EDITORIAL RAMBLINGS

Gary Aten

Last summer while traveling, we had to make choices on what to visit on the way. Budgeting our time, should we visit our favorite places, or should we go to places we had never seen? The favorites guaranteed a great visit, but new places can be exciting too. Of course, we decided to do both, visiting a couple of favorites, revisiting some we hadn’t seen for years, and going to some brand new places. The favorites were as enjoyable as ever, the less frequently visited had changed, and the new ones were, well, new. It made for a great trip.

OLLI @ Furman class choices can be like that. Do you stick with the same types of classes you have taken before or sign up for the kinds of classes you haven’t? I would urge you to do both. While making your class selections, look for something that gets you out of your comfort zone. This can have a couple of advantages. First, you may find a new favorite. Remember, your present favorites were new to you once. Second, you will likely meet new people. As you take the same kinds of classes you become acquainted with other regular attendees, which is fine, but you may not meet some great people outside your normal class choices. Don’t eliminate potential new staples of your OLLI experience without giving them a chance.

Gray Matters is published four times a year at the beginning of each term and at the end of the academic year. It relies on input from OLLI @ Furman members. Articles, photos, poems, and other items of interest to OLLI members are welcome. Send to gary.aten42@gmail.com.

Thanks to Carole Eisen, Sue Renault, and Nancy Kennedy for proofing this edition. Thanks also to the Gray Matters chief, if forgetful, photographer, Lynn Scapon.

Deadline for the May edition of Gray Matters is May 4
ABOUT THE POETRY EDITION

Diane Lawrence was the driver for this edition. She solicited poems from the Poetry Extravaganza! course held in the fall term 2014, which was coordinated by Connie Irby. In that class, each of nine sessions was led by a different South Carolina poet. Poems for this edition are by class leaders and students, both published and non-published poets. Additionally, a few poems were received from other OLLI @ Furman poets. We hope you enjoy this variety of offerings by our OLLI members. Thanks to Diane and all the poets for their contributions to this edition.

My Left Orb
Joe Deehan

Billions of images in a constant stream,
refracting light from earth’s playground…
mute orb through which my world is seen,
the life memories you’ve created abound.

Day in, day out, your pictures flood my brain,
far more than my ability to absorb.
You do your work without complaint
and never do I thank my steady orb.

A hard worker…I assumed you’d never stall
but now through age your retina has pulled away
like old wallpaper peeling from a wall.
I took you for granted, much to my dismay.

You’ve painted a diverse world into my life
and warm images of loved ones through the years,
making more poignant the times of sadness and strife…
now and then shedding sorrow’s tears.

But now the images you bring are blurred…
the work with flawed retina not so easy as days past,
yet you continue undeterred.
The gems, rough or finished, are unsurpassed!

Orb, faithful conduit of God’s light,
thank you for servicing my sight.
Director’s Message

Nancy Kennedy

Surveys, surveys. What do we do with all those surveys? We ask members to complete course evaluations at the end of each term, and we have just finished up the biannual all-member survey. Many of you have asked whether we actually use the information we gather. The answer is yes.

The results from the course evaluations are compiled and shared with instructors so that they have a measure of what works well in their classes and where they can improve. One of the changes we made as a result of feedback from course evaluations was discontinuing the use of Burgiss Theater at the Trone Student Center. Members did not like having to park so far away from class, so we have scheduled larger classes in locations with closer parking. The Instructor Support Committee has also used evaluation results to develop targeted trainings that help instructors improve their presentations. We’ve offered instructor classes on PowerPoint, writing course descriptions, and more.

The OLLI Council conducts a survey of the entire membership every other year. Results from the 2013 survey prompted us to bring back Lunch and Learns. Attendance at the Tuesday Lunch and Learns has been phenomenal, so we know the survey gave us good information. In addition, the Curriculum Committee asks a question about favorite course topics in each survey and uses this information to set targets for numbers of courses in each area.

We are currently analyzing the results from the 2015 all-member survey. There will be a full report in the May Gray Matters, and I will be answering some of the questions posed in the comments sections of the survey in upcoming OLLI Notes.

