

Spring Course Update

Two courses are still available, both start **THIS WEEK**. You can still register for *Sustainability: What Choices Matter?*, running on two Tuesdays beginning June 2 at 10:00 a.m. and *Come Take a Taste of Dandelion Wine*, running on June 4 at 10:00 a.m. Go online and register immediately if you're interested.

Peter Conklin
Sustainability



Mike Baker
Dandelion Wine

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Editorial

I miss you all too and I'll be so happy when we can be together in a classroom or social setting! But Zoom is how we will all get together, at least through December, and it's not all bad. So here and on a few other pages, you'll find some quick notes about Zoom . . .

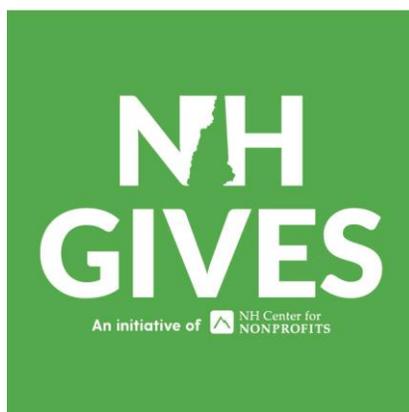
Starting with here's why I love Zoom

1. I'm taking my classes in a comfortable chair (with a table so I can take notes) in my sunroom, surrounded by windows looking out on my beautiful lilac bush and other greenery.
2. This morning, I chose a shirt from my closet that was rather wrinkled. My ironing board is piled high with seasonal items transitioning from closets to storage. So, I cleared the tip of it and I ironed the collar and about eight inches of the front . . . period. (BTW, I DO wear pants.)
3. My cats join me for a cuddle during class.
4. I can see everybody's "name tag" so I'm getting better at recognizing people I don't see all the time. And, instead of seeing the back of class-

mates' heads, as in a classroom, I see their faces. Every class is a roundtable.

5. If I get hungry, I can dash to the kitchen and grab a snack.
6. I control how well I hear; I can turn up or turn down the volume on my own device.
7. Even if I'm not feeling at the top of my game, I can attend class: I don't have to deal with driving, parking or walking painfully from my car.
8. It's fun to be part of something new. Most of our presenters are using Zoom for the first time and it's fun to support them as they are working so hard to support us by venturing into this new world.

Did you realize that OLLI staff members are working from their homes? The reason your calls go to voicemail is there is no one in the office to answer them. But staff is constantly checking those voice-mails and calling you back.



Learning for the Fun of It

THE HALL STREET JOURNAL.

THE LATEST NEWS

FROM THE OLLI OFFICE, 25 HALL STREET, CONCORD

Submitted by Jane Fletcher, Interim Program Director

Lunch & Learn Member Benefit

Have you tried an OLLI Lunch & Learn yet? Lunch & Learns are free, single sessions, offered nowadays via Zoom, as an OLLI member benefit. They are usually an hour or less and topics vary. OLLI hopes to offer these free sessions throughout the summer months.

Lunch & Learns require registration on the OLLI website, just as you would for a course, except you don't pay. Go all the way through the whole registration process until you receive a receipt confirming your registration. Your registration ensures that, a day or two before the Lunch & Learn, you will receive an email from the OLLI office containing a link to the Lunch & Learn "Zoom meeting." Just click on the link provided to you securely from the OLLI office and enter your Lunch & Learn session. You may join by video by clicking on the camera icon or by audio and just listen in.

Please join us for a free Lunch & Learn. Zoom, learn and eat your lunch all at the same time!

OLLI Plans for Fall

OLLI volunteers are currently working hard on a slate of courses for you to continue enjoying the benefits of OLLI membership in the fall. Out of an abundance of caution Granite State College campuses will not be open in the fall but OLLI courses will be provided safely via Zoom. No matter where you live in the state of NH or even if you travel elsewhere in the country, every course will be available and accessible to you via Zoom.

In the meantime, why not try a free Zoom learning session? "Zoom 101" will be offered over the summer months and will provide the skills you may need to fully participate in fall courses. You may take Zoom 101 as often as you'd like! Note: Registration is required and ensures that you will receive an email from the OLLI office containing a link to "Zoom 101."

