Ed Landerman Keeps on Dancing
By Joan Gaul

Roz Treger, our editor, said, “Ed Landerman sat behind me at a Hindu temple, and I overheard him say he took tango lessons. You should interview him.”

After googling Ed Landerman and checking the range of his study groups, I did interview him. We met at Maggie Murph’s. He was on his way to Dan Boyarski’s design class, which he thought was so good that I should come along.

Ed was born in Stoew Township, near McKees Rocks. In 1944 he graduated from Carnegie Tech with a degree in metallurgical engineering. After graduation he worked in Detroit for a motor company, but decided to come back for a master’s degree at Pitt. He then worked for Westinghouse for 35.4 years. His specialty was materials and welding, primarily on the safety aspects of nuclear power plants. Between starting and retirement, he made 18 trips to Europe and 5 to Japan. He continued to consult for Westinghouse for three years beyond retirement.

Retired, he became a serious volunteer. His first big job was with a joint Chautauqua-Soviet Union program as Man Friday to the director. The program ran a year with functions at Chautauqua, in Russia, and back at Chautauqua. Among the particip-

Continued on page 11
This has been a busy season, starting with our gala grand opening of the remodeled offices and the dedication of the Martha Orringer Conference Room on December 1. Attendance was standing-room only at the delightful brunch, thanks to Gloria Kleiman, Helen-Faye Rosenblum, and their committee. The Pittsburgh branch of the Orringer family was in attendance. Martha’s nephew, Bob Orringer, donated the plaque mounted on the wall in the Conference Room. Everyone touring the finished rooms admired our new spaces.

Our lectures have been a spectacular success. In November, study leader Dr. Joseph Eaton invited Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al-Hussein, Jordan’s ambassador to the United States, to speak to his class on the Middle East. Due to the prestige of our guest speaker, we made it an evening lecture. Needing larger quarters, we moved the location to Rodef Shalom Congregation, where we accommodated over 350.

Our lecture in December with Dr. Ron Linder speaking about foreign policy after George Bush was overflowing. We were fortunate that the McConomy Auditorium was available for a crowd of over 220. In January we could not get a larger room and had to limit the attendance for the delightful lecture by Elden Gatwood, retired Pittsburgh Symphony musician. He surprised us with his entrance playing the bagpipes. In February Post-Gazette writer Brian O’Neill talked with wit and seriousness about Pittsburgh’s ailing demographics and finances.

You will note elsewhere in this newsletter the retirement of several of our chairs: Marty Brigham, special events; Mary Lou Ende, reception-desk volunteers; Elayne Rosen, luncheons; Lois Gongaware, co-chair, mailing. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you for your dedicated service.

I am pleased to announce the new chairs: Gloria Kleiman, special events; Phyllis Silver, reception desk; Jayne Keffer, luncheons; Joe Scorpion, co-chair, mailing.

Our website is up and running at www.cmu.edu/osh. Our beautiful new format includes notice of upcoming lectures, luncheons, trips, and other activities.

Our second grant was approved by the Osher Foundation. We are now on the way to submitting a proposal for an endowment next fall. At the Annual Meeting in April, we will vote on an amendment to our bylaws to officially change our name; however, our identity remains the same—a volunteer-led organization dedicated to lifelong learning.

Feeling Tense and Anxious? Come Hear “Dr Stress”

On Monday, March 24, Dr. Bruce Rabin will speak at 7:30 p.m. in the Connan Room at the University Center. Dr. Rabin is professor of pathology and psychiatry at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He is medical director of the UPMC Healthy Lifestyle Program and an internationally recognized authority on the effects of stress on the human immune system. “Dr. Stress,” as he is known to many in the media, focuses his research on a proactive approach to maintaining health, rather than concentrating on treatment of disease. He has spent more than 30 years researching ways to maintain the health of healthy individuals during the aging process.

This presentation will help you to understand the mental and physical effects of stress and will provide a variety of strategies that can minimize the effect of stress on your health. Dr. Rabin's program is intended for healthy individuals who will benefit from increased stress-coping skills. It is also for individuals with diseases such as hypertension, asthma, arthritis, heart disease, cancer, and lupus, where coping with stress can promote an enhanced sense of well-being and possibly influence the disease course. Dr. Rabin will provide education that can truly make a difference in your quality of life.
A Special Thank You

By Sally Cohen, Curriculum Chair

Committee members routinely write thank-you notes to study leaders whose courses have been completed. Without study leaders, we would have no program. They are dedicated individuals. They are experts in their fields. They love their work, and they give their time to us because they find the experience valuable and enriching.