We try very hard not to fill your inbox with too many OLLI emails, but we do appreciate your responses when we send a survey. Please know we use the information in many ways (the examples above are just a few of many), and please take a few minutes to respond when you are asked. We always have paper copies in the office for anyone who does not have access to a computer or who would just rather fill one out by hand.

So, thank you for your input. Knowing what YOU want OLLI to be helps the OLLI Council, committees, and staff do a better job.

WHERE IN FURMAN ARE WE?

This picture was taken on the Furman campus. Do you know where?

Hints:

1. Next to the lake.
2. At mid-campus.
3. Short-term visitor parking near by.
4. View the Bell Tower from here.

Answer: Point of View Fire Basin near the Trone Student Center.
THE WEED(s)
Tom Chatburn

Tall, Short, Ungainly, Uncultured, Monosyllabically defined, Some organically bloom early, Some Later, Some never blooming Simply just become-- Often prickly outliers Defying definition. Indifferently They sprout up among And around us, Impossible to ignore In their self- exiling, Albeit, networking multitude-- Where crossed fingered, Breath held in abeyance, We watch them seasonally disappear into the bubbling Testosterone infested, Swamp-thicket Of High School.

IT FLOATED
Cantey DuBose

It floated, believe me, it floated Like some sea seeking turtle, as if by intention, slowly at first, but unstoppably, toward the beckoning surface of the small smooth pond.

Like some sea seeking turtle...no, like the beetle that it was, moving out from the solid shore. I have no photographs to prove my claim, but believe me, I was there, I saw it, it's true. My Volkswagen floated.

THE SEQUEL... (if you want to know)

It floated slowly sinking, or so it seemed. about 20 feet from shore. The rear engine pulling it down, the front bumper resting just upon the surface of the pond. But it didn't sink...it floated.

A nearby John-boat, available for rescue. I paddled out, and with a rope around the bumper towed it back to shore. Unable to pull it from the mud—soft water's edge, I called a friend, who with his truck came and finished the rescue

Back in town replaced the oil, blew out the carb and cranked it, one cylinder then two, and three, and four It suffered no ill effects from its near drowning. And it never failed to start, but left me with a story to tell.

On seeing my '57 VW roll into a small pond.

SNOWFALL
William Burns

i can hear the soft and subtle snowfall shuffle muffling the clitter-clatter of traffic talk into balmy blurbs of slumber rumble
MORE ABOUT OLLI SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Roger Wheeler

In the last edition of *Gray Matters*, I introduced readers to the wonderful variety of OLLI Special Interest Groups, or SIGs. SIGs are groups of members who come together to share a common interest or to experience social interaction around a specific pursuit. Last month, we learned about SIGs for Family History, Mah Jongg, and Latin as well as the Out and About group. But that's not all. OLLI has other SIGs ranging from French and Spanish to Woodcarving, Water Color Painting, and Knitting. But first a few words about the origination of SIGs at OLLI.

SIGs were introduced to OLLI in 2011 at the initiative of Joy Eaton, who was then a member of OLLI Council. Joy learned about SIGs while attending a regional conference and was struck by how the use of SIGs could allow OLLI members to join together beyond the classroom. After reviewing data from other OLLI programs around the country, she put together a process that would work for our situation. At that time, of course, we had no place to gather and chat like we now do with the Herring Center. Precursors to the first SIGs were a Coffee and Conversation group and the Recorder group, then called OLLI Ensemble. It is interesting to note that the Recorder SIG, now known as OLLI Consort, still meets on a regular basis.

In the preceding edition of *Gray Matters*, we learned about the remarkable success of OLLI’s Latin SIG. Some of us are still in awe that so many members could be involved with a language no longer spoken. But as my seventh grade Latin teacher would drill into us: LLT - “Latin Lives Today.” Two of the ways Latin lives today are through the French and Spanish languages. And guess what --- OLLI has SIGs for French and Spanish.

