

# 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

P.O. Box 1581, Huntsville, AL 35807 256-824-6959 [www.uah.edu/pcs/olli](http://www.uah.edu/pcs/olli) Email: [OLLI@uah.edu](mailto:OLLI@uah.edu) January 2014

## Winter Term Registration Begins January 8, 2014

The OLLI catalog for winter term is brimming with exciting courses, including 20 new ones. That's right, 20! If your mailed Course Guide has been delayed, you can locate it online at [www.uah.edu/pcs/olli](http://www.uah.edu/pcs/olli). Click on the Guide on the left side of the page. Another option is to go by Wilson Hall, and pick up a Course Guide in front of the OLLI office – Wilson Hall 151.

Don't miss out. Classes begin January 27. Check out the course descriptions for both continuing classes and new ones! You're bound to find several that fit your interests and schedule.

If you're registering in person, stop by the OLLI Lounge in Wilson Hall on January 8 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. where your OLLI Board of Directors will be serving refreshments, providing assistance, and welcoming new members!

We hope to see all of you enjoying classes during the winter term.

### New Winter Term Courses

- ◆ Elementary Turkish
- ◆ French for Beginners
- ◆ Great Russian Literature
- ◆ Investment Strategies for Building Diversified Portfolios
- ◆ My Favorite Symphonies
- ◆ Novels by Terry Kay, Southern Author
- ◆ Privacy, Property, and Free Speech:  
Law and the Constitution in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- ◆ The Secret Life of Words: English Words and Their Origins
- ◆ Therapy Potpourri
- ◆ Turning Points in American History
- ◆ Film Noir
- ◆ Friday Focus Speakers' Series
- ◆ Healthy Microwave Cooking
- ◆ Is Science About Reality or Perception
- ◆ Natural Wonders of Alabama
- ◆ The Philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche
- ◆ Shakespeare: Politics, Power, and Passion
- ◆ Topics in Trading
- ◆ West Coast Swing Basics
- ◆ Understanding the Science for Tomorrow:  
Myth and Reality



## OLLI Back-to-School Potluck Luncheon



OLLI members have been asked to bring a special dish to

share with old and new friends and classmates at the OLLI Back-to-School Potluck Lunch scheduled for Friday, January 31, 2014, at Trinity United Methodist Church. The time is 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. It's a great time to reconnect and share good conversation and food with other OLLI members. Beverages will be provided.

Submitted by Leah Black

## The Master Plan

1/29 • W • 1:30 – 2:30 pm

- ◆ Dr. Robert Altenkirch • WH 001

Don't miss this chance to hear UAH President Dr. Robert Altenkirch share information about campus changes expected over the next few years. If all goes well, OLLI will be in a renovated space in the current University Center sometime in 2016. Hear about changes, ask questions, and track progress toward our move.

### OLLI Insider Highlights:

Doug Phillips speaks at OLLI, p. 3  
Appreciation letters from scholarship winners, p. 4, 5  
Photos from December Sing-Along, p. 6  
Photos from OLLI Holiday Party, p. 8

# The President's Message



Jerri McLain,  
OLLI President

The coming of a new year seems always to be greeted with surprise that the former year has slipped away so quickly and that another year is springing upon us. Members of OLLI at UAH can justifiably pat themselves on the back for good progress made during 2013. We're a solid organization with considerable accomplishment and a good sense of where we're headed in 2014 and beyond.

I have watched in awe as committees incorporated new members and grew larger, performed sizeable tasks with efficiency and expertise, and continuously generated new ideas and plans. OLLI members bring considerable ability and talent with their membership, and they share generously what they know.

Our members are committed workers and learners.

OLLI offers multiple opportunities for involvement and sharing in the fun of learning. If you like to lead, there's a place for you; if you like to teach, there are positions for you to fill; if you like to be a part of the team and join in making OLLI better for us all, we need you.

May 2014 be one of your very best years, and may the variety of classes offered during winter term excite you!

See the membership form below if you still need to join OLLI.

Warm wishes,  
*Jerri McLain*



## Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH Membership Form for June 1, 2013–May 31, 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Name on Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If referred by an individual, please list their name \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletters are sent via email. Need a printed copy? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Send email updates about OLLI activities: Yes [ ] No [ ]

Join OLLI at UAH by mailing this form and your check, 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 \_\_\_\_\_*

*OLLI 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:** 1-year (\$15) [ ] 2-years (\$30) [ ]

**Type:** New [ ] Renewal [ ] Gift\* [ ]

\*Gift from: \_\_\_\_\_

**OLLI Scholarship Fund\*\*:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Contributions to the scholarship provide financial support for a UAHuntsville student. Please include the additional amount of your donation in your check.

