

OSHER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

OLLI

at Clemson University

IN THIS ISSUE:

Different ways to participate this term:

- In-person courses at the Cheezem Education Center, Clemson
- Evening courses at the Cheezem Education Center
- Osher Online courses that allow you to participate from home
- Outdoor Adventures and Day Trips

NEW COURSE TITLES INCLUDE:

Haunted: Remembering Edgar Allan Poe; Seven Deadly Estate Planning Mistakes; Planning for Purpose: Finding Meaning and Joy in Your Next Chapter – A 2-Part Series; The Man Who Shot J.P. Morgan; Carlota de Limón: Mexico's Classic No-Bake Dessert; American History in Six Songs (Approximately); Forgiving the Unforgivable, Handmade for the Holidays: Wreath-Making Class; The Martians and more!

NEW EXCURSION LOCATIONS INCLUDE:

Sky Top Orchard, Southern Christmas Show, Fernbank Museum, South Carolina Inland Port and more!

The Cheezem Education Center is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Registration opens

August 11, 2025

Register in person, by phone, by mail or online at: www.olliatclemson.org



FALL 2025



Literary Latitudes: FICTION FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Books Selected and Discussed by Clemson International Graduate Students.

A Mouth Sweeter than Water: An African Memoir by Toyin Omoyeni Falola

Country/Region: Nigeria

Genre: Memoir/African Studies

Tuesday, September 9

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

In this richly detailed memoir, renowned historian Toyin Falola takes readers into the heart of Yoruba culture through the lens of his own childhood and youth in colonial and post-independence Nigeria. Born in the 1950s, Falola chronicles his formative years with vivid storytelling that captures the rhythms of daily life, the wisdom of elders, and the profound social changes that swept through Nigeria during the transition from British colonial rule to independence. Through intimate portraits of family members, community leaders, and childhood friends, Falola illuminates the complexity and richness of Yoruba society—its traditions, values, spiritual beliefs, and social structures. His memoir serves as both personal testament and cultural documentation, offering readers authentic insights into African experiences often missing from Western narratives. With the eye of a trained historian and the heart of a master storyteller, Falola creates a compelling portrait of a world in transition while celebrating the enduring strength of African cultural identity.

Facilitator: Theo Alawonde (Master's Candidate in Communications and OLLI Intern)

Karnali Blues by Buddhi Sagar

Country/Region: Nepal

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

Tuesday, October 14

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

This acclaimed Nepali novel follows Brisha, a young man from the remote Karnali region of western Nepal, as he struggles to escape poverty and pursue education. Born into a marginalized community in one of Nepal's most isolated areas, Brisha dreams of

a better life beyond the harsh realities of his mountain village. His journey from rural Karnali to the capital city of Kathmandu becomes a powerful exploration of Nepal's social inequalities, the challenges faced by the country's ethnic minorities, and the personal cost of pursuing education and opportunity. Buddhi Sagar's deeply moving portrayal captures the resilience of the human spirit while offering an intimate window into contemporary Nepali society, regional disparities, and the complex relationship between tradition and modernity in the Himalayan nation.

Facilitators: Aashma Bidari (Midwife and Nurse) and Narayan Kandel (Ph.D. candidate in Physics)

Tear This Heart Out (Arráncame la vida) by Ángeles Mastretta

Country/Region: Mexico

Genre: Historical Fiction

Tuesday, November 11

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Set against the tumultuous backdrop of 1940s Mexico, this captivating novel tells the story of Catalina, who at fifteen marries the much older General Andrés Ascencio, a powerful and corrupt politician. As Catalina matures from a naive teenager into a strong, independent woman, she witnesses firsthand the violence and corruption of post-revolutionary Mexican politics while navigating the constraints of a machismo-dominated society. Through Catalina's eyes, Mexican author Ángeles Mastretta crafts both a feminist coming-of-age story and a vivid portrait of mid-20th century Mexico, exploring themes of love, power, betrayal, and female agency. With its blend of political intrigue, passionate relationships, and dark humor, this beloved novel offers readers an intimate look at Mexican culture, history, and the evolving role of women in Latin American society.

Facilitator: Anay Fermanda Lazaro Alfara (Ph.D. Candidate in Physics)

Tuition: \$19 per session or \$50 for all three sessions



OLLI WELCOMES "THE REBEL MISFIT WHO TURNED SOUTHERN HORTICULTURE ON ITS HEAD"

*Getting a Meadow is Like Getting a Puppy:
What Nobody Tells You About Garden Dreams*

Wednesday, September 17

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Through stories and slides of both triumphs and spectacular failures, Jenks Farmer, South Carolina-based horticulturist, garden designer, and author, known for his work in establishing and designing botanical gardens and for his expertise in Crinum lilies, reveals the dirty, muddy, weedy truth behind popular garden trends. His candid lessons and critiques might bring a laugh, but they are serious pleas for less commercialism and more ecology in our landscapes. In addition, Jenks will talk about his new book *Secrets of Southern Gardening*, which he describes as "sort of a Hort 101 textbook with 30 years of BS crossed out and as many notes added in the margins." The book and this presentation will be a candid reset as we close out the summer and make fall and garden plans. *Secrets of Southern Gardening* will be available for purchase and signing following the presentation.

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AUTUMN ADVENTURES WITH OLLI

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025
4:00 P.M.

CHERRY STREET MARKETPLACE
102 N. CHERRY STREET, SENECA



FREE PROGRAMS *this Fall*



The following activities are open to all current OLLI Members and those with an interest in joining OLLI. All programs are free but require registration; call us at 864-633-5242, or visit our website at www.olliatclermson.org for more information.

Backophobia, And How to Cure It

Tuesday, September 9

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Do you become anxious at the sound of rolling dice, or at outbursts of laughter from people playing a strange board game? You may suffer from Backophobia; we can help. Regain your serenity by joining us in a session to learn Backgammon rules, procedures and basic moves as a path towards joy. This session will be led by Backgammon SIG leader **Glen Moulder**.

New and Returning Member Orientation

Tuesday, September 9

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Whether you're new to Clemson OLLI or returning from a hiatus, this orientation illustrates how OLLI ticks, who is who and how you can be part of your regional lifelong learning program! Refreshments provided.

The Dam that Almost Drowned Clemson

Friday, September 19

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Another disaster averted, but it was close! Have you ever wondered why there are those towering earthen walls on Clemson's campus along Lake Hartwell? Do you remember seeing that peculiar ribbon of water winding around Clemson's athletic fields? Most people drive or walk right past these features without realizing they're looking at the remnants of one of the most dramatic battles in Clemson's history! This is the untold story

of 1956, when Clemson faced an opposition more powerful than any rival team, and how a desperate gamble changed everything. **Robert Osborne** will reveal the secrets. Robert is a civil engineer with nearly 30 years of experience working on water, wastewater, and infrastructure projects. He is the host of *The Outfall*, a podcast that explores the hidden stories behind water and infrastructure. You will never view those walls and fields the same again!

Names Galore

Tuesday, October 7

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Names Galore will focus on English names and naming practices. For example, if you have wondered what's the most common surname in the US, it's "Smith," someone who probably spent a lot of time hammering black iron into horseshoes. What are the best sports' nicknames? My own favorite is Ted Williams' "The Splendid Splinter." What's the worst name a parent ever gave a child? (Sess Poole gets my vote). What's the worst restaurant name? (Surely it was Montezuma's Revenge in Seneca, SC). What's been the most "deterministic" name? (IMHO, it's Dr. Zoltan Ovary, a gynecologist). Where do our surnames come from? Many came from the occupations and homes of our ancestors. I'll try to answer that in more detail with the help of *The Oxford Dictionary of Names* and other reference books which I'll bring for your perusal. Before attending, you might want to Google your own given and surname/s. I've done something similar to this presentation in my OLLI Salon classes - always fun! If you haven't already guessed, Names Galore is a free OLLI lecture/discussion presented by Clemson University Professor Emeriti **Skip Eisiminger** that will focus on English names and naming practices.

Make a Difference in Pickens County Schools

Wednesday, October 8

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Ever help a family member or friend understand something, or finish a job they needed help on? Remember how grateful they were? Others could use your help, even a little, so get ready to make a powerful impact on the lives of students in the Pickens County School District! Join us for an exciting and informative session on how YOU can get involved as a mentor, tutor, or volunteer. Hear directly from School District Superintendent **Dr. Danny Merck** as he shares incredible opportunities to help shape the next generation. Your time, expertise, and compassion have the potential to transform futures! Together, we can make a lasting difference!

Explore England, Alaska, and the Swiss Alps

Tuesday, October 21

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Join **Laura Driggers** for an engaging informational session where we'll unveil the exciting details of three upcoming international excursions designed for curious travelers and adventure-seekers alike. Whether you're drawn to historic castles, majestic wildlife, or scenic alpine railways, this session will help you discover the journey that's right for you.

Understanding Hospice and End of Life Decisions

Wednesday, October 22

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

This course is ideal for caregivers, family members, and anyone looking to better understand the options available for compassionate end-of-life care. It provides a comprehensive overview of hospice care, designed for individuals. Our instructor, **JoAnn Panza**, spent 10 years in hospice providing

education to physicians, nurses, social workers as well as patients and their families. She has important, useful, and expert knowledge to share with us. You will learn about what hospice care entails, including its focus on comfort, pain management, and emotional support for patients with terminal illnesses. Key topics will include who typically pays for hospice services, including Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance coverage, as well as how hospice differs from palliative care in terms of purpose and timing. The course will also guide you through recognizing when it is the right time for hospice, understanding the signs that indicate a patient may benefit from this type of care. Additionally, the course will cover the importance of communicating and documenting end-of-life wishes, such as advanced directives, to ensure that individual preferences are respected. This course is ideal for caregivers, family members, and anyone looking to better understand the options available for compassionate end-of-life care.

Demystifying AI: Navigating the Present and Anticipating the Future

Thursday, November 13

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required; call 864-633-5242 to register.

Artificial intelligence. Exciting ... or scary? Or both! It promises to affect everyone of us. It would help all of us to get the "straight scoop" from someone who knows much more about this rapidly developing world-wide phenomena. **Mitch Shue**, Executive Director of the AI Research Institute for Science and Engineering at Clemson University, is one of those people. Mitch will help us increase our understanding of AI. He will better describe what AI is, and explain the terminology that is often used when discussing AI. He will describe where we are and what the next wave of AI development will look like, including the benefits and challenges this new tool of science brings into our lives.

Where in the World will OLLI Go?



Up-to-date details for all travel programs can be found on the OLLI website, and you can pick up a flyer for each trip at the Cheezem Education Center. Bookings are taken by the individual travel companies; contact the specific company for questions and arrangements.

2025

A Culinary Journey Through Tuscany & Florence

9 Days - November 4 to 12, 2025

By Premier World Discovery

Double Occupancy: \$4,749 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Single Occupancy: \$5,699 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Activity Level: Challenging

Tour highlights include a 2-Night Stay in Florence; a 5-Night Stay in Tuscany; a Tuscan Estate Dinner; a pasta making and cooking class; wine tasting; a Sienna walking tour; dinner at a Tuscan farmhouse and winery; San Gimignano; gelato tasting; lunch at a local farmhouse; a Lake Trasimeno boat excursion; a visit to Island Maggiore with lunch and wine; a Florence, Italy guided walking tour and a visit to the Academy Gallery and the famous Statue of David.

