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## Summer 2024 Course Descriptions

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### **Absolute Power and Porcelain**

**Ian Crawford, Instructor**

**July 10, 17, 24, 31 | 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm | OLLI Shares UAH-Zoom**

The history of Enlightenment-era European monarchs' diplomacy through their dining customs and etiquette. The class will look at timelines and utilize knowledge of material culture, enlightenment philosophy, and political power shifts.

### **Advanced Hiking**

**Phyllis Stanaland, Instructor**

**June 6, 13, 20; July 11, 18, 25 | 8:30 am - 11:30 am | Chewacla**

**Participants will need to pay the entrance fee of \$4.00 in person (People 62 and older are \$2.00)**

This advanced hiking course is for experienced hikers and features challenging terrain and distances. Hikes alternate between Chewacla State Park and other sites, starting at 8:30 AM. Expect 6+ mile trails, intensified by summer conditions. Primary destinations include Chewacla State Park and Columbus River Walk/Dragonfly. Bring 2 liters of water, snacks, and lunch. Carpooling from Sunny Slope is common, with a \$5 fee per ride at term-end to support drivers.

**Required:** A demonstration of your hiking proficiency before the first class.

Two hiking poles are recommended. A small day pack is suggested.

**Phyllis Stanaland** began hiking with OLLI Hikers in 2018. Having been an avid walker for several years, this presented a welcomed challenge. She has experienced physical progress, and the camaraderie with other hikers has been a special plus.

### **African American Landscapes and History of Alabama**

**Elijah Gaddis, Instructor**

**June 6, 13, 20 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | Sunny Slope Classroom**

This course will examine selected topics in Alabama's history by looking at the world around us. We'll approach the study of the past through landscapes, uncovering untold or little-remembered topics.

**Elijah Gaddis** is the Hollifield Associate Professor of Southern History at Auburn University. He specializes in post-Emancipation African American life in the South.

### **Anticipatory Grief - What is it? How to Recognize it?**

**Leisa Askew, Instructor**

**June 4, 11, 18 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Anticipatory grief refers to a feeling of grief before an impending loss. Most people don't recognize this within themselves. These sessions will review the different grief stages and provide coping skills and resources for grief and loss.

**Leisa Askew** is a licensed social worker with 27 years of experience working with an aging population, a certified Dementia Care Specialist, and an Aging Resource Specialist.

## **The Battle of Fort Blakeley and the Civil War Campaign for Mobile**

**Mike Bunn, Instructor**

**June 12 | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm | OLLI Shares UAH-Zoom**

Explore the pivotal events of April 9, 1865, when approximately sixteen thousand Union troops launched a bold assault on Fort Blakeley, a three-mile-long line of earthworks. This assault marked the climax of a weeks-long campaign that led to the capture of Mobile—the last major Southern city in Confederate hands. This course provides insight into the chaos of this historic moment along the Mobile-Tensaw Delta, delving into Alabama's largest Civil War battlefield.

**Mike Bunn**, Director of Historic Blakeley State Park in Spanish Fort, Alabama, is the author or co-author of several books, including *Fort Stoddert: American Sentinel on the Mobile River, 1799-1814*; *Fourteenth Colony: The Forgotten Story of the Gulf South During America's Revolutionary Era*; and *The Assault on Fort Blakeley: "The Thunder and Lightning of Battle."*

## **Collage: Some Assembly Required, a workshop with Billy Renkl**

**Billy Renkl, Instructor**

**Workshop 1: July 29 - August 2 (Option 1) | 8:30 am - 4:30 pm | Biggin Hall**

or

**Workshop 2: August 5 - August 9 (Option 2) | 8:30 am - 4:30 pm | Biggin Hall**

Join us at Auburn University's Biggin Hall to explore and enrich your creative talents! Led by renowned artist Billy Renkl, this workshop offers practical insights and skill refinement. Please note that participants are welcome to attend either Workshop 1 from July 29 to August 1 or Workshop 2 from August 5 to August 8. However, due to limited capacity, each registrant may only enroll in one workshop.

