



Adult Learning Center News

Fall 2016

Volume XIII, Issue 3



Giving adults in Strafford County a second chance, a fresh start or a new opportunity.

Director's Message

Deanna Strand

As the new school year begins, I'd like to share some exciting developments at our Rochester program.

Last year, 45 families of non-native English speakers moved into the Rochester school district. With childcare and transportation challenges making it impossible to get to Dover, most parents had no access to English classes.

With the school district, we held a family literacy night to welcome adults to DALC. Seven families attended, enjoying dinner and games as they mingled with teachers and staff. Shortly after that, we began a pilot class. According to Tracey

Donaldson, Rochester Counselor and Outreach Coordinator for DALC, the mixed level pilot was a success.

Meeting once a week, it starting with 5 students, and grew to 7. Tracey said "We had two new people come in after their daughter learned about the class on our website. The need is definitely here." This year, the class meets twice a week and runs all year.

Several people can only come at night, so we hope to run an evening class later this year. Eventually, we may need multiple levels, as well.

The SAU is supporting childcare with a grant. "Childcare is crucial to the success of some of our students," Tracey said. While intended for ESOL families, childcare will benefit other students, too. "Some young moms still live with their parents and don't qualify for childcare assistance."

Our partnership with the Bud Carlson Academy (BCA) is another success. Our program can fulfill an alternative learning plan developed by the school. Some students face many challenges: transportation, work, supporting their own children and their families. The school environment can be difficult for them. We provide

an individualized experience.

In 2016, about a dozen BCA students graduated with a high school equivalency certificate through DALC.

The support doesn't end there; Tracey also connects students with job training opportunities. "Our hope is that this step is not the end, we want them to have a career with advancement potential," she said. "We work very closely with Rad Bolduc, Rapid Response Training Coordinator at Great Bay Community College. He focuses on the high demand fields and advanced manufacturing, the demands change based on the needs of the business community."

Be sure to check out the new staff members on page 3. Rochester has a new teacher and teacher aide!

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Be a part of our success:

- ◆ Serve on a committee
- ◆ Become a volunteer tutor
- ◆ Join our Board of Directors
- ◆ Take an enrichment class
- ◆ Teach an enrichment class
- ◆ Become a Friend of the Center by making a donation
- ◆ Include DALC in your estate planning and become a member of the Helen Phipps Heritage Society
- ◆ Become a corporate or event sponsor

Our Board

Tyler Parkhurst - President
 Michael Kupfer - Vice President
 Martha Caswell - Secretary
 Shauna Brown - Treasurer
 Christine Albert
 Christopher Burns
 Morton Cherim
 Maria Faskianos
 Felicia LaBranche
 Diane Lambert
 Vincent McGroary
 Dennis Munson
 Don Nary
 Bob Renshaw
 Patricia Silberblatt
 David Watters
 Ellen Westbrook
 Rosemary Zurawel

In Their Own Words...

A Memory of Stella's First Lost Tooth ... by Stella Zou

I don't remember the exact age, but when I was a little girl, I can remember the pains. My tooth was loose for a long time, and the tooth was too strong to fall out. Every day, I felt a lot of butterflies in my stomach because I was nervous about my tooth. One day when I had a meal, I chewed some firm food. Suddenly, I bit on what felt like a stone. "Oh my God! My tooth finally fell out."

My parents were so excited and told me, "You grew up! This is your first baby tooth. Go and throw it up on the roof. That means your new tooth will grow well." But we were living in a huge building, so I just threw it up in the air and my mother stored it in a box.

A top tooth you throw up to the roof; a bottom tooth you throw down on the ground. It is the superstition in China. That's our culture. As the times change, we do that just as a symbol. The buildings are high now. We can't throw our teeth up on the roof. You would have to be a superman to do that.

What I Like in New Hampshire ... by Ali Alyousef

I like people in NH because they are very friendly. In the morning, I love listening to the sounds of birds because it makes me happy and calm. I like the weather in New Hampshire especially in the fall because the colors of trees are very attractive. I always go to the beach in Portsmouth. I like the weather there. I often go to eat at an Arabic Restaurant because food there is very delicious.

In Our Own Words... is a collection of original writings. In poetry, personal reflection and artwork, students reveal their diversity, as well as their commonality as learners.

