



## MEET DEBBY AND RICK LEVINSON

by Tricia Forbes

This talented and most interesting couple came to Colorado Springs from Florida in 1993 and moved to Denver in August 2013.

Debby received a B.S. and an M.Ed. from the University of Florida, an M.A. and a Ph.D. from the University of South Florida, and Rick

received a B.A. from Carleton College, and a J.D. from the University of Florida.

Debby speaks with love about her working life! The first half of her impressive career was spent as an applied-math professor at USF and at Colorado College. In the second half of her career she was an engineering-research and project manager for Hewlett-Packard.

Rick was an attorney until his retirement, but the real joy to him is his "sunset" career, teaching skiing full-time at A-Basin for the past three seasons and part-time for five years before that.

This couple seems to be the epitome of healthy living. Debby began studying Pilates nearly nine years ago as an extension of her 35 years of dancing classes. Pilates spoke to her more strongly than gym workouts or yoga. She believes it is responsible for the disappearance of aches and pains for many due to sedentary careers. Debby has facilitated Pilates for four terms and was the first WellAware committee chair.

Rick found that he enjoyed teaching adults in OLLI mainly because these are

engaged people who are thirsty for knowledge. His OLLI facilitating has been a gift to us also. In the Spring of 2013 his class, billed with the exciting title "The Anatomy of a Murder Trial," was quickly filled and he will be teaching "Sex Offenders and the Colorado Judicial System" in the Fall 2015.

This energetic couple's main interest today is spending time with their daughter's family, including grandchildren ages 7, 8, and 11. Debby also enjoys walking, hiking, snowshoeing, participating in a book group and volunteering at her grandkids' school one day a week. Rick is also a passionate cyclist, and likes hiking. Both serve on non-profit boards.

OLLI Central is absolutely delighted to be allowed entrance into this couple's expertise in so many areas.

*Thank you, Debby & Rick!*

## OLLI IS 20!

As we celebrate our 20th anniversary, it is important to point out that it is our members who have so successfully taken us to this significant milestone... the hours that our volunteer Curriculum Committees spend in developing the intriguing classes that continue to entice greater numbers of new members each year. It is the members of our Advisory Councils who provide insight and suggestions to ensure we are meeting our members' desires and needs. It is our Site Managers, providing daily leadership. It is DU with its keen interest, trust, and support. It is the Bernard Osher Foundation with its belief in us, providing funding that has allowed us to continue our creative programming. And it is each individual member who enthusiastically supports all that we do.

Thank you one and all and Happy Anniversary!

...*Vonnie Wheeler, Executive Director*



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1996-2016



## OLLI WELlaware: Fabulous “Weekend in the Rockies”

by Cherie Orwig

If you missed this end-of-May weekend, take it from me: You don’t want to miss the next one! The weekend was stimulating, interactive, fun, and a great way to make new friends.

Forty-two OLLI members and three speakers met at the Aspen Lodge, just south of Estes Park. None of us knew what to expect until we met in the cocktail lounge before dinner. It was then that our fearless leader Vonnie Wheeler introduced our upcoming speakers: **DU Professors Buie**

**Seawell** and **Bob Melvin**, as well as **Dr. Glenn Sackett**. A great beginning, as both men and women got mentally involved in the topics. Sleeping in the mountains was sheer delight! And so were Buie’s and Bob’s presentations on “Cultivating the Virtuous Life” and “Simplicity: The Way to Happiness.” These men spurred energizing discussion that continued as we took a hike around Lily Lake, not far away. It was a beautiful Saturday! Several of us walked the circumference twice.

Sunday morning was even better. Glenn led two photography walks, assisting each of us with our cameras, from iPhones to Nikons. Each of us had much to learn, and Glenn was an attentive teacher. He followed the walks with his presentation on “Active Meditation.” We had more discussion than ever at this point in the weekend, as now we knew each other better. The camaraderie was true and wonderful! I can’t wait for another fabulous weekend in the Rockies!



