EDITOR WANTED:

Dear Readers, Our next issue in May will mark the end of my fifth and final year as OLLILife editor. What fun it has been; and what a learning experience! When I started, I could hardly draw a circle with computer tools. Now, I can make a circle, fill it in, and drag it to the bottom of the page. As all you OLLI members know, there’s something giddy about discovering new skills and interests, even as we reach our 60s, 70s, 80s and beyond. OLLI’s the place where “active minds play.”

So here’s the big news: OLLILife is looking for a new editor. Fortunately, there are several months until your first issue, September, 2022; Nancy Kennedy and I will happily guide you through the transition. (I’ll also stay on as a writer.) Fortunately, also, is that your newsletter doesn’t have to look exactly like the format I’ve used. You may go shorter and simpler or longer and deeper. You can explore a format that works for you. OLLILife is published four times a year, usually around the beginning of class terms: September, January, March, and May.

More really, really big and wonderful news: OLLILife has an experienced team of writers. Just go back and look at our issues for the past five years. You’ll see some names pop up over and over…more precious than jewels! Interested in learning more? Contact Nancy Kennedy at the OLLI office.

from sue.renault@gmail.com

The Master of the Greenville Tondo by Sue Renault

This was one of the most interesting paintings I studied in my OLLI class, Reading Old Master Paintings. That’s because of the naming story of its unknown painter; also because it is round (a tondo). Apparently, when scholars are unable to solve an artist’s identity — even after considerable study of other paintings with similar styles attributed to the same hand — experts will name the painting after the location where the representative work resides. Thus, this particular painting has been named — and is now known worldwide — the Master of the Greenville Tondo. This is just another terrific fun fact to add to our Greenville bragging rights.

Madonna and Child with Angel, Master of the Greenville Tondo
Museum & Gallery, Inc. at Bob Jones University
museumandgallery.org

ERICK AYERS JOINS THE OLLI STAFF

Meet OLLI’s new office manager and Furman alum, Erick Ayers. In this position (formerly held by Alise Brown) Erick will help keep the office running smoothly handling a diverse set of tasks, among which will be office volunteers, our work study students, office supplies, coffee, and much more!

Erick, Dad to a daughter in college and two sons in high school, recently retired from more than 27 years as a federal government employee. Stop by to welcome him!
GOOD-BYE MASKS, HELLO SNACKS

On March 4, we announced that beginning March 5 OLLI would no longer require masks. Of course anyone wishing to continue masking is welcome to do so.

By now many of you have read about our other “back to normal” pleasures: the coffee bar is back; members may snack in classrooms and eat sack lunches inside the Herring lobby and dine at Furman’s Paddock restaurant by the lake. (Furman’s student dining hall is still unavailable to us because of staffing issues.) Now we can use the Furman Library. We can have unmasked, in-person SIG meetings. Watch for weekly OLLI Notes for ongoing updates.

I want to thank OLLI members and staff for their compliance with COVID mandates over the past two years. I am grateful for your patience and cooperation. If you have a friend who stayed away while masks were required, invite them back!

Nancy Kennedy, Director

OLLILIFE remembers deceased classmates

JOANNE PENICK, tribute by Susan Thomas; KENT SNYDER, by Dave Gallemore and Jean Kral, by Natalina Ferlauto; also, JEAN BOGGS by staff; MADELINE (“Maddie”) FANER by Sally Bornmueller; LOIS PARKER by staff; PETE POTOSKY by Alan Weinberg; JOANN HURST by staff; AL SILL by staff; PAT SCHWEITZER by Sarah Fletcher and Cindy Brothers; NORM BROOKS by Bob Howell; JEAN BRIDGER by Nancy Story, KATIE ROARK by Molly Fitzpatrick, RON GOLDBERG by Sally Bornmueller and JULIE GOLDBERG. Thanks to Constance Irby for all her help recruiting writers.

Are you ART SMART? Donnalynn Hess and Erin Jones tell their OLLI students (Reading Old Master Paintings) how to identify familiar characters in famous old paintings by looking for clues (attributes). For example, St. John the Evangelist is often painted with an eagle on his shoulder. Could you identify others? Who’s the familiar fellow shown, even as a baby, wearing animal-skin clothes and holding a cup or a bowl? What Biblical heavyweight is pictured with horns? Whose color is yellow and usually has a book, also keys? (Answers at bottom of p. 8)
A good rule is that the wine should have the same flavor intensity as the food. Therefore, full-bodied red wines pair best with bold-flavored red meat, and white wines pair well with light-flavored fish or chicken. Richer flavored fish such as salmon and swordfish, as well as roast turkey pair nicely with light-bodied red wines like Pinot Noir or Rosé.

