President’s Message

OLLI at UAH fills a need. For a variety of reasons, OLLI members join actively in OLLI and find fulfillment through classes, through outings planned by OLLI committees, through working diligently on policies and procedures that serve us all, or carefully hand designing ribbons for volunteer instructors to wear at Teacher's Appreciation luncheons. No task is so small that without it we would be complete.

OLLI members say, “I’m loving it.” That sentiment applies because careful thought has gone into putting together classes of particular interest, because attention is paid to implementing member suggestions, and because a coordinator puts together a weekly schedule of members volunteering for service in the office. Those volunteers welcome and respond to requests for help. All of these actions help to bring together a carefully knit organization.

The people who rise at the start of classes and give us an update on what’s going on, are class facilitators, responsible people who have attended training and who receive information to share on a regular basis. We have an insatiable need to know.

OLLI at UAH is able people working together and enjoying benefits. The satisfaction of doing something to help has a high worth.

Thank you for being an OLLI member and for making yourself available to help make it better.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee is planning a very special Winter Teacher Appreciation Luncheon ($2.00 per member, instructors no charge) on March 13, 12:30-2:30 pm, at Trinity United Methodist Church. You will be transported to beautiful Hawaii with great food and special entertainment. This is our opportunity to let our volunteer instructors know how important they are to the OLLI program as well as to socialize with our fellow OLLI members. Make sure you mark your calendars; this will be a treat!
On December 5, 2014, the OLLI Board of Directors approved an OLLI at UAH Strategic Plan for 2014-2017 to offer goals, objectives and strategies to achieve continued success and growth over the next three years. The Plan was prepared by the Long-Range Planning (LRP) Committee under the direction of its chair Bob Robertson, along with team members Roger Coupland, Eleanor Carter, Bill McAllister, Fred Peterson, and John Regner.

The Executive Committee has lead responsibility for implementing the Plan, in conjunction with other members of the Board, and our partner, UAH’s Division of Professional and Continuing Studies. To meet the Plan’s goals, however, depends on all our Key Stakeholders—those influenced or affected by, or participating in the activities of OLLI at UAH. In other words, OLLI’s continued success depends on the combined dedication of YOU—our members, teachers and volunteers, along with UAH Outreach Program Director (Maxine Doherty), the PCS Director (Dr. Karen Clanton), the UAH Provost, and the UAH President. We can also add the Community to that list.

OLLI periodically assesses its programs and activities to assure that we’re meeting the needs of our members, planning for growth, change and success, and building value into our organization. That’s a function that has been undertaken as long as we’ve existed. The LRP built on OLLI’s past plans, examined plans of other OLLI’s and lifelong learning institutes across the country, collected input from OLLI members, advice from Board members, and, basically, listened to anyone who said “Why don’t we...?” or “I wish we had...”, and examined written materials from various brainstorming and work sessions. If there was a good idea or thought that seemed relevant to OLLI, we captured it. Lots more information than we could possibly use. We then examined OLLI’s current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and distilled those down to three areas that will result in continuing the success and growth of the program. Briefly, they are:

- **OLLI Identity and Visibility** – We need to “up our game” and promote our value to the University, the Community at Large, and even within OLLI. YOU are the most effective marketing tool for our programs! Spread the word, and give us your suggestions!

- **Financial Stability** – Many non-course-related programs, including off-campus social, cultural, special events, and similar activities, are funded by your membership dues. Your dollars also provide funding for operation of the OLLI Volunteer Organization, including activities of the Board of Directors and its Committees, the OLLI Volunteer Office, the OLLI Insider Newsletter, and coffee and tea in areas where facilities for preparation are available. We are very budget conscious, and are exploring external funding and underwriting for our larger—expense items.

- **Programs and Internal Structure** – Increased communication, marketing, retention and recruitment of members, getting our incredibly active members more involved in courses and the actual work of operating an organization like OLLI. Our members are exceptional at finding new and diverse courses/events to share with each other. Event coordinators and willing workers are always welcome, as are feedback, suggestions, and other possible program enhancements.

