The Cultural Committee is pleased to announce a delightful tour to the Westervelt Warner Museum of American Art, located in Tuscaloosa, AL, and a tour of the garden. OLLI members will travel by bus on Friday, April 16, 2010, arriving just in time for lunch at the Northriver restaurant, located on the site. Then, we will be treated to a guided tour of the Westervelt Warner Museum. The collection houses over 400 masterpieces in paintings, furniture, sculpture, and decorative arts from the late 1700s to the early 1900s and includes prominent American artists such as Thomas Cole, Duncan Phyfe, Paul Revere, Andrew Wyeth, John Singer Sargent, and Winslow Homer.

The price of $63.00 per person includes transportation, lunch, guided museum tour, and garden tour. We will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the UAH campus and return by 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 16, 2010. Once you have secured your seat, a lunch menu will be sent to you for your lunch pre-selection. The deadline for inclusion on this marvelous excursion is March 31.

Payment by check should be made payable to OLLI with Westervelt Warner Museum tour in the subject line.

Please contact Joyce Pettis at JoPettis@aol.com, phone 830-9447, or Pat Lindberg at Patlindberg@Comcast.net, phone 534-7148.
From The President

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families, faculty, and students affected by the recent tragedy on the UAH campus. The end of the winter term has been postponed by a week, and classes are scheduled to meet in our Wilson Hall classrooms through March 18.

Cindy Spratley, President

The Open House for our designated space in Wilson Hall has been postponed until March 24. Bring a friend and come join us for coffee, cookies, and door prizes.

For those OLLI non-curriculum groups who are meeting on campus, a new process has been developed for requesting the use of space on campus. There is now a form for these requests that can be completed on paper or electronically. Blank forms and instructions for how to complete the form can be obtained from a board member or from the office volunteers. Completed forms will be emailed or delivered to Maxine Doherty as before. Each request will require a sponsoring board member. The biggest change is that some of the groups scheduling will only be allowed to schedule for three months at a time.

This is to avoid conflict with courses that may be scheduled in our classrooms in Wilson Hall.

As we settle into our new space, a number of you have expressed concern over the level of noise in our smaller classroom (152c). We want to leave the lounge available to our members to socialize and relax between classes, but this also necessitates noise abatement behaviors during class sessions: 1) open and close doors into this area as quietly and carefully as possible, 2) close the door to the lounge/kitchen area while classes are in session, and 3) use your inside voices at all times. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Cultural Events

The tour of Westervelt Warner Museum of American Art in Tuscaloosa, AL, announced by email is filling fast. If you did not receive the information, please contact Joyce at 830-9447 or Pat at 534-7148. This is a bus trip scheduled for Friday, April 16. Deadline for responding is March 31.

The next opera Live from the MET will be “Hamlet” on Saturday, March 27, at 12:00 p.m., senior admission $20. The encore will be Wednesday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m., admission $18.00. The last opera scheduled for the season will be “Armida” on May 1, with an encore on Wednesday, May 19.

The Huntsville Symphony Orchestra will present “Bolero” on Saturday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the VBC Concert Hall with Carlos Prieto conducting. Jorge Federico Osorio will be guest pianist. Music of composers Debussy, Ravel and Mussorgsky will be featured. At this time, the Sneak Preview is scheduled as usual at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday.

If you enjoy organ music, the Huntsville Chamber Music Guild is presenting Paul Jacobs, who was named by New York Magazine “Best Organist” and “brilliant young organist and evangelist for the instrument.” You may call 824-6540 for tickets to be wowed by his excellent performance.

Stay happy; keep smiling until next time,
Pat Lindberg.
While we expected the winter term to be an adjustment period due to a late start and a whole new environment for OLLI and Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS), we could not anticipate the impact of real difficulties in parking at Wilson Hall and the Business Administration Building, the extremely low winter temperatures and over-abundant precipitation, and the tragic shooting on campus.

Since the start of the term, the Curriculum Committee, the OLLI Office Staff, and PCS, have been working diligently to try to resolve or mitigate those problems that are workable. (As we all know, there are always things we cannot change!)

We feel the parking situation will ease up, particularly when construction and landscaping are complete. Some of our members have devised ingenious solutions such as figuring out when UAHuntsville classes dismiss and arriving early to take advantage or piggy-backing, where a member in class period one will hold his or her parking space for a friend in class period two who then holds the space for a friend in class period three.

We have received several complaints about A/V equipment and layouts of classrooms, as we do every academic term. OLLI and PCS are working on the equipment problems. For those instructors who had difficulty with classroom layouts, we will try to find rooms more suitable to them for the spring term. Please note, though, that when we schedule a classroom in other buildings, aside from our space in Wilson Hall, we only receive the room and not the services of personnel in those buildings. Any difficulties you experience with these rooms should only be addressed to your Curriculum Chair or Task Force I Chair.

PCS is in the process of scheduling classrooms so that we can extend the winter term one additional week. Instructors will then decide if they want to give a makeup class, and we will notify all students accordingly.

On a more positive note, your Curriculum Committee is particularly proud of the look of the winter term catalog and the variety of course offerings and thinks you’ll be just as delighted with what comes out in the spring. In the meantime, relax in our large OLLI lounge, and try to imagine how nice it will look when the new furniture arrives and the walls are adorned.

Barbara Ward, bward@hiwaay.net; 883-6403

On February 11, 2010, beloved OLLI member Anne Evans died peacefully at home. Anne was an author, lecturer, and recognized authority on metaphysics. She held a Doctor of Divinity degree and was ordained over 32 years ago. After moving to Huntsville from Arizona, Anne discovered the OLLI classes and before long became an instructor herself. All of her classes had a basic theme of the oneness of all things and were given with the trust that they would inspire others to thoughts of their own. And to all she sent her love, light and joy. One of Anne's favorite quotes seems appropriate to her beliefs: "What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the Master calls the butterfly." (Richard Bach, Illusions)
SUCCESSFUL MARDI GRAS CELL E BRAY SHUN

Well, the Mardi Gras Cell e bray shun has been brought to a very successful conclusion, and we are now deep in Lent. The food, music, Zydeco instruction, and the margaritas were as advertised and were thoroughly enjoyed. After the margarita creation initial log jam, things moved smoothly. About 60 celebrants attended and enjoyed the evening. A huge thanks to Shirley Mohler and her helpers.

OLLI INVITED TO UAH HOCKEY GAME

The OLLI UAH Hockey game will be held on March 5, when the UAH Chargers confront the Bemidji State “Beavers” at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the OLLI office, room 151 in Wilson Hall. Tickets are free but limited to two (2) per person. Please signup, and pickup your tickets. We are being allocated 50 tickets initially, and more are promised, if needed. Last year our attendance exceeded 100 OLLI members.

MARCH GAME DAY

March Game Day will be held on March 9, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Compass Bank on Governors Drive east. Come and play, and bring games, if you care to do so. The coordinator is Jeri McLain. We are still searching for a coordinator for the May Day Games. Volunteers?

“OLLI HAS TALENT” SEARCH

Planning for the “OLLI has Talent” program continues: We are searching for the exhibited and hidden talents of OLLI members. Join up, sign up (by March 31) and display your talents! Who knows? This could be your entrée to American Idol. May 4 is showtime. (See flyer on p. 7; application form on p. 8)
Teacher Appreciation BBQ, Friday March 12, 12:00-2:00 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church (TUMC)
OLLi Annual Meeting and Dinner, Wednesday, May 12, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at TUMC Wesley Hall
Summer Potluck Picnic, Wednesday, June 9, 11:00-3:00 p.m. at Green Mountain Nature Trail Pavilion

The Teacher Appreciation BBQ for the winter term will be held on Friday, March 12, from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. The teachers for the winter term will be recognized. This will be your opportunity to thank them personally for the hard work and time they spend teaching classes for OLLI. Be sure to join us for the appreciation luncheon.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting and Dinner to be held on May 12. Watch for more details on this end-of-year social event in the next newsletter.

Industrial Tours

Twenty OLLI members enjoyed an interesting and educational tour of the Liberty Legacy Company on Friday, February 19, 2010. We observed how the company makes small 8 inch high replicas of the Statue of Liberty with a small piece of the original statue inside. They sell them through schools and for each one sold, twelve dollars goes to the school sponsoring the sale.

Tour Back by Popular Demand!

Since we have had several requests to visit the Huntsville Recycling Center again, we have scheduled another visit. We plan to tour the Center on Friday, March 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. Here are directions: Travel south on Triana Blvd., turn East (or left) onto A Cleaner Way street at the Huntsville Animal Control Center, and follow the street around to the Recycle Center on the right.

We will meet at the Center for the tour. Fifty OLLI members can be accommodated. If you would like to go, please call the Murphys at 837-1427 or e mail rwmfhm@aol.com by March 17.
An organization as large as OLLI has members with various interests. The Cultural Committee enjoys identifying cultural events both locally and within short driving distances that our members will enjoy.

At Cultural Committee meetings, members (a) offer upcoming events that may appeal to OLLI members (b) designate the committee chair to announce events to the membership via the OLLI Newsletter or through email (c) decide if the committee will facilitate group attendance.

The Cultural Committee goals are to seek out various happenings in the areas of art, music, opera, theatre, historical architecture, etc., and choose events thought to be of interest to OLLI members. Some events offered have been the annual Sewanee Summer Music Festival at The University of the South, docent-led tours at local and out-of-town museums, and other stimulating programs. A major foray for the Cultural Committee in 2009 was its partnership with the Huntsville Madison County Library to involve OLLI members in The Big Read program, a national reading and community initiative. Committee members coordinate events that require it. Efforts are made to inform OLLI members by announcing events such as the following: music performances in the UAH Department of Music, live operas or operas screened at local theaters, symphony performances and rehearsals, and programs of the Huntsville Chamber Music Guild.

The Cultural Committee relishes its goal of bringing to OLLI members’ attention the array of cultural activities in Huntsville and its surrounding areas and in many cases facilitating a group’s attendance. The committee is receptive to OLLI members who wish to join it in working to keep our membership informed and intellectually active.

Below are the newest additions to the OLLI Lending Library where CDs, power point presentations, and DVDs are also available. Find the Lending Library in the Olli Volunteer office in Wilson Hall.

Alexander Hamilton--Audio CDs of Joe Berry's class
Europe and Western Civilization in the Modern Age--DVDs
Great Authors of the Western Literary Tradition, 2nd Edition--DVDs
Great Ideas of Psychology--DVDs
Interpreting the 20th Century: The Struggle over Democracy--DVDs
Summer Enrichment Series-Power Point Presentation by Dr. Cook
OLLi HAS TALENT

May 4, 2010

American Legion
3208 Long Avenue SW
Huntsville, AL
From 565 to Bob Wallace Left on Triana Blvd, 1 block to Long Avenue on left

Cost $15.00 per person
Family and Friends are invited.

Doors open 5:30 p.m.: Dinner with wine served 6:00 p.m.
Talent Show immediately following dinner

Deadline to purchase tickets: April 27, 2010
Deadline for applying to perform: March 31, 2010

Checks made out to Barbara Ward and mailed to 10029 Willow Cove Road, Huntsville, AL 35803

Contacts: Bob Ward or Elaine Leach @ Ollihastalent@gmail.com

Seeking More Talent – contact Ollihastalent@gmail.com by March 31
Please complete the following information and send in the form below to participate in the
“OLLI Has Talent” extravaganza.

Name _____________________________________________________________
Home number_________  Cell ___________________  Email __________________________
Performance description________________________________________________________________________________________
                                                                                           ________________________________________________
Approximate length in minutes______________________________________________________________

Email to: ollihastalent@gmail.com or mail to OLLI Has Talent, c/o Barbara Ward, 10029 Willow Cove Road,
Huntsville, AL 35803

Important Notice: Newsletter inputs for the April Newsletter are due by March 23, 2010.
Please send articles and ideas to: Lorrie White, Editor, Joyce Pettis, Co-editor, at ollinewsletter@msn.com
Please understand that due to cost and space constraints, articles may be edited for length.