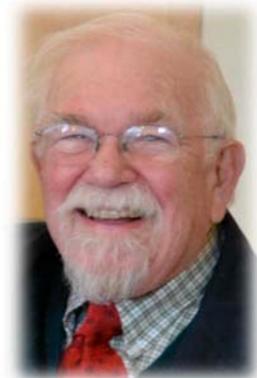




**University of Maine  
at Augusta  
Senior College**

**Spring 2016    46 University Drive    Augusta, Maine 04330    Phone: 621-3551**

## A View from the Chair



Curriculum committee went through evaluation sheets today (Monday, 5/23) and we are happy to report excellent evaluations of the courses and the instructors. Also, there is a very promising selection of courses for the fall semester. The Granite Hill and Brown Bag series also look very good.

The board had a pleasant visit with President Conneely this month. He is settling in well, and we enjoyed meeting him.

Forum on the Future has an exciting schedule for next year, including a forum on aspects of the presidential election and one on the effects of climate on Maine.

*Concerts at Jewett* is close to a final list for next year. This past year was quite a delight.

So all in all, the view from the chair is rosy. New committee members have taken hold with enthusiasm, and all the committees are busy at their tasks.

On a personal note, remember to check your list of medications for possible side effects. Diet and exercise are still to be preferred if possible over a lengthy list of pills.

Finally, Ann Sullivan is looking for contributors to the newsletter: articles about classes, concerts, forums, trips, poems and photographs are all welcome.

Have a healthy and enjoyable summer.

Tom Feagin, Chair, UMASC board.

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## Fifteenth Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Senior College's Fifteenth Annual Meeting and Luncheon took place on Friday, April 15. Classes let out a bit early so that Senior College students could enjoy a delicious lunch with an array of sandwiches, salads, and desserts.



Tom Feagin (Chair of the Board of Directors) and Pat Clark (the UMA Faculty Representative) greeted the assembled students, faculty, and board members.

The next order of business was the election of Senior College members to the UMASC Board of Directors (elected for a period of two years). You will find the UMASC Board of Directors listed on the website: [http://](http://www.umasc.org/board-of-directors/)



Pat Clark

[www.umasc.org/board-of-directors/](http://www.umasc.org/board-of-directors/) .



Carole Baldwin

Carole Baldwin recognized the fall and spring faculty members, and she expressed great appreciation for their committed contributions. We encourage you to visit this web page, <http://www.umasc.org/our-instructors/>, where you will find the names and brief biographies of many UMASC faculty members.

To conclude the festivities, Marilyn Canavan made a number of whimsical and some not so whimsical awards. Can you imagine? Debra Achorn took five classes during the spring semester. Anne Rosenthal and Dot Keller have

both taken 47 classes. Marjorie Adams (95) and Jackie Vaughn (94) are still going strong!



Elizabeth Reinsborough

On a lighter note, Marilyn entertained us with a number of spoof awards. Elizabeth Reinsborough, for example, won the Ken Burns Award for her class on national parks. All kidding aside, we very much appreciate our amazing faculty, and we are looking forward with anticipation to another inspiring academic year in 2016-2017!



Marilyn Canavan

# Concerts at Jewett



As we prepare to enter our 14th season, Senior College's *Concerts at Jewett* committee wishes to thank UMA, the generous sponsors, patrons, ticket outlets and loyal concert attenders whose ongoing support allows our concert series to continue and flourish.

We can't release specific names yet because our performers won't be under contract until mid-summer—our sincere thanks to UMA for handling that process for us—but hopefully a few insider tips will assure you that Senior College has another exciting concert year ahead.

Welcome to our 14th season:

- ◆ There will be a tribute to military veterans in November.
- ◆ Two classical musicians from our 2014-15 series will be returning.
- ◆ One local group will join us for your listening and sing-along pleasure.
- ◆ It wouldn't be *Concerts at Jewett* without a great holiday concert in a magnificent setting!
- ◆ Two groups from the 2015-16 season will return; that's a first for us, but both were highly requested.

Over the course of the season, the '16-'17 concerts will feature instrumental, vocal, classical, cultural, original, pop, seasonal and military music, plus just a smidgen of dance.

