In This Issue: Some Of The People That Work Behind The Scenes To Make OLLI @ Furman Great.
EDITORIAL RAMBLINGS

Gary Aten

Do we really appreciate all the behind-the-scenes activities that go on every day? Probably not. We thought you might like to know about some of the many “behind-the-scenes” worker bees who quietly carry out their work without any formal recognition. This issue gives just a few examples of many.

Gray Matters always needs articles, photos, and poems to include. Submissions should be as a Word or Pages document, or as a JPEG file for photos. Contact me at 864-294-6371 or e-mail me at garyaten@bellsouth.net. Our acceptance rate is high (you could say extremely so); if you want to be published, this is your chance.

With the exception of the summer session, our first academic year in the Herring Center has come and gone, and it’s been a good one. The building has been more than we imagined it would be. I have especially enjoyed being in the lobby and meeting friends I haven’t seen for a while. Even though we don’t always take the same classes, during the breaks and changes there are a few minutes to connect. Longer visits with people are possible during the noon class break, and I have become better acquainted with a couple of people I knew only in passing before. Another thing I have enjoyed is the art wall across from the coffee bar. I look forward to seeing what comes next. The travel photos by the Furman students were really beautiful and timely, fitting in with our travel issue.

Thanks to Carole Eisen, Sue Renault, and Judy Aten for proofreading this issue. Thanks also to our summer life consultants: Selma Juncov is working on the Gray Matters garage sale, and Ivanna Begone is finalizing our staff travel plans. Our summer will include visits to and from our children and perhaps an excursion or two in addition. Whether you stay close to home or travel far, enjoy your summer and come back ready for another great year. Don’t forget the OLLI summer session for a selection of interesting classes.
New Things Are Happening:

The Curriculum Committee is always looking for ways to improve our OLLI course offerings. This fall there are several new approaches in the works:

**Shorter Course Offerings** – New course lengths of four weeks each will be offered. These are designed to appeal to instructors who have topics that will not fill the typical eight week term, but could easily fill a four week term. It is expected that this will result in more opportunities to find additional instructors and topics, as well as allowing members who could not take a full eight week term class to take a four week course at the beginning or end of the normal term. These four class / term courses will only be available for the 3:30 – 5:00 time slots Monday through Thursday. Fees and related questions will appear at registration time.

**History Subcommittee** – An additional approach will be added to some courses. Instead of a single instructor teaching all term, each class will feature a different instructor focused on an individual of unique historical significance. The intent is to find instructors within OLLI who have a passion for an individual or historical event that they would like to share with others. Finding OLLI members willing to teach a class about their favorite historical person or event for 1.5 hours could be easier than locating someone to teach for eight classes or twelve hours of class time.

These two changes offer OLLI members the opportunity to test out their teaching skills - especially if they haven’t done so before. Teaching about a favorite topic for ninety minutes can be just as rewarding as instructing for eight weeks. If you have an idea for a one-time, ninety-minute topic, contact a subcommittee member and discuss your idea. Subcommittee contact information is on the OLLI website.
Sheila Archer began working for Furman two months ago in Facilities and Grounds. Two weeks ago, she was assigned exclusively to the Herring Center, where she now serves as our custodian, beginning her day at 2:30 in the afternoon and ending it at 11 p.m. She enjoys OLLI’s hustle and bustle, allowing that it is much quieter when Learning for You classes meet at night. The happy little brunette declares that she often stations herself outside classrooms, where she can hear parts of lectures or see what the students are doing without being seen. She loves working in OLLI’s warm, appreciative atmosphere, adding that OLLI people are generally very neat.

The Greenville native declares that this is the perfect place to live. A graduate of Southside High School, she has taken business courses at Greenville Tech. She likes to dabble in a little bit of everything and has no doubt that one day those classes will prove useful.