Christmas Time on the Danube River

6 Days - December 1 to 6, 2025

By Mayflower Cruises & Tours

Double Occupancy: Starts at \$3,564 per person

Single Occupancy: Starts at \$6,180 per person

Activity Level: Active

Embark on a festive Danube Christmas cruise through Central Europe, starting in Vienna with its iconic landmarks and magical markets. Discover the holiday charm of Bratislava's historic squares, then enjoy Budapest's vibrant markets, stunning architecture, and a traditional Hungarian dinner with folk dancing. Depart with lasting memories of festive cheer and glittering Christmas scenes.

2026

Highlights of England, Scotland and Wales

9 Days - April 22 to 30, 2026

By Premier World Discovery

Double Occupancy: \$4,599 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Single Occupancy: \$5,749 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Activity Level: Challenging

Discover the best of the UK on a journey through Scotland, England, and Wales. Begin with two nights in Edinburgh, touring the castle and enjoying a whisky tasting. Explore York's medieval charm, visit Stratford-upon-Avon, and experience Bristol's energy. In Wales, tour Cardiff's highlights before heading to Bath, Salisbury Cathedral, and Stonehenge. Conclude in London with visits to iconic landmarks and a Farewell Dinner, leaving with lasting memories of the UK's rich history and beauty.

Alaska: Call of the Wild

7 Days - August 6 to 12, 2026

By Premier World Discovery

Double Occupancy: \$6,025 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Single Occupancy: \$7,450 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Activity Level: Active

Experience the wild beauty of Alaska on an unforgettable journey from Anchorage to Denali and Seward. Ride a deluxe dome railcar to Denali National Park for a guided wilderness tour with chances to see bears, moose, and more. Travel the scenic Seward Highway, stopping at a local farm, then cruise through Kenai Fjords National Park to see glaciers and marine wildlife. Enjoy free time in Seward before a Farewell Dinner caps off your adventure in America's Last Frontier.

2026

Alpine Swiss Villages and Rails

9 Days – September 14 to 22, 2026

By Premier World Discovery

Double Occupancy: \$5,799 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Single Occupancy: \$6,749 per person, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville with \$100 booking discount

Activity Level: Challenging

Experience Switzerland's stunning alpine beauty on a scenic journey through charming villages and dramatic landscapes. Start in Zurich, explore medieval Bern, and stay in the car-free mountain village of Wengen. Use a regional rail pass to access cog railways, cable cars, and boats as you visit waterfalls, cruise Lake Brienz, and ride vintage trains to breathtaking summits. Discover gems like Trummelbach Falls, Grindelwald, and Aare Gorge, with optional trips to Jungfrauoch and Zermatt. Conclude with a visit to Lucerne and a Farewell Dinner in Zurich, all while enjoying Switzerland's natural wonders by rail.

Travel to Morocco with OLLI

10 Days – October 4 to 13, 2026

By Discover Corps

Double Occupancy: \$4,495 per person, does not include airfare

Single Occupancy: \$5,390 per person, does not include airfare

Activity Level: Challenging

Uncover the bustling medinas and colorful markets of Fès, Rabat, and Marrakech; meet with pioneering organizations empowering Moroccan women and protecting the environment; dive head first into Moroccan culture with cooking lessons and food tours; engage with rural Amazigh communities nestled in the High Atlas Mountains; and learn a variety of traditional arts from locals, from tile making to calligraphy. Clemson Anthropology Professor Sharon Nagy will accompany the trip to enhance your experience and engagement.

2027

Croatia & Its Islands

12 Days – April 21 to May 2, 2027

By Collette

Rates vary depending on ship cabin preference, includes roundtrip airfare from Greenville

Activity Level: Active

Tour highlights include Zagreb, Stone Gate, Šibenik, Cathedral of St. James, Krka National Park, 7-night Adriatic Cruise, Split, Trogir, Bol, Stari Grad, Hvar, Biševo Blue Cave, Vis, Korcula, Mljet National Park, Pelješac Peninsula, and Dubrovnik.



ANMED HEALTH SERIES

All events will begin at 10 a.m. in the Cheezem Education Center.
All events are free and open to the public, but registration is required.
Register by calling the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at 864-633-5242.



SEPTEMBER 18

EMERGING TREATMENT FOR OSTEOARTHRITIS PROVIDES GREAT BENEFITS

Hosted by Dr. Leander Cannick

AnMed Radiation Oncology

Low-dose radiation therapy for osteoarthritis is emerging as a safe, effective and wonderfully beneficial treatment option for those suffering from the degenerative joint condition. Learn what to know and when it might be right for you or your loved ones from Dr. Leander Cannick of AnMed Radiation Oncology.



OCTOBER 16

HOW TO AVOID MISTAKES WITH MEDICATIONS

Hosted by Liz Morash

AnMed Pharmacy

Mistakes with medications are far too common, and some bring major risks. And the stakes only increase with age. Learn what to watch out for and how to best protect yourself and your loved ones from Liz Morash, clinical pharmacy manager at AnMed.



NOVEMBER 13

TREATING DEPRESSION IN OLDER PEOPLE

Hosted by Dr. Fahd Zarrouf

AnMed TMS & Sleep Diagnostics

While some people find instant fulfillment and joy in their retirement years, others might struggle. A loss of social connections and changes in perspectives and financial circumstances can contribute to that. Studies have shown that depression affects more than 21% of the population over age 50. Treatments are available. Learn more from Dr. Fahd Zarrouf of AnMed TMS & Sleep Diagnostics.

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in collaboration with Northwestern University
School of Professional Studies

The following courses are offered to Clemson OLLI Members as part of the national Osher Online project, bringing stellar presenters to OLLIs across the country. Each course is offered live via Zoom – plan to participate from the comfort of home! Each session will include Members from several different OLLIs; each OLLI is limited to 13 seats per course. Each course is comprised of six 90-minute sessions and will offer generous question and answer periods. Before each course, participants will be contacted by the Osher Online staff at Northwestern University with further instructions.

***New!* The Life and Times of Nikola Tesla**



6 Mondays, October 6 to November 10

3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$59

This course traces the life and innovations of Nikola Tesla, from his early years and university studies in Graz and Prague to his groundbreaking work in electricity and wireless technology. We will explore his collaborations and rivalries, including his work with Thomas Edison, the “War of the Currents” between AC and DC power, and his partnership with George Westinghouse, which led to the lighting of the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair.

Marc Seifer, PhD is the author of more than 100 articles and a dozen books, including the acclaimed *Wizard: The Life & Times of Nikola Tesla*, *Ozone Therapy for the Treatment of Viruses*, and *Tesla: Wizard at War*.

***New!* Legendary Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes: Tales from the Inlands Seas**



6 Thursdays, October 9 to November 13

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$59

"Beneath the surface of the Great Lakes lie thousands of shipwrecks, each with a story to tell. This course brings these lost vessels back to life through vivid storytelling and historical exploration. We'll examine the tragic sinking of the Lady Elgin, the haunting legacy of the Eastland, the mystery of the Western Reserve, and the enduring legend of the Edmund Fitzgerald, along with

other unforgettable wrecks that shaped Great Lakes history. More than just maritime history, this course uncovers the human stories behind these disasters, the forces that doomed them, and the myths that linger today."

Anna Lardinois is an author, storyteller, and history enthusiast with a passion for uncovering dramatic and often chilling tales from the past. She is the author of *Shipwrecks of the Great Lakes: Tragedies and Legacies from the Inland Seas* (2021) and more than a dozen books on history, folklore, and ghostly legends. Lardinois founded an award-winning tour company specializing in haunted history and previously served as the Pfister Hotel Narrator, chronicling stories from Milwaukee's most historic hotel. She has hosted the radio show *Haunted Heartland* and currently leads an online publication focused on entrepreneurship in Wisconsin.

***New!* American History in Six Songs (Approximately)**



6 Tuesdays, October 14 to November 18

5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$59

Whether you're in Macon, Memphis, Muscle Shoals, or Massapequa, music matters, and our varied musical heritage is one of the best ways to understand crucial moments in American history. This course will explore Indigenous expressions, colonial invasion, forced African migration, and the cultural shifts of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. Through the interplay of genres and traditions, we'll examine how music captures the evolving American experience.

Matt Jennings, PhD is Professor of History at Middle Georgia State University. He has authored several books on Native American and local history, including *New Worlds of Violence*, *The Flower Hunter and the People*, and *Ocmulgee National Monument: A Brief History with Field Notes* (with poet Gordon Johnston). While he specializes in Native American history, he teaches in a variety of fields, including the history of music in America (perhaps as a way of compensating for his sporadic, and sophomoric efforts on the guitar, mandolin, and banjo).

New! Alexander Graham Bell and the Telephone, 150 Years Later



6 Wednesdays, October 15 to November 19

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$59

More than any other invention of the past 150 years, the telephone has transformed how we communicate and conduct business. But how was it invented, and why did it have such a profound impact? This course explores Alexander Graham Bell's groundbreaking 1875 concept for transmitting sound over an electric wire, his struggles to commercialize the telephone with his father-in-law, Gardiner Hubbard, and his rivalry with inventors Elisha Gray and Thomas Edison. We will also examine the rise and fall of AT&T as a corporate giant and the evolution from wired networks to today's cellular and smartphone technologies.

Bernard (Bernie) Carlson is Vaughan Professor Emeritus of Humanities at the University of Virginia and an expert on invention, entrepreneurship, and the role of technology in society. He has received the Sally Hacker Prize from the Society for the History of Technology and the William Middleton Prize from the Institution of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Carlson has also filmed *Understanding the Inventions that Changed the World*. Now based in Ireland, he directs the MS program in AgInnovation at the University of Galway, where he trains adult learners in product development, startups, and sustainable farming.

New! In Darwin's Footsteps: A Journey to the Galapagos



6 Thursdays, October 16 to November 20

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$59

From 1831-1836, Charles Darwin circumnavigated the globe aboard the HMS Beagle. In the Galapagos Islands and elsewhere, Darwin collected data that, after decades of study and reflection, formed part of the basis for his publication *On the Origin of Species*. The ideas presented in that volume remain the foundation of all modern biological thought. Drawing upon original source materials and the instructor's photos, this course will present the historical and cultural context of Darwin's era, follow the five-year journey, discuss how Darwin came to his ideas, and explain his theories in detail.

Eric Simon, professor of Biology at New England College, received his PhD in biochemistry from Harvard University. An avid traveler and award-winning nature photographer, Eric leads educational international trips to destinations including Belize, the Galapagos, Tanzania, Cuba, the Amazon River, and Patagonia. Simon is the author of a widely used series of college biology textbooks with over 2 million books in print that help teach biology to students in over 40 countries.

New! The Magic of Motown



6 Tuesdays, October 28 to December 2

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$59

Explore Motown's golden era from the late 1950s to the 1970s, a period marked by groundbreaking songwriting, iconic artists, and profound social influence. Discover how Motown's innovative production methods shaped its timeless sound, broke racial barriers, and adapted to shifting cultural landscapes to achieve worldwide acclaim. Featuring legendary artists and curated tracks and videos, this course concludes with a celebration of Motown's transformative first 25 years. Join us to experience the enduring magic of Motown and its lasting impact on music and culture.

