



# OLLI Connections

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May 26, 2017

## OLLI News!

It's here... to help you hear! Thanks to a grant from the John Mathew Gay Brown Foundation, OLLI's classrooms in the Mountaineer Mall are now equipped with personal assistive hearing devices. Come try them out. Hear what all the fuss is about! Each device will enhance any sound coming through our audio visual system.

The personal assistive hearing device, or PPA, is a receiver that enhances the sounds coming through the classroom's audio system. The PPA gives the user the control to adjust their own volume. About the size of a cell phone, it is easy to use and OLLI offers several connectors.

There are several different types of connectors for the PPA, including earbuds, surround earphones, and headsets. Members with hearing aids will be able to use the neck-loop telecoil coupler connectors. The neck-loop is designed to magnetically connect the audio from the assistive device into a hearing aid equipped with a telephone coil.

Currently, each classroom has four PPAs that are specific to that classroom and are held in the OLLI office. Come check them out and stay tuned for a better hearing experience!

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[www.olliatwvu.org](http://www.olliatwvu.org)

OLLI Connections is published bi-monthly and distributed via email to our current members. It is also posted on our website. If you are unable to read the newsletter online, you may request a printed copy by calling the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.



## Director's Letter

In early April, board member Linda Jackowitz and I traveled to Irving, Texas, to attend the national Osher Lifelong Learning Institute conference. Despite the adventures that come with traveling through the storms that spring can bring and missing the first evening of festivities because of the resulting flight delays, we had a wonderful time at the conference, sharing ideas, learning from other institutes, seeing old friends (I was able to meet up with a board member and my former assistant from MOLLI in Montana), and meeting new ones! And we were certainly well-fed!

Held every 18 months, the conference is an opportunity for two representatives from each of the 120 OLLIs across the country to come together to hear from guest lecturers, the staff of the Bernard Osher Foundation and OLLI National Resource Center, and each other. We heard about current research and trends, share best practices, and network. Topics in the wide variety of breakout sessions, plenary sessions, and round-table discussions included volunteer engagement, fundraising, culture and diversity, online learning, campus collaboration, community partnerships, and more.

This year's keynote speaker was geriatrician and author, Dr. Bill Thomas, the founder of The Eden Alternative, an international non-profit organization dedicated to creating quality of life for older adults and their care partners, and the Green House, a model for long-term care that focuses on nurturing. Also a performer, he created *The Age of Disruption Tour*, on which he performs *Ageing - Life's Most Dangerous Game*, a one-act "non-fiction theater" piece

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## OLLI Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Join the OLLI Board of Directors and Advisors for the annual business meeting and luncheon on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Erickson Alumni Center.

A buffet lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The menu includes a variety of wraps, salads, and desserts. The cost for lunch is \$20.00.

During the business meeting, beginning at 1:00 p.m., the OLLI Board will recognize four instructors for their service to the organization by inducting them into the OLLI Honor Roll. The Honor Roll recognizes instructors who have taught at least 10 courses and 60 hours for the program.

The Extra Mile Award, in recognition of a volunteer or volunteers who have gone above and beyond, will be awarded to the eight members of the Charleston committee. This group of women have worked tirelessly to recruit members and instructors in Charleston, resulting in more than 136 new OLLI members and 53 classes offered during 2016/17, including one class that was honored at the national OLLI conference in Texas in April.

After a welcome from our Board President, Jim Held, and a brief report on the state of the program from our Director, Jascenna Haislet, members will vote on Board of Directors candidates and a budget for the 2017/18 year.

Current members will receive an email invitation on Wednesday, May 31. If you do not receive one or would prefer a printed invitation, please call the OLLI office at 304-293-1793 to request one. Members without email will receive an invitation in the mail.

RSVP by June 12, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. by phone, mailing the enclosed form, or online at: [www.olliatwvu.org](http://www.olliatwvu.org)

With the continuing support from West Virginia University and the Bernard Osher Foundation, as well as our growing membership, the future of OLLI at WVU is bright. We are excited to be expanding our academic and cultural offerings in the years to come, thus providing an even more attractive learning environment designed for those individuals age 50 and over who wish to remain intellectually and culturally active in their community.

We hope to see you there!

# Thank You!

As OLLI at WVU strives to achieve financial sustainability and launches a new annual fundraising initiative, we would like to say Thank You to all who have generously contributed to one of our donation funds this year.