Our opening date is October 16th, so mark your calendar now and plan to join us in a larger venue for that big-stage event!

Mary Ellen Miner

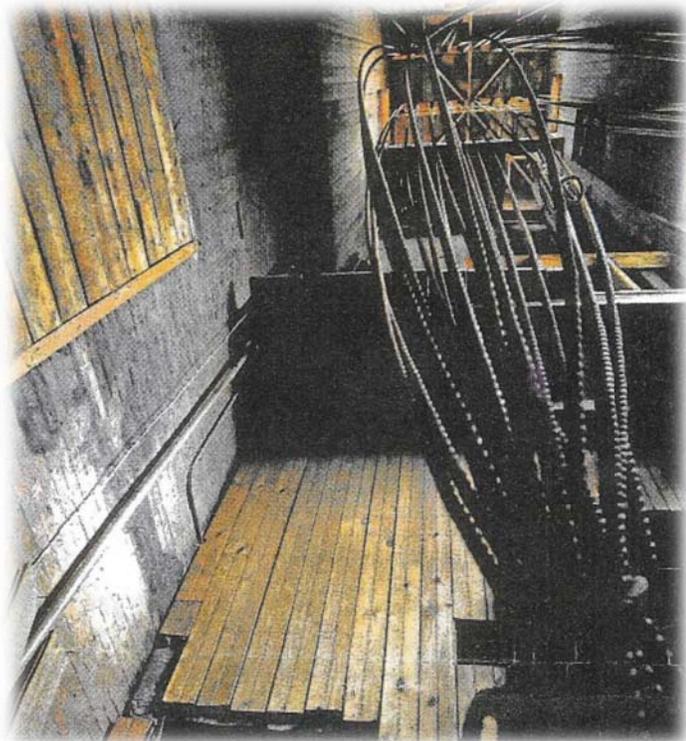
Ann Sullivan

# Our Busy Senior College Students



## Save the Hallowell Fire Tower!

In 1828, citizens voted at the town meeting to build a town hall. Consequently a brick building on Second Street was erected. In 1829, the selectmen moved into their office and voting took place there. The first floor was used as a school room and then for assessors' offices and a jail. The second floor housed the selectmen's office and was used for town meetings. The Hallowell Lyceum met there every week in the winter. Lectures on topics of the day were given one week and discussions were held the following week.



Ropes hanging in the old hose drying tower

Photo by Joe Phelan, used with permission (*Kennebec Journal*)

When the new City Hall was completed in 1899, the city's fire department moved to the old town hall. This move necessitated adding the wooden section and hose tower. In those days the hoses were made of leather with a seam on one side or of a heavy cotton canvas. If the hoses were not dried after use, they would rot. Thus hose towers were used to hang the hoses. Such towers were common back then, but few

remain in New England today. Hallowell's tower is a real treasure.

Today the tower looks a bit like the Leaning Tower of Pisa. However, the HCIC (Hallowell Citizens' Initiative Committee) is determined to save the wooden section and the hose tower. The tower with its spectacular weather vane of a horse-pulled fire hose cart is a visible reminder of Hallowell's history.

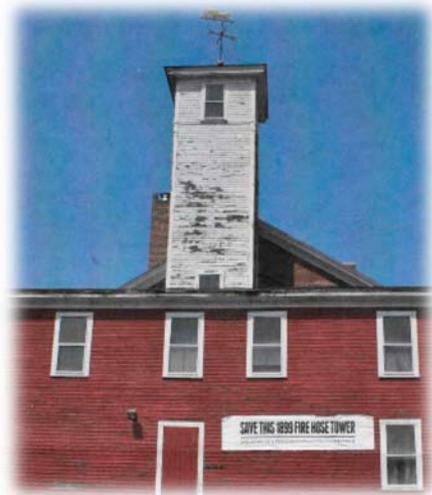
### Three Free Events Sponsored by the HCIC

If you would like to see the building - current fire station, upstairs museum, wooden section and hose tower with its hoses still hanging - come to the

Open House on July 16<sup>th</sup> after the Old Hallowell Day parade. In addition to looking up into the tower, you will be able to see The Tiger, a horse-drawn pumper, in the fire station, and there will be a display of firefighting memorabilia in the room where town meetings were held. An added bonus: the firemen will be cooking free hot dogs!

