Living in Two Worlds: Dual Citizenship

Our OLLI at USM is a member of two networks.

The first is the Maine Senior College Network (MSCN). This is a statewide network of 17 senior colleges covering Maine from Sanford to Fort Kent, with 6,500 members. Each college is run independently, and largely with volunteers. Their websites and social media presence are unique to each of them, but their mission, stated in their own words, is the same: To provide engaging and stimulating learning experiences and social connections for people 50 and older.

The MSCN website (www.maineseniorcollege.org/) has a short video that includes members from a few of the senior colleges in the network (including OLLI at USM). You may see a few familiar faces! There’s also a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/maineseniorcollegenetwork/.

The MSCN has a monthly newsletter: www.maineseniorcollege.org/newsletter.html.

Here is a list of the senior colleges in Maine, by county.

Androscoggin County
USM Senior College at Lewiston-Auburn

Aroostook County
SAGE at University of Maine at Presque Isle
St John Valley Senior College

Cumberland County
Bridgton Senior College
Midcoast Senior College
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at USM

Franklin County
Gold LEAF Institute

Hancock County
Acadia Senior College
Downeast Senior College

Kennebec County
University of Maine Augusta Senior College
The second network that we’re part of is the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Having started the MSCN, our OLLI became the first of what was to become 122 OLLIs spread from coast to coast and into Alaska and Hawai‘i.

A National Resource Center (NRC) was established on our campus and moved in 2014 to Northwestern University. The NRC website (www.osher.net/) is a rich source of news about the national organization’s activities and the activities of other OLLIs across the country. The Executive Director of the NRC is Steve Thaxton. Steve was on our campus for a year, earning a master’s degree from USM’s Adult and Higher Education program and helping with administrative duties at OLLI, before moving with the NRC to Northwestern.

Here is a brief description of the Osher Institute from the NRC website. It depicts some of the similarities and differences in the OLLIs’ origins, programming, fee structures, and so on.

The 122 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLIs) span all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Each is a part of a college or university and is funded in part by The Bernard Osher Foundation. The national Osher Institute network formed progressively over a 15-year period, beginning in 2001. Some lifelong learning programs were preexisting and became Osher Institutes with support from the Osher Foundation; others were initiated with Osher funding.

The national Osher Lifelong Learning Institute network is not a franchise and it is not centralized in operations or governance. Each Institute is unique and operates as an independent initiative of its host institution with offerings tailored to meet the needs and interests of its community.

All Osher Institutes offer a wide variety of intellectually stimulating, university-level, non-credit courses and learning opportunities designed for people “50 and better.” Many offer lectures and educational travel opportunities as well as study groups and events that build a sense of commu-
OLLI Runs on Volunteers ● OLLI Runs on Volunteers

WEB SITES
Maine Senior College Network
www.maineseniorcollege.org
OLLI National Resource Center
www.oshernet
OLLI at USM
www.usm.maine.edu/olli

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Please send newsletter material to the OLLI Office, via our e-mail.

Deadline for the March issue is February 15.

Living in Two Worlds

(Continued from page 2)

nity and camaraderie among their participants. There are no tests and no grades. It is learning solely for the joy of learning.

Participants are known as members and pay a membership fee. Some Osher Institutes have an all-inclusive fee structure, while others charge course and activities fees separately. Fees are determined by each individual program. Institutes are administered by designated professional staff and also offer members significant opportunities for volunteer engagement and leadership.

Osher Institutes fulfill the promise of education in its best sense: To develop the mind and spirit for a lifetime of purpose and human flourishing.

More than 160,000 people nationwide are members of Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes. Through satellite and partner locations, the 122 OLLIs offer courses and activities in 364 cities and towns throughout the U.S.

Among its rich set of resources, the NRC has a monthly newsletter (http://nrc.northwestern.edu/?cat=4) and a Twitter account (https://twitter.com/nrcolli?lang=en).

In June 2018, the Institute published the *Lifelong Learning Institute Directory*, a master list of over 400 programs in adult education, learning in retirement, and lifelong learning, including all the OLLIs. Check it out by clicking on the title.

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On a personal note: When Ann and I arrived in Portland in September of 2007, we knew no one in Maine except for one couple in Damariscotta. Though we were thrilled to be in Portland, the winter had its lonely and dismal moments. Then our friends in Damariscotta (members of Coastal Senior College near there) pointed us to OLLI. Our lives have since been enriched not only by the intellectual stimulation and fun at OLLI, but perhaps more importantly by some wonderful friendships that started here.

So, for those of us who travel seasonally or are anticipating a more permanent move, the MSCN website listing and the *Lifelong Learning Institute Directory* can connect us with learning and social connections almost anywhere we go.

—Tim Baehr
What’s in a Name?

(Plus ça change....)

There is a plan afoot to change the name of the University of Southern Maine. To what? They’re still working on that. What will it mean for OLLI at USM, our official name? OLLI at... what?