Often it is hard to find the right words to express appreciation for what they do.

It also is important to recognize that it is the Curriculum Committee members who contact potential study leaders and ultimately create the group of faculty for each term. They, too, are dedicated and work hard at what they do. So without a Curriculum Committee, there would be no faculty, and without faculty, Osher classes could not exist. How fortunate we are to be able to put this all together!

While acknowledging those who make Osher “tick,” we must not overlook some very special people. They usually are not thanked formally, though they certainly are greatly appreciated. They not only have been members of A.L.L. and Osher faculty groups, but they also have been on the Curriculum Committee. That means they’ve helped put together our teaching staff while creating and producing their own courses.

They’ve done it all! We now give special recognition to those who have done double duty from Fall Term 2003 to the present:*


We thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

(*Please forgive me and let us know if any names have been omitted so that they can be recognized in a future newsletter.)

Osher Helps Another Successful Food Drive

By Joe Scorpion

Many thanks to Osher members who contributed to the fourteenth annual CMU Food Drive in November. Again, it was a most successful campaign with 5,676 pounds of nonperishable items contributed to the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank. In addition, $844.51 in cash was collected. This was the fourth-largest drive in terms of total poundage collected and the largest year ever for cash received.

Some facts:

- This is one of the largest private food drives in the area.
- The 5,676 pounds collected beat both the Steelers and Penguins food drives by more than a ton.
- For every $1 donated, the Food Bank can purchase $5 worth of food. The $844.51 collected will purchase $4,222.55 worth of nutritious food.
- America’s Second Harvest estimates that a meal for one child costs the food-banking network about $1. The $844.51 has made it possible for nearly 900 children to get a healthy meal.
- This year, the Food Bank is working with $150,000 less in State Food Purchase Program funds and nearly $500,000 less in the value of government commodity food. Drives like CMU’s are critically needed to help the Food Bank avoid service cuts.

We should all feel proud that the Food Drive was a huge success again this year. Hopefully, we can exceed this year’s efforts in November 2008. Watch for details in the fall issue of our Osher newsletter.
Coming Attractions

Multi-Day Tours
Planned by Rosemary’s Tours

Wednesday, May 28-Saturday, May 31
Cultural Toronto, Ontario, Buffalo, NY

Sunday, June 15-Saturday, June 21
Cape Cod, Massachusetts (Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket, Provincetown)

Tuesday, July 22-Friday, July 25
Shaw Festival, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Monday, August 18-Friday, August 22
Chautauqua Institute, Chautauqua, NY

Tuesday, September 16-Friday, September 19
Biltmore Estate, Asheville, NC

Monday, October 20-Thursday, October 23
Cultural New York City

Friday, November 14-Sunday, November 16
Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse, Carlisle, PA
(Murder Mystery Weekend/Sightseeing Trip to Carlisle and surrounding area)

A Trip Back in Time
Frank Lloyd Wright’s Duncan House

Monday
April 28

All aboard the bus at 7:30 a.m. at the CMU traffic circle for an hour drive to the Duncan House, a Frank Lloyd Wright home designed for a mass market.

After coffee, we tour this 1950s home, deconstructed in 2002 and moved piece-by-piece from Chicago to the Laurel Highlands. How lucky we are to have another Wright masterpiece in our region.

Scenes at the Holiday Luncheon

Eighty-three members and guests enjoyed good food, good company, and entertaining piano music at the Pittsburgh Golf Club on December 14, 2007, at the Osher at CMU holiday luncheon.

The menu featured the choice of seafood newburgh crepes with lobster bisque sauce or boneless chicken breast stuffed with mushroom mousse, and for dessert, cappuccino crème brulée.

