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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

After a rollercoaster of a winter we seem to have finally arrived at the last throws of cold weather and are fast closing in on a well deserved spring. We were blessed not to have received any direct hits by Mother Nature compared to previous years when many presentations were canceled or rescheduled due to inclement weather.

The General Membership Meeting was held on March 15 at the LifeLong Learning Center of UMW Stafford campus and the members elected three new volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors, a three year term. I would like to thank everyone who stepped up and congratulate our new board members, Dot Meyers, Michelle Esbenshade and Joe Alfred who will join the board on September 1, 2017. Please remember that the success of our organization completely depends on the involvement of our members. Without our dedicated volunteers ElderStudy would cease to exist, so please offer to serve any way you are able.

Thanks to all of our standing committees and their efforts to provide a variety of engaging and educational presentations, manage our operations day to day and keep us solvent. Again all dependent on our volunteers.

Don't forget to signup for the May Luncheon organized by the Membership Committee under the administration of Eugenia Jones and Carolyn Sulima. It's a great event for socializing and entertainment notwithstanding the excellent food varieties.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be June 7 at 10:00AM. All members are welcome.

Best wishes

Jack Allison

## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

**2017-2018 Budget Call.** Board members, Standing Committee Chairpersons, and ElderStudy members should submit budget requests for our upcoming 9/1/17-8/31/18 fiscal year to the Administration Committee Chairperson by May 4 (Thursday). The Committee then will prepare a recommended budget for approval by the Board when it meets June 7 (Wednesday).

A one-page Budget Planning Form for submitting these requests is posted on the website. Include your rationale for changes (additions and/or deletions) in the current budget (both categories and dollar amounts) in your submittal.

**Policies and Procedures (P&P) Annual Review.** Board, Committee, and general members also are asked to submit proposed P&P changes to the Administration Committee Chairperson by May 4. Changes requiring approval by the Board will be voted on at its June 7 meeting.

Proposed changes should show the original text with suggested edits, based on the needs of each Committee and of ElderStudy as a whole. Please document the rationale for changes (additions and/or deletions) in your submittal.

**New Administration Committee Chairperson.** At its May 24 meeting, the Committee must identify a new chairperson and then recommend the selection to the Board in June. This important position benefits from having good records to guide the Committee's activities. Please make yourself known to the Chairperson if you are interested in filing this position.

**Next Meeting.** The Administration Committee will meet next on May 24 from 1-3 p.m. in the Lifelong Learning Center. All ElderStudy members are welcome to attend.

Barbara Barrett, Administration Committee Chairperson

## **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

The Curriculum Committee (CC) would suggest that we are having another successful semester. The programs have been especially informative, and attendance has been outstanding. We are probably averaging over 50 attendees at each of our sessions, and the attendance at the session on ISIS was approximately 110. We have had two recent cancellations effecting this week's schedule. We will attempt to reschedule the classes for later in the spring or in the fall 2017.

The CC is working hard on the fall 2017 schedule, and, in fact, we had our last formal planning session on March 16, 2017. We are trying to finalize the fall schedule and we hope to have approximately 40 formal sessions plus four book club meetings. I can't emphasize enough how much work the CC members do in finding programs and speakers and managing the various aspects in setting up the programs.

We have attempted a new concept in finding speakers to talk on topics of interest, but for which the CC does not know of a potential speaker. When we determine a topic of interest, we have Jack Allison coordinated with our UMW point of contact (Kevin Caffrey), provide him the topic, and ask that he circulate the request to the UMW faculty. We have also had Kevin query the faculty and ask if anyone had a topic that they would willing to present to ElderStudy. We have identified four professors who have initially indicated that they are willing to talk to ElderStudy. The process we are currently using is once we receive the names of possible speakers, I will alert CC members of the topic and potential speaker and request a CC volunteer to coordinate with the professor. This remains a work in progress, but our initial thoughts are that this may be a good technique to use in the future.

