



# Newsletter

AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SPRING 2012

PARTNERS WITH WILLIAMS COLLEGE, BARD COLLEGE AT SIMON'S ROCK & MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

## Super Spring 2012 Semester!

The Curriculum Council has put together an exciting selection of courses and lecturers for you. Classes start April 17 continuing through May 25. Classes will be held at various venues throughout Berkshire County as well as in Bennington, Vermont. Please refer to the Spring 2012 Catalog or visit our website at [www.BerkshireOLLI.org](http://www.BerkshireOLLI.org) for complete details.

### MONDAY

BCC Pittsfield and Great Barrington

*Influential Composers Through Five Centuries: Stamitz, Beethoven, Liszt, Schoenberg and More* – Carlton Maaia

*Romeo and Juliet as a Model for Shakespeare's Plays: Sources, Scenarios and Sonnets* – Larry Robbins

*The Fiction of William Faulkner* – James Kraft

*Turning Point: WWII's Least Understood Week* – Stacy Wallach

### TUESDAY

BCC Pittsfield; Canyon Ranch; Bard College at Simon's Rock

*Today's Headlines* – Lenny Tabs, Moderator

*Enhance Your Knowledge of Aging* – K. Clady-Giramma, J. Hould, J. Kielman, P. Murphy, J. Rossman, D. Sweerus

*The Short Stories of John Updike* – Bernard Rodgers

### WEDNESDAY

Bennington Museum, VT; BCC Great Barrington  
The Clark; Williams College Museum of Art

*Dante's Inferno*: John Ciardi's Translation – Lea Newman

*This I Believe...* – M. S. Bajwa (Islam); M. Birrell (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints); R. Hoagland (Church of Christ, Scientist); A. Price (Religious Society of Friends, Quaker); G. Robinson (Unitarian Universalism); R. Scherr (Judaism) *Held at Various Houses of Worship*

*Abraham: The Father of Nations* – William Darrow

*Biology and Human Behavior* – Tony Segal

*Art Masters and Masterpieces in Williamstown* – Jock Brooks

### THURSDAY

Hancock Shaker Village; Norman Rockwell Museum

*Birding in the Berkshires* – Ed Neumuth

*Seeing Is Believing: Adventures in Visual Narration* – S. Plunkett, J. Schiller

*The Financial Crisis of 2008: Civil and Criminal Litigations* – Larry Greenapple

*Chekhov in Our Time* – Nancy Vale, June Warren

### FRIDAY

BCC Pittsfield

*Understanding Soccer* – Alan Rubin

*Great Decisions* – James Cotter, Moderator

*Berkshire Flora and Fauna* – Amanda L'Etoile, Charles Quinlan

### SATURDAY

BCC Pittsfield

*Conversations with...* – Barbara Greenbaum, Interviewer



Lecturers Stephanie Plunkett and Joyce Schiller  
Norman Rockwell Museum

## Spring Photo Contest Winner

The photo "Spring Awakening—Fiddleheads and Trilliums" appears on the cover of the Spring 2012 Catalog. It was taken in Dalton by Sue Purdy.

## Fall Photo Contest

**PRIZE:** The winning photo will be on the cover of the Fall 2012 catalog, and the winner will receive a 1-year free membership to OLLI.

**THEME:** Berkshire area fall scene

**SPECS:** Digital format (jpeg, tiff, bmp), 3.2 mega-pixels or greater

**DEADLINE:** May 20, 2012

**SUBMIT:** E-mail attached photos to [Bob.Desrosiers@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.Desrosiers@gmail.com).

For further details visit the OLLI website at [www.BerkshireOLLI.org](http://www.BerkshireOLLI.org).

## President's Message

Dear OLLI Members,

OLLI at BCC's trip to Cuba from January 5 through January 13 provided a remarkable experience for the 16 members who participated. This trip was organized by Arline Breskin, special events chair, under the auspices of a humanitarian foundation.

