



## News For Members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

October 2016

Wilson Hall Room 113 Huntsville, AL 35899 256-824-6183 olli@uah.edu Osher.uah.edu

### Your OLLI President's Message



Bob Darnall  
President

It is always so great to get back to the fall term, especially now that the weather has finally decided to cool off. The enthusiasm of everyone is electrifying. I've been in class three weeks and am amazed at what I have learned after only two or three classes. Whether it is about dark matter, Spanish art, the human body, or Supreme Court decisions, I feel energized about knowing new things. OLLI really is the place to "Rediscover the Joy of Learning."

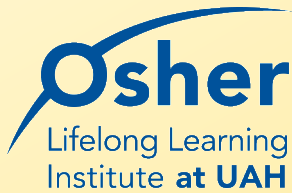
Right now I am sitting in the OLLI office thinking about all the things that go on every day to ensure that our program runs smoothly. While the CPCS staff provides exceptional support, OLLI is a volunteer organization. We need your support. This includes cleaning up after yourself in class and the lounge, volunteering where possible, and letting us know about changes you think should be made or things you would like us to do. I can assure you that we will listen carefully to every comment.

This year we are modifying the procedure for nomination of members to be on our Board of Directors, to be more transparent to the general membership as well as to assure a balance of skills and talents necessary to meet OLLI needs. As we work to finalize the procedures, we are asking members to provide input. Please notify me that you are willing to serve on the Board, or that you know someone who would make a good board member. The main requirements are the desire and ability to make OLLI better, an ability to work with others, and willingness to promote our programs and activities. Contact me at [darnall45@aol.com](mailto:darnall45@aol.com).

### OLLI Space Camp/Biergarten, September 2016



Photos courtesy of C. Hughey  
and the OLLI Facebook page.



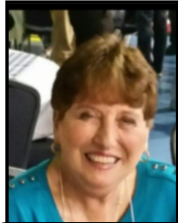
# OLLI CALENDAR

A Calendar of Upcoming Events will be published in each edition. Committee Chairs should contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com or Maxine Doherty at maxine.doherty@uah.edu to add items. Check your Weekly E-news for updates and details.

Month	Time	Event
October 16	2:00-4:00 pm	Huntsville Pilgrimage Association's <b>Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll</b> , (E)
October 23	2:00 pm	Huntsville Ballet Company's <i>Unplugged: Stage Door Canteen</i> , Von Braun Center Playhouse. Bonus preview at 11:45 am. See Joan May, Dannye Drake, or Nancy Darnall for tickets. Admission Charge. (E)
November 1	Noon-1:00 pm	<b>OLLI Reception</b> , Wilson Hall 001, for Yaa Gyasi, author of <i>Homegoing</i> . Ms. Gyasi will autograph your books. No sales at the event.
November 4	12:30-2:00 pm	<b>OLLI Teacher Appreciation Luncheon</b> , Trinity United Methodist Church. A \$3 donation is suggested. (S)
November 9	8:00 am-6:30 pm est.	<b>Flash Trip to Nashville</b> : Fontanel, Café Fontanella, Prichard's Distillery (Natchez Hills), Point of Contact: Nancy Darnall. (E)
November 16	8:00 am-6:30 pm est.	<b>Flash Trip to Nashville</b> : Travelers Rest, Loveless Café, Belle Meade Plantation, Belle Meade Winery. Point of Contact: Nancy Darnall. (E)
November 19	2:00 pm.	Broadway Theatre League's <i>Dirty Dancing</i> . Von Braun Center Mark C. Smith Concert Hall, \$59.00/Orchestra II ticket. Limited availability. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com for details.
December 8	6:00-10:00 pm	<b>OLLI Holiday Party</b> , UAH Conference Training Center. Admission Charge. (S)

Join your OLLI friends at these events scheduled by the Events (E), Curriculum (CR), Member Services (M) and/or Social (S) Committees; CPCS; and UAH. Remember to check your Weekly E-news for the latest information on these and other activities. OLLI membership is required for OLLI activities. More details are available in the Committee Sections of this *OLLI Insider*.

**Commit yourself to lifelong learning. The most valuable asset you'll ever have is your mind and what you put in it.**



Leah Black  
Chair, Social

**November 4, Friday, 12:30– 2:00 pm, *Teacher Appreciation Luncheon***, Trinity United Methodist Church, lunch served at approximately 12:45 pm. Join us in thanking our volunteer instructors for their time and efforts in the OLLI classroom. Pizza, salad, and desserts are on the menu. Non-teachers are asked to make a \$3.00 donation towards the cost.



