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Loudoun Newsletter



Toni Acton Hosts Grab 'n' Gab Coffee Klatch, with OLLI Players, April 16

April 23, 2021

Editor of the Week: Paul Van Hemel

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Alerts & Notices

- The *OLLI Ink* literary journal is available on the OLLI website; for access, [click here](#).
- Annual membership meeting and first day of voting in Board of Directors election, Friday, May 7; detailed information is available at [this link](#).
- *Note:* A brief obituary for OLLI member Waverly "Corky" Rainey was published in the April 2 *E-News* ([here](#)). More information, including details on a funeral service May 4 at 10:30 at St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church in Fairfax, VA, is now available in an [external obituary](#) at the *Washington Post*.
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published Friday, April 30; regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, April 27, at 6:00.

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From the Desk of the Executive Director—Fairfax Volunteer Service Awards



By Jennifer Disano, Executive Director

On April 20, OLLI Program Co-chair Kathryn Russell (pictured at right) received an honorable mention award at the Fairfax Volunteer Service award ceremony. Her commendation recognized her service as follows:



"With her positive leadership, OLLI's extensive programming team works in unity, ensuring balance, quality and abundance across all sites and subjects. Adept in serving preferences, she introduced new teaching concepts like study groups and inter-disciplinary courses. Importantly, she led her team to quickly pivot to online learning spring 2020 when pandemic conditions threatened to shutter OLLI, safeguarding a critical lifeline for older Americans in Northern Virginia."

The award ceremony also acknowledged OLLI Mason's member volunteers as a group, noting that:

"Hundreds of member volunteers donate thousands of hours each year serving on the Board of Directors, leading programming and administrative committees, and teaching in OLLI classrooms. They set policy, budgets, and goals; they keep the campus and facilities (beautifully) landscaped, safe, and updated with state-of-the-art technology; they design newsletters, manage the website, edit publications, and author literary journals; they provide outreach to attract new members and in-reach to develop community amongst members; they program first-rate curriculum and recruit outstanding teachers. They do this all on their own, for free, with the support of a small part-time paid staff."

See these citations at [this link](#). It is a pleasure to acknowledge our members' ongoing contributions; thanks to all of you whose volunteer efforts make OLLI great!

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Fun Facts for OLLI's 30-Year Anniversary



By Ray Beery, OLLI Member and Former President

In 2021, OLLI celebrates its 30th year of classes for seniors. This feature provides fun facts and interesting milestones about our institute each week that *E-News* is published throughout the year.

April 23

April 8 was the opening date for the first term of classes at Learning in Retirement Institute (LRI), in spring 1991, when 13 classes and three forums (the early name for special events) were offered to 96 members, who paid annual dues of \$200.

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Summary Report of OLLI Board Meeting April 16



By Marguerite Johnson, Secretary



President Paul Howard opened the meeting recognizing and thanking departing Board members. Michelle Blandburg and Bill Taylor are completing two terms and Lillian Brooks, Marguerite Johnson, and Diane Stanley are completing one term.

He also recognized and thanked Pat Carroll, Rosemary Lubinski, Marianne Metz, and Bill Taylor for their years of service as committee chairs. There are now openings for the University Liaison, Historian, and chairs of the outreach and strategic planning committees. Please get in touch with Paul if you have an interest in any of these critical committees.

Debbie Engelson, Terri Feldmayer, and Dave Talaber were thanked for volunteering on the Ollizoomhelp member assistance team and for helping members with Zoom and their devices. Nick Wenri has joined the team, which needs help in the Apple ecosystem, particularly in the Mac arena.

President Paul Howard and Executive Director Jennifer Disano met at Tallwood with the Mason design team on April 12th. They reviewed the designs for the ramp between upper and lower levels, improved stairwells, and redesigned kitchen cabinetry. There remain maintenance and repair items to be discussed. The design team has not yet released a timeline for completion of all items. Members are requested not to visit Tallwood until all construction is completed.

Executive Director Jennifer Disano reported that OLLI has a total of 1,053 members, of which 1,041 are full members and 12 are introductory members.

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Notice of OLLI Annual Business Meeting



By Rita Way, Board Member and Nominating Committee Chair

The Annual OLLI Business Meeting is quickly approaching. We want to remind and invite all members to register and attend. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn about programming and operations, as well as hearing from the candidates for the Board of Directors.

The meeting will be held virtually on Friday, May 7, at 10:00. Please register for Event 1103 if you plan on attending.

Hope to see many of you there.



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OLLI ChatLine



By Doris Bloch, Program Committee Co-chair

Talk with OLLI friends at any time on this 24-7 open ChatLine. Arrange a time to meet friends online or drop in for an organized discussion. We have scheduled a few specific times and topics for chats this week, including:

- **Monday, April 26, 4:30-5:30** Topic: Hybrid Cars, Electric Cars, Self-Driving Cars: your thoughts, pro and con. Should I buy an electric car? Or should I wait for improvements in range, price, reliability? Etc.
- **Wednesday, April 28, 4:30-5:30** Topic: OLLI Class Recordings. Have you accessed them? Are they easy to use? Are they helpful? Should we continue to record and post them even after we return to some classroom participation? How might they be improved? Etc.

Look for links to this and any future ChatLine events in your inbox as part of the daily schedule email. Have feedback or an idea on a time/topic? Click [here](#) to email Doris Bloch.