Our current Board of Directors is already making progress on some strategies in the Plan. And they will need your help to take that progress to the next level. Enroll in a course! Volunteer for a few hours—the OLLI office, event set-up, mailing, facilitating a course, assisting with audio-visual, newsletter, chasing down new courses, public relations, Weekly Bonuses—all could use your talents (or help you develop one)! Join one of the Standing Committees (like Long-Range Planning)! Tell us what you’d like to do and OLLI will help you do it.

If you want to ask a question, make a comment, or pass on an idea, you can drop by the OLLI Office, Room 151 in Wilson Hall when classes are in session, or email to olli@uah.edu with your topic in the subject line. Or while you have that pen in your hand when filling out your end of course evaluations, just leave us a NOTE at the bottom of the page. A copy of the OLLI at UAH Strategic Plan for 2014-2017 is available viewing in the OLLI Office.

Submitted by Eleanor Carter for the Long-Range Planning Committee
SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

Popcorn and a Movie

**Friday, March 20, at 10 am:** *As Good As It Gets* starring Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt—both Academy Award Winners for show-stopping performances. Watch as NY obsessive-compulsive grouch (Nicholson) softens in this entertaining romantic comedy.

**Friday, April 10, at 10 am:** Come join us during our Spring Break for the award-winning inspirational movie, *My Left Foot*, which is the autobiographical story of legendary Irishman Christy Brown. Daniel Day-Lewis won an Academy Award and a BAFTA Film Award for his brilliant portrayal of Brown who overcame his crippling cerebral palsy to become an accomplished painter and writer. His left foot was the only part of his body he could control. His mother was a strong source of encouragement to Christy while trying to run a household with thirteen children. Brenda Fricker, playing this role, won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress. The movie was also nominated for Best Picture, Best Director and Best Adapted Screenplay in the annual Academy Awards.

Time is Running Out for OLLI Summer Travel Reservations

The OLLI at UAH educational adventure to England, Scotland, and Wales departs on June 1. Visit the history that influenced early America. Hear about and observe multicultural Britain as it is today. Follow the paths of Roman centurions, valiant soldiers, poets, royalty, and perhaps your own ancestors. This tour includes London, the English Lake District, York, Edinburgh, the Cotswolds region, and Snowdonia in Wales. Travel with a knowledgeable and experienced guide. Come along with your OLLI friends for an opportunity to learn, make new friends, and come back changed from the places you’ve seen and the things you’ve done. Extensions for post-tour stays are also being offered. Optional day tours are available. Contact Bill McAllister at billmcallister94@gmail.com for reservation information.

OLLI Friends,

March 2015

Joe Berry

I retired from law in debt to many who had given to me with no expectation of repayment. It was “pay-back” time. Impossible to cover in one payment, an installment plan was my only hope.

In my effort to “give-back” I purposely avoided all who wanted to sell me something, change my thinking, or get me to vote a particular way. Rather, I chose the little people (ages 5-8), the middle people (9 to 20), and the older people (folks like you and me) and tendered re-payment.

With several thousand of the little people who know me as “Johnny Appleseed” or “The Storyteller” I’ve earned a little credit on the balance sheet. With the middle group, a little less.

Now for the old folk: Need to give back led me to you and in more ways than I can count you have increased rather than decreased my debt by opening both your hearts and homes to me. You have given me a permanent seat at your table. For all, I’m most grateful.

I hope to see you in Wilson Hall on May 1st. There is a story I want to share, plus an old debt that needs to be paid.

Joe Berry
Pictures, We Love Pictures!

Plummeting temperatures didn’t keep OLLI members away from the February 17 Bonus!

Dr. Sonnie Hereford, III, a retired Huntsville physician, captured our undivided attention as he shared numerous experiences related to the Civil Rights activities in Huntsville. His details about practicing medicine in the segregated Huntsville Hospital were shocking and astonishing. Dr. Hereford also shared personal stories about the peaceful sit-ins in downtown Huntsville lunch counters and his decision to enroll his son in Fifth Avenue Elementary School as one of the first blacks to attend public schools in the state. Dr. Hereford’s informative lecture was appreciated by OLLI members.

