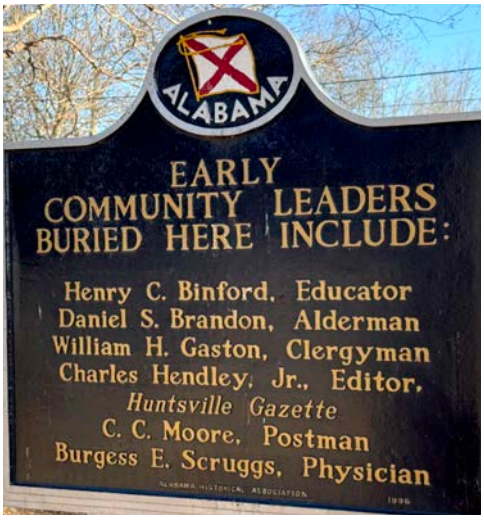
The
OLLI INSIDER
March 2026

News for OLLI members at The University of Alabama in Huntsville



FLAVORS, ADVENTURES, DANCE, HISTORY, AND MUSICAL MEMORIES

Left to right, top to bottom: Sampling favorite recipes at OLLI's annual Souper Bowl; bonus lectures about the Montgomery bus boycott and historic Glenwood Cemetery; Fourroux Prosthetics, which makes artificial human limbs; a juvenile bald eagle at Lake Guntersville State Park; Alison Toney with grandchildren; Huntsville Ballet Company; the late Microwave Dave performing in October. Alison is this month's Insider *profile subject.*

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OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
OLLI at UAH

From the Editor

CHECK OUT WHAT YOU SEE ON THE INTERNET

Occasionally while I was editor of the only newspaper in a rural county, I wished we had competition.

I or another reporter for our paper was almost always the only journalist covering a meeting of a city or town council, zoning board or county commission.

In fact, the newspaper reporter was usually the only spectator. No other citizens bothered to attend, even though the meetings were open to the public. When participants tried to speak "off the record," we reminded them that whatever they said might be quoted in the paper.

Once the city council held a hearing about a controversial rezoning, and scores of people showed up from the neighborhood. My wife, Patrice, took notes while I shot pictures. The man who was trying to get his property rezoned, and was the target of his neighbors' ire, noted with chagrin that this was the first local event he'd ever seen that was notorious enough to require two reporters.

If people wanted to know what was going on in the county, they'd have to read our paper. We were happy to be in that position. Most of them trusted us, and we took seriously our responsibility to get the facts right.

But occasionally someone — usually a politician we had quoted or written about — would challenge our facts. Those were the times when another, independent account of what happened might have helped our readers and us, corroborating one account or the other.

On one occasion, the city clerk's tape recording showed that we had made a mistake. We ran a correction, as we did at other times when we realized we had been wrong.

I think about these experiences when

Look for multiple sources, or at least trusted ones, before believing information you find on the internet. (Art by Meta Artificial Intelligence)

someone makes a startling allegation on the internet and says that the media (liberal, conservative, mainstream, etc.) have ignored it. There may be a good reason: It didn't happen.

I have seen political comments attributed to retired Bama football coach Nick Saban on Facebook, complete with links to a site that contains the alleged details. But I've searched the internet for reports by reputable media of Saban's comments, which would have been newsworthy if uttered. I haven't found that corroboration.

The internet is not a small county with one newspaper. If something significant happens in the state or nation, multiple news media will cover it. Before relying on or repeating information, look for other sources. If you find only one source, make sure it is one you can trust.

Inside *The Insider*: Alison Toney is educating two different age groups, but I am afraid to ask her which is her first love, OLLI or Grannie Camp. See Glen Adams' profile of Alison. Phil Graham says there's no need to feel invisible after a big change in life, such as retiring. OLLI can help. Suezy Proctor writes that "OLLI has helped me cram more life into my life."

John Mason invites us to vote on board members, nominate candidates for Volunteer of the Year, enter the annual Philip Flowers Memorial Photo Contest, and attend the annual dinner in May. We announce the winner of the T-shirt slogan contest.

Betty Koval reports that this month's bonus lecture will be an update on the FBI in Huntsville. Chris Stuhlinger writes about coming events, including Space Camp and Irish drumming this month. Dave Sayre lists nine possible destinations for future OLLI travels in Alabama, in other states and abroad, as well as three 2026 trips that are still available.

Jean Krieger explains folk art on behalf of the Artist Studio Member Interest Group. We have updates from three other MIGs: Hiking & Biking, Dine Out, and OLLI Reads.

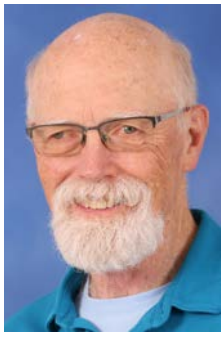
Diversity and inclusion are often listed as reasons Huntsville is a good place to live. Lee Roop reflects on the civil rights struggles that got us to this point. Mark Tenhundfeld explores what "originalism" means and should mean to federal courts.

Anelisse Westmeyer is writing the column of UAH news usually written by her boss, Clay Williams. Has there been a coup d'état?

When Microwave Dave performed for OLLI in October, nobody knew that he would be gone in four months. Decades ago, Dave decided that if he survived Vietnam, music would be "entirely who I am," not a side hustle. Read Jane McBride's tribute to him.

Steve Stewart
***Editor,* The OLLI Insider**

DO I MATTER?



I was invisible, and I was only just beginning to realise the extraordinary advantage my invisibility gave me. My head was already teeming with plans of all the wild and wonderful things I had now impunity to do.

—The Invisible Man*, H.G. Wells, 1897*

Below: Image from the first-edition cover of *The Invisible Man* (London: Pearson, 1897); George Charles Beresford's portrait of the author. (Wikimedia Commons)

There are disturbing books — good books, mind you, but disturbing because of a truth underlying the writer's theme. One such book that beckons me to reread is *The Invisible Man* by H.G. Wells.

The truth, for some of us, is that when we depart from our work life, whether by voluntary choice or involuntary decision, we struggle to find ourselves.

In the workplace, we had a job title; peers sought our subject matter expertise; co-workers joined us for lunch; and we were fully engaged with what we were doing, as well as for whom and with whom we were doing it. Then, one day, we leave the workplace and become — magically it seems — invisible.

Our former workmates no longer seek our opinions; the invitations to lunch become increasingly rare; and our job title is replaced by our Medicare card and Social Security number, identifying us to those with a need to know. Some of us perceive others not caring for what we say or what we do as making a difference.

Unlike Wells' invisible man, we find that the freedom and advantage to being invisible to others are neither discernible nor appreciated.

In our post-work-life demographic, some of us struggle with an existential question, "Do I matter?" Current social and psychological studies have expanded upon the two-sided coin of "mattering." One side of the coin is one's sense of feeling appreciated or valued; the other side is one's perception of being of value to others.

It's my belief, from my own experiences, that OLLI at UAH nurtures an intentional social responsibility to our members. Positively aligning itself to the interests, concerns and shared attitudes of its members, OLLI focuses on ensuring each member knows that a member's absence is noticed, that each member has the agency to help and assist others, and that each contributes to the betterment of the whole.

At OLLI at UAH, *YOU matter*!

Phil Graham
President, OLLI at UAH Board of Directors

COFFEE CONNECTION CONTINUES

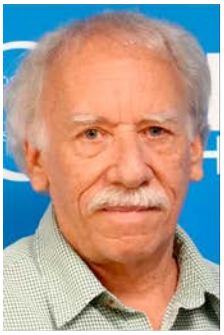
Newcomers and all OLLI members are invited to join Board President Phil Graham over a hot or cold beverage in the OLLI Lounge (152D Wilson Hall). This event started in the fall. Hours for spring semester are:

- **Monday**, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- **Tuesday**, 8 to 8:30 and 10:30 to 11 (or visit Phil in the volunteer office, 151 Wilson Hall, between 11 and 1).
- **Wednesday,** 1 to 2 p.m.