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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

A Covid Conversation

I've got my shots now,
You've got yours too.
Isn't that great, friend?
Think of all we can do.

Now we can shake hands,
Well, not so much,
Our right elbows are
All we can touch.

Can we go to a ball game,
Cheer our home team?
No, 'cause the pitcher
Forgot his vaccine.

Can we go to the beach?
And work on our tan?
No, 'cause the Governor
Hasn't lifted that ban.

Well, can we just sit
On this bench and abide?
Only if the bench
Is at least six feet wide.

You've got your vaccine,
What more can you ask?
Frankly I'd like,
To rip off this mask.

I'm tired of lock down,
I'm fed up with Zoom,
I want to rub elbows
In a loud, crowded room.

I want to travel,
See gay "Paree,"
Maybe visit Times Square
Next New Year's Eve.

I've had enough!
It's time that we send
These COVID restrictions
To a well-deserved end.

Still too soon,
There's a variant around.
We must stay patient,
With our ear to the ground.

Hoping to hear
With faint clarity,
The oncoming hooves of
Herd immunity.

OK, I hear you,
I know what you mean,
But if I wait much longer,
I'm going to turn green!

-- Jim Kelly

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Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances, April 23 through May 3



By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

Virtual Performances

Although Mason's campus is shut down, online entertainment continues for us to access and enjoy. Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just send an email to Brianna Schoen at bschoen@gmu.edu. Also, the Center for the Arts has a website [Mason Arts at Home](#), which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances. Information can also be found at [CFA ticket purchase page](#) or the [Hylton ticket purchase page](#).

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At the Fairfax Campus Venues

No performances

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Mason Student & Faculty Performances

(see music.gmu.edu for additional student recitals)

Sibbi Bernhardtsson Masterclass, violin

Fri, April 23, 12:30

Information will be posted at music.gmu.edu.

Pete Folliard Masterclass, euphonium

Mon, April 26, 12:30

Information will be posted at music.gmu.edu.

New Sound Collective, Percussion Ensemble, and Wind Symphony Chamber Concert

Mon, April 26, 8:00

Information will be posted at music.gmu.edu.

Mason Wind Symphony Concert

Tue, April 27, 8:00

Information will be posted at music.gmu.edu.

Dr. Jessica Warren, oboe masterclass

Thu, April 29, 12:00

Information will be posted at music.gmu.edu.

Please email [Prof. Foster](mailto:Prof.Foster) for Zoom access information.

Trumpet Studio Recital

Thu, April 29, 8:00

Information will be posted at music.gmu.edu.

International Jazz Day

Fri, Apr 30, 8:00

www.youtube.com/channel/UCGcK838C5wFwIXMqknxPr6A/videos or <https://cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/international-jazz-day>

Mason School of Theater: *Runaways*

Fri, Apr 30, 8:00

Sat, May 1, 2:00

Sat, May 1, 8:00

[A. Linwood Holton Jr. Plaza, Fairfax Campus, Mason Pond Area](#)

[TICKETS](#) for Fri, April 30, 8:00

[TICKETS](#) for Sat, May 1, 2:00

[TICKETS](#) for Sat, May 1, 8:00

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At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Mason Opera - Acts of Love and Marriage

Sat, Apr 24, 8:00

Sun, Apr 25, 3:00

[TICKETS](#) for April 24

[TICKETS](#) for April 25

Asaph Dance Ensemble: *Reflections to Revival*

Sun, May 2, 3:00
 Virtual Event
[Buy Tickets](#) \$60

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For further details on any of the above events, see the [CFA event calendar](#) and the [Hylton Center event calendar](#).

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Meetings & Clubs

Please note: Physical meetings for clubs and activities are canceled until further notice in accordance with Mason’s guidelines. OLLI is conducting its classes and activities online. Refer to the university’s [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates and check the [OLLI calendar](#) for revised information.

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office. The list is accurate as of mid-week but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast of coming events on our website (News/[OLLI Calendar](#)). *Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc. (**bolded** below). The OLLI office has sent (or will send) emails with links and meeting passwords to club members; you may also log in at the [member portal](#) and click on [ZOOM CLASS LINKS](#).*

Sat Apr 24	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Mon Apr 26	4:30 pm	ChatLine: Hybrid/Electric/Self-Driving Cars
Tue Apr 27	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed Apr 28	4:00 pm	Spanish Club
	4:30 pm	ChatLine: OLLI Class Recordings
Thu Apr 29	4:00 pm	Reston Book Club
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Apr 30	9:30 am	Craft & Conversation
	11:00 am	Classic Literature Club
	11:00 am	Homer, etc.
Sat May 1	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Tue May 4	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Wed May 5	4:00 pm	Mah Jongg Club
	4:00 pm	History Club
	6:00 pm	Ethnic Eats Club
Thu May 6	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri May 7	10:00 am	Virtual Annual Business Meeting
Sat May 8	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club

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About OLLI E-News

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

Editorial Staff

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel

Associate Editor: David Gundry

Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siesseger, Paul Van Hemel

Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Tom Appich, Roz Stark, Jane Hassell

Submissions: Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles, and photos. Submit material to: ollinewseditor@gmail.com.

Deadline: Tuesday, 6:00, for that week’s issue (Monday, 6:00, for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit

articles to about 250 words.

Search E-News: You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* at [ENews Archives](#). To search the content within issues, use [Search](#) or enter your search term(s) in [Google](#) followed by "site:[ollu.gmu.edu/](#)" without the quotes.

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