

Adventures in Learning Update



Fall 2002

COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE

LEARNING AMONG FRIENDS

Profile: Mary Doyle

Mary Doyle is a communicator of the first degree, with a lifelong commitment to education and a unique ability to bring people together for a united cause.



Mary Doyle

Through the years she has served innumerable organizations and has attracted and inspired others to serve as well.

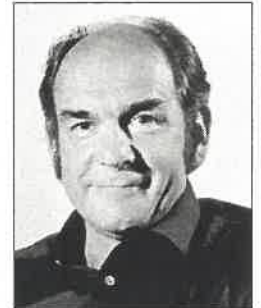
Mary is a 1963 sociology graduate of Mount Holyoke College. For two years following graduation, she recruited students and interacted with alumnae nationwide as a field representative in the Admissions Office for the college. She married Allan Doyle in 1965, and settled in Longmeadow, Mass., where they raised two sons and lived until 1992.

As a young woman in Longmeadow, Mary was drawn to community service. She served on the board of Bay State Medical Center as chair of the Education Committee. She was president of the Children's Study Home, an organization for emotionally disturbed children, and was later employed by the home

See Profile, P. 2

New Hampshire Historian Jere Daniell

Frequent outbursts of appreciative laughter were common in Jere Daniell's Adventures in Learning class on New Hampshire history. His store of fascinating anecdotes, wry comments, and droll delivery brought history to life and delighted the 41 students enrolled in his Spring '02 course. A Dartmouth professor of history since 1974, Jere is a leading scholar of New Hampshire and northern New England history.



Jere Daniell

In the first session, Jere polled the class and then based his lessons on topics of the greatest interest—including early New Hampshire settlements, the state's role in the process of ratifying the constitution, and the importance of water in New Hampshire history and industrialization. Although he has given many talks for ILEAD (The Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth) and has spoken on local history to more than 250 groups, this was Jere's first experience teaching an adult education course.

Like most historians, Jere does most of his research with original source material. He says he has read, or at least looked at, 90 percent of the available literature, letters, and documents on seventeenth- and eighteenth-century New Hampshire. Much of his accumulation of knowledge has come through his research on the origins of the towns in which he has been invited to speak.

Born and raised in Millinocket, Maine, Jere was the valedictory speaker when he graduated *Phi Beta Kappa* from Dartmouth with a modified government degree in 1955. He started his graduate work at Harvard in the American Studies Program and then switched to history, although he had never taken any college American history courses. He earned his Ph.D., became an assistant professor of history at Dartmouth, and was promoted to associate professor and then full professor.

Early in his career, Jere wanted to write about the American Revolution, but because he was married with three young children and didn't want to travel, it made more sense to him to concentrate on the history of New England. He has written two books,

See Jere Daniell, P. 3

Profile, Cont'd from Pg. 1

as director of development. She served as president of the Community Council of Greater Springfield, a resource for various agencies, which was eventually absorbed by United Way. As chair of Stage West, Mary guided that professional regional theater through developmental growing pains. "As president and chair of the Junior League of Springfield," Mary recounted, "I was introduced

to an amazing group of women devoted to projects important to the city, and the League was an excellent training vehicle for volunteerism."

Mary and Allan retired to the New London area in 1992, and soon Mary was in the thick of things again. A friend, study leader, and early founder introduced Mary to the Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth

(ILEAD). She immediately enrolled in ILEAD courses and soon after became a member of the Curriculum Committee. As a result, Mary was part of the Steering Committee charged with developing an adult education program in this area, using ILEAD as a model. Once Adventures in Learning (AIL) was launched, she served on the board, was curricu-

See Profile, Pg. 3

**Adventures in Learning
at Colby-Sawyer College**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Peter McKee

Vice President

John Callahan

Secretary

Sandra Stark

Treasurer

Richard Cogswell

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Charles Carey

Hilary Cleveland

Robert Foote

Robert Gray

Dusty Logan

Robert Scott

Gusta Teach

Mel Vulgamore

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Sharon Ames

Colby-Sawyer College

100 Main Street

New London, NH 03257

(603) 526-3720

Fax: (603) 526-3780

adventures@colby-sawyer.edu

www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

Adventures in Learning Update, published three times annually, highlights the courses and happenings of the Adventures in Learning program at Colby-Sawyer College.

