Special Interest Groups

OLLI Special Interest Groups (SIGs) meet regularly year round (except where noted) to provide enriching opportunities beyond the OLLI classroom. Members are encouraged to join an existing SIG or start new SIGs as a way to meet others who share a similar interest. For additional information, contact Nancy Garland, 612-850-1495, ng68@cornell.edu.

Contact the group coordinator(s) listed below to join or for more details on a specific SIG.

BOOK CLUBS:

**NEW: Literary Fiction Uptown**: 3rd Tuesday, 1:30-3:00 pm, Walker Library 2880 Hennepin Ave, Mpls. Carla Waldemar, a freelance Book Reviewer, 612-813-1896, cwaldemar@comcast.net.

**American History Book Club**: 1st Thursday, 1:30 pm, St. Paul JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave., St. Paul. Chuck Nelson, nelso371@umn.edu; Jack Christensen, jecmdc@gmail.com

**Dickens Fellowship**: 1st Monday, 2:00–4:00 pm, Heritage Commons at Ponds Edge, 350 Van White Memorial Blvd., Apt #315, Minneapolis. Elizabeth Young, 612-545-5059, liz11238@gmail.com

**Fiction/St. Paul East**: 3rd Monday, 1:00 pm, at J Arthur Coffee Shop, 2441 Rice Street, Roseville. Sharon Thronson, 612-707-9955, sathrons@q.com; Georgia O’Hara, 651-489-9096, georgiaohara23@yahoo.com

**Mysteries**: 1st Tuesday, 2:30 pm, St. Paul JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave., St. Paul. Michele Hajek, 651-646-0616, michelehajek@gmail.com

**Nonfiction/St. Paul**: 3rd Thursday, 2:30 pm, St. Paul JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave., St. Paul. Connie Waterous, 651-291-1610, conniew01@comcast.net

**The Rather Odd Book Club/Discussion**: This group is odd: Members do not all read the same book for each meeting. We will choose a decade in history of America or elsewhere and come together to pool our insights, perspectives, and information. Meeting on 2nd Friday, 3:00 pm, Edina near Crosstown and Hwy. 100. Contact leaders for specifics: Jeannie Hanson, jkhans913@gmail.com or Shawn Hartfeldt, shartfeldt@yahoo.com

**Women’s Topics Book Club**: Fiction and nonfiction related to women’s history and concerns: 2nd Tuesdays, (no meeting August, December or January) 1:30 pm, St. Paul JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave., St. Paul. Deborah Tabert, 952-831-1703, ddtab7220@comcast.net, Dot Delegard, 612-922-1495, dotdelegard@gmail.com
NON BOOK CLUB SIGS:

Addressing Ageism: For people who think ageism is real and would like to do something about it. We’ll decide on an action plan based on the inclinations and strengths of our members. 4th Fridays monthly at 3:00 p.m. at a location near Southdale. Please contact Jeannie Hanson, jkhans913@gmail.com.

Applause, Applause: Adventures in Theater and Dining: Leader will provide information on show listings, when and how to get tickets, and news about each production. When possible, lunch or dinner will also be available. Led by OLLI member and theater fanatic Jim Loeffler, showprince44@yahoo.com

Bridge/East Metro: 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:00 pm, Falcon Heights. For more details contact Kate Anderson, 651-488-9061, anderson1466@msn.com

Bridge/West Metro: 1st and 3rd Monday, 2:30 pm, Perkins, Hwy. 394 at Louisiana Ave., St. Louis Park. Carole Cranbrook, cranbrook61@msn.com, 763-535-2141

Digital Scrapbooking: Come 'crop' with us—digitally. Bring your laptop. Create your own digital pages in the company of others in a friendly and informal setting, while we share and learn together. All levels of expertise welcome. 2nd Mondays, 12:30–3:30 pm; our location has been changing based on membership preferences. Please contact Kathy Tuzzolino, ktuzz252@comcast.net, for details.

Discussion Roundtable: Topics from local to global issues. All positions are open for discussion. 2nd and 4th Mondays, 12:30 pm. St. Paul JCC, 1375 St. Paul Ave., St. Paul. Vince Trotta, 651-200-2330, vptrotta@msn.com

Documentary Films: Meet to watch and discuss documentary films. 3rd Friday monthly, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Episcopal Homes, 1860 University Ave West, St Paul, the first building on the right as you enter campus. Contact Joan Delich, sokadel@comcast.net.

Economic Disparity: Group will meet monthly to discuss readings on the topic and consider further actions on areas of interest. Contact leader for time and location. Mary Morris, hayesmorris@gmail.com

Elderwise Investment Club (must be an OLLI member to belong): This investment club requires a beginning investment and monthly investments of $50. Meets 4th Thursday every other month, 10:00 am, Wells Fargo Bank Community Room, 2600 E Franklin Ave., Minneapolis. Howard Guthmann, 651-222-1801, hguthmann@wilkersoncpa.com

Ethnic and Patio Dining (evolves from a course into a SIG) This group gathers for meals in various restaurants scattered around the Twin Cities. Members take turns arranging ethnic lunches or dinners during the Fall, Winter and Spring, then change to patio dining in the Summer. Ron and Marghe Tabar, 651-690-0604, rjtabar@comcast.net.
Jazz Appreciation/The OLLI Cats: 4th Friday, 12:30 pm, (3rd Friday in May and Nov., no meeting in July or Dec.). Now meeting at SCHMITT Music, Southdale Square, Edina (66th and York). Andrea Canter, cantermps@aol.com