Sheila performed clerical work for 22 years before trying her hand at retail sales part time. One of five siblings, she began rethinking her priorities after losing one of her three sisters. One of her surviving sisters has worked as a Furman custodian for about 15 years and suggested that Sheila apply for a similar position. Never having done custodial work before, Sheila declares she enjoys it, including the task of cleaning the interior windows once a week. This new job is exactly what she needed, for it allows her to spend more time with her husband and son. The only drawback to her work is the on-campus drivers who tailgate her as she drives a golf cart to the Herring Center after loading it up with the day’s needed supplies at the Facilities Support building.

A down-to-earth woman, Sheila enjoys being a homebody. She loves to read, watch her favorite TV shows, and go to the flea market. She has a deep appreciation for simple things and her family, including her five-year-old granddaughter, the apple of her grandmother’s eye.

During her interview, Sheila was asked which of the OLLI staff members had the messiest office. She declined to pick one, saying they are all very neat. She did let one fact slip out: Brad Bechtold’s office has the most pleasant odor, smelling like fresh vanilla cookies. Why is that, Brad?
His name may sound like he’s a character out of an old-time gangster movie, but Johnnie is a good guy. He’s our reliable Facilities Management employee who has worked for Furman part-time for 16 years. He flashes a mischievous grin after he takes a quick phone call and says it’s his wife “checking up on him.” After all, there are a lot of ladies at OLLI about his age, and it gets a wife wondering. That’s Johnnie, easy going with a quick wit and smile.

Born in Greenwood, he is the eldest of three, with two brothers and a sister. Johnnie joined the Navy after graduating from high school. He served as a torpedo man for four years, choosing to work on surface craft, not submarines. He enjoyed his enlistment, serving on a sub tender, a guided missile cruiser, and a destroyer. When he went onto the “tin can,” he felt like he was finally in the Navy for, when that destroyer went to sea, a man had to get his sea legs. As he puts it, “The Navy made a man out of me. I found out I had to take care of me. Mama was a long ways from where I was.”

When his enlistment was up, Johnnie began working as a pressman in Greenwood for Moore Business Forms, at the time the world’s largest maker of business forms. Twenty years later, he moved to Easley and began working for Perfection Forms as their first pressman. It was in Easley that he met his wife, Linda, and they wed two years ago. Johnnie has two daughters, four granddaughters, and one grandson. They all live in Easley, which is one reason why he stays in the area.

Johnnie’s part-time duties at the Herring Center are varied, and his schedule changes each session. You may see him setting up a room, helping with heavy items, or even dismantling and storing the OLLI Christmas tree. Any time OLLI members give him a hand as he is setting up a room between classes, he’s always appreciative of the help. His other duties take him to the Younts Center, where he helps out by preparing for wedding receptions, or to the Paladin Stadium, where he may be serving as a visiting fan assistant at football games.

An avid football fan, Johnnie joined Clemson’s IPTAY so he could purchase football season tickets. As a Furman employee, he took his grandson to football games and let him go on the field to catch the Paladin’s practice punts. When he took his grandson to a Clemson game, he had to disappoint the youngster when he asked if he could go out on the field and catch the Tiger’s practice punts, telling him, “Grandpa don’t have any pull here.” Johnnie may not have much pull at Clemson, but here at OLLI he’s an important part of our community. It’s always good to have an old salt on board as we sail our educative seas.
Diana Miel gets things ready for her “Soup and...” class. Wednesdays before lunch always smelled great in the Herring Center.

The ladies in Simonne Lindemann’s “Quilting by Hand” class take a quick break from their work.

Paul Schaff celebrated his 90th birthday in a history class. How appropriate is that?

Independent work and collaboration are both the order of the day in the “Pen and Ink Studio” held Thursday mornings.
A Wonderful Year
What a wonderful year we have had in the Herring Center!

As the year progressed, tables and chairs built by OLLI members, with help from the Greenville Woodworkers Guild, appeared in the lobby. We drank a lot of coffee. A piano was donated. Shades were added to the Conference Room and Seminar Room. Lecterns and tables were added to the classrooms. We drank even more coffee! In the fall we enjoyed the terrace and pergola, and now that spring has arrived we are able to enjoy them again. It certainly has been a wonderful year!