Mike Agron grew up in LA, the heart of the recording and entertainment industry. He loved music so much he wanted to become a recording engineer. Fate had different plans, and he ended up with a successful career in hi-tech, including founding a webinar marketing agency. He has fulfilled his musical and entertainment passions by offering his varied and uniquely popular seminars to learners across the country.

“

I greatly appreciate the dedication of the teachers, staff and interns that work at OLLI. They all contribute to the success of the institution and are invaluable!

”



Activity Levels

Activity level rankings are provided for courses as appropriate; please consider your needs and abilities when registering for a specific program.

MA MODERATELY ACTIVE

These programs consist of some physical activity, such as equal parts walking and riding, sitting, or stopping.

MC MODERATELY CHALLENGING

These programs require a good deal of physical fitness and more physical activity. These programs may require, for example, a lot of walking on uneven terrain and/or up and down hills for long periods of time.

A ACTIVE

These programs require a fair amount of physical fitness and may require you to be active for up to three hours at a time. Many programs in the active category may require up to a mile of walking before taking a break and will likely cause you to break a bit of a sweat.

C CHALLENGING

These programs are for those who are comfortable with more strenuous activities, such as hiking for several miles on uneven terrain.

ON ZOOM

These programs are on Zoom and are indicated as such with this icon and a shaded background.

DAY and HALF-DAY TRIPS

New! Apple Orchard Adventure: Visit to Sky Top

Tuesday, September 16

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$59 includes transportation and admission

Kick off Fall at Sky Top Orchard in Flatrock, NC!

Come soak in the fresh mountain air while enjoying the spectacular views over the Blue Ridge Mountains.

This tour will include a history/introduction of Sky Top, a scenic tractor pulled wagon ride, fresh apple treats and, of course, APPLES - U Pick or U Select!

After the tour, meander down the mountain and explore the charming shops, galleries, and eateries of historic downtown Hendersonville at your own pace.

A

Discover the History of the Oconee Nuclear Station

Monday, September 22

12:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

World of Energy, Seneca

Tuition: \$29

Learn about the history of Duke Energy's Keowee-Toxaway Project and Oconee Nuclear Station. When completed in the mid-1970s, this project included the largest nuclear power plant in the world and won the 1975 American Society of Civil Engineers' Outstanding Achievement Award. The station has generated more than 500 million megawatt-hours of electricity and is "the first nuclear station in the United States to achieve this milestone" according to its website. While visiting, we'll also visit an exact replica of an Oconee Nuclear Station control room, which is a training simulator for nuclear operators.

A

New! Murder on the Orient Express at the Flatrock Playhouse

Thursday, September 25

9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$125 includes transportation and ticket

Now this is the way to spend an afternoon. Picture this. After arriving in Hendersonville in late morning, you find yourself enjoying time on your own for lunch and exploration - Main Street offers a variety of restaurants, museums, and shops. Then you head to historic Flat Rock, best known as "the little Charleston of the Mountains" as it was a favorite place for Lowcountry families to escape the summer heat. (Today, the entire town is on the National Register of Historic Places!) Finally, you settle in to enjoy a matinee performance of Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express, a suspenseful show that will keep you on the edge of your seat. What a nice way to spend an afternoon, indeed.

MA

Driving Innovation: A Visit to CU-ICAR

MA

Friday, September 26

9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

Vehicle design is more than engines, electronics and aesthetics — it's also about crafting the interaction among drivers, passengers, vehicles and environments for safer, accessible and enjoyable travel. That is hard to do, and even harder to do well. Find out more about how an internationally prominent laboratory - Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR) - attempts to accomplish that. We'll leave the Cheezem Education Center for CU-ICAR where we'll tour the facility where it happens. Founded in 2007, this advanced technology research campus is where education, research, and economic development collaborate to create a global venue for the automotive industry.

***New!* Fernbank Forest Interpretive Tour: Discover the Wonders of the Piedmont Ecosystem at the Fernbank Museum**

A

Tuesday, October 7

7:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$125 includes transportation, admission, and boxed lunch

Step into the heart of nature with this immersive, interpretive tour of Fernbank Forest. Guided by a knowledgeable naturalist, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the interconnected Piedmont Forest ecosystem and the vital role biodiversity plays in its health and resilience. As you explore the towering canopy, rich understory, and diverse wildlife of this rare old-growth forest, you'll uncover the unique ecological characteristics that define one of Georgia's most treasured natural habitats. Learn how plants, animals, fungi, and even the forest floor work together in balance—and why protecting this biodiversity matters for our planet's future. Perfect for nature enthusiasts, students, and anyone curious about the natural world, this guided experience offers a meaningful connection to the environment and fosters a lasting appreciation for the complexity and beauty of Georgia's native ecosystems. Following the Fernbank Forest tour, we will eat lunch and have time on our own to visit other exhibits throughout the museum.

***New!* Tour of the South Carolina Inland Port at Greer, SC**

MA

Tuesday, October 14

8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

Did you know you can have a shipping “port” on dry

land? We in South Carolina have two of them, and they are indeed on dry land in Greer and in Dillon! We'd like to give you a tour. We are sure you'd be fascinated. South Carolina has invested heavily in the establishment and support of our South Carolina Inland Ports because of our Port of Charleston, an important destination for international shipping. Once delivered, goods must move from the Charleston to their inland destinations, or from those U.S. sources to Charleston and then to the world. Our inland ports provide methods of transportation. And boy are they busy! Our two Inland Ports remain so year-round. The investment in Greer and Dillon inland ports has shown to be truly international, connecting industry and commerce in multiple states through the Port of Charleston to the global marketplace. The size and scope of their operations is hard to believe unless seen first-hand. Come see how that happens and hear how important that is to South Carolina. Learn more during the tour of the facilities in Greer, SC with Mike Hoffman, Director of Inland Ports.

***New!* Itron Factory Tour – West Union, South Carolina**

MA

Tuesday, October 21

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

Join us for an inside look at Itron's state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in West Union, where innovation meets precision. This tour offers a behind-the-scenes view of how Itron designs and produces advanced metering technology that helps utilities around the world manage energy and water more efficiently. Visitors will see Itron's commitment to quality, sustainability, and safety in action, while learning about the cutting-edge processes and skilled workforce that drive their operations.

Swamp Fox Distilling Tour - Bold Spirits, Rich History

MA

Wednesday, October 29

1:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Swamp Fox Distilling, Pendleton

Tuition: \$39 includes tasting and refreshments

Now here's history in a bottle, so to speak. (Couldn't pass that one up, sorry.) We'll connect historic downtown Pendleton with a historic century-old building restored to useful purpose, and a story of passion, rebellion, with - OK, here it is - a love for rum, all joined inexorably together. And in the process, suggest you enjoy a small sample of the story's successful, satisfying conclusion! Join us in historic downtown Pendleton, SC, for a behind-the-scenes tour of Swamp Fox Distilling, home of Pure Corruption® Rum—a bold, handcrafted rum made from Louisiana raw sugar, blackstrap molasses, and Caribbean yeast. Housed in a beautifully restored 100-year-old building,

this unique micro-distillery offers an up-close look at small-batch distilling in a custom copper pot still. Taste our smooth, flavorful Caribbean-style rums and hear the story of how passion, rebellion, and a love for rum led to one of America's most distinctive distilleries. Come curious. Leave Corrupted™!

New! Experience the Magic of the Southern Christmas Show

A

Monday, November 17

7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Departs from the Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$125 includes transportation and admission

Experience the magic of the holiday season with a festive getaway to Charlotte's beloved Southern Christmas Show at The Park Expo and Conference Center. We'll travel by motor coach, spend several hours at the show where you will find over 400 vendors selling ornaments, handcrafted gifts, décor, toys, gourmet foods, and wines. You'll also see exhibits like the Old Town Village and Designer Rooms, Christmas Tree Lane, miniature exhibits, model train, along with live Christmas music and even photos with the big guy in the red suit! This holiday trip to Charlotte brings festive cheer by the ton—whether you're searching for the perfect gift or just soaking up Christmas atmosphere. Don't miss this merry tradition!

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Wild Mushroom Foray

MA

Friday, September 12

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Meeting location provided one week prior to start date

Tuition: \$29

You were wondering what to do with a free afternoon in the woods. Look no further. Join us for a fun mushroom hunt! Discover edible, poisonous, and medicinal mushrooms, learn how they grow, and explore their role in nature. After foraging, we'll identify our finds and discuss them. You'll take home edible mushrooms and learn how to cook them for a tasty meal. Bring your lunch and join the adventure!

Olga Katic grew up mushroom hunting in Bosnia and Hercegovina, learning to cook her finds on a wood stove with her family. Today, she owns Mushroom Mountain, producing edible and medicinal mushroom spawn, extracts, and honey under the Mycomatrix brand. Mushroom Mountain also offers a Wild Mushroom Food Safety Certification Program, recognized by health departments in seven states and endorsed by the FDA.

Hikes in the Hills

C

4 Mondays, September 29, October 13, 27; and November 10

Rain Dates: October 20 and November 17

Start and end times vary

Itinerary provided one week before start date

Tuition: \$79

Enjoy interpreter-led hiking in the Piedmont of Upstate South Carolina and the Southern Appalachians of North Carolina and Georgia as we explore the rich biodiversity and geology of the region. We'll see waterfalls and soak in the views from scenic vistas as we explore our ever-changing landscapes. Participants should be able to walk four to five miles on uneven terrain.

- **September 29** - Hike the Rainbow Falls Trail in Gorges State Park and in the Pisgah Ranger District; view Rainbow, Turtleback and Drift Falls along the Horsepasture River. (Moderately strenuous, 4.2 mi hike)

- **October 13** - Hike the loop trail at Whiteside Mountain for exceptional autumn views from the sheer 750-foot rock wall. It's the highest perpendicular bare rock face east of the Rockies. (Moderate 2.5 mi hike)

- **October 27** - Hike the rim trails at Tallulah Gorge State Park, GA. The gorge, 2 miles long, is considered one of the most spectacular canyons in the eastern U.S. (3 mi, moderate)

- **November 10** - Hike a series of trails at Chau Ram County Park, an upstate gem featuring the scenic 30-ft cascading Ramsey Creek Falls, several whitewater rapids, and a 175-ft suspension bridge across the Chauga River. (Moderate, 3-4 mi)

Jean Askew is an avid hiker and has been hiking with OLLI and other groups since moving back to the Upstate in 2008. She has an educational background in botany and forestry and completed the Upstate Master Naturalist program in 2016. **Delsey Brown** moved back to the Upstate in 2016 and started exploring the area she left in 1983. She has been hiking with OLLI since 2017 and enjoys hiking with a group where everyone learns from each other.

