As I sit at my computer on the second day of spring to write my April message, I can’t believe it’s snowing; winter just doesn’t want to leave us. At least there’s one good thing about snow in early spring: it doesn’t stay around very long.

But with the spring comes the nearing of the end of the semester. Our next and final General Membership meeting for this term will be held on April 29 at 2:30 p.m. I strongly urge you to attend this meeting as it will focus on two important issues: the budget, which the membership must vote on for the next year, and the status of our fundraising. We will also discuss the continuing efforts of our Strategic Planning Committee and share some of the data we have gathered to date.

Elections for next year’s Board Members will be held during the week of April 20. The Nominating Committee’s slate of candidates can be found in this issue of the Chronicles. Additional nominees may be proposed at the April 8 Executive Board meeting. We will send out the complete list of candidates, along with their bios, immediately after the board meeting. I want to thank the nominating committee, which consisted of Chair Ginny Bushart, John Gobler, Bob Mirman, Janet Creamer, and Sue Parlatoe, for a job well done.

The Curriculum Committee is hard at work gathering applications for fall workshops. While we have many returning workshops, as always, we are looking for some new and interesting ones. If you would like to lead a workshop, please let us know. From my own personal experience, I can say that leading a workshop has been very rewarding.

Along with the end of the semester also comes the time when some of our members who have served on various committees move on to other things, and we are in need of more members to volunteer to fill those vacancies. The good news is that most committees don’t require a large time commitment, and yet serving on one is a great way to help the program. Remember we are a volunteer program and we need everyone’s help and support.

Our spring luncheon will have a couple of new twists this year. It will be a sunset dinner at Lombardi’s on the Sound in Port Jefferson on May 7 from 4 to 8 p.m. You will receive full details shortly. This will be a wonderful way to end the semester, so mark your calendars and save the date. Also new this year, we will invite the workshop leaders to attend the sunset dinner at Lombardi’s as our guests in lieu of a workshop leader luncheon.
Want to lead a workshop next semester but can’t make the deadline to submit the paperwork? Not to worry. You can do a mini workshop in June and you still have plenty of time to submit the paperwork!

Our June workshops are less structured than those in the fall and spring. Workshop descriptions and schedules are published. Members do not register for a class. They just show up! All activities are in the SBS building.

By the end of April the applications to lead one of these workshops will be available. Watch your inbox for that notice.

Never led a workshop before and are ready to give it a try? This is a perfect time to do that. Most workshops are four weeks (all of June) but you can offer something for one, two or three weeks if that works better for you.

To get you thinking, here is a list of topics OLLI members have requested. Pick one or come up with one of your own.

The Curriculum Committee will be happy to help you get started.
Contact Terri McCoy terri01mc@optonline.net or Carole Gambrell carol.gambrell@gmail.com

CRAFTS:
Knitting
Crocheting
Mat cutting for framing pictures
Beading

ACTIVITIES:
Tap Dancing
Stretching Class
Zumba Gold
Exercise
Walking group
Appreciating our Town - hikes, garden visits, wildlife
Chorus

COMPUTERS:
Corel Paint Shop Pro
Proshow Gold

GAMES:
Mah Jongg for beginners
Chess
Bridge intro

MISCELLANEOUS:
Personal Growth/Book Discussion
Medical Ethics
Classical Music appreciation
The Three Village Area
Brooklyn
New York City

HOME:
Interior Decorating
Basic Home Repairs for Dummies
Woodworking and/or Home Maintenance Techniques
Gardening or Landscaping

SOCIAL:
Senior Singles in Society
Travel in the USA &/or Internationally
Grandparenting
Workshop Rules Of Procedure

Ken Buxbaum

1. You must raise your hand and be recognized before you speak; recognized by the workshop leader, not the person you’re questioning or disagreeing with. If the workshop leader doesn’t recognize you and you don’t recognize the workshop leader, you’re probably in the wrong workshop.

2. When you are recognized to speak by the workshop leader you must say your first name before you say anything else. This is so that you can be recognized and called upon by name during subsequent workshops as long as you always sit in the same seat and wear the same clothing.

