The only way to spiritual fulfillment is through relationships. C. G. Jung

Joseph Campbell teaches that it is only through relationships that we are able to open up dimensions within our selves, which are greater than those we knew before we began the quest. It is through these relationships that we can sometimes connect with the energies and mysteries of the universe. How many of us have left a workshop with insights of overwhelming importance after discussions with our leader or with a classmate? All of a sudden material, of which we had been quite familiar, has a new more immediate and personal meaning. Our colleagues become more intimate, our world expanded, and our life enriched.

There are few organizations, which can offer more opportunities for intellectual and spiritual growth than our OLLI. Many of our religious institutions tend to subscribe to the notion that they have all the answers—just do what I say; and believe what I tell you. For some, this is enough and life is good. For others, a hunger exists to connect on a more personal level to the majesty, mystery, and energy of the universe. It may be even possible to understand Schopenhauer’s description of the breakthrough of a metaphysical realization of the truth of our lives, which is that we are all one.

Whether we are discussing a classic film, commenting on each other’s writing, listening to music, dancing, painting, photographing, creating stained glass, arguing, participating in special events, publishing The Chronicles, editing an original film, serving on committees, or leading a workshop—relationships are nurtured, insights are realized, and we learn that the apparent separateness we experience is merely a product of the conditions of time and space.

Our true reality is in our identity and unity with all life. Our true journey is lifelong learning, as we search for the truth together.

There are so many people to thank for helping us along our journey. I want to especially acknowledge the recent efforts of Myra Friedman, who agreed to chair the nominating committee. Please show her how much you appreciate her work by voting this year. All the chairs of our committees and executive board members serve because they love OLLI as much as I do; and of course—Janet, Laura, and Jennifer are deserving of more thanks that I possibly can give.

Sincerely,

arnie katz
Happy Spring!!

Wishing and hoping for blue skies and sunny days ahead. Due to the several closures that inclement weather brought us this winter, many workshops have missed a few sessions. Some leaders may have chosen to extend their session one more week, through the end of May 10th. Participants will be advised by their leader and reminders from the OLLI office will be posted and sent by email.

We thank those members who have decided to “pay it forward” by offering workshops for the upcoming Fall, 2013 and June Activities sessions. As our deadlines are looming, we would appreciate hearing from any other member(s) who would like to provide a 4 week session in June - a perfect time to show us your interests, hobbies, crafts, games, etc. These workshops do not need to be academic in nature. Application forms are posted on the OLLI Bulletin boards. June Activities deadline by April 15th please.

Spring Dates to Remember

Friday, March 29th – Fall ‘13 – Workshop Applications – Deadline

Wednesday, April 3rd – 9:30 am -SBS, N244 Curriculum Meeting - New workshop presentations with light breakfast

Wednesday, April 3rd – 12 NOON - General Membership Meeting – SBS-S102

Please note: location was changed to SBS-S102

Approve Budget for 2013-2014

All General meetings are important as member participation is needed to form a quorum and conduct business. Plus, it’s an opportunity to chat with fellow members, make new friends and to take advantage of special lectures and presentations.

**Thursday, April 11th – 3pm** link opens for **25th Anniversary Spring Brunch** at the new Hilton Garden INN on campus - for members only.

**Friday, April 19th - Literary Tea submissions**- Deadline. All work to be typed & mailed to Rhoda Spinner in time for printing or left in her mailbox in the OLLI office.

**Monday, April 22 – Monday, April 29– ELECTION WEEK** – voting on line for OLLI Board members

**Friday, April 26th - OLLI Spring Literary Tea** – S102/S149 at 12noon

**Tuesday, April 30th – Let’s Put on a Show Workshop** – join us SAC-302 – 2pm.

Light refreshments before the show.

**Wednesday, May 1st – 25th Anniversary Spring Brunch ($40.00)** Join fellow OLLI members as we close the celebrations of a very special year! Election results will be announced and the gavel will be passed!
Retirement is great. There is finally time to do all those things you wanted to do - visit friends and grandchildren, travel, take in a show in Manhattan, and take classes at OLLI. There is also time to lead an OLLI class. We are currently putting together the fall 2013 schedule. Thanks to our volunteers, many favorite classes are returning and some exciting new ones are in the offing. The final planning meetings are next week, so details will have to wait until the next issue of the Chronicles.

