



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 2015

President's Message



Jerri McLain
President

A warm and hearty welcome to new OLLI members and returning members. Now that you have made this good decision for yourself, you might consider how to “capitalize on your investment.”

Opportunities await you. Hundreds of us are registered for winter session classes in our favorite subjects and happily anticipate the weeks ahead. That's where we'll get to know each other and will gain more than a speaking acquaintance. We'll expand our knowledge in the presence of really fine instructors, we'll pursue topics of new and developing interests, and we'll satisfy our curiosity about the ubiquitous and esoteric.

Once sated at the fount of knowledge [a never-ending pursuit], consider expanding your awareness of that grand organization that serves us all – OLLI at UAH. You learn much about OLLI by offering your service, your talents, and your skills. OLLI volunteers staff the Volunteer Office regularly during class terms. You might drop by and visit. Explain that you'd like to serve on the Curriculum Committee, the Administration & Finance Committee, the Social Committee, Special Events and Cultural Committees, or the Social or Public Relations Committees, Member Services, Scholarship or Long-Range Planning Committees. Leave your name and means of contact, and a committee chair will get back to you . . . and you'll be on your way.

We need your help. Make the most of your OLLI membership by giving of yourself and your time.

We'll all be better for it.

Thanks to everybody for all that you do to make OLLI at UAH great.

The OLLI Nominating Committee is actively working to develop the best qualified list of nominees to fill Board-of-Directors vacancies. We need your help over the next few weeks. Will each of you take a few minutes of special thought and help us identify potential, new Board members? Think of your acquaintances who could help OLLI expand its base of experience and interest. Would you like to serve on the Board of Directors? Provide your recommendations to one of the Nominating Committee members: Sue Chatham (chatham@knology.net), Vanitha Singh (vanitha.sitaram@gmail.com), or Dick Fisher (drdickfish@gmail.com), preferably by mid-February. Thank you.



The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

Presents

**Behind the Scenes—
Rembrandt, Rubens, Gainsborough, and
the Golden Age of Painting in Europe**

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

1–3 pm, Wilson Hall Auditorium, UAH Campus

Peter Baldaia, Director of Curatorial Affairs of the Huntsville Museum of Art, will take us behind the scenes, explaining the curatorial procedures needed to negotiate the details of bringing a distinguished collection of Old Master paintings to Huntsville. The traveling exhibition was organized by The Speed Art Museum in Louisville, Kentucky. This is the first time that the paintings have toured as a group since they represent the core of that museum's permanent collection. Comprised of the major genres of painting that were popular between 1600 and 1800—religious paintings, scenes of everyday life, interpretations of classical antiquity, still lifes, landscapes, and portraits—this exhibition illustrates both the people and the objects that made the two centuries such a rich cultural age.

Following the presentation, attendees are invited to enjoy refreshments, meet curators Peter Baldaia and David Reyes, and visit the UAH Wilson Hall Gallery.

This OLLI event is free and open to the public.

Seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

Please invite your friends to this OLLI Bonus Event.



Make your reservations and mark your calendar:

February 20 at 11:00 am, OLLI at UAH members will meet at the Space and Rocket Center especially to view the traveling exhibit, **101 Inventions That Changed The World**. These particular inventions were selected because they changed lives and history for the better. Of course, once inside, members are free to explore the entire museum, which also includes food options. To experience this learning and social event, email Dick Fisher at drdickfish@gmail.com. The OLLI group price is only \$11, payable at the museum.

Tour Intergraph's New Corporate Headquarters

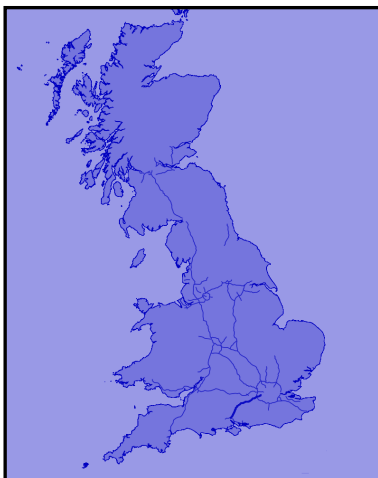
March 25, 2015: Tour #1 1:00-2:00 pm (8 members); Tour #2 2:00-3:00 pm (8 members)

Intergraph is a leading global provider of engineering and geospatial software. It started in Madison County over forty-five years ago. In 2014, Intergraph's new corporate headquarters was unveiled. This is a five-story facility with a total of 250,000 square feet of space which accommodates over 1,000 employees.

