

ILLI TIME

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GIVE A GIFT TO OLL!!

By Larry Dendy

Suppose you could have more OLLI classes to choose from each semester. Or more evening and Saturday classes, or classes in different locations. How about more opportunities to socialize or travel with OLLI friends?

You can help make these and other advances in OLLI programming possible with a gift to OLLI's Annual Fund campaign, which began this month and continues through November. The campaign's \$17,000 goal is crucial to expanding and invigorating the basic services OLLI provides its members, says Executive Director Tim Meehan.

"Membership and class fees, and the Osher Foundation endowment, pay for about 90 percent of our programming costs," Tim explains. "We depend on the Annual Fund to cover the rest, and to help provide members with increased opportunities for learning, personal growth and social engagement."

Those opportunities could include adding evening and Saturday classes, holding classes at sites other than River's Crossing, and scheduling new travel and social events. But such advances come with increased administrative, staffing and logistics costs that have to be met through the Annual Fund.

"Many of our members faithfully donate to the Annual Fund and their recurring gifts are the lifeblood of OLLI," Tim says. "We hope many more will join them this year to continue and expand the services OLLI provides."

With more than 1,150 members, reaching the \$17,000 goal isn't daunting. A gift of just \$100

FALL FOR OLLI CLASSES!

By Cher Snyder

Although Fall Semester began in August, OLLI is serving up nearly 80 more classes October through December 2023. Check out these tasty morsels from our fabulous fall fare:

Classes showcasing local interests and venues will feature a downtown Athens walking tour (Oct. 11), a visit to the Oak House distillery (Oct.





12), a tour of a local kombucha brewery producing fermented food and drink (Oct. 2), a German Oktoberfest cooking class at Lindsey's Culinary Market (Oct. 10), tours of UGA's Ethnobotanical Garden (Oct. 14) and the Ramsey Center for Physical Activity (Oct. 27), learning about Pétanque at Lay Park (Oct. 9), viewing art at AthlCA, the Athens **Institute for Contemporary Art** (Oct. 16)), on-site visits to ACC venues including the **Athens Ben Epps** Airport (Oct. 17) and Multimodal Transportation **Center** (Oct. 17), presentations on the **Athens** Fibercraft Guild (Oct. 13), the Winter Wonder Lights program at the State Botanical Garden (Oct. 11), and the Sandy Creek Nature Center's Georgia Brick Company ruins (Nov. 10).

Current/ongoing events are featured in classes on Travels in Africa, the Big Five and Jihadists (Oct. 23), what's up at the courts (Nov. 16), Civil Rights commemoration challenges (Nov. 9), and reckoning with the history of slavery (5 sessions beginning Oct. 10).

Tim Meehan

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One of the favorite parts of my job is to be able to celebrate with members when we have achieved something new together.

We have had a couple of new initiatives over the past few months that bear a moment of recognition.

Firstly, our OLLI Summer Film Festival, which has been so ably guided by Bill Loughner over the past few years, was able to move to Ciné, where members were able to enjoy classic films in the comfort of this Athens art house cinema. Thank you to both Pamela at Ciné and Kathryn Kyker for making this effort so successful. Hopefully we will be able to repeat this next year.

Secondly, we have been able to produce OLLI apparel, supporting local business Satisfactory. We have not had shirts and hats available for a while, and it was good to see this project completed. If you missed this August's window to purchase apparel, don't worry, we expect to be able to open the online store again in January. Hopefully we will be able to repeat this next year.

Thank you to Lisa Chafin and Patricia Dixen for all of their work on this.

And more new initiatives are in the works:

- 1. More evening and weekend classes, thanks to the work of the Curriculum Committee.
- 2. Being able to celebrate our donors more widely by making Class Sponsorships available through the Annual Fund appeal.
- 3. Membership Committee looking to be more visible at local events.
- 4. Hospitality Committee creating a wider range of social events for everyone to enjoy.

All of this takes resources — both financial and human. I would strongly encourage everyone to consider volunteering. Even a small effort will help to provide such a wonderful program that is well worth celebrating together.

In October, our president elect Carol Coman and I get the privilege of going to the National Osher Conference, which happens every 18 months. I feel a large amount of pride being able to show the other 124 Osher Institutes what we are able to do here — and what we still have planned.

OLLI FALL CLASSES

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Classes focusing on science and technology range from vaccines (Oct. 24) to the DNA double helix (Nov. 13), from being a scientist now (Oct. 3) and then, before Galileo (Oct. 2), to the Zen of aviation (Nov. 14) and getting ready for an electric vehicle (Nov. 13), and from understanding everyday technology (Oct. 4) to energy matters (Oct. 9).

