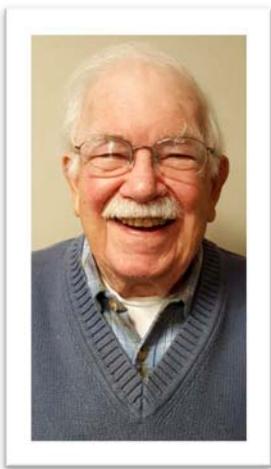




**University of Maine
at Augusta
Senior College**

Spring 2018 46 University Drive Augusta, Maine 04330 www.umasc.org



This will be my last report to you as chair. If I were a car, I would be “running on fumes.” Being chair of the board is a fair amount of work and worry, and it is time for a change.

We have about completed the work of revising the bylaws and the policies and procedures manual. All of the committees are humming nicely, the

concerts have an exciting schedule, the courses planned look both fun and interesting. The forum has planned an overarching structure based on the question: “How can we have respectful and decent discussion of critical issues in America?” We will start with a forum on just that question, and the next three will apply the question to the issues of health care costs, the

second amendment, and the problem of poverty.

The two new members of the board, Bob O’Halloran and Shelly Gerstein, have fit right in and have begun to contribute. We can always use new members on the committees, and most of all—new instructors for new courses.

I am sad to announce the retirement of Duane Prugh as chair of the Office Volunteer Committee. He has been fundamentally important to our work for many years. We are looking for some computer-savvy members who can take over the important job of preparing the course catalog twice a year. Duane has made it into a real work of art. Please let Beverly Ludden or me know if you would like to look into that key job.

Best wishes,

Tom Feagin, Chair

**University of Maine
Senior College at Augusta
17th Annual Meeting & Appreciation Day
Monday, April 9, 2018**

Inside this issue:

View from the Chair.....	1
17th Annual Meeting and Appreciation Day....	1
A Name Should Mean Something.....	3
Welcome, Mr. Alfven.....	3
UMA Senior College Art.....	4
Unique Places in Maine.....	5
2018-19 Forums and Concerts.....	6
Join the Faculty	7
Book Groups /Illuminator/Website	8

The annual meeting of the University of Maine Senior College at Augusta was held in the Fireplace Lounge of the Randall Center at 12:00 on April 9, 2018. Tom Feagin, Board Chair, presided. There were approximately 90 members in attendance.

A buffet luncheon was enjoyed by all.



Tom Feagin greeted the members and called the meeting to order.

Peter Ezzy, Chair of the Nominations Committee, submitted the names of Bob O'Halloran and Shelly Gerstein for election to the Board. The membership approved. Current members of the Board were reelected with the exception of three retiring members: Peter Ezzy, Gerry Huber, and Jonathan Lepoff.

Tom Feagin encouraged members to volunteer for a committee. The Office Committee is particularly in need, but several others are looking for volunteers also. Bev Ludden provided sign-up sheets on a table for members who are interested in learning more about a particular committee.

A student volunteer from the UMA garden was present to explain the program and to encourage volunteers.

The *Illuminator* is a biannual publication of The University of Maine at Augusta's Senior College.

Chair: Tom Feagin

Masthead Design: David Guillemette

Photographers: Elizabeth Humphrey, Barbara Livingston, Ann Sullivan

Production and Design: Ann Sullivan

Circulation: Bev Ludden, Ann Sullivan

UMA Faculty Rep: Pat Clark, Greg Fahy

UMA Liaison and Coordinator: Bev Ludden

Editor: Ann Sullivan

Marilyn Canavan, Chair of the Publicity Committee, presented the following awards:

- ◇ Meritorious Service to UMASC Newsletter – Ann Sullivan
- ◇ Meritorious Service to UMASC Website – Kay Fiedler
- ◇ Meritorious Service to UMASC Concerts Chair – Mary Ellen Miner
- ◇ Meritorious Service to UMASC Office – Elizabeth Humphrey, Duane Prugh, Gerry Huber (pictured below)



Carole Baldwin, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, expressed appreciation of the faculty, and instructors were encouraged to stand and be recognized. The faculty consists of unpaid volunteers who contribute because of a love of their subject and desire to share with others. She encouraged members to volunteer and mentioned that some classes are taught by two, three or even more instructors. There is always a need also for Brown Bag presenters and Granite Hill speakers. There were displays from the basket weaving and watercolor classes. Tom Feagin expressed appreciation of committee chairs, Board members, UMA representatives to the Board, retiring Board members, and students, and all stood in turn.

Once again there was a long, heartfelt, enthusiastic ovation for Bev Ludden! We are so fortunate to have her working with us.

Irene Forster

A Name Should Mean Something!



My father was a minister and quite a historian. He prided himself in being knowledgeable about many subjects... As I have been told, whenever anyone in our family was born, there were two names picked out, one for a girl or boy, whatever the case may be. My father told me that when I was born (I am the eighth child), neither he nor my mother had selected a name for me. For two days I was nameless.

