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## Important Dates

For details about upcoming events, consult the Evergreen or [www.usfseniors.org](http://www.usfseniors.org).

6/12	SNUG meeting
6/17	OLLI Annual Meeting
6/18	Day Trip - Raymond James Stadium Tour
6/26	Friday Lecture Series – Globalization in Asia: Tradition vs. Modernization
7/10	Friday Lecture Series – Creating a Cultural Shift toward Peace: The Need for a National Symbol
7/17	Friday Lecture Series – Fair Districts Florida
7/24	Friday Lecture Series – Traditional Culture in Contemporary China
7/31	Friday Lecture Series – Increasing Your <u>Q</u> omph, <u>W</u> isdom, <u>L</u> aughs, <u>S</u> ocial Contacts
8/7	Friday Lecture Series – The Mythic Life of Charlotte Brontë
8/14	Friday Lecture Series – For Your Eyes Only
8/19	OLLI Fall Registration Opens
8/21	Friday Lecture Series – Creating a Culture of Successful Aging

**NOTE:** An OLLI Volunteer Appreciation Event will take place in June. Watch for an announcement of time and place.

## Annual Meeting to Feature Election, Adoption of Bylaws

On Wed., June 17, OLLI members will gather at 9:30 a.m. in the Westside Conference Center for their annual meeting. This is the first official membership meeting of the OLLI organization that combines the former SeniorNet and Learning in Retirement programs into one new entity – the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at USF (OLLI-USF). Complimentary parking permits will be provided for those who contact the OLLI volunteer line, 813-974-8036, by June 15.

### Candidates

The meeting features the election of members to form the first permanent OLLI Board of Advisors. We will elect seven of the following 13 candidates: Jean Amuso, Lois Berman, Sara Cohen, Roger Ernst, Doug Fairbanks, Sherry Foecking, Jay Hall, Neil Harvey, Lillie Johnson, Tom Joyce, Pat Lantis, Kay Menzel and Dennis Vecsey. (See candidate information supplement.)



### Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Richard Brooks, enlisted a well-qualified group of members to run for office. Other committee members included: Fred Barthmus, Pat Conner, Shirley Deeter, Bob Findorff, Jim Kaehler and Jane Whiteside. Many thanks to the committee for their speedy and diligent work.

### Bylaws

Also on the agenda is the adoption of OLLI-USF Bylaws. These were compiled, studied, edited and approved by the Interim Board of Advisors. To view the bylaws, see <http://www.outreach.usf.edu/conted/seniors/OLLINEWS/bylaws.pdf>

### Interim Board

During the past year, the Interim Board set the tone and handled OLLI business. Their priorities were: (1) naming committee chairs, (2) crafting a set of bylaws to govern the organization and (3) recruiting candidates to stand for election to the permanent board. Officers of the board included Fred Barthmus, chair; Jean Amuso, vice chair; Terri McIvor, secretary; and Jim Young, treasurer. Serving as members-at-large were Bob Capellini, Charlie Delp and Nan Kutcher. Patrick DeMarco was the alternate board member.

### Committees

Committee chairs appointed during the year included Curriculum, Bill Sapper; Development, Michael Audino; Membership, Kay Menzel; Social Events, Lee Redford; Strategic and Organizational Planning, Pat Renfroe; and Volunteer, Betty Lucas.

Committee chairs have formed sub-committees, as needed. The Curriculum Committee appointed Shirley Deeter to oversee computer training and Mike Fisher to head special projects. Membership appointed three sub-committees: Communications, Jeanette Reilly; Member Services, MaruLou Crawford; and Recruitment, Don McNair.

**Member Profile**

**It All Started with Jazz**

For Shelley Safirstein, it started with a course in jazz through the Learning in Retirement program. From that time more than six years ago, she has become a promoter of the courses and the instructors.



"There are no old ladies or old men in these courses," she claims, only well-informed disciples of learning in stimulating classes often

taught by former professors. She considers herself a one-person cheering section dedicated to "telling the word." The social aspect of the program has great appeal for her. Particular interests have been courses in music, visual arts, literature and politics. All of those interests have provided for lively discussions with her husband.

Shelley and her husband, Dr. Richard Safirstein, an orthodontist, married while in college. They moved to Clearwater 32 years ago after tiring of the winters in Morristown, NJ. She became his office manager for 20 years. They moved here after the elder son left for college and brought with them their high-school age daughter and first-grade son.

