
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.

LOOK AT US NOW

"**OLLI Opens Its Doors at UConn Waterbury**" were the headlines from Volume 1, Issue 1 of the OLLI Newsletter on Friday, May 4, 2007. The lead article goes on to say, "After nearly a year of planning, the first and only Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) in Connecticut opened its doors at the University Of Connecticut Waterbury campus on Friday, April 27, 2007. The inaugural OLLI session brought in one hundred and twenty-three (123) members from twenty-eight (28) area cities and towns.

Members are participating in eleven (11) different courses, in eight (8) different "Lunch and Learn" lectures and Q&A sessions, and Special OLLI Events. The Institute was made possible by the generosity of the Bernard Osher Foundation, the Leever Foundation, the Connecticut Community Foundation, and the University of Connecticut."

We have come a long way since then.

At the conclusion of the Spring session of 2013, OLLI membership totaled 762-an increase of over 500 percent! There have been 85 towns represented since the beginning in 2007, from Ansonia to West Hartford, with the majority representation from Waterbury and surrounding area towns.

The Fall 2013 brochure offered sixty-three courses ranging in diversity from "Extraterrestrials and the Creation of Man" to "Greek Mythology" to "Dystopia Anyone?" from multi-talented presenters who are passionate about their subjects. The brochure also offered affiliations with Mattatuck Museum, The Waterbury Symphony Orchestra, and the Palace Theater. OLLI has expanded to off-campus courses and now offers Winter and Summer Sessions to its members. The Travel Club actively promotes many events to cultural and educational places. The Poetry and Book Clubs meet monthly for discussions. University Research lectures are open to the members and OLLI Cafe` "presents a potpourri of presentations and activities to the membership" during Friday sessions.

OLLI is a program within a Department of the UConn Waterbury campus under the Outreach Department at UConn/Waterbury, with Aleta Staton now leading the way into the future. Aleta, a long-time community organizer, Arts Administrator, and OLLI presenter has been charged with using national models and University goals to plan the future of OLLI at UConn as it is maturing. Over sixty percent of the funding comes from in-kind campus support. The rest comes from dues and fees and interest from the Osher Foundation Grant as well as donations from members to the UConn Foundation.

The key to the success of this OLLI program, however, lies in the hands of those who **VOLUNTEER** their time and talents to make it such a viable endeavor. We salute them and hope others will join them to continue our successful journey to Lifelong Learning.

“DR. WARREN, I PRESUME?”

It is highly unusual for anyone who died on May 4, 1856 to suddenly come to life and appear in an OLLI classroom. But it happened on October 4th in the room reserved for Dr. Raymond Sullivan’s “Rough Medicine” course.

This event might have come about because of Dr. Sullivan’s passion and knowledge about medicine during the American Revolution period and later.

We were enjoying a break from the class, when suddenly the door opened and there was Dr. John Warren. Well he said he was Dr. Warren. He looked appropriately dressed for the time period in which he lived. For some reason no one in class was surprised at Dr. Warren’s leap from 1856 to Room 223 and the year 2013.

When Dr. Warren invited the class to ask questions, he answered using only the medical practices that were common in his lifetime. Remember he was the first doctor to perform a public operation when the patient was anesthetized under ether.

One question, that I enjoyed, was Warren, when asked about women doctors, replied that they made good nurses. But he had never heard of a woman practicing medicine.

Here’s a little background for Dr. John Warren a renowned surgeon. He was born August 1, 1778 and graduated from Harvard at age 19. He studied medicine under his father and then in Europe. He taught anatomy and was the first Dean of the Harvard Medical School and founder of the New England Journal of Medicine

I doubt that any of my classmates in the Rough Medicine course will forget the last 30 minutes of the course and the chance to question Dr. Warren.

Evelyn Marshak

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”.

REMEMBER – Next Friday, October 18 is OLLI SWEATSHIRT DAY!

Wear your OLLI sweatshirt with pride and we will all gather outside the multipurpose room (OLLI Café area) around 11:30 AM for a group photo!