If you’re not sure about committing to a semester long class, a four week class during June is a good way to test the waters. It’s an opportunity to teach how to improve your Scrabble playing or share your love of opera. We are always looking for more offerings. Contact Ellen Guarnieri or me if you are interested. carole.gambrell@gmail.com egee8@optonline.net

This has been a hard year for everyone with the new online registration system. The office has been working hard and making changes so the fall experience will anxiety free.
## Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Stony Brook University

### Chronicles

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### April 2013 Calendar

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<tr>
<td>Save-the-date</td>
<td>Let’s put on A Show</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>9:30 – N244 Conf Room Curriculum Presentations</td>
<td>12:00 – SBS-5102 General Member Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Save-the-date</td>
<td>Join us on May 1st OLLI Spring Brunch Hilton Garden Inn@SBU</td>
<td>Sam – OLLI Conf Room ARTS COUNCIL MTG</td>
<td>10:30 – OLLI Conf Room SPECIAL EVENTS MTG</td>
<td>11:30am–S102 25th Ann. Comm</td>
<td>3 PM – Link opens 25th ANNIVERSARY SPRING BRUNCH $40</td>
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<td>12:30- Workshop, Llite Lunchen (by invitation)</td>
<td>Deadline for submitting work for Literary Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow Election voting instructions</td>
<td>Submit votes online</td>
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<td>10:30– S102 Exec. BD. MTG</td>
<td>Deadline Sign Up Brunch</td>
<td>12:30– S102 LITERARY TEA</td>
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<td>4pm Deadline For voting – Slate of Officers 2013-14</td>
<td>Let’s Put on a Show SAC – 302 @ 2pm. Fun, Laughter &amp; Refreshments.</td>
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### Notes:
- Please do not remove Art from Art Wall until after 4/26.
- MAY 1st – see you at the Spring Brunch.
the Barnes Foundation
Saturday, April 13, 2013
& the Constitutional Walking
Tour of Philadelphia

A Few Seats Left

“Celebrated for its exceptional breadth, depth, and quality, the Barnes Foundation’s art collection includes works by some of the greatest European and American masters of impressionism, post-impressionist, and early modern art, as well as African sculpture, Pennsylvania German decorative arts, Native American textiles, metalwork, and more.”

6:30am Bus departs Stony Brook University South Parking lot
7:00am Bus departs Huntington, Exit 49N LIE
10:00am Group visit to the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, PA
and lunch on your own
1:45pm Bus departs for Constitutional Center
2:30pm The Constitutional Guided Walking Tour of Philadelphia, PA
3:45pm Approximate departure for home

“Since Philadelphia is best seen by foot, The Constitutional is the best way to explore America’s Birthplace, taking you behind the scenes to the places where other tours cannot venture. Get up close with a High-Definition Historical Experience™ and see more than 20 historic sites in 75 minutes on a 1.25 mile outdoor walking journey, including: Independence Hall, The Liberty Bell Center, Betsy Ross House National Constitution Center, Declaration House, Carpenters’ Hall, Franklin Court, Christ Church Burial Ground, The First Bank of the U.S. Congress Hall, Old City Hall, Christ Church, Second Bank of the U.S.”

Register online Thursday, March 21st at 10am
www.stonybrook.edu/spd/oll/
Click on Special Events
$70 per person

Trip Coordinated by Marion Hanna & Diane Halton
As we celebrate our 25th Anniversary, we want to honor our presidents, past and present. Being President is a 3 year commitment. The first year is as President Elect, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President. While serving as President, President Elect, or Past President, they are expected to attend the many meetings that are called in addition to the Executive Board and General Meeting. The three years of their life given to the Round Table/OLLI are being celebrated today. There are 16 presidents who are still actively part of our organization, and 9 who are no longer with us. For the 9, we looked back into our Round Table history books.

◊ **RUTH PASTERNACK: 1988-1990.** Ruth was a Founding Member of the Round Table. She also was a Past President and served a two year term. Ruth was the first school psychologist in Suffolk County and helped set up the first mental health clinic in the county. She is honored today with the Ruth Pasternack Fund.

◊ **JAMES A. FOWLER: 1990-1991.** James was a Founding Member of the Round Table. He retired as a Professor of Biology at Stony Brook. As the second president of the Round Table, he served as a liaison between Stony Brook University and the Round Table. He set up the computer system in the office to accommodate the growing membership and programs.

