

Continuing this *Adventure* called *Life for 20 Years!*



Term: Fall | Issue 20:3 | December 2020



MONTHLY MEETING WINTERFEST!

Wednesday, January 13, 2020
9:30 a.m. Virtual



Join Dr. Lindsay Chervinsky, a presidential historian and former historian at the White House Historical Association, for

a presentation on the history of presidential inaugurations and transitions, from George Washington to the present. Dr. Chervinsky will also explore why we have such a long period of transition and how the transition responsibilities have evolved over the last 230 years. You'll also learn about the role of the White House, what happens behind the scenes, and how each new president leaves their stamp on the People's House.

Although we will miss the traditional Winterfest atmosphere with organizations around the banquet rooms, we are trying something a little different this year. While our meeting is virtual, the first 50 registrants will receive a grab bag with information and items from some of our Winterfest table organizations! So sign up today!



NOTES & NEWS

- OLLI continues to strive to keep everyone engaged, for a complete list of up to date programming and events, please check our website or call the office. For community events, please check online for information.
- Jan. 1 Celebrate New Year's Day by writing down your goals for the year and sealing them in an envelope until next New Year's Eve. See what you achieved or not.
- January is national slow cooking month! With the frigid winter weather, it's a great time to get out the crockpot. Try out some new recipes from Delish.com at: <https://www.delish.com/cooking/g3849/best-slow-cooker-recipes/> or join the OLLI cooking interest group to discuss ideas on Monday Jan. 18 at 3 p.m. Zoom.

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OLLI FAQ

SVSU OLLI held its first SVSU football tailgate in the fall of 2008.
Go Cards!

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, January 13

Monthly Meeting: Winterfest!
Presidential Inaugurations & Transitions
Lindsay Chervinsky, Ph.D.
Online

Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. SVSU CLOSED

Make Sure to Renew Your Membership Today at svsu.edu/olli

CHAIR'S NOTE



2020 is coming to an end. And what a year it has been. Through all the tragedies, floods, pandemics and all those other things that we encountered, I have learned many things. Because of this year I can now attend and actually lead a meeting on zoom. Using that same technology I found out that I can be separated from my family and friends and still keep in contact with them. Even though my trips and other OLLI adventures were canceled, I have been around the world via my computer and have actually attended many concerts and plays thanks to the many organizations that have made them available on line. And just lately I have realized a new benefit to wearing a mask--it keeps my nose warm in cold weather. Even though we have not been together much during 2020 I appreciate my OLLI organization and friends more than ever. And now it's time to move into 2021 still not knowing what the next months or years are going to be like. The only certain thing is that life will never be the same. I believe out of 2020 will come many good changes and our future will be even better than our past. As OLLI moves forward into the unknown let's all commit to doing our part to make our SVSU-OLLI continue to be one of the best in the country. Let's all continue to talk positive about our association. Let's build excitement for our future programming. Let's continue to support OLLI with our financial gifts. It does take money to continue to build on our great past. I am so proud of our staff. Under these extreme circumstances, thanks to the staff, our OLLI has held together and remained active, although on a limited basis. We know that we still have some rough times ahead, but together with our positive attitudes and support, OLLI will continue to be a major part of all our lives. Thanks 2020 for lessons learned and let's move ahead into 2021 with great anticipation.

—Roger Spann, Advisory Board Chair

HOT TODDY

If you need a drink to warm your soul this winter, you might just make yourself a hot toddy. With a variance in recipe, the drink always consists of liquor, a hot liquid, a sweetener, and usually a lemon.

The name for the drink is somewhat of a mystery though, as it was first invented in Scotland during the 1700s. It may have come from the Allan Ramsey poem "The Morning Interview," which mentions a Todian Spring or it may have come from a palm tree sap drink from India known as a toddy. No one is sure.

Hot toddy's can chase away the chill or just be drunk to give you a thrill, so try out a recipe of your own today, or the one below from the Wine Enthusiast online:

1.5 oz brown liquor (such as brandy, bourbon, rum, etc.)