Events Committee

OLLI's coming events include touring a water treatment plant and a rescue mission (above), as well as Space Camp, Irish drumming and birding (illustrated on the next page). (Some images came from the venues.)

REGISTER NOW FOR MARCH AND APRIL EVENTS



We have a variety of events scheduled for March and April, so be sure to register before they fill up!

Event recaps

Fourroux Prosthetics, Jan. 30 — Our group was treated to a fascinating glimpse into the world of prosthetics. Patients arrive in the morning, and by the end of the day they have their custom-fitted arms, legs, fingers, toes or feet. Although some complicated projects require more time, most prosthetics are constructed quickly and efficiently in an on-site lab.

Huntsville Ballet experience, Feb. 13 — Members of OLLI visited the Huntsville Ballet studio with host Philip Otto, the ballet's artistic director. He led the Huntsville Ballet Company dancers in a demonstration class and answered questions about training, pointe shoes, the five basic ballet positions and ballet movements, and choreography. After he explained the company's ballet season, the dancers then delighted OLLI members with a dress rehearsal performance of *Dancer's Choice*. (Recap by Alison Toney)

Bald eagle safari, Feb. 14 — Our large group of OLLI members was treated to a fantastic day of bald eagle awareness and viewing by the naturalists at Lake Guntersville State Park. After an excellent presentation about bald eagles, we saw at least six bald eagles at three nesting sites.

Coming events

- Saturday, March 21 — **Space Camp experience at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: $100. Spend a full day at Space Camp! Gear up for an unforgettable adventure as you become part of the astronaut crew on a full space flight mission training experience. Then learn what it's like to walk on the moon with the one-sixth gravity simulator, a "chair" suspended from springs (low impact). Finally, visit the USSRC archives for a presentation about the center's large collection of space artifacts and documents. The staff at USSRC has curated this custom experience for OLLI members at a significant discount and with our demographics in mind (only mild physical activity). The deadline is now March 5 for both steps in the registration process. First register on the OLLI website; then register and pay with USSRC. No refunds after March 5! Contact me if you have questions or concerns about physical limitations for these activities.
- Friday, March 27 — **Irish drumming at the downtown Huntsville-Madison County Public Library**, 1-3 p.m. Cost: $10. Have you ever wanted to learn how to play an Irish traditional instrument? Here's your chance! Join Andy Kruspe from the Irish Drum Center for a hands-on experience as we learn how to play a reel on the bodhran (Irish traditional frame drum). No experience necessary, and drums and tippers are provided. We hope to see you there.
- Friday, April 17 — **South Parkway Water Treatment Plant**, 2-4 p.m. Cost: $0. Find out what happens to our Huntsville water supply between the source and our taps. We will visit one of Huntsville Utilities' largest water treatment plants (48 million gallons per day capacity). The Huntsville water system was established in 1823 and is the oldest system west of the Appalachians. Our water comes mainly from the Tennessee River, but there are three wells in the system also. The South Parkway plant processes water from the river.
- Saturday, April 18 — **Birding at Chapman Mountain Nature Preserve**, 9-10:30 a.m. Cost: $0. Join Tim Gels (Land Trust of North Alabama) at the Education Pavilion to learn about slow birding: the art and science of enjoying common birds in your own backyard. Tim will also share tips for basic techniques, tools and resources for birding, a growing hobby. We will see if we can spot any resident and spring migratory birds during a short walk on a nearby Preserve trail.

(continued on the next page)

Events Committee

REGISTER NOW FOR MARCH AND APRIL EVENTS, cont

- Friday, April 24 — **Downtown Rescue Mission**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost: $0. Tour the Downtown Rescue Mission main campus in Huntsville, where we'll see firsthand how your donations and thrift store purchases directly support their vital work in the community. A complimentary lunch will be provided. Then we will travel to their thrift store in Madison for an opportunity to shop for great bargains (a coupon will be provided for all participants). All attendees will meet at the UAH Wilson Hall parking lot and then travel by van and one carpool vehicle to the main campus and thrift store.

Chris Stuhlinger
Events Committee Chair

FOURROUX PROSTHETICS: NEW LIMBS FOR PATIENTS







(Photos by Marsha Langlois and Chris Stuhlinger)

Events Committee

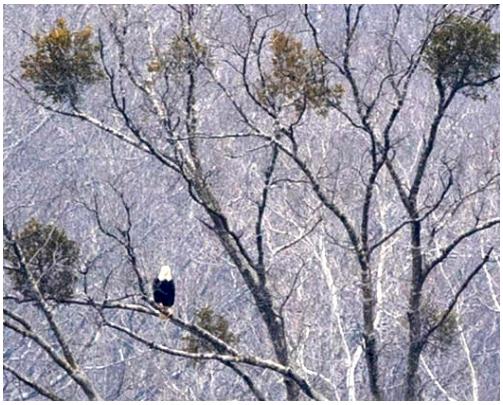
BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE HUNTSVILLE BALLET

(Photos from Glen Adams, Patrice Stewart, Alison Toney and Chris Stuhlinger)

Events Committee

EAGLES AND OTHER BIRDS AT LAKE GUNTERSVILLE










(Photos by Marie Arighi, Bill Carswell, Marsha Langlois, Robert Silliman and Chris Stuhlinger)

Coming Bonuses

ONE BONUS IN MARCH: FBI REDSTONE UPDATE

Hello, OLLI friends!

I want to express my appreciation for your participation at each bonus event.

It is truly rewarding to see so many OLLI members interested in the topics we present. Your attendance demonstrates that the information we share aligns with what our membership is eager to learn about, which is gratifying for all involved.

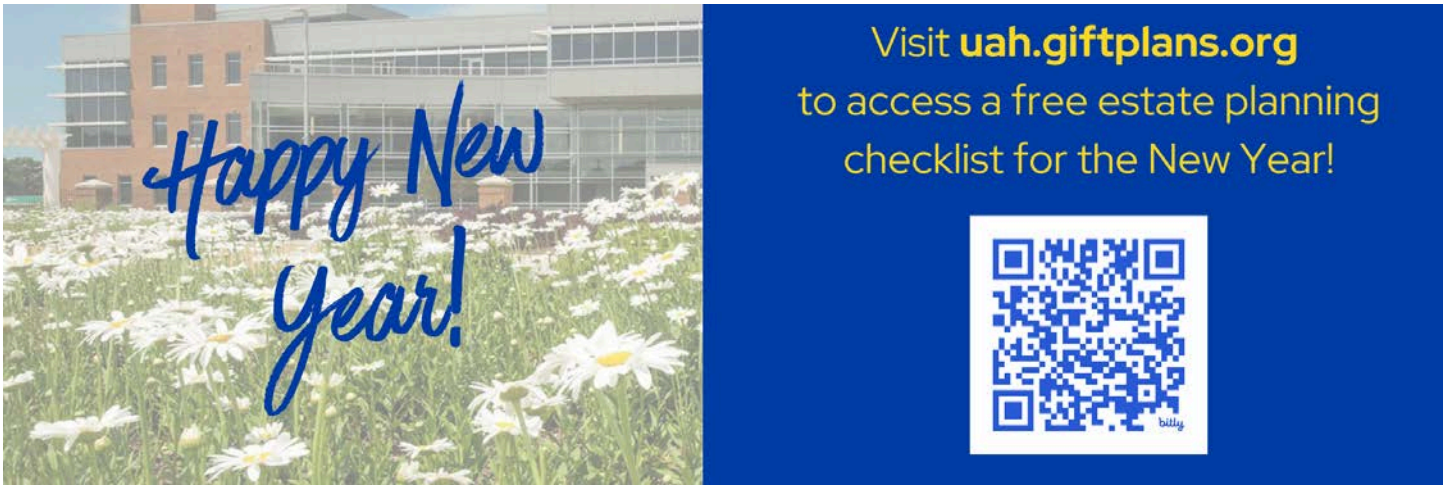
Because spring break falls during the week of March 9-13, we have scheduled only one bonus event for March. I am confident that most of you will be interested in attending this special event.