As early as last August, USM President Glenn Cummings was talking about the need for a name that would attract more out-of-state students. Several surveys have been taken since then, with some people favoring University of Maine at Portland.

The inclusion of the word “Portland,” it is said, will help prospective students, their parents, and their guidance counselors to pinpoint the University’s location and highlight its place in the University of Maine System. “Southern Maine,” without that specificity, could be seen as a hindrance to deciding to apply.

Cummings has noted that, with long-term demographic changes in Maine, enrollment will decline and financial resources may diminish. A name change, he feels, will be one element in slowing or stemming the decline. See coverage from Maine Public Radio (click on the name).

It turns out that our USM has had several name changes over the years. Here’s a list from the Website for USM alums:

**Timeline of USM**

1878—Gorham Normal School founded.
1921—Portland University opens.
1933—PU merges with Portland Junior College.
1945—Name of GNS is changed to Gorham State Teachers College.
1947—After closing for World War II, PJC reopens and purchases the Deering Estate, which is the current home of the Portland campus.
1957—PJC joins the UMaine System and becomes the University of Maine at Portland.
1964—Name of GSTC is changed to Gorham State College.
1970—University of Maine at Portland-Gorham is born from a merger of Gorham State College and the University of Maine at Portland.
1978—Name is changed to University of Southern Maine.
1988—USM expands to open a Lewiston-Auburn campus.

Note that the latest proposal is identical to the name of the University from 1957 to 1970. Plus ça change, as they say.... At least “Portland University” (1921) is not under consideration. Can you imagine all the signage, stationery, Web pages, and logoed merchandise with a big **PU** on them? And Neil Gallagher in the Portland Press Herald has noted that locals called “University of Maine at Portland-Gorham” **PoGo**. (Just imagine an OLLI logo with Walt Kelly’s comic character!)

What does this all mean for OLLI at USM? Well, nothing right now, so don’t panic. We won’t be changing our signage and logos anytime soon. The University’s name change has to go through community forums, a vote by the UMaine System trustees, and approval by the legislature. This could take us into 2021.

Stay **tuned.**

—Tim Baehr
One Book / One Community

March 6, 2019; 9:00–2:30 (Storm Date: March 7)

This Is How It Begins by Joan Dempsey

- Winner, 2017 Poets & Writers Maureen Egen Writers Exchange award
- Recipient of a significant research grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation for her work on This Is How It Begins, a grant that took her to Warsaw for a month and to Washington, D.C., for ten days to study in the archives at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.
- “Beautifully written ... Wrestles with the fundamental questions of our existence on this earth together. An ambitious and moving debut novel.”—Lily King, author of Euphoria
- “A gripping and sensitive portrait of ordinary people wrestling with ideological passions.”—Kirkus Reviews
- “Dempsey’s fine first novel [is] notable for the evenhanded way it addresses hot-button issues. The result is a timely and memorable story.” — Booklist
- http://thisishowitbeginsnovel.com/

Our One Book/One Community event is privileged to open the morning with a keynote address by award-winning author Joan Dempsey.

Following will be four breakout sessions on topics related to her book, This Is How It Begins.

After lunch, each of the break-out sessions will be repeated, so you will have the opportunity to participate in two workshops. Workshop facilitators are Paul Doherty, Mike Berkowitz, Kathleen Sutherland, and John Sutherland.

We will come together to conclude with coffee/tea/dessert and a final wrap-up session.

Sign up online starting February 12, 2019

Signup by phone or in person starting February 14, 2019

Price: $35 for the day

You must be an OLLI member to participate. Dues are $25 a year.
**Great Courses on DVD at OLLI**

*[Ed. note: This is the first in a series listing the many Great Courses DVDs available to borrow from the OLLI office.]*

To enrich your enjoyment of the fine courses offered by OLLI—or to explore something new—we invite you to peruse the shelves of DVDs from the *Great Courses* series, located in the OLLI office. (VHS format tapes are shelved downstairs in the OLLI library). Below are the DVDs currently available for loan in two of the various categories. If “text” is noted, it means either a transcript of the tape or a course guidebook is also available. There is a sign-out sheet by the shelves of *Great Courses*. Please list your name and date. Please return your choice after a few months so others may enjoy it too.

