



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 256-824-6183 www.uah.edu/pcs/olli Email: OLLI@uah.edu September 2015

President's Message



Bob Darnall
President

As the summer winds down, we all start thinking about back-to-school activities. For some, that means cheering for your favorite football team. For others, it is a chance to reunite with classmates for interesting discussions and learning opportunities.

Our Registration Celebration on August 11 was a great success, giving members an opportunity to learn more about the course content for subjects they might be interested in. Remember, OLLI is much more than just taking courses. As we like to emphasize: **Come for the Classes: Stay for the Fun.**

As a result of our successful Naomi Judd membership drive in July, we already have over 320 new OLLI members. We want our new members to feel comfortable with our classes and our social activities. If you see someone you don't know, introduce yourself. You may have just found a new best friend.

Tuesdays, our Member Services Committee continues its hospitality in the OLLI Lounge. So come, bring your lunch to enjoy with other OLLI members, savor the provided desserts, and then participate in the Tuesday bonus presentation. The first Weekly Bonus is Tuesday, September 22, at 1:00 pm.

This fall we are initiating an effort to help new (and old) members better understand how OLLI works and learn about some of the many different OLLI activities. On Friday September 11, at 9:00 am, we will be having a new member orientation/get together in Rooms 152 (refreshments) and 168 in Wilson Hall—this is an opportunity for OLLI members to learn about the working structure of OLLI and to ask questions. Learn about the curriculum, what the Member Interest Groups are and how they operate, what social/cultural/special event activities and upcoming trips being planned for the coming year, and how you can participate to help make OLLI at UAH the best it can be. As with most OLLI functions, refreshments will be provided. To aid in planning, please RSVP to darnall45@aol.com by September 9 at 4:00 p.m.

Following the orientation, in the same room, we will be showing the movie *The Imitation Game* as part of our regularly scheduled Popcorn & a Movie program. This spectacular movie received eight Academy Award nominations, and is definitely worth seeing (or seeing again). Just one more of the many benefits of OLLI membership.

It's Almost Time!

Registration has been open for weeks, and OLLI classes resume on Monday, September 14. There are still spaces available for the fall session. Don't miss the fun and the chance to learn. Light refreshments will be available in the OLLI Lounge on Tuesdays at noon before the bonuses, starting on Tuesday, September 22.



Water, Water, Everywhere . . .

It's the theme of our 2016 OLLI Photo Contest! Whether it's the ocean, a lake, a stream, a puddle reflecting a tree, a rain drop resting on a leaf, or a rain storm, "water" presents plenty of photo opportunities for your vacation travel this summer. The contest runs from runs from May, 2015 to April 8, 2016.



Guidelines:

- ◆ **Theme:** "Water, Water, Everywhere"
- ◆ **Specs:**
 - * Gentle photo editing is permitted but keep the original photo
 - * Photo must not have identifying/copyright marks
 - * 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
- ◆ **Submit to:** olliphotocontest@outlook.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 8, 2016

For questions, please contact Lorrie White at 256-520-4455 or email olliphotocontest@outlook.com.

NEW FEATURE FOR *THE OLLI INSIDER*

Have you ever wondered how OLLI becomes OLLI? No, not the governing documents or founding charter, but the nuts and bolts of how the organization works and things get done. Your Editor had some questions. Over the next several issues, the OLLI Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and our PCS staff are going to share the answers. If you have a question about how things work or how things are done, email me at nbd51@icloud.com. Thank you.

SEE PAGE 5

***Another Round of Applause: OLLI Thanks the
“Afternoon with Naomi Judd” Sponsors***





Edward Jones
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Loretta Spencer
Dr. and Mrs. Frank Franz

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH Board of Directors and members thank our sponsors for their participation in our Summer 2015 Membership Event, “An Afternoon with Naomi Judd” featuring Naomi Judd and Liz Hurley.