*Parlez-vous Francais?* - Well if you do, you may be interested in the French SIG. This group was formed in 2013 by Betty Kuhnert and Margaret Haefer, who had been taking OLLI-sponsored French classes taught by Roger Miel. These ladies wanted a forum where people interested in the French language could practice their conversation and improve their fluency by personal interaction. The French SIG, now headed by Ann Briskey, is composed of a range of speakers from those who have only a basic grasp of French grammar and vocabulary to those who are quite fluent. One member even taught French in the past; another worked periodically in France. All share a love of the language and desire to improve their practical fluency in it. The SIG meets once a week in a self-directed format that aims to make these *rendez-vous* beneficial to all.

*Habla Espanol?* For years Faith Davis gave Spanish lessons to a group of OLLI members. Eventually the class got to the point where they wanted to be more conversant in the language than the classroom allowed. Some members were hoping to visit Spanish-speaking countries without sounding like “ugly Americans.” So, starting with only five or six members, the group began meeting at coffee shops around Greenville and then decided it would be nice to meet at OLLI after class. Now meeting on Thursdays from 10.45-12.00, they practice speaking to each other only in Spanish. Instructor Faith Davis usually joins to keep the group out of trouble. Although still small, the Spanish SIG represents a wide range of speaking abilities, with some being quite fluent while others still struggle just to string enough words together to call it a sentence. The group, now headed by Merikay Pirrone, is patient, encouraging, and welcoming to new members; they would particularly appreciate having native Spanish speakers join.

Special Interest Groups are a vibrant and vital part of OLLI@Furman, and new groups are being formed all the time. If you see one you like, join it; if not, just wait — or better yet, see Heidi Wright about starting one up yourself.
Reader Discretion Advised
Gilbert Allen

Beware. This is the last Forbidden Subject, the unassimilable fiberglass. Madness, asphyxiation, child neglect—trifectas canonized to death. But this, this—breakdown in decorum! I’m washing my Corvette (Golden Anniversary Edition), the car that passes understanding. Scatter its pieces on the ground, and I could no more engineer them back together than you could resurrect a withered rose. One clean door thunks, soon followed by the other. Almost a closing couplet, I suppose.

Not wanting to sound Republican, or worse—ah, what the hell. I’ll say just what I mean. If there’s no place in verse, American verse, for one ode to an elegant machine that’s made it to fifty, I’ll air-dry on the road. Zero-to-life is breathlessness enough for me. Back to my prose garage, to hide. And yes, I plan to turn the engine off.

From Catma (Measure Press, 2014)

Condor
Elizabeth Drewry

From beneath canyon rim it rises—ten-foot spread of wings like the black brow of wrath, red-orange eye. We fall back, emit cries without meaning.

The bird is out of time. Pitiable its hunger. No mastodons with backbone discs to crack for marrow, but irresistible glint of bottle caps, gut-piles of lead-poisoned game.

Why do we hold on? In sorrow, we let our old fathers go. We let our gods go, our terrible gods. No longer do we squat in caves, scratch the sacred raptor in profile.

Yet, glorious it is to know awful in its old sense, to feel the air that blows us back. We are nearly on our knees, the closest we’ll come.

Published in Tiferet, Spring 2010

“The Bar” a woodcarving by Ronald Thompson
Students in the Tablet Weaving class work on mastering the complex technique.

The Photography Forum Friday event organized by the Photography Sub-committee proved more popular than anticipated.

Leslie Goddard portrays Bette Davis during a joint OLLI / Chautauqua event.

The Baiden Gallery displayed a wide variety of artwork by OLLI @ Furman members.

Guitars are much in evidence at the Beginning Guitar class.

Wood carvers consult on the next steps in approaching a project.
In Hot Water
Elizabeth B. Watson

Complexion fair as a newborn, 
sweet mother’s skin felt soft as flannel. 
Long before research about UV damage, 
melanomas and sun blocker, 
the lady knew to hide from burning rays.

In contrast her fingers were red, 
cracked open around split nails. 
I seldom reached for her rough hand 
to comfort my young fears.

We blamed the hot dish pan, 
spoke of allergies to soap, 
even Ivory, so white and pure. 
I recall yellow rubber gloves she wore 
and a rich salve she lathered on, 
but never healed.

In time she grew old and I grew up 
to recognize the silent pain she hid. 
Haunted by phobias never given definition, 
my mother scrubbed her small hands raw.

