

The OLLI Insider

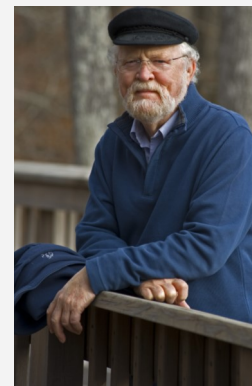
News For Members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

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 March 2014

Terry Kay is Coming in March!

Award winning novelist Terry Kay will be the fourth speaker in the OLLI 20th Anniversary Speakers' Series. On March 19, at 1:00 p.m. in the Wilson Hall auditorium, the renowned Southern author will speak about some of the dozen novels he has written. His stories illustrate the changes that came to the South from rural electrification through the civil rights movement. Terry Kay builds his characters with warmth and emotion as he weaves poignant stories based on his intimate knowledge of people in his native South.



In preparation for Kay's appearance, a survey class of his selected fiction, facilitated by Gratia Mahony, is in progress during the OLLI winter term. *The Year the Lights Came On*, *To Dance with the White Dog*, *The Valley of Light*, and *The Book of Marie* are the titles being studied. The film based on his novel *To Dance with the White Dog* won an Emmy.

As the author of more than fourteen works of fiction, Kay is a member of the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame and a four-time Author of the Year from the Georgia Writers Association.

Prior to his afternoon lecture, Terry Kay will lead a workshop to share techniques and insights about his writing style. This morning workshop will be held from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. OLLI members may preregister for the workshop by calling 256.824.6183. Please register early for the workshop as seating is limited.

OLLI Spring Term

Registration Begins March 10; Classes Start April 14, 2014

Attention early birds! Spring registration starts on March 10. You can check out all of the classes online by going to www.uah.edu/pcs/olli and clicking on the course guide. Be sure to note the course descriptions for twenty-five (25!) new classes as well your old-time favorites.

New Spring Term Courses

A New Earth
Breath Centered Yoga
Contributing to Our Well Being
Elementary Turkish

Floral Arrangements
Great Decisions
How Economic Forces Impact Your Life
Meet Huntsville's Artists
Organizing Your Life 101
The Ardennes Offensive: Battle of the Bulge
Daily Life in the Ancient World, Part I
Understanding the World's Greatest Structures:
Science and Innovation from Antiquity to Modernity, Part I
World's Greatest Paintings, Part I

Black Holes Explained
Classic Cars
Elder Law
Friday Focus – Five New Speakers
Featuring Huntsville Authors
German I
Growing Fresh Produce at Home
Huntsville: History, Legends, and Rumors
Oh! The Places You'll Go!
The Ancient Cultures of South America
The Best Years Ever: A 20-Year Lifestyle Roadmap
Introduction to Perspectives, Composition, and Pencil
Sketching

Remember you can register online, by telephone and in person. Your catalog has all the details. Classes start April 14. Choose your classes, and come join us for the spring term.

Submitted by Sue Chatham



Jerri McLain,
OLLI President

OLLI at UAH has much to be grateful for as this new year gets underway.

The winter term schedule is offering a wide mix of subject matter and fulfilling the interests of OLLI members every day of the week. The Curriculum Committee is doing its job well. Facilitators are coming to class well prepared and keeping members informed of opportunities outside class.

The 20th Anniversary Speakers' Series has attracted larger numbers at each event. Membership in OLLI has grown with each gathering. Two classes have also spawned from anniversary speakers Dr. Doug Phillips and Southern author Terry Kay. Bill McAllister is teaching Natural Wonders of Alabama, and Gracia Mahony is teaching selected novels of Terry Kay.

Office volunteers are keeping the office humming as calls are answered and instructors and OLLI members receive needed assistance.

Committees are functioning at a high level. Committees grow in membership as functions are planned and managed.

Member Interest Groups are active and growing. See, for example, the article on the hiking member interest group on p. 3 in this newsletter.

Lastly, our board of directors has an opportunity to expand its knowledge concerning OLLI. We have just learned that the Southern Regional OLLI Conference for 2014 will be held at the University of North Carolina, Asheville, July 30—August 1. These conferences are the very best way to learn about OLLI. Last year, OLLI at UAH was represented at the University of Georgia, Athens, by nine members. We should make it a dozen or more this summer. Make your plans now to go. It's driving distance, and we'll have a great time.

