



Newsletter

AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPRING 2013

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

Fabulous Spring 2013 Semester!

The spring semester begins on April 17 and continues through May 31. The Curriculum Council has put together an exciting and eclectic array of courses and lecturers for you. Classes will be held at various venues throughout Berkshire County as well as in Bennington, Vermont. Please refer to the Spring 2013 Catalog or visit our website at www.BerkshireOLLI.org for complete details.

MONDAY

BCC Pittsfield and Great Barrington

Everything Counts: A History of Math Ideas and Mathematics – Bill Schaepe
Today's Headlines – Lenny Tabs, Moderator
Three Visions of American Character: Wilder, Steinbeck, Salinger – James Kraft
Great Decisions – James Cotter, Moderator
Berkshire Flora and Fauna – Amanda L'Etoile, Charles Quinlan

TUESDAY

Bard College at Simon's Rock

A Detailed Look at Five Critical WWII Subjects – Greig Siedor
All About the Mob – John Pollok
History of Theater in Performance – Steven Hart

WEDNESDAY

Bennington Museum, VT; The Clark; Williams College Museum of Art; BCC Great Barrington

Dante's Inferno: John Ciardi's Translation – Lea Newman
Hidden Treasures and the Amber Room: Impressionists Held Hostage
– Margo Bowden
Vanishing Cultures Around the World – Ronnie Levin
Art Masters and Masterpieces in Williamstown – Jock Brooks
Llosa's The Feast of the Goat: A Depiction of the Trujillo Dictatorship
– Gene Bell-Villada

THURSDAY

BCC Pittsfield; Hancock Shaker Village

Birding in the Berkshires – Ed Neumuth
It All Started With Homer – Richard Maturro
Elijah the Prophet: Tales From the Fiery Whirlwind – Rabbi Josh Breindel
Can Wall Street Be Regulated? – Larry Greenapple

FRIDAY

BCC Pittsfield

Understanding Soccer: Everything You Need to Know and More – Alan Rubin
What's New Around the Sun? – Elske Smith
Turning the Pages of the Great American Songbook – Frank Newton
Conversations with... – Barbara Greenbaum, Interviewer



Lecturers
Richard Maturro
and
Ronnie Levin



Spring Photo Contest Winner

The photo "Young Birch Trees" appears on the cover of the Spring 2013 Catalog. It was taken by Bill Madden in Adams with a Nikon D80 camera with a 90 mm lens at 1/160 sec.

Fall Photo Contest

PRIZE: The winning photo will be on the cover of the Fall 2013 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. Please send high-resolution photos.

DEADLINE: May 20, 2013

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

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

President's Message

The winter semester has drawn to a close, and it was an excellent one. We had large increases in members taking classes and in the number of classes taken. The courses were exceptional!

Our fund-raising drive is still underway, and the results are quite gratifying. We have raised approximately \$11,000 this year—an increase of 48 percent over last year. We are grateful to our members who have either contributed to OLLI for the first time or have increased their contribution from last year. Because the income from our endowment does not cover all of our expenses, the support of our members is very important.

Recently we sent out a Membership Survey to learn what current OLLI members like or would like to see improved in order to assist in planning for the future. We set up a 16-question survey that was answered anonymously by 292 members. These are some of the findings based on those 292 respondents (35% male and 65% female):

- 69% of those members are aged 70 and older
- 70% of those members hold post-graduate degrees
- 62% of those members are year-round residents
- 79% of those members think OLLI is doing a very good job
- 89% of those members feel an increase in \$5.00 per course would not influence their interest in taking courses

We thank the members who participated in the survey. We did implement the \$5.00 increase per course—this is the first increase for OLLI in seven years. It was necessary in order to remain fiscally responsible while maintaining our high standards.

By now, you should have received the catalog for the spring semester. The courses look fabulous, and I hope to see you at many of them.

