

THE OLLI

News for the members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

INSIDER

DECEMBER 2019 ISSUE



Osher
Lifelong Learning
Institute **at UAH**

DECEMBER 2019-FEBRUARY 2020

December 6 | Fri | 10:30 am | WIL 152

Popcorn and a Movie: *Bohemian Rhapsody*

Follow the meteoric rise of legendary rock band *Queen* and lead singer *Freddie Mercury*, from their early formation in London to their famous performance at 1985 Live Aid.

December 13 | Fri | 10:00 am | WIL Lobby

Winter Open House

Enjoy the Holiday season with snacks and get ready for Winter term with your OLLI friends. Meet instructors and the OLLI Curriculum Committee, select from over 60 exciting courses and register, enter to win door prizes, make packs for the homeless, and create your own ornament!

December 17 | Tues | 6:00 pm | Jackson Center

Annual Holiday Party

Join us to celebrate the Holiday spirit at the Jackson Center. Holiday entertainment and dancing immediately following dinner. Tickets are \$35 per person. Feel free to bring friends, family, and guests (non-OLLI members are most welcome). Reserve your seat now! Click [here](#) for more information.

January 9 | Th | 10:00 am | Huntsville Museum of Art
Orientalism Exhibit Docent Tour

Orientalism: The Allure of North Africa and the Near East – Masterworks from the Dahesh Museum of Art explores how artists from both Europe and America represented the culture and people of Turkey, the Middle East, and North Africa—both real and imagined – during the 19th century. The group rate fee for admission will be \$8.00 per adult. Museum members will receive free admission. Sign up [online](#) or contact Eleanor Schweinsberg at eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net.

January 10 | Fri | 10:30 am | WIL 152

Popcorn and a Movie: *Master & Commander*

During the Napoleonic Wars, a brash British captain pushes his ship and crew to their limits in pursuit of a formidable French war vessel.

January 13 | Mon | 10:00 am | Decatur, AL

Wheeler Wildlife Refuge Visit

Experience nature while observing the Sandhill Cranes, ducks, and geese at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge. Sign up [online](#) or contact Bill McAllister at billmcallister94@gmail.com.

January 25 | Sat | 2:00 & 4:00 pm | UAH Spragins Hall

OLLI Game Day - UAH Basketball

Cheer for the UAH Women and Men's basketball teams. Tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis. Sign up [online](#) or contact POC: Ale Pacheco, OLLI.info@uah.edu.

January 31 | Fri | 11:00 am | Location TBA

Weekly Bonus: Cuba-The Revisit

Presented by Jose Betancourt

Engage in the fascinating story of how a Cuban native tried to return to their home country. How were they able to go back with all the current restrictions? Find out the details through storytelling and captivating photographs of the before and after journey.

February 7 | Fri | 11:00 am | Location TBA

Weekly Bonus: In This War Together

Presented by Charlotte Cain

History talks about the brave soldiers and the many battles during the Civil War, but what about the experiences of the civilian women, children, slaves and elderly during this tough time? Using original records, explore the other side of Civil War as seen from the noncombatants of Manassas and Prince William County, Virginia.

KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST OLLI EVENTS AT:
OSHER.UAH.EDU/WEEKLYBONUS

ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR FOR OLLI

Another fantastic year for OLLI draws to a close, and what a year it has been.

So many activities and events have occurred, especially in the last three months during Fall term. This issue highlights some of those events, such as the visit from WHNT Channel 19 News, who featured OLLI at UAH in various segments; the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon; Birmingham Day Trip; Polaris Industries tour and much more!

The Editorial Team for *The OLLI Insider* is hard at work already preparing issues for 2020. If you would like volunteer in OLLI and be a part of our team, please let us know. This is your publication, and we want to make it the best for you—the members. You can email Liz Kocir, PR Committee Chair at elizabethkocir@yahoo.com.

On behalf of the Editorial Team, the Board of Directors, all the Committee Chairs, the College of Professional and Continuing Studies staff, and all our wonderful volunteers, we wish you the very best Holiday Season and a great 2020.

Content for the January Insider is due on December 17, 2019 to OLLINewsletter@uah.edu.



Members at the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon



Members at the Polaris Industries Tour



The OLLI Insider article submission deadline is the 17th of each month for the following month.



Members at 16th Street Baptist Church during Birmingham Day Trip

FROM THE PRESIDENT

GREAT FALL TERM!