**Biggin Hall is located at** 112 South College Street, Auburn University, AL. Participants will have the opportunity to take a lunch break on their own.

**Course Registration Fee - \$50**

**Required Supplies:** Students are responsible for purchasing the listed supplies before the first class meeting.

1. **8 oz Jar of Matte Gel Medium, preferably Liquitex** (Illustrative Example: [Liquitex Gel Medium Gloss 8 oz Jar](#))
2. **9" x 12" Pad of Bristol Board, 20 sheets** (Illustrative Example: [9" x 12" Bristol Board, 20 sheets](#))
3. **Set of Acrylic Brushes, various sizes, medium quality** (Illustrative Example: [Princeton Select Brush Set - Set of 6](#))
4. **White Plastic Eraser, brand unimportant** (Illustrative Example: [Staedtler Mars Plastic Eraser](#))
5. **Graphite Pencil HB** (Illustrative Example: [Graphite Pencil HB](#))
6. **X-Acto #1 Knife Set (handle and blade)** (Illustrative Example: [X-Acto Knife #1 with Cap](#))
7. **Package of 40 #11 X-Acto Blades, stainless steel (NOT X-acto X-life blades)** (Illustrative Example: [X-Acto #11 Blades - Package of 40](#))
8. 12-24" Stainless steel ruler with cork back
9. Scissors

**Billy Renkl**, an artist and educator from Birmingham, AL, holds a BFA in Visual Communications from Auburn University and an MFA in Drawing from the University of South Carolina. He currently teaches drawing and illustration at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN. Renkl's artwork has been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions at prestigious venues like The Cumberland Gallery in Nashville, TN, and Marguerite Oestreicher Fine Arts in New Orleans. His pieces are also part of permanent collections at institutions such as The University of Alabama at Birmingham and The Tennessee State Museum, reflecting his diverse creative talents and passion for artistic exploration.

## **Brain: The Aging Brain**

**Jason Chang, Instructor**

**June 4, 5, 6 | 9:00 am - 10:45 am | Sunny Slope Main Classroom**

Explore the aging brain in this course. Gain insights into its structure, function, and effects of aging. Topics cover age-related cognitive changes, memory, and practical strategies for maintaining brain health.

**Jason Chang** is a retired University of Arkansas faculty member for Medical Sciences.

Updated 5/10/2024

## **The Business of Opera - People, Houses, and Traditions**

**Elizabeth Aversa, Instructor**

**July 8, 15, 22, 29 | 9:00 am - 10:45 am | OLLI Shares UA-Zoom**

The rich history, entrenched traditions, and fascinating behind-the-scenes stories from the world of opera are explored in this course. Notable people, companies, and private and public venues will be the focus, with plenty of great music to illustrate both fabulous successes and dismal failures in opera.

**Elizabeth Aversa** is a retired The University of Alabama faculty member. Although her professional career was in library & information science education, she was "raised on opera" and has enjoyed it all her life thanks to her parents, who introduced her to opera at an early age to her husband, with whom she enjoys operas at venues from the Met to The University of Alabama Opera Theatre.

## **Careful Pencil Drawing**

**Scott Melville, Instructor**

**July 11, 18, 25 | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Participants will refine their drawing abilities through practical exercises. They will explore composition, blending, and values using provided photographs as references. Additionally, attention will be given to the significance of lost and found edges. Participants will enhance their skills by meticulously completing a variety of pencil drawings, emphasizing attention to detail throughout the process.

**Required materials to be purchased by the member:**

- (4) #2 pencils
- (4) sheets of drawing paper (11in X 14in – at least 80# weight)
- Ruler
- Eraser

**Scott Melville** has regularly painted for nearly 40 years and has enjoyed pencil drawing for the last seven years.

## **Causes and Tactics in the Civil War**

**John Mason, Instructor**

**July 8, 9 | 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm | OLLI Shares UAH-Zoom**

Learn why some historians believe a Civil War was inevitable from America's beginning. Explore topics such as the effects of the Industrial Revolution, growth, multiple political compromises, and the root of the insurrection, slavery. Secondly, the course will explore military tactics in the 19th Century and how they changed due to the conflict.

