

The OLLI Insider

News For Members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

Est. in 1993 as the Academy for Lifetime Learning, Inc. at UAH

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September 2012

Winners of the 2012 Photo Contest

This year's theme "Something Old (Outdoors) in the Tennessee Valley" was challenging, but OLLI's creative photographers managed to scout the Valley for some very interesting photos. The winning photo, "Needs Some Work" was taken by Peter Van Hoff.

José Betancourt, one of the judges, offered this opinion: ". . . High dynamic range really helps the camera see what the eye sees in tonal range. This image comes close to this range without going too far into a "painterly effect." I also like that cars and trucks sometimes have a way with personification of the subject—the headlights as eyes, the grill or bumper as mouth and nose. I also think the rust color and textures are very strong in contrast with the smooth background. The composition has a good balance between headlights with a slight line taking you back into the background."

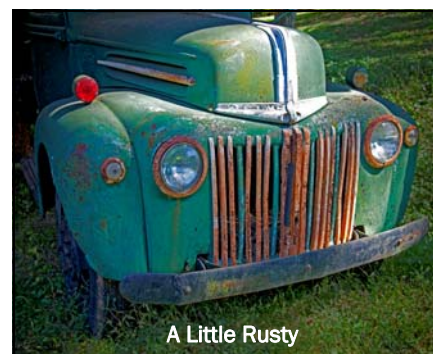


Needs Some Work

The 2nd place winner is called "Prestige of the Past" by Peter Viot and 3rd place is "A Little Rusty" by Henry Smith.



Prestige of the Past



A Little Rusty

Our judges this year were Bill McAllister, winner of the 2010 contest and well-known for his dramatic photos of birds as demonstrated at the Wednesday Bonus classes. Tom Bryant, our 2009 photo winner, is a current member of the Huntsville Photographic Society. José Betancourt is Professor of Art Photography at UAHuntsville and an international exhibitor of his photographic artwork.

Lorrie White, Photo Contest Coordinator

Web Master's Assistance Needed

We are looking for a Web Master's assistance with basic knowledge of HTML and PHP. Would involve simple updates of data and photos. Please contact Lorrie White at lorrie395@knology.net.



From the President



Chuck Duffy, President

Change: An Essential Part of Growth

As we begin classes of the Fall Term with an increase in registration fees and a limit of six classes, it is important to be aware of some of the reasons for these changes. First, UAH is not the small college that existed when we began on campus 19 years ago. UAH enrollment has increased, just as OLLI's has. Space for our classes is harder to arrange and involves more people from registration through scheduling.

OLLI has been increasing our class offerings each term, many with space or equipment needs beyond the OLLI suite. We are the beneficiaries of upgraded and new equipment provided by Professional and Continuing Studies. The limit of 6 classes is in consideration of the fact that 91 percent of OLLI class enrollees take 6 or less classes each term. I urge those who feel they must be on campus all day to consider volunteering for OLLI office duty to fill any blanks in their schedules. It's easy and allows one to see a different view of OLLI members and some of their needs.

Curriculum Corner




Mike Doyle, Chair

Did you ever want to shake the family tree but were afraid to? You didn't know what was going to drop out. Some years ago I found out that I had a male relative on my maternal grandmother's side of the family who hid in a tree in Virginia so that the Union forces would not find him. This tale makes an interesting story, especially to some who think that I was descended from a tree-dwelling species.

Genealogy is a very interesting subject for numerous reasons. If you have always wanted to find out about your ancestors through taking a class on how to do the research, you'll have to wait until the winter term. But in the interim you can start writing your life story in the course of the same name this term.

OLLI has a little something for everyone. The curriculum appeals to many interests and passions. However, if you don't see the right course for you, contact us. If there is enough interest and we can find an instructor, maybe we can provide a subject that interests you.

