

Horizons Extra

Winter 2016

Lifelong Education at Colby-Sawyer College

Study Leader Profile

June Fichter and Robert “Woody” Wood: Taking a closer look at the water we take for granted

Recent drought conditions in the western part of the United States have made us more cognizant of how precious our seemingly abundant New Hampshire water is, but it is a resource we usually take for granted. Only one percent of the water on earth is usable fresh water! Fortunately, we have an association called the Lake Sunapee Protective Association (LSPA) whose mission is to protect this precious resource by monitoring and developing ways to maintain the quality of our lakes and ground waters.

I recently had the opportunity to meet with June Fichter, executive director of LSPA since 2005. June and Associate Director



June Fichter



Robert "Woody" Wood

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Study Leader Profile

Bill Helm: Exploring the challenges facing Norway's Arctic Archipelago

For many years after his graduation from Princeton, Bill Helm's career took him to many places, among them Switzerland. While there, he and his family enjoyed traveling frequently, taking advantage of all that living in Europe has to offer. Later while he was director of marketing for the Executive Education programs at Harvard Business School (HBS), he went around the world twice as he met with and encouraged international firms to send their executives to HBS for training. Thus the foundation was well laid for future adventures.

Happily for the community of New London, one of Bill's travels took him to New Hampshire where he and his wife, Tina, bought a home in Eastman, close to Hanover where one of their daughters was studying at Dartmouth.

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Bill Helm

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Learning Later Living Greater

Click [HERE](#) for listing of Colby-Sawyer College events that are open to the public.



Kathy Bonavist: AIL's New Program Manager

Kathy Bonavist is the new vice president of advancement at Colby-Sawyer College, taking over Beth Cahill's position. There is more about her and the challenges of her job on the college website (<http://www.colby-sawyer.edu/news/vp-advancement.html>), but for our talk we asked her to tell us about what advancement actually means and how Adventures in Learning figures into her responsibilities as program manager. Kathy sees herself becoming involved in the student's life from the moment that person decides to come to Colby-Sawyer through graduation, their careers and retirement. She wants to imbue in them a responsibility and attachment to their communities and to the college. This sense of involvement is a key part of a liberal arts education, which she feels is essential to living an interesting and fulfilling life. That's where AIL comes in.

Continuing education, which concentrates on the liberal arts, not only enriches the community in which it is offered, but also keeps learning a healthy mental



Kathy Bonavist

activity among an aging population. Where better to promote this than at Colby-Sawyer? The college's commitment to this lifelong learning includes the contribution of study group leaders, classrooms and administrative support services. "Colby-Sawyer College is honored to support the work of Adventures in Learning, and to maintain the modest program fees. Since 1998, we have increased our commitment each year in support of AIL's mission. The college provides over \$36,000 in resources [to AIL] annually, and this year, is pleased to have added a full time Presidential

Fellow to ensure that we are able to continue to deliver these high quality learning opportunities," said Bonavist.

So when Kathy talks about her students, she includes not just the student body at the college, but also residents in neighboring communities and alumni scattered around the country. Welcome to our area, Kathy, and welcome to Adventures in Learning.

Bill Helm (continued from page 1)

Fortuitously one evening they decided to go out to dinner and chose New London as their destination. After a delicious dinner, they were so delighted with the size and appearance of the town, they cruised around a bit and happened to notice a for sale sign on a house named Highmeade which caught their eye. Within a few months, after Bill had completed his term of selectman in Weston, Mass., they moved to New London and have resided here ever since.

Both Tina and Bill have given extensively to the community in many ways. Bill was a trustee of Colby-Sawyer College and is currently chair of the New London Planning Board. He is on the board of the Chapin Senior Center, served as president of the New London Hospital Board of Trustees and remains involved in the health care realm at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in work related to a program dealing with advanced care planning for older patients. When asked what prompted him to become involved in so many facets of the community, Bill told me that in his view, our lives are divided into three parts: becoming educated, raising our children and providing for them, and, finally, giving back and sharing the rewards one has had over time by taking part in the public life of the community.

Bill is no stranger to classroom situations having taught at Boston University School of Management, at Loyola

University in Chicago, as well as in Switzerland during his stay there. He also served as an adjunct instructor at Colby Sawyer teaching government and geography. Bill has been a contributor to previous AIL courses that focused on Russia, Romania, Daniel Webster and Dutch history. This winter he will be giving his fifth AIL course, Latitude 80 Degrees North: Norway's Arctic Land.

