

MEET AMY THEODORE

By Tricia Forbes



We welcome another "Person of Interest," presenting Amy Theodore. She was born in Salt Lake City, her parents having come directly from Greece. She has two brothers, Mark, who is a patent attorney, and George, who played with New York Mets. He was tall and skinny and the way he ran the bases resulted in his nick name, "The Stork."

Amy graduated from the University of Utah, majoring in counseling and psychotherapy. She did graduate work at Montana State,

and also attended DU. She especially enjoyed working in the public school system with students and their parents.

After retiring, Amy devoted her volunteering to the important job of advocacy for Assisted Living and Nursing Home retirees. We can only imagine how welcome her smile was there.

Amy moved to Denver in 1975, having lived here earlier, in 1963. She enjoyed teaching third grade in Five Points at that time. A most interesting volunteer job for Amy was working for a year with third graders for the Department of Defense in England. She taught in a Quonset hut.

OLLI has been fortunate to have her facilitate a class, *An Introduction to Autism*, a topic that has stirred well-deserved attention. She says she likes volunteering at OLLI because it fulfills her need to be with people and she wants to keep learning.

SPRING HOT TOPIC LUNCHEON FRACKING: WHAT IS IT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Presented by OLLI South

You've likely heard of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" as it's sometimes referred to, but do you know what it is? Come join **Mike Guinn**, Noble Energy's District Manager as he explains the science behind drilling a horizontal well, how hydraulic fracturing actually works and the environmental safeguards Noble Energy puts in place during every aspect of their operation. This event is open to all OLLI members and their guests.

Friday, April 25, 2014 • 11:30-1:30pm
Lone Tree Arts Center, 10075 Commons St.
Lone Tree, Colorado 80124

Cost \$20 per person

Catered gourmet boxed lunches with assorted sandwiches will be served.

Make check payable to OLLI and mail to: 2211 South Josephine St. Denver, CO 80208

A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

With 2,220 OLLI members taking classes this academic year we have set another record. As important as it is to expand membership allowing so many new people the opportunity to discover the wealth of topics we offer it is equally important not to lose sight of some of the personal reasons people value OLLI. One of our facilitators recently shared these comments from people in her class..."this is the best day of my week because I get to go to my OLLI classes." Another: "my husband and I are having health issues that concern us, but OLLI allows us to put them aside for a while as we concentrate on our classes." So, in addition to numerous mind-stretching advantages we are also in the business of providing much-needed social interactions and comfort.

At the end of this very successful year I want our curriculum committees, facilitators, and volunteers to know how very, very much they are appreciated and valued. All of you are the ones responsible for our high-caliber curriculum and thoughtful regard for each of our OLLI members.

...**Vonnie Wheeler**, Executive Director



COMING THIS FALL!

The OLLI Wellness Program will kick-off this fall. Look for information bearing this logo!



“The Wise”



“The Reckless”

OLLI IN COSTA RICA: BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

By Jim and Sue Wallendorf (OLLI South)

On our first trip to Costa Rica, we expected to marvel at its lush vegetation, sparkling waterfalls, exotic wildlife, and to soak up all that wonderful, warm humidity. We expected to snorkel in crystal waters, zip line through sunlit canopies, hike through tropical rain forests, and luxuriate in welcoming hot springs. We did. We also expected to learn a lot about the economic and political challenges of this country, to visit its museums, coffee and sugar plantations, restaurants and shops, its wildlife rescue centers. And we did. After all, this was an OLLI trip.

We also expected to experience some travel challenges, knowing that a developing country wouldn't necessarily offer all the comforts and conveniences we take for granted. It didn't. But we were prepared (mostly) for temperamental plumbing, a dearth of bath towels, cracked pavement, and bumpy roads (well, maybe not THAT bumpy).

What we didn't expect was the depth of affection we would come to feel for this country and its people. This was in large part due to the nature of our guide, Alexander Fuentes, who helped us see beyond the obvious. Yes, the poverty in San Jose, and the surrounding countryside, was glaring. We saw the substandard housing, the low-tech farming, the absence of industry and public services. But Alex helped us see beyond, to a country that was developing past these limitations, and whose people could accept, without embracing, the circumstances of their lives.