From concept to catalog, the OLLI term schedule isn't magic. There are dozens of OLLI volunteers, Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS) staff, and other UAH employees working to assure the membership that we have a timely, attractive, workable document that supports the planning efforts of our OLLI Curriculum Committee and PCS.

There are two beginnings:

(1) the database and (2) ideas for new and/or improved classes to be offered in the upcoming term (*a topic another time*).

Gratia Mahony, the Chair of the Curriculum Committee, the Discipline Chairs and other committee members are responsible for the massive volunteer effort required to assemble a coherent, interesting, and varied array of classes for each OLLI term.

Sue Chatham is our *database manager extraordinaire*; she begins her portion of the process by performing a schedule check and reduction: going over the previous term's database, removing classes that will not be offered in the next term, verifying continuing classes, and determining where the "holes" are so that the next step of adding new or returning courses is simplified.

After all of the above is completed, the Curriculum Committee meets to examine the now reduced schedule, discussing requests for classes and identifying available time slots. Emails are necessary to identify or confirm teachers, obtain the class syllabi, and determine which classes will be offered. Each term, around sixty classes are offered. The committee evaluates courses based on teacher availability, relevance to OLLI member interests, and classroom space available. Occasionally, classes are offered off campus. The University is good about providing space when our OLLI-designated classrooms are filled or a different kind of space is appropriate.

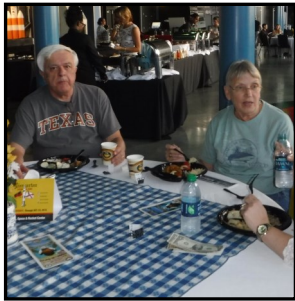
All of this work is done under a deadline. While Sue does the actual inputs and updates prior to the deadline, Gratia Mahony and Maxine Doherty are working together to edit for overall accuracy and details. Inevitably, there are changes, but after the database is finalized by the Curriculum Committee representatives and Maxine, final approval comes from PCS Dean Karen Clanton.

At this time, Maxine and the PCS staff build the catalog, laying out the artwork and text. PCS determines the catalog cover, often using the winner of the OLLI member photograph contest each year for one of the term covers.

Finally, after hours of work, the catalog goes online and to the printer. Registration opens when the catalog goes online; printed copies are mailed when they are ready.

It isn't magic exactly, but it's pretty amazing! And just so that you know, the people identified above have already started the winter and spring preparation!

Pictures, We Love Pictures



At the US Space and Rocket Center Biergarten in July. Just for fun! About thirty-nine OLLI members attended. Photos courtesy of Nancy Darnall.



OLLI members attended the performance of Roman Street at Burritt on the Mountain City Lights and Stars. Photos courtesy of Nancy Darnall.



Bill McAllister

Chair

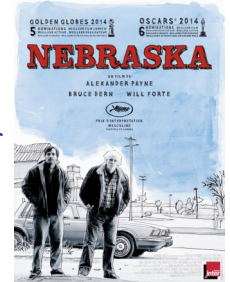
A Summer Recap and Upcoming Opportunities

On Thursday, July 23, **The Dish** entertained us with both humor and suspense. We watched the movie version of the story from Australia, revisiting how the live pictures of our astronauts walking on the moon were transmitted to the world. Little did some of us realize just how important that Dish in the middle of a sheep paddock in a faraway place was to sharing those glorious moments.

Later that afternoon, the Special Events Committee met to begin to map out next year's program that will consist of movies, local industry and agency tours, and both short and long trips. All events will be announced in the weekly eNews, and reported in more detail as they happen in the OLLI Insider news.

One event that came out of the meeting is the trip to Fairhope, Alabama, and nearby Week's Bay from November 8 to 13, 2015. This is an already organized tour trip, and OLLI-UAH members were able to capture all of the remaining 15 spaces. Our group will hear lectures on Fairhope's unique history and the special ecology of Week's Bay, among other subjects, during our six days there. The timing of this trip was ideal since it starts the Sunday after classes end on the preceding Friday.