This facility is a one-of-a-kind in the state and the Southeast. It is designed on the "Open Concept" model. There are no offices in the entire building. Employees sit in very open work spaces on each floor. The new building also includes a start-of-the-art data center, conference space, and an expansive food service area. Lakeside terraces border the building.

Reserve your space on the tour by contacting Mable Gordon at mablegordon44@gmail.com. Note this event is limited to 16 members.

OLLI Summer Travel — A Few Spaces Remain



OLLI at UAH is embarking on an educational adventure to England, Scotland, and Wales on June 1. Visit the history that influenced early America.

Hear about and observe multicultural Britain as it is today.

Contact Bill McAllister at billmcallister94@gmail.com for reservation information.

Wilson Hall and Beyond



Nancy Darnall
Editor

Wow! How many new faces there are at OLLI for the winter session! Everywhere I turn, there you are. This is an exciting time for us. As a relative newcomer to this welcoming haven of learning and fellowship, I want to say “welcome” to the 225 new OLLI members this session and “welcome back” to the rest of you.

My husband Bob and I joined OLLI in fall 2013. I had been meaning to sign up for a long time, but the photography class that called my name perennially conflicted with my other January plans. At last, I succumbed to the encouragement of my friends already in OLLI and jumped in. Bob had perused the catalog and seen some courses that interested him as well. We were hooked.

We had never undertaken an simultaneous venture in learning or volunteerism, so this was new ground for us. Thanks to the folks we knew already, the new friends and interests we found at OLLI, and our own desire to be a part of something so great, Bob and I chose to become more involved. Your OLLI friends and classmates would encourage you to do the same. Ongoing renewal, new ideas, and a changing of the guard is *de rigeur* in an institution built on and by an aging population. OLLI has a variety of needs for volunteering, some on a regular weekly basis, some seasonal, and others that require a few hours here and there.

It was invigorating and daunting to be back on a college campus, even though we are only in a few buildings. UAH is an easy campus, with all the classroom buildings in reasonable proximity. OLLI has, in my experience, used only three buildings for classes: Wilson Hall, the Business Administration Building (immediately south, or to the right of Wilson), and the Salmon Library (out the back door). The staff, faculty, and students are very helpful if you need direction. The OLLI Lounge is a warm and inviting room with many of us regularly eating lunch or meeting in there (Room 152 D). There is almost always a pot of coffee and a place to relax. We do, however, sometimes use the room for classes. Note if a green class sign is on or by the door.

Many of us “brownbag” at lunch, but out the back and to the left is The University Center (never to be confused with the Charger Union, which is to the right across Ben Graves). Inside there are two eateries: a one-price cafeteria and a hot sandwich/pizza/wrap spot. You can grab coffee and a light snack in the Salmon Library or Business Administration Building coffee shops. For a more elaborate meal, the Bevel Center to the north of Wilson Hall has a daily lunch buffet as well as a menu. There is also food for purchase in that previously noted Charger Union.

The *OLLI Insider* is published ten times a year, monthly except for two issues which combine in November-December and July-August. The electronic *Weekly E-news* comes out each Friday. Read them. It’s the best way to know what’s coming up and learn how to be a part of it.

PAST CULTURAL EVENT

Lehár's *The Merry Widow*—In HD at Hollywood 18

There was a sizable OLLI presence in the audience for **The Metropolitan Opera's** live HD simulcast of the *Merry Widow* on **Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015**. Members and guests enjoyed Lehár's charming operetta starring the great diva Renée Fleming as Hanna, a beautiful (and wealthy) widow. As the beguiling femme fatale, Hanna captivates all of Parisian society as she encounters one handsome suitor after the other. Nathan Gunn and Kelli O'Hara performed their roles perfectly.



Besides the enchanting musical score, we were entertained by the virtuoso direction and choreography of Susan Stroman, who created an entirely new stage production of the vintage opera. A highlight of the Met's live simulcasts is the behind-the-scenes interviews held at intermission and, of course, we had the best seats in the house.

There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age.

— Sophia Loren

Remember your OLLI at UAH Library Privileges at the Salmon Library

UAH now provides active OLLI members with library privileges at no additional cost. The member must be on the list provided to the Salmon Library staff by PCS each week.

Privileges include check-out of three books at a time for 28 days at a time, and the issuance of a username and password for access to the PCs in the library. This privilege level does not include remote access to the library's online resources.

FYI: There is a small coffee shop in the library which also has a limited menu of food items.

Pictures, We Love Pictures!



