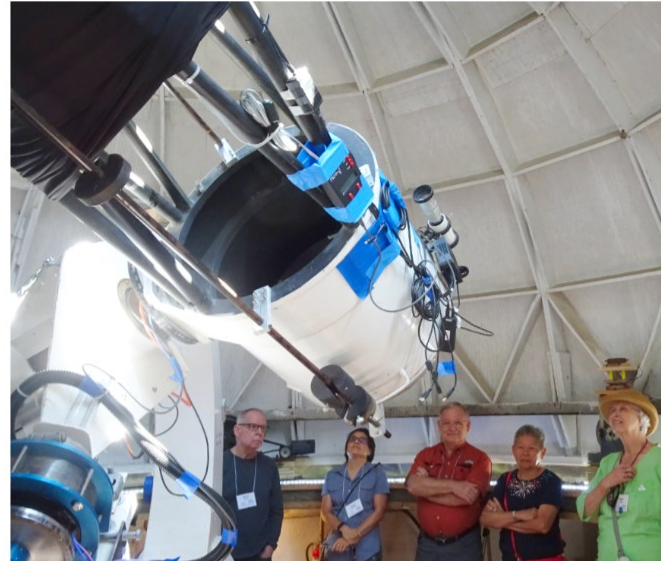


August 2023

THE OLLI INSIDER

News for OLLI members at The University of Alabama in Huntsville



MUSIC, NATURE, ASTRONOMY, EDUCATION, TRAVEL, ART

Clockwise from top left: Thumbpicking guitarist Shane Adkins, Indian Creek Greenway hike and bicycle ride, Von Braun Astronomical Society tour, Alabama A&M University tour, profile subject Betty Koval with husband Bill, Philadelphia travelers, field trip by Artist Studio Member Interest Group.



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OLLI at The University of Alabama in Huntsville
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SOME WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF EVERYTHING



The best obituary ever written tells us about Terry Wayne Ward (1946-2018) of DeMotte, Indiana. He was a lineman for the telephone company, although he may have let his future wife believe it was for the NFL.

“He despised ‘uppity foods’ like hummus, which his family lovingly called ‘bean dip’ for his benefit, which he loved consequently,” the

obit says. “He couldn’t give a damn about most material things, and automobiles were never to be purchased new. He never owned a personal cell phone and he had zero working knowledge of the Kardashians.”

I laugh every time I see that paragraph, especially the parts about hummus, material things, new cars and the Kardashians.

Take the Kardashians (please!). I smugly try to ignore them. But wait! Aren’t the Kardashians somehow involved with Kanye West? I don’t care much about him, either, but isn’t he a pal of Donald Trump, and isn’t Trump someone I have to care about?

When I quoted that paragraph to my wife, she made an excellent point.

“It doesn’t hurt to have a little working knowledge of everything,” Patrice said.

She’s right. You never know when you will need information that seemed irrelevant. And expanding your knowledge randomly, maybe just for the fun of it, makes life more interesting and enjoyable.

When a new OLLI semester course schedule arrives, I usually look through it for the subjects that interest me most, including politics, religion, journalism, law, photography, history and technology. Sticking to those subjects would be comfortable, but I wouldn’t grow much. I really should take more courses about science (especially rocket science, this being Huntsville), art, music, literature, dancing, foreign languages, health and nature. Maybe even the Kardashians.

Terry Ward’s obituary shows he was a unique, valuable and funny individual who knew his priorities, loved his family and enjoyed living. But if, rather than disdaining hummus, he had realized that it was a fine workaround for bean dip, might his life have been a slight bit richer?

Inside The Insider: As the new president of OLLI’s Board of Directors, John Mason writes about the value of social connections among OLLI members. Marilyn Szecholda previews fall social events, including free breakfasts on Tuesday mornings when classes meet.



Many subjects are more interesting and relevant than we might think. (Illustration by Emily Stewart Baker)

Bob Carroll, the new vice president of curriculum, invites you to be a teacher as well as a student. Clay Williams writes about the 60 courses to be offered in the fall and introduces two new staff members.

Chris Stuhlinger reviews four recent outings sponsored by his Events Committee and describes six more scheduled for August and September.

Betty Koval is the subject of this month’s profile, written by Glen Adams. *Insider* readers have been seeing Betty’s columns as chair of the Travel Committee; now she and Glen are planning Friday bonuses. The new Travel Committee co-chairs, Jane McBride and Ed Bernstein, have their first column this month. It includes 2024 travel opportunities to California, Georgia’s Atlantic islands and Iceland.

Debbie Applegate explains the new Artist Studio Member Interest Group. Leah Black writes about MIGs, our lending library of Great Courses DVDs, and the annual photo contest. Irene Garoppo explains the need for members to staff the OLLI volunteer office — as volunteers, of course. The job is easy and rewarding.

John continues his monthly “Insider’s Look at Military History” with the story of Raoul Wallenberg, who lost his own life during World War II after saving the lives of as many as 9,000 Hungarian Jews.

Steve Stewart
Editor, The OLLI Insider

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OLLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2023-24



John Mason
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Nancy Darnall
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Robert Carroll
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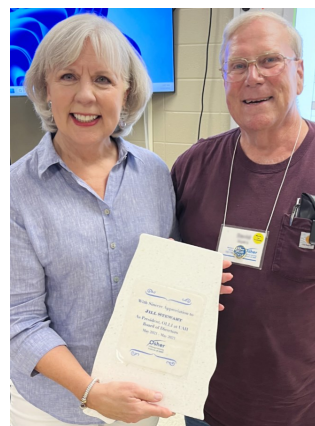
David Styers



Marilynn Szecholda

OLLI OFFICER TRANSITION

Jill Stewart completed two years as president of OLLI's Board of Directors in May, and John Mason succeeded her. Jill's immediate predecessor, David Styers, presented this appreciation plaque. Jill continues serving on the board as immediate past president and chair of the Public Relations Committee. Nancy Darnall succeeded Janet Reville as vice president of administration and finance. Bob Carroll succeeded John as vice president of curriculum. Returning officers are Betty Koval, secretary; and Linda Lowe, treasurer.
(Photo by Steve Stewart)



LIFELONG LEARNING, MAKING CONNECTIONS



This is my first column here in *The Insider* as your president. I am honored that you selected me for the role and, at the same time, a little in awe of the standards set by my two predecessors, David Styers and Jill Stewart.

Continuing their legacy is a lofty aspiration, but with your help, I believe it's one we can achieve. The question is: How do we begin?

So I have a vision of what I want OLLI to be: *That OLLI-UAH be the preeminent source of lifelong learning for all the people in North Alabama and Southern Tennessee.*

Visions are important; they're like a roadmap into the future. More importantly, though, they cannot be carved in stone. They have to have room to grow with the organization for which they are intended. I think this one does.

Keeping that in mind, our goal then becomes defining a more definite path. And that, I believe, lies in the concept of family and a sense of belonging.

On May 2, 2023, NPR published an article titled "America has a loneliness epidemic. Here are 6 steps to address it" in its online magazine *All Things Considered*. It warns that "the physical consequences of poor connection can be devastating."

Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy told *All Things Considered*: "In the last few decades, we've just lived through a dramatic pace of change. We move more, we change jobs

more often, we are living with technology that has profoundly changed how we interact with each other and how we talk to each other. And you can feel lonely even if you have a lot of people around you, because loneliness is about the quality of your connections."

In the end, he suggests that to combat this epidemic, we strengthen our social infrastructure and cultivate a culture of connection.

Guess what? Achieving that goal is exactly one of the key components of my vision! I have always believed that we in OLLI are a family, and now, if research like this is to be believed, our ability to perform the functions of family are needed more than ever.

