

celebrating  
25 years

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute @ Furman - where active minds play

# OLLILife

Long live learning!

MAY 2018 - Issue #4 LET THE CELEBRATION CONTINUE



Bill Jerome, cook, OLLI member since 2015, (six classes a semester), record producer, world traveler, loves assisting as class liaison and also helping prep cooking classes in the demonstration kitchen.

## More than 150 OLLI members and friends celebrate 25th Anniversary fun with baseball at Fluor Field



### WHO'S GOT THE BEST MUG? See page 3 for the winner.

- Readers weigh in on hearing loss, p. 5
- Ed O'Keefe has a TOY STORY, p. 7
- Cantey DuBose started Pen & Ink classes at OLLI, p. 6
- Paul DiLella has something up his sleeve, p. 9
- Diana recommends *The Sympathizer*, p. 10

## 2018 Read & Explore is a Hit!

by Mary Kay Kantz

In its second year Read and Explore with OLLI drew hundreds of readers to the shared experience of *Carry Me Across the Water* by Ethan Canin. The story is of a long life lived across the globe and the searing WW II event that drew the protagonist back to Japan at the end of his life.



Author Ethan Canin with REO project leader, Mary Kay Kantz

Canin, whom Pat Conroy placed "on the high wire with the best writers of his time," visited the campus in February, speaking to a large OLLI crowd at the Younts Center and teaching a creative writing class to Furman English majors. Through January and February, three other speakers, small book chat groups, and a classic movie delved into issues raised by the book.

Tours of Furman's own Asian Gardens and Place of Peace Temple wrapped up the program for this year. Loaner copies of the book are still available in the OLLI office. (See page 3 for Haikus by Carolyn Glynn and Dave Gallemore, inspired by Japanese images in our Read and Explore book.)



Hey, Bernie and Cindy, what will YOU be serving at graduations, family reunions, and other frivolities during the merry month of May? (See p. 12 for recommendations from our favorite wine guys.)

# OLLivoices

## COUNCIL BRIEFS

OLLI NIGHT AT THE DRIVE  
Honorary Coach, John Bissell, gives instructions before the game:



**Council needs:** Language chairperson, a new chair for the Practical Art and Hobbies group, and also for Computers and Technology. Carol Ann Heymann is new co-chair to help Janet Aguilar on the Health Fitness and Exercise Committee.

**Long Range Planning** has begun conversations to explore a second location in the greater Greenville community to make OLLI accessible to more people.

**Demographics:** OLLI is 97 percent white (Greenville is 26 percent non white); 97 percent of OLLI members have college degrees or higher; 11 percent of OLLI members are native to this area.

**Capacity:** We have, on average, nine classrooms available per class period; on average, seven classrooms are in use per period. We are near capacity at our “popular” times, but not at others.

**OLLI’s quarterly newsletter, *OLLILife*,** has completed one full “academic” cycle. The publication has benefitted from generous volunteer participation.

**Outreach Committee** (Michael Murphy, chair) is exploring efforts to diversify OLLI’s membership and welcomes recommendations for committee deliberations.

**Members of the busy Social Committee** are Chairman George Hammond, Sharon Sickler, Lois Parker, Greg Parker, Elaine Granger, Linda Nowlin, and Heidi Wright. They are working on exciting events for summer and fall.

## ASK Nancy:

With OLLI’s brisk growth, are we in danger of soon outgrowing space and teaching resources?



Dear OLLI Members,

Yes, 10:45 classes do fill quickly; but many 3:15 classes and Friday classes still have spaces. When we start to “max out,” we’ll have the option to adjust schedules and to offer five class periods a day instead of four, thus adding nine classroom spaces per day in the Herring Center.

In addition, Furman welcomes us to use other spaces on campus, such as Daniel Recital Hall, the Mac computer lab, and the rooms in Daniel Chapel. Last fall, we paid to use the Younts Conference Center for an unusually large class. OLLI members can rest easy knowing that we will not limit the number of courses we offer each term as membership grows.