Bill brings unbridled enthusiasm to the subject matter of his class, which is based on a trip he and Tina took in May 2014 aboard a National Geographic Expedition cruise ship to Norway's Arctic land, and, in particular, Saarlund. According to Bill, it was a real learning experience, with 140 passengers, as well as seven geographic naturalists and scientists giving daily talks and lectures on geography, plant life and other subjects of interest. The day began with a 6:30 a.m. wake-up call and was filled with lots of off-ship activities, from trips in zodiacs and kayaks, long hikes and leisurely strolls through villages, always with someone armed to protect the walkers from predatory bears. I can promise you that following in Bill's footsteps from ship to Arctic shore through pictures and narrative will open your eyes to the beauty, geography and history of one of the last natural areas of the world, which is now threatened by climate change and other geopolitical forces.

~Diane Rice

Preview of Winter '16 Courses

Registration is now open for the winter term. Most courses begin the week of January 18. View the complete winter catalog online with full course descriptions, including start dates and times, at www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures/courses.html. On this same webpage you can register for courses and pay your annual July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017 membership dues *if you have not already done so*. The course registration deadline is Monday, December 7, 2015. Register now to ensure a place in the course(s) of your choice. People who pay for courses and/or memberships online will have their names entered in a drawing for a free course and/or free 2016–2017 membership, respectively. If you are unable to pay online, you may mail your form(s) or drop it in the drop box outside the AIL office. No payments will be processed over the phone or in person at the AIL office.

- **Jumping Into Water** with June Fichter and Robert “Woody” Wood
Learn more about the availability of clean water that we take for granted. June and Woody will take a closer look at the Sunapee area water supply, focusing on its health, contaminants and contents. The course will include a trip to a drinking water plant and a waste treatment plant.
- **Latitude 80 Degrees North: Norway’s Arctic Land** with Bill Helm
Join Bill to explore the history, geography, geology, mammals, avians and political issues relating to Norway’s Arctic archipelago. Through reading and discussion, participants will also examine how climate conditions and oil drilling challenge this fragile environment.
- **Captain Cook’s Encounters** with John M. Roberts
John will lead round-table discussions of Captain Cook’s life, the lives of his contemporaries, and their interactions with native peoples of the Pacific Ocean. Participants will receive a free source book on which discussions will be based.
- **The Power of Words: Native American Literature** with Nancy Marashio
Nancy will lead a study of Native American literature, with a focus on the power of words to create an experience that ultimately changes the reader. Reading selections include myth, essay, poetry and fiction. The ensuing discussions will help reveal the universality of Native American experiences.
- **UFOs Demystified** with Dick Carney
Whether you’re one of the 36 percent of American adults who believe UFOs are real or one of the skeptics, bring an open mind to Dick’s course and prepare for lively discussions. Among the topics for discussion will be the Roswell crash, Area 51, eye-witness testimonies, and connections to the science of quantum physics.
- **Unveiling the White House—The Art and Art History of America’s Most Famous Home** with Mike Moss
Mike will present a slide and lecture study of the White House art collections representing all periods of American art and the residents who shaped those collections. Learn about this famous “house-museum” that is also a reflection of its inhabitants.
- **We the People** with Dick Schwemm
Gun control, campaign spending by corporations, birthright citizenship, and religious freedom are topics we hear and read about daily. Join Dick for a close reading of the Constitution and discussions about the intent of the founders and how we interpret the Constitution today.
- **Marvelous Pictures About Mismatched Pairs** with Joe Fanning
Joe leads his third AIL course related to classic films. Participants will watch and then discuss four films that share starring couples at odds with each other who then experience a change of heart. Actors include classic Hollywood stars such as James Stewart, Gene Kelly and Barbara Stanwyck.
- **The First-in-the-Nation Primary** with Dale Conly
New Hampshire residents face an election frenzy right now with pollsters, strategists and candidates appearing nearly everywhere in the state. Dale, along with guest discussion leaders, will present the history and legacy of the New Hampshire primary. Topics will include the role of pollsters, the impact of money, and the changing demographics of the New Hampshire electorate.
- **Opening a Continent—Siberia and Her Railroad** with Bob Koester
This course marks the 100th anniversary of the Trans-Siberian railroad that took 25 years to complete and covers nearly 6,000 miles. Participants will learn how the railroad helped shape history during the first half of the twentieth century. Through stories and photographs, Bob will also share his experiences traveling the railroad.

