Two weeks ago I mentioned that I had just finished listening to an Audible book, *The Origin Story*. I found it an interesting format for a serious book – much easier to understand – but I felt a bit guilty. As a book addict (I still have some college psychology texts in my bookcase – how long ago was that!), I missed the feel of the book. The process of reading certainly requires participation but this was a different kind of immersion. However, I have noticed lately that I have not been able to concentrate and read for long periods of time. Now, this could be because of age but I prefer to put some of the blame on how much I use the Internet to get information.

Nicholas Carr wrote *The Shallows: What The Internet Is Doing To Your Mind*, which deals with this phenomenon. He is concerned that the way we approach and use information on the Internet is having an effect on the way we think. He is not alone. Scientists and artists bemoan that we are in danger of losing, by slow erosion, “our humanness and humanity.” These writers are certainly correct in arguing that we’re being molded by our new information environment. Our brain’s mental adaptability is the keynote of our intellectual history and our capacity to adapt to the different ways of thinking by means of technology makes things easier. Quoting Martin Heidegger (a German philosopher noted for his study of being) from the 1950s, Carr writes, “… Calculated thinking may someday come to be accepted and practiced as the only way of thinking. Our ability to engage in meditative thinking, which Heidegger saw as the very essence of our humanity, might become a victim of head-long technological progress.” In other words, we don’t take the time to think about what we are reading - we are just gathering information much as what happens on a Google search.. Look up the object; read the concise information about it; then move on to the next topic. Usually not much thought, not much introspection, just a casual glance at the information.

Carr mentions Marshall McLuhan and his famous phrase, “the medium is the message. What’s been forgotten in our repetition of this enigmatic slogan is that McLuhan was not just acknowledging, and celebrating, the transformative power of new communication technologies. He was also sounding a warning about the threats the power poses – and the risk of being oblivious to those threats... What McLuhan saw is that in the long run medium’s content matters less than the medium itself and how it is influencing the way we think and act. As our window onto the world, and onto ourselves, a popular medium molds what we see and how we see it – and eventually, if we use it enough, it changes who we are, as individuals and as a society.” McLuhan was describing communications in the 1950s – before computers and cell phones and the Internet. What might he think about those things we take for granted today?

Have computers and the Internet had an effect on you? How about society? Nicholas Carr opines, “For the last five centuries, ever since Gutenberg’s printing press made book reading a popular pursuit, the linear, literary mind has been at the center of art, science and society. As supple as it is subtle, it’s been the imaginative mind of the Renaissance, the rational mind of the Enlightenment, the inventive mind of the Industrial Revolution, even the subversive mind of Modernism. It may soon be yesterday’s mind.”

McLuhan was prescient. The decline of newspapers, magazines, books and bookstores is all around us. I may be guilty about listening to a book but I still have real books scattered about the house that I pick up and read - even if not as long and comprehensively as I once did. I also have my Kindle so I am not a Luddite (Google it!).

I refuse to become a robot!
A Trip That Will Contain Many Visual Memories

Keep your cameras ready as well for our second architectural delight, also on the National Register of Historic Places. On Day Two of our trip, we will be visiting the award-winning Pleasant Valley Winery which was established in 1860 as the first bonded winery in the United States (the first winery to be recognized by the US government.) Adding to its interest is the fact that it was built of wood and stone into the side of a slope overlooking Pleasant Valley and contains eight mammoth wine cellars carved deep into the hillside. As you walk through the wine cellars, be amazed at gigantic wine barrels, taller than homes, containing approximately 99,000 gallons of wine each. Take in the sweet aromas on your way. Be prepared to be astounded by the beautifully large and formal tasting room complete with crystal chandelier hanging in the middle.

Of course your visual senses will continue to be tantalized not only by architecture on our trip, but also by the beauties of all types of glass at the Corning Museum of Glass. Containing glass starting back from the ancient Egyptian era and going all the way to the present, the museum will awe you with all the varieties and exquisite appeal of glass on display. Here we will also get a demonstration of traditional glass blowing.