3. When presenting an article, your introduction or concluding remarks may not be longer than the article you are presenting; similarly, when responding to an article your comments will be timed to assure they are shorter than the article.

4. Note taking will neither be accepted nor condoned by anyone participating in a discussion as it gives the note taker an unfair advantage over those who cannot remember the details of article then being discussed.

5. No matter how heated the discussion, there will be absolutely no personal remarks unless you want to compliment someone on how well they look. To do otherwise will result in you and your chair being moved into the hallway.

6. Disagreeing too many times with the workshop leader will also result in you and your chair being moved into the hallway. If it continues during subsequent workshops your chair will be moved to the second floor hallway.

7. A person who is speaking may not be interrupted except by the workshop leader, who may interrupt anyone at any time, particularly if he disagrees with the ridiculous opinion of the person commenting.

8. There are no weekly tests, midterms, finals or term papers. However, extra credit may be earned by publicly agreeing with or praising the workshop leader.

9. Papers, cups, bottles and other litter, including the day’s articles, must be disposed of at the end of each workshop and chairs must be repositioned, as there is no button to contact housekeeping on the university telephone.

10. Changes and/or additions to these rules may be announced at any time, at the sole discretion of the workshop leader.

Ken Buxbaum, Workshop Leader
Imagine Our OLLI
By Lee Marc Stein

Think OLLI is a wonderful part of your retired life? Look with anticipation for those “can’t-miss” workshops?

Just imagine our OLLI with…
… software that enables even more efficient registration
… new projectors and giant screen TVs that show photographs and videos truer to life
… larger classrooms to more comfortably accommodate the more popular workshops
… OUR OWN BUILDING or at least OUR OWN WING of a building on campus

You can help turn imagination into reality by participating in our fundraising campaign. We’ve gotten off to a good start, but need donations from as many OLLI members as possible. To simply meet Osher Foundation standards, we’re required to receive donations from 10% of our Members. Since we want to exceed the standard, we need 50 more members to donate by the end of this semester. Please be one of them.

If you attend OLLI with your spouse, please make separate donations as this counts towards our quota. You can donate directly online by going to the “Give to OLLI” page on the OLLI website or writing a check and bringing it to the OLLI office. If you have favorite workshop leaders, you can make donations in their name by participating in the new “Honor Thy Leader” program described in the March issue of Chronicles.

If you’re thinking twice about making a donation, maybe these comments from other Members will motivate you to contribute:

“Volunteering as an OLLI workshop leader has enabled me to share my love and passion of Music with my peers. The vast selection of OLLI workshops has enabled me to pursue and expand my knowledge in subjects and topics I enjoy, with participant discussion and sharing of views. OLLI has also provided me the opportunity to establish friendships with many special people who share common interests.”
-- Gary L. Field

“OLLi has meant a rebirth for me. I have been able to go back to school and take the liberal arts classes that I missed when I was majoring in engineering. It has also extended my cultural and social world. As they say in the MasterCard ad ‘priceless!’”
-- Sol Gurman

“A few words indicating what OLLI has meant to me: Rejuvenation, inspiration, cultivation of creation... Excitement, motivation, contemplation and elation... Satisfaction, validation, celebration of new relations... Appreciation, restoration of vitality, increasing conviviality and serenity.”
-- Gilda Candela

“I love many things about OLLI. For example, we explore exciting new subject matter while interacting with very intelligent people from diverse backgrounds. There is also the warmth and collegiality of working with enthusiastic classmates and the stimulation of meeting new people, both members and college students. That is why OLLI makes my day.”
-- David Long

Another way to contribute is to let us know about companies, professional firms or retailers who might be interested in becoming OLLI sponsors. All we need is the contact information and we’ll follow up.

Kenny2b@Verizon.net
Hope Children’s Fund in Kenya Africa is an organization dedicated to taking orphaned young people off the streets and providing them with the necessities of life and the opportunity to pursue an education. OLLI member Larry Hohler is the Co-President of this organization and has been working with them since 2005.