◊ **MYRON LEDBETTER: 1991-1992.** Myron is a Founding Member of the Round Table and a very active member still in OLLI today. Myron retired from the Brookhaven National Laboratory as a Senior Scientist and plant cell biologist. Myron wrote the set of by-laws for the 3 year presidency term and also suggested the name “Round Table.”

MYRON’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“With a membership of about 150, and growing rapidly, we were ending a period of knowing the names of most members at sight. It was a time of smooth sailing for the Round Table with mutual admiration between it and the University. Up to this time, most business involving the officers was carried out by casual, unscheduled meetings between individuals. It became clear that we were becoming more complex in structure for such casual means of doing business. In response, I called the first meeting of the ‘executive committee’ to consider governing matters of the Round Table. We agreed that it was time to schedule regularly executive meetings to better manage the Round Table.”


◊ **JUDITH KERTZNER: 1994-1995.** Judy is a Founding Member of the Round Table as well as a Past President. She retired from teaching in the Bayport School System. JUDY’S YEAR FOLLOWS:
“Eighteen years ago, when I was president, my main concern was to get all members involved and to realize that they were all to have a say in what we did and what we wanted to do. We tried to get meetings which shared all plans and to invite members to participate with questions and to volunteer time as needed. I took seriously the name Round Table which suggests that all who were part of it had an equal say in all that we did. The people involved were wonderful in getting classes organized, working in the office as volunteers and being there for all issues that came up.”

◊ **THEODORE MOORMAN: 1995-1996.** Ted retired as a Grumman engineer. Using the skills of a trained engineer allowed him to navigate his presidency through negotiations with the Stony Brook Fund and the Round Table. The Round Table annual budget was only $40,000 and had a 15% total fee charged by the SBF for university services to the Round Table. Ted also proposed a Round Table Contemplative Garden on the Stony Brook campus.

◊ **RHODA SPINNER: 1996-1997.** Rhoda retired from a teaching career. She also wrote a Teacher Training Curriculum for the NY Education Department. RHODA’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“As you might imagine being President of OLLI (née “The Round Table”) presented great satisfaction as well as great challenges. Among the challenges I faced was that of our escalating membership and an insufficient number of classrooms. At that time all of our workshops were held in the SBS building. I was fortunate to make the acquaintance of Carole Friedman who was responsible for allocating space in the SAC (Student Activities Center) building. She was most helpful in securing classroom space for us. Also, together with Karl Demuth, I approached heads of the various departments who were exceedingly helpful in providing rooms for us. I also feared that with our increased membership we would lose our feeling of “family” so I initiated the New Member Teas to make our new friends feel more comfortable and part of the “group”. The first of these was at the home of Lorraine Grollman and it was a great success. Increased membership necessitated more workshops and more workshop leaders. I felt that our hard working workshop leaders deserved more recognition for the time and effort they extended so I began the workshop leaders luncheons.“

◊ **CARL SIEGEL: 1997-1998.** Carl taught high school English for 30 years in NYC and Port Jefferson High School. CARL’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“Endowed Fund no longer exists as of 2005. Current Use Fund, known as Ruth Pasternack, George Goodman and the Commemorative Fund each are separate accounts. Contemplative Garden: After many years of discussion and planning, which was to bear the name of Ted Moorman, it never materialized. Mrs. Moorman requested that the collected money be given to the School of Engineering for its library. By-laws revision. Creation of the following committees: (a) Government Liaison (b) Outreach (c) Scholarship Fund proposed but never created (d) First members Art Show held at the Student Union Art Gallery. Biggest Challenges: Recognizing limited financial power, our continued growth required paid university involvement, Finding time and space for new curriculum.”

◊ **JOSEPH PARELLA: 1998-1999.** Joe retired from Norden Systems after spending 40 years as an electrical/systems engineer for leading Long Island companies. JOE’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“The biggest challenge as president of the Round Table was an ongoing one, that of protecting our surplus $$$ from the administration. The assessment is a charge that SPD puts on RT/OLLI as our organizational “dues” for their services rendered. Since we pay $0 for use of the facilities, etc. it is fair that SPD exacts a toll. The debates were about how much and how, and when, assessed. Many debates ensued. After much “friendly” discussion we (Admin. and Round Table) settled on (the dean decided) the annual assessment that is now in effect. The membership fee at the time of my presidency was $180. Per year, which was a bargain.”

