

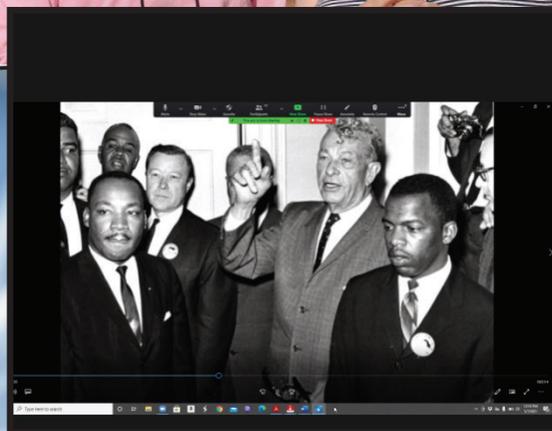
OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

OLLI

BRADLEY
UNIVERSITY

JULY 2021

OLLI **IN-PERSON** & ONLINE



OLLI Registration is OPEN | SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS

WHAT IS OLLI?

OLLI is an acronym for The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Bradley University, an organization of more than 1,200 members who are at least 50 years old and who want to stay vital and active as they reach and enjoy retirement. One of the best ways to do that is to keep learning, and OLLI offers many options to do so.

Our members enjoy the best of life-after-50 with a diverse collection of year-round programs, including non-credit classes, educational travel, study groups, and special events. Our online options allow members to learn via Zoom, a free and easy-to-use video conferencing program.

Please review this month's program options so you can pick what best fits your learning preferences and interests:

- **Online Originals** are exclusive talks with local leaders and businesses from the community and beyond. These one-hour sessions are a great way to stay informed about local issues, governmental updates, and business updates.
- **Study Groups (In-Person and Online)** offer opportunities to investigate topics in depth, and are your connection to studying what you most enjoy with people who share your enthusiasm. The groups are participation-based; the facilitators deliver core learning material, but all participants learn by sharing. Participants should expect to read, watch a video, or complete other independent study outside of each group session. Groups start at various times throughout the month, and usually meet for 1.5 to 2 hours for 4 - 6 weeks. Seats are often limited to 15 - 25 participants so everyone has an opportunity to actively participate.
- **Learning Trips (In-Person and Online)** enable members to interact with experts who offer behind-the-scenes looks at area businesses, and regional, national, and worldwide attractions. Our online "Travel Beyond" trips lets

members travel virtually via Zoom. Our hybrid "Support Local" includes a curbside meal pickup followed by a Zoom presentation that allows members to go behind the scenes with owners and chefs.

- **Online Social Events** are hosted by OLLI volunteers several times a month. Each free happy hour has a theme, but you don't have to share - just pop in and enjoy!
- **Online Zoom Training** sessions help members learn how to use the software on their computers, tablets, or smartphones. Led by OLLI volunteers and free to all, our goal is to help members feel comfortable with the technology so they can enjoy their OLLI Online experiences.

REGISTER TODAY

OLLI is open for registration now – visit our website to sign up for our July programs: Bradley.edu/olli

Once you've registered we'll send you a confirmation email and direct links to each program prior to its start date.

Please note OLLI has a quarterly membership fee that is only due once every three months. For 2021 the OLLI quarterly membership fees are to be paid once in each of the following quarters: **1)** Jan/Feb/Mar, **2)** Apr/May/June, **3)** July/Aug/Sept, **4)** Oct/Nov/Dec.

If we notice you have paid the fee more than once during the quarter, we will issue a refund at the end of quarter.

If you need assistance, please email staff at OLLI@bradley.edu or call (309) 677-3900. We'll be happy to assist you.

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OLLI will feature new programs each month. Please note: all times listed are approximate and subject to change. Registrations will be accepted for most of our programs up to 24 hours before the start time. We'll produce an online brochure each month. You can find the brochure on our website, Bradley.edu/olli, and we'll also include links in our twice-weekly email newsletter.

A LETTER FROM OLLI'S STUDY GROUP COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dear OLLI members,

OLLI is zooming back, and not just via Zoom! Planning has begun for in-person classes in October. This summer we have in-person study groups ramping up along with trips, OLLI Originals and the whole panoply of OLLI programming.