Classes about health, well-being, and physical activity include the MyChart patient portal (Oct. 2), hearing and communication improvement (3 sessions beginning Oct. 25), nutrition, activity and bone health (Nov. 9), lifetime foot care (Nov. 15), and CBD for better health (Oct. 27 or Dec. 7).

Classes about history and culture, politics and conflict, plants and gardening, life planning, arts, crafts, jewelry, music, movies, and literature are also available. Go to olli.uga.edu and select Members Login in the top right corner to log into your account, then select Registration Login to register for classes. Also visit OLLI's online catalog at olli.uga.edu/catalog for details. See you in class!

OLLI MEMBERS, WE HEAR YOU

By Ann Allen

The opportunity to learn through classes remains the top benefit for OLLI members, according to the 2023 online survey conducted in May.

Members are interested in more flexible class formats, be it onsite at River's Crossing, online through Zoom, and evening and weekend options. Offsite classes and Lunch and Learns remain popular.

Close to 300 members participated in the survey. Questions took the form of multiple choice and ranking, but also requests for comments and suggestions. Respondents were not shy about providing a wide variety of ideas for new class topics, Shared Interest Groups (SIGs), social event formats, and, generally, what to do differently. This information has been passed along to the appropriate committees and coordinators, says Tim Meehan, OLLI executive director.

Participating in SIGs ranked as the second most important member benefit. Not surprisingly, members continue to value their social times together in OLLI@UGA. Appreciation of revived travel options was reflected in a move up the benefit rankings. Taking advantage of UGA-related benefits appears to be of more select interest.

The tools that members use to stay informed about all things OLLI remain a mix of email, OLLI COMM, the website, and the OLLI Times newsletter.



Survey respondents used these words frequently when asked, "What would you like the OLLI Board of Directors to know about member benefits?"

"The 2023 survey clearly illustrates that OLLI@UGA is composed of many different individuals with differing priorities," Tim emphasizes. "We are committed to offering programming that appeals to all our members."

GIVING TO OLLI

Continued from page 1

from 170 members would do it. A \$75 gift from 250 members would top it.

And supporting the Annual Fund is easy. Donors can make a one-time direct gift or pledge periodic payments throughout the year. Arrangements can also be made for smaller recurring monthly payments through the UGA giving platform.

Donors can also follow the lead of former OLLI President Chris Jones, retired vice president of government affairs for Verizon Wireless. Every year since his retirement, Verizon has matched Chris's Annual Fund donation.

"Many businesses and corporations will match retiree charitable gifts," Chris says. "There are certain requirements and restrictions, but matching is a great way to add to your personal gift and OLLI retirees should check with their former employer." And remember, Chris adds, "Gifts to OLLI may be tax deductible."

Other perks for Annual Fund donors: recognition as a class sponsor for a \$150 donation and an OLLI shirt for a \$500 gift.

Be on the lookout for information about the Annual Fund and join fellow members in helping make OLLI an even more exciting and valuable part of your life. To give, visit olli.uga.edu/giving.







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As part of UGA's Office of Public Service & Outreach, the Georgia Center staff create an inclusive and engaging environment supporting intellectual exchange and fostering professional and personal growth for guests from the UGA community, the state of Georgia, and around the world.

For more information on the UGA Center for Continuing Education & Hotel, visit their website: https://discover.georgiacenter.uga.edu/





UPCOMING LUNCH & LEARNS

Oct. 24: Identity Crisis: Mystery, Murder, and Missing DNA

Nov. 7: Bonnie Prince Charlie, the Jacobite Rebellions, and the Clearances

Dec. 5: "Nobody who has been drinking is let in to see this show": The Armory Show of 1913



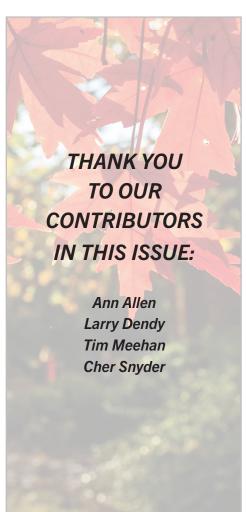
olli.uga.edu/lunchandlearns

OLLI CALENDAR: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



Want to stay up to date on upcoming OLLI events and classes? Go to olli.uga.edu/calendar and bookmark the page!







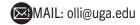
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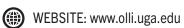




River's Crossing 850 College Station Road Athens, GA 30602-4811 Telephone: 706-542-7715







Executive Director	Tim Meehan
President	Dawn Torcivia
Co-editors, OLLI Times	Greg Mitsoff
	Larry Dendy
Designer, OLLI Times.	Tracy Coley