Big news from Hope Children’s Home! Betty Gakki, who came to the Home when she was 15, has graduated from Chuka University, gotten married, and has begun teaching at a secondary school in Meru. Betty is among the first young people in our care to complete her education and begin her life as a self-sufficient adult. Seven more young people are now attending universities, and one is enrolled in a music technician school in Nairobi. We have great hopes for each of them, and expect that when they graduate they will help the kids coming behind them to complete their educations. Last month we learned that 13 more of our Primary school students passed the entrance exam, and have enrolled as Form One (ninth grade) students at local secondary schools. (three who failed are being enrolled in trade schools). Secondary school is not free in Kenya, and we are hustling to find ways to pay their fees. Director Joe Kirima grows maize on our farm and uses some of the maize meal to barter for fees. Most of our kids have mentors who send yearly stipends to help support them. We have begun producing school uniforms, and are using the profits generated by their sale to help meet our increased educational expenses. As more orphans qualify for higher education, the demands on our scarce resources skyrocket. Plans are in the works to sell two and one-half acres of our farm land in order to cover costs. What started as a relatively simple endeavor when we opened the Home to our first 18 street children in 2005, has become much larger and and very much more complicated today. What makes our effort worthwhile is the reality that more young people like Betty, who began her life in abject poverty, will soon become productive members of their society.
Thank you all for your contributions to the Stony Brook University Food Bank. We delivered 31 boxes containing over 600 food items on St. Patrick’s Day. The snow and the cold didn’t stop OLLI members from turning out and giving.

Casey McGloin is the Assistant Director of the Center for Community Engagement & Leadership Development and founder of the Food Bank. You can see her thank you to us on their web page: [http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/foodpantry/index.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/foodpantry/index.html).

Of course, none of this could take place without OLLI volunteers. I’d like to thank Laurel Martin and Eileen Lohse for help checking the expiration dates and filling the boxes, Bob Stone for delivering the food to the pantry and thanks to our office staff for working around a wall of boxes for two weeks.
The Chronicles

The OLLI Nominating Committee is pleased to introduce the candidates running for office for the 2015-2016 academic year. As you will see from reading their bios, it is an experienced and capable slate of nominees. I would like to thank the nominating committee; Janet Creamer, John Gobler, Bob Mirman and Sue Parlatore for their efforts in helping to secure a fine group of our OLLI colleagues as nominees. Our appreciation goes out to the candidates for their generosity in agreeing to run and to serve as OLLI leaders.

Ginny Bushart, Nominating Committee Chair

Carole Gambrell
Nominee: OLLI President-Elect 2015-2016

Things come full circle. I met my husband, Richard, when we were both undergraduates at Stony Brook University.

Over the years I worked as a librarian at Emma Clark Library and Stony Brook University Library, retiring as the automation librarian at Suffolk County Community College.

We have three children: Dorothy, a graphic artist; Sam, an aerospace engineer; and Evonne, a copy editor. Unfortunately, Rich passed away before our two grandsons were born.

I joined OLLI about five years ago. During those five years I have been:

• one of four co-leaders of the workshop “Composition in Photography”
• the leader of the workshop “OLLI Talks”
• a member-at large responsible for Conversation Partners
• co-chair of the Curriculum Committee
• an editor of and a contributor to The Chronicles
• the organizer of two food drives for the Stony Brook University Food Bank

Outside OLLI, I give guided tours of Main Street, Setauket, for the Three Village Historical Society.

Add Mah Jongg, walking, and travel and you know what I do with my time.

Eileen Lohse
Nominee: OLLI Executive Board Secretary 2015-2016

OLLI is my third career. I first taught elementary school and later returned to college and became a registered nurse; however, my third career is by far the most fun. I so enjoy the workshops I take and the people I meet here in OLLI. Two years ago I became the OLLI secretary which is a challenging and interesting position. This year, for the first time, I am co-leading a workshop.