We learned a great deal about Cuba's history, the revolution and Fidel Castro. Cuba is a country in transition which means that it has been moving from an entirely government-controlled economy to some privatization. The best meals we had were at privately-owned restaurants. The population is vibrant and there is much music, dance and art. A primary focus of our trip was culture. We attended five dance performances, heard a concert, visited three artists' studios and went to several museums.

While health care is very good and provided free of charge to all its citizens, the embargo makes it difficult for Cuba to get medical supplies. The humanitarian aspect of the trip required us to bring some medications. Anyone interested in a similar OLLI trip in the future should contact the OLLI office.

Our end of the year fund-raising appeal exceeded our expectations. We almost doubled the amount raised the previous year. We are grateful to all who contributed. Because of a volatile stock market, we needed your continuing support, and so many of you stepped up to the plate. Thank you.

The winter season was a success. Enrollment was up from last year—testimony to the high quality of the courses being offered. Our exciting spring semester will begin soon. I hope to see you at classes and at the many events planned for the spring and summer semesters.

With best wishes,

*Sandra Rubin*

## Getting to Know Susan Dworkin



Susan Dworkin is an author, playwright, teacher and inspiring lecturer for OLLI at BCC whose knowledge, warmth and humor permeate her presentations.

She is a writer who cares deeply about people and has chosen to write about them and their serious issues. Her most recent book, *The Viking in the Wheat Field*, is a biographical study of scientists, especially Dr. Bent Skovmand, a Dane who recognized a rampant rust disease on wheat plants threatening to invade the future worldwide food supply. Susan's interest in agriculture dates back to her early employment at the U.S. Department of Agriculture following her graduation

from Wellesley College. As a journalist, she traveled to the Mid-East reporting on aid programs.

Susan also writes about "ordinary lives crashing into history." She has written about courage, celebrity, passion and politics. She is recognized as the author of the international best seller *The Nazi Officer's Wife* written with Edith Hahn Beer. She has also written librettos and has produced audiobooks. In addition, she has written, produced and directed plays.

She and her husband Moshe were the first to produce short stories of well-known Jewish writers on audio. Her play *All Day Suckers* tells of one woman's darkly comic adventure in the health care system. Produced in 2010 at the New York Fringe Film Festival, it received rave reviews.

Susan, who is called Susie by her friends, loves the theater. She states: "Public truth must be on the stage. It cannot be hidden." Her newest play *The Old Mezzo* about the political memoirs of a retired opera star will be produced by WAM Theatre Company in the Berkshires in the fall of 2012.

Susan has taught in New York City and in the Berkshires as well as for OLLI at BCC. A 2011 course titled *The Fences of Cynthia Ozick* was the most recent course she taught for OLLI. As a lecturer and teacher, she is brilliant, engaging and very honest. Look for her next course *Fiction of Gender Wars* which will be offered in the 2012 OLLI summer semester.

— Fran Wolk, Editorial Staff

## OLLI's Open House and Art Show

The Fourth Annual OLLI Open House and Art Show and a Wine and Hors d'oeuvres Reception will be held on Saturday, May 26, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Art Show viewing will continue on Sunday, May 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. It will take place at the Welles Gallery located in the Lenox Public Library.

This year we will hold a **Silent Auction** which will include gift certificates from local merchants, artwork and other enticing items.

A "Call for Artists" will be sent in March. Entries are limited to OLLI members. Come and bring your friends to see OLLI talent on display!

