

Happy New Year 2008!

Each New Year brings the opportunity for renewal of body, mind and spirit. If you've made any resolutions this year, OLLI can provide the means to help see them to fruition. For the body, take a class on Exploring Hiking Trails, Music & Movement, or Understanding the Human Body. To ignite the intellect, any OLLI class will stimulate the mind and open doors to new interests and insight. To enrich the spirit, take a class on Bible understanding or Consciousness of Being. Better yet, the best way to nurture the spirit is to give of oneself to others; and what better way than to volunteer at OLLI for a committee, or as an instructor, facilitator, or the OLLI office! Best wishes for the new year and the successful accomplishment of your goals. **Make it a goal to get involved in 2008!**



Winter Game Day!!



Start the new year off with a fun afternoon of table games with your OLLI friends. This event is sponsored by your Special Events Committee on **Monday, January 7, from 1:00 - 3:30 at Compass Bank** on Governors Drive at Franklin. **Drive up the ramp on the west side of the bank building and park. Enter and take the elevator to the 4th floor. Please wear your OLLI name badge!** Members will be available to help with the play. If you would like to bring a game, please do so. Also, bring any "left over" holiday goodies to share. Phyllis Varney and Mary Compton will provide the beverages. For further information or questions, call 721-1217

Submitted by Mary Compton

Terry Schoper, Barbara Staggs, Nan Case and Trudi Gardner represent the colors, sparkle and glamour seen throughout the Holiday Party on Dec 6.

See page six for more photos of the delightful party which was coordinated by Larry Rice and other members of the Social Committee.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Game Day	Jan 7
Compass Bank.....	1:00-3:30 p.m.
Winter Term Begins.....	Jan 14
Pompeii	Jan 19
Birmingham Museum of Art..	
Genealogy Library & Tour	Jan 19
Wallace State.....	10:00 a.m.
Supper & Contra Dancing	Feb 2
Gibson's, S. Parkway.....	5:30 p.m.
Academy Award Movies.	Jan 31-Feb
TBA.....	
Romeo and Juliet	Mar 3
VBC.....	7:00 p.m.
Winter Term Ends.....	Mar 10
The Crucible	Mar 16
Theatre Huntsville.....	2:00 p.m.
Fairhope, AL Coastal Trip....	May 22-25

From The President



Sue Chatham

The Holiday Season has been wonderful in 2007. I have enjoyed visiting with friends and family but I am now ready to get back to exercising both my body and my mind.

Class registration for the Winter term is underway. Be sure and look at your catalog and decide which classes you would like to take. Remember that our teachers are volunteers and offer their time and knowledge to us for free.

I look forward to seeing you on campus in January!

Sue Chatham
President

Meet Maxine

It is with pleasure that we announce the addition of Maxine L. Doherty, our new Outreach Coordinator at UAH. She will be involved with the UAH Continuing Education Program with emphasis on OLLI support. She replaces Mary Pat Bohrman, who moved to another position within UAH.

Originally from Lancaster, NH, Maxine's exceptional work and educational qualifications are tailor-made to complement the duties required of her new position. Her experience includes over 39 years with the Federal Government from which she retired in January 2003. During her employment she advanced from clerical and administrative duties into senior management. She obtained her MS degree from Florida Tech in 1993, and completed over 70 self-development/training courses in management, supervisory, and computer operations management skills.



Maxine Doherty

Even in retirement, Maxine gave her energy and commitment to community service. She supported the Redstone Arsenal Mentorship Program assisting at-risk students in the Huntsville community to achieve academic goals. She also served as a religious education teacher for seventh grade children of RSA active-duty soldiers. She was a recent volunteer for the OLLI office assisting instructors, facilitators, and members in achieving quality learning experiences.

