



# OLLI *Connections*

Vol. 1 Issue 2

March 27, 2017

## OLLI News!

By a vote of 95 to 7, OLLI members voted on Monday, March 20, in favor of changing the fee structure for the Morgantown program for the upcoming year. The new membership fee for 2017-2018 will be \$30 per person. The membership year will remain July 1 through June 30.

Membership in OLLI at WVU reflects an individual's believe in the importance of lifelong learning and a desire to support the mission of the OLLI program. Your OLLI membership fee allows you to register for OLLI classes and special interest groups, be put on wait lists for classes already full, attend a free members-only event each term, receive OLLI Connections, have a voice in organizational governance, and enjoy OLLI's member lounge and computer lab.

Members will then pay a \$30 fee for each term in which they wish to participate in OLLI classes and special interest groups, payable at the time of registration. Those wishing to pay for a full year up front may do so. However, there will be no refunds or credit will be given for lack of participation in a specific term.

Instructors who are eligible for the Honor Roll or Instructor Discount and choose to purchase a membership will receive credit for two free terms should they wish to join OLLI for a class or special interest group. OLLI will continue to honor our commitment to Founding Honor Roll members, who will receive free membership and tuition if they wish to participate.

We believe that this new fee structure will offer our OLLI members more flexibility in choosing a participation plan that works best for them and inspire new members to join.

## Director's Letter

Sunshine, flowers, longer days, warm weather. Itching to be outdoors yet?

OLLI is offering a couple of fun opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors this spring: Spring Wildflowers of the WVU Core Arboretum and Adventure WV - Kayaking.

I've heard from several members over the past few months that regional field trips would be of interest. Although there are extra costs involved, such as transportation and admission fees, some of these costs may be covered by grant money. Identifying and applying for grants usually demands several months of lead time. Therefore, I'd like to put together some field trip proposals that we can draw from as grants submission opportunities become available. If you have any suggestions for field trips or are interested in serving on a small committee to help research trips, please let me know. Let's get traveling!

*Jascenna*

## ***We have reached our Goal!***

See page 2 for the full story.

[www.olliatwvu.org](http://www.olliatwvu.org)

OLLI Connections is published bi-monthly and distributed via email to our current members. It is also posted on our website. If you are unable to read the newsletter online, you may request a printed copy by calling the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.



## Increase Your Income Through Charitable Giving

Looking for a way to increase your income? There's a good way to do that and help OLLI too. You may even get a "raise" by doing that.

A gift annuity with the WVU Foundation pays fixed income on a quarterly basis with the payout rate tied to the donor's age. The minimum needed is \$25,000; cash, stocks, mutual funds and corporate bonds can be donated to the Foundation for this purpose.

Named a charitable gift annuity, this gift provides an income that will be partially tax-free. A current federal income tax deduction helps out now also. The contract to set it up is simple.

Sample payout rates for one recipient include: age 65, 4.7%; age 70, 5.1%; age 75, 5.8%; age 80, 6.8%; age 85, 7.8%; and age 90, 9%. A complete rate chart is available at <http://www.wvuf.planyourlegacy.org/GIFTcharitg.php>.

After the income payout ends, the remaining balance can be used to support OLLI as you direct.

Contact Karen Galentine at the School of Public Health at 304-293-1828 or [kegalentine@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:kegalentine@hsc.wvu.edu), who can provide more details on this gift arrangement. Any conversation is at no obligation and confidential.

## Thank You!

As OLLI at WVU strives to achieve financial sustainability and launches a new annual fundraising initiative, we would like to say Thank You to all who have generously contributed to one of our donation funds this year.

Michael and Hilary Attfield

Betty M. Bailey

Lee Ann Beaumont

Carole Boyd

Jane Cardi

Stan and Judy Cohen

Thomas and Hope Covey

Charles and Margaret Craig

Ann Davidson

Joann Evans

Alice Frost

Gertraud Irwin

Judith Hall

Jim Held and Bonnie Brown

Karen S. Long

E. Jane Martin

Frank Mathews

Betty Maxwell

Stephen and Connie McCluskey

Joseph P. McFall

Robert and Miriam Miller

Florita Montgomery

Andy and Judy Morris

Bryon and Carolyn Nelson

James O'Connell

Alan and Gwen Rosenbluth

Cecilia Aguilar Spade

George and Viera Trapp

Wallace and Norma Venable

Bill Weiss

Eb and Judy Werner

Karl and Pam Yagle

## Taste of OLLI

OLLI hosted the Taste of OLLI open house on Wednesday, March 22nd, at the Mountaineer Mall in Morgantown to welcome members and newcomers to our spring term.

