



AT THE
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CREATING A LEGACY FOR OLLI

By Cher Snyder

Throughout our lives, we devote our resources to the people, causes, and activities we value most. It's heartwarming to see these resources bear fruit, and to know that our support makes a difference. As OLLI members who value lifelong learning, we experience this satisfaction every time we renew our membership, participate in classes, Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) or social events, or volunteer to serve on a committee or the Board of Directors.

Another way to demonstrate our commitment to lifelong learning at OLLI is to create a legacy – because where there's a will, there's a way! A bequest of money, property, stock, or other resources is a wonderful way to sustain OLLI's future and share the love of lifelong learning in years to come. Some gifts, like charitable remainder trusts or gift annuities, may also be tax-deductible – an additional incentive to consider as you speak with your financial advisor about these and other options for giving to OLLI.

Several members have already arranged to “pay it forward” by including OLLI among their beneficiaries.

Don Schneider has been active in the organization since its days as Learning in Retirement (LIR). His experiences as a member of the Finance Committee and parliamentarian for the Board enabled him to appreciate how well OLLI meets the needs of its members. “OLLI does a lot of good for people, especially through the classes it offers,” he says. “I’m even more grateful now



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Mamie Mierzwak



Mamie Mierzwak

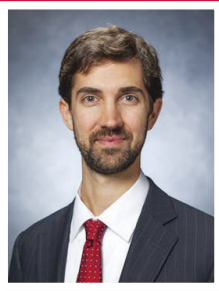
Happy Fall Y'all! This is a beautiful and fun time of year. The leaves are colorful, the weather is cooling down, and our national champion Georgia Bulldogs are back on the field!

This is also a great time to take advantage of everything OLLI@UGA has to offer. I am grateful for our wonderful committees – they have worked hard to create a fantastic offering of classes, Shared Interest Groups (SIGs), social events, and travel opportunities. This is one of the many reasons I like being part of OLLI – there is a wide variety of activities so all members can find their favorite way to learn, socialize, and have fun!

The last couple of years have been difficult in many ways, but looking back, I am proud of how the OLLI@UGA community came together to keep the organization moving forward. We were fortunate to have strong leadership and dedicated staff to guide us through unprecedented times. And our current leaders and staff continue to move OLLI in the right direction. I am happy that we continue to expand our offering of in-person classes while keeping Zoom options in place. We are traveling again and planning more social events. New members are joining us, and we're enjoying our reunions with returning members.

Soon we will launch a legacy giving program, which includes a free related class: “Planned Gifts: How to Make a Difference” (Oct. 19, 2-3 p.m. at River's Crossing). This program will provide information about how we can sustain OLLI@UGA into the future through legacy gifts. Please watch for more details

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Tim Meehan

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's nice to see everything back in full swing, especially with the return of the Lifelong Learning Fair last month – it was nice to connect with new, returning, and more established members.

It is good to feel that we are moving forward after so long in comparative hibernation. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff that made it happen, to Wesley Woods for providing refreshments, and to the VFW for hosting us.

I'd like to take a moment to introduce Joan Williams, our new receptionist. She will be at the front desk Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., for any questions or problems you may have. She has been a brilliant addition to the office and will help to provide more member-facing services.

We are continuing to work on delivering more classes and more opportunities for social interaction, but this requires help from every one of us. We have 150 classes this semester and hope to have the same next semester too (returning to our two-semester system). There are a number of ways you can assist us:

1) Help the Curriculum Committee by being a recruiter or presenter – we can all learn something from each other, and you may know someone who can cover something not already being taught, or something you would like to see taught. It is rewarding work, and the committee and office can give you a lot of assistance. Reach out to the committee on OLLI COMM.

2) Take a class, especially if it's something outside your comfort zone. Sometimes learning something new and different is more rewarding than returning to the same subjects again and again. According to the Institute of Gerontology, learning something completely new is one way of making your brain stay young and healthy.