NH Gives to OLLI on June 9 & 10

NH Gives is an online 24-hours-of-giving event, hosted by the NH Center for Nonprofits. *NH Gives* is supported by local banks, NH media outlets and local private businesses. It is an opportunity for donors to contribute to their choice of over 252 nonprofit programs that fulfill a wide variety of missions in New Hampshire benefiting our communities. This will be the third consecutive year that OLLI has participated in *NH Gives*.



Why is OLLI participating?

As is the case with many other nonprofits, OLLI revenue has been negatively impacted by the effects of Covid. While many OLLI members have generously donated their canceled class fees, the Development Team believes *NH Gives* offers us another opportunity for inviting even more members and the greater NH community to choose to give to OLLI too!

Where do OLLI donations go?

Your online donation goes directly to OLLI's account and stays in the OLLI program. Donations are used to keep class and membership fees low, provide scholarships, support volunteer initiatives, expand access to more older adults and build the OLLI "rainy-day" fund.

Who benefits?

NH Gives is unique in that it not only benefits a wide variety of programs across the state through individual donations, there is also the potential to win prizes and match money for OLLI! Monetary prizes for an array of donor activity will result from drawings for things like first donation on June 9, donations received between midnight and 6:00 a.m. on June 10, program that receives most dollars, program that has most unique number of online donors.

There are also prizes aimed at programs in specific regions of the state. To view *NH Gives* prizes, click on this link: <https://www.nhgives.org/prizes>. But that's not all! A match, made possible by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and its Thomas W. Haas Fund and John F. Swope Fund means that each online donation made at <https://www.nhgives.org/> to any participating nonprofit will be matched 1-to-1 up to \$1,000 per donation for the first \$250,000 given during the 24-hour event.

How do I participate?

NH Gives is a safe and easy way to donate. Visit <https://www.nhgives.org/> between 6:00 p.m. on June 9 and 6:00 p.m. on June 10. Find the Search box in the top left corner of the page and type in OLLI. Select the direct link to OLLI at Granite State College where you may make your donation of either a predetermined amount or any amount of your choice. You may also choose to donate to other programs that benefit your community at the same time. A receipt will be sent to you immediately from every program that benefits from your generous donation.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE TO ALL OUR OLLI SUPPORTERS.
Come for the (Zoom) classes and stay for the friends!

Honoring Laurie Galletta

Submitted by Jane Fletcher, Interim Program Director

OLLI Program Manager, Laurie Galletta, was appointed by Governor Christopher T. Sununu to the Volunteer New Hampshire Board of Directors. On March 25 this appointment was approved by the Executive Council for the term ending October 10, 2021.



If that's not enough good news, Laurie also recently earned a Masters in Leadership from Granite State College.

Congratulations to Laurie Galletta – OLLI appreciates all the work you do to help make OLLI a premier source of lifelong learning and collegial activity for adults over the age of 50 in New Hampshire!

Other Random Thoughts About Zoom

Submitted by Jacki Fogarty, Editor

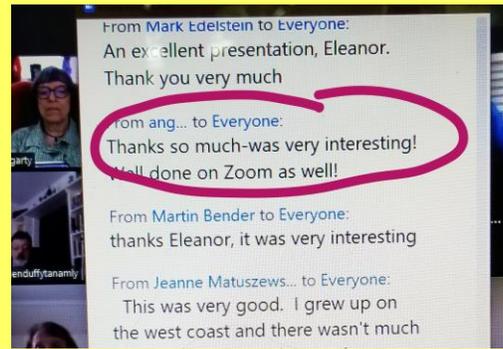
- ✓ **A new role for volunteers**, Moderator, has replaced the Class Assistant. Moderators perform the same communications activities as Class Assistants, but play a larger role in managing the technology before and during the class than Class Assistants. Training is provided and work with presenters in advance of the class is key to a smooth class performance.
- ✓ **Course evaluations** have been modified to include a few questions about your Zoom experience. Your answers have given us great information to improve the experience in future classes.
- ✓ **OLLI office staff** has successfully worked one-on-one with members who have experienced difficulties accessing Zoom programs. In the month since we began Zoom classes, the number of failed connections has been dramatically reduced.
- ✓ **You don't need to set up a Zoom account.** Getting into a class or event is as simple as clicking on the link in your invitation. Your first time will require a little extra time to answer a few questions about set-up.