To accommodate growth, we recently added additional handicapped spaces in our parking lot and are working to get a crosswalk, or at least signage, on the street between our main lot and the one beside Timmons Arena to make it safer for members and staff who park in that lot.

Growth is a positive for OLLI@Furman. More members bring a wider range of experiences and more ideas for interesting courses. It is fun to watch the numbers and the energy in our program grow!

Sincerely, Nancy Kennedy, Director, OLLI@Furman



# OLLI, yeah!



The best thing about cooking class is the Taste Test.



page 3  
Rick McDaniel, American Flute instructor

Thanks, contributors to FOUR ISSUES of *OLLILife*: Kathleen Allen, Gary Aten, Judy Aten, Bernie and Cindy Showman, (cont. p 4)...

## WE ASKED CHRISTINE EFNER: Tell us about the Baiden Gallery.

The Baiden Gallery is shared between OLLI and Furman's Continuing Education Division. OLLI exhibits are held three or four times a year and are usually based around a theme or particular art form or medium. The current exhibit, "I See Red," was open to works of different media, however.

OLLI members, as well as OLLI staff and instructors, are invited to submit their work. On one occasion, an exhibit was limited to instructors only. While we usually limit participants to one piece of art per show, we have many artists who work in various media and are repeat submitters. So far, we've been able to include at least one work of art from each person submitting for a particular exhibit. Typically, we have 20 - 24 pieces. Our current exhibit has the greatest response yet. ■

**JUDY ATEN** donned her stylishly rough and ready (and authentic) Western duds to set the stage for her presentation on Buffalo Bill Cody in Roger Wheeler's **Interesting Characters in American History** class. From the moment she began, with motherless young Bill leaving home to seek his fortune as a "plainsman," she had our attention. And she never stopped. A gifted storyteller and scholar, Judy rode us through adventures of cowboys and Indians, rootin' tootin' rodeo performances, buffalo hunts, Pony Express exploits, theatrical performances and more. Each episode of Buffalo Bill's life ended eventually with fortunes depleted and deeply in debt. Each episode was humorously delivered and greatly enjoyed by her OLLI classmates.



Thanks , Gary Aten, Sandy Roback, Chris Efner for "hanging" the May **RED** show.

## Read and Explore inspired HAIKUS from OLLI poets

Orange, brilliant pink  
God's palette has many hues  
To paint His sunset!

by Carolyn Glynn

Atop Pisgah looms  
A halo crowning misty  
Soft, green, tousled trees.

by Dave Gallemore

## PAT HICKS WINS THE MUG!

Congratulations, PAT HICKS, May winner of *OLLILife's* campaign to save trees and \$\$\$\$. Remember to bring YOUR mug to class. Send us YOUR MUG SHOT. Winners get an OLLI mug!  
[sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com)





Cantey DuBose is a FULIR/OLLI original! Learn more, page 6.

Thanks, Suzie Eihl and other anniversary treatsters.



# OLLI@twenty-five

Thanks, (cont. from page 3) to contributors of FOUR ISSUES of *OLLILife*: Sally Bornmueller, Nancy Kennedy, and Barbara Leimsieder.

## LAST CHANCE to send FULIR/OLLI memories

The September issue of *OLLILife* will be the final opportunity to share memories and tributes about our first 25 years of learning in retirement. **Last chance** to reflect on special folks you've met, classes you've taken, and favorite memories along the way.

Tell us what you remember most. Add your memory to *OLLILife's* 25th anniversary wrap-up issue. (If you have a great memory but don't feel inclined to write about it yourself, contact us and we'll assign you a writer.) *Send us your memories by June 15: sue.renault@gmail.com*



Sixty-eight players competed in OLLI's 25th Anniversary Celebration Golf Scramble, March 13. The winning team was Steve Davis, Margot Fallon, David Johnson, and Don Hubble, with a score of 68.

