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June/July 2008 Newsletter

Look Forward to a Busy OLLI Summer



OLLI members can anticipate a busy and fun summer with a lineup of stimulating OLLI activities. Here are some major events on the horizon:

First, there's the Annual **Picnic and Potluck** on June 20th, announcement on page 7. Later that evening, on June 20th is a **Huntsville Stars Baseball Game** with yummy hotdogs and sparkling fireworks, details on page 5.

June 24th is **Game Day** where you can join a group playing your favorite game(s) — details on page 4. You then can anticipate the exciting **Sewanee University of the South Music Festival** on July 19 (more on page 3).

If you have attended the **Summer Enrichment Series** for the past two years, you will know not to miss the one scheduled for this summer. Our fantastic organizers, Mary Compton and Barbara Lucero, have chosen a timely topic called, **Political Perspectives on Current National Issues.** Knowledgeable speakers will help us to understand the election process and give us tools to better select the best politicians who represent our individual beliefs. These lectures will be held on Tuesdays, July 22, 29, August 5 and 12. Check out the flyer in this newsletter for detailed information.

So, with all of these fun activities, there is no reason to have a boring summer. If this is not enough, join one of the committees that organize these wonderful events — they will help you to find a perfect fit.



OLLI Moves to Madison Hall

In case you haven't heard, Wilson Hall is getting a makeover. Yes, OLLI members will ultimately enjoy classrooms designed to suit our needs. But, In the meantime, for the next several months, UAH Continuing Education and OLLI have moved from Wilson Hall to Madison Hall.

The OLLI office is located in room 322, Madison Hall, on the west side of the building. Near our new temporary office is an area available for a lounge where members can meet together or eat lunch between classes. There is also a wonderful open area very nearby for relaxation and lounging. The elevator is at the east end of the east-west wing of the building. Our telephone number and email address remain the same. The office will be open on a regular basis starting September 8th.

Article by Jim Lindberg



From The President



Sue Chatham

We started our new year the first of June. New Board Members were elected at the Annual Membership Meeting. Dr Williams, the new President of UAHuntsville, was our guest speaker. He talked about the changes occurring at UAH. We are part of those changes.

We have moved to Madison Hall. I think that you will like our new space. Everyone, please be sure and check it out when they return to class. There is an article with all the details on the front page in this newsletter.

The summer has things to offer for our members. Our annual picnic on Green Mountain is June 20th. The Summer Enrichment series will be Political Perspectives on Current National Issues. Prepare for Election Day by attending this series in July & August. Details on both of these events are in this newsletter.

Above all don't forget to renew your membership. Simply fill out the membership form and return it.

This guarantees that you will continue to get the current newsletters and emails and know all of the activities in time to participate in them.

Sue Chatham Bresident

Tell A Friend

Tell your friends about OLLI and you will be doing them a kind-hearted favor. Most everyone enjoys learning as well as socializing, and OLLI members receive the best of both worlds. Don't delay! Tell friends about OLLI now so they can join in time to get the fall catalog and share in the fun.

Curriculum Corner

While most of you are enjoying the summer break traveling and spending time with family, rest assured that a large number of folks are still hard at

work getting the catalog and our curriculum prepared for the fall term scheduled to start on September 15.

Lots of interesting classes are scheduled and I hope you are looking forward to returning to the classroom. Start looking for your catalogs in the mail and begin shopping for courses online around August 18. Registration doesn't start until the 25th.

The Division of Continuing Education is upgrading programs and there will be some changes to our online registration system – more to come on this.



Cindy Spratley

Please also remember that classes will primarily be in Madison Hall in the fall due to the fact that Wilson Hall is undergoing refurbishment. The University has already moved most of our equipment and furniture and is reinstalling the audio-visual equipment (and coffee pots) that OLLI used in Wilson Hall.

I am looking forward to serving you as Chair of the Curriculum Committee this year. Beverly Liles, our outgoing chair, has done the scheduling and editing of the catalog for the last 12 terms and we owe a great debt of appreciation for her efforts. Thank you, Beverly. As we begin this planning year, we are still short some folks to work in key positions on the Curriculum Committee. Please contact me at 679-0233 or sprat99@knology.net if you want to help or even if you just want to make suggestions or ask questions.





Pat Lindberg, Cultural Committee Chair

CULTURAL EVENTS

Nell Roberts, Marilyn Walker, and Pat Lindberg participated in a workshop at The Great Teacher Conference sponsored by Huntsville Schools Foundation. We were invited by Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, which is one of four participants selected nationwide to host The Big Read Egypt/U.S. in 2009. The library is promoting the novel *The Thief and the Dogs* by Egyptian Nobel laureate Naguib Mahfouz as the one-book-one-community project. We are excited to be a part of this project and will be sharing more information as it develops.

If you are interested in The Big Read project, or any of our other activities, call Pat/534-7148 for more information. We welcome your involvement in the Cultural Committee.