On Friday, August 28, members also watched the movie **Nebraska**, purposely presented in black and white to reflect the hard-scrabble life that sets the stage for a family story. The movie is not so much about traveling for a possible "pot-of-gold" as it is about the father's relationship with his sons, which he knew was lacking.



Upcoming Popcorn and Movie Events:

1) September 11 at 10:00 - **The Imitation Game** will be held in Wilson Hall, Room 168, to accommodate an expected larger audience. This movie tells the story of Alan Turing and the computing device that broke the code of the Nazi's wartime Enigma Code, thus saving many lives and shortening World War II. Don't miss it!

2) On Friday November 13 at 10:00 in Room 152 we will show **Shakespeare in Love**. A young Shakespeare is out of ideas and short of cash. The film explores an imagined love affair, inspiring **Romeo and Juliet**. Historical characters are woven amidst many of the plot devices, lines, and characters from Shakespeare's plays. The film won seven Academy Awards, three BAFTA Awards, and three Golden Globes as well as several other accolades.

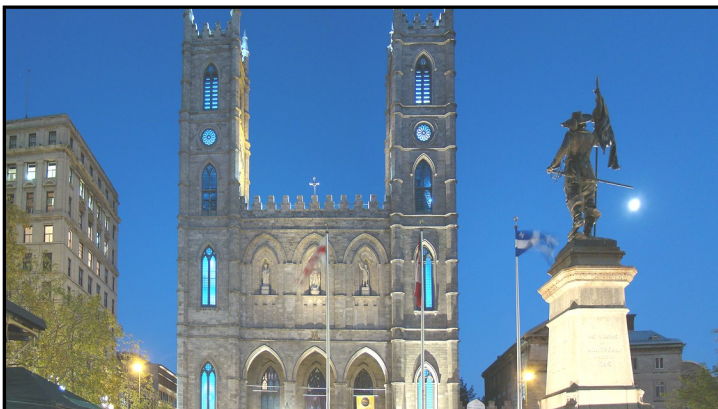
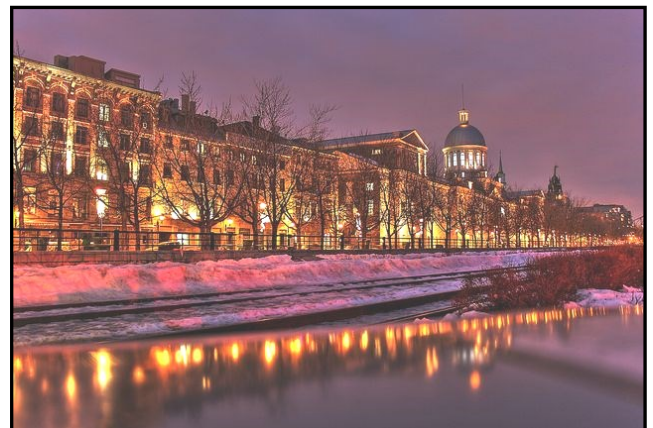


Upcoming Travel:

Travel with OLLI Friends
Eastern Canada, July 18-28, 2016

Make plans now to join OLLI friends for an exclusive Road Scholar trip *All Aboard the 'Ocean': Quebec to the Maritimes by Train*. The trip begins in Montreal, Quebec, where we will be introduced to French Canada and experience the cobbled streets of Old Montreal, Notre Dame Basilica, the Museum of Fine Arts and other attractions. On Day 4 we will travel by train to Quebec City and enjoy this European-like city for several days before taking an overnight train through the lower St. Lawrence River Valley to New Brunswick. In Miramichi we will learn about Acadian history and experience a traditional Kitchen Party and then go by motor coach to Moncton. We will take a tidal walk and hear an expert naturalist's presentation about the significance of the Bay of Fundy as well as go on a lobster boat in Shediac Bay to hear a local fisherman share his passion for the lobster industry. From Moncton, New Brunswick we will travel to Halifax, Nova Scotia to explore Lunenburg, the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and the picturesque fishing village, Peggy's Cove, before the Farewell Dinner.

