



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring greetings! Yes, we are almost there. I see robins in my yard and even a very confused daffodil in bloom. Apparently she didn't hear about the ground hog seeing his shadow. But what do ground hogs know, anyway - even ones named Phil?

For us, spring means voting time. Your slate of Board of Directors candidates comes in this newsletter. Make sure you put the General Membership Meeting (Friday, March 16, 10:00 a.m., Woodard Red Room) on your calendar and bring your ballot to the meeting. Bring also any concerns or ideas you may have about ElderStudy operations that you would like to call to the attention of the Board or the membership. The agenda for the meeting will be made available in advance on the Website (Elderstudy.com). Our treasurer will present his report as will each of our committee chairs, and if the Board determines that there is anything which requires formal action by the membership, that, too, will be on the agenda (as of mid-February I am unaware of any such issue, but we'll see, the Administration Committee is reviewing our bylaws and procedures manual, and if it recommends any amendments membership approval may be required).

Meanwhile let's all continue to enjoy our rich Spring 2012 curriculum offerings, and for those of you who are Book Group participants let me remind you to submit your candidates for the 2012-2013 reading list (we will finalize the actual list on April 12).

Take care and stay well.

Phil Hall

The end of year Potluck Luncheon will be here before you know it! Included in this newsletter is the reservation form for this event. Please save this form and remember to mail it to Rose Marie by May 11. We will remind you again later, but just so you don't forget, why don't you send it now!!!

## **Administration Committee Report**

The Administration Committee has not met since the publication of the December Newsletter. The Committee is scheduled to meet on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM in one of the Woodard Hall, Room 2. The tentative agenda for this meeting includes an updated Treasurer's Report, review and discussion of proposed changes to Section A of the Procedures Manual which addresses the Organization and Organizational Documents, and new business which may need the Committee's attention.

Budget planning for 2012-2013 will begin after the March Board of Directors Meeting. Board members and Committee Chairpersons will be notified when the process begins and all submittals must be received by the Administration Committee Chairperson before May 12<sup>th</sup>. A proposed 2012-2013 Budget will be presented at the May 31<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting.

At this time, the members of the Administration Committee include: Barbara Barrett, Betty Blaisdell, Stew Engel (Ex Officio), Phil Hall (Ex Officio), Whit Jones, Anne McGrath, Margaret Rose (Ex Officio), Janet Sullivan, Margareta Williamson, Alan Zirkle (Ex Officio), and John Thompson.

Administration Committee contact: John Thompson ([johnsafet@cox.net](mailto:johnsafet@cox.net))

## **Treasurer's Report**

As of February 1, 2012, the membership income is about 10% above the budget expectations and expenses (including the ElderStudy 2012-20113 BLS Scholarship donation to the University) are at 41% of the budget level. These expenses are at the expected level. A copy of the Operations Report for the period September 1 to January 31 is posted on the bulletin board in Chandler 102. The mid-year financial reports will not be available until early March. [For additional information, contact the Treasurer, John Thompson by email: [johnsafet@cox.net](mailto:johnsafet@cox.net)]

## **ElderStudy 2011-2012 Membership Update**

As of February 12, 2012, the membership count is 242. Since the December Newsletter, the membership count has increased by 5.

**<http://www.elderstudy.com>**

what you need to know-----when you need to know it!

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### Three Tours Coming Up This Semester

ElderStudy's spring 2012 semester will include three tours, two of which require RSVP's.

**O**n Thursday, April 12 at 10 a.m., we will tour the Wegner Gallery and Foundry in Fredericksburg. The Wegner Brothers do full service bronze art casting. We will first tour their gallery at 905 Caroline Street in downtown Fredericksburg; then we will go to their foundry at 520 Wolfe Street, behind Roxbury Mills. **No signing up is necessary.** (Sponsored by Peg Johnson, 373-9102)

**O**n Wednesday, April 18 at 10:30 a.m., we will tour the Germanna Visitor Center. Join us for a visit to the Germanna Foundation, just west of Fredericksburg. In 1714 Gov. Spotswood brought a group of German immigrants to settle in Virginia. These original families have preserved their heritage, and created a foundation with a visitor center that enables descendants to trace their lineage. Karen Quanbec, Director of the Visitor Center, will speak to us, and there will be time to examine what the center has to offer. Because of space, we can only accommodate a group of 25.

