

News For Members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

February 2016

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

President's Message



Bob Darnall
President

WELCOME BACK! AND WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

I'm glad to announce that our goal for this year to exceed 1000 members has been crushed. With this increase in membership, we can expand both our curriculum and our other social and cultural activities. Last year, the Long Range Planning Committee identified our limited visibility to the public as an area for improvement. Thanks to increased advertising and word of mouth promotion, we are growing rapidly. I would like to thank everyone who helped increase our membership and encourage each of you to continue to talk to your friends and relatives about the many wonderful aspects of OLLI at UAH.

I recently had the opportunity to attend a one-day Space Camp for adults at the US Space and Rocket Center. Thirty-two OLLI members participated in one of two different simulated space adventures. This is an activity which will encourage OLLIs at other universities to visit Huntsville. We have so many wonderful things here in Huntsville. One of the things I like most about OLLI is the opportunity to do interesting things with a group. Whether it is a play, movie, museum trip, industry plant tour, wildlife experience, or an extended vacation trip, it is always more interesting to have colleagues to share ideas and experiences.

It is great to get back to class after the long winter break, especially with the excellent selection of courses. I personally couldn't find any way to limit myself to just 6 classes. We have significantly more people registered this term than we did last year, and yet PCS was able to schedule all on-campus classes to be held in Wilson Hall. This should be a big help, especially for our new members who may not be familiar with the campus. As we start the winter term, please greet and offer assistance to anyone who might look lost or new; you could be meeting your new best friend. If you are a new member, look for the "smiley face" stickers on OLLI nametags, which identify members who volunteered to give an extra assist when needed.

A Bonus with Your Bonus: Soup/Chili in the OLLI Lounge

Join your OLLI friends, Make new OLLI friends



On Wednesdays at noon before the Weekly Bonus, bring your lunch and have a side of soup or chili. This is a great way to warm up and visit with other OLLI members. For more information or to volunteer to help prepare the soup/chili, contact Sue Chatham at chatham@knology.net.

February 3: Linda McAllister

February 10: Jane McBride

February 17: Linda Dimmock

February 24: Sue Chatham

OLLI CALENDAR

As a new feature for our *OLLI Insider*, a Calendar of Upcoming Events will be published in each edition. Committee Chairs should contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com or Maxine Doherty at maxine.doherty@uah.edu to add items. Check your Weekly E-news for updates

Month	Time	Event
February 2	7 :00-9:30 pm	Julius Caesar, American Shakespeare Center on Tour , Conference Training Center, UAH. \$20/per performance.
February 3	7:00-9:30 pm	Henry V, American Shakespeare Center on Tour , Conference Training Center, UAH. \$20/per performance.
February 4	7:00-9:30 pm	The Importance of Being Earnest , American Shakespeare Center on Tour , Conference Training Center, UAH. \$20/per performance.
February 2, 3, 4	6:00-7:00 pm	Optional pre-theatre lecture on the evening's ASCT production (see above).
February 13	3 pm or 7 pm	Huntsville Master Chorale Broadway in Love , The Cooper House, 205 Randolph Street, SE., Huntsville. \$20, tickets must be purchased in advance . See Cultural Events article.
March 5	11:55 am	Puccini's Manon Lescaut , Hollywood 18, South Memorial Parkway. Meet in the theatre lobby.
March 11	12:30-2:30 pm	Winter Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, Trinity United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Smokey's Barbecue.
March 29 and 30	TBA	St. Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church , 222 N. Jefferson Street, Huntsville. Space limited; two tours available.
April 11	Spring Term Classes Begin!	

Join your OLLI friends at these events scheduled by the Special Events, Curriculum, Cultural and/or Social Committees; PCS; and UAH. Remember to check your Weekly E-news for the latest information on these and other activities. OLLI membership is required for OLLI activities.



R.I.P: Rono Prince, 1933-2016

Rono Prince, former President of the UAH Academy for Lifelong Learning, in the 1990s, passed away on January 14. A former Air Force pilot, member of the International Logistics team at the U.S. Army Missile Command, and violist with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, he was a friend to lifelong learning and many of our members.



Nancy Darnall
Chair

Meet us at the UAH Conference Training Center on February 2, 3, and/or 4 to attend the 2016 performances of **The American Shakespeare Center on Tour** sponsored by the Huntsville Literary Association. The plays are *Julius Caesar*, Tuesday, February 2; *Henry V*, Wednesday, February 3; and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (not Shakespeare, but Oscar Wilde), Thursday, February 4. Tickets are \$25 each, \$20 for seniors, and available from Lindsey Torok, Room 222, English Department Office in Morton Hall. Performances begin at 7:00 pm and end at approximately 9:30 pm. Each performance is preceded by an optional lecture by UAH faculty each night at 6:00 pm. This is the twentieth year for this company to appear in Huntsville. Known for fast-paced, engaging performance, the company often sells out. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com.

