

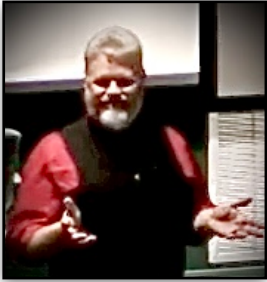


THE ORACLE

November 2024

A Biannual Newsletter of the
Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning

ORICL TEACHER AND VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR CHOSEN



David Adkins
Teacher
of the Year

David Adkins did not come to the field of history by the usual route. He took the scenic route of careers, including but not limited to the military, industrial mechanics, book sales, foundry work and security. He began college as a nontraditional

student and earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees in history, specializing in colonial economic history at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He worked for Roane State Community College for nearly eight years, expanding his base of knowledge into a wide variety of historical fields and developing his teaching style. He started volunteering for ORICL classes in 2022 and has maintained a strong presence in the program ever since.

He has publishing credits in several fields and currently works in business analysis for a Knoxville tech company. In his spare time, he also runs the Youtube channel MercenaryHistorian, where he talks about history on a weekly basis.

Becky Rushton has a history of enthusiasm for all things ORICL.



Becky Rushton
Volunteer
of the Year

Beth Paul recruited her to the board in 2008 to fulfill the board role of volunteer coordinator. Various positions have followed, and now, while chairing the curriculum committee, she finds the work of promoting and sharing lifelong learning to be enlivening. "The opportunity at ORICL to share a room with those who love to teach and those who love to learn is indeed worth the effort." How can one not volunteer for this endeavor? Thank you for the recognition.

ORICL
MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION
Tuesday - January 14
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Coffee-McNally Building
Lobby & A111

NEW ORICL BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED



Nancy Burwell

Friendships are very important to me. I still ZOOM with friends from my school days in suburban Chicago, I meet yearly (as they drive from the Midwest to Florida) with college friends, I text friends I made when I lived and worked in Washington, D.C., and I lunch with other retired math professors from Pellissippi State. I joined ORICL after I stopped working in 2011 because I love learning and I wanted to meet friends; I have not been disappointed. One of the first people I met was Jane Williams. We started our Shakespeare Out Loud class in 2012. I continue to lead this class after losing Jane (I still miss her terribly). We will read our 37th play, *All's Well That Ends Well*, in Winter 2025.

I also am a loyal member of ORICL's Classic Literature Revisited class, led by Janice Watkins. I met Tom Tague in this class when we decided to co-lead another "reading aloud" class to study Homer's *Iliad*. We are now in our sixth year offering this class, which has included the *Odyssey*, the *Aeneid*, and plays by Sophocles, Aeschylus and Euripides. I don't know what I'd do without the interesting ORICL classes and the truly wonderful friends I've made here. I might have to go back to work!!



Judi Gray

Judi Gray is a retired Professional Interior Designer and former owner of Design Studio 119 for 45 years. She is a long time member of the Oak Ridge Breakfast Rotary Club and an active volunteer in the Oak Ridge community with a special interest in a United Way Project for teenaged girls. During Covid, a very satisfying project was gathering a group of about 100 people who all worked together to produce and distribute in Oak Ridge over 9000 masks and a great many boxes of PPE equipment which was in great need.

Judi is originally from New York City and arrived in Oak Ridge via Pasadena, California, in 1974. She and her husband, Len, a retired research mathematician at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, have two daughters and their families living in New York State. They both enjoy traveling and love Oak Ridge and are happy to have chosen to stay here.

Please remember that
 Winter/Spring 2025
 Registration begins
 December 3 (online) &
 December 4 (paper)



**ORICL'S NEW
PRESIDENT:
PAT BRYAN**

I was introduced to ORICL by my wife, Mary Ann Reeves, in 2007. She was a board member, Arts & Culture curriculum chair, and planned many ORICL trips and classes. As I had recently retired (Mechanical Engineer), I began taking classes and trips. I was very

impressed with the organization and the quality and caliber of the classes, instructors, and members. I'm still impressed. That's why I agreed to join the board 4 years ago, and am honored to take my turn as president.

ORICL's mission is *"To enrich the lives of interested adults through opportunities for continued learning, teaching, and social interactions"*. It has served this mission well since its inception in 1997 (with Murray Rosenthal as founding president), and that dedication and enthusiasm continues today. The Covid pandemic posed a significant challenge, and our membership dropped by about 1/3rd from 2019 to 2021. Since then, the Board and staff have diligently worked to increase membership and reduce cost—with positive results. We have been very pleased with all the support (and record donations) we have received from members.

Continued in Column 2

Demographic studies in our area show the fastest growing cohort to be those over 65. We just need to let these people know what they are missing! That's where you—our members—can contribute the most.

Become an ORICL Ambassador in your social circles. Request an extra catalog to give to a friend that might be interested in attending a class or trip with you. Provide suggestions for classes, trips, instructors, or increasing membership to me, our staff, or anyone on the board or curriculum committee.