On March 20, we are excited to offer the FBI Redstone Update, presented by Alicia Irmscher, supervisory management and program analyst for the FBI Redstone employee services team. This session will provide valuable insights and the latest updates directly from an expert source about the FBI's ongoing and expanding operations here.

I look forward to seeing you in class and at our coming bonus events!

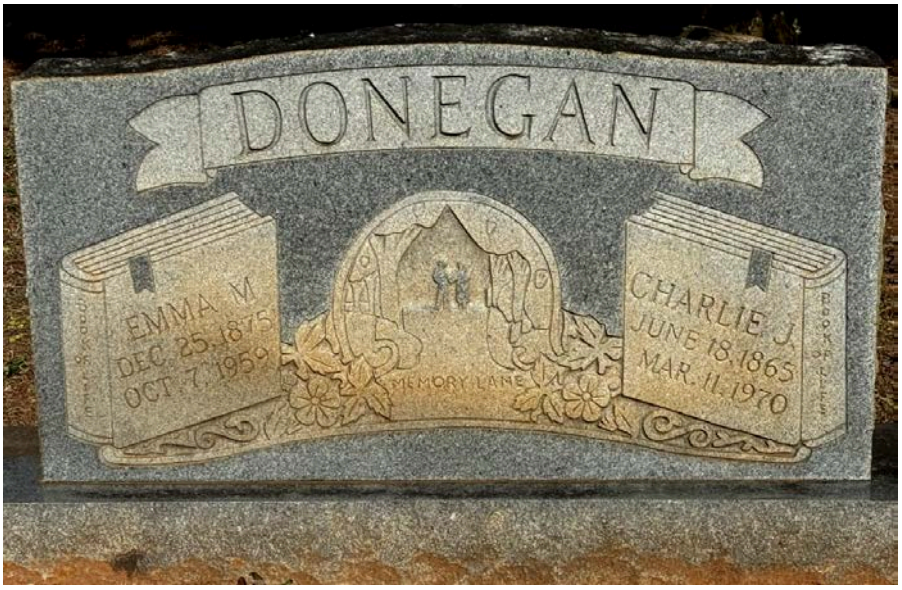
Betty Koval
Bonus Coordinator

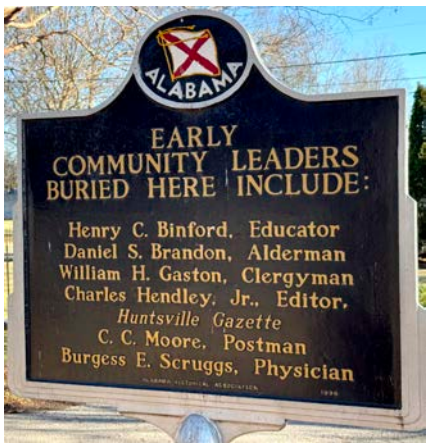
Learn about the FBI's operations in Huntsville during a bonus lecture March 20 in Wilson Hall.



EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF GLENWOOD CEMETERY

Retired educators Penny Sumners (foreground) and Dorla Evans gave a bonus lecture and online demonstration Feb. 6 about Glenwood Cemetery, created in 1870 as a burial place for African Americans. The online part included a walking tour guide available at **https://tinyurl.com/glenwood-cemetery**. The two pictures at lower right are Dora Fackler Lowery and her son Joseph Echols Lowery, co-founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. She is buried in Glenwood.

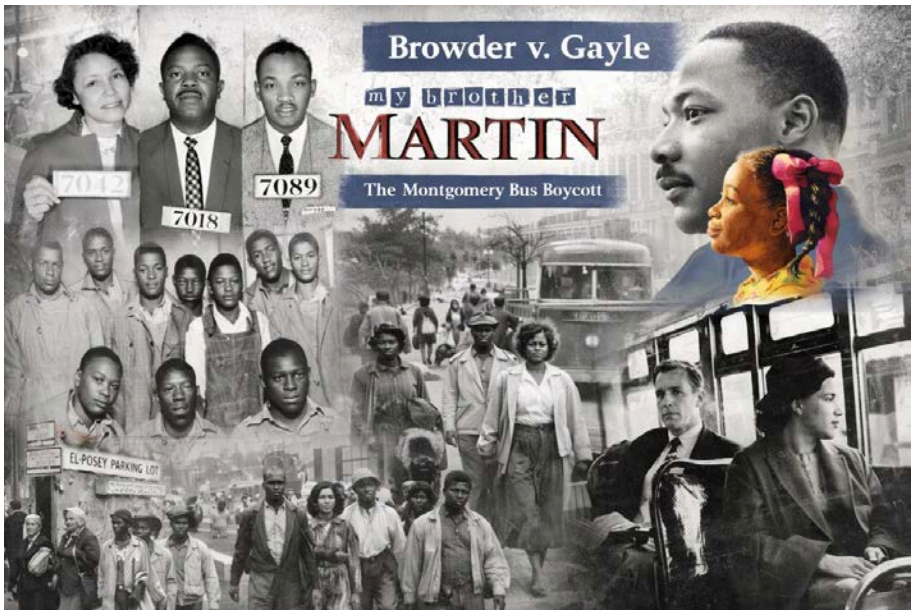




(Photos by Steve Stewart and from the online cemetery guide)

MONTGOMERY BOYCOTT ENDED BUS SEGREGATION

Ramona L. Hyman presented her research about the Montgomery bus boycott in a bonus lecture Feb. 20. She is an author, poet, producer and retired Oakwood University professor. Blacks in Montgomery organized a boycott that lasted more than a year after Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 for refusing to surrender her seat to a White person. The boycott led to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that segregated buses were unconstitutional. Martin Luther King Jr., the pastor who led the boycott, became a national civil rights leader.



(Photos from Steve Stewart, the speaker and Wikimedia Commons)

Member Services Committee

WE'RE NEAR THE END OF ANOTHER ACADEMIC YEAR

By the time you're reading this, a lot of our member activities are nearing their completion for another year.

The nomination period for **new members of our Board of Directors** will have closed, and the information about those who have volunteered will be shortly available for your consideration and for your vote.

We have four vacancies on the board this year, and our job is to determine who the four best candidates are to fill them (information about voting will be forthcoming in the weekly *eNews*). Please take the time to do this! It is, after all, your organization they will be directing.

After seating our new directors in April, we will have our **annual dinner** in May. This is the OLLI version of the State of the Union! More on that event itself will be coming out soon, but when it does, please go online and make your reservation to attend.

Why, you might ask? Well for starters, its just a darn good time to be enjoyed with your friends and maybe even your *new* friends. There'll be good food and good entertainment, and just a chance to catch up on all that's going on.

But even better will be the announcement of the winners of our two member awards for the year: the OLLI Volunteer of the Year (VOY) and the winner and runners-up of the annual Philip Flowers Memorial Photo Contest.

Nominations for the **Volunteer of the Year** are open now, and you can submit your choice at this link:

https://forms.gle/91xsJ9H2NJkRqN8e7

Its quite an honor to be recognized by your peers for you service. So please, if you know of someone who's gone above and beyond in service to the organization this year, nominate that person!

Not only do they get our recognition at the meeting, but they are also eternally memorialized on the VOY plaque outside the volunteer office (151 Wilson Hall). So let us know, and perhaps you'll be the one to really make someone's day.

And last, but certainly not least, remember the annual **Philip Flowers Memorial Photo Contest** is up and running, so submit your entry *now*! This year's subject is *NIGHTLIGHTS*: exploring both the literal and abstract interpretations of light after dark. You can submit your photos now at **olliphotocontest@uah.edu**. The deadline is March 31.

The next Volunteer of the Year will be named in May and added to this plaque outside the volunteer office. You can nominate some deserving member now, using the link in this column.

Let's get those nominations and photos coming in! Our success, not to mention the fun we all have in OLLI, is in our participation. Join in!