One morning he got up, looked at the headlines of the paper and saw where the then president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, had inaugurated the National Industrial Recovery Act. He was struck with a brilliant idea. He named me NIRAVELT—the first letters of the act and the last syllable of President Roosevelt’s surname... He let everyone know how proud he was of the name he had given his newborn daughter. He even wrote President Roosevelt. When he received a reply from the president, he let the newspaper people in Aliquippa, the place of my birth, know all about it. “NAMING OF A BABY BRINGS LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT” was the title of the article...

My father’s ingenuity provided not only me, but my brothers and sisters, with extra-credit points in school whenever the N.I.R.A. came up for discussion... When I am introduced as either NIRAVELT or NIRA, I am almost immediately questioned about the origination of my name. My father must have agreed with you—“a NAME should mean something.”

Niravelt O’Connor

Welcome, Mr. Alfvén...

Growing up, I would hum a tune played during a black and white movie about a ballet dancer. Years went by when the lovely little melody

would come to the surface, many times when I least expected it.

One day I mentioned to a friend how the little haunting music number would raise its wonderful spirit to comfort and bring me joy. He suggested it might be from the movie *Red Shoes*. I saw the movie, and it wasn't there. I didn't know it at the time, but I was starting a "name that tune" journey.

Later on, in my early thirties, a friend gave me his mother's 33 1/3 record albums. I got about 15 record albums from my friend, and I went through them playing the records deciding what to keep and what to pass on. In the pile of music, the tune came to surface. It was the *Swedish Rhapsody*. I discovered this special music while looking for a piece of music to meditate to, as suggested by a priest to relax and become at peace with myself. I wasn't looking for this piece of music, but it came into my life quite unexpectedly. I didn't make a point of memorizing the title of the music; consequently it went off into being a continuing mystery. It was interesting how this piece of music would come to the surface and then fade and become forgotten.

The name was *Swedish Rhapsody Number 1*. I thought it was *Number 2*. My classical radio station doesn't play this piece very often, but one day they did. I got the name of the mysterious tune: *Midsommarvaka* (Midsummer Vigil) *Op.19 Swedish Rhapsody No. 1*, and Hugo Alfvén was the composer.

I told my daughter about this pleasant mystery in my life; she was happy to hear the story. Five years ago I got the CD: *Alfvén: The Three Swedish Rhapsodies*, played by The Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra.

Thank you so much, Hugo Alfvén, for placing the lovely little tune in your head onto paper. It has given my childhood your wonderful spirit. Today while playing your piece, my imagination came alive. The goose bumps crawled over my body, and tears of joy came running merrily down my face. I have come home.

Roberta F. Record

UMA Senior College Art



Unique Places in Maine

The thing I liked best about the Senior College “Visit Unique Places in Maine” adventure was the relationships I built with my car mates. On the first day, I didn’t really know anyone and was grateful that a kind person offered to drive and said I could go with her. Over the next several weeks, three of us consistently rode together, taking turns driving. We learned about one another’s lives, families, careers, and favorite activities. We laughed and ate French fries and vacuumed our cars when it was our turn to drive. Every place we visited was more fun because we experienced it together and could talk about it. I gained two delightful new friends, and that is the best gift I could have hoped for.

Margaret Bean

The Senior College “Unique Places” class time-traveled to 19th century Maine on a visit to the Norlands Living History Museum in Livermore. Our day included learning about the life and times of the Washburn family behind the mansion of the same name, an authentic 19th century lunch cooked in a kitchen of the era, and a short lesson in the one-room schoolhouse.



The most fascinating part of the visit was assembling in the kitchen of the Washburn mansion, where a period-costumed volunteer shared the story of Israel and Martha Washburn. This humble shopkeeper and his wife fell on hard times, yet raised ten children – seven sons and three daughters – many who grew up

to become influential political and business leaders in and beyond Maine! Most Americans have heard of the Roosevelts, Kennedys and the Bushes; however, probably few are aware of the Washburn family influence that preceded those dynasties!

Most notable were three of the Washburn sons –

Israel Jr. (later to become Maine’s governor), Elihu, and Cadwallader – who served concurrently in Congress as U.S. representatives for Maine, Illinois, and Wisconsin, respectively. Another brother, William, served as a U.S representative and senator from Minnesota, and Cadwallader also became governor of Wisconsin. And if politics were not enough, Cadwallader founded what would become the Gold Medal Flour Company (and General Mills), while William founded what became the Pillsbury Company. These successful sons and their accomplished brothers and sisters built the Washburn homestead as a tribute to their elderly father who lived there in his last years. The home became a place for their families and descendants to “come home” to Maine from across the U.S.

The Norlands is open to the public, hosting many activities and group tours to engage visitors with stories of 19th century farm life under the watchful eyes of portraits of the Washburns who made



such an impact on U.S. politics and industry.

