

sTILLife



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute @ TUFTS UNIVERSITY

FALL 2005, VOL 8

Osher LLI @Tufts Participates in Backpack Project

Osher LLI @Tufts participated in the Hurricane Katrina Backpack Service Project spearheaded by the Tufts University Alumni Association and Ben and Judy Sands. Members brought in items that were collected and sorted in Alumnae Lounge on Friday, October 7, 2005. The goal was to fill 150 backpacks donated by TUAA with items for distribution. TUAA was so overwhelmed by the success of the collection from Osher LLI @Tufts and Brookhaven that they had to purchase additional backpacks to handle the generous contributions. **Editor's Note:** See page 4 for story on Ben and Judy Sands.



Linda French, Marilyn Blumsack, Director, and Sondra Szymczak contribute.

NEH Grant brings *The Elderquest in Today's Movies and Novels* to OLLI @ TUFTS

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of Tufts University will be taking part in an NEH project: **The Elderquest in Today's Movies and Novels**. Twenty-two Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes in fourteen states across the United States are participating in this project made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to the University of Massachusetts in Boston.

Free and open to the public, the program is based on the premise that the elderquest is both a new kind of

movie and novel and an ancient but increasingly appropriate narrative for the new old age — one that views old age as the last and most important of life's transformative journeys, a search for wisdom, value, and integrity. Elderheroes behave very differently from younger ones. Their journeys are often inward rather than outward, backward rather than forward, slow and intentional rather than fast and impetuous.

This national program consists of an introductory presentation, five film screenings, and guided dis-

cussions of both the films and two elderquest novels. Tufts SGLs will be trained via interactive videoconferences and a website. The program will meet on Friday afternoons during our Spring 2006 Session.

Registration Open for Winter Study Groups Winter Session - Jazz, Masterpieces & Journeys of Self Discovery January 23 through February 17, 2006

They Called It Jazz Mondays 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Great Books: Identity and Self-Respect Mondays 1:30 - 3:30 pm

The Life and Work of Paul Cezanne Fridays 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Intelligence in War Fridays 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life: A Life Planning Workshop for "The Over 50": Two-Session Saturday Workshop:

Saturdays, January 21 & 28 from 9 am - 2 pm

To register for Winter Session call (617) 627-5699 or register on line at <http://ase.tufts.edu/lli>

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The Director's Corner



*Not what we give, but what we share,
for the gift without the giver is bare.*
James Russell Lowell

This fall marks the 5th Anniversary of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute @ TUFTS UNIVERSITY. It is appropriate to express our appreciation on behalf of the membership to Tufts University and to the Tufts Alumni Association for its many kindnesses and for offering and supporting this unique opportunity to us, whether we are neighbors, friends, or relatives who believe that learning is a lifelong odyssey.

From its modest beginning in the fall of 2000 with eighty students and seven courses, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute has grown to an average participation of over 200 members who attend each fall and spring on Mondays and/or Fridays choosing from almost forty study groups in art, music, history, literature and writing, current events -

local or international- and religion, either here on the Medford campus or throughout the country and the world if you are a distance learner.

In January 2002 our first four-week winter session was held and now has an average of fifty students who select study groups from a half dozen diverse offerings. This new feature was enthusiastically received and brought about the creation of the first summer session (TILL on the lighter side) in another format: four consecutive days the first week in June. This past June, over forty students felt the need to attend Summer Callings which offered a Floral Design workshop, Sketchbooking, Who Done It?, Armchair Travel through France and Belgium, The Silk Road, and James Joyce's *Dubliners*.

During lunchtime our members now come together not only to socialize, but also to enjoy lectures and performances thanks to an array of Tufts University professors, students, and eminent community leaders at our popular Lunch and Learn Series. This series was introduced in the fall of 2001, and takes place during only the Fall and Spring Sessions.

