

the *Adventurer*

OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

SV
SU

Term: Spring/Summer | Issue 17:9 | June 2018

MONTHLY MEETING

Serve, Innovate, & Empower

Wednesday June 13, 2018

8:45 am—Registration & Light Refreshments

9:30 am—Welcome & Announcements

Saginaw county tax payers help fund the Saginaw ISD each year, but where does your money go? Saginaw Intermediate School District, one of 56 ISDs across the state of Michigan, serves the twelve local school districts across Saginaw County as well as a number of charter schools, public school academies, and parochial schools. With over 650 team members, SISD services and supports span across the county. Information shared at this session includes an overview of SISD services along with the pathway and vision the ISD has for expanding career technical education opportunities for all students. Superintendent Kathy Stewart plans to provide evidence on how SISD meets its mission to serve, innovate, and empower.

This meeting will be held at the Temple Theatre in downtown Saginaw. Garage parking available for \$6/car.



NOTES & NEWS

- Check out the free Midland Summer Art Fair in downtown Midland on June 2. Rain or shine.
- The anniversary of D-Day is on June 6. Check out the QR codes for a great website about this day during WWII.
- Join the Classic Legacy Band for their first concert of the summer concert series at Roethke Park on June 14 at 7pm. Free will offering.
- On June 22 check out the grand opening of the SVRC Saginaw Marketplace. Noon.
- Carol's gardening tip for strawberries this month—go buy the ten pound box at Jack's.
- Catch a movie at the Lawn Chair Film Festival starting this month in Saginaw. For details see www.lawnchairfilmfestival.org
- There are no MI *Hamilton* group sales, so plan accordingly.

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SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

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Use
Your
QR
App!



IMPORTANT DATES

July

No Meeting.

Thursday August 9
ic:

Monthly Meeting: The Michigan Innocence Clinic:

By: Imran Syed

Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms

Wednesday Sept. 12

Monthly Meeting: FALL KICKOFF!

By: St. Mary's Ascension

CHAIR'S NOTE



Hello OLLI friends,

Croatia is a tourist destination again. But you only need to look at a recent headline in The Guardian ("Europe is facing a potential crisis in the Balkans") to realize that the Balkans continue to be a potent source of conflict. The 1914 assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo is widely believed to be the flashpoint that started World War I. And many of us remember the Balkan wars of the 1990s. But why is this region so explosive?

Memories are long in this complex region. One story begins in 1516, when a ten year old boy was taken from the village Sokolovici across the river Drina to Istanbul, where he became Mehmed Pasha, a powerful vizier of the Ottoman Empire. Ivo Andric's Nobel winning The Bridge on the Drina tells stories of the bridge from the capture of the children and the building of the bridge in the 16th century to just before the first World War. (The bridge still stands.)

Rebecca West's classic Black Lamb and Grey Falcon begins like a travel diary just before World War II but morphs into a comprehensive description of the complex countries and their history, including the famous poem of the grey falcon and the defeat of Tsar Lazar by the Turks on the plain of Kossovo in 1389. It's 1150 pages but worth every page.

In Balkan Ghosts, Robert Kaplan takes up the story after WWII. Then, Conversations with Stalin gets Milovan Djilas jailed in 1962. In a very readable progression, Djilas writes as one of the four leaders of Yugoslavia under Tito, about three trips to Russia: first as a breathless pilgrim, then as questioner, and finally as a cynic.

This is altogether a world worth visiting.

—Leslie Sanders, Advisory Board Chair

THE BEE'S BEST

Palms were sweating and knuckles were cracking at the 13th Annual Bee for Literacy put on by Altrusa International and the Rotary Club of Saginaw on Wednesday, May 2 at the Horizons Center.

OLLI's team, consisting of Barb Mitchell, Bob Enszer, and Louise Fleishmann, were pummeled with words of every origin. Four rounds of 13 teams passed before the team from the Rotary Club missed the word "mesentery"—*a fold of the peritoneum that attaches the stomach, small intestine, pancreas, spleen, and other organs to the posterior wall of the abdomen.*

By the eleventh round, the competition was down to the Movie Mavens of the Riverside Saginaw Film Festival, The READING STARS of the READ Association of Saginaw County, and OLLI's ABC Darians. Tensions were high.

The remaining other teams misspelled their words, leaving OLLI's team as the final team standing—after spelling their own given word, they accurately spelled the missed words and one extra word, *gnocchi*, for the win.



OLLI TRAVELS

Many of our members have enjoyed traveling with OLLI, whether just a trip for the day to see a concert or play, or extended travel to another state or country, but others have asked, "why travel with OLLI?"

Unlike other travel groups, OLLI staff goes to great lengths to make sure your needs are met on each adventure—we send our own staff, whom you know, to serve as trip guides and we select only those destinations, sites, and hotels, that meet our high standards of comfort and convenience.



While space may be limited that doesn't mean

that it's always filled up on the first day of registration.

Currently there is still room available on the *Cruising the Adriatic* trip in March 2019, or our music tour, *The American South: Nashville to New Orleans* in April 2019, which is packed with exciting activities including an extended stay in New Orleans during the French Quarter Music Festival. If a shorter adventure is more your style, check out our Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake in August of this year.