Amazing Growth

Twenty years ago our learning in retirement program began as Furman University Learning in Retirement (FULIR). Recently it became the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). In the fall of 1993, there were 62 members and 7 classes. By the fall of 2003, we had grown to 341 members and 56 classes. In the fall of 2012, we reached 1,037 members and 103 classes and bonus events.

The growth of the total membership in the last few years has also been amazing: 1,186 members in the academic year 2010/11, 1,219 members in 2011/12, and 1,523 members in 2012/13.

A Personal Note

My husband, Jeffery, and I moved from Boston to Greenville in May, 2007. Since Jeffery was still working remotely and I was retired, I took my first FULIR course in the fall of that year, “Walking Tours of Greenville,” coordinated by Elaine Brummett. Jeffery was very envious of the fun I was having and the interesting places I was visiting! He retired that December, and in January of 2008, we both took five courses during the winter term. We have been doing that every term, ever since.

Now we have a new name, OLLI, a beautiful new building, the Herring Center, and a membership total that exceeds enrollment at some colleges. It certainly has been a wonderful and amazing journey!
Although some of our many OLLI volunteers are not invisible, we often take them for granted.

How does the coffee area get to looking like this? Of course we know it’s the Coffee Brigade, but how often do we think of them when we are jammed up just before a class getting coffee, tea, or hot chocolate? The Brigade is made up of OLLI office staff, student workers, and OLLI members. There is no uniform (except for name badges), and little formal recognition. They make coffee, stock condiments and supplies, clean up the area, and still manage not to be run over by us. When you consider, according to Nancy Kennedy, we go through 12 gallons of liquid a day, 1000 creamers every 7 days, and 900 cups in 5 days, we can see what a contribution that is to our OLLI life. You too can be a brigade member - just see Nancy for a quick orientation. Below Jan Howell and Geraldine Weyerman do their thing.

How many times have you gone into the OLLI office needing something? Our office volunteers are usually there to give a hand. Among their helpful activities are selling tickets to events, answering the phone, helping new members with parking permits and registration, and answering any type of question you can come up with. If they don’t know, they know who does!

At left, Susan Preusse takes a minute from her lunch and book to see what idiot is shouting at her. Note that even while being harassed she is giving a thumbs-up.
We are very pleased to announce that every one of our OLLI students who took the 2013 National Latin Exam has won first place on two different levels! A total of 154,000 students from 50 states and 15 foreign countries took the National Latin Exams this past March.

Receiving first place awards and a purple ribbon for the Introduction to Latin Exam were: Betty Burnett, Karan Maxson, Linda Stone, Kathy Sychra, and Lee Wall.

Receiving a first place award and a gold medal for the Latin I Exam was Michael Kilgore.

In addition, Linda Stone and Kathy Sychra were among only 688 students out of 19,100 who took the Introduction to Latin Exam who received a perfect score!

Our congratulations to all of these fine students, our past National Latin Exam winners, and each one of our exceptional students in our Latin program, who daily prove that lifelong learning never stops. We are all very proud of each of them.
OLLI’s YOUNGEST WWII VETERAN - ALICE FERGUSON

This picture, taken in May 1942, shows baby Alice with her first war bond. Her father worked at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio. Like many war-time industries, it heavily promoted the sale of war bonds. Alice’s dad bought a bond to support the war effort and to help build a college fund for Alice.

The picture, probably taken by a Goodyear photographer, was used to help promote bond sales in the company newspaper. In those days, the company paper had a huge following, and included company news, other news, and even want ads.

No information is available on how successful the use of this picture was in the bond sales effort, but how could you not buy a bond from this kid?

WHERE IN FURMAN ARE WE?

This picture was taken on the Furman campus. Do you know where? How many hints do you need?

Hints:
1. At the north part of campus.
2. Not far from the bell tower.
3. Near a couple of Shi namesakes.

