



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to the printed version of the quarterly Newsletter! As with many of the changes that occurred because of the pandemic, getting back to “normal” has been a bit of a challenge. But, as with other challenges we faced over the past two years, we’ve met them and come out better.

While virtual classes and seminars will continue to be an important part of Osher’s future, many have expressed the desire to return to in-person learning and additional opportunities to socialize with other members. To address this, we are planning an additional ~1,500 sq. ft. on the second floor of One Court Street (OCS). We have recently engaged the architectural firm, Banwell & Associates, to design facilities that can be used for both classrooms and socialization; a quiet place where members can gather informally. You’ll be hearing much more about this in the months ahead.

Laura Belback and I attended the Osher Foundation’s National Conference in April in Broomfield, CO. We came away with the feeling that Osher at Dartmouth continues to be a standout among the OLLIs. Our curriculum, Summer Lecture Series, and our new facilities with



the soon-to-be-added HyFlex audio-video system set us apart from most other programs.

Our level of volunteerism is nearly unequalled. Observing the effect that the pandemic had on many other OLLIs, we came to appreciate how well the challenge was handled here. Also, based on informal conversations with other Osher leaders, it became apparent that we enjoy a level of support from Dartmouth that we may not fully appreciate until we compare it to programs at other institutions. We came away very proud of what we’ve accomplished as we head into our 31st year.

Accordingly, it gives me great satisfaction to announce that the

continued on page 6

TREASURER’S REPORT

This report is being written before the final June 30, 2022 financial report is released by the Provost’s Office at Dartmouth College.

Membership is up 1% while the number of course participants is down 18% when compared to fiscal 2020-2021. The endowment distribution has remained relatively stable for the past three fiscal years. And, expenses are expected to be in line with the updated forecasts for fiscal 2021-2022.

In fiscal 2022-2023, Osher at Dartmouth will invest in people, instructional technology, and additional space, as evidenced by recent staff promotions, the imminent installation of Hy-Flex technology in Classroom 3A at One Court Street, and the potential leasing of Suite 210 at the One Court Street office. These investments will allow us to implement the revised strategy developed by the Planning Committee and approved by the Leadership Council in the spring 2022.

To better understand the

continued on page 6

Images from our 2022 Summer Lecture Series by photographer Herb Swanson:



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Hello, Everyone!

It's hard to believe that our last printed newsletter was mailed to members in March of 2020! After adapting over the last two years to the changes COVID-19 has brought to our lives, our program is back, and many exciting things are happening that we want to share with our members and friends.

For anyone who isn't aware, we are now located at 1 Court Street in Lebanon, NH. (Can't find us? Look for Three Tomatoes; we're in the same building on the upper levels.) Our administrative offices are located in suite 380. Please stop by and say hello this fall if you haven't had a chance to tour the new classrooms and offices!

After relying on Zoom for the first year of COVID, we've been able to offer more and more in-person courses, as well as the HyFlex format, which allows participants to join class either in-person or via Zoom. We hope you'll join us once again. We encourage you, if you haven't yet had the chance, to renew your membership. Don't miss out on the chance to participate in any of the 90+ courses we're offering this fall!

Speaking of our fall term, over half of our courses will take place in-person, while the remaining balance will be offered via Zoom or in the HyFlex format. We always look forward to seeing our members, whether in-person or on-screen!

As the staff looks forward to welcoming members to our fall

term, we want to share some more exciting news.

After a long hiatus, Osher at Dartmouth will once again offer our members the chance to travel with us! We plan to offer opportunities to enjoy experiences beyond our immediate area, including one-day trips, overnight adventures, and extended travel. Watch our weekly e-newsletter for news on upcoming opportunities, and don't forget to check our website regularly.

While we hope to begin offering extended journeys in June of 2023, our inaugural effort in our return to travel is a day trip to Boston on August 24 to see "Beyond King Tut: The Immersive Experience". As this newsletter goes to press, there are still a few spots available; check with the office if you would like to join us for this unique opportunity!

We look forward to an exciting 31st year! Have a happy and healthy fall!

**Lisa King,
Director**



STUDY LEADER RECRUITMENT

“A course! A course! My kingdom for a course!”

That’s what Shakespeare’s Richard III might have said had he been a member of Osher at Dartmouth’s Curriculum Committee, rather than a desperate king seeking a horse to escape the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485.