Shaina Driscoll; AIL's New Presidential Fellow

It's a perfect fit! Shaina Driscoll, recipient of the 2013–14 AIL Achievement Award, is the new Presidential Fellow in the AIL Office. Shaina succeeds Janet St. Laurent who retired in June after 10 years of service to AIL and 21 years at the college. The achievement award is given annually to a junior with high academic performance who demonstrates the potential for lifelong learning and contribution to the college. Shaina graduated last May and jumped at the chance as one of 12 Presidential Fellows to return to her alma mater and play a significant role in an organization which promotes lifelong learning.



Shaina Driscoll

As an undergrad, Shaina already was expanding her horizons and preparing for life and work after college. As a sociology major, she did extensive research work for Professor Kathleen Farrell during the school year and over the summer months. Shaina spent the entire second semester of her senior year in Washington, D.C. interning at The Smithsonian Institute where she gained administrative experience writing grants and organizing educational outreach programs for schools nationwide. This required her to "put the academic pedal to the metal" and finish up her Colby-Sawyer major and minor requirements, as well as her Capstone Project, during the fall semester in order to graduate in May.

Asked what has been the biggest challenge in her new job, Shaina commented that as a long-time Apple user she had to adjust to the office PC computer and operating system (mission quickly accomplished however!) and, as a recent grad, to sitting on the administrative side of the fence at the college. Shaina still has many friends in the student body and enthusiastically cheers them on in their athletic endeavors (especially the women's and men's rugby teams). This fall she will don separate hats to participate in two Colby-Sawyer traditions: joining the students and many of her friends climbing Mt. Kearsarge on Mountain Day and, as a recent grad, hiking with fellow alums up Mt. Osceola Peaks.

As for surprises, Shaina did not anticipate the breadth and depth of the AIL program but is delighted that she has been given so much responsibility and keeps so busy. She is impressed by the enthusiasm of the members for lifelong learning and the dedication of the study leaders and those in leadership positions who put so much time and effort into the program. "AIL is such a valuable asset in this community. AIL sells houses!" Shaina looks forward to getting to know as many members as possible and encourages those who do not know how to register for courses online to pick up the phone and call her as she will talk you through the process. As she observed, "It is all a part of lifelong learning!" ~Betsy Boege

AIL Around Town



PHOTO: Joyce Kellogg

Betsy Boege and Deb Rucci waiting to greet folks at the **Meet the Chamber** event held in conjunction with Hospital Days