Last week, we held hybrid meetings of the OLLI Study Group and Curriculum committees. Some participants met in-person at Peoria Next, while others attended via Zoom, using a new piece of technology called an OWL and it was a hoot! (Insert groan here). Zoom was a life saver, allowing us to keep in touch and continue life long learning during the pandemic. There will still be a role for Zoom to play in OLLI's future too, allowing us the opportunity to include friends and faculty who have moved away from Central Illinois.

Many of you may remember attending the OLLI kick-off luncheon in March 2020, the day before the lock down began. Since that time, the OLLI Study Group committee has put on 42 study groups via Zoom with 644 participants and over 75 facilitators. We have learned about Biblical violence, jazz, NAFTA, Alfred Hitchcock, Winston Churchill, disinformation and misinformation, Greek and Roman technology, book censorship, previewed the 2020 election in October, tried our hand at memoir writing, creating cocktails and YouTube videos! And that is just a few of the amazing study groups!

We held online classes every month since May 2020, participated in numerous OLLI Originals, Zoom Happy Hours and created the Support Local Businesses program, obtaining take-out meals from our hard-hit local restaurants, delivered to our cars by our hard-working Continuing Education staff followed the following day by a Zoom presentation from the owners of those restaurants.

All of this was accomplished by the dedication of our Continuing Education staff and the resolve of our volunteers. Hats off to all of you! It has been a challenging year but, in my opinion, we showed ourselves equal to the challenge. I am so grateful for OLLI which has introduced me to a whole circle of new friends and helped sustain me through a pandemic.

We recently concluded a powerful study group on the historical implications of racism, using the *New York Times* Pulitzer-prize winning 1619 Project as our touchstone. We are currently lining up a great set of study groups for this summer and fall, jump in and join volunteers from the Study Group Committee to help plan what's coming on Thursday, July 8 at Peoria Next.

Gary Nelson
OLLI Study Group Committee Chair

SAVE THE DATE

July 19 - Online Registration opens
for August /September programs

August 11 - Welcome Back Social on the
Quad at Bradley University

*Plans are currently underway to hold classes in person at the
Michel Student Center at Bradley University on October 6, 13, 20, and 27.
Online Classes will resume in January 2022.*

ONLINE ORIGINALS

1. A Year in Review: How Peoria Public Schools Navigated the Covid-19 Pandemic Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat Tuesday, July 13, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

During the past year, Peoria Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat, has guided the district through incredibly challenging times for students, parents, teachers, staff, board members, and our community. Join OLLI as she shares how Peoria Public Schools navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and responded to challenges as they continued to provide opportunities for growth in the district. \$10 per person

2. A Traveler's View of the Galápagos Island with Jean Roach Monday, July 19, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Join OLLI for a carefully tailored virtual expedition covering the geography and wildlife of one of the earth's most pristine environments, on sea as well as on land. Jean Roach will guide us from the volcanic heart of the island topography, to birds, tortoises, sea lions, lizards, most of them in forms conditioned by a Darwinian process of adaptation and evolution. She will discuss the myriad of species found in abundance including land tortoises and sea turtles, land and sea iguanas, the most northern colony of penguins in their miniaturized form, flightless cormorants with no need to fly, mating frigate birds, and the blue and red footed boobies. Jean will share how snorkeling with playful sea lions was a dream come true, and how wildlife with a stunning absence of fear of humans was a highlight among many of this trip of a lifetime. \$10 per person



Greg Birkland of the KDB Group leads a recent in-person tour of Sankoty Lakes and Resort.



Dr. Fran Armmer, former Bradley Professor of Nursing, facilitates a discussion for the study group, *A Historic Look at Racism Implications for Today*.

STUDY GROUPS

Study Groups offer an opportunity to investigate a topic in depth. Most study groups typically meet once a week for four to six weeks.