Everything has been initiated by dedicated, wonderful members who volunteer to serve on any one (or more) of our ten committees. Whether they joined our ranks when we were Tufts Institute for

Learning in Retirement (TILR), Tufts Institute for Lifelong Learning (TILL) or now, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute @ TUFTS UNIVERSITY, their time and effort are what is the heart of this productive, interactive lifelong learning community. We would not exist or survive without their commitment.

The University makes classrooms available to the program as well as a shuttle bus from Dowling Hall to the Aidekman Arts Center, and use of Tisch Library, slides from Art History, and Athletic facilities. Tufts provides opportunities to attend inspiring lectures and speaking engagements by prominent local, national, and international people, dance and drama performances at a senior discount, and class speakers from both the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the Political Science department, and collaboration with the University College. Whenever we ask, we are encouraged by the kindness and the show of support by the University.

As we mark our 5th Anniversary, we wish to thank you for the years of learning and fellowship. We are grateful for our shared history and welcome the ongoing experience of discovery and friendship.

With sincere gratitude on behalf of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute members,

Marilyn Blumsack, Director

Musicians Invited

Are you a musician who would enjoy being a member of a musical group: classical, chamber, jazz, oldies, or other. Esther Gruber, an enthusiastic pianist, is calling for brass, woodwind, and string players to join her in having some musical fun. Contact her at 617-731-2747.



Lunch and Learn October 21, 2005
Tufts Student Chamber Ensemble

Spotlight on Study Group Leaders by Fred Laffert Jr.

Mel Bernstein

Mel Bernstein was born and brought up in Brooklyn, New York, and attended schools there. His early outside interests were in law, politics, and sports. He attended New York



University, graduating with a BS and followed that by attending and graduating from Harvard Law School. He moved to California to practice law and went to UCLA, where he received a Ph.D. in Political Science and International relations.

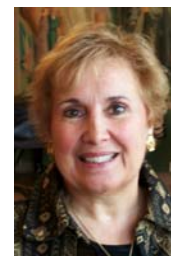
Mel remained in California, involved in practicing law and banking, and later became Director of the Public Affairs Center and a lecturer at the University of California at Irvine. He later joined the Monterey Institute where he became a Vice President and an adjunct professor of political science and international relations.

Mel moved to Boston in 1980, to become a Senior Consultant, and later Vice President, to the New England Board of Higher Education. Still later, he opened his own consulting firm specializing in higher education and management.

As Mel was entering retirement, he began to look at the locally available lifelong learning programs with the intent of pursuing subject areas of interest for which he had never before had time. The Tufts program appealed to him and he liked the people he met and he began to attend study groups. One of his long-time interests has been the subject of humor. He looked forward to study groups in that area, but discovered there were none. When he was asked to lead one, he agreed, and that one has led to more. This fall he offered a four-week study group: One Hundred Years of American Humor: What Makes People Laugh. He and his wife also have attended residence courses in humor and comedy at other locations. We look forward to more offerings from Mel.

Camille Mazzone

Camille Mazzone is a native New Englander, who was born in Boston and grew up and attended schools in Medford. She attended Tufts, graduating with a B.A. degree in Romance Languages, and Middlebury College, where she earned an M.A. degree in Italian.



She taught French for a year in Wilmington and then, looking for wider horizons, she studied for a year at the University of Florence and spent summers at the Dante Alighieri school in Rome. During this period, she traveled throughout Italy and Europe. She also found time to meet and marry a man from Florence. Over the years, she has traveled to Italy to visit his family. They were married in the Tufts chapel and their reception was in Alumnae lounge.

Her son attended Tufts and met his wife there. Her daughter went to Boston University and became a doctor. She has three grandchildren and another one due shortly.

Camille taught for thirty years in the Medford school system, teaching Italian, French, German, and Spanish. She met Marilyn Blumsack there and that led to her becoming a study group leader in TILL after retirement. Camille enjoys study group participants for their eagerness to take an active part in the program. She taught an adult education class in a Newport mansion.

Camille moved to Portsmouth, Rhode Island, after retirement and loves it there. Her active condo association holds monthly social events. She takes part in the activities and cultural events in nearby Newport. She has volunteered for the Tall Ships visit and for grape picking. She loves opera and has chaperoned visitors from Imperia, Italy (Newport's sister city) during performances. In her spare time, she has taken Tai Chi.