Pat Wehner

Early one morning our class met in a parking lot near the Civic Center. Today we would be seeing waterfalls with Tom and Duane. The caravan of cars traveled many miles to the small town of Bingham



where we stretched our legs, used the facilities at the grocery store and purchased snacks. We all knew we were close to our first waterfall and were anxious to continue on our way. Spring is a wonderful time to view waterfalls as the lakes and rivers are full from the snow melt, and the powerful water cascades over the rocks and dams. As

we walked through the woods, the sound of the fall increased, and we stood in awe of the beauty of the waterfall. Our day was filled with fabulous views, interesting conversations, and delicious food at a restaurant in Farmington.

Forum on the Future

- ◆ Respectful Dialogue: September 30, 2018
- ◆ Health Care: November 4, 2018
- ◆ The Second Amendment: February 3, 2019; Snow Date—March 3, 2019
- ◆ Making Poverty Personal: March 17, 2019; Snow Date—March 31, 2019

Forum on the Future lectures take place on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. in Jewett Auditorium.

This series of lectures and panel discussions is jointly sponsored by UMA and UMA Senior College. Primarily aimed at senior citizens, the program's goal is to provide a wide variety of topics of interest to the community at large as well.

Forum on the Future is FREE and open to the public. For information about the Forums and other UMASC activities, please email us at umasc@maine.edu or call 621-3551.

Concerts at Jewett (Tentative Schedule)



Birdie Katz and Friends: October 28, 2018

George Lopez: November 18, 2018; Snow Date—December 2, 2018

Don Campbell Trio: December 16, 2018; Snow Date—December 23, 2018

Choro Louco: January 13, 2019; Snow Date—January 27, 2019

Boneheads: February 10, 2019; Snow Date—February 24, 2019

Sandy River Ramblers: March 10, 2019; Snow Date—March 24, 2019

Castlebay: April 7, 2019

Massanobu Ikemiya: May 19, 2019

Concerts are Sundays 2-4 pm at UMA Jewett. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students, 12 and under free. Tickets are available at Pat's Pizza of Augusta, Dave's Appliance in Winthrop, and at the door. Tickets may be obtained ahead of time by mail or with a reservation. For further information call 621-3551, email umasc@maine.edu, or visit our websites at umasc.org or concertsatjewett.com

The series, financed by ticket sales, is also sponsored by local businesses and private contributions, and features talented Maine performers representing a variety of musical forms. Profits will be used to subsidize present and future lectures and concerts to benefit the community.

Share your special interest or skill!

UMA SENIOR COLLEGE

FALL 2018

Do you have a hobby that you're passionate about? Do you love history, or literature, or art? Or maybe you're interested in religion, or philosophy, or issues around health and well-being?

For more information, go to the UMASC website: umasc.org



Consider sharing your knowledge and skills with seniors just like you who are enthusiastic lifelong learners.

UMA Senior College is looking for instructors to teach classes next year. We are also looking for folks interested in giving lectures at the Granite Hill or Brown Bag lecture series.

An added bonus: instructors receive a free yearly membership to UMASC, and a free course for every course they teach!



You can download Brown Bag Lunch proposal forms and course proposal forms from the website.

Contact:
Bev Ludden, 621-3479
beverly.ludden@maine.edu

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Book Groups

Senior College has two book groups. One meets on the third Monday of the month, and the other on the fourth Thursday. The groups include both men and women. We read a variety of books chosen by the group itself, and the discussions are enthusiastic and lively. The two book groups have been very successful and, in the interest of useful discussion, the Monday group is closed to new membership. If you are interested, please call the Senior College office (621-3551) and leave your name. We can help you to join the Thursday group or to form a new group.

Contribute to the *Illuminator*!

To be considered for the spring issue of the *Illuminator*, please send your articles, stories, poems or artwork to the editor, Ann Sullivan, at asullivan47@outlook.com. The deadline is November 2, 2018.

UMASC Website

Are you wondering when the next Concert at Jewett will be held? Who is performing? Have you signed up for an upcoming class, but would like to know more about the instructor? Lost your copy of the latest issue of the *Illuminator* before you finished reading it? All of this and much more is available on the UMASC website—www.umasc.org.

Our website is just another wonderful benefit for being involved with Senior College. Check out the slide show. Is a class you participated in featured there? There is a page for recent news releases, information regarding the mission statement, bylaws, and board of directors. You can learn how and when to register for classes and check the weekly course schedule. The best part, like all else on the Internet, it is available 24/7!

Augusta Age-Friendly aims to make Augusta a Capital Opportunity for living, working, and playing, for ALL ages -- by partnering with the City Council, community organizations and volunteers. **Join us at our next meeting:** July 11, 5:30 p.m. at Augusta City Hall, First Floor meeting room. Thereafter, we meet the **FIRST Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.** **Contact Us:** augustaagefriendly@gmail.com / Call Sara Grant: 441-4468. Find us on Facebook, too!