**John Mason** was a contracting specialist with the U.S. Government. Now happily retired, he lives in Huntsville, Alabama, and studies everything that kept him from doing. When not researching and writing, he likes to read, travel, walk, and play a really bad game of golf.

## **Developing Resilience as a Leader**

**Robert Holmes**

**July 23 | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Conference Room**

The interactive workshop delves into the skills of an effective leader to build and promote resilience within their organization, team, or personal life. Emphasizing the importance of resilience, the workshop encourages participant interaction and learning through personal experiences. Suitable for individuals across various domains, including business, community organizations, and personal life, participants will glean valuable insights into enhancing their leadership capabilities.

**Brigadier General USAF (Retired) Robert "Bob" Holmes** led the 720th Special Tactics Group during Afghanistan combat operations post-9/11. Rising to flag rank in 2005, he held key roles such as USAF Director of Security Forces and Force Protection. A decorated combat veteran, Holmes offers leadership development and strategic planning services in Alabama.

## Digital Sketching

**Kelly Homan, Instructor**

**June 12, 13 | 9:00 am - 11:00 am | Sunny Slope Annex**

Participants will utilize iPads with Apple Pencils provided in class for digital sketching. Drawing inspiration from historical examples, they'll explore various techniques. The equipment remains in class for uninterrupted access, enabling focused skill development and creative expression in a digital medium.

**Kelly Homan**, an assistant professor at Auburn University, focuses her research on Alabama grassland communities, ecologically focused urbanism, and landscape-scale biodiversity design. Her current projects include testing biochar amendment with native seed mixes, designing landscape corridors, and documenting native grasslands across Alabama.

## The Emperor of All Maladies

**Mary Arnold, Instructor**

**July 11, 18, 25 | 11:00 am - 1:15 pm | Sunny Slope Main Classroom**

Participants are invited to join an informative exploration of cancer's impact through the PBS documentary series "The Emperor of All Maladies," based on Siddhartha Mukherjee's book. Across three two-hour videos, they will delve into the history, science, and personal narratives surrounding cancer. Engage in discussions while watching the series, examining the intricacies of cancer research, treatment, and prevention in a relaxed setting.

**Mary Arnold** is a first-time instructor but a long-time OLLI member.

## Exploring Artistic Expressions with John Willer

**John Willer, Instructor**

**June 6, 13, 20 | 11:30 am - 1:30 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Discover and experiment with different artistic mediums, including acrylic paint, oil paint, pencils, and pastels. Engage in hands-on activities and guided discussions to gain insights into various techniques. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned artist, you'll have the opportunity to find your unique artistic style while being part of a supportive community. **Please note that you must bring your own supplies.**

**John Willer**, a Memphis Academy of Art graduate with an MFA degree, has established a successful career in painting and drawing. His exceptional artwork is showcased in prestigious galleries and private collections like the Alice Walton Collection.

## The Financial Wisdom of Jane Austen

**Ed Kerns, Instructor**

**July 10, 17, 24 | 9:00 am - 10:45 am | Sunny Slope Main Classroom**

This course aims to enhance financial literacy through an exploration of money themes in the works of Jane Austen. Participants will delve into the motivations, behaviors, and biases of Austen's literary characters regarding financial decisions. The objectives are twofold: 1) to develop a more profound respect and appreciation for Austen's astute use of the money metaphor; 2) to identify real-life financial behaviors, biases, and decision-making inspired by Austen's fictional examples. Selected works include *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Persuasion*, *Northanger Abbey*, *Mansfield Park*, and *Emma*.

**Ed Kerns** is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ practitioner with over ten years of experience and an interest in exploring the financial lessons of the Great Books of the Western World.

