

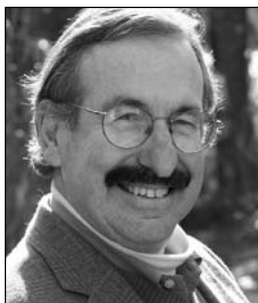


Newsletter

AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPRING 2010

PARTNERS WITH WILLIAMS COLLEGE, BARD COLLEGE AT SIMON'S ROCK & MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



Spring 2010 Schedule

The Spring 2010 schedule promises to be very exciting. Twenty new and diverse courses will be offered. Classes begin on April 12 and will continue through May 24. For your convenience, classes will be held at various venues throughout Berkshire County. For more information please see the Spring 2010 Catalog or visit our website at www.BerkshireOLLI.org.

Lecturer Stacy Wallach



Lecturer Sandra Burton

MONDAY

BCC Pittsfield & Great Barrington

Our Legacy of School Desegregation and Where It Has Led Us – A. Lawrence
Shakespeare's "So Potent Art": An Exploration of Mastery – Larry Robbins
A Look at America's Birth: 1788 to 1805 – Stacy Wallach

TUESDAY

Simon's Rock & Canyon Ranch

Hard-Boiled American Crime: Fiction and Film – David Fine
Ultralongevity: Slowing the Process of Aging – L. Collins, J. Lee, M. Liponis, J. Rossman
A Survey of American Literature: The New American Novel of Twain, Howells and Crane – James Kraft
The First Book of Moses: Hermeneutics and the Hebrew Bible – Rebecca Fiske

WEDNESDAY

The Clark & Williams College

Our DNA: Exploring the Human Genome – Marsha Altschuler
Two American Masters of the Brush: Winslow Homer and John Singer Sargent – Jock Brooks
The Great Depression: A Storied History – David Auerbach
Arts of the Silk Road – Elizabeth ten Grotenhuis
Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina" – Julie Cassiday
Dance: An Affirmation of Life – S. Burton, E. Dankmeyer, I. Holmes, B. Shakur, H. Silva

THURSDAY

Hancock Shaker Village & BCC Pittsfield

Birding for Beginners – Ed Neumuth
Today's Headlines – Ann Trabulsi and Richard Whitehead
Democratic Government and the United States – Leonard Cohen (evening)

FRIDAY

BCC Pittsfield and Great Barrington & MCLA

Open Painting Studio – Sue Arkans and Bobbie Lefenfeld
Great Decisions – James Cotter
Travel Adventures – L. Day, C. Faillace, P. Gazouleas, M. Silver, L. and S. Tobias
Urbanization and the Environment – A. Goodwin, L. Moffatt, E. Mooney, D. Shustack, E. Traister

Spring and Summer Photo Contest Winners

"Early Spring at the Farm" appeared on the cover of the Spring 2010 Catalog. It was taken in Williamstown by Stephen Dankner.

The photo that will appear on the Summer 2010 Catalog was submitted by Patrick F. Barry from Pittsfield and was taken at Tannery Falls, Savoy State Forest.

Fall Photo Contest

PRIZE: The winning photos will be on the cover of the Fall 2010 Catalog, and the winners will receive a 1-year free membership to OLLI.

THEME: Berkshire area fall scene

SPECS: Digital format (jpeg, tiff, bmp), 3.2 mega-pixels or greater

DEADLINE: May 16, 2010

SUBMIT: E-mail attached photos to Bob.Desrosiers@Gmail.com.

For further details visit the OLLI website at www.BerkshireOLLI.org.

President's Message

This winter, while I was paging through the *Stanford Magazine*, I saw an ad for retirement living which states: "Lake Park Retirement Residence, overlooking Lake Merritt and East Bay Hills, **exciting OLLI programs**, new Fitness Center...." Note that besides the Oakland, California, location the big selling point was **OLLI programs**.

Although I love Oakland (I lived there for five years), I think the Berkshire area is much more beautiful and interesting. In the summer we have Tanglewood, theater festivals and Jacob's Pillow. The rest of the year, in addition to wonderful museums, concerts and restaurants, we have **exciting OLLI programs**.

Over the past three years, OLLI at BCC has increased course offerings by 25 percent. We've added a summer semester while enhancing our fall, winter and spring semesters. We've diversified our courses with some hands-on courses like cooking, drawing and photography while maintaining our high academic standards.