If you have not purchased your shirt yet, remember to pick up a 20% coupon at the OLLI information table and with the added 15% discount the co-op will offer, you are now getting a 35% total discount! Such a deal – hurry, there are not many left!

Attention 5-week classes that end today!

F E E D B A C K ! !

Today marks the conclusion of the first 5-week session of OLLI Fall 2013. For those ending a class session today, your NEW feedback forms will come to each class via an OLLI employee – not your presenter. The feedback form (scantron sheet) will be accompanied by a sample instruction sheet. Please fill out your form with a #2 pencil (remember those?). An OLLI employee will return to your class to pick up the feedback forms and return them to the OLLI office. Please remember, the feedback forms are sometimes the only way OLLI administration and presenters are informed of what works, and what needs adjusting. So please take the time to fill out this form at the end of each session.

Aleta E. Staton, MA, Coordinator
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

LOST & FOUND

Small tin pill box left in #119

Light purple light-weight jacket

ANYONE FIND a copy of “Moby Dick”?

If so, please contact the OLLI office, room #103



OLLI Café'

October 11

Osteoporosis and You: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

What are the consequences of osteoporosis, causes of the disease, its cost and current treatment options? Most seniors are shocked to learn that one in two women over 50 will have an osteoporosis related fracture in her lifetime and one in four men will also. In fact women have a greater chance of dying from an osteoporosis-related fracture than dying from breast cancer.

Janice Freeman holds a BA, is a former pharmaceutical rep and a Certified Personal trainer and Group Exercise instructor – with a special interest in the exercise needs of seniors to help prevent osteoporosis.

October 18

How the West Was Lost!

William Baiocchi

OLLI WINTER SESSION 2014

See the selection of course offerings and sign up now!

Winter session will be five weeks – Fridays, January 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14 –

February 21 will be built in as a winter snow date

Most classes are Fridays from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM unless otherwise noted. Rooms will be posted!

HS-401 The Palace Theater History, Lou Belloisy

HW-412 Yoga Stretch, Strengthen & Breathe, Cynthia Paolino

HW-411 Chair Yoga, Kathleen Greco

CE-007 Tales of Bosnia, Leslie Lebl

CE-004 Today's News – Tomorrow's History, Barry Davis

SP-401 The Official Game, Ned Conlan

MS-419 Basic Astronomy, Part II Gary Ruggeri

AH-419 Beatniks vs. Hippies? Alan Bisbort

VA-421 A Love Affair with Woody Allen Films, Nunzio DeFilippis

(note: this is a 3-hour course)

CABARET

A blend of professional performers and OLLI's own singers presented a delightful afternoon of song in the intimate atmosphere of Laurie Beechman Theatre Saturday, October 5.

About 40 OLLI members took advantage of the trip by bus to the New York cabaret room to enjoy camaraderie and the show produced by **Sue Matsuki**. Sue, a Waterbury native, is a successful artist who has won three MAC awards (ten nominations) presented by the Manhattan Association of Clubs and Cabarets to honor achievements in cabaret, comedy and jazz. She also teaches at OLLI.

Sue opened Saturday's show with the Gershwin tune *Love Walked In* and followed it with *It's Love* with lyrics by Betty Comden/Adolph Green and music by Leonard Bernstein. Pianist Tracy Stark also performed two of her original songs: *You Changed Me* and *Find My Strength*. Other well-known artists singing were Miles Phillips and Gretchen Reinlagen.

Among OLLI singers were **Richard Fogg** and **Louis Reigner**. Richard gave his all to *Sam, You Made the Pants Too Long* with lyrics by Fred Whitehouse and Milton Berle and music by Sam M. Lewis. Louis sang the moving *If Ever I Would Leave You* with lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and music by Frederick Loewe. Other OLLI singers, all well received, in-

cluded **Don Granger; Sal Martone; Brock Putnam, and Bonnie Stevens**. A very special OLLI singer was **Al Jarus**, who both sang and played his trumpet

Mary Ann Martin

BOOK CLUB

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

OLLI POETRY COFFEE HOUSE

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

Contact Denise Whelan (deniseawhelan@yahoo.com)

For more information



Baltimore and Annapolis May 4-6, 2014

Come join us on a unique educational adventure to history-filled Baltimore and Annapolis.