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: _____

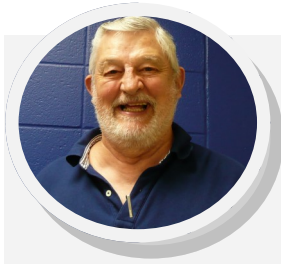
OLLI Scholarship Fund:** \$ _____

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

Do you remember when you could recognize not only a particular car but also its model with a single glance? Then we have a course for you! The spring class lineup will feature a Classic Cars course taught by members of car clubs in and around Huntsville. Did you know a car was once manufactured in Huntsville?

Or if you want to know why a building stands up or find out more about Galloping Gertie, aka the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, we'll have a course on the World's Greatest Structures. If cars and buildings don't grab your interest, then maybe a course on the Ancient Cultures of South America will.

In the course on Floral Arrangements, students will

create arrangements to take home each week. No interest in florals? Then you can learn about and discuss current geo-political events in the Great Decisions course.

Clearly, we have courses for everyone. And the spring term is fast approaching. After our snowy winter, your brain needs a jump-start. We have it here. We anticipate that a number of classes will be sellouts. Just think you can learn something new each week, meet friends and make new acquaintances, and generally have a good time.

OLLI classes are a great way to keep learning about things you've always had an interest in, but never had the time to study. Join us during spring term.

OLLI Hiking Member Interest Group (MIG)

It's a fitness, fun and social activity - the OLLI Hiking MIG!

This group was formed in the fall of 2013 and now has a membership of more than 120! We offer hikes on Thursdays (easier) and Fridays during each OLLI term and sometimes between terms. We have three hike leaders on Thursdays and four on Fridays, which allows us to be quite flexible in having fast-slow hikes or breaking the group up if a lot of hikers show up. You don't need any fancy equipment or need to be a star athlete to participate!

We hike several areas known and unknown by our members, including Wade Mountain, Land Trust properties, Monte Sano State Park, Keel Mountain, various greenways, Hays Preserve, and Madison County Nature Trail. We find that although hikers have been living in the area for many years, many are not familiar with most of the trails, and they are surprised at what's out there. We rotate the hikes so that we don't go to the same places all the time. Hikes vary from easy to hard, and each one is clearly described in a periodic e-mail, including level of difficulty, elevation changes, and length.

You are welcome to become a member. To join, send an e-mail to OLLIHIKING@gmail.com with your name and e-mail address. Membership is free to OLLI members.



Submitted by Bob Goodwin

Cultural Committee

Upcoming Events



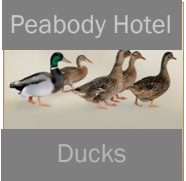
Jane McBide,
Chairperson

Local Theater at UAH!

The OLLI Cultural Committee invites you to see Cole Porter's **Anything Goes**, performed by the UAH Theatre Company at Chan Auditorium, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 13. Tickets for OLLI are only \$7.00. A few of us are having dinner at Ol' Heidelberg at 5:00 beforehand. Seating for the show is limited. Please contact Eleanor Schweinsberg at eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net or 256-883-0602 if you are interested in sitting with the OLLI group. You may also purchase tickets at the door.

Let's go to Memphis!

OLLI's Cultural Committee has arranged a charter bus tour leaving Huntsville early morning on April 8 and returning the evening of April 10. If you are looking for a bit of culture and a breath of spring, Memphis is the place to find it, and April is the time to do it. Our local "Backbeat" guides will join us daily and give us a true experience of Memphis -- from hot rhythms to springtime blooms and refined art treasures. We'll enjoy the sights and sounds of Beale Street and visiting the Smithsonian's Rock and Soul Museum among other musical venues. We'll visit three exceptional, fine arts museums -- the Dixon Museum and Gardens, the Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art, and Brooks Museum of Art. Optional evening at the Memphis Opera Festival. Space is limited. Contact Nancy Darnell at nbd51@aol.com by March 10.



