

# the *Adventurer*

OSHER  
LIFELONG  
LEARNING  
INSTITUTE



Term: Summer | Issue 18:10 | August 2019

## MONTHLY MEETING

### 100 Years of Michigan Parks

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

8:45 am—Registration, Light Refreshments

9:30 am—Welcome & Announcements



With the transfer of Fort Michilimackinac (built by the French on the south shore of the Straits of Mackinac in approximately

1715) and parts of Mackinac Island from the federal government to the State of Michigan in 1885, Michigan became one of the first states in the nation to establish a state park. With generous donations from the Dodge Brothers, the hard work of the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the tireless work of Genevieve Gillette, Michigan parks bloomed into the expansive system of today. Join us for a discussion of the Michigan State Park system during its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Anna Sylvester, Field Operations Chief for northern Michigan, will regale you with her knowledge of the Michigan parks, from Mackinac Island to Tahquamenon Falls.

## NOTES & NEWS

- July 12, stop by the Saginaw Children's Zoo Brown Bag Lunch Series, this month on animal training. 11:30 a.m. Free, but must RSVP at [saginawzoo.com](http://saginawzoo.com)
- July 13, visit the Saginaw Art Museum for a morning of gardening. No experience required as master gardeners are available to help. 9 a.m.-Noon. Free.
- July 24, join historian Cathy Fitzpatrick for a talk on the Averill Preserve's Logging History. 6:30 p.m. at the Chippewa Nature Center in Midland. Free.
- Aug. 3, check out the classic cars at the Decade Dash Car Show in uptown Bay City. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free.
- Aug. 17, visit Bay City for the Chalk Walk Art Festival. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free.
- Aug. 31, Current OLLI Membership EXPIRES. Renew TODAY!

## CONTACT US

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SAGINAW VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## OLLI WISDOM

**Renew Your OLLI Membership TODAY!**

## IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, September 11

Fall Kickoff Meeting! With Ascension St. Mary's  
*Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms*

Wednesday, October 9

Monthly Meeting: Great Lakes Islands  
By: Maureen Dunphy, author  
*Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms*

Wednesdays, November 13

Monthly Meeting: Elder Law  
By: Carol Thomas

## CHAIR'S NOTE



Hello OLLI friends,

Getting back to good news from Steven Pinker's Book *Enlightenment NOW*, he has some data

on war. It seems there is fighting everywhere these days, but, in fact, there is more peace than ever.

The percentage of years that great powers spent fighting each other has declined from 75-100% in the 1500s to 25% in 1900 to near zero in 2000. The last great war was between China and North Korea over 60 years ago. Powerful nations have clearly stopped using all out country to country war.

There has also been a decline in wars between smaller countries, such wars occurred less than four times in any one year since 1945, none in most years since 1989. Of course, there are skirmishes and civil wars, but its still better than it used to be.

Similarly, the geographic area in which wars are occurring has shrunk. Since Columbia made peace with the FARC in 2016, the entire western hemisphere, South, Central, and North America, has been at peace. Western European nations are at peace. East and Southeast Asia are also free of active conflict. Wars are concentrated in the area from Nigeria to Pakistan where terrible civil wars are ongoing. There is some comfort to be had from the fact that at least they have not devolved into active wars between the great powers. The good news remains true: overall there is less war than ever before.

—Carol Gohm, Advisory Board Chair



## CASTLES & CRAIC



*Craic* (pronounced crack) is Irish for FUN and there was plenty of great craic to be had. Forty -two OLLI members spent 15 days seeing the sights of Ireland. Ancient ruins and writings, medieval castles, breweries and the local pubs provided educational opportunities and amusement. Lodging in five different cities gave us a flavor of the regional differences as well as a chance to interact with many locals. Ocean cliffs, fjords, rhododendron, and lush green countryside (yes, it really is the Emerald Isle) provided awe-inspiring views and great photos. The talks, storytelling, and music gave us volumes of information, put smiles on our faces, and warmed our hearts. The banter and laughter of the group made lifetime memories. Remember, just because Irish put the letter in the word it does not mean you have to use it. To one and all *SLAINTE!* ([slonche]-cheers)

—OLLI Members Gordy & Susie Schram

## TRAVELING TAP

SVSU's International and Advanced Studies office has been hard at work putting together several interesting events that are open to the community, such as the Traveling Tap, the International Food Festival, and Intercultural Night.

The Traveling Tap is a monthly lecture series given by engaging professionals with international travel experience. The presentations are on the second Wednesday of every month and last from 5-7 p.m.

Lectures for September, October, November, and December will be held at the Oracle Brewing Company in Saginaw. All are welcome to attend.

The International Food Festival will be held on Tuesday, November 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Marketplace at SVSU. Students work together with kitchen staff to prepare recipes from all over the world and are available, while serving food, to explain their cultures and the dishes that they have made. Cost is ~\$10.

Intercultural Night is an annual opportunity for SVSU students to represent their countries and display their talents through a variety of performances. You can expect singing, dancing, playing instruments and more. Tentatively, this event is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2020 in the Reha Miller Recital Hall from 7-9:30 p.m. Check with the Office of International and Advanced Studies for more information. 989.964.2072.

