

the Adventurer



Continuing this *Adventure called Life!*

Monthly Highlights

- ♦ July 4, 2017—Campus Closed!
- ♦ Registration for fall will begin on August 8 for Day Trips and August 10 for classes.
- ♦ Check out the Children's Zoo at Celebration Square on August 4 for "Birds, Bugs, Butterflies, and Blooms"—Vote for your favorite adopted garden and see a number of festive presentations. Just \$5 admission.
- ♦ August 8-12th is the 152nd annual Bay County Fair. Much to see and do! Free admission, but a \$5 parking fee.
- ♦ August 24-27th is the Midland Folk Music Festival at the Midland Fairgrounds. See www.folkmusicsociety.org for more information.
- ♦ Join the Classic Legacy Band of Saginaw for their final summer concert on Thursday August 17 at 7:00pm at Roethke Park in Shields and see them again this holiday season at SVSU.
- ♦ Fall classes begin at SVSU on Monday August 28 for regular students.

SVSU Osher Lifelong

Learning Institute

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August Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

August 2017
Volume 16, Issue 10

RSVP ONLINE!

8:45 a.m. Registration & Light Refreshments

9:30 a.m. Welcome & Announcements

The History of the Michigan State Police

Presented by Trooper William Smith

Started in 1917 as a wartime emergency force of just 300 men, the Michigan State Police has developed into an elite

group of law enforcement professionals numbering almost 3000. Over the past 100 years the MSP has become one of the most celebrated police agencies in the United States with its tradition of service through excellence, integrity, and courtesy. Join Trooper William Smith of the Tri-City State Police Post for a lesson on the past 100 years of Michigan's own State Police.



Upcoming Events & Monthly Meetings

Wednesday, August 9

Monthly Meeting, *History of the MI State Police*
By Trooper William Smith
Curtiss Hall - Banquet Rooms

Wednesday, Sept. 13

Fall Kickoff! Monthly Meeting, *Have I got a Story to Tell You*
By Dave Kampfshulte
Curtiss Hall - Banquet Rooms

Wednesday, Oct. 11

Monthly Meeting, *Agent Orange and the Legacies of the Vietnam War*
By Edwin A. Martini, Ph.D.
Curtiss Hall - Banquet Rooms

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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.

Hello OLLI friends,

When I heard that the author of Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance had died, I went back to the book I never finished in the 1970's.

On one level it's a father and son motorcycle road trip from Minneapolis to the west coast, on back highways. An eleven year old and his father connect and disconnect in familiar ways.

On another level, there is actually quite a lot of detail on the importance of motorcycle maintenance, the tools involved and the mental state required. Here you might expect to read about the Zen of the title, but you will have to be satisfied with one lengthy quote from the first book of the Tao Te Ching, with Pirsig's substitutions, "quality" for "the Way" and "Absolute Quality" for "the Unchanging Way."

Beyond that level is the increasing consciousness of a ghost, whom he calls Phaedrus. Which happens to be the name of the dialogue on rhetoric between Phaedrus and Plato. Despite the fact that he teaches rhetoric, he does not acknowledge the source of the name. Among other things, it is the story of the author's former self before shock therapy, and the way their roads diverge.

The author's fixation on quality, or what the ancient Greeks called *arête* or excellence, takes over his former life. For many of us, *arête* is the highest state of quality any entity can reach. But to him, "Quality was the source and substance of everything." He offers a series of "Chautauquas" in which he explains his philosophy.

Now I remember why I never finished the book in the 70's.

Leslie Sanders, OLLI Advisory Board Chair

The Bird is the Word



Do you ever wonder just what those birds are saying at 5 a.m.? Have you heard lots of interesting or perhaps, *opinionated*, bird calls this summer? Now, imagine if all you heard were birds—no noisy trucks, chiming church bells, or other sounds of modern America. This is exactly what a sound engineer, multimedia artist, and ecologist have teamed up to recreate in a type of birdsong time machine.

Though they eventually aim to recreate soundscapes of various areas and seasons, the "Calling Thunder" project engineers have started by recreating the sounds of Manhattan from 1609, before Europeans arrived! Each two-minute clip takes historic ecosystems and species and recreates them as they would have been on a different area of Manhattan in the seventeenth century.

Though mostly birds, the historical soundscapes also include indigenous frogs and other creatures of the time. So once again, the bird (of 1609) *can* be the word! Check it out at <https://unsung.nyc/#home>

Decoding QR Codes

QR codes are those strange looking black and white boxes you see on advertisements, posters, and more (like the ones below!) Meaning "quick response," QR codes are a two-dimensional barcode that allows you to quickly scan them with the camera function on your smart phone using a QR-reading app and immediately be taken to the information in the code—usually a URL to a website. Download the free app "Scan's QR Code Reader" today and check out the codes below:



Member Spotlight: “An English Garden” by Jacqueline Garcia

The perfume of English lavender

Shaded by ancient trees,

Stirred up when the evening approaches

Is carried on a gentle breeze.

Fuscia and fox gloves intermingle

With a burst of lavender mist

Frothy pink baby's breath covers

Some pollen the honeybees missed.



Hummingbirds aflutter and aflutter

Intent on their daily design

Hover then seek a new blossom

A tiny trumpet 'neath a vine.

Columbines in pale yellow and purple

Catch the eye of a strolling soul

Unique exquisite blossoms

Fulfilling their heavenly role.

Carefree rosy pink coral bells

Nodding and seemingly afloat

Over delicate low-lying green mosses

Delight and inspire the poet.