So begins an upcoming recruiting letter composed by Vic Henningsen, our own Bard of Thetford, as the Curriculum Committee reaches out to previous Study Leaders to teach again in the winter 2023 term. As a longtime member of our vital Curriculum Committee, Vic has been composing two such e-Blasts for each of the three Osher terms for several years, beginning when he was co-chair of the committee with Toni Egger. Here are the paraphrased opening lines of his recruitment letter for the spring 2022 term—a process that began in November of the previous year:

“What do you do whenever you find yourself growing grim about the mouth; whenever it is a damp, drizzly November in your soul...? If you’re Ishmael in Melville’s *Moby Dick*, you ship out in search of a near-mythical beast and wind up some six-hundred pages later floating on a coffin in the middle of the Pacific...

Or you could cheer yourself up by proposing a Spring course with Osher at Dartmouth.”

Study Leaders are the heart and soul of Osher at Dartmouth—volunteers all. The task of identifying Study Leaders falls mainly upon Osher’s Curriculum Committee,

and in particular its Recruiting Subcommittee, along with guidance from Lisa King and the Osher staff. Success in that endeavor requires creative outreach, such as Vic’s e-Blasts and the short promotional video entitled *Share Your Passion*, produced by Steve Shama, co-chair of Curriculum’s Support Subcommittee. Here’s how you can access the link to Steve’s promotional on YouTube:

Go directly to the Osher at Dartmouth website (<https://osher.dartmouth.edu>) and click on “Teach a Course” under the “Study Leader” tab on the home page. Then click on Steve’s YouTube video image.

Once a Study Leader has been recruited, it becomes the task of Curriculum’s other four subcommittees to support the Study Leader in designing a course and delivering effective classes, whether destined for in-person instruction, Zoom instruction, or the new Hyflex capabilities being installed in our offices in Lebanon, NH.

The Curriculum Committee itself has undergone significant restructuring over this last year as eight members rotated off the committee (most of whom had served much longer than the stipulated two- or three-year terms) and fifteen new members came on board—JUST IN TIME to help with this big post-COVID transition.

And now we’re ready for 2022/2023 opportunities and initiatives. **HERE WE GO!**

Bill Secord,
Curriculum Committee

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE OSHER TOWN HALL !



Our Planning Committee is hosting two Town Hall meetings in September to discuss the 2023-2028 Osher strategic direction, which is now under construction.

With the agenda focused on a summary of the current draft, member comments and questions will be most welcome. Town Halls will take place via HyFlex on two different dates to accommodate more schedules. We hope you’ll join us!

WHEN:

Friday, September 16th
1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

Tuesday, September 27th
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

WHERE:

The HyFlex format allows attendees to participate via Zoom or in-person in Classroom 3A at 1 Court Street, Lebanon, NH.

Registration is required for in-person attendance as seating is limited. Online attendees can access the Zoom link on our website once it is posted.

HyFlex (hai-fleks) / noun

A type of teaching in which some students are physically present in class and others join simultaneously from a distance using the internet. HyFlex is short for hybrid flexible.





EXPLORING CREATIVITY

BY MARY ANNE RANKIN

Gael Clauson and Patti Warren offer a class on lettering and watercolors. I took it twice: in the fall of 2021 and spring of 2022.

I have long wanted to learn how to create art but always ended up pushing that desire on the back burner when I was working full-time. It was so enjoyable to be in a room again with other people working on creating art. Both Patti and Gael bring to the class a wealth of background and experience in watercolors and lettering and how to use a sketchbook journal or an art journal. They gave multiple examples of types of sketchbooks and journals using all sorts of ideas:

single page, layout over two pages, drawing from a single point of perspective, banners and borders, incorporating backgrounds, different sizes of journals, how to add interest with a story line. A different theme was our challenge each week, including a favorite vacation place, favorite recipes, activities and hobbies, fall or spring displays, or a cherished book.

Each week included lessons on painting and using materials such as salt and plastic wrap, layering backgrounds, and how to use our brushes and water to create our pictures. We learned different styles of lettering and how to create a dynamic presentation. Participants were encouraged to share and we learned so much from each other! We saw familiar faces and met new people as well.

I wasn't sure how I felt about water colors, thinking of my limited experience. It was great to try

something new with encouraging class leaders and to stretch my own abilities.

I would definitely recommend this class to anyone who is interested in exploring and creating art, and learning about keeping an art journal.