## The French Presence in Colonial Alabama, 1699-1763

**John Gurner, Instructor**

**July 11, 18, 25 | 1 9:00 am - 10:45 am | Zoom Only**

Discover Alabama's often-overlooked colonial history in this course. Before North American settlers claimed lands in the Mississippi Territory, French Canadians landed on the Gulf Coast to establish Louisiana. Join us as we journey from the banks of the Mobile River to the untamed frontier, where indigenous tribes, English merchants, Spanish spies, and Scottish traders competed to expand their commercial enterprises. Gain insight into Alabama's rich colonial past through this exploration.

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**John Gurner** is the Site Historian at Fort Toulouse-Fort Jackson Park. He holds a Master of Arts in History with a concentration in Colonial South, 1607 to 1775, and a Master of Science by Research from the University of Edinburgh.

## **Hiker's Guide to the AllTrails App**

**Mike Aikins & Harold Bruner, Instructors**

**July 8, 15, 22 | 11:30 am - 01:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Learn how to navigate the app's features, find trails, access essential information, and plan outings. Gain the skills needed to confidently explore nature's wonders with AllTrails as your trusted companion, whether you're a novice hiker or a seasoned explorer.

**Mike Aikins** is the chair of the OLLI technology committee and has a background as an online learning producer, videographer, and personal tech trainer. He holds a Ph.D. and an M.S. in Educational Technology, which enables him to collaborate effectively with educators and creatives to enhance learning experiences.

**Harold Bruner** has hiked extensively in the U.S. and Canada and, more recently, in northern England. He has led hikes for OLLI for the last six years. As a forestry graduate of Purdue, he worked in the forests of the Midwest for many years. Since moving to Auburn in 2014, he has enjoyed the biodiversity and many hiking opportunities in Alabama.

## **Hinges and Twinges: Active Adult Exercises**

**Deborah Manasco, Instructor**

**June 5, 12 (no class 6/19); July 10, 17, 24 | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Auburn Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

Join us for standing and chair exercises that enhance flexibility, strength, and balance and promote functional fitness. We focus on building muscle memory, increasing mobility, and preventing falls through movements inspired by daily activities. A light cardio component adds motivation, encouraging safe motion awareness and confidence. Participants can proceed at their own pace.

**Deborah Manasco** is a retired law practitioner with the State of Alabama. She holds undergraduate studies in Health, PE, and recreation and is a certified therapeutic horsemanship instructor through PATH, Intl. Deborah has taught Active Older Adult exercise classes at various institutions and is an avid equestrian.

## **The Ins and Outs of Cyber Scams**

**Uri Pearl, Instructor**

**June 5 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Zoom Only**

Staying vigilant is crucial, as a staggering \$12.5 billion was lost to cyber scams last year. This course equips participants with essential knowledge about cyber scams, delving into the scammers' methods and objectives. By identifying common scams and recognizing signs of being targeted, participants gain confidence to navigate the digital world safely. Join us to become empowered, scam-savvy internet users.

**Uri Pearl** earned a degree in Economics from the University of Maryland. A personal experience with a family scam prompted Uri to investigate scams. **Top of Form**

## **Intermediate Hiking**

**Phyllis Stanaland, Instructor**

**June 4, 11, 18; July 9, 16, 23 | 8:30 am - 10:30 am | Chewacla**

**Participants will need to pay the entrance fee of \$4.00 in person (People 62 and older are \$2.00)**

Embark on a course tailored for those seeking longer distances and a faster pace than the shorter Monday hikes at Chewacla. Most hikes will span approximately 3-4 miles, offering an invigorating outdoor experience. A small day pack and water are suggested.

**Required:** At least one hiking pole is mandatory; two poles are preferred.

**Phyllis Stanaland** began hiking with OLLI Hikers in 2018. Having been an avid walker for several years, this presented a welcomed challenge. She has experienced physical progress, and the camaraderie with other hikers has been a special plus.