So I challenge you: Embrace our vision and reach out to your friends and neighbors, be they within or without the program, and offer them that oh-so-needed social connection.

Call them. Offer to pick them up to run errands or go out for a meal. *Or*, bring them to an OLLI event. Introduce *your* family to *our* family. Show them a "culture of connection" in action! I promise: It will make us all happier and healthier.

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

John Mason
President, OLLI at UAH Board of Directors

A culture of connection — an antidote for loneliness — is evident in the OLLI lounge during the Souper Bowl on Feb. 17, 2023, with members conversing while sampling homemade soup. (Photo by Steve Stewart)



CALENDAR

AUGUST 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.

Aug 11 | Fri | 10:00 am | In-Person

Event: Fall Open House — Wilson Hall Lobby

OLLI members, family, friends, and the community are invited to join us to kick off the Fall 2023 semester. The open house is an opportunity to learn more about OLLI at UAH and discover upcoming courses, bonuses, events, MIGs (Member Interest Groups), and more!

- Meet instructors, the Curriculum Committee, and OLLI staff in person.
- Register for a selection of 60 fall courses.
- Pick up your 2023-24 parking permit.
- Renew or purchase a new OLLI membership.
- Explore the program and facilities.
- Make connections with people who share the love of lifelong learning.
- Enter to win door prizes.

Offered through Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Aug 25 | Fri | 11:00 am | [Online/In-Person](#)

Bonus: Exercise & Aging — Wilson Hall

Want to learn how exercise can limit the physiological changes caused by aging? Then this bonus is for you! Join exercise physiologist Annamarie McWilliams as she discusses and demonstrates the various exercises that can prevent and improve the negative changes that occur as a result of simply growing older. This session will follow the American College of Sports Medicine's guidelines and recommendations for exercise.

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

Sign up [online](#).

Presented by Annamarie McWilliams, a certified Exercise Physiologist and employee of the Huntsville Hospital Wellness Center.

Sept 8 | Fri | 11:00 am | [Online/In-Person](#)

Bonus: Visit the “Wickedest City in America!” Phenix City, Alabama and the Assassination of Albert Patterson — Wilson Hall

On June 18, 1954, Albert Patterson, a candidate for Alabama Attorney General, was shot and killed on the streets of Phenix City. His statewide campaign had included a promise to clean up the city – given the dubious distinction as being labeled the “wickedest city in America.” Tom Borchert spent several days in Phenix City investigating this fascinating story and he'll share his findings along with excerpts from the movie “The Phenix City Story” and photos of Phenix City – then and now. Join your OLLI friends for light refreshments served before and after the event.

Sign up [online](#).

Presented by Tom Borchert, a retired trial attorney and White House historian.

Sept 22 | Fri | 11:00 am | [Online/In-Person](#)

Bonus: Behind the Silver Screen: Film Production — Wilson Hall

Ever wonder what a gaffer does when looking at movie credits? Learn that answer as well as how movies, TV shows and commercials are made. This presentation will look at the process of film production from script to movie theater and the roles of the people involved. Attendees will see how film production requires problem solving, project management and accounting to support storytelling. Get treated to fascinating stories of the unusual situations presented like finding hotel rooms for orangutans in Hawaii, quickly sourcing specialized equipment in remote areas and dealing with location restrictions.

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

Sign up [online](#).

Presented by OLLI Board Member Nancy Noever, a veteran production manager and line producer.

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

EVENT REGISTRATION TIPS



OLLI member response to many of our events has been great, and, as several of you have experienced, registration for some events must be

capped due to group size and space limitations. A few events have even filled up weeks ahead of time, which calls for a waiting list.

I'd like to suggest a few things that might help the registration process, etc. run more smoothly for everyone.

1. When you register, make sure that you have entered your email address correctly to prevent a rejected address when I send out event details a few days before an event.
2. Right after you register, you should receive a confirmation email from Google Forms with the event information. If you do not receive the confirmation, contact OLLI staff.
3. If you have registered for an event and later determine that you cannot attend, please let me or OLLI staff know as soon as possible so that someone on the waiting list can take your place.
4. Some of our event venues have limited capacity for tour groups or they have to prepare for our group size, so I need to give them an accurate attendance number several days ahead of time.

We have several events planned for this fall!

Recap of recent events

- **Orion Amphitheater tour** — The Orion's community partnership manager, Victoria Jones, led OLLI members May 5 on a fantastic tour of the now year-old Orion Amphitheater, where they visited the artists' dressing rooms, the stage and backstage areas, the concourses, the kitchen



Locations of coming events include (clockwise from top left) HudsonAlpha, Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, SIGNALS Museum, National Weather Service, Joe Davis Stadium and Richard Martin Trail.

and artists' dining area, Apollo Park and the Skybar. Both concerts and community events are held at the Orion.

- **Indian Creek Greenway nature hike** — Members enjoyed a casual stroll June 3 along the southern portion of the greenway. Special guest Dr. Ken Ward provided his expertise in identifying many of the bird calls heard along the way, including some rare and unusual species.
- **Von Braun Astronomical Society** — Members were treated June 16 to a wonderful planetarium program about astronomer Johannes Kepler and how to identify several constellations. The tour included the solar

telescope and the 21-inch reflecting telescope in the observatory.

- **Alabama A&M University campus tour** — Jamal Ali, vice president for marketing, communications and advancement at AAMU, led members June 30 on a fascinating tour (on the university's electric bus) of the campus and provided information about the university's history and facilities.

Coming events in August and September (all events require pre-registration and a waiver/release form; bring your OLLI name tag).

(continued on the next page)

EVENT REGISTRATION TIPS, CONT

- Friday, Aug. 18 — **HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology tour**, Cummings Research Park, Huntsville, 10:30 a.m. to noon. forms.gle/tBAwydFMksPYr6wx9. Tour the flagship facility as we learn about HudsonAlpha's important genomics-based research, educational outreach and entrepreneurship activities. An optional visit to the greenhouse is available for those willing to make the half-mile trek. Registration is limited to 30 members.
- Saturday, Aug. 26 — **Nature walk/bike ride at Richard Martin Trail** just north of Athens, 10 a.m. to noon. forms.gle/mDfNEz5P2hCXkgvo9. Join us for a nature walk on the northern half of the Richard Martin Trail (or BYOB — bring your own bike to ride). We will walk as far as everyone feels comfortable; bikers can pedal the entire 4.5 miles north to the Tennessee state line. See cotton fields, historic homesteads and several bridges (including a covered bridge). The trail is mostly wooded with a crushed gravel surface (Rails to Trails).
- Friday, Sept. 15 — **National Weather Service/SWIRLL tour** in Huntsville, near the UAH campus, 10 to 11:30 a.m. forms.gle/7S6gxw4DzHA3TeJd9. Tour the National Weather Service's Huntsville facility, the newest of the Service's 122 offices nationwide.

The office provides weather forecasts and warnings for 14 counties in northern Alabama and southern Tennessee. Also visit the nearby SWIRLL (Severe Weather Institute and Radar & Lightning Laboratories) facility, which is operated by UAH. Registration is limited to 25 members.

- Saturday, Sept. 16 — **Nature walk at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge** in Decatur, 10 a.m. to noon. forms.gle/oxV8rGgB5UB3KKvj8. We will explore a new hiking and biking trail (5.5 miles out and back) near the Visitor Center. The easy trail leads through and by a variety of habitats, including woodlands, farm fields and waterways.
- Friday, Sept. 22 — **Joe Davis Stadium tour**, Huntsville, 2 to 3 p.m. forms.gle/19VjEQoKfzcnPGom8. Huntsville has a professional soccer club (Huntsville City Football Club), and the Joe Davis Stadium has been remodeled, renovated and repurposed. Join us for a tour of the "new" stadium and all the areas that make this multipurpose renovation a significant addition to the expanding Huntsville athletic community. This tour will be approximately one hour of standing and walking approximately one-half mile. Registration is limited to 30 members.