Answer below:

The Francis Ellison Water Garden in the Susan Shi Garden in front of the David Shi Sustainability Center.
BENEDICT ARNOLD VISITS OLLI @ FURMAN

Lucy Woodhouse

Benedict Arnold recently visited OLLI @ Furman through a partnership OLLI has with its local Chautauqua group. For years, OLLI members have been ardent supporters of the Greenville Chautauqua organization that brings history alive through historic interpreters in costume portraying key figures throughout history. When the chance came (because the Director of Greenville Chautauqua is an OLLI member) to bring Benedict Arnold to OLLI, we jumped at the chance.

The Social Committee organized a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception and offered $5 tickets to all members. We had 120 people attend the party with Benedict Arnold as our host. Dressed in Revolutionary officer attire, Mr. Arnold told us of his passion for the cause and explained why he, a great American revolutionist, turned to help the British cause. After his explanation, many realized he was not quite the turncoat history has led us to believe. He answered questions from the audience, first as Mr. Arnold would, and then as the historian who portrayed him, Ken Johnston. Afterward, members engaged in lively conversations with one another and Mr. Arnold over wine and delicious food made by OLLI members.

This was the perfect OLLI event: great member participation, learning combined with socializing, partnering with a community agency, using our new building, and eating and drinking fine foods and wines. What more could one ask for?

ISLAM CLASS TRIP

William Beckwith

This is a picture of the Islam 2 class when we visited the Greer Mosque on Friday March 1. We watched a Friday prayer service and a funeral. They took pity on us old folks and provided chairs for us to sit upon. No problem getting down, but the up part may have been hard.
What a wonderful year we have witnessed at OLLI! The Herring Center is a source of wonder and pride to all of us. The Manly Lobby entices us to arrive early or stay after class, enjoying a coffee with friends. We now have a place of our own for hosting our special events. The Volunteer Committee recently held a Volunteer Appreciation Day, honoring all who in some way contributed their time to OLLI, molding it into the quality organization it is today. The event was special, with everyone enjoying good food, great music, an outstanding slide show, and an opportunity to visit with other volunteers.

I am so grateful to everyone who contributed, even in a small way to our success. We need more of you to become involved so OLLI at Furman can continue to be such a bright star in the growing field of Learning in Retirement programs. We ARE successful because so many of you freely gave your time to an organization that offers this opportunity to continue our lifelong learning while enjoying the company of others who share the same goals.

**WEBSITE TIDBITS**

Elaine Brummett

[nextavenue.org](http://nextavenue.org), has info, via PBS, on various topics for the over 50 age group, including health, arts, travel, etc.

[pbs.org](http://pbs.org), has topics on science and technology as well as free viewing of some of their TV shows.

[scupstateadrc.org](http://scupstateadrc.org), is the aging & disability resource center for the upstate. Also accessible by phone at 242-9733 or 800-434-4036.

[meetup.com](http://meetup.com), offers various activities (hiking, dining, socializing) in the Greenville area.

[greenvillcvb.com](http://greenvillcvb.com), has a video of the area provided by the Convention and Visitors Bureau.
Highlights of the financial results for OLLI at Furman through April 11, 2013. We remain in a strong financial position with revenues significantly above plan.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Annual Budget</th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>-218,800</td>
<td>-251,322</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compensation incl. Benefits</td>
<td>171,732</td>
<td>111,824</td>
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<tr>
<td>not including instructors</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>73,795</td>
<td>58,009</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>245,527</td>
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<td>Total Before Furman Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required for Furman Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Transfers from Endowment</td>
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Note: Negative amounts mean surplus or income.

**Endowment Earnings Fund**
We currently have $93,000 in the Endowment Fund and expect to receive an additional $117,000 in July 2013.

**Approved by the Committee**
The Administration and Finance Committee has approved the following since the last Council Meeting.