Sandra Rubin

Getting to Know Sharon Mack

"I watched our membership grow through the years as BILL became OLLI and Barbara and the volunteers became a vital part of our organization. The people I work with are wonderful, and I enjoy my job very much," says Sharon Mack. Her name is almost legendary (smack@berkshirecc.edu and olli@berkshirecc.edu)—it appears on members' e-mail lists with all the latest information connecting the membership with the "mother ship."

If a member has a question about scheduling, venue or payment, Sharon, staff assistant to OLLI's Executive Director Barbara Hochberg, has the answer. Hired first in 1995 as a part-time worker for BILL, she was eventually asked to work full-time and continued when BILL became OLLI. Sharon gets to her office at about 7 a.m. and, returning home at the end of her busy day, she nestles with her Chihuahua and Maltese and relaxes.

Born in Germany—her mother was German and her father a GI—Sharon grew up in Baltimore. A single mother, she raised four children (now grown), lived all over the United States and finally settled in the Berkshires. Her pride in her children's accomplishments and her delight in her five grandchildren is evident in her smile as she talks about them.

She has been the editor of the Berkshire Writers Room newsletter for two years and still writes poetry when she has time. Sharon's poetry has such charm. Her poems are generated by her keen observation of what she sees. Her talent is illustrated here by her astute and sensitive attention to details when she writes about a small child's delight in a snowfall. — Marge Lewis, Assistant Editor



Catching Snowflakes

By Sharon Mack

*I saw the child
of maybe three
or four
walking with her mother
in a purple puff coat,
ears snug inside the hood,
arm stretched upward
her hand held tightly.*

*She lagged
ever so slightly,
short legs double stepping
to keep up.*

*And just before
I looked away,
she cast her eyes to the sky
and stuck out her tongue
to catch
the wandering snowflakes.*

OLLI's Fifth Open House, Art Show and Silent Auction

This event will be held on Saturday, June 8, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and includes a Wine and Hors d'oeuvres Reception. The Art Show viewing will continue on Sunday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will take place at the Welles Gallery located in the Lenox Public Library.

This year's Silent Auction, chaired by Fran Wolk, features opportunities to bid on a vacation home, meals, lodging and merchandise from retail establishments in addition to works of art, jewelry and other items.

A "Call for Artists" will be sent in March. Entries are limited to OLLI members. This event is free and open to the public. Bring your friends!

— Ron Stewart, Chair

Upcoming Events and Lectures

SPRING AND SUMMER 2013

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS SERIES

Lectures are held at BCC, K111
10:30 a.m. to noon

APRIL 27 • David Fine, "How to Make a Novel"

MAY 4 • Jonathan Epstein, "The Drama of Shakespeare's Sonnets"

JUNE 15 • Jeremy Yudkin, "Mozart the Wunderkind"

JUNE 27 • Bob Reiss, "Oil and the Ecology of the Arctic" (7:30 p.m.)

JULY 13 • "Upstairs, Downstairs: Hospitality in the Berkshires"

Simon Dewar, Blantyre

Bruce Finn, The Red Lion Inn

Marc Wilhelm, Wheatleigh

AUGUST 10 • Joseph Silverstein, "Beyond the Baton: What Music Directors Do"

SPECIAL EVENTS

MAY 29 • Capital Region Maritime Center, Alplaus, New York

JUNE 7 • OLLI Annual Meeting and Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture; Guest Speaker Douglas Brinkley, The Colonial Theatre

JUNE 8 & 9 • OLLI Open House, Art Show and Silent Auction, Lenox Library

JUNE 20 • Dance Theatre of Harlem, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket

OLLI "OUTDOORS"

JULY 25 • All-Star baseball game hosted by the Pittsfield Suns at Wahconah Park

Look for e-mails about these events. For information regarding time and venue for both the Distinguished Speakers Series and Special Events, please check www.BerkshireOLLI.org.