Friendship Tours and the Travel Committee have arranged an excellent 3 day, 2 night package that includes an art deco hotel stay close to the Inner Harbor. The first night includes a dinner theatre.

The second day starts with a trip to Annapolis and a guided tour of the Naval Academy with free time for lunch and exploration of Annapolis before enjoying a guided tour of historic Baltimore. Dinner this evening will be at a famous seafood restaurant.

The following morning we will enjoy a guided tour of Camden Yards, home to the Orioles. We will see this famous park from luxury suites to the dugout. There will be free time to enjoy lunch, and the many attractions, and stores in the Inner Harbor.

The deluxe transportation includes many interesting and entertaining interactions with our tour director, Bob Read. The excellent driver from Peter Pan provides for our comfort and safety. For details check the colorful flyer or course catalog. For registration, save your seats on the bus. Make your plans early and don't be left out.

Call Friendship Tours at 860-243-1630. The overnight staff there can make your registration and answer any questions or arrange for any special needs

Clubs & Activities Committee –

If it's area museums and theater productions, clubs, and a host of activities you're looking for, then the newly established OLLI Clubs and Activities Committee events are for you. This committee started with its first activity in March and has been coming up with interesting things and places for our OLLI membership to enjoy.

The responsibilities of this committee include identifying, establishing and coordinating clubs and activities which may be of interest and enjoyment for the OLLI membership.

Listed below are upcoming activities which we hope you will attend. There will be an OLLI host to greet you at each event:

October 12, 7:30 p.m., at Naugatuck Valley Community College, "Beauty of Peking Opera". This is a special performance by the NY Chinese Opera Society. Gen Delkescamp is the OLLI hostess for this event. She can be reached at: 203-597-8733

November 15, all day, at OLLI UConn. We are hosting our first ever FOOD DRIVE to benefit the Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries food pantry. Please bring non-perishable food items on November 15 and leave them at the OLLI information table.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 5, 10:30 a.m. in the conference room, UConn library.. Contact Nancy Via at: nvia@sbcglobal.net for more information.

It's not the hand that signs the laws that holds the destiny of America. It's the hand that casts the ballot.

Harry Truman

Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.

Reinhold Niebuhr



An elderly woman decided to have her portrait painted.

She told the artist: "Paint me with diamond earrings, a diamond necklace, emerald bracelets, a ruby brooch and a gold Rolex."

The confused artist said: "But you're not wearing any of those things." "I know," she said. "But if I die before my husband, I'm sure my husband will remarry. And I want his new wife to go crazy looking for the jewelry."

.....
Three guys are convicted of a very serious crime, and they're all sentenced to twenty years in solitary confinement.

They're each allowed one thing to bring into the cell with them. The first guy asks for a big stack of books. The second guy asks for his wife. And the third guy asks for two hundred cartons of cigarettes. At the end of the twenty years, they open up the first guy's cell.

He comes out and says, "I studied so hard. I'm so bright now, I could be a lawyer. It was terrific." They open up the second guy's door. He comes out with his wife, and they've got five new kids. He says. "It was the greatest thing of my life. My wife and I have never been so close. I have a beautiful new family. I love it." They open up the third guy's door, and he's slapping at his pockets, going "Anybody got a match?"

Joe grew up in a small town, then moved away to attend college and law school. He decided to come back to the small town because he could be a big man in this small town. He really wanted to impress everyone. He opened his new law office, but business was very slow at first.

One day, he saw a man coming up the sidewalk. He decided to make a big impression on this new client when he arrived. As the man came to the door, Joe picked up the phone. He motioned the man in, all the while talking. "No. Absolutely not. You tell those clowns in New York that I won't settle this case for less than one million. Yes. The Appeals Court has agreed to hear that case next week. I'll be handling the primary argument and the other members of my team will provide support. Okay. Tell the DA that I'll meet with him next week to discuss the details."

This sort of thing went on for almost five minutes. All the while the man sat patiently as Joe rattled instructions. Finally, Joe put down the phone and turned to the man. "I'm sorry for the delay, but as you can see, I'm very busy. What can I do for you?"

