

≈ Collegium News ≈

Volume 5 Issue 3

Newsletter of the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium

October, 2002



Administration

Jerry Hankins
Executive Director
(507) 664-3935
Liz Hankins
Associate Director
Teresa Ballentine
Administrative Aide

Board of Directors

Bob Ballentine
Board Chair
Lois Burgoyne
Alene Fink
Joan Kark
Peggy Prowe
Bettye Ronning
Board Secretary
Ron Ronning
Treasurer
George Soule
Elaine Thurston
William Woehrlin

Affiliates

Northfield Senior Org.
(507) 664-3700
Northfield Care Center

Funding

MN Humanities
Commission
CVEC Members

Newsletter

Kathy Mellstrom

Financial Matters

The Bad News: As was reported in the Northfield News of August 31, CVEC's annual \$5,000 grant from the city of Northfield was not renewed this year. Minnesota's budget crisis has led to belt-tightening all around, and there is less funding available to cities and to non-profit organizations. The original grant was instrumental in establishing the Elder Collegium five years ago and has continued to comprise a significant portion of the annual budget, covering twenty percent of expenses last year.

The Good News: Upon reading about the funding gap in the News, several generous donors stepped forward with unsolicited contributions. CVEC is safe from immediate financial crisis. The commitment to keeping class fees low and life-long learning accessible is secure for now.

The Upshot: The August 26 emergency meeting of the CVEC board and finance committee led to some fruitful brainstorming. It was suggested that the finance committee be expanded to better handle increased fundraising activities. A first-ever membership fund drive and seeking foundation grants were among the revenue-raising strategies deemed most appropriate.

Continue on Page 2: See *Finance*

Elder Kindergarten?

"You can tell your friends that you spent three two-hour class sessions learning to count from nine to ten," Richard Maus told his students in "Digital Revolution." The week before, class members poked each other. All of this elementary pursuit was directed at grasping the concept of place values and binary arithmetic, launching points for understanding how computers work.

Bible stories and show-and-tell souvenirs

from biblical lands were coupled with history and archaeology to create a picture of ancient culture and landscape in Ruth Hansen's "Biblical Archaeology."



Ruth Hansen

Stories were also part of Reidar Dittman's "Greece/Rome" course, where the historical bases and physical evidence of events in Homer's Iliad and Odyssey were explored.

Continue on Page 2: See *Fall Classes*

Satisfying

One hundred and fifteen CVEC members attending the sixth annual dinner on October 6 were treated to food for the body and food for the soul. After welcoming words from director Jerry Hankins, all feasted on salad, savory pasta and carrot cake generously provided by A.K. Kayoum and the Byzantine Deli. The dining hall was then transformed into a concert hall as the Artemis Trio (violinist Catherine Schubilske, cellist Anna Clift, and pianist Mary Drews) exquisitely performed "Haydn Trio in G Major".



A brief program followed, including introductions of board and staff by

Administration

Jerry Hankins

Executive Director
(507) 664-3935

Liz Hankins

Associate Director

Teresa Ballentine

Administrative Aide

Board of Directors

Bob Ballentine

Board Chair

Lois Burgoyne

Alene Fink

Joan Kark

Peggy Prowe

Betty Ronning

Board Secretary

Ron Ronning

Treasurer

George Soule

Elaine Thurston

William Woehrlin

Affiliates

Northfield Senior Org.

(507) 664-3700

Northfield Care Center

Funding

MN Humanities

Commission

CVEC Members

Newsletter

Kathy Mellstrom

less funding available to cities and to non-profit organizations. The original grant was instrumental in establishing the Elder Collegium five years ago and has continued to comprise a significant portion of the annual budget, covering twenty percent of expenses last year.

The Good News: Upon reading about the funding gap in the News, several generous donors stepped forward with unsolicited contributions. CVEC is safe from immediate financial crisis. The commitment to keeping class fees low and life-long learning accessible is secure for now.

The Upshot: The August 26 emergency meeting of the CVEC board and finance committee led to some fruitful brainstorming. It was suggested that the finance committee be expanded to better handle increased fundraising activities. A first-ever membership fund drive and seeking foundation grants were among the revenue-raising strategies deemed most appropriate.

Continue on Page 2: See *Finance*

was directed at grasping the concept of place values and binary arithmetic, launching points for understanding how computers work.