Day Three adds to our memories with a cruise on the Historic Erie Canal, while our boat raises and lowers you 20 feet in a "Lift Lock."

For all of you “foodies,” you will not be disappointed, from our first meal at Belhurst Castle to our second dinner at the New York Kitchen, a culinary educational restaurant serving specialties of New York State and giving us a demonstration for dessert. Also, on our Erie Canal trek, we will be having a buffet lunch at the Waterfront Grille before we board the cruise.

The Member Price of all these adventures is $561pp for a double or triple room or $691pp for a single room. Non-member prices add a $20 surcharge to the basic prices. For reservations, call Friendship Tours at 1-800-243-1630. Flyers are available at the OLLI Information Table in the main hall. Trips may either be paid for by mailing a check to Friendship Tours or by credit card when phoning in your reservation. Make sure to reserve early!

Upcoming OLLI Travel

**Spring/Summer – 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Member Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/06/2019</td>
<td>Tosca/Metropolitan NYC</td>
<td>$142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/04 - 06/19</td>
<td>Finger Lakes</td>
<td>$561 (dbl/triple); $691 (single)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/18/2019</td>
<td>Tanglewood/Naumkeag</td>
<td>$135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fall – 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Member Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/17/2019</td>
<td>Beauport Princess Cruiselines/Gloucester, MA</td>
<td>$107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/1-4/2019</td>
<td>Ocean City, MD</td>
<td>$585pp (dbl/triple); $731 (single)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/22/2019</td>
<td>Murder on the Bellevue Express, Newport/RI</td>
<td>$116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Flyers available at the OLLI Information Table. All prices are member prices. Non-members are charged a slight surcharge that is listed on all flyers. Call Friendship Tours for information and reservations (1-800-243-1630). Mention OLLI Travel. (Please do not call the OLLI Office.)

RSVP: osher@uconn.edu / 203-236-9924

Please Note – All OLLI Trips will depart from and return to the Chase Parkway DOT Commuter Lot, Waterbury. Maps of this Departure Area are available on the OLLI Information Table.
Have you read the last copy of *Voices and Visions*? They are available at the front desk or in racks around the campus. Pick one up and read it. *Voices and Visions* is a yearly OLLI publication of prose, poetry, and art work of all kinds created by the OLLI membership.

Who can have their work published in *Voices and Visions*? You can! If you are an OLLI student at any time this year, you are invited to submit your work for review to the Editorial Committee. Who is on the Committee? Your fellow students are.

Check the table for guidelines and submission forms.

We accept submissions by email: UConnOlliReview@gmail.com AND LizHanahan@aol.com

What's Up with OLLI's Schedule???
A Quick Q & A

Q: In OLLI's early days, virtually all OLLI classes were scheduled on Fridays. Now there are fewer classes on Fridays, and more on Monday-Thursday. Why did it change?
A: There are several reasons for the changes over the years.

One reason is the UConn class schedule. UConn didn't used to schedule classes on a Friday, so that left the campus free for OLLI. A few years ago, the UConn schedule changed to include Friday classes, which means some classrooms are no longer available to OLLI.

Q: Does this mean OLLI could lose more classroom space on Fridays?
A: Technically, yes, it's possible, but in practice, OLLI has wonderful support and commitment from the UConn Waterbury administration. We work together as much as possible to keep the majority of classrooms open for OLLI on Fridays.

Q: I miss the camaraderie of the old days when OLLI was only on Fridays! Can we ever go back to Fridays-only?
A: This is a tough one! On one hand, there was a definite benefit to having all OLLI courses and events scheduled on Fridays. On the other hand, there are several reasons why this has changed (in addition to the changes to the UConn class schedule):

1. **Instructors' schedules**: Some of our instructors are only available Monday-Thursday, or at certain times on Fridays. We want to offer them every opportunity to teach, and so we try to accommodate their schedules.

