



Newsletter

AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPRING 2011

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

Diverse Spring 2011 Semester

The Spring semester begins on April 11 and continues through May 27. An exciting and eclectic array of courses will be offered at venues throughout the county. Please see the Spring 2011 Catalog or visit our website at www.BerkshireOLLI.org for information about the classes.

MONDAY

BCC Pittsfield and Great Barrington

Parallel Universes: The Stagecraft of Tom Stoppard – Larry Robbins
A Survey of American Literature: Women Find Their Voice – James Kraft
American History: The Right and Wrong Way to Think About It – Robert Jakubowicz

TUESDAY

Bard College at Simons Rock; Canyon Ranch; BCC Pittsfield

Great Decisions – James Cotter
Stress and Your Health – Kelly Clady-Giramma, Tereza Hubkova, Janet Lee, Robert Pollock, Jeff Rossman, Chrissy Wellington
Mark Twain: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn – David Fine
Basic Ballroom Dancing: Cha-Cha – Sal Angelo

WEDNESDAY

Bennington Museum, VT; The Clark; Williams College

The Short Stories of Herman Melville - Lea Newman
Two American Masters of the Brush: Homer and Sargent – Jock Brooks
Medicine, Film and Society – Melvin Krant
The Financial Crisis of 2007-08 and Its Aftermath – David Greenapple, Larry Greenapple
The Beauty of Fractals and Their Underlying Mathematics – Cesar Silva
Good Vibrations: An Exploration of Brass and Percussion Instruments
Tom Bergeron, Fleur Barnes-Rowell, Matthew Gold, Edwin Lawrence, David Wampler
Selected Stories of Jorge Luis Borges – Gene Bell-Villada

THURSDAY

Hancock Shaker Village; Castle Street Café, Great Barrington

Birding for Beginners – Ed Neumuth
Starships and Spirituality: Religious Themes in Science Fiction and Fantasy
Rabbi Josh Breindel
Today's Headlines – Ann Trabulsi, Richard Whitehead
Wine Appreciation VI: L'Chaim! Skål! Cheers! – Bruce Beckwith, Steve Dixon, Bill Erwin, Ben Glick, Joe Nejaime, Jack Rubin

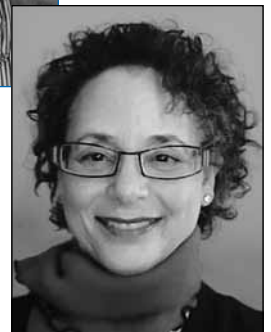
FRIDAY

BCC Pittsfield and Great Barrington; National Archives, Pittsfield

Open Painting Studio – Sue Arkans, Bobbie Lefenfeld
Genealogy and the National Archives – Jean Nudd
Travel Adventures – Dick Curtis, Gerri Griswold, Elske Smith, William Vogt



Lecturers
Larry Greenapple
and Sue Arkans



OLLI Photo Contest

PRIZE: The winning photos will be on the cover of the Fall 2011 catalog, and the winner 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 20, 2011

SUBMIT: E-mail attached photos to Bob.Desrosiers@gmail.com. Visit www.BerkshireOLLI.org for further details.

Spring Photo Contest Winner

The photo "Magnolia Tree" appeared on the cover of the Spring 2011 Catalog. It was taken in Sheffield by John MacGruer with a Canon EOS Digital Rebel XT camera at 1/160 sec., f/16, ISO 200.

President's Message

Spring has arrived and the new semester looks fantastic with an eclectic mix of courses which should satisfy our members' diverse interests. It continues to amaze me how our committees develop these exemplary courses.

This is my last president's message; my term expires in May. It has been a time filled with growth in membership, in course offerings and in the OLLI endowment fund. When we received our first endowment gift of \$1 million from the Osher Foundation, we had 850 members. The Osher Foundation informed us that if our membership topped 1,000 we would be eligible for another \$1 million to add to our endowment.

To achieve this goal, the OLLI Board created a Membership Task Force and at the same time charged the Curriculum Council with developing programming that would attract new people with varied interests. So in addition to the intellectually stimulating courses, our stock-in-trade, we began to offer new courses such as cooking, open painting studio and basic ballroom dancing. New advertising campaigns, videoconferencing classes from Pittsfield to Great Barrington and from Williamstown to Great Barrington, the OLLI Art Show and the Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture were a few innovations that spurred the membership. We now have over 1,000 members, and I am thrilled to

say that we were awarded the second \$1 million for our endowment. The Board, our committees and many members—all working together—are responsible for this growth.