Be on the lookout for final details and ticket sales, but mark your calendars now for **December 8, Thursday, 6:00-10:00 pm, the Annual OLLI Holiday Party**, UAH Conference Training Center. Dinner and dancing to celebrate the holidays. Tickets will be available later in the fall. Watch your **Weekly E-news** and **OLLI Insider** for more details.



Nancy Darnall  
Chair, Events

Ah, the joys and frustrations of living and playing in Huntsville, Madison County, Alabama. There are so many fall activities and events that it's hard to choose. Indoors, outdoors; history, dance, travel, music, and theatre are all on the calendar. Sign up to join your OLLI friends doing our favorite things and watch for new events in November and December.

**October 16, Sunday, 2:00-4:00 pm, Huntsville Pilgrimage Association's Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll.** Meet at the flag pole at 2:00 pm or stroll on your own. No charge. Watch for any weather notifications which can cause cancellation or delay.

**October 23, Sunday, 2:00 pm, Huntsville Ballet Company's Unplugged: Stage Door Canteen, Von Braun Center Playhouse.** Contact Joan May (jmikemay@comcast.net), Dannye Drake at (stagestruck@wowway.com), or Nancy Darnall (nbd51@icloud.com) for tickets (\$15), starting September 19. The production features music of World War II years. *Come early (11:45 am) for the OLLI bonus to hear Director Phillip Otto discussing the production, viewing dancer warm-up, and a backstage tour.*

**November 9, Wednesday, 8:00 am—6:30 pm (est. return), FLASH Trip** to Nashville, TN. Visit Barbara Mandrell's former home, Fontanel, a 27,000 square foot log cabin, eat lunch at Café Fontanella, and attend a tasting at Prichard's Distillery in Natchez Hills. Transportation, admissions, and lunch included for \$75.50. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. Pay online via PayPal after confirming space.

**November 16, Wednesday, 8:00 am—6:30 pm (est. return), FLASH Trip** to Nashville, TN. Visit Travelers Rest, lunch at the Loveless Café, tour Belle Meade Plantation and the Belle Meade Winery. Transportation and admissions included for \$57.00. Lunch not included. Contact Nancy Darnall. Pay online via PayPal after confirming space.

**Special Broadway Theatre League Offer for 2016-17. Orchestra II tickets for \$59 for each presentation, or all three shows for \$177. Enjoy an OLLI Bonus with each show (to be determined). Von Braun Center Mark C. Smith Hall.** Currently limited to twenty (20) tickets per performance. Buy all now or take your chances! Contact Nancy Darnall (nbd51@icloud.com) .

- **November 19, Saturday, 2:00 pm, *Dirty Dancing*.** The classic story on stage presents heart-pounding music, passionate romance, and sensational dancing. You'll have the time of your life!
- **January 7, 2017 Saturday, 2:00 pm, *42nd Street*.** The quintessential backstage musical comedy classic is the song and dance fable of the American Dream story.
- **October 10, 2017 Tuesday, 7:30 pm. Opening night of *Motown the Musical*.** A jukebox musical based on Motown founder Berry Gordy's autobiography *To Be Loved* is a history of our favorite hits and stars.



### **FREE UAH SPORTS PASS**

Once again the UAH Athletic Department is offering an exclusive sports package to current OLLI members. By purchasing a season ticket for reserved box seats at the UAH Hockey games for only \$100 (that's almost half off the retail price), OLLI students will also receive an All-Sports Pass valid for entry to all UAH regular season sporting events for the entire 2016-2017 season! There are 14



home hockey games this season at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville. All the games have promotional giveaways and opportunities to meet the players, in addition to exciting NCAA Division 1 Hockey!

#### **2016 Games:**

**Friday, October 21, and Saturday, October 22:** Lake Superior State, 7:07 pm.

**Friday, November 11, and Saturday, November 12:** Alaska, 7:07 pm.

**Friday, November 18, and Saturday, November 19:** Bowling Green, 7:07 pm.

**Saturday, December 3:** Ferris State, 7:07 pm.

**Sunday, December 4:** Ferris State, 3:07 pm

*[2017 games in the next OLLI Insider]*



### **Sharing a Love of Music**

OLLI recently received a generous gift from Dr. Juan 'JB' Gerala. The gift included classical, opera, and ballet DVDs, CDs, and tapes from his personal library. Dr. Gerala, a lifelong and avid lover of opera and ballet, mentioned that many in this donation are among his favorites. Dr. Gerala's donation will be added to our OLLI Lending Library for use in future courses, and for members to borrow for their listening enjoyment.