New faces participate at Socrates Café — where the participants choose the topic of the day. Sam Tumminello moderates this perennial OLLI favorite.

Flora Boardman conducts Spanish class. Languages are a staple in the OLLI curriculum. Studies now show that learning a new language is especially good for keeping the brain working!



Susan Janus, a new OLLI member, jumps right in! Making coffee is one of many things that keep us going.

Photos courtesy of Linda McAllister.

George Marchelos entertained and educated us with OLLI's own version of Antiques Roadshow. Members brought in their collectibles, estate treasures, and sentimental favorites so that George, a recognized authority and previous appraiser on the PBS series *Antiques Roadshow*, could give us history, value, and sometimes the appropriate market for our items at the Winter Session Potluck Luncheon.



OLLI GEOGRAPHICAL CHALLENGE



Here at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Alabama Huntsville, most members are from the United States, but quite a few got their start far from Huntsville, Alabama. Send Nancy Darnall an email at nbd51@aol.com with your name, your birth country (USA or other) and the states and countries where you've lived. We will prepare a graphic for the Spring Session Registration Week with the different locations noted. We have members from the UK, the Netherlands, Switzerland, South Africa, India, Scotland, Vermont, New Jersey and beyond. Let's see how much of the world we cover.

*“Education is the kindling of a flame,
not the filling of a vessel.”*

— Socrates

Calling OLLI Photographers



Notice the arch of the bridge and the lines of the supports. The boat adds an interesting aspect. Photo taken by Tom Bryant 2009.

Keep Your Camera Handy!

You see them everywhere: Lines and/or Curves, the current photo contest theme. Just scan your surroundings and you'll see curves on buildings, bridges, hills & mountains, roads, fences, trees and landscape. Even pencils lined up on your desk, or books on a shelf can become a work of art in a photograph. The opportunities are endless, so keep your camera handy to capture the moment.

OLLI's Photo contest runs through April 3, 2015

Guidelines:

- ◆ **Theme:** Curves and/or Lines (together or separate)
- ◆ **Specs:**
 - * Gentle photo editing is permitted but keep the original photo
 - * Photos must be submitted in digital jpg/jpeg format
 - * Recommend at least 2 Megapixels (MP) final pixel size *
 - * Color photos are preferred
 - * **Name your photo**
 - * Email as an attachment
 - * No recognizable persons please
- ◆ **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
- ◆ **Submission deadline:** April 3, 2015
- ◆

Please note that entering your photo gives Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH and UAHuntsville permission to use your name and photo for the OLLI web site, catalog, newsletter, or any publications pertaining to the photo contest. You will be emailed a release form after your photograph is submitted and your photo will not be eligible for judging until the signed release form is received.

Lorrie White, Photo Contest Coordinator



HATS OFF TO . . .



The OLLI Board of Directors 2014—2015

AND

The UAH Professional and Continuing Studies staff, from those we see regularly (Dr. Karen Clanton, Maxine Doherty, and Jessica Fisher) to those who work behind the scenes in registration, technical support, and the UAH staff who makes sure our building is clean and maintained for whatever OLLI is doing.

AND

All the OLLI volunteers including instructors, committee chairs, members, office workers, and facilitators who assure us of the vital services required to keep the organization fresh and active from the curriculum to the social activities to the member services. It takes a lot of time, energy, and creativity to provide that value for our membership and term fees.

Monks, Monkeys, and Magpies

2/10 • Barbara and Gary Hitt

Join the Hitts for a presentation of their five-week trip to Thailand. Visit Buddhist temples, the Grand Palace, the canals of Bangkok, and the Night Bazaar. Travel to the lovely beaches of the south, and take an elephant ride in the mountains. Join them in their quest to observe one of the world's most endangered birds, the Spoon-billed Sandpiper, seeing over 450 species of birds along the way.

20th Century Civil Rights

2/17 • Dr. Sonnie Hereford, III

Dr. Sonnie Hereford III, a local physician, walked his young son to Fifth Avenue Elementary School on Friday September 6, 1963. They were turned away by state troopers dispatched by Gov. George Wallace to enforce state segregation laws. On Monday September 9, 1963, his six-year-old son became the first black person to enroll in a previously all-white school in the state of Alabama. Hereford wrote a book titled "Beside the Troubled Waters: A Black Doctor Remembers Life, Medicine and Civil Rights in an Alabama Town" (co-authored by Jack D. Ellis).