Bible stories and show-and-tell souvenirs

from biblical lands were coupled with history and archaeology to create a picture of ancient culture and landscape in Ruth Hansen's "Biblical Archaeology."



Ruth Hansen

Stories were also part of Reidar Dittman's "Greece/Rome" course, where the historical bases and physical evidence of events in Homer's Iliad and Odyssey were explored.

Continue on Page 2: See *Fall Classes*

Satisfying

One hundred and fifteen CVEC members attending the sixth annual dinner on October 6 were treated to food for the body and food for the soul. After welcoming words from director Jerry Hankins, all feasted on salad, savory pasta and carrot cake generously provided by A.K. Kayoum and the Byzantine Deli. The dining hall was then transformed into a concert hall as the Artemis Trio (violinist Catherine Schubilske, cellist Anna Clift, and pianist Mary Drews) exquisitely performed "Haydn Trio in G Major".



**CVEC Executive Director
Jerry Hankins**

A brief program followed, including introductions of board and staff by Executive Director Jerry Hankins. He invited members to volunteer and encouraged them to make suggestions if they knew of anyone who might like to teach a course.

A.K. Kayoum expressed appreciation for the people of Northfield and the scholars of the Collegium, and thanked them for their kindness after the loss of his wife.

This year's instructors were introduced, and some provided tantalizing details about upcoming courses. Treasurer Ron Ronning reviewed the current financial status and noted that members would receive a letter requesting donations. Jerry concluded the assembly with a summary of enrollment over the years. To date, CVEC has offered 104 class sections to 1,061 registrants!

Winter Term: January 6 - February 28, 2003

Registrations are due by December 4. The registration flyer will contain detailed information about courses and registration procedure. In the past those who registered by the designated date have received the class which was their first choice. If a class is oversubscribed on registration day, we try to offer a second session, such as we did for Connie Sansome's class this fall. If it is not feasible to offer a second session, we will have a drawing. In the past this has not been necessary. The following courses will be offered winter term:

Jim Holden	Where Is Public Education Headed?
Lydia Moe/Linda Hunter	From Memories to Memoir
Ron Ronning/Bill Childs	Two Russian Symphonies: Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich (Class may attend a performance by the Minnesota Symphony Orchestra.)
Bill Woehrlin	The American Revolution Revisited
Jim Wolf	Thomas Mann's <i>Doctor Faustus</i> --a 20th Century Pact with the Devil
Eleanor Zeillot	Asian American Life and Literature

Spring Term 2003: March 31 - May 23, 2003

Bruce Burnes	A Study in Comparative Religions
Molly Daniels	Reading as a Writer
Marion Hvistendahl	James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i>
Sally Legrand	The Built Environment: Architecture and Its Context
George Soule	Warming Up to Iris Murdoch
Vern Faillettaz	The Many Faces of Jesus

Finances

Continued from Page 1

Contributions to CVEC are tax deductible. The following recently donated: Bob & Teresa Balentine, Sorrel Bodman, Jerry & Liz Hankins, Marion Hvistendahl, Dan Palm, Ron & Betty Ronning, Ken Sansome, George Soule, Greta Smith, & Margaret Vanderkolk. Thanks to all who have contributed to CVEC.

Did You Know?

- **The Artemos Trio**, which enchanted CVEC Fall Dinner participants, is available to enhance other gatherings. If interested contact Anna Clift at 507-990-1907.

- **Volunteers** for a variety of tasks are needed. If interested in helping, call Liz or Jerry Hankins at 664-3935.

Fall Classes

Continued from Page 1

Show-and-tell and field trips were featured in Connie Sansome's course, "The Surface of the Earth." Discussion of the forces that shape rocks and land forms sprang from rocks brought to Northfield from around the world by Connie and rocks brought to class by students. The class eagerly looked forward to the field trip to Mystery Cave.

A clown visited Richard Cantwell's class on Viennese Operetta in the form of Frosch, the comic jail keeper in *Die Fledermaus*. Students enjoyed his antics on video.

The intellectual playground stretched almost to heaven in Erling Jorstad's course about religion in America.

While the Elder Collegium does not have swing sets or slides, many of its excited and enthusiastic pupils would agree that it is just as fun as kindergarten.