“Osher embodies lifelong learning, a concept that I have always been interested in,” Osher board of Directors member and President Elect Michael Roller said. The semi-retired business executive serves as a consultant and coach for managers and owners of companies who seek help solving problems and developing skills. Roller’s current endeavor is only one of many that can be translated into lifelong learning.

After receiving a degree from the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee in 1967, Roller took a job conducting taste and attitudinal research for Schlitz Brewing Company. His efforts gave him the jolt needed to begin working his way up in the business community. At the height of his career, Roller served as president of Johnsonville Sausage Company. Also, he ran a substantial food processing company in Iowa. He has held a long list of managerial positions at well-known firms including Keebler Company and Klement’s Sausage Company.

While attempting to retire, Roller launched a bakery in Port Washington selling specialty breads and bakery products. He sold the company after several years and tried to retire again. Instead, Roller started his coaching and consulting business.

Roller has lived and worked across a large swath of the country and part of the world including Florida, Georgia, California, Pennsylvania, Spain, Puerto Rico and, of course, Wisconsin, where has owned homes in Cedarburg, Adell, Burlington, Sheboygan, Wauwatosa and Milwaukee.

He has lived in 25 different places and recently moved to a second home in Cedarburg. Many of Roller’s moves have been job related but others
Message from President Phil Rozga

Holy Cow! Diana wants a President’s message for the September-October newsletter. It seems like yesterday that she asked for one for the July-August issue. Here it is the beginning of August and she wants another message. I think that we would all agree that as we get older, time passes more rapidly. When we were young, a month seemed like eternity. Now the days zip by, especially in summer. We have ethnic festivals at the lakefront, farmer’s markets, gardening and free music concerts somewhere almost every night.

By the time you read this, we will be in the fall season, the best season in Wisconsin. Along with football, colorful trees, and cool crisp nights, we will have a new season of Osher classes. At this time I can’t tell you what will be in the line-up, but I can guarantee it will be great.

Ignore the department store ads for new school clothing. Come as you are! When you get the schedule of classes, use the telephone to register. You can avoid disappointment by doing it early.

While the Board did not meet the month of July, the committees met to plan the directions our organization will take in the next three years. We plan to increase our membership and offer more courses. If we maintain a membership of 1,000, we would qualify for another $1,000,000 endowment from the Osher Foundation. Our present membership exceeds 900, so we don’t have far to go. The Foundation also expects us to raise $15,000 yearly on our own. The Finance Committee, the Public Relations Committee, and the Board are looking for ways to meet that challenge. If you have any ideas, please let me know!

I am sure you are familiar with the old quote, “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” I certainly understand that phrase much more clearly after the week my son and I spent canoeing in the Boundary Waters of Northern Minnesota. It was a memorable week indeed. The scenery was breath-taking and it was a refreshing change of pace to be truly alone at many times on the expedition. I enjoyed watching my son and his friends rise to the occasion of the many challenges the week presented. I particularly appreciated that by the end of the trip they were jockeying to see who would portage the canoes. And there’s certainly something to be said for being able to carry everything you need for a week in a three canoes.

Still, I have to tell you that by the end of the week, I was exhausted. I had more bumps and bruises than I could count and mosquito bites in places I never imagined. When we finished, we were quizzing each other as to whether we would do this again. My son quickly volunteered that he would like to come back! Others concurred. For my part, I was filled with appreciation for a wonderful experience with my son. There were moments when I thought the trip was one of the best times of my life. There were other moments when I felt the physical challenges were meant for younger folk.

I am struck by how, as you grow older, you come to appreciate moments like my trip to the Boundary Waters because you may never have a chance to experience them again. Those times are both exhilaratingly joyful and bittersweet. I truly appreciate these moments as opportunities to discover new perspectives about yourself and the world around you.

I believe that is why I also enjoy and appreciate life-

(Continued on page 10)
Back in ’66, we were listening a lot to Bob Dylan. He was the poet then, and we were inspired by his talk-singing style on ‘Like a Rolling Stone’. . . . We loved the complexity of his lyrics and how he spoke the lines and sang them in places.