WOW! What a great Fall term we had at OLLI. We had record registration for our classes, excellent Weekly Bonuses and great opportunities to participate in our events and Membership Interest Groups.

Thank you to all of our members for supporting our OLLI program. Your engagement and support make OLLI the fantastic organization we have at UAH. I would also like to thank our many teachers and volunteers who help bring all this together; it would not be possible without you.

By the time you read this article, we will be deep into our Fall Break, when we downshift our activities a little bit to allow our members to take time during this Holiday Season for family and friends.

I hope each of you celebrated the wonderful things that have happened in your lives at Thanksgiving. This holiday gives my family the opportunity to reflect upon the past year and the things that have occurred for which we are grateful for. We celebrated many happenings in my family, including my granddaughter entering public school as a kindergartener and my daughter changing her career path to medical writing, for which she has a great talent. In addition, we celebrated continued good health, which is always a concern as we age.

We are now entering into the Christmas, Kwanzaa, and Hanukkah seasons, when we share with our families the joy and love of the season. It gives us a time to share gifts and stories that become a part of our life scripts. I hope you enjoy this time of warmth and happiness.

I encourage you to also block out an evening to come and celebrate the Holidays with your OLLI family. Your Social Committee has planned another wonderful holiday experience for you on December 17th at the Jackson Center, where we will share a meal, conversation, music, and dancing. Our celebration will not be complete without you there to share the evening.

Finally, as we bring 2019 to a close, I would just like to thank each of you for being a part of the OLLI Family. We have developed into the fantastic organization that we are because of you.

In the last year, I have learned from you as I have taken the courses you have shared; I have grown with you as we have shared coffee and conversation in the lounge; and I have gained understanding from you as you have shared your thoughts and visions of life.

Thank you, and Happy Holidays.

David Styers

President, OLLI at UAH Board of Directors



CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

FALL TERM AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Fall Term was a huge success, based on numerous comments, positive Feedback Forms and also the wonderful response to the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. Several noted the luncheon attendance was the largest in recent years.

Everyone enjoyed the delicious food, football trivia game, and creative “game day” decorations planned by the OLLI Social Committee.

The Curriculum Committee was proud to display artwork, quilts and poetry reflecting Fall Term courses, as well as published books of four OLLI teachers. Dr. Hilda Lee, John Scales, Dr. Steve Jones and John Mason were happy to discuss and autograph their books.

Lee Piskorz read a most interesting story written for a *Writing Your Life Story* class, and Curriculum Committee Discipline Chairs were pleased to recognize and show appreciation to all teachers who helped to make Fall Term successful.

Holiday Open House will kick off Winter Term for OLLI on **Friday, December 13, from 10 am to noon** in the Wilson Hall lobby. In addition to meeting some of our teachers and registering for courses, participants will enjoy the socializing opportunity along with tantalizing refreshments. An added feature for this Open House will be the opportunity to help stuff bags for the homeless and create a “make & take” holiday ornament.

Open House offers a great opportunity to bring a friend to OLLI. You can give your friends a tour of our OLLI Suite (*volunteer office, lounge and two classrooms*); introduce them to your friends; explain Member Interest Groups and travel opportunities; share some refreshments in the OLLI lounge; and participate in the added attractions mentioned previously. Also, there will be plenty of available parking on December 13!

Winter Term course offerings look just as exciting as Fall Term, so we look forward to you being a part of it!

Linda McAllister
VP of Curriculum, OLLI at UAH Board of Directors



Hilda Lee



John Mason and John Scales



Dr. Steve Jones

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

SMILE FOR THE CAMERA



It was no trick when on October 29, Ethan Fitzgerald, reporter for WHNT Channel 19 News, treated members to an afternoon of filming and interviews about OLLI at UAH.

The segment, which aired the following day on the station's 10 o'clock newscast, featured students from Debbie West's *Alabama's Artistic Heritage*; Vickie Earnest's *Beginning French*; Jerry Pang's *Intro to Tai Chi* and Will Kirkpatrick's *Absolute Beginner's Bridge*.

Debbie West's students certainly added more excitement to the filming with their Halloween attire. Those interviewed for the segment were OLLI members David Styers and Sue Chatham. Fathia Hardy, representing the College of Professional and Continuing Studies, was also featured.