Fifteen instructors were on hand to talk about their classes and answer questions.

Members of the special interest group, Knit and Purlers, Crocheters Too, showed off their wares. The crowd saw scarves, purses, sweaters, and even teddy bears created by our talented members.

Representatives of the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Foundation were in attendance and shared information and books by Pearl Buck. A day trip to the Birthplace was also suggested.

Thank you everyone who helped with the event, as well as everyone who attended!

## We've Reached Our Goal!

Last summer, OLLI set a goal of 585 members for the 2016-2017 year. Thanks to the continued support of our members, volunteers, and enthusiastic lifelong learners in Morgantown and Charleston, we have reached this goal. As of Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, we have 604 members; 486 in Morgantown and 118 in Charleston. We have welcomed over 180 new members to OLLI so far this year.

Thank you all for your continued support. We will soon be setting our goal for next year and look forward to continuing to sharing OLLI with new members.

**604**  
members!

## Mark Your Calendars!

April 14  
April 17

June 19  
June 21  
July 10

OLLI office closed  
Spring term begins  
Summer course proposals due  
Summer registration begins  
OLLI Annual Meeting  
Summer term begins  
Fall course proposals due

## Travel with OLLI

### America's Music Cities

October 13 — October 20, 2017  
8 Days • 11 Meals

#### Reservations and deposit due April 06, 2017

Enjoy a finger-snapping, toe-tapping time on this tour of America's most famed musical cities. Visit New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville as you revel in the sounds of the blues, jazz, country and good old rock 'n' roll. Experience America's most singular city in New Orleans, home to the French Quarter where the world's great jazz musicians reside. Have your choice on tour – either stroll through New Orleans' famous

French Quarter on a walking tour with a local expert or set out on a panoramic motorcoach tour for a different perspective of the city. Spend two nights in Memphis, "birthplace of the blues," and

tour Elvis Presley's Graceland. At the historic Belle Meade plantation indulge in a culinary and wine tasting experience. Sample Tennessee whiskey at a local distillery with a rich history. Meet a local

radio show personality on your tour of WSM Radio Station. Enjoy reserved seats at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville along with a backstage tour. Tour historic RCA Studio B and see where country legends recorded hit songs. A visit to the Country Music Hall of Fame is sure to have you humming long after you return home.

America's Music Cities Tour Information Session with Collette Travel representative.

Tuesday, April 4, at 3:00 p.m. in Morgantown

Wednesday, April 5, at 3:00 p.m. in Charleston

Advanced registration requested.

More information at <http://www.olliatwvu.org/formembers/travel-with-olli/> or call the OLLI office.

Join OLLI on Tuesday, April 4, at 3:00 p.m. in Morgantown or Wednesday, April 5, at 3:00 p.m. in Charleston for an information session

about the America's Music Cities tour with Collette Travel representative Jake Savage. RSVP by Friday, March 31, at 5:00 p.m. by calling the OLLI office at 304-293-1793.



## Be an OLLI Ambassador

Share your OLLI experience with a friend or family member!

As any marketing professional will tell you, good word-of-mouth is the best tool an organization can have in its promotional toolbox. A personal recommendation is far more likely to inspire action than a pop-up ad online or a 30 second radio spot.

Members are invited to bring a guest to a class. Please call ahead to let us know as some classes may be full and even have a wait list.

If a friend decides to join OLLI as a first-time member and mentions your name, you'll be entered in a drawing to win a \$25.00 gift card to Barnes and Noble.

## In Memoriam

OLLI acknowledges the passing of the following members and friends in recent months.

