



UNIVERSITY  
OF OREGON

# Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Central Oregon Newsletter

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formerly Silver Sage Society

February 2008

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute • UO Continuing Education • 1027 NW Trenton, Bend, OR 97701  
(800) 824-2714 • [ctrinfo.uoregon.edu](mailto:ctrinfo.uoregon.edu) • <http://osher.uoregon.edu>

## Open House: True Stories and Other Fictions in Northwest Oral History

OLLI is pleased to present this Oregon Chautauqua program from the Oregon Council for the Humanities. This event, with lecturer **Tom Nash**, is part of our **Year of Oregon Discovery**.



Where does history end and folklore begin? **Tom Nash** looks at the elements of folklore embedded in supposedly nonfiction stories of frontier Oregon and the West. His material is drawn from Oregon oral histories that were primarily recorded in the 1930s and '40s, and are now held at the state library in Salem.

These oral histories reveal

the hand of the interviewer in both subtle and bold ways. Literalists took down every hiccup and expletive along with the story, while wordsmiths perked up dull recitations and fictionalized uneventful details. Collaborators became so involved that their own narrative visions interacted with the story being told in the interview.

When oral histories reveal the threads of legend, the stories undoubtedly become more engaging. Are we duped by elements of tall tale and legend, or do they reflect the dynamic interplay between events and memory? And what, ultimately, is the role of fiction in history?

Tom Nash, Southern Oregon University professor, specializes in linguistics and folklore. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon and is the author of three books, including *The Well-Traveled Casket*, a collection of Oregon history and lore. He is currently completing a fourth volume—tentatively titled *Oregon Trails, Oregon Tales*.

**Wednesday, February 13, 2:00 p.m. (Bend Senior Center)** (See flyer for details.)



### Let it Snow, Let it Snow

We are well aware of how quickly and unexpectedly our winter weather can change here in Central Oregon. The snow and ice, while beautiful, can make travel treacherous, even within our local community. We certainly hope that cancellation of a presentation or discussion/study group will not be necessary, but it may be inevitable. Should you hear on the radio or television that COCC has cancelled classes, please know that all OLLI-UO Central Oregon activities are also cancelled.

Should the college be open, but we experience somewhat heavy snow or ice, it is possible that the group leader, course manager, or presenter may need to cancel their event. Please call the OLLI office, (541) 617-4663, for the most up-to-date OLLI event information. As always, please use your best judgment as to whether you feel the roads are safe for your travel.

## Book Discussion Group's Next Read

***Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, by Jared Diamond**

Why have some societies endured for thousands of years, while others have collapsed after briefly flourishing? What are the implications for the USA? Jared Diamond, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Guns, Germs and Steel*, and professor of Geography at UCLA, identifies factors common to successful societies and factors common to those which have collapsed. He vividly describes the culture and evolution of a representative sampling of societies including the Pueblo Indians of the Southwest, the Maya, Easter Island, Japan, Greenland, Rwanda, Dominican Republic, and the state of Montana. His thesis suggests that we need to dramatically revise many of our own attitudes and policies, for we currently mimic too many characteristics of those societies which collapsed.

Our first session will feature a video of a stimulating presentation about the book and its themes made by Jared Diamond to an audience at Cal Tech. If you're not sure about your own interest in reading this fascinating but substantial (over 500 pages) work, attend this session before buying the book. The second session will focus on discussing key points of the book, supplemented with criticisms rendered by other scholars. The third session will focus on the implications of Diamond's thesis about necessary changes in our own behaviors and in national policies. Jared Diamond sees hope for our society. We'll conclude with a straw poll as to whether or not we agree with him.

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## Ongoing Groups

### First Tuesday Social Luncheon

Meets the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. To reserve a space, contact Gail at 617-4663 or [gailm@uoregon.edu](mailto:gailm@uoregon.edu).