- Friday, Sept. 29 — **SIGNALS Museum of Information tour**, Huntsville, 1:30 to 3 p.m. forms.gle/CPVE9Cve7ZR3hDEEA. This is a brand-new communication technology museum that provides a hands-on, immersive experience where guests can explore, interact and learn about communication technologies throughout history. Visitors will leave the museum with more appreciation for the business leaders and inventors alike who have paved the way for the digital technologies we rely on today. Museum staff are also looking for volunteers to help with the museum. Registration is limited to 25 members.

Events scheduled for October and November (more details later)

- Friday, Oct. 6 — **Historic Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment tour**, Huntsville, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 14 — **Hike at Monte Sano Nature Preserve**, Huntsville, 10 a.m. to noon
- Friday, Oct. 27 — **Port of Huntsville tour**, Huntsville International Airport, 10:30 a.m. to noon
- Saturday, Oct. 28 — **Maple Hill Cemetery walk**, Huntsville, 10:30 a.m. to noon

See you at the events!

Chris Stuhlinger
Events Committee Chair

COMMUNICATION MUSEUM SEEKS HELPERS

A new Huntsville museum of communication technology is looking for volunteers to help operate it.

SIGNALS Museum of Information at 1806 University Drive NW will hold a tour for up to 25 OLLI members Sept. 29. Tour details are in the article above.

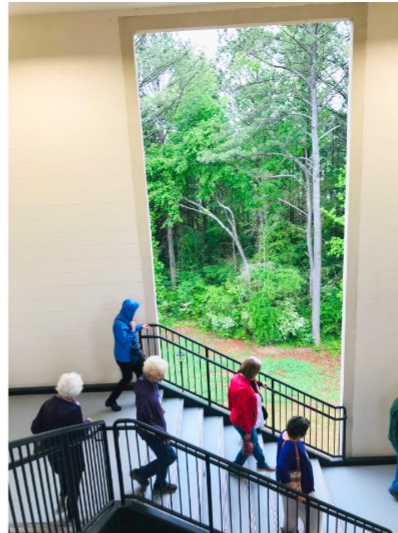
The nonprofit museum, which will open in the fall, will offer a hands-on, immersive experience where visitors can learn about communication technologies throughout history and the scientists, engineers, inventors and business leaders involved. Museum founder Marcus Bendickson was CEO of Dynetics Inc. He is vice chair of the UAH Foundation trustees.

Volunteer opportunities are in areas including artifacts and collections, ticketing, writing, editing, photography, videography, research, cataloging, social media, design and digitizing. Volunteers also serve as docents and subject-matter experts.

Information, including a link for volunteers, is at signals-museum.org.



EXPLORING ORION AMPHITHEATER, MAY 5



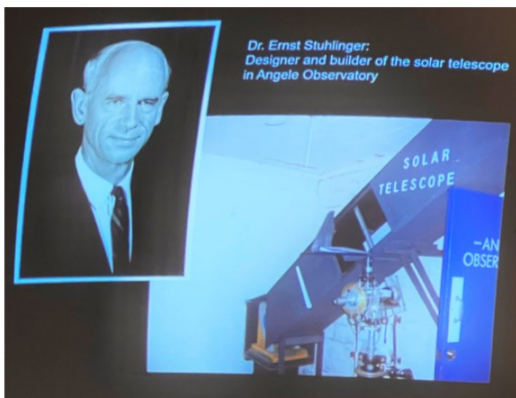
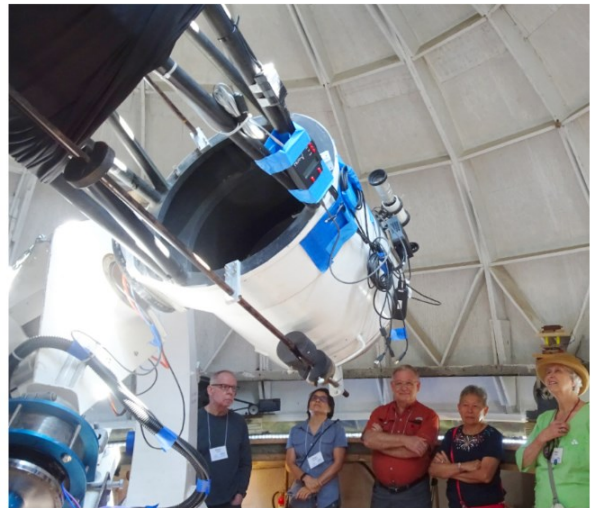
(Photos by Steve Stewart and Chris Stuhlinger)

INDIAN CREEK GREENWAY HIKE, JUNE 3



(Photos by Helen Crawford and Chris Stuhlinger)

VON BRAUN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, JUNE 16



(Photos by Helen Crawford and Chris Stuhlinger)

BUS TOUR OF ALABAMA A&M CAMPUS, JUNE 30



(Photos by Helen Crawford and Chris Stuhlinger)

SHARE OLLI AND YOUR EXPERTISE WITH OTHERS



So, I check my inbox this morning and there sits a reminder from the editor that articles are due today for the next edition. Oh, that's why there is a big red circle around the 17th on my desk calendar! I then do what all good procrastinators do: I look out the window and say to myself, "The lawn needs to be mowed." The article can wait. Besides, I do my best brainstorming when pushing my Ryobi battery-powered mower (no carbon footprint here!) through the monoculture ecosystem — what a paradox.

Some things came to mind while mowing — it did need it since I have been out of town for week — as in this following anecdote of how I became an OLLI member and now a board member in just two years.

In the fall of 2021 after having just moved to Huntsville, I was at a residence in the Buck's Canyon neighborhood doing some electrical work. During lunch, the owner asked if I had ever heard of OLLI. I have a dog named Ollie, but he didn't count. She explained that OLLI was a continuing education program at UAH for us dwindling baby boomers. (My paraphrase, not her words.) That piqued my interest because I was involved in a similar franchise in the Midlands of South Carolina, from whence we moved.

She wrote down the URL for OLLI at UAH on scrap paper and handed it to me. I got home that afternoon and investigated. The course selection is what hooked me — what a variety of topics! I joined, registered for the winter quarter, and signed up for the Basic German class. I chose that course to impress our son, who is a lecturer in the German and Slavic Languages Department at the University of Georgia.

Weekly phone calls to Ryan included my showing off my newly developed linguistics: ordering food at a restaurant, introducing myself to others, telling a tram operator where I wanted to get off, and using numbers (confusing since the German speakers reverse the order of their two-digit numbers, e.g., twenty-four in English is four-and-twenty in Deutsch, vierer und zwanzig).

For the spring quarter, the story gets interesting. Background: The 50-plus-year-old house Deb and I purchased two years ago had a backyard just begging to be landscaped, but we had no idea where to begin. One of the spring course offerings was Susan Webb's Native Plants of North Alabama. At the time I had no idea who Susan was, but the offering was right up our alley, so I signed up. The class was a fire-hose flow of information, and I took home lots of ideas for our yard to share with Deb. I also found out that Susan does professional landscape design and her



An OLLI class — Native Plants of North Alabama — led to a yard transformation for Bob and Deb Carroll.

business partner, Lucy Talley, does a meticulous job of implementing those plans!