3) Give feedback about each class you take. The link to the feedback form will be included in the class reminder and on every "About OLLI" email



Lunch & Learns

FALL 2022 (August - December)

OCTOBER 4: Giving Voice to Linnentown (Hattie Whitehead)

OCTOBER 25: More Dynamic Courtroom Moments (Ron Carlson)

NOVEMBER 15: Rabbit Box: Creating Community, One Story at a Time (Charles Wilmoth, Connie Crawley, Terry Kaley)

NOVEMBER 29: Unreconciled: Confronting the Legacy of Jim Crow through the Consolidation of Two Colleges in Georgia (Arthur Dunning)

DECEMBER 13: Thomas Cole (1801-1848) and the Hudson River School: A Higher Sort of Landscape Painting (Janice Simon)

COST: \$33 Per Person

TIME/LOCATION: 11:30 a.m. at Trumps Catering

REGISTER: Visit olli.uga.edu/lunchandlearn. Registration closes a week before the event.

(in the footer). The classes are listed alphabetically (including definite or indefinite articles), and each class evaluation should only take you five minutes or less. We welcome all constructive feedback.

We all have different roles to play in this lifelong learning community, and OLLI needs every one of us to play our role in order to thrive across the many parts of its programming.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: UNCOMMON GOURMET

By Greg Mitsoff

When it comes to Extra Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO), “Most Americans have never tasted the real thing,” say Randall and Carolyn Abney, founders of Uncommon Gourmet in Athens.

Uncommon Gourmet is an OLLI@UGA sponsor, and Randall offers OLLI members the opportunity to taste authentic EVOOs, as well as balsamic vinegars, by way of tasting classes held at River’s Crossing.

Randall and Carolyn decided to open Uncommon Gourmet after returning to the U.S. from a nine-year adventure living in a home on a 40-acre olive farm overlooking Florence, Italy. Upon settling in Georgia, they found that the olive oils available here didn’t match the quality of those they enjoyed while living in Italy.

To experience the flavors and the health benefits they

UNCOMMON GOURMET



RANDALL AND CAROLYN AT LAKE GARDA, ITALY

had become accustomed to, the Abneys realized they would need to import olive oil. After more than 100 blind tastings, Randall selected three EVOOs from a producer on the north shore of Lake Garda in northern Italy. Along with primo EVOOs, Uncommon Gourmet offers 80 artisanal balsamic vinegars and glazes. For more information, check the website at uncommongourmet.com.

PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

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on our website (olli.uga.edu) and in the weekly updates from our executive director, Tim Meehan.

My goals for this year include fully reopening, stabilizing our membership numbers, encouraging our volunteers and staff, measuring our success, and having fun. We are well on our way to achieving these goals, especially the “having fun” part!

Thank you for being part of OLLI@UGA – I am looking forward to a wonderful year filled with learning, socializing, and making new friends!

FALL CLASSES:

Select from over 125
classes this semester

olli.uga.edu/catalog



The cover of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) catalog for Fall 2022. The top section features the OLLI logo (a circle with 'OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE' inside) and the text 'UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA'. To the right, the word 'Catalog' is written in a large, serif font, with 'Fall 2022 (Aug 15 - Dec 16)' below it in a red banner. Social media icons for website, Facebook, and YouTube are also present. The bottom half of the cover is a photograph of three people in a garden setting, all focused on taking photos with their cameras. One person in the foreground is wearing a red vest and a hat. The text 'Picture This! SIG' is visible in the bottom left corner of the photo area.

We're



Garden Enthusiasts SIG
(M. Van Dyck)



Lifelong Learning SIG
(S. Mas)



Athens Transit Class
(D. Torcivia)



Membership Committee
(P. Dixen)



Book Discussion SIG
(P. Dixen)

OLLI!



Learning Fair
(Mason)



Lunch Bunch SIG
(G. Houseman)



Volunteer Appreciation Event
(G. Whiting)



Committee



July Board Meeting
(P. Dixon)



New Staff Member Joan
Williams
(P. Dixon)

SHOUT-OUT TO OUR SIG LEADERS

By Patricia Dixen

A big thank you to all OLLI members who are or have been leaders of SIGs (Shared Interest Groups).

We currently have a wonderful array of 21 SIGs. Some are led by a single leader, some by co-leaders and, in three cases, there's a leader who leads more than one SIG.