As If to Say
Sue Lile Inman

Blue jay sounds the alarm--
as if to say--Cat nearby--Cat nearby
Or Hawk

Red-tailed hawk that patrols the sky above 
this neighborhood 
with its high-pitched sissy cries

Calls another and together they do huge figure eights
as if to draw infinity 
in synchronized rhythm

For us, the land-held watchers below 
as if to say--We’ve got all day 
What’s your hurry?

Trust yourself to be there 
where you are 
in your own limited current of air.

In February, OLLI members, who are returned Peace Corps volunteers, met for lunch to get to know one another and to share experiences about their Peace Corps service. Those attending were from left to right: Bob Schilson (Sierra Leone 1987-89), George Kanzler (Nigeria 1966-68), Mildred Schilson (Sierra Leone 1987-89), Bill and Debra Nicholls-Wozniczka (Jamaica 2004-05), Martha Muncrief (Chile 1962-64), Jean Fontaine (Perú 1967-69), Shirley Wichmann (Chad 1973-75), Margy Hazelton (Malaysia 1966-68), and Lenny Wichmann (Chad 1973-75). This was the second annual meeting of the group. If there are any other OLLI @ Furman members who were Peace Corps volunteers or staff, contact Jean Fontaine at eepa45@gmail.com to be included.
What happens when you combine a social network with a dentist, an accountant, a logistician, some physicists and a sprinkling of engineers from OLLI? An 8-year-old boy in Missouri gets a hand!!!

The boy for whom this diverse OLLI group made a prosthetic hand was born with a physical abnormality that occurs in one out of 1,200 births. In his case, he was missing most of his right hand. Although he is growing up normally—a football player and a rabid Oakland Raiders fan—there are some difficulties. He cannot ride a bicycle and faces the prospect of being teased by schoolmates or, at the very least, having to explain why he is different from his classmates. You might ask why he cannot be fitted with a commercially available prosthetic hand. The reason is that such prostheses cost $12,000 to $50,000. Most families cannot afford these devices and the insurance companies will not pay for them because children grow out of them within a year or two. Then another device needs to be purchased and fitted. Insurance companies will pay for the devices when the children grow to be adults. However, by then, many children’s brains have developed so that they literally are not aware that there should be a hand at the end of the arm, and they go through life making do with one hand.

The 3D Printing and Design SIG at OLLI joined e-NABLE (www.enablingthefuture.org) which is an international user group dedicated to providing 3D printed prosthetic devices free of charge to people around the world. Last year, members of the e-NABLE Group provided over 700 hands and hand-arm combinations to people who were born with these abnormalities or who have lost hands and arms due to accidents or war. The group has almost 3,000 volunteers living on five continents. It is comprised of “Designers” (who design the devices and make improvements), “Matchers” (who assess the abnormality and match it with various prosthetic device designs), “Fabricators” (those with 3D printers who download 3D models and print and assemble them), “Fitters” (who fit the device and monitor for problems), “Clinical Follow-up” people (who survey clients about how the devices are used, recommended improvements, benefits, etc.), and other volunteers who maintain e-NABLE’s website, provide communications, and perform other services.

The story is developing in even more amazing ways. The 3D Printing and Design SIG, besides learning about this subject, wants to bring these technologies into our local schools. These technologies will be critical to our economy in the not-too-distant future, and children who grow up unfamiliar with them will be at a disadvantage. Furthermore, if we as a nation do not develop these technologies, we will fall behind other countries that are embracing them. To date, three schools have requested the SIG’s help to teach their students how to print prosthetic hands! It is one thing for a group of OLLI members to produce a hand for a child, but just think about the possibilities of a whole classroom producing a hand for one of their peers! We even know of one situation where the children secured a hand for their teacher. See the link on the next page for a news story released on February 5, 2015, where children from Gettys Middle School are learning to build and assemble prosthetic hands:
Not only would we like to help the schools get started printing hands, 3D printing and design offers a wide variety of STEM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) possibilities. With the involvement of hand fabrication, these activities will have a purpose and relevance that is more attractive to students.

