

News For Members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH
NOVEMBER 2017

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

Your OLLI President's Message



**Gratia Mahony
President**

OLLI Class Evaluation Forms

At the end of the term you will be given an evaluation form for each class. It is very important to those who plan classes that you devote some time and thought to completing the forms.

If you give a score of 3 or less to any question, PLEASE elaborate in the comment section on or the back of the form. These comments are used to correct problems and plan new courses.

OLLI members enjoyed some wonderful extracurricular activities during the fall term. We attended bonuses about The Cultural Capitals of Spain, the Scottish Highlands, and Day Hiking in Yosemite's High Sierra Camps. We learned about the Dilemma of our National Parks and Crafting a Life: the Stories Behind the Poems. We saw the movie, *The Martian*, and were treated to a talk about the "real" vs science-fiction aspects by former NASA scientist, Rick Chappell. We watched the delightful movie *Chef* and saw two documentaries about Washington, DC.

A pleasant surprise for the folks who joined the campus walking tour on October 5 was a tour of President Altenkirch's new office in the Student Services Building. OLLI members enjoyed *Motown, the Musical* at the Von Braun Center on October 10, and *Phantom of the Opera, the Ballet* on October 22. Twenty OLLI members are looking forward to the small group tour of Washington, DC in late November and early December.

On October 4 we enjoyed the retirement reception in honor of OLLI Program Manager, Maxine Doherty, at the beautiful new guest center at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens. Donations made to the OLLI Support Fund in honor of Maxine raised a good deal of money to help support the OLLI program at UAH. I want to express my appreciation to everyone who attended the reception. Eight OLLI past presidents paid tribute to Maxine by speaking to the assembled group. They are noted and pictured on page 6.

I hope your fall term classes have been fun and rewarding. I also wish you a pleasant Thanksgiving and a happy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you all at the start of the winter term which begins January 22, 2018.

Gratia Mahony, President of OLLI

Find something you're passionate about and keep tremendously interested in it. - Julia Child



OLLI CALENDAR

Month/day	Time	Event
Nov. 3	1:00 p.m.	Walking Tour of UAH Campus led by UAH Student Ambassadors who can answer your many questions about the campus. Meet on the covered patio at the rear of Wilson Hall and please wear comfortable shoes and allow an hour. PoC: Janet Reville at jrev1988@gmail.com.
Nov. 10	10:30 a.m.	Popcorn and a Movie: Yankee Doodle Dandy WIL 152 —The genius of George M. Cohen comes to life with James Cagney as the Dandy himself. Watch him sing and dance himself to the Metal of Honor. PoC: Jean Greenwood at meanjean@knology.net.
Nov. 11	10:00 a.m.*	Huntsville Veterans Day Parade. Let's promote our own success with OLLI and honor our veterans by walking or riding in the annual parade on Saturday morning in Huntsville. We need your unique/vintage vehicle as well as OLLI members walking the easy 2 mile route. Contact Janet Reville at jrev1988@gmail.com for details. *assembly time; parade starts at 11:00 a.m.
Nov. 19	12:30 p.m.	Bolshoi Ballet: <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (Fathom Events) . Join OLLI members to watch the world-famous Bolshoi Ballet as they return for the fourth consecutive season to select cinemas nationwide. Tickets are typically available at the movie theatre (Hollywood 18 theatre) as well as online. We will meet at 12:30 if you'd like to sit together. PoC: Eleanor Schweinsberg at eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net. More info: https://www.fathomevents.com/series/bolshoi-ballet-2017-2018-season .
Dec. 8	10:00 a.m.	Popcorn and a Movie: Holiday Inn WIL 152 Classic film starring Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire. This is the movie that introduced "White Christmas".
Dec. 12	6:00 p.m.	OLLI Holiday Party at Jackson Center, Research Park. Dinner (choice of entrees) and cash bar. Dance to music of <i>Looking Back Band</i> . Tickets available in OLLI Volunteer Office or from some members (\$35/each). PoC: Leah Black at leahblack001@comcast.net. More information on page 11.
Jan. 4	10:00 a.m.	Cranes (and other birds) at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge — See large birds in big numbers! Mark the new year with a visit to WNWFF. After an entertaining visit with a ranger in the Visitor Center, walk with Bill to the Observation Building for a panoramic view of our own natural winter wonderland! PoC: Bill McAllister at wmca@hiwaay.net.
Jan. 10	2-4pm	Winter Term 2018 Registration Event. Details to be announced in Weekly e-News.