With an undergraduate degree in early childhood education, Shelley used her knowledge and training in music to furnish the office waiting room with unusual toys that were also educational. Some parents complimented her on having such equipment. She had at one time used music in working with disabled students. She did some graduate work in New Jersey and at USF.

Shelley's hobbies include participating in a book club, which reads only mystery stories, and collecting doll-houses. She enjoys making miniatures for the houses. She also exercises at a gym.

• *Lu Dovi*

**Long Live Friday Lectures**

Friday lectures have been an OLLI staple since 1999. They give us an opportunity to try out new topics and potential future instructors, as well as to host occasional eminent speakers. Joel Fyvolent's inaugural talk was entitled "The Nuts among the Berries" and was attended by 38 members. Three lectures were offered that fall, under the heading "Lunch and Learn."

With the arrival of Joseph McAuliffe in 2002, the series grew exponentially. We were holding as many as eight Friday lectures each term. Folks brought a bag lunch and enjoyed a different topic each time. Attendance grew, particularly when

Joseph was able to procure free parking permits for attendees.

The days of free parking permits are long gone, however, and so the series is evolving. First comes a new name: the Friday Lecture Series. The lecture remains entirely free, but prior registration is necessary. If you need to purchase a parking permit you can – for just \$3 per lecture. More importantly, your registration signals your intent to attend a lecture and allows us to plan for sufficient seating and materials. (Consult the summer Evergreen for details.)

And, yes, you can still bring your lunch!

• *Ara Rogers, Director*

**Computer Coaches Training Held**



*Photo by Heidi Bauer*

A volunteer orientation class for computer coaches was held on March 26. Pictured are (left to right) Peri-Anne (PA) Warstler, Conductor of Orientation; trainees Kitty Sullivan, Lilli Guttman, Dave Spaulding and Namelda Allen; and Caye Wheeler, Coordinator of Orientation. Not pictured: A. Frank Weitzman.

**Help Wanted!**

Volunteer opportunities abound within the OLLI organization. Check out the following:

**Office staff** (min. 2 hours per week; moderate computer skills) —  
Contact Ara Rogers  
(813-974-5263; [arogers@admin.usf.edu](mailto:arogers@admin.usf.edu))

**Study group assistants** —  
Contact Joseph McAuliffe  
(813-974-5166; [jmcaulif@admin.usf.edu](mailto:jmcaulif@admin.usf.edu))

**Computer coaches** —  
Contact Heidi Bauer  
(813-974-8037; [hbauer@admin.usf.edu](mailto:hbauer@admin.usf.edu))

**Committee members** —  
Contact Ara or Joseph or the committee chair

**OLLI News photo editor, reporters, photographers, production assistants** —  
Contact Nan Kutcher  
([OLLINewsUSF@gmail.com](mailto:OLLINewsUSF@gmail.com))

*USF is an Equal Opportunity/  
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**OLLI News Staff**

OLLI News is published quarterly by OLLI-USF member-volunteers. OLLI-USF is part of Continuing Education at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

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## COMMITTEE NEWS

### Development Committee

*(by Michael Audino, Chair)*

#### Invest in OLLI's Future

In January we launched OLLI's annual fundraising campaign. Prepared by the OLLI Development Committee and approved by the OLLI Interim Board, the campaign seeks increased donor giving (investment). This is critically important to the future of our organization.

We have many immediate needs. Some of our computers have become old, slow and unreliable and must be replaced. We also have longer-term needs. None of these will be realized, however, without additional financial resources. Our annual fundraising campaign is the key to our long-term success.

#### Investment Level/Benefits

##### **Donor, \$1 - \$99**

*Name recognition in Evergreen*

##### **Benefactor, \$100**

*Benefits of Donor; distinctive nametag*

##### **Sponsor, \$250**

*All benefits of Benefactor; complimentary enrollment in Renaissance Certificate program*

##### **Champion, \$500**

*All benefits of Sponsor; complimentary enrollment in one class per year; recognition certificate*

##### **President's Circle, \$1,000**

*All benefits of Champion; complimentary annual recognition luncheon; membership in USF's President's Circle*

We urge you to become part of our annual campaign. Contact OLLI Director Ara Rogers, 813-974-5263.

