# **OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT** where curious minds gather



Spring Catalog 2010







Because your TV only talks at you, not with you

# Because you would have loved school if there had been no exams



Mary Rees

Ed Salem

Because you have gifts of experience to share

# Why do you belong at OSHER?

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT is a membership-led organization that stimulates minds and forges friendships among people 50 and older who live in Greater Rochester.

Our days are filled with classes, discussions, talks, social events, and travel—but never exams.

Offerings span a wide range of topics, including the arts, literature, sciences, history and government.

OSHER. There are a million-and-one reasons why curious minds gather. Discover yours!

# Come for the courses. Stay for the people

That's what happens at Osher. People come for the intellectual stimulation and challenge, and discover along the way that there are friendships to be made and experiences to be shared.

We offer 40 - 50 or more courses each term, from onesession courses for those who like big ideas in small packages to courses that meet weekly over the entire 8 to 10-week session. Courses are suggested and led by members.

### Spring Course Listings begin on page 7

Osher members come in all shapes and sizes, and from all walks of life. You don't need to be an RIT alum, or have an MBA or an MD after your name. You don't even have to have prior college experience. You only need to love learning...and to be 50 or older.

# Beyond courses: from lectures to expeditions to dances to art exhibitions...

Discover what else is included in your annual Osher membership:

#### **Pfaudler Enrichment Series**

This speakers program is held every Thursday at noon, and features Osher members as well as guest lecturers. Bring your lunch! **Schedule: page 14** 

### **Summer Seminars & Intersessions**

Discovery/Adventure learning experiences are capped by expeditions to complementary destinations during our Summer Seminars. Intersessions are betweensession expeditions to local museums and cultural attractions.

### **Social Activities**

Picnics, parties, holiday celebrations...there's always something fun happening. **Events and dates: page 5** 

(Front Cover Photo: Ana Moreno, Peter Luce)

"Sometimes you meet new people and you just talk on the surface for 10 or 15 minutes and then you don't have anything to talk about anymore. At Osher it seems you always have something to talk about with people, because they have a variety of interests—sports, literature, history. They travel. They're interested in other people..."

### **Travel, Tours, Field Trips**

Member-organized and led, generally within a day's travel time. We've enjoyed Hudson River Valley and Val Kill, and the Toronto Museum to see the Dead Sea Scrolls. (Additional fees cover actual travel expenses.)

### **Osher Gallery**

Works of art by members are displayed on a rotating basis at The Athenaeum Building. Enjoy—or exhibit your own work.

## And then there are the perks of a regular membership...

RIT Student Identification Card. A pass to RIT campus facilities, your ID card entitles you to:

- Student admission rates for campus events.
- Check-out privileges at the RIT Library.
- Student discounts at the Campus Bookstore. Save hundreds on computer hardware and software!
- Access to campus fitness facilities at a reduced rate.
- Good for student discounts around town, too.

### RIT Liberal Arts Courses, after your first year

Listen in on about 100 RIT liberal arts courses. Hang out with a younger crowd, and still no exams! Pick up a catalog at our reception desk or download a PDF Course list from our web site at www.osher.rit.edu.

### **Audiology Services**

State-of-the-art hearing evaluation and hearing aid service and purchase are available at significant savings through RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID).

### **Paperback Library**

Books are contributed and maintained by members; borrow on a no-time-limit basis. No late fees!

Visit our web site at www.osher.rit.edu for more detail on our programs, our people, membership, ways to get involved...

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# There's a membership level to suit your needs

Read about our membership options on page 16.



Left to Right: Beth Vanfossen, Lewis Neisner, Mehdi Mohtashemi, Tim McDonell, Ed Scutt, and Sue Luce



# Try OSHER for FREE

# Wednesday, March 24 2 to 3:30 p.m.

An introduction to Osher, what we have planned for Spring 2010, and selected course previews by course leaders. We'll answer your questions, too.

Here's what's included in this Spring's Course Previews:

## Wednesday, March 24, 2010

- ~ Reader's Theatre: The Merchant of Venice Cass Doyle
- ~ Film Genres: Film Noir Tess Padmore
- ~ John Milton's Paradise Lost (books 7-12) Harvey Granite
- ~ Eleven Aztec Kings: The Empire of the Southern Hummingbird *Bill McLane*

# Anytime, March 29 — April 1 9:30 am to 3 p.m. April 2, 9:30 am to 1 p.m.

It's the first week of classes, and they're all open to you, free of charge and on a space-available basis. Join us for as few or as many as you'd like. If you plan to stay for a full day, we encourage you to bring a brown-bag lunch and socialize with our current members.

# See the full class schedule for Open House Week on page 6.

One of our most popular Open House Week activities is our brown-bag lecture:

#### **Pfaudler Enrichment Series**

Thursday, April 4 Noon to 1 p.m.

# "Fighting AIDs and Poverty in Kenya"

Bill and Joanne Cala, Joining Hearts and Hands Ltd.

### Can't make these dates?

Call us to schedule your own Open House Week.