1 T honey

.5 oz lemon juice

1 C hot water

Lemon wedge, cinnamon stick, and star anise for garnish.

Combine ingredients and enjoy!

For more information visit makemeacocktail.com and winemag.com

THE SNOWMAN

Everyone has probably built a snowman (or snowperson!) out in their yard at some point in their lives—generally before we are old enough to realize just how cold and wet it is outside in the winter in Michigan. What you most-likely did not know is about the history of the snowman, the white, lumpy friend that guards the yard.

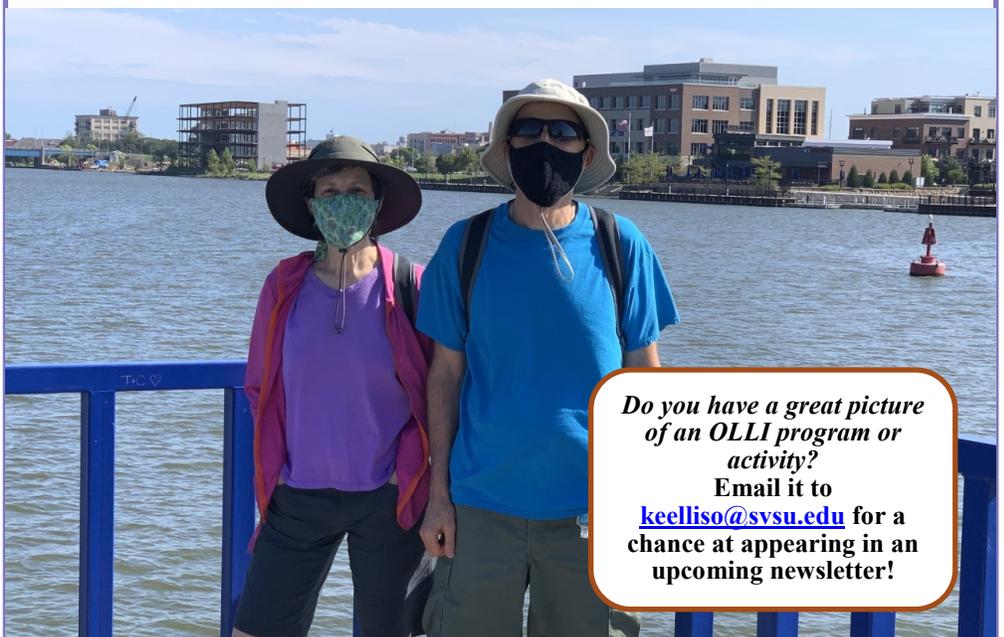
The first documented snowman is from 1380, a reference to which was found as an illustration in an illuminated manuscript that discussed the crucifixion of Christ. This drawing and the actual creation of a snowman is some of the oldest folk art created by man.

Additionally, one of the earliest known photographs, from 1845, includes a snowman. So why the centuries-long fascination with this chilly, silly friend? At no other time, other than a snowy winter day, does the world gift someone a free medium to make art—and let's face it, act like a kid (*again*).

For more information visit npr.org, Dec. 6, 2007, "Way Past Frosty."

OLLI SNAPSHOT

OLLI Members John and Lynne Warner pausing after one of the OLLI walks in Bay City during warmer weather.



Do you have a great picture of an OLLI program or activity?

Email it to

keelliso@svsu.edu for a chance at appearing in an upcoming newsletter!

DELL COMPUTERS

Are your kids still looking for a great gift for mom or dad? Or are you looking for a fabulous gift for yourself? In either case, OLLI has worked with Dell Computers, who holds the contract for SVSU's computers on campus, to bring OLLI members some recommended devices and special pricing!