— Ron Stewart, Chair

## Upcoming Events and Lectures

### DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS SERIES

**MAY 13** • Astronaut Dr. Story Musgrave, "The Beauty of Nature: The Art of Technology"

**MAY 21** • Ethan Zuckerman, "New Media and Social Change"

**JUNE 6** • Phyllis Jaffe, "Why *The Great Gatsby* is the Best American Novel"

**JUNE 16** • Jeremy Yudkin, "What Makes a Masterpiece"

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**MAY 25** • OLLI Annual Meeting and Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture; Guest Speaker Rikki Klieman

**MAY 26 & 27** • OLLI Open House and Art Show, Lenox Library

**MAY 30** • Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City

**JUNE 16** • Aston Magna Festival, Great Barrington

**JUNE 21** • Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket

**JULY 19** • New York City Ballet, SPAC

**AUGUST 14** • Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston

**OCTOBER 21** • Barrington Stage, *Lord of the Flies*; Brunch at BCC; Phyllis Jaffe, Speaker

Look for e-mails about these events. For more information regarding time and venue, please check our website at [www.BerkshireOLLI.org](http://www.BerkshireOLLI.org).

### OLLI NEWSLETTER

**Editor:** Wilma Michaels

**Assistant Editors:** Peri Caverly, Judy Katz, Marge Lewis, Sandi Rubin

**Editorial Staff:** Norman Avnet, Arline Breskin, Ruth Degenhardt, Joanna Fribush, Jo Ann Lancaster, Marilyn Margolis, Trudy Moskowitz, Wendy Robbins, Robert Rosen, Helen-Mary Shaffer, Harriet Shair, Arthur Sherman, Fran Wolk

## OLLI at BCC Annual Meeting and Fourth Annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture

OLLI at BCC's Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, May 25, 2012, at 5:15 p.m. at The Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield. It will be followed at 6:00 p.m. by the fourth annual Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture. The Annual Meeting is an important time for all OLLI members to gather and to review the work of the organization during the past year and to learn of the Board of Directors' plans for 2012 – 2013. The election of members to the Board of Directors will also take place at the meeting.

The Mona Sherman Memorial Lecture, which will follow the annual meeting, honors Mona Sherman, an active and influential force in the evolution of the Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning to our current Osher Lifelong Learning program. Mona served as president and curriculum chair of BILL and was responsible for instituting the Distinguished Speakers Series. At the time of her death, she was serving on the OLLI board. In her memory and in recognition of her devotion to BILL/OLLI, the Sherman family instituted the lecture series through gifts to an OLLI fund in Mona's name.

This year our speaker will be Rikki Klieman, who is a television anchor, legal analyst, actor and author. Her lecture is entitled *Law, Politics and the Media*. She will take questions following the lecture.

Ms. Klieman served as Anchor at the Courtroom Television Network (now Tru TV "In Session") from 1994 to 2010, and has also been a Legal Analyst for the CBS Early Show, the NBC Today Show and the E! Network. She continues to inspire the lives of others with her autobiography, *Fairy Tales Can Come True: How a Driven Woman Changed Her Destiny*.

She is Of Counsel to the Boston, MA, law firm of Klieman & Lyons, where she specialized in criminal trial and appellate practice as well as civil litigation. Ms. Klieman received her J.D. from Boston University School of Law. Prior to her legal career, she was a theater major at Northwestern University and a professional actress. She was named one of the five most outstanding women trial lawyers in the country by *TIME Magazine*.

From 2003 to 2009, while living in Los Angeles, Ms. Klieman pursued her original career of acting. Among other roles, she portrayed Cathy Burson, a lawyer for James Caan's hotel and casino in NBC's *Las Vegas* for four seasons. She also portrayed Judge Dana Pearlman on CBS's *Shark*. She appeared as herself, a Court TV anchor, on *The Closer* and *Boston Legal* as well as in the films *The Cable Guy* and *An American Tragedy*.

Ms. Klieman has served on the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Supreme Court on the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Board of Visitors for Boston University School of Law. — Barbara Hochberg, Executive Director



Rikki Klieman

## Thank You, Lecturers

Spring 2011, Summer 2011, Fall 2011, Winter 2012

The success of OLLI's courses and programs are the result of a tremendous effort by many individuals who are willing to share their expertise. We acknowledge the following lecturers, moderators and panelists—both members and non-members—for their commitment to OLLI at BCC. Lecturers are all volunteers, and we thank them. Many have led more than one course.