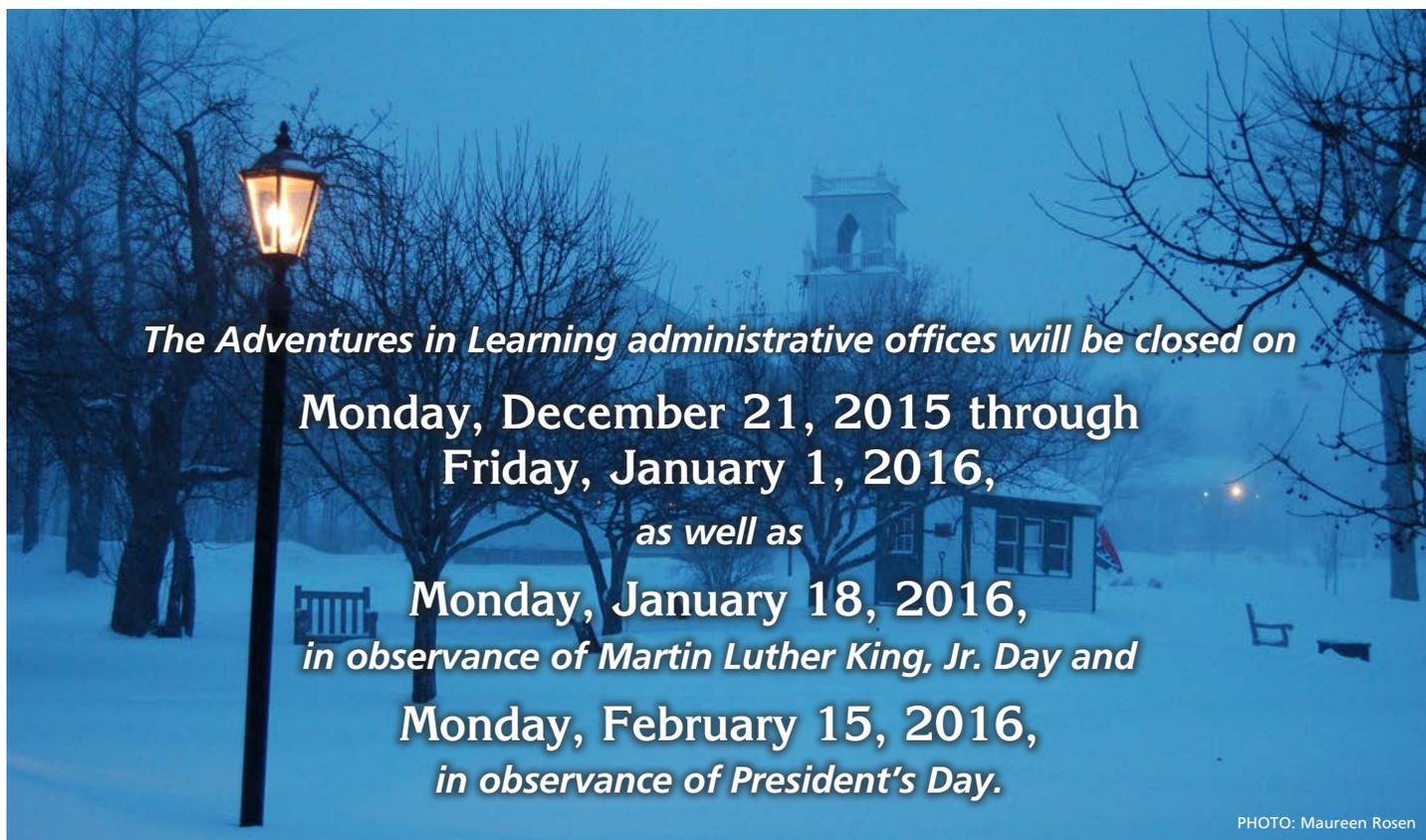


Hospital Days Parade L to R: John Roberts, Randy Hanson, Derek Hunt, Joanna Henderson, Skip Wareham, Mark Kellett, Peter Machen, Julie Mach, Diane Rice and Betsy Boege



L to R: Joanna Henderson, Randy Hanson, Betsy Boege, Diane Rice, Julie Machen, Derek Hunt





The Adventures in Learning administrative offices will be closed on

**Monday, December 21, 2015 through
Friday, January 1, 2016,**

as well as

**Monday, January 18, 2016,
in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and**

**Monday, February 15, 2016,
in observance of President's Day.**

PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

June Fitcher and Robert “Woody” Wood (continued from page 1)

Robert “Woody” Wood will be offering a course called Jumping Into Water in the AIL winter term. June and Woody will discuss the good and bad nutrients in the water and how an overabundance of certain nutrients can interfere with the natural function of plants and animals in the water’s ecosystem. They will discuss the microscopic world of plankton as well as macrophytes (aquatic plants). Participants will also have the opportunity to visit a drinking water treatment plant and a waste water treatment plant to learn how our water is made safe to drink and where it goes when it leaves us.

June, a native of New Hampshire, holds a B.S. and M.S. in engineering and an MBA from Northeastern University. She was instrumental in establishing the watershed plan for

the area when she was on the board of the LSPA. This plan has been adopted and has become part of the local master plans for Sunapee, New London and Newbury. June and her husband, Peter, spent most of their careers working in the field of digital imaging in the greater Boston area. In the 70s, they purchased a ‘retreat’ on Lake Sunapee; their family activities have always included a strong connection to and

appreciation of the natural world. When not protecting our waters, June enjoys skiing, tennis, cycling and hiking with her husband and their Bernese Mountain dogs.