We also must recognize our Executive Director Barbara Hochberg who has been the driving force in our success. She has done a remarkable job guiding OLLI at BCC. And now, because we have the increased endowment, Barbara's position has become full time.

It has been an honor being President of the Board of OLLI at BCC, and I know OLLI will continue on its positive path.



Getting to Know Michael Cassin

Michael Cassin is the Director of The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute's Center for Education in the Visual Arts, a position he has held since 2007. The depth and breadth of his knowledge of art history and his ability to engage with others to share this knowledge is well known to those in the OLLI community who have attended his classes.

I was invited by Michael to observe his work with a high school history class. His first goal was to personally engage with the students.

Informal banter and first-name acquaintance set the tone for the open exchange of ideas that would follow. He discussed how to explore a piece of art and connect with it by looking at the image(s), finding where the

picture tells you to stand to observe it from the best vantage point and discovering the message of the work.

Michael feels that connecting with students requires the ability to create a balance between conversation and performance. His goal is always to involve and excite them so he can



demonstrate art's wonder and magic.

Michael Cassin was born and educated in England. He attended Xaverian College and Leeds University. Beginning in 1976, he held several positions in Essex, Southampton,

London and Edinburgh. In 2000, he came to The Clark to begin work as the Curator of Education.

This leading educator has presented symposia on museum education throughout the United States and the world to docents and teachers. He has written numerous books and articles about the visual arts as related to other curriculum subjects such as drama, music and history.

Michael has taught several classes for OLLI members. The next series of lectures will take place from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. on four consecutive Thursdays: March 3, March 10, March 17 and March 24. They will deal with the great capitals of art through the centuries including Florence, Amsterdam, Paris and New York.

We are grateful to Michael for sharing his knowledge, his enthusiasm and his time with OLLI.

— Fran Wolk, Editorial Staff

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, Robert Rosen, Helen-Mary Shaffer, Art Sherman, Fran Wolk

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Michael Cassin, *Capitals of Art*
at The Clark

March 4: 15th Century Florence

March 10: 17th Century Amsterdam

March 17: 19th Century Paris

March 24: 20th Century New York

June 11 – Stacy Wallach, “Manhattan Skyscraper History: From Iconic to Ironic,” BCC

June 25 – Jeremy Yudkin
“Romanticism and Music,” BCC

July 10 – Aaron Gurwitz, “If Lehman Had Not Been Allowed to Fail”
Hancock Shaker Village

July 23 – Judy Hellman, “The World of Mexican Migrants,” BCC

August 20 – Steve Hellman
“Contemporary Italian Politics: The Never-ending Transition,” BCC

August 27 – Adam Segal, “Advantage: How American Innovation Can Overcome the Asian Challenge”

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

March 7 – Cross Country Skiing,
Notchview Reservation

March 12 – MASS MoCA, tour and
lunch

March 30 – Pool/Billiard Mixer, Otis
Recreation Center

May 13 – Albany, Tour of State
Capitol, Lunch at Lombardo’s,
Duck Tour in Hudson River

May 31 – Wine Course Banquet,
“The Final Exam,” Castle Street
Café (open to all OLLI members)

June 25 – Jacob’s Pillow Dance
Festival, Ballet Geneve

July 14 – Saratoga Performing Arts
Center (SPAC), NYC Ballet

August 24 – Pittsfield Colonials
Baseball Game

September 7 – Hyde Park and Val-Kill

October 16 – Barrington Stage, *Lord of the Flies*, brunch at BCC, Phyllis Jaffe, speaker

For more information regarding time and venue for both the Distinguished Speaker Series and Special Events, please check the website: www.BerkshireOLLI.com.

OLLI at BCC Annual Meeting and the Third Annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture



Mark Halperin

OLLI at BCC’s Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, May 20, 2011, at 5:15 p.m. at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield. It will be followed at 6:00 p.m. by the third 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 2011-12. The election of members to the Board of Directors will also take place at the meeting.

The Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture honors Mona, an active and influential force in the evolution of the Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning (BILL) to our current Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). Mona served as President and Curriculum Chair of BILL and was responsible for instituting the Distinguished Speaker Series. At the time of her death, she was serving on the OLLI Board. 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. During the first two years, Mika Brzezinski of MSNBC’s “Morning Joe” and Jane Velez-Mitchell of HLN were guest lecturers.