Thanks for the Memory! Mosaic of Love Concert Well Attended by OLLI Members

That's what we say to the Huntsville Master Chorale who performed "cinemagic" at their Mosaic of Love concert on February 15. OLLI members turned out in numbers for both performances set in the grand salon of the historic Cooper House on Randolph Street. Guests enjoyed popular love songs from the movies at beautiful valentine-themed tables where sumptuous desserts and delicious coffees and teas were served.

But it really was about the MUSIC and the MEMORIES. Who didn't swoon to "When I Fall in Love," "Moon River," and "Some Enchanted Evening"? Who didn't want to dance "Cheek to Cheek" or experience the heart skip a beat hearing "Unchained Melody" or "The Way We Were"?

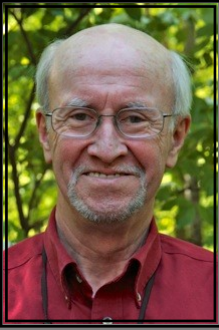


Photo credit: Bill Mcallister

To quote one thank-you note, "I just loved the Huntsville Master Chorale performance and came home singing 'If Ever I Would Leave You' such that I couldn't get it out of my mind!! Eating sweet delicacies, enjoying good company, experiencing a memory-lane extravaganza makes a fine evening. You are all SO TALENTED."
--OLLI President, Jerri McLain.

"Isn't It Romantic?"





Bill McAllister,
Chair

Alaska Tour Update

One of the events on the OLLI Alaska trip June 19 to July 1, 2014, will be a visit with OLLI-Alaska members in Fairbanks. While there, we will also be offered a chance to have a guided tour of a bird preserve.

The Alaska tour is full at this time.

Popcorn and a Movie

We had a very successful movie showing of *To Dance with the White Dog*, attracting a full house to Room 152 in Wilson Hall. This movie, based on a Terry Kay book by the same title, was chosen to fit in with the course this term, "Novels by Terry Kay, Southern Author," and Kay's visit to OLLI-UAH for the fourth 20th Anniversary Speaker Series on March 19, both as featured speaker and as leader of an author's workshop.

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).

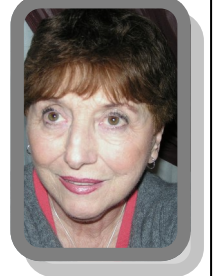
Joyce Pettis has done the job for over a year, but is stepping down. "It is a rewarding job," she says, "to fashion the newsletter that OLLI members receive and to continue learning and discovering the many possibilities of Publisher software."

Pettis and Sue Chatham, Chair of the Members Service Committee, are willing to assist any member who is interested in providing this service to OLLI.

Tutorials in Publisher software will be available if needed.

Social Committee

Teacher Appreciation Lunch



We are lucky to have such great teachers in OLLI. We can show them how much they mean to us at the Winter Teacher Appreciation Lunch on Friday, March 21, at Trinity United Methodist Church on Airport Road from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch from Smokey's, and let our teachers know how much they are valued. It is also a great time to socialize with OLLI friends. A small donation will be taken at the door.

OLLI Volunteer "Deliverer" Needed

Ron Brock has assumed the role of delivering the *OLLI Insider* monthly from the printer to the post office for mailing. He needs a volunteer to substitute when he is unable to deliver it. The requirement is only 1-1/2 hours per month. Please contact Ron at 256.348.5681, if you can assist.

OLLI Photo Contest Deadline: April 1, 2014

Hints from a Professional Photographer

Eddie Soloway of Santa Fe has graciously agreed to share several hints with our OLLI amateur photographers. Mr. Soloway has a keen passion for nature and is an amazing photographer. He is also a writer and an award winning teacher of photography.

He advises, “**change your perspective when photographing nature**”; by this, he means to lie down, peer through, look up, look under . . . by changing your physical perspective you can bring freshness to the photograph. Even everyday subjects take on new energy when they are presented from different angles and viewpoints.



There are many ways to make a successful composition. People get confused about how to best compose a photograph. Simplify your thinking about composition by creating a beautiful way for the eye to move through the image. Graceful lines, retreating horizons, a swirling of color can take the eye on a beautiful journey through a photograph. Check to make sure that nothing is getting in the way. Things poking in from the sides, big areas of washed out sky, and a jumble of competing objects can take the eye in other directions.