I have been married to Eric for 49 years and we have two grown children and four grandchildren. We have traveled extensively together, but we both also have our own interests. He is an avid photographer, while I have been known to hold a “point and shoot” camera backwards. I love to read – especially mysteries; I also enjoy doing genealogy – another kind of mystery. I have been writing memoirs for years, but OLLI has introduced me to a new passion – writing fiction.
Richard Meyer
Nominee: OLLI Member at Large 2015-2016

I retired in early August of 2010 and, at the advice of two former colleagues of mine, one of the first things I did was to join OLLI. It was some of the best advice I have ever received. While my current schedule precludes attending as many workshops as I would like, that is going to change in a few months and I look forward to the opportunity to attend more workshops and becoming more involved.

I have had the pleasure of facilitating one workshop, “A Battle History of The American Civil War”, for the three semesters covering spring 2012 to spring 2013. I’m currently working on a proposal to present to the Curriculum Committee for a new workshop to begin in the fall of 2015. As so many of the members have said, the best part of OLLI is meeting so many wonderful and interesting people and making new friends.

Prior to my retirement, I worked for the Suffolk County Department of Health Services. The first twenty-six years were divided between the Divisions of Environmental Health and Public Health. The final eleven years of my career I worked in Administration as Assistant Commissioner. I was very fortunate in that I worked for and with individuals who were dedicated to the mission of the Department and to serving the residents of Suffolk County. I can honestly state that if I had to do it all over again, I would pursue precisely the same path.

I have also tried to stay active in my community. I served on the Board of Directors of my local Chamber of Commerce and the community Youth Club. I also was president of our local civic organization, served as president of a PTA and after that for nine years as a trustee on the school board. I am currently serving in my eleventh year as trustee at the Comsewogue Public Library.

Jaci Trigony:
Nominee: OLLI Member at Large 2015-2016

I was born and grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I attended Andrews University and moved to Long Island in 1984. I married and had a daughter, Michelle.

For 40 years I worked in the corporate world as a Senior Commercial Insurance Underwriter, writing all over the world. I was a member of the National Board of Directors for Canine Companions (CCI) for 5 years, an organization who raises, trains and places service dogs all over the world. I retired in 2004 and joined The Round Table (now OLLI).

In the 10 plus years I have been a member of OLLI, I chaired the New Members Committee for 6 years. I am serving on the Editorial Board of the Chronicles Newsletter and am presently on the OLLI Long Range Strategic Planning Committee. I have also previously served on the OLLI Executive Board. It is a privilege to be nominated as a Member at Large in this great organization.
The Chronicles

Steven Hovani  
Nominee: OLLI Member at Large 2015-2016

I was born in Hungary and arrived in the United States in 1957. During my teen years I lived in New York City until I left to attend college in Boston, where I was fortunate enough to meet my wife, Susan. After graduation from law school we moved to Stony Brook in 1976.

Susan, who is also a member of OLLI, retired from a career in nursing; she is active in Three Village Meals on Wheels. Our daughter is an attorney with a United Nations agency, having recently returned from a five year sojourn in Italy. Our son just completed a five year assignment in Indonesia with The Nature Conservancy.

I joined OLLI four years ago, shortly after I retired from the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office, where I led the Appeals Bureau. I have enjoyed the numerous workshops in which I have participated, thanks to enthusiastic and knowledgeable leaders and subjects that varied from the Dead Sea scrolls and the Christian Bible to Photoshop and English history.

I am a member of the Curriculum Committee and for a year I was a co-editor of the Chronicles; the past three years I have also participated in the Conversation Partners program. I enjoy travel and photography.

My work taught me the importance of attention to detail, adherence to deadlines, and “playing well with others.” I would appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Board for the next two years.

Carole Weinberg  
Nominee: OLLI Member at Large 2015-2016

I have always enjoyed the challenges and rewards of learning, and OLLI has been such a rich addition to my life.

My background includes an M.A. from NYU in Counseling as well as a Masters from Stony Brook University in Social Work. In both areas I hold New York State Certification.

I was employed as a business teacher for three years at Elmont Memorial High School before beginning my guidance career in two high schools on Long Island for eight years. I was at an alcohol and drug abuse center as well as a middle school as part of my social work background. I believe that collaboration and team work are important to accomplish set goals.

I would be happy to represent OLLI members and serve on a committee in this capacity. I feel that my background has included professions where the skill of listening, hearing and responding to needs has been a thread throughout my careers.

