



## MEET BETTY & MAURY SEROTTA

What an exceptional couple are **Betty and Maury Serotta**. Just being in their presence gives one a happy lift in spirits. Betty originally hailed from Baltimore, Maryland.

Known as B.A. (Betty Ann) throughout school, she is a graduate of Skidmore College.

She served as the Executive Director of the Colorado Religious Coalition for 32 years, was a board member of the National Council of Jewish Women and a volunteer at the Crisis Center

where abused children were housed waiting appropriate placement.

Betty also was a volunteer at Porter's Hospice. How all must have brightened with the sight of her smile.

Betty became a member of OLLI six years ago and facilitated a class in Ethnic Communities in Denver.

Maury is from Saratoga Springs, New York. He attended West Point

where he received a BS degree followed by a Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering at the University of Michigan.

Maury is a World War II vet and participated in the Korean war, earning a Bronze Star Medal.

He worked for Martin Marietta Corporation for over 30 years, is on the board of Community Living Alternatives, providing residential and day programs for the developmentally disabled. He joined OLLI ten years ago and facilitated several Great Decisions classes.

This "wonder couple" has many interests, such as classical music, theater, traveling, and politics. Add to that current events and exercise. In 1988 Maury won his first of ten Bolder Boulder-10-K races, in his age group, out of 17 attempts. How's that for positive and diligent persistence! OLLI Central is proud to claim these two.

## A GREEK CELEBRATION

Members of **Bill West's** class on "The Iliad" were rewarded for their intense weeks of study with an invitation to a Greek luncheon, hosted by **Thelma Teitelbaum** at the retirement community Park Place. Class members were invited to come dressed as their favorite gods, or goddesses. The result was a parade of creativity. Goddesses wore togas, gods carried shields, and others wore crowns of lotus leaves or other Greek attire. In Homer's time rewards of all the gold you could carry, were conferred on winners. Thelma amused guests by distributing bags of gold-wrapped chocolate coins to the costumed.

The celebratory meal consisted of not a hecatomb of 100 oxen as in Homer's time, but delicious spinach spanakopita, lamb and turkey gyros, Greek salads, baklava and ouzo! Ollians one and all, thoroughly enjoyed their fair portion.

Thelma thanked Bill West for his efforts as facilitator &

Park Place management and dining services for their generosity and gracious hospitality.

*-Thelma Teitelbaum*



## THE 2015 SUMMER SEMINARS OF OLLI PROMISE A VARIETY OF STIMULATING, PROVOCATIVE, FASCINATING TOPICS

OLLI's 2015 Summer Seminars begin June 3 and again feature a wide variety of topics presented by renowned lecturers from various academic and intellectual disciplines. Schedule is as follows:

- June 3** Our Tumultuous Times: Through the Lens of the US Constitution's First Amendment. **Professor Buie Seawell**, Daniels College of Business, University of Denver
- June 17** How the West Was Won: Slavery and the Origin of the Colorado Territory. **Professor Susan Schulten**, Chair, Department of History, University of Denver
- July 15** The Real Monuments Men and Women: Art Restoration, Successes and Challenges. **Professor Beth Karlsgodt**, Department of History, University of Denver
- July 29** One Hundred Years of General Relativity **Dr. Jeffrey Bennett**, Astrophysicist, Educator and Author
- August 12** Is Denver's Future Sustainable? Balancing Environment and Culture in Urban Planning **Professor and Dean Saitta**, Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of Denver
- August 26** The Media: An insider's Insight **International News Correspondent, Greg Dobbs**
- Sept. 9** Putin: The Man. **Professor, Arianna Nowakowski**, Korb School of International Studies, University of Denver.

The seminars will be held at the Central Christian Church, 3690 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver (South Cherry Creek Drive, between University Blvd. and Colorado Blvd) from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Coffee will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m. Members cost is \$10 per lecture, \$20 for guests. OLLI members may bring adult children to any lecture without charge. You will receive your Summer Seminars brochure, with complete details and registration form, in the mail mid to late April.

## SPRING HOT TOPIC LUNCHEON

### The Challenge: Sustaining CO Growth The Solution: Developing Sustainable Water

Water is essential to Colorado's quality of life and economy and yet, we face a future that is plagued with a significant gap between demand and supply.\*

Eric Hecox, Executive Director of South Metro Water Supply Authority, discussed the water supply challenges facing the state with a particular focus on the Denver Metro area. He reviewed the need for and history of water development in Colorado, discussed current challenges, and described what is being done to address them. He described the Colorado Water Plan, what it means for the region, and engaged the audience in a discussion of what should be done to ensure the state has a secure and sustainable water future.

