

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 Email: OLLI@uah.edu February 2014

Make a Difference in OLLI

The Nominating Committee, made up of Jane McBride, Gratia Mahony and Ed Bernstein, solicits *your input* to identify candidates for key positions in the OLLI organization for the upcoming 2014-2015 membership year. Please consider OLLI members who might contribute to our program by serving on the Board of Directors and/or serving on one of the standing committees--Curriculum, Finance, Member Services, Social, Public Relations, Cultural, Special Events, Long-range Planning, and Scholarship. Don't forget to volunteer yourself!

Feel free to discuss your ideas with any of the committee members, and please forward your recommendations, including volunteering yourself, for one of these vital roles to Ed Bernstein at edbernst1@gmail.com by **February 15, 2014**. This is your opportunity to make OLLI the organization that you want it to be. *Make a difference!*

In Memoriam: Wade Wharton



Wade Wharton, artist and OLLI member, who died January 15, was a Wizard of Ahhhhs—a dreamer, schemer, magic bean buyer, storyteller, artist, and gardener—who created a unique sculpture garden. For years his enchanted garden attracted attention as he and supporters battled the city for his rights as a home owner and for freedom of artistic expression.

As a valued member participant of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH and LearningQUEST, Wade engaged art history classes as a venue to learn and respond to masterworks. Each class sparked ideas, and he created a sculpture that referenced the previous week's class. After class one day, he said of the Italian Renaissance, "Damn, those were some religious people!" I told him Leonardo was a scientist and not known to be particularly "religious." "He probably didn't have much choice" he said. "I am going to make Leonardo's famous *Last Supper*." When asked what he was going to make it from, he replied "steel." To me it seemed an impossible, daunting task. When he described how he was going to make it, I could not envision it. He brought it to the next class, an astounding finished work of arc-welded steel—an expressive Rodinesque, Giacometti-like scene of Leonardo's 400 year old *Last Supper* that lost nothing significant in the translation from a 15' X 29' fresco to a 12" X 5" steel gesture of the painting. It brought me to tears, joyous as they were.

The UAH Art and Art History Department will open a show of Wharton's work on January 27 in the Union Grove Gallery with a reception planned on February 2.

Submitted by Debbie Dempsey West

This Newsletter Needs YOU!

See article on page five requesting a volunteer typesetter for the *OLLI Insider*.

OLLI Back-to-School Potluck Luncheon

WHEN?

Friday, January 31

WHERE?

Trinity United Methodist Church

WHAT TIME?

Noon until 2:00 p.m.

WHY?

To socialize with friends and new members, to bring a dish to share, and to 'kick off' the winter term.

Correction!

Those lovely photos that accompanied Jane McBride's article on the Sing-Along in the January newsletter were incorrectly credited. Photo credit is due to Judy Young.

The President's Message



Jerri McLain,
OLLI President

OLLI needs you. The 2014-2015 Nominating Committee, composed of outstanding OLLI members Jane McBride, chair, Gratia Mahony, and Ed Bernstein, wants to hear from you. Recommend yourself or an OLLI member you know to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. Service on the board is rewarding, provides an opportunity for growth, and offers sufficient challenge to keep your talents fine-tuned.

The OLLI Annual Holiday Party was one of the very best ever. Leah Black, chair, and the Social Committee put together a dazzling and fun evening. Thanks to each and every one of them and to all other OLLI members who lent a hand.

Membership in OLLI exceeds 700 members as of January. Thanks to everyone who has talked to a friend, answered questions about why you like OLLI so much, and helped in the application process. The membership recruiting contest is underway. Recruit the most members by March 31, and you'll get complimentary spring tuition.

The Curriculum Committee, chaired by Mike Doyle, produced an outstanding Winter Term lineup of new classes that add spice to the mix. The catalog produced by the Professional and Continuing Studies staff, Karen Clanton, Director, and Max Doherty, Program Manager, distributed copies of this great-looking publication in a timely fashion. Assembling the catalog each term is a major undertaking. Thanks to Sue Chatham, Task Force 1 Chair, for the many hours she devotes to the catalog.

OLLI people are the very best!

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.



Mike Doyle,
Chair

will be offered, too, so there will be something for everyone.