Check your E-news and Insider for details of upcoming bonuses. The variety of subjects and quality of the presentations is mind-boggling.
St. Valentine’s Day at the Cooper House
The Huntsville Master Chorale Presents the 2015 Mosaic of Love

The Huntsville Master Chorale performed two Mosaic of Love concerts at the Cooper House on Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015, and OLLI members attended both afternoon and evening performances. How much fun it is to hear familiar melodies from our earliest memories by the Gershwins, Porter, Berlin, Ellington, etc. and then conjure up sights of our parents and siblings when these toe-tapping sounds filled our homes! That is the Valentine treat we enjoyed while sitting at elegant tables of eight friends and sampling delicious desserts, coffees and teas.

Beautiful choral arrangements, virtuoso soloists and accomplished instrumentalists made this an exciting and jazzy event. Can’t think of a more charming way to celebrate St. Valentine’s Day!
Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.
Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life
is to keep your mind young.

Henry Ford (1863 –1947)
The OLLI at UAH
Undergraduate Scholarship

Share the path to lifelong learning.
Give a UAH undergraduate the joy of education.
Support the OLLI Scholarship Fund.

For the 2014-2015 membership year, each donation to the Osher Lifelong Learning Scholarship fund will earn you one entry in a drawing for prizes in September 2015. Prizes include gift cards, OLLI one-year membership, and other items.

THE FINE PRINT: To participate in the drawing, Scholarship Committee Chair must be notified of the gift to the Scholarship Fund. The donor’s name ONLY. No details about the amount will or need to be provided to the Committee. Donations are tax-deductible. Checks may be made out to OLLI and given to the OLLI Treasurer, Bob Darnall, or dropped in the OLLI box in the PCS Registration Office (Room 103).
We are having a good response to our OLLI Geographical Origins project. If you have not yet posted your information, here’s what we need: your name, your place of birth (city, state or other nomenclature, country), and other locales where you have lived.

A graphic will be posted at the Fall Session registration event. This event is open to OLLI members, PCS staff, and OLLI faculty.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Docent-led Tour at the Huntsville Museum of Art
3/31 | T | 1:00 pm | HMA

OLLI's Cultural Committee has arranged a docent tour of HMA's fabulous exhibition of 60 brilliant paintings by European and Flemish masters. The tour compliments the special OLLI bonus event with Peter Baldaia, HMA Curator, on March 18, 2015. Paintings in this exhibit represent the very best of the seventeenth and eighteenth century works from The Speed Art Museum in Louisville, which houses a spectacular collection of Old Masters. Highlights of this tour feature masterworks by Rembrandt, Rubens, van Dyck, and Gainsborough among many famed artists. Contact Jane McBride, janemcbride@knology.net for additional information and to reserve your place on the docent tour. You will not want to miss this event.
Spring Session 2015

Your OLLI Curriculum Committee has been working diligently to bring a selection of great courses to you during the Spring Term. Over 55 courses will be offered for the 6-week term which begins April 13 and ends May 22, 2015.

Following are just a few of the courses offered for spring:

**Becoming a Master of Photography.** This five-star rated DVD series features twelve master photographers who will share their creative processes. All the photographers have been featured in *National Geographic* magazine. Tom Bryant will lead the series and discussions.

**Theories of the Universe.** Don’t miss this opportunity to be exposed to the breadth of the theories of the universe. The group of instructors led by John Dimmock have taught this course to honors undergraduates at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. It was deemed by them to be one of the most popular courses on campus.

**Musical Theater.** Join instructor Sally Priester to examine all the different genres and “looks” of theatrical musicals including puppets, dancers, cabaret singers and special effects.

**The Axis on the Ropes.** “The Beginning of the End” of World War II. Tennent Lee will tell us about the 6 months between the Normandy invasion and the German Ardennes offensive.

And back by popular demand:

**Elder Law.** Taught by certified elder law attorney Connie Glass, these six sessions will include a discussion of estate planning and options available to preserve and manage assets for long-term care planning.

**Spring Garden Tour.** this favorite spring class will allow you to visit six private gardens in the Huntsville area. Expect lots of fun and beauty as well as ideas for your own garden.