Dr. Gerala taught nearly 20 history and ancient civilization courses for OLLI at UAH from 2004-2009. His many years of instruction touched many at OLLI. His teaching and his music collection will become a part of his legacy here at OLLI. Thank you, Dr. Gerala, for your generosity.

And, thanks to Jerry Pang, for his efforts in arranging this gift. Dr. Gerala shared his passion for music and this collection with Jerry so that our members could enjoy this collection.

### **OLLI Member Interest Groups**

**Hiking:** Hikes on Thursday and Friday mornings. Bob Goodwin, [OLLIhiking@gmail.com](mailto:OLLIhiking@gmail.com).

**International Dining:** Try new foods and revisit favorites. Nancy Darnall, [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto:nbd51@icloud.com).

**Knitting.** Share your enjoyment and increase your skills. All levels welcome. Barbara Ward, [bward@hiwaay.net](mailto:bward@hiwaay.net).

**Stock Study Club.** Study and report on stocks to explore the world of investing. J. Phillip, [the\\_p\\_patch@knology.net](mailto:the_p_patch@knology.net)

**Tennis:** Court time and pro tournament gatherings. Sue Chatham, [chatham@knology.net](mailto:chatham@knology.net).

### **OLLI TO HOST RECEPTION FOR NOVELIST YAA GYASI**



OLLI is pleased to welcome novelist Yaa Gyasi to a reception in Wilson Hall from noon to 1:00 pm on Tuesday, November 1, 2016. Light refreshments will be served. Her first novel, *Homegoing* is a multigenerational story which follows the lives of two half sisters born in eighteenth-century Ghana. One sister lives in comfort in Cape Coast Castle. The other sister, Esi, is imprisoned in the castle's dungeons, and then sold into slavery and sent to America. The story line follows the descendants of the sisters describing warfare in Ghana, as well as generations of slavery in America.

Yaa Gyasi was born in Ghana and moved with her family to Huntsville where she grew up and attended school. Her father, Kwaku Gyasi is Associate Professor of French at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Dr. Gyasi has presented courses for the OLLI program at UAH on literature in West Africa.

**Dr. Kwaku Gyasi will present a course during the coming Winter Term** to discuss his daughter's book and to provide historical background about the Fante and Asante nations as they face the slave trade occurring in West Africa. This seven week course beginning the week of January 23, 2017 will be open to all registered OLLI students interested in enrolling.

Yaa Gyasi will be happy to autograph copies of her novel *Homegoing* for those who have already bought the book. Books are available for purchase at Amazon.com or in local book stores. Yaa will also appear at a reception later in the evening at 7:00 pm at the Chan Auditorium hosted by the UAH Humanities Center and English Department.



Ken Rex  
Chair

### **OLLI SUPPORT Fund**

A heartfelt "Thank You" to all of you who generously donated to the OLLI Support Fund last year. Our first year exceeded our goal and expectations, with a total in excess of \$14,500.

To keep the Support Fund growing with our increasing enrollment, we are seeking higher participation by our OLLI members. Any amount, large or small, is important and helpful to keep our OLLI program one of the best in the Southeast (maybe the entire country). While we seek to exceed our monetary totals this year, we are focusing on member participation. We have over 1,000 OLLI members; we would like for as many of you as possible to donate to the OLLI Support Fund.

The dollars you donate help cover program costs. Course fees alone do not do it. OLLI offers sixty to seventy courses per term. While our teachers are volunteers, they need services including copying and, often, teaching materials. Our CPCS support staff is there for us for every contingency. Become a Friend of OLLI and give to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Support Fund.

We are launching our Fall Campaign soon. Be a part of continuing the legacy of Lifelong Learning.

**Please Make your Tax-Deductible Gift to OLLI Today at [osher.uah.edu](http://osher.uah.edu)**

**DONATE TO OLLI**

## *HIKING MEMBER INTEREST*

On Thursday, September 29, 2016, the OLLI at UAH Hiking MIG met at the Hays Nature Preserve in Hampton Cove. Would you like to join the fun?

Photos courtesy of Aylett Dickman.