This year the speaker will be Mark Halperin and his topic will be “Defining Hope and Change: Barack Obama and What Comes Next.” He will take questions from the audience following the lecture. Halperin is Editor-at-Large and Senior Political Analyst for TIME. He covers politics, elections and government for the magazine and TIME.com. He is also the creator and author of TIME.com’s “The Page,” a news and analysis tip sheet that along with his own analysis gathers and edits the latest political stories, campaign ads, TV clips, videos and campaign reactions from every news source. In addition, Halperin is senior political analyst for MSNBC, where he appears regularly on “Morning Joe” as well as other programs on the cable channel.

Prior to joining TIME in April 2007, Halperin worked at ABC News for nearly twenty years covering five presidential elections and serving as political director for ten of those years. He also appeared regularly on ABC News TV and radio as a correspondent and analyst contributing commentary and reporting during election night coverage, presidential inaugurations and State of the Union speeches.

He is the co-author of *The New York Times* #1 best-seller *Game Change: Obama and the Clintons, Palin and McCain, and the Race of a Lifetime* (Harper, 2010); author of *The Undecided Voter’s Guide to the Next President* (Harper Perennial, 2007); and co-author of *The Way to Win: Taking the White House in 2008* (Random House, 2006).

Thank You, Lecturers

Spring 2010, Summer 2010, Fall 2010, Winter 2011

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 2010, Summer 2010, Fall 2010 and Winter 2011 semesters. Many have led more than one course.

Merritt Abrash
Marsha Altschuler
Sal Angelo
Stanley Applebaum
Howard Arkans
Sue Arkans
David Auerbach
Beverly Blonder
Steven Bodner
Pier Boutin
Jock Brooks
Denise Buell
Sandra Burton
Julie Cassiday
Michael Cassin
Alan Chartock
Leonard Cohen
Lee Ann Collins
Jerome Connoy
James Cotter
Edward Cupoli
Erica Dankmeyer
Linda Day
Edan Dekel
Diane Dillon
Alison Dixon
Bernard Drew
Charles Faillace
Richard Ferren
David Fine
Rebecca Fiske
Paul Flaum
Kinney Frelinghuysen
Tom Frudenheimer
Patricia Gazouleas
Mark Gerow

Ronald Giancola
Heather Giordana
Irene Goldman-Price
Anne Goodwin
Steven Haas
George Haus
Floyd Hebert
Guy Hedreen
Isabelle Holmes
David Hosford
Tereza Hubkova
Toby Huff
Courtney Hunt
Mark Hyman
Carl Jenkins
Shinko Kagaya
James Kraft
Albert Lawrence
Janet Lee
Bobbie Lefenfeld
Mark Liponis
Peter Low
Susan Martula
Marc Maurino
Molly McFall
Joy McIntyre
Philip McKnight
Lauren Moffatt
Emily Mooney
Ed Neumuth
Lea Newman
David Orenstein
Peter Podol
Alan Price
Nick Raposo

Larry Robbins
Liz Robbins
Jeff Rossman
Benjamin Rubin
Dorothy Rudolph
Fred Rudolph
Anne Schuyler
Bashir Shakur
Olga Shevchenko
Daniel Shustack
Ruth Sidransky
Holly Silva
Martin Silver
Max Stackhouse
Peter Steiner
John Stomberg
Leonard Tabs
Elizabeth ten Grotenhuis
Lora Tobias
Sig Tobias
John Toffey
Ann Trabulsi
Allison Tracy
Elena Traister
Barbara Waldinger
Stacy Wallach
Stephen Walt
Judith Weber
Lawrence Weber
Dennis Wedlick
Martin Weinstein
Chrissy Wellington
Richard Whitehead
Jeremy Yudkin

OLLI's Open House and Art Show

The Third Annual OLLI Open House and Art Show and a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception will be held on Saturday, September 3, from 2 to 5 p.m. The art show viewing will continue on Sunday, September 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. It will take place at the Welles Gallery located in the Lenox Public Library.

A "Call for Artists" will be sent in June. Entries are limited to OLLI members. Come and bring your friends to see OLLI talent on display!

Faculty Appreciation Dinner 2011

The OLLI Faculty Appreciation Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 17, at the Berkshire Community College dining room. This annual event is an opportunity for OLLI to honor the many faculty members who generously contribute their time and talent to lead our classes.

For the fourth consecutive year, the event will be chaired by OLLI member Adele Cukor. Adele coordinates the event from invitations to decorations and from menu to seating. Her warmth and outgoing spirit always makes the evening special.