OLLI at BCC Annual Meeting and Fifth Annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture

OLLI at BCC's annual meeting will be held on Friday, June 7, 2013, at 5:15 p.m. at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield, MA. It will be followed at 6:00 p.m. by the fifth annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture. The annual meeting is an important time for OLLI members to review the work of the organization during the past year and to learn of the Board of Directors' plans for 2013 – 2014. The election of members to the Board of Directors will also take place.

The Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture is free and open to the public. It honors Mona Sherman, an active and influential force in the evolution of the OLLI program. Mona served as president and curriculum chair of OLLI's predecessor organization, Berkshire Institute for Lifelong Learning (BILL) and instituted the Distinguished Speakers Series. At the time of her death, she was serving on the OLLI board. In her memory, the Sherman family instituted this lecture series.

This year our speaker will be Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D., an award-winning historian and best-selling author. He is professor of history at Rice University and CBS News historian. Brinkley has been hailed by the *Chicago Tribune* as "America's new past master," and the late Stephen E. Ambrose called him "the best of the new generation of American historians." He is the author of a number of books including *The Great Deluge*, *The Boys of Pointe du Hoc* and *The Wilderness Warrior: Theodore Roosevelt and the Crusade for America*. He edited the number one *New York Times* best-seller, *The Reagan Diaries*. Brinkley's most recent book is *Cronkite*, a definitive biography of the legendary newsman. CNN recently referred to him as "a man who knows more about the presidency than just about any human being alive."

Before coming to Rice, he was professor of history and director of the Roosevelt Center at Tulane University. Prior to that, he served as director of the Eisenhower Center for American Studies at the University of New Orleans. He is a contributing editor for *Vanity Fair*, *Audubon* and *American Heritage* magazines. A frequent contributor to *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Rolling Stone* and *The Atlantic Monthly*, he is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Society of American Historians.

His lecture, *An Evening with Douglas Brinkley*, will be about Walter Cronkite and the social and political era that he reported on during the 1960s and 70s.

— Barbara Hochberg, Executive Director



Douglas Brinkley

OLLI NEWSLETTER

Editor: Wilma Michaels

Assistant Editors: Peri Caverly, Judy Katz, Marge Lewis, Sandi Rubin

Editorial Staff: Arline Breskin, Mary Anne Cicchillo, Ruth Degenhardt, Joanna Fribush, Jo Ann Lancaster, Marilyn Margolis, Helen-Mary Shaffer, Harriet Shair, Arthur Sherman, Fran Wolk

Thank You, Lecturers

SPRING 2012, SUMMER 2012, FALL 2012, WINTER 2013

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. Many have led more than one course.

Howard Arkans
Sue Arkans
Emanuel Azenberg
M. Saleem Bajwa
Peter Bergman
Billie Best
Mark Birrell
Beverly Blonder
Richard Bourdan
Abigail Brenner
Arline Breskin
Jock Brooks
Julie Cassidy
Michael Cassin
Alan Chartock
Kelly Clady-Giramma
Leonard Cohen
Jerome Connoy
James Cotter
William Darrow
Stephen Dietemann
Susan Dworkin
Joan Edwards
Susan Engel
Bruce Evenchik
David Fine
James Finnerty
Karel Fisher
Paul Flaum
Ralph Friedner
Steven Gerrard
Naomi Grabel
David Greenapple
Larry Greenapple
Barbara Greenbaum
Roberta Haas
Steven Haas
Jerry Handspicker
Jenny Hersch
Maureen Hickey
Robin Hoagland
Jennifer Hould
Tereza Hubkova
Robert Jackall
Phyllis Jaffe
Ben Kahn