Open House Week

# **Contact us**

OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT The Athenaeum Building 50 Fairwood Drive, Suite 100 Rochester, New York 14623 Phone: (585) 292-8989 email: osher.info@rit.edu

Visit us at www.osher.rit.edu

# OSHER Calendar: 2009 - 2010

	<u> </u>		
Fall 2009			
September	Wednesday	16	Course Leaders Brunch
	Wednesday	16	Course Preview
	Thursday	17	OSHER GRAND OPENING
	Monday	21	First Day, Fall Term (5 and 10 Weeks)
	Monday - Friday	21-25	Osher Open House
	Wednesday	30	New Member Orientation
October	Friday	23	Last Day, 1st 5-Week Term
	Monday	26	First Day, 2nd 5-Week Term
November	Monday - Friday	23 - 27	Thanksgiving Break
December	Friday	4	Last Day, Fall Term
	December 7 - January	5 — Winter Break	
Winter 2010			
January	Wednesday	6	Course Leaders Brunch
	Wednesday	6	Course Preview
	Monday	11	First Day, Winter Term (5 and 9 Weeks)
	Monday - Friday	11 - 15	Osher Open House
	Wednesday	27	New Member Orientation
February	Friday	12	Last Day, 5-Week Term
	Monday	15	First Day, 4-Week Term
March	Friday	12	Last Day, Winter Term
	March 15 - March 23 –	– Spring Break	
Spring 2010			
March	Wednesday	24	Course Leaders Brunch
	Wednesday	24	Course Preview
	Monday	29	First Day, Spring Term (4 and 8 Weeks)
March/April	Monday - Friday	29 - 2	Osher Open House
April	Wednesday	14	New Member Orientation
	Friday	23	Last Day, 1st 4-Week Term
	Monday	26	First Day, 2nd 4-Week Term
May	Friday	7	Annual Meeting
	F + 1	21	Last Day, Spring Term
	Friday	۷۱	Last Day, Spring Terrin
	Friday Friday	TBA	Spring Social Event
Summer 2010			
_			
June	Friday  Monday  Summer Seminar Serie	TBA  21 s, Travel/Tour and	Spring Social Event First Day, Summer Term
Summer 2010 June June, July, August Fall 2010	Friday Monday	TBA  21 s, Travel/Tour and	Spring Social Event First Day, Summer Term

# **Spring 2010 Course Schedule**

	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Monday	FDR: Commander-in-Chief and Fading Giant	Eleven Aztec Kings: The Empire of the Southern Hummingbird	in Writing
	Phil Weisberg	11.15 10.45	4.20
	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	
Tuesday	Beginning Birding	Reader's Theatre: The Merchant of Venice S16 Cass Doyle U.S. Health Care Policy S17 Lewis Neisner	U.S. Foreign Policy: 1900 - Present
	With the Earth	Courage at Hogwarts S18 Jeanne Sandholzer Learn to Draw S19 Session I	Learn to Draw
	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Bob Stites	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Beginning Italian	11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.  Advanced Italian	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.  Athenaeum Book Club S32  Two meetings: 4/21, 5/19  Georgia DeGregorio/Lois Tucker  One-Session Courses  Various Leaders
Thursday	Wall Street and Main Street: Two Years Later	William McLane  Favorite Poems	1:30 – 3:30 p.m.  Quantum Mechanics, Pt 2 S37 Joseph Charles  Sherlock Holmes in Movies and on the Radio S38
Thu	Waterland by Graham Swift S35 Session I Francia Roe Great Decisions: The U.S. and World Affairs	11.15 a.m. 12.45 p.m.	Lewis Neisner  Waterland by Graham Swift S39 Session II Francia Roe
Friday	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.  An Inquiry Into the Meaning of Life	Songs of Congeniality: Sing With Me! S42 Kelly Beller Dutch Literature & Culture . S43 Sheryl de Jonge-Loavenbruck The Principles of Chaos, Pt 3	REFERENCE KEY  1st Session, 4 weeks (March 29 - April 23)  2nd Session, 4 weeks (April 26 - May 21)  Full session, 8 weeks (March 29 - May 21)

# Monday 2010 classes

Spring 2010 Course Schedule

## FDR: Commander-in-Chief and Fading Giant ... S1

In WWII, America found its ideal leader in Franklin D. Roosevelt. His steady hand on the helm brought victory in a struggle that the U.S. had to win. However, time and stress took their toll – FDR's health failed in his hour of greatest triumph. We will examine the war years and his legacy. Audio/Visual, Lecture

A retired school counselor, **Kathy Krebs** continues her exploration of the Roosevelt Era. She never taught American history in her career so she feels utterly compelled to do so now!

Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 4 Sessions: March 29 – April 19

## 

Knowledge of the theory of statistics and its relative accuracy will allow one to see some problems in our society more clearly. Little mathematics will be required – you need only a mind that asks "why and how." Video lectures from the Annenberg Foundation will be shown with ample time for discussion. *Audio/Visual*, *Discussion* 

Experience in the Army, degrees in mathematical statistics and 33 years in Rochester schools led **Steve Lambert** to look askance at the use and misuse of statistics.

Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 – May 17

# **Body and Soul: the Tenor Saxophone in Jazz...**\$3

By any measure of quality and quantity, the tenor saxophone has produced more jazz talent than any other instrument except the piano. This course will survey the historical development of the tenor saxophone with a major focus on four great innovators: Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, Sonny Rollins and John Coltrane. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture* 

**Peter Luce** has taught jazz history courses at both Osher and Chautauqua. He also enjoys photography, hiking, biking and travel.

Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 4 Sessions: April 26 – May 17

## 

This course will focus on increasing skill and vocabulary. There will be a review of the Fall term class material followed by new lessons. Some previous experience with sign language is necessary, but all are welcome who are willing to practice.

Audio/Visual, Lecture, Reading

**John Ratcliffe** has been teaching sign language for 50 years. He was born deaf, and has a degree from RIT in publishing and printing. He strives to make class fun.

Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 – May 17

### 

Howard Zinn was a very liberal historian who saw the history of our country as a class struggle. We will be discussing this viewpoint and the way American History is taught by studying his writings, especially A People's History of the United States. (Text: A People's History of the United States by Howard Zinn – nice, but not necessary) Discussion, Lecture

**Phil Weisberg** was a history major as an undergraduate and has led a few different courses at Osher.

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 – May 17

# **Eleven Aztec Kings:**

# The Empire of the Southern Hummingbird . . . . S6

Shrouded in myth, the Aztec Empire was the dominant political and cultural force in Mesoamerica during the 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries before falling to Cortes and his Conquistadores in 1521. This course will provide a broad, dispassionate overview of Aztec history, mythology, art and architecture, and archaeology. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

**Bill McLane** retired in 2008 and has maintained an avid interest in Mesoamerican history. In the past 25 years he has participated in anthropological research at several sites, including Teotihuacan, Chichen Itza, and Tulum.

Monday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 – May 17



Beth Vanfossen and Mehdi Mohtashemi

## Flannery O'Connor:

Flannery O'Connor showed a fascination with the disaffected of southern society in her two novels and two collections of short stories. Each week we will read and discuss one or two stories from her first collection. Background material about her life and writings will also be part of each class. Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Ed Scutt is a retired high school English teacher. In his retirement, he acts, directs and writes plays, writes poetry, and facilitates courses at Osher.

11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Monday: March 29 – May 17 8 Sessions:

### 

Recent studies have posited that, in order to maintain healthy minds, middle-aged and older people should allow their minds to "bang up" against new and different ideas. This course offers many opportunities to do so. Discussion, Reading

**Con Sullivan** has always been interested in lively discussions.

11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Monday: 8 Sessions: March 29 - May 17

# 

Use your imagination to write short stories on subjects suggested by the course leader, and enjoy the opportunity to write stories you have mentally composed over the years. To assist in improving your skills, a gentle and positive critique of your writing will be included in the class. Outside writing is expected. Discussion, Writing

Pat Edelman is an avid reader and writer, and enjoys encouraging others to write. Her work as a librarian has given her an appreciation of books and of the talent required to write them.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 – May 17

## 

This is a survey course of the human body. This term will include surgery methods and materials, the respiratory system, bones and joints, rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune diseases, neurologic disorders, psychiatric disorders, and genetics. Although this is a continuation of the fall and winter course, all are welcome. (Text: The Human Body in Health and Disease, by Thibodeau and Patton, Fifth Edition, \$50 at the RIT bookstore or at barnesandnoble.com) Audio/Visual, Guest Speakers, Lecture, Reading

Four retired physicians, Josh Hollander, Ed Lebowitz, Alex Marcus, and Victor Poleshuck, will lead the course with the assistance of guest lecturers..

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 – May 17

### 

A film genre is easier to recognize than to define and is best thought of as a rough category shared by audience and filmmaker. A genre's iconography consists of recurring images that carry meaning from film to film. This course will explore the conventions of film noir through discussion and film viewing. Audio/Visual, Discussion

**Tess Padmore** has a master's degree in business administration: more than 100 hours of coursework in film, Spanish and education; and taught in the Medical Humanities Program at the U of R.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 29 - May 17

# Tuesday

# Spring 2010 Course Schedule

## 

We will learn to identify birds in the field at the height of the spring migration, taking into account size, location and habitat. No prior experience is necessary. The first class will meet at Osher followed by three meetings in the field beginning at 8:30 a.m. Information will be given at the first meeting. (Requirements: Ability to walk 1-2 miles in sometimes rough terrain. Bird books and binoculars are good to have, but leaders will have some to loan.)

Class Limit 20 Audio/Visual, Field Study

**Sharon Galbraith** is a retired social studies teacher; all aspects of the outdoors have been a lifelong passion. **Dottie LeSchander** is a retired librarian who loves to be and play in the outdoors.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 4 Sessions: April 27 – May 18

# 

How does it all work? Learn how electricity is reliably produced, distributed to where it's needed, and how systems interconnect. We will also cover alternative energy and prospects for the future.

Audio/Visual, Field Trip, Lecture

**Heinz Kepplinger** has 43 years experience in the electrical industry, including 39 years at RG&E as a lineman, system designer and technical trainer. **Jim Roddy** has a background in physics and electrical engineering and worked in the Kodak Research Lab on lasers and laser writers. He recently worked on hydrogen powered vehicles at GM.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18

## 

One of the best ways to pursue conservation awareness is to explore the meaning of a deep connection to the natural world. This course will follow up on last fall's class which traced the development of the concept of "environment." We will discuss wild nature, shifting paradigms, nature/spirit, and "bringing all down to earth." (Text: NW Earth Institute text guide: Reconnecting with Earth. Obtain text guide (\$20) as a .pdf download from www.nwei.org/order-form)

Class Limit 20

Discussion, Peer Group Seminar, Reading

**Hugh Mitchell** pursued a dual career as an environmental volunteer and a clinical social worker. Since Earth Day 1970, he has led many Rochester environmental causes and currently helps to lead the NYS Sierra Club.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18

# 

This course will look at the events leading up to the Civil War, the election of Lincoln, and the first two years of the war culminating in the Emancipation Proclamation. While the course will delve into the military aspects of this time, it will also look at political, economic, and social matters. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

**Chuck Sparnecht** has taught and studied U.S. History for 30+ years with a particular interest in the era of the Civil War.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

### **Reader's Theatre:** *The Merchant of Venice*....S16

Join in reading aloud one of Shakespeare's more complex plays, *The Merchant of Venice*. After our reading, we will watch the 2004 film adaptation of the play with Al Pacino starring as Shylock. The last class will feature an English tea. *Class Limit 20* (Text: a complete version of *The Merchant of Venice*) *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading* 

**Cass Doyle** has taught English for over 30 years, primarily as a writing and literature adjunct at RIT, and as an ESL teacher in the Rochester City Schools.

Tuesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18

## **U.S.** Health Care Policy......S17

This course will examine the history of U.S. health care policy as it has evolved since the presidency of FDR. Its major emphasis will be on the reform efforts of President Obama, concentrating on the reasons for its success or failure. (Text: The Heart of Power, Health and Politics in the Oval Office by David Blumenthal and James A. Morone, \$16) Audio/Visual, Discussion, Guest Speakers, Lecture, Reading

**Lewis Neisner** is a retired college marketing professor. He became interested in U.S. health care policy during the Clinton years and has taken several graduate courses on the subject.

Tuesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18

# Courage at Hogwarts.....S18

The Harry Potter series is a classic story of heroism. Using Travis Prinzi's books, we will explore the theme of courage in this series with some references to other well-known heroic tales, as well as our own! It is not necessary to have read all of the books, although it would be helpful. (Text: Harry Potter and Imagination and Hogshead Conversations by Travis Prinzi) Discussion, Lecture, Seminar

**Jeanne Sandholzer** is a retired English major with a lifelong interest in children's books, mythology and literature. She has led Osher members in courses covering JK Rowling's books for many years.

Tuesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18

Learn to Draw, Session I	Wednesday Classes Spring 2010 Course Schedule				
outdoors, weather permitting. Sessions include a tutorial, exercises, and demonstrations, with a weekly exhibition/discussion of assigned projects. A detailed list for materials costing about \$19 will be distributed at the first meeting. <b>Class Limit 12</b> Audio/Visual, Lecture, Workshop	Beginning Italian				
<b>Bob Stites</b> is a retired businessman living in the country. He's been drawing for years, and has exhibited pastel portraits at local shows. As an artist, he considers himself a "recreational amateur."	<b>Gloria Cialone</b> graduated from the University of Naples, Italy. Gloria enjoys sharing her knowledge of the Italian language with Osher members.				
Tuesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18	Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19				
Foreign Policy: 1900 - Present	The History of Photography and Use of Classic Cameras				
is a veteran course leader.  Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	of photography leading us to the digital era. <b>Class Limit 15</b> Discussion, Lecture, Peer Group Seminar, Workshop				
8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18  Poetic Visions	<b>Richard Haviland</b> has been a lifelong amateur photographer with a passion for the history of photography. His company, Film for Classics, supplies film for users of antique and classic cameras.				
Using a seminar format, we will explore aspects of famous poems and share poems we have written and enjoyed. Come prepared to have some fun with poetry.  Class Limit 18  Discussion, Peer Group Seminar, Workshop, Writing	Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 4 Sessions: April 28 – May 19				
Twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize, <b>Gary Lehmann's</b> essays, poetry and short stories are widely published. They include <i>The Span I Will Cross</i> and <i>Public Lives and Private Secrets</i> .	Exploring the Erie Canal				
Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18	We will explore the history of New York State's grand Erie Canal, from planning, through the political process, the construction (of all 3 stages), and its impact on various aspects of the state and beyond.  Audio/Visual, Lecture				
See S19 for description and course leader information.  Note: This class is a repeat of the morning class.  Register for either the morning or afternoon class.	<b>Kathy Hayes</b> has lived on the canal for 40 years and has walked/biked extensively on the towpath. She has collected many books and articles about the canal's history, and has led this course previously.				
Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 30 – May 18	Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19				

### Wall Street and Main Street: Two Years Later . S26

This course will review the events of the 2008 financial crisis, and then focus on the aftermath. What did the crisis mean for the future? How should the financial market be restructured, if at all? What are the political and economic forces that affect the relationship between Main Street and Wall Street? Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

**Beth Vanfossen's** doctorate was in sociology with an emphasis on social stratification. In her 40 years of university teaching and research, she expanded her interests to other major social institutions as well.

Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19

### Advanced Italian ......S27

This course expects some previous experience with Italian as we will concentrate on conversation and the reading of short stories and poems. (Text: *Easy Italian Reading* by Riccarda Saggese, \$11.95 at Borders or Barnes & Noble)

Discussion, Lecture, Reading, Writing

**Gloria Cialone** graduated from the University of Naples, Italy. Gloria enjoys sharing her knowledge of the Italian language with Osher members.

Wednesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19

## 

If the news of the day interests you, or leaves you with questions or concerns, join with others to explore issues affecting our lives. While the leader will act as facilitator, members will suggest the day's topics and should bring to class supporting information from any form of media. *Discussion* 

After **June Clase** dropped out of college, she explored beachcombing before returning to finish college. As a retired college professor, she tries to be an informed citizen.

Wednesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19

### John Milton's Paradise Lost (books 7-12) ..... \$29

The class will read the last six books of Milton's *Paradise Lost*, in which he deals with the temptation of Eve, the fall of man through Adam, and their banishment from Paradise. (Text: A well-annotated edition of Milton's *Paradise Lost*)

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

**Harvey Granite** has followed the evolution of epic poetry for many years in his classes. He has taught English language and literature in secondary schools, at the U of R, RIT, in NYS prisons, and in Eastern Europe.

Wednesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19

## Mt. Hope: Cemetery of American Union ..... \$30

Mt. Hope is considered one of the most beautiful and historically important cemeteries in the United States. We will study about – and meet – many famous, not-so-famous, and infamous Mt. Hope residents. This is a multidisciplinary course emphasizing history, geology, art, architecture and the general ecology of the cemetery. There will be two field trips and two classroom sessions.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Field Trip, Lecture, Reading

As a member of Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery, **Bill McLane** cordially invites you to enjoy two Spring field trips to one of Rochester's – and America's – most beautiful landscapes.

Wednesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 4 Sessions: April 28 – May 19

### Favorite Poems ......S31

We will read and discuss poems, some from Robert Pinsky's Favorite Poem Project, with emphasis on the impact of the selected poem on its nominator's life. Videos of people reading and explaining their choices and of poets discussing their poems will be utilized. *Discussion/Seminar* 

**Sidney Shapiro** is a professor emeritus from the U of R. As a volunteer for Reachout Radio, he presented programs of poems he selected. At Osher, he has read poetry in science and other courses.

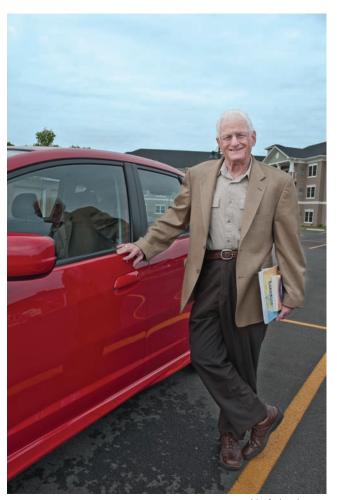
Wednesday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. 8 Sessions: March 31 – May 19

### 

Our class is a MONTHLY book club that continues to meet through all three terms. It is based on the Great Books Shared Inquiry method. Books selected by class members are: APRIL 21: Your Inner Fish by Neal Shubin (non fiction) and MAY 19: See No Evil by Robert Baer (non-fiction). (Text: books as noted above) Discussion/Seminar

**Georgia DeGregorio**, though a business major in college, has always sought out opportunities to explore new ideas from great books. **Lois Tucker** is a retired counselor, former teacher, community volunteer and always an avid reader.

Wednesday: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. 2 Sessions: April 21, May 19



Herb Levin

# Wednesday Afternoon One-Session Courses

One-Session Courses are fast becoming a popular way to spend Wednesday afternoons at Osher. These one-time courses, presented in the Wednesday time period 1:30-3:00, offer a wide variety of subjects. Listed below are the One-Session Courses currently scheduled for the spring term. Additional courses will be added after this catalog goes to print, so be sure to check the wall in the lounge for the most up-to-date listing of One-Session offerings. For planning purposes we ask that you sign up for these courses on the weekly sign-up sheets located on the table below the One-Session Course listings.

# **April 7th**

Sounds About Right
Jim Roddy

# May 5th

Impact of Technology on Living With Low Vision
Peter Torpey

# May 10th

China: Will the Global Financial Crisis Accelerate China's Challenge to U.S. Primacy? Bill Schwappacher

# May 19th

Protecting Open Space In and Around Monroe and Wayne Counties Nancy Goodman Torpey

Every member is encouraged to think about leading a one-session course. Here are a few ideas to get you thinking:

Review a book or movie.

Have a favorite classical composer? Tell us why.
Back from some interesting travel?
Share what you saw and learned.
Fascinated by an artist? Talk about your interest.
Share what you learned about new software.

# Thursday 2010 classes

**Spring 2010 Course Schedule** 

## 

Each week, the class will select one or two current movies to see and discuss the next week. Members will see the movies independently and personally rate them. Everyone is encouraged to participate and, with a variety of opinions, lively discussion is guaranteed! **Class Limit 30.** Discussion

**Burt Freedman** is a retired pharmacist. His interests include theater, reading and spending time with his grandchildren. **Bea Slizewski** is a public relations professional who retired as vice president of corporate communications from Birds Eye Foods. She is a lifelong movie fan.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

## Peer Group Seminar: The Singularity is Near . \$34

Ray Kurzweil, noted computer scientist, published an optimistic view of the future where humans transcend biology and eventually move to a higher plane of existence in his book *The Singularity is Near*; others disagree. This course will explore the reality of these opposing views of the future in a peer group seminar that includes associated ethical, technological and societal concerns.

(Text: The Singularity is Near, by Ray Kurzweil, available used for \$10.00) **Class Limit 20.** Peer Group Seminar

**Brian Ives**, now retired, has taught computer science at the college level and has an extensive background in managing technical businesses.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

# 

Waterland (1983) is a retrospective narrative recounting a long family history, by a history teacher to his class, on the eve of his firing. Analysis will focus on Swift's idiosyncratic use of time, his brilliant evocation of the East Anglian fen district, and his use of real history as a backdrop. (Text: Waterland by Graham Swift. ISBN #0-679-73979-3) Discussion, Reading

**Francia Roe** has a graduate degree in English from the U of R and taught Advanced Placement English Language and Composition and Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition for 28 years.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