Civil War Course Rounds Third

Adventures in Learning celebrated one of its most popular courses when leaders of the Winter 2002 courses gathered at a "Debriefing Luncheon" at the Town Offices last March with

members of the Curriculum Committee. Millard Hunter and Julien LeBourgeois are shown here cutting a special cake marking the third presentation of their course, "The Civil War." (Art Rosen, left, monitors the proceedings.)



The leaders learned that participation in AIL courses has reached an all-time high, attesting to community members' growing interest. New members are coming from all over the Kearsarge area, and to meet this increasing demand, AIL will offer ten courses next year—doubling the number offered in the last two years. The outlook for continuing this high level of interest is good, as plans for courses through Winter 2003 are being completed now. We are grateful to all the study leaders who have helped keep the flame of inquiry burning brightly for adults in the greater New London area.

Millard and Julien have rounded third with their popular Civil War course, and now—will they head for home plate? The answer is Yes—in Fall 2003!

—Danna Foote

Profile, Cont'd' from Pg. 2

am chair, and this spring will complete five years of service to AIL.

The New London Garden Club has benefited from Mary's involvement as well. She initiated and chaired the Educational Materials Committee, which researches, selects, and purchases horticultural books for all ages and gives them to Tracy Memorial Library and to Kearsarge Elementary, Middle, and Regional High Schools.

Most recently, she has put her energy into her board appointment to the Women's Fund of New Hampshire, where she chairs the Development Committee. This organization supports projects for women and girls by providing emotional, educational, and financial resources. Through its programs, the Women's Fund addresses issues such as domestic abuse, girls' low self-esteem, and single motherhood.

Mary is a wife, mother of two married sons, a grandmother of four, and owner of a chocolate lab and a golden retriever. She is a prime example of how individuals can and do make a difference. "As we get older," she says, "friendship is the bottom line, isn't it?" Adventures in Learning salutes Mary Doyle.

—Dusty Logan

Who Needs New York and Paris?!

Who needs Broadway and Maxim's? Certainly not the 75 Adventures in Learning members who enjoyed a delicious dinner at the New London Inn prior to an original and lively play at Colby-Sawyer College.

"Beauty" was labeled by *The Boston Globe* as "an eccentric, zany, winning little show," and they were right. It was obvious the cast had great fun performing it, and the audience was tickled by a new take on an old tale. Congratulations to David Elliott, director of English Language and American Culture, who wrote the script and lyrics, and to Jerry Bliss, associate professor of Fine and Performing Arts, who directed the play for the spring performance.

Adventures in Learning participants enjoyed doing things together. Two successful evenings of dinner/theater and a visit and dinner at the Currier Gallery of Arts encouraged us to plan more adventures. Jere Daniell, New Hampshire and New England historian extraordinaire, has told us that if we wanted to choose only one museum in all

New England to visit, it ought to be the large complex in Lowell, Massachusetts, where the American Textile History Museum is just one of many things to enjoy. Toward that end, we hope to have an all-day trip to Lowell sometime this fall. We'll keep you posted.

—Priscilla Ohler



Clockwise from lower left: Danna Foote, Bob Foote, Carolyn Reynolds, Chet Reynolds, Danella Pearson, Dick Pearson, all of New London, N.H.

Jere Daniell, Cont'd from Page 1

Experiment in Republicanism, published in 1970, and *Colonial New Hampshire*, published in 1981.

He has written and continues to write many articles and reviews for various historical publications. The Dartmouth Class of 1925 honored him by endowing a permanent chair in his name. He is a trustee of the New Hampshire Historical Society, belongs to many historical societies in Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire, and has been a consultant to several projects sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.

When he talks about water, Jere says he prefers his "in small amounts and flowing." He likes to fish for trout – with bait – and can often be found on a dark, wet night out with a flashlight catching his own night crawlers.

—Heiden Beckwith

If you have an interesting idea for a new Adventures in Learning course, please contact Curriculum Committee Chairman Dan Darrow at 863-0864 with your suggestion.

Preview of Fall 2002 Courses

Come be a part of the Adventures in Learning (AIL) program's fifth full year of course offerings. The fall 2002 term, which begins September 23 and runs through November 15, 2002, will once again explore a broad array of subjects, which we hope will stimulate the varied interests of the adult community. The fall *Adventures in Learning Catalog* will be mailed in late July and the registration period will open on Monday, August 5, 2002.

