

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE **OLLI** TIMES

at The University of Georgia

## Photos from the *OLLI Times* archives....



New members chat with Bill Loughner at a New Member Orientation in 2012. Note the *OLLI Times* on the table! (by Brenda Abdel-Hafez)



Wyatt Anderson and Vic Armstrong greet a guest at the Fall 2013 Bash (by Pat McAlexander)

## FALL 2015 NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION AUGUST 12

Would you like to learn more about OLLI @ UGA? Attend OLLI's New Member Orientation on Wednesday, August 12 at 1:00 p.m. at River's Crossing. If you have joined OLLI@UGA since January 2015, or have never attended an orientation, contact us as soon as possible to reserve your spot. You will hear from OLLI leaders in a classroom format about OLLI's curriculum development and evolving online technology, how to register for classes, all the social activities and Special Interest Groups, opportunities for participating in travel/study, ways you can volunteer, and many other benefits of membership. You will be given a folder of handouts on this information to take home.

Just as important, you will meet other new OLLI members as well as have time to visit with veteran members at the social afterwards. **Reservations are required.** Phone Pam Smith 706-353-1705 or email Margaret Pruiett [marybryp@yahoo.com](mailto:marybryp@yahoo.com). For this special event, parking at River's Crossing will be free. See you there!

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND FALL 2015 BASH SEPTEMBER 11

### General Membership Meeting 12:30

OLLI@UGA will hold a General Membership Meeting on Friday, September 11, 2015 at 12:30 pm at the Central Presbyterian Church—just prior to the OLLI Bash. The purpose of the

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- and more!*

# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Hello, OLLI folks!

I look forward to serving you as your president this academic year.

All of us are over fifty now, although one would hardly guess it. OLLI@UGA keeps our minds stimulated, our bodies active, and our calendars full. Wow. We enroll in classes, join SIGS (Special Interest Groups), attend luncheons, engage in social activities, volunteer on committees—and then, poof, we have countless friends whom we can enjoy for the rest of our lives. What a good formula for staying healthy!



**Betty Jean Craige**  
(photo by Chuck Murphy)

I tell everybody that OLLI members are all above average--all thirteen hundred of us.

OLLI has a culture we can brag about. At OLLI events we wear our name tag to help our new friends call us by name. In classes we place our name tent on the table in front of us to enable the instructor to call us by name. When we take a seat in a class we introduce ourselves to the people around us. We fill out our online profile, post our picture on our web page, and share our email address with our OLLI community to let our new friends know who we are and what interests we have.

That way if we like ferrets or fish or dogs or cats or micro-pigs or parrots and want to have a multi-species dinner party, we can find other OLLI members who share our taste for good fun. If we want to play curling or finger wrestling or marbles or jacks, we can find other OLLI members to organize a game. If we raise donkeys or alpacas or ostriches or peafowl, we can find someone in our OLLI community who will consider us normal.

By the way, our profile pictures do not have to resemble WANTED posters. My profile picture, which Chuck Murphy took, has me kissing Cosmo, my African Grey parrot. (Cosmo is not a member of OLLI because she's only thirteen years old.)

If you would like to help OLLI keep our marvelous culture, you may want to serve on a committee, help out at an event, or run for office. You will receive an enthusiastic welcome wherever you'd like to work. Ask any volunteer you meet. Contact Lee Albright, our President-Elect who will chair the Nominating Committee, if you would like to run for office. And contact Sandy Clark, our Volunteer Coordinator, if you would like to volunteer in other ways.

Now let's get cooking.

