

OLLI at Granite State College Learning for the Fun of It!



at Granite State College



Virginia Martin,
OLLI Director

File photo

From the Director

Update – Short and Simple

- We've had a great spring session with record attendance. We welcomed new members and encouraged them to become involved as OLLI volunteers, whether in curriculum planning, publicity, social events, class monitoring, teaching, administrative office assistance or fund development.
- It took only two planning meetings with Conway area residents to know a fourth OLLI at GSC chapter was needed. Interest and enthusiasm was high at the planning meetings for those 35+ attendees, who offered productive, fun ideas for classes, members and publicity. The Fall program is already in place; new members are quickly joining (more details in the next newsletter). Remember that OLLI at GSC members have access to OLLI events/classes at all sites.
- Our application for the Osher Foundation endowment is "in the mail." We'll let you know what happens. Keep your fingers crossed.
- Fall catalog preparations are under way with a great selection of classes at each site. There are many "Out and About with OLLI" offerings in addition to the classroom events.
- We hosted our first Volunteer Appreciation Event in June (see more on page 3). I want to thank the attendees for joining us -- and wish all OLLI volunteers could have been there to celebrate our continuing success.

Virginia B. Martin, Director



Pete Winthrop helps
Marian Richardson
with registration.

John Hammon photo



Jim Gillen tries out
Nintendo® Wii™ during
Lunch Bytes, Elec-
tronic Toys & More.

Dottie Nelson photo



Love Is in the Air at OLLI.

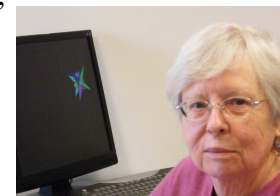
See page 2.

Pauline Bogaert photo



Spotlight on OLLI People

Luckily for OLLI,
Denise Thum loves
New Hampshire, even
the winters. Denise,
who has a B.S., an
M.A. and a Ph.D.,
worked for years as a
social researcher



Denise Thum

Virginia Martin photo

in Boston, New York and Washington. In 1980 she attended American University Graduate School to learn computer technology. "I was a graduate assistant at the age of 50, but I had always known I would love computers." Denise worked for 20 years as a systems analyst, designer and developer before retiring, first to Massachusetts, then to New Hampshire. "I don't like retirement, so I have set about making my retirement as close to my work life as I can. Someone once said, 'Find what you love to do and you will never work a day in your life.' Why 'retire' if you can somehow continue doing what you love?" Denise learned to be an AARP Tax Aide to help seniors with their taxes. She and Peg Wallace teach computer classes for OLLI and other organizations. After a class

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There's a volunteer in all of us

See pages 3 & 4 for OLLI volunteer
opportunities.

Continued from page 1

she asked if OLLI needed help with anything computer-related. "When I learned she had designed Access databases, I was very excited," said **Joan Gillis**, OLLI's Program Coordinator, who had been struggling to redesign OLLI's database. Since then, Denise has spent hours and hours working on the database. "We are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. The database goes live very soon," said Denise. "Once the design is finished, OLLI information will flow efficiently." Joan is grateful Denise likes New Hampshire and doesn't like retirement. "OLLI is a better organization because of volunteers like Denise," she said

On another note, Denise is looking for bridge players with whom she can play. If you know of a group, please call the office. - Joan Gillis

New Curriculum Chair in Manchester

Welcome to **Margaret Downes** as the new Chair of the Manchester Curriculum Committee. Margaret was born in England and trained as a professional nurse/midwife before coming to the US one day before her 23rd birthday. She then married John, raised 3 children, and invested in a big old colonial house in Weare. Margaret switched careers in the early '70s. With a Masters in Human Services Administration, she worked 17 years for New Hampshire Health and Human Services. She's lived in Manchester for the past 10 years – and she's lucky enough to have 7 of her 8 grandchildren living in New Hampshire.

-Virginia Martin

Love is in the Air at OLLI

Think you're too old for a romance? Not for OLLI members **Norma Bolduc**, 71, and **Bob Steiner**, 79. Norma, a longtime member, and Bob, a one-year member, are engaged. They met when Norma, Chair of the Publicity Committee, saw his name on a new-member survey as being interested in serving on the committee. "I gave him a call," she said.

"I don't like retirement, so I have set about making my retirement as close to my work life as I can." - Denise Thum



Margaret Downes,
Manchester
Curriculum Chair
Virginia Martin photo

"During this first telephone conversation we found we had several mutual interests."

Last spring he signed up for classes. His wife had recently passed away, and being active in OLLI helped with his grief in the months that followed. He called Norma several times for information about OLLI. "On the third or fourth call he invited me to lunch and the rest is history," said Norma, a widow. "We've been dating ever since."

They are planning to marry this fall. Their first project is to sell two homes and downsize an accumulation of goods from two marriages. They plan to find a new home, possibly in an over 55 community.

Bob has three children: Jim is running for Congress against Paul Hodes; Jon is Associate Director of the NH Municipal Association; and Martha is an Outreach Counselor in the Department of Veteran Affairs. Bob, a two-time retiree, was Northeast Director in the Department of Agriculture's Farmer's Home Administration, and Agriculture Instructor and Youth Specialist at Alvirne High School in Hudson.

Bob's interests include an "S" gage train collection and a milk-bottle collection, which includes bottles from his college days. He is vice-president of The Leather Helmet Society of NH, a group of fire buffs, and a Trustee and Board Director of the Eastern States Exposition.