## A FEW MORE FROM THE OLLI CANADA TRIP

Below left are Linda and Rick, our Road Scholar guides. They live in Nova Scotia and were exceptional. Below right are OLLI members patiently awaiting the train to transport us overnight from Quebec to Miramichi, New Brunswick. OLLI is a great way to travel. Familiar faces, new experiences await you.



Photos  
courtesy of  
Jan Miller



## ***FALL 2016 WEEKLY BONUSES***

The Weekly Bonuses for the Fall 2016 session will be on Wednesdays in Wilson Hall 001 (the Auditorium) from 10:30 am to noon. These programs are offered as one of the OLLI member benefits and are open to members only. Purchase memberships on the day of the bonus in Wilson Hall 103.

### **Oct 5 – Ireland by Foot, Van, Boat and Train – Ray Mulcahy**

Discover Ireland! In this multi-media presentation about travels in Ireland, we will see beautiful images of the Emerald Isle, including coastlines, cottages and landscapes. You will hear interesting stories and join in a lively discussion of traveling through this magical island.

### **Oct 12 – It's OK to Die – The Myths and the Reality – Dr. Monica Williams-Murphy**

Emergency Room physician, Dr. Monica Murphy performed, "emergency chest compressions on a 100 year old nursing home patient with advanced dementia" because she had neither a living will nor a "do not resuscitate" order. Hear how Dr. Williams-Murphy developed a way to help anyone over 65 or facing a terminal illness plan ahead and document how and when they want lifesaving measures taken.

### **Oct 19 – For the People – Allen Brinkley**

Fascinated by the application of our laws and the legal system? Don't miss legal expert and The People's Court instructor Allen Brinkley's fascinating presentation about his 40 years in the legal system as a trial and appellate practitioner. With cases ranging from murder, manslaughter, personal injury, and medical malpractice—as well as trust and estate litigation, you'll understand why Mr. Brinkley set the record for the largest verdict ever rendered in Madison County.

### **Oct 26 – Therapy Partners – Beth Roberts and Sutton**

Did you know that interacting with a friendly pet can help reduce blood pressure and improve overall cardiovascular health, release endorphins that produce a calming effect, assist in pain management, reduce stress, and improve your overall psychological state? Hear how our local Therapy Partners teams provide services to 10 schools and 15 facilities.

### **Nov 2 – Renovations Large and Small – Sharon Kay Ashby**

There are small and large steps that you can take to make a huge difference in your home renovations. Whether you are planning to do renovations and stay in your home or planning to sell, learn about current codes, permits and how to find and work with contractors. Don't miss this chance to let Sharon Kay Ashby help you make wise decisions on home renovations.



Jerry Pang  
Chair

### **WEEKLY BONUS SNACKS**

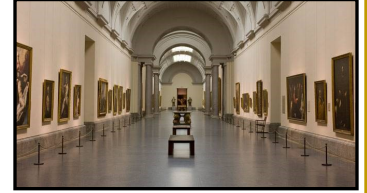
Join us in the OLLI Lounge (WIL 152D) Wednesdays after the *Weekly Bonus*, noon till 1:00 pm, for a light snack to complement your lunch. If you have a favorite treat you'd like to share, contact Jerry Pang at pang7713@gmail.com to see which dates are available. Snacks are the provider's choice; reimbursement is available. Bring your lunch and visit with your OLLI friends. This is a great way to meet new people and find out more about OLLI.

## Spain March 2017

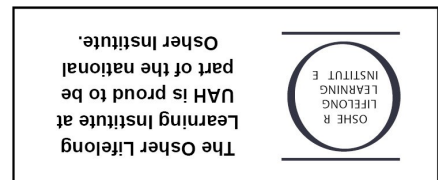
Only one double room remains for the OLLI/Grand Circle trip to Spain's Cultural Capitals. Land tour with airfare from Huntsville is \$3515, land only is \$2395. Pre-trip excursion is to Bilbao and San Sebastian, the Basque province for \$995/ per person; post-trip is to Malaga on the Costa del Sol is \$995. Visit the Prado, the Sagrada Familia Cathedral, Parc Guell, and other sites on the main tour. Extend to include the Museo Picasso in Malaga. To receive an email brochure, contact Nancy Darnall at [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto:nbd51@icloud.com).

Come join us for a fun-filled, educational Spring Break!

To book, call 1-800-597-2452, press 2, and mention Code G7-26157.



**The OLLI Insider** November/December issue submission deadline is Sunday, October 16. (Early is better!) Please submit your articles to Nancy Darnall at [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto: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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