Presenters' New Experiences on Zoom

Submitted by Jacki Fogarty, Editor

What I admire about our presenters on Zoom:

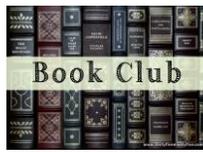
1. They know they have to be especially engaging to keep our interest, but they can't move out of their seats! They can't get up and walk around, if they use hand gestures, pretty much we can't see them. And they've done it – comments suggest they've been successful.



2. They don't get immediate feedback. They can tell a joke . . . but don't know if anybody's laughing. They can offer an amazing fact . . . but don't hear a single "wow!" They can ask, "Have you seen the movie . . . ?" but the subtle nods of the attendees' faces are hard to pick up.
3. They've done great planning. In some cases they've provided handouts by email in advance. They've generously shared their presentation materials after class so, if the materials are hard to read, class members can get them.
4. They've adapted to a variety of ways to manage questions and discussions. Some invite questions to be submitted on "Chat" and have periodic breaks to answer them. In smaller classes, many have invited questions to be asked at any time. Discussions have been remarkably successful, dispelling all concerns that they might be chaotic because of the technical requirements.
5. They often stay after classes to talk informally with the class, answer additional questions, etc.
6. The look on their faces after they complete their first Zoom class – a mix of relief and euphoria.



Eleanor Strang
interacting with class
members at the end of
Underground Railroad



Seacoast Political Book Club

Submitted by John Russell, Class of 2014

The June book for the Seacoast Political Book Club will be *Arguing with Zombies: Economics, Politics, and the Future Fight for a Better Future* by Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman. *Arguing with Zombies* puts Krugman at the front of the debate in the 2020 election year and is an indispensable guide to two decades' worth of political and economic discourse in the United States and around the globe. With quick, vivid sketches, Krugman turns his readers into intelligent consumers of the daily news and hands them the keys to unlock the concepts behind the greatest economic policy issues of our time. In doing so, he delivers an instant classic that can serve as a reference point for this and future generations. We will meet via Zoom on Monday, June 15 at 1:00 p.m. If you would like to receive an invitation to join, contact John Russell at russelljohnt@comcast.net.

Concord Chapter Chat

Submitted by Mary Davies, Class of 2007

Meeting by Zoom on the second Monday of every month at 12:30 p.m. To receive an invitation with a link, email Mary Davies at marbob75@yahoo.com by 11:00 a.m. on the Monday of the meeting.

June 8 *The Woman Who Ran For President: The Many Lives of Victoria Woodhill* by Lois Beachy Underhill

Discussion leader: Marcia Gray

Victoria Woodhill was a spiritualist, a Wall Street broker, a Speaker for women's right to vote, and in 1870 ran for President against Grant.

July 13 *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson - Discussion leader: TBD

This is a powerful book by a black lawyer who took on death penalty appeal cases in Alabama. The book is both heartbreaking and inspiring. It is a look at all aspects of the legal system and the inequalities in the justice system.

August 10 *The Lace Reader* by Brunonia Barry

Discussion leader: TBD

This is a murder mystery/drama set in modern-day Salem MA. It is the story of three generations of women who have second sight. Barry combines fact and fiction against the background of the town of Salem, past and present.

September 14 *The Mountains Sing* by Que Mai Phan Nguyen

Discussion leader: TBD

An epic account of Viet Nam's 20th century history, this is a multi-generational tale by a gifted Vietnamese writer. She writes of the beauty and cultural richness of her country while following how the Tran family is trying to survive famine, violence, war and hardship.

A Word from OLLI's "Zoom Master"

Submitted by Tessa McDonnell, Class of 2009

Kudos to all you members who transitioned to our Zoom format this spring! Although we miss seeing everyone in person, we are pleased that many of you elected to join us virtually. OLLI at Granite State College successfully moved 18 of our scheduled classes to the online platform for Spring term. We also offered three Zoom 101 free sessions with nearly 300 members participating and learning how to use Zoom!



This approach is not ideal, yet it allowed us to keep in contact with you and continue to offer the quality learning experiences you expect from OLLI. Online learning has a few drawbacks, and we thank you for your patience if you encountered any.