1. Finding My Way Home Wednesdays, July 14 – August 18 (skipping Aug 11) 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Peoria NEXT, 801 W. Main, Peoria

Join us for an in-person discussion and reflection on *Finding My Way Home* by Henri J.M. Nouwen, one of the most inspiring spiritual guides of the 20th century. This book joins together several meditative essays which reflect Nouwen's search for his true spiritual home. Literary Executrix, Sue Mosteller, writes: "*Finding My Way Home* . . . names the powers that seduce us to a life of unfulfilled self-seeking, as well as describing some practical choices to keep us on the path of meaning and faithfulness." Participants should obtain and read *Finding My Way Home: Pathways To Life And The Spirit*, available at local and online retailers and libraries. Internet and email access is requested for this group.



\$45 – facilitated by Rev. Arvil Bass, retired from Memorial Christian Church, alumni of Yale Divinity School, and frequent OLLI facilitator.

2. Beyond Google Search Mondays, July 26 – August 16, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Peoria NEXT, 801 W. Main, Peoria

Everyone knows about Google and in fact "google" has become a verb as in "just google it" (definition: searching the Internet). Google Search is free and is but one of the many other free tools that Google offers. Many of these other Google tools simplify the search for information and provide new ways to manage and share information. John Amdall will share what he has learned about Google products and how to use these Google products for specific applications. A laptop or tablet will allow participants to explore these Google tools during the Study Group. Handouts will be provided.



\$45 — Facilitated by John Amdall, OLLI President and frequent OLLI instructor and facilitator.

“TRAVEL” *Beyond Peoria*

An opportunity to travel virtually via Zoom to visit museums, attractions, and speakers around the world.

1. Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu **Tuesday, July 6, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.**

On this day, we will travel to the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu with our personal guide, Hernana Hermoza Gamarra. The Sacred Valley of Peru winds its way between the towns of Pisac and Ollantaytambo. The stunning landscapes of this region are composed of numerous rivers flowing down gullies and valleys that are home to indigenous communities and important archaeological monuments from the Inca Empire. Our guide will give us an up close look at Machu Picchu, a 15th century Inca citadel and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

\$20 per person



You won't want to miss OLLI's virtual trip to Peru, Hernan Hermoza Gamarra, OLLI tour guide for Machu Picchu sent this photo to give us a taste of what we'll see.

OLLI subscribes to an environment of thoughtful discussion and mutual respect; we strive to have constructive exchange of ideas and commitment to civility.

IN-PERSON TRIPS

2. Greater Peoria Sanitary District **Wednesday, July 14, 9:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

The Greater Peoria Sanitary and Sewage Disposal District (GPSD) is a special governmental unit organized in 1927 to treat sewage before it is discharged into the Illinois River. During our visit, we'll learn how wastewater is collected and treated in the 700 miles of pipes, find out how the plant treats an average of 25 million gallons annually, and take a look at how the laboratory monitors the treatment process in order to meet the federal requirements. \$35 – includes guided tour, lunch at local restaurant, gratuities and shuttle transportation. A detailed itinerary will be emailed prior to the trip.

3. Peoria Art Guild **Friday, July 16, 9:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

For over 142 years, the Peoria Art Guild has been dedicated to “bringing art to the community and the community to art.” As a visual arts leader, the Guild takes pride in educating young artists, showcasing art diversity, exhibiting multidisciplinary contemporary art, and promoting art throughout the Peoria community. We will learn about the history of the Peoria Art Guild and how it plans to continue to serve the community. We'll also get a behind-the-scenes look at the studios for printmaking, fiber arts, and more. \$35 – includes guided tour, lunch at local restaurant, gratuities and shuttle transportation. A detailed itinerary will be emailed prior to the trip.

4. Bluebird Monitoring at Jubilee **Wednesday, July 21, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

Herb Unkrich is known as “The Bluebird Man” because of his efforts to support and protect bluebird nests in the Peoria area. Monitoring dozens of bluebird boxes on multiple properties, Herb fledged over 700 bluebirds last year. On this trip, we will join Herb for a lunchtime presentation at Kickapoo Creek Winery about his bluebird box program, followed by a visit with Herb to Jubilee State Park to check on bluebird boxes. \$40 – includes guided tour, lunch at local restaurant, gratuities and shuttle transportation. A detailed itinerary will be emailed prior to the trip.

