



IN THIS ISSUE

- Accent Reduction and English Talk Times.....1
- From the Director's Desk2
- Strategic Planning2
- Recent Grants2
- Upcoming Events3

This year ODWIN is celebrating our 45th Anniversary. ODWIN began with Mary Malone's dream of opening doors of opportunity for women who desired to enter the nursing profession. Our unique, individualized approach to education is based on a model of patient care that was so important to Mary who was both a nurse and educator of nurses. We focus on each individual's strengths, weaknesses, needs, goals and methods of learning.

A number of the staff members have been here for many years and have been instrumental in developing the curriculum and adapting it to the

demands of the changing times in education. Mary Tacelli, who succeeded Mary Malone as director, continues



Mary Moynihan and Magalie Morency

to teach in the math department and leads many students to becoming better thinkers through Thinking and Reasoning. Penny Penniman has helped thousands to achieve the comprehension and study skills needed to navigate their way through college. Mary Moynihan works with our

continued to page 3



Accent Reduction and English Talk Times

This Fall, ODWIN was able to successfully run two sections of Accent Reduction; one day class and one evening class. To continue our efforts to reach out to the community and offer similar English development services, we will be offering four English "Talk Time" sessions this Spring as well as continuing to offer our Accent Reduction program to students.

Our current Accent Reduction teacher, Cherisa Zafft, will be guiding these English Talk Time sessions designed for people in the community, whether ODWIN students or not, who would like

to improve their spoken English skills. Each session will be independent of the others so participants may come to one or more sessions.

English Talk Times are not ESL classes but opportunities for non-native English speakers to practice their English skills with a trained instructor and other participants. These discussion evenings are geared toward beginning to advanced level learners. Topics will include understanding American slang and local sayings, idiomatic phrases, how to determine the correct pronunciation of new words, and basic pronunciation skills.

English Talk Times will be held on Wednesday evenings March 11, 25, April 8 and 29 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at a cost of \$20 per session. Advance Registration is suggested, and participants will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.



From the Director's Desk

Thanks to all who supported the ODWIN raffle. We made close to \$4,000. The winners of the top three prizes were Kelley Dunham, Ryan McNabb and Ed D'Orio. The students, staff, and board members really pulled together to make it a success. Louise Pierre, the ODWIN student who sold the most tickets, won a free course; Marie Philiosaint, a former ODWIN student sold over 30 books. Special thanks go to Leslie Bahadosingh for all his work and for the donation of prizes.

At the Spring Festival on May 9, 2009, we will be having an auction, both live and silent. The first prize, donated by Jim Buckley, is a week at a timeshare anywhere in the world. We are in need of other prizes; if you can help out, please contact Yssa Santos, the administrative assistant, at ODWIN.

Strategic Planning

Where do we want ODWIN to be in the days to come? How can we get there? What is the best way to face the challenges of the current economic crisis? As we celebrate the accomplishments of the past 45 years, it is time to look ahead to the future of ODWIN. Under the guidance of John Verre, a member of the board of directors, we are initiating a strategic planning process that will include input from all those who are part of the ODWIN community: students, staff, alumni, board members, supporters and neighbors. We will have more details in the days to come.

Rose DaCorta whom you may remember as our vital administrative assistant received an award as Volunteer of the Year from Neighbors in Deed, a group that reaches out to the needs of elders in the Dorchester community. Helen Barrett, a former board member and long time ODWIN supporter, is the director of the program and is happy to have Rose among her dedicated volunteers. We at ODWIN have no doubt that Rose makes an invaluable contribution to the community as she did at ODWIN.

Donald Jones, our evening receptionist, comes to us from the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts; he is part of their mature worker program. In addition to being a gracious voice on the phone, Donald helps out in many ways by helping to keep track of those who come to orientation, filing, and copying materials for the courses among other tasks. He is taking courses at Roxbury Community College to improve his computer skills.



The spring semester is underway. Our classes are filling up with both new and returning students. Because of the individual approach to our foundation courses, those who come to orientation and follow up with their diagnostic testing are able to start classes at any point in the semester provided there is space in class.

ODWIN is sharing our facilities with Harbor Health Services. For eight Thursday afternoons from February through April, the Peer Leadership Certificate program for youth between the ages of 18-21 who live or go to school in Dorchester will provide training on addiction-risks, alcohol, opiates, tobacco, issues around HIV/AIDS, youth violence, as well as outreach and facilitation skills.

Patrons of the Tavolo Restaurant are welcome to use the ODWIN parking lot during the evening hours when we are not in class and on weekends. A few spaces are reserved for the staff of the Carruth building. We are grateful for the services provided to ODWIN by Winn Management.

We have received contributions from the following foundations and corporations: The Clipper Ship Foundation, The Sovereign Bank Foundation and Dunkin Donuts, Dorchester. We are grateful to all who support our efforts in many ways.



The Mary Malone Award for the Pursuit of Excellence 2009

When we gather at the Spring Valley Country Club on May 9 for the **Spring Festival**, Stephane Campbell, the Corcoran Family, and Sister Margaret Nelson SNDdeN will be receiving the **Mary Malone Award**. This year's awardees make an incredible contribution to the community. They are people who in their own ways have been at the service of others for many years.



Mary Malone and early ODWIN Students

Stephane is an ODWIN alumna and graduate of Laboure College. She is a nurse manager at South Shore Hospital and a very active member of the ODWIN Board of Directors. When Stephane offers her services at ODWIN, at work or at her church, she often brings along her husband and family. She doesn't stop to count the cost but enters into activities whole heartedly.

The Corcoran Family's contribution goes well beyond ODWIN to service many individuals and organizations in the Boston area. They have been of service as volunteer tutors, board members, golf tournament sponsors and

financial supporters at ODWIN for many years.

Sister Peggy Nelson is a family nurse practitioner and staff member at the Bowdoin Street Health Center in Dorchester. She has carried out the mission of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, reaching out to poor people in the most abandoned places for many years in many places. She worked with Health Care for the Homeless for some time. For her clients, the respect and concern that she shows them is more important than her skills in diagnosing and treating their illnesses as she never says "no" if there is a way that she can help a person.

continued from page 1

ODWIN students to develop their talents as writers. She teaches the humanities course which is designed to introduce students to or reacquaint them with those classical Greek and Roman myths that form the foundation for subsequent literature, academic terminology and social custom.

Over the years, ODWIN has had several homes: Dimock Street,

American Legion Highway and Dorchester Avenue, but the commitment and dedication to the task of educating adults and helping them change their "I can't!" to "I can!" has remained constant. Since 1964 more than 6,000 adults have achieved their dream of moving into a professional career with the help and support provided by ODWIN.



Upcoming Events

- English Talk Sessions on Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:30 pm
March 11, 25 and April 8, 29
- May 9, 2009 Spring Festival and Celebration of Mothers
- September 27, 2009 ODWIN Golf Tournament

Save the Date for the ODWIN Spring Festival

Saturday, May 9, 2009
Spring Valley Country Club
Sharon, MA

Join us in celebrating our 45th Anniversary
and all Mothers for a wonderful evening
of dining, dancing and the presentation
of the Mary Malone Award for the
Pursuit of Excellence.



SPRING

PRESORTED
NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
DORCHESTER, MA
PERMIT #57556

1943 Dorchester Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02124