Furthermore, 3D printing and design offers unique benefits to schools’ STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) programs. Based upon my limited exposure to this technology, I believe more than half the objects printed using a 3D printer are “objects d’art.” Today, people are printing pastries (using sugar and chocolate – yes, CHOCOLATE!), jewelry, shoes, dresses, sculptured objects, and almost anything one can imagine. Objects are printed in more than 70 materials, including gold, platinum, titanium, plaster, and wood. In China, they are printing houses using cement. In that particular technology, after ground preparation, homes can be produced in less than a week! Oh, and people are printing livers, kidneys, and skull replacement parts. Late last year, a 3D printer was installed on the International Space Station so design files can be transferred electronically to print a part at the Space Station, rather than flying completed parts.

Today’s members of the 3D Printing and Design SIG are: Tony Caruso, Bob Choban, Fay Choban, Tom Crocker, Nick Hollingshad, Ray Meyers, Pete Peterson, Dan Ruck, and Reid Becker. Bernie Zeiler is the SIG’s liaison to the SC STEM Upstate Collaborative and an active hand-builder. Anyone interested in learning more should contact Reid Becker at (954) 646-9730, or at reid.becker@gmail.com. You can also contact Bob Choban at choban@usucceed.com.
"Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer." – Bert Wakeley

Why do we volunteer for OLLI? The most basic reason is to help others. We can make a difference – a positive one – in the lives of others. It doesn’t have to be awe inspiring, just helpful at the moment of need. Volunteering helps us find purpose in our lives. It opens a connection with others who seek to improve their lives though continuing education. It gives you the feeling of involvement, knowing that you are contributing to the improvement of OLLI – a cause you believe in. You will learn new skills, meet new people, and make new friends. You will feel better about yourself as you become more involved in life, and you will be a better person.

Volunteers also acquire great memories. For example, Sarah Fletcher remembers that Peggy Farmer has been a member of Furman University Learning in Retirement (FULIR), now called OLLI, since the program began in the fall of 1993. Peggy was a social ambassador, encouraging people to meet new members, welcoming those who returned, thinking up events, and encouraging all types of volunteering. “Peggy was so beloved by all that we had a Valentine’s party with Peggy as our celebrant. There were pink and red decorations for the luncheon, and we sang all sorts of familiar songs with lyrics to celebrate all that Peggy meant to the rest of us.”

Jean Kral (Council President 1997-8) remembers the early years of FULIR, beginning with 62 members, most of whom worked as teachers, on committees, or in the hallway of Furman Hall assembling brochures with tape and staples. Then, Dr. Sarah Fletcher’s Director’s office was a small, former storeroom and volunteers walked the length of Furman Hall to get water from the janitor’s closet to make coffee for the seven classes. Some of her favorite memories are of the 4-day retreats at Wild Acres and Kanuga in the mountains and the Concert Benefit performed by Furman Faculty, including Drs. Albert Blackwell, John Crabtree, David Gibson, Ramon Kyser, and the Bell Tower Boys.

Nancy Story recalls the early days working as an office volunteer in the basement of Pyler Hall. She also taught classes, organized classes, worked on the Curriculum Committee, put together registration packets, and greeted people. And now, it still makes her happy to be a greeter for OLLI events. She said “I get to welcome people who are beginning a journey into learning and building friendships that have been wonderful for me.”

Chris Robb can remember when we did class registration BY HAND at the old trailer. To say it was stressful is an understatement; it was like having a root canal without anesthesia. Members lined up outside the office way before it was time and, if we were late starting, it was like a civil war breaking out Registration has changed, thank goodness. “However, I made many long-time friends and we laugh about the ‘old times.’ Plus I still do registration, and it can still be crazy.”

In April, volunteer recognition week at OLLI will include displays and a few surprises. If you want to volunteer, see Heidi in the office 8:30am – 1:30pm or call her at 294-2997.
Stopping by a Wayside Chapel, Tucson, AZ

Judith Ziemer

Votive candles to the Virgin of Guadalupe, St. Judas Tadeo, St. Anthony, painted in the improbably lurid colors reserved for the holy and the profane.

Did Mary, in fact, announce her sanctity early, parading around the desert in hot pink? Or did sainthood convey such boldness?