Always pair wine to the sauce rather than the meat. If a dish is native to a specific part of the world, select a wine from that same region, if possible. In a good pairing, the wine enhances the food and the food also enhances the wine.

Brittany took Briasia, her year-old daughter, to the emergency room 11 times in one year due to serious breathing problems caused by her cystic fibrosis. Concerned about the amount of medication they were giving the toddler, doctors probed deeper. During a visit to Brittany’s apartment, they discovered major moisture and mold problems. The building owner refused to help, until the Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) stepped in.

“Medical problems are often just the tip of the iceberg,” says Catie Buckingham, Program Director of the MLP, “and the result of health-harming civil legal barriers existing under the surface.”

Established in 2016, MLP is the first of its kind in South Carolina. A partnership that includes Furman University’s Institute for the Advancement of Community Health, Prisma Health and South Carolina Legal Services, the MLP aims to improve health outcomes for low-income families throughout the Upstate.

Since 2016, the MLP has received more than 1,100 referrals and dedicated more than 7,100 hours to legal cases.

For Briasia and Brittany, the impact is clear. Briasia’s frequent visits to the Emergency Department significantly decreased and her breathing improved. Additionally, her mother is now able to attend work and school consistently.

“Everyone deserves a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible,” says Catie. “We have increased access to legal assistance for hundreds of patients whose medical problems have roots in or are made worse by a social or legal challenge.”

For more information, visit Medical Legal Partnership | Furman University

SOMETHING FUNNY: Hmmm…I found a strange piece of plastic on the floor that looks like it broke off of something, but I have no idea what. Better save it in the junk drawer until I die.
New Life for Old Cameras
Marcie Thaler & Linda Hosek

For the first time ever, the OLLI Photography Curriculum Subcommittee offered a pop-up session on buying and selling used camera equipment — and followed it with a swap meet.

Bob Markway, who teaches macro photography at OLLI, led both sessions, discussing how to use old film or digital camera lenses on new mirrorless bodies. That means photographers can extend the life of old lenses by using adaptors — and spend less money to increase their arsenal of equipment. This kind of information is essential as technology evolves, giving us economical solutions to take advantage of equipment breakthroughs.

Bob’s first session Jan. 21 at the Herring Center focused on the technology behind these adaptations. A week later, he presided over a swap meet in which some photographers brought old lenses, bodies and camera bags to sell, and others were there to buy. Room 111 was packed with people, and equipment filled every table.

OLLI members not only got good deals, but they also talked shop and offered ideas for future courses. As an added benefit, Jim and Nancy Gardner, who head a humanitarian effort in Jordan to teach photography to refugees to earn income with those skills, joined the swap meet. They received many equipment donations, potentially expanding their ability to teach more refugees. A special thanks to Kathleen Allen, who connected the Gardners with the pop-up swap.

We also offer a huge thanks to Bob Markway for providing his expertise for these two well-attended and informative events. We anticipate similar sessions in the future.

FUN IN GREENVILLE
Perhaps you’ve noticed get-acquainted questions written on classroom white boards and in weekly OLLI Notes: “What’s on your bucket list?” “Why did you join OLLI?” You get the idea. Meet Molly Fitzpatrick.

Molly believes one of the best benefits of OLLI membership is making new friends. What if we posted a prompt every week, she wondered, to help classmates engage with one another during class breaks? One of her recent posts was, “What is the most fun thing to do in Greenville?”

OLLILife took Molly’s question to the halls, to folks we didn’t know and asked them about their favorite Greenville activity. We had great fun talking to MaryJo, Michael, Stephen, and other new friends and learned what folks love most about Greenville and environs: Sue P loves showing visitors the downtown exuberance and talking about the vision behind the growth. Always on her list is Falls Park; MaryJo and Michael, hikes at Paris Mountain and OLLI; Steve, Furman activities, Swamp Rabbit Trail. The best part of asking the OLLI questions of the week is launching warm chatter among new acquaintances. Give it a try. Let us know about your experience. Thanks for this idea, Molly.
I am a 77-year-old lady who enjoys gardening, cooking, reading and walking. I’m not good with numbers, was never a card player, and can’t even shuffle cards properly. So, I’m the last person on the planet that you would expect to become a poker player.