The AIL program has adopted a "first-day lottery" policy (where needed) due to over-subscription in some courses. Prior to and through opening day of registration, course applications will be accumulated in order of receipt. If more applications have been received for a particular course than there are spaces available, the lottery system will be used to enroll the earliest applicants. In the event that an applicant does not gain entry into any of his/her first three course selections, the enrollment fee will be returned.



The Winter's Tale

George Tracy returns to lead an examination of this magnificent play by William Shakespeare and explore the beauty of the language through a careful reading of the text. A film will be shown to aid in the understanding of the play, but, most importantly, the group will discuss the problems of love and trust, growing up and growing old, and the manifold decisions that life and love demand of us.

George Tracy

Religion in Collision

Offered for the second time, this course is a comparative religion study examining the history of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam during the thousand years following the biblical period. Led by Arthur Rosen, the course will review dogmas and deeds, polemics and politics, and their impact on one another and on believers and non-believers.



Arthur Rosen



Global Trends 2015

George Montgomery will lead the group in discussions of expected trends in global populations, resources, environment, economy, governance, conflict, and science and technology. While participants need not be experts in the above areas of interest, they should have an abiding interest in world events and, using their own readings, be prepared to help lead discussions in particular fields.

George Montgomery

Robert Frost: A Lover's Quarrel

Led by Mel and Nan Vulgamore, this course will concentrate on Frost's poems and reflect on the New England poet's views of God, love, death, and sex within the context of his life and times.



Mel Vulgamore



Nan Vulgamore



Sarah Reeves

Women in the Bible

Descriptions of women as warrior, dancer, seductress, and queen will be found in the Bible, after a few selections from feminists such as Mary Daly set the stage. The Biblical passages are intriguing—ranging from the earliest to the latest scriptures—and in forms that include poetry, myth, sagas, and gospels. Sarah Reeves will show participants how the course can enhance their reading of the Bible, as well as explore the myriad roles of women.

Journal Workshop

The objective of this course is two-fold: to encourage participants to find their own voice for telling their personal stories and to turn the significant moments of each person's life into testimonies about their culture and history. Rachel Mills offers an encore of this popular course as a way of guiding participants through an exploration of their identities and origins. Discussion will focus on personal language, family stories, current and historic life patterns, and dreams for the future.



Rachel Mills



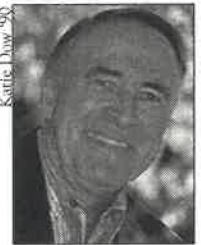
James Moore

Migrations of Mankind

Led by James Moore, the study of migrations has a truly interdisciplinary flavor involving archaeology, geology, climatology, physical anthropology, linguistics, genetics, and analytical chemistry. The questions that arise from the widely accepted premise that the human species originated in West Africa will be discussed.

The Future of Food and Water

Charles Carey returns with a study of the composition and characteristics of the world's food supply, along with the present locations, management, and uses of water. Current trends in food consumption and water management that relate to economic or political developments, population, and depletion of natural resources will also be studied.



Charles Carey



Tony Parra

Great Authors of the Italian Renaissance

In this course, Tony Parra will lead the reading and discussion of selected passages of the works of Dante, Machiavelli, Boccaccio, and Petrarch, and examine these authors' impact on the evolution of great world literature.

The Lively Arts

Unlike most courses, which focus on a single theme, the Lively Arts course will explore many facets of the world of art in discussions led by eight different presenters. Three Kearsarge area artists, John Bott, Tomie dePaola, and Margaret Dwyer, will join five fellow artists from the wider region of New England in an examination of the visual arts, music, and drama, past and present.



John Bott



Tomie de Paola



David Newman



Margaret Dwyer



Martin LeBeau



Susan Leidy



Robert Simon



Brooke Wetzel

David Bisno Spreads Enthusiasm for Adult Education

“Adult education gives us an opportunity for a new commitment to the life of the mind. Grandparenting, gardening, and golf are fine, but many of us have a need for more.”