### **Great Decisions: The U.S. and World Affairs** ... \$36

This class examines eight global challenges identified by the Foreign Policy Association including U.S.-China relations, global financial crisis, Russia, the Persian Gulf and peace-building. We will read, discuss, and debate each issue after reviewing the accompanying DVD panel discussions. The Great Decisions briefing book is required when registering for the course. Read the first issue, Special Envoys, for the first class. (Text: the Great Decisions briefing book is available from the Osher staff office for \$18.00)

Class Limit 25. Discussion, Lecture, Reading

**Alan Shank**, professor emeritus of political science at SUNY Geneseo, has led Osher classes in presidential crisis decisions, and great decisions in U.S. foreign policy. **Kathy Krebs** has offered courses on globalization, Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt. **Bob Getz**, a professor emeritus of political science at SUNY Brockport, is a veteran course leader who also leads a course in U.S. foreign policy.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

### Quantum Mechanics, Part 2 ......S37

This is the second half of Quantum Mechanics from The Teaching Company. It is recommended only for those who completed the first half in the fall term. After a brief review, we will cover fermions, entanglement, Bell's theorem, Feynman's sum-overhistories renormalization and a number of applications of Quantum Mechanics including: quantum computing, quantum cryptography and the concept of multiple universes. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture* 

**Joe Charles** is a physicist with many areas of interest who has led courses at Osher (formerly The Athenaeum) since 1993.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20



# **Pfaudler Enrichment Series**

# Thursdays 12 – 1 p.m.

Bring a brown-bag lunch to this weekly lecture presented by members or quests on wide-ranging, stimulating and intellectual topics.

### April 1

### Fighting AIDs and Poverty in Kenya

William Cala, president of Joining Hearts and Hands

### Joanne M. Cala, vice president and treasurer of Joining Hearts and Hands Ltd.

Joining Hearts and Hands promotes improved educational, health and economic conditions for African orphans and their communities.

### April 8

### **TEDXRIT: What Is It? What Will It Be?**

### Dr. Mario Gomes, assistant professor of mechanical engineering

This talk will introduce the monthly TEDxRIT seminar series and give a flavor for the topics that it covers and the format. The example used for the demonstration will concern aging.

### April 15

### The New Downtown Rochester

### Heidi N. Zimmer-Meyer, president of Rochester Downtown Development Corp.

The new downtown development trend nationwide is reversing sprawl, and "greening" our cities and regions. Come hear about the forces driving that change, what projects are in the pipeline, and how the center of our region is turning into a place we can be proud of again!

### April 22

## Prospects for Effective Prevention of Heart Disease in the 21st Century and the Need for a Transformational Revolution in Health Care

Dr. Alvani Santos, clinical associate professor of medicine

This talk will examine the need for primary and secondary prevention of heart disease, and the paradigm shift that is necessary for our health care system to support this method of treatment.

### April 29

# Cognitive Aging: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Dr. Mark Mapstone, neuropsychologist

In this lecture, Dr. Mapstone will present our current understanding of normal age-related cognitive changes with particular emphasis on memory. He will also discuss pathological cognitive aging and methods to promote healthy cognitive aging.

### May 6 **Astronaut Pam**

Dave Melroy, father of astronaut Pam Melroy

This talk will include a 40-minute documentary on the STS-120 Shuttle Mission commanded by Pam Melroy in October 2007. It combines an interview with Pam with highlights of the Shuttle mission.

# **May 13**

### Susan B

### Barb Blaisdelle, Actress portraying Susan B. Anthony

"Living the Legacy," presented on behalf of the Susan B. Anthony House.

### **May 20**

### Understanding the Origins and Fates of Stars and Planets: The Modern Astronomer's Toolkit Dr. Joel Kastner, astronomer and professor of imaging science

This talk will present an overview of selected techniques in modern astronomical imaging and describe a few specific cases in which these techniques are advancing astronomers' understanding of the origins and fates of stars and planets.

## **Sherlock Holmes in Movies and on the Radio** . S38

There have been over 200 movies and countless radio programs made from the 60 Sherlock Holmes stories, beginning with silent movies and the early days of radio. In this course we will watch some of the movies and listen to a selection of the radio programs while reading and discussing the stories on which they were based. (Text: Any edition of *The Complete Stories of Sherlock Holmes*) Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

**Lewis Neisner** is a retired college professor. A Sherlock Holmes enthusiast for over 50 years, he was president of the Six Napoleons, a Sherlockian society in Baltimore. He also founded Rochester Row, a new Sherlockian society in Rochester.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

## 

See S35 for description and course leader information. Note: This class is a repeat of the morning class. Register for either the morning or afternoon class.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. 8 Sessions: April 1 – May 20

# Friday

2010

Winter 2010 Course Schedule

### 

This course is a philosophical and psychological inquiry into man's search for meaning. We will look at the work and ideas of noted authors, philosophers, and psychologists who have pondered the meaning of life. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

**Howard Maslich** owns a training company. He is a former psychology professor who enjoys sharing ideas about psychology and philosophy with Osher members.

Friday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 2 – May 21

### 

What is the common thread of these phrases? "I've been thinking about ... I've been meaning to ... How do I start??? My kids don't care ... Thanks so much for encouraging me ... " These are all about writing memoirs. Many find this class valuable and the perfect vehicle for the project. Reading, Writing

**Carol Samuel**, a "mostly retired obstetrical nurse," is enthusiastic about encouraging people to record their memoirs.