## Join your OLLI South friends for an evening of “Moon Gazing” at Daniels Park

September 28th at 7:30pm

*Observe a Supermoon!*

What is a supermoon? If the full moon occurs near its closest approach to Earth, it is called a supermoon. The full moon on September 28 will present the closest supermoon of the year (221,754 miles).

Join us for a brief commentary by an OLLI South facilitator regarding supermoons, as well as for some interesting facts regarding the geological formations found at Daniels Park. We will also enjoy the evening listening and looking for Front-Range wildlife. Bring a chair, blanket, good shoes, and a water bottle. Don’t forget to dress for Colorado’s ever-changing weather. No dogs, please. If interested, arrive early with a picnic supper. Daniels Park has lots of picnic tables!

No reservations required. 7290 N. Daniels Park Rd., Sedalia, CO 80135

## Dick Wisott Wins Community Volunteer Award

By Anita Leitner

**Dick Wisott** was honored by the Denver Foundation with the June 2015 Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award for his outstanding volunteer contributions, particularly with Dick’s immeasurable impact with OLLI. This Award was conceived by Denver’s Commission on Community Relations in 1975 to recognize and promote volunteerism by honoring an individual each month whose contributions are constructive, unique, and outstanding. Dick’s work with OLLI certainly reflects all of those. Since 2001, Dick has facilitated classes, served two terms as Council President, served on the Executive Committee and on the 2020 Long Range Planning Committee. He also created and headed the planned-giving function. For the past half-dozen years, Dick has organized and led a team to attract new facilitators and

lecturers. And of course Dick’s class, “Soapbox,” continues to attract more than 50 OLLI members each term it is offered. Thank you Dick, for all you do. OLLI appreciates you and the \$2,000 check we received from the Foundation in your honor.



Dick Wisott receiving award





Photo of Dianne and retiring manager, Karen Thorne taken at Facilitator's Dinner May 2015

## Welcome, Dianne Howie – new OLLI West Site Manager!

OLLI at DU is pleased to welcome Dianne Howie as of July 1, 2015. Dianne brings an extensive background in administration, sales and marketing, and strategic planning as well as volunteer leadership and management.

Dianne says that her new position with OLLI West is "...the job I've been training for my whole life!" She is looking forward to returning to the University College at DU where she has been a special consultant to the Publishing Institute and was a guest lecturer in publishing courses.

Dianne and her husband, Mark Van Nattan, live in Wheat Ridge where he is employed in the Public Works Department. Mark and Dianne don't have any plants, pets or progeny, but they do love to throw great parties!

## The Russian Ballet is coming to Denver

As a part of our WorldView focus on Russia we have reserved a block of seats for the Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker."

The award-winning principal dancers of the Moscow Ballet Company have thrilled international audiences with their expertise, dramatic expression, and stunning leaps and turns. You will feel the spirit of the season through the beauty of romantic hand-sewn costumes and dramatic backdrops reflecting splashes of Russian history.

The performance will take place on December 12 at the Paramount Theater at 5pm. We have been invited to meet with a few of the performers at a small reception prior to the performance from 4:00 – 4:45 in the balcony area. There is a very good chance that some of the cast will stop by and visit with us.

Discounted tickets are \$42. Reservations may be made by sending your check to the OLLI office. Please indicate "Russian Ballet" on your check. Seats are limited. The deadline for reservations is November 14.

## Trip to St. Petersburg, Russia, Planned as a Part of WorldView

We are planning an extraordinary trip to St. Petersburg, Russia, June 22 – July 2, 2016.

We will visit many famous historical sites, including the University of St. Petersburg where we will hear a political science professor talk about the economic and political climate in Russia. From there we will visit the U.S. Consulate General to hear about how they are engaging Russian students. We will experience the Russian cuisine at a variety of restaurants throughout the city and outlying areas; enjoy a Russian music performance; and explore unique Russian markets.