If you are anxious to get started with OLLI's online courses, but don't have a device at all, or don't have something new enough to work with Zoom, check out the following OLLI recommended devices listed at www.Dell.com/SVSUOLli



New Inspiron 14 5000 Laptop

New Inspiron 14 5000 2-in-1 Laptop (Dune)



Still nervous about getting a new computer? OLLI will be getting these models in the office to test for a few months, so we can help you with any issues you may have, first hand!

Try out one of these great devices at a discounted rate, or browse the entire Dell catalog at www.Dell.com/SVSUOLli and find something else you may like at a special OLLI rate.

NETFLIX & CHILL

Since you may be spending more time inside this winter season due to COVID-19 restrictions, the OLLI Staff has some Netflix Recommendations for your viewing pleasure. Not a Netflix customer? For under \$20 per month you can gain access to almost four thousand movies along with hundreds of television shows. Check it out, and check out these recommendations:

I'd recommend the OLLI crowd check out *Sweet Magnolias*. A Netflix original, it plays on the lives of three female friends through times of success and adversity. If political drama is your thing, definitely check out *The Politician*, another Netflix original that follows the life of kid-hopeful Payton from class President to the White House. Scandals and zany characters abound. —Katherine

If you're interested in a light, romantic drama with beautiful scenery and familiar faces from *This is Us* and *Grey's Anatomy* check into *Virgin River*, a series on Netflix. —Debbie

My personal favorite on Netflix is *The Crown*, based on the British Royal Family. A couple other series that OLLI members may like include *Designated Survivor* about a low level cabinet official becoming President of the U.S., or *The Last Czar*, a docu-drama which follows the reign of Russia's Nicholas II.—

Megan



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WE NEED ONLINE INTEREST GROUPS

If you're proficient at Zoom and would like to host a discussion session online, please reach out to OLLI to setup an interest group on the topic at hand, be it birdwatching, singing, music or something else. We would like to continue to engage members through interest groups even with the unforeseeable future, so give it a try! Current online interest groups include current events (1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, hosted by Chris Eckerle) and the cooking interest group (3rd Monday of the month, hosted by Linda Phillips). To set up a group contact the OLLI Director.



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.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

I hope that all of my OLLI friends are hanging in there this winter. I know that the bleak cold combined with COVID restrictions can really try one's mental health. I'm right there with you. This December and January, I'm bringing back the coffee talk—sort of. Watch your email for an update, but I plan to host a Zoom session once a week with a fun activity and some time to interact with your friends. These may not always be on the same date and time, given other programming going on, but I'll put out regular email updates with the schedule. I know these chats really helped some people connect over the early months of COVID, so I'm hopeful to see people once more. If you don't have a device check out our Dell offer inside or if you don't know how to setup Zoom on your smart phone or tablet, just give me a call and I'm happy to help.



CLASS HIGHLIGHT

Basket Weaving

Since the start of time, people from all cultures have woven plant materials together to make baskets for gathering and transporting goods. Here is your opportunity to learn how to weave a basket. A picture of the basket you'll be making appears below. It is an Old Salem mini muffin basket of 8" by 5" in size with a twined bottom and matchstick border. You must pay the instructor a \$25 supply fee on the first day of class (cash or check). Registration opens January 4th.

Instructor: Sue Collins

Thursday • 1/28

12:30-5 p.m. • Location SVSU Riverfront Center-Saginaw

**Price: \$15 for members
(plus supply fee to instructor)**



TRAVEL HIGHLIGHT

Detroit Historic Houses of Worship

OLLI is bringing back this popular series of day trips in a new virtual format for 2021! Since 1972 the Historic Houses of Worship bus tours have acquainted tourists with the contributions that religious institutions have made to the development of Detroit. In this first ever virtual tour, we will explore congregations like Most Holy Trinity, Temple Beth El, Mariner's Church and more. Your guide for this virtual adventure will be Bree Boettner, M.A. of the Detroit Historical Society. Registration opens January 4th.

**Thursday, 1/14 • 2-3:30 p.m.
Virtual via Zoom**

**Member
Price: \$25**



Renew Your OLLI Membership Today!

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