Judas and Anthony, of course, are more circumspectly painted in heavenly haberdashery colors, recently returned from a Brooks Brothers Paradise, complete with conference room, no doubt.

Who paints these things? Do they have any historical validity, beyond the painters’ oppression, which promises a heaven of hot mammas and dressed for success executives carting infants, rather than briefcases under their arms?

Missals, black leather covers worn thin as the pages curling in upon themselves in hunger for the touch that abandoned them long ago. Was ever the wife caressed so? Or did she sit in another room gorging on her solitude while he told the beads, told the books, told the walls, the heavens, told everyone who wasn’t there of his great love?

FULIR ALUMNA UPDATE - BETTY GREER

Jean Kral

Betty has been my dearest friend since we both began in the FULIR Program in 1993. Our earlier FULIR members may recall that she taught Yoga & T’ai Chi classes for many years and moved to Springfield, Virginia after the death of her husband in 2005, to be closer to her daughter and family. The recent PBS airing of the “Aging Backwards” Method by Miranda Esmonde-White, profiled Betty and other Yoga teachers during the program. Betty out-shined the other classmates, who were so much younger. You might wonder how she is doing. Betty and her son plan to celebrate her 90th birthday with a trip to Antarctica this Spring. She is doing well!
Have you ever wondered who can use the preferred parking spots at OLLI?

There are green signs at four parking places near the front of the building that are reserved for low-emitting vehicles with a Green Score of at least 40 on the ACEEE (American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy) rating. The Green Score is based on economy, emissions, manufacturing pollution, and other factors. See more information at [http://www.greenercars.org/greenest-meanest/greener-choices](http://www.greenercars.org/greenest-meanest/greener-choices). The signs were placed as part of the campus-wide sustainability effort. The chart below indicates the ratings of some popular vehicles. Let me know if you think we need a few more green signs. Elaine Brummett (ebrum301@aol.com)

### GREENER CHOICES  2015 Models

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Make and Model</th>
<th>Specs</th>
<th>City mpg</th>
<th>Hwy mpg</th>
<th>Green score</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1.5L 4, auto CVT</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota Prius</td>
<td>1.8L 4, auto CVT</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercedes-Benz Smart ForTwo</td>
<td>1.0L 3, auto [P]</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honda Fit</td>
<td>1.5L 4, auto CVT</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota Prius V</td>
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<td>44</td>
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<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subaru XV Crosstrek Hybrid</td>
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<td>1.4L 4, auto stk</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CVT = Continuously Variable Transmission  [P] = Premium gasoline  stk = Manually adjustable automatic transmission

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*February 2015 @ Furman*
TRIBUTES

Barbara Leimsieder

Tributes Editor

Gilbert S. Knight by Dave Adams

Gilbert S. Knight passed on December 9, 2014. Teaching was something that Gil always enjoyed, whether it was encouraging someone who had dropped out of high school to get his or her GED and then attend college or teaching astronomy to retired students. Give him a piece of chalk, a lead weight, a piece of steel or a bunch of hula hoops, and Gil would proceed to show the Big Bang or talk about a supernova. Everything was relative to Gil. He would talk about relativity, black holes, and Einstein. After we returned from a conference on why Pluto was demoted to a dwarf planet, Gil asked each class to vote on whether Pluto is a planet. For Gil, Pluto will always be a planet. Gil taught 16 terms at OLLI from 2008 through 2013. There are a lot of memories. His students will always remember his words of encouragement and his stories — more stories than “all the pig tracks in a barnyard.” May he rest in peace.

Nancy Moore by Connie Irby, with Bob Moore and Patricia Shakiban

Our dear Nancy Moore died on January 20, 2015. An enthusiastic OLLI member, she led the Team Trivia class with humor and a quick intellect. The class sorely misses her cheerful wit as do regulars of Let’s Read and Talk/Short Stop at a Big Idea and all who knew her. Nancy was always making or listening to music and took OLLI classes in guitar, dulcimer, and ukulele while dabbling in mandolin on the side. She was a star French student at OLLI and the International Center of the Upstate. She is survived by her husband, Bob, a daughter, and two young grandchildren. Nancy loved animals and raised dogs and feral cats, fostered ferrets, and volunteered as docent at the Greenville Zoo. She grew up in New Rochelle, NY and majored in French at SUNY in Albany, NY. In 2004, she retired as a para-legal and moved to Greenville as Bob’s company relocated. Nancy was warm, loving, generous, funny, and smart. If we are part of all we touch, she marked us well. Bob captures her spirit best saying she had such fun with all of us!

