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Photos by Paul Van Hemel, May 3, 2024

Cinco de Mayo Celebration Hosted by Diversions Chair Marilyn Harriman, May 3, at Tallwood; Members Brought Food to Accompany OLLI-provided Tacos and Enjoyed Mexican Dancing and Breaking a Piñata

May 10, 2024

Editor of the Week: John Nash

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Alerts & Notices

- You should have received an email on May 3 with a link to a ballot for the Board of Directors election, which goes through May 17 at noon. If you did not receive this (check your spam/junk folders), contact the OLLI office at olli@gmu.edu.
- Summer-term registration begins May 14 (the term begins June 24).
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published Friday, May 17; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, May 14, at 6:00.

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OLLI Annual Meeting and Candidate Forum



By Bob Heyer, Secretary

On Friday, May 3, OLLI Executive Director, Jennifer Disano, opened our annual business meeting and reported that our membership is currently at 928. Our major income is from annual membership dues, which is why Jennifer emphasized our main goal this year is recruiting new people! We are also working with senior living facilities like The Mather as they open their residences, to introduce and assist residents to join OLLI. In addition to member donations, we are increasing program sales to provide lectures for a fee at senior facilities (Silverstone, Landing, Providence). The Fairfax County Public Library system has renewed our contract, and we are investigating contracts with Loudoun and Prince William Counties.

We have acquired some new staff and instructors to continue providing robust, diverse, and interesting classes on Zoom, in person, and hybrid. Additionally, we provide many outside activities through clubs, tours, parties, and functions, as well as travel to Iceland and next year to the Albuquerque balloon festival and to Japan. With the closure of Mason's Loudoun facility, we are investigating alternative locations in the Loudoun and Reston areas for classes and meetings. In the City of Fairfax, we are monitoring the proposed Arts Center for potential future use as well.

Retiring OLLI President Lillian Brooks noted that our change in business approach returning from COVID and the use of Zoom/hybrid classes has resulted in an increasing yet balanced budget. In the past two years, Lillian and Jennifer have been instrumental in working with many people and organizations to help make this transition. Additionally, OLLI has a relationship with an attorney to be used as needed.



OLLI Election Chair Marilyn Harriman introduced the five 2024 Board member candidates to the forum; Toni Acton, Dick Crawford, Camille Hodges, and Zach Teich are current Board members running for another term, and Suresh Mohla is a very experienced manager from the field of cancer research and management. Marilyn asked a number of questions for the candidates to discuss their management and organizational experiences. The candidates also took questions from OLLI members; each discussed how they could best apply their talents and experiences as a director on the board. OLLI has emailed voting instructions and a link to your ballot. Voting began on May 3 and ends at noon on May 17.

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Literature, Language, Theater, and Writing Program Planning Group to Meet June 11



By Patricia Bangs, Literature, Language, Theater, and Writing (LLT) Program Planning Group Co-Chair

Date: Tuesday, June 11
Time: 10:00-11:30

We need your thoughts and ideas. Whether you enjoy the classics or spy novels, sci-fi, or memoir, want to read poetry, learn a language, explore playwrights and the world of theater, or hone your writing skills, the LLT Program Planning Group would love to hear from you.

Please join us for our semi-annual all-campus program planning group meeting for **literature, language, theater, and writing program planning on Tuesday June 11 at 10:00 via Zoom.**

We will be reviewing past terms and looking forward to planning winter 2024 and beyond. All OLLI members can contribute to the excellent programming offered to our membership. Bring ideas for literature, language, theater, and writing programs, and possible instructor resources for this

popular programming area. And, of course, if you or anyone you know would like to join our committee, here is your opportunity to see the process in action. Spread the word. See you on June 11.

[Click this link](#) from Shannon Morrow, our staff program associate, for the Zoom meeting. We will send a reminder closer to the meeting and the link will be available on the Daily Schedule. If you would like to be added to our LLT mailing list for a reminder, please email Pat Bangs at: pbangs68@gmail.com.

Meeting ID: 992 1591 3405

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,99215913405# US (Washington DC)

+12678310333,,99215913405# US (Philadelphia)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 267 831 0333 US (Philadelphia)

Find your local number: <https://gmu.zoom.us/j/99215913405>

Join by SIP 99215913405@zoomcrc.com.

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Wednesday Team Bloch Conversation—May 15



By Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch, Co-Moderators

Continuing our Wednesday Conversations series, Team Bloch (Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch) will moderate a Zoom discussion on May 15 at 4:00.