Autumn on Lake Jocassee

MA

Friday, October 30

Rain Date Friday, November 6

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Devils Fork State Park, Salem

Tuition: \$69

Did you know that a short stretch of South Carolina, known as Jocassee Gorges, contains more species of trees than almost anywhere else on Earth? The majority are deciduous trees that sport a unique look every Spring and Fall. In Fall they can be especially beautiful. From the comfort of a pontoon boat, explore the science behind changing colors and meet some of the area's most interesting and colorful trees - up close and personal. Be prepared to view trees in a whole new way... as living, breathing individuals. We will also visit some of the beautiful waterfalls and wild rivers for which Lake Jocassee is so famous. A South Carolina State Park entrance fee or pass is required.

Kay Wade co-owns Jocassee Lake Tours with her husband, Brooks. She has worked as a professional gardener and garden designer from the North Carolina mountains to the Florida coast and back to the mountains of South Carolina. She has written extensively on environmental and ecological challenges.

New! From Fort to Falls: Explore Oconee Station & Station Cove

Monday, November 10

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Oconee Station State Historic Site, Walhalla

Tuition: \$29

Rich in history and surrounded by natural beauty, Oconee Station offers a glimpse into life on South Carolina's early frontier. Come with us to explore South Carolina's frontier past at Oconee Station, a historic site that once served as a military outpost and later a trading post in the late 1700s and early 1800s. The park features two preserved structures well worth seeing:

- Oconee Station - A stone blockhouse built around 1792 by the South Carolina State Militia to defend against Cherokee and Creek attacks. It later served as a kitchen for the nearby residence.
- The William Richards House - Built in 1805 by Irish immigrant William Richards, this home was occupied into the 1960s and used as a summer retreat through the 1970s.

Following the tour and brief lunch break, OLLI Member **Meg Williamson** will lead the group on an easy rated 1.5-mile hike to Station Cove Falls to see a stepped 60-foot waterfall that forms from headwaters atop Station Mountain.

A

COURSES

New! Forgiving the Unforgivable

Monday, September 8

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

What is forgiveness? It is not forgetting, condoning or perpetuating injustice. It does not always involve reconciliation. Forgiveness is the decision or choice to give up the right for vengeance, retribution, and negative thoughts toward an offender in order to be free from anger and resentment. And it is not always a quick process. Come to this workshop if you are interested in exploring your relationship with forgiveness. Leave with a deeper understanding of how you can come into compassion, let go of judgment, and forgive the unforgivable.

Sarah Troy is an Ayurvedic Health Practitioner, Integrative Counselor, Heart Based Meditation Instructor, and Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapist with over 5000 hours of training in consciousness based holistic healing. Sarah practices out of the Healing Center in Simpsonville in addition to virtual visits. She also resides in Simpsonville with her husband Chuck, son Charlie, dog and cats.

Beginning Mah Jongg

4 Tuesdays, September 9 to 30

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$49

Are you unsure about your American Mah Jongg abilities and hesitant to join our Tuesday Shared Interest Group (SIG)? We've got you covered with our Beginning Mah Jongg course designed to acquaint you with the essentials of American Mah Jongg. This isn't the Solitaire version you might play on your laptop. In this hands-on course, you'll delve into the basics, grasp terms like "crack, bams, and dots," understand concepts like doubleton and singleton and decode the meanings behind dragons, winds and flowers. During the course, you'll engage in practice matches with fellow players, master the art of "Charleston" and refine your gameplay with insights into the game's intricacies. After completing the course, you'll have the opportunity to join our weekly Tuesday Mah Jongg group where intermediate to advanced players gather to further their skills and enjoy the game together. To get the most out of the course, participants must commit to attending all four classes when they are offered.

Janice Dieter, Joan Servis and Sue Sprott are the OLLI Mah Jongg teaching team. Together, they have a combined over 2,000 hours of playing time.

15th Annual Clemson Photo Club's Member Exhibit Opening Reception

Monday, October 20

5:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Free but registration is required by October 13.

Register by calling the OLLI Office at 864-633-5242

Exhibit open through January



Join the Clemson Photo Club to celebrate its 15th Annual Member Exhibit "Vintage/Old/Timeworn." Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided. The Clemson Photography Club was formed in 2009 by three Clemson University faculty and staff members. Membership is open to all area residents; demographics include all ages, amateurs, novices, those who are just starting to learn and current or retired photographic professionals. Members come from a wide range of backgrounds and interests. See clemsonphotoclub.com for more information.

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LOCAL IN PENDLETON



Intermediate Tai Chi

10 Tuesdays, September 9 to November 11

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$119

Tai Chi (Taijiquan) is practiced widely around the world and is renowned as a system of training that enhances health, balance and well-being through a series of postures that are practiced slowly, with attention to alignment and relaxed movement. While many of the concepts go back to ancient times, the first complete forms are credited to the Chen Village in China (from the 1700s). The Tai Chi form known as "Tai Chi 24" will be taught form by form. The instructor will explain basic yet very important principles e.g., rooting, sung (relaxation), and six directions.

Gary Carbone spent 35 years studying Tai Chi (Taijiquan), Xingyiquan, Bagua Zhang, Yiquan, Shaolin Kung Fu and Isshin Ryu Karate and is a seventh-generation lineage holder from Master Chen Jun Hao of Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, China. He loves sharing these arts with others.

Tai Chi

10 Tuesdays, September 9 to November 11

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$119

Tai Chi (Taijiquan) is practiced widely around the world and is renowned as a system of training that enhances health, balance and well-being through a series of postures that are practiced slowly, with attention to alignment and relaxed movement. While many of the concepts go back to ancient times, the first complete forms are credited to the Chen Village in China (from the 1700s). The Tai Chi form known as "Tai Chi 24" will be taught form by form. The instructor will explain basic yet very important principles e.g., rooting, sung (relaxation), and six directions.

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***New!* Dementia Bingo**

Tuesday, September 9

3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Genetics is not the only reason people get dementia.

Come and learn all the reasons for memory loss. We'll use bingo cards of the causes of dementia and learn ways to counteract the things that can lead to dementia. Prizes if you get a bingo will be foods that may help prevent memory loss.

Eunice Lehmacher, LISW-CP, has worked as a medical social worker and psychotherapist in Oconee County for more than 20 years. She specializes in geriatrics, dementia, depression and anxiety and has taught many classes on various mental health topics. Eunice enjoys leading interactive classes and support groups on a variety of mental health topics which help adults to make choices that can lead to a healthier life.

Make Drawing a Habit

6 Wednesdays, September 10 to October 15

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$69

We will discuss drawing as a record and as an exploration of things around us and we will consider drawing as a form of meditation. We will study elements of design, such as proportion and negative space. Emphasis will be on process, not product. In class, students will use simple drawing tools and sketchbooks as they draw natural and manufactured objects selected for this purpose. A supply list will be provided upon registration.

As a professional garden designer, over a period of 45 years, **Tom Pellett** designed gardens in Austin, Greensboro, the Memphis area, north Mississippi, and east Arkansas. He has been filling sketchbooks for 50+ years and painting with watercolors for about 25 years. Tom's gardens have been featured in several books and periodicals. His academic degree is a BFA from the California College of Art.

***New!* Anecdotal Joy**

10 Wednesdays, September 10 to November 12

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$69

Many if not most OLLI members have crossed the threshold of their anecdotalage, as Benjamin Disraeli called it. Though our children may roll their eyes when we start pulling "chestnuts" from the fire, we seasoned adults recognize gold when we hear it. This new OLLI course promises to explore the joys of artful storytelling, both old and new, fiction and non-fiction. Each class will feature some anecdotes drawn from *The Little Brown Book of Anecdotes*, edited by Clifton Fadiman, and a sampling drawn from *Anecdotes and Antidotes* by Skip Eisinger. Following each reading or oral recital, the floor will be open to memories

(three-minute maximum) that these stories evoke in the minds of those who hear them. (Warning: I have a three-minute egg timer!) Participation is optional, and there are no tests. Given the dicey nature of our well-seasoned memories, I suggest you start writing down your favorites in a separate notebook. As the Chinese say, "The palest ink transcends the best memories."

Skip Eisiminger is retired from the Clemson University English Department, where he taught History of the Language, Word Study, American Literature, interdisciplinary humanities, and creative writing for 42 years. He continues to publish in the *South Carolina Review*, *Weekly Hubris*, and *KYSO Flash*. He is the author of *Anecdotes and Antidotes* (Serving House Press, 2019).

New! U.S.-Iran Relations: From Friendship and Strategic Partnership to Conflict



6 Wednesdays, September 10 to October 15

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$69

Iran's uranium enrichment program, missile capabilities, and involvement in Middle East conflicts have severely strained U.S.-Iran relations. To fully grasp these critical issues, it is essential to explore Iran's complex and dramatic history, which reveals the roots of today's tensions. Join Moe Bidgoli in tracing a fascinating series of historical events that shaped the current regime in Iran. How did global events, internal political and cultural struggles, and U.S. efforts to influence the country lead to the current crisis? Step by step, we will examine pivotal moments such as the 1979 Iranian Revolution, the establishment of the Islamic Republic, the Iran hostage crisis, the Iran-Iraq War, the Iran-Contra affair, the development of Iran's nuclear program, the ongoing nuclear negotiations with the U.S. and the European Union, and the U.S. withdrawal from the nuclear deal — all of which have brought us to where we are today.

Moe Bidgoli graduated from the University of Tehran and University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was a professor of Computer Science and Information Systems for 35 years. He became Emeritus Professor of Computer Science and Information Systems in June 2018. He taught several OLLI courses for SVSU, UofM Ann Arbor, WMU, UNL, Duke University, and ISU since 2008. He is married and he lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His hobbies are reading history, playing pickleball, gardening, travelling, and working with OLLI programs.

New! The Story of the Jewish People in the Land of Israel

8 Wednesdays, September 10 to October 29

1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$69

In 1948 by a vote of the United Nations, the new nation state of Israel was established. What followed has been decades of additional conflict in an area of the world known for conflict. What led to the re-establishment of Jewish sovereignty in this historical Land of Israel, and why is that so important both to Jews and to many others? Along with the course in this Catalog on U.S.-Iran Relations, The Story helps explain current events in the Middle East. We will cover the history of the Jewish people in the land of Israel from antiquity to the modern day, presenting evidence of why Israel has been central to Jewish identity for 3000 years. This gives meaning to the Jewish movement towards "self-determination." Embedded in the history of this movement, the modern-day Arab-Israeli conflict will deserve coverage in depth, specifically the conflicts with Iran, Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis. To get us there, among the questions we will attempt to answer are the following: What has life been like for Jews over the centuries before 1948? After 1948, what did the Soviet Union do to help, or hurt, Arab-Israeli relations once Israel was created? Why were the Oslo Accords important, and how did they fail? The conflict shifted from being called the Arab-Israeli conflict to being called the Palestinian-Israeli conflict - why did that happen, and what did that mean? Finally, let's understand some important things about Israel: its population's composition, and some of its internal political challenges. Required reading for the course is *Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth* by Noa Tishby.

Esther Pittman has a doctorate from Harvard University. She was awarded her Professional Society's National Distinguished Professor Award for "Outstanding Contributions to Management Education." She received her university's Best Professor Award and received the Best Paper Award from the Academy of Management. Esther was a tenured, full Professor of Organizational Behavior and Management and also worked as a consultant to executives in industry. She and her parents are Holocaust survivors.