Curriculum Committee



Linda McAllister
Curriculum Chair

Fall Term courses at UAH OLLI have been stimulating and even entertaining. I have learned things that, for me, were totally new. It was nice to review the history America's Founding Fathers. I learned about artists south of our border that supplement the European artists that have primarily been my art history education up to this point. I am hearing fun music of Motown artists and realizing the immense contribution those musicians made to our culture. And, as always, the presentations and lively discussions on social justice issues in my Thursday morning class have forced me to have a clearer view of my responsibility in our society. On Thursday afternoons I conclude my courses by teaching a class of delightful folks who want to enjoy singing some old favorites together. They are not quite ready for stage performance but they are doing extremely well singing rounds in three and four parts. Personally, it has been an uplifting way to conclude my weekly course work before enjoying our OLLI Bonus movie or lecture presentation on Friday mornings.

If you enjoyed your fall term classes, I challenge you to do three things. First, thank our instructors who take time to research and prepare classes. Many teach from the overflow of life experiences and stellar careers and some are willing to research topics they have always wanted to learn about. But I assure you that all of our instructors do spend time preparing and enjoying the fun of teaching others who are so willing to learn. They were honored at the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon in October but your personal expression of thanks is always important.

Secondly, share with your Curriculum Chair or any Curriculum Committee member an idea that you might want to explore in an OLLI course. We are always looking for new ideas.

Thirdly, let us know if you would like to teach a course or if you know someone who could add value to our program by teaching a course or making a one-time presentation. Again, we are eager to meet new people who want to contribute to our program.

As I write this we are in the final stages of laying out a full array of courses for our Winter Term catalog. It looks like another good opportunity to learn and share good ideas with many new courses as well as courses that will continue. Winter term begins January 22 and our Open House Registration Event will be January 10. Catalogs will be on-line and mailed in December and you can begin registering then. Consider the holidays as an opportunity to give an OLLI membership to a friend so they can enjoy the same learning advantages we have in our excellent member-driven program.

Lost Something?

Have you lost something at OLLI? Umbrella Jacket? Badge? Sunglasses?

There is a Lost & Found basket on the credenza in the OLLI Lounge. Also, check the coat rack in the Lounge or OLLI Volunteer Office.

If you find some lost item, it should go to the rack or basket.



WEEKLY BONUS

The Weekly Bonuses for the Fall 2017 session are on Fridays in Wilson Hall 001 (the Auditorium) from 10:30 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. Note: you do not have to register for a Bonus; just attend!

November 3—10:30am
WIL 001

Crafting a Life: The Stories Behind the Poems — Dr. Melissa Morpew

Author Melissa Morpew will read poems from her five published books and tell the stories behind their creation—many of which are very funny. Even serious poetry can emerge from the funniest, weirdest circumstances. Odd things happen to Melissa all the time, and she has the poems to prove it. Snacks in the OLLI Lounge at noon.

UAH Research Participation Opportunity

The UAH Department of Kinesiology is seeking persons with a below the knee leg amputation to begin an eight-week aquatic training therapy program. Each session consists of walking on a treadmill submerged in warm water. The training plan is tailored to meet your specific needs and goals. We will provide waterproof cover for your prosthetic limb. There is no cost to you to participate in the program and you will be paid \$100 to reimburse your time and travel expenses.

If interested, please contact Shannon Mathis a 615-400-8740 or shannon.mathis@uah.edu for more information. The website below will provide photos and more information:

<https://sites.google.com/uah.edu/aquatic-treadmill-training/home>

Watch your *OLLI Insider* and *OLLI Weekly e-News* for future research participation opportunities.

OLLI Member Interest Groups

Hiking: Hikes on Thursday and Friday mornings. Bob Goodwin, OLLIHiking@gmail.com.

International Dining: Try new foods and revisit favorites. Nancy Darnall, nbd51@icloud.com.

Knitting: Share your enjoyment and increase your skills. All levels welcome. Barbara Ward, bward@hiwaay.net.

Stock Study Club: Study and report on stocks to explore the world of investing. J. Phillip, the_p_patch@knology.net

Tennis: Court time and pro tournament gatherings. Sue Chatham, chatham@knology.net.

Tai Chi: An opportunity for tai chi class members to practice their skills. Jerry Pang, pang7713@gmail.com.

MEMBER SERVICES

OLLI Media Lending Library

Have you ever taken a DVD course with OLLI and think this would be great to show my grandchildren when they study this topic in school? Or, months after the course, wish you could see one particular DVD again? Or, think, hmmm, I think I could teach this course? You now have the opportunity to make any of these scenarios happen.

Did you know that most of the DVDs used in OLLI are available in the OLLI Media Lending Library located in the OLLI Volunteer Office room 151 in Wilson Hall? A lot of work has gone into categorizing the inventory of DVDs and companion teaching materials (course guidebooks and transcripts) in order to facilitate the borrowing of materials.

Checking out a DVD is easy!

