



ElderCollege

learning in retirement

ElderCollege Newsletter

December 2006

www.eldercollege.unr.edu

President's Message

The weather reminds us that winter is on its way. With that, the holidays and all the fun and work they bring. I am so pleased with the way things are going. We have an expanded sound system, and the store room is neat and clean. (Thanks to that crew.) The holiday tree seems to be decorated like magic and classes are running smoothly. Of course, we live in a world where everything is not perfect, so we just keep trying to improve on our already great system. If there is one thing I would like to see, it's a little more participation from the masses. You are all aware that everything you see has to be done by someone. All my good thoughts go out to my board. They all work tirelessly and at break-neck speed to get your curriculum planned, your newsletter out, your classes opened up for, publicity organized, and on and on. Always remember that "many hands make light work" especially holds true for ElderCollege. May the coming holidays be warm and wonderful for you and your families. Don't forget, I am just a phone call away and would love to hear from you if you have any ideas.

LaMerne

Many thanks to the willing hands of Zane Nelson, Bob Eaton, Joyce Starling, Louise Lang, JoAnn Ballard, and Pat Zimmerman for spending their Sunday cleaning and reorganizing the storerooms and coffee area. Take a minute to look at the handiwork...we are very proud.

Pat Z.

ELDERS

They do not know us who have called us sad,
Who painted us in postures of defeat,
That think we've lost what sense we ever had,
Expect us all to totter on our feet.

Too long we've been diminished for our years
When time has brought us treasures we can share.
They've seen in us reflections of their fears.
We've seen such storms that we call these days fair.

For we are Fortune's favorites who survive
Though trouble is our old familiar friend.
Our will to keep on learning is alive
And we'll keep sharing laughter to the end.

We have not lost our wonder or delight.
We see the dawn where others see the night.

Marlyn Mather



SUNDIAL BRIDGE TRIP

Is anyone interested in a trip in spring to the **Sundial Bridge** in Redding, Calif.? Western Discovery has an exciting overnight plan that also includes Turtle Bay Exploration Park, a professional guide, meals, hotel, motorcoach, and more. Call me at 322-8700 or email me at contactme@lanset.com. Louise Lang

* * * * *

Looking to Give More Back to Others?

It only takes one to three hours a week to make a difference in an elderly person's life! Volunteers are needed to visit the elderly who are lonely and isolated in their own homes. This may include taking walks, errands, and reading. Please call (775) 784-1807 at Senior Outreach Services (SOS), a community outreach program under the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program sponsored by the Sanford Center for Aging at the University of Nevada, Reno.



My Heart and Soul Belongs to ElderCollege

by

E. Louise Smith

“My heart and soul has been in ElderCollege ever since I joined the Vintage Players when I first moved to Reno,” said JoAnn Ballard. “But now my heart is torn.”

JoAnn referred to the fact that her daughter, Carolyn, who owns Nevada’s Quality Thrift in addition to holding down a full-time job at the Eldorado, needs help running her store. Even ElderCollege cannot compete with the love one has for one’s child.

So, JoAnn, who is Hospitality Chair for ElderCollege and facilitates Books, Spiritual and Psychological, must now try to balance her two loves.

Five years ago JoAnn arrived in Reno to visit her daughter, Carolyn. She looked at the beautiful brown hills surrounding Reno. They seemed like welcoming arms around her and she knew she had found home for the first time since her husband left with his secretary.

This unexpected disaster left her bewildered. Welfare refused to help. Even though she was abandoned with five small children, she was still married. She went to her church. They gave her \$5.00 and a roll of toilet paper. This insensitive treatment from her government and her church turned her away from religion to a serious study of spirituality.

She was finally forced to divorce so welfare would help her. The next two years she was unable to sleep because she was certain she was going to hell for divorcing her cheating husband in order to feed her children.

Her spiritual quest continues. She ran across a book, “Tibetan Book of the Dead,” that proved to be her turning point.

All JoAnn remembers of her childhood was that her mother was seldom there and her father raised her and her four siblings – the rest of her youthful years she has shut out completely.

“I wanted to be an actress but I couldn’t remember lines. I was too used to shutting things out,” JoAnn said. “Besides, I discovered I was more interested in the social life being with actors rather than working at acting.”

