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John Nash, Lou Mazzatenta, Dan Feighery and Tom Simpson photograph military members and families at Fort Belvoir.

January 8, 2016

Editor of the Week: Jean Boltz

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Alerts & Notices

- The Board of Directors will meet Friday, January 15, 10:00, in TA-1. All members are welcome to attend.
- Check your email for status/confirmation of your course selections for the winter term, which begins January 19.

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Fun Facts to Celebrate OLLI's 25th Anniversary



By Ray Beery, Member, Board of Directors

A compilation of Learning in Retirement Institute (LRI) poetry was published in March 1996. Printing was subsidized by LRI, and booklets were sold at \$2.50 each. Poems dated back to the first Poetry Workshop in spring 1991. Later, "Poets of Tallwood" was published in 2008, and "Poets of OLLI" in 2012.

OLLI will celebrate its 25th year of classes for seniors in 2016. We'll be publishing fun facts and interesting milestones about the Institute each week that OLLI E-News is published from now until the end of the fall term, 2016.



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Theater Lovers' Group Hosts Local Actor



By Norma Jean Reck, Theater Lovers' Group (TLG) Coordinator

The December 11 TLG meeting quickly developed into a bit of improv

theater when TLG member Ed Rader graciously accepted the invitation to conduct an interview with our guest speaker, actor Sasha Olinick. The two had just met by chance in the Social Room.

After the program, one TLG member said she especially enjoyed hearing how Sasha landed in this area as an actor. He is currently starring in The Hub Theatre's production of "Wish List" along with Kate Jeffries and Rose McConnell.

Sasha's theatrical journey began in Middlebury, Vermont, where he grew up with thoughts of becoming a teacher and where his mother introduced him to theater. When he graduated Brown University, he was interested in becoming a singer, a vocation for which he had trained. At one point, he opted to go on tour with a group and later found himself in Staunton, Virginia, at The American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse. Along the way, he decided to become an actor. After seeing him perform in "Wish List" Sunday afternoon, we are glad he made that decision. Sasha joined us for a post-performance dinner at Artie's in Fairfax where we continued to enjoy conversations with him.

The next meeting of TLG will be Friday, January 29, at 10:00.

Everyone is invited.



Sacha Olinich and Ed Rader



TLG Members

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Book Club



By Ceda McGrew, Book Club Coordinator

The OLLI Book Club will meet Wednesday, January 13, at 10:00, at Tallwood. The book for discussion is John Steinbeck's novella *Of Mice and Men*. Published in 1939, it tells the story of two laborers working in the California vegetable fields during the Great Depression. There have been several adaptations for screen, stage, and TV, and it has been required reading for generations of high school students. For those attending who are able to stay, we plan to view the 1992 movie starring John Malkovich and Gary Sinese after the discussion.

The book for February is *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande.

All OLLI members are welcome.

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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

Whistling

The other day I was whistling and a new acquaintance of mine asked, "Alice, why are you always whistling?" This was my answer:

My Dad whistled.
 He could be heard whistling while doing fall raking,
 and mixing mortar brought into the making
 a simple clear tune that I overhearing
 would join in and add to silently cheering
 this wonderful man who was so filled with mirth;
 how blessed I am he chose me before birth.
 I suspect he whistled while writing his briefs,
 or when from life's stresses he needed relief,
 so now when I pucker, I think of him:
 his singing, his praying, his remarkable whims,
 his teaching, his patience, his loud kerchoos.

This is my answer; I hope it will do.
My Dad whistled.

Alice Mergler

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Arts & Music at George Mason



Performances, next ten days

By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

For tickets for either Center for the Arts (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](#).

At the Fairfax Campus Venues

No performances scheduled.

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Mason Student & Faculty Performances

(see music.gmu.edu for additional student recitals)

No performances scheduled.

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At The Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Center for the Arts Pied Piper Theater: **NARNIA**

Sat, Jan 16, 2:00 and 7:00

Sun, Jan 17, 3:00

Merchant Hall

Admission: Adult, \$20; children, \$15.

Dance, Etc. 35th Annual Winter Concert

Sat, Jan 16, 7:00

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: \$20

Art Feast by Associate Artists at the Workhouse

Through Jan 31

Buchanan Partners Art Gallery

The Gallery is open to the public Tue-Sat, 10:00 - 6:00, Thu, 10:00 - 8:00, and two hours before performances. Gallery Reception: Thu, Nov 19, from 6:00 to 8:00. RSVP to jconnor8@gmu.edu.

Admission: Free.

Woodbridge Dance Company: **A Coffee House Concert Collection**

Sat, Jan 9, 7:00

Merchant Hall

Admission: Adult, \$25; senior, \$20

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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 Jan 9	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Mon Jan 11	10:00am 10:00am	What's in the Daily News Cont'd-TA-1 Language, Literature and Theater Program Planning Group-TA-2
Tue Jan 12	9:30am 10:00am 10:00am 10:00am	Cottage Art-Cottage Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Herndon Spanish Club-TA-2 Science, Technology and Health Program Planning Group-Annex
Wed Jan 13	10:00am 10:00am 10:30am	Bridge Club-TA-3 Book Club-TA-2 Tom Crooker Investment Forum-TA-1
Fri Jan 15	9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:30am	Recorder Consort-TA-3 Board of Directors Meeting-TA-1 Craft and Conversaton-Cottage Homer, etc-Annex Cooking Club-Cottage
Sat Jan 16	10:30am 1:00pm	Tai Chi Club-TA-3 Computer Club-TA-1
Tue Jan 19	10:00am	Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Hendon
Wed Jan 20	1:30pm 1:45pm 1:45pm	Mah Jongg Club-TA-2 Bridge Club-TA-3 Religious Studies Program Planning-Annex
Fri Jan 22	9:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 12:00pm	Recorder Consort-TA-3 Travel Club-TA-2 Craft and Conversation-Cottage Classic Literature Club-TA-2 Homer, etc-Annex Photography Club-TA-1 Religious Studies Club-Cottage

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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: Sheri Siesseger

Weekly Editorial Team: John Nash, Paul Van Hemel, Sheri Siesseger, Leslie Vandivere, Jean Boltz

Proofreaders: Gordon Canyock, Jerry Moore, Marilyn O'Brien, Susan Van Hemel

Backup Chief Editor: Alice Slayton Clark

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 Tuesday for that week's issue (6:00 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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