The Tributes section recognizes departed OLLI classmates, teachers, and staff who have enriched the OLLI program. We invite you to submit your name and contact information along with a brief notice of up to 125 words to the new Tributes Editor, Barbara Leimsieder (bleimsieder@gmail.com).

Please emphasize the OLLI involvement of the deceased.
Winter Muse
Tom Fallow

Cold, is it - how low?
So you call the cat just once,
Any name...just once.

HIERARCHICAL
David Gallemore

The ranking of rocks
In a cateracted creek
Puzzles the smooth stones

LIMERICK CALL

In keeping with our poetry edition, we are calling for limericks. The ones you send will be collected and included in the May edition. Although many limericks are bawdy in nature, I rely on your discretion. The offerings should be original and relate to OLLI, Furman, the Upstate, or retirement life in general. If you are unsure of what constitutes a limerick, here is a description:

Composed of five lines, the limerick adheres to a rhyme scheme and bouncy rhythm, making it easy to memorize. The first two lines rhyme with each other, the third and fourth rhyme together, and the fifth line either repeats the first line or rhymes with it. The limerick’s rhythm is created by an accentual pattern that can be illustrated with dashes denoting weak syllables, and backslashes for stresses. The two forms below are the most popular.

1) - / - - / - - / - - / - - / - - /
2) - / - - / - - / - - / - - /
3) - / - - / - - / - - / - - /
4) - / - - / - - / - - / - - /
5) - / - - / - - / - - / - - /

Here is a sample to get your creative juices flowing.

A guy and his wife named Molly, attend some classes at OLLI.
They hike, read a book, and learn how to cook.
Their life, in sum’ry, is jolly.

Send your submissions to gary.aten42@gmail.com.
Three years ago, we moved to Greenville and knew very little about OLLI and Furman. We knew Furman was a beautiful campus and had sports (which are important to me) and cultural events (which are important to my wife). I don't know about you, but OLLI @Furman has become a major center of activity in my life here in the Upstate. We attend classes, serve on committees, and have made many great friends. There isn’t a week that goes by when someone does not ask us “What is OLLI?” Now after being on the council for 6 months, I know some of the key facts about OLLI. Just in case you want to know, OLLI has over 1700 registered members, offers over 90 classes per semester and gives you the opportunity to choose from roughly 24 Friday bonus events. But wait, there is more. OLLI gives you access to some of the Furman facilities such as the library, the student dining hall, and theaters and concert halls on campus at the same price the students pay. There are lectures, sporting events, a golf course, tennis facilities, and walking trails.

And then there is even more. You can easily develop new friendships. Many of your fellow members were probably in a similar situation as you when you joined OLLI. Maybe you were new to the area and knew relatively few or no people here in the Upstate. But with little or no effort, friendships can be formed. Maybe you've lived in Greenville for years but have just discovered the opportunities.

We are so fortunate to have found OLLI @ Furman. Good luck with your spring classes. I hope you pass. Oh yeah, we don’t have to worry about grades.

The Manly family has been very active in education. Basil Manly helped form Furman in 1826 and later served as president of the University of Alabama. Charles Manly, Basil’s son, became the second president of Furman in 1881. Another son, Basil Manly, Jr., was one of the founders of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary located in Greenville in 1857. All of these men were part of the development of Furman.

The Manly name is connected to OLLI @ Furman as well as the university. The Manly Lobby in the Herring Center is named after Basil, a grandson of Basil Manly, Jr., and Genevieve Manly. Betty Manly Garrett was one of the earliest members of FULIR, OLLI’s predecessor. Her first husband was also a grandson of Basil Manly, Jr.