Betty Jean Craige  
President

Having the Time of Our Lives With

## OLLI@UGA

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Athens, GA 30602-4811  
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*OLLI Website Address:*

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*OLLI Staff*

Executive Director	Katy Crapo
Administrative Associate	Zu Reuter
Administrative Assistant	Shelly Magruder
Coordinator of Social Media	Amy Munnell
Bookkeeper	Sara Williamson

*OLLI Officers 2015-2016*

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Historian	Bill Loughner

## OLLI TIMES FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULE

### October Issue

Material due Monday, October 5  
To be mailed week of October 19

### December Issue

Material due Thursday, November 12  
To be mailed week of November 30

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND FALL 2015 BASH SEPTEMBER 11

meeting will be to discuss and vote on a change in the bylaws regarding membership years. The Board of Directors urges your attendance. A quorum is required.

At the April Board of Director's meeting, the board approved a balanced 2015-2016 budget of \$425,085 in revenue and \$425,044 in expenses. To fund the operational budget, the Board approved a change from one to two full-year membership periods, one beginning in July and one in January of each year, ahead of the class enrollment terms. Dues remain at \$50.00 per year. To fully implement this budget, membership approval of the two membership periods is needed. This meeting is held in accordance with Bylaw Articles 4.3, 4.5 and 14.1.

### OLLI Bash 1:00

The OLLI Bash - An Activity Fair (formerly known as the Back to Class Bash) provides an opportunity for all OLLI members as

well as guests to learn more about OLLI. It will be held at Central Presbyterian Church on September 11th, after the General Membership Meeting, from 1:00 to 3:30.

OLLI@UGA has evolved into a veritable cornucopia of activities and opportunities for learning, enrichment, service, travel, and *FUN*, and at the Bash you can find out more about these opportunities. In an activity-fair format with dozens of booths, OLLI@UGA members will answer your questions about their activities, show you how to sign up for Special Interest Groups, and share their experiences in OLLI. Information on membership, our committees, and our sponsors will be available. If you have been wondering whether you have a hearing loss, you can also have your hearing screened that day!

Come find out about OLLI@UGA, enjoy refreshments, purchase some OLLI gear, and visit with the people who make this organization run. Get involved in your own lifelong learning!



At the Bash find out about Chuck Murphy's Picture This SIG--and you can take a look at his antique cameras, too.



June Mazur, Alexis Winger, and Betsy Bucknell at the Bash in Fall 2011.



## “Casablanca” and Casino Party

OLLI members Grady Thrasher and Kathy Prescott are sponsoring the movie “Casablanca,” which will be shown **beginning August 6** as part of the Athens Cine Summer Classic Movie Festival. The first screening will be followed by a “Rick’s American Cafe & Casino” Casablanca party in Cine’s Lab. with food, drinks and roulette. All proceeds will go to the Athens Film Arts Institute.

## “Created Equal” film series

The “Created Equal” film series begins August 15. OLLI@UGA is partnering with the Athens–Clarke County Library to present the “Created Equal” historic film series to the public, free of charge, beginning this month. This series, initiated by the National

Endowment for the Humanities, brings together four nationally acclaimed documentaries on the long civil rights movement that collectively span the period from the 1830s to the 1960s. Each film screening in this community outreach project will be coupled with a highly qualified discussion leader. All films will be shown at the library on Baxter Street in Athens.

**August 15 at 10 a.m.**      *The Abolitionists* (shown in two parts with lunch break)

**August 29 at 2 p.m.**      *Slavery by Another Name*

**September 12 at 2 p.m.**      *Freedom Riders*

**October 10 at 2 p.m.**      *The Loving Story*

## Facilitator Training

OLLI facilitator training is scheduled for the following dates:

**August 20, 2015**      10:30 am – 11:30 a.m.

**September 2, 2015**      2:00 pm – 3:00 p.m.

**October 6, 2015 –**      2:00 pm – 3:00 p.m.

Contact Susan Dougherty, Facilitator Coordinator, [susandougherty48@gmail.com](mailto:susandougherty48@gmail.com) or 706-207-3517

We still have some facilitator slots available! Many thanks to ALL OLLI facilitators!



“Angelica,” Chuck Murphy’s photo of an orchid, will be included in Chuck’s Bot Garden show.