Excerpt, Chronicles, Volume One

Dylan was influential, but it is surprising just how far his shadow reached beyond his folk roots, including Motown, where the Four Tops recording “Reach Out I’ll Be There” began as a “shout-out to Dylan,” and his style of talk -like singing, according to Lamont Dozier (Holland-Dozier-Holland).

At first glance, Chronicles, Volume One, Dylan’s autobiography published in 2004, seems to continue a Dylan tradition of refusing to do what his public expects. Instead of telling about his part in the events of the tumultuous ’60’s, he talks about before and after that decade. Instead of showing us his successful collaboration with producer Daniel Lanois that produced the 2001 Grammy winner Time Out of Mind, he documents the fits and starts of their first partnership, the lesser Oh Mercy of 1987. Instead of detailing how he wrote one of the most important songs of the century, “Blowin’ in the Wind,” he describes how he considers but then abandons a re-writing of the traditional song “Joe Hill.”

But Dylan does grant us a look inside the beginnings of his songwriting, a process that quickly had its first flowering in the anthems of ‘60’s discontent that moved so many people. While not implicitly explaining those songs, he shows us their eclectic sources, his wide-ranging inspirations, and the other artists and art he aspired to incorporate and sometimes transcend. He also gives us a glimpse of his attempts in his later years to both produce and harness lightning in the recording studio.

However, the first pleasure in reading Dylan’s Chronicles is to glimpse at others through his jeweler’s eye. As the New York Times said, “he conjures up one cracker-jack bit of quick-witted portraiture and bustling description after another”:

Folksinger Mike Seeger “could push a stake through Dracula’s heart. He was the romantic, egalitarian and revolutionary type all at once—had chivalry in his blood.” Harry Belafonte “had a boyish smile and a hard core hostility . . . . He had ideals and made you feel you are a part of the human race.” Roy Orbison’s recordings “made you want to drive your car over a cliff. He sang like a professional criminal. . . . His voice could jar a corpse. . . .” According to Dylan, with Orbison it “was all about fat and blood.”

Dylan’s opinions of anyone and anything would have just been a postscript in the history of folk music if he hadn’t begun writing his own songs, and who can tell in what ways the ‘60’s might have been different if he had never written, “Blowin’ in the Wind”?

The other early high-water marks of Dylan’s career, including the albums that wore out so many important turntables such as The Freewheelin’ Bob Dylan, The Times They Are A-Changin’, Bringing It All Back Home, Another Side of Bob Dylan, Highway 61 Revisited, and Blonde on Blonde are all products of Dylan’s unique synthesis of so many influences such as: American folk songs, Delta Blues, English and Scottish ballads, symbolists like Arthur Rimbaud, African American Spirituals, newspapers from the Civil War era, Woody Guthrie, Hank Williams and Robert Johnson.

The Dylan we hear in Chronicles is someone who sees people and events with his own particular clarity. “I really was never any more than what I was—a folk musician who gazed into the gray mist with tear-blinded eyes and made up songs that floated in a luminous haze.”
Though the origin of the word Halloween (or Hallowe’en, a contraction of All Hallows’ Evening) is Christian, the holiday is commonly thought to have pagan roots. It is linked to the Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sah-win,) which comes from the Old Irish for "summer's end". Samhain was the first and most important of the four quarter days in the old calendar. It was held on or about October 31 – November 1.

The Christian holy days of All Saints' Day (also known as All Hallows, Hallowmas or Hallowtide) on November 1 and All Souls' Day on November 2 are a time for honoring the saints and praying for the recently departed who had yet to reach Heaven. All Saints was originally celebrated in May. In 835, it was switched to November 1 (the same date as Samhain) at the behest of Pope Gregory IV. Some have suggested this was due to Celtic influence. Coincidence or design, Christian or pagan? Who knows?

Samhain marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the 'darker' half of the year. This was a time for stock-taking and preparing for the cold winter ahead. In much of the Gaelic world, bonfires were lit and there were rituals involving them. Samhain was seen as a time when the 'door' to the Otherworld opened enough for the souls of the dead, and other beings such as fairies, to revisit their homes. Souls of dead kin were beckoned to attend feasts and a place was set at the table for them. But people took steps to ward-off the harmful spirits and fairies that were thought to be active at Samhain. Wearing costumes may have originated as a means of disguising oneself from these harmful spirits/fairies. The modern custom of trick-or-treating may have come from the 18th century practice of boys calling at each house in their village asking for fuel for the Samhain bonfire. Or maybe not.