**Literature**

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<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Parts</th>
<th>Text</th>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis &amp; Critique: How to Engage &amp; Write About Anything</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Books That Have Made History: Books That Can Change Your Life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classic Novels: Meeting the Challenge of Great Literature</td>
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<td>Classics of British Literature</td>
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<td>Classics of Russian Literature</td>
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<td>Great American Bestsellers</td>
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<td>Great Authors of the Western Literary Tradition</td>
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<td>History of World Literature</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>The Life &amp; Writings of C. S. Lewis</td>
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<td>Masterpieces and the Imaginative Mind</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Masterpieces of Short Fiction</td>
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<td>text</td>
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<td>Masterworks of Early 20th Century Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mystery and Suspense Fiction</td>
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<td>Representing Justice: Stories of Law and Literature</td>
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<td>Secret Life of Words</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utopian &amp; Dystopian Works of Literature</td>
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**Art and Music**

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<td>Art Across the Ages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bach &amp; the High Baroque</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concert Master Works</td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Masters: Life &amp; Music (Beethoven, Haydn, Liszt, Mahler, Robert &amp; Clara Schumann, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Works of Sacred Music</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Look At &amp; Understand Great Art</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters of the National Gallery, London</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Symphony</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The World’s Greatest Paintings</td>
<td>Transcript only</td>
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—*Elsa van Bergen*
Brown Bag Lunch

What Should We Hope For in a Presidential Candidate for 2020?

Several people have already declared their intention to run for president in 2020. In the second of two Brown Bag Lunches, Bob Goettel will explore the qualities we should look for—and hope for—among the possible presidential candidates in the next election.

The Brown Bag Lunch will take place on Thursday, February 7, at 11:40 in room 102.

Senior Moment: Kim Millick

Rookie Warden, by OLLI member Kim Millick, will be published this month by Maine Authors Publishing. Kim is a member of OLLI’s Fiction Workshop, and this is her first book. Kim’s story, “First Duck Hunt,” one of the chapters in the book, was published in the 2017 Reflections.

Snowshoe Outings with Walking Club

On Wednesday, February 13, we will try to snowshoe at Riverside Golf Course in So. Portland. If there is enough snow, you may want to cross country ski. Either is permissible. I think we can all drive there, as there is ample parking, but park in the North lot, nearest the Grill, where we can grab a bite to eat after. The North lot is the one closest to Falmouth (farther away from Portland) and has a larger parking area. You won’t need to bring your own lunch. We meet at 10 a.m.

On Monday, February 25th, we will try snowshoeing at Pratt’s Brook on North Rd. in Yarmouth. You can also cross-country ski there. For this outing we will carpool from the Back Cove parking lot across from Hannaford at 9:50 a.m. Bring your lunch and we will eat at a condo nearby.

Please be aware that weather conditions may not be conducive to a pleasant or safe outing, so check with me if you are in doubt. Regardless of weather conditions, new walkers should call me at 846-3304.

—Rae Garcelon

OLLI Lunch Out

This month’s lunch will be a celebration on the date of the traditional Chinese New Year. We will be congregating at the Orchid Thai (not Chinese, but close) for wonderful specialties. They have tastes from mild to very hot, wheat-free, and vegetarian. We have been there before: The food is always of great quality, and the restaurant has a charming atmosphere. Going at lunch gives us an opportunity to have a delightful meal at this high-end restaurant.

Join us for sure.

When: Tuesday, February 19, at 12:30 p.m.

Where: Orchid Thai, 202 US Route 1, Falmouth, True North Building, between TD Bank and Walmart.

Reservations: Call or write by noon, Monday, February 18: Barbara Bardack, 829-1240, bravalascala@gmail.com
Walking Club Holds Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Walking Club featured a slide show of many of the walkers at all the sites visited during 2018. Members were particularly impressed with the first city tour, which was a guided look at the city’s waterfront. Bill Needleman, the Waterfront Coordinator of Portland, provided an insightful explanation of the commercial fishing operations of the city and the ongoing need to achieve a balance between the retail developers and local fishermen, which will not prevent the fishermen from using wharf and dock space in the highly-prized waterfront.

Members also expressed satisfaction at the volunteer project with walkers “giving back to the city” by picking up trash and pruning brush for a portion of the popular Eastern Promenade trail last fall. They were in favor of undertaking another similar outing for Portland Trails this year.

Both of these events will be on the 2019 schedule, as well as the signature outings: to Prout’s Neck, Laurel Hill Cemetery, and Gilsland Farm, as well as several new walks. The new schedule will be out in April and available at the OLLI office.

There’s No Business Like Snow Business

A reminder: If the weather looks iffy, before you leave the house to drive to OLLI, call USM’s Storm Line at 780-4800. A friendly disembodied voice will tell you if USM is open, closed, opening late, or closing early. And check again during the day if you have an afternoon class or meeting. Do not rely on TV or radio or carrier pigeon or whatever.

You know the drill: If USM is closed, OLLI is closed. If USM has modified an opening or closing time, and it overlaps your class time, there will be no class that day. Even if the overlap seems minor. Check before you leave!

It’s 780-4800. Put it on your phone’s contact list, or write it on a sticky and stick it to the fridge.

You can also arrange to have USM opening/closing notices sent to your e-mail and/or to your phone. Go here: https://usm.bbcportal.com/, click “Sign me up,” and follow the instructions. Detailed step-by-step instructions are on the OLLI website: https://usm.maine.edu/olli/emergency-notifications-texte-mail

If you see this out your window, just stay home—you don’t need to call USM’s Storm Line!

( Photo from NOAA)