



# OSHER W&M GAZETTE

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT WILLIAM & MARY

[UPDATES](#) | [WEBSITE](#) | [CONTACT](#)

Volume 2 Number 4

May 2020

## Osher Summer Session ONLINE!

As our stay-at-home orders continue, the Osher Institute at W&M has converted its summer lineup of courses to online for the month of June. Purchase a Summer Membership for only \$25.00, then register for as many courses as you wish. As many of you have noted in recent surveys, these online courses fall short in providing the social interaction we so much enjoy but it does eliminate the need for wait lists and parking hassles. There should be room for everyone.

Below is a list of the courses we plan to offer. We will post an abbreviated catalog on our website by May 12. Registration will open May 15. If you have any trouble with processing these transactions online, contact our office and a staff member will return your call to assist with your registration needs.

**Color as a Compositional Tool in Photography with Helen Oderisi**

**Congress Shall Make No Law..." The First Amendment in Theory, History, and Practice" with Karen McPherson**

**Do Only The Rich Have Trusts? Key Strategies Using Trusts in Your**

**Estate Plan with John Burton**

**Fools and Crazy Men: A Short History of Submarine Warfare with Bill Riffer**

**Hamilton: Man and Musical with Dan Sherman**

**Justice and War with Bill Rhodes**

**Lights! Camera! Action! Survey of Movie Musicals with Dan Sherman**

**Mastering Your iPhone/iPad Camera and Photo Applications with Rick Chase**

**Shorts for Summer: Four Brief Works Exploring a Female's Perspective with Elizabeth Guiliano**

**The Palisades of 1634 and 1646 in Williamsburg with John Delano**

**Through the Hollywood Lens: The Vietnam War with Scott Langhorst**

**History of Radio and TV Broadcasting with John Streiff**

**You Got to Know When to Hold 'em, Know When to Fold 'em... with David Hopkinson**

**Investing Success for the "Silent Generation" (born 1928-1945) with Keith Reagan**

---

## **Member Feedback On Osher Online Courses**

Thank you for your prompt and thorough response to the surveys we sent out after the first session of each online course. Below is a summary of your input.



From the 13 surveys completed on zoom courses conducted to date, 82% of respondents indicated having no technical problems using zoom.

When asked how likely is it you would sign up for another zoom course, 77% of you indicated very likely.

When asked what you liked BEST about the online courses, here are a few of your comments:

- I think it's a great alternative and very welcome during these times.

Thanks to all for working to make it possible.

- The opportunity to participate as part of the class in the extraordinary times! I have missed our Osher gatherings!
- It's the next best thing to being in class in that the student is able to hear the instructor, gain knowledge or listen to the perspectives and questions of others.
- Flexibility of being in my home...get a cup of coffee, snack, didn't have to get out in the rain.
- Hearing the instructor and seeing the slides at the same time
- "I have just completed 'attending' Mr. Riffer's online presentation of the Patriotic War. I was very impressed with how the session went, and I believe that Osher management should strongly consider a plan where most if not all of future semesters' offering are online. Class size limitations would largely be eliminated" - Charles Glendening
- Have been enjoying several Osher classes on Zoom and it is an excellent vehicle to show slides, video and the instructor. Keep it going. I look forward to more Zoom classes
- No problem finding parking near the library
- Very convenient
- Good for you guys in keeping things moving the best you can under these difficult conditions, says Jim Palmer.
- How easy to join and navigate

When asked what did you like LEAST about using Zoom, you responded:

- I do not enjoy sitting in front of a computer screen for 2 hours
- Missed the ease of communicating with the instructor.
- Occasional video disruption
- I like the interaction with other members and the general on-campus atmosphere.
- No Oreos
- Not being able to sit with friends and discuss new information learned in class.
- Awkward to use the chat box.
- The phone is a problem for 2 hours, it's expensive for 2 hours long distance and incoming call to distract me.
- Difficult to get logged into the meeting and got disconnected.
- Missed feeling I was part of group/community. This did not feel much different than listening to CSPN TV history lectures.
- The lack of a classroom atmosphere.
- In person is always best....but this worked great.
- I found displays of the images of a couple of the participants distracting.