One final note for future registrants. For the last class of her study groups, Camille serves her special Tiramisu.

TIGers Go to the Theater: Join Us by Sondra Szymczak

Last spring the **Theater Interest Group (TIGers)** invaded the Balch Arena Theater to see Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* staged by the Department of Drama and Dance. The 2005 Winter Session study group on Coward's life wanted to see if it played better than it read. (It did!) The **TIGers** plan to attend future Tufts Theater's matinee performances. Weekend parking is available on Talbot Avenue and we are home before dark. OLLI@Tufts members are entitled to a group rate of \$5.00 per ticket. Just show your membership card at the box office. The next plays are *The Fifth of July* by Lanford Wilson in February and *Heads or Tails?* by Meng Jinghui in April. Like Theater? Join the **TIGers** for a fun experience.

Fletcher School Events Herald Revitalization of Murrow Center for the Study & Advancement of Public Diplomacy

by Gresh Lattimore

“Good Luck and Good Night,” these famous words concluded each of Edward R. Murrow’s radio (especially from London during the “Blitz”) and television broadcasts. Now this famous correspondent’s role in the demise of Senator Joseph McCarthy has been made into a movie with Murrow’s signoff as its title. Conceived by actor George Clooney, the film is shot entirely in black and white and set in the 1950’s at the height of the Cold War hysteria over Americans accused of belonging or sympathetic to the Communist Party. A public clash erupts in connection with Murrow’s famous 1954 “See It Now” broadcasts when the newsman responded to McCarthy’s denunciation of him as a Communist. The film employs the novel technique of using actual footage of McCarthy rather than casting an actor to play the role. Even before its American debut, it has been a hit at the Venice and Toronto film festivals. At the recent prestigious New York Film Festival, it received a rave review by A.O.Scott at *The New York Times*.

The film was previewed at The Fletcher School on September 29 with Murrow’s son Casey and

David Strathairn, who plays Murrow, both in attendance. Nearly 150 from the greater Tufts community enthusiastically applauded the film and participated in the following Q & A session.

The prior week, The Fletcher School had welcomed the renowned correspondent **Daniel Schorr** to its auditorium. At a spry 89, Schorr is one of the last remaining members of a famous team of correspondents known as “Murrow’s Boys” and the CBS correspondent who made President Nixon’s infamous “Enemies List” during Watergate. Schorr’s twenty-year career as a foreign correspondent began in 1946 following his service in Army intelligence during World War II and witnessed postwar reconstruction, the Marshal Plan, and the creation of the NATO alliance. In 1953 he came to Murrow’s attention and was hired as CBS News diplomatic correspondent and later Bureau Chief for Germany and Eastern Europe. For over a decade he covered all the major world events such as the Berlin Crisis and Nikita Krushchev’s first exclusive television interview. Reassigned to Washington in 1966, Schorr became “re-Americanized,” as he puts it, and

ultimately became CBS News himself as part of his own story!

In 1979 Schorr was asked by Ted Turner to help create Cable News Network where he served until his 1985 dispute over editorial independence caused him to leave. Since then, he has worked for National Public Radio as its senior news analyst and commentator.

Both the film showing and Mr. Schorr’s address are showcasing The Fletcher School’s intention to revitalize its Murrow Center for the Study & Advancement of Public Diplomacy as an active contributor to its international studies programs. The Murrow Center was established in 1965 as a memorial to the man whose distinguished reporting and analysis of world news and imaginative leadership of the United States Information Agency set a standard of excellence in the field. The Murrow Room at Fletcher already houses Murrow’s library and papers of more than 2,000 documents. Near-term goals include the hiring of a Murrow Center Director and the digitization of the document collection. Ultimately a Murrow Professor of Public Diplomacy will be funded and the Center will host annual conferences and support academic research in public diplomacy.



sTILLife, the newsletter of the Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning @Tufts University, is published four times a year: fall, winter, spring, and summer. Marilyn A. McCaffrey is the editor. Submit Letters to the Editor and articles to her at stillife@comcast.net.