Applause to Dr. Robert Runzo for his piano playing and to the planners Jayne Keffer and Elayne Rosen, along with Dee Davis, Marlene Gilman, Sibby McCrady, Bobbie Recht, and Carole Wolsh.
Notes from the Office

By Millicent M. Lynch
Administrative Coordinator

In November 2007 we applied for a grant from the St. Margaret Foundation’s PULSE AED Program for an automated external defibrillator device (AED). The AED is used to treat people who experience sudden cardiac arrest. It is applied only to victims who are unconscious, not breathing normally, and who show no signs of circulation. The AED analyzes heart rhythm and advises the operator if a shockable rhythm is detected.

The St. Margaret Foundation/UPMC St. Margaret provides all funding for the grant. AEDs are placed at sites after a careful assessment of training compliance, community benefit/accessibility, and overall need. The program provides an AED to any organization that fits the criteria where the possibility for an elevated risk of sudden cardiac arrest could exist.

I am happy to report that we have received the grant for the AED, and the device has been placed between Rooms 4707 and 4708 in Wean Hall. Additionally, we have bought a second AED that has been mounted on a wall outside of the Osher offices in Hunt Library.

We will be scheduling AED training in the future. If you are interested in learning how to use the device, please contact the office.

Our thanks go to Jim Gindlesberger, Carnegie Mellon loss prevention manager, and to Dave Bianco, the PULSE Program coordinator at the St. Margaret Foundation, for their assistance in helping us apply for the AED grant.

Work proceeds on updating our website: www.cmu.edu/osh. We hope to add more photos. If anyone has a digital camera and is interested in taking photos of classes and events, please give us a call. We can use your talents! A long-term objective is to place the course catalog on the website and ultimately to enable members to register and pay for classes online. Meanwhile, information relating to membership, volunteer opportunities, events, and three issues of our newsletters have been placed on our website.

There will also be a slight change concerning registration and the course catalog. Starting with the summer catalog, the membership forms will be inserted in the catalog with a tear-out strip on the side. Two membership forms will be inserted in each catalog so we can send one catalog to each household (rather than sending an individual catalog to each member), saving us printing and postage costs.

Change is good!

For International Travelers and Members of Learning in Retirement Organizations

Educational Discovery Tours and Jean Bardot and Patrick Bulteau of the American University of Paris team up to offer educational travel programs in France and Spain for 2008. Programs are personalized and conducted by a university professor. Hotels are 3-4 stars. Programs include:

- April in Paris—4/23-5/1
- Normandy and Paris, a Land/River Cruise—5/1-5/13
- Food, Wine and Art in Burgundy/Champagne—6/18-6/30
- Three Rivers/Three Countries 7/10-7/22
- Wine and Art in Spain—9/10-9/22
- Food, Wine and Art in Aquitaine/Basque Country—10/18-10/30


Interested in Reading Articles on Brain Fitness?

You might want to look at the Sharp Brains website at http://www.sharpbrains.com. Information on this website includes articles on brain training, lifelong learning, traveler IQ games, conferences, etc.
By Sylvia Sachs

Now that our Lifelong Learning center at Carnegie Mellon is over 15 years old and has swelled to more than 1,500 members, events and activities can sometimes be looked at with a little historical perspective. For instance, the curriculum, without which there would be no center. Classes fall into patterns of different kinds: some tend to be explorations of serious subjects; some are more lighthearted; others require physical activity. Also, some courses are presented just once, but many are repeated often and by the same study leaders.

The question of which classes have been going on the longest came up recently, and a perusal of the archives (we have archives!) gathered and stored in the office by Audrey Catrow, as well as those kept by founder Gretchen Lankford, point to the Short Stories classes and the Great Novels and Writers Revisited series as the courses given most consistently over the years.

The Short Stories class led by Helen-Faye Rosenblum started in the spring of 1993. Great Novels, a favorite topic of Gretchen’s, began in the summer of 1994 with Jack Feeney, Marguerite Puhl, and Helen-Faye assisting Gretchen. Very soon (after Feeney and Puhl turned to other things), Martha Browne, Tom Lazaroff, and Audrey Catrow became permanent leaders. The class currently is meeting for its forty-second term, and 252 books, more or less, have been studied.

When the University of Pittsburgh’s Honors College met February 21 for its program “2008 Political Pundits: on the Bus and on the Beach,” one of the featured national political reporters was Bloomberg News senior correspondent Indira Lakshmanan. In the audience was her justly proud mother, Teresa Lakshmanan, a longtime A.L.L./Osher member. Indira covers Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign’s full time for the news service, which was why she was invited to join the panel discussion at Pitt.

