



May 2018

Go-to Guide

Grow through life



In 2011-12, our second Executive Director, Catherine Frank, led the effort to join the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) network of 120 other organizations promoting programming for older adults. As part of that association, the Bernard Osher Foundation made a \$2 million dollar grant to our program. Now renamed OLLI at UNC Asheville, we enjoy learning with, sharing best practices and supporting other OLLIs across the country. Our annual membership has grown to 2500, and with that growth we have earned a national reputation for excellence in helping seniors grow and thrive in life's second half.

The program thrived. In 1998, an ambitious fundraising effort was launched, raising more than \$4.3 million, including a \$1.75 million grant from the Janirve Foundation, to build the impressive 20,000 sq. ft. Reuter Center. The building, on a 5-acre plot provided by UNC Asheville, was dedicated in 2003.

The organization we know and love as OLLI began in 1988 as the North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement, a department of the University of North Carolina Asheville. Inspired by then-Chancellor Dave Brown with the strong collaboration and support of his wife Lin, the Center launched its program with 150 participants led by Executive Director Ron Manheimer. The program's aim then, as now, was to establish programs for lifelong learning, leadership, community service, and research.

Our Mission: To provide opportunities to thrive in life's second half through programs in lifelong learning, leadership, community service, and research.

Our Core Values

- Sense of Community: We are a community of adults who share fellowship in an atmosphere that is respectful, stimulating, creative, fulfilling, and fun.
- Lifelong Learning: We are an enthusiastic group of learners and teachers.
- Innovation: We strive to be at the leading edge and model best practices nationally in learning, life transitions, and civic engagement programs for older adults.
- Collaboration: We collaborate both within and outside OLLI to offer programs that benefit our members and the community.
- Continuous Improvement: We seek continuous improvement in our communications, organization, inclusion, operations, programming, and facilities.
- Service: We encourage our members to grow through service to OLLI, UNC Asheville, and the community.

OLLI Leadership

Our Staff

Ann Cadle, Business Manager
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Pascale Couturier-Armstrong, Member Relations Coordinator
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Herb Gunn, College for Seniors Program Manager
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Leanna Preston, Facility and Communications Manager
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OLLI Steering Council, our volunteer leadership

Chair: Kirk Borland
Chair-Elect: Bobbie Rockwell
Secretary: Kathleen Mainardi
Past Chair: Catherine Jordan
Civic Engagement: Sarah Reincke
College for Seniors: Cindy Berryman-Fink, Erik Vedeler, Paula Withrow
Communication: David Langdon
Facilities: Terry Liles
Finance: Terry Reincke
Hospitality: Sandy Bowles
Inclusion: Contact Jane Callis
Life Transitions: Dave Castel
Nominating: Bobbie Rockwell
Planning: Barbara Van Hauzen
Research: Patrick Chitwood

Guideposts for navigating OLLI life. They're logical. If we follow them, we can all live happily – together.

FIRST and FOREMOST:

- Get your parking decal. Put it on your car. Park legally, in white lined spaces. Tickets are serious – and steep.
- Parking is limited. Shuttle service, via Purple shuttle, runs from campus Parking Lots 1 and 2 to OLLI, every 10-12 minutes.
- Sign up in upper lobby to get a nametag. Wear it always. Meet people. Make friends. You'll be glad you did.
- Bring your experiences. Bring your enthusiasm. Lose your attitude. We're all in this together.

CLASSROOMS, MEETINGS:

- Be on time. Be respectful. Let everyone have a voice. Listen. Learn.
- Instructors work hard to prepare and deliver fascinating courses. Show your appreciation.
- Silence your phones. If you receive a call, take it outside.
- If you disagree, do it agreeably. Other opinions have value too. We can all learn from each other.
- When it's over, leave class within five minutes. Make room for the next class. They'll appreciate it.

OLLI is COLLEGE for SENIORS, and SO MUCH MORE. WE'LL JUST SCRATCH THE SURFACE HERE:

- Life Transitions: CREW. Paths. Gift of Time. Exploring Continuing Care Retirement Communities.
- Leadership Asheville Seniors. Learn about local and community issues. Nine weeks each fall.
- Fab Friday programs, 11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. during fall, winter, and spring terms. Stimulating presentations. Bring your lunch if you like.
- Special Interest Groups (SIGs): Exercise your mind. Exercise your body. Learn and grow. Have fun.
- Reuter Center Singers. Sing along and/or enjoy the concerts. No auditions required.
- Special events and programs: most are free and open to the public.
- Community partner programs. Symphony Talks. World Affairs Council. Astronomy Club of Asheville. And more.
- UNC Asheville athletics and other programs: check unca.edu website for schedules.

VOLUNTEERING:

- Make the most of your OLLI experience. Get involved. Volunteer. You'll be amazed. And have fun!
- Volunteers are the heartbeat of OLLI. Assisting our amazing staff, they keep this place humming.
- You are invited – and encouraged – to join the 600+ happy OLLI volunteers.
- OLLI's Civic Engagement Committee coordinates volunteer efforts with local groups in housing, education and food.
- The more you know, the more you grow!

COMMON SENSE:

- We share the air. Cover your cough. Avoid strong scents, chemical and personal.
- Only service animals are permitted.

INFORMATION, PLEASE:

- Stay informed. Learn more about OLLI. Important info is always available at www.olliasheville.com.
- Our weekly newsletter, the *OLLI Observer*, is emailed to all members Sundays around noon.
- Electronic bulletin boards on both floors of the Reuter Center include schedules and other important stuff.
- Traditional bulletin boards include "job postings" for volunteer opportunities.
- Quarterly catalogs are available online and hard copy prior to each term, Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer.
- New Member Welcome events are the Friday before terms start in fall, winter and spring. You're invited!
- You may sign up for OLLITalk, a listserv where members exchange recommendations for goods and services. Email your request to olli@unca.edu or stop by the OLLI office to be added to the list.
- To report an emergency, call the Department of Public Safety 828.251.6710.

HOUSEKEEPING:

- Our building is awesome. It's up to us all to keep it that way. Cover your drinks. Clear your table.
- Put trash in trash bins. Recyclables go in big blue recyclable bins; batteries in small bin outside restrooms.

MEMBERSHIP PERKS:

- OLLI wireless network at Reuter Center. Logon: OLLI, Password: olli2017.
- UNC Asheville OneCard. UNC Asheville Ramsey Library privileges, discounts on city buses, many local businesses.

WEATHER ADVISORY:

- During inclement weather, the Reuter Center may be closed and OLLI activities suspended or delayed.
- Messages will be emailed to members and posted on the OLLI website at www.olliasheville.com by 8 am. Or call OLLI's main number - 828.251.6140 - for a recorded message.

Find details, and much, much more at www.olliasheville.com
And even more at the UNC Asheville site www.unca.edu