



THE MILE VIEW



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THE **MILE** BOARD 2012-2013



BEN JORDAN/Photo Images Co

Seated, left to right: Ellen Long, MxCC Foundation Rep, Member-at-Large, Road Scholar Trip; Robb Evans, Treasurer; Elizabeth Tischio, Vice Chair; Joseph Soja, Chair; Judy Cook, Secretary; Al Schumann, Membership Chair; Marsha Judson, Hospitality Co-Chair. Standing, left to right: Elizabeth Tirone, Hospitality Co-Chair; Carol Ricker, Telephone Committee Chair; Rosemary McNerney, Website/Email; Lorena Pulis, Member-at-Large; Sue Delvecchio, Curriculum Chair; Nancy Jordan, Diversity Committee Rep. Missing: Ruth Armentano, College Council Rep; Esther Beierle, Publicity Chair; Joanne Rocznik, new Publicity Chair; Barbara Sheldon, Member-at-Large.

Our officers have completed the first year of their second term. They appreciate all the hard work that was done by those who volunteered their time and effort to make this year so successful.

THANK YOU FOR GOING THE EXTRA **MILE!**

2012– 2013 Officers

Chair Joseph Soja
Vice Chair Elizabeth Tischio
Secretary Judy Cook
Treasurer Robb Evans

OPEN HOUSE / ORIENTATION

September 12th, 2013

Starting **MILE's** 21st Year

Chapman Hall, 1:00 PM

Middlesex Community College

MILE'S fall session begins with a meeting September 12th to introduce you to the programs planned for September 30 through November 15. Refreshments will be served. Remember to bring a friend!

VOLUNTEERS AT *MILE*

The Board, which consists of officers and committee chairs, meets on the second Tuesday of every month of the year except July.

The **Curriculum Committee**, headed by Sue Delvecchio, meets on the first Tuesday of every month except July. Other curriculum volunteers included Doris Coster, Barbara Edelstein, Nancy Jordan, Rosemary McNerney (brochure), Pat Rust, Marge Sadinsky, Olive Santavenere, Gene Sestero, Barbara Sheldon, Joseph Soja, Nean Tirone, Elizabeth Tischio, Irene Tomassetti, and Judy Walsh (brochure).

Curriculum also includes **Trips**, and Ellen Long and Bruce Ricker planned this year's June Road Scholar Charter Trip to Hudson Valley Mansions.

Newsletter. Rosemary McNerney and Elizabeth Tischio published this year's newsletters.

Membership Chair Al Schumann was aided this year by Kay Kestermont, Lorena Pulis, and Barbara Sheldon.

Class Monitors arrive early and get everything set for class. Volunteers included Chris Beam, Jean Bonnier, Garry Boos, Corinne Carmody, Dan Carmody, Doris Coster, Sue Delvecchio, Mary Dickes, Ruth Dorman, Barbara Faulstich, Dolores Ferraro, Ginny Gumz, Clare Hoover, Donna Iwanski, Nancy Jordan, Margaret Steele Kaczorowski, Dotty Kaplan, Kay Kestermont, Elaine Kingsland, Pat Kupcho, Joan Kuzminski, Peg Lewis, Marilyn Mapes, Carol Matregrano, Dick Matregrano, Neil McPhee, Martha Moody, Pat Murray, Patricia Noyes, Sarah Pawlow, Lorena Pulis, Ruth Purdy, Carl Rodenhizer, Cora Rodenhizer, Marge Sadinsky, Laura Schiavone, Barbara Sheldon, Mary Simon, Pia Smith, Joseph Soja, Elizabeth Tischio, Irene Tomassetti, Vincent Tomassetti, Eleanor Trudelle, Betty Wall, Judy Walsh, Bob Walsh, Joel Wilks, and Lynne Wilks.

Publicity has many facets. Esther Beierle did our newspaper articles and Joanne Rocznik will succeed her as chair. Barbara Faulstich coordinated the distribution of posters. Other volunteers were

Ruth Armentano, Lynn Bacon, Doris Coster, Helen Graham, Ginny Gumz, Nancy Jordan, Ben Jordan, Pat Kobylenski, Mary Ellen Larson, Marilyn McGuire, Patricia Noyes, Carol Ricker, Pat Rust, Margaret Soja, Nean Tirone, and Elizabeth Tischio.

Clerical volunteers, organized by Lorena Pulis to do the mailings, were Jean Bonnier, Barbara Faulstich, Jean Giardina, Martha Gifford, Pat Kobylenski, Mary Ellen Larson, Beverly Manwaring, Marilyn McGuire, Kathy Mc Rae, Gail Morris, Carol Ricker, Margo Roberts, Margaret Soja, and Peggy Stumbers.

Hospitality, co-chaired by Marsha Judson and Nean Tirone, provided us with gourmet food and coffee and delightful table arrangements. Other volunteers were Sandra Ennever, Delores Ferraro, Diane Johnson, Patti Loewenthal, Shirley Pattavina, Joanne Schilke, Laura Shiembob, and Cynthia Snow.