Recently, Allan Zirkle took the initiative and queried our membership on how often they used the telephone system, either to seek information about our organization or to determine if there has been a schedule change. He noted that there were very few messages received requesting information and only one person indicated that she checked the phone system to determine if there were any schedule changes. I think the reasons for this non-use of the phone system is that we have an excellent web site, an up to date schedule posted in the classroom, excellent use of email to alert members of changes, and a volunteer who alerts those few members who do not have email access of any changes. I do not believe we should continue to use the phone system to alert our membership of schedule changes, and I will request the Board of Directors to change the Policy and Procedures Manual to reflect this. It is simply one of those tasks that takes time but has limited utility.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Our End-of-Year Luncheon to celebrate another successful year has a new location. On May 16 we will meet at the **Spotswood Baptist Church** at 4009 Lafayette Boulevard, in Fredericksburg. (Park near the playground at the right side/back of the building and go in the door at the inside corner of the playground, towards the steeple.) Lunch and social time will be from 11:30 am - 1:15 pm., followed by a musical performance by Nashville Standard. Please remember to RSVP to Carolyn Sulima at [emsulima@yahoo.com](mailto:emsulima@yahoo.com) or 540-786-4648 by May 1. Be sure to bring a dish to share and wear your nametag. See the reservation form on the ElderStudy website under the Membership tab for additional information and food items to bring. Hope to see you there!

As the Membership Committee, we are always looking for feedback on ways to improve attendance at General Membership meetings and other ways to continue to advance our organization to the satisfaction of our members. Please take time to provide us with your feedback. What is working and what suggestions do you have? Feedback forms will be available at the luncheon but you are always welcome to send your feedback to Donna Lewis ([dvlewis22@gmail.com](mailto:dvlewis22@gmail.com)).

Just a friendly reminder that when sending an ElderStudy-related email message, start the Subject line with the word ElderStudy. That will help the receiver identify the source of the message. Remember that our name is ElderStudy, all one word with a capital S in the middle. We are not "UMW ElderStudy", but Mary Washington ElderStudy.

The Membership Committee will be meeting on April 5, at 10 am in the classroom. Everyone is welcome! This would be a great meeting for anyone interested in joining our committee to come and learn about our activities!

Donna Lewis, Membership Committee Chairperson

This Newsletter is prepared by me, Dot Meyers, with the help of many members of ElderStudy. If you have any questions or suggestions for the newsletter, please feel free to let me know. You can leave a message on the phone, 540-654-1769, or call me at 540-760-1533.

**PLEASE Join Us for Elder Study's Annual  
End-of-Year Potluck Luncheon**

Tuesday, May 16, 2017

**New Location: Spotswood Baptist Church  
4009 Lafayette Blvd.  
Fredericksburg 22408**

Park close to the playground at the right side/back of the building and go in the door at the inside corner of the playground, towards the steeple.

For more information, see the bottom of the Curriculum Class Locations webpage or enter the web address:

**[www.elderstudy.info/Curriculum/CurriculumClassrooms.html#Potluck](http://www.elderstudy.info/Curriculum/CurriculumClassrooms.html#Potluck)**

11:30 am to 1:15 pm – Lunch and Socializing

1:15 pm to 2:15 pm – Musical Program provided by Nashville Standard

**If your last name begins with:**

**A – H Bring Vegetable or Fruit Salad**

**I – P Bring a Dessert**

**Q – Z Bring a Meat or Vegetable Casserole**

Beverages will be provided by the Membership Committee

**If you have questions, please call:**

**Eugenia Jones 540-786-8987**

**Carolyn Sulima 540-786-4648**

**To make your reservations:**

Phone or email Carolyn Sulima (cmsulima@yahoo.com) by Monday, May 1.  
Reservations made by email or left on voice mail will be confirmed.

**Please provide:**

***Your name(s)***

***Contact info (phone and/or email)***

***Number attending***

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

At the General Membership Meeting in March, I included the following highlights in my report:

“The mid-year financial reports review show that ElderStudy has sufficient funds from Membership Fees to cover the approved 2016-2017 budget and for consideration of Year End Grants to University Departments whose faculty presented curriculum programs during the 2016-2017 year. A recommendation regarding the grants will be addressed at the May Administrative Committee meeting and the June Board of Directors meeting. The required Capital Reserve is intact.