## CURRENT INTEREST GROUPS

- Bridge
  - Buddhist Psychology
  - Celtic Music
  - Choral Singing
  - Cross Country Skiing
  - Current Events
  - Cycling
  - Dinner
  - Esoteric Cosmology
  - Games
  - Gardening
  - Guitar
  - Kayaking
  - Knitting
  - Lunch
  - Movies
  - Music Collegium
  - OLLI Folks on Spokes
  - Pickleball
  - Ping Pong
  - Recorder (dojo)
  - Recreational Biking
  - Sharing the Great Courses
  - Stamp & Coin Collecting
  - Theatre
  - Women Active Multi-Interest
- For group leader contact info see: [svsu.edu/olli](http://svsu.edu/olli)

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### *Karol Walker*

OLLI Folks on Spokes (OFOS) is a newly forming bicycling group which will hopefully give a new dimension to cycling for OLLI members.

Here are the criteria for this OFOS group as they are different from the other two organized OLLI bicycling groups:

1. Ride speeds will average 10-12 miles per hour.
2. Ride distances will be 20+ miles.
3. Rides will be on roads and/or trails.
4. Rides will be restricted to safe weather and road/trail conditions.
5. Rides may occur any day of the week. Rides can be announced as late as the day before.
6. Rides may be posted that are "day-long" trips or "overnights." Due to distances traveled to ride starting points, there may be advanced postings for any ride of this nature.
7. Anyone who is on the OFOS email list is able to create a ride that can be posted via OFOS email list.
8. OFOS is a "come when you can" ride group. OFOS rides are an opportunity to ride and not a mandate.
9. OFOS group does not discourage participation with either or both of the other two OLLI biking groups, the Cycling Group or Recreational Biking Group.



If you are interested but have questions or want to join, please contact me, Karol Walker, at karolw2986@gmail.com

## STROKE CAMP

The Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program is sponsoring a Stroke Camp from Monday, July 22, 2019 through Friday, August 2, 2019. Housed within the Crystal M. Lange Health and Human Services Building at SVSU, this dynamic camp will run daily Monday - Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Facilitated by SVSU occupational therapy faculty, staff and graduate students, therapy will be aimed toward the "Skills for the Job of Living", to include physical rehabilitation and psychological/social support, activities of daily living, leisure/play and socialization throughout each of the six hours daily. Those of any age, who are at least six months after experiencing a stroke, are welcome to participate. Participation in the program requires a full daily commitment of attendance for the two weeks. In return, there is no participation fee. The only other criteria is such that the participant must be able to independently care for one's daily personal needs throughout the six hour day. A physician's written consent to participate is required.

Therapy will be skilled and individualized therefore the program is limited to 20 participants. If interested, please contact Occupational Therapy Chair and Professor, Dr.

Donald Earley at (989) 964-4689 ordwe@svsu.edu.

#### HOW TO SPOT A STROKE



## ADVISORY BOARD

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## GROUP FOCUS: BRIDGE

One of the most popular games since the 1930s, bridge is also one of the longest running interest groups at SVSU's OLLI. Join the group for tricks, trumps, and more on Fridays starting from noon in the OLLI classroom, Curtiss 129. Don't be a dummy! If you love bridge, you'll love our bridge group. For more information, contact Dave Wilkins at davidpwilkins3@gmail.com or 989.793.2356.



## NEWSLETTER

"The Adventurer" is published monthly for SVSU-OLLI members at Saginaw Valley State University. Reprints of this newsletter may be obtained by calling 989.964.4475.

Newsletter Editor:  
Katherine Ellison  
989.964.4475

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

I can't believe I'm already writing the August newsletter column—the last of the series for this membership year. Next month starts another membership year, so be sure to renew your membership with us on the included form and mail it back, email a scanned copy back to me, give us a call, or better yet, go online and renew yourself. Keep in mind that member benefits such as monthly meetings and *The Adventurer* are only available if you renew before September. This year, we are also asking for birthdates—this is for our own statistical purposes and won't be shared with anyone. Hopefully by knowing which age brackets you fit within, we can better program to your needs and interests. Thanks for another great year!

K.R.



## CLASS HIGHLIGHT

### Teamwork & Timbers

Using a quarter-sized replica of an American mid-west timber-frame barn, participants will learn about the parts, the vocabulary, and the raising of this American building structure that framed barns, homes, and businesses of this period. This educational experience provides grandparents and their grandkids information and experiences about Michigan's agricultural heritage, the pride of craftsmanship, and a glimpse of what can happen when people come together to accomplish something they cannot do alone. Price includes one grandparent and one grandchild. Suggested for ages 10 and older. **NOW FREE FOR MEMBERS!**

Thursday 7/25 • 1-4 p.m.  
Free for Members  
\$12 Non-Members

## TRIP HIGHLIGHT

### Horseback Trail Riding

Dust off your cowboy hat and join us on this trail ride through beautiful Maybury State Park. The day will start off with a box lunch under the pavilion in the beautiful state forest where you will also have time to do some hiking on the trails if you like. Beginners are welcome! Your horseback ride will also include two trail guides on the trail and a hands-on lesson. This trip package includes a horseback trail ride, hands on lesson, box lunch, dessert stop on the way home and motor coach transportation from SVSU. Please note that horseback riding may not be suitable for all - please consult your physician if you have any concerns. You will be asked to sign a waiver, and must weigh under 240 lbs. for the safety of the horses.

Tuesday 8/13 • 7 a.m.-7 p.m.  
\$125 Members/ \$145 Non-Members

RENEW YOUR OLLI MEMBERSHIP TODAY!!! FORM INSIDE

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