**Sign up with Anne McGrath (amcgrath08@gmail.com, 785-4664).** The Germanna Foundation is adjacent to Germanna Community College at Locust Grove. Take Route 3 West; go 2.6 miles past the stoplight at Lake of the Woods; turn left into the Community College, then take the first right. If you leave Fredericksburg at 10am, you should arrive in plenty of time for the 10:30 presentation. (Sponsored by Anne McGrath)

**O**n Tuesday, May 22, we will have two tours, at 9:30 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m., of Chatham Manor and Gardens. Enjoy a guided tour of Chatham Manor and its grand gardens by historical interpreter and ElderStudy member Jim Padgett. Chatham is located at 120 Chatham Lane, just across the river from downtown Fredericksburg in Stafford County. Take the Chatham Bridge and turn left at the first light (Chatham Heights Road). Then soon turn left at the National Park Service sign (Chatham Lane). Meet in the parking lot. **Attendance is limited; reserve a space by emailing Bill Toomey at wtoomey@gmail.com (or phone 373-7322; email preferred).** (Sponsored by Bill Toomey)

**I**f you sign up for a tour but can't come, let the sponsor know so that another member can use the opening. Tours will occur rain or shine. If you have any questions, contact the sponsor.

**Alan Zirkle, chair, Curriculum Committee (az@azirkle.com, 373-6448)**

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee continues to fulfill its organizational responsibilities. The membership has been kept up to date through publication of the ElderStudy newsletter and other sources. Email and telephone requests for information have been answered. New members have been acknowledged by e-mail (when an e-mail address is provided) and sent their welcome packets. Permanent nametags have been ordered. Cards have been sent, informational brochures distributed, and the website and bulletin board in Chandler 102 kept up to date. After planning and hosting winter social, the Committee has scheduled the end of year potluck for Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and will be working on the details for this event.

Committee meetings are open to the membership and we welcome new ideas

## INFORMATION SOURCES

Misplaced your class schedule or last newsletter? Want to know what is happening on campus? For information on ElderStudy and campus activities and programs, you can always check with a friend. But there are other options available to you. You can check our bulletin board located in Chandler 102 or better yet, if you can go online, go to the Mary Washington ElderStudy website [www.ElderStudy.com](http://www.ElderStudy.com) from home or the library.

## MEETING MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

Copies of the minutes of the General Membership Meetings and Board meetings (which also contain committee minutes) are available for your review on our website. *(If you use a dial-up connection, be patient as these are pdf files and take longer to download.)*

## NEED INFORMATION FOR A FRIEND?

If you or a friend needs information on the ElderStudy program, go to our website at [www.ElderStudy.com](http://www.ElderStudy.com) or pick up an ElderStudy rack card brochure in Chandler 102. The card can be found in the plastic holder next to our bulletin board and lists both our website and telephone answering service phone number. Cards can also be found at local libraries.

### Book Group

The Book Group is currently asking for suggestions for its 2012-2013 reading list. At the April 12 meeting, nine titles will be selected. The suggestions form is on-line at [www.elderstudy.com](http://www.elderstudy.com). Click on the link on the Book Group page.

Selections for the rest of the Spring 2012 semester are as follows:

March 8 - Thursday    Chuck Watkins will lead the discussion of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

April 12 - Thursday    Peggy Verdine will lead the discussion of Laura Hillenbrand's *Unbroken: A WWII Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption*

May 9 - Wednesday    Carrie Allahut will lead the discussion of Hilary Sparling's *Pearl Buck in China*. **Please note that the May meeting will be on Wednesday, May 9 rather than on our usual Thursday. Time remains 1:00 to 3:00 pm, but the place will be Dodd Auditorium Foyer.**

### COMING TO THE THEATER

The Department of Theater and Dance will be offering the Henrik Ibsen play “Hedda Gabler” adapted by Jon Robin Baitz, in April. ElderStudy will have an opportunity to hear a discussion of the play on April 11 from 10 to 12 in the Klein Theater. ElderStudy members may bring guests to this session. The play runs from April 12 - 14 and April 19 - 21 at 8PM and April 15 and 22 at 2PM.

