

OLLI Friends, How has the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted your life? What are you doing to stay healthy and happy?

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman

# OLLILife

**Sheltering-in-Place special edition**  
Member Chatter during OLLI's Pandemic Shutdown



March 2020 - OLLILife Sheltering-in-Place edition, Issue #2 What are you up to? Send us a note: [sue.renault@gmail.com](mailto:sue.renault@gmail.com)

Gary Aten says, "I like the idea of putting out the special **OLLILife** edition. Thanks. I think it would be a good idea to do it periodically (easy for me to say since you are the editor).

Editor says, "Thanks, Gary, for continuing to add your experienced voice to **OLLILife**."

Gloria Larkin says, "Thank you for the special edition. I had something very nice happen today. Someone who knows my interests left three books by Mitch Album in my box with mail. I'm calling a few people who might have left them. Who knows, it may remain a mystery. Either way, it was a thoughtful act in this unusual time of isolation."

Editor says, "My friend BF posted on FB: *Since there are no sports on TV, I noticed a woman sitting on my couch. She claims she's my wife. She seems nice enough...*"

BF also posted: "They said wearing gloves and face masks were enough to go to the store. They were lying. Everybody else had clothes on."

Cheryl Cotner overheard: "While walking in the park and noticing seniors jogging, walking and riding bikes day after day, at the end of this crisis I suppose we will all know what the true color of women's hair is since they cannot go to the hairdresser for a while!"

Gary says, "If the Greatest Generation could storm the Normandy beaches surely we can cope with sitting on our couches."

Member Chatter Matters!  
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## How should we spend "stimulus checks"? Gary Aten has some thoughts on that.

I'll never forget a lesson I learned from FULIR/OLLI friend Jean Krall. During the 2008 financial crisis, the federal government sent out stimulus checks for \$250 to each citizen. At that time Jean and I were members of a "Coffee and Conversation" group and we discussed how this might impact the economy. The group came to the conclusion that most people would just bank the check and not spend it to stimulate business, and the money should really go to lower-wage earners, as they were likely to need and spend the money. Jean said she decided to spend the \$250 by increasing tips to servers, who would need the extra cash. I became a better tipper after that.

This brings to mind checks that will be sent to citizens to help businesses during the Corona Virus Pandemic. Many OLLI members have incomes that are secure and not affected tremendously by the current situation, and they might consider using stimulus money to increase their purchases of goods and services at favorite small local businesses. This income might prevent them businesses from failing, help their employees, and keep them afloat until the present crisis turns the corner. There are also local charities that will be stressed and could use extra funds.

Gary

Sheltering in Place...Living Simply...Discovering Inner Strength...the Kindness of Friends... Maintaining a Sense of Humor...Creative Resilience...What I Miss Most...Staying Connected: Want to weigh in? Send us your Sheltering-in-Place reflections.

# OLLIVOICES

ADD YOUR VOICE TO UPCOMING ISSUES OF OLLILife's  
SHELTERING-IN-PLACE EDITIONS. INFORM US OR AMUSE US!

Thanks, Gary, Nancy, and other OLLI voices, for sharing reflections of time spent Sheltering in Place.

*Workers around the world are taking their work home — literally — as they cope with the new realities of Sheltering in Place and “flattening the curve.” OLLI Director, Nancy Kennedy, and her staff continue to lay plans for upcoming programs — sometimes through virtual meetings — and for mitigating Pandemic shutdown-disruptions. We asked Nancy, “How’s it going?”*

## A REGULAR SCHEDULE HELPS NANCY STAY ON TRACK WHILE WORKING FROM HOME. A WALK HELPS, TOO.

I’ve always said I could never work from home full-time because I wouldn’t be disciplined enough. Yet, here I am, writing to you from my home computer. I’m glad to say I’ve been better at it than I predicted.

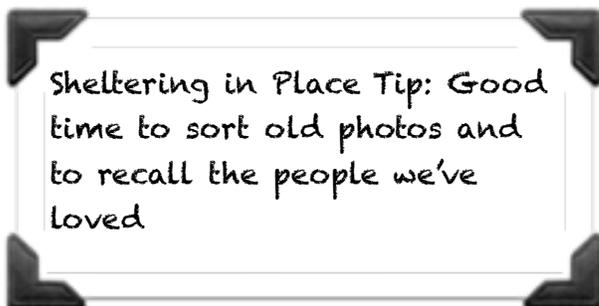
I have made sure to keep myself on a schedule as much as possible and have been “getting ready for work” each day by putting on makeup and regular clothes (not sweats or pajamas) to remind myself I am working. That seems to help. Our desktop computer is in one corner of our bedroom, so I’ve had to make sure my room is clean before getting on Zoom meetings. I don’t want the other participants to see a mess or unmade bed in the background!

When it’s 5 pm, it’s time to “go home” and make supper. Having my college daughter home has helped with that, because she’s used to the dining hall and “we always eat at exactly 6!”.

Because this is a stressful time for all of us, apart from the working-at-home thing, I’ve encouraged the rest of the staff to take breaks and take a walk, and I followed that advice this morning. The walk was wonderful, and I believe I will add it to my routine for the rest of this time at home. (It is also important because one downside of working at home is close proximity to the kitchen!)

But, oh my goodness I miss seeing the rest of the staff. We had a virtual staff meeting yesterday, and it was so good to see their faces. We are staying in contact with emails, texts, and phone calls as well, but it’s just not the same.

And, finally, I can speak for the OLLI staff when I say that we miss seeing all of our members!



Guess being stuck in the house isn't without a few bonuses. I've never seen this picture before. They were great dancers. Gail Jones