Continued »
EGON NEUBERGER: 1999-2000. Egon retired as a Professor at Stony Brook after 31 years. He worked for the Department of State in intelligence and served as Economic Attaché at the American Embassy in Russia in 1951-1952. As president, he developed the Goodman Memorial Symposium.


BEVERLY SMITH: 2001-2002. Beverly retired from teaching at Sayville High School. While teaching, she was awarded grants for summer study at Hofstra and Stony Brook. While President, Janet McLean was hired as Assistant Director. A $25,000 Grant from Senator Lack’s office was given to the Round Table.

RICHARD CUNNINGHAM: 2002-2003. Richard retired after 31 years as a guidance counselor in the East Islip school district. For 24 years he also acted as an adjunct professor of history at Nassau Community College. RICHARD’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“A few things that come to mind regarding my time as the president of The Round Table include the establishment of a committee to review and revise the by-laws, the decision to limit membership enrollment to the fall semester only (previously new members could join in September and January), and the appointment of Delores Weisenreider as the organization’s first historian. In addition I believe I was the first president to assign specific jobs for the Members-at-Large and during my tenure the membership fee was raised (from $180 to $220) for the first time since the RT was founded.”

FRAN ROBINSON: 2003-2004. Fran retired from teaching in the Port Jefferson Station-Terryville School System after 33 years. FRAN’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“My term as president took place during a period of rapid growth. We were now over 500 members and everyone realized there would have to be considerable restructuring. This began with our work and completion of the New Member’s Handbook and revised by-laws. Additional challenges involved acquiring adequate classroom space and balancing larger lecture-style workshops with opportunities for collaborative involvement. Our rapid growth also placed a strain on workshop registration. We worked closely with Karl Demuth whose small team of dedicated individuals was effective in placing members in workshops of their choice while ensuring a fair lottery system for over subscribed classes. This set the stage for the concept of computer registration which in some ways is still a goal for the future.”

BARBARA KORIN: 2004. Barbara served a year in 2003-2004 as President Elect. She was installed in May of 2004 as President. However, shortly thereafter resigned her presidency, due to family concerns.

KENNETH BUXBAUM: 2004-2005. Ken retired from Commuter Railroad Management for 30 years. He became president in the fall of 2004 taking the place of Barbara Korin who resigned as president. KEN’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

“As president my biggest challenge was changing the perception of the School of Professional Development, the Round Table Administration and the Executive Board, that the President is only the moderator of the organization’s meetings. But instead is elected to be the leader of the organization and if the president does not stand up to the membership and the administration for what he believes is their best interest, he is abrogating his responsibility.”

Continued »
◊ **ROBERT BELSTEN**: 2005. Bob spent 32 years in education as a Teacher, Elementary School Principal, Assistant Superintendent and retired as Superintendent of Schools. **BOB’S YEAR FOLLOWS:**

“With invaluable assistance from my stalwart colleagues, my greatest contribution to the Round Table was the ultimate revision of the existing By-laws to reflect third party mediation. Since its inception in 1988, final decisions regarding the Round Table rested with the Dean of the School of Professional Development. Culminating in January/February, 2006, negotiations between the parties resulted in a revision of the Round Table By-Laws to include the Provost of the University of Stony Brook to help mediate issues between the administrators of The School of Professional Development, and those of the Round Table. Now that we have “OLLI”, I wonder if this change is still in place.”

◊ **JOE QUINN**: 2006-2007. Joe retired as a Principal in the Middle Country School District. He also was chairman of the Democratic Party in Smithtown for 22 years and serves as a New York State Democratic Committeeman. He has worked for two Congressmen while in Suffolk County Democratic politics. After Bob Belsten stepped down after serving part of his presidency, Joe stepped in to fill the rest of his term and an additional one year term he was elected to. **JOE’S YEAR FOLLOWS:**

“My most challenging time as President was taking over in mid-year without much preparation. I served one and a half years—I believe the only President to do so. During my term we began to talk to Osher Foundation. We also re-did the by-laws to improve governance.”