Maybe it was the Christian custom of baking and sharing soul cakes, called “souling,” that is the origin of trick-or-treating. Groups of poor people, often children, would go door-to-door on All Saints/All Souls collecting soul cakes, originally as a means of praying for souls in purgatory. In *Traditionalists, Muslims and Christians in Africa*, Prince Sorie Conteh writes, "It was traditionally believed that the souls of the departed wandered the earth until All Saints' Day, and All Hallows' Eve provided one last chance for the dead to gain vengeance on their enemies before moving to the next world. In order to avoid being recognized by any soul that might be seeking such vengeance, people would don masks or costumes to disguise their identities.” Christian or pagan – who knows?

Making jack-o'-lanterns at Halloween may also have sprung from Samhain and Celtic beliefs. Turnip lanterns, sometimes with faces carved into them, were made on Samhain in the 19th century in parts of Ireland and the Scottish Highlands. As well as being used to light one's way while outside on Samhain night, they may also have been used to represent the spirits/fairies and/or to protect oneself and one's home from them. In *Halloween: From Pagan Ritual to Party Night*, Nicholas Rogers explained Halloween jack-o'-lanterns as originally being representations of souls in purgatory. An Irish legend recalls a trickster named Jack who decided one day to trick the Devil. He trapped the Devil in a jack-o'-lantern and paraded him around town. Eventually, Jack let the Devil out and the Devil put a curse on Jack and forever made him a spirit in hell. On Halloween, Jack is released to terrorize the country all night. To protect themselves, the Irish would place a jack-o-lantern with a face outside to scare Jack into believing it was the Devil. Souls in purgatory or the Devil itself, who knows?

**Halloween—What’s It All About?**

Here & Now – It Costs How Much?

Confined to the immigrant communities during the mid-19th century, Hallowe’en was assimilated into main-
stream society. By the first decade of the 20th century it was being celebrated coast to coast by people of all social, racial and religious backgrounds. Halloween has become a highly commercialized holiday in the US, with people of all ages celebrating and spending, making Halloween the second largest commercial holiday in the U.S. behind Christmas.

According to surveys conducted annually by the National Retail Federation, in five years the total spending on Halloween in the US grew from $4.96 billion to $8 billion. The 2012 Halloween budget for costumes was $2.87 billion, including costumes for adults ($1.4 billion), children ($1.1 billion) and pets ($37 million). Decorations and candy totaled $2.36 billion and $2.33 billion. Interestingly, men spend more than women on every single Halloween-related item: men average of $90.11, women spend $70.11.

Immigrants to North America used the native pumpkin, softer and larger, making it easier to carve than a turnip. It was originally associated with harvest time in general, not becoming specifically associated with Halloween until the mid-to-late 19th century. The Agricultural Marketing Resource Center placed a $113 million value on pumpkins harvested last year from the top six states.

According to the Haunted House Association (HHA), the haunted house industry generates between $400 million and $500 million in ticket sales, which includes major theme parks that operate a haunted event. HHA also said that tens of millions of additional dollars are spent on building supplies, advertisements, insurance and other items. Attraction owners spend more than $50 million annually for “supplies like fog machines, scary animatronic monsters, lighting equipment, masks and costumes.” Big business or just family fun? You decide.

Here’s What Some of Our Osher Members Think:

When fellow Osher members were asked for thoughts and memories of Hallowe’en they provided varied and interesting perspectives as they creatively shared customs, costumes and traditions:

When we first moved to our house on Whitney Road ten years ago we had no idea that it was THE street to be on for Halloween! We bought an adequate amount of candy (we thought) in preparation for the day. Whitney Road is only four blocks long and in a nice, relatively safe area in Fox Point. Trick or treat is always in the afternoon to accommodate the safety of little kids.

That first Halloween that we lived here, and every successive year since, there has been what amounts to a virtual parade of trick or treaters and their parents (many also in costume) jostling along the street. The neighbors get really into it too. Yards and porches are decorated; cider is served as well as treats. Even our dog Elmo enjoys the fun, wearing his costume and greeting all the children. We’ll swear he remembers the routine from one year to the next.