1. Process for approving expenditures from the Endowment Fund:
   - Expenditures up to $1000 can be approved by Lucy
   - Expenditures between $1000 and $5000 must be presented to the Admin/Fin Committee for approval
   - Expenditures over $5000 must be approved by the OLLI Council after review and approval by the Admin/Fin Committee
2. Tuition for 4 week courses will be $30. Details on implementation and management will be worked out by Lucy and staff.
3. Member tuition fees for 2013/2014 will remain the same as for this year.
4. Approved a proposal from the Photo Group for room darkening shades in three classrooms in order to improve the experience when using the overhead projector. Committee authorized $7450.
5. Social Committee requested $1600 to keep the ticket prices at $15 for the Spring Luncheon. The Committee approved up to $2000.
6. Transferred $20,000 from Endowment Earnings to the Reserve Fund. The Committee will establish a process to systematically build the Reserve Fund.
7. Established a fund for software and equipment which will need updating or replacement in the future. A process will be developed to systematically provide funding for the Software/Equipment Fund.
OLLI MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS
Doug Allen - Coach

Three OLLI @ Furman members and their coach participated in the recent Greater Greenville Senior Sports Classic after receiving training in the Training for Senior Games class. We will continue training Tuesday mornings with participation in the Furman Open and Master’s Meet in early June our next possible event.

Ali van den Broek (left) won her 65-69 age group in the 50M, discus, shot put, javelin, and softball throw.

Ian Clark (below, left) won his 75-79 year old division in the 1500M race walk, was second in the javelin, and placed third in the discus.

Frank Durham (below, center) won four events in his 75-79 year age group: javelin, discus, standing long jump, and running long jump and took second place in the shot put and softball throw.

Coach Doug Allen (below, right) won 11 events in his 70-74 year age group: 200M, 400 M, discus, shot put, javelin, softball throw, standing long jump, running long jump, high jump, disc golf, and 1500M race walk with a new age group meet record in the 1500M race walk.

Photos: Ali van den Broek
We had 602 begin the survey with 509 finishing it. That made 30% of members responding.

75% of the respondents were either single-course or 6-course package holders. The majority joins to acquire new skills knowledge and to be intellectually stimulated and continued with OLLI for the same reasons. Not surprisingly, word of mouth was overwhelmingly (69%) the primary way members first heard of OLLI. Members continue to favor 8-, 9-, and 10-week course lengths for the academic year and 4-week courses for the summer. The top nine topic areas are: US/International History (42%), Regional History (38%), Contemporary Issues (27%), Recreation and Exercise (26%), Literature (25%), Health and Wellness (24%), Arts and Crafts (22%), Music (20%), and Fine Arts (20%). A strong list of suggestions for future classes was provided by the members and passed on to the Curriculum Committee.

Regarding offering a lunch-and-learn series with lunch provided, 66% of 398 people responded yes and 35% said yes without a lunch. 151 responded no to a lunch-and-learn series. 61% of members responding said we should not have an OLLI-sponsored charity.

On the question of commitment to volunteer activity from the different membership groups, Jack Hansen was able to extrapolate the following data: single course: 270 responses, 55 (20%) volunteer; 6-course: 186 responses, 68 (37%) volunteer; 9-course: 55 responses, 28 (51%) volunteer; 15-course: 29 responses, 18 (62%) volunteer. On a per capita basis, the highest rate of volunteerism is among those who have to most extensive packages, but, in absolute terms, the largest number of volunteers are from 6-course package holders.

Our members continue to increase their use of social media and technology. (Keeping in mind that those that responded to the survey were probably more technologically savvy than the majority.) Over 50% have a cellphone and laptop and 44% are on Facebook.

Our members seem to be responding well to our information resources, relaying heavily on emails (87%), OLLI Notes (68%), course brochure (90%), and the website (38%). Class liaisons (43%), Gray Matters (39%), and word of mouth (46%) were seen as a second source of information. The majority of members (over 58%) responded to being somewhat informed or very well informed with all things OLLI and Furman related.