## Chuck Murphy’s Exhibit “Nature, Illustrated” at Bot Gardens

“Nature, Illustrated,” an exhibit of Chuck Murphy’s photos and other works will be hosted by The State Botanical Garden **from August 23 through October 3**, with a **reception 2:00 to 4:00 on the opening day** (Sunday, August 23). Chuck, a long-time OLLI@UGA member, is the leader of our Picture This! photography SIG and a well-known OLLI instructor. He specializes in nature photography, particularly “birds, bugs, and blooms.” As befitting a show at the Botanical Garden, this show is more about blooms than birds and bugs.

The exhibition features a wide variety of Chuck’s photos and works, mostly new and created specifically for this show. Chuck promises that the works to be displayed are “wide and tall, large and small, round and square, printed on paper, wood, canvas, metal, and glass. Most are static, but one or two will be animated. It’s a smorgasbord: Nobody will like everything, but I hope everybody likes something, and that everything is liked by somebody.”

## French Dinner and Opera

A French dinner and Opera to benefit the OLLI@UGA Opera Scholarship will be held **5:30 Sunday, October 11, 2015**. This event is open to the public; members are encouraged to invite guests. It begins with a reception with appetizers and cash bar. The performance will be at 6:15 with dinner at 7:15. Place: Etienne Brasserie, 311 E Broad St., Athens . Cost: \$40.00 per person (not including drinks, tax, gratuity, or scholarship donation). Make your reservations directly to the restaurant; call 706-850-8008. Accommodations are limited! Please support our UGA opera students and their beautiful music with your OLLI@UGA Opera Scholarship donation. Questions? Event Coordinator: Ray Zwaagtra 706-769-1435

Menu Selections: (Special dietary requirements upon request)

### STARTERS (choice of)

- Vichyssoise potato and leek puree with a paprika cayenne crème fraiche dollop
- Salade maison mesclun greens, shaved carrot, roasted tomato champagne vinaigrette
- Red wine poached pear salad with fresh arugula
- 

### ENTREES (choice of)

- Slow roasted pork shoulder, rosemary dijon au jus, caramelized brussels sprouts
- Coq au vin blanc chardonnay braised chicken leg quartered, smoked bacon, pearl onions, roasted potatoes, rainbow carrots
- Seared salmon filet over roasted potatoes and asparagus with orange fennel beurre blanc
- 

### DESSERTS (choice of)

- Bittersweet chocolate mousse
- Bread pudding
- Fruit parfait



OLLI Karen Lange joined the acapella group The Accidentals for this picture at last year's holiday party. (by Pat McAlexander)



**OLLI Holiday Party**  
**December 16**

**FUN—FUN—FUN!**

**OUR MOST POPULAR EVENT**

**When:** *Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>*

**Where:** The new fabulous *Bolton Dining Commons* on Lumpkin

**What:** *Cook's Holiday Exclusive*

**Who:** *Members and Guests of Members*

**Entertainment:** *The Accidentals*



## Cirque de la Symphonie – December 5

Save the date! **Cirque de la Symphonie**, a unique production combining professional cirque performers with renowned symphony orchestras, has dazzled audiences around the world for 10 years. Now it's coming to the Atlanta Symphony Hall! **OLLI's Travel/Study Committee** is hosting a day trip for the **Saturday, Dec. 5 matinee**, and you'll want to be there for this exciting event which also features the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

We'll travel as a group by bus, arriving in Atlanta in time for lunch (on your own), and then on to the 2 p.m. performance. This is a rare treat to be coupled with a meet-and-greet afterwards with the cirque performers before we return to Athens. The cost for the bus and show ticket is \$88 per person (excluding lunch). Limited to 45, paid reservations will be due by November 1. Online reservations will be handled via the OLLI website. For more information, contact Katherine Winslow at [kath.winslow@gmail.com](mailto:kath.winslow@gmail.com).