Telephone was chaired by Carol Ricker. The volunteers who called when changes and/or cancellations happened were Jean Bonnier, Joan Brennan, Janice Burrill, Linda Chaffee, Mary Colburn, Virginia Evensen, Barbara Hass, Mary Ellen Larson, Marilyn McGuire, Philomena McKinstry, Carolyn Neely, Lorena Pulis, Ruth Purdy, Toni Smith, Margaret Soja, Nean Tirone, and Betty Wall.

Audio/Visual, managed by Klaus Gumz and Ben Jordan, also included Jim Swol.

Presenters are often *MILE* members. This year they included Steve Akerley, Kathy Amoia, Kathy Flood, Diane Johnson, Marsha Judson, Jay Keiser, Kay Kestermont, and Rosemary McNerney.

VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON

A special lunch to honor and thank the 100 volunteers for all their work will be held on **Tuesday, June 11th** at noon in Chapman Hall, Room 808. Several members have been on four or five committees! New volunteers are always welcome so plan now to help next year.

If we have left your name out, please contact us at mileatchapman@gmail.com.

MILE CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

MILE has much to celebrate on its 20th Anniversary. That was evident at its combined Annual Meeting and Luncheon on May 2. Middlesex Community College President Anna Wasescha announced that the college's "Distinguished Service Award" would be presented to the organization at graduation. Then MILE Board Chair Joseph Soja told the audience that MILE was again rated the #1 Adult Education Program in Connecticut. Both honors were applauded by the 150 MILE members in attendance

How and when did all this get set in motion? MxCC Retired Director of Continuing Education, Judith McGrath was the catalyst for its creation. Dr. Leila Gonzalez Sullivan, then MxCC president, sent McGrath to an Elderhostel workshop in New Jersey designed to initiate senior programs. This was seen as a logical extension of Elderhostel's mission. The organization recognized the demographics of a growing older, educated and active population. It viewed adult continuing education as programming that could be encouraged through community colleges.

Judith McGrath saw the wisdom of that vision and ran with it back at the college. She put together a mailing to Middlesex seniors and got 50 responses. Then the organizing began. "My work was so easy. These people were eager and wanted this organization so badly. And they were marvelous storytellers." The goal was to have the membership do the work with her backup and a strong connection to the college. Essentially this was to be a membership run organization. It began with three basic committees, Membership, Program and Finance and an executive board. Chester Tibbits became the first Chairperson. Twenty years later, walking into the annual meeting, McGrath was amazed at the turnout. "This organization has grown by leaps and bounds" she exclaimed during her address.

MILE did grow in leaps and bounds even as



Judy
McGrath

changes were made. Twenty years ago its name was MALC, Middlesex Adult Learning Center. It ended its first year with 152 members. Today the name is Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education and its membership is nearly 350. The first year was organized into three semesters with between 15 and 20 programs. There are now two semesters with 50 to 60 programs. The membership fee has increased only \$10 over the past 20 years from \$50 to \$60. The stability of this fee is the members' willingness to contribute their time and expertise to conduct programs.

Sue Delvecchio, Program Committee Chair, said that her committee strives to cover a range of topics each semester under at least 13 headings. Included among these are History, Literature, Health, Technology, and Current Events. A theme or deeper look at some subjects is often included in a semester's schedule. This past semester there were three lectures on the geographic origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam and three on the Chinese and their rulers. Looking ahead to the Fall, there will be programs on John F. Kennedy's life and times to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of his death.

Ellen Long has been running the Road Scholar trips for MILE. Long works with a Road Scholar representative in Boston in planning trips tailored to the interests of the MILE membership. Last year's travel was to Pittsburgh and its world class museums. This year's excursion is to the mansions of the Hudson River Valley. Long hopes to see the membership expand its trip interests to places that may be a full day's bus ride away, such as a trip to Charleston, South Carolina.

The connection to the Middlesex Community College is as strong as ever. MILE both gains from and gives to its hosting organization. In

(20th Anniversary Continued)

1993 the Board voted to give a gift to the college and participated in the MxCC Annual Fund Drive. Today the college receives 30% of member fees and MILE awards three \$500 scholarships. President Wasescha in her address related the motto of the college to the inclusion of the MILE program on campus, “In everything we do we strive to be the college of our community.” She praised that as an aspiration and a robust concept into which MILE is fully integrated. “School is becoming a revolving door experience of continuing self examination and growth.”

Chairman Joseph Soja emphasized the constant outreach that is part of the MILE approach. He said more than 33 towns are now represented in the membership, reaching north to South Windsor, west to Bristol, east to Lyme and East Haddam, and south to Killingworth.

Middletown has the largest representation. Soja is delighted with MxCC's expansion plans. Both student body and MILE members will benefit from the added classroom space. Soja sees an “expanding MILE membership as baby boomers continue to show the thirst for affordable educational experiences.” He is delighted “that the college will have the space to accommodate us as we grow.”