Her husband, Timothy, is currently employed with the Army at RSA, and they have two children and two grandchildren. Timothy had an interesting background with the US Army Honor Guard in Washington DC (he was an honor guard at Kennedy's funeral), and as a US Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician. For years, he taught Federal, State, and local law-enforcement officials the techniques for rendering safe unexploded ordnance at the FBI school at Redstone.

Maxine's hobbies include running—especially marathons and half-marathons. She recalls the funniest experience as a runner; she literally tripped over the timing mat, and fell over the finish line at the New York City Marathon a couple of years ago. She recalls, "The only time I was ever on TV, and I had to display my lack of coordination!"

Anyone who meets her will fall in love with her enthusiasm. She describes it like this: "I love OLLI! I honestly believe that this program at UAH enhances our entire community, and provides students with a remarkable opportunity to continue learning, to make new friends, and to enhance our total quality of life". When you meet Maxine, you will immediately pick up on this positive attitude. Please welcome her wholeheartedly to her new position at OLLI.

Article and photo by Lorrie White

CULTURAL EVENTS



Pat Lindberg,

Cultural Committee Chair

Twenty-five people attended *Painting the Italian Landscape: "Views from the Uffizi"* at the Huntsville Museum of Art on December 5. If you haven't yet seen this exhibit, it will remain at the Museum until January 13, 2008. The exhibit offers a chronological view of the evolution of landscape painting in Italy from the Renaissance of Botticelli to the 18th century of Canaletto and beyond. It is highlighted by works from the 17th century – the "golden age" of Italian landscape painting. Nell Roberts coordinated the tour, which included lunch at Covington's after the tour.

Post January 19, to your calendar for the Birmingham Museum of Art exhibit Pompeii: "Tales from an Eruption." Tickets are \$14. Contact Nell Roberts (539-9837) or Pat Lindberg (534-7148), and add your name to the list for a very interesting day.

Also, keep Monday, March 3, 7:00 p.m. available for the Saint Petersburg Ballet Company "Romeo and Juliet" performance sponsored by the Community Ballet Association. Arrangements have been made for a group from OLLI to attend. Seating will be in rows P through Z in the orchestra. Prices are \$26 for adults and \$25.00 for seniors (63 and over) and children. A group of 20 people is required to receive this special reduced rate. Contact Eleanor Schweinsberg at eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net or (256) 883-0602 to reserve your seats. Deadline for getting your checks to Eleanor is January 31, 2008.

Then don't forget Theatre Huntsville's production of "The Crucible" on Sunday, March 16, at 2:00 p.m. Jack Cheek (881-2032) is coordinating the event, tickets are \$13.00. Call Jack and arrange to attend with the group.

*Submitted by Pat Lindberg
Cultural Committee Chair*

Huntsville OLLI Representation at Florida National Positive Aging Conference

One of the opportunities of serving on the Board of Directors at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH is talking about our program and meeting with other Lifelong Learning groups around the country.

Recently, I enjoyed making a presentation at the First Annual 2007 National Positive Aging Conference at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL. Volunteerism, the subject of my talk, was followed by a workshop highlighting how volunteerism works for OLLI at UAH.



Aelwyn Thomas

The attendees came from all over the world, and while we all share common goals, we also share common problems. I had the opportunity of sharing our program with many Osher groups, and I learned about other programs that were totally self sufficient and not part of a University Outreach. I learned that the thing that our OLLI at UAH does best involves diversity in curriculum and membership. On the other hand, classroom space and parking seemed to be a universal problem, even as far as in the Scottish Highlands. Other topics involved making learning in later life more intergenerational and the need to attract the now retiring "Boomers."

Networking as Seniors is an important part of the lifelong learning process, and during the next few weeks I am hopeful that we, as members of OLLI at UAH, can come together in small study groups where we can discuss how we can build a strong network with other lifelong learning organizations and share our strengths and weaknesses with one another. I suggested to all those attending that they check out our web site at www.OLLI.uah.edu.