The topic for May 15: **What is the Ideal Number of Children a Person Should Aim For?** This may prove to be an interesting discussion, as each of us might have widely diverse opinions to share. Join Team Bloch on Wednesday at 4:00 for what likely will be a lively hour of conversation. No sign-up needed; we convene informally every Wednesday afternoon on the OLLI 24/7 Chat Line.

Check your OLLI Daily Schedule for the Zoom link on Wednesday May 15 and join us to share your thoughts.

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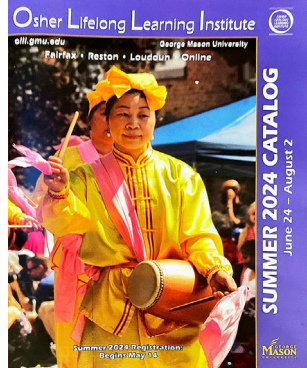
Time to Cheer...Spring is Here!



By **John Nash, E-News Editor**

OK, maybe the title's a bit corny but spring has arrived and, with the warm temperatures, is quickly turning into summer! We again enjoyed the daffodils and dogwoods while the azaleas are making their final display. Fall in Virginia is beautiful, but spring here is simply fantastic, in my opinion. Maybe it's because the drab winter months have finally gone.

Spring is also a time for laying out our travel calendars, joining family gatherings – my family has an annual reunion in Texas where we see how each of us as aged, enjoy great barbecue, and tell the same old stories...still laughing at them like they were new – enjoying cook-outs with friends, and planning vacations. We probably should have done the latter this winter to get the best deals but there's still time to plan and enjoy a nice trip. Even day trips in the local area are great but do require some planning to avoid saying, "Oops, my calendar is filled up then!"



We recently received the summer OLLI catalog with its usual offerings of great classes and programs. With both Zoom and in-person activities, you should take some time to select a few that keep you involved with a great program and some wonderful friends. A little planning now will keep you engaged, and your time filled with worthwhile activities.

Remember, lay out your calendar now that includes signing up for summer OLLI classes and programs. Spring is here and you should be, too!

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Computer Club

3rd Saturday, May 18

Microsoft Copilot

Good/Safe Practices in the Digital Age



By **Paul Howard, OPCUG Program Chair**

The Computer Club (OLLI Personal Computer User Group, or OPCUG) will meet with its partner, the Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS) on Saturday, May 18, 2024, in person and via Zoom. The Zoom session opens at 12:45.

Microsoft Copilot—Presented by Lorrin Garson

Artificial intelligence (AI), the ability of a computer to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings, is a rapidly progressing technology. Microsoft Copilot is an AI-powered assistant that can provide a variety of information: e.g., cite sources of information, create poems and songs, create images, write computer code in multiple languages, translate between languages, create drafts of documents. Copilot is available on the web (<https://copilot.microsoft.com>), PCs, and Apple computers. Numerous examples of Copilot's capabilities will be presented.

Lorrin Garson had a long career in technical publishing of chemical information. His presentations to our computer groups are famous for their thorough research and clarity in explaining topics such as cryptography, encryption of personal data, cloud storage, and the origins of personal computers.

Learn in 30: Good/Safe Practices in the Digital Age—Presented by Roger Fujii

This talk will briefly cover what people should and should not do in the complex world we live in. While the intent is not to raise the anxiety level of anyone, people should be aware of what is out there and how to reasonably protect oneself. Unfortunately, some things are beyond your control, but this discussion will go over what people can do to minimize bad things happening.

Roger Fujii has helped OLLI with technology challenges for its email and LAN systems since 2006, and been a PATACS stalwart since the '80s.

See full details on this meeting by [clicking here](#). For information on the Computer Club, see the [OPCUG Website](#). OPCUG dues are \$5 and are now due for 2024 (and 2023, if you didn't get around to paying earlier in the year!). See <http://olligmu.org/opcug/comm.html> for details on making payment.

To attend via Zoom's cloud meeting service, beginning at 12:45, please click [this link](#) to join the meeting and use passcode 389574 (*Note*: enter passcode with NO spaces) or enter meeting ID 857 2717 9449 in the Zoom app and use the above passcode (preferred method), or dial in at 301-715-8592.

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Trivia Club Redux Interest Meeting



By **Pete Oliver, Trivia Club Coordinator**

If you love knowledge and learning, and enjoy competition, come join us for trivia night! The plan is to meet weekly at a restaurant for Pour House trivia, which seems to be the best fit for our age group.

My wife and I are volunteering as coordinators. We envision an inclusive group in which everyone gets to participate. The only rules are to respect the game and each other.

If you have questions or would like to be on the list, please send your contact info to

amount1963@gmail.com or call (423) 524-5149. We'll try to find a venue that works best on either Mondays or Thursdays.