Along with outstanding courses given in cooperation with our host and partner, Berkshire Community College, and with our Educational Partners, we offer multiple special events throughout the year such as trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Connecticut Science Museum and SPAC. And our Distinguished Speakers Series presents outstanding guest lecturers; a highlight each year is The Clark Art Series offered in March. Last year we added the Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture and the OLLI Art Show. Both were enormously popular and will be repeated in the coming year.

We would like to offer you more courses and events, so if you have any suggestions, or if you have time to volunteer for OLLI at BCC, please call our office at 413.236.2190 or contact one of our Board members. Your involvement will help ensure our continuing success.



Getting to Know Mark Liponis

In Berkshire County, one of the roads to health and wellness leads directly to the gates of Canyon Ranch. Mark Liponis, M.D. is its Corporate Medical Director in charge of Canyon Ranch's medical programs.

Mark, the grandson of Greek immigrants, is a graduate of Phillips Andover Academy and Dartmouth College. He has two sons and a daughter, and much to his delight his daughter will also graduate from Phillips Andover this spring and attend Dartmouth in the fall.

Mark was classically trained in Internal Medicine at the University of Massachusetts in Worcester. He met his wife, Siobhan McNally, there. Dr. McNally is a pediatrician who is currently in Haiti, helping victims of the earthquake.



Dr. Liponis did his residency at Berkshire Medical Center (BMC) and credits Dr. Alan Michaelson with teaching him everything he knows about the art of medicine. After Mark completed his residency, the Liponis's moved to Montana where he had a busy internal medicine practice and also founded and developed a successful weight loss program. A few years later, the Liponis's returned to the Berkshires and settled in Lenox. Mark went to work in the emergency room at BMC.

At age 37, Mark was diagnosed with kidney cancer. This life-altering event made clear to Mark the need to live a more balanced, healthy, stress free life. Leaving his emergency room work, he took the position at Canyon Ranch. He is a wholehearted believer in the holistic approach the Ranch takes to medical treatment. Mark says "the most effective and least toxic therapy for all medical problems from all disciplines" is the Ranch philosophy as well as his own.

In addition to his work at the Ranch, Mark is often a TV and radio show personality, and has appeared on such programs as *The Rachel Ray Show*, CBS's *The View*, NBC's *TODAY Show* and *The Jane Pauley Show* and *CNN News*.

Mark has taught many classes for OLLI including discussions of his two books, *Ultra-Prevention* written with Dr. Mark Hyman in 2003 and *Ultra-Longevity* published in 2007 (Little-Brown). He now wants us to know about the "MD Connect" program that allows people in the community to take advantage of Canyon Ranch's medical services and facilities. It includes a 100-minute appointment with a doctor, time with a nurse educator, all lectures and classes plus lunch. The cost for this program is \$1,175.00.

We at OLLI are fortunate to have Dr. Liponis share his medical expertise and philosophy with us.

— Marilyn Margolis, Associate Editor

OLLI NEWSLETTER

Editor: Sandra Rubin

Associate Editor: Marilyn Margolis

Assistant Editors: Peri Caverly, Marge Lewis, Wilma Michaels,

Editorial Staff: Norman Avnet, Joanna Fribush, Judy Katz,

Helen-Mary Shaffer, Art Sherman

Special Events

March 20 – Ventfort Hall Guided Tour and Lunch, Lenox

April 29 – Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC. Bus Trip

May 21 – OLLI at BCC Annual Meeting and 2nd Annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture. Jane Velez-Mitchell, speaker. The Colonial Theatre, Pittsfield

May 26 – Connecticut Science Center and Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford. Bus Trip

June 11 and June 12 – The Thrill of the Grill: a workshop for summer chefs with samples for lunch

June 24 – Jacob's Pillow. State Ballet of Georgia with Nina Ananiashvili

July 15 – Saratoga Performing Arts Center. NYC Ballet with lunch in the Hall of Springs. Bus Trip

October 9 – Barrington Stage Company. Brunch followed by performance of *The Crucible*

OLLI's Cultural Partners

OLLI at BCC is delighted to have established Cultural Partnerships with 28 organizations that help to support its programming and, in some cases, provide discounts to performances and events to OLLI members. Please take a few moments to acquaint yourself with our Cultural Partners and their contributions to OLLI by going to our website www.BerkshireOLLI.org. Click on the Cultural Partners link in the menu to see which services each of our partners provides. By clicking on the name of the Cultural Partner you will be linked to its organizational website where valuable information on current programming can be found. Remember to show your OLLI membership card when you purchase tickets at the sites that offer discounts. These organizations provide particular support in the areas of curriculum, special events and distinguished speakers so vital to the growth and vitality of OLLI. Please support our Cultural Partners whenever possible.