Dr. Lakshmanan, the proud mother, revealed the experiences that led to her daughter’s current job. An Allderdice graduate, she received early admission to Harvard and after graduation went off to England and Oxford University. Her career, starting in the late 1980s, included jobs at the Boston Globe and the New York Times, leading up to the Bloomberg position. When not following the political scene, she lives in D.C. with her husband and two-year-old son.

Speaking of other successful hometown writers, although from a different generation and maybe not so nationally known—Osher member David Rothbart continues to receive attention for A Soldier’s Journal, the diary he kept during his World War II service. The journal is unique in that its contents are published exactly as originally written by the young David.

David was featured in a WQED production made in conjunction with the Ken Burns series on World War II. The segment continues to be shown and promoted on the local channel, and David continues to hear from readers with comments or questions.

Osher at CMU has many members who are writers, published and unpublished. Since fall 1996, Ruth Schrag and Mary Kinsel’s Writing Workshop has given a devoted group of them a congenial setting where they can present their writing efforts to fellow writers and to the leaders for appreciation and critiques. Some writings from this class have been published in the Carnegie Mellon magazine.

One of these class members is Irving Levine, who, like David Rothbart, is recording his experiences in World War II. Levine was a captain in the U.S. Air Force and served as a B25 bomber pilot in the China/Burma sector. He’s been working on his book for six years, he says, and like Rothbart, has a family member with publishing connections. “It’s my granddaughter,” says Levine. “But she fell in love and got married in the meantime, so she’s been a little busy.” She probably will have time for him in the future.

Continued on page 7
Have you noticed how often Osher member names pop up in the news? Some of us take pride in clipping the stories, editorial letters, or any other mentions. Please feel free to pass along any such notices you may see to help Ad Lib keep track of them.

A three-part, photo-accompanied story in the Post-Gazette in December described a forensic sciences course at Duquesne University taught by Ron Freeman, a favorite Osher study leader. The students interviewed by telephone a convicted murderer in his prison cell.

In the last few months we’ve seen letters to the Post-Gazette editor from Lester Berkwitz advocating for nuclear power, and from Jack Feeney objecting to the “needless rehashing” of charges against former coroner Dr. Cyril Wecht. On a later P-G editorial page, Senior Editor Clarke Thomas, one of our stalwart founding members and a fine study leader on many subjects, had an excellent column on how unequally the acknowledged good qualities of Pittsburgh living are spread among the population. On the same page was a column by Dan Simpson, associate P-G editor. Simpson has given several classes for our program, and we have been fortunate to have him share his vast diplomatic background with our members.

And in another Post-Gazette article Mary Thomas, their art critic, praised the work of popular and continuing study leaders Robert Bowden and Kathleen Zimbicki.

People who travel are no novelty in Osher circles. So we have become adept at giving and receiving short but vivid answers to the question, “How was your trip to—wherever?”

Mary Lane Salsbury was asked about her trip to New Zealand with her daughters Ann and Kate at Christmas.

“We arrived on Christmas Eve; it was a really long trip,” Mary Lane said. “People have told me there was an earthquake in New Zealand on Christmas Day. Well, if it was anywhere near me, I just slept through it.”

And did she like New Zealand? Have a good time there? See a lot of interesting things?

“It’s very green there. We saw a lot of green everywhere. It’s not like Australia. Kate lives in Australia, and I’ve visited twice. There’s lots to do in Australia.”

Spoken like a true dyed-in-the-wool city girl. Australia has wool, but also lots of buildings.

Dave Fortun Has a Way with Words

By Sylvia Sachs

As we note in “Ad Lib” the longest-term courses and study leaders, we also want to recognize the new offerings and new faces that keep us growing.

Dave Fortun has shared his enthusiasm for words in two popular courses for Osher at CMU students: “Word Power” in Fall 2007, and “Stuff! (Or, Why Did I Say That?)” in Winter 2008, where the class explored the origins of everyday words. He has ideas for more courses in the works.

Dave Fortun taught English at the Shaler Area High School for 36 years. Twenty years ago, because of his personal interest in etymology, he devised and presented an elective course called “Word Power” at the school. It became the most popular elective at the school, chosen by more than 200 students each year. “I’m a teacher; I love teaching.”