Tad Ames  
David Anderson  
Sal Angelo  
Howard Arkans  
Sue Arkans  
Fleur Barnes-Rowell  
Bruce Beckwith  
Gene Bell-Villada  
Tom Bergeron  
Beverly Blonder  
Julianne Boyd  
Josh Breindel  
Jock Brooks  
Michael Cassin  
Kelly Clady-Giramma  
Christopher Coggins  
Jerome Connoy  
James Cotter  
Dick Curtis  
Andrea Danyluk  
Alison Dixon  
Steve Dixon  
Susan Dworkin  
Joseph Ellis  
Bill Erwin  
John Feldman  
Crispina ffrench  
David Fine  
Rebecca Fiske  
Stephen Glantz  
Ben Glick  
Matthew Gold  
David Greenapple  
Larry Greenapple  
Gerri Griswold  
Liza Gyllenhaal Bennett  
Roberta Haas  
Steven Haas  
Margaret Hassett  
Judy Hellman  
Stephen Hellman  
Jason Houston  
Tereza Hubkova  
Phyllis Jaffee  
Robert Jakubowicz  
John James  
Jan Johnson  
Linda Josephs  
Jason Josephson  
Katherine Keenum

James Kraft  
Melvin Krant  
Edwin Lawrence  
Mark Leavitt  
Taryn Leavitt  
Janet Lee  
Bobbie Lefenfeld  
Kate Maguire  
Ron Maitland  
Chris Masiero  
Matthew Masiero  
Richard Maturro  
Daniel Mazursky  
Monshin Paul Naamon  
Joe Nejaime  
Ed Neumuth  
Lea Newman  
Jean Nudd  
Diego Ongaro  
David Orenstein  
Norton Owen  
Gail Palmer  
Diane Pearlman  
Eric Peterson  
Indira Peterson  
Peter Podol  
Robert Pollock  
Hugh Powell  
Lawrence Raab  
Larry Robbins  
Jeff Rossman  
Alan Rubin  
Jack Rubin  
Dorothy Rudolph

Fred Rudolph  
Stephen Schoenfeld  
Adam Segal  
Tony Segal  
Abu Selimuddin  
Susan Sellew  
James Shepard  
Ruth Sidransky  
Efrem Sigel  
Cesar Silva  
Elske Smith  
Ken Smith  
Byam Stevens  
Mihai Stoiciu  
John Stomberg  
Leonard Tabs  
Laszlo Tamas  
Elizabeth ten Grotenhuis  
Christian Thorne  
Alexandra Tinari  
Ann Trabulsi  
William Vogt  
Cynthia Wade  
Stacy Wallach  
David Wampler  
Judith Weber  
Lawrence Weber  
Chrissy Wellington  
Richard Whitehead  
David Winger  
Jacqueline Wu  
Jeremy Yudkin  
Barbara Zheutlin

## Faculty Appreciation Dinner 2012

The OLLI Faculty Appreciation Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 22, at the BCC dining facility. This annual event is an opportunity for OLLI to honor the many instructors who generously contribute their time and talent to lead our classes in the summer, fall, winter and spring semesters.

For the fifth consecutive year, the event will be chaired by OLLI member Adele Cukor. Adele coordinates the event from invitations to decorations, from menu to seating. Her warm hospitality and outgoing spirit always makes the evening special.

This year about 90 lecturers and their guests will be invited. More than 50 curriculum sub-committee and OLLI board members will also be asked to attend. Both through the presentation of an OLLI mug and this dinner, we extend our thanks to our instructors who work so hard to provide us with the varied and intellectually stimulating courses we offer each year.

It is the lecturers and the volunteers, working cooperatively, who are the very heart of our program, and we look forward to toasting them on May 22.