Submitted by Rat Lindberg



Sewanee Music Festival

Another cultural activity is planned for your summer enjoyment. This is an afternoon and evening trip to the University of the South in Sewanee, TN, to hear a concert by the faculty of the Sewanee Music Festival. (This faculty includes our own **Hunter Thomas** on bassoon.)

The event is scheduled for Saturday, July 19. We will leave from Wilson Hall by motor coach at 3:30 p.m. The first stop will be dinner at the High Point Restaurant in Monteagle, TN, which interestingly, is the same place that Al Capone and John Dillinger dined.

After dinner we will proceed to Sewanee for the concert at 7:30 p.m., returning to Huntsville at around 11:30 p.m.

Event costs per person:

Coach and Concert - \$40.

Dinner – Menu item entrees run between \$24 and \$31. Each person is responsible for his/her own tab.

You can make your reservations by sending your \$40 check to: Jack Cheek 64 Wiljoy Circle Lacey's Spring, AL 35754

For further information contact Jack at 881-2032 or email JackandPat@aol.com.



Special Events Committee

All it takes for an OLLI event to be a success is to invite the right people! So that's what I'm doing now: issuing an invitation to all 1100 of you to keep up to date on what's happening in our organization and be an active participant in OLLI's special events!

This past May, 167 of you enjoyed *Fiesta Fantastica!* and 44 members traveled to Fairhope a couple of weeks ago. (*Picture elsewhere in this newsletter and on the website*). Hiking not your thing? Then go with the group to a concert. Play bridge or mah-jongg, read books, go contra dancing or just have dinner or see a movie. The conversation is always lively, and the fellowship is always fun. . . and most of the jokes are clean! OLLI offers a broad range of activities that we hope you'll enjoy. And, we're always looking for new ideas and event coordinators to carry them out!

I have the unenviable job of trying to fill Joyce Howell's shoes as Chair of the Special Events Committee for the coming year. Most of her terrific committee will be returning to keep you occupied, and we're always looking for enthusiastic committee members who will be able to see a fun opportunity, and won't mind taking a group with them to share the day. Please let me know if you would like to join the committee by emailing to carterer@aol.com. Meetings are the fourth Friday at 1:00 pm, at various locations. We'll be brainstorming for new activities sometime in late June or July and welcome your input.

This summer brings you Games Day, A Night with the Stars, and another fantastic Summer Enrichment Series! New activities are in the works for August and September! The OLLI website and the newsletter will keep you informed. If you don't have Internet access, don't feel left out. When we've settled down from the move to Madison Hall, call the OLLI office (or email me) and we'll let you know about facilities/help that you can take advantage of to stay up to date.

Happy Trails! Eleanor Carter, Chair Special Events Committee

Game Day is Coming!

Make way for that Mexican Train! Check your Hand and Foot! It's not a circle or a rectangle, it's Rummicube! Bring on all those weird 3-letter words and argue over Scrabble! Got a game you want to play? Come and share it with a group devoted to the PHWPBG (pursuit of happiness while playing board games)! No registration....no fees...light refreshments. Della Evans, Anna Lee and Phyllis Varney are hosting.

Join us June 24 at Compass Bank, Governor's Drive (4th floor) 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Coordinators: Phyllis Varney and Mary Compton



Coastal Alabama Sampler Report

With its location high on the bluffs of the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay, Fairhope has long been known for its lovely parks, rich with moss-draped live oaks, its sweeping panoramic views of Mobile Bay, and its charming, flower bedecked downtown. Based on a spirit of cooperative individualism, the Single Tax Colony established in 1894 attracted supporters and financial backers from around the country, drawing an eclectic assemblage of industrious, creative, and free-thinking people to the area, and has become a haven for writers, artists, ecologists and progressive thinkers. If it's impossible to throw a rock in Huntsville without hitting an engineer or scientist, then you certainly couldn't throw a rock in Fairhope without hitting a best-selling novelist!

Forty-four OLLI members took advantage of the opportunity to travel to Beckwith Conference Center to listen to tales (and jokes) from authors, Judith Richards, Terry Cline, and Sonny Brewer. During the only rainstorm to mar the weekend, the group was cool and dry and being entertained by Wanda Johnson, a local storyteller. Not all our pursuits were literary, however. Ecologist/Naturalist Jennifer Dixon of Coastal Wonders vividly introduced us to the inhabitants of the area's estuaries and grasses. Favorites of the crowd were the albino corn snake, the baby alligator, and a very speedy turtle. In the course of the evening, we also found out, via a bingo game, which OLLI members were scuba certified, had dyed their hair an unusual color, had taught English, and could make cheese-



cake. Some of our travelers didn't mind rolling out of bed at 5:00 in the morning to see the sunrise over Week's Bay or canoe 'round the bend—especially if it meant they got to view the nearby rookery or see the group of dolphins playing near the pier! The new 5-Rivers Delta Resource Center on the Mobile Causeway is a wonder that will get better over time, and our pontoon boat tour past osprey nests led to egret sightings and, perhaps, an alligator...but that might be just a tail.