My husband is semi-retired and I am retired which leaves time to devote to serving on the OLLI Board. I have two older sons, one of whom lives in London while the other lives in New York City with his wife and our two grandchildren... My sons are both in the financial sector.

I would be honored to serve as a Member at Large and to represent the exceptional people I have met through OLLI.
I have undergraduate and graduate degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Mathematics Education, Supervision and Administration.

I have taught high school and college mathematics. I have supervised classroom instruction, in all disciplines, grades K-12. I have taught some sociology.

For OLLI, I have taught a class in “Fun and Games with Mathematics” and, currently, a short lecture series called “Opera appreciation for people who think they hate opera.”

1. I ran parenting groups for parents of high school and middle school youngsters.

2. I taught high school and middle school students how to be Peer Mediators. I then supervised Peer Mediation programs for more than 20 years.

3. I started the Student Government Program at Ward Melville High School and built that program from 17 students to more than 100 students. I taught the first group 17 student leaders in topics that included Robert’s Rules of Order, Group Dynamics, Student Legal Rights and Leadership Skills. That program won numerous Newsday Service awards.

4. I teach, supervise and love interdisciplinary education. At one point I taught a math class using the first math book printed on the Gutenberg Press, in an effort to connect mathematics with the culture of the 16th century Europe. Lectured on geometry and perspective in Renaissance Art.

5. I lectured for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

6. I created a Peer Teaching program that paired successful high school seniors with a struggling freshmen. The program started with 6 pairs and grew to more than 100. While that program has continued at Greenwich High School, it has been extended to pair retirees in Greenwich with struggling elementary school students.

7. At North Shore Jewish Center, I have participated in educational programs, lead an interview committee for the selection of an Executive Director and served on the interview committee for the selection of a new Rabbi.

8. On a personal level, I am very interested in the Arts, all the arts, and the cultures from which they come. I spend 6 to 10 days a month, in our Greenwich Village studio co-op and the entire summer in the Berkshires in our lake community cottage, thoroughly enjoying all the culture those environments have to offer. I also like playing bridge.

9. I like connecting people to people, for both fun and for educational purposes.

10. My daughter is a Speech Pathologist who works in Brooklyn with multi-handicapped middle school students. When it comes to patience and empathy, she is my role model. She is married to Sarah and they have twins, one boy and one girl, age 3.

11. My son does many things. He is currently the Executive Director of the New York City Children’s Theater. He does personal coaching. He lectures on personal issues. He is writing a book on “happiness”. He has written and directed two off-Broadway musicals. He is a single dad with one 9-year old son. When it comes to energy and creativity, he is my role model.

12. My wife, Lenore, is also a retired Mathematics teacher and math supervisor. She also does lots and lots of different things. We’ve been happily married for 47 years. She is my best friend.
Fred Avril
Nominee: OLLI Member at Large 2015-2016

I’m a joiner; but more important, after joining, I’m a doer. In part:

- Most recently, I retired as chairman of the board of the Art League of Long Island, a not-for-profit with an annual budget of over $1.2 million in Dix Hills. I was chairman for three years, vice-chair for two years and have been on the board for 12 years.

- I was a coach when the Three Village Soccer Club was formed in 1979 and joined the board a few years later. Everyone else was taking care of the soccer, so I did things to bring everyone together: published a newsletter, organized the first three annual dinner-dances for the adults, ran the first opening day ceremonies for the players and coordinated Three Village Nights at the Arrows for the entire family.

- I was treasurer of a business organization out east called Eastern Long Island Executives. I also chaired the golf outing committee for six years to raise money for the culinary school at Suffolk Community College.

- I was on the organizing committee for the Northville/Commerce Long Island Classic (PGA Champions Tour). For eight years I chaired a subcommittee for a business luncheon at the tournament for over 100 economic development professionals and businesses.

On my personal side, I have been married to Bunnye, who is an active member of OLLI’s event committee, for 47 years. We have two children and three grandchildren, and have lived in Setauket for 38 years. Professionally, I am a retired engineer and have been a member of OLLI since 2008. With the above experience and achievements, I believe that I am qualified to be a valuable member of the OLLI board of directors.