Aelwyn Thomas, P.R. Chair - OLLI at UAH aelwync@juno.com

Ralph Murphy Gives Thanks to OLLI Members

To all who visited or sent prayers, cards, flowers, and emails while he was in the hospital, Ralph extends his sincere appreciation. He's hoping (and the rest of us are praying) that he can resume as usual in 2008.

Special Events Committee

What an exciting fall we had! I hope you took some wonderful classes and that you also participated in some of the other special offerings of OLLI. Your Special Events Committee (SEC) has had several functions since our last newsletter. At the "Meet the new UAH Hockey Coach," Dan Cole and his two assistant coaches provided an excellent overview of UAH's hockey history and the game itself. Thanks to Mary Compton for a very enjoyable and educational event! Mary also checked out the PoloCrosse event, which was a new event for the area. And many thanks to Phyllis Varney and Mary Compton for coordinating another fun afternoon of Mexican Train, Hand and Foot, and other assorted games.



Joyce Howell, Chair
Special Events Committee

Our Winter term promises other opportunities which are detailed in this newsletter:

- Jan 7 Winter Game Day at Compass Bank
- Jan 19 Genealogy Library Tour & Lecture at Wallace State
- Feb 2 Contra Dancing
- Jan 31-Feb Academy Award Movie Outings

A group will travel to Mexico with Bev Marchelos to see the Monarch butterflies in February. And sign-ups are underway for the May 22-25 "Coastal Alabama Sampler" trip.

We hope you'll find activities that enhance your enjoyment of our wonderful organization!

Joyce Howell



Academy Award Movie Series

Academy Award nominations will be announced on January 22, 2008, and we are planning to attend nominated films at area theatre once a week, starting on Thursday, January 31. We plan to attend a late afternoon performance at a local theatre. Afterwards, for those who want to do so, we will have dinner together at a restaurant near the theatre. Further details will be on OLLI email and will be announced in classes.

Coordinated by Carol Pedigo (837-5389)

Supper and Contra Dancing

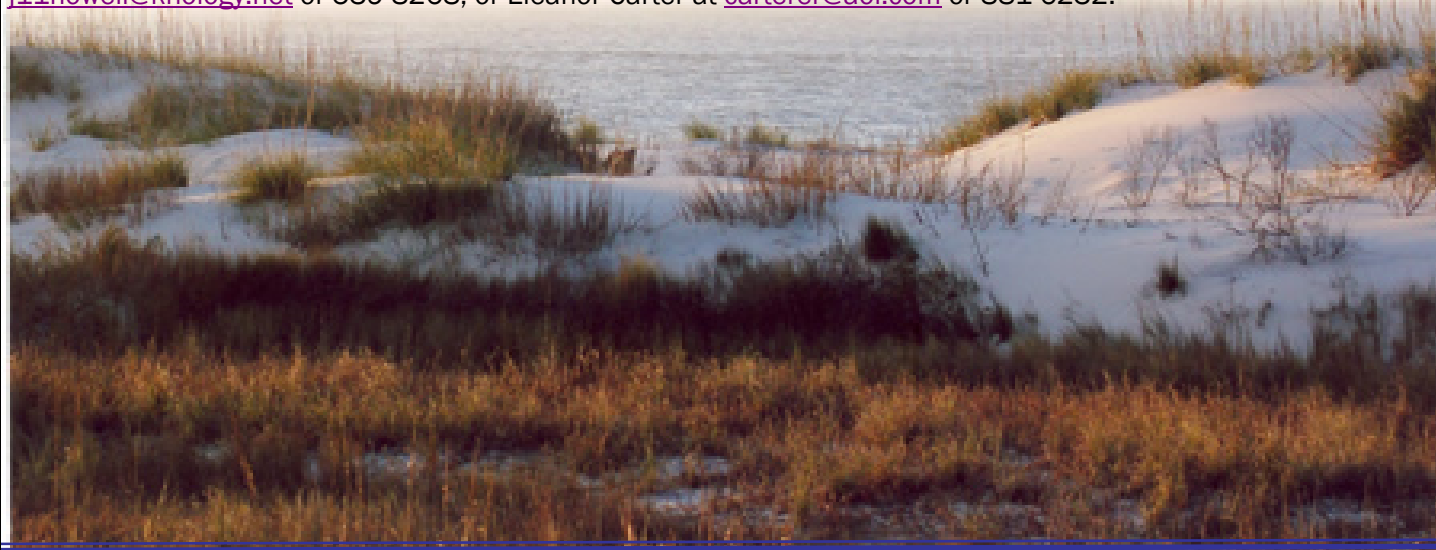
On Saturday, February 2, 2008, we will assemble for supper at Gibson's on South Parkway at 5:30 p.m., either at a large table in the back or in a separate room, depending on the group size. After supper, the group will drive to Faith Presbyterian Church (corner of Whitesburg and Airport Rd) for an evening of Contra Dancing. The workshop begins at 7:00 p.m., and dancing at 7:30. The cost for adults is \$7.00. Reservations are not necessary but would be helpful. Contact event coordinator, Toni Reynolds, at 881-0434 or e-mail wreynold25@comcast.net. Join friends and OLLI Members for a great time.