What a great group of travelers! And a jam-packed three days of programs and activities! Thanks especially to Claudia Conn for her Morning Moves, and to MarNell Fowler and Verna Lee Clark for their help in introducing speakers. Joyce Howell put together the wonderful program lineup, and all hands pitched in to help with happy hours and other chores. Pictures will be up soon on the OLLI website, courtesy of group members and our archivist, Bob Ward. Sorry if you missed this trip, but our group was calling for the next destination before we even left the campgrounds. Where should we go next??????

Eleanor Carter, Co-Coordinator Coastal Alabama Sampler

OLLI Web Site Development

Al Bailey has been very busy redesigning our Web Site with user-friendly links and informational tools. He welcomes comments and suggestions and would appreciate your input and/or questions. He can be contacted at abailey@comcast.net. Please let him know your ideas. Check the web site out osher.uah.edu.

Scholarship Fund Contribution Appreciation

Thanks to all of you who have donated to the OLLI Scholarship Fund for a UAH student. Your generosity has made a difference in a young person's life and will continue to aid exceptional future students.





Joyce Pettis

OLLI Board of Directors Welcomes New Member

OLLI is happy to announce Joyce Pettis as the newest member of the Board of Directors, completing Liz Switzer's term. She comes to the Board highly qualified and will be an asset to our OLLI educational organization.

Joyce was a full professor in the English Department at North Carolina State University in Raleigh where she taught African American literature. Between the years 1994-1996, while on leave from NC State, she taught as a visiting professor in the English Department at UAH and directed the Honors Program.

She currently serves as co-editor for the OLLI newsletter, is on the Member Services Committee as well as an active member on the Web Site panel. Please join us in welcoming Joyce to her new position.

OLLI'S DULCIMER GROUP PERFORMS FOR COMMUNITY

Dulc-Jam'rs practice weekly at Carlton Cove and have been busy entertaining residents of Harbor Chase, Trinity Methodist Alzheimer's Group, Carrington Care at Carlton Cove, and at the Folk Life. Dulcimer practice is every Tuesday 1:00 p.m. at Magnolia Trace (formerly Carlton Cove). Interested persons may contact: rubye@comcast.net or tlong-horn@bellsouth.net.

Article and Photo by Linda Woodruff



Bottom L to R: Ann Albertson, Pat Scroggins, Barbara Robinson, Susy Quiggle, Back row: Rubye Jones, Linda Woodruff, Carole Rosenfeld, Jean Mann

Review of the DHS SYSTEMS LLC Industrial Tour

Twelve OLLI members enjoyed an interesting and educational tour of the DHS SYSTEMS LLC on Friday, April 25th. DHS makes double-walled tents and manufactured trailers and then equips them with electrical power units, heating, air conditioners and communications.

These tents and trailers provide a comfortable working space anywhere in the world. They are used by the military and other organizations around the world. DHS were responsible for setting up a large tent with air conditioning for the Older American Day at Sharon Johnson Park on May 20th.

Have a nice summer and look forward to more Industrial Tours this fall.

Ralph Murphy, Industrial Tour Coordinator



OLLI Picnic and Potluck June 20, 2008 – Green Mountain

Olli's annual picnic will be June 20, 2008 at the park on Green Mountain. Bring a dish to share. Drinks and paper products will be provided. The picnic area is reserved from 9 until 5. Lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Come and visit with other OLLI members. Hope to see you there.



Submitted by Nan Case, Social Chair



PICKING VEGETABLES

The spring term's Garden Tour class had a special privilege at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Wayne who live way up on Green Mountain. A beautiful serene setting, a view all the way to Decatur, and best of all, he turned members loose in his pristine vegetable garden! Here we are picking radishes, spinach, lettuce and asparagus. It was such fun. And m-m-m good!

Article submitted by Beverly Lyles
Photos by John Phillips



OLLI Membership Form

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Join the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UAH by mailing this completed form and a check for \$15, payable to: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH. Annual Membership is required for course registration. PLEASE NOTE: Course registration is a separate process and requires separate payment. MAIL TO: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH P.O. Box 1581, Huntsville, AL 35807 PHONE: 256-824-6959	Membership: \$15 Scholarship Fund*: Total Enclosed: Date: New Membership [] Renewal []

If you would like to make a contribution to the OLLI Scholarship Fund for a UAH student, please include the additional amount you would like to donate in your check.

Important Notice: Newsletter inputs for August 2008 Newsletter are due by July 22. Please send articles and ideas to Lorrie White, Editor, Joyce Pettis, Co-editor, at ollinewsletter@msn.com

Please understand that due to cost and space constraints, articles may be edited for length.



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