Lots of good information here for our staff, board and programming committee to ponder as we move forward to best serve you.

Scherry Barra  
Director

---

## **HAIL and FAREWELL**

For obvious reasons, our 2020 Annual Member Meeting was cancelled. But, our members have spoken. Over the past two weeks, the returns trickled in, and thanks to your participation, Osher will have a new Board as of May 18.

### **HAIL**

The members, all of whom have agreed to serve are:

President, Scott Langhorst  
Vice President, John McLaughlin  
Immediate Past President, John Anderson  
Treasurer, Frank Wood  
Secretary, Elizabeth Keller  
Program Chair, Ann Teske  
Hospitality Chair, Kathy McLaughlin  
Director at Large, Tim McPherson  
Director at Large, Mike Kerley  
Director at Large, Debbie Misiag

### **FAREWELL**

The following members have completed their services as directors, and will be leaving the Board:

Gordon Bratz  
Jo Ann Gora  
Harry Haynsworth  
Ed McMahon  
Jim O'Reardon  
Jim Rettig  
Mark Smith  
Leonard Taubman  
Clive Van Orden

Speaking for our Osher members, we thank them for the contribution of their time, effort, and expertise on behalf of our Osher community.

Osher is a volunteer organization. With the exception of Scherry and our

staff who are devoted to making Osher work, it's all volunteers. Our instructors volunteer their time and expertise. Our committee members work behind the scenes to provide for constant improvement, and our classroom assistants help ensure that classes run smoothly. Please consider volunteering, and please join in extending our thanks to them all.

John Anderson  
Osher President

---

## **A Fond Au Revoir From Deborah Corkey-Corber**

To my dear friends and colleagues,

Ever since my arrival in Williamsburg in 1996, the Christopher Wren Association became an integral part of my life. I discovered the classes and was hooked on this idea of life-long learning immediately. After attending a few classes, I decided to volunteer to teach a class on French history. There was some discussion in the beginning as to whether or not a high school teacher would be able to offer interesting classes, but that idea was soon dispelled and off I went. For the next 25 years, I took many classes with particular interest in history and literature, I taught classes on Provence, Paris and various periods of French history. I was asked to serve on the Board twice and became the Chairperson of Social Events serving for over 6 years. What an honor and privilege it has been to serve on behalf of you all. Christopher Wren and now Osher became a most important part of my social and intellectual life and I so appreciate the many friendships that were formed along the way. I thank the office staff for their countless hours supporting my teaching and the many theater trips and tours I was able to lead. These social events allowed me to get to know even more of the fantastic members of the Association for which I am most grateful. Now, I enter another chapter of my life in Charlottesville where I am near family. I shall most certainly look to get involved once again in Osher Life-Long Learning here at the University of Virginia. I know it will not be the same, as the Christopher Wren Association, is still one of the best opportunities in Williamsburg, but I hope to find interesting classes and perhaps once again volunteer to teach. I shall miss you all, but hope our paths cross when you come a little west on Route 64. I would love to have you drop in for a visit. Many thanks and until we meet again!

Au Revoir!

---

## In Memoriam

We regret to inform you that our long-time Osher photography instructor, Norm Rictor, died on April 28, 2020. Norm taught in secondary schools for 35 years, and was a photographer for over 69 years. He was an instructor at Edward L. Bafford School of Photography and past president of the Baltimore Camera Club. Funeral services will be held in Baltimore, MD after it is safe to travel and gather. Condolences may be sent to: Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schultz, 106 Concerto Ave., Centreville, MD 21617.