2016 Friends of the Center

Founder's Circle (\$500+)

Mr. & Mrs. Duffy
 Phil Hatcher & Peggy Kieschnick
 Measured Progress
 Joe & Maggie Moore
 Carlo Nittoli & Jim Verschueren
 Charles Reynolds
 Riverstone Resources LLC
 Art & Debbie Tasker
 Julia & John Ver Ploeg

Advocate (\$250+)

Denise L. Adams
 Bill Badgley & Carol McEntee
 Michelle L. Baussmann
 Stephen & Tiffany Brand
 Abraham Burtman Charity Trust
 D.F. Richard Energy
 Andrea L. Dupere
 Maria Faskianos
 Mark L. Hale
 William & Jean Irvine
 Thomas R. Jost
 C. Valerie Leavitt
 Kathy M. MacDonald
 Mary Jo Mahoney
 Vincent McGroary
 James McNamara
 Patricia L. Mengi
 Robert & Patricia Silberblatt
 Cathy & Leonard Small
 Chikara Tsuchiya
 Ellen Westbrook

David & Belinda White
 Douglas K. Wyckoff
 Rosemary Zurawel

Benefactor (\$100+)

Robert Adams
 Jean Bullen
 Lawrence Kane
 Martha Caswell
 Maureen Claussen
 Matthew Costanzo
 Andrew Cramb
 Gerald & Patricia Daley
 Z. Demopoulos
 Paula DePlanche
 Safira Milanez Drumond
 Ed & Kathy Eagan
 Muriel Farrar
 Ana Garnica
 Robert & Marjorie Goldberg
 Brian & Susan Gong
 Tony & Minnett Induisi
 Leigh Ivey Jr.
 Matthew Lahr
 Holly Littlefield
 Susan Long
 Celia McCormack
 John & Judy Mettee
 Dennis Munson
 John & Jane O'Connor
 Lucy & Charles Putnam
 Pamela Raley
 State Farm Ins/Sam Haddain

Tyler Parkhurst
 Robert Renshaw
 Robert Schummrick
 Ann Schultz
 F. Doyle Skeels
 Anne & Bruce Smith
 Gordon & Susan Smith
 Martin & Pat Sorensen
 Thomas Stevens
 Deanna & Paul Strand
 David & Maureen Staples
 Jill Taylor
 Diane J. Thayer
 Mark Townley
 Stephen Varney

Friend (\$50+)

Maybeth Anderson
 Cathleen Beaudoin
 Gerald & Irene Boyle
 Shauna Brown
 Burns, Bryant, Cox, Rockefeller & Durkin
 William & Janet Caddle
 Kenneth Calci
 Bryan Campbell
 Lawrence Kane
 Mort & Nancy Cherim
 Judi Currie
 Elsie & Baldwin Domingo
 Paula Dubois
 Joe & Paula R. Dubois
 Bill & Mary Jo Dudley
 Tom & Aline Goss
 Phyllis Heilbronner
 Russell & Kate Huntress
 Betty Lathrop

Donna & Bruce McAdam
 Christina Mukankaka
 Donna Melillo
 Bev O'Brien
 Anthony & Linda Palmer
 Judith Parks
 Sandi Phipps & Tom Casey
 Michelle Rowan
 Terry Snook
 Darlene Therrien
 Thomas Towle
 Juan Wang
 David Watters
 Susan Wheeler
 Paul Zocchi

Helen Phipps Heritage Society: members have remembered DALC in their estate planning

Ann Schultz
 Martin and Pat Sorenson
 Deanna Strand
 Jim Verschueren
 Paula DePlanche

Donations Received

In Memory Of:
 Adrienne Day-Cuff
 Ruth Davison Feuer
 Theresa Taylor

Donations Received

In Honor Of:
 Cameron Dupere

Meet our new staff members - Marian, David and Amy



David Ramsay is a resident of South Berwick, Maine and works during the summer as a tour guide and narrator

on the motor vessel Thomas Lighton and guide at the Sarah Orne Jewett House. In addition, David gives history talks at retirement communities throughout the region and is a newspaper correspondent for the York Weekly.

Prior to coming to Maine, he had a career as an environmental planner with river groups and taught in special education and at a private high school in Chicago. He and his wife Marianne have two sons, one just graduated from college and the other is a sophomore at UMaine, Orono. David is excited about his new position as teacher's aide at the Rochester branch of the Dover Adult Learning Center. ~

Marian LeBlanc has been a special educator throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts for the past 20 years. In October 2015, she retired from full time teaching only to realize how much she missed her teaching career.

Now as a teacher at DALC, she said she feels she has found the perfect teaching position, and looks forward to the opportunity to help adults to further their education.



Her position before retirement was with the Peabody Public School District, located in Massachusetts. Her undergraduate degree is in Journalism/Mass Communication from Emerson College in Boston, Mass. and her graduate degree is from Salem State University. Her interests include writing, photography, and spending time with friends and family. She has three children, and six grandchildren. ~

Amy O'Connell joined DALC in September as the evening office assistant/receptionist. Amy has worked as an administrative assistant, primarily in the medical field and in conjunction with Wentworth-Douglass Hospital, for the past 30 years. She is excited about her new position as DALC.

During the day, Amy works at Paradis Farm in Dover, a local horse farm which offers a wonderful therapeutic riding program. As well, she is very involved with Special Olympics New Hampshire and is a mentor for the equestrian athletes of Team Paradis Farm.