**February 5:** Crossings Restaurant at The Riverhouse

Contact: Harlie Peterson, [harliepete@hotmail.com](mailto:harliepete@hotmail.com)

### Book Discussion Group

Meets on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

**February 12 and 26:** *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, by Jared Diamond

Chandler Building

Contact: Ed Lee, [edwinlee@alum.mit.edu](mailto:edwinlee@alum.mit.edu)

## Discussing Science

Meets the first and third Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

**February 1 and 15:** Topics TBA Chandler Building

Contact: Harlie Peterson, [harliepete@hotmail.com](mailto:harliepete@hotmail.com)

## Dutch Masters: The Age of Rembrandt DVD course

Meets Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

**February 13:** Still Life Painting, c. 1630-54; Still Life Painting, c. 1652-82

**February 20:** Landscape Painting—the Early Decades; Landscapes of Jan van Goyen and Rembrandt

**February 27:** Foreign Landscapes; Landscape Painting in the 1640s and 1650s

Chandler Building

Contact: Jim Hammond, [drjhammond@oldshoepress.com](mailto:drjhammond@oldshoepress.com)

## Film Series at Touchmark

Meets the second and fourth Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

**February 8:** *Khartoum*

**February 22:** *Harvey*

Terrace Lodge, Touchmark at Mount Bachelor Village

Contact: Larry Weinberg, [larry101@bendbroadband.com](mailto:larry101@bendbroadband.com)

### Joy of Science DVD course

Meets Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

**February 7:** The Second Law of Thermodynamics; Entropy

**February 14:** Magnetism and Static Electricity; Electricity

**February 21:** The Electromagnetic Spectrum, Part 1; The Electromagnetic Spectrum, Part II

**February 28:** Relativity; Atoms  
Chandler Building

Contact: Bob Clautice,  
bclautice@bendbroadband.com

### Thinking Allowed:

Meets the second and fourth Monday of every month at 1:30 p.m.

**February 11 and 25: Topics to be determined at meeting.**

Chandler Building

Coordinator: Ruth Burleigh

### Thinking Allowed II at Touchmark

Meets the first and third Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

**February 4 and 18:** Bring your favorite quotes to share Touchmark at Mt. Bachelor Village

Coordinator: Helen Vandervort,  
helenv@bendcable.com

## Are You Receiving OLLI's Weekly Eminders?

Each week OLLI sends an e-mail with the following week's offerings and announcements. We have updated our format which includes color and underlined links which you can access by clicking on them. If you would like to receive these Eminders, give us a call with your e-mail address, or send us an e-mail at [ctrinfo@uoregon.edu](mailto:ctrinfo@uoregon.edu) and ask to be added to our Eminder list.

## Upcoming Presentations

### First Wednesday Recorded Lecture: The American Denial of Global Warming

**Naomi Oreskes** (Ph.D., Stanford, 1990) is Professor of History and Science Studies at the University of California, San Diego. Her research focuses on the historical development of scientific knowledge, methods and practices in the earth and environmental sciences, and on understanding scientific consensus and dissent.

Oreskes' most recent work deals with the science of climate change. Her 2004 essay, *The Scientific Consensus on Climate Change* (Science 306:1686), led

to Op-Ed pieces in the *Washington Post*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the *Los Angeles Times*, and has been widely cited in the mass media, including *National Public Radio (Fresh Air)*, *The New Yorker*, *USA Today*, *Parade*, as well as the *Royal Society's* publication, "A guide to facts and fictions about climate change", and, most recently, in Al Gore's movie, *An Inconvenient Truth*.

Polls show that between one-third and one-half of Americans still believe that there is "no solid" evidence of global warming, or that if warming is happening it can be attributed to natural vari-

ability. Others believe that scientists are still debating the point. Join scientist and renowned historian Naomi Oreskes as she describes her investigation into the reasons for such widespread mistrust and misunderstanding of scientific consensus and probes the history of organized campaigns designed to create public doubt and confusion about science. This lecture, sponsored by the UCSD Scripps Institute of Oceanography, was delivered in October 2007 to an audience of over 300 at Scripps' Birch Aquarium.