First FULIR director, Sarah Fletcher, with presidents who served from 1993 - 2008



FRONT ROW: Cantey DuBose, Kent Snyder, Sarah Fletcher, John Piper, Tim Baiden;  
BACK ROW: Gordon Burnett, Bill Greene, Andrea Howard, John Dean

### OLLILife FEEDBACK:

March issue: Very lively...I felt like I was jumping rocks crossing a stream. SR;  
Love the pictures, and I'm going to visit Yellow Ginger. SJ;  
Favorites: restaurant and book reviews and memorials. Anita; My faves: Lynda Fredsel's words, Diana's book review; Jim's Jack Barton story. OLLI is me! is inspiring. Really liked the Ask Nancy. A most enjoyable read. Emily

### CELEBRATIONS:

**Andy and Fran** Heman will celebrate their 40th anniversary on September 24.

**Diana and Roger** Miel will renew their vows in May at the Unitarian Fellowship. Roger still maintains he's not married (just devoted) because he's French, while Diana celebrates 30 years of wedlock.

### KEEP IT MOVING!

Emily Fluhrer sent in a great reminder about becoming our best selves:

"The American Heart Association defines physical activity as anything that moves your body and burns calories. For cardiovascular health AHA recommends 30 minutes (five days/week) moderate intensity aerobic activity plus two days/week of muscle strengthening activities. To lower blood pressure, try 40 minutes moderate to vigorous aerobic activity three to four times/ week. Start small but start!



Read about Paul DiLella's Adventures with Magic, p. 9

Take me out to the ball game...



# OLLI adventures

## Here's what readers said about OLLILife's March article on Hearing Loss.

### "I AM PART OF THE CONVERSATION AGAIN!"

by Sue Miller

I have a 50% hearing loss and have worn hearing aids for about 20 years. I gave up teaching at University of Memphis continuing ed classes when I could no longer hear my students speaking.

I am writing about a device that has improved my use of hearing aids: a Re-Sound

Phone Clip. It's an accessory that pairs with my hearing aids or my home phone and allows me to hear directly into the hearing aids. This is very helpful while driving since all I have to do is press the device clipped to my lapel. I am part of the conversation again.

*(Readers, do you have questions for Sue Miller? Send them to us and we'll pass them on:*

[sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com).)



### "HOW I WISH HE COULD HAVE KNOWN," Linda Maneen

Daddy depended on Mom to answer the phone and explain what others said. She was his lifeline and interpreter. Somehow, he could hear her. We kids didn't have much of a relationship with him; it was hard to raise our voices loudly enough. When Mom died.

Daddy was lonely and bereft. He passed away soon after. His silent, broken heart was fatal.

How I wish he could have known closed caption TV, telephone adaptations, texting on a smart phone, and finding the answers to Googled questions.



### "THEY ARE NOT ALONE

Emily Fluher

The March article on deafness was so important to bring into the mix so people will know they are not alone and can talk about it."

**OLLILife** invites your FEEDBACK. Did you enjoy the articles on VISTA House or Paul DiLella or Ed O'Keefe? Something else? Drop us a line: [sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com)

## Travels with OLLI

by Kathleen Allen

### The Battles of Kings Mountain and Cowpens

In April, intrepid OLLI travelers and aspiring historians journeyed to American Revolutionary War battlefields in South Carolina. Both the battles at Kings Mountain and Cowpens proved to be turning points in the war for American independence. South Carolina was central to this success.

Scott Withrow and Bob Sweeny, seasoned experts on these historic battles, provided the narrative as 20 OLLI members hiked approximately 2.5 miles across varied terrain to experience the exact locations of the military charges, understand first hand the strategic maneuvers and learn about the context of the entire Southern Campaign.

In addition to visiting the battle sites, OLLI members also viewed videos

reenacting these events. They learned about life on the South Carolina frontier and the sacrifices that not only the soldiers but their families and neighbors experienced.