First, you have to be an OLLI member. As a current member, one of the benefits afforded you is access to the library. Simply go to the OLLI volunteer office and check the list of available DVDs. Remember, DVDs for classes currently being taught aren't available because they're being used for the current classes. If the class continues over several terms, the DVDs won't be available until the class is totally completed.

If the DVD you'd like to borrow is available, there is a check-out card that you complete and the DVD(s) is (are) yours for two weeks. Two weeks not enough? You can extend the due date for another two weeks—just return to the office and change the due date on the card. At the end of 2 (4) weeks, return the DVD, record the return on the card and replace the DVD in the file.

If you're interested in teaching the class, contact the applicable discipline chair (listed in the current catalog) or Linda McAllister, Curriculum Committee Chair, and express interest. There's a little more involvement to this process, such as: how long it's been since it was last taught, interest in the class when originally taught, timing of terms, and qualifications to teach the course. Once this process is completed, you can check out the material for four months.

Ready to borrow, or have additional questions about the process of what's available? Stop by the office any time between 8:30 and 4:30 Monday through Thursday, 8:30—12:30 Fridays and talk to the office volunteer on duty. The volunteers are there to help members, not only with the library, but with most OLLI questions.

The retirement reception in honor of Maxine Doherty was enjoyed by all!



OLLI Past Presidents — Chuck Duffy (2010-2013), Cindy Spratley (2009-2010), Bob Ward (2006-2007), Jim Lindberg (2002-2004), Jerri McLain (2013-2015), Sue Chatham (2007-2009), Hugh Nicholson (2005-2006), Gratia Mahony (2017-2019), Bob Darnall (2015-2017) honored Maxine during her retirement ceremony on October 4th at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens.



Photos by Debbie Tromblee

Many Thanks to OLLI Instructors

Our instructors are impressive, engaged, and knowledgeable. They have a passion for learning and a willingness to share their knowledge. Their enthusiasm encourages us to think, to see the different world perspectives and to experience the true Joy of Learning!

OLLI Instructors for the Fall Term

Discipline Chair & Instructors

C61 Arts and Letters

Jane Norrell

Debbie West

Dan Hornstein

Dannye Drake

Melissa Morphew

Val Seaquist

David Strickland

Dona Pratt

Matt Freese

Vanitha Singh

Nancy Darnall

Now You Know Speakers —

Steven J. Goodman

Kim Niemeier

Warren Gill

Pat McCay

John Allen

C62 Information Technology

Maxine Doherty

James Bleier

Discipline Chair & Instructors

C63 Finance & Economics

Rick Sisko

Kent Kraus

Rick Sisko

Lacey Scott

Connie Glass

C64 Foreign Language & Literature

Beth Altenkirch

Leka Medenbach

Lucia Marotto

Dan Hornstein

Flora Boardman

John Schweinsberg

Vicki Earnest

Essence Leftridge

Discipline Chair & Instructors

C65 Psychology/Philosophy/ Religion

Bill Confer

Kathy Sieja

Randy Frederick

Hilda Lee

David Newberry

C66 Leisure & Nature

Joan May

Sam Tumminello

Chuck Weber

Hoss Johnson

Bob Darnall

Gene Zajicek

Nancy Darnall

Linda McAllister

OLLI Instructors for the Fall Term (cont.)

Discipline Chair & Instructors

C67 History & Government

Cliff Lanham

Gratia Mahony

Deborah Abu-Alrub

Sandra Dabrowski

Brimmer Sherman

John Stanton

Liz Kocir

C68 Science & Mathematics

Harriett Sommerville

Lois Dreher

Charlie Ross

John Schweinsberg

Craig Reinhart

John Fix

ADFS Specialists:

Kathryn Adams

Kelly Crawford

Lillie Harper

Tiffany Warren

MCSO Investigators

Hudson Alpha Team:

David Bick

Kevin Bowling

Tom May

Jennifer Carden

Discipline Chair & Instructors

C70 Health & Fitness

Judy Oljey

Barbara Johnson

Rebekah Frank

Dan Tripp

Bert Morris

Pam Tejes

Karen Hillard

UAH College of Nursing:

Anne Dillard

Karen Frith

Casey Norris

Angela Hollingsworth

C71 Natural Resources

Joel Weinburg

Ray Mulcahy

Sue Chatham

C73 Skills & Hobbies

Joan May

Pat Long

Dan Thompson

James Brown

Jean Greenwood

Donald Hodge

Jim Beaupre

Nell Owen

Discipline Chair & Instructors

Weekly Bonus

Alice Sammon & Rick Schwarz

Nancy & Bob Darnall

Barbara Staggs

Ray Mulcahy

Dan Hornstein

Melissa Morphew

OLLI is so much more than classes! We visit with friends, old and new; enjoy snacks in the OLLI Lounge; explore our interests further with the Member Interest Groups (MIG); travel,—near and far; and attend luncheons and dinners. There is always something going on!