Long story short, we hired Susan and Lucy to transform our yard. The first phase is complete. All the plants and ferns were planted last fall and the hardscaping begun. This spring and summer have delighted us with a variety of colors and foliage and blossoms (all native). Deb planted pollinator-friendly annuals and perennials this spring, and our raised-bed container vegetable garden has been prolific! The coup de gras was receiving a National Wildlife Federation certification this summer as a wildlife habitat!

All this is the result of a new acquaintance introducing OLLI at UAH! And, oh, yes, I signed up to teach a class or two this past year, and those offerings have been well-received. Thank you all for including me in the tribe!

As your new curriculum vice president, I invite you to be the impetus of similar stories. Share OLLI at UAH with others in your sphere of influence. New members might become new instructors; everyone has a skill, an avocation or a vocation to share and benefit the OLLI community. You yourself may have such.

Don't think you're up to the task? I and many others are here to help. (I didn't attend all those professional development sessions over my years of high school teaching for nothing!) Talk up becoming a volunteer instructor for OLLI as you cross paths with others, especially fellow retirees. Make it a win-win, just like it was for Susan Webb and is for many other OLLI instructors.

My goal is for the Curriculum Committee to recruit instructors to provide a wide-ranging and diverse course selection in our catalog. Let us make OLLI even more interesting and attract new members. Won't you join me?

Veni, vidi, vici.

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

FALL SEASON LAUNCHING WITH 60 COURSES



Besides the obvious changes that fall brings (cooler temperatures and new leaf colors), the new season also provides possibilities for new growth as we launch into a new year of lifelong learning.

This fall, we will be offering 60 courses featuring topics such as history, religion, art, science, literature, nature, fitness and health. We continue to repeat

some classic favorites but also feature several new courses for the first time.

Check out Mr. Sol's Neighborhood, History of New Orleans, Important Forest Trees of North Alabama, Pros and Cons of Religion and Science, and Cyber Security, as well as many others.

Besides courses, we showcase a variety of special tours and bonus lectures. Don't hesitate to register now for these events, as space is sometimes limited. And don't forget our various member interest groups (MIGs), which include Bridge, Dine Out, Mah Jongg, Artist Studio and Tai Chi. These offer a great way to continue your instruction, as well as additional opportunities to meet your fellow OLLI members.

The Fall 2023 Course Guide contains all the information that you need for the upcoming session. Our fall open house will be Friday, Aug. 11, in Wilson Hall from 10 a.m. to noon. Meet instructors, register for courses, and of course acquire the all-important 2023-24 parking permit. The fall session runs from Sept. 11 to Nov. 17.

Change has also struck our OLLI staff, as we have added members to our UAH operations.

First of all, please welcome Justin Clay. Justin serves as our marketing and design specialist and started in early May, having spent the last several years teaching graphic design at UAH. We are thrilled to have someone who will



Justin Clay and Anelisse Westmeyer are new members of the OLLI staff. (Justin shot this photo with a timer.)

spend his full time marketing our wonderful program.

The registration office welcomes Anelisse Westmeyer. She started in June and will handle your daily registration needs like signing up for courses, getting parking permits, etc. A native of California, Anelisse has lived in Huntsville for over 20 years, earning her bachelor's from The University of Alabama. We appreciate her always having a smile on her face.

We hope to see many of you on Thursday, Aug. 3, for our kickoff to celebrating 30 years of lifelong learning. (Sorry, ticket sales are closed.) Other events are scheduled throughout the year to commemorate this wonderful occasion. Be on the lookout for more details.

We look forward to seeing everyone again as we live, laugh and learn here at OLLI!

Clay Williams
OLLI at UAH Program Manager

REWARD FOR REFERRING A FRIEND

Clay Williams, OLLI program manager, presents a gift certificate to Cam, who won the May drawing for Refer a Friend. For bringing a new member onboard, she wins a free term tuition and a free course. Keep spreading the news about OLLI to potential members, and your name might be pulled next.



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.



WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS — AN INTRODUCTION AND APPRECIATION

9/11 - 10/2 • M • 3:15 - 4:45 pm • 4 sessions • In Person • W. Thames • \$25

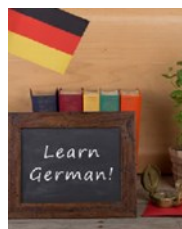
William Butler Yeats is considered one of the most gifted and profound poets of the modern age. He delights, intrigues, confuses and amuses as he presents some of the most powerful, intelligent poetry a reader will ever encounter. Join us as we explore his poems on Irish legends and heroes, love and old age, art, and his delight in language.



CYBER SPACE OVERVIEW

9/12 - 10/3 • Tu • 3:15 - 4:45 pm • 4 sessions • Live Virtual • P. Higginbotham • \$25

Learn how to better protect yourself and your family in the modern digital age. This overview of cybersecurity will examine topics such as general cyber hygiene, email security and scams, multifactor authentication and strong passwords, social media and personally identifiable information, the internet and “smart” devices.



BEGINNING GERMAN

9/13 - 11/1 • W • 8:30 - 10:00 am • 8 sessions • In Person • J. Schweinsberg • \$35

Study basic German pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, and conversational skills. Each session will incorporate vocabulary and grammar as well as understanding and reproducing the spoken language. The course is intended for beginners as well as former German students seeking to brush up their language skills.



TURNING SCIENTIFIC IMAGES INTO ART

9/14 - 10/19 • Th • 10:30 am - Noon • 6 sessions • Live Virtual • H. Somerville • \$30

Scientific images, invaluable in research and diagnosis, are gaining popularity as art. Many scientific societies hold photo competitions as part of their annual meetings, and many companies producing scientific instruments hold annual competitions. Explore how light and electron microscopes, X-rays, CTs, MRIs, and ultrasound instruments operate. Finally, members will have the opportunity to critique (often modified) images from each instrument designated as art.

Save 20%

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

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE?



Are you looking for opportunities to meet OLLI members, opportunities to learn more about the workings of OLLI, opportunities to give back to OLLI?

Look no further. The answer is right here — volunteer in the OLLI volunteer office. It's easy, it's fun, and it takes only a small commitment once a week.

Have a morning class on campus and another in the afternoon and trying to figure out a way to kill time? The office is a great place to do it.

Becoming an office volunteer is one of the *best* ways to meet OLLI members outside the classroom environment. You get acquainted with the UAH staff, teachers, facilitators and students who stop by for information or just to chat.

This opportunity is very easy. A big part is answering questions, especially during the first couple of weeks of each term: things like the locations of classes (we have the room numbers in the office), how to use the reproduction equipment, how to register, how to get a new or updated parking pass. Office volunteers assist members who want to check out information from the newly organized DVD library.

For registration and parking, all you have to do is refer students to the registration office. To assist in library check-out/in, there is a step-by-step instructional sheet. If something is asked you don't know, you can check our handbook or contact an OLLI at UAH staff person. Easy stuff.

Our volunteer office is located in Wilson Hall, Room 151, and sometimes is a bustle of activity with people dropping in to get information, killing time before class, or stopping in to chat with other members. There are many times you'll find three or four people just chatting. If you're inquisitive (my new word for nosy), this is the place to be.

Since we've changed from short terms to longer semesters, there are fewer classes per "shift" but still a need to serve those attending classes on campus.

With the changes, the office has also changed our way of scheduling. Where we used to schedule for a full term, in the fall we are beginning a new process — scheduling for months. So, for fall semester, we will have separate schedules for September, October and November. Of course, you can sign up for the same shift for multiple months. Work your schedule.

Training is provided if required, and there is a handbook in case something comes up you're not sure about.

There will be an information/signup table at the *fall open house Aug. 11*. If you can't make it and would like additional info or think you may be interested in this opportunity, please contact Irene Garoppo via OLLI at olli.info@UAH.edu.