For instance, **Lorraine Downie** has led the Poker SIG for more than 10 years. In addition, she leads the *Pinochle Posse* and *Mahjong* SIGs. All meet weekly at Wesley Woods.

Another member who leads more than one SIG is **Gary Whiting**. He heads up both *Splashdown*, the kayaking SIG, and the *Picture This* SIG.

And there's **Peter Balsamo**, who heads up both the *WISEmen* and *Aging and Longevity* SIGs.

A member who joined OLLI just this past year and started a new SIG is **Joe Beckner**, who leads *Euchre*. The group meets each Friday at Athentic Brewery.

We also have members who have taken over this year as leaders of an existing SIG, such as **Madeline Van Dyck** who, with **Allan Armitage**, now leads the *Garden Enthusiasts*. **Dennis Caughy**, as of August, is co-leader of *Enjoying Opera in Athens*. And **Bill Loughner** took the leadership torch for *Cinema@Cine* from Ron Wallach. These leaders are helping keep very popular SIGs going strong.

Thanks also to **Linda Jenkins**, leader of *Writing Memoirs*; **Adrien Helm**, who heads up *Poetry Writing*;



Laura Carter and **Gene Wengert** for their expertise with *DNA for Genealogy*; and **Cheryl Copeland** for leading *Book Discussions* each month.

We also applaud **Sue Flemming** and **Nancy Cobb** for leading *Happy Hikers*, and **Lewis Frazar**, who heads up *OLLI Walks*.

And we thank **Carolyn Ashley** and **Jean Crown** as co-leaders of *Supper Club*; **Glover Houseman**, who plans the monthly *Lunch Bunch* get-togethers; **Louise McElroy** and **Vic Armstrong**, who share leadership of *Solo Seniors*; and **Warren French** who heads up *Retired Old Men Eating Out (R.O.M.E.O.)* SIG

A special thank you to **Barbara Lewis**, who is the new SIG Leader coordinator.

OLLI Thanks All of You.

You can sign up for any of these SIGs, or send a thank you to a SIG leader, on OLLI Comm, <https://olli-uga.mn.co/feed>

Parking Passes Are Available

Purchase When Registering
for Classes



CREATING A LEGACY FOR OLLI

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for online classes since I'm unable to attend at River's Crossing. For these reasons and so many others, OLLI deserves my support."

John and Nancy Songster were also actively engaged at the time LIR transitioned to OLLI and have continued to serve in leadership roles over many years. Serving as OLLI treasurer and on the Board enabled John long ago to envision the importance of legacy gifts to OLLI as "a necessary supplement to the Osher endowment as the organization continues to grow." About their own legacy gift to OLLI, Nancy, a former leader of the Enjoy Opera in Athens SIG, says, "When we thought of what was important to our happiness and lifestyle, OLLI was on top of the list!"



Jay and Cathi Shinn, initially members of LIR, have continued to enjoy the fruits of lifelong learning through OLLI. Jay, former chair of the Membership Committee, Board member and past OLLI president, states, "This organization provides members an easy way to enlarge their social circle and expand their knowledge and activity base. OLLI has been a gift to us, and we wanted to pay it forward to the OLLI of the future."



Madeline Van Dyck's enthusiasm for OLLI led her and her husband Phil to create their legacy gift in 2020. Currently co-chair of the Gardening Enthusiasts SIG, she notes, "Seeing cherished friends give back to the causes they've loved inspired us to do the same. We hope our gift to OLLI sets an example for others to be generous with their gifts."



Other OLLI members have made similar commitments to help ensure OLLI's future.

To explore ways in which you, too, can help sustain lifelong learning through OLLI, we invite you to visit OLLI's website (olli.uga.edu/giving) and register for the upcoming OLLI class, "Planned Gifts: How to Make a Difference." This class, Oct. 19, 2-3 p.m. at River's Crossing, is free and open to all OLLI members. Check your fall course catalog for more information. OLLI Executive Director Tim Meehan is also available to answer your questions at (706) 542-7715 or timothy.meehan@uga.edu. Thank you for your support!

**Thank you OLLI
partner and sponsors
for your continued
support.**

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