This 10 night-11 day adventure to Canada is now open for registration. To register, call Road Scholar toll free at (800) 322-5312 and reference program #21432 starting July 18, 2016, and say that you are an OLLI member at UAH. Linda McAllister at (wmca@hiwaay.net) is the local OLLI contact person. The full brochure with cost and lodging details is available by the OLLI office at UAH or can be downloaded at this link: http://pdf.roadscholar.org/educational-travel/PDFs/ia_olli_uah_canada_aug15.pdf



Stock photos of the Bay of Fundy, Old Montreal, and the Notre Dame Basilica.

Southern Regional Conference 2015



On July 27 through 29, twelve OLLI members and Jessica Fisher from Professional and Continuing Studies attended the *Southern Regional Conference — Learning in Retirement* hosted by the University of Alabama OLLI in Tuscaloosa. We were informed, fed, and entertained for two days. The Southern Regional is a very well-organized and well-attended conference with an excellent reputation. Not only do Lifelong Learning programs from the South participate; attendees came from such diverse areas as Minnesota, California, and Utah. Assembled in the Bryant Conference Center on the UA campus, Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) volunteers and staff shared their program experiences on travel, special events, building membership, marketing, and fund raising. Our own Linda McAllister presented a short talk regarding the five courses OLLI at UAH offered to prepare our members for the England/Wales/Scotland trip (and to allow our non-travelers an armchair view). Bob Darnall shared highlights of *An Afternoon with Naomi Judd*. We heard about events with food trucks, antiques, and elegant dinners. We discovered a speaker system designed with education in mind.

Both nights we met to discuss the events of the day. The conference had unified sessions at mealtimes and offered breakout workshops after breakfast and lunch. Our attendees made certain we had representatives at each session so that we gathered as much information as possible. Of course, the social aspects were very positive; our own OLLI members deepened friendships and solidified their commitment to our program. We saw old friends and made new ones from other campuses.

The UA program recently launched a \$100,000 marketing campaign; they offered the entire program for use by all conference participants. George Mason University, outside Washington, DC, offered a series on *Putin's Russia*; we don't have the same resources for foreign policy experts, but the model is workable for other subjects.

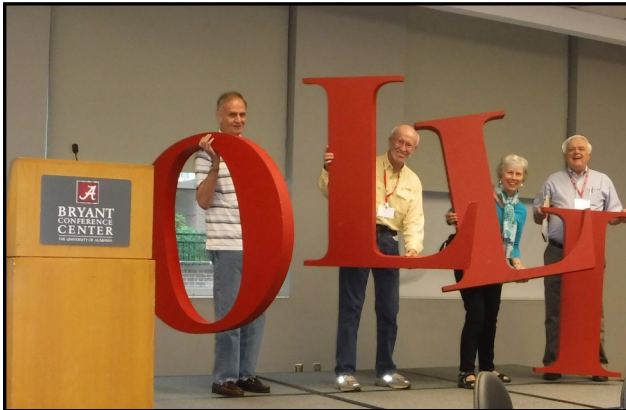
Again, we discovered that our OLLI is a comparable bargain. Most OLLI programs are more expensive than ours, some much more. While we may not realize it, lifelong learning is not free although much volunteer effort makes our program a standout in content and variety.

Most lifelong learning programs struggle with attempts at diversifying their membership; that is an ongoing discussion at the conferences.

The principle gain, however, is personal. It is impossible to spend two and a half days with like-minded LLI members and fail to be inspired. Inspired by their wit, their knowledge, their curiosity, their talents, and their struggles; our attendees returned re-invigorated and excited. New ideas abound!

Speakers at the event were outstanding. Several of the OLLI at UAH attendees participated in an optional field trip to Selma, which included a walk on the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge.

And the week after the conference, OLLI President Bob Darnall went to Huntsville's Lowe Mill to welcome the UA OLLI members to Huntsville!