\*Colorado Water Plan

### DID YOU KNOW THAT...

**Mark & Maxine Rossman** Co-Founders of the Cherry Creek Theatre

OLLI members are a perfect match for the Cherry Creek Theatre as both share common interests and values; it is only natural that the theatre has many OLLI members in our audience.

Maxine and her husband, Mark, are both former college professors and administrators



who have "recareered" as theatre producers. "We were looking at the redevelopment of the Cherry Creek neighborhood when all of a sudden we realized that while there were many restaurants, boutiques and galleries in the neighborhood, there was few cultural attractions." Thus, in 2010, the idea for the Cherry Creek Theatre was born. Rossman indicated that the mission of the theatre is "to enhance and enrich the vitality of Cherry Creek through theater and the arts by producing a broad range of theatrical and artistic productions of the highest quality that will be entertaining, educational, and diverse."

Now in its fifth season, the theatre has followed its mission and has earned a well-deserved reputation for producing high quality plays featuring many of Denver's finest actors and directors. Past productions have included musicals

(Side by Side by Sondheim; A Grand Night for Singing; Baby: The Musical and John & Jen); dramas, mysteries and comedies (*Love Letters*; *Agatha Christie's The Unexpected Guest*, *Proof*; *Visiting Mr. Green*; *Doubt*; *Vigil*; *12 Angry Men*; and *Over the River and Through the Woods*).

The first production of the 2015 season just concluded with sold out performances of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. The June production is *Driving Miss Daisy*. The season will conclude in October with the regional premier of Sondheim on Sondheim. In July, the theatre will be offering acting classes for children. For more information about the theatre, call the box office at 303-800-6975 or go to the website at [www.cherrycreektheatre.org](http://www.cherrycreektheatre.org).



## BRAVO, CENTRAL ASSISTANTS!!

Over this past academic year, OLLI Central's Assistant Program has done an outstanding job of making our classes more streamlined and effective for both facilitators and participants.

The OLLI Assistants are fabulous volunteers who, while attending classes of their choice, take on the administrative responsibilities of helping the class function smoothly. Facilitators rave about them, telling OLLI that the Assistants make their job easier and more enjoyable, enabling them to focus entirely on facilitating the subject matter at hand. Many Assistants have reported how much they enjoyed their role, saying it was fun, took little time, and that volunteering at OLLI was something they valued. So what exactly do Assistants do? They take attendance, make announcements about upcoming programs, help new members get acclimated to the facility, answer questions and distribute evaluations at the end of the class.

Most of all, Assistants provide a welcoming face for all who are attending a class. They have more than proved that they are incredibly helpful, communicate well, and represent the volunteer spirit behind OLLI's success.

If you are interested in learning more about serving as an Assistant, please contact Michelle Runyon at [michelle.runyon@du.edu](mailto:michelle.runyon@du.edu). And for those who are already doing an outstanding job, OLLI salutes you!

## THE STORY OF THE BELLS

Have you ever wondered about the bells that ring from the gold cupola atop the Ritchie Center on the University of Denver campus or been curious as to how they are played, sending their beautiful tones resounding throughout the campus?

On Friday, Feb. 6, fourteen curious OLLI members representing all three OLLI sites met in DU's Ritchie Center for a fun and fascinating two-hour Interactive Learning class on the history of these Carillon bells.

We were met by **Carol Jickling-Lens**, a DU faculty member and expert Carillonist, who gave us a history of the bells and the beautiful Gottesfeld room which houses the tower leading to the bells. We then climbed the 95 circular steps (think lighthouse) up to the "keyboard room" and the 65 bells above it. We saw the unusual keyboard that is used to play the bells and saw how Carol can play them loudly or softly depending on the pressure she applies to the "keys" and the pedals. She let us take turns playing a note or two before she played several songs, giving an up close and personal concert for us.

It was very exciting to look up and see the bells being rung at the same time Carol was playing them. They are cast in bronze and tuned for the life of the bell at the time they are cast. At the Ritchie Center, the largest bell weighs 6 tons, with its clapper weighing 550 pounds.

Climbing to the top was, of course, optional but learning the history and hearing the bells being rung was worth the trip. Carol gives a holiday concert the 2nd Sunday in December each year and beginning June 21st will give summer concerts every other Sunday at 7pm. Bring your picnic supper and friends, sit on the grass, benches or bleachers, June 21, July 5, July 19, Aug 2 and Aug. 16th.

—*Sherry Fritz*

## THE "WEEKEND IN THE ROCKIES"

We look forward to seeing the group of OLLI Members from Central, West and South who will be enjoying a relaxing, spring weekend together in the Rockies while appreciating the presentations of two of our favorite DU professors, **Buie Sewell** and **Bob Melvin** along with a new friend of OLLI, **Dr. Glenn Sackett**. The casualness of our rustic, mountain lodge allows for relaxed sessions with plenty of time for socializing. In addition to walks in the woods, Bob's wife, Sue will lead a morning session on "Everyday Stretches for Balance."