OLLI Annual Meeting and Annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture

OLLI at BCC's Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, May 21, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield. It will be followed at 7:30 p.m. by the second annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture. The Annual Meeting is an important time for all OLLI members to gather, to review the work of the organization during the past year and to learn of the Board of Directors' plans for the following year. The election of members to the Board of Directors will also take place at the meeting.

The Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture honors Mona Sherman, an active and influential force in the evolution of the Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning to our current Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Mona served as President and Curriculum Chair of BILL and was responsible for instituting the Distinguished Speakers Series. At the time of her death she was serving on the OLLI Board in her role as Immediate Past President. In her memory and in recognition of her devotion to BILL/OLLI, the Sherman family instituted the lecture series with gifts to an OLLI fund in Mona's name. Mika Brzezinski of MSNBC's "Morning Joe" was the first speaker in this lecture series. Our speaker this year will be HLN's Jane Velez-Mitchell and her topic will be *Addict Nation*. She will take questions from the audience following the lecture.



Jane Velez-Mitchell

HLN's *Issues with Jane Velez-Mitchell* is a topical event-driven show with a wide range of viewpoints that airs at 7:00 p.m. eastern standard time. A veteran television news journalist, Velez-Mitchell reported for the nationally syndicated Warner Brothers/Telepictures show "Celebrity Justice" and frequently served as a guest host for Nancy Grace on her widely watched HLN program. She spent more than a decade anchoring and reporting for KCAL-TV in Los Angeles and as a reporter/anchor for eight years at WCBS-TV in New York City. Velez-Mitchell has written two nonfiction books, *Secrets Can Be Murder: What America's Most Sensational Crimes Tell Us About Ourselves* and *iWant: My Journey from Addiction and Overconsumption to a Simpler, Honest Life*. She is the recipient of a Los Angeles Emmy Award and a New York Emmy Award. She also wrote, directed and produced *Dancing Through Life*, an award-winning documentary. Her reporting on "Celebrity Justice" earned the show two Genesis Awards from the Humane Society of the United States.

Her lecture will address the numerous addictions that are prevalent in our nation, among them the struggles with overeating, with alcohol or drugs, with workaholicism, codependency, and compulsive spending and gambling. She will also discuss methods that can help us control our addictive consumption.

OLLI's Exciting Summer 2010 Semester!

Ten courses in June including: *Playwrights Plumb Academia; Edith Wharton and the Mount* (at The Mount); *Memoir Writing; Wagner and the Ring Cycle; Enriching Your Modern Art Experience* (at the Frelinghuysen Morris House & Studio); *Ballroom Dancing*; and *Challenges to US Power & the Implications for Latin America*. Plan to enrich your summer with OLLI!

Thank You, Lecturers

The success of OLLI's courses and programs are the result of a tremendous effort by many individuals who are willing to share their expertise. We acknowledge the following lecturers, moderators and panelists—both members and non members—for their commitment to OLLI at BCC. Lecturers are all volunteers, and we thank them. The list includes those lecturers who presented in the Spring 2009, Summer 2009, Fall 2009 and Winter 2010 semesters. Many have led more than one course.

Marsha Altschuler	Janel Halpern	Katarzyna Pieprzak
Howard Arkans	Donna Hassler	Stephanie Plunkett
John Bagnulo	Jenny Hersch	Peter Podol
Bruce Beckwith	Allen Irvine	Larry Robbins
Michael Bergman	Ann Irvine	Robert Ronnow
Magnus Bernhardsson	Phyllis Jaffe	Leyla Rouhi
Steve Blanchard	Jill Jillson	Jack Rubin
Julie Boyd	Simeon Joffe	Kim Saul
John Brooks	Corry Kanzenberg	Tony Segal
Christopher Callanan	Lawrence Kaplan	Cesar Silva
Michael Cassin	James Kraft	Anne Skinner
Jerri Chaplin	Melvin Krant	Elske Smith
Jerome Connoy	Joe Kravitz	Ari Solomon
James Cotter	Eric Lamet	Paul Solomon
Stuart Crampton	David Langston	Max Stackhouse
Nicole Desrosiers	John Leavey	Eugene Stamper
Steve Dixon	Sam Lefenfeld	Ron Stewart
Helga Druxes	John Lipkowitz	Carol Stroll
David Fine	Sharon Lips	Kathie Swift
Paul Flaum	Susan Lord	Lenny Tabs
Ouisa Fohrhaltz	Nancy Mowll Mathews	Walker Todd
Antonia Foias	Danny May	Ann Trabulsi
Jamie Franklin	Philip McKnight	Stacy Wallach
Ronald Giancola	Douglas Moore	Chris Waters
Walter Gibson	Elizabeth Morse	Martin Weinstein
Ben Glick	Ed Neumuth	Richard Whitehead
Andrea Goodman	Lea Newman	Hellmut Wohl
Carl Goodman	David Orenstein	William Wootters
Arthur Gordon	Norton Owen	Jeremy Yudkin
Larry Greenapple	Carole Owens	Anna Zaffanella
Lisa Gyllenhaal	Mark Pettus	