Qigong

5 Wednesdays, September 10 to October 8

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$79

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) incorporates five elements—Metal, Water, Wood, Fire, and Earth—into its approach to health and wellness. When combined with specific movement and breathing techniques, this practice becomes Qigong. The movements in Qigong target various body systems and promote overall health, acting as a holistic tonic for the body. The practice ranges from stationary movements to more dynamic stepping patterns, allowing you to engage in slow, meditative practices for balance or more vigorous movements for an anaerobic workout.

Gary Carbone spent 35 years studying Tai Chi (Taijiquan), Xingyiquan, Bagua Zhang, Yiquan, Shaolin Kung Fu and Isshin Ryu Karate and is a seventh-generation lineage holder from Master Chen Jun Hao of Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, China. He loves sharing these arts with others.

***New!* Operation Mincemeat**

Wednesday, September 10

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Note: Presenting via Zoom as part of the Smithsonian Associates program.

In the spring of 1943, on the eve of the Allied invasion of Sicily, British intelligence staged one of the most audacious deceptions of World War II. Hoping to convince Adolf Hitler and German military leadership that the target was the Balkans, the British created a fictitious character who would carry false invasion plans intended to fall into German hands. The invention was “William Martin”—an officer in the Royal Marines—and a corpse carrying official papers, pictures of a “sweetheart,” and documents for a Balkan invasion was dumped off the coast of Spain. A fisherman recovered the body and turned it over to German intelligence. Hitler, believing that the Allies were planning to strike in Greece, moved reinforcements to the Balkans instead of Sicily.

Historian **Christopher Hamner** examines this elaborate ruse by using original documents from 1943.

Philosophy Plus: The Rise of Rome

10 Thursdays, September 11 to November 13

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$69

This discussion group, now in its 19th year, is Clemson OLLI's longest running offering. Participants spend the first portion of class watching a video lecture, which leads to the lively discussion that follows. Videos are available to registrants anytime; each discussion is freestanding. Owing to the wide interests within the group, digressions are frequent. This term's topic is, “The Rise of Rome.” The Roman Republic is one of the most breathtaking civilizations in world history. Between roughly 500 B.C.E. to the turn of the millennium, a modest city-state developed an innovative system of government and expanded into far-flung territories. This powerful civilization inspired America's founding fathers, gifted us a blueprint for amazing engineering innovations, left a vital trove of myths, and has inspired the human imagination for 2,000 years. How did Rome become so powerful? This mystery has vexed historians for centuries. Today, removed as we are from the Roman Republic, historians also wonder what it was like to be a Roman citizen in that amazing era. Beyond the familiar names of Romulus, Caesar, Octavian, Brutus, and Mark Antony, what was life like for the ordinary people?

Video lectures feature **Gregory S. Aldrete**, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Wisconsin–Green Bay. A discussion group member leads the conversation.

***New!* Let's Speak Italian**

6 Mondays, September 15 to October 20

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$69

Join me in this course as we put together the building blocks of basic Italian: how to ask questions, how to use verbs, and how to make basic conversation. These building blocks will be used to make conversation in everyday scenes such as at the store, at the restaurant, making friends, travelling, and having fun. During each class we will have time to practice what we learn, putting together the building blocks and speaking Italian! Previous experience speaking basic Italian will be helpful.

Kathy McElvenny lived in Genoa, Italy for four years and loves sharing her enthusiasm for speaking Italian and the Italian culture with students.

Football 101

2 Tuesdays, September 16 and 23

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

Love to be part of Clemson University's proud football tradition, but have little clue what's actually happening when the whistle blows? Participants will explore the always changing rules of football – explanations that will add to your enjoyment of watching a game played at any level. The course emphasis will be on high school rules with some explanation of differences that colleges and pros use. Discover how rules are developed and adopted by the state associations. Students should expect lively, fun but informative discussion on legal blocks, pass interference and other misunderstood rules. Become the go-to person at your next tail gate!

Riley Johnson, a collegiate official in the ACC, will be joining us to provide greater understanding of the NCAA rules.

New! Iran-Contra: Whitewashing Ronald Reagan

6 Tuesdays, September 16 to October 21

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$69

Let's pull back the curtain. Nearly 40 years ago, the news burst out of its classified vaults and on to the headlines of global media: the U.S. government's covert and illegal enterprise of supplying arms to a "freedom fighting" insurgency in Central America and to the "terrorist" Iranian government in its war with Iraq. Afterward, the Reagan administration went into full cover-up mode to protect the president, who had been ardently directing these policies. The president narrowly escaped impeachment and quietly transitioned out of office. In this course, you will journey from the early events that laid the groundwork for this criminal endeavor through to the ignominious conclusion six years later when another president, himself a participant, pardoned the conspirators. Regardless of your own opinion of treason or patriotism, you will find the story itself, and the levels of power and risks involved, nearly unbelievable - but true.

John Powers holds an MFA in Drama from University of Southern California where he also earned a BFA in Drama. His career has been in entertainment as a writer and director of film and theater. For more than 10 years, he has been an instructor at various OLLI programs across the nation via Zoom and in person at UCR, UCLA, and CSU Dominguez Hills. Having

produced a theater series for 15 years at a cultural center in the South Bay area of Los Angeles, John created original content drawing on mid-20th century American history. He has delved into this wealth of content to present engaging explorations in the classroom, always providing lifelong learners with provocative insights into the major events of their lives. John "pulls back the curtain" to show what really happened.

New! Seven Deadly Estate Planning Mistakes

Tuesday, September 23

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Many estate plans fail. They fail - not because they weren't created - but because they were misinterpreted, outdated, or improperly implemented. In this eye-opening course led by a seasoned Wealth advisor, participants will examine seven common estate planning mistakes that often result in unintended tax consequences, disinherited heirs, and costly legal issues! Attendees will learn the difference between what a Will has authority over and what a Trust does for your legacy. With a focus on real-world examples, this class will explore how improper asset structure, titling and poor trustee choices can unravel even the most well-drafted plans. While not a substitute for legal advice, this session empowers attendees to better prepare before meeting with an attorney - saving time, money, and heartache - while learning how to find the right professionals, including estate attorneys and corporate trustees.

With over 18 years of experience in the financial services industry, **Carolyn Bare** is an easily accessible resource for business owners, individuals and families seeking clarity and management of their investment, tax and estate planning. Carolyn specializes in these areas particularly for families with scary heirs, special needs loved ones or families with complex family dynamics. Through her firm, Trust Matters Financial, Carolyn combines deep financial expertise with a compassionate, real-world understanding of how emotions, taxes, and relationships intersect with money and legacy plans. Her mission? To help you manage and protect what you've built and pass it on with purpose, tax efficiently. Avantax is a distinct community within Cetera Wealth Services, LLC. Securities offered through Cetera Wealth Services, LLC, member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory Services offered through Cetera Investment Advisers LLC, a registered investment adviser. Cetera is under separate ownership from any other named entity.

***New!* Retirement Wealth Management**

4 Thursdays, September 25 to October 16

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$49

Managing money and other assets has been called “not a game for cowards.” This can be said because it involves significant challenges, emotional stress, and the need for courageous decision-making. This is true even for those with a working knowledge of retirement finance and its challenges. However, we can gain additional, useful insights through a review of important retirement wealth management concepts. In this course, we will discuss those concepts in detail, additionally covering useful ideas in investment, tax, risk, and estate planning. Investment ideas include ways to build low-cost, diverse portfolios that produce income and growth. Tax ideas include ways to reduce taxes on distributions from 401(k)s and IRAs. Risk management ideas include ways to pre-fund long term care. Estate planning ideas include ways to minimize probate fees and other estate settlement costs. Please note: this class is not designed for beginners; students should have a working knowledge of retirement finance.

Greg Goff is a Clemson alum, a CFA charter holder, and a CFP® professional. He brings nearly 10 years of experience helping individuals successfully transition into retirement. Greg works at a Greenville-based wealth management firm, where he focuses on personalized retirement strategies and investment planning. His course draws on practical, real-world experience and a passion for helping others retire with confidence.

New! Planning for Purpose: Finding Meaning and Joy In Your Next Chapter

Making a Difference: The Power and Joy of Volunteering

Thursday, September 25

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Your experience, skills, and wisdom are needed by many organizations, communities and groups– and volunteering offers rewards that go far beyond giving back. Retirement provides the time and freedom to contribute meaningfully to causes you care about, whether that's mentoring young people, supporting local nonprofits, helping at food banks, or sharing your professional expertise with small businesses or fellow retirees. Many volunteers report that they receive far more than they give – forming new friendships, learning new skills, and discovering renewed energy and enthusiasm for life. All this while making a difference. Our panelists will share their volunteer

experiences. They'll discuss how they found suitable organizations, share the impact the work has had on the organizations and on themselves, and share what they wish they had known before they got started. Whether you can spare a few hours a month or want to dive into a more substantial commitment, this panel will help you find volunteer opportunities that enrich both your life and the lives of others.

Sharon Nagy is an anthropologist and Clemson's associate provost for curricular innovation. While her day job has her building unique learning experiences for students, she fills her time with volunteer activities. She has sought out volunteer opportunities with organizations that can benefit from her professional skill set, as well as some that are simply fun! Sharon will enlist other active volunteers to join her for this panel. Expect an engaged and interactive session.

Unleashing Your Creative Spirit: Art, Expression, and Joy in Your Next Chapter

Thursday, October 30

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Creativity isn't just for "artists" – it's for everyone, and retirement offers the perfect opportunity to explore fresh or rekindled potential. Whether you've always considered yourself artistic or believe you "don't have a creative bone in your body," this panel will inspire you to discover the joy and fulfillment that creative pursuits bring. From painting and writing to crafting, music, photography, or even cooking, creativity takes countless forms. You'll hear from peers who found unexpected talents later in life, as well as those who revived long-dormant passions. Our panelists will share practical advice on getting started, finding communities of fellow creators, and overcoming the fear of "not being good enough." Beyond pure enjoyment, research consistently shows that engaging in creative activities provides significant benefits for well-being. Creative expression can provide a sense of purpose, accomplishment, and identity that enriches our lives. Join us to learn how creativity can become a source of meaning, community, and personal growth in your retirement years. Who knows? You may discover talents you never knew you had.

Laura Hout is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who holds a Master of Arts in Psychology as well as a Master of Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. She's had many passions in life, including travel, feature and fiction writing, and singing in jazz/pop bands.

Tuition: \$19 per session or \$35 for both sessions

New!* Mutiny on the *Black Prince

Thursday, September 25

6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Note: Presenting via Zoom as part of the Smithsonian Associates program.

In 1768, the British slave ship *Black Prince* departed England, bound for West Africa. But before reaching the African coast, the crew mutinied, murdering the captain and his officers. The mutineers renamed the ship *Liberty* and set out for Brazil. The ship eventually wrecked off the coast of Hispaniola, and the crew fled.

History professor **James H. Sweet** unravels the dramatic story of the events onboard the vessel and the owners' efforts to capture the rebels. The owners mobilized the power of the British government to seek justice and restitution, Sweet says, foreshadowing forms of corporate-state capture that persist to this day.

***New!* The Martians**

Monday, September 29

6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Note: Presenting via Zoom as part of the Smithsonian Associates program.