## Possible Trip to Costa Rica to Study Insects

UGA professor of entomology, Dr. Paul Guillebeau is considering leading students in his OLLI fall semester class "The World of Insects" on a field trip to Costa Rica. If you sign up for this class, you would be eligible to go. Dr. Guillebeau will welcome student suggestions for such a trip. For more information, contact Ann Crowley at [706 369 9443](tel:7063699443)

## *In Memoriam*

**Ellen Garrison**

**Cindy Hicks**

**Jim Jacobson**

(former LIR treasurer, vice-president,  
and president)

**Howard Leeb**

## Call for Nominations for the 2015-16 Nominating Committee

Please submit nominations for members of the 2015-16 Nominating Committee from September 1 until October 28. The Nominating Committee identifies candidates to run for positions on the Board and on the Executive Committee, with elections taking place at the annual OLLI meeting in May. According to the Bylaws (which can be found at [olli.uga.edu](http://olli.uga.edu)), the Nominating Committee shall consist of the President-Elect as Chair and four additional members, no more than one of whom may be a sitting member of the Board of Directors. Members of OLLI@UGA are encouraged to suggest themselves or other active members of the organization as candidates as long as they have ascertained that the member is willing to serve. Use the form available on the website or in the office and submit it to Lee Albright, President-Elect, at [leealbright207@gmail.com](mailto:leealbright207@gmail.com) or leave it for her at the office. The new Nominating Committee members will be elected by the Board at its November meeting.

# BOB HART'S 9/11 MEMORIAL TRAIL

All of us have the events of the morning of September 11, 2001, seared in our memories. And for most of us, on the anniversary of that date, we often re-live our experiences and thoughts on that day. One of our members, Bob Hart, a retired University of Georgia professor and artist, has done something more. He has built an eight-hundred-foot 9/11 Memorial Trail on two of the eighteen acres he and his wife Nancy own on Morton Farm Lane, eight miles southeast of Athens. On each of 99 poles along the path are hand-painted in white letters 32 names of the victims of that attack. The 99 poles are symbolic, representing the number nine multiplied by 11.

According to a *Banner-Herald* article by Ed Grisamore (“9/11 Memorial Leaves Trail of Tears,” September 9, 2014), Bob “began the project at the end of November 2001. He thought it might take him a year to build. It only took six months. Friends and co-workers volunteered. Local Scout troops pitched in, and a couple of area book clubs helped paint names on the 16-inch wood planks. Bob supplied the paint, brushes and templates. He beautified the circular trail with nine benches and placed artwork and wind chimes along the footpath.”

The thousands of names on the poles include those of the stepdaughter of OLLI@UGA member George Koch, Leslie Whittington; her husband Charles Falkenberg; and their two children, Zoe, 8, and Dana, 3. The family was on the American Airlines flight out of Dulles International Airport that terrorists commandeered and flew into the Pentagon. They were on their way to Australia for a two-month stay while Whittington was a guest lecturer at Australian National University in Canberra.

Grisamore concludes, “One cannot visit [Hart’s] 9/11 Memorial Trail without being deeply moved by the names that follow you for 800 feet. They are remembered with the same heartfelt reverence as the names etched on the Vietnam Memorial Wall.” The trail is free and open to the public at 320 Morton Farm Lane, off U.S. 78. If you would like to contact Bob about the 9/11 Trail, he can be reached at [bob320@earthlink.net](mailto:bob320@earthlink.net).

**The sign commemorating Leslie Whittington, daughter of Ruth Koch and stepdaughter of OLLI@UGA member George Koch, Leslie’s husband Charles Falkenberg, and their two children.** (photos courtesy Bob Hart)



**Bob Hart with one of the 99 sign poles on his 9/11 Memorial Trail.**



## OLLIs on the Ogeechee

OLLI@UGA members Becky Parker and John Songster and frequent OLLI instructor Dorinda Dallmeyer joined nearly 400 others this summer to complete Georgia River Network’s annual paddle on one of the State’s beautiful rivers, the Ogeechee, a blackwater river. The 95-mile paddle from Statesboro to Richmond Hill took seven days. It was Becky’s fourth paddle. John participated for the first time with his 23-year-old grandson Nicholas Bedzyk. And this was the sixth year Dorinda has participated in the Network’s paddle.