A Very "Special" Winter Event

On Saturday, March 20, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., we will visit Ventfort Hall Mansion and Gilded Age Museum in Lenox.

We will see *Les Petites Dames de Mode* (The Little Ladies of Fashion), picnic on the Porch (lunch inside). And more!!!

OLLI's Second Annual Open House and Art Show

This event is free and open to the public. It will take place at the Welles Gallery located in the Lenox Public Library. There will be viewing and a Cocktail Reception on Saturday, August 21 from 2 to 5 p.m. and continued viewing on Sunday, August 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A call for Art Entries and Rules will be sent out in June. Entries are limited to OLLI members. New participants are welcome!

Distinguished Speaker Series

The Clark Presents *Books Into Art* with Michael Cassin, Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

March 4 – Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*

March 11 – The Hebrew Bible

March 18 – Virgil's *Aeneid* and Ovid's *Metemorphoses*

March 25 – The Christian Gospels

April 17 – Bernard Drew, *Du Bois, Johnson and Great Barrington's mini Harlem Renaissance in the 1920's*

May 27 – Olga Shevchenko, *Crisis as a Way of Life: Insight into Russia Today*

June 19 – Paul Flaum, *The Man Who Changed America: Theodore Roosevelt*

June 26 – Jeremy Yudkin, Topic to be announced

NOTE: We are pleased to announce that Wendy and Larry Robbins will join Lora and Sig Tobias as Co-Chairs of the Distinguished Speakers Series.

Thank You, Volunteers

Spring 2009, Summer 2009, Fall 2009, Winter 2010

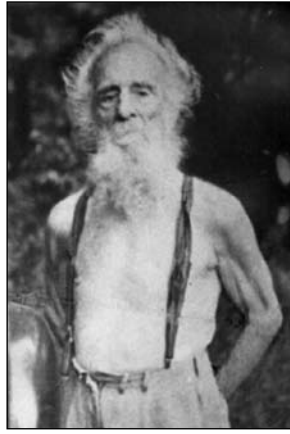
OLLI's strength and vitality comes from its corps of active, committed volunteers—the people who plan courses, special events, special projects, recruit lecturers, keep our membership growing, help in the office, publicize our activities, communicate with our members, supervise class arrangements, provide leadership and pitch in wherever help is needed. These are the men and women, 171 strong, who gave OLLI their time, energy, creativity and skill. They are our engine and our fuel, and we give them our thanks. We hope we included everyone.