Photos courtesy of Bill McAllister and Nancy Darnall.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. Karen Clanton has been named Dean of Professional and Continuing Studies; her former title was Director. Dr. Clanton has a long-term view of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH and works to make certain we have the equipment, facilities, and support necessary to keep our program vibrant and growing, with the same dedication and vision for all of Professional and Continuing Studies. This designation is both an honor and responsibility. Brava!

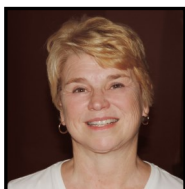
Social Committee



Leah Black
Chair

Research indicates that being socially active is a good way to enhance and extend the lives of those of us past "a certain age." The OLLI Social Committee is committed to providing the best opportunities for OLLI members to gather and enjoy good food and entertainment. This committee is responsible for the planning and implementation of six social events throughout the year, including the Fall Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, Holiday Party, Back to School Pot Luck, Winter Teachers' Appreciation, The Annual Meeting and Dinner, and the Summer Picnic on Green Mountain. It sounds like a lot of work, but the OLLI Social Committee works like a well-oiled machine. Everyone pitches in and does a little with lots of fun and no "drama." We use our creativity to provide innovative decorations and a variety of entertainment. The committee would love to have new members with new ideas. Please think of joining us. Contact me if you are interested at leahblack01@comcast.net.

Cultural Committee



Nancy Darnall
Chair

Don't forget the US Space and Rocket Center Biergarten benefitting OLLI at UAH, Thursday, October 22, at 5 pm. Contact Linda McAllister at wmca@hiwaay.net for information.

Coming up are *Steel Magnolias*, part of the Independent Musical Productions (the non-musical part), in November, *The Magic Flute*, part of the opera series being simulcast at the Hollywood 18 on December 12, Shakespeare in February 2016, and other local events.

We are planning an overnight trip to Monroeville and Selma in the spring of 2016 as well as a winter trip to Atlanta.

Watch your **eNews** and the *OLLI Insider* for details.

I would like to thank the members of the Cultural Committee for their participation. If anyone is interested in joining us, contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. Suggestions for activities are welcome. We want to provide a good range of opportunities for our members.

Curriculum Committee



Gratia Mahony
Chair

Going back to school can be an exciting time for both kids and adults. OLLI members are looking forward to the beginning of the fall term on Monday, September 14th. Courses cover a wide range of interesting topics from health and fitness to geology, arts and letters, foreign languages, and more. There is something for every interest.

Don't forget the Weekly Bonus lectures on Tuesday at 1:00 pm in the Salmon Library, room 111. All these lectures are open to every OLLI member whether you are taking courses during the term or not. And as a "special treat" refreshments will be served from noon to 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in the OLLI Lounge, WIL 152D.

The first dinner will be Sunday evening, September 27, 5:30—7:30 pm, at Asian Rim, 720 Gallatin Street, near Huntsville Hospital. Parking is available in the parking garage behind the restaurant (enter from St. Clair Avenue). The restaurant offers Thai and Asian fusion cuisine. Reservation deadline is Friday, September 18, by 4:00 pm. If you are a vegetarian, we MUST notify the restaurant as soon as possible. For reservations, please email Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. You will receive a confirmation. Prepayment of \$30 (includes full meal, non-alcoholic beverage, taxes and tip. You may pay by check (payable to Nancy Darnall, 190 Tammy Gaines Lane, Huntsville, AL 35811) or you may drop a check payable to Nancy Darnall in the OLLI Drop Box in Wilson Hall 103.

ABOUT OUR GEOGRAPHY

When OLLI classes resume in mid-September, take a peek at our world map. If your birthplace or various residence locations have not been marked, take a few minutes to add map pins to mark the spot(s). The map will be located in the OLLI Lounge and the map pins will be nearby.

The OLLI Insider October issue submission deadline is Sunday, September 13. (Early is always good!) Please submit your articles to Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. Any OLLI photos are welcome; just send them to the newsletter. As always, please include the photographer's name, the names of those in the photo, and the event shown. Thank you.



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