beautiful and interesting visit to the Thousand Islands area. As always, Tour Guide Bob did an outstanding job and added much to our trip.



Steve and Lori Robey

September 2013

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Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 <i>Council Mtg 10:30 Jonathan Kellog 6:30</i>	11	12	13 <i>OLLI</i>	14
15	16 <i>OLLI Book Club</i>	17	18	19	20 <i>OLLI</i>	21
22	23	24	25 <i>What Does It mean to Be Human? 12:45</i>	26	27 <i>OLLI</i>	28
29	30					

October 2013

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*OLLI Book
Club*

OLLI

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