Elaine Andersen	Roz Forman	Augusta Leibowitz	Betsey Selkowitz
Stanley Applebaum	Rose Foster	Dolores Lerman	Helen-Mary Shaffer
Howard Arkans	William Fox	Kitty Levitan	Arline Shalan
Sue Arkans	Joanna Fribush	Bonnie Lewis	Shirley Shapiro
Norman Avnet	Audrey Friedner	Joe Lewis	Art Sherman
Barbara Barron	Patricia Gazouleas	Marge Lewis	Carl Shuster
David Bastow	Michael Geller	Barbara Liebert	Claudia Shuster
Ev Bastow	Joe Gerard	John Lipkowitz	Carole Siegel
Robert Berend	Virginia Giddens	Lorraine Luzis	Paul Smilow
Shelley Berend	Marcia Gold	Jack Machanik	Turbi Smilow
John Blackmer	Robert Gold	Joy MacNulty	Dorothy Smith
Judith Blackmer	Ruth Goldstein	Ron Maitland	Elske Smith
Arline Breskin	Howard Gorham	Marilyn Margolis	George Smith
Arthur Brimberg	Susan Gorham	Michael Margolis	Martha Stewart
Marilyn Brimberg	Steve Grande	Joan McFalls	Ellen Tabs
John Brooks	Larry Greenapple	Nancy McGill	Leonard Tabs
Ilse Browner	Barbara Greenbaum	Norman Michaels	Lorraine Tinger
Donald Calman	Barbara Greene	Wilma Michaels	Lora Tobias
Helene Calman	Martin Greene	Enid Michelman	Sigmund Tobias
Peri Caverly	Dan Gromko	Estelle Miller	Dorothy van den Honert
Marlene Chautin	Hope Hagler	Trudy Moskowitz	Gracie Vincent
Caroline Church	Janel Halpern	Judith Nardacci	William Vogt
Roslyn Citrin	Maureen Hammel	Barbara Nelick	Abbie von Schlegell
Joyce Coffman	Holly Hammer	Elna Nugent	Alexandra Warshaw
Leonard Cohen	Mark Hartman	Lesley Oransky	Ira Wasserberg
David Coughlin	Ada Hastings	David Orenstein	Terry Weaver
Marilyn Coughlin	George Haus	Walter Orenstein	Joseph Wheelock
John Craig	Joanne Hayes	Peter Podol	Sharon Wiles
Susan Crampton	Arthur Henle	Paula Pomerantz	Georgia Wirth
Judy Cromwell	Bonnie Hess	Charlene Rosen	Janet Wohlberg
Adele Cukor	Maureen Hickey	Robert Rosen	David Zuckerman
Arletta Currie	Paul Hickey	Walter Rubenstein	Susan Zuckerman
Rutledge Currie	Mary Hoeltzel	Alan Rubin	Evelyn Zwerner
Linda Day	Rudy Hoeltzel	Lenore Rubin	
Dick Degenhardt+	Phyllis Jaffe	Sandi Rubin	<i>+Deceased OLLI Volunteer</i>
Ruth Degenhardt	Barbara Jonas	Marianne Rud	
Bob Desrosiers	Judy Joseph	Norma Ruffer	
Bonnie Desrosiers	Judi Kales	Carol Sabot	
Sheila Donath	Rhoda Kaminstein	Diane Saunders	
Ann Dulye	Judy Katz	Audrey Schlanger	
Ellen Ennis	Judy Keshner	Martin Schlanger	
Ed Epstein	Larry Klein	Myrna Schneiderman	
Edith Evans	Nan Lance	Deborah Schreier	
Andrew Fisher	John Leavey	Laurie Schwartz	
Marilyn Flaum	Norma Leavey	Martin Schwartz	
Paul Flaum	Lynne Leavitt	Tony Segal	

O.B. Joyful

Pittsfield's picturesque, happy, hippy, O.B. Joyful was born as Albert Franklin Tyler in 1872 in Haverhill. In 1903, after his first marriage, he settled in Pittsfield and became familiar to residents as an eccentric, self-made philosopher, humorist and traveling salesman. He later moved to a house and farm in Lanesboro and was sometimes referred to as a wit in the manner of earlier Lanesboro resident, Josh Billings. According to local legend he went to Harvard, but Harvard has no record of him.

He was a strict vegetarian and brought his children up on a diet mainly of fruit, raw vegetables, and lots of milk. Some neighbors feared for his children's health, but others said his children were unusually healthy, had clear complexions, thick, long hair and were taller than average. After reading an article about the



virtues of long hair, he never again cut his, saying "no tonsorial artist is going to spoil my looks and wreck my health—not for 65 cents." And it is said he never was sick even though he was once seen walking bare-headed in the wind across Pontoosuc Lake when the temperature

was 35 degrees below zero.

He rode around the area in an old Model T which had been stripped to the chassis and sold fish, cider, homemade ice cream and vegetables grown on his farm. In addition to his wares, he sold his philosophy—he had 10,000 cards printed with his name, offering to answer questions at \$1 each. Perhaps the highlight of his humorist/philosophical life was the talk he gave at the old Majestic Theatre on North Street. In 1922, some 2,500 people came to hear his speech titled "Are Women Handsomer than Men?"

He compared men to the resplendent males in the animal kingdom and declared women to be false as they "stand admiring themselves, rubbing rouge on their faces, blackening their eyelashes... We [men] do not need these deceptions to increase our beauty."

O.B. Joyful frequently attracted attention with his luxuriant white hair and whiskers as he walked on North Street offering advice when spoken to and giving little trinkets to children. At age 70 in 1942, he was the first in Lanesboro to register for the draft. After rejection, he planted a large vegetable victory garden and gave the town the surplus. In his later years, due to family problems, he lived alone and spent much time walking to the Berkshire Athenaeum, the Pittsfield Public Library, to read and then to the YMCA to play checkers.

O.B. Joyful died in Northampton at age 89 in 1961. His memory is assured since his name has been given to the lead horse in the Berkshire Carousel project to be opened in 2012.

—Joanna Fribush, Editorial Staff

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