Norma retired after 40 years working as a Registrar at both Hesser and Notre Dame Colleges. Her other interest beyond OLLI is a love of flower gardening. Her life also revolves around her three sons and four grandsons. Michael is a Hannaford store manager in Hampstead; Jeffrey is a Senior Services Officer with the Manchester Police Department; and Tom is the store manager of Bed, Bath and Beyond in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

Her connection with education brought her to OLLI. She has been an OLLI member since the beginning, and publicity chair since 2006. She and Bob will take a break from OLLI and committee work for several months as they start a new household and begin a new chapter in their lives .

- Steve Leavenworth

OLLI Needs You

Committee membership -If you have a background in writing, marketing or other publicity-related skills, the Publicity Committee is interested in having you share your talents. The committee meets once a month to decide how best to address OLLI's many publicity needs such as writing and distributing press releases; how to best use community television; identifying and stocking locations with OLLI brochures and catalogs; and poster placement announcing our events. With **Norma Bolduc**, Chair of the Publicity Committee, stepping down, the committee will need a strong leader to fill her shoes. Are you interested? Contact Joan Gillis, (603) 513-1378 or joan.gillis@granite.edu for more info.

Newsletter - The Publicity Committee is also looking for writers and an editor. If you are interested, contact Joan Gillis.

Speakers' Bureau - Speakers' Bureau members go out to communities to tell about OLLI membership benefits and life-long learning opportunities for seniors. OLLI's best publicity is word of mouth. Do you know a community organization looking for a speaker? Contact **Sue Staples**, Speakers' Bureau Coordinator, at skstaples@comcast.net or (603) 472-5483.

This and That

- The OLLI Tuition Assistance Fund exists for people over 50 who would like to enroll for classes, but don't have funds. Individual and organizational gifts make it possible for OLLI to offer financial help for classes, and sometimes an annual membership. Applying is simple and confidential. OLLI staff will happily help with applications. Call **Christina Link** at (603)513-1377 or email christina.link@granite.edu.
- The Lunch Bunch, open to OLLI members from the Seacoast, Concord, Manchester and Conway, had a successful run during spring semester. They will break for the summer, and resume in the fall. Contact **Marilyn** and **Bernie Otterson** at rosiedoggie@verizon.net or (603) 472-8558 for reservations or future restaurant suggestions. -- Marilyn Otterson

Membership Goal 1,000

Membership is at 528 and counting, on our way to 1,000. Know someone who would like to join? Word of mouth is the best sales tool we have, so share your excitement about OLLI with potential members. They can visit the website or call the office for additional information. Joining now guarantees receipt of the catalog in the first mailing. Membership for two sessions of classes will be good through August '09.

In Memoriam

With deep sorrow, we report the sudden death (on March 15) of OLLI member Frances Shaine. Frances loved books, writing, learning and her husband, **Bob**, whom she married in 1950. In addition to her OLLI participation as student, committee member and presenter, Frances was enrolled in a Master's writing program at SNHU. She brought intelligence, rationality and a wicked sense of humor to OLLI – we shall greatly miss her. Memorial donations can be made to OLLI at Granite State College.

Volunteer Appreciation

OLLI at GSC's first Volunteer Appreciation luncheon on June 6 in Concord was attended by 50 members, including five OLLI founders. Also attending were GSC President, **Karol LaCroix**, Dean of Academic Affairs, **Sheila Taylor-King**, and Associate Dean of Faculty, **Judy Zubrow**.

Founding members - **Norma Bolduc**, **Jim Eddinger**, **Ginny Gerseny**, **John Hammon**, **Ellen Hawkes-Little**, **Jeff Hillier**, **Zane Knoy**, **Margaret Venator**, **Nancy Warren** and OLLI's first director, **Sue Staples** were recognized with limited edition OLLI mugs. All volunteers received OLLI pens and tote bags.

In her remarks **Virginia Martin**, OLLI Director, welcomed attendees and lamented the absence of those volunteers unable to attend. She shared thoughts from Sue Staples on the beginnings of OLLI at GSC.

Elaine Emery, Chair of the Steering Committee, praised the OLLI staff for planning and preparing the party.



John Clayton autographs his book for Kay Stowell at *Manchester Notables*.

Robert Steiner photo



Mid-Air Refueling class members visit the plane that does the refueling.

Judy Stone photo



Bob Jervis and Ellen Hawkes-Little enjoy a moment of laughter

Christina Link photo



Dottie and Swede Nelson, Paul Carr, Frances Wiggan and Freda Bromberg listen to Director Martin

Christina Link photo



Karol LaCroix and Marianne McDonald listen intently.

Freda Bromberg photo

Learning for the Fun of It!

OLLI at Granite State College
8 Old Suncook Road
Concord, NH 03301

Phone:
(603) 513-1377

Email
olli.office@granite.edu



Mid-August

Late August

August &
September

Weeks of
August 25,
September 1 & 8

September 22

November 14

Mark Your Calendar

Volunteers needed for catalog mailing

Catalogs mailed to members

Fall Previews: Concord 8/26, Conway 9/3,
Manchester 8/28, Seacoast 9/9

Volunteers needed to cover Concord
office during registration. 1-4 hr. shifts

Classes begin

Classes end

We're on the Web

Visit us at:
www.granite.edu/olli

OLLI National Resource website:
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/olli/national>



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