◊ **ELLEN GUARNIERI**: 2007-2008. Ellen retired as Executive Vice President and then CEO at Jack Lenor Larsen Inc. At 52 years old, Ellen became a college freshman. She graduated with a degree in Comparative Humanities. **ELLEN’S YEAR FOLLOWS:**

“I was the Last Round Table president and the First OLLI president. Our transition to OLLI occurred during my year in office. In May we had an extra-ordinary general membership meeting. 168 people showed up. There was concern that OLLI would dictate curriculum content and that we would not be able to accommodate the expected growth. After a spirited debate, the motion to join OLLI was passed overwhelmingly.”

◊ **JOHN GOBLER**: 2008-2009. John retired from Grumman as an engineer and supervisor. John is still using his skills to better our program. **JOHN’S YEAR FOLLOWS:**

“The year I was president was an interesting year of many changes and dealing with those changes and doing my best to help them proceed smoothly and with the least amount of disruption, was probably the more significant challenge I faced, as opposed to the usual challenges any president has to cope with. That year we started off with some significant facilities moves (S101, S109, S104) and renovations. In addition, thanks to our OLLI Grant, we started to deploy many new technology innovations, like overhead digital projectors with “smart boxes” to interface with DVD players and laptops, 20 new laptop computers in a portable roll-cart and new digital/portable projector/DVD players, all to enhance the quality and depth of our Workshop classroom presentations. There were a number of glitches and delays with all this, but in the end, it all finally worked out. In light of our rapidly growing membership (now about 750) we added 16 new courses.”

◊ **MARK SALZ**: 2009-2010. Mark retired from teaching in Miller Place High School in the physics and chemistry department. His term as president saw the Solar System introduced, which was supposed to allow OLLI to register and interact online for everything. Long Range Planning was a big topic.

Continued »
◊ **JERRY EBENSTEIN**: 2010-2011. Jerry retired from CBS Broadcasting as an In House Counsel for 34 years. Jerry’s term as president saw OLLI receive the “Best Adult Model Program” Award given at the Association of Higher Continuing Education Conference in Tucson which Jerry attended with Director Janet McLean. With 856 members, more rooms were being added for the workshops.

◊ **FRED FRIEDMAN**: 2011-2012. Fred retired as a Printer working in Wall Street firms. He is a former Captain and a Trustee for the Smithtown Fire Department. FRED’S YEAR FOLLOWS:

  “My biggest problem was getting the membership to understand that we are Guests of the University and as such, we have to abide by the rules of the campus. There is a chain of command that must be followed when there is a problem. You just can’t go to management and get what you want. I want everyone to understand that being president was a highlight of my years in OLLI. After all the meetings that I attended in the last three years and listening to members with their concerns, it is heartening to attend the workshops I wasn’t able to.”

◊ **ARNOLD KATZ**: 2012-2013. Arnie came to Stony Brook Medical Center in 1990 to head up the new otolaryngology department. He continues to teach at the University Hospital part time and volunteers care at the Veterans Facility every month. In spite of all this, Arnie has taken the time to serve as the 25th President. His presidency is half way through but he has had a busy year so far with overseeing the 25th Anniversary celebration planning that has been ongoing. He has also followed and worked to solve the Fall and Spring online registration problems which still remain. There are over 950 members and the Dean has graciously given us another room to use for our OLLI workshops. Our Art Wall, which Arnie has been very active in creating, has been such a gift for our members to enjoy.

Unlike the Past Presidents of the United States, our Round Table/OLLI Past Presidents do not get 24/7 protection or chauffeur driven transportation, or even a stipend for a staff. We see them all over the campus pulling their small suitcases which hold the material they have put together to present in the workshops they are now leading. For most of our presidents, the 3 year commitment did not end when their term was up. They continue to serve the RT/OLLI as workshop leaders, committee members, and as a reminder that their commitment to our organization is ongoing.

I had asked the 16 presidents to give me in their own words, a paragraph of their year as president. On the presidents that say their name and “as follows”, I have quoted the exact words they had sent me. Several were not available to give me a reply but I have served on the executive board with them, so was able to recount a small window of their presidency. It is important to note that just because one paragraph is smaller than another does in no way, mean that the year of that president was easier than another. Our presidents have been building blocks for our organization. Each in their own way has contributed to building an organization that could not have been imagined 25 years ago.

For our 9 presidents who are no longer with us, I have gone to the Round Table history books. Most of them were here before I joined. It was such a privilege however to pull out even a small part of their life and share it with our members. Beverly Smith was someone I was fortunate to know. She was such a wonderful example of what the Round Table is all about. I did not have the chance to be in her workshops but I wish I could have been. She was also a great Round Table President.