Hang out with a wow, and it will get better. It can be tempting, especially in great light, to take a picture and run off to the next. He explains that, even though you may have a good photo, wait around. When you find a moment of magic or light that makes you stop, honor it by hanging around and working it.

Distracting backgrounds (move your feet to control what the viewer sees). You are excited about the subject, so excited you forget to look behind it, and there, coming right out of the top of a friend’s head is a telephone pole. The same thing happens in nature all the time, though sometimes in such subtle ways we don’t see a problem until after the fact. A good photographic habit is to move your feet. Remember that you are in charge of how the subject relates to the background, and you do not have to take the photograph from the first place you see it.

Creative backgrounds (surround the subject with beauty). Sometimes the background in a photograph is a much larger area than the subject, and if used well can create the atmosphere for the entire image.

Check your edges (move your eye around all four sides). It can seem like a lot to remember, but so much of the working part of photography becomes intuitive with time. That’s the way it is with moving your eyes around the four edges of the photograph to make sure what is inside is thoughtful, and what is outside stays outside. It is also common for many cameras to capture more of a scene than you can see through the viewfinder.

Theme for OLLI Photo Contest: Nature in Alabama

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.



Labor Day Parade

A short memory by Joe M. Berry

It was early morning of Labor Day; no other motor vehicles were on the country road I traveled. All was quiet. I like it like that. It reminds me of the roads eighty years ago when I rode with Papa in his Model T Ford.

My world is different now; it has shrunk. My eyes and ears do not hear and see as much as once they did. My circle of friends is smaller. The quiet back roads that I once traveled with Papa are now brimming over with cars, trucks, motorcycles, anything that will run fast and make lots of noise—except during the early morning hours of holidays.

Today, if you want the road to yourself, about thirty minutes after sunrise of a holiday is the only time you'll get it. Today, I gave it a try.

My black and tan hound gave chase for about a quarter of a mile before surrendering the road to me. After that, for a few miles, the empty road belonged to me. My mind took me back to 1933. Again, it seemed, I was riding a country road with Papa in his Model T.

My reverie was broken by a parade. One does not expect a parade that early on a Labor Day, but there it was. Sixty or seventy on parade and I was the only spectator as they marched, left to right, across the road. Some would say their parade was not well organized, they marched, more or less single-file, in a loosey-goosey manner. I thought it was a beautiful parade.

The leader of the parade came into view when I was forty yards from the intersection; he waddled when he walked. If I did not know better, I might have thought he had been drinking. I stopped my truck in the middle of the road when I came to the line of marchers, killed the motor, and enjoyed the Labor Day parade.

The leader and those who followed waddled slowly across the road in front of me, all doing a goose-step. I guess it was the matriarch that brought up the rear. Her goose-step was rather uncertain, as if she had a sore foot, but she had a presence that suggested she was the boss. For a moment she stopped in the road just a few yards in front of me, turned my way, and squawked. As best my old ears understood, she said:

"It's Labor Day. A time to remember the women who worked in the cotton mills twelve hours each day for fifteen cents. A time to remember the twelve year-old boys who worked in the coal mines fourteen hours each day for twelve cents."

Her brief refresher in our labor history finished, Mother Goose of the gaggle waddled across the road to join her Canadian family, and I continued down the country road.

September 2, 2013

A Note From Joe Berry

OLLI friends,

I enjoy writing short pieces on various subjects. Most articles are of historical interest, and I try to make them accurate. Sometimes I stray into fantasy-land and write tongue-in-cheek. If you would like to receive copies of my stories, send me your e-mail address at alabamahoss1@gmail.com, and I will add you to my distribution list.

Thanks, Joe Berry.

Snow on the Mountain

“The woods are lovely, dark and deep,” or they will be at nightfall on Monte Sano Mountain. Their loveliness is captured February 12, 2014, in this photo submitted by one of OLLI’s veteran photographers, Bill McAllister. Of course OLLI readers recognize Robert Frost’s line from “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening.”



Important Notice: Inputs for the April newsletter are due by March 20, 2014.
 Please send articles and ideas to Sue Chatham and Lorrie White, Co-editor, at 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.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH
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Division of Professional and Continuing Studies



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