Remember, it's never too late to volunteer!

Irene Garoppo
Volunteer Support Committee Chair



Picture yourself as a volunteer in this office.
(Photo by Steve Stewart)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

ENJOY BIRTHDAY CAKE, SNACKS AND BREAKFAST



It's hard to believe that summer is more than half over and fall term is fast approaching. The Social Committee has been busy planning for upcoming events.

Come see us as we serve a special anniversary cake after the luncheon on Aug. 3. OLLI is 30 years old and going strong because of our dedicated members and staff.

Open house is up next on Aug 11. The Social Committee will be serving a delicious assortment of snack foods. Be sure to come and meet the instructors and learn about the fall classes.

A favorite event will continue in September. Weekly free early bird breakfasts will begin Sept. 19 at 7:45. Come early on Tuesdays before class, enjoy breakfast, and mingle with friends in the lounge.

Looking forward to Nov. 10, the Social Committee is planning an off-campus catered teacher appreciation event. This gathering thanks our instructors for the time and effort they put into presenting our classes.

Coming in early December is the holiday party. We'll have dinner, music and a never-empty dance floor. OLLI members love to dance, as we saw at last year's party. Details to follow.

That wraps up fall term events. Plans are already underway for the spring term Souper Bowl in February and an early-June picnic.

Marilynn Szecholda
Chair, Social Committee



Plenty of food and friends were in the OLLI lounge during a typical social event in October 2022. (Photo by Steve Stewart)

KNITTING FOR THE FRIDGE

This throw was a product of Michelle Laverty's spring course called "Learn to Knit." Michelle explained: "The students learned the basics by knitting 6-by-6-inch sample squares with the published (course catalog) intent of piecing the squares together to make a 'throw' (smaller than an afghan). It's titled 'Refrigerator Throw' — just as a proud mom would put the child's drawing on the fridge."



INTERESTED IN TRAVELING TO CALIFORNIA, GEORGIA ISLANDS OR ICELAND IN 2024?



Your Travel Committee has been working on new adventures for OLLI members this summer, and we're glad to report that three opportunities have been identified thus far for 2024.

We have spaces reserved on Road Scholar trips during winter and spring breaks. Both are highly rated trips within the continental United States. See below for details.

In May, OLLI at UAH members traveled to Philadelphia to enjoy "A World of Art, Barnes Foundation, Murals and More" — trip hosted by Road Scholar. Again we were impressed by the comprehensive educational value that Road Scholar offers its guests.

A few of us flew to Philly a day ahead so that we could ride the hop-on-off bus that takes a route around the city with a local guide on board and stops at the most popular venues — Independence Hall in the Historic District, the shipping and wharf area on the Delaware River, the centerpiece that is City Hall and environs, spectacular museums along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and the Avenue of the Arts. The last was the address for our Hilton hotel, a lovely accommodation in the heart of it all.

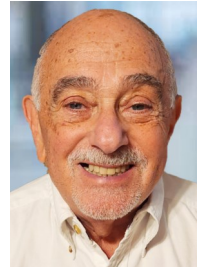
Our expert guide was active in the arts scene in metropolitan Philly, and she introduced us to docents in each venue who heightened our appreciation. We visited the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts near our hotel, the Philadelphia Museum of Art (remember Rocky, whose statue greeted us on arrival and even inspired a few of us to dash to the top of the steps!), the Rodin Museum, and the spectacular collection of Impressionist paintings at the Barnes Foundation.

Additionally, we had day trips to a magical sculpture garden in Trenton, New Jersey, and an awesome time in the environs of the Wyeth family of painters in Brandywine Valley — we felt their presence.

Of course, we had Philly steak sandwiches at Reading Station and hard-to-get reservations at the Parc restaurant. And the murals we saw all over the city were truly incredible works of art. We all were impressed with the Philadelphia of today!

We are looking forward to the OLLI trip in August to the Eastern Canada provinces of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. We will visit Halifax, Charlottetown and Saint John, as well as the breathtaking

landscapes of Cape Breton, Lunenburg and Peggy's Cove. OLLI coordinators are Ed and Paulette Bernstein on the trip, arranged by Grand Circle Travel. There are 18 OLLI at UAH travelers on board for the 13-day excursion.



The two Road Scholar trips in 2024 are briefly described below (based on Road Scholar's advertising flyers) and are open now for registration by OLLI members only. Complete information on the Iceland trip will be coming soon.

"Art Collectors and Their Collections," Jan. 14-19, 2024 (Program No. 1183)

Be treated to several of Southern California's finest art museums, and leave the driving to someone else. The Los Angeles area's distinguished collections are on display in several grand museums. Daily in-depth lectures prior to the visits provide an orientation to the museums that enriches your appreciation of their visionary collectors. Study the life of J. Paul Getty and examine his collections of Western art from the Middle Ages to the present against a backdrop of dramatic architecture, tranquil gardens and breathtaking views of the city. Experience the museum of Arabella and Henry Huntington, with 207 acres of gardens. Discover Norton Simon's collection of art from Europe and Asia on a docent-led walk.

Double occupancy, \$1,749; single occupancy, \$2,149. Price includes 5 nights of accommodations, 9 meals (4 breakfasts, 5 dinners), group travel and transfers, a group leader to accompany you and handle all logistics, customary gratuities, taxes and destination fees, and Road Scholar Assurance Plan (24-hour emergency assistance and insurance for emergency medical evacuation).

Accommodations: The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites — a spacious downtown hotel within walking distance of landmark restaurants and lounges, LA's Music Center, sports and transportation options.

We are holding 17 reserves on this program through Aug. 31, 2023. After August, the spaces will open to the public. To enroll, call Road Scholar at 800-454-5768 and refer to Order No. 20148564.

(continued on the next page)

INTERESTED IN TRAVELING TO CALIFORNIA, GEORGIA ISLANDS OR ICELAND IN 2024?, CONT

"Best of St. Simons, Sapelo, Jekyll: An Island-Hopping Adventure," March 10-15, 2024 (Program No. 1384)

In the late 1800s, the beautiful beaches and lush landscapes of Jekyll Island became a private playground for the elite. Today, relics of the Rockefellers, Morgans, Vanderbilts and Pulitzers still stand on this island-turned-state-park and provide a fascinating window to the past.

Explore the barrier island with an expert to gain insight into this world of wealth as well as the Gullah Geechee (descendants of enslaved Africans) and their history in the region. On this educational adventure to three of Georgia's barrier islands, explore historic homes, preserved forts, driftwood beaches and Gullah Geechee landmarks as you gain a well-rounded perspective of this region's unique history.

Explore the famed Jekyll Island Club hotel, and learn how the island was made into a retreat for the Rockefellers and Pulitzers. Venture to St. Simons' battlegrounds, evocative churches and a lighthouse, and then board the Lady Jane shrimp vessel for a hands-on opportunity to study the catch of the day. Enjoy a ferry ride to remote Sapelo Island, and join a local expert to learn its unique history.

Double occupancy, \$2,399; single occupancy, \$3,029. Price includes 5 nights of accommodations, 12 meals (5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners), group travel and transfers, a group leader to handle all logistics, customary gratuities, taxes and destination fees, and Road Scholar Assurance Plan (described above).

Accommodations: Jekyll Island Club hotel, a 4-star resort and National Historic Landmark.

We are holding 16 reserves on this program through Aug. 31, 2023. After August, the spaces will open to the public. To enroll, call Road Scholar at 800-454-5768 and refer to Order No. 20148569.