---

## Annual Member Survey

Next week we will send out a link to our annual member survey. Your input is critical in assisting us with future decisions regarding our program. It is a brief summary and will only take a few minutes of your time. We hope you will provide your feedback.

---

## Thank You to All Our Volunteers!

The Osher Institute Appreciates all our volunteers: those who served as hosts and class assistants, helped in our office, taught courses and served on our board and committees.



## Spring 2020 Hosts and Class Assistants

Al Cummins

Alan Cummins

Albert Davis

Ann Teske

Anne Collins

Anne Hart

Barbara Thomason

Bentley Gregg

Lynn Dievendorf

Margaret Peterson

Marilyn Hamly

Marilynn Harned

Mark Hunt

Mark Prosser

Marla Boren

Mary Alice Joss

Beth White	Mary Beth Fager
Bill Christensen	Mary Dalton
Bob Spencer	Mary Garrett
Brenda Abbott	Mary Huber
Carol Ball	Mary Hunt
Carol Shutt	Mary Meagher
Carolyn Glendening	Mary Minor
Catherine Davis	Mary Schafrik
Catherine Sanderson	Melissa Puttre
Catherine Sheedy	Michael Halladay
Cheryl Sanford	Michael Harbin
Clement Brown	Michael Richardson
Daniel Sanford	Nancy Bolash
Daphne Kinkel	Nancy Greene
David Ross	Patricia Gallagher
Deborah DeBacco	Patricia Vaughan
Deborah Misiag	Patricia Volp
Dee Zarnowski	Peg Becker
Diana O'Connell	Peter Burke
Donna Powell	Peter Henderson
Dorothy Barat	Peter Schoonmaker
Dorothy House	Philip Horbert
Ed Peterson	Phoebe Kent
Edward McMahan	Ralph Simmons
Edwin Thomas III	Ray Morgan
Elizabeth Guiliano	Robert Ambrose
Elizabeth Keller	Robert Dennis
Ellen Spore	Robert Lund
Ellen Swan	Robert Stoegbauer
Helen McCormack	Robin Church
Jacelyn Polizzi	Rodney Stone
James Carey	Rudi Laarhoven
James Heller	Rudy Knepper
Jan Sarmiere	Ruurdje Laarhoven
Janet Savage	Sandy Menaquale
Jean Scott	Scott Orr
Jim Bowers	Sean Fitzpatrick
Jim Lockard	Stephen Bickham
Jim McCormack	Stephen Fedosick
Jim Rettig	Steven Ralph
JoAnn Gora	Susan Bivins
Joe Cross	Susan Delano

John Dyer  
John VandeSand  
Joseph Sell  
Judith Leasure  
Karen McPherson  
Karen Thomas  
Kathy Schoonmaker  
Kerry Johnson  
Kit Ober  
Lara schaefer  
Linda James  
Lisa Craft  
Lynda Dunnigan

Susan Gregg  
Susan Knepper  
Suzanne Wagner  
Terry Cavanaugh  
Thomas Hale  
Virginia Cranford  
Virginia Silva  
Walter Morrison  
Wendy Keener  
William Hughes  
William Johnson  
William Meeks  
William Riffer

---

## Advertise in Our Fall Catalog

Care to promote your business or know someone who would? Contact the Osher office for more information. Please note your ad and contract with credit card payment or check are due May 15. Call us with any questions, 221-1506.

---

## Update Your Mailing Address

Now is the time to update us on any changes to your mailing addresses. We are starting to plan our fall semester and want to ensure that you receive your catalog when it comes out later this summer. For any questions on how to update your information you can call us at 757-221-1506 or email us at [osher@wm.edu](mailto:osher@wm.edu)

---

[Give to Osher](#)

[Give to W&M](#)

## What's New at W&M

P.O. Box 8795  
Williamsburg, VA



(757) 221-1506  
[www.wm.edu/osher](http://www.wm.edu/osher)  
osher@wm.edu



SHARE

FORWARD