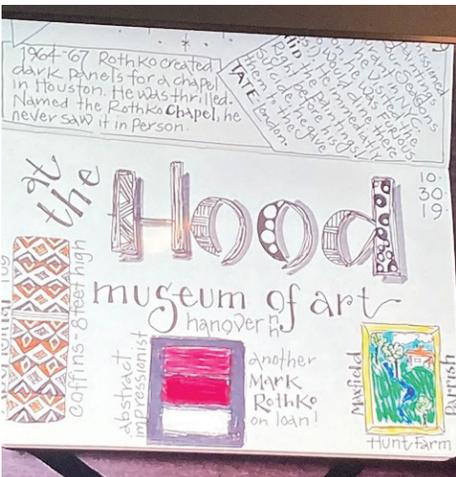
Photos by Mary Anne are from the Spring 2022 course "Sketchbook Journaling: My Favorite Things" with Study Leaders Gael Clauson and Patti Warren.

*This page: Class members work on projects.
Next page:
Top: Patti Warren works during class
Center and Bottom: Journal examples*



OSHER IS A BLESSING

(Reprinted from Spring 2019)



In Fall 2013 I took my first course at Osher. At the time I was trying to pick myself up and out of the darkest period of my life. My family was falling apart, my health and profession were at risk, and so I retreated into a dark three room apartment open only to my children. I desperately needed a change of some kind.

Full disability came first and an Osher insert in the "Valley News" followed. I had seen the course offerings for several years but never ventured to try. However, when I saw that the catalog listed a course, "Massachusetts Politics 1930-1990; Anything Goes," I couldn't resist. Although a Lebanon resident since 1979 my roots were from Lawrence, MA where I was raised; my Mom and seven younger siblings still lived there. Three brothers were elected office holders in state and city politics. Though I never had any interest in the business and running of political life, the history was appealing, especially when James Michael Curley, a favorite character of mine, was mentioned. I registered immediately.

This is when Fate, planetary alignment or good old Irish luck arrived in the guise of a holy trinity. The course was fascinating, led by a professed rookie study leader

named Maynard Goldman, and the roster was full of intelligent, engaging participants including Hank Buermeyer. Osher had me at "Welcome!"

At about week five of the course Hank, who had just read a piece about my recent struggles in the "Sunday Valley News," called me and filled me in on scholarship opportunities, took me under his wing and introduced me to Lisa. With her help the world of Osher opened up for me. Laura, Sarah and Diane have all been so very helpful, providing printings as needed and making sure I was managing with the crutches.



That rookie study leader, Mr. Goldman, got me hooked on ALL his political courses. That exemplifies the deep quality of Osher offerings: Study Leaders who give so freely of their time, enthusiasm and expertise. I have learned from and fully enjoyed every course, and there have been a few! The variety and quality of courses are enough to satisfy most tastes and interests.

And then there's the camaraderie, the invaluable social interaction that research shows can stimulate minds and enhance longevity in life. Since joining Osher I have met so many fascinating people from all backgrounds and have

continued on page 6



Osher is a Blessing, cont.

more friends than I ever thought possible after having to leave my job as pharmacist so abruptly. My beautiful children agree that Osher has helped their Dad keep busy and healthier, something my doctors have also noted.

So I extend a heartfelt “Thank You” to all the staff, study leaders, committee members, fellow members—everyone; but it just

doesn’t come close to the gratitude I have for this new quality of life revealed to me. Is that not a true gift?

That is why I preach Osher to anyone and every one who cares to listen. That’s my Irish gift of gab—ask anyone!

- Brian Blanchette,
Osher at Dartmouth Member

**STUDY LEADER SPOTLIGHT:
HOWARD ANDERSON**

Life in the Upper Valley—with clean air, water and just great plain folks—brings very talented people who offer courses at Osher. One example is Howard Anderson: entrepreneur, technology expert, and visionary. Howard developed a course, “Year 2141,” to challenge one’s view of the future. The course featured many popular themes with potentially faulty premises, such as electric vehicles providing a solution to the climate crisis. He is developing a new course that should challenge your thoughts about our defense.

Howard’s credentials are impressive, including positions at Tuck and Harvard, writing for publications such as The Wall Street Journal, and founding The Yankee Group in 1970. Having known him for many years, I am sure he will stimulate your brain cells.

**Richard Neugass,
Editor**

Letter From the President, cont.

Leadership Council has approved promotions for our staff: Laura Belback is promoted to Program Manager, Operations; Sarah Chamberlin is our new Program Manager, Marketing and Graphic Design; Diane Doe is now our Program Assistant; and, finally, Lisa King is the new Director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Dartmouth. This could never have been done without the support

of Assistant Dartmouth Provost Mary-Ella Zietz.

Despite fears that we could not continue offering classes of any kind in this past year, we’ve forged ahead with new initiatives and flexibility in bringing our members the best learning opportunities to fit their needs.