I think that ORICL's best days lie ahead, and will work toward that goal.

ORICL

**Oak Ridge Institute for
Continued Learning**

You're invited to the
ORICL Volunteer Appreciation Reception
on **Wednesday, December 4.**
Light refreshments will be served
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Front Lobby, Coffey-McNally Building
Oak Ridge Campus
Roane State Community College
701 Briarcliff Avenue in Oak Ridge.

This is ORICL's way of saying "THANK YOU"
for your contribution to the organization.
Without volunteers like you, there could be no ORICL!
Please come and meet members of the ORICL Board
of Directors and other ORICL volunteers.

Please RSVP to the ORICL office, oricl@roanestate.edu,
or 865-481-8222, by Tuesday, November 26.

Member Donations Provide ORICL with Additional Operating Funds

Thanks to these members who contributed to ORICL above the required membership fee. Donations were recorded so far this calendar year.

Friends (\$25 over the membership fee)

Adler-Jasny, Marty	Olson, Wanda	Thomason, Susan
Delene, Nancy	Ricks, Phillip	Trainer, Nadine
Gilbert, Terri	Rogers, John	Walsh, Ann
Koenig, Matthew	Rylander, Jackie	Watkins, Janice
Luther, Charlene	Shatz, Harry	Yarbrough, John
Olson, Bob	Stooksbury, Susie	
	Thomason, Baxter	

Sustaining (\$50 over the membership fee)

Alexander, James	Dory, Margaret	Maze, Elizabeth
Berry, Linda	Eyman, Virginia	Moss, Kay
Bratton, Ann *	Hatcher, Bob	Sharp, Susan
Bunick, Elaine	Juneau, Clarence	Tomkins, Bruce
Cantrell, Bob	Juneau, Lynn	Ward, Richard

Sponsoring (\$100 or more over the membership fee)

Ball, Syd	Dresner, Larry	Plant, B. Andrew *
Bangham, Jean	Ferrell, Barbara	Reister, Willa
Barnes, Nita	Gove, Norwood	Schult, Janet Knipping
Basford, Jim	Gove, Ruth	Slater, Stephanie
Basford, Nancy	Kocher, David	Stevenson, Michael *
Battle, Connie	Krause, Carolyn	Wankerl, Miriam
Burwell, Nancy	Krause, Herb	
Darling, Chuck	Landau, Barbara	
Daugherty, Mary Lou	Lay, Denise	
Dresner, Blanche	McKeever, Lois	

* In memory of Bob Olson

In all three categories, there were anonymous donations.

ORICL Board Members

Pat Bryan, President
 Lois McKeever, Treasurer
 Becky Rushton,
 Curriculum Committee Chair
 Nancy Burwell
 Betty Ann Domm
 Benito Gonzalez
 Judi Gray
 Jim Knox
 Carolyn Krause
 Ruby Miller
 Jim Palmer
 Jackie Rylander

Staff

Susan Perry, Office Administrator
 and Secretary to the Board
 Melanie Neal, Assistant
 Office Administrator

ORICL Office

Room F-111
 Roane State Community College
 701 Briarcliff Avenue
 Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Hours: M-Th, 9 am-Noon
 Closed Fridays

Phone: (865) 481-8222

Website:

www.roanestate.edu/oricl

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

DECEASED MEMBERS 2024

Lou Dunlap - 1/2024
 Robert "Bob" Bagguley - 2/2024
 Duane Starr - 2/2024
 Roland Friedrich - 2/2024
 Marguerite Blake - 4/2024
 Robert "Bob" Olson - 4/2024
 Jonell Schmitt - 5/2024
 Judy Kidd - 5/2024
 Alan England - 5/2024
 Ruth Gat - 6/2024
 Mary Lou Auxier - 6/2024
 Barbara Bovee - 6/2024
 Beth Paul - 7/2024
 Allison Ensor - 8/2024
 Barbara Landau - 11/2024

Treasurer Explains QCD's

As we are approaching the end of this calendar year, I would like to encourage our members to consider a donation to ORICL.

We really appreciate the gifts that we have received over and above the membership fee. Beside helping ORICL meet its expenses, donations to ORICL, which is a 501(c)3 organization, can help with our taxes.

One way to donate to ORICL is with QCD's, qualified charitable distributions. A QCD is an otherwise taxable distribution from an IRA that is paid directly from the IRA to the qualified charity. For more information, please contact your financial adviser.

Thank you for considering a year-end donation to ORICL. We appreciate your generosity.

Lois McKeever, Treasurer

**ORICL CALENDAR FOR
 DECEMBER THROUGH APRIL**

December 3	Winter/Spring Online Registration Opens
December 16 - January 3	Holidays - ORICL office and classrooms closed
January 6	ORICL office opens
January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - RSCC/ORICL closed
January 22	Student schedules - pick-up
February 3	Winter/Spring classes begin
March 10 - 14	RSCC Spring Break
April 18	Good Friday Holiday - RSCC/ORICL closed
April 25	Winter/Spring classes end