John Mason
Member Services Committee Chair

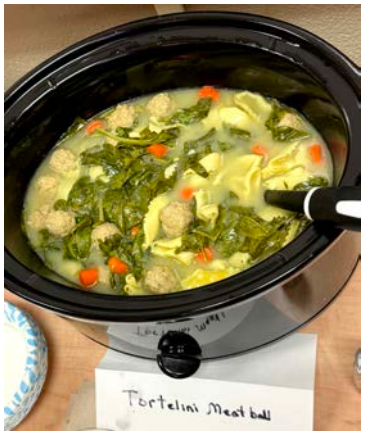
LEISURELY LUNCHES CONTINUE THROUGH MARCH 17

Free weekly Leisurely Lunches began Feb. 3 in the OLLI Lounge (152D Wilson Hall) and will continue at noon on Tuesdays through March 17. You don't need to make a reservation, but show up early or you'll stand in line. Dozens of members have enjoyed the food and socializing each week. These photos are from Feb. 10 and Feb. 17.

(Photos by Steve Stewart)

SAVORY SAMPLING DURING THE SOUPER BOWL

Members brought their favorite soups in crock pots to OLLI's annual Souper Bowl on Feb. 20, just after the bonus lecture about the Montgomery bus boycott. Tasty soups, rolls, crackers, chips, desserts and other food were served free.



(Photos by Steve Stewart)

GIVE IT FORWARD: INVITE SOMEONE TO OLLI

I discovered OLLI at UAH quite by accident — over coffee with a friend.

She mentioned it casually, describing classes, trips, and a coming open house. Something in her description caught my attention. It sounded like exactly what I had been looking for: a place to meet like-minded people, keep learning, explore new adventures near and far, and perhaps even teach a class or two. Of course, I went to the open house.

What I found was far more than I imagined. Yes, the classes are outstanding — but OLLI is so much more than classes.

Suezy Proctor taught a class about North American Indians and donned a beekeeper's suit. Her other OLLI adventures have included making friends in the OLLI lounge and singing along with Microwave Dave. (Photos by Alison Toney and Suezy Proctor)

Magic in the lounge

For me, the magic often begins in the OLLI lounge. I like to arrive early, settle into a chair, and simply be present. Sometimes small groups are already deep in conversation; other times, I'm there to welcome the next person who walks in. The lounge is where connections happen organically — where strangers become acquaintances and acquaintances become friends.

Fast forward to today: I'm now in my second year. During the spring 2026 semester, I had the privilege of teaching my first class, North American Indians, to 35 fully engaged members.

They kept me on my toes — in the very best way. The questions were thoughtful and probing, and one good question sparked another. Members built upon each other's comments, adding insight, perspective and curiosity. What began as a good class became a great class because of them. I'm not sure who had more fun — the students or the teacher.

Since then, several members have taken the time to tell me how much they enjoyed the course. That affirmation didn't just feel good — it strengthened my confidence and inspired me to continue contributing. When people place trust in you, it raises your desire to rise to the occasion.

I have also benefited from the generosity of seasoned members who make themselves available to help newcomers find their footing. Their mentorship and friendship made my transition seamless. It's a gift I look forward to passing along to the next wave of new members.

Astronaut, bees, Microwave Dave

OLLI offers experiences that stretch well beyond the classroom. I've met astronaut Jan Davis. I've donned a beekeeper's suit to visit the OLLI bees. I've sung along at a live concert with the legendary Microwave Dave — an experience made even more poignant by his passing soon afterward. These are not just events; they are memories woven into the fabric of community.

I was recently invited to serve as discipline chair for hobbies and leisure on the Curriculum Committee. Serving in this role has deepened my appreciation for the dedicated work happening behind the scenes.

The thoughtful planning, coordination, and creativity required to offer such a wide range of opportunities is truly impressive. It has given me renewed respect for the leadership and volunteers who keep OLLI vibrant and growing.

And the adventures continue. On Feb. 14, I was one of 57 members caravanning to Guntersville State Park for a bald eagle safari. What a remarkable way to spend Valentine's Day — celebrating nature, learning together, and sharing the experience with friends.

Generous, engaged people

OLLI has expanded my world. I take at least four classes each semester and participate in extracurricular activities that challenge, surprise and delight me. I've met generous, engaged people, the kind who give more than they take.

If you know someone who might benefit from this community, invite them to an open house. It's nearly impossible to walk the halls without feeling the energy and possibility.

I can honestly say that OLLI has helped me cram more life into my life. For that — and for all of you — I am deeply grateful.

Suezy Proctor
Hobbies & Leisure Discipline Chair
Curriculum Committee

AMERICAN INDIANS AND CHILDREN'S THEATER

Suezy Proctor's North American Indians course this semester included a Zoom conversation with the grandson of Edward S. Curtis (1868-1952), a photographer of Native Americans. The Descendants Project is a current project that locates living relatives of the Native Americans whom Edward Curtis photographed to learn their messages of resistance, survival and power. The top photo shows a recording of an interview with one such descendant. The other photos here are from Helen Donohue's course called Stagecraft at Fantasy Playhouse. OLLI members made puppets and bee props for the children's theater. They helped paint the set for *Winnie the Pooh, the Musical*.

(Photos by Alison Toney, Curriculum Committee discipline chair for arts and letters)

Travel Committee

POSSIBLE DESTINATIONS FOR FUTURE OLLI TRAVELS

Your OLLI Travel Committee is considering future destinations in Alabama, in other states and abroad. Here are nine of them:

- Germany — the history and relationship between Alabama and Germany
- Kentucky — Bourbon Trail, rolling hills, horse races
- Northwestern United States, including Oregon: Rose Festival, roses, tulips and horse races
- Michigan — the Tulip Time Festival in Holland, Michigan, and Mackinac Island
- New York — Finger Lakes and Corning Museum of Glass
- Japan
- Alabama parks
- The best of Arkansas
- River cruise

Stay tuned as we announce plans for these and other 2027 and 2028 adventures in the next couple of months. Watch *The Insider*, the *eNews* and bulletin boards. And visit the Travel Opportunities area of the OLLI website (**http://tinyurl.com/olli-travel**).

You could still sign up for these trips in 2026:

- Steve Goodman is leading a wonderful **cruise along the Dalmatian coast** — April 24-May 11, 2026. This cruise will include Croatia (Zadar, Zagreb, Plitvice Lakes, Split, Dubrovnik), Montenegro (Kotor), Albania (Saranda, Butrint), and Greece (Corfu, Delphi, Athens). This trip is with Overseas Adventure Travel (part of Grand Circle Travel), with whom we have had great experiences previously. Details are at **https://tinyurl.com/olli-dalmatia-greece2026**.
- **Explore South Africa** — Aug. 21-Sept. 3, 2026. Join us for another exciting Nanda Journeys adventure as our OLLI travelers learn about the local history, culture and wildlife conservation efforts in and near Johannesburg, George and Cape Town. Visit Soweto, the Cradle of Humankind, Cradle Nature Preserve, Pilanesberg National Park, the Garden Route, Table Mountain and more. Mingle with the locals and participate in several safaris. The cost per person is $4,699 (double occupancy, land only). For a detailed itinerary and registration information, contact Chris Stuhlinger or visit **https://tinyurl.com/olli-south-africa-2026**.

Learn about wildlife, history and culture during OLLI's visit to South Africa, scheduled Aug. 21-Sept. 3, 2026.