You could spend $100.00 on candy and still run out of treats if you give more than one item per child. We learned to be measured with the candy over the years after the shock of the first time! People from all over drop off their little ones on Whitney. The road is closed to traffic and a local PC is usually to be found walking up and down too, enjoying the afternoon. So if you have any little ones at home, bring them along this year. The more the merrier! It’s Whitney Road’s community service and we all love it! Christine Georgenson

The only Halloween costume I can remember was a colonial lady outfit made for me by my mother and aunt when I was in first or second grade. I must have felt very
September/October 2013 Osher Calendar

Locations:
UWM Hefter Conference Center (H)
UWM School of Continuing Education (SCE)
Offsite (O)

Mon, Sep 2
Labor Day

Tue, Sep 3
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
12-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
1:30-3pm Writing SIG (H)

Wed, Sep 4
10am-12pm Book Group SIG (O)

Thu, Sep 5
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm Oceanography IV (H)
1:30-3:30pm Modern Architecture 1850-1980 (H)

Mon, Sep 9
Springfield: Land of Lincoln (O)
10-11:15am Potpourri I (H)
12:30-1:45pm Taoist Insights (SCE)

Tue, Sep 10
Springfield: Land of Lincoln (O)
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
10-11:15am Mind Aerobics (SCE)
12-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
1:2-3:30pm German Conv. SIG (H)
2:15-3:30pm Modern Architecture 1850-1980 (H)

Wed, Sep 11
Springfield: Land of Lincoln (O)
9-10am History SIG (H)
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
10:30am-12pm Earth Wisdom SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The Life and Work of Mark Twain, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
1:30-3pm Thai SIG (SCE)

Thu, Sep 12
9:30-11:30am Spanish SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The World’s Greatest Paintings, Part I (DVD) (H)
2:15-3:30pm Adventures in History: Life in the FDR Years (H)

Fri, Sep 13
Yom Kippur begins at sundown

Mon, Sep 16
10-11:15am Potpourri I (H)
11:30am-1:30pm Program Com. Mtng (H)
12:30-1:45pm Taoist Insights (SCE)
12:30-1:45pm Oceanography IV (H)

Tue, Sep 17
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
10am-12pm Book Group SIG (O)

Wed, Sep 18
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
10am-12pm Best Place Tour (O)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The Life and Work of Mark Twain, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
1-3pm Thai SIG (SCE)

Thu, Sep 19
9:30-11:30am Spanish SIG (H)
2:15-3:30pm Adventures in History: Life in the FDR Years (SCE)

Fri, Sep 20
2:15-4:15pm Buddhism (DVD) (SCE)

Mon, Sep 23
10-11:15am Potpourri I (H)
12:30-1:45pm Taoist Insights (SCE)
12:30-1:45pm Oceanography IV (H)
12:30-2pm Leadership & Dev. Com. Mtng (H)

Tue, Sep 24
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
10-11:15am Mind Aerobics (SCE)
12-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
1:2-3:30pm German Conv. SIG (H)
2:15-3:30pm Modern Architecture 1850-1980 (H)

Wed, Sep 25
9-10am History SIG (H)
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
10:30-11:30am Membership Com. Mtng (SCE)
10:30am-12pm Earth Wisdom SIG (H)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
11:30am-1pm New Member Orientation (SCE)
12:30-1:45pm The Life and Work of Mark Twain, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
1-3pm Thai SIG (SCE)

Thu, Sep 26
9:30-11:30am Spanish SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The World’s Greatest Paintings, Part I (DVD) (H)
2:15-3:30pm Adventures in History: Life in the FDR Years (H)

Fri, Sep 27
2:15-4:15pm Buddhism (DVD) (SCE)

Sat, Sep 28
10:30am-1pm Get Your Fill (O)

Mon, Sep 30
10-11:15am Potpourri I (H)
12:30-1:45pm Oceanography IV (H)

Tue, Oct 1
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
10-11:15am China Lifestyles (SCE)
12-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
1:30-3pm Writing SIG (H)

Wed, Oct 2
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
10:30am-12pm Growing Power (O)
1-3pm Thai SIG (SCE)