In between filming and setting up for interviews, Ethan was asked what attracted him to do a story on OLLI. He explained it was when he met Sue Ewing (an OLLI member) and her husband at the Madison Street Fall Festival and she informed him about OLLI. Ethan became impressed with the program and what it offers. He believed it to be such a good, positive story about our community that he wanted to feature it on a broadcast.

You can see the broadcast [HERE](#).

Many thanks to all who participated in this venture — and remember, you are the best PR for OLLI.

Liz Kocir
Public Relations Chair



Sue Chatham



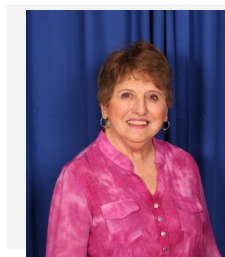
Debbie West and Fathia Hardy



Intro To Tai Chi Course

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

MEMBER SERVICES WEARS MANY HATS



OLLI is a vibrant organization filled with dedicated volunteers. Its members can keep their minds sharp taking stimulating courses and enjoy the many ways available to interact with other interesting people. The Member Services Committee (MSC) works to provide OLLI members some of the benefits of belonging to this amazing organization.

Do you get a cup of coffee and chat with others in the OLLI Lounge? Member Services is responsible for providing the coffee, tea, creamer, sweeteners, cups, napkins, etc., etc.

Many of our members have enjoyed the wonderful snacks provided before the Friday Bonuses. Member Services volunteer, Rexanne Warfel, has outdone herself making them so special. Other volunteers have also brought in goodies to add to the bounty. Members have filled the lounge and 152C enjoying the food and lively conversation before heading to the Weekly Bonus.

The Member Services Committee is also responsible for maintaining and updating our extensive DVD library. We were just gifted with many DVDs donated by Dalton Nix, and MSC volunteers are adding them to our database. Members are welcome to check out DVDs and enjoy them at home, and instructors often use them in their courses. Lists of those DVDs currently available are in the OLLI lounge and in the OLLI Volunteer office. Please see the office volunteer on duty to check one out.

Another MSC service is the Annual Photo Contest. OLLI members are encouraged to submit a photo by **April 1, 2020**. Debbie Tromblee heads this activity and does a great job of organizing everything and getting qualified judges. Prizes are awarded at the Annual Dinner, and the names of first, second, and third-place winners are framed and hung outside the OLLI office. The theme this year is “*Things That Can Fly*.”

Occasionally, members enjoy the activities in classes so much that some would like to continue to meet on their own. They can apply to form or join an active Member Interest Group (MIG). If approved, they can ask for space in the OLLI suite to meet or for other arrangements. Currently active MIGs are Hiking, Tennis for All, Let's Play Bridge, and Dining Out.

This committee also provides member assistance to members who would like to take courses but are currently undergoing some financial difficulty. They can contact Ale Pacheco for more information at ale.pacheco@uah.edu.

Volunteers are always needed and Members Services would love to have more members. Please contact Leah at lblackie01@gmail.com if you are interested or if you have any ideas of other ways MSC can provide services to OLLI members.

Leah Black
Member Services Chair

OLLI 2020 Photo Contest

Things That Can Fly

Deadline:
April 1, 2020
Submit up to
3 entries!

- Photos must be taken Apr 1, 2019–Mar 31, 2020
- Photographer must be an OLLI Member
- Gentle editing permitted, but keep original
- No identifying/copyright marks on photo
- Submit named photo via digital jpg format
- Recommend at least 2 MB final size

Submit entries:

olliphotocontest@gmail.com

Include where/when photo was taken,
your name, phone number, and e-mail.

Osher.uah.edu/OLLIPhotoContest



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

OLLI - WHERE THE INTERESTING PEOPLE ARE

Hugh Nicholson's has been an active OLLI (previously the *Academy of Lifelong Learning*) member since 2001. Following the advice of Liz Switzer, another member of the Academy, Hugh jumped right in and took on various roles within OLLI. In 2003 he became President of OLLI, and has served as Member Services Chair, Curriculum Chair and in many other positions.

Hugh's greatest achievement is the over 35 classes he has taught through the years with OLLI. He started with a German class, which led to philosophy classes. According to Hugh *"the best presentation I ever made was one on historical Jesus."*

At the age of 87, Hugh has an interesting background. He grew up in Alabama and has two engineering degrees and a law degree. He received one of the engineering degrees and the law degree on the GI Bill, which he was entitled to after being in the Army for two years. The law degree was the one most utilized, as he retired as a practicing attorney.

