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OLLI Walking Group Near Statue of George Mason, Aug 18, 2014

August 22, 2014

Editor of the Week: Paul Van Hemel

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Alerts & Notices

We will publish again on September 5. We will resume weekly publication on September 26.

The Tallwood office will be open 9 - noon until the start of the fall term.

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New OLLI Registration System Coming



By Jennifer Disano, Executive Director

The Board of Directors approved the purchase of a new registration system for OLLI in the spring of 2014 to replace the antiquated registration system we are currently using. An improved lottery and prioritization feature was purchased with the Augusoft Lumens system and is being customized to retain the OLLI policy of giving members an "equal chance" to get into preferred classes/special events. We expect that, with the new system, the user experience will improve overall but will still be very familiar to OLLI members. The Augusoft system has many excellent administration features which should aid office staff and OLLI volunteers with day-to-day operations. It also permits the preparation of many complex reports. Training, implementation and activation of the system require a several-month process. Currently, staff and several OLLI volunteers have completed the first month of training, but there is much to do ahead. Your patience and understanding will be greatly appreciated as the Tallwood staff devotes necessary time to getting the new system ready.

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Save the Date – Thu Sep 18, Open House at New Campus in Loudoun

OLLI is holding an Open House on Thursday, September 18, for all interested members to visit our new Loudoun site, at 21335 Signal Hill Plaza in Sterling, VA! See the new suite, pick up your new parking pass for Signal Hill Plaza, and socialize with OLLI



members and staff. We encourage you to enroll for Special Event 951, an OLLI teleconference with George Mason University's President, Dr. Angel Cabrera on "Being Global: How to Think, Act and Lead in a Transformed World." The teleconference will be broadcast during the Open House. And, as a special bonus, the Hylton Center will be holding a raffle give-away of performance tickets for the 2014/15 season.

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OLLI Supports Mason's First Veterans' Employment Summit



*By Alice Slayton Clark,
OLLI Communications Associate/Registrar*

The OLLI-Mason Board of Directors voted in July to donate \$1000 from the Friends of OLLI charitable fund to sponsor George Mason University's first annual Veterans' Employment Summit, held on campus August 7. The summit, planned jointly by Mason's Office of Military Services (OMS) and the Easter Seals Veteran Staffing Network, was designed to help local veterans gain access to meaningful employment opportunities in Northern Virginia and beyond.



Photo by Ray Beery 7 Aug 2014

"Many OLLI members are concerned that our country gives too little support to the veterans who volunteered to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. This year, we are using this unrestricted gift to aid veteran graduates in finding good jobs as they move on in life," explains Ray Beery, OLLI Board Member, former OLLI President and 23-year Air Force veteran.

OLLI has been a staunch supporter of OMS and of military personnel over the past several years. According to Jennifer Connors, Director of Military Services at Mason, "We are so thankful for the faithful support of OLLI members. There is absolutely no way we could provide the student veteran programming and special events without the generous contributions over the last 3 years. I hope OLLI members know they have truly made a difference and have touched so many lives."

Military service is highly valued at OLLI because so many of its members, men and women, have served or built careers in the U.S. Armed Forces, and their children and grandchildren are also veterans. According Ray Beery, "Those experiences colored our patriotism, which lives in our hearts today... We see GMU's Office of Military Services as the tangible place where we can put our money where our hearts are."

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American Girl Author Visit



*By Alice Slayton Clark,
OLLI Communications Associate/Registrar*

American Girl author Valerie Tripp visited OLLI-Mason July 22 for a fun session with members and grandchildren on the writing process and the inspiration for her books. Valerie explained to the star-struck audience of both the young and more seasoned girls, including



Photo by Toni Acton 22 Jul 2014

granddaughters of OLLI members John and Toni Action, shown here with the author, that she gets her story ideas from her life experiences as well as from the children she meets. Many attendees brought their *American Girl* dolls and books that Valerie signed after the event. This is the second event that OLLI has hosted with the *American Girl* theme. Last summer during "Grandcamp," *American Girl* fans young and older gathered for a special tea to celebrate the doll collection and book series.

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Instructor Profiles



By Susan Van Hemel, Coordinator for Instructor Profiles Workgroup

The workgroup that is managing the OLLI instructor profiles web page is glad to announce that there are now profiles available for **108** (and counting) OLLI instructors, both members and non-members. Many of these provide much more information than the catalog is able to include in its limited space. They will give you a fuller picture of the variety of skills and experience our instructors possess, and their personalities and interests as well. You will also find photos of most instructors. We have added new profiles since the fall catalog was published, so even if there was not a link in the catalog, an instructor may have a profile there now. Visit the profiles page at <http://olligmu.org/profiles/index-profiles.htm> , or click on the links in the online catalog.

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Photography Club



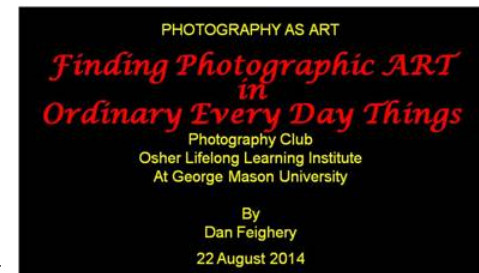
By Dan Feighery, Photography Club Coordinator

Throughout the Fall term, the OLLI Photography Club will mount an exhibit of members' work in the social room at Tallwood, as it usually does. Our theme for the exhibit is "Abstracts," so it will consist entirely of non-representational photos, including some works that were juried into the annual Joseph Miller Abstract Photography exhibitions.