## Leadership on the Edge

**Robert Holmes**

**July 9, 16 | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Conference Room**

This interactive workshop examines the skills and personal awareness levels needed to be an effective leader in unexpected situations or crises. Focusing on four proven principles—preparation, defining reality, communication, and finding opportunities to learn and grow—the course includes personal examples or case studies to promote participant interaction and learning. Participants from diverse backgrounds, including business, community organizations, and personal life, will find valuable insights to enhance their leadership capabilities in challenging circumstances.

**Brigadier General USAF (Retired) Robert "Bob" Holmes** led the 720th Special Tactics Group during Afghanistan combat operations post-9/11. Rising to flag rank in 2005, he held key roles such as USAF Director of Security Forces and Force Protection. A decorated combat veteran, Holmes offers leadership development and strategic planning services in Alabama.

## Margaret Renkl's *The Comfort of Crows*

**Ken Autrey, Jay Lamar & Wendy Cleveland, Instructors**

**June 4, 11, 18 | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Annex & Zoom | OLLI Shares**

This three-session course will include presentations and discussion on Margaret Renkl's most recent book, *The Comfort of Crows*, in preparation for her visit to Auburn for OLLI Day in August. Renkl, a native of Alabama and a graduate of Auburn University, has published three famous nonfiction works. A resident of Nashville, she writes regularly for *The New York Times*. Instructors will direct one class session each.

### Suggested materials:

- Margaret Renkl's *The Comfort of Crows* is not required but is recommended. Books may be purchased from Auburn Oil Company at a 10% OLLI discount.

**Ken Autrey** has previously taught poetry and literary nonfiction in universities and for OLLI.

**Wendy Cleveland**, a former high school English teacher, has taught ekphrastic poetry several times for OLLI and has occasionally assisted with the *Writing Our Lives* class.

**Jay Lamar** was Executive Director of the Alabama Bicentennial Commission and is currently Associate Director of the Alabama Writers' Forum.

## Meatless Mondays

**Scott Bishop, Rebecca Kelly & Mary Ann Hanson, Instructors**

**June 3, 10, 17 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

**Course fee: \$10 per class to be paid to OLLI at the time of registration.**

Ever thought about adding vegetarian meals to your repertoire? Join three OLLI member home cooks who will walk you through vegetarian recipes that don't make you feel like something is missing on the plate. The class will be a demonstration, followed by a shared lunch. **The class fee is non-refundable.**

**Register for individual courses.** Course fee of \$10 per class paid at registration covers materials and lunch:

Date	Meal	Instructor
June 3	<b>Tunisian Vegetable Stew</b> (gluten-free and vegan - optional feta cheese topping)	Mary Ann Hanson
June 10	<b>Vegetarian Tacos</b> (gluten-free and vegan)	Rebecca Kelly
June 17	<b>Garbanzo crepes with burst tomato sauce</b> (gluten-free; sauce contains butter)	Scott Bishop

**Scott Bishop** has been interested in cooking since she was in 4-H in Elmore County in the 1970s. Her first cookbook was her mother's 1946 edition of *Joy of Cooking*. She sticks to a mostly vegetarian diet.

**Mary Ann Hanson** first experienced a vegan diet at a month-long yoga teacher training program. Within two weeks, her type 2 diabetes resolved and has not returned. She also experienced a dramatic reduction in cholesterol and feels better when following a vegan/vegetarian diet.

**Rebecca Kelly** has loved cooking since she became enamored of Julia Child's PBS programs as a kid. Although she never exactly mastered the art of French cooking, she has been making and enjoying vegetarian dishes for several years.

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## **Meeting the Expectations of Aging Healthy**

**Leisa Askew, Instructor**

**July 9, 16, 23 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Navigating the process of aging involves understanding and addressing evolving needs and desires. In this course, we'll explore the concept of healthy aging—what it means, how it appears, and strategies for achieving it. We'll review available resources, discuss important documents to have in place, and explore essential conversations with your healthcare team and family. Additionally, we'll address various issues that may arise as individuals age, empowering participants to approach the aging process with confidence and preparedness.