There was no shame in, or apologies for, being poor. It was just a fact of life that had to be changed. The people we met had dignity. And we sensed their hope and optimism in the warmth of every smile. As we watched local residents walking along dusty roads, laughing and joking together, or saw friends and families enjoying time with each other in local shops or restaurants, we could only reflect on how we Americans, who have so much more, seem to enjoy life so much less.

When asked, half-jokingly by an OLLI member, what the meaning of life is, Alex gave us two answers. One was “Pura Vida” or living the “pure life.” The other was “to plant a tree under whose shade you never expect to sit.”

So, the human perspective was, for us, the best part of this amazing time. And we would be terribly remiss if we did not include our last expectation which was the OLLI part of this experience. Yes, we fully expected to like the people we traveled with and to have a good time. And, we did, in fact, have wonderful fun together. How could we not? But what we did not expect was to meet so many people we would like to have as life-long friends.

This OLLI group shared something so much more meaningful than mere fun. Through the expression of thoughts, feelings and values, we went far beyond the usual small talk. OLLI is a place to find kindred souls. And we certainly did.

A TRIBUTE TO PETE SEEGER

by Dick Wisott

So many of us were saddened when folksinger Pete Seeger died early this year. He and his music were not only part of our formative years growing up, but he continued to entertain millions of all ages up until his death at age 95. So it was heartwarming to hear that OLLI at DU would host a sing-along featuring Seeger's most popular songs shortly following his death. And OLLI offered to include our friends and family along with the entire OLLI membership. And

then they brought in Harry Tuft, the founder of the Denver Swallow Hill Folklore Center, to play lead guitar and lead the singing with PowerPoint words and illustrations provided by our own **Deanna Manchion**. The social hall at Highline Community Church filled early and extra seats had to be brought in to hold the crowd, which included members from all three OLLI sites. While this activity was not originally planned and was provided free of charge by OLLI, it does once again illustrate the value-added aspects of OLLI membership that extend beyond normal academic programming.

THE 2014 SUMMER SEMINARS OF OLLI PROMISE A STIMULATING EXPERIENCE INCLUDING A GEOLOGICAL FIELD TRIP VIA CANOES

OLLI's 2014 Summer Seminars begin June 12 and again feature a wide variety of topics presented by renowned lecturers from various academic and intellectual disciplines. Schedule is as follows:

- June 4** **"Dealing with Chaos through Metaphors and Stories from the Sea"**
Professor Buie Sewell, Daniels College of Business, University of Denver
- June 18** **Mid Term elections: What matters? What doesn't?**
Professor Seth Masket, Department of Political Science, University of Denver
- July 9** **Coming Soon: Printable Replacement Organs**
Dr. Richard Weir, Director of the Biomechanics Development Laboratory, University of Colorado-Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus.
- July 23** **Social Media and Our Lives: Potential and Pitfalls**
Mike Hanbery, Director of New Media Strategies, Webolutions
- August 6** **Transportation Revolutions: Moving Goods and People in Today's World Professor Andrew Goetz**
Chair of the Geography Department and The Environment, University of Denver
- August 20** **Medical Marijuana in Colorado and the Future Regulation in the U.S. Professor Sam Kamin**
Sturm College of Law, University of Denver
- Sept. 3** **"Picasso, Einstein, Sanger, Hitler, Gandhi: Five Who Changed the World Forever"**
Tripp Baltz, award winning journalist and writer, is the former Academic Director of the Liberal Studies Division at University College at the University of Denver.

The seminars will be held at the Central Christian Church, 3689 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. A brochure with a registration card will be mailed approximately April 20.

A PEEK AT OUR FALL CURRICULUM

By Nancy Cain, OLLI Central Curriculum Chair

Our Curriculum Committee is in the process of finalizing the fall curriculum. In addition to numerous brand new classes, we can tell you that Dick Lamm will be offering another class in the fall (topic to be determined). With pressing issues in Russia and Crimea, we are talking to experts about participating in a Speaker's Series class that will cover current issues ranging from Putin and politics to nationalism and economics in this troubled part of the world.

Mark your calendars for July 1 when the fall curriculum will be posted online. We urge you to sign up as early as possible so that first your choices can be accommodated.

OLLI will also be holding several fall Tuesday classes on the DU campus as part of our partnership with the University. When the fall curriculum is finalized, we will provide full information to you about the logistics.

As always, our goal is to present our members with a new and exciting range of offerings. If you have class ideas that you would like the Committee to evaluate, we always welcome your suggestions. We also appreciate your willingness to consider becoming a facilitator.