So let's visit my English garden

With the ferns and the moss at our feet.

While arbors, violets and roses

Make our stroll and pleasure complete.

What's Love Got to Do with It?

According to the Grant and Gluek study out of Harvard University, love has EVERYTHING to do with “it.” The study, which covers participants from 1939 through 2014 and includes multiple generations, looked at the emotional and physical well-being of participants over the length of their lives from young adulthood through seniority. The study concluded that the most significant predictor of happiness and good health is good relationships—so basically, love. Having someone to rely on, whether a good friend or mate, eases the mind and neurologically allows the brain, and therefore, body to stay healthier over time. So give your friends and family an extra hug of thanks!



OLLI Fast Stats

- Did you know the average cost of an OLLI Monthly Meeting is \$3000! That's \$30,000 a year in member benefits for you!

Current OLLI Interest Groups

Bridge: Matt Skowronski, (989) 684-6402, Marilyn Bechtel (989) 894-1089

Buddhist Psychology: Eric Devos, (989) 964-4329, devos@svsu.edu

Choral Singing: Rose Kohut, (989) 790-1883, obsessedreader@hotmail.com

Cross Country Skiing: Pam Young (989) 781-2759, pamelaroseyoung@gmail.com

Current Events: Carol Gohm, (989) 574-5862, cgohm47@gmail.com

Cycling: Linda Ackerman (989) 781-2961, lmackerman50@gmail.com

Dinner: Deborah Bula, (989) 781-1126, dbretired610@gmail.com

Esoteric Cosmology: Wayne O'Brien, (989) 686-0475, woobrien@tm.net

Euchre: Ruth Skeebo (989) 631-1183, rskee42@charter.net

Feminism: Eileen Harris (989) 780-8893, eileenah@umass.edu

Games: Ted McLaughlin, (989) 790-9587, tshorty@chartermi.net

Gardening: Crystal Kauer (989) 792-6874, cmkauer@chartermi.net

Guitar: Mike Juengling, (989) 245-3940, mikejuen5@gmail.com

Kavaking: Dan Dauer (989) 753-6038, dauerhome@juno.com

Knitting: Barb Weadock, (989) 792-8839, barb@weadock.net

Lunch: Rita Grasso, (989) 781-4725, ritaolli11@yahoo.com

Music Collegium: Eric Nisula, (989) 964-4307, epn@svsu.edu

Pickleball: Edith Sommers, (989) 751-3819, edithsommers@chartermi.net

Ping Pong: Carol Lagalo, (989) 752-9857, lagaloc@yahoo.com

Readers Theatre: Rose Kohut, (989) 790-1883, obsessedreader@hotmail.com

Recreational Biking: Vicki Shrope (989) 615-0317, vshrope@yahoo.com

Sharing the Great Courses: Doug Baldwin (989) 780-2022, baldwinD@sisd.cc

Short Stories: Don Sugg, (989) 295-0889, dlsugg@gmail.com

Stamp & Coin Collecting: Robert Bula (989) 781-1126

Theatre: Barb Honeycutt, (770)713-6899, barbinjawja@yahoo.com

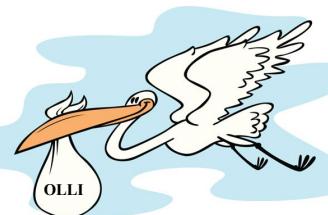
Walking: Mike Michaels, (989) 799-5090, mikem24108@live.com

Interest Group Feature: Knitting!

Do you sweat just thinking about fun sweaters? Are your dreams filled with scintillating skeins? Is your vestibule bursting with vests? Does your stomach get knotted up over knitting? Than the OLLI Knitting Interest Group is the place where you belong! Focused on knitting as a fun and productive hobby, the knitting interest group is made of members of various levels of knitting skill working on a variety of their own projects. Can't sew socks worth a darn, but you're working on knitting a pair? Then join the group for this old fashioned, yet modernly relevant hobby and skill! For more information and meeting times, call Barb Weadock at 989-792-8839.



Director's Corner: Katherine Ellison



OLLI friends, can you believe it's already been six months since I became director? Where does the time go? In the past six months I've put together two course catalogs with over 160 classes, planned and prepped for

5 monthly meetings (four coming up in the Fall of 2017), created the 2017-2018 operating budget, and numerous other exciting things! The Debs and Shelley have offered a lot of help and support during this transition time and I'm proud to call them a part of the OLLI team, along with all of you! Life has even more excitement to offer up as my husband Philip and I welcome our first child this September—a hopefully healthy and happy baby boy! Don't worry, even though I might be out of the office for a bit, the OLLI team has a plan in place and much of the prep work done for a fantastic fall semester.



Class Highlight: Women of the Ancient World



Join us in a survey of the lives of women in Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. We'll look at some of the stories involving famous women, like Hatshepsut, pharaoh of Egypt, Aspasia, wife of the Greek general Pericles, Livia, wife of Augustus, the first Roman Emperor, and Agrippina, sister of Caligula and mother of Nero. We'll also see what life was like for the average woman in these societies: the unnamed daughters, wives, and mothers who helped to keep the great cities and societies going on a day-to-day level. From the highest of the upper classes to the most common of the commoners, we'll see how things have changed (and what hasn't) and how the lives of women who lived thousands of years ago still have an effect on our modern culture. This course is taught by Christina Szilagyi, adjunct instructor of history at Delta College.

Tuesdays August 2, 9, 16, 23

1-3pm

C129

Member Cost: \$27; Non-member Cost: \$54



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