Michael and Hilary Attfield

Betty M. Bailey

Lee Ann Beaumont

Carole Boyd

Jane Cardi

Stan and Judy Cohen

Thomas and Hope Covey

Charles and Margaret Craig

Susan Crist

Joyce Daugherty

Ann Davidson

Joann Evans

Alice Frost

Gertraud Irwin

Judith Hall

Jim Held and Bonnie Brown

Douglas Kilmer and Janis Reynolds

Louise Lamar-Fuller

Karen S. Long

John and Harriet Loth

E. Jane Martin

Frank Mathews

Betty Maxwell

Stephen and Connie McCluskey

Joseph P. McFall

Robert and Miriam Miller

Florita Montgomery

Andy and Judy Morris

Donald and Mary Ellen Morrison

Bryon and Carolyn Nelson

James O'Connell

Alan and Gwen Rosenbluth

Cecilia Aguilar Spade

Judith Stitzel

George and Viera Trapp

Wallace and Norma Venable

Bill Weiss

Eb and Judy Werner

Karl and Pam Yagle

## Mark Your Calendars!

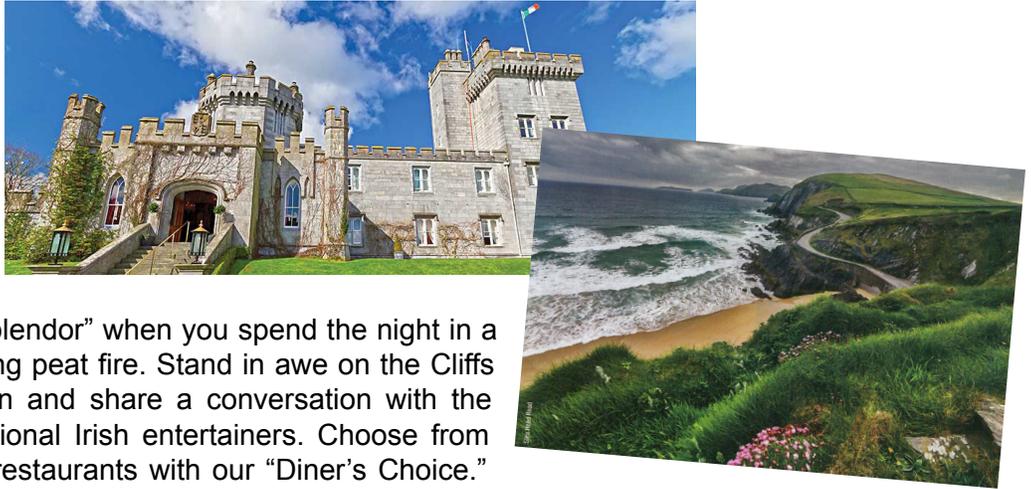
June 19	Summer registration begins
June 21	Annual Member Meeting
July 5	Summer term begins
July 10	Fall Proposals Due
August 15	OLLI Town Hall
September 13	IGALS Lecture
	Fall Open House
October 2	Fall term begins

## Travel with OLLI

### *Irish Splendor*

March 3 - 10, 2018  
8 Days • 9 Meals

**Reservations and deposit  
due August 29, 2017**



Savor a true taste of “Irish Splendor” when you spend the night in a stately castle. Relax by a roaring peat fire. Stand in awe on the Cliffs of Moher. Tour rollicking Dublin and share a conversation with the locals at a pub featuring traditional Irish entertainers. Choose from a selection of Killarney’s best restaurants with our “Diner’s Choice.” Sip on the “Water of Life” at a whiskey distillery. Visit Kilmainham Gaol, one of Ireland’s most historic prisons. Explore the spectacular Dingle Peninsula and drive the Sleat Head road for majestic coastal views. Gaze upon the historic Rock of Cashel. Visit the famous Gap of Dunloe where you can shop for traditional Irish goods. Meet a local family and enjoy tea and scones at their farm. Kiss the Blarney Stone at Blarney Castle. From the breathtaking sights of Kerry to the historic Rock of Cashel, gaze across the countryside and culture of Ireland.

More information at <http://www.olliatwvu.org/for-members/travel-with-olli/> or call the OLLI office.

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## Late Spring Additions

### Discover the Technologies that Connect Your Life!

OLLI will broadcast two live webinars from AARP Online Tech Fair on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, in classroom B of the Mountaineer Mall. Register today by calling the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.

#### **Tech Out Your Day** - 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Technology can assist you with many tasks in your everyday life. Take advantage of the myriad of possibilities and discover surprising tricks and shortcuts that can help you from dawn to dusk.

#### **Caregiving meets Crowdfunding** - 3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Today, your caregiving network is literally at your fingertips. See how social media and other online technologies can connect you to other caregivers, resources, experts, and services.

Members can also participate in the webinars from home by visiting the AARP website at <https://aarptek.aarp.org/tek-online-webinars/>.

## Shakespeare at WVU

OLLI has added one last class to our Spring 2017 term! Join us on Wednesday, June 21st, following the annual meeting, for **Shakespeare at WVU**, with Dr. Bob Harrison, at the Wise Library on campus.