Watch for the OLLI Spring Term Course Catalog coming in early March. Register early as classes fill up fast.

Learning is not the product of schooling but the lifelong attempt to acquire it.

*Albert Einstein (1879-1955)*
Time is Running Out!

The 2015 Photo Contest due date of April 3 is just around the corner.

If photography is a hobby or you enjoy taking photos just for fun, challenge yourself to finding original scenes of curves and/or lines for the OLLI Photo Contest.

Guidelines:

♦ Theme: Curves and/or Lines (together or separate)
♦ Specs:
  * Gentle photo editing is permitted but keep the original photo
  * Photos must be submitted in digital jpg/jpeg format
  * Recommend at least 2 Megapixels (MP) final pixel size
    * Color photos are preferred
  * Name your photo
  * Email as an attachment
  * No recognizable persons please
♦ Submit to: ollinewsletter@msn.com. You can submit up to three entries; Include your name, phone number, and email address.
♦ Give information about the photo, where you took it and the date
♦ Submission deadline: April 3, 2015

Please note that entering your photo gives Osher Lifelong Learning Institute 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 your photo will not be eligible for judging until the signed release form is received. For questions regarding requirements or uploading or resizing problems, please call Lorrie White at 256-520-4455 or email to ollinewsletter@msn.com, subject: photo contest.
Iceland: A Photographic Journey  
3/3 • Barbara Staggs
Discover Iceland’s’ electric green valleys punctuated by craggy mountains, steaming hot springs, boiling mud pools, and lava fields. For geology buffs, discover amazing basalt columns. Barbara Staggs, a Master photographer who travelled to Iceland in July, 2014, will share her photographs and story about her magical trip.

Never a Bad Game: Fifty Years of Southern League Baseball  
3/10 • Mark McCarter
Learn from an award-winning sports writer and author, Mark McCarter, the story of The Southern League, a Class AA minor league baseball organization with deep ties to the state of Alabama, which just completed its golden anniversary season. The Southern League has launched some of baseball’s most familiar names and also provided a treasure trove of stories beyond the box scores in its games, players, managers, and accomplishments.

An OLLI Special Event

Behind the Scenes—Rembrandt, Rubens, Gainsborough, and the Golden Age of Painting in Europe  
WEDNESDAY, 3/18 • Peter Baldaia
Peter Baldaia, Director of Curatorial Affairs of the Huntsville Museum of Art, will take us behind the scenes to explain the curatorial procedures needed to negotiate the details of bringing a distinguished collection of Old Master paintings to Huntsville. The traveling exhibition was organized by The Speed Art Museum in Louisville, Kentucky. This is the first time that the paintings have toured as a group because they represent the core of that museum’s permanent collection. Comprised of the major genres of painting that were popular between 1600 and 1800—religious paintings, scenes of everyday life, interpretations of classical antiquity, still lifes, landscapes, and portraits—this exhibition illustrates both the people and the objects that made the two centuries such a rich cultural age.

Following the presentation, attendees are invited to enjoy refreshments and to meet curators Peter Baldaia and David Reyes.

This OLLI event is free and open to the public.
Seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

Please invite your friends to this OLLI Bonus Event.
IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

OLLI is an all-volunteer organization. We have to have volunteers to function.

The OLLI Office in Room 151 is staffed by OLLI volunteers from 8:30 – 4:30, Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 – 2:30 on Friday. Currently there are requirements for volunteers in the 2:30 – 4:30 slots on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Substitutes are often needed for all slots. The OLLI Office offers a great opportunity to meet OLLI members and learn more about our programs and operation. While there may be a steady stream of people in and out of the office, the volunteers may find their office hours offer an opportunity to practice computer skills, make copies for instructors, and assist the Program Manager and Assistant.

If you have an opening in your OLLI schedule or can come in for a couple of hours, please contact Hugh Nicholson at hughnicholson1@aol.com.

The OLLI Insider April issue submission deadline is Tuesday, March 17. All chairs and members should submit their articles to Nancy Darnall at nbd51@aol.com. Anyone who has OLLI event photos or other pictures is welcome to send them to the newsletter. Include the photographer’s name, the names of those in the photo, and the event shown.