Photographs by Lisa Trapasso

Desktop publishing by Christine Leonard

TILL the MIND

Book Review by Tania Friedman

Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age

by Kevin Boyle, Henry Holt, 2004; Owl paper 2005, 432 pages

Arc of Justice is a biography, civil rights history, and a courtroom drama written like a literary historical detective story. In 1925, New York and Chicago were among the largest cities in the Western World and in Detroit the automotive industry was growing by leaps and bounds. There was a great migration of Black Americans to the Northern cities for financial and cultural reasons. New York had its Harlem Renaissance with its talented musicians, writers, poets, and intellectuals. Chicago was providing jobs and in this fertile environment; jazz was thriving. In Detroit, Henry Ford was doubling his workers wages to \$5.00 a day in order to keep them. With the auto industry offering such good wages people migrated in overwhelming numbers. As the Black-American population grew so did the Ku Klux Klan, ready and poised to take over the city.

In 1925 Ossian Sweet, a Black American physician (a graduate of Wilberforce U. and Howard Medical School with some education at the Sorbonne and U. of Vienna) and his wife, Gladys, moved into an all white neighborhood. While there were some patrolmen in front of their house, Ossian knew there likely would be trouble and that the police would

not protect them. So he asked his brother and some of his friends to come along, and they brought some firearms for protection. On the second day, by eight o'clock at night, a crowd of several hundred people congregated. The police did nothing. Stones were thrown at the house, breaking windows and shouts of "Here's niggers" could be heard. In panic, shots were fired from the Sweet's home – one man was wounded and another killed. Both Sweets, his brother, and their friends were arrested, though Gladys was later released and did not stand trial because she had been in the kitchen cooking. Black leaders and the N.A.A.C.P. took up the Sweet's cause and Clarence Darrow was hired to defend them.

The political tension surrounding the defense of Ossian Sweet and his friends and the beginnings of the N.A.A.C.P. legal fund are fully and thoroughly presented. Boyle describes the feelings and fears of working class whites, the benefits and liabilities of having Clarence Darrow defending Sweet, and the aftermath of the trial. A state historical marker has been placed outside the Sweet house in Detroit, which is still considered the most racially segregated city in the country. Kevin Boyle received the National Book Award for his powerful book.

Upcoming Events at Brookhaven at Lexington – 1010 Waltham Street

Osher LLI members are invited to Brookhaven Events. Contact the Osher LLI office for details.

Concerts:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Dec. 12 | Holiday Social: Al Gould (fiddle) 2:00 pm |
| Dec. 14 | Holiday Concert: Brookhaven Chorus & Young at Heart Singers 10:30 am |
| Dec. 14 | Holiday Show: John O'Neil (vocals) & Jim Rice (piano) 8:00 pm |
| Dec. 20 | Afternoon Social: Seasonings (vocals) 2:00 pm |
| Jan. 11 | Classical Concert: Shu Ann Chai (piano) 8:00 pm |
| Jan. 12 | Afternoon Social: Denise Doucette (guitar) 2:00 pm |
| Jan. 18 | Jack Craig Music Program: TBA 7:30 pm |
| Jan. 24 | Afternoon Social: Al Gould (fiddle) 2:00 pm |
| Feb. 14 | Afternoon Social: Sky Hurlbut (harp) 2:00 pm |
| Feb. 15 | Jack Craig Music Program: TBA 7:30 pm |

Programs/Lectures/Events:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Dec. 12 | Gallery Talk with Blake Ogden 4:00 pm |
| Dec. 13 | Jane Blair Art Lecture: <i>Art Keeps Us Human</i> 11:00 am |
| Dec. 15 | Afternoon at the Opera: <i>The Nutcracker</i> 2:00 pm |
| Dec. 22 | Holiday Social: Very Merry Dickens Carolers 3:30 pm |
| Dec. 28 | Lecture: Professor Gary Hylander: <i>The TET Offensive</i> 8:00 pm |
| Dec. 29 | Afternoon at the Ballet: <i>The Nutcracker</i> 2:00 pm |
| Jan. 10 | Jane Blair Art Lecture: TBA 11:00 am |
| Jan. 24 | Nature Lecture: Habitat presents Herbs 10:30 am |