Photos by Debbie Tromblee, Gratia Mahony and Val Seaquist

Class Review: North American National Parks Class—Fall 2017

Did you know there are 59 US National Parks, 18 Canadian National Parks, 11 Mexican National Parks, 1 Greenland National Park and 1 Belize National Park? We just finished a class on the geology of these National Parks. Not only did we find out when they were declared National Parks, but also how they were created. Yellowstone was the first National Park. The newest, created in 2013, is Pinnacles in California. California and Alaska both have 8 National Parks.

We did a survey among the class members. Of the eighteen who participated, we found the class had visited 52 out of 59 US National Parks. Sixteen had visited the Great Smoky Mountains National Park—which is also the most visited in the nation. Two of our class members had visited Isle Royale National Park in Michigan—which is the smallest national park with only 24,966 acres.

I could talk forever about this class. It was excellent and, if the class is offered in the future, I highly recommend it. (See class photo on page 12.)

(Thank you to Sue Chatham for the article and photo)

Vietnam Revisited—coming Winter 2018!

This will be a new class in January 2018 and it will run two terms, Winter and Spring 2018.

The vast majority of OLLI students were witness to the historical events of 1960 through 1975. This time frame produced many cultural changes in our society. There were the hippies, drugs such as marijuana and LSD came to be known, the Vietnam War, the anti-war movements, new and exciting music awakened the youth and racial problems, all of which changed the fabric of our culture.

This was not your father's war of WWII. The government of the time was not what your parents experienced in WWII. Many of you served in Vietnam. Many of you saw and experienced the collateral results of the times and the war.

Perhaps it is time to "travel back in time" and explore all fronts of our society and how those events may or may not continue to affect us in modern times. History must be studied to better prepare for the future. Have we as a society learned from this past experience?

If you are interested in taking this class, it is recommended that you do a bit of reading beforehand. Two books for recommended reading are listed below. Both can be obtained in paperback for less than \$10/each on Amazon.com.

Herring, George C., America's Longest War, The United States and Vietnam 1950-1975, 5th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2014. (The 5th edition has the most current declassified data.)

Karnow, Stanley, Vietnam, A History, The Complete Account of the Vietnam War, The Viking Press, New York, 1983.

The Ken Burns' documentary DVD series, The Vietnam War will be used in this class.



The OLLI Holiday Party

Please join your OLLI friends for our **OLLI Holiday Party** at the Jackson Center in Research Park (6001 Moquin Drive, east of Hudson Alpha). Dinner will be served with a choice of three entrees: grilled salmon, lemon chicken or moussaka (meatless pasta) as well as salad and dessert. A cash bar will be provided. Dance to the music of *The Looking Back Band*.

The cost is \$35 per person and tickets are available in the OLLI Volunteer Office or online at osher.uah.edu/ollitickets. You should choose your entrée at the time you purchase your ticket. Additional information can be obtained from Leah Black at leahblack01@comcast.net.

Road Scholar Caregiver Grants

Are you a caregiver? Do you know someone who is? Caregiving can be lonely and isolating, wearing away your physical and emotional health. You more than likely know that *Road Scholar* provides travel education opportunities for individuals over 55 but did you know that they award Caregiver Grants (scholarships) to give adults who serve as primary caregivers a respite from their task of caring for ill or disabled loved ones? A caregiver grant will award up to \$1,300.00 to apply toward the cost of a *Road Scholar* program based in the U.S. or Canada.

For information go to: www.road scholar.org then “practical information” —> “how it works”—> “financial assistance”.

UAH Campus Changes

UAH has begun construction on the north side of campus to extend the cross-campus walkway. Fences have been installed in some areas, particularly around some of the sidewalks between Wilson Hall and the Library. Please allow extra time if you have classes or park in lots other than Wilson Hall. The gravel walkway between Wilson Hall (accessed from the front north of the building) will lead you to the back of the Salmon Library or the Conference Training Center. These new campus improvements will, ultimately, provide safer and more attractive walkways around campus.

Volunteering is a great way to boost your immune system.



Rediscover the Joy of Learning!



Please note The OLLI Insider will take a break during December/January!

The OLLI Insider February issue submission deadline is **January 12**. (Early is better!) Please submit your articles to meanjean@knology.net. Any OLLI photos are welcome; just send them to vseaquistj@bellsouth.net. As always, please include the photographer's name, the names of those in the photo, and the event shown. Thank you.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH is proud to be part of the national Osher Institute.



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College of Professional and Continuing Studies



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