Do You Hear That Stentorian Boom
by Irma Gurman

Do you hear that stentorian boom?
It’s John Molfetta working the room
A Moments in History presentation
To enhance our OLLI education
Everyone in his workshop can tell
His power points are researched well
Some of the moments that we have seen
Are the White Sox scandal of 1919
And the gangs of NY and Al Capone
(He expanded on what Martin Scorsese has shown)
We learned about Jesus--what’s fact or fiction
And Da Vinci’s famous Last Supper depiction
Whenever he teaches we stay on our toes
If we don’t pay attention he definitely knows
We’re curious what John will next be explaining
Whatever it is, it will be entertaining!

SAVE THE DATE
for
OLLI’S SPRING SUNSET DINNER
at
LOMBARDI’S on the SOUND
Port Jefferson

THURSDAY, MAY 7th
4:00-8:00PM

Includes
4 Course meal/Cocktail/Valet Parking
Registration details to follow
If you talk to people who attend Tuesday workshops, you’ll find out that we have been asking a lot of questions. What classes did you attend that day? Where did you park your car? When did you arrive and leave campus?

This is an attempt to get some statistics for planning. We know we have over a thousand members, but we don’t know how many are on campus at one time.

What did we find out in our March 3rd survey? That very few people car pool, eat in the SAC cafeteria, or park in P Lot. We also found that at our peak there were fewer than 300 OLLI members on campus.

We plan to repeat the survey on three more Tuesdays to see how our population changes over the semester. How many tanned people can you count in your workshop this week?

I’ve reproduced a few charts below. The statistics are close, but they cannot to be taken literally. As we repeat the survey we hope to get more accurate numbers.

Of course, none of this could have been done without the help of many volunteers: Eileen Lohse, Judy Stone, Sherry Schwartz, Frank Tassielli, Pat Breslauer, Barbara Chadakoff, Myra Friedman, Donna Crinnian, Bob Stone and Helen Emerich. Or without the cooperation of the Tuesday workshop leaders: Virgina Williams, Gary Field, Arline Goldstein, Bruce Stasiuk, Carter Bancroft, Richard Rubin, Ingeborg Kelly, Angela Bari, David Leader, Claude Frank, George Rystar, Robert Weiss, Bob Stone, Dorothy Sterrett, Sheila Blume, Florence Mondry, Jeff Hollander, Jerry Ebenstein, Pat Ballan, Carolyn Edricks, and Rosemary Weisner.
THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBER DONORS!
By Helen Emmerich

A special thank you to those who have shown recently* how much OLLI means to them by donating to our fund-raising efforts. Your contributions will be put to work to make OLLI at Stony Brook even better.

Anonymous
Edwin Cohen
Irvin Frankel
Janet Golden
Jeff Goldschmidt
Marilyn Kaiser
Susan Kessler
Joyce Levinstein
Emelia Lynch
Dennis Moran
Ruthanne O’Donnell
Robert Ober
Suzanne Parlato
Sharon Ruhs
Elenore Schotz
Paul Taub
Barbara White

* List of previous donors appeared in February issue of The Chronicles

Family Business
by Barbara Golub

Sheila Bieber and Dorothy Schiff Shannon conducted the family business every Friday at 10 AM in SBS room 102 for many semesters. Our room and time may have changed for this spring semester but nothing can change how we feel when we walk into our classroom. The forty or fifty people in the Memoir Writing Workshop have become a loving, supportive and encouraging family group. Sheila and Dorothy make sure that everyone is comfortable in the reading of their individual memoirs. Not only are the members friendly in class but when one of them meets another either in other workshops or off campus, the mutual camaraderie is evident. This workshop has become a place where one relives past or present, happy or sad, nostalgic memories. I know that for me personally, this workshop has made my life begin again. Thank you OLLI for including this special meeting place for not only the mind but for the heart.
To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

The following cards were sent in March
Get well wishes to Al Sauber and Arlene Gervis
Sympathy for Wayne Holo, who lost his father in law.

The Chronicles is published by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, School of Professional Development, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11794-4310 (631) 632-7063.

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