# Curriculum Committee



Mike Doyle, Chair

This is a great time to be an OLLI member. The winter term will have about twenty new classes with many old favorites returning. Some of our most popular instructors are teaching new and different courses. There will be numerous special events for you and your friends as well. Specifically, Dr. Doug Phillips will be on campus on January 21 to talk about various aspects of Alabama wildlife. The Wednesday bonus sessions are lined up and offering an outstanding slate of events. What more could you ask for? There is something for everybody! Come out to OLLI at UAH and partake. See your friends and classmates.

# OLLI 20th Anniversary Speakers' Series

## Doug Phillips, Host of PBS Series *Discovering Alabama*



Phillips will speak on January 21, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. The presentation will be held in the UAH Wilson Hall auditorium, followed by a social gathering.

Phillips has a faculty appointment at the University of Alabama and is affiliated with the university's museum of Natural History in Anniston, Alabama. He is the author of two books about the state's natural ecosystems.

OLLI will offer a full winter term course entitled Natural Wonders of Alabama, which is inspired by Phillips' work.

# OLLI Winter Hiking

**Dates:** Thursdays: January 30—March 13 (Easier hikes; Easy to moderate)  
 Fridays: January 31-March 14 (More difficult; Moderate to hard)

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.12:00 p.m. (A few Friday hikes start at 8:30 a.m.)

**Location:** Various

Join fellow OLLI members on those dull, wintry mornings for fun, camaraderie, and fitness on trails in the Huntsville area. We will try a mix of some of the newer trails as well as older ones on Green Mountain, Wade Mountain, Monte Sano, and other locations. You will not need a lot of equipment: sneakers or hiking boots, a walking stick, and water are the basics. Dogs on leashes are allowed!

**Hike leaders:** Thursdays: Bob Goodwin, Craig Reinhart and Diane Lewis. Fridays: Rick Gates, Bob Goodwin, Billy Spears and Joe Thomas.



Liability waivers are required. All details about hiking will be handled via email. **Sign-ups are now starting for winter. Send an email to [OLLIHIKING@gmail.com](mailto:OLLIHIKING@gmail.com)**, and ask to be added to the list. You will receive a list of hikes and a waiver about a week prior to the first hike.

You will not sign up through the normal school registration process!

Hiking is free if you are a member of OLLI!

*The Truly Educated Never Graduate!*

# OLLI at UAH Scholarship News



Pat Lindberg

## OLLI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR

Two Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH Scholarships were awarded this year to two very appreciative students.

Kiley Heflin, a second year recipient, currently lives in Oxford, Alabama, with his family. Previously, his father worked abroad for the Army civil service, so the family has lived in several countries over the years. Kiley’s major is astro-physics. When time permits, he enjoys chess, reading, guitar, and piano.

DeJarra Johnson, a sophomore pre-med student majoring in biology, is minoring in chemistry. Her goal is to become a neurosurgeon. Born in Huntsville, DeJarra grew up in Athens, Alabama.

The OLLI Scholarship Committee has enjoyed the students’ enthusiasm and zest for life as they pursue their studies, and we look forward to introducing Kiley and DeJarra to OLLI members at some of our functions later in the academic year.

Both of these young people have a solid appreciation for education and are grounded in their objectives. Please see their letters of appreciation following this article.

Submitted by Pat Lindberg  
OLLI at UAH Scholarship Committee



### Letter of Appreciation from Scholarship Recipient Kiley Heflin

To the OLLI Scholarship Committee:

I’d like to express my gratitude for your generous donation to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH Scholarship. The benevolence of individuals such as yourself provides incredible opportunities in the lives of a new generation of scholars, scientists, and engineers. At this point in my life, there is nothing more important to me than my education. It follows that there is no greater gift I could receive than your assistance in my pursuit of knowledge and wisdom at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Sincerest thanks,  
Kiley Heflin

### Happy New Year to OLLI members and PCS staff!

Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions.  
Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual. -- Mark Twain



## Scholarship Winner DeJarra Johnson Thanks OLLI Members



Dear OLLI Scholarship Committee:

I am honored to have received the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at UAH Scholarship for the 2013-2014 academic year. This financial gift, in support of my higher education, has appreciably lessened the burden that me and my family experience when paying for college. Your support and generosity will allow me to dedicate more time into my academics, and for that I am truly grateful.