If these trips don't peak your interest, you can expect to see info on our Ireland trip next May in June/July.

CURRENT INTEREST GROUPS

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| • Bridge | • Gardening | Courses |
| • Buddhist Psychology | • Guitar | • Short Stories |
| • Choral Singing | • Kayaking | • Stamp & Coin Collecting |
| • Cross Country Skiing | • Knitting | • Theatre |
| • Current Events | • Lunch | |
| • Cycling | • Music Collegium | |
| • Dinner | • Pickleball | |
| • Esoteric Cosmology | • Ping Pong | |
| • Euchre | • Recreational Biking | |
| • Games | • Sharing the Great | |

For group leader contact info see: svsu.edu/olli

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Roger Spann

For the past few weeks OLLI members have been busy studying the summer catalog choosing classes and day trips and other activities to enjoy during the summer. OLLI offers enough to keep us all busy. But if you haven't filled your schedule totally yet, let me suggest that you check out the many activities that are offered throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region. You can actually schedule several concerts on the same night. In Midland try Tunes by the Tridge--music in a beautiful setting. If you haven't seen a Loons game yet make sure you fit one in. Bay City offers weekly concerts in Wenonah Park by the river. Saginaw has Sunday evening concerts by the Eddy Band. Take a drive to Frankenmuth and enjoy one of their weekly concerts in the park. Thomas Township in Shields has concerts throughout the summer in a wooded area and offers a train ride. Tittabawassee Park near Freeland offers outstanding concerts throughout the summer. What about a film shown on the wall of a building outside? Saginaw's lawn chair film festival offers just that. The list goes on. There is so much to do. Put on your OLLI shirt or hat and head out for an evening of fun with friends or plan to make new friends. One thing you cannot say is that there is nothing to do. The good news is that almost all of the concerts are free. OLLI and the Great Lakes Bay region--What a team for a great summer.

THE JUNE BUG

What is that annoying noise? That clunk, thump, bump, against the window? It's the mighty June Bug. One of the larger of the beetles found in the mid-Michigan area, the June Bug is one of the most hated pests of summer, often morphing from their grub stage into clumsy, large beetles in May and June.

June Bugs are the Debbie Downer of every bonfire, candle-lit al fresco dinner, or early morning jog--whether they are dive bombing your fire, bumping into your head, or lying dead in droves under your porch light. YUCK.

But what of these summer hooligans of the sky? *June Bugs* is actually the term given to a large classification of scarab beetles that appear at about that time during the year. Michigan's June Bugs may not look like Florida's June Bugs. June Bugs dine on roots as grubs and young foliage as adults. They can be a garden pest for sure.



So what to do about them?

Easy to catch, June Bugs may be the newest bottled pet for your grand-kids' bedside table, but if you want to really get rid of them, start from the source. Hiring a professional company to come in and spray for grubs will save you many a summer nightmare, but if it's too late for that, try leaving your porch lights on full blast and be prepared to sweep up the massacre. Overexposure to light kills the bugs too.



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GROUP FOCUS: PING PONG

Do you have a craving for misbehaving? Have you been practicing your trash talk? Are you training all summer for the table top? Then ping pong is the interest group for you. Meeting at the Ryder Center again come November, the ping pong interest group is always up for a game or two. Bring your own paddle or borrow one from the recreation center, but be prepared to hold on. Ping pong may be quick to learn, but it takes a lifetime to master. Get started with OLLI. Call group leader Carol Lagalo at 989-752-9857 for more details.



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

Has your memory loss started to disrupt your daily life? If this issue sounds familiar, you have one of the signs of Alzheimer's and should be seen by a physician. June is Alzheimer's Awareness Month, so it's a good time to bring it up to your doctor. My grandmother suffered from some form of dementia, and though it became harder to see the person she once was, her funeral was a reminder of her former self. As the pastor commented about how my grandmother had told him she'd often sneak out to sit on the swings at the school next door to give the kids a surprise, we all had a chuckle. She had made up the story, but the pastor, unaware of her illness, didn't see the joke. It was one final laugh with Grandma.



28.

CLASS HIGHLIGHT

What is a Monster?

It is often said that, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder". So perhaps "good art" is subjective. But is what counts as art and what doesn't also subjective? Does the viewer (through interpretation, emotional engagement, etc.) add to, or even complete the art? This course will focus on questions like these as well as others that arise in aesthetics and the philosophy of art. In addition, similar questions relating to music and film will be explored. For example, what makes a song or film "good"? Special attention will also be given to the horror genre: What makes a horror film a horror film? What is a monster?

Mondays 6/4, 6/11

10 am-3:30pm C140

\$23 Members/\$46 Non-Members



TRIP HIGHLIGHT

Lilac Festival

The Mackinac Island Lilac Festival, which began as a one-day event in 1949, has now grown to a ten-day festival celebrating the Island's lilac collection and much more. We will leave SVSU bright and early via motorcoach and then take a Shepler's ferry over to the Island. Here you will enjoy lunch and a talk at the Grand Hotel and have free time to explore the island.

Thursday 6/14

7:30am-10pm

\$145Members/\$165 Non-Members



We enrich.



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