This painting of Dr. Basil Manly Jr. was done by the Prussian painter Nicola Marschall, who was known for his portraits. It now hangs in the Archives area of Furman’s Duke Library.
Editor’s Note: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman has seen remarkable growth. In the January issue, Kent outlined the FULIR/OLLI growth from its first days of seven courses and 62 members through the start of the winter term with over 1500 yearly members. In this issue, we will look to the future.

One way to predict future growth is to track our past growth. Graphs can give visual representations of this information in different ways, making it easier to understand. The two graphs on the next page are included to show the type of information available.

The first graph shows membership by term. Interestingly, fall and winter term enrollments are nearly equal year by year, but spring enrollments drop off somewhat. Probably the lure of outdoor activity and travel tend to slightly diminish enrollment.

A graph of just fall term membership can be useful, first, to judge whether the start of fiscal year 2014 is off to a higher growth rate than usual and, secondly, what single-term numbers can be expected in the future. After all, we need classroom space on a term-by-term basis, not merely on a yearly basis.

As shown on the second graph, fall 2014 membership was 1319! This represents a faster growth than all previous fall enrollments from fall 2008, in fact 60 more than even the 1260 predicted on the trend line. Looking ahead, fall 2016 is projected to have about 1470 members, fall 2018 would have 1680, and fall 2020 would have 1890, an increase of 105 each fall term.

With such an expanding membership, will our new building accommodate everyone in the foreseeable future? This is a question many in OLLI, including OLLI's Long-Range Planning Committee, the Curriculum Committee, the OLLI Council, Director Nancy Kennedy, and Executive Director of Continuing Education, Dr. Brad Bechtold, have been carefully considering using all available information including membership growth.

Knowing the numbers is only a step in accommodating OLLI @ Furman's growth. The Long-Range Planning Committee recently held a brainstorming session in which several dozen ideas to meet the needs of OLLI's membership growth and the attendant space constraints were offered. It was determined that over the next few years the main focus will be on better utilization of the existing space in the Herring Center. This will include expanding class operations into the currently underused Fridays as well as greater use of the 3:15 to 4:45 time slots. Planning will continue to pursue other possible strategies as the need arises.

As plans are finalized and approved, they will be shared with all OLLI members. We want to make this fulfilling program available to as many interested people as we possibly can, year by year, in the most sensible way.
poetry |ˈpɒetrə, ˈpɒitrə|

noun
literary work in which special intensity is given to the expression of feelings and ideas by the use of distinctive style and rhythm; poems collectively or as a genre of literature: He is chiefly famous for his love of poetry.

• a quality of beauty and intensity of emotion regarded as characteristic of poems: Poetry and fire are nicely balanced in the music.
• something regarded as comparable to poetry in its beauty: The music department is housed in a building that is pure poetry.

ORIGIN late Middle English: from medieval Latin poetria, from Latin poeta ‘poet.’ In early use, the word sometimes referred to creative literature in general.

In this issue we have a wide variety of poetry from 11 OLLI @ Furman members and instructors. Some poems are very structured. For example, haiku specifies the number of lines and syllables that may be used. Some seem to lack almost any structure. Some are rhyming, and others are free verse. (By the way, you should have heard my English-major daughter trying to explain to her engineering father why poems don’t have to rhyme.) The subjects range from nature to machinery. I bet you think I am going to compare OLLI to poetry. Correct. They are similar on a number of levels.

OLLI classes reflect our poetry’s variety. The classes we take vary from almost pure lectures to free-wheeling discussions, from sedentary classes to strenuous hiking. The subjects are wide ranging. The teachers have a variety of teaching methods, and the students in the classes come from diverse backgrounds, both geographically and personally. Perhaps the classes themselves are like poems. Poems take an idea, a structure, and the words to make the whole, as the class uses a subject, the teacher’s organization, and the students to make the class a whole experience. Without the contribution of every word, the poems wouldn’t be as good, and without your contribution and participation, the class wouldn’t be as good either.

On a larger scale OLLI @ Furman is like a big poem. Without all the words (students, volunteers, committees, staff, and teachers) working together to form effective stanzas (classes) we wouldn’t have OLLI @ Furman - our poem of learning.