West Virginia University Library Archives is a world leader in primary, authentic Shakespeare documents, specifically the First Folio of Shakespeare’s plays published in 1623. Members will have a rare opportunity to see Shakespeare’s First Folio displayed at WVU as well as learn what a folio is, how Shakespeare’s First Folio was compiled and published and how WVU acquired this book.

The instructor, Bob Harrison, earned his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from The American University in Washington D.C. He wrote his doctoral dissertation on teaching William Shakespeare in public schools. In 1985, he was selected to participate in the Folger Shakespeare Library’s Teaching Shakespeare Summer Institute. Prior to his retirement in 2013, he was Dean of the College of Professional Studies and earned the academic rank of professor at West Virginia State University.

Shakespeare at WVU will be held from 3:00 to 4:50 p.m. at the Wise Library in the Rare Books Collection on the WVU campus in Morgantown. Enrollment is limited to 15 but the class is open to all current members, as well as anyone joining OLLI for the Summer 2017 term.

Call the OLLI office to register.

## Thank a Class Host

OLLI class hosts play an important role in our organization. They provide a welcoming presence as members arrive for class and assist the instructor and OLLI staff in the classroom. By volunteering just a few minutes before and after class, they have a big impact on the OLLI experience for all involved!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered this year as a class host! Your assistance is truly appreciated. If your name is not on the list below and you acted as a class host, please forgive us and let the OLLI office know about your service. In addition to getting the recognition that you deserve, having accurate volunteer numbers is important for OLLI's annual report to the Osher Foundation and grant-writing efforts.

Aurie Acciavatti	Susan Garvin	Dorothy Moore
Robin Altobelo	Kay Goodwin	Judy Morris
Linda Anderson	Donald Gray	Butch Neal
Gerri Angoli	Barbara Gutman	Ellen Neidemyer
Stephen Arnold	Carol Hamblen	Byron Nelson
Carolyn Atkinson	Joe Hample	Linda Newcome
Betty Bailey	Kathy Hanko	Cheryl Ornick
Diana Beam	Paul Hanko	David Ornick
Kay Beamer	Jim Held	Sue Overman
Barbara Brown	Marta Henderson	Joe Paull
Bonnie Brown	Linda Herbst	John Pearson
Frances Brown	Barb Howe	Sumitra Reddy
Gwen Brown	Linda Jackowitz	Clarke Ridgway
Richard Burnside	Royce Keller	Elaine Ridgway
Melora Cann	Britta Kiger	Jane Riffe
Carolyn Capage	Sandra Knowles	Frank Romeo
Susan Carpenter	Beata Kolaja	Alan Rosenbluth
Tessa Chambers	Susan Lewis	George Sadler
Judy Cohen	Mildred Lindley	Catherine Samargo
Stan Cohen	Helen Lindsay	Fran Simone
Kenton Colvin	Nancy Lohmann	Debra Sullivan
Hope Covey	Karen Long	George Trapp
Bob Craig	Joanna Lowley	Terry Tusing
Sue Crist	Connie McCluskey	Nancy Ulrich
Jim Culberson	Allyson McKee	Norma Venable
Charlotte Dalton	Clark McKee	Wally Venable
Nancy Daugherty	Earl Melby	Nancy Wasson
Joann Evans	Mim Miller	Barry Wendell
John Fredrick	Sandy Miller	Grace Wigal
Linda Fredrick	Mary Monahan	David Young
Alice Frost	Florita Montgomery	
Mary Ann Gallagher	Richard Moody	

## Director's Letter

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designed to make audiences rethink how they view aging. Thomas is a dynamic speaker that I would love to bring to our OLLI in the future.

OLLI at WVU was recognized during one of four sessions featuring highlights from OLLI programs and events throughout the year. Attendees were asked to vote on their favorite highlight, or "WooHoo," from each session. Our class, *Exploring Common Threads*, held in Charleston during the winter term, received the second most votes for our session. The recognition came with an iPad Mini, which Sonja will be using in upcoming computer classes in both Charleston and Morgantown.

In addition to a few ideas for future programming and collaborations and samples of brochures and course catalogs from other OLLIs, Linda and I returned with the knowledge that we are not alone in some of the challenges we are facing and a renewed sense of appreciation for the support that OLLI at WVU receives from the university.

*Jascenna*

## Cleaning Out the Closets

In preparation for our new year, OLLI will hold a cleaning and reorganization day on Monday, June 26. The member lounge, classrooms, storage closets, and office all need a little attention after the busy year that we've had. Volunteers are welcome to help go through boxes, organize shelves, inventory supplies, clean out book shelves and file drawers, and even make minor repairs. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Come for the morning or afternoon, an hour or three, whatever fits your schedule. All are welcome! If possible, let us know you're coming by calling the OLLI office in advance. But we won't turn you away that day if your name isn't on the list!