I am currently a sophomore, pre-med, student majoring in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. I was born in Huntsville, Alabama, but was raised in Athens, Alabama. While growing up in a family of five, I was instilled with the importance of education and community service. Throughout my academic career I have adopted my parents' teachings and have dedicated myself to the pursuit of learning and helping those in need. I currently work part-time as a Pharmacy Technician and volunteer with hospice on my time off. I use the resources that a higher education provides me to help me in my daily life and my overall journey of becoming a Neurosurgeon.

Within my heart, I know that without a team of caring and supporting individuals I would not have achieved as much as I have today. I consider OLLI and this scholarship a part of that team, and I thank you for being that support. With this scholarship, I am determined to continue with my education; so I, too, can give back to my community and help support another in his or her future endeavors.

Sincerely,

DeJarra Johnson

## *OLLI Photo Contest: Snap those Pictures!*

Submission deadline: April 1, 2014

### Guidelines:

- Specs:** Photo must not have identifying/copyright marks  
 Gentle photo editing is permitted but keep the original photo  
 Photos must be submitted in digital jpeg format  
 Recommend at least 2 Megapixels (MP) final pixel size  
 (Winning photos need to be enlarged to 11X14)  
 Color photos are preferred  
 Name your photo  
 Email as an attachment



**Submit to:** [ollinewsletter@msn.com](mailto:ollinewsletter@msn.com). You can submit up to three entries; include your name, phone number, and email address. Give some information about the photo, where you took it and the date.  
 First place prize is an \$85.00 paid tuition for OLLI classes and catalog display; second place prize is a \$50.00 restaurant gift card; and third place prize is a \$15.00 OLLI membership for 2014-2015.

**Upon receipt of the photo, a consent form will be emailed to you asking your permission to allow UAH or OLLI to use your photo for media purposes. If you have questions regarding requirements or uploading or resizing problems, please call Lorrie White at 256-520-4455 or email to [ollinewsletter@msn.com](mailto:ollinewsletter@msn.com), subject: photo contest.**

# Cultural Committee



Jane McBride,  
Chairperson

## OLLI Sing-Along Kicks Off Holidays

On December 5, 2013, approximately 60 OLLI members enjoyed the gracious hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Altenkirch in their home on Williams Avenue in the Twickenham Historic District. The Lowe House is the residence of the President of UAH, so Bob and Beth have the special privilege of living in this lovely historic mansion. Every room was decked with festive greenery and colors of the season, including mantels too numerous to count and two gorgeous Christmas trees. We enjoyed wonderful sweets and nibbles and delicious cups of spiced cider and hot chocolate.

Guests were led in singing traditional songs and carols by OLLI's own choral director, Linda McAllister. Dr. Patricia Hacker, Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, was our special guest and not only lent her beautiful voice to our singing but also provided us with a comedic rendition of the "Twelve Days of Christmas." We had the good fortune of having a talented pianist, Ms. Sharon Keffer, accompany us on the grand piano in the parlor. What a perfect way to kick-off the Holidays! The Altenkirchs are fabulous hosts and very generously shared their home with fellow OLLI friends. See pictures from the Sing-Along below.

The Cultural Committee will have tickets for seating at two tables for OLLI members for the **Huntsville Master Chorale's Concert "Mosaic of Love."** The date is Saturday evening, February 15, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at The Cooper House, 405 Randolph Avenue in the Twickenham Historic District. Desserts and specialty coffees and teas will be served at this lovely Valentine outing. Linda McAllister, [wmca@hiwaay.net](mailto:wmca@hiwaay.net), is the person to contact.

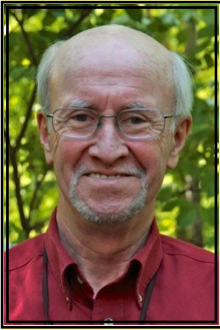
The **UAH Theatre** will perform Cole Porter's *Anything Goes* on two weekends in March 2014. The OLLI Cultural Committee invites you to a 'dinner and theater' event on Thursday, March 13, 2014. Tickets for seniors are \$8.00. The committee is open to suggestions for dining venues. Contact Eleanor Schweinsberg at [eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net](mailto:eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net).