Thu, Oct 3
9:30-11:30am Spanish Sig (H)
12:30-1:45pm The World’s Greatest Paintings, Part I (DVD) (H)
1:30-3pm Gold Star Mysteries SIG (H)

Fri, Oct 4
2:15-4:15pm Buddhism (DVD) (SCE)

Mon, Oct 7
10-11:15am Potpourri I (H)
1-2:30pm Board of Directors Mtng (H)

Tue, Oct 8
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
12-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
1:2-3:30pm German Conv. SIG (H)

Wed, Oct 9
9-10am History SIG (H)
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
10:30am-12pm Earth Wisdom SIG (H)
1-3pm Thai SIG (H)

Thu, Oct 10
9:30-11:30am Spanish SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The World’s Greatest Paintings, Part I (DVD) (H)

Fri, Oct 11
9am-5pm Wisconsin Greats (O)
2:15-4:15pm Buddhism (DVD) (SCE)

Mon, Oct 14
Columbus Day
9:30-11am Newsletter Com. Mtng (SCE)
10-11:15am Potpourri II (H)

Tue, Oct 15
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
10-11:15am China in the News (SCE)
10am-12pm Book Group SIG (O)
12:30-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
2:15-3:30pm The Science of Food and Cooking (H)

Wed, Oct 16
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part III (DVD) (SCE)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The Life and Work of Mark Twain, Part III (DVD) (SCE)
1-3pm Thai SIG (SCE)
2:15-3:30pm Italians Before Italy, Part II (DVD) (SCE)
Thu, Oct 17
9:30-11:30am Spanish SIG (H)
10-11:15am Medicare in 2014 (SCE)
10-11:15am Ernest Gaines (H)
12:30-1:45pm The World’s Greatest Paintings,
Part II (DVD) (H)

Fri Oct 18
10am-12pm Make ‘Em Laugh (SCE)
12:30-1:45pm In Search of Wisdom (SCE)
2:15-4:15pm Buddhism (DVD) (SCE)

Sat, Oct 19
10:30am-12pm Growing Power (O)

Mon, Oct 21
10-11:15am Potpourri II (H)
11:30-1:30pm Program Com. Mtng (H)

Tue, Oct 22
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
10-11:15am China in the News (SCE)
12-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm News in the 1930’s and Now (H)
1-2:30pm German Conv. SIG (H)
2:15-3:30pm The Science of Food and Cooking
(H)

Wed, Oct 23
9-10am History SIG (H)
10-11:15am WWII: A Military and Social History, Part III (DVD) (SCE)
10:30-11:30am Pieces of History at MFD (O)
10:30am-12pm French SIG (H)
10:30am-12pm Earth Wisdom SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm The Life and Work of Mark Twain, Part III (DVD) (SCE)
1:30pm Thai SIG (SCE)
2:15-3:30pm Italians Before Italy, Part II (DVD) (SCE)

Thu, Oct 24
9:30-11:30am Spanish SIG (H)
10-11:15am Medicare in 2014 (SCE)
10-11:15am Ernest Gaines (H)
12:30-1:45pm The World’s Greatest Paintings,
Part II (DVD) (H)

Fri, Oct 25
10am-12pm Make ‘Em Laugh (SCE)
12:30-1:45pm In Search of Wisdom (SCE)
2:15-4:15pm Buddhism (DVD) (SCE)

Sat, Oct 26
10-11:15am Paranormal 101 (H)

Mon, Oct 28
10-11:15am Potpourri II (H)
12:30-2pm Leadership and Dev. Com. Mtng (H)

Tue, Oct 29
9:30-11:30am Spanish Conv. SIG (H)
12:30-1:30pm Italian SIG (H)
12:30-1:45pm News in the 1930’s and Now
(H)
2:15-3:30pm The Science of Food and

(Continued on page 9)
Summer at Osher has been busy and productive. Potpourri was very well attended as were the short courses. As always, kudos to the hard working program committee. Without them there would be no Osher.

Julie Pandl and Mike Drew were among the presentation highlights of the summer potpourri sessions. Jean Carpenter’s lecture once again entertained with her knowledge and samples of Wisconsin artisanal cheeses.