**Wednesday, February 6, 10:00 a.m. (Chandler Building)**

## A Series of Three Plays . . . in Three Sessions

Two enthusiastic COCC professors return to introduce you to two plays, Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Clay Cart*, a 2,000-year old Indian classic. OLLI member Jim Hammond starts the series with a discussion of August Wilson's *Fences*. OLLI has planned these three with this year's Oregon Shakespeare Festival presentations in mind. Headed to Ashland in March or not, every one of you is welcome to the following sessions.

### **Fences**

**Jim Hammond** will facilitate a discussion of the play *Fences* by August Wilson. We will look at the life and works of this Pulitzer Prize winning playwright and how the context and story came from his background. In *Fences*, August Wilson tells the story of four generations of black Americans and of how they have passed on a legacy of morals, mores, attitudes, and patterns

### **Renewals, New Memberships, Questions**

Renewals and membership application may be mailed to:

OLLI-UO, Central Oregon Site

1227 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1277

Or you may drop them by the OLLI-CO office:

1027 NW Trenton, Bend

Questions? Call Gail at 617-4663

through stories with and without music. Jim is an avid theatergoer and sometime actor whose eclectic curiosity will almost certainly give us useful insights into this classic of the American state.

August Wilson won a Pulitzer Prize for this moving story of a working-class, African-American King Lear—a big man with bigger demons in the decade before the Civil Rights Movement. Troy Maxson believes prejudice kept him from playing major league baseball. Now he hauls garbage. Embittered by his past, Troy barricades his family against disappointment, and father is pitted against son in a devastating power struggle.

**Thursday, February 14, 2:00 p.m. (BSC)**

### ***Midsummer Night's Dream:* What Happens in the Forest Stays in the Forest**

When phosphorescent beams of passion mingle with the dark mysteries of the Athenian Wood, the resulting alchemy dares those under its influence to take risks not ordinarily embraced. Young lovers, an honest tradesman with theatrical aspirations, and a fairy queen feverishly pursue each other through a love potion-fueled night. You're invited to OSF newcomer Mark Rucker's moonlit party—a dance-filled, joy-filled, youthful, funny take on midsummer magic.—From the OSF brochure.

Join COCC Professor Emeritus, **Bill Buck** as he takes a look at

the this popular Shakespeare play that members will be seeing in our annual trip to Ashland in March. Bill writes, "This play was written during Shakespeare's "lyrical" period, at the same time as *Romeo and Juliet*. In the comedy, four separate worlds are intertwined with near mathematical precision. First is the world of the court, with Duke Theseus who has newly won his Amazon queen by conquest; the court also has an angry father who wants to arrange the marriage of his daughter, Hermia. Next comes the world of the lovers, who have their own reasons to flee to the freedom of the forest, where moonlight madness and magic potions turns love upside down. Third, there is the world of the fairies in the forest, a world out of balance because Lord Oberon, King of the Fairies, is angry with his beautiful Queen Titania. Finally there is a fourth world of the simple workmen who come to the wood secretly to practice a play in honor of Duke Theseus's wedding. When these four worlds collide, true love wins out, the right Jack gets the right Jill, overbearing fathers are overruled, and nature's harmony is restored when the fairies are reconciled.

And then comes the most hilarious act in Shakespeare—Act 5 with the simple workmen putting on the rollicking play, "the tragic/mirthful play" of *Pyramus and Thisbe* for the multiple weddings at the assembled court. At the

end of this wise and buffoonish play-within-a-play, night falls and the lovers hie themselves to bed, with the fairies appearing to bless the festivities.”

**Thursday, February 21, 2:00 p.m. (BSC)**

### ***The Clay Cart***

Lilli Ann Linford-Foreman will present some of her insights into *The Clay Cart* with excerpts from a video recording of another production of the play and a discussion of the original source material.

Bursting with music and dance, color, action, and romance, this 2,000-year-old Indian classic—utterly Shakespearean in spirit—proves that great storytelling transcends the centuries. Jewels are stolen. A Brahmin faces execution. A beautiful courtesan is at the mercy of the King’s bad-boy brother. Journey through a world where gamblers, holy men, political fugitives, and royal scoundrels intersect and good people triumph.