Another event sponsored by the HCIC is on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Mark Walker, Hallowell's mayor, will don period garb and read the Declaration of Independence from the balcony of City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance and music by HallDale students will follow. From 10:00 - 2:00, people may go upstairs (elevator available) and see Hallowell's 1776 copy of the Declaration of Independence that Sam Webber, Hallowell's Historian, discovered hanging in the library behind a picture in a frame. Sam will be available to answer questions.

A last free event sponsored by HCIC is the Red, White and Historic Gala being held at the Governor Hill Mansion on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Food will be available, and there will be a cash bar. Bidding in the silent auction will be from 3:00 to 5:00 with winners announced



between 5:00 and 6:00. The auction will include one-of-a-kind paintings done by local celebrities using only the primary colors—red, white and blue—as well as other art, furniture, jewelry and such. So put on your red, white and blue and join the fun!

For more information on the HCIC, contact Jane Paxton, janepaxton@gmail.com

Jane Paxton

## **Emmeline Pankhurst**

### **A Woman Who Rocked the World**

For his spring semester Senior College class, Mike Bell chose Emmeline Pankhurst as one of eight *Women Who Rocked the World*. Nearly 100 years ago, she was one of the leaders responsible for achieving limited suffrage for women in Britain. Fascinated by Mike's story about Emmeline, I discovered a three-part documentary called *The Story of Women and Power* which I highly recommend. It is described thus: "In this sweeping, often shocking series, historian Amanda Vickery tells the untold saga of British women's battles in the centuries-old war of women vs. men."

Vickery explains that in 1903 a concern for women's rights and suffrage for both men and women were already important issues, but Emmeline Pankhurst decided it was a time for a new strategy. She considered the vote "not only as a right, but a desperate necessity," and she declared that it was time to use "deeds, not words." Having worked within the system in the Independent Labour Party for twenty years, she concluded that that this was a dead end, so she held a meeting at her home to form the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). The women planned direct action. In one of the offices, for example, there were photos of all the cabinet ministers. If a woman recognized one of these men out and about—on the train, at church, on the street—she would accost him and plead her cause.

Emmeline's daughter Cristobel worked right alongside her mother, and, in fact, took on a leadership role. She had special reason to be angry at

the system; an educated woman with a law degree, she wasn't allowed to practice as a barrister because she was a woman. In October 1905 Cristobel and Annie Kelley Manchester attended a Liberal Party meeting. Recognizing that their proposal for women's suffrage didn't stand a chance, Cristobel and Annie heckled the speakers and got themselves thrown out of the meeting. Police were called, and Cristobel spat at one policeman and hit another. She took advantage of her arrest and subsequent trial to declare her manifesto. Since women didn't have the vote, it was not possible for them, she explained, to make an orderly protest through legal channels. Consequently, women activists must be disorderly; the system obliged them to use force against force.

By 1909 the campaign was frustrated by lack of progress. Using a rubber stamp, Marion Wallace Dunlop placed the following passage from the Bill of Rights on a wall of the House of Commons: "It is the right of the subject to petition the King, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal." Her point was that British women, like men, should have a constitutional right to be heard. When she was arrested, she considered herself a political prisoner, and she refused all food as a protest. Other women began to follow her example. This was an enormously difficult problem for the government which feared repercussions if women were to die in custody as a result of forced feedings (either through the nose, or even more painfully and destructively through the mouth, an operation which required a metal brace to keep the mouth open). Eventually, a new law, the Prisoner's (Temporary Discharge for Ill-Health) Act was passed; when a woman became weak as a result of force-feeding, she would be released. Of course, she often was rearrested once she got her strength back, hence the nickname for the act, the "Cat and Mouse Act."