Huntsville Master Chorale's Valentine's Day special program, *Broadway in Love*, is on **Saturday, February 13, 2016**, at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm. The performances are at The Cooper House, 405 Randolph Street, SE, in downtown Huntsville. Join your OLLI friends and Huntsville community for homemade dessert, coffee, and dazzling musical performances featuring romantic Broadway musical selections sung by talented vocalists. This annual event is very popular with OLLI and the greater community, with tickets selling out each year. Tickets are on sale now at \$20 each. To purchase tickets, contact Linda McAllister at wmca@hiwaay.net or Jane McBride at janemcbride@knology.net for tickets.

Monroeville, Selma, and Surrounds: April 22-24, 2016. OLLI field trips offer an exciting way to expand our experiences. We have an unusual situation this spring with an opportunity to visit Monroeville, Selma, and other points of interest in south central Alabama. Due to changes in the arrangements for performing *To Kill a Mockingbird* in Monroeville, the ticketing process is in flux. This trip is offered through a professional tour company; hotel, transportation, admissions and tickets to the play are included at a price not to exceed \$270. Meals are not included. You would be committing to the trip by signing up, but you will have an opportunity to confirm once the final arrangements are made. Space is limited, and **this trip will sell out**. We will have a waiting list, if necessary. A \$75.00 deposit (refundable if the trip is cancelled) will be due on Friday, February 19. If you would be interested in a three-day/two-night to include the play, sights in Selma, and at least two museums, please contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com.

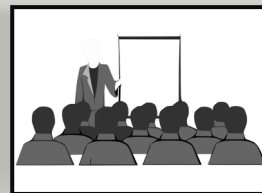
Change in date and performance: The simulcast of the **New York Metropolitan Opera's *Manon Lescaut*** by Giacomo Puccini is scheduled for March 5, 2016, at 11:55 am, at the Hollywood 18, on South Memorial Parkway. Meet us in the lobby. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com for further information. No reservation is necessary.



Bob Darnall
OLLI
Astronaut

On January 12, thirty-two OLLI members participated in a one day Space Camp program at the US Space & Rocket Center. The group was split up into two teams and each team participated in a different simulated space adventure to perform repair/maintenance on equipment in low earth orbit. Members were assigned various responsibilities and then trained for the next hour to ensure mission success. Training was necessary since one of the Shuttle Commanders crashed at least 10 times before understanding exactly what was necessary. Once the two shuttles took off, the ground crews monitored activity and kept in constant communication with the other members of the team on the ground, in the Shuttle, and on the International Space Station. After completing the repair work and successfully landing the shuttles the Campers enjoyed a buffet lunch.

In the afternoon they were treated to a guided tour through space exploration history at the Davidson Center followed by graduation and receipt of Corporate Space Academy Wings underneath the Saturn



The Weekly Bonuses for the Winter 2016 session will be on Wednesdays in Wilson Hall 001 (the Auditorium) from 1:00 to 2:30 pm. These programs are offered as one of the OLLI member benefits and are open to members only. Memberships are available on the day of the bonus in Wilson Hall 103.

Feb 3 – Huntsville: From Cotton Mills to the Rocket City | Guy Collins

Enjoy this fascinating survey discussion of Huntsville including founder John Hunt, the first state capital, and significant periods in the city's history including the Antebellum Period, Civil War, Cotton Mill Era, Redstone Arsenal, TVA, and the Marshall Space Flight Center/ NASA. We'll examine unique characters, architecture, and social culture from 1805-present.

Feb 10 – Cuba - Old Cars and Big Cigars | Barbara & Gary Hitt

Share Barbara and Gary Hitt's multimedia presentation of their recent trip to Cuba. Barbara's photos will take you from the mountains to the sea, from old Trinidad to the Bay of Pigs, and to the metropolis of Havana. Listen as the Hitts are serenaded by musical groups as they enjoy Cuban food, usually served with Vitamin R (Cuban Rum!). Avid birder Gary added 25 birds to his "Life List," while Barbara tried to capture the ambiance, the people, and the merging of old and new Cuba with her camera.

Feb 17 – Identity Theft: What You Need to Know | Timothy Sieja

The Identity Theft workshop is an interactive, multimedia presentation consisting of several video segments, discussion topics and exercises. It is designed to help participants understand how identity theft can occur, to present tips on how to protect oneself, and to suggest what steps to take to recover your identity if theft occurs.