PHOTO: Susan and Jim Nicholson taken by Kathleen Allen

## Gary & Judy introduce Dr. Lorraine DeJong

Perhaps you've seen Dr. DeJong and several Furman students in the Herring Center and wondered what was going on. DeJong leads a class in Intergenerational Learning that relies on OLLI members' participation. Furman students and OLLI members interact to dispel age-related stereotypes



Lorraine grew up on Long Island and received both her bachelor's degree and MA in teaching from Cornell University. Her career began in Florida. For eleven years, she was a public school teacher and an instructor at a community college.

She also worked in human development and coordinated an infant care program for teenaged mothers. That's when she decided to delve deeply into child development and completed a Ph.D at Florida State University.

When Lorraine and her family moved to Greenville in 1995, she joined Furman's Education Department. Now an associate professor, Dr. DeJong wears several hats. In addition to teaching classes on human development and non-profit internships, she coordinates a program for the Early Childhood Masters program and has served on various non-profit boards. Currently Dr. DeJong serves on the board of A Child's Haven.

She values the Furman Advantage that allows her to be innovative with students and mirrors her philosophy that the educative experience needs to be meaningful for each of her students. Her dedication to her students is why she is often called a caring mentor by them. Thus, the Intergenerational Learning class is valuable for her students and those OLLI members who participate.

# OLLICenterstage

Showcase for Member Talents



## The Longest continuing FULIR/OLLI class is Pen and Ink

In 1993, Sarah Fletcher asked Cantey DuBose if he would teach a class to begin

in the second session of FULIR, January 1994. Sarah thought that Cantey, being a retired Presbyterian minister, might like to teach a religion class; but Cantey, having "done religion" for almost 40 years, had a better idea.

He loved taking pictures of old barns, bridges, and homes, and then drawing them using pen and ink. "Perhaps I could teach an art class," Cantey suggested. What Sarah didn't know was that Cantey had never had an art class but was a self-taught artist. Sarah scheduled the class, Cantey developed the course syllabus, and for the next 15 years, he taught the Pen and Ink class. Many who took the class thought they couldn't draw, but were immensely proud of the beautiful work they produced.

For Cantey, teaching Pen and Ink, serving as president in 2001-2002, taking countless classes, and meeting new friends has been a great joy. He is proud that his son, Craig, designed and built the cabinetry around the fireplace in the lobby of the Herring Center Center and, at the dedication of the Center, presented the sideboard in the office in honor of his parents.

In 2008, Cantey decided it was time to retire again. One of his gifted students, Gail Jones, has continued teaching the Pen and Ink class (recently with Jeff Lynch as well), using the "Cantey DuBose" method. Cantey and Liz DuBose are still lifelong learners at age 91 and 85. (THANK YOU, Liz DuBose, for this memoir.)



TOP: Cantey DuBose, third from left with early art students who've just completed lesson one: the covered bridge  
BOTTOM: Molly Coleman, Sarah Fletcher, and Jo Ann Smith

# OLLIcenterstage

## “LOVING HANDS” HELP WOMEN WHO’VE HAD MASTECTOMIES

page 7

by Diana Miel

### TOY STORY: Ed O’Keefe and friends are already preparing for Christmas

What does Ed O’Keefe enjoy almost as much as Friday dates with Carol, Wednesday hikes with his trekking pals, Sundays at symphony, and a good read? Drilling holes. Also sawing, sanding and making lots of sawdust with friends at the Greenville Woodworkers Guild in Mauldin.



O’Keefe and his friends do more than stir up dust. Each March they plan the toys they will create for nearly 500 local kids at Christmas time. Area charities help the group with distribution. These artisans will turn out doll cribs and cradles, small tables and chairs, toys, and other playful child-cherished gifts. They select their wood carefully and take pride in their finishing techniques. Each gift is a work of art. Together, members of the Woodworkers guild contribute hundreds of hours of charitable work each year to our community.

This year, the group will introduce a new item: a small dog-shaped caddy for crayons and other drawing accessories. When the call went out for a new gift and new prototype, O’Keefe answered it. Starting with drafts and drawings at his desk, he conceived the idea, look, and building plans for the group’s newest offering (see photo).

Ed and Carol O’Keefe have been OLLI members since 2010.