This past academic year OLLI Central offered 129 classes led by 142 facilitators. We also welcomed 329 brand new members, bringing our membership level to 1200, that equates to 2459 people in seats!

Thank you for being such great supporters of OLLI and of our curriculum!

THE OLLI COMMUNITY

By Michelle Runyon, Olli Central Manager

In reflecting over this past year, I see great community within OLLI. Community is by definition, "a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. A feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals, a similarity or identity, joint ownership or liability." I have seen members coming together with a common desire to learn, explore and discuss various topics, utilizing a diversity of classes available. What a great example of a thriving community.

It is one of my goals to expand one specific aspect within our OLLI community, and that is our spirit of volunteerism, using as a base, our rich human resource potential. On April 21-24, we will be holding a Volunteer Fair; an opportunity for you to get involved and share that which you are really good at with your friends and colleagues in OLLI. Are you a writer? Our newsletter might be your niche. Are you hospitable? How about being a greeter? How about making coffee? How about helping with special events? Do you love technology? How about being a part of a Geek Squad to help with the equipment? Do you love working with computers; we could use your help with our website, computer projects, and database. Come join us in April and experience fully the OLLI community.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS NOMINATED

By Amy Davis, Central Advisory Council President

Each spring new members are elected to the Central Advisory Council, which represents the OLLI membership. The Council consists of nine voting members, two of which are elected each year for a three-year term. Terms begin September 1. This year the Nominating Committee offers the following slate:

Anita Leitner has been a member of OLLI since 2007. She is a Master Facilitator and has just completed a four-year term as Central's Curriculum Chair. Her favorite task at OLLI is to facilitate literature classes that focus on Victorian-era authors. She is proud to be part of OLLI at DU. "This program provides a great service for so many men and women at our three sites. There is always a need for volunteers who want to keep the quality high and creativity flowing." Anita likes being one of those volunteers!

Barbara Lily is a native of Colorado and has lived most of her life in Denver. She worked for years in the fields of civil rights and affirmative action and identifies herself as a "political junkie." Barbara was delighted to discover OLLI four years ago and has taken two to three courses each quarter since then. She has facilitated two courses in the political/economic area and one section of Great Decisions. Barbara is not facilitating a class this spring but is currently putting together a course for the fall semester.

Any member may nominate additional candidates (or one's self) by sending an email to Nominating Committee Chair, **Vicky Jones**, in care of **Debbie Loftin** in the OLLI office (debra.loftin@du.edu) prior to JUNE 1. 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.

SUMMER SEMINAR FIELD TRIP

Our exciting three-day geological trip will take us through the Escalante and Dominguez Canyons by canoe in the company of the geologist Ed Adams. We will camp for two nights along the way. The cost: \$410 per person. Trip size is limited. All meals included. Camping gear is available for rent if needed. Adult children of OLLI members are invited to adventure with their parents. For complete details, go to www.centennialcanoe.com and search OLLI at DU. Or call 720 283 0553.

NOTE: As we went to press we learned that this field trip is already full. Marty at Centennial Canoes has offered to schedule another such trip August 21 -23 with our same geology. So, give them a call for definite dates and details. Hurry, our adventurous OLLI members will probably fill the second trip as well!

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

...our new librarian, **Andrea Pearlman**, has up-dated the OLLI library list? You may obtain a copy from Debbie, debra.lofton@du.edu Also if you are planning a car trip this summer there are many new audios available for check out. ...that we have new, up-dated, foldover OLLI brochures? Please be sure and grab several and have them when talking to people about OLLI....that the 4th OLLI West's Annual "Memoirs in the Mountains" writing retreat to be held in Winter Park will be held August 22-24, 2014. More details to follow soon!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 21 -24	Volunteer Fair
April 25	Hot Topic Luncheon
May 15	Spring term ends
June 4	Summer Seminars begin
June 30	Fall classes on website Registration begins
July 10	"First Draw" for fall classes
August 14	Summer Picnic
August 22-24	"Memoirs in the Mountains" Winter Park, CO (details to come)
Sept. 3	Summer Seminars end
Sept. 15	Fall term begins

IN MEMORIAM

We will miss the contributions of these dedicated OLLI members

Dr. Louis Duman Tom Teska



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

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Michelle Runyon, Central Manager