Feb 24 – Floating the Amazon River | Tom Ress

Share the wonder and beauty of a boat trip on the Amazon River. Abundant birds and wildlife, unbroken rainforest, hidden villages, and indigenous river people were all encountered on a multi-day trip down the upper Amazon River in Peru. Enjoy stories about swimming with pink river dolphins, fishing for piranha and experiencing local markets and village life. An excursion to Machu Picchu adds to the excitement of this trip.

Mar 2 – Customs and Traditions of Poland | Frances Crisswell & Carl Woida

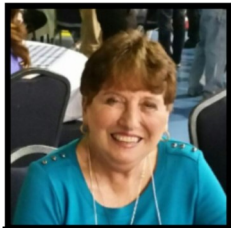
The culture and customs of Poland are closely connected with its intricate thousand plus-year history. Poland's national culture emerged as a synthesis of Latin and Byzantine influences and was further engendered by the numerous European occupations. Learn how customs, traditions, and mores display a diverse mix of the East and West. We touch on Polish Easter, language, cuisine, music and arts.

Mar 9 – Selected Stories from the Writing Your Life Story Class | Valerie Seaquist

Over the 15 years that Betty Carlton has taught for OLLI, she has conducted a total of 45 courses. In her Writing Your Life Story class, Betty has inspired hundreds of OLLI at UAH students to record their stories. In this presentation, you will have the opportunity to hear some of them express their appreciation to Betty by sharing some of their most memorable compositions. Some stories may make you laugh; others may make you cry—but all of them will entertain you.

A Special Thank You: OLLI Winter classes started on January 25. Here is a special "thanks" to the Member Services Committee for cleaning the OLLI space the week before classes started. For the Winter term Jerri McLain, Nancy Darnall, Johnnie Sanborn, Elaine Lowe, Sue Chatham and Hugh Nicholson dusted, cleaned coffee makers and pots, counter tops, white boards and more. This activity happens before every term starts. If you see an OLLI member with a member badge with one of these names on it, take a minute and say thanks.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE



Leah Black
Chair

The Social Committee is busy planning for the Winter Teacher Appreciation Luncheon on March 11th. It will be at Trinity United Methodist Church (TUMC) from 12:30-2:30 pm. This is our special BBQ lunch from Smokey's and we will have something for non-meat members also. Entertainment will be presented by some very talented singers to add to the enjoyment of all. This is a great time to honor the Winter Term instructors and facilitators. They work hard to provide such wonderful classes for OLLI members.

The OLLI Holiday Party was a great success according to many comments from those who attended the event.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

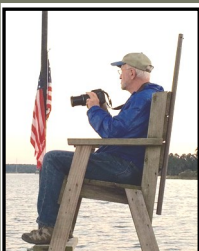
We often read, type, or write the phrase, "Come for the classes, stay for the fun." This issue of the OLLI Insider is full of photos of our members enjoying the fun. During our winter break, we (as OLLI) could see a symphony dress rehearsal, a play, an art exhibit, a holiday display, a wildlife refuge, the National Children's Advocacy Center, and a local business. We ate dinner and had a cup of cocoa. We now have over 1100 members. Do you tell your friends about OLLI? If you do, thank you. If you do not, please think about sharing the OLLI experience.

On Aging—or Not!

Dannye Drake, OLLI Member and Teacher

Not so very long ago, I found myself in the grip of one of life's amusing ironies. After looking forward to retirement for so long, I discovered that being retired is sometimes a bewildering experience. With increasing frequency I encountered the phrase *at your age*. Doctors used it, younger people used it, and at times, even my children used it. So I had retired. So I was no longer thirty something. So...exactly what was I supposed to do *at my age*? Whatever it was, I was convinced that the stereotypical old lady was **not** what I was going to become. As I considered exactly what would occupy my time other than sitting in a rocking chair or baking cookies for the grandkids, I made an exciting discovery. Someone told me about OLLI, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Nearby on the campus of the University of Alabama in Huntsville was a program that offered wonderful opportunities to learn new things, to travel to interesting places, and to meet a wide variety of marvelous people who shared a love of learning. Yes indeed! Medical science insists that people *at my age* need to keep active both physically and mentally, and OLLI provides abundant opportunities to do just that. Courses in bird watching, hiking, and zydeco dancing are offered alongside classes that explore classic literature, teach foreign languages, and discuss world affairs. Whether one wants to learn how to handle a computer, to operate a digital camera, or to explore the tragic themes in Shakespeare's plays, he or she can find a place at OLLI. Since enrolling in my first OLLI classes, I have investigated new ideas, learned new things, visited wonderful places, and formed new friendships. It has been a remarkable and rewarding experience. I recommend it for anyone *at my age*!

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE



Bill McAllister
Chair

The Winter Break was quite eventful for our OLLI members. The Special Events team seeks to provide activities pursuant to the mission of lifelong learning. OLLI members enjoy such a variety of activities that one never knows what is next on the schedule!

Numerous curious OLLI members experienced a very informative outing to Baron Critical Weather Intelligence in Research Park on Wednesday, December 2, 2015. This award-winning locally developed firm is quite different from other local high-tech industries. Their mission is to develop customized weather information for their subscribers all over the globe.

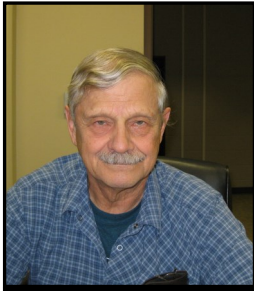
Friday, December 4, **Popcorn and a Movie** attracted a large crowd for a special showing of *The Phantom of the Opera*. This movie was a spectacular stage production celebrating the 25th anniversary of Andrew Lloyd Webber's popular hit.

Another movie was enjoyed by folks who attended the OLLI Registration Celebration on December 15th. The classic *A Christmas Carol* starring George C. Scott was a perfect launch into the holiday season.

On Wednesday, January 13, the day could not have been much better for seeing large birds in big numbers at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge. There was a variety of ducks, geese, and cranes. The day was sunny and clear. Forty-two OLLI members, several new to our organization, met at 10:00 and heard Ranger Daphne Moland entertain us with her personal anecdotes of individual Whooping Cranes experienced over the last several years. Afterwards, we went to the Observation Building with its one-way glass – we see out, but the birds cannot see us. Amongst the thousands of Sandhill Cranes were two of the endangered Whoopers. An unscheduled event was in the works! Suddenly, a one-year old eagle cruised by and all the ducks went airborne for everyone to see. Eventually, the ducks circled and went back to the water they enjoyed earlier. Ranger Moland said the best time to visit this refuge is roughly between Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day, and it is especially active between Christmas and late January, depending on the temperatures.

The National Children's Advocacy Center hosted OLLI members on Friday, January 15th. NCAC in Huntsville is the first of over 950 like it throughout this country and in 25 other countries. After a modest beginning, the Center recently celebrated its 30th year of offering help in our community. Among their many services are programs for victims of child abuse, at-risk mothers and their children (through age five), counseling, forensic investigation and interviewing, and training to professionals and volunteers around the world. NCAC staff, local law enforcement agencies, area district attorneys, and other related agencies work together to provide comfort and resolution to the most vulnerable in our community while minimizing trauma to the victims and pursuing prosecution for their abusers. The environment was warm and the staff is dedicated.

OLLI FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



Ken Rex
Chair

Thank you, OLLI members, for your donations. As our organization continues to grow and improve, its needs grow as well. Your continuing response to our OLLI Support Fund is gratifying. Your donations to this fund are used to support current operations within our OLLI Program. As we offer more classes and activities, we incur more costs. Your membership fees and tuition payments are used directly in our program, but keeping up with technology, classroom supplies, and other expenditures is an ongoing challenge. We recognize that there is a lot of competition for your charitable dollars. Please keep us in mind when you make your choices.

Only with the participation of individuals like you can OLLI bring life-enriching educational programs to adult learners in our community. Help us nurture and grow, while keeping our organization sustainable for generations to come. To donate to the OLLI Support Fund, go to

www.OSHER.uah.edu/DonateOLLI.

International Dining MIG



After the long break, we are booked at Papou's Greek Cuisine, 110 South Side Square, Huntsville, for 6:00 pm, Thursday, February 25. Space is limited and reservations are required. Make your reservation with Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. After Nancy has confirmed your reservation, you may purchase tickets, at <http://www.uah.edu/pes/olli/purchase-tickets>. Tickets will be \$32.00 and will include meal, taxes, tip, and non-alcoholic beverages. Participation requires OLLI membership.



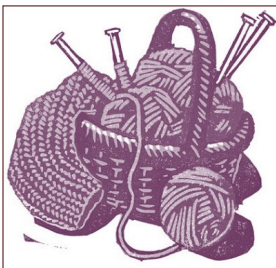
Don't Forget: Tennis MIG

Tennis Anyone? Do you play now? Have you played in the past? Would you be interested in learning the basics? This could be fun and exercise at the same time. If you are interested in belonging to a Tennis Member Interest Group, contact Sue Chatham, chatham@knology.net or please call 256-684-7950.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT— KNITTING MIG

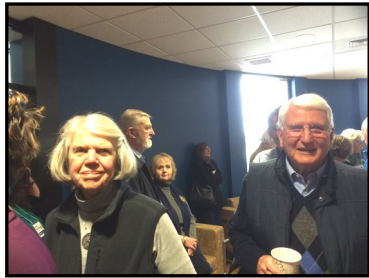
Calling All OLLI Knitters. . .



Wouldn't it be great to have our own Member Interest Group (MIG) where knitters – from *beginners to advanced* – can share information on yarns, patterns, and techniques as well as have entertaining conversation? If you are interested in an OLLI Knitting MIG, please contact Barbara Ward: ward@hiwaay.net, 256-883-6403. We'll then get together to determine the where, when, and other particulars of our MIG.

PAST EVENTS

On December 2, 2015, over thirty OLLI members attended a tour of Baron Critical Weather Intelligence in Research Park. We saw the weather center, antennae, and work areas as well as a video presentation about the company's history, mission, and goals. Baron, led by Bob Baron, a former WAFF-TV meteorologist, has been very involved in upgrading weather systems in the United States and many other countries. We in Huntsville and the surrounding area benefit tremendously from the decades of weather innovations and technologies developed here to keep us safe and informed. There is a free smartphone app, SAF-T-NET, which issues weather alerts at no cost, available from the Apple App Store and Googleplay.



Approximately thirty-two OLLI members attended the docent-led tour of The Tsars' Cabinet at the Huntsville Museum of Art on the afternoon of December 2. Pat Tumminello coordinated the tour which ended with hot cocoa in Pane e Vino and a self-led tour of the Tinsel Tree Trail in Big Spring Park.



Photos courtesy of
Linda McAllister, Bill
McAllister, and Nancy
Darnall.



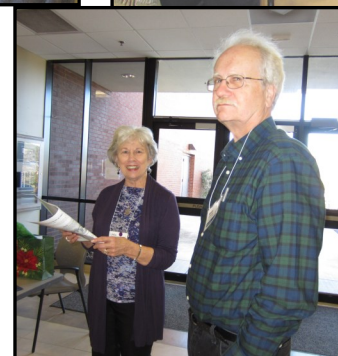
Photos, We Love Photos

The OLLI Holiday Party at the UAH Conference Training Center was hit after hit!



Photos courtesy of Lorrie White and Nancy Darnall.

WINTER REGISTRATION CELEBRATION— DECEMBER 15, 2015



Photos courtesy of Linda and Bill McAllister, Sue Chatham, and Nancy Darnall.

BIRDING AT WHEELER WILDLIFE REFUGE—JANUARY 12, 2016



2016 OLLI Photo Contest

OLLI PHOTO CONTEST



THEME: "WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE"

ENTER UP TO THREE PHOTOS

Until April 7, 2016

- Open to all current OLLI members
- Timeframe May, 2015 to April 7, 2016
- Images can be captured with any type of camera, phone or other devices
- Images must be uploaded digitally in a standard .jpg format.
- Color images are desired but not required
- At least 2 megapixels (MP) are recommended
- Photos can be gently edited
- Name your photo

Email images as an attachment to:
olliphotocontest@outlook.com, subject: Photo Contest. Include
your name, phone number, and email address. Give some
information about the photo, where you took it, and the date.

*For questions regarding requirements or uploading or
resizing problems, please call Lorrie White at
256-520-4455 or email to olliphotocontest@outlook.com.*

ODDS AND ENDS

There are a lot of photographs in this issue of your **OLLI Insider**. Most of us like to see pictures of our friends and classmates as well as the places OLLI visits. If you have photos to share, please contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. Just forward the photos to the email with a short description of the location and/or event.

OLLI is always welcoming volunteers. If you have a specific interest, talent, or skill, please contact Bob Darnall at darnall45@aol.com. He will make sure your information goes to the right place. Among the OLLI needs are Board members (three-year terms), committee members, office volunteers, points of contact for OLLI outings, classroom helpers (facilitators and a/v helpers), proof-readers, and tabulators for surveys and evaluation. Not all of these slots are open all the time, but let Bob know what you'd like to do. Don't be shy! It's fun and helpful. Thank you.

The OLLI Insider March issue submission deadline is Tuesday, February 16. (Early is better!) Please submit your articles to Nancy Darnall at nbd51@icloud.com. Any OLLI photos are welcome; just send them to the newsletter. As always, please include the photographer's name, the names of those in the photo, and the event shown. Thank you.



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Division of Professional
and Continuing Studies

ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE



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