Cathy Sanchez learned about “Knitted Knockers” last year and began knitting these soft, light breast prosthetics, following a pattern, using the recommended yarns and sending the unstuffed knockers to the national organization in Bellingham, WA to be distributed nationwide to women who request them.

Recently Cathy has recruited a group of friends, all from OLLI, “The Loving Hands in Greenville” to knit and stuff the prosthetics. She has spearheaded a partnership with the GHS Breast Health Center to supply them, free of charge, to women who have had mastectomies.

Cathy tutors novice knitters, sizes the finished products, and delivers them packed in pretty gift bags. She is consulting with the Breast Health Center on how to display the knockers and tell patients about them.

Comments posted on the national website from previous recipients across the country have touched and inspired members of the Loving Hands of Greenville:

*“January 22, 2018: They are wonderful! It had been five years since my bi-lateral mastectomy and I thought I had dealt with not having breasts anymore. I can’t believe the self-confidence wearing them has given me. I stand up straighter and feel so much better about my body. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteer knitters out there who do this for us. You are heroes!”*

Cathy will be in touch with the GHS Breast Health Center to fill specific orders for size and color, to keep the supply of knockers replenished, and to support their efforts to provide care and service to breast cancer survivors. She is happy to help anyone who wants more information, or who would like to join “Loving Hands in Greenville.”



PHOTO: Lynn Kester and Cathy Sanchez. For more information contact [OLLILife’s Special Assignments reporter: diana.miel6@gmail.com](mailto:OLLILife@SpecialAssignments.com)

WHAT'S NEW, JIM? IN GREENVILLE? IN THE REGION? IN THE HEADLINES? IN YOUR HEAD? READ ANYTHING INTERESTING? TELL US ABOUT IT. WHAT'S BEEN? WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WHAT DO YOU KNOW, JIM? WHAT'S UP?

# What's it all about, OLLI?

## OLLI weaves Furman's ties to Greenville by James T. Hammond

For more than a century, Furman University anchored downtown Greenville, growing to cover a vast area still known as University Ridge. But when the university broke ground in 1953 for a new campus north of the city on 750 acres, many saw the move as abandonment of the city.

Former President David Shi told me once that when he first came to Furman as a student, the college gave him directions to avoid passing through downtown Greenville.

Not only did the move leave a large void on University Ridge, but the consolidation with Greenville Women's College took away another institution of higher learning on College Street.

But Furman has come a long way in its community outreach in 65 years since its move to the country. The relocation provided room to expand, growth impossible at the downtown location. And the university's institutions have become more outwardly focused since it declared its independence from the South Carolina Baptist Convention in 1992.

About that time, a small group of Furman faculty, alumni and other Greenville citizens were organizing the Furman University Learning in Retirement program. In 1993, it offered seven classes to 62 members, operating in one classroom in Furman Hall under founder and Director Sarah Fletcher.

As then President David Shi began to realize the potential of the program to bind Furman to the community, a string of milestones followed.

In 2008, FULIR received the first installment of what would grow to a \$2 million endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation, securing operational funding for the program's future. Upon receiving this funding, FULIR was renamed the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Furman.

As enrollment in OLLI soared, the leadership faced the realization that the program would need more, preferably its own, space. A \$6 million, 22,000 square foot facility

was conceived. As membership climbed to one thousand, OLLI members raised \$3 million. Several major gifts followed, including a "significant gift" from Sarah and Gordon Herring that earned them naming rights for the new Herring Center.

Since 2012, when OLLI moved into its new home, membership more than doubled, to 2,350 from 1,200.

"There may be a day when we have more OLLI members than Furman students," said OLLI Director Nancy Kennedy, who took over direction of the OLLI program from Lucy Woodhouse in 2014. "It is very important for Furman to have a presence in the community."

This year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of FULIR, now OLLI. A 2016 survey of members showed a profile of a geographically diverse group: 46 percent of members had moved here within the past 9 years.

Some 60 percent of members are women. Ages of participants range 55-101, the largest cohort being 65-74.