Jesse Kielman
James Kraft
Thomas Kwiatkowski
Eileen Lawlor
Jennifer Leahey
Philip Leahey
Amanda L'Etoile
Jo Ann Levitt
Carlton Maaia
Ron Maitland
Philip McKnight
Dee McQuaide
Patty Murphy
Story Musgrave
Edward Neumuth
David Orenstein
Mary Orna
Stephanie Plunkett
Peter Podol
Robert Pollock
Alan Price
Letty Progrebin
Charles Quinlan
Mark Reinhart
Larry Robbins
Gerald Robinson
Bernard Rodgers
Robert Rosen
Paul Rosenthal
Jeff Rossman
Alan Rubin
Dorothy Rudolph

Fred Rudolph
Hilary Russell
Diane Saunders
Robert Scherr
Joyce Schiller
William Schmick
Warren Schwartz
Judy Seaman
Tony Segal
Annie Selke
Claudia Shuster
Joseph Silverstein
Laura Smith
Steven Souza
Jesse Spector
George Stassa
Dawn Sweerus
Leonard Tabs
Michael Tesoro
Alexandra Tinari
Nancy Vale
Barbara Waldinger
Stacy Wallach
Judith Weber
Lawrence Weber
Martin Weinstein
Chrissy Wellington
Rene Wendell
Charles Wohl
Elizabeth Young
Jeremy Yudkin
Ethan Zuckerman

Faculty Appreciation Dinner 2013

The OLLI Faculty Appreciation Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at the BCC dining room. This annual event is an opportunity for OLLI to honor the many instructors who generously contribute their time and talent to lead our classes in the summer, fall, winter and spring semesters.

For the sixth consecutive year, this event will be chaired by OLLI member Adele Cukor. Adele coordinates everything from invitations to decorations and from menu to seating. Her warm hospitality and outgoing spirit always make the evening a special occasion.

This year approximately 80 lecturers and their guests will be invited. More than 50 curriculum subcommittee members and OLLI's Board of Directors will also be asked to attend. With the presentation of an OLLI mug and this dinner, we extend our thanks 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, who are the very heart of our program, and we look forward to toasting them on May 21.

— Barbara Hochberg
Executive Director

Preview of Summer 2013 Semester

Join us for the 2013 summer semester! Courses will be held in June with most classes meeting four times. A summer catalog with specific information including course titles, instructors, dates, times and locations will be mailed to you in April. Among the courses to be offered are:

The Higgs Boson: At the Edge of a New World • It's a Mystery to Me • Re-creating History Through Role Play: *The Trial of Galileo* • Today's Headlines • Science Conversations: Behind the Headlines • Writing Our Stories: Memoir and Short Story Writing • The Civil War—An Oxymoron • Dilemmas of Aging in America: Joys and Woes • The Joy of Music • *Gettysburg*, the Film • Gifts from the Sea (a cooking course)

Thank You, Volunteers

SPRING 2012, SUMMER 2012, FALL 2012, WINTER 2013

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—159 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.