Lilli Ann Linford-Foreman, Professor of Speech and Theater at COCC since 1987, has an extensive background in theater as a teacher, performer and director. She is a stage director for the Obsidian Opera Company and most recently was seen on stage in the *Vagina Monologues* at the Tower Theatre.

**Thursday, February 28, 2:00 p.m. (BSC)**



## WATER FOR OUR WORLD

In January we delved into water resources and how we measure them. In February we explore the distribution and legal rights to water. Join us to learn more about this vital resource.

### **Who Gets the Water?**

Kyle Gorman, Regional Manager of the Watermaster’s Office in Bend, will explain how water is distributed to the many who require it. Will the farmers get more than the city dwellers? Will the flow in the Deschutes River be adequate for fish and anglers? All your questions will be answered.

**Tuesday, February 12, 2:00 p.m. (Bend Senior Center)**

### **Who has the Rights to Water**

David Newton, of Newton Consultants in Redmond will address the legal questions concerning water. What can you do if a stream runs through your property? Can you drill a well and pump freely? What is your legal obligation concerning dumping of wastes into streams or into the aquifer? What may upstream owners do that might impact you? Answers to these questions and more will be presented.

**Tuesday, February 19, 2:00 p.m. (Bend Senior Center)**

## **Medical Series**

### **Discussing Dementia—the Why, the What, the Who, the When**

OLLI members, **Jane Mitchell** and **Jim Horton** return to discuss the critical information that you should know about dementia, either for your own benefit or for your role as a caregiver. You may wish to look at some of our previously suggested sources or Google “dementia” to come prepared. The topic could be coming to a person near you, so be forewarned.

Jane Mitchell is a retired physical therapist with 43 years of health care experience. She recently retired and moved to Bend. Jim Horton is a retired Biologist with a background in education.

**Thursday, February 7, 2:00 p.m. (Chandler building)**



## NEWS ITEMS AND CREDITS

### Renewals, New Memberships, Questions

Renewals and membership application may be mailed to:

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1227 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1277

Or you may drop them by the  
OLLI-**CO** office:

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Questions? Call Gail at  
617-4663.

### Outside of OLLI

UO and COCC Friday  
Distinguished Lecture

### Margie Paris, Dean UO School of Law

*A Good Start: Lawyers and  
Legal Education in the 21st  
Century.*

Friday, February 22, 3:00 p.m.,  
COCC Boyle Education Center  
155

### Thank you to the following for their contributions to the February 2008 newsletter:

**Margie Hanna,**  
Graphic Designer

**Mary Cope,**  
Newsletter Coordinator

**Gail Merydith,**  
Onsite Program Assistant

**Lina Van Brunt,**  
Graphic Production Assistant

## America's Loss of Economic Fairness

Using four conventional models of policy analysis, **Ed Whitelaw** contrasts the Oregon Dream with the realities of Oregon's increasing inequality and stagnant mobility.

1. For the normative model, he uses the two economic criteria—opportunity and community—Governor Kulongoski proffered in his 2006 State Address and his 2007 Inaugural.
4. For the prescriptive model, given what Oregonians and their institutions have delivered so far, we urge nothing less than an intensive, compensatory shift in emphasis onto opportunity-and-mobility-generating policies and institutions, ranging from health care to the development of abstract thinking and interpersonal skills.



2. For the descriptive model, we infer Oregon's economic conditions from the accumulating national evidence and growing number of economists documenting the rapidly increasing inequality in income and wealth exacerbated by stagnant income mobility.
3. For the explanatory model, we summarize the causes proffered in the past 30 years, including skill-biased technical change and a polarizing labor market.

**Ed Whitelaw** is president of ECONorthwest, an economic and financial consulting firm, and a professor of economics at the University of Oregon, where he has taught since 1967. He received his B.A. from the University of Montana and his PhD from M.I.T. Dr. Whitelaw specializes in applied microeconomics, the economic consequences of policy decisions, urban and regional economics, and resource and environmental economics.