First-hand Observation: Israel/Palestine

2/24 • Jennifer Humiston

OLLI member Jennifer Humiston has always been interested in on-going efforts to bring peace in the Middle East between Israel and Palestine, and wondered how a better understanding of the areas of conflict might satisfy that interest. Joining the local Interfaith Peace Builders on a recent trip to Israel-Palestine, Jennifer was able to make first-hand observations of the situation "on the ground," and would love to share her observations with you. This lecture is offered in the spirit of academic freedom, and the perspectives expressed are the presenter's personal views.

Iceland: A Photographic Journey

3/3 • Barbara Staggs

Discover Iceland's' electric green valleys punctuated by craggy mountains, steaming hot springs, boiling mud pools, and lava fields. For geology buffs, discover amazing basalt columns. Barbara Staggs, a master photographer who travelled to Iceland in July, 2014, will share her photographs and story about her magical trip.

Never a Bad Game

3/10 • Mark McCarter

Fifty Years of Southern League Baseball

Learn from an award-winning sports writer and author, Mark McCarter, the story of The Southern League, a Class AA minor league baseball organization with deep ties to the state of Alabama, which just completed its golden anniversary season. The Southern League has launched some of baseball's most familiar names and also provided a treasure trove of stories beyond the box scores in its games, players, managers, and accomplishments.



Jane McBride

Chair



Special St. Valentine's Day Event

OLLI has five reserved tables for the 7:00 p.m. concert of the Huntsville Master Chorale's *Mosaic of Love*, Saturday, February 14, 2015. The evening will feature popular selections from Berlin, Porter, Gershwin, and other jazz greats: Who could ask for anything more?

But there is more! Relish the romantic setting at the historic Cooper House in downtown Huntsville, seated with friends and enjoying homemade pies and gourmet coffee and tea. Contact Jane McBride at janemcbride@knology.net or Linda McAllister wmac@hiwaay.net for tickets. There are a few tickets left!

View masterpieces from the Golden Age of European painting at the Huntsville Museum of Art (HMA)

OLLI's Cultural Committee is hosting a docent tour of HMA's fabulous exhibition of 60 brilliant paintings by European and Flemish masters. Our tour will be on Tuesday, March 31, at 1:00 pm, shortly after the special OLLI bonus event with Peter Baldaia [see Page 2]. The paintings in this exhibit represent the very best of 17th and 18th century works from The Speed Art Museum in Louisville, which houses a spectacular collection of Old Masters. Highlights of this tour feature masterworks by Rembrandt, Rubens, van Dyck, and Gainsborough, among many famed artists. Watch your E-news for information about this event.

Memphis Trip Revised: April 6—8

The trip to Memphis has changed: now only 2 nights and 3 days. Attractions include a Memphis riverboat ride, a tour of the city, the Brooks Gallery, the Dixon Museum and Gardens, the Rock 'n' Soul Museum (a Smithsonian affiliate), the Belz Museum, lunch on Beale Street, and the Gibson Guitar Factory. Restaurants include the Brushmark at the Brooks, Charlie Vargas' Rendezvous, Paulette's, the Majestic Grille, and B.B. King's. We are staying at the Hampton Inn and Suites — Beale Street and traveling by luxury coach from Spirit Coaches. Transportation, meals, accommodations, admissions, and tips are included for \$725. Backbeat Tours will provide a guide or tour escort in Memphis. An optional Walking Ghost Tour is \$14, and the single supplement is now \$194. Alcohol is not included.

There may still be slots available after February 10. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@aol.com or 256-797-6327 to inquire.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Leah Black
Chair

The **Winter Back to School Potluck** was a success with about 85 members bringing and enjoying delicious food and a fascinating program. George Marchelos provided a monetary assessment and enthralling commentary as he went from item-to-item brought by members for our own Antiques Roadshow.

The Social Committee is planning a very special **Winter Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** (\$2.00 per member, instructors no charge) on March 13, 12:30-2:30 pm, at Trinity United Methodist Church. You will be transported to beautiful Hawaii with great food and special entertainment. This is our opportunity to let our volunteer instructors know how important they are to the OLLI program as well as to socialize with our fellow OLLI members. Make sure you mark your calendars; this will be a treat!

The OLLI Insider March issue submission deadline is Tuesday, February 17. All chairs and members should submit their articles to Nancy Darnall at nbd51@aol.com. Anyone who has OLLI event photos or other pictures is welcome to send them to the newsletter. Include the photographer's name, the names of those in the photo, and the event(s) shown.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH
Wilson Hall, Room 113
Huntsville, AL 35899

Division of Professional
and Continuing Studies



Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Huntsville, AL
35899
Permit No. 283