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.

Lest We Forget
Veterans’ Day November 11

Omaha Beach, October 11, 2015
Standing on that same beach
With the English guide, Julian, describing the chaos, confusion
And pure terror facing those youths emerging from the landing craft
On June 6, 1944, it was easy to visualize on this peaceful sunny day.

Julian’s words, as we stood on those hard sands,
Describing the cliffs with that massive firepower raining down,
And how much open beach they had to cross
Must have been horrendous to those young boys becoming men—or not.

Imagining the confusion among the machine gun bullets,
And mortar explosions and cannon fire,
The dead and wounded, and the loss of leadership,
Was beyond belief.

Julian’s descriptions brought it all back to life.

The American Cemetery overlooks that beach
Some seventy-one years later.
Nine thousand of those boys and men
Remain there under lines of crosses
Stretching to the cliffs lining the coast.
They finally made it off the chaotic sands
And rest now in hallowed ground.

We cannot help feeling sadness and gratitude
As we gaze out over the white crosses
Symbolizing the ultimate sacrifice given that day
By the youth of the Greatest Generation.

However, as we contemplate that picture,
We have to think, regarding this present world,
Of Pete Seeger’s protest song that ends:

“When will we ever learn?”

-RJG-
THE JOY OF TOM SWIFTIES
Funny and Exuberant Puns That Turn Adverbs into Punchlines

A Tom Swifty is a play on words taking the form of a quotation ascribed to Tom and followed by an adverb. Here's a good example

"The thermostat is set too high," said Tom heatedly.

The term was coined by Willard Espy (1911–99), one of the masters of word play, who compiled two wonderful collections of poems, essays, quizzes, and other writings about language: An Almanac of Words at Play (1975) and Another Almanac of Words at Play (1980). Merriam-Webster was fortunate to acquire the rights to these books and published excerpts from them in a collection entitled The Best of an Almanac of Words at Play in 1999.

Droll humor is a feature of much of the material Espy collected, as is apparent in the Almanac entry for Tom Swifties. The form takes its name from the main character in a series of adventure books published by Edward Stratemeyer beginning in 1910. (Although the books were all credited to "Victor Appleton," he was imaginary – the books were actually written by several different authors.) In the series, which had titles that included Tom Swift in the City of Gold, Tom Swift and His Wizard Camera, and Tom Swift and His Great Searchlight, the authors supposedly revealed a weakness for adverbs, attaching an excess of them to dialogue in order to add color and variety to the narration.

Sometimes the puns are simple:

"Let's gather up the rope," said Tom coyly.

"Welcome to my tomb," said Tom cryptically.

"I can't find the oranges," said Tom fruitlessly.

Sometimes they require a little more thought to get:

"Don't you love sleeping outdoors," Tom said intently.

"Let's trap that sick bird," Tom said illegally.

"I lost my trousers," said Tom expansively.

And some are inspired:

"I just ran over my father," Tom said transparently.

And the all-time best Tom Swifty:

"I just dropped the toothpaste," said Tom crestfallenly.

Tom Swifties seem to have fallen into disuse in recent years – they're overdue for a revival. If nothing else, they're fun and they'll help keep your mind sharp. That's what we say, pointedly.

Try your creative minds with your own Tom Swifties

Merriman-Webster On-line Word Play

The Newsletter is always looking for content from our readers. This may be in the form of original work or items you have found interesting and may wish to pass on to others. We always welcome any suggestions you may have to improve the newsletter or criticisms of it. The Newsletter exists to inform and entertain our readers.

Contact Bob Grady at yvoorg@aol.com or any presenter or staff member.

OLLI POETRY COFFEE HOUSE
2nd Thurs at John Bale Bookshop –10:00am
Contact Denise Whelan (denisewhelan@yahoo.com)
For more information

OLLI BOOK CLUB
Contact: Nancy Via at nvia@sbcglobal.net
All meetings of the book club will be held in room 102D, UConn, Waterbury at 1:00 PM 3rd Monday

November 16 When Lions Roar Thomas Maier
![OLLi Cafe Image](image)

**OLLi Cafe**

**Upcoming OLLi Travel**

- **A5/12/16**: The Springfield Museums (4)/Dr. Seuss Sculpture Garden MA - $62pp
- **6/20-22/2016**: Lancaster PA (Sight & Sound Theatre (overnight) - $427pp dbl
- **9/17-19/2016**: Washington DC/ChantillyVA/Mount Vernon – price $457 pp dbl
  Price: $2,899. pp. dbl

All prices are member prices. Non-members are charged a slight surcharge. Call Friendship Tours for information and reservations. (1-800-243-1630). Mention OLLi Travel

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**LANCASTER, PA/QVC TRIP**  
**JUNE 20–22, 2016**

Five reasons to join your OLLi travelers to visit the Lancaster, PA Amish country:

- Escorted tour director with action packed itinerary including live production of Samson, visit to private Amish farm, trip to QVC
- Wonderful hotel accommodations and meals
- Reasonable rates with all gratuities included
- Don’t have to drive, leave the driving to Friendship
- Enjoy great conversations and socialize with fellow OLLi members

**Enjoy:**

- 2 night stay at the Cork Factory Hotel
- 2 breakfasts
- 2 dinners
- All for $427.00 double/triple, $527.00 single, $20.00 surcharge for non OLLi Members

**BOOK EARLY!** Call Friendship Tours at 860 243-1630 to make your reservation.

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**CAMPUS SPECIAL EVENTS**

**The Harlem Renaissance Revisited**

Speaker Dr. Jeffrey O. G. Ogbar, UConn Professor of History/Founding Director of the Center for the Study of Popular Music

Fri. 11/20 1-2pm

RSVP by 11/13

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Oh, what a tangled web do parents weave when they think their children are naïve.