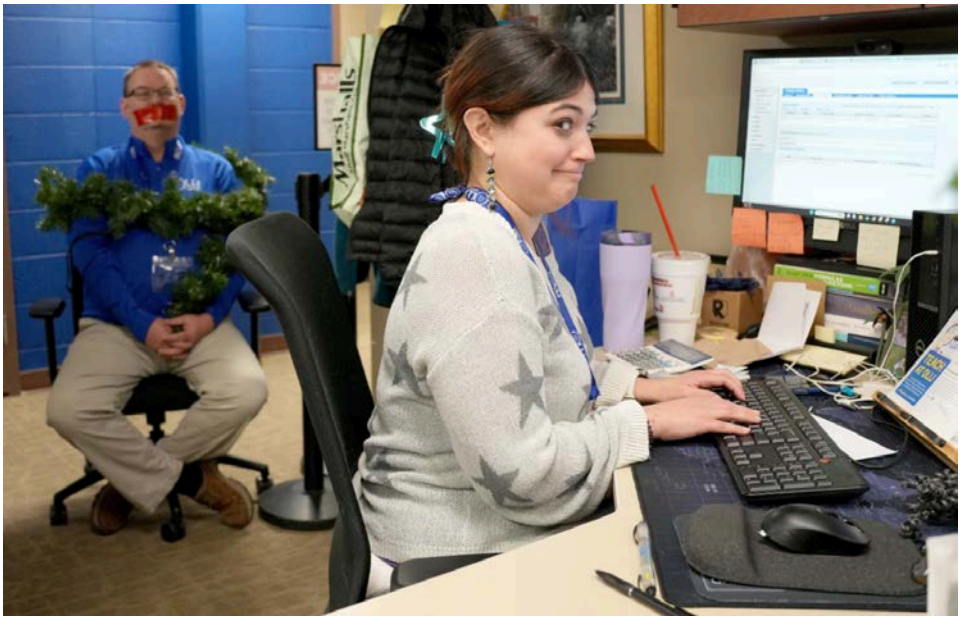
- **The Best of New Mexico: Santa Fe, Taos and Albuquerque** — Nov. 9-16, 2026. Explore the best that New Mexico offers: the cosmopolitan heart of Albuquerque, the state's largest city; the Old World charm of Santa Fe; and the frontier spirit of Taos. From history and culture to cuisine and the arts, compare and contrast these unique cities and see how they evolved into the jewels they are today. To express an interest or request information, contact Jane McBride or go to **https://tinyurl.com/olli-nm-2026**.

Never let curiosity fade! Contact David Sayre, other members of the Travel Committee, or coordinators for the trips at **olli.info@uah.edu**. All who wander are not lost!

David Sayre
Travel Committee Chair

FROM THE OLLI REGISTRATION OFFICE

We interrupt your normally scheduled programming for this special report from the OLLI registration office. Clay Williams is … uh … tied up at the moment, so we thought this would be a great time to discuss some helpful hints for our online registration system.



Anelisse Westmeyer gets some work done while Clay Williams, the OLLI program manager, remains tied up. (Photo by Justin Clay)

Technology is advancing rapidly, and it seems that our devices are changing so often that by the time we figure out new features, they've already changed again.

Now that we're on our third semester of our new registration system, we're hoping its consistency is helping OLLI members register for classes, bonuses and special events with ease. No software is perfect, though, so it's totally understandable if something goes awry and assistance is needed.

That's why I'm here manning the registration office! I try my best to check and make sure everyone is registered for what they want, is taken off the wait list when we can manage it, and just is generally as satisfied with their OLLI experience as much as humanly possible. It's better when I can keep Clay, ah … occupied.

With our summer semester approaching, I just wanted to give a few tips on how to navigate our online registration (**https://tinyurl.com/olli-online-registration**) so your classes are easier to plan around your busy schedule. One tool I want to highlight is the search option, which I do not think enough of our members are using. After you log into the system, click on the search bar, illustrated below.

Many of our members need to search for courses by the day of the week. This option allows you to search by day and time of the day to help you get the most out of your OLLI membership. It's also easier than sifting through all our class offerings in the course catalog.

And don't forget to use the system to get the 20% discount when you register for four courses at one time.

Interestingly enough, if you sign up for four courses but get wait-listed for one, and an opening develops and we can get you into that course, the system will automatically discount you on the courses you already paid. As a result, the fourth class will cost you only $8! A head-scratcher, I know, but technology can be pretty cool sometimes.

New things are always a learning curve, but that is what OLLI is all about. It always makes me excited to see new and returning members take on the challenge of the next class, special event, or topic discussed at a bonus. Hopefully, this new registration system will be easier for you to use and enable you to enjoy all that OLLI has to offer.

Speaking of new things, have you checked out the added offerings on the Special Events page? We have four more events that opened up for registration back on Feb. 1. Space is limited, but I hope you'll join us! (I'll contact you if I can get you off the wait list otherwise.)

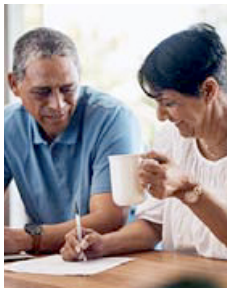
Just remember, I'm at the office (103 Wilson Hall) to assist if you need help getting the most out of the system.

Until the next update, whenever we can get Clay, ah … elsewhere!

Anelisse Westmeyer
OLLI Registration Coordinator

Course Spotlight

There is still time to register for spring 2026 courses. You can register here: **https://tinyurl.com/olli-uah-registration**!



UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL PLANNING IN RETIREMENT

3/17 – 4/21 • Tu • 1:15 – 2:45 p.m. • 6 sessions • In person • L. Simmons • $40

Are you seeking a better understanding of your investment options? Join your instructor as she shares strategies to help you achieve your financial goals in retirement. Learn how to ensure your investments are on track, explore ways to save on taxes, plan for your family's future, protect your assets, and pass on your legacy.

BEGINNING FRENCH READING CONTINUED

3/20 – 4/24 • F • 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. • 6 sessions • In person • K. Lloyd • $40

In this course, we will continue to work our way through the reading list we began in the fall, reading and discussing authentic French texts.

INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY

3/25 – 4/29 • W • 10:30 a.m. – noon • 6 sessions • Live virtual • H. Kinzer • $40

Anthropology is the study of human beings in general, from our evolutionary roots and past peoples to modern language and culture. This course will touch upon the following areas of anthropology: biological, archaeological, cultural, linguistic, applied and medical.

REV IT UP

3/26 – 4/30 • Th • 8:30 – 10 a.m. • 6 sessions • In person • D. Mayes • $40

Rev It Up is a class for those who have good balance and want to do the things to keep them from becoming balance-compromised. The program utilizes higher-impact aerobics, circuits and strength training techniques. Get ready to improve your health as you move to music!

Save 20%

When you register for 4 or more term courses at once.

ALISON TONEY, TRAVELING PH.D. GRANNIE, SERVES ON OLLI BOARD, HELPS PLAN COURSES AND EVENTS

By Glen Adams

It is just such a pleasure to be around some people. Their presence brightens the day and gives you the sense things are really going to be OK.

OLLI members would agree one such person is Alison Toney, who is a constant presence in OLLI classes, field trips and travel adventures. Her welcoming smile and sunny personality are blessings for any event.

But there is another side to this proud grandmother. She has a Ph.D. in molecular biology and immunology and did two post-doctoral fellowships.

Alison is the subject of this month's *Insider* profile.

Counterclockwise from top right: Alison with Bob at a zip line in Costa Rica; Alison on a Santa train with grandchildren Lawrence, Mae and Emmeline; Mae, William, Emmeline and R.J. (aka Greek gods and goddesses Artemis, Poseidon, Athena and Zeus) at Grannie Camp; daughters Juliana and Elizabeth.

History, geography, art and music

Alison is a real hometown girl. She moved to Huntsville when she was 18 months old. Her father was a physicist at the Army Missile Command, working on missile guidance systems, and her mother a kindergarten teacher. Her family was completed by a younger sister and younger brother.

She went to local schools and graduated from Johnson High School.

"My favorite subjects were history and geography," said Alison. "In elementary school, I was always excited to miss recess so that I could mix paints for art class. I took piano lessons from first grade through my junior year in college. I played clarinet in my junior high and high school bands and in the UAH wind ensemble. I was in the church youth choir and was church pianist during college."

Alison graduated from UAH with a degree in biology, with minors in chemistry and music. She then attended dental school at The University of Alabama at Birmingham for two years, but discovered she liked science courses better than clinical courses.

She switched to molecular biology and immunology, earning a Ph.D. in 1990. This led to a one-year post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Louisville and a three-year fellowship at the United States Army Research Institute of Infectious Disease. There she was involved in the DNA sequencing of hantaviruses (hemorrhagic fever) for vector-based vaccine development.

Dental school and Army life

During all this intensive study, Alison found time to marry her husband of 45 years, Bob.

"Bob and I met in the church youth choir and started dating when I was 15," said Alison. "We married seven years later."

Bob graduated from dental school at UAB and spent the next 26 years as an Army dentist, which made Alison an Army wife and led to a nomadic existence.

"We were stationed at Fort McClellan in Anniston; Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Detrick, Maryland; and six years in Mons, Belgium. Our final duty station was Redstone Arsenal."

Eventually it became too difficult for Alison to continue her career as a molecular biologist because of the complicated logistics of commuting to work in Europe with two young daughters, Elizabeth and Juliana.

Instead, she substituted at the American High School in Belgium, was pianist for the Protestant Chapel for five years and the Community Theater for three years, and taught piano. The

(continued on the next page)

ALISON TONEY, cont

family also spent considerable time traveling throughout Europe.

Bob retired from the Army in 2006 and spent the next 12 years working at clinics in Huntsville. He still works part time for a few local dentists.

The daughters have prospered. They both graduated from Auburn University, Elizabeth with a degree in public relations and Juliana with a degree in nursing. Elizabeth lives in Mountain Brook and is married to Caleb, an emergency medicine physician. They have two sons, William and R.J. Juliana lives in Monrovia and is married to Zach, a functional medicine physician. They have three children, Mae, Emmeline and Lawrence.

These five grandchildren are lucky enough to go to Grannie Camp every summer.

"I love being a grandmother," said Alison. "Every Grannie Camp has a different theme: dinosaurs, space, pirates, backyard Olympics, and Greek gods and goddesses. There are always a lot of books, puzzles, crafts, games, field trips, movies, plays and costumes relating to the theme, as well as swimming and neighborhood fireworks."

Empty nest and a reading project

When the last daughter went off to college, Alison decided to pursue two projects: genealogy and, more surprising, reading all the Pulitzer Prize winners in fiction going back to 1918.

"It was a very interesting reading experience," said Alison. "Many of those books I never would have chosen. I was surprised at some that I really enjoyed. There were only a couple that I was really relieved when I finished them."

Alison is still involved in music. She is subbing as her church's pianist, while her sister is the organist.

When Alison decided to join OLLI in 2023, she jumped in with both feet. She has already made OLLI trips to the Georgia isles, Iceland and Pittsburgh. With Bob she went to Costa Rica, and they are planning on the Dalmatian Coast trip in a few months. Alison is also signed up for trips to South Africa and New Mexico.

This semester she is taking 12 classes! And she is on the Board of Directors.

"I am the discipline chair for arts and letters on the Curriculum Committee," said Alison. "I planned events that included Fantasy Playhouse, Huntsville Ballet, Irish drumming, birding at Chapman Mountain and Constitution Village. I am also on the Administration and Finance Committee."

That is a lot. Thanks, Alison, for all you do for OLLI.

SOUTHERN FOLK ART

Traditional Southern crafts are integral to the artistic expression of the South.

The term “folk art” originated in Europe but expanded in the United States. The concept of folk art was established in 1894 when Alois Riegl published *Volkskunst, Hausfleiss und Hausindustrie*. In the 21st century, folk art exemplifies nostalgia for pre-industrial society.

A few characteristics of folk art distinguish it from other artworks. The objects are created by a single artist or workshop of artisans. Only one handmade object is crafted, and the subject matter reflects the community’s cultural heritage.

Folk artists traditionally used local material and reproduced familiar subject matter. Artwork commonly served both utilitarian and decorative purposes and historically thrived in rural communities.

Another folk art characteristic is that it is taught informally (i.e., outside of institutions). Traditional folk arts emerged from passing skills from one generation to another, learning by apprenticeship or simply self-teaching. Many folk art traditions like quilting and decoy carving continue to be practiced and continue to evolve.

There is a wide range of folk art categories. All of these genres are created outside of formal “fine art” instruction: Americana, genre paintings, naïve art, outlier art and primitive art.

Anyone can experience folk art crafts at the Burritt Folk School. Burritt on the Mountain’s mission is to inspire, educate and cultivate a creative community through preservation, demonstration, and participation in traditional arts and crafts. Burritt offers hands-on workshops taught by regional artisans who are passionate about preserving their crafts.

“Old Bright, the Postman” by George Smart is an example of folk art painting. The two coffeepots are toleware — kitchen-related objects created from metal and painted. Charles Henning created the one at top right. (Images from Wikimedia Commons and Wikipedia)

Burritt Folk School is currently looking for artisans in woodworking, wood carving (shell carving), wood burning and chair caning to instruct others on their handicrafts. Additional folk crafts that need teachers include tin/metal smiths, paper making/bookmaking, needle felting, basketry and jewelry making.

Burritt is looking for instructors in printmaking, drawing, photography, painting and calligraphy. Techniques and themes would emphasize regional-ism — nuances of Southern land-scape, life and history. Burritt is also considering music teachers who play and can instruct using fiddle, mandolin or guitar, and drummer and dance teachers who train in square dancing, swing or tango.

Since the 1980s, the American South has been recognized as a region with an abundance of folk artists. If you want more information on teaching at Burritt, please email elizabeth.phillips@huntsvilleal.gov.

If you are interested in nostalgic folk art, sign up for a class at Burritt on the Mountain.

Jean Krieger
Leader
Artist Studio Member Interest Group

JOIN US FOR NATURE WALK, HIKE AND BIKE RIDE

Make plans to join us for the coming MIG activities described below. The warming temperatures should allow us to enjoy some time outdoors. Several activities are relatively easy; others are a bit more challenging.

To join the Hiking & Biking MIG and receive details about upcoming activities, sign up at the link below and agree to the blanket release/waiver form. You must have a valid OLLI membership to join the MIG and participate in MIG activities.

Join the MIG: **https://tinyurl.com/hike-bike-mig**

March and April MIG activities

- Sunday, March 8 — **Blevins Gap Nature Preserve** (southeast Huntsville), 1:30-3:30 p.m. Bring your hiking poles to reach the ridgetop and enjoy vast views of the valley below. Hike the 2-mile (each way) Bill and Marion Certain Trail to some scenic overlooks from the ridgetop. The first half-mile is uphill (about 300 feet elevation change); the rest of the trail is easy and flat along the ridgetop.
- Saturday, March 28 — **Rainbow Mountain Nature Preserve** (Madison), 10 a.m.-noon. Hike the Rainbolt Trail to the top of Rainbow Mountain and see Alligator Rock and Balance Rock along the way. 200-foot elevation change, less than 2 miles round trip.
- Sunday, April 12 — **Big Cove Creek/Flint River Greenways** (Hampton Cove), 1:30-3:30 p.m. Choose to take a leisurely walk along Big Cove Creek to the Flint River or ride your bike on the greenways (distance depends on group preference). Bring your own bike and pedal along an easy, relatively flat, scenic paved route along Big Cove Creek to Hays Preserve, and then along the Flint River Greenway to Southeast Old Highway 431. 3.5 miles one way (7 miles round trip).
- Saturday, April 25 — **Wade Mountain Nature Preserve** (north Huntsville), 10 a.m.-noon. Hike the Devil's Racetrack trail through the woods, then turn uphill to see limestone glades and enjoy views from the power line right of way. 3.5 miles round trip, about 270-foot elevation gain.

Left to right, top to bottom: Blevins Gap, Rainbow Mountain, Big Cove Creek/Flint River, Wade Mountain.

See you on the trail!

Chris Stuhlinger and Steve Jones
Co-Leaders, Hiking & Biking MIG

DINE OUT MIG GOES ITALIAN AT OSTERIA LUCA

The Dine Out Member Interest Group met for dinner Feb. 19 at Osteria Luca, serving Italian food at 3414 Governors Drive SW. (Photo from Sandra Dabrowski)

WHEN BRAVE PEOPLE PUSHED AGAINST THE SYSTEM

By Lee Roop

I've seen her in my dreams for years, standing in the hallway of Davis Hills Elementary School or sitting in a classroom. She's the only young Black student there in my memory and in my dreams because it was 1964 and the beginning of school integration in Huntsville, Alabama.

In the dream, it's nighttime and I can see her at the end of the long hallway lined with lockers.

That's it. But the dream has occurred many times over the years.

As an English major, I know this is symbolism for what I felt at the time. I was just 11, but even then I was struck by how isolated she seemed. She was wearing a dress, her hair nicely fixed, and I can't imagine how scared she might have been. What was she thinking? Did I scare her? It's hard to think about.

What I have long understood is that she and I were both in the middle of a historic moment in our nation, but we were coming from different directions. I don't know what her life was like, but my family was pretty typical. We lived in an all-White neighborhood, attended an all-White church, and sat at all-White lunch counters.

But it was past time to change, and it took a lot of people to make it happen. That child in my dreams was a key player, of course, but many people were behind getting her into my classroom.

I've often heard that Huntsville integrated more smoothly and faster than other Southern communities. The reasoning was because of our close ties with federal programs and threats by the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson to cut us off if we didn't integrate.

Black and White students helped make Huntsville more inclusive and diverse — and one of the nation's top places to live. This is the hallway that Lee Roop dreams and writes about. The building was Davis Hills Elementary School but is now the records department for Huntsville City Schools. (Photo by Lee Roop)

Another factor may have been that many of the people who lived here were from other parts of the country that may not have been as deeply rooted in the segregationist mindset of the Deep South.

But it also took brave people, like our girl, to step out and be seen, to push against the system.

Georgia Bearden was one of those.

Mrs. Bearden is 94 years old now and fought for Huntsville's integration. She and her husband and many others demanded the right for their children to go to good schools, to live a life more equal than separate.

She wants people to know it is because of their efforts that Huntsville thrives today.

When *U.S. News & World Report* named Huntsville the nation's No. 1 best place to live, Bearden often heard words like " 'inclusive' and 'diversity.' "

"I would like to explain what it meant to have a front-row seat to segregation, and be treated like the scum of the earth, but having proudly survived it," she said.

It was a hard fight, not one to gloss over.

"No one wants to talk about those things. Nobody wants to talk about what we endured."

It's common to want to move forward, to not revisit an uncomfortable past when things have changed, hopefully, for the better.

But we should not forget those people, like Mrs. Bearden and that young girl in that long hallway, who helped make it better.

Constitutional Corner

A MATTER OF OPINIONS

This is the seventh of monthly "Constitutional Corner" columns, written alternately by John Mason and Mark Tenhundfeld.

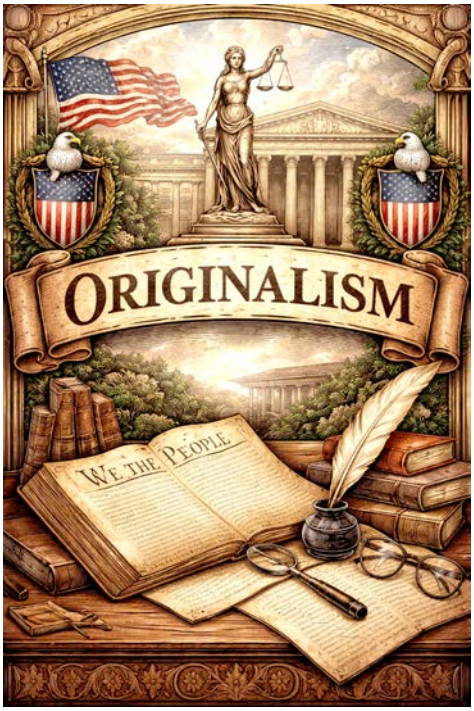
By Mark Tenhundfeld

Supreme Court justices have a hard job. They have to use a tiny, old document to decide all sorts of issues that our founders never considered. Even with all the amendments, the Constitution has fewer than 7,600 words. You probably wrote high school term papers longer than that.

John Mason noted in his column last month that the success of that tiny, old document hinges on the good faith of our public servants. This month's column explores whether a judicial philosophy called "originalism" meets that standard.

Let's start with the easy cases. Every justice will begin at the beginning — i.e., with the words of the Constitution — when trying to decide what the Constitution means. If the words are clear, that's the end of the analysis. So, for instance, if you want to know how many senators the Constitution grants each state, you can stop reading when you see in the 17th Amendment that each state gets two. But the Supreme Court doesn't spend a lot of time on the easy cases. Instead, it wrestles with the hard ones.

Beginning in the 1950s and extending into the 1970s, the court wrestled with lots of hard questions involving matters such as "separate but equal" public schools, public expressions of religious convictions, personal privacy, and the rights of the criminally accused. Its decisions triggered a backlash from people complaining about "activist"



(Image generated by ChatGPT, with prompts by Mark Tenhundfeld)

judges making law instead of interpreting it. In 1985, Ed Meese (Ronald Reagan's attorney general) gave a speech to the American Bar Association urging judges to assess the constitutionality of a law according to the original meaning of the Constitution. And originalism was off to the races.

Proponents argued that a narrower focus on the Constitution's original meaning would produce a more stable and predictable body of decisions based on objective historical facts instead of a judge's personal predilections. They also promised more democratic outcomes, as policies would be made through the legislative process instead of by a small number of unelected judges.

Critics saw a wolf in sheep's clothing. They noted as a threshold matter that the promised objectivity of the Constitution's "original meaning" hinges on the very subjective decision to prioritize the Constitution's history over its purposes. They were skeptical that this new originalism would lead to more democratic outcomes for the simple reason that the legislative process seems incapable of resolving any dispute that is mired in culture wars.

Critics also pointed out that historical analysis done well requires time and training that most judges lack. Moreover, even professional historians often disagree about which facts are most relevant and how to interpret them.

The 2022 decision of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* (which overturned *Roe v. Wade*) illustrates the point. In *Dobbs*, Justice Samuel Alito reviewed the history of abortion in America and concluded that abortion is not "deeply rooted in the Nation's history and traditions." The Organization of American Historians and the American Historical Association disagreed, concluding that Alito's analysis did not meet "high standards of historical scholarship."

The new emphasis on "original meaning" also poses a challenge when its narrow historical focus yields a result that an originalist judge thinks is immoral. For example, most people today likely would say that it is cruel to publicly flog convicted criminals or to execute someone with intellectual disabilities. However, if you confine your analysis to what was cruel and unusual when the Eighth Amendment was adopted, you'd have to allow both forms of punishment.

On that point, even Justice Antonin Scalia — a self-professed champion of the Constitution's original meaning — spit the bit, calling himself a "faint-hearted originalist" and concluding that he'd find it hard to uphold the practice of flogging today. Such situational ethics, while perhaps laudable from a

(continued on Page 27)

REMEMBERING MICROWAVE DAVE

By Jane McBride

You've *gotta* have some special quality to cause Stephen King to stop what he's doing and search the internet for the name of the man behind the sounds he'd just heard on his SiriusXM radio channel. In his words: "I was suddenly snapped to attention by a hoarse and archetypal rock-and-roll voice belting out 'Pay Bo Diddley.' "

King not only looked up but followed up by contacting the singer and writing the foreword to Dave Gallaher's 2021 autobiography, *Microwave Dave: I'm a Road Runner*.

I can't remember how I first encountered the already well-known musician with the catchy moniker, but maybe when he sang solo at The Kaffeeklatsch in the '90s, or when I ran into him also answering phones for a WLRH fund drive, or just when I heard that gravelly voice wailing the *blues* in the background at Panoply.

He seemed to be everywhere — in a gig in town or in the audience at a funeral at The Episcopal Church of the Nativity, at a Twickenham Fest concert featuring New York Metropolitan Opera performers, or at the Huntsville Chamber Music Guild listening to The Canadian Brass. Along the way, year after year, I joined the hundreds of fans of Microwave Dave and the Nukes, who included Rick Godfrey on bass guitar and harmonica as the steady member of the band. The third critical element was the drummer, and there were at least five who served in that role.

I made it a point to invite friends to join me at the first Microwave Dave Day in Huntsville in 2015 at The Lumberyard. The event raised money to support Microwave Dave Music Education Foundation and to fund its Concerts in the Classroom, Danny Hall Music Scholarship and music education awards.

Just prior, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle proclaimed June 28, 2015, Microwave Dave Day, complete with a key to the city. Those annual events continued at various venues, but the one I remember the best was on Washington Street when I saw drummer James Irvin for the first time. He was electric and added to the aura of the names "Microwave" and "Nukes."

It is obvious that Dave was born to learn and play music. From his earliest memory, he was fascinated by music on the radio, in church and at school and was able to reproduce what he'd heard — the beat, the notes, the tonal mystery.

When he accidentally crushed his small ukulele in a fall, his

(continued on the next page)

Microwave Dave performs for OLLI on Oct. 3, 2025. "I was grateful he was our last super bonus presenter," said Betty Koval, bonus coordinator. "Everyone enjoyed his music. He was a very kind man who gave back to the community with his music foundation making sure children were able to learn more about music." (Photo by Justin Clay)

DAVID T. GALLAHER (1946-2026)

Huntsville music legend David Thomas "Microwave Dave" Gallaher, 79, died Feb. 6 at his home in Huntsville. Just four months earlier, he spun yarns, sang and played music at an OLLI super bonus in Chan Auditorium.

Born in Chicago, he came to Huntsville in 1974. In 1989 he formed Microwave Dave and the Nukes. For 37 years, he hosted "Talkin' the Blues" on public radio stations WLRH and WJAB. His nonprofit Microwave Dave Music Education Foundation works to incorporate live music into schools. From 2020 until the week before he died, Dave played at the Nook in Huntsville.

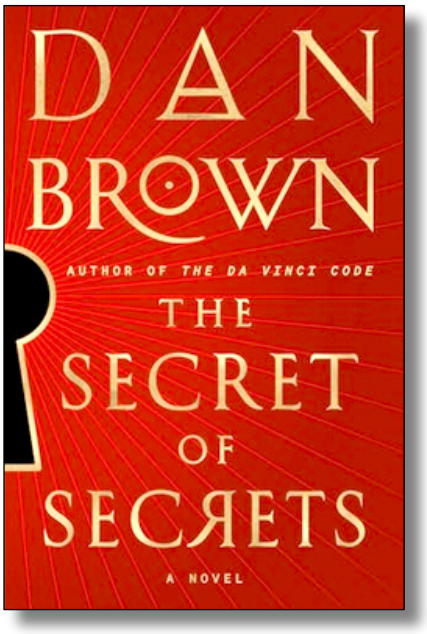
In 2015, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle proclaimed June 28 to be Microwave Dave Day in perpetuity, honoring his talent and generosity.

Dave decided to be a full-time musician in Vietnam, where he served in the U.S. Air Force, according to an obituary published by Laughlin Service Funeral Home.

"Our jeep chanced into the middle of a firefight," he said. "I dove for cover. As the bullets flew, I made a vow: If I survive this war, I am going to do what I love, and what I love is making music. And music is not going to be a hobby or a side hustle. It's going to be entirely who I am."

His funeral on Feb. 28 at The Episcopal Church of the Nativity was to be followed soon by a Microwave Dave "Graduation Day" for fans to honor him.

Member Interest Groups



OLLI READS MIG WILL DISCUSS DAN BROWN NOVEL ON MARCH 18

A novel by Dan Brown is the next topic for the OLLI Reads Member Interest Group. All OLLI members are invited to take part in the discussion at noon on Wednesday, March 18, in Wilson Hall.

The Secret of Secrets is Brown's 2025 book about a symbology professor's desperate search through Prague, London and New York to find his love interest. She is a scientist who has disappeared with a manuscript about human consciousness that contains explosive scientific discoveries.

This book is the sixth in Brown's thriller series about the professor, named Robert Langdon. Brown's other novels include *Angels & Demons*, *The Da Vinci Code* and *Inferno* — all of which have been adapted into films. Another of his books, *The Lost Symbol*, was adapted into a 2021 television series. Brown, 61, was born in New Hampshire and once pursued a career as a singer-songwriter and pianist.

The OLLI Reads MIG discusses both fiction and nonfiction books selected by those who attend its meetings. Recent topics have included Jonathan Eig's biography of Martin Luther King Jr. and Harper Lee's novel *Go Set a Watchman*.

Constitutional Corner

A MATTER OF OPINIONS, cont from Page 25

moral perspective, undermine originalism's claims of analytical rigor and consistency.

These challenges of confining an analysis to the Constitution's original meaning have led some to conclude that it's little more than a clever way for a justice to deny rights he or she deems repugnant.

Ironically, such an imposition of individual views is every bit as activist as those decisions that originalism was created to counter.

Rather than encasing the Constitution within the amber of its original meaning, perhaps it would be truer to the founders' ideal for judges to apply the tools of a narrow form of originalism (i.e., text and history) within the broader context of tradition, precedent, purpose and consequences.

The more-inclusive review won't make being a Supreme Court justice any easier, but it may align the process of judging more closely with the good-faith service envisioned by the founders.

In Memoriam

REMEMBERING MICROWAVE DAVE, cont from previous page

dad dusted off a cheap guitar from the attic. After Dave heard a Dixieland band visiting his town, his fate was sealed. He never sought more than making the music he loved.

He credited his mom with his perfect pitch and ability to play anything by ear. He played with some of the best during his career — backing up The Kingston Trio, Blood, Sweat & Tears, and Juice Newton, among others, and alongside the likes of the young Aretha Franklin, James Brown and Little Richard. And he played adeptly trumpet, fiddle, bass, guitar, flute, harmonica and drums!

I get what he wrote about working in the Royal Peacock in Atlanta with the Majestics. He was one of the few White guys in the room as he was "studying Black music-craft" and learning from performers who "inhabited the music." Well, in my experience, you couldn't be enjoying Microwave Dave and the Nukes anywhere in Huntsville and not feel that they inhabited the music they brought to the moment.

As Stephen King said: "God bless Microwave Dave. He's a road runner, honey!"

MEET MARLA, OLLI'S SILENT ELF

Some elves work with jingling bells and cheerful chatter. Others — like Marla — work in a gentle hush, weaving their magic quietly behind the scenes.

Marla has been part of OLLI for many years, giving her time, her talents, and her steady presence to classes, socials, and anything else that needed a helping hand. In recent years, she's become one of our treasured silent elves — the kind who slips in, gets things done, and never asks for applause.

You'll find her assembling facilitator packets, creating member badges, and tackling the busy work that keeps our office humming.

She doesn't seek the spotlight, but her impact is everywhere: in every organized stack, every ready-to-go class, every detail that makes OLLI feel welcoming and cared for.

So if you see Marla — quietly helping, quietly smiling — you've just spotted one of OLLI's most magical elves.

Help The Insider *identify and recognize people who quietly keep things cozy and tidy for the rest of us.*
If you have a nominee, please email ***OLLInewsletter@uah.edu***.

Marla Rex

TRAVEL CONVERSATION INSPIRED T-SHIRT SLOGAN

A remark made during an OLLI day trip inspired a new T-shirt slogan.

In its February meeting, the Public Relations Committee chose the winning entry in OLLI's T-shirt slogan contest. The winner was selected from the 15 finalists listed in last month's *Insider*.

The winning slogan, **"One Adventure after Another,"** was submitted by Lisa Brunegraff. Justin Clay, OLLI's marketing and design specialist, designed the T-shirt, which will be available through the OLLI merchandise store at **http://tinyurl.com/olli-store**.

Lisa said she was dining with others in the OLLI Reads Member Interest Group at Top of the Rock Restaurant in Jasper, Tennessee, on Dec. 4. They had visited the courthouse in Dayton, Tennessee, where the Scopes monkey trial took place in 1925.

Lisa Brunegraff and her slogan on the back of the new T-shirt.

"OLLI is just one adventure after another!" she remarked, and others said they agreed.

Lisa is an OLLI board member and retired mechanical engineer.

"We will present Lisa with her new shirt," said OLLI board chairman Phil Graham. "Please congratulate her on her winning entry, and continue to show your OLLI swag by purchasing a T-shirt with this special message to others. Thank you for all OLLI members who participated by submitting their entries on what it means to be a part of OLLI at UAH."