**Leisa Askew** is a licensed social worker with 27 years of experience working with an aging population, a certified Dementia Care Specialist, and an Aging Resource Specialist.

## **Revolutionary Women of Influence**

**Richard Rhone, Instructor**

**June 4, 11, 18, 25 | 9:00 am - 10:15 am | OLLI Shares UA-Zoom**

When studying the American Revolutionary War period, we usually hear only of the Founding Fathers. However, while playing very different roles and sometimes only behind the scenes, women had a lasting influence. This class will concentrate on four women who made significant contributions.

**Richard Rhone, Ph.D.**, has taught American history classes for OLLI at UA for over a decade after retiring from careers in public education administration and child abuse and neglect prevention. His topics generally range from the American Colonial/Revolutionary War to the War Between the States and the Wild West, emphasizing the personalities and social aspects of history.

## **Scrabble: Tournament-Level Play**

**Eric Harshbarger, Instructor**

**June 4, 5, 6 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Sunny Slope Kitchen**

So, you're pretty good at Scrabble? Think you know a lot of words? Did you know that there are Scrabble tournaments? This three-session course will highlight the differences between "casual" play and "competitive" games played at Scrabble tournaments throughout the year all over the country. Learn about the special equipment (boards, tiles, clocks, etc.) and what it takes to be a REALLY good Scrabble player. Also, learn some basic tricks to improve your game immediately, so if nothing else, you can trounce all of your family members when you play Scrabble during holiday gatherings.

**Eric Harshbarger**, a Lecturer of Mathematics at Auburn University, has been a Scrabble enthusiast since childhood. He began playing the game competitively in 2001 and has since become the highest-rated Scrabble player in Alabama. With his dedication and skill, Harshbarger is ranked among the top 100 players in the United States.

## **Sketching History and Practice**

**William "Bill" Squires, Instructor**

**June 11, 12, 13 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Throughout the course, participants can study historical examples of drawings and sketches as a source of inspiration. Guided by these insights, they will engage in hands-on practice, drawing and sketching in their sketchbooks. Utilizing a range of tools, materials, and techniques, participants will explore diverse approaches to expressing their creativity on paper.

**Required materials to be purchased by the member:** sketching tools and materials you like to work with.

**Bill Squires** is an emeritus professor of art with earned degrees from three universities. After fifty years of artwork and thirty years of teaching, exhibiting, and publishing, your workshop host is still having fun.

## Spending time with Descendants of the Historic Slave Ship Clotilda

**Joan Harrell, Instructor**

**July 9, 10, 11 | 9:00 am - 10:30 am | Sunny Slope Annex & Zoom | OLLI Shares**

Students will explore the legacy of Gomes Eanes de Azurara, a Portuguese chronicler known for shaping negative socio-political stereotypes of Africans. Through readings of slave narratives and audio recordings, learners will engage with the voices of enslaved individuals. Additionally, virtual conversations with descendants of the historic slave ship Clotilda will provide insight into the founding of Africatown in Mobile, AL. This multimedia, dialogue-based course invites critical examination of America's original sin of racism and the transatlantic slave trade, as posited by theologian James Cone. Participants will have a safe space to share perspectives, ask questions, and gain knowledge about the enduring impact of slavery on the New World and its relevance today. This course offers an opportunity to activate change.

### Suggested materials:

- *Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo* by Zora Neale Hurston. ISBN: 978-0062748201
- *The Survivors of the Clotilda: Lost Stories of the Last Captives on The American Slave Trade* by Hannah Durkin. ISBN: 978-1788310531

**Joan R. Harrell**, DMIN, MDiv, MS, is the Director of Inclusive Excellence at Auburn University's College of Liberal Arts. With a background in journalism and Africana Studies, she also serves as faculty in these areas. Dr. Harrell is the Founder and Moderator of the Auburn University Becoming the Beloved Community initiative, fostering dialogue and unity on campus.