We will be staying at The Radisson Royal Hotel ([www.radisson.ru/en/hotel-stpetersburg](http://www.radisson.ru/en/hotel-stpetersburg)) on the Neva River. Our flight leaves from Denver. The price of the trip is \$4350 which includes airfare, hotel, breakfasts, four lunches and all dinners and ground transportation.

As space is limited, a \$500 deposit will hold your reservation. Let us know if you are interested and we will send you hotel information and itinerary details.



## Chancellor Chopp to Address OLLI

We feel it fitting this anniversary year for our fall luncheon to invite **Rebecca Chopp**, Chancellor of the University of Denver to speak to our members on, "DU Its Future and OLLI." To mark the occasion the luncheon will be held, October 16, at the Wellshire Inn, 3000 South Colorado Blvd., 11:30 – 1:00.

We hope to see a record-breaking crowd to demonstrate our interest and support for Chancellor Chopp, as we hear her views about the University and OLLI.

Reservations may be made by mailing your check for \$20 to OLLI, 2211 South Josephine St. Denver, CO 80208



## Who are OLLI Pioneers? By Vonnie Wheeler

Before OLLI was OLLI it was VIVA! (Vibrant, Intellectually Vigorous Adults).

Back in 1996, 74 “vibrant, intellectually vigorous adults” gathered to take part in nine “study discussion groups” held on the Colorado Women’s College campus. Today as we celebrate our 20 years, faces have changed and “classes” have replaced “study discussion groups,” but what has endured is our spirit. We have among us 16 vibrant and intellectually vigorous members who were there in 1996 and they are today, our OLLI PIONEERS:

Mimi Affeld, Bob Backus, Barbara Benedict, Josephine Carpenter, Ray Cody, Lucy Creighton, Tricia Forbes, Peter and Rhondda Grant, Marilyn Heller, Mary Mathiesen, Fran Taylor, Burt Le Master, Lynda Miller, John Rupianis and me.

## Exceptional Student-Musicians Offer Spectacular Season

The Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver is widely recognized as a premier university music-performance school. Our students, faculty, and guest artists perform on the concert and recital hall stages of the state-of-the-art Newman Center for the Performing Arts.

Nancy Cochran, Director of the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music, is pleased to invite OLLI members to attend any of this season’s nearly 300 concerts and events.

Highlights of the fall season include Frank Loesser’s brassy American musical GUYS & DOLLS, featuring the Lamont Symphony Orchestra. Other musical offerings span a wide range, from traditional classical music to jazz and music from around the world, presented via student recitals, master classes, guest artists, and ensembles.

For complete information about the season visit [www.du.edu/lamont](http://www.du.edu/lamont) or call the Concert Line at 303 871-6412. Most concerts are free but when tickets are required they may be purchased at [www.newmantix.com](http://www.newmantix.com).



## “Make It Cheese Please” by Thelma Teitelbaum

On a hot day, May 8th, members of OLLI’s Goat Dairy Farm Interactive Class enthusiastically set off, mostly in car-pools, for the hour-long drive to Longmont. Intrigued by the thought of seeing the Haystack Mountain Dairy Farm actually at work making cheese was the lure of the day. The group was not disappointed.

Haystack is nationally recognized as a producer of high premium, handcrafted, raw and pasteurized cheese. Its nineteen varieties have earned outstanding awards. It has partnered with the Skyline Correctional Facility, where those who are incarcerated gain confidence and perform community services as they raise and tend the goats that supply the milk for the Haystack Mountain Farm.

First we heard about the early



history and growth of the factory from John Scaggs, Director of Sales and Marketing, as we stood outside. Then we proceeded inside to peer through the windows as cheese was being made by uniformed workers, feet immersed in water.

We also had the opportunity to buy cheese at the commercial prices. Those of us who missed this chance will find the cheese at Whole Foods and King Soopers.

