

October 2023

# THE OLLI INSIDER

News for OLLI members at The University of Alabama in Huntsville



## MOVIES, NATURE, HEALTH, TOURS, FOOD, TRAVEL

*Clockwise from top left: Insider's look at making movies, TV shows and commercials; tour of Joe Davis Stadium; on the Richard Martin Trail; Early Bird Breakfast; on a hotel rooftop in Canada; exercise advice for keeping healthy while aging.*



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### ‘YOU WERE EXPECTING IT TO BE HARD?’



A hometown lawyer and lifelong friend was meeting with my siblings and me about probating our mother’s estate.

“This is easier than I expected,” my sister commented. To which the lawyer replied:

“You were expecting it to be hard?”

If we had tried to handle the estate by ourselves, it would not have

been so easy. But he was using what he knew about us, the law and the local court system to simplify the process for us, his clients.

He reminds me of my one-handed lawyer, whom I’ve consulted several times about newspaper matters. He always gives a quick, concise, clear answer, and he knows what he’s talking about. I call him one-handed in memory of what President Harry Truman said about economists.

“Give me a one-handed economist,” Truman said. “All my economists say ‘on the one hand ...,’ then ‘but on the other ...’”

In OLLI as in life, we need people who simplify for the benefit of others.

Beware of salespeople and professional people who try to dazzle you with big words and show how smart they are and how complicated the job is. This could be an excuse to charge more or a bluff because they don’t know or can’t do what you actually need.

Good teachers make school easier for students. At least twice in graduate school, I found assignments daunting but teachers showed me how to achieve them. Good employees make work easy for bosses and help the bosses look good. Therein lies career advancement.

Each OLLI class has a facilitator — a volunteer member who helps teacher, students and staff. The facilitator takes attendance, opens class sessions, makes announcements, closes the classroom door, flips the lights, answers questions, points the way around the building and campus, and stands by for whatever might come up. During orientation Sept. 8, OLLI Program Manager Clay Williams reminded facilitators that their job is to make tasks easy.

Thank you, facilitators. We need more people taking on that role. It’s a good entry point into OLLI volunteer service and leadership.

And, at our age, all of us can be life facilitators for peers and younger people. When we retire, we can stop competing with others and generously share time, abilities, expertise and resources. Somebody did the same for us.

**Inside The Insider:** Glen Adams profiles John Mason, our OLLI board president — whose writing is well-known to Insider readers. As usual, John wrote two articles this month. His president’s column ponders how closely connected we are to other people in the world, as expressed in the concept of six degrees of separation. His military history column is about what the United States failed to learn in Korea after World War II.

Bob Carroll writes about an attitude of “Why stop learning?” personified in his family, including father-in-law David and Bob’s son Ryan.

The volunteer office needs, well, volunteers to operate it. Read Irene Garoppo’s column to learn about how you can help in this low-stress but rewarding job. In another article, Irene reminds us of the valuable courses from The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa) and Auburn University that are available to us on Zoom through Alabama Shares.

Sue Chatham’s second article in a historical series describes the early years and rapid growth of the lifelong learning academy that became OLLI.

Leah Black reminds us of the perks of OLLI membership, including snacks, the lounge, member interest groups and the DVD library.

Chris Stuhlinger and Michelle Laverty preview October events, including a Monte Sano hike, a tour of the Port of Huntsville (at the airport), a Maple Hill Cemetery walk, and a tour and concert at Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment.

Ed Bernstein presents a travelogue and pictures from OLLI members’ tour of Quebec and the Maritime provinces in Canada during August.

In this Halloween season, Clay Williams says there’s nothing that should spook you about OLLI, even if you are an introvert. In fact, you might befriend some fellow introverts.

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



During orientation, OLLI Program Manager Clay Williams explains what a facilitator does.  
(Photo by Steve Stewart)

### 6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION



This month's column is partly based on our recent OLLI trip to the Canadian Maritime provinces and partly is a shameless plug for a class I'll be teaching this coming spring, Comparative World Mythologies. How's *that* for

a fusion, eh?

But researching the class while traveling turned out to be something that made me think about how close we — the peoples of the world — really are in our foundations, yet how far apart we've grown over the course of civilization.

Is that separation a function of being human? Or is it something we should all eschew and try to overcome?

The concept of six degrees of separation tells us that all people are six or fewer social connections away from each other. It came into being in 1929 when Hungarian author Frigyes Karinthy published a volume of short stories titled "Everything Is Different."

One of these pieces was titled "Chains" or "Chain-Links." The story investigated — in abstract, conceptual, and fictional terms — many of the problems that captivated future generations of mathematicians, sociologists and physicists within the field of network theory. As a result, Karinthy's characters believed that any two individuals could be connected through at most five acquaintances.

In his story, the characters create a game out of this notion. He wrote:

A fascinating game grew out of this discussion. One of us suggested performing the following experiment to prove that the population of the Earth is closer together now than they have ever been before. We should select any person from the 1.5 billion inhabitants of the Earth — anyone, any where at all. He bet us that, using no



Memories from OLLI's trip to the Canadian Maritime provinces: Native American Art titled "The Tree of Life" and John Mason pondering the six degrees of separation while throwing a wish stone into the Bay of Fundy. (Photos by John Mason and Jill Stewart)



more than *five* individuals, one of whom is a personal acquaintance, he could contact the selected individual using nothing except the network of personal acquaintances.

This idea influenced a great deal of early thought on social networks, and over the course of time, it has evolved into a rather complex social theory currently being researched at Columbia University (and other places, I presume) under the name "the Small World Project."

And even more than us just having that many related acquaintances, evolution theories tell us that we are all descended from one common mother, Mitochondrial Eve, and one father, Y-chromosomal Adam.

So if we're all so closely "acquainted," then why can't we get along? But I'll leave that discussion to the social scientists.

Oh, wait! We have a social science department right here at OLLI at UAH! Maybe they could shed some light on this. And it turns out we have a vibrant

genealogical course of study, too. That might be a way to find some of those long-lost connections. Who knew?

And even more, and you have heard me talk about this on innumerable occasions, we have each other and the regular chance to share, discuss and even debate all of the things that either made us one big human family, or maybe split that family apart.

I say, let's take advantage of those discussions so we get to know ourselves, our biases, our friends and our neighbors a little better. We may not reunite the world, but we can re-validate our meaning to one another. And that's a very important first step.

And with that, I'll bid you adieu. Till next time ...

**John Mason**  
**President, OLLI at UAH Board of Directors**

## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2023

Sign up for each event by clicking “Online/In Person.” All bonuses/events with online option are through Zoom video conferencing. You will receive an email with the Zoom meeting invitation one business day prior. There is a limited capacity for in-person events.

**Oct 6 | Fri | 11:00 am | [Online/In-Person](#)  
Bonus: Miss Lillian — Wilson Hall**

This one-woman play depicts a visit with Lillian Carter at her home in Plains, Georgia, in 1978. Her son Jimmy had been President of the United States for two years. Miss Lillian reflects on her life as the child of supportive, forward-thinking parents in the rural South. Her path took her through a career in nursing, marriage, rearing four children, widowhood, and becoming the oldest person accepted into the Peace Corps in 1966 at age 68. At times humorous and at times poignant, “Miss Lillian” is a keen look at the life of a remarkable woman.

Join your OLLI friends for light refreshments served before and after the event.

Sign up [online](#).

*Presented by Carol Cook Puckett, who wrote this one-woman play, and Elaine Hubbard, who has performed, directed, designed, and choreographed many award-winning shows.*

**Oct 20 | Fri | 11:00 am | [Online/In-Person](#)  
Bonus: The History of the James Webb Telescope: Design, Construction, Testing, and Early Scientific Results — Student Services Building**

The James Webb Space Telescope is the world’s premier space science observatory. Learn about the telescope’s creation and design and see images of galaxies formed in the early universe, planets orbiting other stars, and the implications of Webb’s discoveries for deepening our understanding of how stars, planets, galaxies, and the universe as a whole form and evolve.

This Super Bonus is part of OLLI’s Anniversary Celebration of 30 years of lifelong learning.

**Open to the public.**

Sign up [online](#).

*Presented by Dr. James Hadaway, a Principal Research Scientist at UAH, and Dr. John Fix, UAH Professor and Dean Emeritus.*

**Nov 3 | Fri | 11:00 am | [Online/In-Person](#)  
Bonus: Seven Continents? How this Happened? — Wilson Hall**

Learn how one couple has managed to see all seven continents. Hear fascinating stories of their travels including the Arctic Circle, the Antarctic Circle, and the Equator (in one year) as well as other adventures.

Sign up [online](#).

*Presented by Nancy and Bob Darnall, longtime OLLI members and avid worldwide travelers.*

**OLLI Holiday Party  
December 7, 2023**

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

**KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST  
EVENTS AT  
[OSHER.UAH.EDU/OLLIEVENTS](https://osher.uah.edu/ollievents)**

## COMING EVENTS FOR OCTOBER



Fall semester is flying by! OLLI members again have so much to choose from — courses, bonuses, events and more.

Below is a list of events scheduled for October. Several events with limited tour capacity are already full and registration has closed; other events are still available for registration.

We will not have any events scheduled in November.

## Recap of Recent Events

- **Richard Martin Trail** — Members walked or rode their bikes from Elk-mont on the northern half of the trail Aug. 26. They experienced a variety of habitats and other interesting features along this Rail to Trail.
- **National Weather Service/SWIRLL tour** — Members toured the Huntsville office of the National Weather Service, the newest of the service's 122 offices nationwide, on Sept. 15 to learn about weather forecasting and the issuance of weather warnings for 14 counties in northern Alabama and southern Tennessee. The group also visited the neighboring SWIRLL (Severe Weather Institute and Radar & Lightning Laboratories) research facility, operated by UAH.
- **Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge nature walk** — Our group beat the rain Sept. 16 and enjoyed a leisurely stroll through woodlands and along crop fields to learn about trees, vines, flowers, fungi and other interesting natural features.
- **Joe Davis Stadium tour** — Members were given a comprehensive tour on Sept. 22 of the recently renovated and multi-use Wicks Family Field at Joe Davis Stadium, home of the Huntsville City Football Club soccer team. Areas toured included the field (artificial turf), the locker room, the beer garden/concessions patio, the upper patios and the upstairs hospitality suite.

**October events** (all events require pre-registration and a waiver/release form; bring your OLLI name tag)

- Friday, Oct. 6 — **Historic Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment tour**, 2211 Seminole Drive, Huntsville, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (or later). [forms.gle/oShRkqSSpSgSd6cr6](https://forms.gle/oShRkqSSpSgSd6cr6). The Rocket City has the largest privately owned arts facility in the nation, with an iconic water tower. Learn how a textile mill in Alabama, built by a Massachusetts entrepreneur, became Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment. We will tour the renovated areas of the vast facility and meet and watch artists and artistic entrepreneurs. The tour will be approximately 90 minutes of standing and walking approximately one-half mile. Stay for the Concert on the Dock, which will begin at 6 p.m. (not part of this OLLI event). See a more extensive description (by Michelle Laverty) of this restructured event elsewhere in this *Insider*. Tour capacity is limited.
- Saturday, Oct. 14 — **Hike at Monte Sano Nature Preserve** off Bankhead Parkway, Huntsville, 10 a.m. to noon. [forms.gle/kvEU5EWejAGE91SG7](https://forms.gle/kvEU5EWejAGE91SG7). Hike the Old Railroad Bed Trail (aka the Buttonhole section) and follow the path of one of the country's oldest and shortest lived rail corridors — Monte Sano Railway. As you hike the narrow dirt and stone bed, you will pass waterfalls and the original stone bridge supports. Trail length is about

1.7 miles; a steeper shortcut is available on the return portion of the trail. Parts of the trail are rough.

- Friday, Oct. 27 — **Port of Huntsville tour**, Huntsville International Airport, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Learn about the Port of Huntsville (Huntsville International Airport and International Intermodal Center) facilities and operations, including its history, present activities and future plans. This fascinating tour will start with a presentation about the port, followed by a van tour of the POH property, including the cargo ramp, fuel farm, control tower (drive-by), Signature fixed base operator and Intermodal Center. **Registration has closed due to limited tour capacity.**
- Saturday, Oct. 28 — **Maple Hill Cemetery walk**, 203 Maple Hill Drive, Huntsville, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Explore a portion of the largest cemetery in Alabama as we discover historic gravesites (local, state and national significance) and notable trees (fall leaf colors?) during this 1- to 1.5-mile leisurely stroll. Maple Hill Cemetery is also the oldest and largest municipal cemetery in continuous operation in the South (since 1818). Rain date is one week later (Saturday, Nov. 4). **Registration has closed due to limited tour capacity.**

See you at the events!

**Chris Stuhlinger**  
Events Committee Chair



Sites of October events (clockwise from top left): Lowe Mill, Port of Huntsville (two photos), Maple Hill Cemetery, Monte Sano Nature Preserve.

## LOWE MILL EVENT: 2 PARTS WITH A BRIDGE — AND THE SECOND PART IS A PARTY!

The tour of Lowe Mill on Friday, Oct. 6, is going to be different from our usual facility tours. This event has been designed for you to experience the whole of Lowe Mill — a nationally unique and remarkable philanthropic gift to Huntsville.

OLLI tours usually start no later than 2:30 p.m., but this one (Part 1) will start at 3:30. This tour will last about 1 hour 45 minutes instead of the usual 1 hour. In combination with Part 2, the duration could be as long as 5.5 hours. Registration is limited to 50 people for Part 1 but unlimited for Part 2 and the bridge that connects them.

The tour (Part 1) is longer because we will have the opportunity to visit a number of the resident, nationally acclaimed artists.

Stops on the tour may include but are not limited to Iron's Distillery, Ravenwood Meadery, and Pizzelle's no-kidding real artisan chocolatiers. We may visit Chris Wade (art for the space cadet in everyone), David Nuttall (artmaps — real maps for fake places), or Willette Battle, whose work was shown on the first floor of the Eiffel Tower as part of Paris Fashion Week. And then there's Tangled String Studios — custom acoustic guitar builder Danny Davis' workshop and premier concert venue.

Part 2 is the free Concerts on the Dock series that runs for six Friday evenings (6 to 9 p.m.) in the spring and fall. Though the concerts are free, parking is \$10 (free if you get there for the tour). Children and dogs are welcome. Adult beverages are allowed.

The musicians are local and curated. Oct. 6 is the last fall 2023 Concert on the Dock.

It feeds the soul to watch a young family arrive with their wagon of kids, blanket, cooler and take-out pizza. The parents' expressions and demeanor tell of "the week." Once the kids get fed, they're off to play in front of the dock stage. The parents, who haven't said much to each other, get settled with their adult beverages, and they melt into the joy of

life happening all around them. They relax, chat and smile, and once again the marriage, the family unit, is whole. Life is good.

The bridge part of the event is settling your chair on the green with your dinner, beverage and OLLI friends. You can purchase food from a number of excellent culinary artists who reside within Lowe Mill. Check out the culinary arts available for your enjoyment and patronage at [lowemill.art/culinary-art](http://lowemill.art/culinary-art). Yes, chocolate comes from a bean. No, it is *not* a vegetable!

The Lowe Mill event is one of the largest OLLI has been able to offer — in terms of number of participants, variety and length. If you don't want to join us for Part 1, please bring your lawn chair and join us for the concert. Again, the concert is an adult-beverage event. It's always good to share!

An OLLI space will be claimed with Dollar Store blue plastic on the water tower side of grass near the stage by 5:30.

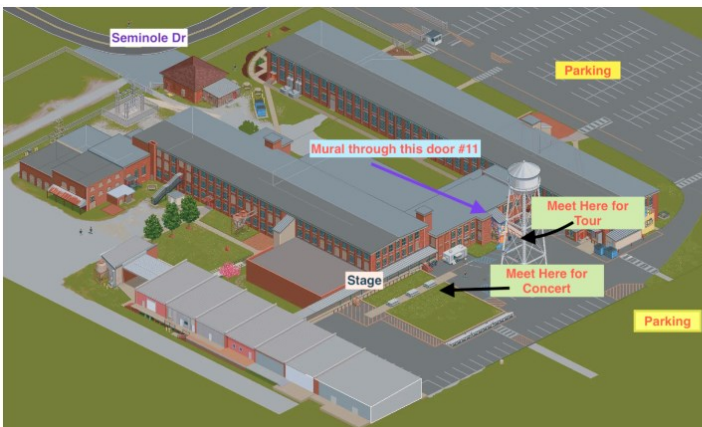
Your Lowe Mill event checklist (because we all have lists):

- Register for tour (3:15 showtime) — or not (5:30 party start time, 6 concert start time).
- Put in car: lawn chair, sharable, personal beverage consumption container. A headlamp or flashlight is handy for post-concert cleanup.

Paid parking starts around 5 p.m. OLLI will not be providing chairs or any consumables such as food, beverages, silverware, etc.

All official OLLI events, including Part 1 at Lowe Mill, require registration and electronically signed waiver forms. (See [tinyurl.com/olli-lowemill](http://tinyurl.com/olli-lowemill).) But the concert (Part 2) is not an official OLLI event and does *not* require registration for eating or attending.

**Michelle Laverty**  
Events Committee Member



Where to find what at Lowe Mill.  
See more photos on Page 29.

## RICHARD MARTIN TRAIL HIKE AND RIDE, AUG. 26



(Photos by Helen Crawford, Steve Jones, Steve Stewart and Chris Stuhlinger)

# TOUR OF 2 WEATHER AGENCIES, SEPT. 15



(Photos by Helen Crawford and Chris Stuhlinger)

## WHEELER WILDLIFE REFUGE HIKE, SEPT. 16



(Photos by Helen Crawford and Chris Stuhlinger)

## TOURING JOE DAVIS STADIUM, SEPT. 22



(Photos by Helen Crawford and Chris Stuhlinger)

## A FAMILY LEGACY OF LIFELONG LEARNING



I am currently aboard Delta Flight 1408, Atlanta to San Antonio, with my wife as I begin to generate this epistle. We're on our way to Fredericksburg, Texas, to join her three brothers and their spouses for the 13th annual "Nutlets" gathering.

We previously referred to the reunion as the Mature Rogers Family Gathering (MRFG for short), which started in 2011 with us renting a Vrbo in the Finger Lakes region of New York and hosting Mom and Dad Rogers to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary.

The 10 of us (no adult grandchildren allowed) had such a great week that we unanimously decided to do it again in 2012! And thus, a tradition was born. Sadly, Mom and Dad both passed away in 2020, so the 10th annual gathering was just the "Nutlets," as we referred to ourselves — think of the cliché "The acorn doesn't fall far from the tree!"

My wife and her brothers all inherited traits from their dad, David, some for the good, and some for the, er, uh, well you get the idea. Thus, the name changed from MRFG to the "Nutlets" gathering.

The annual gathering has and will continue to be a time of "Why stop learning?" Wherever we have landed, be it the Finger Lakes, Cape Cod, Western Virginia, Asheville, Hilton Head, to name a few, I am always amazed and grateful for the spontaneous agenda we conjure up.

I admit that it centers around vineyards and wine tastings, but we love visiting historical sites wherever we might be. Fascinating places like George Eastman's mansion in Rochester or the village Harpers Ferry, somber places like Antietam Battlefield in Sharpsburg or the city of Petersburg, beautiful enclaves of nature like the North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville.

For the first nine years of the gathering, it was refreshing and exemplary to witness Mom and Dad, in their 80s, passing on some of their memories, but also eagerly joining in to learn new things and ideas.

Dad was an old-school carpenter — he taught building construction at our school district's applied technology center — and would hand-draw designs and plans on kraft paper taped to his drafting table using drafting pencils, a T-square and a triangular ruler. But I'll never forget 20 years ago when he made his first computer-aided drawing using software made especially for that purpose. Retired, in his 70s, and still building furniture and house additions, he learned new tricks of the trade.



David Rogers Sr. (Dad) passed on his love of learning to grandson Ryan Carroll and others.  
(Photo by Bob Carroll)

Witnessing Dad as a lifelong learner was an impetus for the eight of us to be likewise and additionally for the grandchildren as they came along beginning in the 1980s.

Our son, Ryan, admired Dad and spent many free hours with him as a teenager and in college years. And that zeal for learning was passed down.

Ryan later became what I refer to as the "eternal grad student" after graduating with a B.S. in mechanical engineering in 2006. His choice of graduate study? German linguistics! Fourteen years later, he defended his thesis in Mannheim, Germany, and was awarded his Ph.D.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there was no graduation ceremony. We couldn't travel to Europe, and he couldn't come back home. It wasn't until the following year that restrictions lifted, but in the interim Ryan interviewed via Zoom for positions in the U.S. He is now an instructor and director of curriculum at the University of Georgia.

So, thank you, David and Betty, for being the lifelong learning example while on Earth to three generations. And thank you, OLLI at UAH members, for setting the example for others!

By the time you read this, fall term will be well underway, and the course offerings are awesome. In addition to teaching a course, I intend to visit other classes and get a taste of the talent that OLLI at UAH instructors have on hand.

Don't worry, I won't carry a clipboard with evaluation forms checking off performance dimensions! My intention is to glean ideas from my fellow teachers.

(continued on the next page)

## A FAMILY LEGACY OF LIFELONG LEARNING, CONT

You will be receiving this edition of *The OLLI Insider* via email on Sunday, Oct. 1, and just five days later is the deadline for submissions via the Google Forms document for course proposals for the spring term! Again, if you have an idea for a course, submit it this week, and if you have recruited someone to teach, touch base with them to make sure their proposal has been submitted.

Another important date to mark your calendars for is the end-of-semester teacher appreciation luncheon and program — Friday, Nov. 10. This year we will be back at Trinity United Methodist Church on Airport Road, with catering yet to be determined.

OK, I type these final words from our beautiful Vrbo outside Fredericksburg, Texas. The week ahead will be full of learning experiences. Already we have had an incredible sunrise worthy of photographing and are looking forward to more of the same, including sunsets. I'll be returning with new knowledge and fond memories!

Veni, vidi, vici.

**Bob Carroll**  
Vice President of Curriculum  
OLLI at UAH Board of Directors

## UA, AU AND UAH MAKE A TERRIFIC ONLINE TEAM



For several reasons, I've become hooked on Zoom — not having to worry about parking, being dressed appropriately or fighting traffic on U.S. 72 — but my No. 1 reason is the great classes being offered by Alabama Shares.

What is Alabama Shares? It's an agreement among UAH, The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa) and

Auburn University to share a number of OLLI classes each term via Zoom. They include several topics, Huntsville OLLI members' cost is the same as for other classes, you don't have to join the other universities' OLLIs, and you don't get wait-listed for classes taught at Tuscaloosa and Auburn.

I've personally taken several history classes taught by Dr. Richard Rhone from Tuscaloosa, and I like our own John Mason, who is knowledgeable as well as entertaining. I've never been bored. I've taken a couple of classes from Auburn, but the history classes from Tuscaloosa are my favorites.

This term, Alabama Shares offered the following classes, which started in September: Remedial Opera for Everyone, presented by Tuscaloosa; Local Naturalists on Local Nature, Part III, presented by Auburn; Lost Chapters in American History, presented by Tuscaloosa; The Early Middle Ages in the West, presented by Auburn; The Instruments of Folk and Roots Music, presented by Auburn; The Mormon Experience, presented by Auburn; and several presented by UAH.

It's late for this term's offering, but I encourage everyone to check them out for the next term. They're all listed in our Course Guide with notations that they're part of Alabama

Shares. You register for them just as you do for our normal classes, as if they're being taught locally.

For additional information, contact the OLLI support staff. They can provide answers.

**Irene Garoppo**  
Volunteer Support Committee Chair



Attend OLLI Alabama Shares courses taught by OLLI at UAH.



Attend OLLI Alabama Shares courses taught by OLLI at The University of Alabama.



Attend OLLI Alabama Shares courses taught by OLLI at Auburn University.

Look for these icons to identify Alabama Shares courses in the Course Guide for OLLI at UAH.

### DON'T BE AFRAID



As our fall semester rolls along and we approach Halloween, I thought it appropriate to discuss those things that scare us, but shouldn't.

The major fear that many of us have is technology. The last few years have led OLLI to begin using platforms such as Zoom and Google Classroom to facilitate our educational opportunities. We also have our online registration system,

which allows you to keep your membership up to date and to register for classes.

I know many of you shy away from these applications, but I want you to know the OLLI staff is here to assist you. We are creating several online tutorial videos to teach you how to use the applications, and you can always contact our office directly for assistance.

The use of technology isn't going away, so I encourage you to embrace it and take advantage of our assistance.

Another fear that many of us have is meeting new people. OLLI's membership has grown rapidly over the past year, and I am sure that includes quite a few introverts.

One thing I have seen is the overall friendliness of OLLI members, who are very welcoming to new members. I encourage you to take advantage of opportunities like Friday bonuses, Early Bird Breakfasts and other socials to get out and meet your fellow OLLI members. Don't forget to wear your name badge, as badges prove extremely helpful.

You have nothing to fear from OLLI technology — and certainly not from OLLI people. You might even meet some fellow introverts.  
(Art generated by DALL-E)

As a fellow introvert myself, I know meeting new people can be a bit nerve-racking, but I assure you that this group is by far the easiest to interact with and enjoy.

Getting engaged with members and making friendships is a key indicator in one's longevity with OLLI. Learning is great, but it is the fellowship that makes OLLI so worthwhile.

Our celebration of 30 years of lifelong learning continues this month with our super bonus "The History of the James Webb Telescope: Design, Construction, Testing, and Early Scientific Results," scheduled for Friday, Oct. 20. The event will take place in the Student Services Building (SSB) at 11 a.m. and features Dr. James Hada-way and Dr. John Fix, both renowned experts on the subject.

This event is open to the public as we seek to spread the word about OLLI to everyone.

Many of you remember that we had this topic scheduled as a bonus last spring, when our speaker was unable to attend at the last moment. We had a large number of registrants last time, so sign up today to guarantee a seat.

I hope everyone is having a rewarding fall semester. Now, as for those things that should scare you ...

**Clay Williams**  
**OLLI at UAH Program Manager**



## COURSE SPOTLIGHT

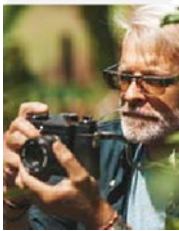
Time to register for Fall 2023 courses. Tuition is \$20 plus the per-course fee. You can register for courses at [Osher.uah.edu/OLLIRegistration](https://osher.uah.edu/OLLIRegistration).



### LET'S DANCE CHA CHA!

**10/17 - 11/7 • Tu • 6:00 - 7:00 pm • 4 sessions • In Person • T. Romine • \$25**

It's never too late to learn to dance! The Cha Cha is a rhythmic dance for a variety of music, whether it is Latin songs or rock 'n' roll. Learn several "cha cha cha" steps, regardless of your level of dance experience. It is helpful to sign up with a partner, but is not required.



### EASY STEPS TO BETTER NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

**10/17 - 11/7 • Tu • 8:30 - 10:00 am • 4 sessions • In Person • P. Flowers • \$25**

Learn the easy techniques for taking better nature photography images. This interactive course will teach by example and practice. Classes will be held on campus as well as off site to provide opportunities to capture that perfect snapshot of nature.



### BREATH-CENTERED YOGA

**10/19 - 11/09 • Th • 5:15 - 6:15 pm • 4 sessions • In Person • R. Frank • \$25**

Explore a breath-centered yoga practice appropriate for beginners and experienced practitioners. Exercises focus on creating a connection between the movement of the body and the breath. All props are provided, but members are encouraged to bring their own yoga mat, blanket or towel, and wear appropriate clothing.



### DOGEN: A ZEN MASTER'S WISDOM FOR TODAY

**11/7 - 11/16 • T/Th • 1:15 pm - 2:45 • 4 sessions • In Person • R. Goebel • \$25**

Dogen was one of the most influential Zen Buddhist philosophers in Japan. His daringly imaginative insights into fundamental issues — time and space, the human body and mind, life and death, compassion and freedom — still resonate with us today. This course will introduce Dogen's thoughts through a selective comparison with Western philosophy. No previous knowledge of Western or Eastern thought is required.

## Save 20%

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

# VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

## DESPERATELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS



As most of you “old-timers” know but “new kids on the block” may not be aware of, OLLI volunteers staff our very own unique office in Wilson Hall.

We are there to serve you, the members of our great organization. Whether you're looking for information or a new friend or somewhere to hang out other than the lounge between classes, or just want to

chat about something, the office is where you'll find the opportunity.

Sadly, since the return to campus from COVID, we are lacking a force of volunteers to man the office. If you're looking for an opportunity to learn more about OLLI or to meet new people you may not otherwise encounter, this is the place to be.

It's the easiest volunteer job around. All it requires is the dedication to sit in the office for two hours once a week. Perfect if you have two classes on the same day but they don't follow each other. Perfect if you have a 10:15 class and want to come in early so you don't have to fight the parking issues. Perfect if you don't want to go home right after a class. Perfect if you want quiet time you don't always get at home.

Our volunteer office is located in Wilson Hall, Room 151, and sometimes is a bustle of activity with people dropping in to get information, kill time before going to class, or chat with other members. There are many times you'll find three or four people just chatting.

There are still many shifts available in the current term, which began Sept. 11, and it's never too late to start thinking about spring term. Training is provided if required, and there is a handbook in case something comes up you're not sure about.

If you think you may be interested in this opportunity or would like additional information, please contact the OLLI staff office (Clay Williams or Alice Sammon) and provide your name and email address (and phone if you'd like to talk instead of email). You can email this information to [olli.info@uah.edu](mailto:olli.info@uah.edu) or phone 256-824-6183.

You will be contacted by Irene Garoppo, volunteer office coordinator, with information. You can also try a shift or two to check it out if you think you may be interested. Just let us know.

Remember, it's never too late to volunteer!

**Irene Garoppo**  
**Volunteer Support Committee Chair**



Sitting at this desk is the easiest job in OLLI.  
You can do it.  
(Photo by Steve Stewart)

## MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

### OLLI MEMBERSHIP COMES WITH MANY PERKS



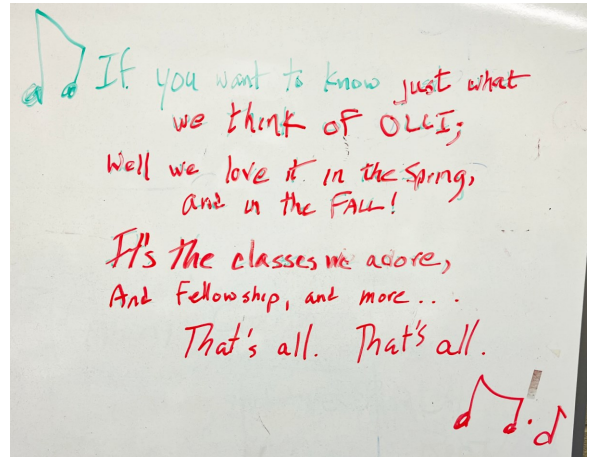
It's quite exciting to see so many OLLI members enjoying classes and activities this fall term.

Hopefully, you have been taking advantage of having a cup of coffee or another beverage and chatting in the OLLI lounge (152D Wilson Hall). Being able to share ideas and fellowship in a friendly environment is certainly one of the perks of OLLI membership.

Don't forget to stop for snacks before and after the Friday bonus sessions. These free events are always enjoyable and are part of what makes OLLI so special. Please try to sign up online if you plan to attend (either in person or on Zoom) so we can be sure to have enough goodies on hand.

OLLI depends on volunteers for much of the planning and implementation of the many classes and activities offered. If you would like to get involved, please check on the various committees and see whether you can help — if someone hasn't already offered you the opportunity, that is.

Also, you may like to check out one of the OLLI member interest groups (MIGs). Right now, Tai Chi, Bridge, Dine Out, Artist Studio, and Mah-Jongg are active, but more are in the works. Watch the monthly *OLLI Insider*, the weekly *eNews* and other sources for more information.



John Mason extolled the benefits of OLLI on the whiteboard in the OLLI lounge.  
(Photo by Steve Stewart)

Remember the DVD library located in the OLLI volunteer office (151 Wilson Hall). An office volunteer can show you how to get started. More information will be coming soon on this perk.

Enjoy your classes and activities and being an OLLI member.

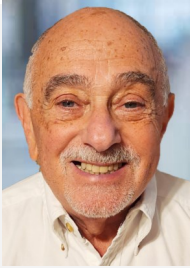
**Leah Black**  
**Member Services Committee Chair**

### DINING OUT AT AMERIGO



The Dine Out member interest group got together Sept. 14 at Amerigo, an Italian restaurant on Memorial Parkway Southwest.  
(Photos provided by Sandra Dabrowski)

# EXPLORING QUEBEC AND THE CANADIAN MARITIME PROVINCES: A JOURNEY WITH OLLI



A group of OLLI members embarked on an unforgettable journey through the picturesque landscapes of Quebec and the Maritime provinces of Canada in August. Our group set out on a multi-day adventure that would leave lasting memories.

For some of us, our journey began in the enchanting city of Quebec, where cobblestone streets, sidewalk cafes, the remains of the city's walled fortifications, and historic architecture transported us back in time.

There were six of us on the pre-trip. We met our tour guide, Colleen McNab, who quickly confessed to us that this was her first time as a tour director! However, she has had a long career in the travel business and her home is on Cape Breton Island. She turned out to be a wonderful and resourceful guide.

Highlights of Quebec City included the iconic Château Frontenac, the Old Quebec district and the stunning Montmorency Falls, higher than Niagara Falls. We sampled many of the small local restaurants, and no visit to Canada is complete without a taste of the national dish, poutine!

Our small group was then bused to Montreal, with a stop at the Chez Dany maple syrup farm. We explored Montreal's rich history with a tour of the city given by a local guide. We decided to visit the Montreal Botanical Gardens and Insectarium located near the Olympic Stadium. The Insectarium offered a huge butterfly house and a display of live marching Mexican leaf-cutter ants.

Our journey then took us eastward to join the rest of the group in the Maritime provinces. Halifax, Nova Scotia, welcomed us with its maritime heritage. Memorable sights of Halifax were the cemetery where the remains of some of the Titanic passengers were interred, the old Citadel overlooking the city, the Immigration Museum, and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. The Maritime Museum tells the story of the sinking of the Titanic and the World War I Halifax Harbor explosion that leveled the town.

Next, we ventured to Cape Breton Island. On the way, we visited the First Nations Mi'kmaq Millbrook Heritage Center. There some of us underwent a traditional smudging ceremony by the burning of sacred herbs and resins to purify us of all negativity. Having thus been properly cleansed, we traveled to Baddeck, where we learned about former resident Alexander Graham Bell's innovations at the Bell Museum.



Sam Campbell samples oysters at an Oyster Farm. See Pages 19 and 20 for more of the photos that Ed Bernstein brought back from the Canada trip.

The picturesque town of Chéticamp introduced us to Acadian culture, where we had a demonstration of the traditional craft of rug hooking and a display of the intricate works of art made this way. The Cape Breton Highlands National Park offered breathtaking vistas of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The Cabot Trail showcased the natural beauty of the region. A walk on a wetlands boardwalk gave us views of local flora, including an abundance of carnivorous pitcher plants. That evening, back in Baddeck, we enjoyed a concert of Celtic music, representing the other dominant culture of that area.

Next day, we visited Fort Louisbourg, a meticulously restored 18th-century fortress, allowing us to step back in time to the era of New France. The following day, we journeyed to Pictou to catch the ferry to Prince Edward Island. Pictou's motto is "The Birthplace of New Scotland" from its role as the arrival point for many Scottish immigrants.

Prince Edward Island was a literary delight as we explored the world of Anne of Green Gables at Green Gables Heritage Place. On the way, we planted potatoes at a potato farm and sampled oysters at an oyster farm. The island's pastoral landscapes and charming coastal villages left an indelible impression. We spent two nights in Charlottetown and watched the sailing ships in the harbor.

(continued on the next page)

# EXPLORING QUEBEC AND THE CANADIAN MARITIME PROVINCES: A JOURNEY WITH OLLI, CONT

We went back to New Brunswick, to the seaport city of Saint John on the Bay of Fundy, which is known for the world's highest tides. At the Reversing Falls Rapids, the river reverses its course each day. We visited Hopewell Rocks, 70-foot-tall rock formations obscured daily by the tides. The town of Saint Andrews offered us a charming retreat with its seaside shops, the Fundy Discovery Aquarium and the historic 19th century Algonquin Resort.

Shediac, known as the "Lobster Capital of the World," treated us to a short trip on a lobster boat and a delightful lobster feast. It is also the home of the world's largest lobster (statue).

On our last day, we glimpsed Nova Scotia's coastal charm during our visit to colorful and idyllic Mahone Bay with its iconic view of the three churches. We were then off to Lunenburg to the Fisheries Museum and the historic schooner Bluenose II. Our journey concluded with a visit to picturesque Peggy's Cove, where we marveled at the rugged coastline and the famous lighthouse.

Our journey through Quebec and the Maritime provinces was a blend of history, culture and natural beauty. This trip was not only a testament to the insatiable curiosity and adventurous spirit of OLLI members, but also a reminder that lifelong learning knows no boundaries.

We returned home with a deeper appreciation for the diverse cultures, natural wonders, and historical legacies of Canada's Quebec and Maritime provinces.

OLLI members on the trip were:

- Quebec City and Montreal: Paulette and Ed Bernstein, Steve and Lauren Goodman.
- Canadian Maritimes: Sam Campbell, Janet and Larry Creech, Carl Covan, Peter Hill, John Mason, David and Charlotte Moore, Guy Osborne, Amanda Sharp, Jill Stewart, Alice Syltie, Marilyn Szecholda, the Bernsteins and the Goodmans.

**Ed Bernstein**  
**Travel Committee Co-Chair**



## SHARE YOUR OWN TRAVEL STORY!

Thanks, Ed, for sharing OLLI members' adventures in Canada.

The OLLI Travel Committee invites others to submit their travel stories of 2023 to *The Insider*.

**Jane McBride**  
**Travel Committee Co-Chair**

## TRAVELERS' AUGUST ADVENTURES IN CANADA



Clockwise from top left:  
OLLI travelers en route  
to Prince Edward  
Island; the giant lobster  
at Shediac; John  
Mason and Jill Stewart  
eating lobster on a boat;  
Mason and Charlotte  
Cain hauling in a lobster  
trap; stick insect at  
Insectorium in Montreal.  
(Photos provided by  
Ed Bernstein)

## CANADA: SCENIC BEAUTY AND CONVIVIALITY



Clockwise from top left: Peggy's Cove; Jill Stewart at Peggy's Cove; Paulette Bernstein planting potatoes on Prince Edward Island; Hopewell Rocks at Bay of Fundy; Janet and Larry Creech at a wine tasting atop the Rodd Hotel in Charlottetown; Amanda Sharp sampling Canadian maple cream liqueur from tour guide Colleen McNab and her husband. (Photos provided by Ed Bernstein)

## JOHN MASON 'INVESTED' IN OLLI BY TEACHING AND SERVING AS CURRICULUM V.P., PRESIDENT

Every organization has work horses, the people who can be relied upon to get work done. OLLI has several people who qualify as work horses, but our thoroughbred must be John Mason.

Since joining OLLI in 2015, John has taught numerous courses, ranging from the Roman Empire to the Spanish conquest of the Americas to the history of the Mayans. At one point during the pandemic, he was teaching a course in the morning on World War I and a course in the afternoon on dinosaurs.

As vice president of curriculum for three years, he helped arrange the many courses offered each term, plus wrote a monthly column in *The Insider* about these courses. If that wasn't enough, for fun he does an *Insider* column on military history.

And now he is president of OLLI.

John, very deservedly, is the subject of this month's profile.

"So when I was asked to provide some background for this profile, my first thought was to paraphrase a quote from Navin Johnson in the movie 'The Jerk,'" John said. "My story? OK. It was never easy for me. I was born a poor child. I remember the days, sittin' on the porch with my family, singing' and dancin' down in Lower Alabama ... Well, we didn't really dance all that much (to which those of you who have seen me try can testify!)."

John grew up in Fairhope, about a block up the hill from Mobile Bay. His father owned a car dealership, and his mother was a stay-at-home mom.

John left in 1970 for Spring Hill College, where he at first majored in history and political science but then switched to biology. To help pay the bills, he took an ROTC scholarship and after graduation became a second lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps.

"While on active duty," John said, "I commanded a combat support hospital and then was the construction supervisor for the frame-up renovation of the 130th Station Hospital in Heidelberg, Germany." It was at this time his sons, Derek and Jared, were born.

John left the Army in 1985 and went to work for the government, first as a program analyst and then as managed-care director at Redstone's Fox Army Community Hospital. After Fox downsized, John was lucky enough to wrangle a job in contracting, where he spent the rest of his career. He retired in 2012.

Like many OLLI members, John was looking for something to do after retirement and discovered OLLI. He joined in late 2015. He quickly threw himself into the OLLI world.

"One thing the military had taught me," said John, "was that to thoroughly appreciate something, one had to be in-

vested in it. And so I began teaching.

"I had gotten a master's in military history (I also have an MBA). I thought there might be an interest in history in OLLI. Turns out, there was. And since I have always wanted to learn more about the world I live in in general, I have branched out, often teaching classes about which I have only beginner's knowledge. But through the act of teaching, one gets to study. It's been a win-win proposition from the start.

"During a trip to the national parks in 2019, Linda McAllister asked me to run the Curriculum Committee. After completing three years with that wonderful team, I was elected to be president of the Board of Directors. These have been two of my greatest honors.

"Being president means more to me than just filling some random position. My first goal is to set a vision for the organization: that OLLI-UAH be the pre-eminent source of lifelong learning for everyone in northern Alabama and south central Tennessee. It's a goal that will take all of us to achieve.

"So you members can help me make it happen. I'm counting on you but, even more, believing that you will make it happen. Thank you for your trust."

Thank you, John, for the many, many things you do for OLLI.

**By Glen Adams**



John Mason speaks as OLLI board president on Aug. 3 at the 30th anniversary of UAH lifelong learning. Other photos show him helping cook, as a high school graduate in 1970, and with sons Derek and Jared.

# THE ACADEMY (LATER OLLI) GREW FAST AT UAH



*This is the second of several historical articles by Sue Chatham, who joined UAH's Academy for Lifetime Learning 29 years ago. The Academy later became the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.*

Let's continue our journey in the development and growth of the Academy for Lifetime Learning.

In May 1994 at the first annual meeting, the general membership of the Academy elected their first officers and board members.

- **Officers:** President Rono Prince, Vice President Bill Hagen, Secretary Norma Bell, Treasurer Terry Schoper, Co-Treasurer Charlotte Miller
- **Committee chairs:** Administration and Finance, Terry Schoper; Membership and Promotion, Ralph Murphy; Curriculum, Anne Harrison; Long-range Planning, June Foley; Nomination, Ed Marsh
- **Additional board members:** Norman Frederick, Florence Murphy, Carol Martin, Gene Garrett, Carl Ziemke, Tom Harrison, Dennis McClendon, Margaret Bond, Fran Johnson
- **Board terms:** Numbers were drawn to determine the length of each board term. There were three terms established: one year, two years and three years.

There were 79 Academy charter members.

Interesting dates in the continuing growth:

Nov. 16, 1994 — The Academy board approved the Academy bylaws.

Nov. 17, 1994 — The Academy officially became the Academy for Lifetime Learning Inc.

1993-94 end of year — There were 107 members, 20 courses and 118 registered for classes.

Spring 1995 — There were 398 members and 26 courses.

### ***The Academy is growing by leaps and bounds!***

May 5, 1995 — The Academy opened its first bank account at First Alabama Bank of Huntsville — requiring two signatures on a check. The name on the account was Academy for Lifetime Learning at UAH.

April 1996 — The Academy hosted the Alabama State Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) workshop at the Bevill Center. Representatives from academies across Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee attended. The late Bill East-erling was the dinner speaker.

1997 — Terri Pierce joined the UAH staff as primary administrative support of the Academy.

June 1997 — There were 159 responses to a membership survey. Among these, 65% were retired, 59% were married, 21% were male and 79% were female.

1998 — Dr. Jean Herron, our founder and sponsor, left UAH for The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

1999-2000 — Membership was 733. 1999-2000 class enrollment was 779.

2002-03 — Membership was 943. 2002-03 class enrollment was 1040.

### ***The Academy is growing by leaps and bounds!***

2000 — The Academy dropped membership in the Elder Hostel Institute Network because of an increase of per capita fees (but rejoined in 2003 when the fees were dropped).

2001-02 — The “clean room” policy (encouraging room cleanup after a class or event) was adopted, and our facilitator-training program was strengthened.

2001-02 — A multimedia projector was needed for classrooms. The president at the time, Bill Huber, sent a letter to members asking for donations. “I was overwhelmed by the response,” he said. Over \$4,800 was donated by 127 members, and the projector was purchased. I remember the projector. It was mounted on a cart and moved from room to room as needed.

2001-02 — The three-task team approach for curriculum was promoted by Mary Compton and Barbara Lucero. This approach worked very well and is still used today.

2002-03 — The Academy office was fully staffed during each term. Primarily, this was for the purpose of performing the drop and add function for registration to relieve the burden of the UAH staff.

The annual meeting in May 2003 was held at Trinity Methodist Church. Dr. Mike Oliver, retiring after 26 years as the director of continuing education at UAH, reminisced about his relationship with the Academy.

Dr. Jean Herron, our founder and sponsor, was recognized, and Dr. Karen Clanton, the new director of continuing education, was introduced.

Jim Lindberg presented to UAH in honor of our 10th anniversary a wooden bench with an appropriate plaque, to be placed inside the front entrance of Wilson Hall, in front of the atrium (which no longer exists). Mary Compton dubbed the bench “The Bench of Wisdom.” What happened to this bench? See Page 29.

And, as you might expect, food was involved. “We love to eat.” Some things don’t change!

Much of the information above came from “The Academy for Lifetime Learning, Inc., A History of the First Ten Years, 1993-2003,” Paul Hays, principal author, editor and coordinator, published in April 2004.

There are Academy/OLLI scrapbooks in the lounge. Additional information and pictures came from those.

The journey continues ...

***By Sue Chatham***

# DID YOU KNOW ...? AN INSIDER'S LOOK AT MILITARY HISTORY

### October: The Autumn Uprising of 1946

The United States Army Military Government in Korea (USAMGIK) was the official ruling body of the southern half of the Korean Peninsula from Sept. 8, 1945, to Aug. 15, 1948. Its policies expressed a total lack of foresight or understanding of Korean and Far Eastern cultures. The result seems to have set the tone for American foreign policy for the next 70-odd years.

At the end of World War II, Korea was beset with political and economic chaos, which arose from a variety of causes, not the least of which were the animosities born by 35 years of Japanese occupation.

When the U.S. government kept the pro-Japanese governors and other administrative functionaries in place to run the country, the chaos was only exacerbated. The U.S. military was largely unprepared for the challenge of administering the country, having arrived with no knowledge of the language or political situation. Thus, many of their policies had unintended destabilizing effects that would, sadly, be repeated throughout the ensuing decades. Sound familiar?

From 1945 to 1948, the overall responsibility of southern Korea was given to Gen. Douglas MacArthur as supreme commander for the Allied Powers in Asia. Following the vague orders and lack of guidance he received regarding Korea from both the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Department of State, MacArthur assumed he had a free hand to deal with Korea however he wished.

He ordered the XXIV Corps under Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge not only to accept the surrender of Japanese forces there, but also to set up a military occupation. U.S. forces landed at Incheon on Sept. 8, 1945. Four days before he arrived in Korea, Hodge told his officers that Korea was "an enemy



After World War II, the U.S. government, including the National Security Council and the U.S. Army Military Government in Korea, mishandled events in Korea, where police attacked Koreans demonstrating in Daegu against U.S. and Japanese domination. President Harry Truman is second from right in the NSC photo from 1948. (Images from the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Wikipedia and social media)

of the United States." His policies had disastrous results.

South Koreans under Hodges' rule faced starvation due to the failure of USAMGIK's rice ration policy. Hunger in Daegu (known as Taegu prior to 1995), where there were outbreaks of cholera during this period, was particularly severe.

After 2,000 cholera cases occurred in Daegu and its environs, the government quarantined it without taking proper measures for treatment, to prevent further transmission. Vehicles and

people could not cross the city boundary, so the supply of crops and daily necessities was cut off. Above all, rice was scarce.

And making matters worse, post-war national law and order were provided by police from the former pro-Japanese government. They continued to rob farmers of rice, as they had when Korea was under Japanese rule. Citizens' anger against pro-Japanese functionaries grew, and the police retaliated. Understandably, public sentiment was chaotic.

(continued on the next page)

# DID YOU KNOW ...?

## AN INSIDER'S LOOK AT MILITARY HISTORY, CONT

In typical bureaucratic fashion, USAMGIK promptly attacked the wrong problem. Announcing the “illegalization of communist activities,” it issued a mass arrest order for Communist Party officials around the country, who responded by saying, “[We] will fight against USAMGIK.”