This year more than 100 lecturers and their guests will be invited. Curriculum sub-committee members and OLLI Board members will also be asked to attend. In this way, we are able to extend our thanks beyond the presentation of an OLLI mug to our instructors who work so hard to provide us with the varied and intellectually stimulating courses we offer each year. It is the lecturers and the volunteers, working cooperatively, that are the very heart of our program, and we look forward to toasting them on May 17.

— Barbara Hochberg
Executive Director

Thank You, Volunteers

Spring 2010, Summer 2010, Fall 2010, Winter 2011

OLLI's strength and vitality comes from its corps of active, committed volunteers—the people who plan courses, special events and 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—167 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	Joanna Fribush	Lou Marhefsky	Elske Smith
Sal Angelo	Audrey Friedner	Helen McCarthy	George Smith
Stanley Applebaum	Patricia Gazouleas	Nancy McGill	Martha Stewart
Howard Arkans	Michael Geller	Norman Michaels	Ron Stewart
Sue Arkans	Joe Gerard	Wilma Michaels	Ellen Tabs
Norman Avnet	Frank Gioia	Enid Michelman	Leonard Tabs
Barbara Barron	Marcia Gold	Estelle Miller	Elizabeth Tierney
Carmella Basile	Howard Gorham	Bob Mills	John Tinger
Albert Bliss	Susan Gorham	Susan Mills	Lorraine Tinger
Arline Breskin	Larry Greenapple	Ann Morgan	Lora Tobias
Arthur Brimberg	Barbara Greenbaum	Elizabeth Myers	Sig Tobias
Marilyn Brimberg	Dan Gromko	Judith Nardacci	Katherine Tremblay
Jock Brooks	Hope Hagler	Barbara Nelick	Dorothy van den Honert
Joan Brotman	Warren Hagler	Elna Nugent	Carolyn Vandervort
Lawrence Brotman	Janel Halpern	Lesley Oransky	Chet Vogel
Ilse Browner	Claudia Harrison	David Orenstein	Madeline Vogel
Donna Burdick	Mark Hartman	Susan Orenstein	William Vogt
Helene Calman	George Haus	Walter Orenstein	Abbie von Schlegell
Diane Carsley	Joanne Hayes	Peter Podol	Jean Walden
Peri Caverly	Arthur Henle	Angela Rifkin	Alexandra Warshaw
Marlene Chautin	Maureen Hickey	Larry Robbins	David Wasielewski
Roslyn Citrin	Mary Hoeltzel	Wendy Robbins	Ira Wasserberg
Joyce Coffman	Rudy Hoeltzel	Charlene Rosen	Louise Wasserberg
Leonard Cohen	Phyllis Jaffe	Robert Rosen	Terry Weaver
Vicky Cooper	Barbara Jonas	Walter Rubenstein	Sharon Wiles
Susan Crampton	Judy Joseph	Lenore Rubin	Georgia Wirth
Judy Cromwell	Judi Kales	Sandi Rubin	Fran Wolk
Nancy Crosson	Judy Katz	Lesley Rubinger	Joel Wolk
Adele Cukor	Judy Keshner	Carol Sabot	Evelyn Zwerner
Arletta Currie	Larry Klein	Diane Saunders	
Rutledge Currie	Nan Lance	Audrey Schlanger	
Chrystene Curtis	Norma Leavey	Martin Schlanger	
Martha Dailey	Lynne Leavitt	Myrna Schneiderman	
Ruth Degenhardt	Augusta Leibowitz	Martin Schwartz	
Anne deGersdorff	Dolores Lerman	Tony Segal	
Bob Desrosiers	Larry Levin	Betsey Selkowitz	
Bonnie Desrosiers	Kitty Levitan	Helen-Mary Shaffer	
Ann Dulye	Marge Lewis	Arline Shalan	
Ed Epstein	Barbara Liebert	Howard Shapiro	
Lisa Federico	John Lipkowitz	Shirley Shapiro	
Andrew Fisher	Claire Lowery	Art Sherman	
Marilyn Flaum	Jack Machanik	Claudia Shuster	
Paul Flaum	Ron Maitland	Carole Siegel	
Roz Forman	Barbara Mandler	Turbi Smilow	
Rose Foster	Marilyn Margolis	Claire Smith	
William Fox	Michael Margolis	Dorothy Smith	

“OLLI Outdoors” Update

Thanks to your overwhelming and enthusiastic response to the “OLLI Outdoors” survey, this program has been launched with two outdoor events: a snowshoe hike which took place on February 13 at Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary and a cross country ski outing which will be held at the Notchview Reservation on March 7. A pool/billiard mixer is scheduled on March 30 at the Otis Recreation Center in Otis from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. More activities for the spring are being planned such as hiking, biking and paddling, so check your e-mail for details and updates.