Lunch and Learn Speakers

Judy and Ben Sands Are Giving Back by Ginny DeAngelis

Judy and Ben Sands met at Tufts while students in the 1950s and now have been married fifty-two years. Ben was a hockey coach for Tufts. Ben and Judy are part of the new wave of retirees who want to use their retirement years productively. In Judy's words, "I've had a happy, good life and I am just interested in giving back as much as I can, and I find it very fulfilling."

Before Ben retired, the Sands learned about Airline Ambassadors, a nonprofit group formed by airline industry employees, who used passengers and aircraft space to transport goods to people in need. With this group, the Sands helped take eighty boxes of clothes to El Salvador in 2000, and a total of eighteen duffel bags of goods to Guatemala on two separate trips.

Their trip to the Dominican Republic last January was their first independent venture. Teaming up with Tufts swim team members headed for the Dominican Republic they brought nearly 5,000 pounds of supplies to impoverished people. Learning of the trip, swim teams from Bowdoin, Brandeis, Northeastern, Boston College, and Rutgers got involved.



Team members took advantage of the allowable luggage laws—two suitcases per team member—to carry an array of donated supplies to the Dominican people. Team members stuffed duffel bags with peanut butter, clothes, Barbie dolls, sports equipment, school supplies, and over-the-counter medications. Judy said, "At one village we had 1,000 children waiting for us. Some had walked several miles and stood for several hours in the sun, all for a beanie baby or similar."

The Sands and team members visited hospital, churches, schools, and villages to distribute their goods. Tufts team captain, Sarah Ferranti, said, "I

was totally amazed by Ben and Judy. They organized everything on their own from scratch, making connections with anyone who could help them get supplies



and find people who needed them most. Their investment in helping children in particular was really inspiring to many girls on the team."

Paula Moran, the person who originally involved the Sands in these humanitarian programs, now travels to Bolivia to distribute hearing aids to poor children. She collects old hearing aids and turns them in for a \$25 rebate, which she applies for a new \$100 hearing aid. In lieu of giving each other birthday gifts, Judy and her sister have donated hearing aids to Paula's cause.

Another friend, Penny Rambacher, collects money for the recent victims of mudslides in Guatemala through an organization called **Miracles in Action**. Judy and her sister have donated money to this organization in lieu of giving each other Christmas presents this year. It is non-profit, and all the money donated goes to the farmers who lost not only their homes but their farms and harvests also.

Judy says, "I hope we've inspired younger people to do humanitarian work and work in the field of social justice, because it's so important, and the young people are the ones who are going to have to carry it out."

To donate a used hearing aid or money to the Hearing Aid program, send to Judy Sands, Box 191, North Reading Ma 01864. If you would like to donate to the Guatemalan mudslide program, send donations to **Miracles in Action, Inc (501c3) 241 Countyside Drive, Naples, Fla. 34104**. As all are volunteers, 100% of all funds donated go to the needy .

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**Editor's Note:** Ben and Judy Sands were the Lunch and Learn Speakers on October 7, 2005. See Backpack Project story on page 1 to read more about the Sands' work.

*Neither fire nor wind, birth nor death  
can erase our good deeds.  
~Buddha*

### Life Planning Workshops: Winter Session

by Gresh Lattimore

Tufts University College for Citizenship and Public Service is sponsoring **Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life: A Life Planning Workshop for "The Over 50"** during the 2006 Winter Session of the Osher Institute of Lifelong Learning. The two-session workshop runs on Saturday, January 21 & 28, from 9 am to 2 pm. The course leaders are Meg Newhouse, Ph.D., CPCC, a group facilitator, career and life coach and educator who specializes in third-age issues, and Debra Shapiro, MPH, who has extensive experience in older adult and volunteer program development and management.

