



FROM THE COUNCIL

Dear Fellow Members,

Through your membership and efforts, we are experiencing a very successful year.

So far, 2015 has been an exciting year. The Osher Dover program continues to grow both in content and membership. A great trip has been planned for the Barnes Collection. We will wind up the spring semester with a five-year anniversary celebration on March 27. I hope that you can all celebrate both events with us. The special events committee has done a great job in preparing and hosting these activities.

The curriculum committee, under the direction of Art McLaughlin, is in the process of contacting potential new instructors and solidifying a full curriculum which will be both educational and entertaining. The committee has been responsible for the increase in the number of courses we offer and the new instructors who have joined the program. If you are interested in teaching a class in the future, please let Art McLaughlin or Tim Plimpton know.

The member relations committee prepared two outstanding open houses in September 2014 and January 2015, and they are planning different ways to orient new members. Our current members are the best recruiting source to bring new members into the program. Speaking of new members, if you know of friends or neighbors who are bored sitting at home or looking for a stimulating activity, invite them to class. The week of March 23 will be "bring a friend to class" week. You can invite a friend, relative or neighbor to join you for one or more classes on Tuesday, Wednesday and/or Thursday. Providing we have room in the classroom, they are more than welcome to attend our classes. The only thing we ask is that you drop by the office to get a nametag for your guest. Let's make the week fun.

We are trying to get more publicity for the program. The public relations Committee is devising ways for us to be featured in local publications and promoted by the local television and radio media. Please let the PR committee know if you have media contacts to help us 'spread the word' about the Osher Dover program.

Finally, if you live in a 55+ community, can you help us advertise in their newsletter or allow us to make a presentation to the community? Please let me know (i.e., HOA board chair, newsletter editor).

Thanks to the staff, volunteers and you, we have vibrant and growing program.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our five-year anniversary celebration on March 27.

*Very truly yours,
Kevin J McGrath
Council Chair*



We are pleased to present a new feature "Now You Know", a profile of an Osher Dover member. Our first member for our newsletter profile is **Marge Felty**.



NOW YOU KNOW

Where are you originally from and what brought you to Dover?

I was born in Savannah, Georgia. I lived in Centreville, Maryland, before Bill and I got married. He has lived in Dover all of his life and I am so glad I joined him here.

How did you first hear about Osher and how long have you been taking classes with us?

I had seen articles about the beginning of the Osher Program and thought it looked interesting. Then I visited the Osher booth at the Senior Expo at Dover Downs and picked up more information. Finally, last year I decided to try a few courses in the fall. I was instantly hooked.

Have you taken classes in a specific area of interest (Art, History, Literature, Language, etc.) or have you mixed your choices?

I've taken courses in many fields—I guess you could say I'm a dabbler.

Have you enjoyed your Osher experience? What would you say to someone considering registering for the first time?

I come home excited about what I've learned. It's been so nice to meet people who are at the same point in life and have so many different background experiences to share. As a former teacher I LOVE being on the other side of the desk! To someone thinking about registering for the first time, I would say don't wait. Do it ASAP.

Tell us something we don't know about you.

We have ten grandchildren and our oldest granddaughter is getting married on March 21.

2014-2015 COUNCIL ROSTER

Council Chair – Kevin McGrath

Vice Chair – James Brown

Secretary – Caroline Baxter

Council Members:

Peggy Abbott

Ila Beebe

Bob Heifetz

Janice Hess

Betty Ipnar

Liisa Trala

Committee and Chair:

Curriculum – Art McLaughlin

Member Relations – Janice Hess

Public Relations – *Vacant*

Special Events/Travel – *Vacant*

TIME TO TEACH

"You teach best what you need to learn."

-Richard Bach

Now accepting course proposals for the fall semester! Forms are available [online](#) or in the office.

Our program relies on our members to help build the curriculum—either by teaching a class, facilitating a discussion group or by recruiting speakers and instructors from the community. Can we count on your help this year?

SPECIAL SPEAKERS ON

THURSDAYS

Noon – 12:50 p.m.

