



AT THE
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NEW AND SOON: OSHER ONLINE

By Larry Dendy

OLLI@UGA members will have a wider variety of classes to choose from this fall with the addition of an array of online courses taught by experts around the United States and abroad.

The courses will be made available through Osher Online, a service of the Osher National Resource Center, the network of lifelong learning organizations in the U.S. Many of these organizations, including OLLI@UGA, are affiliated with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

OLLI@UGA will offer Osher Online courses in addition to the 170-plus classes arranged each semester by the OLLI@UGA Curriculum Committee. Unlike an OLLI@UGA class, which typically is presented in one or two sessions, Osher courses are taught in a quarterly format in once-a-week 90-minute sessions over six weeks, allowing deeper exploration of a topic. The courses are provided by the Northwestern University School of Professional Studies and taught by leading scholars and professional experts.

Lisa Myers, chair of the OLLI@UGA Curriculum Committee, said between 10-20 Osher courses will be offered beginning this fall. Specific information about courses, and details such as scheduling and cost, will be announced later but Lisa says the courses will fulfill several needs identified by the committee.

"The Osher Online courses will allow us to offer longer courses of six weeks at a very competitive price," Lisa says. "They supplement our Course Lists

Continued on page 7

THE LUNCH BUNCH

By Glover Houseman



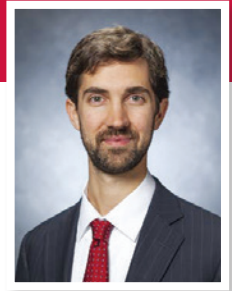
The Lunch Bunch SIG meets once a month at a local restaurant to simply enjoy a lunch together. Our lunches are on the third Wednesdays of the month at 1p.m. — a time and date that takes us out of the establishment's "lunch rush," and allows us to more or less dine at our leisure. Our SIG has a truly diverse membership of single people, couples, world travelers, and long-term Athens residents, and the lunches are chatty and lively. There's a lunch every month of the year.

Our venues are moderately priced, and we make sure that most dietary preferences are available in some degree.

We further the educational mission of OLLI by meeting typically at locally owned restaurants that offer a broad spectrum of culinary options. By constantly varying the cuisine we sample lunches including Southern traditional, Japanese, Tex-Mex, Chinese, BBQ, Jamaican and Pub Grub. Through these lunches, members are introduced to perhaps an unseen eating

Continued on page 2

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Tim Meehan

As you can see from this issue, OLLI never stands still. We add additional programs, continue to work on existing ones, and ensure that there are enough ways for both current and new members to stay engaged. Please read this issue's articles to find out about our summer programs and a new program we are starting this fall – the Osher Online classes. These are online longer-form courses that will give you a chance to learn with members of other OLLIs all over the country.

Our community at the UGA Gwinnett Campus is continuing to grow, with a SIG starting at the end of March. It has been very heartening to see the additional engagement with the campus – including 20 people who attended one of our two AI classes. Those who attended take note – the Dartmouth Summer Lecture Series this year will also be on how Artificial Intelligence is transforming America.

I am also very excited about all the other activities we have this summer, keeping us engaged and entertained all through the summer. We are looking for volunteers to help direct those attending the Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement in July, both around the Georgia Center for Continuing Education,

where the conference will be held, and to points in town. If you are interested, please contact the office.

We are grateful to all our members who make OLLI@UGA function. Those who work hard on committees to ensure that each of the parts of our program works as well as possible – finding classes, organizing travel, or arranging events for members to come together; those who give time to teach classes and coordinate Shared Interest Groups; and those who contribute to the Annual Fund to help us keep overall prices as affordable as possible. To celebrate OLLI and the members who constitute it, please join us at the Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation on June 11 at Flinchum's Phoenix (1-3 p.m.). This event is free and we look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

We are a community of lifelong learners among many other national communities of lifelong learners, and it will be wonderful to welcome so many different regional organizations over the summer and to join with other OLLIs through the fall.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

Continued from page 1

culture of Athens. We have dined at both the oldest continuously operating restaurant in Athens and the oldest Chinese restaurant in Athens.

Occasionally we will take a "road trip" to a restaurant in a county adjoining Clarke/Oconee.

Unfortunately, continuing to eat at small locally owned restaurants becomes increasingly difficult every year as many of the established, family-owned restaurants close, seemingly to be replaced by yet another chain.

We average about 25 SIG members at a lunch and everyone is welcome to join us. There's no chance of anyone being the odd person out.

OLLI@UGA is hosting the Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement (SRCLR) July 27-29!

**Interested in volunteering?
Contact Timothy.Meehan@uga.edu.**

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE:

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OLLI IN SUMMER

By *Malcolm Richardson*

“Ain’t no cure for the summer time blues,” Eddie Cochran sang in a 1958 hit song. But in summer time 2026 there are a lot of OLLI activities going on, even after most UGA students have headed home and the streets and stores are (comparatively) empty. While the regular fall-spring semester classes are suspended in summer, OLLI activities by no means stop.