So, when you see one of our Presidents on campus, or in a classroom, take a moment to say, “Thank you for Serving.”
In her emails Janet has been encouraging us to participate, so I’ve been thinking a lot lately about what might be a good subject to suggest for a June workshop at OLLI.

The topics that first come to my mind: the history of the world from the time of the early dinosaurs, how to build an ark to prepare for global warming, the plate tectonics of the continent Pangaea, don’t excite me. And then my friend Sam comes up with a brilliant suggestion.

I have to explain. Sam has insomnia, so when he’s tossing and turning late at night and into the early morning, or can’t find a decent movie on TV, he calls me; sometimes at 2am, sometimes at 4, with a hearty “Hi Aldo. Up, up and awayyyy - wake up – what’s new!” My name isn’t Aldo, its Al, but he’s been calling me Aldo since we were in first grade together.

So, Sam called me around 4am a couple of weeks ago, and I explained my dilemma. Never one to slough off a friend’s problems, he said he’d think about it and get back to me later in the day. And so he did. In a couple of hours, actually before breakfast, he was back on the phone with his answer.

I was delighted. He had come up with the perfect topic – absolutely relevant. Janet and the Curriculum Committee would be overjoyed. Members would flock to register. I was so pleased that I invited him to come right over and I would make him breakfast.

As we discussed it over coffee, we realized that before we submitted our proposal, we would have to do a little research. They would probably need some equipment and a couple of back-up experts they could call on as needed.

We sent our official suggestion in by email this morning. When the Committee has a chance to read it, we know they’ll be as excited as we are.

The topic, “OLLI Registration – How To Choose a Computer Software Package That Really Works” should fit nicely into a two week bracket in June. I hope there’ll be enough room in the class for everyone who wants to attend.
My Wonderful Experience As A Conversation Partner

by Dolores Serri

I had been thinking about becoming a conversation partner since I started at OLLI three years ago, but the time was never quite right because of all the things going on in my life. I took the plunge this past October and I am just thrilled that I did because it has turned into wonderful experience.

The day after I signed up I received an e-mail from a graduate student from China. I responded right away and we agreed to a meeting spot in the SAC building. I was a little unsure as I could not tell by the name if it was a male or female. She turned out to be a delightful young lady and it was friendship at first sight! We met a couple of times more and then I invited her to my house for lunch where we really got to know each other. She thoughtfully brought me the biggest blueberry muffins I have ever seen (they were delicious) and we talked for a couple of hours about everything. Her openness was very endearing.

I was very surprised to find that my student was very open to talking about life in China under a communist regime. She did share that in her own country she would not be so forthcoming for fear of being arrested, but was comfortable talking to me. We spoke about the upcoming Christmas holiday and the traditions associated with it and she shared that, while it was not really celebrated as a religious holiday in China, they did put up decorations. It is her family custom to put up a Christmas tree so I invited her to help my granddaughter and I decorate my house for the holiday.

My Chinese friend arrived on the day of decorating with two lovely poinsettia plants for me which she had read were traditional Christmas plants. There were big hugs as has become our custom and I introduced her to my twenty year old granddaughter who is a student at Suffolk Community College. We had a lovely and enlightening afternoon. My granddaughter was quite amazed to find out what life is like under communism with no Facebook or social media allowed and where the media and industry are owned and controlled by the government. We also talked about customs in our country and our politics. It was a learning experience all around, but mostly for us as Americans who have a tendency to forget how lucky we are to live in this great country where we have so much freedom, including the ability to speak out without fear of retribution.

I have tried to be a mentor and offer suggestions for my student and her friends to see and do and am happy that she and her Chinese classmates are having a good time exploring the fun things to do here. She has “friended” me on Facebook and we have played Words with Friends to help her with her English. Our next get together will be to make cheesecake which we both love to make and eat. I am so happy to have this warm, thoughtful and sweet young lady in my life and look forward to a continuing friendship.
How I found meaning in Retirement
by Larry Hohler

