2007 Special Membership Meeting
Set for September 28th

2007 is proving to be a year of benchmarks for lifelong learning at UWM as the Guild celebrates its 25th anniversary and embraces a new identity as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). This year’s special membership meeting, slated for September 28th at the UWM School of Continuing Education, will be an opportunity for Osher/Guild members to help set the lifelong learning agenda at UWM for the next 25 years.

“I’d like this year’s event to have the energy of a town meeting, with everyone getting a chance to communicate, contribute and socialize,” says president Terry Rozga. “The Osher funding gives us more flexibility in creating learning opportunities to meet the needs of an expanded membership. I’d like to hear from a broad spectrum of members about how we might best fulfill this mission,” she adds.

To ensure that the brainstorming session is productive, OLLI leadership has asked Miriam Reading of the Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee’s Management Assistance Program (MAP) to facilitate the day’s discussion. Reading has worked in a similar role in years past in Guild strategic planning sessions and her expertise is familiar to many current OLLI members.

If the chance to plan for the Osher Institute’s future and catch up with friends aren’t enough inducement, you might also want to come for the free lunch! Invitations and registration forms are being sent under separate cover. Also, Terry Rogza heard a rumor in the halls of the Heft er Center that door prizes might include a Lake Bistro gift certificate. To reserve a place, either return the registration form by mail, call 414-227-3222 or email csanders@uwm.edu.
President’s Message

Do you remember how exciting September was when you were a kid? I do. It was going back to school time….new pencils, new books, old and new friends, new teachers, new ideas…and best of all, learning!! I guess that I still feel that excitement, and maybe that’s why I’m involved with Lifelong Learning.

We started off this new season with a very successful “Picnic in the Park”. Chris O’Brien and her committee made our presence known with balloons and cookies. She and her crew distributed our new bookmarks and talked to members and non-members alike. The harpist, the musician of the evening, was skilled and entertaining. The park ambience, gentle conversations and encouraging information may have brought in several new members.

Kudos also go to the Short Course committee. The catalogue of offerings for this fall look very enticing, and I’m sure that registration numbers have confirmed this. After registration, there’s the opening fall party at the Shorewood Library Resource Center space.

Most importantly, plan on attending the general membership meeting on September 28th. You will be receiving an invitation and registration form shortly. Do reply so that we can plan activities and order lunches for the right number of people. We scheduled the meeting downtown so that we can accommodate over a hundred members.

This is an ambitious goal, but I know that there are at least that many of you who have good ideas and strong feelings about the organization. We need you there. More importantly you need to be there to participate in developing the vision for the organization. We know what we’ve been, we know who we are, we need to determine who and what we’ll become. My husband Phil and I have just returned from a regional Lifelong Learning Conference and we can testify how energizing it is to discuss plans and possibilities with other involved, experienced and thoughtful individuals.

Terry Rozga
Miriam Reading Facilitates Membership Meeting

Miriam Reading, who will facilitate the Osher Institute’s general membership meeting on September 28th, has been a consultant for the Nonprofit Center’s Management Assistance Program (MAP) for over 23 years. In this role she has worked with numerous nonprofit board presidents and executive directors and is considered a keen facilitator. “My method is not to come in there and tell them what to do, but to ask them the hard questions, explore options and help in the decisionmaking process,” Reading explains.

Her areas of expertise lie in strategic planning, board and staff roles, facilitation, overview of development preparedness, organizational assessment and program evaluation.

Her volunteer commitment extends to service on multiple boards, committees and task forces, and issue specific action planning groups. She has been a consultant to nonprofit boards through United Way, and served on the Executive Board of the Women’s Fund of the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. Currently, she is on the board of the Brico Fund.

Reading is a prominent lifelong learner and has close ties with the Chautauqua Institution, the famous non-profit adult education center and summer resort located on 750 acres in Chautauqua, New York, where she spends each summer.

Locally, she has worked extensively with the American Lung Association, the Milwaukee Art Museum, and the Volunteer Center.

In 2003, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Women’s Fund selected Reading as the recipient of the Lynde B. Uihlein Award.

Reading values her MAP work which she calls “extraordinarily interesting and rewarding. I’m impressed with the people working in the nonprofit sector and enjoy learning what’s happening in the community.”

University of Southern Maine Hosts National Resource Center

The University of Southern Maine is home to the National Resource Center for the national network of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes. Visit their website at www.usm.maine.edu/olli/national to learn more about national trends, get access to research associated with lifelong learning, and get some good ideas about what makes a successful Institute.

Drop In at the Hefter Center

Beginning the week of September 10th, Cathie Sanders will be spending Mondays and Thursdays at the Hefter Center Osher Institute office in order to better serve members. Osher leadership hopes this will help encourage greater communication among the Institute’s course participants, interest groups and committee members.
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An “Old” Resource for a New Program

The advent of the Osher Institute initiative in the School of Continuing Education (SCE) has meant a new set of responsibilities for Kathy Czerniakowski, but it’s a change she welcomes. In her 19 years in administrative support roles at UWM, she’s had almost as many distinct jobs. She began her UWM professional life in Enrollment Services; most recently she worked with SCE’s College for Kids program and other Arts, Humanities and Sciences programs. Now she will divide her time between the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and SCE’s two youth science programs, The JASON Project and the Sturgeon Bowl.