## Still Life Drawing

**Leslie Beard, Instructor**

**July 23, 24, 25 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Participants will explore methods of observation and artistic expression through graphite drawing. Drawing inspiration from still-life compositions, participants will learn techniques to capture detail, form, and texture using graphite pencils.

### Required materials to be purchased by the member:

- Sketchbook suitable for dry media, sized between 7"x10" to 9"x12"
- Graphite pencils: HB and 6B (or 4B)
- Pencil sharpener
- White eraser

**Leslie Beard**, a former interior designer turned author and illustrator, has crafted several compelling graphic memoirs.

## Summer Mysteries

**Harold Bruner, Instructor**

**June 4, 11, 18; July 9, 16, 23 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | AUUF**

Throughout this course, we will explore several mystery novels and participate in group discussions. A class member will lead each discussion. Book titles are forthcoming.

**Harold Bruner** is a dedicated OLLI member who enjoys exploring a diverse range of books. He has led book discussions for OLLI for a few years and serves on the Executive Committee of the OLLI Advisory Council.

## Sketchbook Series: Summer Edition

### Register for individual courses within the sketchbook series:

Date	Time	Class
June 11, 12, 13	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>Sketching History and Practice</b> Bill Squires
June 12, 13	9:00 am - 11:00 am	<b>Digital Sketching</b> Kelly Homan, Instructor
July 11, 18, 25	11:30 am - 1:30 pm	<b>Careful Pencil Drawing</b> Scott Melville
July 23, 24, 25	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>Still Life Drawing</b> Leslie Beard, Instructor

Note: Members may register **for up to 2 classes** in the Sketchbook Series. Register for these courses by selecting them from the **"Summer Art Classes"** section of the registration page.

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## Summer Camp for Writers

**Terry Ley, Instructor**

**2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

All the gear you will need for this summer camp is a notebook, pen, and a headful of memories. Reclaim your memories, write about them, and share them with a receptive audience of peers. Register for one or two, or all three sessions.

**Register for individual camps within the series:**

Date	Camp Options
June 17	Camp 1
July 8	Camp 2
July 22	Camp 3

Terry Ley taught high school English in Iowa before teaching English education courses at Auburn for 27 years. He has taught Writing Our Lives for twenty years.

## Using the AllTrails App at Chewacla State Park

**Harold Bruner, Instructor**

**July 10, 17, 24 | 8:30 am - 10:30 am | Meet at Chewacla State Park**

**Participants will need to pay the entrance fee of \$4.00 in person (People 62 and older are \$2.00)**

Learn how to navigate the app's features, find trails, access essential information, and plan outings. Gain the skills needed to confidently explore nature's wonders with AllTrails as your trusted companion, whether you're a novice hiker or a seasoned explorer.

**Harold Bruner** has hiked extensively in the U.S. and Canada and, more recently, in northern England. He has led hikes for OLLI for the last six years. As a forestry graduate of Purdue, he worked in the forests of the Midwest for many years. Since moving to Auburn in 2014, he has enjoyed the biodiversity and many hiking opportunities in Alabama.

## Writing without a Safety Net

**Mystic Order of East Alabama Fiction Writers, Instructors**

**July 8, 15, 22 | 09:00 am - 11:00 am | Sunny Slope Annex**

Join us for a workshop where we'll share tips and practices to help you take risks and be more vulnerable in your writing. While the focus is on fiction, everyone is welcome. Because good writing is good, whether it's fiction, non-fiction, memoir, or anything else.

**Mystic Order of East Alabama Fiction Writers:** Not one of the six Mystics can say how long the group has been together as writers and companions, but an educated guess would be close to twenty-something years—long enough to become sisters without a DNA match. The Mystic Order of East Alabama Fiction Writers gathers each first Wednesday of the month to share their work and their lives. With four previous books mostly filled with fiction tales – *Be the Flame*, *Not the Moth*, *The Ploy of Cooking*, and *Mastering the Art of Wench Cooking* – they recently took a detour into memoir with their fifth book, *The Mystic Memoir*.