Demographics of our membership: 57% of respondents are under the age of 69, 58% are female, 76% are married, 83% graduated college or graduate school, and 82% are fully retired.

The members responding were 97.5% in agreement that the OLLI staff is sufficient for support, with 99% responding that they get medium (13%) and high (85%) level of support when interacting with the office. 97.9% are very satisfied or satisfied with their OLLI experience.
WHAT IS THAT GOLD PIN?

You may have noticed a few people around the Herring Center wearing a pin like the one at the left and wondered what it was. These are pins worn by the founding members of FULIR, OLLI’s predecessor. FULIR started in 1993 with 7 classes and 62 members. Our founding Director, Sarah Fletcher, had her “office” and the first classroom combined in one Furman Hall room. We all have it a little better now. At right Jean Kral, FULIR’s fifth president, shows off her pin.

DEJA VU

Even though it’s been less than a year since we were taking classes in North Village, Building J, it seemed like we were going a long way back in time when classes were moved out of the Herring Center to accommodate the Special Olympics on April 10th. The office staff had cookies and lemonade and the weather really cooperated.
Ray Miller
Written by Kent Snyder

Ray Miller died on March 23. He was a member of FULIR/OLLI since spring 1998, and enjoyed courses in cosmology, mathematics, and SNAFU (battle strategies), to name a few. Ray retired from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of Major after 20 years of service as a fighter pilot. He was very friendly and it was fun to be with him. I will always remember how he meticulously and thoughtfully hand-printed his course evaluations, always adding pertinent comments. He will be sorely missed.

Dr. Carey S. Crantford
Written by Jean Kral

Dr. Carey S. Crantford died on March 11, at The Woodlands. After retirement as Chairman of Modern Foreign Languages at Furman University, Carey supported FULIR growth through teaching, lectures, retreats at Wildacres, trips, and concerts. He cared about the well-being of our Learning in Retirement members and our Director, Sarah Fletcher. He set a level of learning and fun for all who knew him.

DanaRae Pomeroy Link
Written by Shelley Knee Johnson

DanaRae Pomeroy Link passed away peacefully March 30, in Greenville, SC. She was born August 26, 1946 in Princeton, IL. DanaRae lived in Juneau, AK and moved to Melbourne, FL and Clearwater, FL before moving to Greenville in 2000. DanaRae was a respected author and free-lance editor. Having published several books, she co-authored, performed ghost writing, and was a mentor for several writers’ websites. Her latest book, A Cancer Caregiver’s Handbook, will be published shortly. In 2012, she was awarded the Osher Lifelong Learning Research Grant for her work on this book. DanaRae was the Instructor for the class Acoustic Jamming in 2008, and for many Aquacize classes, as well as a Student and instructor in both FULIR and OLLI programs. Her husband, Dr. Al Link, her family, friends, and everyone who knew her will miss her. She was my first friend in Greenville. Rest in peace my dear friend.
Roy Greene, the first president of FULIR (OLLI), died on March 13 at the McCall Hospice in Simpsonville with his wife, Peggy, in attendance. As a young boy in Virginia, Roy learned to cook in his mother’s kitchen and carried that skill with him the rest of his life. He worked on the railroad and served in the Navy during World War II, eventually entering education and earning a Doctor's degree from the University of South Carolina. While teaching in the Greenville County school system, he rose to positions of Principal and Assistant Superintendent. Upon retirement in 1993, Roy saw an announcement in the paper about FULIR and became part of the development team. He was elected the first president and taught some of the early classes as a master basket maker. He was the leader of small discussion groups and served on most committees. Our fine new OLLI building, the Herring Center, owes much to the early leadership of Roy Greene and his good friend, the first director, Sarah Fletcher.