In 1910, the opposition of the Liberal Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith, caused the defeat of a "Conciliation Bill" which would have given the right to vote to some women. To protest, Emmeline Pankhurst led a march of 300 women to Parliament Square where they were met with a brutal police response—1,000 strong. Officers abused the women, many of whom were injured. A national newspaper published an article and photos of the incident which became known as Black Friday. The police misbehavior resulted in renewed support for the cause. The following year, a second Conciliation Bill was passed by the House of



**Emmeline Pankhurst**  
(Public Domain)

Commons, and again Prime Minister Herbert Asquith's opposition to the bill caused it to fail. Angry women took to the streets. A group of 400 women went around London smashing windows in government buildings, department stores, newspaper offices, and gentlemen's clubs (in particular the one to which Herbert Asquith belonged). His opposition was especially galling since he was known as a reformer, having introduced old age pensions, for example. The more the women became militant and destructive, the more determined he became to prevent them from achieving their goal. Violence mounted as frustration increased, and attacks included arson and bombings in public places such as hotels, public houses, churches, train stations, politicians' houses, the theater, and music halls.

In 1912, Cristobel went to Paris to avoid a prison sentence. From there she continued to exercise leadership over the WSPU, and she wrote *The Great Scourge and How to End It*. In it she lambasted men's use of prostitutes and the spreading of VD to their wives. She argued that men would treat women as sexual objects until they got the vote. Until then, she contended that sex was unsafe for women.

One of the most tragic events of the suffragettes' campaign occurred on Derby Day in 1913. Emily Wilding Davison had been very much involved in the suffragette movement; she was jailed nine times and was force-fed 101 times. On that Derby Day she gave her life for the movement and thus became a martyr. She stepped in front of King George's horse Anmer and was trampled. It seems likely that she was attempting to draw attention to the cause by placing a sash with the colors of the women's rights activists onto the bridle of the horse. A major consequence of her death was the creation of the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage, so the cause now began to gain support from men.

When the First World War began, Emmeline and Christabel decided to halt all militant suffrage activities until the end of the war. Cristobel returned to Britain where she made a speech warning of the "German Peril." She urged women to follow the example of their French sisters, who – while the men fought – were "able to keep the country going, to get in the harvest, to carry on the industries." Emmeline urged men to volunteer for the front lines.

In 1918 women over thirty whose husbands owned property were given the right to vote. Was this a reward for their heroic efforts during the war? Amanda

Vickery argues that the actual intention was to give more men the right to vote. The issue of suffrage was brought back to the table because many men who had fought in the war didn't have the right to vote. So a bill was sent to a committee where, it was probably hoped, it would languish in oblivion. But instead, a political deal brokered behind closed doors gave the vote in 1918 to 8 million women and 5 million men.

As I listened to Mike Bell's wonderful presentation about Emmeline Pankhurst, and then watched *The Story of Women and Power*, I wondered how Emmeline and Cristobel would have felt if they could have seen into the future, if they could have seen the results of their dedication and hard work.

Would they have imagined that some fifty years later, women continued to face considerable discrimination in the work place? Jane Paxton reports: "When I moved back to Maine and needed a job, I went to the State Education Department for help and was set up with an interview with the Winthrop High School principal. HE said I was the best candidate. The best candidate! I had no experience or even education courses! BUT, he said I was a woman and too short to handle high school students. My next interview was with his superintendent. He said he could hire me but I would have to work with that principal. I then taught for 40 years in Augusta..."

Would the Pankhursts have imagined that nearly 100 years after the partial achievement of women's suffrage in Britain, gender politics would continue to play a role, even in American politics? Hillary Clinton is accused of playing the "woman card." She suggests that electing a woman is a good reason for voting for her: "I think being the first woman president would be quite a change from the presidents we've had up until this point, including President Obama." For his part, Donald Trump is often accused of misogyny. "If Hillary Clinton can't satisfy her husband what makes her think she can satisfy America?" Arianna Huffington is "a dog." Megyn Kelly is a "bimbo." And in Seattle Debora Juarez, a city councilmember, received the following message after voting against a proposed sports stadium for an NHL team: "Get back in the kitchen." The writer then used a derogatory term for a female body part, and continued, "Get on your knees."

Oh, my... I can only imagine what Emmeline would think if she were here with us today!