If you find your schedule allows you to join us contact Debbie (303 871 3090) to inquire about availability.



## WELLWARE IS WELL ON THE WAY

We are on our way to WELLaware minds and WELLaware bodies. We have had exciting classes such as The Happiness

Hypothesis, Mind Matters, Aging with Wisdom and Vitality, Leading Edge Medicine, Yoga from the Heart, Pilates, A Walk in the Park and Cycling for the Young at Heart.

If you're ready to get up and get moving, we have walks every week at Wash Park and various other locations, cyclists that are learning about all the different options and techniques of riding and hikers venturing out every other Friday on various hikes.

Check out our WELLaware pages on the website, [www.portfolio.du.edu/olli](http://www.portfolio.du.edu/olli) to stay informed of all our upcoming activities.



## A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

We are preparing for our 2015 – 2016 academic year, a special year because we will be celebrating OLLI's 20th anniversary. University of Denver Chancellor, **Rebecca Chopp** will kick-off the year-long celebration at our fall luncheon with an address relating to the importance of OLLI to the University and the community.

We are proud to be entering this special year with record breaking enrollment reflecting the value perceived by community residents 50 and older.

Our thanks go out to each of you for your continued enthusiasm for the offerings that OLLI provides at all three of our OLLI sites. Have a great, fun summer with family and friends, and for a little mental stimulation plan to join your OLLI friends at the Summer Seminars

*...Vonnie Wheeler, Executive Director*

## THINKING OF FACILITATING? A LUNCH INVITATION

The most rewarding learning experience for many OLLI members is to organize and lead an OLLI class. And of the hundreds who have elected to facilitate a class in the past, the vast majority had never done it before. Facilitating does not require prior knowledge of the subject matter. Our classes are most often led by motivated members who mainly want to stay engaged with life and expand their interests and leadership qualities.

Once each year we gather a small group of interested people for a luncheon to meet with some experienced facilitators in an open discussion on what facilitating an OLLI class entails. We talk about possible class topics and areas of interest. The next lunch meeting will be held May 8th. There is no pressure and no commitment. This is just a friendly exploration designed to answer your questions and to hear from others who have gone through the same experience in the past.

Email Dick Wisott at [dwisott@comcast.net](mailto:dwisott@comcast.net) to add your name to the list.

## SUMMER FIELD TRIP PRESTON GHOST TOWN AND GOLD MINE HIKE BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO AUGUST 6, 2015

Over 130 years ago Preston was a bustling town of 150 citizens, but now only the ghostly remains of buildings reside here and the remnants of a preserved mine. We will join a local historian on a guided four mile hike to learn about the history of the town and many of the rich mines that operated in the area. The tour on August 6 is presented by the Breckenridge Heritage Alliance. Cost: \$30 (includes a bag lunch). Further details will be provided via an email blast.

## HEADS UP, FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

OLLI is a membership program, providing opportunity for members to participate in all aspects of the program and its delivery. Member input especially drives decisions about the learning experiences, including their design, content, methods and format. The OLLI Advisory Council was established as the voice of the membership, creating a structure by which OLLI's programming would reflect the needs and preferences of the members. The nine-member Advisory Council oversees OLLI Central's strategic planning, budget and finance, marketing, facilities, volunteers, special events and other organizational matters. AC members are elected by the membership to serve three-year terms.

The 2015-2016 slate is proposed by the AC Nominating Committee and will be presented to the membership via this newsletter.

The following have been presented for three-year terms on the Council: Tom Bieging, Pam Murdock and Dick Reinish.

Any member may nominate additional candidates by emailing the Nominating Committee via Michelle, [michelle.runyon@du.edu](mailto:michelle.runyon@du.edu) prior to June 1, 2015. If additional nominations are received, an email ballot will be distributed. If no additional nominations are received, the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee will be deemed elected.

The Council would like to recognize and thank the service of our outgoing AC members **Joan Baronberg, Mimi Karsh and John Piper.**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<b>May 13</b>	<b>Mid-Day Morsel</b>
<b>May 29-31</b>	<b>Reflection in the Rockies</b>
<b>June 29</b>	<b>Fall term catalog posted</b>
<b>July 13</b>	<b>1st Draw for the Fall Term</b>
<b>Sept 14</b>	<b>Nov 6 Fall Term</b>



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*"Thank you for considering OLLI in your estate planning"*

**Vonnie Wheeler**, Director

**Debbie Loftin**, Assistant

**Michelle Runyon**, Central Manager

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