December: Kathleen Marsland  
January: Patricia Obenauf

## National Volunteer Week April 23-29, 2017

National Volunteer Week was established by President Richard Nixon in 1974 to recognize and celebrate the valuable contributions that volunteers make each year to thousands of charities, non-profit organizations, and other community organizations.

OLLI at WVU thanks all of our volunteers, with whom we would not be able to offer the quality programming and experiences for our members. Last year, we had over 200 volunteers serving as class instructors, class hosts, board and committee members, office assistants, and more. This year, we're on track to exceed that number!

In recognition of our wonderful volunteers, OLLI will provide a selection of pastries and other goodies in the member lounge every morning during National Volunteer Week. Please join us in thanking our volunteers.

*Thank You!*

## Our Charleston Partners

OLLI at WVU is proud to be partnering with the Kanawha Valley Village People, the West Virginia Geriatric Education Center, and the WVU Extension Service in Kanawha County to bring OLLI courses to the Charleston Community.

The Kanawha Valley Village People (KVVP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping older adults in Charleston remain in their own homes and communities as healthy, active participants as they age. KVVP provides members with referrals for local resources which provide basic practical services such as transportation, home and yard maintenance, pet sitting, and in-home care, as well as local agencies, organizations and businesses such as Kanawha Valley Senior Services, Putnam County Aging, Hospice, Edgewood Summit, Aging and Disability Resource Center. They also provide social, adventure, and educational opportunities for older adults. (<http://www.kvvp.org/>)

Founded in 2008, the West Virginia Geriatric Education Center strives to improve the quality of life for seniors throughout the state by providing valuable resources and training to caregivers, seniors, families, healthcare professionals, faculty, students, and practitioners to ensure they provide the best geriatric care. The WV Geriatric Education Center is located at the WVU Health Sciences Campus in Charleston. (<http://www.wvgec.org/>)

The mission of the WVU Extension Service is to build and help sustain collaborations and partnerships with people and organizations in West Virginia to improve their lives and communities. (<http://ext.wvu.edu/>)

Thank you to these organizations for their support of OLLI at WVU and lifelong learning in Kanawha County.

## Looking For a Short-Term Volunteer Opportunity?

OLLI is seeking a few tech-comfortable members who are interested in helping with course registrations prior to each term. Although online registration is available to all members, some prefer to complete a paper form or call to register. Thus, the first couple of days of registration can be a little hectic in the OLLI office. We would love to have your help!

We use Augusoft Lumens software and are happy to train volunteers to assist their fellow members.

For those members who aren't so tech-comfortable, we can always use your help as well, answering phones, filing registrations, and greeting visitors during the registration process. The week before classes begin, you could help us recruit class hosts making phone calls to registered members whom we think might be willing to volunteer.

If you are interested in helping out in one of these ways, or any other, please email Connie McCluskey at [connie.mcclusky@gmail.com](mailto:connie.mcclusky@gmail.com) or call her at 304-685-1761. You can also leave a message with the OLLI office at 304-293-1793 or [olli@hsc.wvu.org](mailto:olli@hsc.wvu.org)

Thank you!

## OLLI *Kudos*

Have you had a special life event, award, or accomplishment you would like to share with your fellow OLLI members? We're happy to share in OLLI Connections, our bi-monthly newsletter. Email information to [olli@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:olli@hsc.wvu.edu) and include "Kudos" in the subject line.

**Krissie Weimer**, an instructor with the MonRiver New Horizons Band, defended her dissertation to earn her Ph.D. in Music Education from Penn State last month and earned her degree.

## Medical Decision-Making Research Study in Older Adults

You are invited to participate in a research study examining medical decision-making in older adults. This study will entail one session either on WVU campus or in your home lasting 75-90 minutes. You will be asked to view an educational video containing information about medical treatments and fill-out several questionnaires. You will receive \$10 to compensate your time.

To be eligible to participate, you must:

- Be at least 65 years old
- Be fluent in English
- Have no terminal diagnosis/illness

For more information, or to sign up for the study, please contact Jarred V. Gallegos at (304) 276-0482 or [WVUMedicalDecisionMaking@gmail.com](mailto:WVUMedicalDecisionMaking@gmail.com) (Principal Investigator: Barry Edelstein, Ph.D.)