OLLI Back-to-School Social a Huge Success

The OLLI Social Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Member Services Committee teamed up to kick off the OLLI fall 2012 term in style! The OLLI Back-to-School Ice Cream Social and Gala event was held in the OLLI suite on August 17. OLLI Members were given the opportunity to meet some of the term's instructors, hear class overviews, complete course registration forms, renew memberships for the 2012-2013 year, and enjoy refreshments while socializing with other OLLI members. The UAHuntsville Professional and Continuing Studies Division awarded an \$85 term registration voucher to Peter Van Hoff for his first-place photo contest entry. Peter Viot, second-place winner, received a \$50 gift certificate to Outback Restaurant; and Henry Smith, the third-place winner, received a free membership in OLLI for 2012-2013. Thanks to contest creator and organizer, Lorrie White, who is always working "behind the scenes" to improve OLLI.

The event was a huge success; many members said that we should repeat this event for each term. Our problem was having too little space for the turn-out of members! What a wonderful problem to have! The Committees thank all those who helped make this event grand and successful. **See event pictures on p. 5.**

Summer Enrichment Series Concludes

SES this summer took OLLI members mostly outside the classroom and into the “real world.” There were five separate events, four of which brought OLLI members to off-campus locations, while the fifth invited a speaker to campus and was followed by a social event. A total of 214 persons participated. Each tour description below is written by an onsite participant.

June 26: Redstone Energy Group (REG) in Huntsville; 28 Members Attend

By Bill McAllister

We viewed an array of different new solar energy-capturing equipment demonstrated by a new green business designed to reduce energy costs for businesses and institutions. A partner business located at the same site advises homeowners on how to save energy costs. See pictures in the July/August *OLLI Insider* newsletter.

July 27: International Intermodal Center (IIC); 37 Members Attend

By John McDonald, former pilot

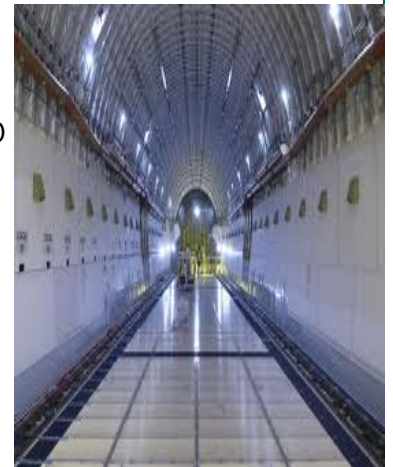


The Center is located on property of the Huntsville Airport Authority. Mitch Bradley, IIC Director, guided the tour.

The places where goods are transferred from one means of transportation to another are called Intermodal Centers, and OLLI members spent a few hours learning about how this all works. Until this tour, I had no idea what such a facility is. The train cars are lined up beneath a pair of 45-ton capacity cranes, which can pick-up, rotate, and transport containers to align them with long low trailers sitting on a roadway parallel to the tracks. The IIC has four. When lowered and locked into position, the assembly is a highway legal trailer. And this

exchange is all done by one person with a breadbox-sized wireless remote control.

While we were watching that process, a brand new Boeing 747 cargo plane pulled alongside the Air Cargo Building, and the ground crew had it almost unloaded before we could drive over to it. It can hold 30,000 pounds of cargo, has room for 50 Cadillacs, and carries 200,000 pounds of fuel. We went on-board. Everything is so shiny and automatic. The entire cargo floor is made of panels of rollers and wheels designed to move fully-loaded freight pallets. Again, everything is done by remote control; it is safer and faster. Behind the cockpit on the top floor is a small passenger compartment with a galley, two beds, and a toilet. The entire flight crew consists of 2 or 3 pilots, depending on scheduled flight time.



Boeing 747 cargo plane interior

Huntsville has scheduled service to Mexico, South America, and Europe via Panapina, which provides air cargo service to six continents. That makes the International Intermodal Center truly a full service facility; it handles train, plane, and truck business. Bill McAllister coordinated the tour.