It's all good!

Kathleen Amoia



Joseph Soja and Anna Wasescha.



Elizabeth Tischio and Joseph Soja

MILE RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Dr. Steven Minkler, Dean of Academic Affairs at MxCC presented MILE with the MxCC Distinguished Service Award at MxCC Commencement Ceremonies on Thursday, May 30th. The following was in the program:

The Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education (MILE) was established in 1993 to provide stimulating educational experiences for adults age 50 and older. Sponsored by Middlesex Community College, MILE is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization with programs on a wide range of topics, encompassing history, literature, science, travel, art, music, computers, and much more. For a very modest fee, members can attend 7 weeks of programs in the fall and 8 weeks in the spring. Programs are often enhanced by field trips, and MILE also offers an annual trip, about a week in length, in conjunction with Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel).

From its original membership of 97 people in 1993, MILE has grown to 336 members this year. MILE draws its membership from a wide geographical radius of over 30 municipalities, from South Windsor in the north to Old Lyme in the south; from Bristol in the west to Marlborough in the east. In the year of its founding, MILE held about 20 programs; this year, there were more than 60.

MILE is very grateful to MxCC for its sponsorship and support during the past 2 decades; and in turn MILE feels that the college has benefited as well, along with the community at large.

In appreciation, MILE has in the past several years been giving 30% of its membership fees to the college, as well as presenting 2 or 3 \$500 scholarships to MxCC students. Now at the outset of its 21st year, MILE looks forward to many more years of mutually-productive partnership with Middlesex Community College.

The award was accepted by our own Nancy Jordan, and the following are her remarks:

Thank you, Dean Minkler! It's a great honor for MILE to receive this marvelous award, and for me to accept it on behalf of our Chairman, Joseph Soja, Vice-Chair Elizabeth Tischio, our Advisory Board, and all the members of MILE, the Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education. This award is especially significant for our organization, coming as it does in this 20th anniversary

year of our founding. Back in 1993, we began with just 97 members; we now have nearly 350, from over 30 towns in Middlesex County and well beyond. More and more, people are realizing that that education certainly doesn't stop with graduation, at whatever level, whether high school or Ph. D.; it doesn't stop with learning in our employment years; it continues on into retirement and all through our lives. Thanks to the sponsorship and support of Middlesex Community College over the past 20 years, our members have had the opportunity to pursue their desire and in fact their *need* to be lifelong learners: to know, and always, to grow. We are particularly grateful to President Wasescha and to the administration of the college for your enthusiastic and enduring support of MILE; to so many of the faculty who have given most generously of your time to present such outstanding programs for us; and to the clerical and maintenance staff for all of your very valuable assistance too. We thank you very much for this award and, most especially, for your ongoing partnership with MILE, and your wholehearted commitment to our success. Now as we begin our 21st year, we look forward to many more decades of being an integral, vital, and growing part of the community of this wonderful college. Thank you ever so much, and heartiest congratulations from all of us lifelong learners at MILE to all of you who will be learning throughout your lives too -- the graduating class of 2013!



To see a video of this presentation, click on:

<http://youtu.be/M4T8CqO7cus>

MILE 2012 – 2013 STATISTICS**Membership:** 336

281 Females

55 Males

42 Couples

20 Year Members

Barbara Faulstich

Philomena McKinstry

Helen Summers

Elizabeth (Nean) Tirone

101 Volunteers

8 Presenters

34 Towns

239 Email Addresses

Curriculum:

17 weeks

89 sessions

51 presenters

8 sessions postponed, 4 rescheduled

Programs offered:

9 - Music and Performing Arts

7 - Science

6 - History

6 - Health

5 - Technology

4 - Art

4 - Museum Trips

3 - Food

3 - Exercise

2 - Travelogue

2 - Gardening

2 - Community

2 - Religion

2 - Connecticut History

2 - Book Discussions

1 - Finance

1 - Photography

1 - Current Events

1 - Dance

**MILE AWARDS THREE
FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS**

For the fifth year, MILE participated in the annual MxCC Foundation Awards ceremony on May 10th by awarding three \$500 scholarships to non-traditional students through the Foundation Awards Committee.



Marsha Judson and Cimarron Crouse

<i>Presenters</i>	<i>Recipients</i>
Marsha Judson	Cimarron Crouse, Bridgeport
Ellen Long	Diana Davis, Meriden
Joseph Soja	Hong Zhen Reilley, Madison

This explains so much.....

Now we have something else to blame it on.

Ever walk into a room with some purpose in mind, only to completely forget what is was?

Turns out, doors themselves are to blame for these strange memory lapses.

Psychologists at the University of Notre Dame have discovered that passing through a doorway triggers what's known as an event boundary in the mind, separating one set of thoughts and memories from the next.

Your brain files away the thoughts you had in the previous room and prepares a blank slate for the new locale.

Thank goodness for studies like this.

It's not our age, it's that damn door!

Have a great summer, everyone!!