



THE ORICL ORACLE

April 2019

A Biennial Newsletter of the Oak Ridge
Institute for Continued Learning

Thank You, Sheila Dodson, for 20 Years of Service to ORICL



Sheila Dodson,
2001. File Photo

Sheila Dodson tells her story of 20 years of commitment performing various critical tasks for ORICL. Her most recent contribution has been to schedule the times and locations of all ORICL classes, no trivial undertaking.

My husband and I moved to Oak Ridge in late 1999 when I decided to retire from the work force at the ripe old age of 53. It only took about 6 weeks for me to quickly realize that I needed to get back into the work force! So early in the year 2000 I answered an ad in *The Oak Ridger* for a part-time Secretary for ORICL, four hours a day, three days a week. I had no idea what ORICL was and what the job entailed, but since I had worked in academia most of my life, I decided to apply. Thankfully, Harwell Smith hired me. It didn't take long to catch on to the regimen and it was very evident right from the beginning that that this was an organization unlike any other and I absolutely loved it. The people – instructors and volunteers – were so knowledgeable and supportive. Of course, there were lots of “gulps” on my learning curve, one of which left Reeva Abraham and me howling for days!

In time, the then Administrator left and her job became mine which meant there was now an opening for a new Secretary. After interviewing many applicants, my recommendation was brought before the Board and they agreed wholeheartedly to hire Laura Bowles. Best decision ever!

As time went on, I found it necessary to leave the Administrator position to take care of ailing parents. However, I still was not through with ORICL. I sat on the Board for a while, and I also started leading trips when my schedule permitted. I loved the one-on-one interactions and the excitement of seeing some of the places I had researched. However, as time went on, it became very apparent with the situation at home, that I could not continue doing this.

It was around 2005 when I was asked if I would like to continue with ORICL by scheduling classes. I could work from home which was very important. While the scheduling of the classes and creating the calendar were very intense tasks, they also were very rewarding. This was just perfect for me and I enjoyed the challenges over the years.

With the completion of the scheduling for the 2019 Summer term, Sheila is now officially retired from ORICL. Her shoes will be tough to fill! Thank you for your stellar service!



Pictured are two of the five 2019 ORICL Scholarship winners, from left, Sara Nesbitt and Jessica Osborn with ORICL President Priscilla McKenney at right.

ORICL Scholarship Winners Announced

In honor of Roane State Community College's (RSCC), longstanding contributions to the ORICL mission, ORICL annually funds several scholarships for RSCC students. For 2018-19, Sara Nesbitt of Oak Ridge, Candace Day of Knoxville, and Ivorie Hicks of Clinton received the John Million Scholarship valued at \$2,000. Jessica Osborn of Powell received \$600 through the ORICL Scholarship Endowment and Gage Dotson of Centerville received the \$295 Bob Jones Memorial Scholarship.

Shirley Raines Speaks About Her Unusual Career Pathway from Preschool Teacher to University President

The first woman ever appointed to the presidency of the University of Memphis recently delighted ORICL and Roane State Community College (RSCC) audiences with her presentation titled *An Uncommon Journey: Leadership Lessons from a Preschool Teacher Who Became a University President*. In the lecture, Raines described her unlikely journey from a sharecropper's daughter to a university president, and the lessons she learned from the challenges, rewards and heartbreaks along the way. Sponsored jointly by ORICL and RSCC, the presentation was held at the Oak Ridge Campus of RSCC on January 31. Afterward, Dr. Raines autographed copies of her book of the same title, the proceeds from which went to the RSCC Foundation.



Shirley Raines and RSCC President Chris Whaley. Photo by Don Miller

Nominations Now Accepted for ORICL Volunteer and Instructor of the Year Awards

It is a yearly custom for ORICL to honor two special ORICL supporters, a volunteer and an instructor. With these awards, ORICL seeks to recognize those who have made exceptional contributions to the organization through their donated time and skills. Many individuals are deserving of these awards, and as before, the membership should be a part of the selection process. Please send any recommendations for the awards (volunteer or instructor) with a brief explanation of why you think your candidate deserves the honor to the ORICL office at ORICL@roanestate.edu. A committee will review the nominations and the awards will be presented at the December Volunteer Luncheon. The recipients' names will be added to the awards plaque displayed outside the ORICL classrooms.



Dr. Andrew Scoles, D.C., right, leads participants through a stretching regimen for the spine as part of his Proper Stretching and Exercises class. Photo by Linda Holmes



As others wait their turn, master potter Bill Capshaw, center, supervises a participant in the application of a glaze to the tri-pod pot she made in a previous class. The class was held at the Pottery Studio at the Oak Ridge Art Center. *Photo by Linda Holmes*



Candace McManus, seated at left, demonstrates a technique for painting a feather in her Beginning Watercolor class. After the demo, class participants went back to their desks to practice while Ms. McManus provided advice on an individual basis. *Photo by Linda Holmes*

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ORICL is a 501 (c)3 not-for-profit organization in partnership with Roane State Community College.



Left: Emily Machanoff, at rear in center, owner of Studio MAC in Oak Ridge, leads a class on simple Pilates moves to strengthen the abdominals and deep core muscles in order to improve back health and reduce stress. *Photo by Linda Holmes* At right, participants in Leah Marcum-Estes' Creative Journaling Class prepare elements for their journals. The class was taught at the Oak Ridge Art Center. *Photo by Leah Marcum-Estes*



ORICL Brochures Available

ORICL has recently designed a glossy tri-fold brochure to help spread the word about the organization. The brochure will be distributed to realtors and other local organizations soon. Copies will also be available on a limited basis to those who wish to post one at churches or share with others who may not know about ORICL. To request a few copies, contact the ORICL office.

ORICL CALENDAR FOR APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2019

Apr 23	Summer Online Registration Opens
Apr 24	1 st Curriculum Committee Meeting for Fall
Apr 26	Winter/Spring Classes End
May 1	Volunteer Luncheon
May 15	2 nd Curriculum Meeting for Fall
May 20-21; 22	Summer Schedule Pickup; Mailing
May 28	Instructor/Class Assistant Meeting
Jun 3	Summer Classes Begin
Aug 2	Summer Classes End
Aug 5	Fall Online Registration Opens
Aug 7	Volunteer Luncheon
Aug 21	1 st Curriculum Meeting for Winter/Spring
Aug 26-27; 28	Winter/Spring Schedule Pickup; Mailing
Sep 3	Instructor/Class Assistant Meeting
Sep 9	Fall Classes Begin
*Apr 19, May 27, Jul 4, Sep 2	Holidays, No Classes, RSCC Closed

Treasurer's Report

ORICL is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt not-for-profit organization with an annual income of about \$60,000. Eighty-three percent of the income is from membership dues. Two part-time employees' salaries and bonuses account for 70% of expenses. Catalogs, newsletters, and postage account for 14% of expenses. Contributions, donations, and bequests account for 86% of the total equity, which is more than \$200,000. A major purchase of chairs for room F-110 was made recently. No additional major expenses are anticipated. *Trygve Myhre, Treasurer*

Registration for Summer Term Begins April 23