



# THE MILE VIEW



Volume 17, Issue 3  
Tel: 860-343-5863

Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education  
E-Mail: [mileatchapman@gmail.com](mailto:mileatchapman@gmail.com)

February, 2010  
Website: [www.mileonline.org](http://www.mileonline.org)



Think

Spring!

## Spring Session 2010

**Orientation Friday, February 26, 1:00  
PM**

**(Snow Date – Mon, March 1)**

**Room 808, Chapman Hall, MxCC**

Anticipated class topics include: Computers, Hypnosis, the Economy, Great Decisions, Animals in Show Business, Coffee – From Plant to Cup, Shaker Antiques and Reproductions, Gardening, Harry Truman, the Irish in the Civil War, Nutrition, Slavery in Connecticut, Allie Wrubel and His Music, Irish songs, jokes and storytelling, the Opera, Shaker Textiles, the Economy, Indian Country Today, Pysanky – Ukrainian Egg Decorating, Black Culture in Glastonbury, the Checklist of Life, Unraveling the Sibling Bond, Astronomy and Space Travel, and a search for the Happiest People on Earth.

Some of the presenters may have books or samples available for purchase.

If that's not enough to keep you busy, there will also be a Victorian Tea, a field trip to Hartford's historic Cedar Hill Cemetery, and a book discussion on *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez.

Come to the Orientation, listen to the presenters, and register for classes. Bring a friend!

## A Letter From The Dean

### Middlesex Community College Workforce Development, Continuing Education and Community Services Division

We have been very fortunate! Why? Because, amidst all of the chaos that we hear about everyday, MILE and MXCC have enjoyed a wonderful and productive longstanding relationship. To be precise, since 1993.

For over 17 years we have steadily discovered the richness of life through workshops, seminars, short courses, trips, and social events. Year after year volunteers and staff diligently worked to assure that these learning activities successfully delivered on the promise of a quality experience. Together we have explored the most current information and enriched our relationships while having some fun along the way. In the process the college bonded with you, your families, and friends. MILE is a unique population that has helped to redefine our middle name - community.

Recently I was challenged to research the different models of older adult programs at Connecticut community colleges. In reporting to MILE's executive leaders, I discovered that each group is passionate about its methods for delivering programs. One group meets only on Friday afternoons. Another meets throughout the community. Another provides scholarships for members who take non-credit college courses. Yet another is focused on developing resources for scholarships. Each model works well because of the dedicated leadership of its volunteers and the relationships they maintain with college staff. The

affiliation and affections are mutual and beneficial.

MILE and MXCC have worked hard on all of these levels to understand the needs and interests of each organization. This requires interested leadership, solid communications, and creativity in order to affect efficient delivery and effective management of resources. Yes, we have achieved much together in 17 years. Lets look to the future and many more years of learning, TOGETHER.

Larry J Smotroff 2/3/10

### **MILE Historical Notes:**

Under the leadership of Judy McGrath, Dean of Continuing Education, the Middlesex Adult Learning Center (MALC) was formed during the summer of 1993. Classes began in October, and were held from 9 – 11 each day for 8 weeks. Most of the courses were 3 or 4 weeks long. There were 97 members in the first semester.

The name Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education (MILE) was adopted in 2005. Membership is now approaching 300.

#### ***Chairs and Co-chairs:***

1993-1994 Chet Tibbetts

1994-1996 Alberta Tuohy

1996-1998 Helen Summers and

Rosemary McNerney

1998-1999 Bill Muller

1999-2001 Helen Summers

2001-2002 John McVicker

2002-2006 Barbara Freudenstein and Dolores Schaefer

2006-2010 Elizabeth Tischio

**MILE Annual Membership Luncheon and Meeting** will be held on Monday April 26. Deadline for Registration is 4/16/10

### **Community Activities:**

The *MxCC President's Committee on Diversity* (PCOD) is sponsoring a number of spring events as part of their series: What Does It Mean to be Equal? – an Ongoing Conversation about Equality in Contemporary America.

See MILE Schedule of Courses for details.

The *New Britain Museum of American Art*, 56 Lexington St., New Britain 06052 is showing: Inspired Innovations: A Celebration of Shaker Ingenuity. Jan. 16 – April 11, 2010.

*The Greater Middletown Concert Association* presents: I PAGLIACCI by Ruggiero Leoncavallo and GIANNI SCHICCI by Giacomo Puccini Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Performances are held in the new, state-of-the-art 700 seat MHS Performing Arts Center at Middletown High School, located at 200 LaRosa Lane, off Newfield Street, in Middletown. Call (860) 347-4887 or (860) 346-3369

The *Middletown Garden Club* is planning a flower show and conservation exhibit for Thursday, April 15 & Friday April 16, at the Barns at Wesleyan Hills. The two-day event is titled Connecticut Barns and Farms Their Beauty and Their Bounty. Flower arrangers will interpret original art done by area artists. There will be a horticulture exhibit of forced branches, bulbs, flowers and plants. The

**Community Activities continued:**

conservation exhibit will showcase area farms and their bounty. Thursday's activities, from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm are open to ticket holders only. Friday's activities are free and open to the public from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, and include a farmers' market of locally grown products from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

The *Charter Oak Pass* provides access to the State Parks and Forests and is available free to Connecticut residents, 65 years of age or older.

The pass is accepted at all day use areas where a parking fee applies. Free admittance is also provided for the Charter Oak pass holder when visiting Gillette Castle, Dinosaur or Fort Trumbull State Parks, or fishing at the Quinebaug Valley Hatchery.

A Charter Oak Pass may be obtained in person at several DEP locations, or by mail: DEP Charter Oak Pass, State Parks Division, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127. (Check out the CT DEP web site, or phone 860-424-3200 for more information).

**Volunteers are what make MILE an outstanding organization. You are invited to volunteer. Everyone has abilities that can be used.**

**To volunteer or for additional information contact Nancy Jordan. Nancy can be reached at 860-667-2035; e-mail [najor@msn.com](mailto:najor@msn.com)**

*Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless. ~Sherry Anderson*

**Creative Corner:***Woodlands*

The cold March wood leaves me  
shivering – lonely.

The wet April wood is full of  
hope and promise.

The warmth of May brings forth  
the beauty of the land.

I want to shout from the hillside –

Come, see; don't pass it by  
in your busyness,

it needs you to applaud  
as you need it.

*Thanks to MILE member Marjorie R.M. Reid*

**Editor's Notes:** I just returned from a 19-day tour of Vietnam and Cambodia. It was an interesting transition from Haddam to a country that is 60% agricultural, but has a city of 8 million people. The tour was fascinating and exhausting. We were reminded daily of the tragedy of war, and of the importance of potable water. The natural settings, such as the rice fields and Ha Long Bay, were incredible to see, as were the sites such as Angkor Wat. I feel so fortunate to be able to travel, yet I wonder about the ethics of tourism's ultimate effect on the economy and culture, and I question whether the expansion of one's world view made possible by travel, is enough to justify the carbon footprint that it leaves behind. B.B.

**Articles for publication, comments, questions, or suggestions for the Creative Corner should be sent to: [bbatt0143@gmail.com](mailto:bbatt0143@gmail.com)**