Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Est. in 1993 as the Academy for Lifetime Learning, Inc. at UAH

P.O. Box 1581, Huntsville, AL 35807  256-824-6959  www.osopher.uah.edu  Email: OLLI@uah.edu  March, 2011

OLLI PHOTO CONTEST

March 1 — June 30, 2011

It’s that time again. The 2011 photo contest begins this month, and the theme is called Seasons of the Tennessee Valley. These could include any photos representing summer, fall, winter, or spring seasons taken between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011. Only current OLLI members are eligible to participate, so please make sure your membership is up-to-date prior to entry. Photos can be submitted at any-time up to June 30. There will be first, second, and third place prizes.

Our panel of expert judges will evaluate creativity, composition, craftsmanship, and adherence to the theme. The names of the photographers will not be revealed to the judges until the judging is completed.

Guidelines:

♦ Theme: Tennessee Valley Seasons
♦ Specs: * Photographs must be converted to a digital jpg format
           * Photo editing is permitted but keep the original photo
           * Photo must not have identifying/copyright marks
           * Preferred size is 1024 pixels
           * Resolution at 72
           * Color photos are preferred
           * Email as an attachment
♦ Submit to: ollinewsletter@msn.com. You can submit up to three entries; include your name, phone number, and email address. Give some information about the photo, where you took it and the date
♦ Submission deadline: June 30, 2011

Please note that entering your photo gives Osher Lifelong Learning at UAH and UAHuntsville permission to use your name and photo for the OLLI web site, catalog, newsletter, or any publications pertaining to the photo contest. You will be emailed a release form after your photograph is submitted, and it will not be eligible for judging until the signed release form is received.

For questions, please email to ollinewsletter@msn.com, subject: photo contest.

Winter End-of-Term Teacher Appreciation BBQ Luncheon

Come join us while we delight in some tasty barbeque and trimmings! Let us show our instructors and facilitators the support and appreciation they deserve for all they contribute throughout the term. Tuesday, March 15, Noon till 2:00 p.m.
Trinity United Methodist Church, Wesley Hall Airport Road, west of Whitesburg

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Our winter term ends March 14, and preparations for the spring term, beginning April 4, are in full swing. Spring, when warmer weather causes sap to rise and things to bloom, offers opportunities for us OLLIs to rise and bloom, too. I hope you are looking forward to course offerings, social events, and Wednesday bonuses. We are always looking for members who also volunteer as instructors, facilitators, committee members, and board members. Please let the OLLI office know of your interests so that we may help you meet your expectations.

Chuck Duffy, President

Chuck Duffy

Curriculum Corner

You will be delighted with the spring courses and Wednesday Bonuses. It is hard to believe the great number and the variety of topics. Even though the spring term has traditionally been less popular than fall and winter, this year looks like an exception. Another trend change is more Friday classes. We have generally thought of Friday as the day for meetings, but not anymore. Because of the greater number of courses offered, Fridays are becoming regular class days.

It’s great that we have so many classes that involve physical exercise. There is Diana Chewning’s Yoga; Millicent Simmons’ Music and Movement; Becky Dollman’s Dancing; Barbara Roberts’ Wildflowers; Bob, Dick, and Ken’s Hiking; and Bob and Joan Smith’s Tai Chi. We need to keep our bodies active as well as our minds.

The social aspect of our classes is a benefit that we may not fully appreciate. Seeing our old friends and making new ones is important. People need people, and there is no better place than OLLI for meeting this need. I encourage instructors to have breaks in the middle of classes in order for students to chat among themselves. I close by thanking the many Instructors for stepping forward and teaching the classes. Without you there would be no OLLI. But OLLI is obviously alive and well.

Hugh Nicholson, Chair, Curriculum Committee

What a Game!! UAHuntsville Hockey

On February 25, thanks to the UAHuntsville Athletic Department, and to Jan Atnip for coordinating, OLLI members had a special opportunity to watch the UAHuntsville hockey team versus the USA Under-18 National Development Team.

Although OLLI cheered for our home team, it was intriguing to watch the USA team in action. They had previously brought in wins from countries like Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, Russia, the Czech Republic; additionally, they have a grueling schedule playing an assortment of teams in the United States. Popcorn and drinks abounded, making up for our $0.00 admission fee. A good time was had by all!
Cultural Events

A group of over thirty OLLI members enjoyed “Helen Turner: The Woman’s Point of View” at the Huntsville Museum of Art on February 18. This exhibit brings together over 40 paintings and works on paper by one of America’s premier Impressionist painters. Helen Turner enjoyed great success around the turn-of-the-century, gaining particular fame as a painter of women in beautiful interiors and garden settings. These beautiful and interesting paintings will be at HMA through May 8. Our thanks go to Nell Roberts for coordinating the docent-led tour.

Our next session with Taavo Virkhaus, Conductor Emeritus of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, will prepare us for the Saturday, March 19, HSO performance of “Providence and Percussion.” The conductor will be Maxim Eshkenazy. The program will begin with “The Enchanted Lake, op. 62” and “Baba-Yaga, op. 56” by Anatol Liadov. Guest artist Sean Ritenauer will play percussion for Jennifer Higdon’s “Percussion Concerto.” The HSO will also perform the Symphony No. 5 in E minor, op. 64 by Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.

Join us for the preview lecture on Thursday, March 17, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Room 152. Coffee and refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there.

We will attend a presentation of Georges Bizet’s CARMEN on Thursday, March 24, 1:00 p.m., the Hollywood 18 Theatre. CARMEN in 3D is a dazzling film, filled with some of the best-loved music ever written and performed by a world-class cast. A co-production of RealD and London’s Royal Opera House, it gives viewers the best seat in the house, taking them on a magic carpet ride into the heart of the production. With English subtitles throughout, it is the perfect event for life-long opera fans and first-timers alike! Tickets are $10 and you may purchase in advance at Hollywood 18. Prior to the film, if you would like to join us for lunch at Gibson’s on South Memorial Parkway at 11:00 a.m., please contact Eleanor Schweinsberg at eschweinsberg@bellsouth.net or 256-883-0602. We can make a reservation for up to 12 people.

Live MET Opera at the Movies (Hollywood 18) schedule:
March 2: Adam’s, Nixon in China (Encore)
March 16: Gluck’s Iphigenie en Tauride (Encore)
March 19: Donizetti’s Lucia di Lammermoor (Live)
April 6: Donizetti’s Lucia di Lammermoor (Encore)
April 9: Rossini’s Le Comte Ory (Live)
April 27: Rossini’s Le Comte Ory (Encore)

Senior tickets for live performances are $22; all encore tickets are $18. Live performance times are Saturday, 12:00 p.m.; encore performances are Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Now, Where Did I Leave That Umbrella?

If you are missing an umbrella or other articles, check the lost & found basket in the OLLI lounge in Wilson Hall or ask the office volunteer for assistance.

Please don’t delay as these items will be donated to charity if not picked up.

Submitted by Pat Lindberg, Cultural Committee Chair
Winter End-of-Term Teacher Appreciation BBQ Luncheon

Come one, come all to our Southern BBQ luncheon to say THANK YOU to all our teachers for making OLLI such a wonderful experience for all of us! The date is set for Tuesday, March 15, noon till 2:00 p.m., at the Trinity United Methodist Church, Wesley Hall. TUMC is located on Airport Road. Hope to see all of our teachers and many appreciative students there!

Annual Meeting and Spring Term Teacher Appreciation

Mark your calendars now for our Annual Meeting on Friday, May 13, 2011, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., at TUMC. This fun dinner event will honor our spring teachers and other volunteers. We will vote on new board of directors’ members for next year. A $2.00 ticket will reserve your spot. They will go on sale in April at the OLLI office in Wilson Hall.

OLLI Summer Potluck Picnic

The picnic will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2011, 11:00-2:00 p.m. at Green Mountain Nature Center. Come see your OLLI friends in the cooler air on the mountain top. There are trails for hiking, a historic covered bridge, and a covered pavilion for the picnic. Lunch will be at noon. Bring a covered dish to share; OLLI will provide the drinks, ice, and paper products. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Back by Popular Demand

By Beverly Marchelos

Current members have requested that the course Antique Sampler be offered again. This class offered different experts on unique collectibles each week and ran for 3 years with great success. Past collectibles are listed below.

We can offer this course again only if we have enough students who are committed to attend the classes throughout the term. The experts who bring their treasures leave their shops for half a day, and put in the time to prepare a lecture—which is an enormous amount of work! Although they enjoy planning the lectures, on several occasions our members did not show up. Imagine the embarrassment I felt when a man from Florence arrived here with 1,000 pounds of wool oriental rugs and a 10 x 10 foot weaving frame and only eight members showed up. Students’ excuses were that “they weren’t interested in rugs.” Another time an expert brought hundreds of perfume bottles, and I was forced to run up and down the halls grabbing people to sit in.

If 20 members will telephone me, Bev, at 256-354-3639, and discuss the kinds of antiques and collectibles you would be committed to attend class to see, we can offer this course again. If you are interested and committed, please call.

Previous classes featured antique guns; dolls; icons; perfume bottles; oriental rugs; trains; advertising posters; historical documents; Indian relics; books; sterling; costume Jewelry; estate jewelry; cameos; farm implements; iron implements; antique medical instruments and lots more.
It is important for any organization to develop a long range plan in order to effectively anticipate and meet the needs of its members. This plan must incorporate the trends of the organization in the past, understand the external and internal environments in which the organization must operate, and extend that knowledge into strategic goals and objectives for the future. That is the charter of the OLLI Long Range Planning Committee.

OLLI currently has a Long Range Plan (LRP), developed in 2009, which focused on the period from 2009 thru 2014. The current Long Range Planning Committee is reviewing that plan, and will be developing updates in order to provide a LRP for the period from 2011 thru 2016. The goals and objectives in the 2009 LRP will be reviewed to incorporate organizational changes since that time. For instance, the 2009 LRP looked towards the day when the Wilson Hall remodeling was completed and OLLI moved into that space from Madison Hall. Now that OLLI has been successfully moved into Wilson Hall, the goals and objectives for the period of 2011-2016 should focus on growth and needs of OLLI in the Wilson Hall facilities.

If you interested in joining this committee and helping OLLI plan for the future, please contact Al Spratley at his email address: Spratleya@gmail.com.

Contributed by Al Spratley
New OLLI Donations Policy

The OLLI Board of Directors has approved a new policy that details how we will handle donations including OLLI UAH Scholarship contributions, large donations or bequests, and donations where the donor requests that the funds be targeted for a specific project or general purpose. A copy of the OLLI Donations Policy is available for view in the OLLI office.

Donations to OLLI in honor or in memory for general purposes are very welcome, and OLLI will always attempt to honor targeted or specific-purpose requests where feasible. Donors need to be aware, however, that targeted donations will be accepted only with the understanding that their donation may have to be consolidated with other donations and used for a similar purpose to be defined by OLLI. Consider, for example, a donation with a request that it be used for a portable computer. If the donation is less than the actual cost of that computer and there is no foreseeable need for that computer, the funds may need to be combined with other donations and used for a similar curriculum-related item of current need, such as a Teaching Company set of DVDs or a microphone upgrade. In this way, we can utilize the donations and keep OLLI moving forward.

The Administration & Finance Committee has responsibility for the Donations Policy. If you have any questions regarding it or other OLLI gift/donation opportunities, please contact the A&F Chair at carterer@aol.com.

Submitted by Eleanor Carter,
VP for Administration & Finance

The Truly Educated Never Graduate

Important Notice: Inputs for the April Newsletter are due by March 24.
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.