More exciting news: a trip to Iceland

Plans are underway for a tour of "Iceland: Land of Fire, Ice and Lights!" to be scheduled for mid-September 2024. During this nine-day tour, OLLI members will visit geothermal lagoons, lava fields, huge glaciers, spectacular waterfalls, quaint villages, museums and more. And we should have a decent chance to see the Northern Lights. Stay tuned for more information as this trip develops, and we hope to have a launch announcement at our Aug. 11 open house.

Is there a place on your bucket list that you've always wanted to visit? Do a little research and come up with some specifics. We'd love to have your ideas! The OLLI Travel Committee is here to help and to benefit OLLI at UAH members.

Bon voyage!

Jane McBride and Ed Bernstein
Travel Committee Co-Chairs

OLLI's Philadelphia travelers in front of the Rodin Museum.



MIGS, GREAT COURSES, PHOTO CONTEST, MORE



Here's hoping that everyone has been enjoying the summer so far in spite of some very hot days and high humidity. Perhaps you have been traveling or taking some OLLI classes or enjoyed keeping up with an OLLI MIG.

Except for Dining Out, the OLLI MIGs (member interest groups) have been meeting as usual. Most Friday afternoons, you can find members

playing bridge or mah-jongg, or practicing tai chi. The new Artist Studio MIG meets on the first and third Fridays and sometimes works in extra days, too. Look for more information on the MIGs at the open house Aug. 11. OLLI members are always welcome to join them.

Remember that we have a wide assortment of Great Courses DVDs available to members and instructors in the OLLI office. You are welcome to go through the list of topics and titles in the notebook on the cabinet and check out any that may appeal to you. This is a great way to learn something new between class terms.

The topic for the 2023-24 photo contest is "Reflections." The dictionary definitions for this term refer to:

1. The return of light or sound waves from a surface
2. The production of an image by or as if by a mirror
3. Thinking or careful thoughts, i.e., her reflections on life, after much reflection, etc.

Hopefully, this will encourage much creativity from all the wonderful photographers out there.

We had such a great selection of photographs entered in the 2022-23 contest. The finalists are displayed outside the OLLI volunteer office, 151 Wilson Hall.

The OLLI lounge in 152D Wilson Hall is a great place to connect with other members or have some coffee or a snack. It is usually open if there are classes or other activities going on. There are also some puzzles, magazines and books available. Feel free to take them and/or bring some in to share.

We are looking forward to bonus classes starting again, and we will be sure to provide those great snacks before and after each bonus. This is a great time to visit with other OLLI members while enjoying refreshments.

Leah Black, Member Services Committee Chair

ARTIST STUDIO MIG MEETS TWICE A MONTH

The Artist Studio Member Interest Group had our first field trip on June 7. Three of us met up at Color Me Mine, a pottery shop in Huntsville's MidCity District where you pick out a pottery piece, you paint it however you see fit, and they will glaze and fire it.

It was a great way to spend an afternoon, creating art and hanging with friends. We will be scheduling more field trips to such places as Birmingham Museum of Art, along with a stop at Alabama Art Supply store, an afternoon touring Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment, Orbix Hot Glass glass-blowing factory, etc.

If you are wondering what the Artist Studio MIG is, we are a group of people who like to hang out together and create art. We have such a diverse group of artists with interests in so many different areas.

There are people painting in watercolors, pencil drawing, collage, art journaling, hand lettering, etc. Some of us are beginners; some of us are not. The diversity creates such a creative space where it is fun to share ideas, ask for advice, see different types of arts and crafts, and maybe pick up some info on other things you might be interested in.

We meet on the first and third Fridays of each month at 2 to 4 p.m. in 152 Wilson Hall.

If you have questions or need information, email artiststudiomig@gmail.com.

Debbie Applegate
Chair, Artist Studio MIG

Jim Beaupre, Debbie Applegate and Linda Curreri (left to right) enjoy the pottery studio field trip by the Artist Studio MIG.



‘I COULD PUT A COT UP AND JUST LIVE AT OLLI’

There are numerous benefits to belonging to OLLI: challenging our minds, learning history or a new language, travel, making new friends — the list goes on. But one benefit we sometimes overlook is the opportunity to be around Betty Koval and her ever-present smile and endless enthusiasm for OLLI. Betty is deservedly the subject of this month’s *Insider* profile.

Betty grew up in the Bootheel of Missouri in the small town of Hayti.

“We were a farm family that my parents ran like a family business,” recalled Betty. “We all worked on the farm, no matter what age we were. There were always age-appropriate jobs we could do.

“We learned many life skills and lessons, such as work ethic and fiscal responsibility. We were given an allowance at an early age and taught about giving, saving and purchasing items we wanted.

“I grew up in a house with two parents who loved each other and were best friends. They *never* raised their voices at each other. We always had lots of food since we raised most of it, and honestly I can never remember going without anything.”

Cousins came to visit in the summer, which Betty, a self-proclaimed tomboy, loved.

“Most of my cousins were boys,” said Betty, “and I climbed many a tree with them. ... It was a carefree childhood, and I would not take anything for the experiences. I learned to drive a stick-shift truck by the time I was 12. My dad taught me how to back up a trailer. I learned to garden, and we had so many cats and dogs. We never lacked for pets: chickens, pigs, cows, and a few times a horse.”

Betty planned to be a registered nurse. But after shadowing a friend at the local emergency room, she discovered

that she and the sight of blood didn’t get along. Plan B was business and accounting.

“I loved numbers,” said Betty, “and making them balance in the columns! And that led to me being asked to step into human resources early in my career because — and I quote — ‘People open up to you, and you make them feel comfortable.’”

Instead of taking the college route, Betty chose on-the-job training.

“After high school, I worked with a certified public accountant, and he taught me so much about bookkeeping and accounting. He once told me: ‘Never discount this on-the-job training I’m giving you. You are getting one-on-one training.’ He was a wonderful mentor.”

Betty married right out of high school and started a family soon. She later divorced and, after some years as a single mother, married Bill in 1997. Over the years, she worked and lived in nine states.

When it came time to retire, she and Bill first tried Arizona. But they didn’t like that and moved to Decatur, where they had lived previously. They joined a weekly dinner group, and that’s how they discovered OLLI. A member described the courses he was taking, and within a few days Betty and Bill were signed up for the 2016 fall classes.

(continued on the next page)



Top: Bill and Betty with OLLI friends Bob and Nancy Darnall and John Mason at Grand Teton National Park.

Bottom, left to right: At a cowboy-themed party during Betty’s book-club girlfriend weekend in Texas, with Betty’s hat representing a crown they were supposed to wear; Betty’s youngest daughter, Leslie, and her son, Ian; Betty’s oldest daughter with sons: Hayden with dog Louie, Riley with cat, Laura and Tucker.

'I COULD PUT A COT UP AND JUST LIVE AT OLLI,' CONT

Within three years, Betty was on the OLLI Board of Directors. Her first position was chair of the Travel Committee. COVID made that a frustrating job. Now, with the assistance of Glen Adams, she is arranging the Friday bonuses and is already working on the schedule for the spring term.

One lifelong great interest of Betty's is reading. She belongs to one of the largest book clubs in the world and has met famous authors like Pat Conroy and Fanny Flagg. Her reading led her to lead a class called "Fireside Chats with Authors," in which authors discuss their books on Zoom or in person. She will repeat the class in the spring.

"I could write a book about what OLLI

has meant to me and Bill," said Betty. "I could put a cot up and just live at OLLI. I can feel tired or achy and maybe feel like I don't want to drive over from Decatur, but I get up and come on over and walk in — there people are laughing and the atmosphere is charged with friendliness. The fatigue melts away. I feel engaged and energized again.

"Joining OLLI is the single best thing Bill and I have done since retiring. We have found a family of learners with active minds and people just plain fun to be around. And who can't use a lot of fun?"