Kim Beck’s “Week of Learning” took a group of intrepid travelers to South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana for a fascinating introduction to the Oglala, Crow and Northern Cheyenne peoples. Each possesses a rich, albeit painfully tragic, heritage beset with great injustices, broken treaties and continuing sorrow. Firsthand stories were shared by native people at each of the sites visited.

Upon arrival, the group visited the Journey Museum in Rapid City and met a Lakota tribal member who demonstrated the technique used to create arrowheads. The next day the group visited Oglala College on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Students there learn traditional values of Lakota culture: bravery, generosity, fortitude, remembrance, humility, respect, knowledge, understanding and wisdom. Many graduates remain and are employed on the reservation.

A thought-provoking tour of Wounded Knee was followed by a visit to Red Cloud Indian School and Heritage Centers. There the Tusweca Tiospaye project focuses on reintroducing Lakota language and culture to students on the Pine Ridge Reservation, the initiative encourages parental participation, and gives local tribal members new perspective and pride in their heritage.

Then onto the Crazy Horse Monument and Cultural Center that is a tribute to the great Lakota warrior. This is the world’s largest mountain carving. Begun in 1948 by self-taught sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski; work continues to this day. When finished the monument will stand 27 feet taller than the entire Mount Rushmore memorial.

The overnight stay at the Occidental Hotel in Buffalo, Wyoming was memorable for both location and décor. Situated at the foot of the Bighorn Mountains, this fully-restored 1880’s hotel offers lavish period decor and a history of notable guests including Buffalo Bill Cody, Teddy Roosevelt, Calamity Jane and Butch Cassidy.

After helping build a tipi on the Crow Indian Reservation and learning how the tipi symbolically relates to nature, animals and Mother Earth the group spent the final day at Little Bighorn College. A Crow elder introduced the group to the history and culture of his tribe. The day concluded with a short trip to the home of a retired ethnobiologist on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. The group came away with greater appreciation of Mother Earth thanks to the skillfully arranged curriculum. All participants left with enhanced empathy, knowledge and understanding of our Native Americans.

Mary Kelly wants to let members know the 52nd annual Wisconsin District Metropolitan National Council Opera Auditions will take place on Saturday October 19, 2013 at the Sharon Lynn Wilson Center for the Arts. See the Jan/Feb 2013 issue of the newsletter for Mary’s article on this event, or ask Mary for details.

John Link attended “Weightlifting for Seniors,” a new Osher class, although he had not done weights in years. Having heard that adding weights to an exercise routine helps with balance and mobility, off he went to Wisconsin Athletic Club. The instructor demonstrated exercises using various handheld weights and a variety of exercises that can be done without equipment, even using floor and walls for some exercises. Participants in the class will receive a handout to do these exercises at home. John says “I will let you know if I add weight work to my swimming and Tai Chi.”
elegant and special, because the memory is so vivid. The three of us were living together in San Diego while my Dad and my Uncle Bill were serving in the Navy and Air Force, respectively.  

Pat Busalacchi

The most fun I ever had on Halloween was as an adult. My son had reached the too-old-for-kid’s-toys stage and he had a truckload of them. Everywhere. All over the house. Over, under, down and around--you couldn’t walk two steps without finding an action figure (a “guy”) or a toy. The plan was to gather them up and take them to Goodwill, and I had a big bucket full, ready to go. They were almost out the door when I had this wild hair-brained idea to just put the bucket out on the porch and let the little kids pick a toy or a “guy” (if they wanted) to take with their candy. I had no idea how excited they would be to get an old yo-yo or a Batman (my son had a collection of superheroes and villains), or a whatever. He had quite a few whatevers. I loved it. I only did it once, but it was great.  

Janet Grau

Halloween, 1943, New York City I was about seven. We lived in an apartment building in Manhattan and my teenage siblings decided to host a Halloween party for me. All the kids arrived in costume and with great excitement for this unusual wartime treat. Besides masks, we all wore round plastic ID tags around our necks for the duration of World War II. When the war finally ended our little dog tags were cracked and broken; we wore them until they fell off.

That night the blackout shades were pulled down tight so not a glimmer came in or went out. In the thick darkness my maniacal fourteen-year-old brother gathered us around the dining room table to touch frightening things belonging to a “corpse”--his intestines (cold, slimy spaghetti), his eyes (ice-cold olives) and so on. We were terrified!