OLLI IS GOING COASTAL!

Nature trails... exotic birds... canoes... sand crabs... swamps... wildflower bogs... storytellers ... humorists... naturalists... novelists... Spanish moss draped through the magnolia trees... gorgeous sunsets over Week's Bay. Any of that sound interesting to you? Then join us for a 3-day tour in beautiful Fairhope, Alabama for our **Coastal Alabama Sampler, May 22-25, 2008!**

We started with 40 spaces for this adventure. Only 16 are still available, and time is running out to sign up. See full details and flyer at <http://www.osher.uah.edu/coastal-sampler.html> or pick up a flyer in the OLLI office. Total cost for lodging and meals is \$315 per person (double occupancy) or \$392 (single occupancy). Transportation to Fairhope is not included. The only way to make sure your spot is reserved is to send your check, made payable to OLLI, to Eleanor Carter, 5720 Jones Valley Drive, Huntsville, AL 35802 as soon as possible. A group meeting will be held in April with updates and more news for the group. Questions? Contact Joyce Howell at j11howell@knology.net or 539-8268, or Eleanor Carter at carterer@aol.com or 881-6232.



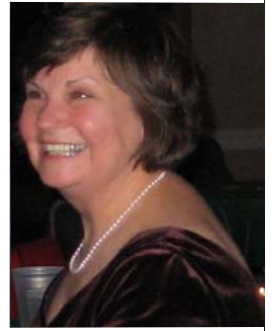
Genealogy Library Tour and Lecture at Wallace State

The Family & Regional History Program and the North Central Alabama Genealogical Society will have an open house at the Wallace Library on Saturday, January 19. Wallace State has an amazing Genealogy program and library. Admission is free. Robert S. Davis will speak on Indian research at 10 a.m., and Bill Simpson talk about using digital cameras and photography in genealogy.

Wallace State is located in Hanceville, Alabama, near Cullman, about an hour from Huntsville. Admission is free, and car pooling will be available. We will meet at the western portion of the parking lot in front of Wilson Hall and depart at 8:00 a.m. Afterwards, there is the option of lunch at the All-Steak Restaurant in Cullman. If you are interested in this day trip, please contact the coordinator, Joyce Howell (539-8268).



Holiday Party 2007: A Night to Remember



Photos by Glenn Nettleton and Lorrie White

“Live Every Day of Your Life”

By Martena Koken

“You can learn something from everybody,” comments Toni Reynolds, as we sit down for lunch; “it’s amazing what you can learn talking to people.”