Next we queued up for the ride to John Scaggs’s farm a few miles away where despite a change to cooler weather and some drizzle, we enjoyed seeing the goats and chickens running free range in their enclosed area. We enjoyed the tastings of goat milk and generous samplings of cheeses. By then we were tired and hungry so these tastings concluded our very satisfying experience.



**DID YOU  
KNOW THAT...**

## **OLLI Has A Library?** by Andrea Pearlman , OLLI Librarian

It's located in the OLLI offices at DU and a list of titles that are available is attached to the OLLI website.

Anyone is welcome to use the OLLI library but its primary purpose is for facilitators. There are many books that can spark ideas for new classes you might be interested in teaching. We also have many DVDs of lectures from The Teaching Company. These lectures often come with guidebooks that can help construct a syllabus.

For OLLI members, the library has many books and DVDs of general interest on all kinds of subjects including art, music, science, and history. We are also starting a section of books to accompany the OLLI WELLaware curriculum.

Material can be checked out of the library on a first come, first served basis. All we ask is for you to sign the material out and return it when you are done. There is no time limit on borrowing.

We also are accumulating a number of fiction books and we would like to see if there is interest in setting up a library cart at one of the class locations. We have limited room in the OLLI library so accepting donations is difficult, but a cart where popular books could be exchanged on an honor system might be a way of enhancing all of our reading experiences.



## **OLLI WELLaware Cycling Program** by Dave Newcomb and Mike Persoff

The cycling program became a reality last spring when we connected with the Performance Bicycle Shop, which presented two classes on what is required to be a "cyclist." A few weeks later Viola Duran from PBS gave an excellent one-hour class at the parking lot behind the Harvest Church for those OLLI members who had not ridden for many years and wanted to get Back-In-The-Saddle (BITS). We began riding as a group in April with weekly rides.

As of today we have a list of 49 people who have expressed a serious interest in cycling, 32 of whom have participated in at least one ride. Based on what we observed during these rides, we recognized the different abilities of cyclists. Group "1" are the BITS riders. Group "2" are those riders that tend to ride 8 to 12 miles per hour. Group "3" are those riders that tend to ride 10 to 15 miles per hour. And Group "4" are those riders that tend to ride in excess of 15 miles per hour.

We are planning informal organizational meetings at which riders from all groups will share experiences, and determine route preferences, days and times, etc., to achieve our goal of friendship-building destination rides.

Thanks to all of the OLLI members who have volunteered many hours to get this program off the ground.



## **OLLI Hikers Enjoy "Cool, Colorful Colorado"** by Sheldon Fisher

OLLI's goal is to stimulate your mind fulfilling our motto of "curiosity never retires," but last fall we also initiated programs to stimulate your bodies!! Talk to anyone who has participated in our OLLI WELLaware hiking program and you will notice their exhilarating sense of accomplishment. You will experience fresh air, social interaction, build friendships, improve your heart and lung functions, will achieve more stamina, practice weight control, and attain a better quality of life!!

A Harvard study of 17000 participants found that vigorous exercise is associated with an increase in longevity. All these benefits can be yours if you're willing to challenge yourself. So join us and hike where your peers don't and see Colorado as it was meant to be seen!! What can compare to the sight of a meadow of high mountain wildflowers, sweeping vistas of mountain peaks, breath taking scenery???

To receive a schedule of up-coming walks contact Debbie in the OLLI Office 303 871 3090

**HATS OFF!!!** At the spring Facilitator Appreciation Dinner, OLLI Central's new Senior and Master Facilitators were honored and received their "Red Vest" for sharing their talent and dedication with our members.

Incoming Senior Facilitators are those individuals who have facilitated ten or more OLLI classes. They are: **Bix Bicknell, Hilary Carlson, Jim Hautzinger, Gene Minzer, Art Strasburger, Steve Weston, and Tom White.**

Master Facilitators are those who taught 15 or more classes at OLLI. They are: **Bob Montgomery and Dick Reinish.**

A great part of OLLI Central's strength is the wonderful work done by those who repeatedly facilitate classes, year after year. We thank them, and encourage any OLLI member to think about facilitating a class. As these Senior and Master facilitators will attest, it is fun and incredibly rewarding. For more information, contact Curriculum Committee Chair **Nancy Cain** at [ncainforever@gmail.com](mailto:ncainforever@gmail.com).