Friday: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. 8 Sessions: April 2 – May 21

# Songs of Congeniality: Sing With Me!.......S42

This course is a brief ethnomusicological tour and exploration of the genre of "table songs" including British Isles pub songs, American drinking songs, and Jewish Zemirot. *Singing, Workshop* 

**Kelly Beller** is a bibliophile, singer, dancer, poet, and communitarian.

Friday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

8 Sessions: April 2 – May 21

### 

Is your ancestry Dutch, or have you always been curious about the lowlands of dikes, windmills and tulips? Take a journey through the Netherlands and see what the Dutch see, eat and drink what they enjoy, experience their history, celebrate their holidays, and appreciate their art. We will watch three films that concern the Netherlands and read two books. (Text: the latest edition of *The Lonely Planet: The Netherlands* by Neal Bedford and Simon Sellars (\$25) and *Soldier of Orange* by Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema (\$10)) **Class Limit 30** *Discussion, Reading, Writing* 

**Sheryl de Jonge-Loavenbruck** spent 20 years in The Netherlands where she married her Dutch husband, Geert. She taught English at three different Dutch universities, and received her doctorate there.

Friday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

8 Sessions: April 2 – May 21

# The Principles of Chaos, Part 3 ..... S44

Newton left an orderly universe ruled by mathematical laws. However, is there something disquieting in the idea of a vast universe where everything is predetermined? Enter "Chaos" which will cover lectures 20-24 of a Teaching Company course with course leader explanations and extensions. This course recommended only for those who have taken previous Chaos courses. (Text: *Chaos* by James Gleick, ISBN 978-0-14-311345-4, \$20)

Audio/Visual, Lecture, Reading

**Bill Faul** trained in chemistry but spent half of his Kodak career in digital imaging. A devoted exerciser, trumpet player, and collector of O-gauge trains, he has led Osher courses from '60s pop to modern physics.

Friday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

8 Sessions: April 2 – May 21



**Peter Luce** 

# **Beyond learning...** is leading

Courses at OSHER are led by members. Some have extensive experience in the topic they like to lead and others are just curious enough about something that they go out and research it so they can lead a course. Contact us—we'll be happy to tell you more about leading at Osher.

"I love leading courses here. It's like I died and went to heaven. When you're teaching here at Osher, you're teaching people who are really hungry to learn."

Visit our web site! www.osher.rit.edu

Because you've already given up hula hoops, bikinis, and trans fats,

you shouldn't have to give up everything fun...

There are a million-and-one reasons why you belong where curious minds gather. Discover your place at OSHER.

"I am enjoying learning about more varied subjects since I joined Osher. New ideas, new friends, new experiences ... "

Joan Phillips



We have varying levels of membership to fit members' individual circumstances. You can begin your membership at the start of any of our three terms: Fall (September), Winter (January) and Spring/Summer (April).

**Regular Membership** 

A Regular Membership entitles you to participate in all activities, and offers the opportunity to join the RIT community. Enjoy unlimited courses at Osher, participation in social activities, the Pfaudler Enrichment Series, travel and tour programs, Summer Seminar and Intersession programs, and an RIT Student ID card. Beginning in your second year, you are entitled to "listen in" on selected RIT liberal arts courses. A number of partial scholarships are available. Scholarships are made possible through a grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation. Please contact the Program Director for more information.

The annual fee is \$265 per person.

Are you a Snowbird? "Gift" your winter term to a friend.

**Supporting Membership** 

Unable to participate in courses but interested in our other activities? Supporting Membership is for you. Participate in all social events, Pfaudler Enrichment Series, Summer Seminar and Intersession programs and travel and tour programs. You may also invite a guest to one of these activities. The annual fee is \$130.

Trial Membership

Available to first-time members only, Trial Membership offers another way to "try out Osher." Enjoy all the privileges of Regular Membership for one term (Fall, Winter, or Spring/Summer) excluding the RIT Student ID card and audiology services. **The fee is \$150 per person.** You may convert your Trial Membership into Regular Membership by paying an additional \$115 at the end of your trial term, thereby adding the subsequent two terms.

	Benefits								
Membership	Fee	Unlimited Courses	Pfaudler Series	Social Events	Travel & Tours	Summer Seminar & Intersession	Student ID Card	Audio- ology Services	
<b>Regular</b> (full year)	\$265								
<b>Supporting</b> (full year)	\$130								
<b>Trial</b> (one term)	\$150								

To apply. There are only two criteria for membership in Osher: you must be 50 or older, and have an interest in lifelong learning. You'll find our membership application and membership profile on the next two pages. Fill them out and return them to us by mail or by fax. Questions? Call us at 585-292-8989 or email us at osher.info@rit.edu.

# Membership/Renewal Application & Course Registration

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OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT reserves the right to cancel courses because of low registration, last-minute unavailability of course leaders, or other unavoidable circumstances. Members will be notified immediately of such cancellations so they may select an alternative. Written confirmation will not be sent. You may consider yourself registered in your selected course(s) unless you are notified otherwise. We invite our members to register for as many classes as they wish, but for planning purposes, we ask you to register only for the classes you intend to make a consistent good-faith effort to attend. **Note:** Some courses require the purchase of books or materials. **Registration forms accepted starting March 15, 2010.** 

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# **OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT Member Profile**

We ask each member to provide us with information about him- or herself. This information is kept strictly private and is used to help us meet your membership expectations. By knowing a little about you we are able to choose courses to your liking, fill committees with knowledgeable members, plan social events and form special-interest groups by assisting members who wish to search out others with similar interests. Please take a few minutes to provide us with some information about yourself.