Amy and her husband, Tim, reside in Rochester along with their dog, Piper. Her interests include enjoying outdoor activities in all four seasons, horseback riding/training/ competing, and spending time with family in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. ~

Meet our new board members - Felicia and David

Felicia LaBranche is a marketing professional and owner of iConcierge Marketing Management Solutions, an outsource agency for small businesses and organizations in New Hampshire.



A DALC graduate, Felicia hold a bachelors' degree in Business Administration from Granite State College, and also has a background in sales and customer service. She is a member of the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and has previously served as a volunteer on committees for Rochester Main Street, the Rochester Opera House and the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Felicia is the mother of two

daughters, and she and her husband Brian currently live in Rochester, where they also own and operate an antiques business together. In her spare time, Felicia enjoys the beach, gardening, and antiques.

David Watters has worked as a professor of English, teaching American literature, New England studies, and New Hampshire literature and culture at the University of New Hampshire since 1978. His wife, Jan Alberghene, is also an English professor who works at Fitchburg State University. Their son, Harper, is a Corps member at Houston Ballet. Raised in West Hartford, Connecticut and educated at Dartmouth College and Brown University, David's commitment to public service was inspired by his father, who was a Veteran's Administration doctor for fifty years, and by his mother, who, after recuperating from polio, worked for Easter Seals to promote its sheltered workshop in Hartford.

Moving to Dover from Newmarket in 1984, David began community service by tutoring at the Dover Adult Learning Center,

served as a Ward I selectman, and worked on Democratic campaigns. He served a term as chair of the Strafford County Democratic Committee and many terms on the Democratic State Committee. At the



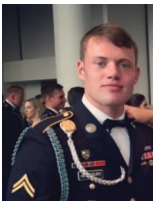
University of New Hampshire, David teaches courses on New Hampshire and New England literature, history, and culture. He has visited hundreds of local libraries and historical societies to give talks. David

enjoys getting outdoors to run and ski, or going "down cellar" to his shop to do woodworking, especially making Shaker oval boxes. David and Jan go to Houston whenever they can to see Harper dance.



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603-742-1030



SAVE THE DATE: Monday, November 7

Birthday Dinner Fundraiser for the CPL Andrew Aimesbury Memorial Scholarship Fund. In honor of Andrew's 22nd birthday, his family is hosting a fundraiser dinner on Monday, November 7, 4-7 p.m. at Dover Baptist Church. All proceeds will go directly to the Corporal Andrew Aimesbury Memorial Scholarship Fund.

A Donor's tale - Helen Phipps Heritage Society

Every year, the fundraising committee of Dover Adult Learning Center Board of Directors organizes an event to acknowledge those who have taken a leadership role in support of the adult learning center. According to Executive Director Deanna Strand, this year they looked for a special way to recognize members of the Helen Phipps Heritage Society. Helen Phipps was one of the first two women ever to be elected to the Dover City Council. In 1970, Helen became the Director of Dover Adult Basic Education and went on to found the Dover Adult Learning Center. Helen passed away at the age of 83 in 2010. In honor of Helen's dedication and commitment to adult education, the Dover Adult Learning Center Board of Directors established the Helen Phipps Heritage Society to allow supporters to remember DALC in their estate planning and continue her legacy.

"Members were invited to be our guest for the event," Strand said. "This year it was a late afternoon cruise. The committee liked the idea of a cruise, but wanted it to be more than a tourist trip." According to Strand, one of the newest board members at DALC, State Senator David Watters, suggested the Gundalow Company, which is based in Portsmouth, but also sails out of Durham. The idea of departing from a town within their catchment area was appealing; they are after all the Dover Adult Learning Center of Strafford County.

"We sailed out of Adams Point in Durham. We also chose it because we feel our events should be mission related, and the gundalow has an educational component," Strand said. "Not only did we get a wonderful cruise, on a beautiful night, but we learned all about the history of Great Bay along the way." They even learned a few sea shanties.

The committee was also pleased to discover that they could take a regularly scheduled tour, as opposed to paying extra to charter a sail, and they could bring their own snacks along. "It made for a very cost effective event," Strand said. "We even helped hoist the sail." Strand said many donors are former board and staff members who enjoy the chance to reconnect with current members and stay abreast of new programs and initiatives at the adult learning center.

Helen's mission lives on in other ways, as well. In June, DALC graduate Julia Caple received a scholarship in Helen's name to help her continue her educational journey. Learn more on our website at <http://www.doveradultlearning.org/support/heritage-society/>



Located in the McConnell Community Center, Dover Adult Learning Center of Strafford County helps adults in the Strafford County area enhance their life-coping skills and improve their lives through basic education, job training, high school completion and enrichment classes. We help our students become more effective lifelong learners, family members, workers and citizens.