

## News For Members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH

April 2016

Wilson Hall Room 113 Huntsville, AL 35899 256-824-6183 [olli@uah.edu](mailto:olli@uah.edu) [Osher.uah.edu](http://Osher.uah.edu)

### President's Message



**Bob Darnall**  
President

OLLI at UAH membership is now over 1200, exceeding our 2015-16 goal of 1000! We have seen this significant growth in membership thanks to PCS and the OLLI members. Our efforts have included additional advertising, innovative membership drives, additional classes, evening classes, and grassroots word-of-mouth, which have all been extremely fruitful. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this possible. Please share with your friends the joy of learning at OLLI. No advertising is more effective than our members sharing their positive experiences.

If you are one of the more than 600 new members, volunteering with OLLI is an excellent way to get better acquainted with the many benefits of OLLI at UAH. Please stop by the OLLI office (room 151) and fill out one of the green volunteer sheets to let us know what your interests are. We will respond as quickly as we can.

Also, if you have an interest in teaching or you have an idea about a class you would like to see presented, please let us know. We are always interested in ideas about potential new classes or activities. You do not have to volunteer to teach the class you recommend, but that is always a possibility if you have the interest.

I want to thank the various committees and individuals for all the many extra things that they have done this year to make OLLI special. There are too many to list, but from the Registration Celebration in August to the delightful Holiday Party in December, to Space Camp in January, to Game Day, to the lunch treats prior to the bonuses since September, and the Film Fest in March, this has been an exceptional year for new and innovative fun things to do. And don't forget your half price tickets and backstage tour at the ballet on April 10, the day before spring classes start. [See Page 3.]

I look forward to seeing many new and returning friends during the spring term. Going to classes on a university campus during spring brings back many fond memories. Spring is such a glorious time; enjoy it. And don't forget to check the Weekly E-news for UAH activities. Whether your interests are sports, music, theater, art, or politics, there are always campus events that we can participate in: just another benefit of OLLI at UAH.



### DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE RECIPE? WANT TO SHARE?

For the spring session, the Member Services Committee is seeking additional volunteers to provide a favorite dish to share on Wednesdays at noon prior to the Weekly Bonus. Use a family recipe or a personal discovery. Reimbursement is available. Contact Sue Chatham at [chatham@knology.net](mailto:chatham@knology.net).

Thanks for taking your time to participate in making OLLI a more welcoming place. Choose a date and let Sue know.

April 13      Birgit Stensby

May 4

April 20

May 11

April 27

May 18

# OLLI CALENDAR

A Calendar of Upcoming Events is published in each edition. Committee chairpersons should contact Nancy Darnall at [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto:nbd51@icloud.com) or Maxine Doherty at [maxine.doherty@uah.edu](mailto:maxine.doherty@uah.edu) to add items. Check your Weekly E-news for updates and details.

| Month          | Time                    | Event  |
|----------------|-------------------------|--|
| April 7        | 10:00 AM<br>Or 11:00 AM | <b>UAH School of Nursing</b> , tour of new facilities. Nursing Building, east of Salmon Library. Space is limited. Contact Bill McAllister, <a href="mailto:billmcallister94@gmail.com">billmcallister94@gmail.com</a> . (SE)            |
| April 10       | 11:45 AM                | <b>HUNTSVILLE BALLET COMPANY, <i>Peter Pan</i></b> , pre-show bonus: Warm-ups, Backstage Tour, and Question and Answer Period. Sit down front in the Mark C. Smith Auditorium at the VBC. Free with ballet ticket.                       |
| April 10       | 2:00 PM                 | <b>HUNTSVILLE BALLET COMPANY, <i>Peter Pan</i></b> , Mark C. Smith Auditorium, Von Braun Center. Tickets: \$15.00 plus \$3. See further details on Page 3. (C)   |
| April 11       |                         | <b>SPRING TERM CLASSES BEGIN! REGISTER NOW!</b>  |
| April 30-May 1 |                         | <b>Monroeville and <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i></b> , overnight trip, waiting list. \$195, double occupancy, \$45 single supplement. Jacque Reeves <a href="mailto:jacquereeves@avalontours.net">jacquereeves@avalontours.net</a> . (C)  |
| May 5          | 2:00 PM                 | <b><i>Celestial Dreams: The Art of Space Jewelry</i></b> , field trip led by Kathy Chan to the US Space and Rocket Center Special Exhibit. Nancy Darnall, <a href="mailto:nbd51@icloud.com">nbd51@icloud.com</a> . \$11.00. (C)          |
| May 16         | 6-10 PM                 | <b>OLLI Annual Meeting and Dinner</b> , Baron Bluff at Burritt on the Mountain, \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Special entertainment. Contact: Leah Black at <a href="mailto:leahblack01@comcast.net">leahblack01@comcast.net</a> . (S) |
| June 16        | Noon                    | <b>Annual OLLI Summer Picnic</b> , Green Mountain Nature Preserve Pavilion. Bring a dish to share. Contact: Leah Black at <a href="mailto:leahblack01@comcast.net">leahblack01@comcast.net</a> . (S)                                     |
| June and July  |                         | <b>OLLI Summer Camp</b> . Watch your Weekly E-news for exciting classes and new opportunities in the OLLI Summer Schedule.   |

Join your OLLI friends at these events scheduled by the Special Events (SE), Curriculum (CR), Cultural (C) and/or Social (S) 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. More details are available in the Committee Sections of this *OLLI Insider*.

**Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength.**

**Betty Friedan**

# *Weekly Bonuses*

The Weekly Bonuses for the Spring 2016 session will be on Wednesdays in Wilson Hall 001 (the Auditorium) from 12:45 to 2:15 pm. These programs are offered as a free OLLI member benefit and are open to members only. Purchase memberships on the day of the bonus in Wilson Hall 103. Bring your lunch to the OLLI Lounge at noon for a surprise dish compliments of the Member Service Committee.

**Apr 13 – *Tallulah, Darling! The Life and Times of Huntsville’s Wicked Star***

Dr. Jennifer Garlen

Learn about the wild and exciting life of Huntsville’s wicked darling! This talk will provide a short biography of Tallulah Bankhead, including her birth in Huntsville, AL, and her career as an actress on Broadway and in Hollywood.

**Apr 20 – *Vietnam via Plane, Bus, Rickshaw, Junk, Train, Canoe, and Dragon Boat***

Susan & Bob Janus

Join Bob and Susan on a multi-media journey through beautiful Vietnam. As one of four couples on a private tour, they were immersed in sights and sounds not typically experienced by the average tourist. From the remote northern mountains to the gorgeous coastal regions, from a primitive rural home to a posh urban estate, you’ll experience a diverse sampling of local cultures. Light on political and historical information—but rich in human interaction, food-related activities, and emotional warmth.

**Apr 27 – *Human Trafficking***

Pat McCay

Is Alabama a high-risk area for Human Trafficking? Pat McCay, Chair, Huntsville-Madison County Human Trafficking Task Force, will share examples of labor, sex, and coercion being used in human-trafficking occurring in Alabama. Pat will discuss the motivations for this growing criminal industry, and expose the tactics used by traffickers to exploit the most vulnerable among us. Learn what we can do as individuals and communities to reduce the spread of this threat to our society.

**May 4 – *Dramatic Changes in the US Economy and the Impact on the Stock Market***

Dirk Drawe

It seems as if recent articles indicating that domestic manufacturing is “losing its spark” abound. If that’s true, why has there been a concomitant increase in the financial sector? Join our own Dirk Drawe as he helps us understand this mystery, and explains that the increase is due in part to the easy credit policy of the Federal Reserve and has contributed to a rapid growth of the stock market. This growth is not due to fundamentals and is unsustainable. The key is to recognize how this took place and make wiser investments.

**May 11 – *Frank Lloyd Wright’s Rosenbaum House***

Libby Jordan

If you love architecture, don’t miss this chance to hear “first hand” about the only structure designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in the state of Alabama, and the only such house in the southeast that is open to the public. Wright designed the Usonian beginning in 1936 as the answer to affordable housing in the United States. The Rosenbaum House, located in Florence, AL, is considered to be the purest example of this unique architecture. Enjoy learning how Wright’s organic concepts flow through the house from the exterior design to the interior furnishings.

**May 18 – *Images of Peru***

Rick & Pam Van Nostrand

Various exciting images of Peruvian cities and towns, Incan and pre-Incan ruins, ancient artifacts, landscapes, flora and fauna will be shown. In addition, Rick and Pam Van Nostrand will complement the pictures with a lively discussion of traveling around Peru and the various challenges and rewards.



Nancy Darnall  
Chair

OLLI members attended the March 5 simulcast of the New York Metropolitan Opera's production of Puccini's *Manon Lescaut*. This was a stunning performance with awe-inspiring sets. The backstage interviews, previews of coming events, and breathtaking seating make this a wonderful experience. The stage-view afforded by the simulcast is priceless.

About 20 OLLI members attended the March 12 Sneak Preview of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra with the Canadian Brass. Fab-u-lous! Afterwards, several members met for lunch at the Chocolate Bar. This is an inexpensive way to enjoy the talented musicians performing in Huntsville.

**Huntsville Ballet Company's (HBC) *Peter Pan*** on Sunday, April 10, at 11:45 am. Reserve your seat(s) by March 18. Thanks to Dannye Drake of OLLI and Cathy Curry at HBC for coordinating this event. Contact Huntsville Ballet Company at 256 539-0961 to purchase up to 6 tickets at half price (\$12). Bring your friends and your grandchildren. For a more informed view, see box below.

**Monroeville: *To Kill a Mockingbird***. April 30-May 1, 2016. This trip is full with a waiting list (OLLI Volunteer Office). \$195 double occupancy, \$45 single supplement. Trip includes motorcoach, tickets to the play, and dinner on Saturday evening. Lunches are not included. Contact Jacque Reeves at [jacquereeves@avalontours.com](mailto:jacquereeves@avalontours.com) for reservations and payment information.

***Celestial Dreams: The Art of Space Jewelry***. Thursday, May 5, 2:00 pm. Join OLLI member and renowned artist Kathy Chan as she shares her current exhibit at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Kathy was born in China, grew up in Brazil, and studied in England before moving to the United States. She is well-known for both her artistic works and her humanitarian efforts. She will give a presentation after she takes us through the special exhibit. According to the USSRC website, "using precious gems, minerals and metals, artist Kathy Chan interprets the genuine awe of the cosmos and its vibrant oasis, Earth." Contact Nancy Darnall at [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto:nbd51@icloud.com). The group rate for this event is \$11.00. Meet in the lobby/gift shop area of the main building.

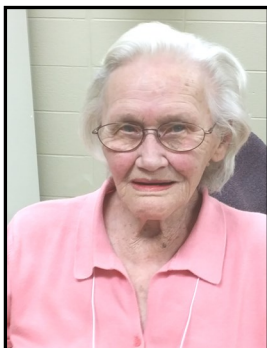


## CAPITALS OF SPAIN—MARCH 2017

OLLI at UAH is going to Spain next year for spring break. The departure date is still a little loose, but between March 10 and 17 for a 14-day trip. We will visit Madrid, Valencia, and Barcelona with three optional excursions.

You may pre-register for this trip immediately by calling Grand Circle Travel at 1-877-220-2540. Mention Group Code G7-26157 to book the OLLI trip. There is a \$350 deposit which is fully refundable until the dates and prices are finalized. While we can expect the 2017 prices to increase, the 2016 price including international airfare from a gateway city (not Huntsville) was about \$3600. Pre-booking Good Buy Discounts ([www.gct.com/gbd](http://www.gct.com/gbd)) are based on the date of your deposit.

For a description of the 2016 trip, go to [www.get.com/csp16](http://www.get.com/csp16).



Margrit Earles

1933-2016

Margrit was an OLLI member for many years and was responsible for the grand scrapbooks in the OLLI Lounge. She was a permanent volunteer on the Member Services Committee and worked the membership desk at most OLLI functions. Margrit Earles symbolized and lived the volunteer spirit so necessary to the success of our organization. Margrit chose two jobs, membership and scrapbooks, and performed them with enthusiasm and dedication. She was a kind woman and a dear friend. Rest in peace, Margrit. We shall miss you.

## OLLI PHOTO CONTEST



THEME: "WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE"

ENTER UP TO THREE PHOTOS

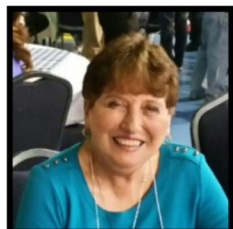
Until April 7, 2016

- 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.*





Leah Black  
Chair

**OLLI Annual Meeting and Dinner on Monday, May 16, at Baron Bluff from 6:00 to 10:00 PM.** Your Social Committee has worked hard to plan a very special event. Tickets are only \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Baron Bluff was the site of last year's event. It is located at Burritt on the Mountain atop Monte Sano and offers gorgeous afternoon and night views of the valley. This gala event will feature a delicious dinner catered by Bubba's Silver Spoon, a cash bar, and opportunities to socialize with and meet OLLI members. Dr. Robert Altenkirch and Dr. Christine Curtis and their spouses are invited to join us. We have a *special surprise entertainment* planned for your enjoyment. Don't miss this once-a-year treat! Tickets will be available from committee members or online. More details will be available in the Weekly E-news, from your classroom facilitators, and in the May issue of the *OLLI Insider*.

**The Annual OLLI Summer Picnic at Green Mountain Nature Preserve, Thursday, June 16, at noon.** Join your OLLI friends and meet some new ones at the annual picnic. Bring a dish to share. OLLI provides beverages and paper/plastic goods. There is an opportunity to hike around the preserve, play a game or two, and visit. There are some comfortable chairs and benches, a nice breeze, and a covered pavilion for our enjoyment.

Thank you to the 2016 Social Committee for your dedication and hard work in making the many events of this past year so enjoyable. Most recently, we offered barbecue and entertainment in appreciation of our OLLI volunteer instructors, facilitators, and A/V assistants.

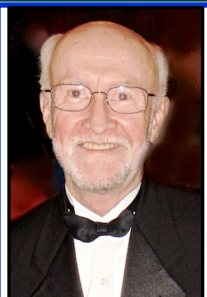
*This bicycle has been chained to the lamp post in front of Wilson Hall for months. Beth Altenkirch recently added flowers to the basket to enhance its beauty as a UAH fixture. Thank you, Beth, for brightening our days and the smile we get when we pass the bike.*

Photo courtesy of Sam Tumminello.



**The OLLI Insider** May issue submission deadline is Sunday, April 17. (Early is better!) Please submit your articles to Nancy Darnall, editor, at [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto:nbd51@icloud.com). Any OLLI photos are welcome; just send them to the editor. As always, please include the photographer's name, the names of those in the photo, and the event shown. Thank you.

## ***SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE***



Bill McAllister  
Chair

During the month of March, OLLI members participated in a Game Day featuring a number of new and familiar games. If you are interested in doing this again, let me know in the coming weeks.

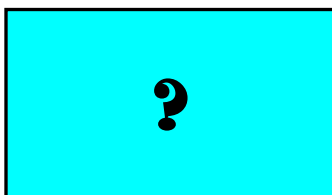
We also experimented with the idea of a Film Fest, offering two double features on a single afternoon. This is a test project; if the members would like to do it again, let me know. A Film Fest is a fairly easy event: OLLI purchases popcorn and beverages, a team selects four movies, PCS helps us with scheduling and room assignments, and we secure the movies. OLLI members show up and enjoy. If you have an interest in working with a future event, please contact Bill McAllister at [billmcallister94@gmail.com](mailto:billmcallister94@gmail.com). We have a list of possible movies and themes to start you off.

***UAH School of Nursing tour, Thursday, April 7, at 10:00 AM or 11:00 AM, at the new Nursing Building.***  
Contact Bill McAllister, [billmcallister94@gmail.com](mailto:billmcallister94@gmail.com) for reservations. Space is limited.



### ***International Dining MIG: What Will Be Next?***

Coming soon: International cuisine, good conversation, and an evening out: what could be better? You will simply make a reservation with Nancy Darnall and pay via PayPal or personal check. Watch your Weekly E-news and the May ***OLLI Insider*** for details.



### **OLLI Member Interest Groups**

OLLI currently has five MIGs, check them out:

**Hiking:** Hikes on Thursday and Friday mornings. Bob Goodwin, [OLLIHiking26@yahoo.com](mailto:OLLIHiking26@yahoo.com).

**International Dining:** Try new foods and revisit favorites. Nancy Darnall, [nbd51@icloud.com](mailto:nbd51@icloud.com).

**Knitting.** Share your enjoyment and increase your skills. All levels welcome. Barbara Ward, [bward@hiwaay.net](mailto:bward@hiwaay.net).

**Stock Study Club.** Study and report on stocks to explore the world of investing. J. Phillip, [the\\_p\\_patch@knology.net](mailto:the_p_patch@knology.net)

**Tennis:** Court time and pro tournament gatherings. Sue Chatham, [chatham@knology.net](mailto:chatham@knology.net).



Bob Goodwin

Comments from members of the OLLI Hiking MIG:

- ◇ "It was a great hike today!"
- ◇ "You all do such a nice job making newbies welcome!"
- ◇ "I feel five years younger after the hikes."
- ◇ "I enjoy the pictures; they are a nice treat to see afterwards."



The OLLI Hiking MIG is a fitness, fun, and social activity that will be 3 years old in the fall of 2016. At one time OLLI Hiking was one of the regular courses and was limited to 20 per course. Later we expanded the minimum number, then we finally made it a MIG with no minimum numbers in 2013. Today we have a list of over 180 members! Not everyone shows up at once and we never end up with over 28 or so for any one hike. We have multiple hikes leaders-five on Thursday and six on Fridays for maximum flexibility. Some have areas of expertise that add to the hiking experience, such as a botanist, a historian, and an ecologist.

During 2015, we conducted 54 hikes with 1,100 hikers! About half of the hikes were on Land Trust property and the rest were in Monte Sano State Park, and other hiking areas. We have a very good relationship with the Land Trust, the State Park, and other entities. In fact, the Land Trust invited OLLI Hikers on a special hike, led by their Chairman, to a new property, not yet open to the public—Bethel Springs--a beautiful waterfall area.

We have hikes on Thursdays (easier ones) and Fridays (more difficult). Generally, we follow the OLLI calendar of classes; however, we usually start one week earlier and finish one week later. Also, there are *ad hoc* hikes offered from time to time which do not follow the Thursday/Friday schedule.

The spring schedule will be from April 7 to May 27. Thursday hikes are the easier ones and Friday hikes the more difficult ones. Most start at 9:00 AM and end by noon so you can attend other OLLI events.

Once you become a member, you will not only have the detailed hiking schedules, but receive information about other hiking opportunities in the region—other organizations and clubs which are available.

You are welcome to become a member! If you would like to join the OLLI Hiking MIG, simply send an E-mail to [OLLIHiking26@Yahoo.com](mailto:OLLIHiking26@Yahoo.com) with your name and E-mail address. Membership is free to OLLI members. If you have any questions about the program, please send them to the same address.



From the 2015 *Land Trust Annual Report*: "Land Trust trails are close to the city, but give you the feeling of being in the wilderness. The scenic beauty on some of the trails is breathtaking and are a true asset to the community. They provide a multitude of people with an outdoors experience, exercise and camaraderie," affirms Osher Lifetime Learning Institute (OLLI) hiking coordinator Bob Goodwin.

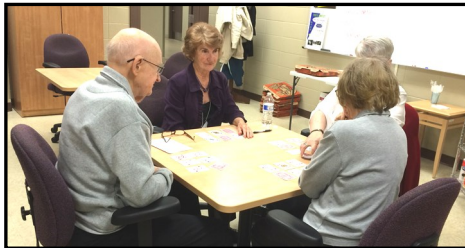
"OLLI hikers enjoy these trails because they are varied in length, difficulty, and scenery. They also have the best wildflowers in the area, as well as some interesting historical value, such as Trough Springs, Old Railroad Bed Trail, and Three Caves."



**Canadian Brass rehearses with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, March 12.**



**Game Day with Pizza, March 4.**



The photos on these three pages are courtesy of Sue Chatham, Bob Darnall, Nancy Darnall, Bill McAllister, Linda McAllister, and Gene Zajicek.





SPRING SPLASH!



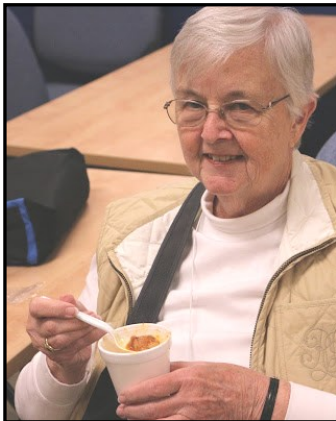
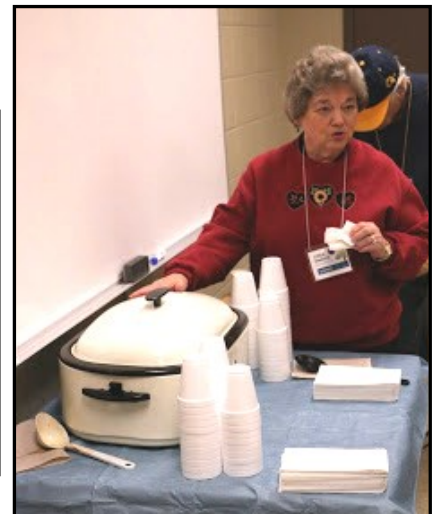
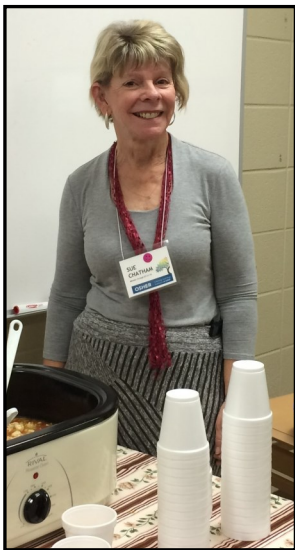
SEEN AROUND OLLI:





## *Hot Soup, Chili, and Stew*

The Member Services Committee would like to thank Sue Chatham, Nancy Darnall, Linda Dimmock, Gratia Mahony, Linda McAllister, Jane McBride and Val Seaquist for bringing soup or chili to the OLLI Lounge prior to our Winter Weekly Bonuses. Many members shared in their bounty. We appreciate their making the Lounge a more welcoming place. Of course, most days we extended our presence into the classrooms! To participate in the Spring Lunchtime Bonus, contact Sue Chatham at [chatham@knology.net](mailto:chatham@knology.net). Dates are available and this term is cook's choice. Reimbursement is available.



Thanks also to our reliable tasters: Ron Brock, Ken Rex, and Ed Bernstein! Somehow, they were always available when the soup was ready.



## Sharing OLLI Experiences!



OLLI members Sue Cummings and Rick Sisko are featured in the Osher Network March Newsletter article, *OLLI at UAH Goes to Space Camp*. This past January thirty-two members of our OLLI attended a one-day Space Camp Program that is a proto-type for an upcoming



program OLLI at UAH will offer as a group travel experience for other Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes. Thank you Dean Karen Clanton and Maxine Doherty for organizing this opportunity and for your efforts in developing this program. We also appreciate the submission of the article to the National Newsletter and sharing with other OLLIs. If you would like to read the entire article, go to <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs112/1102509927733/archive/1123971177592.html#LETTER.BLOCK37> or simply search **Osher National Resource Center**, click on **National Newsletter** and then click **March Issue**. Depending on how quickly you search for the article, you may have to click on the **OLLI Network Newsletter Archive**, then click **March, 2016**. You may want to explore other issues. The National Resource Center is just that, with interesting and informative articles about other OLLIs and many items of import for lifelong learners.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH  
Wilson Hall, Room 113  
Huntsville, AL 35899

Division of Professional  
and Continuing Studies