2. **OLLI members' schedules**: Many OLLI members still work or have other commitments on Fridays. Again, we want to offer OLLI to as many people as possible. For those who are still working, early evening and multi-day options give them access to our program which they wouldn't have otherwise.

3. **OLLI's success**: OLLI continues to grow, which is what we want! However, more members and more courses means we need to find more ways of accommodating everyone. Not all members – including instructors - want (or are able) to be on campus all day. Also, OLLI offered over 60 courses this semester. There are 12 classrooms available all day on Fridays (this changes semester to semester). Even if every classroom and every time slot were used, this means we could only offer 48 classes if we were on a Friday-only schedule. In practice, even this is unworkable. The vast majority of OLLI courses tend to be scheduled at the popular times of 10:15-11:45 or 1:45-3:15. The 8:30-10:00am or 12:00-1:30pm (during OLLI Café) slots are far less popular times for instructors and students. And of course, we have great respect for our instructors, who so generously volunteer their time and expertise, and we avoid asking them to take a time slot that doesn't work for them.

4. **Matching classroom size with instructors' needs**: We offer our instructors the courtesy of deciding their class size, and we try to match this with an appropriately-sized classroom. There are also certain subjects that can only be taught in certain classrooms (for example, art classes and exercise classes need to be in the MPR or room 102. Movie classes can only be held in a limited number of classrooms).

5. **OLLI Café**: We recognize that many members enjoy OLLI Café and want to attend the presentations. However, if we didn’t offer any classes during this time slot, we would be reducing the options even more.

The short answer is that it is impossible to accommodate all of these needs and limit OLLI classes to Fridays-only. We hope this helps explain some of the reasons we now schedule courses the way we do. As you can see, there are many challenges facing OLLI staff every semester. Matching all these needs is a huge jigsaw-puzzle, and we try our best to create a schedule that will allow as many people as possible to enjoy what OLLI has to offer. If you have suggestions or ideas about how we can improve, we're always happy to hear them!
An elderly couple were celebrating their 60th anniversary. They had married as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighborhood after they retired. Holding hands, they walked back to their old school. It was not locked, so they entered, and found the old desk they had shared, where he had carved, “I love you, Sally.”

On the way back home, a bag full of money fell out of an armored car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up and, not sure what to do with it, they took it home. There she counted the money – $50,000!

Andy said, “We've got to give it back.”

Sally said, “Finders keepers.” She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic.

The next day, two police officers were canvassing the neighborhood looking for the money and knocked on their door. “Pardon me, did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armored car yesterday?”

Sally said, “No.”

Andy said, “She's lying. She hid it up in the attic.”

Sally said, “Don't believe him, he's getting senile.”

The agents turned to Andy and began to question them. One said, “Tell us the story from the beginning.”

Andy said, “Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday...”

The first police officer turned to his partner and said, “We're outta here!”

Winston Churchill Classics:
- A fanatic is one who can’t change his mind and won’t change the subject.
- Although prepared for martyrdom, I prefer that it be postponed.
- A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity. An optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.
- Statistics are like a drunk with a lamp post – used more for support than illumination.

OLLI Café
Today: March 15th, 2019
12:00 - 1:30pm, Room 113

MATT on the Go with Heather Whitehouse

Enjoy a lively discussion about “What is Art” with Heather Whitehouse. Paintings, sculptures, and artifacts from the meta-talk museums, the permanent collection and special exhibitions, will be examined and discussed. Is it a landscape? Is it a portrait? How did they create these one-of-a-kind pieces? What were the functions of these odd-looking artifacts? Do you look at art and sometimes think, “Why, my grandkids could do that!” Heather will demystify all your curiosities about art today.

Coming Up Next: March 22nd, 2019
The Museum That Would Not Quit with John Ellsworth

OLLI Book Club
Mar. 18: Love and Ghost Letters by Chantel Acevedo
Apr. 15: Once We Were Brothers by Ronald H. Balson
May 20: Ruthless Tide by Al Roker
June 17: The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd
July 15: The Ensemble by Aja Gabel
Aug. 19: The House at the End of Hope Street by Menna Van Praag
Sept. 16: Clock Dance by Anne Tyler
Oct. 21: Georgia by Dawn Tripp
Nov. 18: Bel Canto by Ann Patchett
*The Book Club meets the third Monday of every month in Room 102 @ 1:00pm. Come by!

OLLI Genealogy Club
Spring '19 Meetings:
Tues. March 19 & Tues. April 16
12:00 - 1:30pm
Join us to learn more about your family history, to plan events and activities, provide answers to questions, and discover service projects in genealogy.

OLLI members with University-issued parking decals may park in the following locations on the following days:

Fridays, any time: UConn’s attached ramp garage (entrance on North Elm St.) or Scovill Street Garage (33 Scovill Street)
Monday - Thursday, morning - 5:00pm: Scovill Street Garage
Monday - Thursday, 5:00pm or later: UConn’s attached ramp garage or Scovill Street Garage

If you would like to utilize OLLI at UConn’s parking options, you must submit an application for a parking permit at: park.uconn.edu/olli-parking-permit-application/

Questions? Call (860) 486-4930
Most of us are somewhat familiar with the art of Georgia O’Keeffe. Yes, she is the artist with the decidedly “feminine” flowers, but oh, so much more, as I was pleased to learn at the wonderful exhibition entitled “The Beyond” at the Museum of American Art in New Britain. It showcases many of O’Keeffe’s original works, alongside those of twenty contemporary artists who have been inspired by and elaborate on her themes of flowers, cities, deserts, still lifes, “The Intangible Thing,” “Finding the Figure” and “The Beyond.”

First to greet you as you enter the installation space leading to the second floor is a very large mural inspired by O’Keeffe’s nature themes and depicting the four seasons as symbolized by plants, flowers and animals actually found on the museum’s grounds. This beautiful piece by Louise Jones is a treat for the senses – beginning with winterberries, and a gray catbird eating them, and ends with colorful autumnal Japanese maple leaves. Included in the oversize depiction are the Mountain Laurel, as well as chrysanthemums, the Chinese autumnal symbol, as an homage to the artist’s own heritage. Jones depicts her natural subjects at a massive scale to explore shape, color and abstract qualities as well as an interest in finding the femininity found in the floral form.

Proceeding onto the main event, shown are signature works from O’Keeffe’s long career – she lived 98 years (1887-1986) – which span the full range of her output. By pairing her with contemporary artists, the exhibition aims to expand on themes and create new ways of seeing and understanding one of the founding figures of American Modernism. O’Keeffe once said she made her flowers large like the skyscrapers going up in New York City in the 20s and 30s because she was unknown at the time and thought they would be attention getting. And indeed, they did capture the attention of Alfred Stieglitz who helped her establish a name in the New York art community. Her painting “Radiator Building – Night, NY 1927” depicts a skyscraper with Stieglitz’s name in neon, transforming the painting into a symbolic portrait of her gallerist and future husband. Fast forward to 1945 and O’Keeffe is living in New Mexico where she paints the exceedingly simple “Cebolla Church” as a tribute to the poor populace of the area. Other motifs from this time in her career include rocks, bones, skulls, feathers and fruit, using a technique of paring down so that you can really look and listen.

During O’Keeffe’s career she straddled the line between realism and abstraction, opening her images to many possible meanings while often remaining rooted in recognizable imagery. An interesting pairing is her painting “Evening Star No 11, 1917” an early work done in Texas. For her, it is a small painting, a watercolor which beautifully captures a powerful fleeting moment on the western horizon. Placed next to it is “Bronze 1946,” a sculpture which could be a weed, a bone or a seashell, but uses the same technique of exposing the relationship of the form to the negative space in and around it. I was surprised to see it, as I did not know she was also a sculptor.