Ann Sullivan

**Somerset Maugham: “Bridge is the most entertaining and intelligent card game the art of man has so far devised.”**

Senior College’s Bridge Basics 1 was taught by three enthusiastic, super-organized teachers: Suzanne and Peter Rosenberg and Barbara Livingston. Their students were just as excited. Some of us had experience from *long* ago and some were brand new to the game, but since none of us knew the modern bidding system, we all qualified as beginners. The book the instructors chose, *Bridge Basics 1*, by Audrey Grant, was extremely helpful for reviewing our lessons. I particularly liked the quizzes that showed me where to review.

Everyone in the class agrees with Maugham and realizes how far we have to go! Thus, members of the class have decided to continue this summer as a beginners’ bridge club to practice, practice, practice! We plan/hope to turn this summer’s experiment into an official UMASC Bridge Club for beginners that will be open to all UMASC members, similar to our book clubs.

Our very proficient instructors have agreed to spend more time with us semi-neophytes by teaching Bridge Basics 2. Those who are ready for an intermediate bridge course should sign up for Bridge Basics 2 in the fall. The course’s text is a good review or introduction to prepare for this follow-up course.

Most students had strong memories of parents playing bridge – usually mothers. I can still hear my father whispering in my ear, “Read the second chapter!” Dad, I am, and I am loving it.

If you need more convincing, consider Bill Gates: “Bridge provides the kind of mental acuity that is handy for anything you want to do with excellence.”

Jane Paxton

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UMA Liaison: Bev Ludden  
Editor: Ann Sullivan

## How Many Cars Have We Been Married?

First, an ancient black Pontiac brought to the union —  
a dowry of pitiful magnitude.

There were two special orders —  
the three speed Tempest that howled in second and lugged in third

and the turquoise Karmann Ghia purchased from a brochure that neglected to warn —  
fanny just misses the street —

Gluttons for punishment — we wore out that Ghia and purchased another in fire engine yellow.

There were too many blue and too few red four powered by diesel...not one SUV or van just one truck and one convertible.

Fourteen German made —  
multiple Rabbits, Ghias, Jettas, and original Beetles  
one Golf, one Opel, one Audi

The Nova — good for traveling incognito  
The Golf — midlife crisis kid's car  
The Dodge — dowdy, dismal drone.

The Fury just that — fast and ferocious  
The Audi — distinctive German perfection  
The Saab convertible — flaunted feisty elegance

Twenty six in all —  
exactly half — purchased brand new  
and half — previously owned.

They say “you are what you drive.”  
In our case, that would indicate  
double Multiple Personality Disorder.

Joan Nicholson

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### **Announcements**

- ◇ Janet Morgan will be offering a writing workshop this summer on August 2nd and 9th from 9 to 11 a.m. This workshop is free to Senior College members. More information will be available later this summer. Check the website for the latest available information: <http://www.umasc.org/announcements/>
- ◇ Gloria Weisheit has volunteered the use of her kayaks (with paddle and life vest) on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. from May to October 2016. She also can teach you the rudiments of kayaking. For more information contact Bev Ludden at 621-3479 or [beverly.ludden@maine.edu](mailto:beverly.ludden@maine.edu).
- ◇ A huge round of applause goes to Duane Prugh for his years of service as the UMASC webmaster! Ann Sullivan took over the website for a brief few months, and later this summer Kay Fiedler will take on the responsibility for the site. Please visit our website (UMASC.org); it's a great way for us to keep in touch with you — without sending out too many emails that some of us find cluttering our boxes... In addition, it's a wonderful source for valuable information, such as membership benefits and discounts for seniors, membership forms, course proposal forms (semester courses, Brown Bags and Granite Hill) etc.
- ◇ The concert committee would welcome one to two new members. For more information, check the website: <http://www.umasc.org/announcements/>
- ◇ Contribute to the *Illuminator*! We welcome your submissions of book or music reviews, original works of art, poems, or articles about hobbies you enjoy, classes you've taken, teachers you've admired—in short, whatever you think might be of interest to the Senior College community. All text submissions should be in an MS Word document or in the body of an email. Photos and artwork should be submitted in JPEG format; include a caption. To be considered for the fall issue of the *Illuminator*, please send your work to the editor, Ann Sullivan, at [asullivan47@outlook.com](mailto:asullivan47@outlook.com). The deadline is Nov. 1, 2016.