A mere century ago, Martians were thought to be real, not fictional, creatures. "Mars is inhabited by a highly civilized and intelligent race of beings," proclaimed Alexander Graham Bell. When in 1899 Nikola Tesla detected radio signals he believed came from Mars, an all-out craze swept society. You could read about Martians in *The New York Times*, hear of them in Sunday sermons, and see them depicted on the Broadway stage.

In a lively program filled with period photographs and depictions of the putative Martians themselves, journalist **David Baron** reveals what the episode says about the human mind: the fallibility of our senses, the power of belief, and the lure of sensationalism.

***New!* 40 Years of Death: The Past, Present, and Future of South Carolina's Death Penalty**

4 Thursdays, October 2 to 23

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$49

Now that the modern death penalty is 40 years old in South Carolina, what do we know about its effectiveness as a form of punishment, and what is the cost to our state, both in terms of human as well as financial resources? In this course, members will hear from experts on the death penalty about the trends of when and how the death penalty across the US is enacted, its impact on individuals and communities, and ways that others are taking what they've learned about the death penalty and proposing alternative but hopefully effective penalties. This course will include lectures from system-impacted speakers, including legal experts, a murder victim family member, a death row family member, and a death row survivor. As with any potentially controversial topic with social and political implications, respectful behavior and conversation will be expected.

Rev. Hillary Taylor is the Executive Director of South Carolinians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (SCADP). Before working for SCADP, Hillary spent time working as a young adult missionary in South Africa and Miami, FL, a pastor in Saluda, SC, and a hospital chaplain at Greenville Memorial Hospital. A graduate of both Furman University and Candler School of Theology (Emory University), Hillary has been working against the death penalty since organizing with the #KellyOnMyMind Campaign in 2015 for Kelly Gissendaner in Georgia. When she returned to South Carolina, she became the spiritual advisor to Brad Sigmon, who was executed on March 7, 2025. She continues abolition work in his memory. When she is not working, Hillary loves being outdoors, doing yard work, and spending time with her wife and pets.

***New!* DIY Herbal Christmas Gifts**

Get into the holiday spirit with our four-part DIY Holiday herbal body care series, led by Brooke! In this festive series, you'll create your own luxurious herbal body care products, perfect for pampering yourself or gifting to friends and loved ones. Whether you join us for all four workshops to craft a complete gift box or pick and choose your favorites, each class will provide you with everything you need to make beautiful, handmade gifts. You'll leave each workshop with a finished product, detailed recipes to recreate at home, and the confidence to continue crafting on your own. All materials are included.

Monday, October 6: Botanical Bath Salt Shots

Monday, October 20: Peppermint Lip Balm

Monday, November 3: Candy Cane Sugar Scrub

Monday, November 17: Lavender Lotion Bar

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$40 per session or \$150 for all four sessions

Brooke Parrow is a Clinical Herbalist and Integrative Nutritionist with a passion for helping others achieve vibrant health and wellness. With years of experience in the wellness industry, she guides clients on a transformative journey toward holistic healing, incorporating herbs, nutrition, movement, and mindfulness. Brooke is dedicated to empowering individuals to take charge of their health by addressing the root causes of imbalances, rather than merely masking symptoms. Through her workshops and classes, she shares her deep knowledge of herbal medicine and natural health, providing practical tools and remedies to support both body and mind.

***New!* Estate Planning/Estate Protection**

2 Mondays, October 6 and 13

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

In Estate Planning / Estate Protection we will be covering all aspects of a good, thorough estate plan, including:

- how it can properly protect your assets from fraud and scams
- how it can protect your estate from most lawsuits
- how it can be used to provide for disabled family members without jeopardizing their benefits
- how to recognize when your estate is being attacked and how to prevent that from happening
- how to make sure your family doesn't have to go through a lengthy probate of your estate.

We will also discuss the frequent mistakes that we see made and how to prevent them from occurring to you. We will discuss frequent and popular misconceptions that people pick up from the internet (and friends!), and we will discuss what rights you have and how to protect them.

Carol Johnson is the founder of Carol Johnson Law Firm, P.A., having law offices in both Florida and South Carolina. Her primary focus is in elder law and estate planning. Carol's goal is to help ensure that her clients' estates are completely and easily passed on to their desired heirs without having to burden their families with an intrusive probate. This may include setting up a Special Needs Trust for a disabled child or other family member. Carol also helps them protect their estates from predators and scammers.

Shaun D. Malone, Esq., is a new associate attorney at Carol Johnson Law Firm, P.A. He is a skilled litigator and estate planner. Shaun spent several years in a private firm doing mostly litigation, property cases, guardianships, etc., and spent the last two years as a prosecutor for the 13th Circuit Solicitor's Office before bringing his skills to the Carol Johnson Law Firm.

***New!* An Invitation to Sailing**

Tuesday, October 7

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Have you ever wondered how a sailboat can sail INTO the wind (not just be blown downwind)? Have you ever considered learning to sail? Did you know sailing is an Olympic sport? We will answer these questions and more as we explore the joy and magic of sailing, delve into the history of sailing, learn about the different types of modern sailboats, discover the fundamentals of sailing, demonstrate how sailors observe and predict the wind, and even have you participate in your first sailboat race (on dry land, of course).

Mike Garrett fell in love with sailing when he was a boy in the mid-1960s, after a neighbor took him and his father for a ride on a small sailboat on Lake Michigan. He has been sailing and racing sailboats ever since.

***New!* Hacking Maintenance**

Tuesday, October 7

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Have you lost weight but struggle to maintain your loss? Are you trying to lose weight but feeling (once again) discouraged? Learn practical skills and healthy “hacks” for sustaining maintenance, including the three C’s: Creativity, Consistency and Connection. Topics include eating out, traveling tips, saying “no” to well-meaning friends, and the latest science in metabolic and cardiovascular health. Students will explore values, scenarios and solutions in class. Recipes included!

Laura Hout is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who holds a Master of Arts in Psychology as well as a Master of Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. She's worked in eating disorder centers, substance abuse treatment programs and mental health agencies. She's published articles on food addiction and maintained a significant weight loss for almost four decades. www.laurahout.com

***New!* Mandala Rock Painting**

Tuesday, October 7

4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

Mandala is a Sanskrit word that means circle. Mandala patterns symbolize the cosmos, a circular vision of the universe. This includes the idea that life is never ending and everything is connected. Mandalas date back centuries and have a strong connection to meditation and introspection. Today, mandalas have become very popular in the stress management/relaxation world. Mandalas have come to encompass a broader art category called dot art. In particular, mandala rocks can be simple or complicated, but in the end, they are all about making designs with dots. Each student will create their own mandala stone to take home to enjoy. All supplies are provided.

Susan Stull is a graduate with her bachelors and master's from Kutztown University. She spent over 30 years as a teacher and student teacher advisor. Susan enjoys sharing knowledge by teaching friends the art of mandala painting on stones. Along with teaching, Susan is a culinary enthusiast who enjoys baking. She provides desserts to a local restaurant and also takes private orders. Susan's son attends Clemson University, and she is an ardent Tiger fan and supporter.

***New!* Haunted: Remembering Edgar Allan Poe**

Tuesday, October 7

6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Note: Presenting via Zoom as part of the Smithsonian Associates program.

Edgar Allan Poe, the storyteller who gave us such enduring classics as *The Purloined Letter*, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, and *The Fall of the House of Usher*, is often referred to as America's Shakespeare. With his tales of mystery and imagination, Poe both broke new literary ground and set the pattern for generations of writers to come. At the same time, in mysterious and lyrical poems such as *The Raven* and *Annabel Lee*, Poe struggled to perfect what he called “the rhythmical creation of beauty in words.”

On the anniversary of his death—Oct. 7, 1849—author **Daniel Stashower** explores the life and art of the original “man in black,” as actor Scott Sedar offers a dramatic reading of Poe's most powerful works, giving voice to his haunting genius.

***New!* Upstate Forever: Balancing Growth with Resource Protection**

Wednesday, October 8

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

The steady course. The sustained endeavor. Upstate Forever's work in the 10-county Upstate region of South Carolina has been a work of decades. This presentation will share with you the successes of that steady, sustained, and principled effort on your behalf. Upstate Forever serves our region through four programs: Land Conservation, Clean Water, Land Planning & Policy, and Energy & State Policy. Come learn about projects now underway, and ways you might help. We will describe how we protect and steward the land, why protecting our watersheds is so important, and which issues we support through advocacy. This presentation will be interactive and full of information about simple - and more intensive - ways you can get involved in local conservation and smart growth initiatives.

Elizabeth Swails joined Upstate Forever in 2022 as the Communications Coordinator. She holds a bachelor's in English from Wofford College, a master's in English from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and a PhD in English from the University of Georgia. For 10+ years, Elizabeth taught English courses at all three schools. At Upstate Forever, she assists with marketing, communications, facilitation, and advocacy strategies.

New! Are You a Compassionate Carnivore?

Wednesday, October 8

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Most people love their companion animals and would not allow an animal to be hurt. Surprisingly, however, many of us are allowing that to happen just by our habit of consuming meat. Join us for an eye-opening presentation on the realities of factory farming. Are we aware of what we support when we purchase most grocery store meat? This presentation provides a comprehensive understanding of how factory farming impacts not just animals, but also our environment, our health, and perhaps our moral consciousness. The presentation covers:

- key aspects behind large-scale animal agriculture
- the conditions animals endure in factory farms
- the significant environmental footprint of factory farming
- the environmental consequences, including pollution and resource depletion
- public health concerns, such as antibiotic resistance and food-borne illness
- ethical dilemmas and potential alternatives to factory farming

Lois Shelton is an animal advocate devoted to educating the public about factory farming practices in animal agricultural operations. Lois' background has been in director level leadership positions in both corporate and nonprofit environments, in human resources and customer operations. She holds a master's degree in organizational psychology and a bachelor's degree in human resources. She serves on the Board of Directors for Partners In Animal Care, a non-profit working with the Greenville County Animal Care shelter.

New! The Man Who Shot J.P. Morgan

Thursday, October 9

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

This presentation invites the audience to explore a true story as complex and compelling as any novel, brought to life through the people, places, and personal accounts that made it real. At the center is a Harvard instructor who poisoned his wife, vanished, and reemerged as a Cornell Ph.D. before bombing the U.S. Capitol and attempting to assassinate J.P. Morgan! What?! Alongside him are pivotal historical figures like Woodrow Wilson, William Jennings Bryan, Teddy Roosevelt, and British Ambassador Sir Cecil Spring Rice. The journey spans a wide swath of geography—from Chicago, Cambridge, and Ithaca to Mexico City, Fort Worth, Nashville, and the Gold Coast of Long Island. What a plot! In this presentation, Mary Noe aims to immerse the audience not just in the dramatic plot of a true and astonishing story, but in the rich backstory that brings it fully to life. Using a dynamic PowerPoint filled with visual materials - photographs, letters, diaries, and historical documents - Mary will introduce the key figures and settings that shaped this narrative. Join us!