What on earth is "abstract photography?" When you look at an abstract photo, you see the forms, colors and patterns for themselves, and usually you cannot easily identify the concrete object that the photo is "of." But each of the photos, unlike an abstract painting, starts as a photographic image of something real. What makes the finished work abstract is that the artist (photographer) has worked with the subject matter or photo equipment to find a different or unique way of seeing it, before taking the picture, and/or has manipulated the photo afterwards, to produce a result that is interesting to the eye but does not immediately suggest the actual material pictured.

We hope you will take a few minutes to view the exhibit and enjoy the creativity of our OLLI photographers!

Note: Although regular meetings of the Photo Club are usually held the second Friday of the month in the morning, there is a meeting of the Photo Club *today* (Fri, Aug 22) at Tallwood at noon. The speaker will be Dan Feighery, discussing photography as art.



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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

Stone

Nothing soothes like stone.
 Pennsylvania bluestone, for instance, set in a pattern
 The eye can get to know—
 long-stone-wide-stone-right-angled-narrow-stone—
 all the way to the end of the patio. Or the broad grey flags
 that lead you to your own
 front door, again and again. Or think about those small
 square stepping stones in grass that go around the side of the house
 to where the lilac is.

Caroline McNeil

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Arts & Music at George Mason



Performances, next two weeks

By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

For tickets for either CFA or Hylton, call 1-888-945-2468, buy tickets online through the event calendar (see links below), or visit the venue's box office. For more information see the CFA [ticket page](#) or the Hylton [ticket purchase page](#).

Mason Student & Faculty Performances

APAC Cultural Show

Wed, Aug 27, 6:00 - 8:00

The Asian Pacific American Coalition will be hosting a culture night.

Admission: Free

HUB Ballroom

SAI in Concert

Thu, Aug 28, 1:00 - 2:00

The ladies of Sigma Alpha Iota will be in concert.

Admission: Free

North Plaza

Mason Improv Association: Kick-off Performance

Fri, Aug 29, 10:00 - 12:00

Admission: Free

Bistro (Johnson Center)

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At the Hylton Center

A Different Perspective - Multi-level Photoart

Jul 20 - Aug 31

The Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue - Sat, 10:00 - 6:00, Thu, 10:00 - 8:00 and two hours before performances.

For more information about the current exhibit, visit

HyltonCenter.org/gallery

Admission: Free

Jammin' at the Hylton: Bluegrass and Old Timey Jam

Sun, Aug 24, 3:00

Includes a public open jam as well as performances by local bands. It is a family day to be enjoyed by all even if they are not pickers.

3:00 - Steve Potter and Friends

4:00 - Thoroughfare Gap

5:00 - The Dixie Rails

6:00 - Vint Hill Special

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: Free

Relationship: Tom Neel & Linda Neel, artists

Sep 3 - Sep 28

Gallery Reception: Sep 4, 6:00 - 8:00.

The Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue - Sat, 10:00 - 6:00, Thu, 10:00 - 8:00 and two hours before performances. For more information about the current exhibit, visit

HyltonCenter.org/gallery

For reception RSVP to Hylton@gmu.edu.

Admission: Free

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For further details on any of the above events, please see the CFA [event calendar](#) and the Hylton Center [event calendar](#)

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Meetings & Clubs

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office, with direct web links added when available. The list is accurate as of mid-week but to check anytime for the latest information, please view the latest forecast of

upcoming events on our website (News/[OLLI Calendar](#)). *Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, Kickoff Coffees, etc. (**bolded** below).*

Sat Aug 23	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Mon Aug 25	10:00am	Bridge Club-TA-3
	10:00am	What's in the Daily News, cont'd-TA-1
	10:30am	History and Current Events Program Planning Committee-Cottage
	12:00pm	Russia Discussion Group-TA-1
Tue Aug 26	10:00am	Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Herndon
	10:00am	Humanities and Social Sciences Program Planning Committee-Annex
	12:30pm	Art and Music Program Planning Committee-Annex
Wed Aug 27	10:30am	Tom Crooker Investment Forum-TA-1
	12:15pm	Economics and Finance Program Planning Committee-TA-1
Fri Aug 29	9:00am	Recorder Consort-TA-3
	10:00am	Craft and Conversation-Cottage
	11:00am	Homer, etc-Annex
Sat Aug 30	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Tue Sep 2	10:00am	Craft and Conversation-Panera, Herndon
Wed Sep 3	10:00am	Mah Jongg Club-TA-2
	10:30am	Tom Crooker Investment Forum-TA-1
	10:00am	Bridge Club-TA-3
Fri Aug 22	9:00am	Recorder Consort-TA-3
	10:00am	Craft and Conversation Group-Cottage
	10:00am	iPad Users Group-UCP
	11:00am	Homer, etc-Annex

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About OLLI E-News

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

Editorial Staff

Chief Editor/Technical Editor: Irene Osterman

Associate Editor:

Weekly Editorial Team: Paul Van Hemel, Sheri Siesseger, Leslie Vandivere,

Proofreaders: John West, Gordon Canyock, Susan Van Hemel

Backup Chief Editor: Sheri Siesseger

Submissions. Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles and photos. Submit material to: ollinewseditor@gmail.com.

Deadline – 6:00 pm Tuesday for that week's issue (6:00 pm Monday for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.

Note: You can view past issues of OLLI E-News on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

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