— Barbara Hochberg  
Executive Director

## Preview of Summer 2012 Semester

Join us for the 2012 summer semester! Courses will be held in June with most classes meeting four times. A Summer Catalog with specific information including course titles, instructors, dates, times and locations will be mailed to you in April. Among the courses to be offered are:

A Philatelic Journey Through the Great War and WW II • An Introduction to Boccaccio's *The Decameron* • Fiction of the Gender Wars: The World Was All Before Them • Greed in America: Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes* and Eugene O'Neill's *Desire Under the Elms* • Pastry to Start With and End With: Savory and Sweet • Today's Headlines • Science Conversations: Behind the Headlines • Introduction to Fiction Writing • The Civil War—An Oxymoron • Travel Adventures

# Thank You, Volunteers

Spring 2011, Summer 2011, Fall 2011, Winter 2012

OLLI's strength and vitality comes from its corps of active, committed volunteers—the people who plan courses, special events, special projects, recruit lecturers, keep our membership growing, help in the office, publicize our activities, communicate with our members, supervise class arrangements, provide leadership and pitch in wherever help is needed. These are the men and women—154 strong—who gave OLLI their time, energy, creativity and skill. They are our engine and our fuel, and we give them our thanks. We hope we included everyone.

Joan Angelo  
Sal Angelo  
Howard Arkans  
Sue Arkans  
Norman Avnet  
Sally Balinsky  
Barbara Barron  
Albert Bliss  
Arline Breskin  
Arthur Brimberg  
Marilyn Brimberg  
Jock Brooks  
Joan Brotman  
Ilse Browner  
Donna Burdick  
Helene Burke  
Lawrence Burke  
Don Calman  
Helene Calman  
Peri Caverly  
Joyce Coffman  
Leonard Cohen  
Marsha Cohen  
Vicky Cooper  
Judy Cromwell  
Nancy Crosson  
Adele Cukor  
Patsy Curley  
Martha Dailey  
Linda Day  
Ruth Degenhardt  
Bob Desrosiers  
Bonnie Desrosiers  
Judy Douville  
Ed Epstein  
Phyllis Epstein  
Andrew Fisher  
Karel Fisher  
Marilyn Flaum  
Paul Flaum  
Roz Forman  
Rose Foster  
Joanna Fribush  
Audrey Friedner  
Henry Gallitano  
Joe Gelinas  
Michael Geller  
Joe Gerard

Frank Gioia  
Marcia Gold  
Susan Gorham  
Larry Greenapple  
Barbara Greenbaum  
Dan Gromko  
Hope Hagler  
Warren Hagler  
Janel Halpern  
George Haus  
Joanne Hayes  
Lois Hill  
Mary Hoeltzel  
Rudy Hoeltzel  
Emily Jahn  
Barbara Jonas  
Judy Joseph  
Judi Kales  
Judy Katz  
Susie Kaufman  
Judy Keshner  
Ro Koelle  
Tom Koelle  
Robert Korostoff  
Jo Ann Lancaster  
Lynne Leavitt  
Augusta Leibowitz  
Lois Lenahan  
Dolores Lerman  
Kitty Levitan  
Marge Lewis  
Barbara Liebert  
John Lipkowitz  
Claire Lowery  
Jack Machanik  
Marilyn Margolis  
Michael Margolis  
Richard Matturro  
Nancy McGill  
Karen McNulty  
Norman Michaels  
Wilma Michaels  
Enid Michelman  
Ann Morgan  
Trudy Moskowitz  
Judith Nardacci  
Barbara Nelick  
Leon Nesis