Support Local, part of OLLI's Online Learning Trips, is our program to visit and support area businesses.

OLLI will help with all the details. We'll bring the meal, treat, or gift directly to your car at the designated time. The next day the business/restaurant will host a private virtual presentation, available only to those who have registered for the event. During the presentation, the owner and/or chef, will discuss the meal preparation, how the business is handling our region's reopening rules, and what it has been like during the pandemic.

Your fee includes the meal curbside delivery by the Continuing Education staff, gratuities, and online virtual visit. Please check your email for any updated information on menus and pickup times.

FREE ZOOM TRAINING

OLLI Online uses Zoom, a popular video conferencing software, because it's so easy to use and allows individuals to meet "face-to-face" when meeting in person isn't possible.

You may access Zoom on a PC, Mac, tablet, or smart phone. OLLI has had great success in assisting our members get used to this new way to meet. If you would like Zoom training, but can't find a time that works let us know. Contact OLLI@bradley.edu and we will schedule a personal training session for you.

ADVANCED ZOOM TRAINING Tuesday, July 13 | 9:00 a.m.



The first hybrid Curriculum committee meeting is a success!

1. Jerusalem Restaurant

Curbside pickup:

Wednesday, July 14, 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

2027 W. Farmington Road, Peoria

Virtual presentation:

Thursday, July 15, 10:00 a.m.

Menu: Beef and chicken shawarma entree with pita bread, rice, arabic salad and hummus.

Cost: \$30 per person

2. One World Cafe

Curbside pickup:

Wednesday, July 28, 11:30 – 11:45 a.m.

Bradley University, Continuing Education Building,
1306 West Main Street, Peoria.

Virtual presentation:

Thursday, July 29, TBD

Menu: Choose One

1. Pesto Tomato Melt - Italian bread baked with pesto, tomatoes and cheese, served with hummus, chips, and a cookie.
2. Baked falafel with lettuce, tomato and onion on pita, served with hummus and cucumber tahini, chips, and a cookie.
3. Pulled pork sandwich with Swiss cheese, caramelized onions, chipotle BBQ mayo, served on ciabatta, chips, and a cookie.

Cost: \$25 per person

JOIN US FOR THESE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Curriculum Committee

Peoria Next/Zoom hybrid meeting:

Wednesday, June 16 • 9:00 a.m.

Learning Trip Committee

Peoria Next/Zoom hybrid meeting:

Tuesday, July 6 • 9:00 a.m.

Study Group Committee

Peoria Next/Zoom hybrid meeting:

Thursday, July 8 • 10:00 a.m.

Contact OLLI@bradley.edu
for more information.

OLLI VOLUNTEERS - THEY GET THE JOB DONE!

OLLI volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization – thank you all very much!

Officers 2020 - 2022

President

John Amdall

Vice President

Diane Rock

Past President

Jane Hense

Secretary

Bob Balagna

Treasurer

Wayne Goetz

Committees and Volunteers

Class, Happy Hour, and Zoom Hosts

John Amdall
Sharon Amdall
Jan Busche
Ralph Dalton
Greg Peine
Diane Rock
Bob Yonker

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Rick Burritt, Chair
Tim Bailey, Chair
John Amdall
Sharon Amdall
Laurie Bailey
Tim Bailey
Bob Balagna
Jennifer Bass
Keith Butterfield
Deb Clay
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Duffy Armstrong Farrell

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Rick Gentry

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Janet McGrath

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Mary Jane Sterling

Larry Trollope

Ken Zika

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Sharon Amdall

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Barb Drake

Bernie Drake

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Lee Maki

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Sue Stuedemann

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Int. Exec. Director

Catherine Lawless

Int. Assoc. Director

Gwen Howarter

Program Coordinator

Diana Klein

Program Coordinator

Bonnie Davis

Administrative Support

Debbie Finnegan

Administrative Support



The Continuing Education staff looks forward to seeing you online or in person soon!

SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH OUR PROGRAM CHAIRS



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CONNECT WITH OLLI!



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