GIFT

Roy Greene (from August 2005 Gray Matters)

On a bright cool morning I sit on a bench with Annie, my little black dog. We are sitting beside a small lake with a fountain in the middle thrusting water into the air and back in rhythmic patterns and splashes. I sit and take in the beauty around me, tall trees shade us; all around are trees, high and low, with their leaves swaying in the breeze, frogs are serenading us with their unique songs, turtles climb out of the water to bask in the sunshine. I feel the peace and beauty of nature so much that I begin to be an intimate part of what I am experiencing. The wholeness of the perfect patterns seems so obvious. I am a part of it; I am lifted up and sense its overall power.

All elements which make up my physical body are those which are contained in all of nature. They probably have been used over and over again for millions of years. I imagine as I sit and reflect that I probably have at one time been part of a leaf high in a tree swaying in the breeze, part of a bird, part of water, part of another human sometime in the past, part of rock, and maybe part of another planet. Maybe I have lived for millions of years in one form or another as elements mix, separate and mix again from one existence to another. Experiences like this give me a sense of oneness with nature and wholeness as an individual in a world of turmoil. I find peace and meaning. I know we are all in the world together and we can support each other. It has been a good time. Annie and I resume our walking.
Our friend and neighbor, Sally Adkins, died April 3. She was a retired English teacher from Kentucky and had moved there from Philadelphia, PA when she married her husband, Clyde, in 1953. When Clyde died in 2002, just before their 50th anniversary, Sally moved to Greenville in 2007 to be close to her youngest grandchild. She taught several OLLI courses on poetry/writing, plus one on Jane Austin. Sally was teaching a new course on word games when she became ill. She was a vital part of The Ravines of Camellia Village, working for the Social Committee, and was considered the queen of all games. Sally was a great University of Kentucky basketball fan. We are honored to have had her friendship for over five years and will never forget her smiling face, positive attitude, and enjoyment of the arts. Sally’s special smile and great personality will be missed by all who knew her. Let’s remember Sally by her motto on the OLLI brick, “Learn and Laugh.”

Editors Note: As most of you know, Sally was a frequent contributor of poetry to Gray Matters. She sent me this poem to be used in a spring edition. I think you will agree it is special.

Remember Spring?
A Sonnet by Sally Adkins

Remember how May apples climbed the hill
and hugged the wooden fence that stood nearby?
Remember sun in May with April's chill
that warmed past autumn's furze still inches high?

Remember how we welcomed spring's return,
forgetting frosts and snows that kept us in?
Remember how imaginings would churn
our thoughts of plants again that once had been?

Remember how vacation plans were made
and how July was ever on our minds,
the time when rest was gained and work was stayed
for sandy beaches filled with seashell finds?

Of all the time to leave...you left in spring.
And I am left with just remembering.
The Last Word - SYNERGY

synergy |ˈsinərˌjē| (also synergism |ˌsjərəm|)

NOUN
The interaction or cooperation of two or more organizations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects: the synergy between artist and record company.

DERIVATIVES
synergetic |ˌsinəˈrjetik| adjective
synergic |səˈnərjik| adjective

ORIGIN
mid-19th cent.: from Greek sunergos ‘working together,’ from sun- ‘together’ + ergon ‘work.’

In this issue, we highlighted a few people who operate in the background to make OLLI @ Furman work. Each person’s efforts may be large or small, but combined they produce the synergism that is OLLI @ Furman. There are such a large number of individuals involved that it would be impossible to highlight each one. So, we turn to Nancy Kennedy’s remarks regarding the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, where she mentioned the following participants:

Teachers, class liaisons, office volunteers, the Coffee Brigade, Book Nook librarians, OLLI Council members, committee chairs and members, bonus trip and brown bag lunch organizers, proofreaders, chair setters, contributors to and editors of Gray Matters, chauffeurs, moving helpers, piano players, photographers, artists, bakers, computer volunteers, note/letter writers, telephone volunteers, SIG leaders, handy persons, and all those who give their time to OLLI or help an OLLI member.

Even though it’s quite a list, it would not be surprising if you think of a few who may have been missed. Even the person who stops in the lobby to pick up a stray piece of paper is making our collective experience more pleasant. A special thanks to all of you who do so much, without our notice, to make OLLI better.