Reading about our lifelong learning program at CMU in the newspaper, he called to volunteer his services and to share his enthusiasm for words with another population of students.

Among other activities in retirement, Dave accompanies physicians on Surgi-Corp trips to places like Brazil and Ecuador, where he says, modestly, that he’s the gofer while the doctors do much-needed surgery. We know he is as welcome on these trips as he is in our Osher at CMU classrooms.
“The Bear Came over the Mountain,” a short story published in the collection *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage* by Alice Munro, and “Away from Her,” a film written and directed by Sarah Polley.

Alice Munro’s reputation as a short story writer of prodigious gifts has been nobly earned. Her work, set mostly in a rural Ontario territory all her own, is exemplary and inimitable. Her atmospheres are visible, palpable, and redolent, peopled with characters whose lives are immediate, surprising yet inevitable.

In “The Bear Came over the Mountain” she brings us to the world of Grant and Fiona, a weathered married couple, just at the point where Fiona’s thought and persona are beginning to disintegrate into Alzheimer’s disease. Still self-aware, she has started to label the small domestic landmarks within the lakeside cottage she has occupied with Grant for over twelve years. Fiona, far more than Grant, accepts her forthcoming move to Meadowlake, a felicitous and well-managed residence for those who share her plight, and for those who have “progressed” to deeper, irretrievable dementia.

Munro conducts us through the agony of fractured love from Grant’s point of view, largely because it is he who has a comprehending point of view left: his memory persists, and through it we see the complex, not blameless, history of his life with Fiona. He has responsibilities, property, continuity to maintain. He has strategies to work out for survival, and for attachment. He has love, and he has yearning.

But at the crux of the tale is the fact that Fiona has love and yearning too. At Meadowlake, in the manner of many similarly afflicted people, she has attached herself to a fellow resident, a man named Aubrey. Think of Sandra Day O’Connor’s forlorn and courageous announcement about her husband’s adjustment to institutional life, and see Fiona. Aubrey’s illness has been caused by a fever rather than a progressive condition. Presumably his stability will outlast Fiona’s. Thus, his stay at Meadowlake is temporary, a respite for his sole caregiver, his wife.

When the time comes for him to return home, he and Fiona are both bereft. Grant, at first bewildered, comes to understand the urgency of Aubrey’s presence to Fiona’s well-being. With a magnanimity born of love, guilt, and the powerful desire to bring heart’s-ease to his despairing wife, Grant engineers a brave arrangement to bring her and her new friend back together. His sacrifice brings about an unexpected burst of lucidity for Fiona.

The story ends in a redemptive and wrenching moment between husband and wife, all the more powerful for its fragility.

So, comes the movie. The title “Away From Her” quotes an early passage in the story, and spares the viewer the enigma of the original title, which is fitting and haunting but (appropriately) never explicitly delineated on the page.

“‘Do you think it would be fun---’ Fiona shouted. ‘Do you think it would be fun if we got married?’

“He took her up on it, he shouted yes. He never wanted to be away from her.”

With exquisite sensitivity, writer/director Sarah Polley picks the phrase, perfect in its irony and layered in its implications, and makes a movie of it. Does it work? Of course it does. The still-luminous Julie Christie was Oscar-nominated for her portrayal of Fiona and won a Golden Globe Award. The film itself was nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay honors. The picture is a small gem, gaining depth in repeated viewings. If it doesn’t quite measure up to the story on the page, it is as faithful to the spirit and essence of the printed word as one can hope for an adaptation to be.

In order to accomplish her film, Ms. Polley has necessarily restructured some of its elements. The movie opens with Grant, portrayed by the splendid Gordon Pinsent, driving toward and finally presenting himself at the threshold of Aubrey’s nondescript suburban home. Aubrey’s wife, the beautifully cast Olympia Dukakis, opens the door, suspiciously greets Grant, and much of what follows appears in flashback. Although faithfully translated, this scene actually comes Continued on page 9
much later in the written story, and in a more linear sequence to the unfolding relationship between Aubrey and Fiona. Why the change? Is it necessary?