The rainbow-colored flotilla of canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards traversed daily distances of ten to seventeen miles amidst white sand bars and stately cypresses. There were a couple of portages and many challenges; often the paddlers had to get around, through or under natural barriers created by fallen trees defined as “strainers.” But, John Songster writes, “Camaraderie and fun were abundant.” Clearly it was, as the poster for the event promised, “one great time.”



John Songster and Becky on the river (first two photos by John Cook, coordinator, Paddle Georgia)



Becky Parker, John Songster, and Dorinda Dallmeyer are somewhere among this rainbow colored flotilla putting in the Ogeechee during the Georgia River Network’s annual paddle.



Cypresses along the Ogeechee (by Dorinda Dallmeyer)



## French Legion of Honor Award

A former professor of the UGA College of Education was recently awarded the Legion of Honor, one of France's highest citizen honors, during a ceremony on June 4 in Atlanta. Robert N. (Bob) Saveland, an Athens resident and OLLI member who taught social science education from 1968 to 1985, was one of ten World War II veterans honored by the Consul General of France, Denis Barbet.

## Leara Rhodes "People's Choice" Finalist

OLLI Leara Rhodes is a finalist for the "People's Choice" slot in the April 16, 2016 Dancing with the Stars Athens competition. Dancing with the Stars Athens benefits Project Safe, working to end domestic violence. The People's Choice segment gets candidates to raise money for the event (the public votes for them via donations) while providing a selection process for new dancers for the 2016 and 2017 benefits. See [www.project-safe.org](http://www.project-safe.org) for more information.



Leara Rhodes

## Kroger Community Foundation and Amazon "Smile" Programs

These two programs are still providing assistance to OLLI@UGA. Each year, participants must sign up again for the Kroger Program, so don't forget to re-enroll even if you are already a member. If you haven't enrolled yet, go to each website and sign in.

## Call for *OLLI Times* Material

Taking an interesting class? Doing something interesting with a SIG? Traveling on an OLLI trip? Know an interesting accomplishment of an OLLI member (including yourself!)? Write us about it. And/or shoot some pictures with your smartphone, point-and-shoot, or DSLR. Send your photos as PHOTO (not document) attachments in a large size with information for captions, including who took the photo, to Pat McAlexander, [patmcalex@gmail.com](mailto:patmcalex@gmail.com) for possible inclusion in the *OLLI Times*. We are also interested in longer feature articles or creative writing by OLLIs—and in any other suggestions you have for the newsletter. Thanks for the material you've already been sending in! Deadlines for material and mailing dates for the rest of the fall semester are listed on page 2 at the bottom of column 1.

By the way, we don't do advertisements. We do notices about events related to OLLI, organizations that OLLI@UGA partners with, and OLLI members; and we include "announcements"/information from our OLLI@UGA sponsors.

**Don't forget to put your info in the OLLI directory! Directions are in the course catalog.**

“For the first time, more than half of all online adults 65 and older (56%) use Facebook. This represents 31% of all seniors.”