Howard Arkans	Vickie Ernst	Michael Kahn	Leon Nesis	Art Sherman
Sue Arkans	Andrew Fisher	Judi Kales	Lesley Oransky	Carl Shuster
Alison Atlas	Karel Fisher	Judy Katz	Gail Orenstein	Claudia Shuster
Norman Avnet	Marilyn Flaum	Lucy Kennedy	Susan Orenstein	Carole Siegel
Linda Benton	Paul Flaum	Judy Keshner	Walter Orenstein	Turbi Smilow
Shelley Berend	Roz Forman	Ro Koelle	Gail Palmer	Claire Smith
Alyce Bernstein	Rose Foster	Tom Koelle	Anne Pasko	Elske Smith
Bob Bieniek	Joanna Fribush	Roselyn Kolodny	Peter Podol	George Smith
Arline Breskin	Audrey Friedner	Jo Ann Lancaster	Pat Pollok	Valerie Smith
Jock Brooks	Henry Gallitano	Bonnie LaPierre	Helen Radin	Martha Stewart
Joan Brotman	Michael Geller	Augusta Leibowitz	Janet Reusche	Ron Stewart
Larry Brotman	Joe Gerard	Dolores Lerman	Larry Robbins	Lawrence Strauss
Ilse Browner	Ruth Glazerman	Kitty Levitan	Wendy Robbins	Ellen Tabs
Dona Burdick	Marcia Gold	Marge Lewis	Charlene Rosen	Leonard Tabs
Helene Calman	Florence Goodman	Barbara Liebert	Robert Rosen	Theresa Terry
Peri Caverly	Susan Gorham	John Lipkowitz	Alan Rubin	Lorraine Tinger
Sheila Chesney	Larry Greenapple	Sharon Mack	Lenore Rubin	Lora Tobias
Mary Anne Cicchillo	Barbara Greenbaum	Iris Maitland	Sandi Rubin	Sig Tobias
Leonard Cohen	Dan Gromko	Barbara Mandler	Lesley Rubinger	Carolyn Vandervort
Marsha Cohen	Hope Hagler	Marilyn Margolis	Carol Sabot	William Vogt
Vicky Cooper	Janel Halpern	Michael Margolis	Diane Saunders	Abbie von Schlegell
Judy Cromwell	Nancy Halstead	Richard Matturro	Audrey Schlanger	Jean Walden
Nancy Crosson	Thomas Halstead	Joan McFalls	Myrna Schneiderman	Stacy Wallach
Adele Cukor	George Haus	Nancy McGill	Tony Segal	Jean Warren
Patsy Curley	Joanne Hayes	Karen McNulty	Betsey Selkowitz	Terry Weaver
Ruth Degenhardt	Maureen Hickey	Joy Mendell	Helen-Mary Shaffer	Donald White
Bob Desrosiers	Lois Hill	Norman Michaels	Hal Shair	Patricia White
Bonnie Desrosiers	Rudy Hoeltzel	Wilma Michaels	Harriet Shair	Claire Williams
Sheila Donath	Emily Jahn	Enid Michelman	Arline Shalan	Fran Wolk
Judy Douville	Barbara Jonas	Judith Nardacci	Howard Shapiro	Joel Wolk
Pamela Drumm	Judy Joseph	Stephanie Nasson	Shirley Shapiro	Evelyn Zwerner
Ed Epstein	Loretta Kahn	Barbara Nelick	Ron Shaw	



OLLI Newsletter Editorial Staff

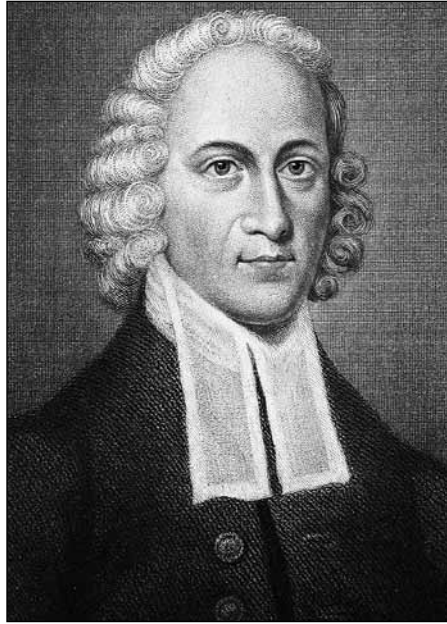
Back Row Left to Right: Marge Lewis, Peri Caverly, Ruth Degenhardt, Joanna Fribush, Marilyn Margolis, Helen-Mary Shaffer
Front Row Left to Right: Editor Wilma Michaels, Harriet Shair, Fran Wolk, Executive Director Barbara Hochberg

Jonathan Edwards and the Stockbridge Indians

Jonathan Edwards, an eminent colonial preacher, writer, intellectual and controversial theologian, was born in Windsor, Connecticut, in 1703. The only son in a family of 11 children, he entered Yale in 1716 when he was not yet thirteen and graduated in 1720.