I was apprehensive when I retired after 33 years of teaching in the Smithtown Schools in 1999, concerned about how I would spend my time. I was considering employment as a bus driver when I got an email from a former student that changed my life. My wife and I had spent my sabbatical leave in 1975/76 teaching in rural Kenya. While there, we became close to one of my Form 2 students, Joseph Kirima Rwito. We stayed in touch with Joe after we came home, and several years later, we helped to finance his education at St. Mark’s Teacher Training College in Embu. Joe succeeded beyond all expectations as an educator. After a stint in classroom teaching, he became the Headmaster at a primary school. Soon after he was elected president of the Meru Branch of the Kenya national Union of Teachers. He also became the Educational Outreach Chairman for his church, and an advocate for homeless children. In the late 1990’s, the AIDS pandemic was ravaging Kenya, and large numbers of orphans began to appear on the streets. Joe was moved by the sight of so many destitute children and started a feeding program in his school for 45 of them. He was frustrated to see them return to the streets every night, and wanted to do more to help.

His church building was growing too small for the congregation, and a larger place of worship was being built. Joe asked me to help him raise the funds to buy the building and convert it into a home for AIDS affected children. In 2000 we started raising money on both continents, and I applied for 501 3 C status for an entity we called Hope Children’s Fund, Ltd. We were granted tax exempt status in 2002, and by 2005 we were able to purchase the former church building. It proved too small to house the numbers we wanted to accommodate, so we built an adjacent dormitory big enough to house 80 children. I returned to Kenya in 2005 to visit our Home and meet the first 18 orphans. In the years since, our numbers have grown to 79. Three of our oldest girls now attend local universities, and 20 more are attending secondary schools. My wife and I have become full-time fund raisers, and my concern about boredom in retirement has long since ceased to be an issue. We now bring groups to Kenya every year to meet our children and work on service projects related to the Home. It’s a wonderful way to spend retirement.

For more information about how you can help contact hopechildrensfund.org
**Sunshine Cards Have Been Mailed To:**

Sheila Bieber  
Karl Demuth  
Jerry Maze  
Emily Murphy  
Patricia SaintDenis

**IN MEMORIAM**

Ethel Tarkan
We would love to publish your short article. Tell us how OLLI has affected your life, about your favorite OLLI subject or OLLI instructor. Email your article to olli.chronicles@gmail.com with ‘Article for Chronicles’ on the subject line.
Spring Art Exhibit

Have you seen the beautiful sunflowers?
The OLLI Arts Council wishes to dedicate the Spring 2013 Exhibit to the memory of Chris DiBenedetto, who was chairperson of the OLLI Sunshine Committee.

The Spring 2013 exhibit is located in SBS S102 & S149
The Arts Council thanks all artists who contributed to the success of this exhibit. View the artwork between workshops.
Once again, it's time for......TEA

THE OLLI LITERARY TEA
.....come hear and read poems and stories written by fellow members.

Friday. April 26, 2013 at 12 noon in S102

Refreshments will be served beforehand in S149

If you wish to present, please give work to Rhoda Spinner

DEADLINE for submissions: Friday, April 19
(This allows time for printing of the book)


LET’S PUT ON A SHOW –
Join us as talented OLLI Members of this workshop “Put on a Show” for you. Be prepared to be entertained.

Tuesday, April 30 – 2pm – SAC 302
Light refreshments served before show
Thank you to this year’s Nominating Committee consisting of Lily Klima, Sheila Price, Joe Quinn and chaired by Myra Friedman. Their hard work is appreciated.

At the General Membership Meeting, on Wednesday, April 3 in SBS-S102 the following slate will be presented. Nominations may be made from the floor.

Slate of Officers –

President - Joe McVeigh
Secretary – Eileen Lohse

Vote for Four (4) of the following:

Member -at-Large – Robert Dohrenwend
Member-at-Large – Jeff Hollander
Member-at-Large – Bob Stone
Member-at-Large – Frank Tassielli
Member-at-Large – Abe Trenk

Bob Dohrenwend. I live in Miller Place and have been a member of OLLI for the last two years. I am currently on the Arts Council. I am a retired Suffolk County Police Officer. Prior to that I was a Police Officer at Brookhaven Lab. I also served 4 years in the United States Air Force Security Police. When I first retired, I spent some time in the insurance industry. I have since turned my attention to OLLI. I take numerous workshops involving art and photography. I have been married for 30 years to my wife Rosemary. I have three adult children and two pugs.
Jeff Hollander - My journey to OLLI began in the mid 60’s when I graduated from UNC Chapel Hill, met my wife Diane in the Catskills, moved to Queens, before Lake Grove in the 70’s. A four decade career with the NYC-DOE included teaching and CSD administration until 2006. Joining OLLI in the fall of 2010 heightened my desire to explore new topics. Creative instructors motivated me to get more involved and last year I joined the Member Relations Committee and had a yearlong “Conversation” with a Chinese student. This year I have co-facilitated the “Sports in Society” workshops for a wonderful group of sports enthusiasts. It is an honor to be considered for member-at-large.