A Pennsylvania native, Woody has lived in New Hampshire for more than 30 years. He oversees the watershed protection and water quality programs at LSPA. He has an M.S. in natural resource management

and broad experience in the natural resource field including fisheries, wetlands, coastal resources, wildlife management and freshwater biology. Over the past 16 years he has worked on a number of grant projects aimed at protecting all water resources in the Sunapee area including the Federal Clean Water Act and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funded

projects. His recreational activities include raising organic vegetables, playing music and cross-country skiing.

June and Woody look forward this winter to giving AIL members the opportunity to gain knowledge of what is in the water and understand the complexities and challenges of maintaining this vital natural resource.

~Joyce Kellogg

***If we pollute the air, water
and soil that keeps us alive
and well, and destroy the
biodiversity that allows
natural systems to function,
no amount of money will
save us.***

–David Suzuki

Study Group Leader Quotes

Study Group Leaders share their thoughts on what they found most personally rewarding about leading a course for AIL:

“Definitely the participants and their strong interest in learning”

“How much I learned from others—and about myself...”

“Planning the course, researching my particular topic and the enthusiastic response of participants all made this a very positive experience.”

“The company of highly intelligent, well-informed, open-minded, active participants who became the course’s motivating force and the experience of ideas and resources that resulted in our learning from each other”

“Sharing what for the attendees was new knowledge and information—the “aha” moments they had”

“Helping people who trained in art to become artists again”

“The preparation process”

“Seeing everyone have fun while learning something new”

If you would like to become a study group leader and share your passion for a subject of your choice with AIL members, please contact the AIL Office at adventures@colby-sawyer.edu or (603) 526-3690. The AIL Office and the Curriculum Committee will be glad to help you get started on this very rewarding experience, for both leader and participants.

Adventures in Learning Happenings



Mark Twain and Samuel Clemens Course:
Participants during a break



Participants in discussion during the course



PHOTOS: Maureen Rosen

Joanna Henderson checking her PowerPoint for the course



PHOTOS: Joyce Kellogg

Bill Tighe standing with the Basque flag



Participants in Bill Tighe's course on **The Basque Culture**



Kraig Larkin, CSC assistant professor of history, presenting in the **Age of Enlightenment** course



PHOTOS: Maureen Rosen

Ralph Hough contemplating the Enlightenment



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

Les Norman ready to begin his course on the Napoleonic Wars



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

David Wood before being introduced by John Ferris in **Women Who Have Changed the Course of History**



Course participants gather before Art Rosen's **ISIS: On the Road to Armageddon** course begins



PHOTOS: Maureen Rosen

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Adventures in Learning's *Horizons Extra* highlights the activities of the lifelong learning program at Colby-Sawyer College.

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the articles in this publication are strictly those of the respective authors.

Information offered should not be considered authoritative or complete, nor should it be construed to reflect the views or opinions of the Adventures in Learning program or Colby-Sawyer College.

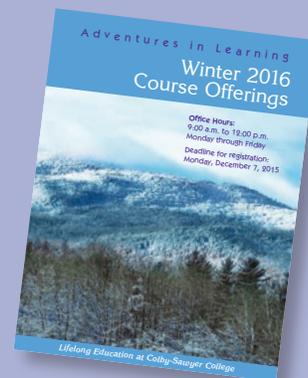
Credits

Design and Production:

Lisa Swanson, Second Story Design
 Manchester, N.H.

REMINDER:
 Registration deadline
 for winter courses is
Monday,
December 7, 2015.

Click [here](#) to register online.



Inclement Weather Policy

Adventures in Learning follows the Kearsarge Regional School District policy on weather closure. For information on the district's cancellations log onto www.kearsarge.org or check WMUR TV channel 9. If a question remains about a course cancellation, please call your study group leader.

We have a raffle winner!

*Mary Wendel wins the fall '15 raffle
 for a free AIL course*

On learning she won the free course, Mary exclaimed, "really, well thank you...I didn't even know there was a raffle!" The raffle was open to all fall 2015 course participants who registered online.

Don't be left out.

Register online for your winter '16 courses, and you might be the next lucky winner of a free AIL course!

Adventures in Learning 2015-2016 Board



L to R front seated: Joanna Henderson, John Ferries, Mike Moss.
 L to R standing: Mary Doyle, Sheldon Boege, John Roberts, Deb Rucci, Tom Stark, Van Crawford, Betsy Boege, Brenda Watts, Pat Stewart, Gene Lariviere, Derek Hunt, Julie Machen, Joyce Kellogg