Computer connections can be bumpy, and the internet can be disconnected, or screens freeze temporarily. Sometimes it may be challenging to login. We have learned that some emails with links to the class are not delivered – so check your spam folder or call the OLLI office for help. If you have trouble logging in, try a few times, then call us for assistance. We strive to mitigate the glitches and accommodate your needs.

Members email us with their feedback praising our presenters and thanking us for trying a new approach during this stay at home time. Minor frustrations are forgotten once the class begins, and we can immerse ourselves in new ideas, stimulating discussions, or explorations through vibrant visuals.

Please consider joining us starting in August as we launch the Fall term with Zoom classes running through December. Look for additional Zoom 101 sessions in July and August if you want to learn how to participate before you sign up for classes. "See" you soon!



The Stories of Childhood Traditions Concord's Mug 'n' Muffin

Submitted by Jacki Fogarty, Class of 2012

"Daddy, I'm dying." Well, that wasn't what Ray Mercier expected to hear from his young son at the end of a bumpy toboggan ride. When he turned around to see that little boy with both hands over his mouth and blood spurting around them, and his other son holding the back of his head where his brother slammed into him, well, he got it. Ray held us spellbound as he described getting his terrified boys back up the hill, into the car and on the way to the emergency room. And, as only Ray can do, broke us up with laughter as he described hearing from the back seat, his bloody, pained boy singing "All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth."



Barbara Meyers, from Niagara, used to vacation in New Hampshire, visiting family. A cousin used to point out the sights including the **PISS**-catequa River. Imagine her surprise when she moved here and learned the real pronunciation!

Linda Kennison used to hide in the bathroom after Sunday dinners at Grandma's to get out of doing the dishes.

Ed McMonagle moved from the Midwest to New Hampshire where the tradition is to put up the Christmas tree at Thanksgiving. He was accustomed to buying and decorating the tree on Christmas Eve. So, he does! And gets such great prices on trees.



Marilyn Astell grew up in a large family. Through the benefit of hindsight, she eventually realized, as an adult, that her mom's generosity in treating all the kids to a weekly trip to the store for penny candy was really an opportunity to grab some kid-free alone time.

These stories and more were the highlight of Concord's Mug 'n' Muffin in May. Twenty members signed on and the first 15 minutes were dedicated to "How'd you get that background?" "It's a virtual background." "How do you get it?" And the advice began.

For some, the Golden Gate Bridge quickly appeared in place of kitchen cupboards and bookcases. For Marilyn Astell, leader of the Concord quilting Special Interest Group (SIG), this was a great opportunity to use a photograph of one of her prize quilts as background. Somehow, however, the quilt image only appeared over her face and shoulders, looking for all the world like it was trying to suffocate her.

Another Mug 'n' Muffin is planned in June.

OLLIs Across the Nation

Submitted by Jacki Fogarty, Class of 2012

There are 124 OLLIs in the United States. Ever wonder what they're like?

- Range from 500 to 11,000 members
- Average membership - 1,196
- 26,947 OLLI volunteers
- Average volunteers - 216
- 73% are between 65 and 79 years of age
- Members' primary interests:
 - History
 - Fine Arts
 - Current Affairs
- 78% offer Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- 65% offer free parking
- 25% offered remote learning before Covid
- 98% offer remote learning now
- 92% are using Zoom
- Member fees range from \$30 to \$850 per year
- 75% offer scholarships
- \$4.5 million collected in fundraising
- 48% average at least \$25,000 in annual fundraising
- Number of committees range from 1 to 20 or more
- 60% have 5-10 committees
- 95% have Curriculum Committees
- 51% have elected volunteer leadership

Data from the OLLI National Resource Center



You can find the OLLI page at:
<https://m.Facebook.com/olligsc/>



Chair's Chat

Submitted by Sharon Kace, Class of 2010, Steering Committee Chair

June usually means graduation celebrations (but not this year) and weddings (but no large celebrations this year) and the last month of OLLI's fiscal year (that does remain constant). And what a year it has been, one that no one wants to repeat for obvious reasons . . . but there are always some positives to reflect upon . . . and I have many from OLLI.

Think about this. Your four volunteer Curriculum Committees not only established an incredible array of 250+ courses for the Spring semester but, due to the Governor's stay-at-home order, had to instantly cancel all of the courses scheduled after Friday, March 13 (ominous date). When the dust settled, these teams picked themselves up and, with incredible support by the OLLI staff, reorganized as many courses as possible in a totally new-to-them internet format.