Elna Nugent  
Mary O'Brien  
Lesley Oransky  
Susan Orenstein  
Peter Podol  
Linda Poulton  
Elena Powell  
Larry Robbins  
Wendy Robbins  
Charlene Rosen  
Robert Rosen  
Alan Rubin  
Lenore Rubin  
Sandi Rubin  
Lesley Rubinger  
Carol Sabot  
Diane Saunders  
Audrey Schlanger  
Myrna Schneiderman  
Tony Segal  
Betsey Selkowitz  
Helen-Mary Shaffer  
Hal Shair  
Harriet Shair  
Arline Shalan  
Howard Shapiro  
Shirley Shapiro  
Art Sherman  
Claudia Shuster

Carole Siegel  
Turbi Smilow  
Elske Smith  
George Smith  
Judy Spencer  
Martha Stewart  
Ron Stewart  
Peg Stone  
Virginia Stuart  
Ellen Tabs  
Leonard Tabs  
Theresa Terry  
John Tinger  
Lorraine Tinger  
Lora Tobias  
Sig Tobias  
Gracie Vincent  
William Vogt  
Abbie von Schlegell  
Jean Walden  
Jean Warren  
David Wasielewski  
Terry Weaver  
Estare Weiser  
Donald White  
Fran Wolk  
Philip Yedinsky  
Sylvia Yedinsky  
Evelyn Zwerner



*Volunteers at OLLI 2011 brunch.  
Audrey Schlanger, Judy Keshner, Lesley Oransky*

## Spencertown Academy Arts Center

OLLI at BCC's cultural partner, the Spencertown Academy Arts Center in nearby Spencertown, NY, is celebrating its fortieth anniversary this year. This Greek revival building's history began in 1847 when Reverend Timothy Woodbridge, a pastor in the town and grandson of well-known Stockbridge preacher Jonathan Edwards, founded an Academy for teachers' training. In 1879 it became a schoolhouse for local students from grades one through eight and was almost demolished when the students were transferred to area public schools in 1970.

In 1972, concerned citizens and artists formed the Spencertown Academy Society to restore the classic building and establish a cultural center for art exhibits, events, musical programs and classes. Thus the Spencertown Academy Arts Center began and has continued to develop and flourish for 40 years. Today, the building is listed in the National Registry of Historic Places.

A highlight of its many attractions is the "artsVOYAGE" program for



grades two through eight in Columbia County. Through this program, created by the center and funded by a grant, professional artists go into classrooms and use the arts to enhance and enliven classroom curricula, fulfilling their belief that art "creates a window into history." This experience epitomizes the motto "Education is a

voyage; the arts are our guide." This program has been most successful since its inception seven years ago.

The center is open from April 1 to December 31; its galleries are open Thursday through Sunday and special programs are held throughout these months. Programs include classical and traditional music concerts, readings, performance arts and small theater pieces as well as arts and crafts exhibitions. Of special interest is the annual Festival of Books in September, which features authors' readings, interviews and panel discussions and offers thousands of used books for sale. For all events, visit their website at [Spencertownacademy.org](http://Spencertownacademy.org).

Our cultural partnership entitles OLLI at BCC members to purchase tickets at academy members' prices and, as an organization, we can hold meetings there and share announcements with them. The center is staffed by an executive director, artistic and educational directors and many volunteers.

— Joanna Fribush, Editorial Staff

## Trip to Cuba



*José Rodríguez Fuster Arts Gallery  
Jaimanitas, Cuba*



*OLLI group photo taken at  
a senior retirement home  
in Havana*



*Boat ride to Santiago Harbor*

## Meet Barbara Hochberg, Executive Director

When the Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning (BILL) became OLLI at BCC on July 1, 2007, I became its first executive director. After a professional life spent in the field of education, including 14 years as a consultant working with non-profits and colleges to prepare major federal, state and private grant applications, I came upon an advertisement for a position as the director of a new lifelong learning program at BCC. The job description was varied, exciting and, most important, one that would evolve as the new organization grew. Intrigued, I applied for and won the job; and that is just the way I con-



tinue to think about this position—a win and the most rewarding of my varied professional endeavors.