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Ogden Nash
A college professor had a strict policy that the hourly examinations were done at the bell and anyone who kept writing on their exam after the bell would take a zero on the exam.

One guy kept writing on his exam for a while after the bell and then confidently strode up to turn it in.

The professor looked at him and said, "Don't bother to hand that paper in -- you get a zero for continuing after the bell."

The guy looked at him and said, "Professor, do you know who I am?"

The professor replied, "No, and I don't care if your dad is president of the United States. You get a zero on this exam."

The guy, with an enraged look on his face, shouted, "You mean you have no idea who I am?"

The professor responded, "No, I've no idea who you think you are."

With that, the guy said, "Good," plunged his exam into the middle of the stack of other students' exams, and did a hasty retreat from the examination room.

I was eating lunch on the 20th of February with my 10-year-old grandson and I asked him, "What day is tomorrow?"

He said "It's President's Day!"

He is a smart kid.

I asked "What does President's Day mean?" I was waiting for something about Washington or Lincoln, etc.

He replied, "President's Day is when the President steps out of the White House, and if he sees his shadow we have one more year of unemployment."

You know, it hurts when coffee spurts out your nose…

From a passenger ship, everyone can see a bearded man on a small island, who is shouting and desperately waving his hands.

"Who is that man and why is he so upset?" a passenger asks the captain.

"I've no idea, but every year when we pass by, he goes nuts."

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCONN, Waterbury

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The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) 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 - Chuck Miceli
1st Vice President - Toni Escott
2nd Vice President - Delma Way
Secretary - Pat Fahey
Assistant Secretary - Joyce Conlan

We’re on the web! www.OLLI.uconn.edu
ATTENTION OLLI TRAVELERS: THE SOUTH BECKONS

Your OLLI Travel Committee has just added a new and exciting trip to its Fall, 2016 schedule. Join us next November 4th to 11th, as we fly from Bradley Airport to Nashville. There we will meet our “southern tour guide” who will lead us on an extraordinary tour of the “Music City”—including a historic RCA Studio where Elvis, Dolly Parton, Charlie Pride, and countless country legends recorded their hits. We will also visit historic Ryman Auditorium and finally the Grand Ole Opry, including a backstage tour of this iconic venue. Before departing for our next “music city”, we will visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and attempt to absorb or at least relive the music and artists that are so identified with this part of our country.

On Day 3 we are off to Memphis where Graceland, home of Elvis, awaits us. Here in the city of Blues, Rock ‘n Roll, and Soul, we will savor the city’s essence along famous Beale Street. Dinner at the #1 BBQ in Memphis is also on the agenda.

Day 5 takes us to none other than the “Jazz Capital of the World” New Orleans. Rich in history, Cajun and Creole cuisine, as well, New Orleans offers a grand stay as we walk the French Quarter, motor through the city, and boat tour through the famous Louisiana swamp region. For all our gourmet travelers, a cooking demo and dinner Louisiana Style) will be presented at the New Orleans School of Cooking.

Yes, America’s Music Cities -- Nashville, Memphis, and New Orleans await us next November 4th--11th. Look for flyers on the Membership table on the main concourse here at UCONN or call Barbara at Friendship Tours (860-243-1630) to reserve your seat. It’s important to reserve early as seats will be held until April 2, 2016 and then released back to the tour company down South.

Price for this fabulous trip is $2,899. With final payment due August 2, 2016, there is plenty of time to budget accordingly, but reserve now and don’t miss out on a great getaway!!
It’s an all too frequent item in the newspaper and other media. For example, ESPN is laying off 200 employees. Or x company is closing its plant which will add 348 people to the unemployment rolls.

So? For many of us, more fortunate than the soon to be unemployed, these figures mean nothing. We still don’t face personal hunger.

We still can go out to the pizza shop for our Friday meal. We can afford a car and its needed gas. Concert tickets are affordable and we are preparing for a big holiday shopping binge.

If you see yourself in this group, then please consider donating food items to the Clubs and Activities’ 2015 Thanksgiving Food Drive. The drive will continue through November 13th which is the last day of OLLI’s fall semester.

Needed items include canned fruits and vegetables, soup, coffee and tea. Other needs are rice, pasta and pasta sauces, peanut butter and jelly, stuffing mixes, cereal and crackers.

Please bring your contributions to the OLLI members’ table which is across from the university’s bookstore.

Items will be boxed and donated to the Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries which will be given to needy families in the Waterbury area.

Save the date – November 13 – 2:15–3:45 pm! Do you attend an OLLI afternoon class from 2:15 to 3:45 pm? If not, please plan to join your fellow OLLI members in the Multi-purpose room at that time for a special presentation. As part of OLLI’s Arts Celebration Day on the last day of Classes, several OLLI members will be presenting dramatic readings of brief new, original plays written by them. OLLI poets whose poetry has appeared in a recent issue of Voices and Visions will accompany these OLLI playwrights. Save the date and become part of this outstanding cultural and artistic event.