Just 4 percent of members are minorities, and Kennedy added, "We're working on that," with presentations to groups with large minority memberships.

The new building had a major impact on membership growth, Kennedy said, with improved parking, space for more and larger classes, and increased social opportunities such as card games and special interest groups.

"Members are proud to have their own place," Kennedy said.

Motives vary for joining OLLI. Aside from the myriad classes, "Some people join for bonus events, some to play bridge, and some just to go to the dining hall," she said. "And that's all good."

"We've had some romances start here," Kennedy said with a smile, "But I don't think we've had anyone meet and marry here."

Want to comment on Jim's article? Add your own historical reflection? Contact us: [sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com)

# OLLI Furman

by Diana Miel



## VISTA HOUSE is based on the writings of C.S. Lewis

Vista House is an intentional Christian community for Furman students, located on Furman property about a mile from campus. Its grounds are adjacent to the Swamp Rabbit Trail and include an organic garden tended by resident students. The house, originally a 1930s farm house, has been renovated and re-sited. In 2003 it was purchased by a Furman student who had been meeting with others in dorm rooms to explore Christianity through conversations.

Vista House is a space for morning prayer for the current nine residents and a graduate Intern, Kristan Pitts. There is a weekly community meal, bi-weekly Open Table for the students and the local community with a speaker on Christian commitment and discipleship, social action, or vocational calling. In the summer the Servant Scholar program serves the Greenville community in poverty-alleviating organizations with 2500-3000 hours of volunteer work over nine weeks.

Scott Simon, who was a Servant Scholar for two summers at Mill Village Farms, says, "I'm living here to explore my Christian faith more deeply with others."

Kathleen Smith, a Furman senior says, "I love living

in the house for its unique location, the people, the love and support, and learning about faith and service."



Vista House is supported by the non-profit Mere Christianity Forum, based on the writings of C.S. Lewis and is a campus ministry partner.

In addition to providing housing and community for the resident students, Vista House provides accommodations for members of the public seeking a place to stay for a personal retreat or a sabbatical. For more information, contact Rev. Rimes McElveen, Executive Director, 864-834-2228 or Leslie Lang at [leslie.lang@furman.edu](mailto:leslie.lang@furman.edu)



## OLLiSMe! BY MARIE ELDRIDGE

**Paul DiLella believes in magic.**

**What do a cell phone, coins and napkins have in common? For 42 years, MagicMan Paul DiLella has used such everyday objects to delight people with his magical illusions.** "My love of magic started as hobby when I served

with the U.S. Air Force in remote locations," he said, "but I have turned it into a passion."

Paul has performed for ages two to 90, at venues ranging from fairs and private parties to trade shows, restaurants and country clubs. Children's shows are his favorite. "They love visual, colorful magic and believe everything," he says.

Paul retired from the banking industry in 2012. He now does 25-50 magic shows a year. He recently performed at an OLLI 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event. **Next time you are in the Herring Center entryway, look up. The playing card stuck to the ceiling is evidence of his skill.**

Paul continues to hone his skills with the Society of American Magicians and the International Brotherhood of Magicians #63 in Greenville. He plans to teach an OLLI class in the fall. "Magic never fails to make people smile," he says. "I want to continue to create memorable moments for audiences."

Want to contribute to our September *OLLILife*? Here's what we need: writer for a 200-word small-feature and photo about a favorite SIG; writer to do interview and 250-word story for our Centerstage talent features; writer to share a *FULIR/OLLI* mini-memory (150 words) for our history moments; writer for 250-word *11th-Page* essay. Contact us for guidelines: [sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com).



**GOOD READING** by Diana Miel:  
*The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen

I was fascinated by descriptions of the Vietnamese landscape, lush and verdant, and the lives of the people of the countryside and in Saigon, who are described as “the Italians of Asia, passionate and romantic.” Nguyen says the three bedrock loyalties of

the Vietnamese are family, religion, and country for which they're prepared to die, which many did during the period of French colonization and the Vietnam War.