Knitting/East Metro: 4th Wednesday, 1:30 pm, The Yarnery, 840 Grand Ave., St. Paul. Jeanette Sobania, 651-295-0852, sobaniaj@aol.com; Ginny Mahlum, 651-489-7750, vmahlum@comcast.net

Knitting/West Metro: 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 pm, the library at Shir Tikvah Congregation, 1360 W Minnehaha Pkwy., Minneapolis. (occasional meeting in yarn shops) Nancy Garland, 612-850-1495, ng68@cornell.edu

Memoir Writing: 3rd Thursday, 1:00 pm, all 12 months. Franklin Library, 1314 E Franklin Ave. Minneapolis. Knowles Dougherty, 612-874-9357, kdougherty22@earthlink.net

THE NEW YORKER Discussion Group: Thursdays, 2:00 pm, Washburn Library, 5244 Lyndale Ave. S, Minneapolis. Jan Lane, 612-822-0229, lane3141@gmail.com; Diane Lindgren, 952-927-7693, dianelindgren@mac.com

Norsk Fjords, Folklore, and Food: Norwegian Fiskeboller luncheon and lecture open to all interested in Norway and its food, customs, and cultural history. Thursdays, three times a year, at a location to be decided. To be placed on mailing list contact Odell Bjerkness, 612-866-3699, ojbjerkness@aol.com or Karen Boyum, 952-920-3042, boyum1to5@aol.com

Notable Government Leaders: A video/discussion group. 3rd Monday, 1:00–3:00 pm, Heritage Commons at Ponds Edge, 350 Van White Memorial Blvd, Apt #315, Minneapolis. Elizabeth Young, 612-545-5059, liz11238@gmail.com

OLLI Qwesters: Biking  Weekly on Wednesdays, May-Sep., Nell Bean, 612-432-6457, nellalbean@gmail.com.

Origami: LAST Wednesday of each month, 10:00 am–noon, 9th floor Skyview Room, Calvary Cooperative, 7600 Golden Valley Rd., Golden Valley. Nancy Garland, 612-850-1495 ng68@cornell.edu

Persistent Problems in Education and the Possible Solutions: 2nd Monday, 1:00–2:00 p.m. at the Franklin Library, 1314 E Franklin Ave, Mpls. There will be a blog created that will present ideas for sharing thoughts about education with others of differing life experiences. Contact Knowles Dougherty at kdougherty22@earthlink.net or 612-874-9357

Play Reading: 2nd Friday, 10:00 am, Sep.–June, no meeting July or August. Walker Place, 3701 Bryant Ave. S, Minneapolis. Janet Kramer, 952-473-4710, janetkramer7@gmail.com; Jack Harkness, gjharkness@comcast.net.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN Discussion Group: 4th Friday, 1:00 pm, Southdale Library, Helen Young Meeting Room, 7001 York Ave. S, Edina. Jerry and Lois Edwards, 952-942-7232, jerryled2003@yahoo.com
Scrabble: Players at all levels are welcome to join. Meeting weekly on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. at the Walker Library, 2880 Hennepin Ave, Mpls. There is parking below the library and nearby. Contact Marlyce Helm, 612-926-8178, tt237.nodak@yahoo.com

Social Dance: Members are emailed a weekly calendar of local dances and special events, exchange interests, and attend dance venues together. Yeun Chou. 612-200-8310, yeunchou77@hotmail.com

St. Paul Chamber Orchestra: Attending four concerts of SPCO (Series 4B on Friday mornings at Ordway’s NEW Concert Hall) starting in November and running through April 2016. A complete listing of the scheduled programs can be found at www.thespco.org. We have already purchased tickets for the coming season, but anyone is invited to buy their own and join the group for lunch at local restaurants following the performances. Dave Bucheck, 651-770-1730 or djbucheck@yahoo.com

Travel Exchange: OLLI members exchange travel experiences and recommendations, and find travel partners by email. Ron Tabar, 651-690-0604, rtabar@comcast.net.

Twin Cities Chamber Music: Members will receive a list of chamber music groups and contact information for schedules. Occasional events will be hosted—members meet at the concert and go to a nearby restaurant afterwards or vice versa. Knowles Dougherty, 612-874-9357, kdougherty22@earthlink.net

Wednesday Walkers: Wednesday mornings weekly. This group enjoys fresh air, exercise and camaraderie while walking/hiking for about an hour in various locations around the Twin Cities. Group leaders take turns choosing and leading the walks. Delightful lunch option follows. Judy Remington, judyrem@earthlink.net.

Some SIGs are FULL and not accepting new members at this time:
Spanish Conversation/East

And the following BOOK CLUBS are full:
Fiction/Minneapolis
Fiction/Nonfiction/Arden Hills
Nonfiction/Minneapolis
St Paul Fiction

If any of these full SIGs represent your interest, or if you have an idea for a new SIG, we encourage you to start a new group. For help or more information, contact Nancy Garland, 612-850-1495, ng68@cornell.edu.