The answer defines the difference between the art forms, and it all boils down to the point of view. To succeed as powerfully as they do, story and film must come to us through Grant’s eyes. To set it otherwise would be to scatter the focus, to compromise the power of Grant’s awakening to his new reality, his fighting it, at last accepting it, and reaching that last moment of gratification in both renditions. On the page, from the outset, we watch Grant watching Fiona, in detail after small detail. Although Fiona is the apparent star, the “Her,” the focus, it is in fact Grant’s mind that we occupy throughout the telling, his evolution that the story strives to define. Fiona’s tragedy is inevitable. Grant still has the will to shape outcomes.

The point of view must always be his. The movie re-jiggers chronology in order to keep us on track. The translation from page to cinema requires an imposed sense of direction. The story trusts the reader more.

My response to one scene after another was, “Oh yes, that’s right.” A few added touches, like the addled retired sportscaster who delivers an endless play-by-play rendition of his life at Meadowlake, add some salt to an otherwise solemn stew. Otherwise, the movie quotes the story nearly verbatim. Despite a few departures and digressions, it deposits us at the end exactly where we’re supposed to be.

The outtakes that are part of the DVD version of the movie reveal something telling. The director did film a number of scenes that didn’t make the final cut. Each deleted scene was beautiful in its own way, with fine acting, striking visuals, touching moments. Each deleted scene made an atmosphere, elaborated a mood, showcased a character, gave a little of the submerged portion of the narrative iceberg. But not one of those scenes came directly from the text, and in the end, each was expendable. To her credit, Sarah Polley realized that when it comes down to the bare essentials of telling the story, it’s all there, brilliantly ordered, on the page. All the rest, however evocative, is commentary.

I loved the movie, I admired it, I recommend it. But I didn’t learn more about Grant and Fiona from it. Their dimensions expand infinitely in print. In the theater, we are constrained by what we see. Everyone involved in “Away from Her” earns highest marks for fidelity, sensitivity, creativity. But, without apology, when I go to my desert island, I’ll take the book.

---

**Thanks to Retiring Committee Chairs**

Marty Brigham, Special Events  
Mary Lou Ende, Reception Desk Volunteers  
Elayne Rosen, Luncheons & Barbeque Dinner  
Lois Gongaware, Co-Chair, Membership Mailing

Your contribution to our success is invaluable.  
We are grateful for your service.

**Welcome to Our New Chairs**

Gloria Kleiman, Special Events  
Phyllis Silver, Reception-Desk Volunteers  
Jayne Keffer, Luncheons  
Joe Scorpion, Co-Chair, Membership Mailing
Serendipity
By Filomena Conti

You know what serendipity is—the dictionary describes it as a seeming gift for finding things accidentally or, as I think of it, being in the right place at the right time. That is pretty much how Elden J. Gatwood, retired Pittsburgh Symphony oboist and an originator of the CMU bagpipe program, described his life as a musician.

Members and guests who attended the lecture in the Connan Room at the University Center on January 23 were in for a treat to hear Mr. Gatwood tell us about his various adventures. While we were enjoying coffee and cookies, there was a pleasant murmur in the room: suddenly the doors opened and in strolled a tall gentleman wearing a tam, a dark jacket with shiny buttons, and a tartan-patterned kilt, skirling a bagpipe and making his way to the podium.

Traveling from his Nashville, Tennessee, home to New York City after high school—he had played the oboe without any formal training—Elden Gatwood casually applied for admission to the Julliard School of Music . . . and was accepted. This occurred during World War II, when, he said, Julliard was short of musicians.

Serendipity, see! O.K., you say, a one-time hit. But, wait, this man enlisted in the Navy and was duly sent to the South Pacific. He was on duty in a music band when he was summarily pulled off this somewhat safe duty and was expecting to go into combat. Instead, as he said, the most important person in the South Pacific theater relieved him of this duty and put him back into the Manila symphony orchestra. You might be thinking General Douglas MacArthur, but no, this most important person happened to be Mrs. Douglas MacArthur.

Mr. Gatwood developed many musical skills. He has played the trumpet, saxophone, piano, and percussion, as well as the oboe. He developed the prestigious degree bagpipe program at Carnegie Mellon University and taught music at Duquesne University and Penn State University. He is a distinguished musician, playing with many symphony orchestras, including the Cleveland Orchestra, where he played the oboe under George Szell, and the Pittsburgh Symphony, where he served as principal oboist for 25 years under PSO conductors William Steinberg through Laurin Maazel. Mr. Gatwood credited these stellar achievements to luck, good luck, that is.