Please indicate your life	experiences. (check all tha	t apply)		
<ul><li>□ Administration</li><li>□ Business</li><li>□ Education</li><li>□ Engineering</li><li>□ Health Services/Social Wealth</li></ul>	☐ Homemaker ☐ Journalism ☐ Law ☐ Marketing Ork ☐ Medicine	<ul><li>☐ Military</li><li>☐ Ministry</li><li>☐ Self-Employed</li><li>☐ Science/Mathematic</li><li>☐ Technology</li></ul>	☐ Volunteer Work☐ Other	
Please indicate course ar	eas that are of interest	to you. (check all that	apply)	
☐ Computers ☐ ☐ Current Events ☐ ☐ Dance ☐	Drama Langu Economics Litera Finance Math/ Geography Music History	ture Relig	ion Other al Sciences	
Do you have any ideas for and indicate whether you wou	or courses you would like like to pursue this with a l	<b>ce to teach or like to</b> member of the Course C	see taught? Please of the second seco	describe the course(s)
Will you share with us the other organizations that interest in the control of th	est our members.			
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<ul><li>☐ Microsoft Office</li><li>☐ Website Design/Layout</li><li>☐ Other</li></ul>	Monday: 9-11 11-1 Tuesday: 9-11 11-1		Vednesday: ☐ 9-11 'hursday: ☐ 9-11:30 ☐	☐ 11-1:15 ☐ 1:15-3:00 ☐ 11:30-1:15 ☐ 1:15-3:30
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# Course Selections—Spring 2010 Worksheet

Start Date		Course #	Course Title	Day	Time
	1.				
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(Retain this for your records)

# Leadership: OSHER Council 2009 — 2010

### **Executive Committee**

**Ed Salem** 

Chair

Francia Roe

Vice-Chair, Program

**Marie Levin** 

Vice-Chair, Marketing

Janice Powalski

Vice-Chair, Participation

Fraida Levinson

Treasurer

William Faul

Secretary

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**Advisory Committee** 

Peter Luce

Osher News and Events

Beth Vanfossen

Co-Curricular Offerings

Linda Kotwas Richard Jones Barry McVay

Course Offerings

**Bonnie Salem** 

Endowment

John Bacon

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Flo Paxson

Member Relations

Carolyn Vacanti

New Member Development

**Norinne Cole** 

Outreach

**Beatrice Wolford** 

Registration

**David Cole** 

Social

Carol Alvut

**Nancy Rosenberg** 

Summer Seminar Series

**Sharon Garelick** 

Technology

Joel Elias

**Ed Lebowitz** 

Travel

**Deborah Huff** 

Volunteers

Joyce Lorenzo Dori Saltzman

**Ex Officio** 

**Deborah Stendardi** 

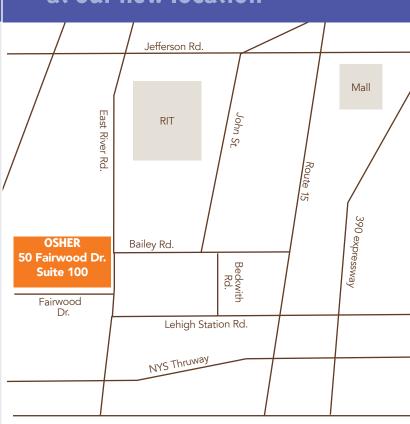
Vice President, Government & Community Relations, RIT

**Sara Connor** 

Osher Program Director

**Julie Magnuson** Sr. Staff Assistant

# How to find us at our new location



## **OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT**

The Athenaeum Building 50 Fairwood Dr. Suite 100 Rochester, New York 14623 Phone: (585) 292-8989 email: osher.info@rit.edu

Web: www.osher.rit.edu



Rochester Institute of Technology **OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT** 

The Athenaeum Building 50 Fairwood Drive, Suite 100 Rochester, New York 14623

For more detail on our programs, people and events, visit www.osher.rit.edu

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# $R \cdot I \cdot T$



John Bacon

where curious minds gather

# **Spring Courses at a glance**

### The Arts

The Tenor Saxophone in Jazz

Film Noir

Joan's Cinema Class

Learn to Draw (2 sessions)

Reader's Theatre

Songs of Congeniality

### History/Events/ Government

Eleven Aztec Kings

Contemporary Events

**Current Events** 

Dutch Literature & Culture

Exploring the Erie Canal

FDR: Commander-in-Chief and Fading Giant

**Great Decisions** 

Howard Zinn and the History of the U.S.

Mt. Hope Cemetery

The Civil War (1850-1862)

U.S. Foreign Policy: 1900-Present

U.S. Health Care Policy

Wall Street and Main Street: Two Years Later

# Language/Literature

Advanced Italian

American Sign Language Athenaeum Book Club

Courage at Hogwarts

Paradise Lost (books 7-12) Poetic Visions Sherlock Holmes

Beginning Italian

**Favorite Poems** 

Writing

Find

**Memoirs** 

Express Yourself in

Flannery O'Connor: A

Good Man is Hard to

An Inquiry Into the Meaning of Life

The Singularity is Near

Waterland by Graham Swift (2 Sessions)

# Science/Technology

Beginning Birding The Electric Power

System

The History of Photography

Medical School in Two Hours per Week

The Principles of Chaos, Part 3

Quantum Mechanics, Part 2

Reconnecting with the Earth

Statistics: Accurate or

Inaccurate