Mary Noe is a lawyer, writer and lecturer and holds the rank of Professor at St. John's University, Collins College of Professional Studies. After graduating high school, she worked in a typing pool at the New York office of the FBI. Several secretarial jobs later, she applied to be a New York City School Bus Driver with Varsity Transit. The New York City Human Rights Division brought an action against Varsity since they would not hire females. She was the only female driver among the 700 male drivers working from Varsity's Brooklyn location. She is a graduate of Brooklyn College magna cum laude and St. John's University School of Law. She has served as an administrative law judge for the New York State Office of Professional Medical Conduct and an Impartial Hearing Officer under a federal law known as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA.



***New!* Carlota de Limón: Mexico's Classic No-Bake Dessert**

Tuesday, October 14

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$39

Learn how to make Carlota de Limón, a refreshing and creamy Mexican dessert loved across generations.

In this class, I'll guide you step by step through the process of layering sweet lime cream and cookies to create this no-bake favorite. With just a few ingredients and plenty of flavor, you'll discover how easy and satisfying it is to make this chilled dessert, perfect for warm days and special gatherings.

Anay Fernanda Lazaro Alfaro was born and raised in Veracruz, Mexico. Halfway through life, she moved away from home to follow her dream of becoming a physicist. That journey took Anay all the way to Clemson University, where she is now pursuing a PhD in Physics with a focus on biophysics. She is also a proud wife to a kind-hearted Mexican guy and the devoted (and very pampering) mom of the sassiest cat you'll ever meet. Beyond science, Anay finds joy in teaching, exploring nature, crafting, and cooking dishes that carry memories and warmth. She is thrilled to be part of this beautiful community and can't wait to share a little taste of home with you!

***New!* Navigating Medical Care and Misinformation**

5 Tuesdays, October 14 to November 11

4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$59

We live in the age of instant information, which has both advantages and disadvantages. With the world literally at our fingertips, how can we determine if the answers to questions are accurate? This is especially important regarding health-related matters. We will address some common medical misconceptions, show why they fall into the category of misinformation, and provide strategies to successfully navigate our modern information environment.

Jamie L. Wood is a lecturer in the Department of Genetics & Biochemistry at Clemson University. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi and developed an interest in medical misinformation during her tenure as an Asst. Professor of Medical Education at Duke University School of Medicine.

***New!* Breaking Ground, Building Futures in Veterinary Medicine**

Wednesday, October 15

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Big news from Clemson University! On Friday, November 22, 2024, university officials and state leaders officially broke ground on the Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine – marking a historic milestone for both Clemson and the entire state of South Carolina. As the only college of veterinary medicine in the state, this new college is more than just a building – it's a bold step toward solving South Carolina's critical shortage of veterinarians. Right now, a third of the state's counties have fewer than five veterinarians, and nearly half have fewer than ten. While passionate, qualified students are lining up to pursue careers in veterinary medicine, as many as 1,000 are turned away each year due to limited space in existing programs. That's about to change. The Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine is on track to welcome its inaugural class of 80 students in Fall 2026 – opening new doors for future veterinarians and paving the way for better animal care across South Carolina. Join Dr. Dianne Dunning to learn about the future of veterinary medicine in our state.

Dr. Dianne Dunning is currently the Associate Vice President of Strategic Planning and Initiatives at Clemson University. She is responsible for fundraising and Strategic Planning and Projects related to the Harvey S. Peeler Jr. College of Veterinary Medicine. Previously she was the Associate Dean for Advancement, with an accomplished programmatic leader for eighteen years at NC State's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Vietnam: One Man's Experience

2 Tuesdays, October 21 and 28

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$29

As a young, non-commissioned officer in 1970, then 19-year-old US Army Sergeant Larry Saul served a combat tour in Vietnam. Fifty years later he returned to Vietnam to explore this beautiful country, see the fascinating people, and moreover, discover how the country had fared over the intervening half-century. The purpose of the journey was two-fold: to see the modern Vietnam, but, also, to rediscover himself. This course will look at the history, culture and geography of Vietnam, from the late 19th century up to 1975. Saul will then use the mission of his unit and their experiences to present a snapshot of the US

involvement. Then, you will fast forward to late 2018 and hear how Vietnam has progressed. Saul has made two subsequent trips, seeking something. Note: Colonel Saul will be leading a 10-day tour of Vietnam in February 2026. This course is required for participation in the tour.

Military historian and Colonel (retired) **Lawrence Saul** served for 37 years in the US Army, including tours in Germany, Holland, Belgium, England, Kosovo and other locations. He was one of the last veterans of the Vietnam War still serving on active duty when he retired in 2008. A dedicated OLLI volunteer instructor, Saul has taught more than 150 military history courses at Clemson, California State University – San Marcos, Emory, the University of South Carolina – Bluffton, and the University of Georgia. Colonel Saul has a BA in History from Georgia State University as well as two master's degrees. He also has extensive experience as a Battlefield Tour Guide.

***New!* Overview of Poverty Workshop**

Wednesday, October 22

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Our Eyes Were Opened helps people understand about poverty so they can reach out with wisdom and compassion. Participants in this workshop will consider three definitions of poverty. One is academic, another is based on the federal poverty guidelines, and the third is experiential. The workshop teaches the powerful and insightful concept of funds of knowledge and how that impacts our interaction with people who are different in any way.

Beth Lindsay Templeton, Founder and CEO of Our Eyes Were Opened, Inc. is a public speaker, Presbyterian Church USA minister, and writer. For many years, she was with United Ministries, a non-profit in Greenville, South Carolina, where she worked with both “the have-nots” and “the haves.” Since 2007, she has focused on a ministry with “the haves” so they can enlarge their understanding about people who live in poverty in order to decrease judgment and increase compassion.

***New!* Southern Shepherds, Savage Wolves: Presbyterian Domestic Missionaries and Race in South Carolina, 1802-1874, Continued**

Thursday, October 23

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

South Carolina was decidedly pro slavery in the decades before the Civil War. However, what role did Christians play in the anti-slavery and pro slavery movement in 19th century South Carolina? Dr. Otis Pickett examines the nuance and complexity of the Presbyterian missions in South Carolina to African Americans and to Native Americans to consider the ways in which Christians supported both pro and anti-slavery. This work has broad implications for our understanding of South Carolina, integration, segregation and the church's role in these struggles.

Dr. Otis W. Pickett is a historian of religion in the United States South focusing on domestic missions to enslaved African American and Native American communities in South Carolina. His research focuses on nineteenth century missionaries and the intersection of race, religion and ecclesiastical polity in southern Presbyterianism. Dr. Pickett is the third Clemson University Historian, serves in the Libraries as University Historian, is Chair of the Department of Historic Properties and is also a Clinical Assistant Professor in the College of Education, Department of Teaching and Learning at Clemson University.

Beginning Digital Photography

3 Mondays, October 27 to November 10

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Classroom

Tuition: \$39

We are pleased and privileged to have the highly published and award-winning photographer and author Eli Vega as our instructor for this course. In this highly interactive course, you will learn the basics, like those dials on your camera; those mysterious menu items; composition; f/stops, shutter speeds, exposure meter and how they all work together; ISO and White Balance; different types of lenses; the #1 solution to the #1 problem in photography; and more! Advice and guidance from Eli's experience and expertise will make all the difference! Participants must bring cameras, lenses, and their camera manuals to each session to most effectively participate in planned class exercises and demonstrations.

Eli Vega is a highly published and award-winning photographer and author. He has been a professional photographer for over 20 years. He has offered this course at three other Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes and is the author of the book Right Brain Photography by Eli Vega.



History...Oconee County Style!

Tuesday, October 28

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Oconee History Museum, Walhalla

Tuition: \$19

Did you know that National Geographic has named the Jocassee Gorges region of Oconee County as a “Destination of a Lifetime” and the National Geographic Traveler (Europe edition) has featured Oconee County as a place not to be missed? From the Cherokee to the construction of the lakes, Oconee County has an abundance of history ready for you to take in! We will examine the historic events, places, and people that made Oconee County what it is today.

Jennifer Moss is the Director/Curator of the Oconee History Museum. An Oconee County native, she earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Coastal Carolina University in 2005 and has completed master’s coursework in history at Old Dominion University.

***New!* Strong and Steady: Fall Prevention**

Wednesday, November 5

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

Do you have a fear of falling or unsure how you would react after a fall did happen? Join us for this informative course taught by a physical therapist on how to prevent falls and what to do if a fall were to happen.

Mallory Prosser is a physical therapist in Oconee County area and has been treating in an outpatient clinic for the past 3 years. She enjoys giving back to the community in any way she can by teaching classes on fall prevention, proper lifting techniques, etc.

Holiday Cookies from Around the World

Session A: Monday, November 10

Session B: Thursday, November 13

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$39

Want to have beautiful and delicious handmade holiday cookies ready when family and friends stop by during the season of giving? Join in the fun and learn about cookies that various countries view as their specialty and always prepare for the holidays. All participants will work together to bake several varieties of cookies that will freeze well so you will be ready for those holiday impromptus. You will go home with a variety of cookies along with recipes for baking more at home. You don’t want to miss this sweet class!

Susan Hansen has spent more than 30 years creating and cooking all sorts of culinary delights in her kitchen and in various public eateries. She enjoys teaching others and bringing out each participant’s “inner chef!”

***New!* How Resistance Exercise Could Prevent Disease and Extend Lifespan**

Tuesday, November 11

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cheezem Education Center

Tuition: \$19

The bad news first. The average American begins experiencing physical decline in their mid-20s, leading to dysfunction and dependence in later years. The good news. This is not normal. In this lecture by Dr. Doug McGuff, we get more good news, and good advice. Our ancestors and modern hunter-gatherers maintained high physical functioning well into old age, barring injury or illness. Dr. McGuff will present the concept of “physiologic headroom,” the better way of using ourselves today so that we retain normal, healthy functioning throughout our lives. This means focusing on a life measured not just in years, but in quality based on maintaining high physiologic capacity throughout a long lifespan. There is work to be done, however, and Dr. McGuff will tell you what that work is, and why it’s well worth doing. He will discuss how brief, high-intensity exercise many of us can do can reverse modern diseases, and how myokines—hormone-like substances released by working muscles—play a key role in this process.

Dr. Doug McGuff is an Emergency Physician at Prisma Health, Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, and owner of Ultimate Exercise. He graduated from the University of Texas Medical School in 1989 and completed his Emergency Medicine training at the University of Arkansas, where he was Chief Resident. He has also served as faculty at Wright State University and as a staff Emergency Physician at Wright-Patterson AFB Hospital.

***New!* Handmade for the Holidays: Wreath-Making Class**

Tuesday, November 11
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Cheezem Education Center
Tuition: \$79

Decorate for the holidays with a wreath made by you!! The course will provide you with all the supplies and an instructor. This is a hands-on class. You'll be guided through every step of the wreath making process. The wreath will be made of grapevine wreath, glue and holiday ornaments. You pick the colors, shapes and arrangement to fit in your home, on your front door or give it as a gift. After the class, you'll be able to make more wreaths on your own with the skills you learned from the class.

Carla T. Poirier has been doing arts and crafts her whole life. She has taught art classes, participated in craft sales and sells her artwork at a local bookstore on Ram Cat Alley. She makes greeting cards, name tags, book markers, wreaths, decorates and refurbishes chairs, creates holiday items from wood scraps and other items. She believes in recycling, repurposing and reusing items. She volunteers at Friends of the Library, is a board member of Blue Ridge Arts Center and the executive director for Keep Oconee Beautiful Association.

