Your Advisory Board

The OLLI Advisory Board consists of 16 members. The goal of the Advisory Board is to organize, oversee, and manage the various OLLI courses and activities in conjunction with the OLLI at USM administrative staff. Board members serve as standing committee chairs, working with many OLLI volunteers.

Here they are, in the same order as in the Masthead on page 3, in photos taken by Board member Tim Byrne (except for Steve Schiffman’s picture). You may run into them as fellow students or as instructors. Say “Hi” if you see them! (continued on page 2)

Susan Gesing, Board Chair

Jack Lynch, Vice-Chair

Lynne Gammon
Secretary

Janet Stebbins
Communications Chair

Reminder

If USM is closed or has modified hours due to weather or other circumstances, OLLI will also be closed or have modified hours. The USM Storm Line is 780-4800. Radio and TV announcements may not be current.
Your Advisory Board  
(continued from page 1)

Matt Goldfarb  
SAGE Chair

Richard Leslie  
Marketing and Resource Development Chair

Paula Johnson  
Community Chair

Joy Larrabee  
Nominating Chair

John Sutherland  
Education Chair

Tim Baehr

Bob Bahm

Elsa van Bergen

Tim Byrne  
Steve Schiffman  
Jim Thorne  
Lois Winter

OLLl Runs on Volunteers  ●  OLLl Runs on Volunteers  ●  OLLl Runs on Volunteers  ●  OLLl Runs on Volunteers
Advisory Board

Happy 2016! The Winter Term begins very soon—the week of January 11—and where is winter? But who’s complaining.

Standing Committees

The OLLI Board functions on many levels to help guide the organization in beneficial ways. One of these ways is through a set of standing committees chaired by members of the Advisory Board. Standing committees provide a home for all the various OLLI activities. Each standing committee consists of one or more groups of people committed to overseeing OLLI activities and events throughout the year. You can see a list of the chairs and their standing committees in the masthead on this page.

Starting this month, we will present articles to acquaint members with the activities of the OLLI Advisory Board standing committees.

Each month we’ll feature one committee. This month it is the Communications Committee, chaired by Janet Stebbins. This committee’s charge is to oversee the production of the monthly newsletter and the annual Reflections as well as other publications and activities that relate to communicating with our members. Look for Janet’s report on page 4.

Advisory Board news

In November the Board took action on an important objective in our recently approved three-year plan: to encourage volunteerism to develop leadership for OLLI events and OLLI Advisory Board positions.

A new ad-hoc committee has been appointed to study the subject of volunteers at OLLI, including ways to recruit, recognize/appreciate, and keep track of our volunteers and to consider practices that help develop leaders. The committee will bring recommendations to the Advisory Board early next year, including a possible proposal to establish a Volunteer Committee as a new standing committee.

Bob Bahm will chair the ad-hoc committee. Other members include Janet Stebbins, Jack Lynch, current Volunteer Chair Dick Sturgeon, Carla Mortensen, and Sally Sarurian.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

—Susan Gesing, Advisory Board Chair
susangesing@gmail.com, 967-5660
Communications Committee

As the Chair of the Communications Committee, I work with a dedicated group of volunteers (currently Tim Baehr, Pat Budd, Katherine Charbonneau, Rich Machlin, Carla Mortensen) to suggest ways that OLLI can better communicate with its members. This takes many forms. The editors of the newsletter and Reflections journal head ongoing subcommittees. We work constantly to streamline day-to-day operations, and to make these publications as useful and representative of the membership as possible.

The Communications Committee also undertakes special projects. For example, we recently undertook the task of revising our “durable brochure.” This tri-fold document introduces OLLI to potential members and is made available whenever OLLI volunteers give presentations to people in greater Portland who request more information about us.

The Communications Committee also periodically reviews the OLLI website and offers suggestions for clarity, completeness, accuracy, and updates.

Currently we are exploring options for making more effective use of the bulletin board located by the Wishcamper ground-floor elevator.

In short, we are continually looking to improve ways to “get the word out” about the numerous opportunities to learn and get involved at OLLI and USM.

We are also always looking for new volunteers who would like to join us in this committee work; please leave a message for me at the OLLI office if you are interested.

—Janet Stebbins, Communications Chair

Great Courses Programs Are Here

OLLI members are invited to use Great Courses programs produced by The Teaching Company and donated by OLLI members.

The programs, on DVDs, CDs, and cassettes, are shelved in the OLLI office on the second floor of the Wishcamper Center.

The subjects include the following: Philosophy and Psychology, Religion, Social Sciences and Education, Language, Science and Mathematics, Technology and Medicine, Arts and Recreation, History, Literature, and Biography.

Members can check the catalog by going to http://usm.maine.edu/olli and clicking on “Great Courses” in the QUICK LINKS section at the right of the screen.

If you find a course that interests you, just sign the check-off sheet and return the course when you’re finished with it.

OLLI Book Sale

Yes, there will be a 2016 book sale to benefit OLLI scholarship funds. It is scheduled for early May, but now isn’t too early to begin saving your books to donate.

Donated books will not be accepted at the OLLI office until April. But you may want to bag or box your books now at home to deliver in April.
Walking Club Outing and Meeting

As we head into our winter season we are planning several snowshoe outings, weather permitting of course. At almost every destination there are trails we can walk on even if there is no measurable snowfall.

On Wednesday, Jan. 13, we will head to Pineland Farms in New Gloucester. There are rental snowshoes available and many well-groomed trails. There is a small charge for the use of equipment and trails.

For lunch we can buy soups, salads, sandwiches, etc. in their large cafe or you can bring your own lunch and eat there also. And don't worry about cold weather. We work up quite a bit of heat on our outings. We will meet at 10 a.m. at the Back Cove parking lot across from Hannaford to carpool, but don't head home if there are few people there. More people are taking their own cars to the site, especially when there is adequate parking.

On Monday, Jan. 25, we will have our annual meeting at OLLI in Room 103 at 10 a.m. This is your opportunity to express your opinions about past walks, to suggest new ones, and to meet some of your fellow walkers. If you are suggesting a walk, please bring accurate directions to the trailhead from Back Cove. If weather is pleasant, some of us may walk after the meeting.

Questions about any of this, call Rae at 846-3304 or email me at raegarce-lon@gmail.com. And if you are a first-time walker, please do call Rae before the walk for specific information.

Thai One On at Lunch

OLLI’s January dining event will be at Orchid Thai in Falmouth, across the street from Morong VW on Route 1. Menu: www.orchidthaifalmouth.com/menu.html

This lovely new place uses only canola oil and no MSG. It does gluten-free, vegetarian, and special menus each day.

Be sure to join us to relax and see OLLI friends, old and new.

When: Monday, January 18, at noon (School Holiday).

Where: Orchid Thai, 202 US Route. 1 Falmouth 747-5262

Reservations: Call or write no later than noon, Sunday, January 17

—Barbara Bardack

865-2009

Lascala2@comcast.net

Important Note: There will be no dining out in February. We will resume at the end of March.

Wrinkle in Time

Planning for the Wrinkle in Time program on “The 50s” is on schedule. It will be held March 8 to 10, 2016.

The program will feature such things as 50s food, music, and family life, as well as social and political issues. Watch for registration details in the February newsletter!

Museum Article Reprinted

Pat Walsh’s December article about OLLI’s visit to the Harvard Art Museums has been reprinted in the Maine Senior College Newsletter.

Remember to pick up a CLYNK bag at the office for your deposit bottles and cans! Proceeds benefit OLLI.