In the meantime, I'll try to keep everyone up on our progress.

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Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

Two-handed Art

There is an art
to removing a table leaf, an extender,
from the dining table by yourself.
Those who live alone discover this.
The guests have gone, it's time
to restore extra space to the dining room.
First you unlatch the locks holding the leaf in place.
Standing at one end of the table
give a quick, sharp pull toward yourself
hoping for a sizeable space to appear.
If lucky, you have room to reach into the space
and pull said leaf from its neighbors,
lifting it out. Lean it in a stable position
and return to the end of the table.
Push toward the opposite end.
With luck, the inner edges come together
and you may lock them into place.
If not, move the table against a large object,
the wall, bookshelves, stand-in for another pair of hands,
and repeat the push bringing open edges together.
Lock them into place. Push chairs back into position.
Remind self to ask a guest next time to help complete this task,
a condition of allowing them to depart.

-jan bohall

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Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances May 11 through May 20



By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468. You can also 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 Center ticket purchase page](#).

Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of information on interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just sign up at [this link](#) to stay in touch. Also, the Center for the Arts has a website, [Mason Arts at Home](#), which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances.

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At the Fairfax Campus Venues

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra: *Melodies of the Soul*

Sat, May 18, 8:00

Harris Theatre

Admission: \$65, \$55, \$40.

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Mason Student and Faculty Performances

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

No performances

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At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

Creative and Performing Arts Center (CAPAC):

Crowns, A Gospel Musical

Sat, May 11, 2:00

Sun, May 12, 3:00

Sat, May 18, 2:00

Sun, May 19, 3:00

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: \$30 Adult, \$12 Senior.

Pied Piper Theatre: *The Wizard of Oz*

Sat, May 11, 2:00 and 7:00

Sun, May 12, 2:00

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$30 Adult, \$25 Senior.

Manassas Ballet Theatre: Romeo and Juliet

Fri, May 17, 7:30
 Sat, May 18, 3:00 and 7:30
 Sun, May 19, 3:00
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$65, \$55, \$45, \$35, \$25.

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

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Meetings & Clubs

Please note: OLLI Meetings and Clubs may currently take place in several formats: some are in person only, some are online only, and some are hybrid, meaning that they take place in person and are accessible online simultaneously. OLLI events and activities meeting online bear the identification "Z" in their course or event number (except clubs; you may need to check the [OLLI calendar](#) and daily schedule email for location and other event information). Refer to the university's [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates.

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office. The list is accurate as of mid-week, but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast of coming 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, kick-off coffees, etc., **bolded** below. The OLLI office has sent (or will send) emails with links and meeting passwords to club members; you may also log in at the [member portal](#) and click on ZOOM CLASS LINKS.*

Sat May 11	10:00 am	Tai Chi Club – online
Mon May 13	9:30 am	What's in the Daily News? – online
Tue May 14	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club – online
Wed May 15	1:30 pm	Board Game Club
	1:45 pm	Bridge Club
	2:00 pm	Memoir and More Writing Group – online
	4:00 pm	Mah Jongg Club – online
	4:00 pm	Spanish Club – online
	4:00 pm	Conversation with Team Bloch – online
Thu May 16	11:50 am	All the News
	4:00 pm	Reston Book Club – online

	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club – online
Fri May 17	9:30 am	Crafts and Conversation
	11:00 am	Classic Literature Club – online
	11:00 am	Homer, etc. – online
	2:30 pm	Caregivers Group – online
Sat May 18	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online
	1:00 pm	Personal Computer User Group
Mon May 20	9:30 am	What's in the Daily News? – online
	11:00 am	Poetry Writing Club – online
	4:00 pm	Family History/Genealogy Club – online
Tue May 21	9:30 am	Annex Art – online
	2:00 pm	Gentle Yoga Club – online
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club – online
Wed May 22	10:00 am	Bridge Club
	10:30 am	Investment Forum – online
	4:00 pm	Theater Lovers' Group – online
Thu May 23	10:00 am	Humanities & Social Sciences/Current Events Program Planning Group – online
	11:50 am	All the News – online
	3:00 pm	Gentle Yoga Club – online
	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club – online
Fri May 24	9:30 am	Mah Jongg Club
	9:30 am	Crafts and Conversation
	11:00 am	Homer, etc. – online
	12:00 noon	Photography Club
Sat May 25	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online

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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: Paul Van Hemel

Associate Editor: David Gundry

Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siesseger, Paul Van Hemel

Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Tom Appich, Martha Kossoff, Anne Hartshorn, Bonnie Becker, Carol McManus

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

5/9/24, 10:29 PM

OLLI E-News May 10, 2024

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