We've just begun the OLLI winter term, and your Curriculum Committee is already hard at work on developing exciting course offerings for spring! For example, we'll be offering "How to Grow Fresh Produce at Home" and "Tours of Huntsville Gardens." We'll also learn about Black Holes, the Battle of the Bulge, and Breath-Centered Yoga—just to name a few! Your old favorites

Here's your chance to help make the spring term *even better!* Do you know someone who would make a wonderful instructor? Or, have you considered teaching, but are reluctant because of the course preparation time required? Your Curriculum Committee has access to hundreds of *Great Courses* lectures that could lessen the preparatory work of teaching a course! Consider teaching or moderating a course during the spring term. Contact me at doyle_a@bellsouth.net or by telephone at 256-772-8148, and let's talk about how you can make the OLLI at UAH program even more exciting this spring!

OLLI 20th Anniversary Speakers' Series: Doug Phillips Host of PBS Series Discovering Alabama



Phillips, left, OLLI President Jerri McLain

Dr. Doug Phillips made an outstanding presentation to an enthusiastic crowd of about 160 OLLI members on Tuesday, January 21 in the Wilson Hall Auditorium. Dr. Phillips shared video excerpts from several of his award-winning programs, which air on the Alabama Public Television series, *Discovering Alabama*. He spoke about the value of planning as a means of protecting the natural wonders and unique diversity of Alabama and responded to many questions from members of the audience. The presentation was followed by a social gathering in the Wilson Hall lobby.

This event was sponsored by the Osher Foundation, member donations, and Brookdale Place at Jones Farm.



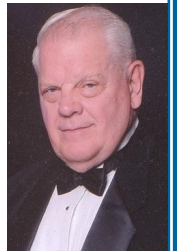
Photo credit: Mable Gordon
(all photos above)



L-R: Mike Doyle, Mark McCarter,
and Al Cruze.

Photo credit; Jerri McLain

In Memoriam: George Leach



Lt. Col. (Ret.) George C. Leach (1938-2014) treasurer, Executive Committee member, and chair of the Economics and Finance Discipline was an active and supportive member of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH until his death on January 27. He also served OLLI as an instructor, facilitator, and coordinator of the Finance Member Interest Group.

Formerly from Chelsea, Massachusetts, he retired in Huntsville after relocating with the military nineteen times over a period of thirty years. He held a BSME degree and had completed more than thirty post-graduate courses at four universities. He served in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot and was also a missile defense engineer with the U.S. Army.

Family members and friends gathered for visitation at Laughlin Funeral Home on January 31, 2014. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery.

Submitted by Jerry McLain

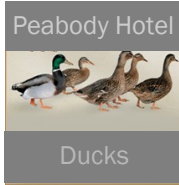
Cultural Committee



Jane McBide,
Chairperson

The Cultural Committee has reserved two tables for OLLI members at the Huntsville **Master Chorale's concert, "Mosaic of Love,"** Saturday, February 15, at 7:00 p.m. (See performers' photo below.) The concert will also be presented at 3:00 p.m. Desserts and specialty coffees and teas will be served. The event, a lovely outing in honor of St. Valentine's Day, will take place at the Cooper House, 405 Randolph Ave., in Huntsville's historic Twickenham district. Tickets for both performances may be purchased from Linda McAllister at wmca@hiwaay.net.

UAH Theatre will perform Cole Porter's **"Anything Goes"** in Chan Auditorium at UAH two weekends in March. The OLLI Cultural Committee invites you to dinner and the theater on Thursday, March 13. We will meet for dinner at Ol' Heidelberg at 5:30 p.m. and then attend the show. A block of reserved seats will be available to us with tickets at \$7.00 for seniors. Contact Eleanor Schweinsberg at eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net or 256-883-0602 to make reservations and pay for your tickets. Don't miss the boat; the show is sure to entertain you!



Peabody Hotel
The Cultural Committee is researching the possibilities for an **OLLI trip to Memphis** during the break between Winter and Spring terms, leaning toward the second week of April. The city offers lots to see and do--rare collections and fine art museums, the historical birthplace of blues and rock 'n roll music, afternoon tea with the Peabody ducks, and fantastic dining options. It takes a good amount of planning to organize a trip like this, so please let us know if you are interested. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@aol.com and stay tuned for updates in the weekly E-news from OLLI.