A group of OLLI members from all three sites gathered to hike and explore the old mining town of Preston. A historian from the Breckenridge Heritage Center accompanied the group providing historical insights along the way.

## Meet OLLI Central's New Operations Manager Darcey Van Wagner

"I am very excited to be part of the OLLI family, and am impressed with everything OLLI offers. I truly believe OLLI



is meeting a huge need within our community. I think everyone, no matter what age, wants to continue to learn, discover and explore various topics. I feel blessed to be able to meet these needs. I am a Denver native and a graduate of Colorado State University. I have worked in the financial industry for the past 15 years. I am a parent of two

children and am actively involved in their education and schools. I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, cooking and exploring our wonderful state. I look forward to this adventure with OLLI and to meeting many new people."...Darcey Van Wagner

## OLLI Central Administration Re-Organization

by **Vonnie Wheeler, Executive Director**

We are so appreciative of, and complimented by, OLLI's continued expansion throughout the Front Range. Because of this growth, OLLI Central currently offers classes in three different locations. To maintain our commitment to excellence in class offerings, presentation and delivery, we have found it necessary to reorganize OLLI Central's administration.

With the level of detailed required in the implementation of our widespread program, we have created the new position of Manager of Operations. This position will allow for more focused attention to issues we consider critical to our quality.

Also, as we take a look at our rapidly-changing world, we need to pay attention to program possibilities that entice and excite our growing membership. With this in mind, we will soon hire an OLLI Central Manager who will concentrate on research and development.

We feel this "OLLI team of two" will ensure we maintain our commitment to excellence in both the operational "attention to detail" as well as the incredible program opportunities for the future.





## Walk'n And Talk'n by Pam Murdock

Every Monday morning at 9am, a dedicated group of OLLI WELLaware walkers shows up at various locations. Every week we meet new friends joining the group. This summer, vacations have decreased the size of our group but we march on. There are some fast walkers and others not as fast, but we all have fun and walk at whatever pace fits. It is a terrific group of men and women all getting to know each other as we laugh and commiserate along the paths of Denver.

Every other week, we walk in Washington Park. Other times various paths and parks are chosen. It's a great way to begin the week with exercise and good friends. We always welcome more to our group.

To receive a schedule of up-coming walks contact Debbie in the OLLI Office 303 871 3090

## Heads Up From The OLLI Central Advisory Council

by Anita Leitner, President, OLLI Central Advisory Council

The 2015/16 OLLI Central Advisory Council met Tuesday, September 1 at Central Christian Church. The year promises to be a very busy and productive time.

We are happy to introduce our newest Council members: **Pam Murdock, Tom Bieging, Bonnie Payne, and Dick Reinish.** They are joining **Anita Leitner, John Fritschel, Barbara Lilly, Julie DeTemple, Nancy Cain.**

Our Council will be working on projects, some already in place, and some brand new ideas. *Worldview* is one of the most exciting new programs in years. Watch out for this great year of all-things *Russia!!!*

*Wellaware* is firmly entrenched in our culture now and we are so proud that other OLLI's are watching, and sometimes copying, the wellness feature of our program.

*Mid-day Morsels*, our Lunch and Learn program has several great lunch programs scheduled for fall term and we're already working on winter. Watch for flyers.

It's going to be a good year. Let us hear from you. We always like new ideas or thoughts on old ones.

## Introducing WorldView by Vonnie Wheeler, Executive Director

We are excited to tell you about a new OLLI program initiated this fall, WorldView. OLLI at DU members have indicated a strong desire for internationally focused classes and educational travel. WorldView is designed to bring both to OLLI.