In September, a general strike spread across the country, starting with the strike of railroad workers in the Busan area, as the Communist Party struck head-on against the USAMGIK in earnest. That strike quickly spread. USAMGIK attempted to use the national police and anti-communist youth group, causing a totally unexpected consequence: The police fired on striking workers in Daegu, and an incident known as The Autumn (or Daegu) Uprising of 1946 was born in response. And that's the rest of this month's story.

Beginning Sept. 23, strikes and demonstrations continued until Oct. 1. However, on the evening of Oct. 1, during a protest in front of the Daegu Metropolitan City Hall to prepare countermeasures against hunger, two civilians were shot and killed by the hated police. When the disbanded crowd heard the gunfire, they became angry and thousands of people rushed to gather in front of the headquarters of the Daegu City Fighter Committee. The police fired again to disperse the crowd, and in response, the crowd attacked the police, resulting in casualties.

The next morning, having learned that two civilians were shot and killed by the police, workers began to gather in the city, and ordinary citizens and students joined the protests. Surrounded by a crowd of about 10,000 people, the chief of the Daegu Police Department declared himself disarmed and handed the keys to the detention center over to release political prisoners.

Workers under the control of the leadership of the Korean Communist Party

tried to assume police power in an orderly manner. At this time, however, excited crowds on one side of the street started throwing stones at the police, and police officers in the corner fired guns at the crowd, killing 17 protesters.

The Daegu City Struggle Committee tried to keep the strike within a legal framework and prevent it from unfolding violently. However, as the public hatred for the police soared, spontaneous attacks began on the houses of the former pro-Japanese police and military officials.

USAMGIK declared martial law in Daegu at 7 p.m. and mobilized the U.S. military. Not surprisingly, perhaps, the protests only expanded. The process of suppressing civilian protests spread the conflict nationwide, and it continued until the end of 1946.

Finally, USAMGIK decided to engage the Republic of Korea (ROK) in joint talks to find out the cause of the uprising and come up with solutions to it. The ROK-U.S. joint talks revealed that the cause of the uprising was people's hostility toward the police, the existence of *chinilpa* (a derogatory Korean word describing ethnic Koreans who had collaborated with Imperial Japan) within the military government, corruption of some Korean officials, and agitation that hindered South Korea's maximum welfare.

In other words, a nearly complete overhaul of the national social structure would be called for. USAMGIK wasn't up to the task.

This uprising should have given the respective parties a precise roadmap on handling future incidents in international relations. Instead, USAMGIK responded by punishing everybody involved without addressing any of the underlying causes. This only strengthened the communist right wing, setting the stage for conflict later. We had, for the first time after gaining world super-

power status, apparently ignored cultural realities in places not called the United States.

The lesson here was that we should have learned something about putting a sovereign nation back together again after some sort of national or international conflict. We didn't. And as a result, we have blundered through one disastrous instance of colonialist nation-building after another throughout the following 70-plus years, still seemingly unaware of the pitfalls involved. Misadventures in Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Panama and other places around the globe prove the point.

That “history repeats itself” is a rather well-known dictum in educated circles, so one must wonder why the “best and brightest” members of our government have never taken the idea to heart nor taken the opportunity to learn from what history has provided. Had they done so, the savings might have been incalculable.

***By John Mason***



## THE EARLY BIRD GETS BREAKFAST



Early Bird Breakfasts started Sept. 19. Every Tuesday beginning at 7:45 a.m., you can find friends and free food in the OLLI lounge, 152D Wilson Hall. You don't have to arrive by 7:45. The menu may include casseroles, muffins, fruit and other favorites. (Photos by Justin Clay)

## BONUS DELIVERS EXERCISE AND AGING TIPS

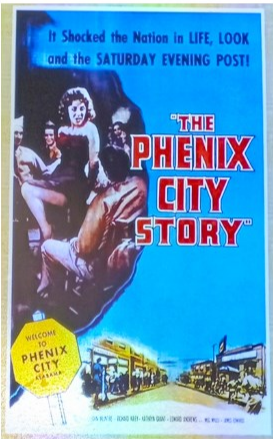
Annamarie McWilliams, a certified exercise physiologist and employee of the Huntsville Hospital Wellness Center, showed how exercise can limit the physiological changes caused by aging during a bonus Aug. 25. The session included exercise advice from the American College of Sports Medicine.



(Photos by Steve Stewart)

## REMEMBERING 'WICKEDEST CITY IN AMERICA'

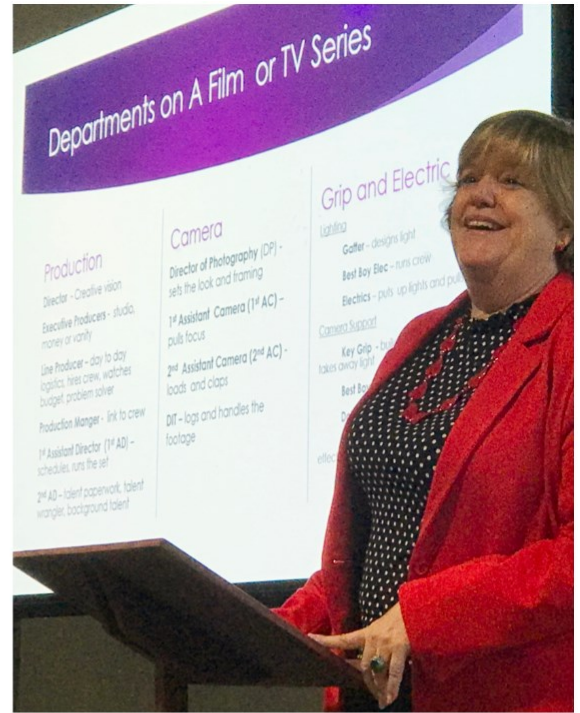
Tom Borchert, a retired lawyer, visited Phenix City and gave an OLLI bonus Sept. 8 about what he learned. Crime and corruption earned it the nickname "Wickedest City in America" in the mid-20th century. Albert Patterson, a candidate for Alabama attorney general, was shot dead there in 1954. His son, John Patterson, was elected attorney general and governor.



(Photos by Glen Adams, Justin Clay and Steve Stewart)

## HOW DO MOVIES, TV SHOWS AND ADS GET MADE?

Nancy Noever, a veteran production manager and an OLLI board member, explained how movies, television shows and commercials are made during a bonus Sept. 22. She explained terms such as “gaffer” and “best boy” and told stories about improvising and solving problems. Betty Koval, bonus coordinator, introduced the session.



(Photos by Steve Stewart and Sue Chatham)

### WRITINGS AND A BENCH TELL OLLI'S HISTORY



Paul Hays wrote a history of the first 10 years of lifetime (also called lifelong) learning at UAH, published in 2004. In honor of the 10th anniversary, Jim Lindberg presented this wooden bench bearing a plaque, which was placed in Wilson Hall and dubbed "The Bench of Wisdom." The bench is now in the noncredit registration office, which handles OLLI registration. See Sue Chatham's related article on Page 22. (Bench photos by Justin Clay)

### LOWE MILL OLLI TOUR, OCT. 6



At left, a scene from a previous concert similar to the one that will be available to OLLI members and the public after OLLI's Lowe Mill tour Oct. 6. At right is the mural where the OLLI tour will start. See details from Chris Stuhlinger and Michelle Lavery on Pages 5 and 6.