**Steve Tofel,
President**

Treasurer’s Report, cont.

financial challenges facing Osher at Dartmouth, the Finance Committee has prepared an eleven-year projection for the General Operating Fund. Assumptions about growth trends, pricing, and the introduction of new offerings will be updated in the fall of 2022 as we prepare our budget for fiscal 2023-2024. The challenges are real, but we’ve invested in ways to enhance our whole program in the future.

Stay tuned.

**Peter C. Paquette,
Chair of the Finance Committee
and Treasurer**



Study Leader Joe Medicott (l) accepts a Special Lifetime Award for Exceptional Service from Dartmouth College Provost David Kotz (r) as Osher at Dartmouth President Steve Tofel (c) looks on.



Join Osher at Dartmouth as we attend a matinee performance of *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical* at Boston Opera House!

When: Sunday, September 25
9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Osher Members: \$160
Non-members: \$185

Registration includes mezzanine tickets and bus transportation. Attendees are responsible for any other costs.

Visit osher.dartmouth.edu for more info!



31ST ANNUAL MEETING

June 28, 2022 • Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm

Celebration of our 31st anniversary as ILEAD/Osher at Dartmouth gave us the opportunity to enjoy music, lunchtime conversations, and hear encouraging words from our leaders and guest speaker. Always a special treat, we gave the following awards:

2022 Thomas B. Champion Award for Exceptional Service: Roland Kuchel. Given his uncanny ability to identify and deliver knowledge of enticing subjects, Roland has given over 20 popular classes, sometimes even twice a week to accommodate the schedules of interested participants. He has not stopped there. His presence on many committees, especially the Curriculum Committee, has amplified tenfold his volunteer work for us. To paraphrase his own words: "I found Osher to be an important part of my activities since retiring to the Upper Valley in 1997. I hope to support programming that continues to be responsive to the interests of our members, and

encourages activities so essential to feeding our intellectual and social curiosity about life."

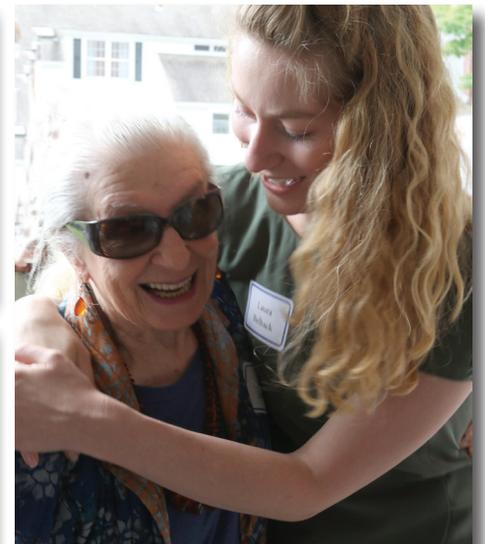
2022 Thomas B. Champion Award for Exceptional Service: Bill Sullivan. Bill Sullivan who has served as an enthusiastic member, Study Leader, and as Vice President and President on Osher's Leadership Council. Bill helped guide us through very shaky times by 'staying the course' with what we do best and overseeing the belt-tightening that was necessary during and after COVID's 2020-2022 surges. We owe him so much for that steady leadership!

Steve Tofel spoke [see *Letter From the President* in this Newsletter], and read a letter from member and Study Leader Brian Blanchette [see *Osher Is A Blessing* in this Newsletter] that confirmed why he is such an important member of our community.

David Kotz, Provost of Dartmouth College and the event's Keynote speaker, presented a sampling

of things to come in Dartmouth's world:

1. Now ALL students, regardless of their ability to pay, are covered for their college experience.
2. There is a critical need for additional housing, and the College has presented an expansion to Lyme Road. The College and Hanover neighborhoods have to resolve this thorny issue.
3. Dartmouth has usually recruited students in the United States, and is now approaching China and Europe as big changes will happen over the next 10 years.
4. There will be more remote learning, and this will pose a challenge to the sense of the community.
5. Dartmouth College sees itself as a foundation in liberal education—we want to help our students and faculty become leaders in society by giving back.



Annual Meeting images by Herb Swanson.
Left (l to r): Inge Brown, George & Meredith Angwin Center, top: The Peter Concilio Jazz Ensemble Center, bottom (l to r): Diane Doe, Jeannie Lindheim, Steve Shama
Right (l to r): Betty Lauer and Laura Belback





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HAPPY FALL!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Annual Meeting Recap
- Director's Corner
- Exploring Creativity
- Letter From the President
- Osher is a Blessing
- Osher Town Halls
- Study Leader Spotlight

KEEP WATCH
FOR OUR
WINTER 2023
CATALOG!

Check
osher.dartmouth.edu
for information
later this fall.