The man replied, "I'm from the phone company. I came to hook up your phone."

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
nblomstrom@aol.com,

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. 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

MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

When she began taking classes in theater, “I felt I was home,” **Aleta Staton**, now coordinator of OLLI at UConn, recalled recently.

Her acting classes as an undergraduate at Wesleyan University gave her a mode of expression. “There was something about learning about my world through this lens (of acting) that was very comfortable.” Drama makes visible “the universality of man,” Aleta believes.

She speaks passionately of the importance of developing the ability to see people as individuals as opposed to grouping them in categories. By learning “what individuals have endured and what shaped them as human beings, you can build a better community.”

When Aleta entered Wesleyan University after graduating from New Haven’s Hillhouse High School “acting was not on my radar.” A university faculty member “saw something in me” and encouraged her to take his acting class. This set her on a path of “inner discovery” and one class followed another until she graduated with a degree in theater. Ever since acting, both as a performer and a teacher, has been an important part of Aleta’s life. Eventually she earned a master’s degree in Arts Administration from Goucher College.

While she has performed in many venues and administrative capacities, Aleta still loves teaching. Currently she serves as an adjunct professor at Quinnipiac University in addition to her work at OLLI. Students enrolled in her introductory classes usually find the work “helps them facilitate communication with others.” She enjoys helping students develop the ability to express themselves as she learned to do through acting.

Over the years, Aleta has held leadership positions in a number of arts-based activities, including the New England Jazz Alliance, the Arts Council of Greater New Haven and the International Festival of Arts and Ideas in New Haven. She also served as an arts facilitator in New Haven public schools.

One of her favorite experiences was playing the part of Iris, goddess of the rainbow, in an adaptation of Shakespeare’s *The Tempest* titled *Another Side of the Island*. The show that began its run in Long Wharf in New Haven was pulled together by featured actress Olympia Dukakis, winner of an academy award for *Moonstruck*. Dukakis and her husband, actor Louis Zorith, are “just amazing. Both of them were an inspiration for all of us” in the show. Dukakis and her husband had spent 20 years running a theater in Montclair, New Jersey for 20 years when the actress was “discovered,” Aleta said.

Aleta also does commercials from time to time. One being shown now on television promotes the geriatric program at Derby’s Griffin Hospital. Another involves CouponSuzy, a commercial directing viewers to a web site offering free coupons for many products.

Her involvement in Waterbury began when she sang with the Heritage Choral when it performed with the Waterbury Symphony at the Palace Theater. Following the performance, a friend of Aleta’s suggested to Delma Way that the performer and drama teacher should present at OLLI. Delma, who is a member of OLLI’s Leadership Council, encouraged Aleta to present in the then-fledgling program at UConn’s Waterbury branch.

When she did so, Aleta loved the atmosphere of OLLI fueled by the enthusiasm of those who come to stretch their knowledge. She recalls thinking, after presenting her first OLLI class, “these are among my best students because of what they bring to the class: experience and rich stories developed during their lives.” As the newly named OLLI Coordinator, Aleta is charged with oversight of day to day OLLI operations. She is looking forward to learning more stories of the program’s lifelong learners as OLLI continues to flourish. —**Mary Ann Martin**

October 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

Travel
Committee
10-12

3

4

OLLI

5

6

7

8

Jonathan
Kellogg
6:30

9

Poetry Club
John Bale Book
10:00

10

11

OLLI

12

13

14

15

16
Trip to Storrs

17

18

OLLI

19

Council Mtg
10:30

20

21

*OLLI Book
Club
Rm 102D*

22

23

24
Curriculum
Committee
10:00

25

OLLI

26

27

28

29

30

31

November 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

OLLI

2

3

4

5

Clubs and Ac-
tivities Comm
Library Con-
ference Rm

6

7

8

OLLI

9

10

11

12

13

14

Poetry Club
John Bale
BookStore

15 *OLLI*

16

17

18

Book Club
1:00 rm102d

19

20

Leadership-
Council
10:30

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30