He was a leader of the Great Awakening, a major religious revival of the mid-eighteenth century. Posthumously, he is recognized for his influence on the writers of the Declaration of Independence; it is said he was responsible for putting God in that document. What is not so well known is his work as a missionary and educational leader for the Stockbridge Indians.

A preacher in Northampton for twenty years, Edwards was fired in 1750 due to controversies between him and his congregants. In 1751, he went to Stockbridge to become the missionary to the Mohican Indians, as well as a preacher to the colonists. Stockbridge, called Indian Town, had been founded by John Sergeant in



1734 as a mission community for the Mohican tribe and a small number of white settlers. Sergeant died in 1749; Edwards soon succeeded him.

The mission's purpose was to teach the Indians the English language as well as Christianity. Edwards thought that the "Indian language was barbarous and barren, and ill-fitting

for communicating things moral and divine." He had low regard for the Indian culture but trusted in their potential. He advocated educating girls and included music, competition and prizes in the curriculum—innovative ideas for his times. Another innovation to bridge the cultural gap was to have a few English children integrated into the Indian school as well as to have some Indian children live with an English family. His family did take an Indian boy into their home.

Edwards left the Stockbridge Mission in 1758 to become president of The College of New Jersey, now Princeton University. He died a few months later from an experimental smallpox vaccination. The library at Berkshire Community College is named for him, and a monument in his memory, erected by his descendants, exists in Stockbridge.

—Joanna Fribush
Feature Writer

OLLI's Twentieth Anniversary

LET'S CELEBRATE!

The year 2014 marks the twentieth anniversary of BILL/OLLI. To commemorate this milestone, a committee appointed by President Sandi Rubin has been busy organizing festivities into a yearlong celebration capped by a twentieth anniversary weekend party.

The first event will take place on September 10, 2013. It will be a repeat of the first bus trip that the Special Events Committee organized for BILL in 1995—a visit to Vassar College's Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center in Poughkeepsie, New York, followed by lunch at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York.

Also in September 2013, Dr. Leon Botstein, president of Bard College and music director of the American Symphony Orchestra, will be the guest speaker. The date will be announced when confirmed. Other exciting activities will take place throughout the year.

The final weekend of celebration will take place from May 30 to June 1, 2014. On Friday, May 30, the annual OLLI membership meeting will be held followed by the Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture featuring a highly respected speaker. This will be followed by a wine and cheese reception.

On Saturday May 31, 2014, "The Party" celebrating the twentieth anniversary will be held at Cranwell in Lenox. A dinner with entertainment is planned. The weekend will end with an OLLI "Outdoors" event—a picnic/hike on Sunday, June 1. The committee will announce times and dates as they are finalized.

Plan to join us for these exciting events to celebrate OLLI's anniversary.

— Howard Arkans, Chair, Twentieth Anniversary Committee



Call for OLLI Authors

The OLLI Newsletter is excited to highlight our members who are published authors. We spotlight some of their works in this issue and will continue to do so in future issues as space permits. The works below are available at local bookstores and libraries as well as on websites such as Amazon.com.

Five Star Fraud by Margaret G. Cahill, published by Lulu, 2010

Main character, Neil Landers, clashes with management over exaggerated marketing claims. Neil blows the whistle. This triggers a battle to save his reputation, his marriage and his life. This fast-paced drama includes suspense, romance, corporate greed, job loss and its devastating psychological consequences.

Making Tootsie: Inside the Classic Film with Dustin Hoffman and Sydney Pollack (Film Study) by Susan Dworkin, published by Newmarket Press, 30th Anniversary Edition, 2012

As the only journalist Pollack and Columbia Pictures permitted on the set and in the editing room, Susan Dworkin conducted in-depth

interviews with its director, star, costume designer, and film editors. A short, lively description of the tumult, laughs and anxiety that went into making this Academy Award winning comedy.