Betty and Bill have two daughters and four grandsons. Daughter Laura is a

dental hygienist and Leslie a registered nurse (she has no problem with the sight of blood). The grandsons are Hayden, a law student this fall; Ian, an engineer; Riley, a student in his last year of engineering; and Tucker, a sophomore at the University of Tennessee.

Thanks, Betty, for all you do for OLLI.

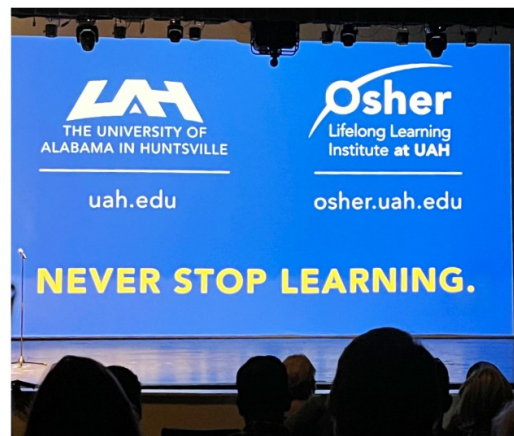
Note: The Friday Bonus Committee is always looking for suggestions. If you know someone who would be an interesting speaker or if you yourself would like to make a presentation, please contact Betty or Glen Adams or the OLLI office.

By Glen Adams

KATHY CHAN: MS. SUPER SENIOR HUNTSVILLE



Kathy Chan, a member of OLLI at UAH, is Ms. Super Senior Huntsville and first runner-up in the 2023 Ms. Super Senior Alabama pageant, held June 10 at Oak Mountain High School in Birmingham. These photos are from the state pageant and the Retirement Lifestyle Expo on May 9 in Huntsville, where Kathy visited with Jill Stewart, the outgoing president of OLLI's board of directors. Kathy promoted OLLI as part of her platform, and an OLLI ad was shown on the Birmingham stage. She was named People's Choice Super Senior and Community Support Promoter for selling the most tickets and ads. The pageant offers senior women opportunities to serve others while sharing their experiences, wisdom and interests. It recognizes their dignity, maturity, talent and inner beauty.



Raoul Wallenberg and his memorial in Budapest, Hungary. At right, U.S. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. presents the Nuremberg Laws to the Huntington Library on June 6, 1945. (Photos from Wikimedia Commons)



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

August: Heroism — doing the right thing in the face of danger

Perhaps one of the most insidious sets of laws ever passed by human beings was enacted by Nazi Germany on Sept. 15, 1935.

These were known as the Nuremberg Race Laws, and their presumptive purpose was for the protection of German blood and German honor and the Reich Citizenship Law. Meant to ensure so-called “racial purity,” these laws, over the next years, were expanded to become the blueprint for the so-called Final Solution to the Jewish Question, known in German as the Endlösung der Judenfrage.

It has been estimated that the pre-World War II Jewish population in Europe numbered some 10,431,569. By war's end, 6,636,235 of them had been murdered under the auspices of those “protection” laws. That's roughly 63% of European Jewry, and those figures don't include the numbers of Slavs, Romanies and others who were lumped in as being undesirables in the modern German state.

Beginning in 1938, the Kingdom of Hungary, ruled by Miklós Horthy, passed a series of anti-Jewish measures modeled on those laws, also focusing heavily on restricting Jews from certain professions, reducing the number of Jews in government and public service jobs, and prohibiting intermarriage.

Enter Kalman Lauer, a Hungarian who ran an export-import firm trading between Stockholm and Central Europe. As a Jew, Lauer found it increasingly difficult to travel to Hungary, which was steadily moving deeper into the German orbit (they joined the Axis powers in November 1940, and on

April 11, 1942, their 209,000-man 2nd Army was assigned to the German Army Group South [AGS] in Ukraine). Luckily, Lauer knew people. And that's the rest of this story.

One of Lauer's business partners in Stockholm was Jacob Wallenberg, a Swedish banker and industrial leader, and from 1934 to 1944 a member of the Swedish governmental commission for trade with Germany. His nephew had been floundering professionally, so Jacob stepped in, and in 1941 set him up in business in Stockholm with Kalman Lauer. The nephew's name was Raoul.

Budapest's Jewish population was under siege. By the spring of 1944, every other major Jewish community in Europe had been decimated, and Adolf Eichmann had come to Hungary determined to complete Hitler's Final Solution before the war ended. He was briskly dispatching 10,000 to 12,000 Jews to the gas chambers every day.

At the end of May 1944, two important reports describing in detail the operations of the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp — including the deportation of 435,000 Hungarian Jews there — were published, resulting in Hungary's Horthy being threatened by both U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Roosevelt turned to the newly created War Refugee Board in search of a solution. U.S. Treasury Department official Iver C. Olsen was dispatched to Stockholm as a representative of the WRB to put together a plan to rescue Hungary's Jews. In search of someone willing and able to go under diplomatic cover to Budapest to oversee this, Olsen contacted a relief committee of prominent Swedish Jews. One member of the committee was Wallenberg's business associate Kalman Lauer. Lauer suggested Raoul Wallenberg.

(continued on the next page)

AN INSIDER'S LOOK AT MILITARY HISTORY, CONT

Wallenberg reached Budapest on July 9, 1944, by which time there were only 230,000 Jews remaining in Hungary (in March 1941, the Jewish population in Greater Hungary had reached 725,007, not including about 100,000 Jews who had converted to Christianity). Wallenberg developed and issued them “protective passports” identifying the bearers as Swedish subjects awaiting repatriation, thus preventing their deportation. Although illegal, these documents looked official and were generally accepted by German and Hungarian authorities, who sometimes were also bribed.

He then succeeded in negotiating with the German authorities so that the bearers of the protective passes would be treated as Swedish citizens and be exempt from having to wear the yellow badge required for Jews. Wallenberg also rented 32 buildings in Budapest and declared them to be extraterritorial — protected by diplomatic immunity. He put up signs such as “The Swedish Library” and “The Swedish Research Institute” on their doors and hung oversized Swedish flags on the fronts of the buildings to bolster the deception. The buildings eventually housed almost 10,000 people.

As you might expect, this made Wallenberg an enemy of the state. He started sleeping in a different house each night to guard against being captured or killed by either Hungarian Nazis or Adolf Eichmann’s men. Two days before the Soviet Army occupied Budapest, Wallenberg bribed one Pál Szalai to deliver a note in which Wallenberg persuaded the occupying Germans to prevent a fascist plan to blow up the Budapest ghetto and murder an estimated 70,000 Jews. The note also persuaded the Germans to cancel a final effort to organize a death march of the remaining Jews in Budapest by threatening to have them prosecuted for war crimes once the war was over.

On Oct. 29, 1944, elements of the Russian 2nd Ukrainian Front under Marshal Rodion Malinovsky launched an offensive against Budapest, encircling the city by late December. Wallenberg’s last recorded words were “I’m going to Malinovsky’s ... whether as a guest or prisoner I do not know yet.”

Documents recovered in 1993 from previously secret Soviet military archives and published in the Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet show that an order for Wallenberg’s arrest was issued by Deputy Commissar for Defense (and future Soviet Premier) Nikolai Bulganin and transmitted to Malinovsky’s headquarters on the day of Wallenberg’s disappearance.

On March 8, 1945, Soviet-controlled Hungarian radio announced that Wallenberg and his driver had been murdered on their way to Debrecen, suggesting that they had been killed by Hungarian Nazis or the Gestapo. On Feb. 6, 1957, the Soviet government released a document dated July 17, 1947, which stated, “I report that the prisoner Wallenberg who is well-known to you, died suddenly in his cell this night, probably as a result of a heart attack or heart failure.”

