

OLLI Personal Computer User Group
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University

Report of 2014 Activities to OLLI Board of Directors
Meeting of January 16, 2015

The OLLI Personal Computer User Group, or OPCUG, has completed its sixth year of operation. This club activity serves members interested in Windows PCs, smartphones, tablets, digital photography and related technology. During the year, 58 OLLI members participated as dues-paying (\$5.00) OPCUG members. Others were guests at various meetings. OPCUG is a member of the Association of Personal Computer User Groups, which provides program resources and vendor contacts to computer groups nationally, and internationally.

Total attendance for 11 monthly meetings was 500, or an average of 46 per meeting. February's meeting was canceled because of hazardous travel conditions. A PC Clinic was held in June and December, to assist members with computer problems, with five or six folks seeking help each session.

Beginning in September, OLLI's videoconferencing equipment was linked to Zoom, a cloud-based video meeting service, to allow members unable to attend the physical meeting to see and hear the presentations and meeting activities via the Internet. Remote attendees have participated from Sequim, Washington, College Park and Lanham MD, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

Meetings were held jointly with the Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society, (PATACS) which arranged the majority of meeting speakers. A broad range of computer and technology topics were the subjects of the meetings, both in formal presentations, and the Q&A sessions that are part of each meeting. Some of the specific topics covered: On-Line Tips, Internet Safety and Cable Service (Cox Communications); Saving Your Memory and Your Mind: 7 Steps to Better Brain Health; From Television Sets to Communications Policy (Fairfax County Government) Overcoming the Physical Stresses of Computing; Fairfax County's Emergency Communications Center; Windows XP Expiration – Now What?; Cryptography for the Rest of Us; Tips for Buying & Enjoying the Features of a New TV; The Internet of Things; The Internet of Things; Virtual Roots – Genealogy; MultiUser Virtual Environments.

Topics scheduled or in planning for 2015 include: Travel Planning; Consumer Electronics Show Highlights; Switching from PC to Mac; Cut and Paste / Clipboard Across Platforms; Is Your Toaster an Insider Threat?; Computer Forensics; 3D Printing.

On January 17th, 2015, PATACS will present a \$250 donation to the Friends of OLLI, in appreciation of the strong relationship between the groups. PATACS and its predecessor organization, known as the Washington Area Computer User Group, contributed \$250 to the Friends of OLLI in 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2014, and in 2010, donated three new, ACER flat panel monitors, valued at \$358, for use at PC Clinics, and as needed by OLLI. OPCUG dues funds were used to jointly purchase two web cams with PATACS for use at meetings, and as may be needed by OLLI. Audio equipment is also jointly owned by PATACS and OLLI.

More information about OPCUG is available on the group's web site:
<http://www.olligmu.org/~opcug/>

Paul Howard, OPCUG coordinator
January 3, 2015