***New!* Charcuterie Boards and Individual Charcuterie Cups**

2 Tuesdays, November 11 and 18
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Cheezem Education Center
Tuition: \$39

A charcuterie board is a French-inspired appetizer platter featuring a curated selection of cured meats, cheeses, and accompaniments meant for sharing. The boards are known for their visual appeal and diverse mix of flavors and textures. The term "charcuterie" refers to cold cooked, cured, or smoked meats, so a traditional charcuterie board is essentially a meat platter. However, it has been modernized to include cheeses, fruits, vegetables and other edibles. A modernized spin on charcuterie called "charcuterie cups" has been developed to make it relatively simple for guests to sample the offerings of a charcuterie board in individual servings. Like a charcuterie board, this is done with an aesthetically pleasing arrangement. There is no wrong or right with charcuterie, it can be as simple or creative as you wish it to be! Each student will make and take home their own charcuterie cup.

Susan Stull is a graduate with her bachelors and master's from Kutztown University. She spent over 30 years as a teacher and student teacher advisor. Susan

enjoys sharing knowledge by teaching friends the art of mandala painting on stones. Along with teaching, Susan is a culinary enthusiast who enjoys baking. She provides desserts to a local restaurant and takes private orders. Susan's son attends Clemson University, and she is an ardent Tiger fan and supporter.

***New!* The U.S. War for Independence**

2 Tuesdays, December 2 and 9
10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Cheezem Education Center
Tuition: \$29

As we approach the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolutionary War, this engaging two-session, three-hour course offers a dynamic exploration of the conflict that gave birth to a nation. Led by Col. Larry Saul, a seasoned historian and military expert, the course will provide a clear and compelling overview of the war's origins, major battles, and influential figures. From Lexington and Concord to the final victory at Yorktown, discover how a determined group of revolutionaries secured American independence and shaped the future of democracy. Whether you're new to the subject or seeking a refresher, this course offers essential insights into one of the most pivotal events in world history.

Military historian and Colonel (retired) **Lawrence Saul** served for 37 years in the US Army, including tours in Germany, Holland, Belgium, England, Kosovo and other locations. He was one of the last veterans of the Vietnam War still serving on active duty when he retired in 2008. A dedicated OLLI volunteer instructor, Saul has taught more than 150 military history courses at Clemson, California State University – San Marcos, Emory, the University of South Carolina – Bluffton, and the University of Georgia. Colonel Saul has a BA in History from Georgia State University as well as two master's degrees. He also has extensive experience as a Battlefield Tour Guide.

“

I look forward to each term and the classes being offered. Olli helps making retiring to this area much more complete.

”



Code of Conduct

FOR MEMBERS AND INSTRUCTORS OF OLLI AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

OLLI at CU is a community of intellectually active mature adults. Membership entails mutual respect among members and instructors as they pursue knowledge and explore individual interests. Failure to treat ideas, viewpoints, the classroom environment and interests of other members of the community with respect and civility compromises the intellectual climate at OLLI, and cannot be tolerated. The OLLI administration and volunteer leadership are responsible for ensuring that the Code of Conduct is being followed in all OLLI-sponsored programs.

This OLLI at CU Code of Conduct is congruent with that for students at Clemson University (www.clemson.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-handbook/code-of-conduct) in promoting behavior that enables enlightened discourse among individuals.

“

OLLI. Means so much to me in terms of satisfying my curiosity, learning new skills and facts, and growing my circle of friends!

”

Get to Know Your

OLLI BOARD OF ADVISORS



Dave Sabo, Chair
Sue Schneider, Vice Chair
David Potts, Past Chair
Carol Helander, Secretary

Gaines Hutcheson, At-Large Member
Bob McAlpine, At-Large Member
Sue Schneider, At-Large Member
Kim Warne, At-Large Member

The Board can be reached directly at cuollibo@gmail.com.

SIG SHARED INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS

Participation in Shared Interest Groups is free and open to current OLLI Members; contact the Group Facilitator for more information.

ART GROUP

Every Monday, 1:00 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Diana Carnes (dianacmail@aol.com)

BACKGAMMON GROUP

Every Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Glen Moulder (gmoulder41@gmail.com)

BLUES GUITAR CIRCLE

Every Monday, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Chris Sally (chrissally999@yahoo.com)
Group is currently at capacity. Contact facilitator before attending.

BOOK CLUB

1st Friday Each Month, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Maureen Williamson
(williamsonmj@att.net)

BRIDGE GROUP

Every Monday and Thursday, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Peg Mahan (pmah2209@bellsouth.net)

BUNCO

Last Wednesday Each Month, 1:00 p.m.
at Everlan (Patrick Square)
Facilitator: Carol Helander (antiqueguy@gmail.com)

EUCHRE

2nd and 3rd Monday Each Month, 1:00 p.m.
at Everlan (Patrick Square)
Facilitator: C.E. Addis (cedaddis@aol.com)

GARDENING GROUP

1st Wednesday Each Month, 3:00 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Susan Creamer (smcreamerg@gmail.com)

LONG DISTANCE GRANDPARENTING

3rd Wednesday Each Month, 2:00 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Di Ucci (diucciauthor@gmail.com)

MAH JONGG - INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED

Every Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Janice Dieter (dieterjw@yahoo.com)

NEEDLES AND THREADS

Every Wednesday, 1:30 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Nan Jones (jones4927@bellsouth.net)

PICKLEBALL

Every Friday
at Nettles Park (Clemson)
Facilitators: Lauris and Mary Jane Ames
(mames10579@aol.com, laurisames@aol.com)
Time varies; reach out to the facilitators to confirm.

TRIVIA

4th Friday Each Month, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Skip Eisiminger (esterli2@bellsouth.net)

WATERCOLOR GROUP

Every Thursday Each Month, 1:00 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Trish Davis (trishkaydavis@gmail.com)

WRITERS' GROUP

Group 1: 1st and 3rd Friday Each Month, 10:00 a.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
This group is currently at capacity, but contact facilitator Paula Appling (upst8hiker@gmail.com) for more information.

Group 2: 2nd and 4th Thursday Each Month, 1:00 p.m.
at the Cheezem Education Center
Facilitator: Elaine Faithful (belainefaitful@gmail.com)

A gift of any amount to OLLI at Clemson University will help us to provide a unique array of activities and educational opportunities for our members. Your support plays a pivotal role in promoting lifelong learning, helping us provide nearly 350 different programs to our community. We rely on donors to keep our annual membership fee low and to provide a quality curriculum to our students -your support keeps these programs running.

Take the opportunity to make a gift today and help us foster a culture of lifelong learning!

**Help elevate OLLI at
CLEMSON**
UNIVERSITY



**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Endowment in Honor of
Dr. Robert H. Jones**

To honor Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Robert H. Jones for his steadfast support of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Clemson University, this endowment has been established to ensure the continued growth and success of OLLI. Your gift of any amount will help to ensure growth and opportunities for lifelong learning into the future.

To make your gift today, scan the below QR code.



Ann Batson Smith '82, M '85 I Executive Director of Annual Giving

Please contact
the Annual Giving
Office with any
questions.

P.O. Box 1889
Clemson, S.C. 29633-1889

864-656-5895
annsmit@clemson.edu

MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION FORM FALL 2025

Please complete this form, even if you think we have this information on file.

Name _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male Date of Birth (Month, Year) _____

Catalog Format: ☐ Email Catalog ☐ U.S. Mail Catalog

Email Communication: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Your name, mailing and email addresses will be published in the password-protected online OLLI Member directory.

☐ Check this box if you would like to opt out of the directory.

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____

Please note: Each member of a couple must submit a separate form to ensure proper registration.

Annual Membership Fee (Membership runs from today to June 30, 2026.)

I am a NEW OLLI member and paying my first membership fee. (\$65) \$ _____

I am renewing my lapsed OLLI membership. (\$65) \$ _____

If you are unsure about your membership status, please call the OLLI office at 864-633-5242.

Courses

Course Name _____ Tuition: \$ _____

Course Name _____ Tuition: \$ _____

Course Name _____ Tuition: \$ _____

Donation

Please accept this gift to the Clemson University Foundation on behalf of OLLI at Clemson University.

Please note that 100% of your gift goes to OLLI. Gift: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Payment Information

☐ Check enclosed (payable to OLLI at Clemson University)

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVC: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION FORM FALL 2025

Please complete this form, even if you think we have this information on file.

Name _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male Date of Birth (Month, Year) _____

Catalog Format: ☐ Email Catalog ☐ U.S. Mail Catalog

Email Communication: ☐ Yes ☐ No

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☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVC: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

4 Easy Ways to Register

- **Online:** www.olliatclermson.org, click the link “online registration” (credit card payment only)
- **By Phone:** 864-633-5242 (credit card payment only)
- **By Mail:** 100 Thomas Green Blvd. Clemson, SC 29631 (check or credit card payment)
- **In Person** at the Cheezem Education Center, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (cash, check or credit card payment)

Refund/Cancellation

If you must cancel your registration in an OLLI Course, a full or partial refund may be available to you. Our current refund procedures are listed on our website, www.olliatclermson.org, under the registration tab. All Members are encouraged to review this information when registering. If an OLLI Course is cancelled, you will receive a full refund. Payments made by cash and check will be refunded as course credit in your OLLI account; payments made by credit card will be refunded to the credit card.

Wait List

If the Course you have requested has filled prior to receiving your registration, you will automatically be placed on a waiting list for the Course. Should space become available, you will be contacted and given the opportunity to enroll. You will not be charged for the Course until you are enrolled.

Liability Waivers

OLLI members who are enrolled in higher risk Courses may be required to sign Waiver and Release of Liability Forms before participating. For more information, visit our website, www.olliatclermson.org.

Accessibility

OLLI at Clemson University is committed to an inclusive and accessible environment for all OLLI Members, and as a Clemson University Institute, follows the spirit of Student Accessibility Services, which can be found at www.clemson.edu/academics/studentaccess. If you have questions about accessibility for a Course, please contact the OLLI office at olli@clemson.edu or 864-633-5242; all correspondence will be confidential.

Graduate Research

On occasion, Clemson University faculty and students are interested in working with OLLI Members on research projects specific to engaged aging. Opportunities to participate in such studies will be announced to the OLLI membership via the weekly e-newsletter, and your personal involvement is entirely at your discretion. We do not share your contact information with any group or individual.

Membership Fees

A nonrefundable membership is required to participate in OLLI Courses and activities. The OLLI Member Year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of each year. The membership fee for a full year is \$65.

Scholarships

Financial assistance may be available for current OLLI Members; for more information, visit our website, www.olliatclermson.org.

Inclement Weather

OLLI follows the Clemson University inclement weather policy. When Clemson University is closed due to inclement weather, all OLLI activities are cancelled or postponed to a later date.

Charles K. Cheezem Education Center

As a Clemson University facility, the Center is tobacco-free and follows campus facility policies.



at Clemson University

OLLI at Clemson University
100 Thomas Green Blvd.
Clemson, SC 29631

Phone: 864-633-5242
olli@clemson.edu
www.olliatclemson.org

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