The survey indicates your outdoor interests are as varied as your educational interests and run the gamut from adult hockey to zumba. “OLLI Outdoors” is seeking volunteers to assist with existing programs or to suggest other outdoor programs. Contact Bob Rosen at 413.269.6229 if you are interested.

Preview of Summer 2011 Semester

Join us for the 2011 Summer Semester! Courses will be held in June with most classes meeting four times. A Summer Catalog with course titles, instructors, dates, times and locations will be mailed to you in April. Among the courses to be offered are:

Gardens West and East Through the Ages
American Women Poets
Understanding Soccer
The Academy Awards – A Story of Film
Pastry to Start With and to End With:
Savory and Sweet
Latin American Culture
Today’s Headlines
Science Conversations
Dramatic Monologues
Memoir Writing

Agrippa Hull: A Stockbridge Patriot

Agrippa Hull, an honored African-American patriot of the American Revolutionary War and highly regarded citizen of Stockbridge, was born free in Northampton in 1759. (Massachusetts had both free black residents and slaves during this time—slavery was abolished in 1783). Due to economic problems, his mother sent her young son Agrippa to live with a free black farming family in Stockbridge. In 1777 at age eighteen, he enlisted in the Continental Army and was assigned as an orderly to General John Paterson. During his service with Paterson, he fought in several major engagements including the battle of Saratoga when British General Burgoyne surrendered, the harsh winter battle at Valley Forge and the 1778 battle at Monmouth Courthouse in New Jersey.

Hull then was assigned to Tadeusz Kosciuszko, a Polish military engineer, who came to aid the Continental Army. In his service with Kosciuszko, Hull went from battle to battle and from north to south witnessing the miserable conditions of the troops, as well as the massive rebellion of plantation slaves as they fled in great numbers to join the British Army which offered them freedom for service. These war experiences formed a strong bond of friendship between Hull and Kosciuszko and affected Kosciuszko’s attitude toward slavery. Later in 1797, Hull attended a meeting at which Kosciuszko was honored by grateful Americans with a gift of land in Ohio. He sold the land and gave the proceeds to build the first school for Negroes in the country, a gesture attributed to his fondness for Agrippa Hull.

Hull’s discharge paper at the war’s end was signed by George Washington: a document that became a lifelong treasure to him. He then returned to Stockbridge and found work in the home of Theodore Sedgwick, the lawyer who had just won the landmark case gaining the freedom of Mum Bett, who also worked in his household. In 1785 Hull bought land in Stockbridge and in following years increased his land holdings so that he became the largest black landowner in Stockbridge. Hull’s personality endeared him to Stockbridge residents; he was called Grippy and according to the town’s historian, “he wedged himself and his good cheer into every crowded corner, his impromptu rhymes and courteous jokes always welcome.” Author Catherine Sedgwick wrote, “He was one of the most respected yeomen of the village in western Massachusetts and known as the African Prince.” His portrait hangs in the Stockbridge Library; this same portrait was also exhibited twice in Washington, DC, at the Smithsonian in 1973 and at a DAR exhibit in 2004. Hull died in 1848 and is buried in the Stockbridge Cemetery.

Hull’s spirit in the Berkshires still exists through his descendent Wray Gunn, who is an active member of the African-American Heritage Trail committee and the committee working with the University of Massachusetts to develop the W.E.B. DuBois home site. Wray and several other relatives, who live in the area, are the offspring of Hull’s adopted daughter Mary’s marriage to Charles Gunn.

— Joanna Fribush, Editorial Staff



Meet Your Board Members

CAROLE SIEGEL is a counselor, teacher, community innovator, activist and an involved OLLI Board member. Brooklyn born, Saratoga raised, educated at Syracuse University, the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) and the University of Massachusetts, her heart is in the Berkshires.

Among her accomplishments, Carole created a position entitled School Adjustment Counselor. This position, particular to the State of Massachusetts, focuses on adjusting the school environment to the child. She has done consulting and training for professionals in this field throughout the United States.

Presently, Carole works at the Juvenile Resource Center, an alternative school program run by the Sheriff's Department and the Pittsfield School District for at-risk youth. She also teaches a graduate course at MCLA

for teachers, counselors and school administrators. In addition, she is a facilitator for a pilot program at Berkshire Community College to match students with OLLI mentors for support and guidance in their educational development.

Carole is a community volunteer extraordinaire. Currently, she serves as a trustee of Berkshire Health Systems and is a board member of The Colonial Theatre, Elder Services of the Berkshires, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, Massachusetts Association of School Adjustment Counselors, Knesset Israel Synagogue, and many other diverse organizations. In addition, she is on the steer-

ing committee to celebrate Pittsfield's 250th year as liaison for the educational initiative.

Carole is active in politics, enjoys her family and is especially proud of her five grandsons ages 6 to 17. For fun, Carole says she enjoys classical music, people and is a "culture junkie." She enjoys all the communities of which she is a part: cultural, religious and social.

Carole is one of those people whose unique abilities—her warmth, talent, enthusiasm and intelligence—contribute toward making OLLI and the Berkshires so special.

— Fran Wolk, Editorial Staff



LEONARD COHEN, a renowned criminal lawyer, is the founder of the Pittsfield law offices of Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook. Lenny created this firm with eight other attorneys two years ago after having practiced for over forty years at Cain Hibbard & Myers also in Pittsfield. Lenny decided to give himself this one more challenge before "easing" into retirement. With a hearty laugh, he notes that "retirement is the only thing I have failed at miserably."

A second generation Pittsfield native and graduate of Pittsfield High School, Lenny attended Boston University and its law school; and, after marrying his high school sweetheart Ileen, returned to Pittsfield to practice law and take his place as a community leader.

Lenny is the consummate trial lawyer, working on his sixty-third murder case and traveling throughout the country trying cases and lectur-

ing. *The Massachusetts Lawyer's Weekly* (December 28, 2009) named him one of the 81 most influential lawyers in the Commonwealth, but his influence extends well beyond the law. Both he and Ileen are active in the Berkshire cultural community, particularly at Tanglewood and Jacob's Pillow. His hard-hitting continues at Berkshire West tennis courts where he frequently plays doubles.

Lenny has been an instructor at Emory University Law School's Trial Practice Program, an Adjunct Instructor in Criminal and Constitutional Law at BCC and a frequent lecturer for OLLI and Elderhostel discussing such topics as the death penalty and *Roe vs. Wade*.

Long involved with OLLI's predecessor BILL, Lenny is a Board member and continues to be OLLI's legal counsel. As an attorney in a courtroom, he sees things from a legal perspective; in the classroom, he tries to teach his students to be objective and critical thinkers.

Lenny is enthusiastic about the direction OLLI is taking since partnering with BCC. He believes that with the high quality of the instructors and course offerings, OLLI will not only survive but flourish in the years to come.

We wish the same to Lenny Cohen.

— Wendy Robbins, Contributor



OLLI at BCC Receives Another \$1 Million

At a February 11, 2011 Press Conference at Berkshire Community College, President Paul Raverta announced that the Bernard Osher Foundation of San Francisco had awarded OLLI at BCC a second \$1 million endowment gift. This follows the first \$1 million endowment that was awarded in July of 2009.

There are 118 OLLIs located across the nation, and approximately 86% of them have received one endowment gift. The second endowment gift is very difficult to attain. An OLLI must have a minimum of 1,000 dues paying members and have a program that merits the gift. In her letter

to OLLI's Executive Director which accompanied the endowment check, Mary Bitterman, President of the Osher Foundation, wrote: "The continued excellence of the program is recognized by all of us at the Osher Foundation. We congratulate you and your colleagues on your many

achievements and hope that this additional gift assists you in meeting the ever-increasing demand for services at the Institute."

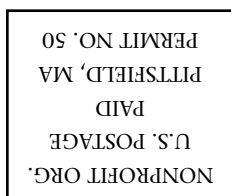
We are very appreciative of the trust and support of the Osher Foundation. However, we must stress yet again, that this is a true endowment. This means

that we do not have \$2 million to spend. We must invest the money and only use the income that it earns. Revenue from the endowment is allocated by the OLLI Board of Directors to support the Executive Director position, to support our instructional technology needs and to help buttress our public relations outreach activities.



Left to right OLLI board members: Lora Tobias, Bill Mulholland, Sandi Rubin, Joe Gerard, Bonnie Desrosiers, Bob Rosen, Art Sherman, Howie Arkans

Return Service Requested



413.236.2190
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AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE