President’s Message

The start of a new year is a good time to count one’s blessings.

Near the top of my list is OLLI. OLLI means so much to me. It’s where I’ve met many wonderful people, people who have been my support, my joy, my inspiration and my role models. I marvel at the talent and abilities of OLLI people. I marvel at finding fascinating new friends, who share their thoughts, their lives, their hopes, their disappointments, their successes and recount what is important and what is meaningful.

OLLI has delivered to me far more than I could have expected. It allows me to stretch my imagination, to gain new perspectives and to develop new appreciations.

I wish for all of you good things in the year ahead. I hope that you set challenging goals for yourself and that you are rewarded many times over for reaching to make more of yourself.

OLLI offers opportunities. By making the most of these opportunities, we help to provide growing experiences for ourselves and for those around us. Thank you for all that you do to make OLLI special!

UAH Provides a New Benefit for OLLI Members!
Privileges at the Salmon Library

Starting January 15, 2015, UAH will provide active OLLI members with library privileges at no additional cost. The member must be on the list provided to the Salmon Library staff by PCS each week. Privileges include check-out of three books at a time for 28 days at a time, and the issuance of a username and password for access to the PCs in the library. This privilege level does not include remote access to the library’s online resources.
From Member Services

Welcome New Members
2014-2015

A special welcome to the following new members since August 13, 2014.

Maria Acosta
Charles Adams
Wanda Faye Anderson
Laura Arce
Larry Augsburger
Sandra Bacchus
Joyce Bond
Laura Boyer
Thomas Bramhall
Carolyn Brooks
Judy Burley
Tom Burley
Arlene Burnett
Norah Burt
Charlotte Campbell
Celia Cantor
Adelaide Cape
James Cape
Pam Causey
Laurie Connell
Kathy Cook
Janice Crabtree
Steve Cummings
Terence Cusack
Mary Jo Dennison
Nina Derrick
Marie Dozier
John Ehrlich
Cynthia Fix
John Fix
Mark Francis

Nan Freeman
Maria Fromhold
Marijke Gage
Carmela Garoppo
Shelia Gentle
Linda Hale
Elizabeth Haynes
Etta Henry
Cathy Hignite
Allyson Hofer
Dan Hollis
Marsha Hosner
Linda Hudson
Deborah Hughes
Gayle Hughes
David Jackson
Janice Johnson
William Johnston Jr.
Jane Jones
George Kennedy
Barbara Lawson
Jane Manning
Dianne Martin
Minnie McCauley
Henry McKinney
Carolyn Mulcahy
Raymond Mulcahy
Rose O’Connor
Beth Pierce
Terri Peters
Bill Poole
Catherine Reese
Danny Reese
Rita Reese
Marla Rex
Ann Robertson
Barbara Robertson
Martha Robertson
Diego Rodriguez
Deborah Russell Jones
Margaret Schoettlin
Pamela Schutte
Joseph Servick
Judy Sexton
Delores Shelton
Harvey Shelton
Ralph Shuey
Herb Sims
Vickey Smith
Sharon Speet
Sharon Spinks
Tom Stinson
Michael Stringfellow
Rosita Strong
Sherry Taylor
Annette Tingle
Mary Tweedy
Jan Williamson

Watch for members wearing the “ASK ME” buttons at OLLI. We will be glad to answer any questions and find information to help you get the most from your OLLI membership.
Upcoming Events

Friday, January 9 10:00 am  **Popcorn & A Movie**  Room 152 Wilson Hall
The classic movie *On Golden Pond* starring Henry Fonda and Katherine Hepburn is a favorite among those enjoying good acting and a great story about ultimately mending and enjoying family bonds of later years.

Tuesday, January 13  10:00 am  **Birding at the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge**
Each national wildlife refuge has a species-specific purpose. In the mid 1930’s Wheeler was established primarily to protect migrating Canadian Geese. Today, the Refuge has become a major stopping place for many species of ducks, and most recently Sandhill Cranes and a few of the 500 Whooping Cranes left in the world. Meet at the Visitor’s Center, accessible through a gateway and a paved road on the south side of Highway 57, 2.8 miles west of I-65. After a short talk by the professional staff in the Visitors’ Center auditorium, we will walk to the pond area where there are telescopes mounted in the two-story Observation Building. The Observation Building and pond are especially designed for public education. If you have binoculars and a camera, bring them, as our target species peak in numbers at this time of the year and we anticipate a great birding adventure. No reservations are necessary but for more information contact Bill McAllister at billmcallister94@gmail.com.

Tuesday, January 20  3:30 pm  **Back-to-the Classroom Special Event**
Find out how a modern school system teaches Advanced Placement English using many new technology tools. Master Teacher Stephanie Hyatt has agreed to put you in the setting of senior high school students on the way to college with the needed skills to succeed. The group size will be small enough to ask questions and gain an understanding of the importance of our teachers, their requisite teaching skills and the changing environment in today’s classroom. Register for this OLLI Special Event by emailing Mable Gordon: mablegordon44@gmail.com.

Friday, February 20  11:00.  **101 Inventions That Changed The World**
OLLI members will enjoy this spectacular traveling exhibit hosted by Huntsville Space and Rocket Center for a discounted group rate of only $11.00. The exhibit features inventions that were turning points in humankind’s history. Exploring the inventions will lead to the reasoning behind their development and the effect they have had on our lives. Tickets include all of the Space and Rocket Center exhibits, inside and outside. You should plan to stay for several hours to explore. Eating facilities are conveniently located in the Museum. Contact Dick Fisher at drdickfisher@gmail.com to reserve your space for this OLLI Special Event.

OLLI BACK-TO-SCHOOL POTLUCK LUNCHEON AND ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW is scheduled for Friday, January 30, 2015, at Trinity United Methodist Church on Airport Road. Bring a dish and one item for the road show. Watch for time and other details in the Weekly E-news!
Travel with OLLI-UAH Friends to England, Scotland and Wales

There is still space for you to join OLLI on a special trip to England, Scotland, and Wales beginning June 1, 2015. The trip starts in London, finishes in Edinburgh, and offers an optional extension that explores Scotland. The British Isles are wonderfully picturesque and replete with important history that resonates with the U.S. Additionally, this trip will include visits with locals. For example, we travel into northern Wales to experience the mountains and beach coastline of Snowdonia, an often-overlooked region. There we will visit with a Welsh family for a home-hosted dinner. In this locale a major slate industry was birthed along with a narrow-gauge railroad system to transport the slate to market. An optional tour will visit “the town that roofed the world” and the National Slate Museum.

In addition to visiting Snowdonia, the 14-day trip includes London, Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon, Bath, Stonehenge, Cheltenham in the Cotswolds, York, Chester, Whitby, Castle Howard, the Lake District and concludes in Edinburgh.

Contact Bill McAllister by email: billmcallister94@gmail.com. Or you can call Grand Circle

Winter Term Courses Relating to OLLI Trip to England, Scotland and Wales

Register now for any of these exciting courses that can enhance your trip abroad or simply your enjoyment of armchair travel. Classes begin January 26th.

Searching for Lost Ancestors  Monday 1:00 pm
Movies with a British Flair  Monday 2:45 pm
Shakespeare, The Player  Tuesday 10:30 am
The English Novel  Thursday 1:00 pm
Our Fascination with British History  Friday 8:45 am
The Cultural Committee hosted a day-trip via chartered motor coach to visit the Booth Museum of Western Art in Cartersville, GA on November 13, 2014. There were 40 OLLI participants who enjoyed a comfortable drive, special refreshments and visits with good friends along the way. Our group enjoyed lunch at a delightful restaurant, “The Swheat Market”, in the historic downtown, and even had time for a little window-shopping before our docent tour.

The Booth Museum is a magnificent 21st century establishment with a large permanent collection of classic paintings and bronzes, and art reflecting the mythic era of Western cowboys and Indian warriors, frontier heroes, villains and homesteaders. There are also two large galleries featuring U.S. Presidential and War Between the States memorabilia, and amazing creations of Native American artists. Exhibits are beautifully staged in a splendid and hospitable building -- worthy of the Booth’s designation as a Smithsonian Institution Affiliate.

Start the New Year with Wednesday Morning Bridge!

Writing for Comcast.net, Karen Walker asks why, when we have so many activities competing for our time, would we want to learn to play bridge? The answers are simple—“according to a study by the University of California…bridge measurably strengthens the immune system,” bridge stimulates and exercises both sides of your brain, it’s never boring, and it takes very little knowledge to begin playing and enjoying the game. Register now, and make Wednesday Morning Bridge part of your 2015 weekly routine!

1Parade, May 16, 2004, p. 19
More PAST EVENTS

On November 21, an enthusiastic group of OLLI members viewed the movie, *Tea With Mussolini* directed by Franco Zeffirelli. The story is based on the director’s teen years when he was caught up in the unfolding of World War II in northern Italy. A group of British women protect him through the war years using various strategies to keep him from being detected by the Germans.

OLLI members turned out in numbers to attend our docent-led tour of the Grandma Moses exhibit at the Huntsville Museum of Art on Dec. 9, 2014. The docents shared their knowledge of Anna Mary Robertson Moses’ own story which is the subject matter for her artistic renderings. They pointed out unique highlights and steps along her career progression within the 30 works of art on display – ranging from pastoral winter landscapes, to busy working farm life scenes and dollhouse-like views inside cozy rooms. There was time after the formal tour to ask questions, enjoy a delicious cup of hot chocolate at Pane e Vino compliments of the Cultural Committee, and stroll through the Big Spring Park all decked out for the Holidays.

The OLLI Holiday Party offered food, dancing, and entertainment at The Summit in Big Spring Park. Photos will appear in the February OLLI Insider.

On Friday, December 12, the Special Events Committee helped with “All Wrapped Up,” a fun-filled holiday celebration that offered OLLI members the opportunity to register for courses in person and socialize around a viewing of the movie *White Christmas*. Event and instructor tables added to the attractions along with coffee and an assortment of donuts.
Lehár’s *The Merry Widow*—New Production

January 17, 2015, 11:55 am

OLLI members are invited to see the Metropolitan Opera live HD simulcast of the *Merry Widow* starring Renee Fleming at Hollywood 18 Stadium Theater on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015. Meet in the lobby at 11:45 AM to be seated together for the performance beginning at 11:55am. This charming operetta features Hanna, a beautiful and wealthy widow, who captivates all of Paris through the twists and turns of her courtships with handsome suitors. The great soprano Ms. Fleming is cast in the role of Hanna for the first time in a completely reworked stage production. We all enjoy the behind the scenes views at intermission. Expect to be thoroughly entertained! Tickets may be purchased at the Theater window. Contact Jane McBride at janemcbride@knology.net if you have questions.

Consider having appetizers and/or dinner with OLLI friends after the performance.

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**SPRING BREAK 2015 EXTRAVAGANZA**

**DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JANUARY 30**

**Memphis, Tennessee—The Real Deal!**

April 6-9, 2015--See Memphis in Style. Trip costs are inclusive of transportation from UAH, hotel, meals, and all admissions. Optional costs are alcohol, the Walking Ghost Tour ($14) and $291 single supplement.

Sample the diversity and specialties that the city of Memphis holds. Travel by Spirit Coach roundtrip from Huntsville. Local Memphis guides will board our coach to show us the best of the world-famous “City on the River.” Learn the history of the settlement-turned-metropolis, enjoy art that wealthy citizens collected through a couple of centuries in three major museums, and relish the culture of blues and rock and roll right in its birthplace. Tour the Brooks Museum, the Dixon Museum and Gardens, and the Belz Museum of Judaic and Asian Art. As we visit the Rock ‘n’ Soul Museum and recording studios, we'll hear the music made in Memphis throughout the previous century that is still flourishing today as a uniquely American sound. Additional treats include a tour of the Gibson guitar factory and boat trip on the mighty Mississippi. And what is a trip to Memphis without a stop at Graceland?

Stay three nights at the Hampton Inn and Suites, Memphis Beale Street, the #2 rated hotel in Memphis by Tripadvisor.com. Food in Memphis is a signature highlight, and we'll sample the best of haute cuisine, southern fare and world-famous Bar-B-Q. Restaurants include The Rendezvous (famous Memphis ribs), Paulette’s, B.B. King’s, and the Majestic Grille. Trip cost is $890 (deposit of $200 due January 30, 2014; final payment is due February 20, 2015). Brochure is available outside Wilson Hall rooms 113 and 114, and will be outside the office (Room 151) when OLLI resumes. Contact Nancy Darnall at nbd51@aol.com for more information.

Space is limited, but is open to adult friends and family as well as OLLI members.
Announcing our Valentine Special Event! The Huntsville Master Chorale’s *Mosaic of Love* concert at the Cooper House is on **Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015**. OLLI will reserve tables for members to relish this romantic (downtown Huntsville) setting with fabulous musicians and scrumptious desserts and special coffees. This is a favorite OLLI occasion! Tickets will be available soon from Linda McAllister (Email: wmca@hiwaay.net) or Jane McBride (Email: janemcbride@knology.net). You will hear more about this event in the OLLI E-news each Friday. Purchase your tickets prior to Monday, February 9, 2015.