A cover blurb compares *The Sympathizer* to *Catch-22*, one of my favorites. This Pulitzer Prize winner is also packed with the irony and absurdities of wars, but deeper and darker. The protagonist is a young Vietnamese who collaborates with the Americans in their fight against the Vietcong while being a sympathizer with the Communists. He describes himself as “a man of two minds” saying, “I am simply able to see any issue from both sides.” DM

The story of village life as a son of a French priest and an impoverished teenage Vietnamese girl, of boyhood friendships, of life as a double agent while an aide to a general in Saigon, both in that

country and then in California, was so vivid and so personal it seemed to be a memoir. I was astounded when I finished the book to discover that although born in Vietnam, Nguyen was raised in California.

Until the last 70 pages which involved imprisonment and torture, I enjoyed reading this book. Research shows that people with a limited time horizon favor pleasant experiences and avoid uncomfortable emotions, but I choose experience in its fullness, rather than simply learning facts and feeling good, so I recommend this book.

**HAMPTON STATION:**

Lance and Sue's Great Adventure

On a perfect spring day, we ride our bikes “up” the Swamp Rabbit Trail. Instead of continuing straight ahead to the SRT Cafe, though, we take a right turn, guided by new trail signs at W.



Washington directing us to the *Orange Line* trail spur and the lively Hampton Station oasis. This old mill settlement now bustles with contemporary artisan vibes, the Birds Fly South Ale Project (tastings Thursday - Sunday) and our primary destination: the White Duck Taco Shop.

“What are the favorites?” we ask. “The Bangkok Shrimp, the Thai Peanut Chicken, the Lamb Gyro. Oh, yeh, the Steak and Cheese. Well, they're all good,” says our server. Minutes later, we are in a happy place on the outdoor porch, dipping our chips into a creamy house-made Queso and digging into *his* Bangkok Shrimp (tasty sauce, fresh crunchy ingredients, yummy shrimp) and *her* Thai Chicken (tender chicken, delicious sauce). And a beer from Birds Fly South.

Outside, customers are filling the many picnic tables, enjoying the leafy greenery and thinking a game of frisbee might be awaiting them on the large grassy lawn.

We'll be back.

Hampton Station is accessible by car from Pete Hollis Blvd, from downtown: turn left just before the Swamp Rabbit Cafe and follow the signs.



[sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com)

**11th-Page Essays** are personal insights in 250 words or less. For submission info: [sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com).



OLLI photo class works on macro shooting

Judy Brooks, Rich Mead and Dale Bruhn perform with OLLI CONSORT



# OLLIClass

## Why I Write by Bob Strother an 11th-Page Essay

I owe my penchant for writing to my wife Vicki. Fourteen years ago we were sitting in a Denny's having lunch, and the restaurant had an "oldies" mix wafting out over the sound system. These songs always trigger a memory for me, and I began again to tell Vicki a story from my past.



She—for probably the hundredth time—told me I should write these stories down, that when I spoke of my youth, it sounded as if I'd grown up inside a Neil Simon play. After arriving home, I finally took her advice, joining the South Carolina Writers Association and a critique group meeting twice a month.

I started writing about events I experienced as a boy growing up in the South — like the time I nearly shot my great grandmother with a bow and arrow.

Unlike some adult writers still bearing the scars of a broken home, I spent my youth immersed in the warm and often wacky embrace of two sets of loving grandparents and more half- and step-brothers and sisters than I could count.

My early stories were about them, and though I eventually graduated to writing fiction, I still draw on life experiences to create characters and events. One of my favorite quotes comes from *Doonesbury* and describes a novelist as someone who "lies for a living." Perhaps so, but I still think it okay to make up stories that aren't true about people who aren't real — that done correctly, they help us realize truths about ourselves. (As for Vicki, who ignited my passion for writing, she's now my First Reader, Favorite Muse, and Greatest Cheerleader.)