David Bisno

These are the words of Dr. David Bisno, the speaker at the third annual meeting of Adventures in Learning (AIL) on May 23 at Colby-Sawyer College. Bisno is an experienced Institute for Lifelong

“Continuing to use your mind makes you feel good. Use it or lose it.”

Learning at Dartmouth (ILEAD) study leader and head of the institute’s summer program.

In a speech titled “Beyond Golf: Passion and Provocation in Adult Education,” Bisno talked about his enthusiasm for education and

encouraged the members of the audience to keep learning. “I tell friends that continuing to use your mind makes you feel good. Use it or lose it.”

He also encouraged AIL members to consider teaching some courses. “The disaster of retirement is that no one needs you,” he said. “By developing courses, I create a situation where I feel needed. It’s renewing, and it gives me a sense of belonging.”

Bisno grew up in St. Louis, Missouri. He graduated from Harvard College, and after earning his medical degree at the Washington University School of Medicine, he practiced ophthalmology in Atlanta for 25 years.

In the late 1980s, Bisno decided to pursue a second career as an adult educator. He retired from his medical practice in 1992, and to prepare for his new career, he moved to Norwich, Vt. and enrolled in Dartmouth’s Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program. He also attended Harvard for courses in the history of science, the subject he wanted to teach.

Since the fall of 1993, Bisno has taught more than a dozen ILEAD courses. He spends every winter teaching in various parts of the world. “I’ve done this for nine years with a passion,” he said. “My wife and I have met so many interesting, bright people. Life is more exciting all the time.”

Bisno works hard to generate enthusiasm among his students.

“I try to think outside the box,” he said. He has parties before each course so students can meet one another, and a banquet at the end. Instead of asking students to give

“Have the most fun you can possibly have. Playing it safe is no way to live a life or teach a course. A risk-free existence is no existence at all.”

reports, he asks the more gregarious class members to do impersonations of important figures they have studied. In 1994, when teaching a course on Darwin, he got the idea of asking the author of the textbook to address the class. The author lived in England, so Bisno asked each student to put up \$6 for the author’s airfare. The author came, and everyone loved it. Now Bisno tries to do this for every course he teaches.

Summing up his advice to adult learners and teachers, Bisno said, “Have the most fun you can possibly have. Playing it safe is no way to live a life or teach a course. A risk-free existence is no existence at all.”

—Julie Boardman

Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again! Come be a part of Adventures in Learning's fifth year of offering not-for-credit educational enrichment courses for adults in Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee communities.

Our new membership year will run from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003, which means that it's time to renew your Adventures in Learning membership by sending in the annual membership fee of \$35 per person. To be eligible for enrollment in any of our upcoming study groups, you must be a member of the program.

With our membership reaching an all-time high of 315 members in the last year, Adventures in Learning looks forward to the year ahead. We have planned a broad range of exciting course offerings to stimulate your interest. We hope you will want to be a part of the rewarding activities we have planned for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Renew your membership today! Simply complete the form below and return it with a check made payable to: Colby-Sawyer College. Please mail renewal form and payment to Sharon Ames, Adventures in Learning, Colby-Sawyer College, 100 Main Street, New London, NH 03257.

~ **Adventures in Learning Membership Renewal** ~
2002-2003

Name(s)

Address

Town/State/Zip

Telephone

E-mail

Amount enclosed (\$35 x number of memberships) = \$ _____



Adventures in Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
100 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEW LONDON, NH
PERMIT 4

“Adventures in Learning — well chosen words! First, we don’t have to plod through required courses in order to satisfy a degree course of study! Next, the pleasant expectation of looking through the newly arrived publication of current course offerings — sort of like looking at a menu!

Then the adventure rolls forth. Very knowledgeable instructors have we, who amaze us with their dedication and wealth of knowledge. Most important is the motivation they present to us and therein lies the adventure! Animated, course-related conversations spring up. So, who talks about the weather anymore? BRAVO to this great adventure. So much in the media touts exercise as the senior benefit. True, but remember, Adventures exercises the mind profoundly.”

—Jean Warren, New London, N.H.

“Some people think that teaching courses for Adventures in Learning is a lot of work but, for me, it is something I love to do. The people who sign up for these study groups are so enthusiastic and appreciative that I think I get more out of the classes than they do. Thank you for inviting me to be part of such a successful program.”



—Judy Bohn, South Sutton, N.H.