—Pew Research Center

We would like  
to thank  
Heyward Allen Motor Company  
for its generous support of  
OLLI@UGA

**Note: In view of the administrative support that OLLI provides Special Interest Groups (SIGs) through OLLI Online and office staff time, the following policies are in place: 1) SIGs are open only to OLLI members, except in extraordinary circumstances, and 2) SIG leaders are responsible for ensuring that their members have paid their dues.**

## OLLI Rocks Fall 2015 Schedule

The 2015 Fall Semester OLLI ROCKS SIG program will focus on “Coral Reefs: Magnificent Structures Now At Risk”. The series will review the characteristics of coral reefs, including overall structure, component ecosystems and internal organization. The series also will overview current environmental threats to coral reefs and discuss methods to mitigate and restore injured reef habitats. Monthly meetings are held on a Tuesday and begin at 7:00 p.m. in Room 200A in the Geography-Geology Building on the main UGA campus. Maps are posted in the resources section of the OLLI Rocks page on the OLLI website. Each presentation will be followed either by viewing a related educational DVD or by examination of representative specimens.

**September 15:** Dr. William Fitt, Professor, School of Ecology, University of Georgia, “What Is a Coral Reef?”

**October 6:** Dr. Sally Walker, Professor, Department of Geology, University of Georgia, “Reefs Through Geologic Time”

**November 10 :** Ms. Dorinda Dallmeyer, JD, Director of The Environmental Ethics Certificate Program, College of Environment and Design, University of Georgia, “Why Are Reefs At Risk Today?”

**December 8:** Mr. Anthony Hooten, AJH Environmental Services, Washington, D.C., “Management and Restoration Of Coral Reefs”

## Some SIGS Are Active During the Summer...for example:



**OLLI WALKERS** walked Cook's Greenway Trail in June as one of their twice-weekly walks. *(by SIG leader Lew Frazar)*

# T GROUPS (SIGS)



The LUNCH BUNCH SIG explores good food and great fellowship at locally-owned restaurants, thanks to SIG leader Art Crawley, shown here in June at Marker 7 with cell phone aficionados Jill Reed and Loretta White. (by John Albright)



TALKIN' BASEBALL. SIG leader Les Shindelman (R) led mid-July cheers at Turner Field with (L-R) Don Walton, Denny Blake, John Albright and Jim Halloran; Braves lost, OLLI won! (from John Albright)

See more about these and the 24 other OLLI@UGA SIGs in the current Course Catalog or online at <http://olliuga.mymemberfuse.com/groups/list>.



The Happy Hikers ended their season with this Dukes Creek hike in May, but they have started up again with a luncheon at Chops'n'Hops on August 5.

It was Carol Kurtz who suggested that the *OLLI Times* have an article spotlighting longtime OLLI member Peggy Cole—and I thought what a good idea! When I called Peggy to set up an interview with her, it was hard to find a time: her week’s schedule was packed. But we finally found a slot on a Sunday morning, and I walked down Dearing Street to the house where she lives with her husband, Ron. It is an early twentieth-century bungalow with a flower bed in front—and a beautiful woodland garden in back. Inside we sat in the “garden room” and I asked her questions. What emerged from her answers was what many of us already know: Peggy is an amazing person.



**Still wearing costumes: Peggy Cole taking tickets at a Piedmont Gardeners’ Garden Tour in her “garden hat”**  
(by Nancy Kassay)

Peggy grew up in Bay Village, Ohio, and attended Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, majoring in education. (“I knew from eight years old that I wanted to be a teacher.”) She taught in Ohio, South Georgia, and in Kansas (“in a different wife-time”) before moving to Athens in 1969. She raised her son here, earned a master’s and a specialist’s degree in education at UGA, and taught for thirty years in Clarke-County elementary schools—except for a stint at UGA in 1978-80 when they hired some practicing teachers to teach in the School of Education. She met her present husband, Ron, in 1973; they married in 1979.

Peggy loved teaching (“there is nothing routine about it”). She kept the students alert by wearing various costumes (reindeer antlers, Mickey Mouse ears and nose, ballet tutu) and wrote on overhead projector transparencies instead of on a blackboard (“so you didn’t have to turn your back to the class.”) During these years she was also on the Board of the Friends of the Georgia Museum of Art and served as office manager (self-taught) for her husband Ron’s dental practice. When she retired from teaching in 2000 she went into what she called “a manic phase”: she served as the contractor for renovating their home

and prepared their garden for the 2001 Piedmont Gardeners’ tour. (She later became a member of the group.) At the same time she was mentoring A-C-C elementary teachers and serving on the Board for the Foundation of Excellence—which gives awards and grants to outstanding teachers.