“I hope my family and friends remember me as ‘a giver’ because I’m happiest when I’m giving. I’m not really good at receiving,” Jo Ann explained as she continued stitching on one of the quilts for sale in the shop.

“I have no secrets. Everybody knows everything about me because I tell everything,” JoAnn said.

“I had no discipline of any kind in my life and I am amazed and proud to have such wonderful, well-behaved children.”

EDITORIAL

HOLIDAY PARTY Friday Dec. 8!

Please plan to join us to celebrate the holidays on Friday, December 8, at noon. For the Holiday Party, please bring your assigned foods. We have had too many desserts lately, and need more cold or hot dishes. ElderCollege will provide the meat, bread, and beverages.

Reverse Mortgages

I recently attended some talks about reverse mortgages. If you own your home, and are 62 or older, you are eligible, even if you have a mortgage. You do not pay back the money unless you sell or move, at which time the RM is deducted from the selling price of the home. It is a way to get monthly amounts, a lump sum, or amounts when needed. AARP has a lot of information and will be glad to help.

* * *

Scholarships covering tuition at ElderCollege are available for the 2006-2007 academic year. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from such assistance, please contact the Scholarship Chair, Margo Daniels, at (775) 322-1469, or call and leave a message at ElderCollege and your call will be returned. The scholarships are good for one year only and do not include parking.

*Youth would be an ideal state
if it came a little later in life.*

– Herbert Henry Asquith (1852-1928)

Members of Committees: if you have any suggestions for improving ElderCollege, please write them down and give them to your Committee Chairperson, or to Pat McEwen, or put them in the Suggestion Box. Your input is important.

ElderCollege Board of Trustees

President	LaMerne Kozlowski	358-1746
VicePres	Pat Zimmerman	322-3949
Secretary	Pat McEwen	747-3616
Treasurer	Clint Smith	853-5968
Audiovisual	Zane Nelson	348-8683
Curriculum	Esther Early	857-9776
Hospitality	JoAnn Ballard	358-3545
Membership	Joyce Starling	853-0582
NewsEditor	Louise Lang	322-8700
Office Mgr	Carolyn Brainard	329-2290
PastPres	Ann Schum	747-2564
Publicity	Betty Lou Marquardt	824-0386
Scholarship	Margo Daniels	322-1469
ElderCollege Office		784-8053
ElderCollege Fax Number		784-8054
UNR Extended Studies		784-4046

CALL TO CURRENT OR EX-MUSICIANS

Anyone interested in forming a musical group, please take notice. If you currently, or in the past, have experience, however limited, in playing any musical instrument and would like to have some fun on a very informal basis, please contact Ron Abdo at (775) 828-0726. (We will not be practicing at ElderCollege.)

To use the **University of Nevada, Reno library**, phone Shera at (775) 784-1676 at least 24 hours in advance. The rules have changed. You now need a UNR Wolfcard. She will explain what you need to do. Please contact her if you are going to use the library (not if you “think” you will use it).

Facilitators and class monitors: We know emergencies arise. Zane Nelson, (775) 348-8683, LaMerne Kozlowski, (775) 358-1746 or (775) 750-6290, and Pat Zimmerman, (775) 322-3949, are your emergency call people that can be at Elder College the quickest. Please give them as much advance notice as you can. Remember they may not be able to stay to lock up, so they will ask someone to attend to that duty.

CALENDAR

Plan to attend the following events in addition to our many interesting classes:

1st Tuesdays	Board of Directors meets at 1 pm
Every Tuesday	Cracker Barrel at 2 pm
1st & 3rd Mondays	Coop Group at noon
2nd Mondays	Mystery Readers Group at 10 am
Watch for dates of	Brown Bag Lunch at noon

Please be in class on time!

Arriving late disrupts because of the noise of the buzzer, then by someone having to go and press the button to let you in, and then your late arrival also distracts attention from the presenter. It is inconsiderate to be late for classes.

All classes are held at ElderCollege, 401 W. Second St., Rm 235, unless otherwise noted.



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reno, Nevada
Permit No. 26

Get Involved With ElderCollege
You'll be glad you did!

University of Nevada, Reno
Extended Studies
Continuing Education Building/MS048
Reno, NV 89557
www.eldercollege.unr.edu