“Now, you will see the corpse,” my brother intoned, and he lit a match to a bowl of some magic solution he had bought. It exuded a vapor turning his face an eerie green in the dark. The kids screamed in fear and jostled the table! The fiery bowl spewed its liquid through the air and all the crepe paper decorations went up in flames!

The teenagers raced into the hallway where a large barrel of sand was kept in case our building was hit in a bomb raid. As the boys started shoveling like mad, the building’s Civil Defense team arrived (helmets and all) and made quick work of the fire. The costumed party goers ran back inside our apartment for cake and ice cream and to play some less hazardous games. What a “Trick or Treat” that was!  

Grace Roth

Growing up on an Oklahoma farm with a long distance between neighbors, I had never gone trick-or-treating
occurred simply because of a love for change, that Roller describes as fun and exciting. But, there is another aspect to his moves – restoring homes. Older homes have been his preference because Roller relishes researching and re-claiming their history.

He bought and restored a farm in Adell, Wisconsin, filling the home and surrounding land with everything that existed on a farm during the 1890s making it as authentic as possible. While living there, Roller’s family enjoyed opening the unique home to the public for tours. The farm became known widely as “Old Mic Roller’s farm”, and “I became the farmer from Adell,” Roller said with a smile.

Satisfying a never-ending urge to learn, collecting became another of Roller’s extreme interests. Although he has collected many things, books are among his favorite. Roller garnered cook books after joining a group of older ladies for a cooking class when it became necessary to cook for himself. Sometime afterward, Roller met an Italian immigrant who helped redo a home. She shared her philosophy on children’s books saying, “If a child is going to manifest an interest in learning, buy a book.” The child in Roller took over and children’s books took over his home.

Two years new to Osher, Roller was introduced to the organization through a friend. He decided to join because he wanted to be with people who have stimulating conversations, diverse interests and broad experiences.

Roller said he enjoys being on Osher’s board of directors and believes he has much to offer because of his diverse business background, interests and experience. He described the members of the board as smart, educated and engaging people who really care.

Leslie Clevert
The Osher Outlook is a bi-monthly publication of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UWM. Please contact Diana Hankes with ideas and/or articles. Deadline for the Nov/Dec issue is **September 30, 2013**

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**Wouldn’t it be SO great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for 10 minutes and come out wrinkle free...and three sizes smaller?**

**Welcome**

**New Osher Members**

Cheryl Adams  
Mary Ann Affeldt  
Miriam Allen  
Paulette Bethel  
Meredith Bishop  
Barbara Busch  
Ethel Cahill  
Donna Cassillo  
Charlotte Castleberry  
Guy Castleberry  
Cheryl Chojnacki  
Frank Daily  
Mary Datka  
John Demarco  
Peter Deverey  
Ahna Deverey

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Welcome
New Osher Members

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Julianna Ebert  Guadalupe King  Sharon Middleton  Alexandra Rosas  John Torke
David Eisenberg  Ralph Kirsch  David Middleton  Colette Roy  Bruce Twomey
Carole Geddes Engal  Sharon Kirsch  Richard Minga  Caroline Ryback  Pam Weis
Marilyn Giaimo  Marlys Lewis  Shirley Minga  Thomas Scheer  Barbra Wiener
Karen Gruenewald  Marylou Lindquist  Mary Mirasola  Kenneth Seemann  Connie Willems
Dorthy Gutenkunst  Barbara Lodde  Carol Monda  Margaret Serrano  Michael Zaleski
Mary Jo Hansen  Jack Lofte  Kathleen Muldowney  Patricia Sheahan  
Nancy Haynes  Stephanie London  Howard Murphy  Janet Silverman  
Marilyn Jacobson  Jim Magestro  Dorthy Murphy  Kurt Sindelar  
David Johnson  Pat Magestro  Judith Ormond  Albert Solocheck  
Katherine Kane  Carolyn Manning  Karen Pedderson  Joyce Solocheck  
Karen Kapp  Rita McDonald  Vonna Pitel  Clementean Stewart  
Pat Katisch  Katharine McDonnell  Joleen Preiss  Patti Suarez  
Daniel King  Diane McMahon  Christina Rill  Kathleen Tomczyk Born