### *Volunteer*

ElderStudy is an all volunteer organization. All the officers, committee members, and any others who devote their time to keeping the wheels turning are volunteers. Any member can be on a committee or just volunteer to help when needed. The more volunteers we get, the more activities we can offer. Take advantage of this great opportunity and be a

**Volunteer!!!!**

Newsletter Editor - Dot Meyers, [dottie@pookaville.com](mailto:dottie@pookaville.com)

## 2012 ELDERSTUDY ELECTION MATERIALS

### GENERAL INFORMATION & CANDIDATE BIOS

These are your election materials for the March 16, 2012 election of three members to the Board of Directors to replace those whose three-year terms of service are expiring on August 31, 2012. If you wish to vote in this election, you will have one of two ways to vote:

1) For members with access to internet, you will receive your ballot electronically, print out the ballot (one per member) and mail it to the address below OR bring it with you to the General Membership Meeting on March 16.

ElderStudy (Attn: Board Secretary)  
University of Mary Washington  
1301 College Avenue  
Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-5300

**Ballots must be received by the Board Secretary no later than 10:00 a.m. March 16<sup>th</sup>.** Ballots will remain sealed until the General Membership Meeting is called to order.

2) For members without access to internet, you will receive a US mailing with the ballot enclosed. Please fill it out and bring it with you to the meeting OR mail it to the above address.

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#### CANDIDATES FOR THREE-YEAR TERM September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015

#### **Barbara Barrett**

Barbara moved to Stafford County from Northern Virginia in 1993 and joined ElderStudy a few years later. She recently became a member of the Administrative Committee. Her professional career spanned 30 years in the social science research field, planning and managing survey research and program evaluation projects. Barbara has a B.A. from the University of Connecticut and an M.A. from the University of Hawaii. She has been president of three homeowners' associations and presently serves on the boards of the Central Rappahannock Heritage Center, the Fredericksburg Festival of the Performing Arts, and the Woman's Club of Fredericksburg. Her interests include travel, history, the arts, reading, and her family.



### **Phil Hall**

Phil grew up in New Jersey, and graduated from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. He got his Ph.D in Chemistry from the University of Chicago in 1967 and served on the faculty at Virginia Tech for a total of 17 years, first as professor of chemistry and later as Assistant Provost. In 1985 he came to Mary Washington College as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty. Phil joined ElderStudy soon after his retirement in 2004 and has "enjoyed it enormously ever since." Phil is a member of the Curriculum Committee and is one of the "regulars" at Book Group. He was elected a member of the ES Board of Directors in 2006, served as vice president in 2007-8 and president in 2008-9. Although not currently an elected member of the Board he accepted an invitation by the Board and is currently serving as president for the 2011-2012 academic year.



### **Chuck Watkins**

Chuck is originally from Roanoke, but attended high school in Hawaii. He received his M.S. in microbiology at Virginia Tech before entering the Air Force where he served 28 years as a pilot, clinical laboratory manager, hospital commander, as as Chief of the Biomedical Sciences Corps. After retirement, from active duty, he was a contract consultant in quality improvement at Headquarters Marine Corps, and then a federal civil servant in communications research at the TRICARE Management Activity in Falls Church before retiring again in 2010. He and his wife Dede reside in the Retreat Subdivision in Fredericksburg but spend part of the winter in Viera, Florida. Chuck and Dede are active in Newcomer's Club, the Fredericksburg Wine Society where Chuck serves as co-treasurer, and in church activities where Chuck serves as Sunday School Superintendent and as a deacon. Chuck takes a 5-mile walk nearly every day and spends most of the rest of the day as a self-directed stock options trader. This is his second year in ElderStudy; he currently serves as our Webmaster and is a member of the book Group.



### **Bill Wemmerus**

Bill joined ElderStudy ten years ago, shortly after moving to Virginia from New York State where he worked in education for more than thirty years. Shortly after joining ElderStudy, he soon joined the Curriculum Committee, and in this capacity he has sponsored numerous programs, and also presented a well-received series of programs on folk music of Ireland, Scotland, and the United States. In addition, he administers the Curriculum Committee spreadsheet, a critical working document which collects and organizes our course information and calendar. Academically, Bill holds a Bachelor's Degree from Middlebury College, a Masters Degree from Columbia (History), and a Masters Degree from Michigan State (Guidance and Counseling). He has previously served on the board of a credit union, taught disaster preparedness courses for the Red Cross, and is currently treasurer of the Lake of the Woods Sailing Club.

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## ***MARY WASHINGTON ELDERSTUDY***

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For additional information, visit our website at [www.elderstudy.com](http://www.elderstudy.com) or contact our voice mail at (540) 654-1769.

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