

Highlights from the successful aging journey of someone from the Fairhill campus. Someone adapting to change, enjoying relationships, and living life with purpose and joy! Know someone who fits the bill? Email Sue at sgrant@fairhillpartners.org with your favorite successful ager.

Dr. Jordan Tobin: A Role Model in Every Respect

by Karen McKeehan



Dr. Tobin knew about Fairhill even before he moved to Cleveland in 1999, thanks to his friendship with Dr. Stephanie FallCreek, Fairhill's president and CEO. They served together on the editorial board of Generations, a journal of the National Council on Aging.

When Jordan first came to Fairhill, he noted that it was “*unusual - different things to different people. For some people, it's a landlord; for some, it's a place to meet people and participate in programs; and for some, now, it's a home.*” He chose the Computer Learning Center and digital photography. One of his first projects was a one-day workshop

on “Choosing and Using your Digital Camera.”

He extended that interest by helping create a class on PhotoShop Elements, a software tool to improve photographs by eliminating redevye, heightening or reducing contrast, and filling in shadows. He found that PhotoShop Elements was a difficult application to learn and put together a class on Picasa, free software which is easier to use.

In 2008, Jordan worked with professional photographer Ren Clarke and CLC instructor Steve Spaeth to teach a group of children about photography. The result? An exhibit at Tower City, “What's an Office?” and a Fairhill's Teen Leadership exhibit entitled “What's a Family?”

Jordan likes coaching adults in the CLC. In 2008, he spent most of the year in Fairhill's Tech for Successful Aging class, where students spent 32 weeks learning about file management, Microsoft Office products, digital photography, and how to take care of a computer, then were given laptops to keep. Jordan, along with fellow coach Herb Haar, showed his versatility by helping the students with several different applications. This summer, he

coached the Really Basic Computer Skills class. “*I like teaching adults. They come back and are serious about it.*”

Jordan prefers to coach now, rather than instruct, as he and his wife, Jeanne, spend time traveling – especially to see their grandchildren. But he still likes coming to Fairhill when he's in town. “*I like being able to help people and learn from them. I get to interact with people I might not interact with otherwise.*”

Jordan and his wife Jeanne are wonderful models of individual and collective successful aging – balancing commitment to friends and family with ongoing community service and contribution.

Dr. Stephanie FallCreek