When he is not in the classroom or at an OLLI committee meeting, you will find Hugh at the UAH Fitness Center, where he works out to stay physically fit and for the additional social interaction it provides.

"I am very conscious of the food and drinks I consume and very conscious of what I think and what I read" Hugh said. "I have always been academically inclined and enjoy being part of the UAH campus."

Hugh has no plans to slow down and continues to be active in OLLI because, after all, this is where you meet interesting people.



Serving on the Member Services Committee in 2013



Hugh Nicholson during class



At Popcorn and a Movie Event



At OLLI Day Trip

READY FOR 2020



have already met.

I am super excited for you to see what the Curriculum Committee has planned for you this Winter 2020 term. They are also working hard, together with CPCS, to offer even better courses in the Spring and Summer terms. Below are some reminders and events coming up:

UAH Winter Break: UAH will be closed in observance of the holidays from Monday, December 23 and will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd. [Online](#) registration for winter term will still be open.

Peace on Earth: UAH is proud to announce the seventh annual "Peace on Earth" concert. It will be held on **Saturday, December 7th at 7:30 pm** in the VBC's Mark C. Smith Concert Hall. The 2019 Holiday Spectacular features *Indigo Girls!* UAH music faculty and students, HCC Youth Chorale, and Huntsville Symphony Orchestra will offer seasonal favorites to kick off your holiday season.

OLLI Game Day-UAH Basketball: Join us to cheer for the UAH Chargers on **January 25, 2020**. Attend both women and men's games starting at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm respectively. We are receiving 30 complimentary tickets and it is a sign up first come first serve. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Grand Ole Nashville Day Trip: Join us on March 18th, 2020 to visit the *Country Music Hall of Fame* and discover the story of former and current country artists. Snap a picture with the wax figures of your favorite singers, and other famous celebrities at *Madame Tussauds Wax Museum*. Explore more of what Nashville has to offer by visiting the replica of the *Parthenon* in Athens, and its museum exhibiting many famous sculptures and more! This will be a day full of fun and learning for our members as we visit the Music City! Register [HERE](#).

UAlert System: UAlert is a comprehensive communications solution that allows UAH to quickly disseminate an urgent message through multiple communication methods including: phone calls, text messages to cell phones, and email messages. OLLI members can register for the UAlert system [HERE](#).

Wishing you Happy Holidays!

Ale Pacheco
Program Manager, OLLI at UAH



With Linda McAllister and Jill Stewart



With Alice Sammon, Program Coordinator

COURSE SPOTLIGHT

LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE IN WINTER TERM



Beginning Arabic | M | 1:15 - 2:45 pm

Expand your horizons by learning the official language of 22 Arab countries. Develop a strong foundation in speaking, listening, writing and reading on Modern Standard Arabic through instructor led sessions and videos.

Beginning French | T | 10:30 am-noon

Begin with "Bonjour" and achieve a basic level of reading, speaking, and listening skills with an emphasis on conversational French. Bienvenue to your French-learning journey.



Intermediate French | T | 1:15 -2:45 pm

Do you remember many of the basics of the French language from previous experiences? Get to review vocabulary and verbs, learn more grammar, and practice French conversation in a friendly, encouraging environment.



Conversational German | M | 8:45 -10:15 am

Gain the confidence to strike up a conversation in German! You will find all the guidance you need to construct personalized conversations and achieve a confident speaking style.

German Literature | T | 8:45 -10:15 am

Enhance your knowledge in this fascinating language by discussing and exploring contemporary German literature through full collection of unedited short stories.

Intermediate German | Th | 8:45 -10:15 am

Improve your reading skills with the book Hamburg-Hin Und Zurück. The story is designed to increase comprehension, everyday conversation and vocabulary.

Italian for Travelers | F | 8:45 -10:15 am

Do you want to be ready for your next trip to Italy, or want to learn the basics? Discover the most used words and phrases of Italian by focusing on communicative competencies. Practice listening, speaking and reading to be able to navigate simple conversations and understand important vocabulary.



Beginning Spanish | M | 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Let's start from the very beginning! Learn grammar and basic sentence structure, greetings, some common useful verbs, nouns, and pronouns, and build your vocabulary little by little as the class progresses.

Not-so-Beginner Spanish | T | 5:15 -6:45 pm

Develop a broader knowledge in Spanish by learning more verbs besides the common "ser" and "estar".