### Inclusivity Team (ad hoc)

*(Charlie Delp, Chair)*

The OLLI Interim Board recently set this up as an ad-hoc committee. As leaders of the Inclusivity Team, Charlie Delp and Sylvia Sorrentino encourage OLLI members to join their team. Its goal is to examine any prejudices and assump-

### Social Events Committee

*(Lee Redford, Chair)*

Committee members who hosted the following events include Pat Brunkow, Natalie Glynn, Eileen Hines, Marie Hornbrook and Eleanor Stalnaker.

#### Saint Patrick's Day Party

OLLI members with or without an Irish heritage gathered on March 17 in the spacious OLLI lounge to play games, drink emerald-colored punch and devour a delicious assortment of cookies. The party began with an icebreaker that had everyone searching for someone to do an Irish jig, as well as finding others who knew a lot about the patron saint himself.



*Patrick Reilly related the "Tale of a Cow" with photos, mementoes and true Irish animation!*

The final game of "hot potato" proved that we older adults are agile and able to play kiddy games. Prizes were given to the lucky Irish-potato passer. At the end of the party, most felt we had honored Saint Patrick in a most enjoyable way.



### Faculty Appreciation Luncheon

More than 100 OLLI members gathered for a luncheon honoring faculty who have taught during the past year. OLLI Director Ara Rogers and OLLI Volunteer Committee Chair Betty Lucas introduced each faculty member who was present.



The special "Roll of Honor" designation was awarded to Fred Farrar who has taught the required 10 classes for OLLI. His excellence as an instructor was extolled by two of his students, Lee and Linda Shear. The event was held at the Alfano Center on May 22.



*Reports compiled & written by Jane Whiteside  
Photos by Fred Barthmus*

tions that may make us insensitive to the feelings of members or potential members of color. The team is also developing contacts with individuals, organizations and publicity outlets that may help OLLI attract and keep new members from diverse backgrounds. For more information contact charliedelp@verizon.net.

If you are reading a printed copy of *OLLI News*, it's because we don't have your current email address. OLLI members can sign up to receive the full-color electronic version in their inbox. OLLI email lists are kept strictly confidential within the organization and are NOT shared.

**Faculty Profile**

**David Agresti Will Take You to Jail**

You're going to jail? Well, you might if you go on one of the field trips "Dr. Dave" Agresti has planned for his course in criminology, a popular OLLI offering.

Since he began teaching for OLLI he has also included trips to the state crime laboratory, the pistol range to learn about gun safety, and weekend visits to court. Responding to the challenges of experienced, educated seniors, including a 92-year-old, Dave says he enjoys the teaching as a great contrast to the 425-student classes he often faced at USF.

"My three goals in teaching are to teach what works and what doesn't work in the justice system, to get rid of wrong ideas that might be held about the system, and to help people have less chance to become a crime victim," he emphasizes.

Born in Syracuse, NY, Dave came to Florida in 1964 and taught criminology at USF from 1973 to 1988. As part



of his teaching strategy he created puzzles based on trivia published in the campus newspaper, which caused him to be known as "Professor Puzzle." He still uses games, including a murder mystery, as a technique in demonstrating that the criminal justice system is complicated.

Dave's wide range of experience covers working as a probation officer, working with sex offenders at the state mental institution, setting up a halfway house for boys, acting as superintendent of a juvenile detention center, and developing the juvenile sex offender program for Hillsborough County.

• *Lu Dovi*

**OLLI-USF Partnerships**

**LMUMC - A Winning Relationship**

In the fall of 2006, Rev. Richard A. Nussel, senior pastor of Lake Magdalene United Methodist Church (LMUMC), received a phone call from Ara Rogers. She requested a meeting to discuss the possibility of the church being a host site for OLLI classes. His response was an enthusiastic "What took you so long?"

Pastor Nussel had been approached by members of his congregation – including OLLI members Marilyn Bartholomew, Robbins Denham, Jutta and Ken Payant, Milt Steadman and Millie Pittet – who wanted to consider the church's opening classroom space in its new education wing to OLLI classes.

Church office manager Lil Rozmeski said that the congregation was willing to proceed with this new partnership because "it was an opportunity for our church to do a service to our community." Assistant Pastor Mac Steinmeyer added: "We saw it as a direct way to offer a community service, potentially impacting a different demographic positively." And so they have.

In January of 2007 the church hosted the OLLI winter open house and was nearly overwhelmed by the record-breaking 250 members and guests who attended. Ignited by this new partnership, OLLI's membership rolls broke the 1000-member barrier

for the first time. This success merited the attention of the Osher Foundation, which later extended two major endowments to the program.