Join us on Thursdays for special speakers on a wide array of interesting topics. Participants can bring lunch or just come and enjoy. The name and topic of each week's speaker will be announced at least a week in advance.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Dover is a place where your membership matters.

Members volunteer their wealth of talent and experience in planning and implementing high quality educational experiences to form an educational cooperative. The members are the instructors and students, and through a committee structure guide the operating policies, develop curriculum and help with the daily operations.

All members are encouraged to become actively involved in the Osher Dover program.

5TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Hope you have your calendar marked for Dover's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute 5th Anniversary Celebration—Friday, March 27, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Modern Maturity Center.



Our luncheon celebration will include: Our Founding Fathers, Faces of the Office, Your Favorite Instructors/Classes, Five Years in Pictures, and Other Items to Showcase Our First Five Years, along with entertainment and a wonderful luncheon prepared by the Modern Maturity Center kitchen.

Menu: Cheese Lasagna, tossed salad, Italian bread, Ranch or Raspberry Vinaigrette dressing, beverages and an anniversary cake.

Cost: \$18 per person

Register now [online](#) or in the office!

Come out and join us in 'Celebrating Our Five Year in Dover' for Osher Lifelong Learning in grand style.

DOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISPLAYS FIRST EVER STATEWIDE OSHER ART EXHIBIT

March 8 – April 3

Over 25 artists

From the Dover, Lewes,
Ocean View and Wilmington
programs

Come support our
student artists!

Exhibit is made possible by the National
League of American Pen Women, Holly
Branch



1 Janice Itzel and Elaine Brenchley in *Open Studio*



2 Mary Boyd teaching her class, *Interesting Issues in U.S. Constitutional Law*

MEMBER VOICES

“Neither a borrower nor a lender be.” I had heard this well-known expression quoted many times, but I had never come across the phrase in its original context until the other day. From where did this wise advice come? The Bible? Ben Franklin? No. These words were penned by William Shakespeare in his play *Hamlet*. They are spoken by Polonius to his son Laertes in Act One, Scene 3, of a play I was supposed to read (but didn’t) in 11th grade English class *many* years ago. I am reading and enjoying *Hamlet* for the first time. This is one of the many benefits I am receiving from the Osher program.

I have told people that I am in my 60’s and for the first time I am reading and enjoying a Shakespeare play. Sure, I actually read a couple of Shakespeare’s plays in junior high school, but today I have the maturity that enhances my appreciation twenty fold. We are never too old to learn, and in many ways my life today is the best it’s ever been. I get to attend Osher classes and expand my horizon.

The gentleman who is teaching *Hamlet* to my classmates and me, Bob Heifetz, makes literature come alive. Like many of you, I am an avid reader who needs to have a good book nearby at all times. I was introduced to Mr. Heifetz when I first enrolled in Osher classes two years ago. I took his course on *Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain’s American classic and a book I read and enjoyed way back as an eighth grade student. Reading it anew thanks to Mr. Heifetz and the stimulating class discussion, I shared with family members and close friends how good that book was to read. I don’t believe they appreciated my enthusiasm. No matter. What mattered was how much *I* enjoyed being in the class. I was blown away by Mr. Heifetz’s knowledge and delivery. Others in the class shared a similar appreciation for his style and passion. I made a conscious decision to take one of Bob’s literature classes each semester for as long as one is offered. Consequent classes have allowed me to appreciate the brilliance of John Steinbeck’s prose (*Of Mice and Men*), F. Scott Fitzgerald’s masterpiece, *The Great Gatsby*, and other interesting authors with great respect and pleasure.

Indeed I relish the idea of reading and enjoying *Hamlet*. Perhaps I would have gotten around to reading Shakespeare eventually. But because of the Osher program a spark has ignited now! You’re never too old to learn, and I want to take advantage of the gifts being presented by Osher. It’s a special opportunity.

Submitted by Randy Ward

Photos – Larry Klepner
Editor – Caroline Baxter

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Dover offers opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation, personal growth and social interaction for people age 50+ in an educational cooperative. Membership is open to all and is in compliance with the University’s Equal Opportunity Policy.