**Overnight trip to Memphis, Tennessee.** The Cultural Committee is pondering this trip during the break between winter and spring terms March 21 - April 14, 2014. Memphis offers many opportunities such as rare collections and fine art museums, the historical birthplace of blues and rock 'n roll music, afternoon tea with the "ducks," and fantastic dining options. Let us know if you have suggestions and are interested. Contact Nancy Darnall at [nbd51@aol.com](mailto:nbd51@aol.com).



Photo credit: Bill McAllister





Bill McAllister,  
Chairperson

1) **POPCORN and a MOVIE: *Invictus*** will be shown on Tuesday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 152, Wilson Hall. The movie depicts a critical period in South Africa's history centered around President Nelson Mandela's unifying visit to the World Rugby Finals. SA won unexpectedly, and the country's tensions were defused by Mandela's leadership. Morgan Freeman plays Mandela.

2) **TOUR OF GENERAL JOE WHEELER'S HOMESITE** (approximately one hour) View General Joe Wheeler's homesite, 12280 Highway 20, Hillsboro, AL, on Thursday, January 16 at 10:00 a.m. Joe Wheeler rose to Major General of the Army of Tennessee during the Civil War. Later he became a member of Congress and supported the school that became Alabama A & M University in its bid to become a land-grant school. For reservations contact Jean Mulcahy at jean@wellnessishealth.com.

3) **SECOND TOUR, WHEELER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE** Starting at 1:30 p.m., see the very rare \*Whooping Cranes and thousands of Sandhill Cranes at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge (WNWR), on Thursday, January 16. The Visitor's center is located on the south side of State Highway 67 between the Priceville exit of Interstate 65 and Decatur. Both OLLI tours on January 16 are arranged so that members can attend both or either one.



**Note:** \*Whooping Crane numbers are bouncing back from a low of fifteen birds in 1941 to approximately 500 presently as a result of some very special attention by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, private groups, and one person with an ultralight airplane. At about five feet, these cranes are the tallest birds in North America. At WNWR they mix with the large flocks of Sandhill Cranes also wintering in the southern United States, but their almost all-white bodies stand out from the somewhat darker and smaller Sandhill birds. The Refuge has a two-story Observation Building from which one can see wintering ducks, geese, cranes, and other birds from a reasonably close range. OLLI visitors will meet inside the Visitor Center at 1:30 for a brief orientation.

Reservations are not necessary, and this particular event is free and also open to friends of members.

Photo credit: Bill McAllister

## OLLI INVADES MOORESVILLE!

December 11 turned out to be calm, sunny and brisk 27-30 degrees, perfect walking tour weather for 30 OLLI members in cold-weather wear! Two lovely and gracious ladies—Jerri McLain and Shirley McCrary—showed up to be the guides. These guides knew all that had gone on in Mooresville and filled us in on the details. After exploring the town, the Java Shop (with a local photography display and good coffee), and the Mercantile (filled with Made-in-America items), the group adjourned to Limestone Bay Trading Company for a delicious catered lunch and some OLLI socializing. The day concluded with mulled cider at Jerri's house, where the current mayor joined the group. Our thanks to Mooresville for allowing OLLI to visit at the busiest time of the year. There's more to see there, like the 1818 farms, so watch for other events.



Submitted by Eleanor Carter

## Financial Assistance Available for OLLI Members

The OLLI Membership Assistance Fund is available to cover membership fees, tuition, and lab costs for people who find it financially impossible to participate in classes and other activities. The fund is possible through the generosity of our members.

If someone you know or you need this assistance, please contact Bob Robertson at 256-536-2701 or [bob.robertson6@knology.net](mailto:bob.robertson6@knology.net). Your request will be confidential. To support this fund, also contact Bob Robertson at number or email above for information.



Thank you for your generosity and support of OLLI and its members.

Submitted by Bob Robertson

## OLLI Holiday Party Fun!




Left:  
George  
Thurlow and  
Sandra  
Lyons.



Below:  
Jerri McLain  
and Betty  
Carlton.

**Important Notice: Inputs for the February newsletter are due by January 21, 2014.**  
Please send articles and ideas to Joyce Pettis, Editor; Lorrie White, Co-editor, at [OLLInewsletter@msn.com](mailto:OLLInewsletter@msn.com).  
Please understand that due to cost and space constraints, articles may be edited for length.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH is proud to be part of the national Osher Institute.



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