*Photo compiled by Charlie Croucher from two photos taken by Glenn Andreason.*

That month OLLI started its first classes at the church. They included computer training sessions in a custom-designed technical room and 10 arts and sciences classes. OLLI members instantly expressed appreciation for the new venue with its clean classrooms, free parking, convenient location and accommodating staff. That gratitude continues.

But what is the church's perspective on this partnership? Pastor Nussel recently wrote: "Opening our doors to USF has afforded Lake Magdalene United Methodist Church the opportunity for community outreach which is in keeping with my vision of what the church should be about, and, I believe, it is making your program more accessible to retired members of our community. It is a win-win."

• *Joseph McAuliffe*

**Technology Races On**

When I think of the computing power at my fingertips today, I occasionally pause to reflect on the huge strides this industry has made in less than half a century.

When I was a junior programmer at IBM in the early 60s, we wrote programs to fit into a very small memory. For example, IBM's popular 1401 computer boasted a mere 4000 bytes of "core" memory, about the number of characters on one page of a typical paperback.

Fast forward to today. Memory has grown to capacities quite unimaginable in those days. Today, a flash memory chip (aka, a thumb drive or memory stick) can contain one gigabyte ("1GB") or a thousand million characters. That's enough to store all the characters in a thousand paperbacks. And now, even multiple gigabyte memory sticks are common.

Technology races on!

• *David Henry*

## CANDIDATES FOR OLLI-USF BOARD OF ADVISORS – 2009-2010

*Members may vote for seven candidates to serve on the OLLI-USF Board of Advisors. The three candidates receiving the most votes will serve on the board for three years. The two receiving the next highest number of votes will serve two-year terms, and the two receiving the next highest number will complete one-year terms.*

### Jean Amuso



Jean has been a member of OLLI for six years. She has served as the chair of the former Long Range Planning Committee. Jean was on the LIR board and is presently vice chair of the OLLI interim board and a member of the Curriculum Committee. Jean served as the Director, School of Social Work, USF. "I think OLLI is a great

organization for learning and networking. I enjoy both computer classes and study groups. It is an honor to use my administrative skills in working on committees for OLLI," she states as her reasons for seeking a position on the board.

### Lois Berman



Lois has been an OLLI member for three years, teaching and coaching computer courses and taking arts and science classes. Currently on the Curriculum Committee, Lois volunteers in the OLLI office. In Maryland, she taught business technology in high schools for 20 years to both adults and teenagers. Lois wrote the curriculum for a paralegal

tract for high school students. In 2005, she retired from a position as an administrative assistant in the computer department at Moffitt. Lois notes: "I enjoy OLLI and the people and would like to be involved in the combining of the computer and liberal arts classes since I am involved in both."

### Sara Jane Cohen



Sara has been an OLLI member for seven years, participating in courses and working to develop the Tampa Bay Great Books Council, a result of attending OLLI's "Great Books" courses. Sara owns an interior design business and has taught elementary, high school and col-

lege students. She served on the Tampa Jewish Community Center board and The Life Center. Sara says, "I have grown personally as a result of being a member of OLLI and want to give back to the organization that has changed my life. I am energetic, well organized and dedicated. I hope to open OLLI programs to other, less well-served seniors through outreach programs and cultural exchanges."

### Roger Ernst



Roger has participated in OLLI activities since 2005, having led study groups about modern-day Asia. He was an adjunct professor at USF from 1994 to 2002, where he developed a course in international careers that included summer internships for USF students. A retired U.S. foreign service officer, he enjoyed postings in Asia and ran

development programs in the South Pacific. Roger states: "I believe in lifelong learning. We do not learn enough from the past, nor from our mistakes. We need to reach out to each other, set up crosswalks, so one area of interest and/or knowledge is linked with another."

## Douglas (Doug) Fairbanks



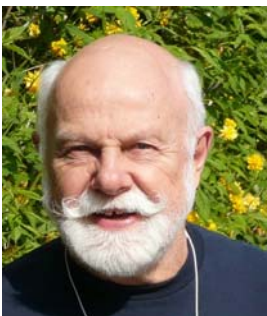
Doug has been an active participant in OLLI study groups for three years and has led study groups in "Armchair Philosophy." As a member of LIR's Curriculum Committee and the Recruitment Committee, he chaired the speaker's bureau. Doug is interested and active in programs directed at healthy aging. He has been a member of Kiwanis and the Suncoast Tiger Bay Club, and served as a docent at the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts. He is a frequent speaker at Academia Hernando. "I have gained so much from participating in OLLI that I feel that I should contribute." Doug was self-employed for 28 years and is now "busily retired."