July 31: Huntsville Hospital; 40 Members Attend

By Fred Gahr

OLLI attendees enjoyed a half-day program on “Trends and New Technologies in Health Care for Seniors” offered by the Corporate University at Huntsville Hospital. They were provided an overview presentation on Hospital services, the recent growth of the hospital, and the impact of the new health care law. The overview was immediately followed by presentations on orthopedics (knee and hip replacements), technological advances in hearing assistance, new heart attack procedures, and innovative techniques to treat heat strokes. Following the presentations OLLI members were divided into smaller groups and given an abbreviated tour of the hospital facilities. This program was specially developed for OLLI by Ms. Sharon Darty, Community Education Specialist, Huntsville Hospital, Corporate University. Fred Gahr coordinated the trip.

August 1: Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology and an OLLI Social 80 Members Attend

By Leah Black

Kelly East from Hudson Alpha Institute gave a presentation on important discoveries in genetics and biotechnology that occurred during 2011. The 80 people attending learned about new findings in the areas of cancer, gene discovery, genetically modified organisms, and antibiotic resistance. Ms. East also told how new genomic technologies and gene mapping can help physicians better care for patients. Following the presentation, attendees enjoyed light refreshments in the OLLI suite in Wilson Hall at UAH. Leah Black coordinated the tour.

August 3: Blue Pants Brewery 29 Members Attend

By Cindy Spratley

Twenty-nine OLLI members toured the Blue Pants Brewery in Madison, Alabama, on Friday, August 3. Brewmaster and president, Mike Spratley, gave an informative tour of the facility and talked about how beer is brewed. After the tour, the taproom at the brewery was opened so that attendees could taste several varieties of their beer. The hosts also shared a video describing the history of the brewery over the last two years.

If you would like to learn more about the brewery, see their website at bluepantsbrew.com. If you missed this event, the Blue Pants taproom is open every Thursday, 3:00-8:00 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays, 3:00-10:00 p.m. There is almost always someone there anxious to give you a tour. They are located at 500 Lanier Rd, Building 1, Suite A, in Madison. Cindy Spratley coordinated the event.

Photo credit: Bill McAllister



OLLI members at the brewery, the last of the SES tours.



Social Committee



Bill Johnson

The Social Committee is looking forward to a fun-filled year for all OLLI members. Place the dates below on your calendars, and make every effort to attend the events. **Unfortunately, increasing prices have forced us to sell tickets for several of our events.** See below.

Fall Teacher Appreciation Lunch
Ticket Price \$2.00 (Term Teachers Free)
 Fri. 11/2/2012; Noon-2:00 p.m.
 Trinity United Methodist Church (TUMC)

OLLI Holiday Party; Ticket Price \$40.00
 Tues. 12/11/2012; 6:00-10:00 p.m.
 Hudson Alpha Jackson Center

Winter Back-to-School Potluck Lunch
 Fri. 2/1/2013; Noon-2:00 p.m.
 Trinity United Methodist Church

Winter Teacher Appreciation Lunch
Ticket Price \$2.00 (Term Teachers Free)
 Trinity United Methodist Church

Spring Back-to-School Ice Cream Social
 TBD

Spring Teacher Appreciation Dinner & Annual Meeting; Ticket Price \$5.00 (Term Teachers Free); Fri. 5/17/2013; 5:00-7:00 p.m., TUMC

OLLI Summer Picnic
 TBD, 6/11 or 13/2013; 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Green Mountain Pavilion

We invite OLLI members to help the Social Committee plan and execute these events. Contact Bill Johnson at 256-701-6490 or email billnchris7@yahoo.com. Meeting days are Fridays, 1:30 p.m., Wilson Hall, Room 152. Meeting dates are 9/28/12; 10/26/12; 11/30/12; 1/25/2013; 2/22/13; 3/29/13; 4/27/13; 5/31/13.