## Special Interest Groups (SIG)

*Any OLLI member, general or academic, may register for a SIG.*

### **(Play) Mah Jongg (SIG)**

**Kim Scarborough, Facilitator**

**Tuesdays | 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm | Sunny Slope Kitchen**

You must have had some previous experience playing. **Please note that there won't be any formal instructors available, as this is not a course for learning the game.** It's an opportunity to meet and play with other game enthusiasts. OLLI provides 12 cards and one set, but please bring your own cards and game sets if you have them.

### **Looking At Photography with a Critical Eye (SIG)**

**Curtis Shannon, Facilitator**

**Thursdays | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Sunny Slope Conference Room**

If you have ever wondered why contemporary photography is interesting and how to engage with it, this Special Interest Group (SIG) is for you. Join us as we explore the power of observation, the nature of photographs, developing a critical eye, mapping photographs, and picturing the South.

### **Meditation (SIG)**

**Leslie Beard, Facilitator**

**Mondays | 5:00 pm - 6:15 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

The OLLI Meditation SIG meets weekly to meditate and build a supportive community for meditators of all levels and disciplines.

# OLLI Presents

## Brown Bag Series

**BYOL (Bring your own lunch) & learn.**

*Free and Open to the Public. OLLI Membership is not required.*

**Wednesdays | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | Sunny Slope Annex**

Date	Presenter	Title/Topic
6/5/24	<b>Lawrence Grinter</b>	"Bonanza": The Klondike Gold Rush of 1897-1899
6/12/24	<b>Joel Martin</b>	An Introduction to Pickleball
7/10/24	<b>Jennifer Horne, Wendy Reed, Katie Lamar Jackson, Jay Lamar</b>	<i>Old Enough: Southern Women Artists and Writers on Creativity and Aging</i> A Conversation with the Editors
7/24/24	<b>Meghan Buchanon</b>	Ancient Indigenous Cultures of the Southeastern United States

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## Exploring Margaret Renkl's *The Comfort of Crows* (Public Session)

**June 20 | 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm | Auburn Public Library**

Join Ken Autrey, Jay Lamar, and Wendy Cleveland as they delve into Margaret Renkl's acclaimed work. This session is open to everyone and previews Renkl's upcoming visit for OLLI Day in August.

*Recommended but not required: Margaret Renkl's "The Comfort of Crows" is available at Auburn Oil Company with a 10% OLLI discount.*

## **\*\*Register for OLLI at Auburn University Summer Courses\*\***

Welcome to OLLI at Auburn University! We are thrilled to offer diverse and enriching courses for the upcoming summer semester. Whether you're looking to pursue a new interest or enhance your existing skills, OLLI has something for everyone.

### **Important Notes:**

- **Registration Period:** Mark your calendar! Registration for OLLI summer courses opens on May 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. and closes on May 24, 2024.
- **Membership and Fees:**
  - OLLI Annual Membership is \$50.
  - **Membership Term:** OLLI Membership spans from August 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024. If you haven't joined yet, you can sign up anytime.
  - OLLI Membership is required for course enrollment each term.
  - **Summer Term Academic Fee:** \$40, unless you have purchased the all-inclusive membership (\$315), which covers the annual membership and all terms (fall, winter, spring, and summer) with no additional fees. However, if you have the all-inclusive membership for \$275, the \$40 academic fee for the summer term still applies.
  - For Special Interest Groups (SIGS), only OLLI membership is required; no additional academic fee is necessary.
- **Course Specifics:** Please review course descriptions for any specific requirements, such as additional materials or a course fee.
- **Registration Support:** If you have any registration inquiries or require assistance, contact the OLLI office at 334-844-3146 or [olli@auburn.edu](mailto:olli@auburn.edu).

### **Convenient Registration:**

Utilize the QR code below to access the registration page directly:

