



OLLI

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

25 years

Lifelong Learning Since 1994

OLLI Online AUGUST 2020



OLLI Online Registration is OPEN | SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS

WHAT IS OLLI ONLINE?

OLLI is an acronym for The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Bradley University, an organization of nearly 1,200 Peoria area residents 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.

OLLI Online provides many virtual learning experiences delivered via Zoom, a free and easy to use video conferencing software. Meeting “live” via Zoom allows learning to continue from the comfort and safety of our own homes until we can meet in person again. Please review our current program options so you can pick what best fits your learning preferences and interests:

- **Introduction to Zoom** sessions help our members learn how to use the software on their computers, tablets, or smart phones. Led by a volunteer OLLI instructor and offered free of charge to all, our goal is to help you feel comfortable with the technology so you’ll enjoy your experience with OLLI Online.
- **OLLI Virtual Classes** are lecture-based courses during which the instructor delivers the learning material with the opportunity for participants to ask questions either during or after the presentation. OLLI Virtual Classes have been offered the first four Wednesdays of May, June, and July, and will continue in August, September, and October. OLLI Virtual Classes meet at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. for one hour.

- **OLLI Virtual Study Groups** are participation-based; the facilitator delivers core learning material, but all participants learn by sharing. OLLI Virtual Study Groups usually have an expectation of reading, watching a video, or other independent study outside of each session. Each group starts at various times throughout each month, and usually meet for 1.5 hours to 2 hours for four to six weeks. Seats are usually limited to 15 to 25 participants so that everyone has an opportunity to actively participate.
- **OLLI Virtual Learning Trips** to restaurants and area attractions are opportunities to get behind-the-scenes looks at local businesses. Some include a curbside meal pick-up, followed by a virtual presentation by the chef / owner the next day.
- **Virtual OLLI Originals** are exclusive talks with local leaders and businesses from the community and beyond. These one-hour sessions are a great way to keep informed about specific topics, governmental updates, or business organizations.
- **OLLI Virtual Happy Hour** is a free social time hosted by an OLLI volunteer twice a month. Each happy hour has a theme, but it’s not necessary to share – just pop in and enjoy!

REGISTER TODAY

OLLI Online is open for registration now – visit our website to sign up for our August programs:

[Bradley.edu/olli](https://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.

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



A LETTER FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Hello!

We hope you enjoy our second monthly digital OLLI brochure. As we begin our fifth month of OLLI Online, we remain committed to providing a diverse array of programming that appeals to our members both intellectually and socially.

In light of the ongoing unpredictability caused by the global pandemic, the majority of our programs this month will be virtual (remote) offerings. Our incredibly talented and dedicated volunteers and staff have worked hard behind the scenes to bring you a new lineup of virtual classes, study groups, trips, and originals from which to choose.

OLLI is a grassroots organization – everything we do is designed by and for you. We would love to “see you on Zoom” at some of our upcoming program planning meetings. Save the dates and watch for a Zoom link in our email newsletter. All are welcome!

Study Group Committee:

Thursday, July 23 at 11 a.m.

Curriculum Committee:

Monday, August 10 at 12 p.m.

Membership Development Committee:

Thursday, August 27 at 9 a.m.

Learning Trips/ Originals Committee:

Tuesday, September 22 at 9 a.m.

Sincerely,

*The OLLI Executive Committee
(pictured on right at its July meeting)*



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OLLI Online will feature new programs each month. Registrations will be accepted for most of our programs up to 24 hours before the start time. We'll produce an online brochure at the end of August and September. You can find the brochure on our website, Bradley.edu/olli, and we'll also include links in our twice-weekly email newsletter.



OLLI members enjoy learning Origami during our Winter 2020 classes.

VIRTUAL CLASSES

1. Medicare Made Clear

9:00 a.m.

This class will provide an explanation of Medicare, its parts A, B, C, and D, and how they work together and separately. Class participants will receive informational handouts via email for reference. By the end of the four weeks, you'll leave the class feeling more comfortable about the myriad decisions to be made about Medicare. \$20 per person – Class instructor is Dan Smith, senior insurance specialist at Fortner Insurance.

2. Plant Your Own Victory Garden

11:00 a.m.

During the spring of 2020, we may have experienced limitations in getting some of what we need to live comfortably. If you are looking to improve your supply of fresh vegetables, consider establishing your own victory garden, as many households did during World War II. The fall season is not too early to plan and prepare to garden in 2021! This class will cover the basics of siting, organizing, and implementing your own garden, including what you need to know to be successful. We will also touch on sharing the effort with others through a community garden. \$20 per person – Class instructor is Nicole Flowers - Kimmerle, horticulturalist with the University of Illinois Extension.

3. Those Remarkable Bradford Model T Girls

1:00 p.m.

This course recounts the true story of a group of young, single, and local women who were doing extraordinary things in an era when women were not encouraged to do extraordinary things. Based on the book, *Darlene's Silver Streak* and *The Bradford Model T Girls*, the author/instructor takes you along on the historic fun-filled vacations of Darlene Dorgan and her friends during the 1930s and early 1940s, in her faithful Ford Model T nicknamed "Silver Streak." Discover the hilarity and hardship they experienced on the roads of the day, and the how they would meet and "hob nob" with many of the rich and famous of the era, including Henry Ford. \$20 per person – Class instructor is John Butte, author of the book.

4. History of the Future

3:00 p.m.

Many people are fascinated by The Future and enjoy speculating about what our future might be. This class will study The Future as a "history" topic, a perspective of the future that is rarely explored. We will examine the accuracy of past predictions, thoughts on current predictions and explore the reasons why some of these predictions were so awful. John Amdall will share his historical research on The Future and will share thoughts on what can be learned from past predictions as applied to today's realities. A virtual handout will be provided so that class participants can continue to explore The Future on their own. \$20 per person – Class instructor is John Amdall, OLLI President, frequent OLLI instructor and facilitator. OR \$20 - Attend in person in OLLI's "Zoom Room" at Five Points Washington, featuring a large screen viewing experience - a perfect opportunity for members who do not have computers! Social distancing and masks will be required.



Hearty OLLI members smile during a winter learning trip to Wildlife Prairie Park.

OLLI, in partnership with the Peoria Riverfront Museum, will present a special screening on the Giant Screen. To make this a safe and enjoyable visit for all, social distancing will allow a maximum of 50 participants in the 198-seat theatre. Once you are seated you may remove your mask and enjoy the movie (and popcorn).

The Right Stuff

Peoria Riverfront Museum

222 SW Washington St, Peoria

Friday, August 28 • 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The Right Stuff is a 1983 American epic historical film adapted from Tom Wolfe's best-selling book about the Navy, Marine, and Air Force test pilots who were involved in aeronautical research. Gary Nelson, frequent OLLI facilitator and resident movie buff, will lead a short pre-film discussion.

\$10 – includes film screening, pre-film discussion, popcorn, and soda.

VIRTUAL OLLI ORIGINALS

Virtual OLLI Originals are one hour learning experiences featuring a wide range of topics presented by community leaders, authors, and speakers outside of the Peoria area.

1. Children's Home Serves Families and Kids

August 3, 12:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

When 1,700 kids and families depend on you, you can't let a global pandemic stop your work. Children's Home CEO Matt George will share the counseling, education, intervention, and support work that his team of 400+ professionals provides in six locations in our area. Children's Home has been serving the community for over 150 years, and won't stop now. Matt will talk about the impact of COVID-19 on the Children's Home operations and on the children and families of our communities.

2. Red Skelton Museum of American Comedy:

Live and Up Close

Monday, August 10, 2:00 p.m.

\$15 - includes full color exhibit book

Join us as we "travel" to Vincennes, Indiana, the birthplace of Red Skelton. This conversation will engage Anne Pratt, Executive Director of The Red Skelton Museum of American Comedy, which celebrates the life and legacy of one of America's greatest comedians. Remember Freddie the Freeloader and Clem Kadiddlehopper? We'll have the opportunity to enjoy Mr. Skelton's famous characters featured in specially designed exhibits, including their newest exhibit, "We Dood It" which explores Red's time in WWII as both a soldier and an entertainer.

3. Homeless Puppies and Kittens....Oh My!

Tuesday, August 11, 12:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

The Tazewell Animal Protective Society (TAPS) is a no-kill animal giving puppies, kittens, dogs, and cats a home until their "forever" families adopt them. The pandemic has forced changes at the shelter, so we'll meet with Holly Crotty, TAPS executive director, to learn how the shelter has been operating since March. We'll also enjoy a look behind the scenes at the shelter and learn all about the adoption process.

4. "Chalk Talk" with Coach Brian Wardle,

Bradley Men's Basketball

Monday, August 17, 3:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Coach Brian Wardle was named as the 14th head coach for the Bradley's men's basketball team in March 2015. He has had a great track record of success, capped by winning back-to-back championships in 2019 and 2020. He will give OLLI members an update on how Bradley basketball has been impacted by Covid-19, including the recruiting process and the practices, and will discuss how he sees the season going forward.

5. Forensic Testing for Criminal Justice ... and

Covid-19?

Tuesday, August 18, 12:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

Phil Caplis is the Chief Strategy Officer at Great Lakes Labs in Valparaiso, Indiana. The Labs provide timely forensic services through accurate, valid, and unbiased testing for agencies of the criminal justice system, coroner's office, private sector, and medical legal systems. Phil will discuss COVID-19 testing as well as forensic pharmacology and the genetic testing that is performed at Great Lakes Labs.

6. A Pandemic Can't Stop a 122-Year-Old Symphony

Friday, August 21, 3:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

The Peoria Symphony Orchestra is the 14th oldest symphonic orchestra in the country and has just finished its (interrupted) 122nd season. The PSO is much more than its concert-hall performances — it also is active in extensive educational programs in schools and community outreach. Music Director George Stelluto is celebrating his tenth anniversary with the PSO, and is one of today's most inspiring interpreters of music from the Baroque to the Twenty-First Century. Maestro Stelluto will discuss how the Peoria Symphony Orchestra plans to continue to fulfill its mission to "entertain, educate, and inspire through music" during these challenging times.

VIRTUAL 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. Programming for Non-Programmers Tuesdays, August 4 – 25, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Many “introduction to programming” classes help people start new careers as software developers, teaching technologies that are essential for professional programmers. But what if you don’t want to be a professional? Modern scripting languages, like javascript and python, are easy to use and powerful. Learn how to use “code” for everyday things like grocery lists, card games, and more. This class will help participants become familiar with easy computer coding, emphasizing simple, useful, and fun techniques. This study group will be held via Zoom. \$25 – Facilitated by Brian Anderson, general manager of Notionovus, specializing in software development.

2. Trails of Evidence: How Forensic Science Works Mondays, August 3-24, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Who did it? Forensic science has become an extremely popular and pervasive subject in television programs, films, and literature, but real understanding of the science behind forensic evidence and investigations is not that easy. This study group introduces the multidisciplinary field of forensic science, using real casework to illustrate basic principles. Forensic science of DNA, soil and plant,

autopsy, toxicology, digital evidence, fire and explosion, human memory and more will be covered. You’ll follow the trails of evidence with your peers and become a Sherlock Holmes. Approximately two hours per week of study and videos, along with internet and email access is required for this study group.

\$25 – Facilitated by facilitated by Robert Yonker, retired engineer, and Ed Ward, retired program manager.

3. Zoom Edition of The Electoral College: Does it Protect our Freedoms or Impede Them?

Thursdays, August, 6-20 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

In this study group we will examine the history of the Electoral College and hear from those who support protecting it or prefer to end the practice. This group originally met in March, but was interrupted. Now it will meet completely via Zoom, and the three sessions have been restructured to open the group to additional participants. Join us to hear from a diverse array of speakers that include Ray LaHood, former congressman and secretary of the US Department of Transportation; Peoria native Mike Maibach, a long-time Washington, D.C., lobbyist and founder of the Center for the Electoral College; Joyce Williams of the Deerfield League of Women Voters. Various readings will be provided. \$25 – Facilitated by facilitated by Shelley Epstein, retired deputy opinion page editor, *Peoria Journal Star*, and former Associate Vice President of Communications at Bradley University, and Rob Parks, retired Vice President of UnityPoint Health Foundation.



OLLI members are all smiles as they tour the new Ronald McDonald House in Peoria.

VIRTUAL TRIPS

This August, you can enjoy something fresh – floral arrangement! We also have delicious dinners lined up from area restaurants and of course a virtual visit behind-the-scenes with the owner or chef.

OLLI will take care of all the details. We'll even help with curbside pickup and bring the flowers or dinner 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 what they prepared, and talk about how the business is handling their reopening and what it was like during the state's stay-at-home order.

Your \$30 fee includes dinner, gratuities, and online virtual visit. Please check your email for any updated information on menus and pickup times.

1. Gregg's Florist

Wednesday, August 5 – pickup 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday, August 6 – virtual presentation at 5:00 p.m.
 \$35 per person

2. The Cookery

Wednesday, August 12 – dinner pickup 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday, August 13 – virtual presentation at 1:00 p.m.
 \$30 per person

3. Dac's Smokehouse

Wednesday, August 19 – dinner pickup at 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday, August 20 – virtual presentation at 2:00 p.m.
 \$30 per person

4. Johnny's Italian Steakhouse

Wednesday, August 26 – dinner pickup 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday, August 27 – virtual presentation at 2:00 p.m.
 \$30 per person

FREE VIRTUAL HAPPY HOURS



We all know it's incredibly important to stay connected, but we can't interact in person as much anymore. Thanks to technology, however, we can still hang out and have a virtual happy hour. Each

OLLI Happy Hour has a themed discussion, it's a great way to meet and connect with other OLLI members in a relaxed setting, theme, even if you prefer not to share on a particular topic, it's a great time to learn new things.

1. Back to School

Tuesday, August 4, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Share your favorite (or maybe least favorite) school picture of yourself. Going back to school may be up in the air, but during our Happy Hour we'll share and relive our own grade school/high school pictures and memories.

2. The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Smithsonian...

What's Your favorite?

Tuesday, August 18, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Want to share the latest article that inspired you? If you like reading thought-provoking articles or you are looking for something new to read, this Happy Hour will focus on articles we've read, ones we want to share, reflect on, and hopefully expand each other's horizons.



FREE ZOOM TRAINING

OLLI Online uses Zoom, a popular video conferencing software, because it's so easy to use and allow 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. Please register for one of our four free upcoming training sessions:

Thursday, August 6 at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 13 at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 20 at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 27 at 1:00 p.m.

OLLI'S PROGRAMMING VOLUNTEERS

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

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SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH OUR PROGRAM CHAIRS



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