Eileen Lohse - 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 have been married to Eric for 47 years and we have two grown children and four grandchildren. We have traveled extensively together, but we both 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.

Joseph F. McVeigh is married 40 years with two children and a resident of Hicksville for 37 years. My career began in 1965 on the trading floor of the American Stock Exchange. I found my time there exciting and fruitful in many ways. The 70’s came (71-72-73), Wall Street was slow and lean times continued. In 1973, being young and impulsive, I became a New York City Police Officer. The plan was to try it for one year! I also started to open businesses at that time. As life has a way of surprising all of us. (I loved the job’s excitement, the adrenaline rush, and helping people.) October 1981 was a life altering year for me and my family. I was involved in an altercation/ injury, promoted and medically retired. After convalescing for two years, I continued to open various business ventures. Again I found each one a challenge and exciting. (That is my outlook on life.) In 2004 I sold our business interests and am a happy commercial realty landlord. In 2009 I found OLLI through a friend and OLLI member. A wonderful environment to teach, learn and make friends. I find OLLI to also be a life changing experience for many members.

Bob Stone - I have been a student of science, arts and humanities for my entire life. OLLI is helping me to continue on this path.
Frank Tassielli - I arrived from Italy at the age of six, in 1946. I lived on the Upper East Side of Manhattan for ten years, and graduated from Cardinal Hayes High School in The Bronx, then spent four years on active duty with the US Air Force, and after my honorable discharge, received my BA Degree in English/Secondary Education from SUNY Albany. I taught high school English for seven years, then received my MS in Counseling from LIU/CW Post and became a guidance counselor for the next twenty-eight years, all in the Sachem School District in Lake Ronkonkoma, NY. Since my retirement in 2001, I have been honored to be an active member of OLLI/Round Table. I also served for ten years as a volunteer for the Helen Keller Foundation. I presently belong to Gus Alfieri’s Sports Book of the Month Club, in the Smithtown Library. On the personal side, I recently self-published a non-fiction book (“An Italian Boy’s Life”) about mine and my family’s immigration experience. I have been married to Diane for forty-two years. I have two children, and am the proud grandfather to two girls and a boy.

If elected, I would be honored to serve on the Executive Board of OLLI.

Abe Trenk - I was born and grew up in Manhattan and eventually moved to Long Island with my wife and worked here as an engineer. I’m a long-time member of OLLI going back to the Round Table days. I’ve had the pleasure of taking literature and music courses that my engineering curriculum didn’t allow me to take back in the day. The intergenerational writing courses have been especially rewarding. I’ve been chair of the House and Equipment Committee for a number of years and have led a workshop and assisted and presented in other ones. I’ve witnessed our semester shrinking over the last few years and have brought that up with the Board when that shrinkage was overdone. On the positive side, I’m glad to see the restoration of the June workshops.

ELECTION INFORMATION - Week of APRIL 22-29

Election of officers for the 2013-2014 academic year will be held during the week of April 22nd with the deadline of 4pm on Monday, April 29th.

On Monday, April 22 each member with an email address will be sent a link to vote.

This electronic voting must be completed by 4pm on Monday April 29th to count.

Members without email, (those who receive The Chronicles by mail) will receive a hard copy ballot in the regular mail. Deadline will be the same – 4pm, April 29th to count.

Election results will be announced at the annual OLLI Spring Brunch scheduled for Wednesday, May 1st at the Hilton Garden INN. Be sure to sign up and join us to congratulate the new Executive Board members and to thank the outgoing Board.
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Ellen Guarnieri, Co-Chairperson, Curriculum
Carole Gambrell, Co-Chairperson, Curriculum, Member-at-Large (2011-2013)
Jim Roth, Member-at-Large (2012-2014)
Joan Scott, Member-at-Large (2012-2014)
Terri McCoy, Member-at-Large (2011-2013)

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