**Friday, February 29, 2:00 p.m.  
(BSC)**

*Visit us online at*  
**<http://osher.uoregon.edu>**

## Activities and Travel News

### OLLI-UO Alaska Excursion

Spend eleven nights in the heart of Alaska. Arrive in Fairbanks July 4, 2008. The adventure begins the next morning in Fairbanks and finishes Tuesday, July 15 in Anchorage.

Ride a riverboat down the Chena River, visit the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline, enjoy a bus tour of the Denali National Park, ride the Alaska Railroad, tour Resurrection Bay, and more.

The cost of the tour is \$2950 and it includes:

- Educational programs entrance fees
- Transportation within Alaska\*
- A full time coordinator
- All hotels
- Three meals a day
- All tipping

The University of Alaska Fairbanks will coordinate the trip for OLLI-UO. If you would like to join this cultural tour all you need to do is call or come by the OLLI office for a registration form, and then return the completed form with your \$500 deposit check or Visa/Mastercard payment to the OLLI office by 5:00 p.m., February 13.

Call (800) 824-2714 for a full itinerary and trip details.

- \* Transportation to and from Alaska not included in tour costs.



### Ashland Bound, March 1-2

Registration is still open for the annual OLLI-UO trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland. The trip will take place on Saturday and Sunday, March 1 and 2. While in Ashland we will see three great plays: August Wilson's *Fences*, *The Clay Cart*, and Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

On Sunday morning the group will gather for a lecture by an OSF actor. Trip prices will include OSF tickets, lodging, transportation and some meals.

**Trip costs: \$195, double and \$245, single. To register, call the OLLI—UO office (800) 824-2714, registration deadline: February 7.**

### Help Our Membership Grow

If you enjoy your OLLI membership why not introduce a friend to our program? Our quarterly Open Houses offer outstanding speakers, good company and an introduction to our program offerings so please invite a few friends to join you at our winter Open House at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13.

The OLLI office can provide your friends with membership information, just call the OLLI office to make the request and packets will be mailed directly to your friends. (541) 617-4663 or (800) 824-2714.

### OLLI is a Cooperative Venture

OLLI is a cooperative, member-driven program in which every member plays an important role in helping the program succeed. Your most essential contribution is participation—come to the events, groups and courses that appeal to you, and attend as regularly as your schedule allows!

Do you have an idea for a new course, trip or activity that you would like OLLI to offer? Suggestion forms are available at the OLLI-CO office and at all Open House gatherings. You can also contact the Program Committee chair or the OLLI office to offer your ideas.

Let us know what you are thinking—your voice counts!



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**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

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## Calendar of Committee Meetings

*(All OLLI members welcome, meeting dates and times subject to change)*

**Governing Council Meeting**

Friday, February 15, 10:00 a.m.

**Program Assistant**

Gail Merydith, 617-4663

Harlie Peterson, 593-2015

Linda Shaw, 312-4665

**Program Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, February 26, 1:15 p.m.

**OLLI-UO Program Director**

Ruth Heller, (800) 824-2714

**Program Committee Members**

Helen Pruitt, Chair, 382-7827

**Hospitality**

To help with Open House refreshments please call Mort Perle, 388-3376 or Gail Merydith, 617-4663.

**Governing Council Members**

Mort Perle, President, 388-3376

Mary Cope, 317-5753

Jim Hammond, 617-1086

Jim Horton, 388-4939

Harlie Peterson, 593-2015

**Membership Outreach**

For information contact: Jim and Nancy Horton, 388-4939.

Barbara MacMillan, Secretary, 322-0236

Bob Clautice, Vice President/  
Treasurer, 317-9498

Garnet Fish, 503-550-6476

Nancy Horton, 388-4939

Larry Weinberg, 610-9023

Margaret Young, 548-3941

**Newsletter Coordinator**

Mary Cope, 317-5753

Barbara Koop, 322-8748

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At the University of Oregon