Each year we will focus on a different country, offering classes and InterActive activities throughout the academic year. We will culminate the year with an adventure relating to that country.

The 2015-2016 Academic year will highlight Russia. It will include a Speakers-Series class in the winter term featuring history, political issues, food, music, literature, film, personal histories. During the Spring term we will welcome visiting scholar and author, Lujba Kaverina who will present a 6-8 week class on her book-in-progress, "Russian History as Seen through the Eyes of Four Generations of Women." There will also be a variety of special events. The year will culminate with a custom-designed trip to St. Petersburg.

If you have Russian connections or ideas, let us know. WorldView will be fascinating and fun!

**WorldView**  
*An International Perspective*

## Sites to See...

OK, curious OLLI members check out these sites to boost your natural genius:

- If you are a fan of “factoids” you can discover something new at: [todayifoundout.com](http://todayifoundout.com)
- If you want to see what happened in history on this day go to: [history.com/this-day-in-history](http://history.com/this-day-in-history)
- For language lovers: [merrian-webster.com/word-of-the-day](http://merrian-webster.com/word-of-the-day)
- For NASA’S Astronomy picture of the day: [apod.nasa.gov](http://apod.nasa.gov)

## IN MEMORIAM

### Two Popular Facilitators Will Be Greatly Missed



#### Art Shenkin, Remembered

As many of you know, Art Shenkin and I facilitated many OLLI classes together often based on books by critically acclaimed historians such as Doris Kearns Goodwin and David McCullough. These classes were very popular.

Art personified OLLI at its best. He was stimulating, energetic, intelligent, and enthusiastic. He rarely said no to any request or suggestion. **Art Strasburger** recalls that Art was always upbeat and enthusiastic. Art & Gerre have given far more than their share of time to OLLI and we have benefited greatly.

**Gordon Appell** and others enjoyed Art regularly attending the Thursday luncheon group.

OLLI and I will miss Art for these qualities along with his great sense of humor and humanity. I believe the example set by Art will carry forward for many years to come.

— **Jerry Angerman**



#### Dorothy Dalquist, Remembered

I enjoyed Dorothy so much. She was so bright and always had great things to contribute - her wit and insight were both so sharp and funny! It was a delight to be with her - in class and at break. We discovered we had both spent many years working at the State Capitol so

had lots of stories to share - we reminisced and laughed about politicians long-gone and old stories and rumors. Only we know what really happened or at least we were sure we did! Dorothy was a wonderful, very smart and caring person - we all miss her and feel a little less sparkle in our lives. — **Nan Morehead**

As Dorothy and I reconnected at OLLI, I came to value and admire her gift for friendship, keen intelligence, organizational ability and warmth, all mixed with a sense of humor. Despite her later physical limitations, she never complained nor seemed to slow down.

Along with her many other friends, I miss her badly. If I have a question, I think, “Oh, I’ll call Dorothy.”

She was a remarkable person who, along with her late husband, raised a remarkable and loving family.

— **Barbara Benedict**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<b>October 16</b>	Luncheon with Chancellor, Rebecca Chopp
<b>November 5</b>	Fall term ends (9th & 11th for Monday or Wednesday classes)
<b>Dec. 3</b>	Bill Beaney Annual International Symposium
<b>Dec. 23–Jan 3</b>	OLLI office closed
<b>January 11</b>	Winter term begins
<b>January 18</b>	MLK Holiday (no classes held)
<b>February 19</b>	Winter “Hot Topic” Luncheon: hosted OLLI West
<b>March 3</b>	Winter term ends (7th for Monday classes)
<b>March 23</b>	Spring term begins
<b>May 19</b>	Spring term ends



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**“Thank you for considering OLLI  
in your estate planning”**

Vonnie Wheeler, Director

[vwheel@comcast.net](mailto:vwheel@comcast.net)

Debbie Loftin, Assistant

[debra.loftin@du.edu](mailto:debra.loftin@du.edu)