Did you take the free Zoom 101 class yet? If not, you will have the opportunity again this summer. Have you had the opportunity to experience one of the courses presented on Zoom? If not, there are still a few scheduled for early this month; check them out now on our website olli.granite.edu.

Although I am in awe of the Curriculum Committees' resiliency, the other committees and event planners of OLLI also had to regroup and reorganize. And they did! The

challenges they faced appeared insurmountable; they met those problems with creative solutions to keep the membership informed and involved in this unique situation.

This year we not only want to thank all our volunteers for sharing their talents with OLLI but also recognize that we owe them a debt of gratitude for using their extraordinary abilities to keep OLLI healthy and moving forward.

A special thanks to the committee members throughout the state that have completed their terms and will be retiring from those positions at the end of June. We'll miss you all and your unending support in addressing many of the never before seen challenges. And we hope that your retirement from one committee role opens the time for you to take your energy and talents to another committee either in your local learning site or on a statewide committee.

*Stay healthy and safe,
Sharon*

Steering Committee meetings have traditionally rotated around the state to give members in all sites the opportunity to attend. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held via Zoom, accessible to all members, on Tuesday, June 30 at 11:00 a.m. Contact Sharon Kace at SKace@comcast.net for an invitation.

June Calendar

All meetings are at the local Granite State College campus unless otherwise noted.

Concord

Monday, June 8 Concord Central Committee, by Zoom – 9:30 a.m. (Iris Altilio, contact)
Monday, June 8 Concord Book Club, by Zoom – 12:30 p.m. (Mary Davies, contact)
Monday, June 15 Concord Curriculum Committee by Zoom – 1:00 p.m. (Donna Frost, contact)
Tuesday, June 16 Concord Mug 'n' Muffin by Zoom – 10:00 a.m. (Jacki Fogarty, contact)



Conway

Manchester

Monday, June 15 Manchester Central Committee, by Zoom – 10:00 a.m. (Su Bennett, contact)

Seacoast

Friday, June 5 Seacoast Lunch Bunch, by Zoom – 12:00 p.m. (Pat Boyle-Steed, contact)
Thursday, June 11 Seacoast Curriculum Committee, by Zoom – 1:00 p.m. (Sandy O'Neill, contact)
Friday, June 19 Seacoast Mug 'n' Muffin, by Zoom – 10:00 a.m. (Sandy O'Neill, contact)
Monday, June 15 Seacoast Political Book Club, by Zoom – 1:00 p.m. (John Russell, contact)
Wednesday, June 17 Seacoast Central Committee, by Zoom – 10:00 a.m. (Pat Boyle-Steed, contact)

Statewide Meetings and Events

June 1 - 30 Granite State College – all campuses – closed
Wednesday, June 17 Curriculum Council, by Zoom – 10:00 a.m. (Laurie Galletta, contact)
Tuesday, June 30 Steering Committee, by Zoom – 11:00 a.m. (Sharon Kace, contact)



Looking Ahead

TBD OLLI On the Road – Day trip to Salem, MA
Saturday, September 12 Silver Linings, Senior Healthy Living Expo, SNHU – 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, September 16 Curriculum Council, by Zoom – 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, October 14 OLLI On the Road – Spain & Portugal

Contact Email Addresses

Iris Altilio	itandeitnick@gmail.com
Pat Boyle-Steed	pboylesteed@gmail.com
Su Bennett	subennett74@gmail.com
Donna Frost	dfrost49@hotmail.com
Sharon Kace	skace@comcast.net
Sandy O'Neill	sandy_oneill@comcast.net
John Russell	russelljohnt@comcast.net



OLLI at Granite State College

25 Hall Street Concord, NH 03301

(603) 513-1377

olli.office@granite.edu

olli.granite.edu

OLLI National Resource Center

Learning sites at Concord, Conway, Manchester & the Seacoast

The *Outlook* is published monthly and sent to all current OLLI members. OLLI members are invited to submit articles of interest to the general membership. Articles and comments may be emailed to OLLIOutlook@aol.com. Thank you.

Jacki G. Fogarty, Editor

Class of 2012