## Sherry Foecking



Sherry has been an OLLI member for five years. She has been a Vista coach and taught introductory levels of Vista and other computer classes. She has presented computer workshops at state conferences and at the International Educational Computing Conference, Paris. Sherry also has taken OLLI classes. She has been a teacher, a reading specialist and computer coordinator for 25 years. Sherry is the past president of the Tampa branch of American Association of University Women. Sherry states: "I think OLLI is a unique and wonderful organization which adds interest and knowledge to the lives of our seniors, and I would like to be a part of that."

## Jay R. Hall III



Jay joined SeniorNet in 2007, became a SeniorNet board member and later served on the LIR-SeniorNet Transition Team. Jay has taught computer courses, developed and taught LIR classes on "Human Potential Movement" and "Transhumanism." He will teach a critical thinking course in the fall. Jay says, "I would like to serve on

the OLLI board because I will bring a broad and unique set of skills in both volunteer organizations, as well as over 40 years of corporate experience. My background in management, planning, business processes and computer systems design provides me with skills which I can use in the expansion and growth of our OLLI programs."

## Neil Harvey



Neil joined OLLI 15 years ago and was part of a core group of volunteers that did anything they were asked. During that time he served on the Long Range Planning Committee and Membership Committee, where he was chair for two years. Neil was a member of the second elected LIR board for several years. He has been a student in many classes and was

one of the first members to earn the Renaissance Learner designation. Neil states: "We have been interested in combining SeniorNet and LIR since the early days. I would like to help with this reorganization to promote and help OLLI develop."

## Lillie Johnson



Lillie has been a member of OLLI for three years. During that time, she has coached several computer courses and taught the "Exploring the Internet" course for the SeniorNet program. Lillie worked for the Department of Defense as a contract specialist and procurement analyst for 30 years as a civilian employee. In this capacity

she also served as an instructor for departmental employees. Lillie wishes to be on the board because "I believe in OLLI. When I retired I wanted to work with seniors because I believe in helping seniors stay active."

## Tom Joyce



Tom has been an OLLI member for 15 years, having been part of the Bylaws Committee for the first LIR board. He also served on the Long Range Planning Committee and the LIR Board of Advisors as treasurer and as chair for four terms. Tom chaired the OLLI Reorganization Committee to bring LIR and Senior-Net together. Currently he serves on

the Strategic and Organizational Planning Committee. Tom states: "I would like to continue to give back to the organization by assisting the new Board of Advisors. After helping to develop the new organizational structure, I am very interested in seeing through the effort to create one unified OLLI."

## Kay Menzel



Kay joined OLLI in 2005 and is presently chair of the Membership Committee. She has taught courses on Truman and current events and co-taught two other courses. At Northern Illinois University, she served on the Board of Advisors during the start-up of an LIR unit. Kay wants to be on the Board because "We have

much to be proud of, but we need to continue to reach out and search for opportunities to stimulate and challenge our members. I am committed to working diligently and enthusiastically to grow the membership, expand course offerings, recruit quality instructors and make OLLI the very best it can be."

## Pat Lantis



Pat has been an OLLI member for three years. She has taken classes and attended open houses and Lunch and Learns. A USF graduate, Pat was a part-time adjunct professor for five years. During 37 years as a mathematics teacher she served on many committees and is currently a volunteer member of Chamberlain High School's Advisory Committee. Pat

says, "From the very first time I attended an OLLI Lunch and Learn, I was amazed at the wonderful volunteers .... I see what a valuable asset OLLI is to our community, and I would like to be a member who helps by volunteering to be on the board."

## Dennis Vecsey



Dennis became a member of SeniorNet in 1998. He is currently course manager of the email courses taught at OLLI, having revised the "Email Basics and Beyond" manual. Dennis has also taught the operating systems course and served as a coach in several other computer courses. He spent 35 years with Johnson and Johnson Corporation, retiring as Manager of Technical Information Services. A member of the U.S. Army Reserve, he retired in 1990. Dennis wishes to be on the OLLI board because "Learning about the management aspects and inner workings of OLLI will help me serve the organization's goals more effectively."