Many Osher members have already met Kathy, having encountered her when she helped out with the Guild a few years back. In her new role she will be supporting OLLI in such areas as membership and mail list coordination, as well as logistics for the short courses. OLLI Executive Director Cathie Sanders is looking forward to Kathy’s assistance. “I’ve worked with her before and have been impressed with both her efficiency and her enthusiasm. I think she’ll be a tremendous help in many areas, but especially to the short course committee in handling details such as room scheduling, AV coordination, and special instructor requests.”

Czerniakowski, a UWM alum, has been married to her husband Bill for almost 20 years and has a ten year old son Tim. She’s active in her church and is looking forward to teaching a class this fall on Christian Formation. She’s something of a lifelong learner herself and is currently reviewing guitar basics in order to be a resource for Tim. She also enjoys continually expanding her computer skills. A lot of her spare time is devoted to reading, often in the self-help area. About a year ago she embarked on a healthy lifestyle diet and exercise regime and has lost over 40 pounds. “The program has given me a lot more energy,” she notes.

That’s good. With all the new activities envisioned for OLLI – she’s going to be very active indeed.

Classifieds

Help wanted: PRESIDENT-ELECT

Executive potential. On-the-job training available. Must be flexible, enjoy working with people. Passionate about learning a definite plus. Computer skills helpful but not required. Previous administrative experience not necessary. Nominations are also encouraged. Contact David Wallace at: jandd@omanhene.com for further information or to apply.

Help wanted: PHOTOGRAPHERS

To attend and record fun and frolic at UWM Osher events. Several individuals can be used to rotate responsibilities. Only occasional duty would be required, and you can also participate in the fun and frolic. Nominations and applications should be directed to Mary Mulroy at mjm@uwm.edu.

Help wanted: Interested in COMMITTEE WORK?

Want to help plan future courses, social events? Willing to “help out” occasionally? Want to become a decision maker? Just want to be involved in something? We can find a job for you. Contact any of the board members. Contact information appears on last page of the newsletter.

Help wanted: SECRETARY

Attend and record the minutes of the board meetings. You will automatically become a member of the board and involved in the inner workings of the organization. Computer skills useful. Male or female may apply or be nominated. Send information to David Wallace at: jand@omanhene.com.
SIG NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 2007

For complete information about SIG groups, call the Osher Office at 414-227-3222. Unless stated otherwise, all SIG meetings will be held at the Hefter Center – First Floor Library

LANGUAGE:

**FRENCH:** Prof. Martine Meyer 414-964-3717
Every Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. – Noon

**ITALIAN:** Silvana Kukuljan 414-332-4427
Every Tuesday, 12:00 Noon – 1:15 p.m.

**SPANISH:** Tony Lobe 414-962-2395
Every Thursday, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

SPANISH CONVERSATION:

Pat Ulman 414-332-2956
Every Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. – Noon

BOOKS:

Cathy Morris-Nelson 414-352-2839
Third Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – Noon
*Meet at Shorewood Library*

SEPT. 18: “Astrid and Veronika” by Linda Olsson

OCT. 16: “Lay of the Land” by Richard Ford

PLAY READING:

Second and Fourth Fridays, 10:30 a.m. – Noon

COMPUTER USERS’ GROUP:

Peter Lee 414-202-6312
Every Friday, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
*Meet at Shorewood Library - Lower Level*

GOLD STAR MYSTERIES:

Beverly DeWeese 414-332-7306
First Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
*Meet at Shorewood Library - Lower Level*

SEPT. 6: “Heart of the World” by Linda Barnes
“Field of Darkness” by Cornelia Read

OCT. 4: “Dance for the Dead” by Thomas Perry
“All Mortal Flesh” by Julia Spencer-Fleming

HISTORY:

Susan Comstock 414-291-9436
Second & Fourth Wednesdays, 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

“A Commonwealth of Thieves” by Thomas Keneally

SEPT. 12: Chapter 1 – 4
SEPT. 26: Chapter 5 – 9
OCT. 10: Chapter 10 – 14
OCT. 24: Chapter 15 - 20

POETRY:

Ruth Allschwang 414-223-4986
First and Third Fridays, 10:30 a.m. – Noon

THE WRITERS’ ROUNDTABLE:

Rosalie Robison 414-383-3427
Second and Fourth Thursdays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
New members are welcome.
Bring your writings to read.
The Osher Gazette is a bi-monthly publication of the UWM Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Please contact Mary Mulroy at mjm@uw.edu with ideas and/or articles. Deadline for the November/December issue is October 1st.

Newsletter Staff
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mjm@uw.edu

Layout: SCE Marketing

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President Elect ....Open Position

Secretary ............Open Position

Treasurer
Betty White ..........414-962-0810

Past President
Alice Kuramoto........262-241-0266

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David Wallace ........414-247-8610
Peter Lee .............414-202-6312

Marketing Co-Chairs
Marilyn Stuckey ......414-352-4876
Betty Bump............262-241-1803

Membership Co-Chairs
Jo Smirl ...............414-963-2117
Phil Rozga .............414-332-4052

Social Activities
Chris O’Brien ..........414-228-8199

Short Courses Co-Chairs
Darlene Roberts ......414-962-7039
Ruth Kurensky ........414-961-0427

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Catherine Morris-Nelson
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