From Julliard to Pittsburgh, Mr. Gatwood encountered many famous people in his career. He told us about meeting Darius Milhaud and Francis Poulenc—who taught and played with Julliard students. He is a longtime friend of Robert Craft, whom he met at Julliard and through whom he met Igor Stravinsky. He played under Leopold Stokowski. He described George Szell as a martinet and William Steinberg as a mensch, and criticized the ways of conductors today, who, he said, don’t have enough respect for composers and follow their own idiosyncrasies too much.

Mr. Gatwood has had a serendipitous life and we thoroughly enjoyed hearing him recount his experiences.
Ed Landerman
Continued from page 1

standing” social worker-therapist, he served on the boards of United Mental Health and the Allegheny County Board of Public Assistance. Inkie was a social worker for Outward Bound, a now-national program based on the initial program at CMU. Ed became involved.

The Landermans then worked on the first local volunteer enrichment program, which adopted Miller School. He and Inkie were among the founders of the local NEED (Negro Educational Emergency Drive). Today, he is proud to say, more that 15,000 scholarships have been awarded.

Then came A.L.L. Ed was one of about 40 founding members. He and Ted Fenton chaired the first curriculum committee. Early A.L.L. study groups took heavy advantage of CMU’s staff. They pulled together a group of experts to talk/teach in particular areas, primarily science and history.

A scan of study groups Ed arranged after 2000 shows a change in emphasis to art, music, and theater. These were, he explained, an attempt to put together win-win courses that would be as much to the advantage of the people teaching them as to those taking them. He found himself moving in a piano to accompany one session with Point Park’s Conservatory for Performing Arts and enjoying another with 10 dancers and four main singers. The theater groups, which he tries to bring in a couple of weeks before the opening of their shows, include most of the companies performing in Pittsburgh. His music study groups feature lecturers from the CMU School of Music and provide passes to all CMU concerts. In addition, Ed co-chairs study groups that allow A.L.L./Osher students to interact with CMU Ph.D. students in the social sciences and expose participants to the new in the visual arts.

Not that Ed has abandoned nonacademic volunteering. He has been a member of the Holocaust Committee of Greater Pittsburgh. He remains active in the Parkinson chapter of Western Pennsylvania. Inkie fought Parkinson’s for 12 years. They learned all they could about the disease and joined support groups. Inkie died of a bad fall four years ago. “No one dies of Parkinson’s,” said Ed.

Ed keeps moving. He plays tennis—doubles, not surprisingly—three times a week: winter in the Fifth Avenue bubble and summer at the Stanton Avenue courts in Highland Park. His fellow tennis players are all over 70. They have been pictured in the Senior News and Shady Avenue magazine. He is also involved in interfaith activities as a member of the local American Jewish Committee chapter. It was at an AJC activity at the Hindu temple that Roz nebed.

The tango lessons? “I have always loved ballroom dancing.” Years ago his family went to a place near Bradford Woods that had cottages, a dance floor, and a pool. From ages 13 to 18, he danced every night, first with his mother, then with others. A while back, the daughter who lives in Fox Chapel said, “I’d like to do something with you, Dad.” The something turned out to be tap-dancing lessons. When Dad returned the favor, the subject was tai chi. Daughter rolled her eyes and lasted through one lesson. Ed, who loved it, continued for four years and credits tai chi for his good balance. A year ago, daughter wanted to do tango. They took two sets of lessons at the Wilkins Community Center. At classes’ end, Ed bought the tapes and now dances by himself. “It’s dangerous for men, you know.”

And then, after carefully explaining where it was, he went to Dan Boyarski’s design class.
Office Dedication
Celebrated in Style

On December 1, 2007, Osher at CMU celebrated the remodeling of our office and conference room, with a reception in our Hunt Library. More than 200 members attended, enjoyed brunch, heard an address by President Rita Zecher, and toured our colorful new quarters. Special guests were the family of the late Martha Orringer, for whom the conference room has been named, and whose sister, Harriet Rath, contributed a gift in her honor.

Near right: Orringer family members at the dedication, from left: Bob, Claire, Patricia, Jane, and Helen Orringer; right: Gloriana St. Clair, dean of CMU libraries, who initially invited us into the Hunt Library space.