Missing Persons, by David Fine, published by Troy Bookmaker (Troy NY), 2012

Missing Persons is a novel about family, about memory and desire within its twisted history and about trying to come to grips with the past as it catches up with us. It takes us from a Brooklyn childhood through a Montana wildfire to Hollywood under the blacklist.

My Dear Governess: The Letters of Edith Wharton to Anna Bahlmann, Edited by Irene Goldman-Price, Yale University Press, 2012

Through Wharton's letters to Anna Bahlmann her former governess, sometime secretary and lifelong friend, read the breadth of Wharton's interests—European history, architecture, poetry—and learn for the first time what she was like as a child.

Janey by Richard Maturro, published by Livingston Press, 2012

Janey is the centerpiece of a trilogy. The Twelve Labors of Hercules might seem an easier task than warming up to someone as caustic and misanthropic as Janey. If you hate her at the beginning, though, be warned: by the conclusion you may very well fall in love with her.

Strange Haven: A Jewish Childhood in Wartime Shanghai by Sigmund Tobias, University of Illinois Press, 2009

The book describes the escape of the Tobias family to Shanghai in 1938 from the deepening Holocaust in Germany after Kristallnacht. This is an account of a young man's life and that of a community of roughly 17,000 Jews who found a safe haven from the Holocaust in Shanghai during World War II.

If you have published in any genre, please send me the title, publisher, date of publication, a brief synopsis and ordering information. Send your information to Editor Wilma Michaels at wmichaels40@aol.com.

Social Science Subcommittee Update

So many members comment on the quality and scope of our courses and, more important, about OLLI's ability to maintain this high level from semester to semester.

The Social Science Subcommittee encompasses a wide spectrum of areas such as political science, sociology, philosophy, current events, politics, travel, world affairs, terrorism, law/constitutional issues, history and historical events and figures, environmental issues and many more. It is not surprising that our contribution to the overall curriculum usually comprises more than half the total semester offerings. We are well along with course development through all of 2013 and into 2014.

A sample of the courses social science has offered includes: *The Civil War—An Oxymoron*; *Turning Point: WWII's Least Understood Week*; *Winston Churchill: Greatest Man of the Twentieth Century?*; *Shakespeare and the Law*; *Re-creating History Through Role Play*; *America's Future: Buy, Sell or Hold*; *Travel Adventures*; *The Financial Crisis of 2007-08 and Its Aftermath*; *Great Decisions*.

The way we work is that our committee members contact potential lecturers from OLLI's educational and cultural partners and from corporate and government organizations. We meet with these lecturers for lunch or coffee, and courses evolve based on their interests and expertise. The

opportunity to meet with them is unique and exhilarating. We find potential lecturers both welcoming and interested in what we do.

There is room on the subcommittee for OLLI members who want to have this enriching experience.

If you would like to find out more about the Social Science Subcommittee, please contact me at gdmads@aol.com or Stacy Wallach, who is partnering with me to broaden the subcommittee leadership, at slw1234@hughes.net.

— Art Sherman, Chair

DEAR OLLI

To keep our members better informed, we introduced a feature called **DEAR OLLI**.

What would you like to know about OLLI at BCC? If you have questions about OLLI, send them to Wilma Michaels, newsletter editor, at wmichaels40@aol.com.

The answers will come from those members who can best reply to the specific questions.

OLLI members have asked, "What is the lottery system, what is its purpose and how does it work?"

The OLLI lottery system was developed so that all OLLI members would have a chance for admission to limited enrollment classes. Classes have limited enrollment for one of two reasons—either the faculty member has requested a seminar course to facilitate discussion or the location in which the class is being held has limited space (the BCC cooking lab, for example).

A lottery deadline is established each semester, and all members who have submitted their names for a limited enrollment class by the lottery deadline are entered in the lottery.

Submission details are described in each semester catalog. Names are drawn by a BCC administrator with no connection to the OLLI program.

This way, every member with an interest in a lottery course has an equal opportunity to be selected.

— Barbara Hochberg
Executive Director

Return Service Requested