This summer, for example, some unique events will center around the Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement, which OLLI@UGA will host July 27-29 at the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education and Hotel. Our executive director Tim Meehan will announcing events and gatherings open to local OLLI members as soon as they’re finalized. Here’s a great opportunity to find out what’s going in other lifelong learning groups.

The Dartmouth Summer Lecture series, a popular annual OLLI livestreaming event, is on a topic of immediate interest to all of us – like it or not – Artificial Intelligence. The series, called “The Osher at Dartmouth Summer Lecture Series,” runs July 8 to August 2, with registration beginning later this spring. Read all about it at https://osher.dartmouth.edu/events_programs/summer_lecture_series/index.php.

OLLI’s summer film series also offers something new

and challenging, asking us, “what are the best films of the 21st century?” The series will include four films considered among the best made after 2000 and chosen from an extensive survey of industry professionals by the *New York Times*. Movie goers can discuss what makes a film “great” and debate which of these fit the definition. The series will take place at Ciné, our downtown arts theater, every Tuesday in July at 1:30.

At least 17 SIGs also saunter along through the summer without a major break, too many to list here. While some outdoor-oriented SIGs break during the hottest months, a healthy variety of other SIGs keep meeting, including air conditioned activities related to games, dining, languages, and reading/writing. However, it’s best to check with your SIG leader to get the dates right, since a few take “pauses” for a month or so.

On July 11, OLLI Fest will again be held at River’s Crossing. This time the stars have aligned so that OLLI Fest is being held before the start of class registration so you’ll have a better idea of your fall schedule and can get into popular classes before they fill. Finally, the OLLI trip to Oxford (UK) will be a highlight for many who were lucky enough to reserve a place for this visit to the “city of dreaming spires” and of course the world-famous university.

NEW OLLI SIG LAUNCHES: GWINNETT WALKS

By *Patricia Dixen*

OLLI@UGA members in the Gwinnett County area have a new opportunity to connect, stay active, and enjoy the outdoors together. The newly formed Gwinnett Walks Shared Interest Group (SIG) is led by OLLI member Rob Dennis and welcomes anyone interested in a friendly weekly walk.

The group walks at Alexander Park, located just outside of Lawrenceville (800 Old Snellville Hwy). The park offers ample parking and well-maintained paved paths that are ideal for walkers of all abilities. The route is approximately two miles along the park’s paved trails, making it an accessible and comfortable distance for most participants.

The Gwinnett Walks SIG meets Monday and Wednesday



each week at 10 a.m., with the start time shifting to 9 a.m. during the summer months to take advantage of cooler morning temperatures. Members can join regularly or drop in when their schedules allow.

One of the goals of the group is to keep the pace flexible and inclusive. The walking speed will be determined by participants, especially during the first few gatherings.

Continued on page 7



Arts and Crafts SIG
(M. Miller)



Community Opportunities
(J. Shaikun)



Introduction to the Enneagram and Your Personality Type Class
(J. Shaikun)

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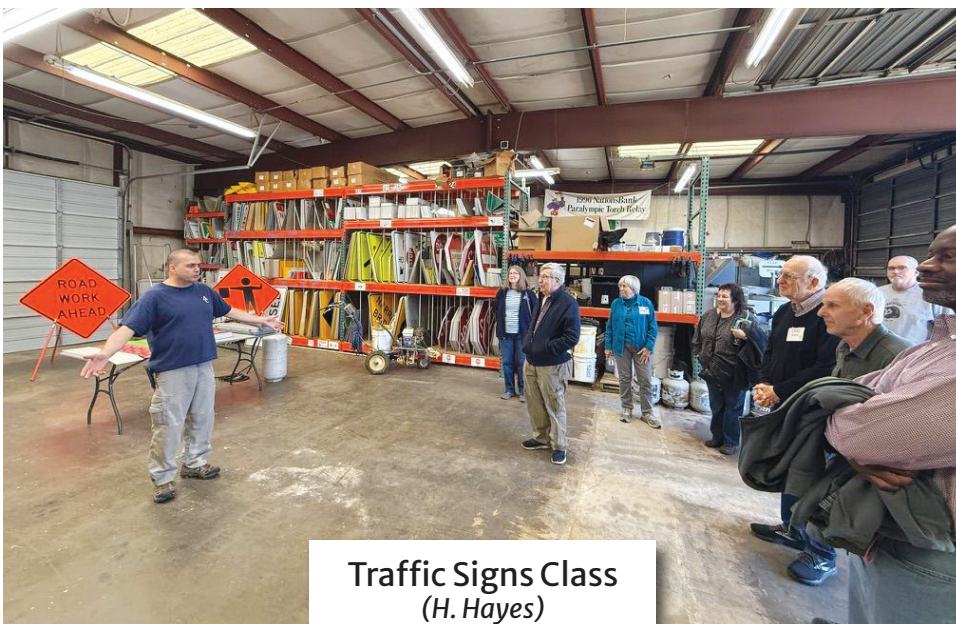
New Member Orientation
(J. Shaikun)



What Did you Do in WW
(J. S)



es at Hugh Hodgson Class
(J. Shaikun)



Traffic Signs Class
(H. Hayes)



Flash Mob Coffee SIG
(C. Snyder)



Happy Hikers SIG
(S. Edwards)



VII, Daddy Gwinnett Class
(J. Shaikun)



Think You Know AI Gwinnett Class
(J. Shaikun)

OLLI SPONSOR: UGA Speech and Hearing Clinic

By Martha McFerron

The Mary Frances Early College of Education at the University of Georgia is home to the UGA Speech and Hearing Clinic, a long-time OLLI sponsor. The clinic has provided a range of speech-language pathology and audiology services in the Athens community for more than 70 years.