In the summer of 2021 I wanted to sign up early for OLLI classes to assure myself a place in the Slow Hiking class. I bought a six pack and wanted to schedule six classes. After sensibly selecting Hiking, Migration, Yoga, Dynamic Aging, and Introduction to Finance, I needed one more class. Beginning Poker, taught by Dave Knox, was offered on Zoom at a time that fit my schedule, so on a whim I signed up.

There were eight colorful people in the class. You might wonder how poker can be taught via Zoom. Each week Dave dealt the poker hands to us, showing us our “down” cards while others averted their gaze - no peeking. We played eight different games including seven-card stud, five-card draw, Texas Hold ‘em, Night Baseball and Follow the Queen. We all won, lost, made mistakes and laughed a lot. It was exciting and uplifting; it became my favorite class in time of COVID.

In the fall of 2021 I joined the OLLI Poker SIG (Special Interest Group) that meets at 3:15 on Tuesday. Cards and chips are provided. Beginners from the classes and experienced players are welcomed. I’m loving it! That’s how I became a poker player. In photo, Mary, right, and poker pal, Sabrina Walker, left, scoop up their winnings.
By James T. Hammond

We Greenville natives of a certain age can remember the Furman University campus just two blocks off Augusta Street that stood as a beacon of the city’s academic offerings for a century. About 1.5 miles away, where the Hughes Library now stands, was the Greenville Women’s College, which became a part of the Furman family in 1938.

Generations of youth from Greenville and across the state were educated there. Several of my own relatives started their careers upon graduation from Furman University. The institutions were part of the beating heart of Greenville.

So when Furman’s trustees moved the university campus to a largely rural site on Poinsett Highway near Travelers Rest, it left a gaping hole in the city’s heart.

Some saw it as a divorce from the city. Furman trustees saw it as a place the university could grow and prosper. Former Furman President David Shi told me that on his first trip from Atlanta to enroll at Furman in the 1960s, the university gave new students careful directions so that they could arrive at the campus without passing through the city.

Shi and his successors have waged a decades-long campaign to reintegrate Furman into the community life of the city and county of Greenville. New instruments such as the Richard W. Riley Institute have provided pathways for the university to address issues of public education, racial diversity and social justice in the community, and statewide.

Elizabeth Davis, Furman’s president since 2014, told me that in interviews for the job, she met with Greenville’s Minor Shaw and other community leaders who made clear they wanted Furman to build a tighter bond with Greenville. “No institution can thrive without the support of its community,” Davis said. She emphasizes “a sense of connection” that “makes a difference where we live.”

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“To that end, Davis has joined forces with Furman Trustee Sean Hartness to create a Furman presence nearer the city, in a Hartness Development project to be named the Crescent Startup Community. The first stage will be the renovation of the historic Hartness Bottling Co. building at 701 Poinsett Highway, just five blocks east of the Greenville city limits. Later stage plans include three new buildings on the neighboring Piedmont Shirt Factory site, now cleared and ready for its new role.

Sean Hartness, whose family has held on to the former bottling plant for decades, said his goal is to create a workspace that will foster faster startup cycles for new businesses, and “keep our best and brightest right here in the Upstate.”

Furman aims to be a tenant in the new innovation center, through its emerging Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The institute, headed by Anthony Herrera, Furman’s chief innovation officer, is part of Furman’s growing program to train leaders and entrepreneurs to participate in Greenville’s booming business sector.

“Poinsett Highway is the ideal location to house a live, work, play, and learn community focused on the future of education, work, and economic development,” Herrera said.

This a necessarily brief retelling of Furman’s historic role in Greenville. But my aim is to show that the university values its century-long ties with the city; that it has its eyes on a day when the university and the Greenville community once again see their futures as each helping the other.

Reach James T. Hammond at jthammond46@gmail.com.
**OLLI Remembers**

**JoAnn Hurst**, mother of ten surviving children, and lifelong-learning enthusiast, passed away August 29, 2021. JoAnn was creative and artistic. She loved the art classes at OLLI, but participated in a wide range of classes. She was looking forward to learning pickleball.

**Jean Boggs** passed away July 10, 2021. Jean attended Furman University. She enjoyed classes in line dancing, swimming, and a wide variety of others that fed her wide interests at OLLI. Friends enjoyed her bright sense of humor.

**Jean Bridger** died January 13, 2022, at age 90. She was a longtime FULIR/OLLI Rogue Reader. She was born and raised in England until moving to the US with her husband and three children. She added a lot to the discussion of books. Jean took a variety of classes, was a choir and Chorale singer and an avid tennis player. She taught tennis classes at OLLI. We were fortunate to know her.