The program has been designed for people in their "third stage" of life, loosely defined as 50+ years olds who are actively engaged in life but thinking about what happens when the kids leave and the specter of "retirement" looms on the horizon. This is the age of Mature Adulthood when family, work, and community roles are redefined; when individuals have the time to re-examine who they really are and what they might like to become. The workshop was previously tested with a Tufts group in April and met with great acclaim. An introductory Life Planning Workshop was given on Saturday, November 5.

With the Baby Boomer generation (those born 1946-1964) poised to begin their retirements in 2008 and thereafter, it has become a cliché that they are the best educated, wealthiest, healthiest, and most active generation within the population. Early boomers came of age in the mid-1960's when growing dissatisfaction with the Vietnam War and a consequent disregard for all forms of authority led to massive student and youth

protests worldwide. Now numbering about 77 million (27% of the total American population), boomers are projected to still account for nearly 20% of the population in the year 2030.

Boomers also have a reputation for denial of the aging process! After raising families and qualifying for retirement from the work-a-day world, they are looking for the Good Life. But exactly what is the Good Life? This is the topic these life planning workshops address. Facilitated by enthusiastic professional career and life coaches, participants are invited to explore who they are and what their gifts, strengths, passions and dreams are. They are provided with tools that use these skills and passions to evaluate and plan their "third stage" years as civically engaged individuals. In addition to individual questionnaires and class discussions, small group sessions are facilitated to encourage broader thinking and experience different aspirations. Upon completion of the entire workshop, participants have the option of joining a small "success team" whose members help each other to realize whatever their aspirations are.

Having participated in the April first-time workshop with my wife, I can attest that this is a worthy exercise to stimulate your thoughts about what to do with your future. Many of us are not necessarily what we have been when family and mortgage payments were uppermost in our minds! By rethinking who we are and what we would really like to do or become, the opportunities may astound you! These life-planning workshops will get the ball rolling for you! You owe it to yourself to experience them!

### Lunch and Learn Fall 2005



Marilyn Blumsack, Director; Jean Bellow, Lunch and Learn Chair; Ken Fettig, Chair; and Martha Coakley, Middlesex County District Attorney, speaker on September 16, 2005.



Dr. Robert Sternberg, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, speaker on Oct. 24, 2005.



Jean Bellow, Lunch and Learn Chair and Madelyn Quinn with John Henning, (center) former senior correspondent for CBS4 News, speaker on September 19, 2005.

## Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning @ TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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### SPRING 2006 Session March 20 to May 15, 2006

#### Monday 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m

Short Poems of the Classical World  
 The World This Week: Events and Issues  
 Leaps of Imagination: Narratives Through  
 Time and Space  
 Rise of Anti-Americanism  
 Introduction to Computers

#### Study Group Leader

Marian Korbet  
 Phil Bloom  
 Jane Katims  
 Gresh Lattimore  
 Ed Neidorf

#### Monday 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Darwin, and The Theory of Evolution  
 Exploring the Stars and Planets  
 Great Decisions, 2006  
 Mysteries of the Quantum World  
 Writing a Spiritual Autobiography

Ken Fettig  
 Aaron Price & Matthew Templeton  
 Jerry Korneich  
 Ted Wall  
 Pat Brennan & Bob Green

#### Friday 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m

Hemingway, The Writer – The Man  
 Documentary Films  
 America The Beautiful: Grand Canyon  
 Fascinating Rhythm: The Life and Music  
 of George Gershwin  
 Environmental Issues (Osher Grant Course)  
 Disaster & Conflict: Early Warning Systems (Osher Grant Course)

Allan Shepp  
 Robert Sprich  
 Mel Prague  
 Dotty Burstein  
 Elizabeth Chalecki  
 Patrick Meier

#### Friday 1:00—4:30 p.m.

The Elderquest in Today's Movies and Novels (free)

NEH Grant

#### Distance Learning

Writing From Life (Osher Grant Course)

Grace Talusan

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