In her later years she traveled extensively and painted many works inspired by aerial views. By this time, she had lost her central vision and painted using only her peripheral sight. It’s interesting to note that while many of us immediately think of the feminine form and body in connection with O’Keeffe, she herself refuted this common association. Whether she was putting us on, or really painting on such a subconscious level, we’ll never know. But look at Nude Series VIII. No doubt definitely female forms, beautiful, very real and ethereal! And her flowers – well, the symbol is in the eye of the beholder. Though I was taking notes for this column and somewhat distracted by that, I was acutely aware of the power of these works, and how the senses could be so filled up as to be almost overwhelming. But don’t let that discourage you, instead let it inspire you to go! My recommendation – go now, and then go again! It’s that good. Last Saturday morning the line was out the door, but people were taking advantage of the free Saturday morning admission. I even ran into OLLI Presenter Dr. Roger Levy! There is a surcharge for the special show, $8 non-members, $5 members. Through June 2. Museum of American Art, www.nbmaa.org.
MEET YOUR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
by Mary Ann Martin

A staunch believer in freedom of speech, Frederick “Fred” Krug, served six years as chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut.

Fred is a retired attorney who practiced law in Waterbury from 1970 to 2013. He firmly believes in the right of unpopular speakers to present their views, declaring that is what the First Amendment is all about. He deplores those on college campuses who oppose having conservative speakers speak on campus and heckle them if they do come.

Fred is emphatic that the public doesn’t have to agree with those who differ from them but should respect their right to dissent. He is proud of having successfully defended a Waterbury African-American girl who was suspended from school for refusing to salute the flag. She and her family felt strongly that the words “with liberty and justice for all” in the pledge weren’t true for everyone.

Fred was one of several lawyers who worked on a Ku Klux Klan case in Meriden some years ago. The Klan wanted to stage a march on Main Street in Meriden that would end with a rally at City Hall. The city initially awarded a permit to do so, resulting in a huge outcry opposing the event and the permit was withdrawn. The state police felt the march would be unsafe. A compromise was reached allowing the rally but not the march. The rally was held for several years with attendance dwindling until it no longer was held for lack of interest.

Fred grew up in Upper Darby, PA, just outside of Philadelphia. His wife, Patricia, is from Drexel Hill near Philadelphia. Fred and Patricia began dating in high school and were married on September 16, 1967, just before joining the Peace Corps.

During high school, Fred saw the film The Brothers Karamazov starring Yul Brynner, based on the book by Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoevsky. He was entranced by the film, which triggered a major interest in literature with emphasis on Russian novelists.

Fred earned his bachelor’s degree from Columbia College and his law degree from Columbia University in 1967. Following Peace Corps training at Columbia’s Teachers College, Fred and Patricia headed to Uganda in East Africa.

They received some basic instruction in Luganda, one of the major languages of Uganda during training, but were assigned to work in the capital city of Kampala, where everyone spoke English. Fred says the local people “appreciated we had made an effort” to learn the country’s language. The Krugs’ experience “was not your typical Peace Corps one.”

Because of his law background, he was assigned to the office of the country’s Attorney General in the Law Development Center, where he was to help establish a law school. Patricia taught chemistry and general science at a secondary school. They lived in an apartment above a Toyota sales place.

During their year in Uganda, Patricia and Fred took advantage of traveling in the country to learn more of its culture. “I learned the importance of language,” Fred said. “We got a feeling of what the colonial days were like.”

They learned Swahili is easier to learn than Luganda and was considered a servants language because that was what the British spoke to the country’s natives. Uganda was a British protectorate from 1894 to 1962.

After returning to the United States, Fred and Patricia moved to Waterbury, where he worked for a law firm, Weisman and Weisman, before forming a partnership in 1979 with Richard Danen. Fred was the litigator and Rich did the transactional work. In 2013, both retired.

Fred and Patricia now travel extensively, taking many international cruises. He sings with the Waterbury Chorale and enjoys bike riding. His adventures on a bicycle include riding multiple times on the Tour of Colorado, a week-long trip through the Rockies.

An enthusiastic OLLI member, Fred is a member-at-large of the Leadership Council.