Advanced Creative Approach to Spanish | W | 10:30 am—noon

Recognize thousands of words in Spanish at first sight, and easily convert English words into Spanish words.

MEMBER INTEREST GROUPS

HIKING MIG WINTER 2020



Dates: Thursdays: January 23-March 19 (*Easier hikes-Easy to moderate*)
 Fridays: January 24-March 20 (*More difficult-Moderate to hard*)

Time: 9:00 am—noon (*There may be some variances on the Friday hikes*)

Join fellow OLLI members on those dull, wintry mornings for fun, camaraderie and fitness on trails in the Huntsville area. Hiking MIG will try a mix of some of the newer trails and older ones on Green Mountain, Wade Mountain, Monte Sano and other locations. Members will not need a lot of equipment: sneakers or hiking boots, a walking stick and water are the basics. Dogs on leashes are allowed! Liability waivers are required. All hike details will be handled via email.

To sign up for winter, send an email to OLLHIKING@gmail.com and ask to be added to the list. Members will receive a list of hikes and a waiver about a week prior to the first hike. **If you already receive emails there is no need to sign up again!**

FALL TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON



With more than 100 members in attendance, the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon was a huge success. Thank you to all of the members who attended, and special thanks to the Social Committee and Curriculum Committee for planning such a wonderful event to recognize OLLI's instructors. There was art work displayed from members who took art and quilting courses during the fall, as well as a book signing/selling from instructors who have been published. Lee Piskorz, who took *Writing Your Life Story*, delighted all attendees with a section of her story.

FALL TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON CONTINUED



IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS - BIRMINGHAM DAY TRIP



On November 12th, various members got to experience the Civil Right Movement happening first hand in the city of Birmingham, AL. This trip was guided by Fathia Hardy, Associate Director for CPCS, and her mother Linda Lutfi, both Birmingham natives. Participants first visited the *Negro Southern League Museum* where they met a former member of the Birmingham Black Barons, Jake Sanders. Members got to hear his story and the struggles he had to face during this time while trying to enjoy the sport he loved. The next stop was Pizitz Food Hall for lunch. There were 14 restaurant options members could choose from, such as Ethiopian food, Vietnamese, Greek, and more! They were able to share their learnings from the museums, and share what they expected for their next stops.

Members continued the day trip by visiting the historic 16th Street Baptist Church. It was a very eye opening experience as members saw the exact location where the bomb was placed that killed four young girls. They continued by walking to the Kelly Ingram Park right outside this beautiful church. Members got to see the monument dedicated to the *Four Little Girls*, replicas of the water canons used during the 1950s-1960s, and many more depictions of what African-Americans had to endure during the Civil Rights Movement.

The last stop was the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. The institute took members through a journey to the past showing the difficulties and hardships African-Americans the South. There were many interesting exhibits showcasing the story of Rosa Parks and the work Martin Luther King Jr. did for his community.

POLARIS INDUSTRIES TOUR



Members attended the Polaris Industries tour on November 19th. They were able to see the assembly line of the manufacturing process, while learning more about the products Polaris produces and how it helps the economy in North Alabama. Everyone had a great time and got to take pictures with their one of a kind cars.

THE LAST WORD

WINTER 2020

Open House

Friday, Dec 13 | 10:00 am – noon
Wilson Hall Lobby – UAH Campus

Bring a friend, enjoy refreshments,
socialize with OLLI Friends and:

- Meet instructors & the OLLI Curriculum Committee
- Select & register for Winter term courses
- Enter to win door prizes
- Assemble helpful packs for the homeless and make a holiday ornament.

Validate your Winter 2020 Parking Permit.



Osher
Lifelong Learning
Institute at UAH

Holidays...
a time for
Reflection a time for *Good Cheer*
a time for *Friends & Family*
during a special time of year!

OLLI at UAH invites you, your friends, and family to join us to
celebrate the holiday season at our

Annual Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 pm
Jackson Center, Discovery Hall B,
6001 Moquin Drive, Huntsville, AL 35806

Come enjoy cocktails, dinner, and dancing. Holiday entertainment
provided by DJ Ted Cannon .

ORIENTALISM EXHIBIT DOCENT TOUR

1/9/20 | 10 AM

Huntsville Museum of Art

POC: Eleanor Schweinsberg
eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net

1/13/20 | 10 AM
**WHEELER
WILDLIFE
REFUGE VISIT**