**Bill Halter** passed away August 28, 2021.

*From Bill’s Thomas McAfee notice:* Friends and family will always remember Bill as a gentleman in the classic sense of the word. He was unfailingly kind and courteous to those around him.

**Ron Goldberg** passed away July 10, 2020. During his years attending OLLI, he always looked forward to the arrival of each new class brochure so he could choose his next learning adventure. Ron was always impressed with the variety of classes offered and the knowledgeable and well-prepared instructors.

**Madeline (“Maddie”) Faner** passed away August 6, 2021. She was a big proponent of the educational opportunities provided by OLLI. Her course selections were often characterized by lack of any prior experience or knowledge. Over her eight years as a member, they ranged from the practical, such as hiking and ethnic cooking, to the personally challenging, such as explorations of societal problems and religious paradoxes. She felt she grew from each of her interactions.

**Lois Parker**, 75, died September 7, 2021. Lois was always ready to respond to a volunteer need when the office staff was short-handed, especially at back-to-school receptions. She and Greg taught water aerobics for many years, and were appreciated greatly for their able teaching. Lois served on the OLLI social committee. She was an active member, instructor and volunteer! She and Greg were great Furman fans and loved attending Paladin basketball games.

**Peter J. Potosky** - 1935 to 2021

We lost Peter last fall, and we, his many friends, now have fond memories of his art and music, engaging smile and love of life and beauty. Peter’s sense of humor, his generosity and gentle nature never failed to make us feel better. His positivity was abundant, unwavering, and infectious. Whether teaching, performing, hiking, or hosting with Sally at home, Peter’s quiet presence always made the experience enjoyable and memorable.

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Friends enjoyed her bright sense of humor.
Katie Roark died January 31. She was 102.

Katie was a strong independent woman. She was part of OLLI when it began as FULIR. She was always there for her classes and especially loved Dr. Crabtree's Shakespeare classes. Tuesdays were OLLI days! She lived home by herself, tending a large garden, until she was 99. We took her picture a few years ago watering her garden.

She was young at heart, creative and reflective. She came from Simpson, PA and left home for nursing school at 17, accepted positions around the country, and met Ron Penick, MD, in Washington DC. Greenville became their home once and, then, again, after other medical placements and further education. She started a second career in realty and also delighted in Furman University where she seeded many lifelong learning courses and served in countless ways, especially as FULIR president 2003-2004.

Al Sill passed away October 27, 2021.
In 2000, Al and Louise moved to Greenville, SC where he supported the Greenville Symphony, was a parishioner of St. Mary's Catholic Church, a member of St. Mary's Pillars of Christ Men's Ministry, and an enthusiastic student at the Furman OLLI learning-in-retirement program. Friends recall he enjoyed a variety of classes.

Pat Schweitzer passed away November 18, 2021.
Pat was an “Army ‘brat,’” and lived all over the world as she grew up. She was a gourmet cook, a SC Master Naturalist and Master Gardener, an avid bridge player and watercolor painter. From clogging to creative sewing, Pat could excel at almost anything. She took a wide variety of classes at FULIR/OLLI, and particularly enjoyed many years assisting with Dudley Tower’s Dynamic Aging program and the Aging Mastery classes. She’ll be missed.

Jean Kral passed away January 16, 2022 at 97.
We lost a founding member of FULIR (now OLLI).
A native of Ohio, Jean Churchill Kral had a great career as a choral director and continued to share her love of music here in Greenville. She extended her interests to eastern religions, yoga and literature. She was the first woman president of FULIR in 1997 - 98 and continued teaching and taking classes into her nineties. She always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eyes.

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William ("Bill") Howard (11/10/21) arrived on campus as a talented and capable partner of another lively member of lifelong learning, Andrea Howard. They hailed from Long Island in the mid-90s, having retired from professional education careers. They jumped in with both feet as Andrea accepted an unexpected vacancy in the FULIR Presidency and Bill rose graciously to “First Man.” Bill loved people - throughout his career, at FULIR/OLLI and from his front porch. He was a caring friend and classmate.

Norm Brooks, long-time active member of FULIR and OLLI, died January 3, 2022. Norm was a kind and gentle person who frequently assisted others when help was needed. He and his wife Judy sorted and shelved in the Marvin Book Nook to keep it in excellent shape. Norm was a pleasure to those in the hiking groups. None were more familiar with hiking trails of our area. He was always willing to share his knowledge and maps with other hikers, and he will be greatly missed.

Answers to Art/Smart, page 2: John the Baptist, Moses, St. Peter