“Let me tell you a story,” Toni goes on to say. “When papa was sick and we were sitting in the waiting room for results from a blood test, a family came in. One of the poorest looking families I had ever seen with tattoos and piercing all over their bodies. One of the children looked like she had Downs Syndrome. After talking a while with them, I found out that they had won \$600 at Tunica and then the Mrs. went on to tell me all about Mississippi, Alabama and the IRS taxes that had to be paid from their winnings. I learned so much about the tax structure. Then she told about how they had always been going to Talladega. I learned all about the whole history of auto racing and what the various flags meant.”



Toni Reynolds

Toni came away from that chance encounter a much wiser person, and if you get a chance to sit a while and talk with Toni, you too will come away a much wiser person.

Toni has been in Huntsville since 1962 and loves it here. What better place to raise six children? She received her Masters degree from A&M University, and was a substitute Vocational Counselor at Lee High School for a state Legislator three days a week for 10 years. She was the first woman elected to the Huntsville School Board. For several years, while taking care of her aging mother-in-law, Toni did surveys—executive interviews. Being able to do these studies on her own time helped tremendously when she began taking care of her own mother for four years.

Rearing six children, mothering two mothers, serving on several non-profit boards — including United Way, Helpline, International Visitors Bureau and OLLI — is a tribute to the dedicated, caring and knowledgeable person Toni is. OLLI is very blessed for all the energies Toni has expended for us, serving on committees, as president, and teaching.

What would she have done differently with her life? “I would lighten up, laugh a little more,” answers Toni. “I have a tendency to get too serious. I would take more time just for fun instead of being tied to a schedule.”

Part of her fun is being a member of the Huntsville Literary Association and taking classes at OLLI where discussions and learning take place. “People nowadays don’t have time to talk to each other. With the advent of television and computers there is even less interaction. At OLLI, you meet, talk and get to know each other as people, not just another name on the list.”

Toni adds, “OLLI brings people together from all different areas. The institute meets a real basic need of contact and sharing and it is a great asset for all people coming to Huntsville.”

At age 79 and full of verve, Toni is an inspiration to all aspiring octogenarians. Does she want to live to be a hundred? “I am a realist. Quality of life is more important than quantity . I want my tombstone to read, ‘She lived every day until she died’.” Thanks Toni; with your enthusiasm for learning, serving, and life, you are off to a great start.



Office Volunteers Needed

There is no better way to meet fellow members and to learn first-hand how OLLI operates than to sit in the OLLI office for two hours a week. Training is available to answer the phone, use the copy machine, and to assist instructors and facilitators. Computer experience is helpful, but essential credentials are a big, friendly smile and the willingness to help others. Please contact Hugh Nicholson at 830-9279.

GUESS WHO?



This adorable tyke was born in Minneapolis, MN, and graduated from the University of Minnesota. Afterwards he joined the Air Force and then went to work for the Army in the Guided Missile Development Division under Dr Wernher von Braun. He was transferred to NASA with the von Braun team when the Marshall Space Flight Center was established in 1960. A long-time member of OLLI, his contributions are numerous and included President of the Board of Directors and chairperson on several committees. He continues to be a valuable member of the Board and serves in many Capacities for OLLI.



Raised in Pensacola, this lovely child was, and still is, always for the underdog. (At 5, she built lean-tos for ants.) A BS from U of FL and a MSW from Washington U, she has been married for 48 years. She's visited 100 countries and lived in Germany for 13 years. She headed large drug and alcohol programs for the Army and speaks three languages. An instructor at OLLI, she is big on time management and organizational skills and enjoys gardening as time allows.

Important Notice: Newsletter inputs for the February 2008 Newsletter are due by Jan22. Please send articles and ideas to Lorrie White, Editor, lorrie395@knology.net and Joyce Pettis ,Co-editor ,JoPettis@aol.com
Please understand that due to cost constraints, articles may be edited for length.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
at the
University of Alabama in Huntsville
Wilson Hall, Room 132
Huntsville, AL 35899

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