In 2002 she joined LIR, which was then very small—only about 200 people—and served as its secretary under Presidents Al Ike, Jim Jacobson, and Janet Stratton. During these years LIR was transitioning to the OLLI we know today—growing as

more retirees moved to Athens, moving from holding classes in the Georgia Center to River’s Crossing, holding lunches (though in the early years they were at the Council on Aging), and organizing trips to Atlanta.

Peggy has always been a great adventurer and traveler. She has gone fly fishing in the Alaskan wilderness with Ron ten years in a row and rafted the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon twice. Having taken ten European trips with the same two friends on the Dartmouth Alumni cruises, she is featured along with those friends in the *Dartmouth Alumni News*: “If you’ve taken [one of our cruises] to any of a number of . . . destinations, you may have seen them: three women of a certain age, clearly dear friends, animatedly participating in faculty lectures, avidly planning side junkets, inviting you as a fellow traveler to join the conversation, and chatting and laughing at the dinner table—possibly while wearing tiaras. . . . They call themselves the Sunshine Girls.”

Peggy told me her plans for the coming year: in August, she is travelling to Ohio to her high school class reunion; in October she is taking one of those Dartmouth cruises with her friends to Prague and Germany; in December she and Ron are going to Honduras (“an unresort” where they just relax); in February she and ten high school friends who have gotten together once a

## Alexander

year for the past seven years have rented a house in St. Johns, Virgin Islands. She has also taken up bridge, playing twice a week, and as a result thinks she will be taking fewer OLLI classes and trips this year; she took \$650 worth last year.

All this is amazing enough, but Peggy is doing all this in spite of having multiple sclerosis (she was diagnosed in 2008 and walks with a cane), two strokes, surgery for a brain tumor, and a knee replacement. She had one of the strokes while on a ship crossing the English Channel on the way to Normandy. (At the

time, not knowing what it was, Peggy thought, “I shouldn’t have had that glass of wine with dinner last night.”) She had to use a wheel chair on the Normandy tour, and a fellow traveler who offered to help push it turned out to be Julie Nixon Eisenhower.

We can almost guess Peggy’s philosophy of life—but I asked her anyway. It was simply, “Go while you can. You don’t know when you can’t.” But I don’t think, in her own case, that Peggy will ever recognize the word “can’t.”

**This poem by OLLI member Martha Phillips won First Place in the Georgia Poetry Society’s Langston Hughes Award contest in January, 2015. It is published in the Society’s 2015 *Reach of Song*.**

### *The Music Made Her Smile*

*by Martha R. Phillips*

His little ears heard his grandma’s radio make crackling sounds  
as she turned the dial round and round.

She slowed once in a while;  
held her ear close to the much used Philco,  
and listened for familiar notes from the old radio.

The music made her smile.  
Its sweetness of song rang in her ear.  
It stilled her hand, and brought a tear.

In later years, the young man knew the radio’s words and song  
couldn’t compete when audio with visuals came along.

*Television* – all shiny and new!

He watched his grandma turn channels, hoping to find  
that old gospel music to ease her mind.

The Statesmen quartet came into view.  
He saw her eyes widen and her lips formed a frown  
as she pulled the hem of her dress – way down.

When she’d pulled as far as the dress would go  
she looked again, at the television show.

Her forehead wrinkled in distress.  
She tucked her head and looked his way.  
His eyes widened when he heard her say,  
“I think they can see up my dress.”

His assurance helped her understand –  
the men couldn’t see their number one fan.

She relaxed in her chair and closed her eyes for a while.  
The gospel songs flowed sweetly, through the air.  
The music made her smile.



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