Photos from the Back-to-School Social



Chair of Member Services, Sue Chatham congratulates first-place winner Peter Van Hoff on photo, "Needs some Work."

Barbara Rice registers for fall term classes during the social.



Debbie West, Eleanor Schweinsberg, and Kathy Kulas socialize during the Back-to-School event.

OLLI Genealogy Teacher also a Student

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

By Gratia Dunham Mahoney



Gratia Mahoney,
Genealogy class
teacher

A picture is worth a thousand words and many hours of genealogical research. Several years ago I received a small package from an unknown person from Florida. Extremely curious, I unwrapped the package to find a very old photo album (about 5 X 6 inches) covered in tan velvet, its small clasp broken. A note affixed to the album stated: "I found this at a flea market and noticed that some of the photos were identified as members of the Dunham family. I know you are a Dunham family genealogist, and I thought you might like to have this album. I am not a Dunham, and I don't have any idea who these people are." Signed, Marilyn (RAOGK), which stands for 'Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness.'

One photo was identified as Alphonso Dunham, and one of his small sons bore the uncomfortable name of Ertcurious Dunham. Nowhere in the album was ownership indicated or where the owners had lived. However, I knew that an Alphonso Dunham of Cumberland County, New Jersey, had a wife named Phebe. After some research, I found a picture of Phebe (Mulford) Dunham on a web site called 'www.deadfred.com,' and I saw the very same photo inside this little photo album. Phebe (Mulford) Dunham was from one of the New Jersey Mulford/Dunham lines, and this tied the members of the family found in the photo album to the New Jersey Dunham family.

In my research, I had not located the place where this family moved, but I knew they had left New Jersey at an early date. Now I knew where they went, and I have since completed the research necessary to connect this family to the proper Dunham line. If it hadn't been for the photo album, I certainly would not have located this family without many hours of genealogical research time.

And now, sometime, I hope to locate living descendants of Alphonso and Phebe (Mulford) Dunham. Someday perhaps, I can wrap a small package to send them, along with a note that says, "I thought you might like to have this old photo album with pictures of your ancestors." Signed, Gratia (RAOGK), which stands for 'Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness.'

The genealogy class will be offered during the winter term.

Win Two Tickets to OLLI Holiday Party 2012

Tell your friends and associates about OLLI—its classes, activities, tours, and opportunities to meet new and interesting people. If they join, there is a place on the membership form for them to put the name of the person who told them about OLLI. These names will be entered into a drawing, and one person will win two tickets to the OLLI Holiday Party, an \$80 value!

Linda McGiness won last year! Her name was drawn at the Fall Teacher Appreciation Party. You might win in 2012, but you have to spread the good news about OLLI!

OLLI Membership Form for June 1, 2012 – May 31, 2013

Name _____ Preferred Name on Badge _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Please send OLLI Newsletters via: E-mail [] Please send OLLI Newsletters via Postal Service: []

Do you want to receive E-mail messages about OLLI activities? Yes [] No []

Join the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UAH by mailing this form and a check for \$15, payable to: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH.

MAIL TO: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH
P.O. Box 1581, Huntsville, AL 35807
PHONE: 256-824-6959

If referred by an individual, please list their name _____

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH is not responsible for any damage or personal injury sustained when a member is participating in any OLLI sponsored activities on or off the UAH Campus.

Membership implies permission to use your photo for OLLI publicity. If you do not want your photo used, please notify the instructor/photographer in advance.

Membership: \$15

Scholarship Fund: * _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Date: _____

New Membership []

Gift Membership Yes [] No []

Gift From _____

*If you would like to make a contribution to the OLLI Scholarship Fund for a UAHuntsville student, please include the additional amount you are donating in your check.

**Important Notice: Inputs for the October 2012 newsletter are due by September 25, 2012.
Please send articles and ideas to Joyce Pettis, Editor; Lorrie White, Co-editor, at OLLInewsletter@msn.com.**



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