Bob's books, *Scattered, Smothered & Covered* and *Shug's Place* are available on Amazon. *Burning Time* and *A Fire To Be Kindled* are available from *moonShine review press* (Bookstore). Bob's been an OLLI member since 2013, most recently honing his skills in Arthur McMaster's creative writing class. He is a contributor to *Southern Writers Magazine*.

Why do YOU write? Or paint? Or volunteer? Or teach?  
OLLILife accepts one 250-word 11th-Page Essay per issue.  
Contact us about submissions: [sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com)

## OLLI MUSICIANS PERFORM IN THE COMMUNITY

by Laura Becker

In March, the OLLI Consort, **directed by Sharon Howell and assisted by Judy Brooks**, gave a concert in the beautiful chapel at Easley First Baptist Church. Consort members, playing soprano, soprano, alto, tenor and bass recorders plus guitar, presented a well-received set of Renaissance pieces, then were treated to a delicious lunch prepared by church members.

In April, the Consort shifted gears and participated in ShalomFest, the annual Jewish Festival of the Upstate, at the Temple of Israel. After enjoying Jewish food and entertainment, the Consort performed Music for the Sabbath and Music from Israel.

Meanwhile, an interfaith choral endeavor came to fruition, **spearheaded by OLLI members and instructors Laura Becker and Jann Howell**. They combined their choirs from the Temple of Israel and the Travelers Rest United Methodist Church, plus volunteers from other area congregations, to do selections from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. After singing at the church, they regrouped a week later to perform at ShalomFest, with Laura conducting, Jann accompanying, and other OLLI members singing in the large combined choir: an inspiring interfaith musical experience! (photo p. 12).



# OLLIREMEMBERS \* Barbara Leimsieder, Tributes Editor

## Sylvia Suzowsky Idelson Tribute by Dorothy Beling



Sylvia Suzowsky Idelson was an accomplished classical pianist and harpsichord player in New York. On moving to Greenville, she shared her love of music with OLLI members. She taught several OLLI classes and paired live concert quality performances of major piano works with explanations of the works' musical and historical significance. She passed away on January 22, 2018 at the age of 88.

## Jean Kilgore Tribute by Judy Aten



OLLI lost longtime member Jean Kilgore on February 27, 2018 at the age of 89. Jean joined the FULIR program shortly after it began. She was an active member until the winter term when health kept her from attending. Eager to learn and always good-natured, Jean was a regular in the At the Movies classes. She will be missed by OLLI friends.

**OLLILife** is published four times a year: January, March, May, and September. **OLLILife's** editor is Sue Renault. Tributes editor is Barbara Leimsieder. Special Assignments: Diana Miel. Proofreaders are Carole Eisen, Judy Aten, and Barbara Leimsieder. We love **FEEDBACK**: sue.renault@gmail.com

## THANK YOU, OLLILife! contributors, May, 2018

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
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## AND, FINALLY .....

**Cheddar Cheese Cookies** served at OLLI's 25th anniversary Treat Days. from Sally Bornmueller

- Grate 1 pound sharp cheddar cheese.
- Melt in microwave with 1 stick butter. (Microwave 3 minutes).
- Add 3 cups self-rising flour, 1 cup chopped pecans, and 1/4-1/2 tsp ground red pepper.
- Mix lightly.
- Make 3-4 log rolls. (About 6 inches long.)
- Wrap tightly in wax paper couple of hrs.
- Slice thin and bake 375 degrees for 13 minutes.



**DYNAMIC DUOS:** Interfaith concert directors, Laura and Jann, top (see p. 11 story); Mascot Greeters, Sue and Margaret, bottom



Bernie and Cindy know wine.

**Bernie says:** Celebrate with Rosé. Erase your memories of sweet, low quality blush wines and discover that Rosé can be a serious wine suited to pairing with a variety of foods. Some of the best Rosé in the world comes from Provence near the south Mediterranean coast of France. The good thing is that these wines can be very inexpensive. A great low priced choice is J.L. Quinson Cotes de Provence at Trader Joe's (\$7.99). Pair this with salmon and enjoy!

(Let us know if you followed Bernie's advice. Editor: sue.renault@gmail.com)