The clinic's Speech-Language Therapy for Georgians program addresses cognitive communication, speech sound disorders, brain-related impairment (including cluttering and stuttering) and other dysfunctions for clients of all ages.

The Voice and Swallowing Services program focuses on treatment for a swallowing disorder known as Dysphagia caused by medication or another medical condition. A Flexible Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallow (FEES) procedure is used to assess the ability to swallow.

The Speech and Hearing Clinic also provides extensive hearing assessments for adults, children, and newborns conducted by licensed, nationally certified audiologists. Offering a variety of hearing solutions, the clinic gives patients price-point options available from multiple national and international hearing aid manufacturers with state-of-the-art products. Services include hearing aid consultations, fitting and programming, and troubleshooting. Custom swim molds and hearing protection are also available.



Resources have been expanded to include cochlear implant analysis for potential candidates, activation, and troubleshooting. The clinic works with ENT surgeons and is qualified to program all implant devices manufactured by three U.S. companies.

Additionally, the Speech and Hearing Clinic offers help to people with Parkinson disease in collaboration with several local Parkinson support groups. Patients receive beneficial information during a time of uncertainty. Voice, swallow, cognition, and speech evaluations and treatments are offered. Deficits can be replaced with gains while working with a speech language pathologist. The "We are Dawgs with intent" program is part of a 12-week Speak Out therapy program that enables Parkinson patients to support and encourage each other in an interesting and challenging setting.

The clinic's hearing testing and speech services are offered to anyone in Georgia. The clinic accepts insurance and has a sliding pay scale for uninsured patients. Call (706) 542-4598, email shclinic@uga.edu, or visit the website at Speech and Hearing Clinic - Mary Frances Early College of Education. The clinic is located at 110 Carlton Street, 593 Aderhold Hall in Athens.

Thank you OLLI partner and sponsors for your continued support.

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WUGA Radio

NEW AND SOON: OSHER ONLINE

Continued from page 1

with topics we might not otherwise be able to offer, and the quarterly schedule allows our members to stay engaged between our semesters.”

Courses will be taught at a variety of times Monday through Saturday. Each course will have between 30 and 150 participants located throughout the U.S. and will include lectures and discussion among class members. “This will give our OLLI@UGA members an opportunity to interact with other OLLI members around the country,” Lisa adds.

OLLI@UGA members will access classes through the OsherOnline.net web portal, which Lisa assures has “an easy, intuitive interface.” They will register and pay for classes through the OLLI.UGA.edu website. Registration will include a course description,

biographical information about the instructor and a one-minute video overview of the class.

A registration date hasn’t been set but Lisa says it probably won’t be in conjunction with registration for OLLI@UGA fall classes. A per-class cost also isn’t finalized “but OLLI@UGA intends to keep the price very reasonable,” Lisa says. A “captain” will be appointed from the OLLI staff or Curriculum Committee to manage the Osher Online program.

Here’s a sample of recent Osher Online courses: “Music Controversies,” “The JFK Presidency,” “Great Science Stories,” “History of 20th and 21st Century Popes,” “Street Art,” “The Lost Generation,” “Comic Book Literature,” and “Frank Lloyd Wright.”

NEW OLLI SIG LAUNCHES: GWINNETT WALKS

Continued from page 3

The emphasis is on enjoying the walk together rather than keeping a strict pace, and organizers want to be sure no one feels left behind. Whether you prefer a leisurely stroll or a slightly brisker walk, the group will work to accommodate everyone.

While the first walks will take place at Alexander Park, the long-term plan is to explore other parks throughout Gwinnett County. With nearly 50 park locations across the county, there are many beautiful settings to discover. As the group becomes established, future walks may rotate among several of these parks, providing variety and opportunities to experience different trails and landscapes.

Walking is one of the simplest and most accessible forms of exercise. It requires no special expertise or expensive equipment—just a comfortable pair of walking shoes and a willingness to get moving. In return, participants can enjoy gentle but effective physical activity, fresh air, and good company.

If you live in or near Gwinnett—or simply enjoy walking—consider joining the group for a morning walk. New faces are always welcome. Sign up for Gwinnett Walks on OLLI Comm, <https://olli-uga.mn.co/feed>, for all the details.

Order Your Spring OLLI Merchandise!



Clothing:

Polos, bomber jackets, and short- and long-sleeved shirts

Accessories:

Totes, leatherette journal, insulated tumbler



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