In January 2017, John Thompson officially stepped down from the Treasurers position after 8 years of service. ElderStudy recognized John at the Fall Luncheon and in the President’s letter for good reason. The transition he provided to me was outstanding. Records were organized, clear and properly reconciled. He has created excellent, easy to use spreadsheets and templates. And he even filed the 2015-2016 Federal Tax returns before leaving! We owe John a big thank you for his leadership and stewardship of these accounts and records. I cannot imagine that it could have been done any better!”

Bryn Pavek, Treasurer

Mary Washington ElderStudy is an all volunteer organization that was started in 1993. Next year we will celebrate our 25th anniversary. Everyone is welcome to attend all the committee meetings as well as all the wonderful presentations. Volunteer if you can. You will find it very rewarding.

<b>Mary Washington ElderStudy</b>		Rpt Date: 3/8/17	
<b>2015-2017 Operations Report #5</b>		BOD Approved: 3/0/17	
Accounting Category/Subcategory	2015-2017 Approved Budget (6/1/2016)	YTD: 9/1/2016 thru 2/28/2017	% of Plan
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership Fees (288)	\$15,500.00	\$16,891.00	107.7%
NameTag Replacement Fees	\$0.00	\$15.00	
Interest from Certificates of Deposit	\$0.00		
Miscellaneous (excludes replacement NameTags)	\$0.00		
Membership Special Events Fees (LOW)	\$0.00	\$1,595.00	loss \$91.80
Curriculum Off-Site Fees (NASA Goddard)	\$0.00	\$1,404.00	profit \$74.00
<b>Total ES Income/Revenue</b>	<b>\$15,500.00</b>	<b>\$19,705.00</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Board of Directors</b>			
Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00	
BLS Scholarships	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	120.0%
Election Expenses (copying, printing)	\$200.00	\$0.00	
Grants (from excess 2016-17 Funds)	TBD	\$0.00	
Classroom Contingency	is available	\$41.56	
<b>Subtotal BOD</b>	<b>\$1,200.00</b>	<b>\$1,241.56</b>	
<b>Curriculum Committee</b>			
Speakers/Programs (Sept-Jan)	\$7,500.00	\$3,250.00	43.3%
Postage/Mailing/Copying	\$125.00	\$28.20	22.6%
Off-site Location Programs	\$0.00	\$1,329.00	(see income)
Gifts/Gratuities	\$25.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Stationery/Supplies	\$100.00	\$5.00	5.0%
Telephone Service (6 mos.)	\$150.00	\$66.00	44.0%
Social Activities	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Curriculum Committee</b>	<b>\$7,900.00</b>	<b>\$4,679.10</b>	(#)
<b>Administration Committee/BOD</b>			
General Operating Funds	\$200.00	\$0.00	
Stationery/Supplies/Publications	\$600.00	\$64.02	
Postage/Mailing/Copying	\$200.00	\$7.32	
<b>Subtotal Administration Committee</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$71.34</b>	
<b>Membership Committee</b>			
Brochures/Rack Cards	\$100.00	\$67.13	67.1%
Stationery/Supplies	\$200.00	\$147.06	73.5%
Gifts/Remembrances	\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Name Tags	\$400.00	\$243.64	(see income)
Newsletter(3 of 5)/Communications	\$1,000.00	\$444.83	44.5%
Postage/Mailing/Copying	\$200.00	\$133.64	66.8%
Web Site	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Telephone Services (6 mos.)	\$150.00	\$66.00	44.0%
Membership Meetings/Spe Events	\$1,200.00	\$1,907.23	158.9%
<b>Subtotal Membership Committee</b>	<b>\$3,350.00</b>	<b>\$3,009.53</b>	(#)
<b>Total ES 2016-2017 Expenses YTD</b>	<b>\$13,450.00</b>	<b>\$9,001.53</b>	(#)
		(#) Includes all expenses	
(b) includes new "white board" supplies			