As a “people” person, a highlight of my daily routine is to interact with the volunteers who make OLLI such an exemplary organization. Members from varied professional backgrounds work with me and with each other to provide the infrastructure for our organization. Additionally, I enjoy interacting with OLLI’s educational and cultural partners, championing OLLI within the BCC administrative structure, networking with the national OLLI organization and working with other OLLI direc-

tors. I have tremendous admiration for our programs and respect for all those who work to make them so successful.

When I’m not “on-the-job,” I most enjoy spending time with my husband, Andy, and our adult children, Miranda and Joshua. Miranda lives and works in Mitrovica, Kosovo, and is deputy head of office for the International Civilian Office of the European Union. As we see her so rarely, we cherish the times we can be with her. Fortunately, Joshua is currently working as an attorney for the Committee for Public Counsel Services in the Public Defender Division in Pittsfield so it is much easier to arrange time with him. Andy and I enjoy downhill skiing, golfing and travel. We live in Richmond with our cat, Bode Miller Hochberg, and life is interesting!

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## Meet William Mulholland, OLLI at BCC’s Liaison

Bill Mulholland, the vice president of community education and workforce development at BCC, has been the department head since 2004. He began his career at BCC in 1989 as a professor in the Business Department then as chair of the Business Department and then director of Economic Development. He was named liaison to Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning (BILL) and later became a member of the Board of Directors of OLLI. Before coming to BCC, Bill was the plant manager for the Sheaffer Eaton Division of Textron Inc. in Pittsfield and later was president of Berkshire Stationery Inc., a manufacturer of Eaton stationery, calendar books and jigsaw puzzles.

Bill’s dad was also a professor at BCC for 26 years, as well as chair of the History Department. Bill’s and his father’s 20-year service plaques are side-by-side on the wall in Bill’s office. Bill and his wife and mother went to Germany in 1998 after his dad’s B-17’s

crash site had been excavated and parts placed in a museum in Biebelshelm, Germany. They were presented with a table centerpiece made from parts of the actual wreckage of his dad’s B-17G Flying Fortress. This centerpiece now sits on Bill’s desk at the college (see photo). While at the site, Bill learned that the landing gear ball bearing from the bomber was used to repair the battle-damaged bell clapper in the local church and it has been ringing regularly since 1944. Bill also learned that several wedding dresses were made from his father’s and crew’s parachutes.

When Bill is not working at the college, he often plays his Rickenbacker 12-string guitar for his



church singing group in Becket or at other venues in Berkshire County. On sunny days he sometimes drives his Studebaker Hawk, Avanti, Hudson or Corvair Monza convertible to work. His family has 22 antique cars in Becket, mostly Studebakers, starting with an 1880 Studebaker horse-drawn doctor’s carriage.

# DEAR OLLI

To keep our members better informed, we introduced a new feature called DEAR OLLI in the winter 2012 issue of the newsletter.

What would you like to know about OLLI at BCC? If you have questions, please send them to editorial staff member Bob Rosen at [robert.rosen@verizon.net](mailto:robert.rosen@verizon.net).

The answers will come from those members who can best reply to the specific questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

*OLLI member Ken Mayer of East Otis asked: "I subscribe to two courses for \$80.00. Am I allowed a FLEX PASS as my bonus course?"*

Yes, Ken. Because of your inquiry, the Board of Directors revisited FLEX PASS options. Now, **"FLEX may be used as part of the bonus course package."** For more information about FLEX PASS options, please refer to the information on the Course Registration page in the Spring 2012 Catalog. — Board of Directors

*A new member of the newsletter editorial staff asked: "Does OLLI at BCC have a policy with regard to scholarships?"*

The answer is "YES!" Anyone who wishes to receive a scholarship due to a financial hardship should contact the OLLI office. The OLLI president will determine what the conditions of scholarship would be. All information will be held in strict confidence.

— Sandi Rubin, President

Return Service Requested