In 1989, Wallenberg’s personal belongings were returned to his family, including his passport and cigarette case. Soviet officials said they found the materials when they were upgrading the shelves in a storeroom. Russian complicity says a lot about their own ideas for solving the Jewish problem.

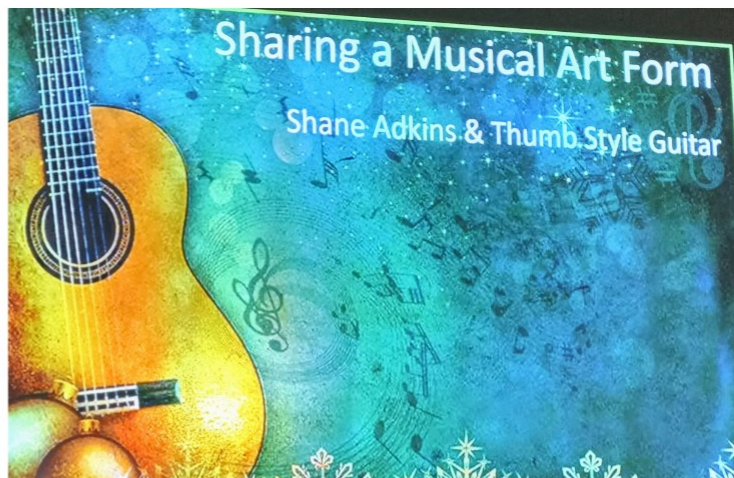
No doubt others saved more Jews, some say perhaps as many as 100,000, but Wallenberg was the only one who frequently and personally confronted the Nazis and their Hungarian accomplices, and he is credited with personally saving between 4,500 and 9,000 Hungarian Jews. Israeli historian Yehuda Bauer writes that Wallenberg’s “fame was certainly justified by his extraordinary exploits.”

And that’s all heroism is: doing what’s right under extraordinary conditions and in the face of danger. Given the world situation today, we could use a few more Raoul Wallenbergs.

By John Mason

GUITAR PICKING AND ICE CREAM, APRIL 28

Thumbpicking guitarist Shane Adkins demonstrated his techniques during a bonus session April 28. He set local historical tales to music. Afterward, OLLI members gathered for an ice cream social.



(Photos by Glen Adams)

STAINED GLASS CLASS AT LOWE MILL, JUNE 7

Dennis Aplin taught a class on mosaic stained glass June 7 in the Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment District, a former factory that contains more than 150 working studios.



(Photos by Justin Clay and Patrice Stewart)

SPRING COURSE TOURS 6 GARDENS

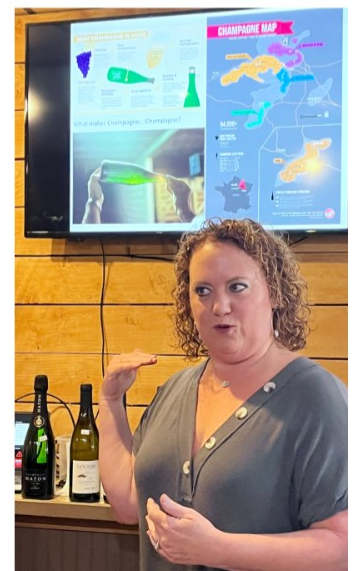
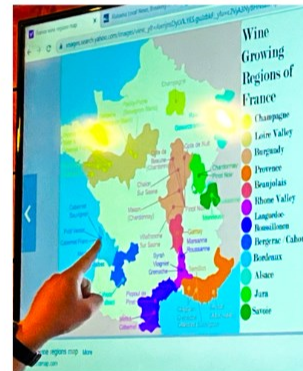
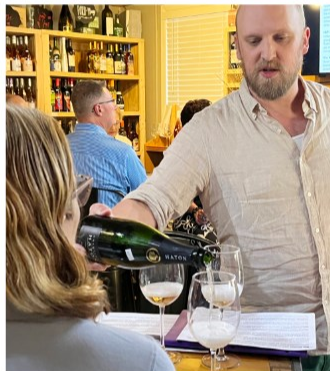
Alicia Beam taught the Spring Garden Tour course, which visited six local gardens that have historic backgrounds, vintage garden rooms, unique yard art, modern entertainment areas, and award-winning plant collections.



(Photos provided by Linda McAllister)

SAMPLING THE FINE WINES OF THE WORLD

The OLLI course “Touring the World through Wine” met on four Mondays in July at the Wine Cellar on Whitesburg Drive. Brandi Edmonds taught the course, and students sampled notable wines from several countries.



(Photos by Steve Stewart and Sherry Sobul)

PUBLICIZING OLLI, RECRUITING MEMBERS



OLLI members set up a table at the 24th Retirement Lifestyle Expo and Senior Funfest (top row), sponsored by Studio 60 Senior Center and the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments on May 9 at the Jaycee Community Building. They also attended Huntsville Parks & Recreation's Day for Dads on June 10 at Butler Green (second row) and Madison Public Library's Be Local Bash on May 6. They gave out information about OLLI and invited people to join. Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle (middle left photo, on the right) spoke with OLLI board President John Mason at the Day for Dads. OLLI members in these photos include Jill Stewart, Sue Chatham, Nancy Darnall, Barbara Johnson, Steve Stewart and Glen Adams. (Photos by Steve Stewart and Christie Clark)

MONA SMITH LEAVES LEGACY GIFT FOR OLLI

OLLI at UAH is one of 18 local nonprofits receiving \$14,550 each as legacy gifts from Mona Jeanne Boles Smith through the Community Foundation of Greater Huntsville.

Mona, 82, who died in Huntsville on Aug. 29, 2022, taught OLLI classes from 2009 to 2014 on topics including Russian literature and opera for amateurs.

“During her lifetime, Mona Smith generously supported organizations that matched her passions in life, and through these legacy gifts Mona was able to continue supporting the causes and organizations for which she cared deeply,” the foundation said in a news release. “Planned gifts create a legacy that extends beyond one’s lifetime. Through her legacy giving, Mona Smith will continue to have an impact on this community she loved, long after she is gone.”

After a career teaching high school English and Spanish in Ames, Iowa, Mona retired to Huntsville and continued teaching classes at OLLI and LearningQUEST while pursuing interests that included art, history, music and travel.

SOME ‘TEMPTATIONS’ TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Some special OLLI tickets are still available for the Sunday matinee of “Ain’t Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations” at 1 p.m. on Aug. 6.

The OLLI group will have “a small meet-and-greet with some cast and crew,” said Nancy Darnall, the OLLI point of contact. Details will be in OLLI’s *eNews* for Aug. 4.

The OLLI group tickets are available in limited number for the musical in Orchestra 2 at the Mark C. Smith Concert Hall at the Von Braun Center. They cost \$70 each (reduced from the usual \$77), and you can buy them only by phoning Pennie Wood at 256-551-2378.

The Temptations climbed from the streets of Detroit to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame during the 1960s and 1970s. With signature dance moves and harmonies, they had 42 Top Ten Hits, with 14 reaching No. 1.

The musical includes how they met as well as personal and political conflicts when the United States fell into civil unrest. It is billed as a story of brotherhood, family, loyalty and betrayal that includes the group’s hits, such as “My Girl,” “Just My Imagination,” “Get Ready” and “Papa Was a Rolling Stone.”

A publicity photo of the original Temptations, circa 1961–1963. Clockwise from top right: Otis Williams, Paul Williams, Melvin Franklin, Eddie Kendricks and Elbridge “Al” Bryant.