On April 26, 2014, Huntsville's own diva, **Susanna Phillips**, will perform as Fiordiligi in **Mozart's *Così Fan Tutti* opera** via the "Live at the Met" series.



Susanna Phillips

Although set in Naples during the late 18th century, this study of identity, intrigue, infidelity, deception, love tested, and intervention will entertain and resonate with contemporary viewers.

Join OLLI friends at the Hollywood 18 movie theater to see the performance on the big screen for the matinee at 12:55 p.m.

Huntsville Master Chorale



New DVDs in Lending Library

The OLLI Lending Library has added some new DVDs: Economics-3rd Edition, Joy of Mathematics, Turning Points in Modern History, and Understanding Investments (discs 2,3, and 4). The DVDs are in the file cabinet in the OLLI office. Please be considerate of others who would like to use them, and return them promptly.

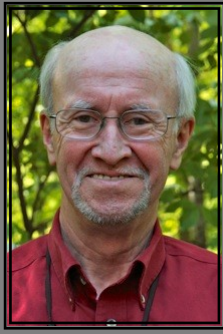


Submitted by Cathy Bailey

Thank You and Welcome!



The *OLLI Insider* thanks and welcomes Clara Keyes to the newsletter volunteer staff as an additional editor. Clara is a member of OLLI, volunteered in the office last year, and is now lending her editing expertise to the newsletter.



Bill McAllister,
Chair

Coming on Thursday, February 13, OLLI members will visit the Alabama Regional State Forensic Lab at 716 Arcadia Circle in Huntsville. Time is 2:00-3:00 p.m. The lab provides forensic services to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. Attendance is limited. Contact Mable Gordon at mablegordon44@gmail.com.

Popcorn and a Movie: *To Dance with the White Dog* won a Primetime Emmy and was nominated for eight more. Staring Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy, it is based on Terry Kay's novel by the same name. The movie will show on February 14 at 1:00 p.m. in room 152 in Wilson Hall. The showing is timed to garner interest in Terry Kay's visit to OLLI on Wednesday, March 19. Kay will conduct an author's workshop and deliver a talk at the fourth event in the 20th Anniversary Speakers' Series celebrating OLLI at UAH.



Terry Kay

Tour of Pond Spring and Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge

On Thursday, January 16, OLLI members toured the home of General Joe Wheeler, a state-owned and managed tourist facility. Members also visited the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge near Decatur, Alabama. Visiting cranes flew back and forth by the massive windows of the two-story Observation Building, entrhralling onlookers with their grace and beauty. The cranes return to their breeding grounds in the north in late January. See photos below.



Photos above by Steve Wynn



The OLLI Insider Newsletter Needs YOU!

If you have general knowledge of Microsoft Word and Publisher software and would like to volunteer to layout (or typeset) the OLLI newsletter, please contact Sue Chatham at Chatham@knology.net (256-684-7950) or Joyce Pettis at JoPettis@aol.com (256-830-9447). Tutorials in Publisher will be available if needed.



Photo of cranes: George Ponder

OLLI Photo Contest

Theme: "Nature in Alabama"

Submission deadline: April 1, 2014

Guidelines:

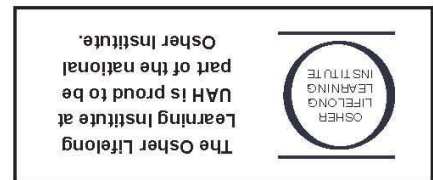
- Photo must not have identifying/copyright marks
- Gentle photo editing is permitted but keep the original photo
- Photos must be submitted in digital jpeg format
- Recommend at least 2 Megapixels (MP) final pixel size (Winning photos need to be enlarged to 11X14)
- Color photos are preferred
- Name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

Submit to: ollinewsletter@msn.com. 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, subject: photo contest.

Important Notice: Inputs for the March newsletter are due by February 18, 2014.
 Please send articles and ideas to Joyce Pettis, Editor; Lorrie White, 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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