

E. Blaine Cliver

Elected to 1st Term November 2008. Term expires November 2011



**Board Treasurer /
Secretary**

During his career, Blaine Cliver has worked as an historical architect on numerous restoration and preservation projects for the National Park Service that included serving as project manager for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty. In 1993-94, as the Acting Executive Director of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, he helped to establish this entity of the National Park Service in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and continued to serve as a member of the Center's Board representing the Secretary of the Interior. During this period Blaine served as secretary and vice-president on the board US/ICOMOS an international preservation organization. Now retired, he chairs the Council (Board) of ICCROM, the International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property located in Rome, Italy and serves as a consultant to the Brandon Town Hall and the Steven A Douglas restoration projects. Blaine lives with his wife, Mary, in Brandon, VT. The Clivers became part of the NAMI family in 2006 through a support group meeting, and have gone on to take the Family-to-Family course and to be trained as teachers for Provider Education and Family-to-Family.

Mary S. Cliver

Elected to 1st Term November 2008. Term expires November 2011



Mary Cliver worked for many years as a writer and editor in non-profit and education settings. While raising three children, as well as through employment, many opportunities were available to provide marketing and public relations support in publicizing various programs to the public. A career change to Landscape Design in 1992 allows Mary to write about design and plant materials for publication, as well as writing narrative descriptions of projects for clients who may need supplemental information. Her Landscape Design practice has been a part of both large and small design/build firms and today she works as a sole practitioner. Currently, Mary serves as secretary to the Board of Directors of the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce, is co-chair of the Brandon Tree Committee, sings with the Brandon Festival Singers and is a volunteer at the Brandon Free Public Library. "As our children and other family members have had need of mental health treatment over the years, educating ourselves as to available options has become very important to us. NAMI has been the critical difference in seeking and finding solutions."

Joanna Cole

Elected to 1st Term October 2007. Term expires November 2010



**Board 2nd Vice
President**

Joanna is a resident of Burlington, VT. She teaches the Family to Family Course and the Provider Education Course for NAMI-Vermont in addition to being an advocate for NAMI-VT. Unfortunately, she lost a son to mental illness. She is a board member of the League of Women Voters of Vermont and serves as an Advisor to the Vermont Commission on Women for the LWV-VT. She also serves on the Burlington Board of Registered Voters and as a Justice of the Peace. A retired chemistry professor, biology teacher, and medical researcher she is especially interested in Healthcare for all. Human Rights and Civil Rights are important to her. She is the mother of two sons, and a grandmother of one, adorable Kaitlin in Florida, and the partner of Sarah Flynn. Joanna also enjoys skiing, hiking, biking, tennis and Lake Champlain.

Eileen M. Curtis

Elected to 1st Term November 2009. Term expires November 2012



I have been a mental health practitioner since 1984, working first at an in-patient facility in Connecticut, then for the last 17 years at the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties. It is through this work that I first became aware of NAMI. In my capacity as a nurse manager I have the opportunity to educate and support the staff regarding mental illness and its treatment options. I often use the monthly newsletter to help educate staff to mental health issues that are highlighted in the publication. I have a group of friends that have been meeting monthly for the past 15 years for supper club. One struggles with bipolar illness. Two years ago we began to participate in the NAMI Walks for the Mind to help NAMI raise money for research and treatment in her honor. It was great for us to see all the people who come out and lend their support for those who struggle day- to-day with mental health issues.

On a personal note, I live in Charlotte with my husband, two teenage sons and our dog and cat. I am active in my Church as committee chair of the Faith in Action group and with the Boy Scouts of America. I enjoy reading, power walking with my dog (who needs it as much as I do!) and canning the vegetables from my garden in the fall. I look forward to working with the many people involved with NAMI-VT.

Joann DiLego

Elected to 1st Term November 2009. Term expires November 2012



Joann has a degree in secondary education which was put to use in nearly 20 years experience with the Girl Scout Council of Vermont as both a volunteer and a professional. Her personal focus was on working with and empowering girls, especially those aged 12-18, and a LOT of time was spent training the adults who worked with them. Joann also directly supported the Council's Board of Directors, serving as staff liaison to several of its committees. Since leaving the Girl Scouts she has further developed her administrative skills at IBM and now with MVP Health Care. For fun she likes to garden, camp, hike, read and is a "Sunday painter," dabbling in oils and watercolors.

Ann Moore

Appointed to 1 year Term November 2009. Term expires November 2010



Ann Moore joined NAMI through the Burlington Support Group and then took F2F in 2000. She served on the NAMI Board for 6 years as Support Group Coordinator, NAMI UVM supporter, Interim Treasurer, Vice President, and President for the last 2 of the years. She currently serves on the Vermont State Hospital Advisory Board and is the State Coordinator for NAMI Vermont's newest program, Connection, a peer run recovery support group program. She loves to play duplicate bridge, knit, garden, and read.

Board 1st Vice President

Hans Puck

Elected to 2nd Term November 2009. Term expires November 2012



Hans' involvement with NAMI-VT goes back over 10 years. After a varied career in Vermont as Food Service Manager at UVM, a teacher at Pine Ridge School and VP for Operations at AC Hathorne, Co., Hans worked at Evergreen House in Middlebury, a Clubhouse for people with mental illness, at which time he took NAMI-VT's Family-to-Family class. He then worked for 15 years at Vocational Rehabilitation, seven of them as a Benefits Counselor where he worked with consumers and their parents, many of them NAMI members.

He served on the NAMI-VT Board from 2004 to 2006 and is excited to re-join us at this time.

Hans is married, has two adult children and lives in Shelburne.

Cathy Rickerby

Elected to 1st Term October 2007. Term expires November 2010



I'm a family member and primary caregiver. My love ones and I have survived twelve years of the worst and best public and private sector mental health care in NJ, NY, MA and VT. We've grown despite workplace harassment and stigma, given supportive employment and community education. And, we've just begun to thrive again, given the structure and simplicity of a small town, a considerate employer, and a counseling service that honors "family" and open conversation.

As a licensed professional educator, I've taught Kindergarten through eighth grade and mentored Theological Reflection courses for adults in NJ. Now, in VT, I've been teaching special education students. I'm a special needs family advocate, and I'll teach first grade math this year. I continue to applaud and promote Teaching Tolerance/ The Southern Poverty Law Center and APRAIS/The Alliance to prevent Restraint, Aversive Interventions, and Seclusion.

Pamela Shover

Elected to 1st Term November 2009. Term expires November 2012



I am a native Vermonter (eight generations), a 1972 graduate of Mt. Mansfield Union High School and a 1981 graduate of Trinity College with a double major in Psychology & Business Administration. I spent 25 plus years living in Chittenden County and the past 25 plus years in Washington County. I am the mother of two girls (28 & 33 y/o) and I have a 4 year-old granddaughter. I was a foster parent for teenage girls for several years.

I love animals and have raised mostly livestock on a small farm. I've been a Grange member for over a decade, producing and publishing the membership newsletter for two years. I have worked in Office Administration, primarily for non profits and the government, for over 30 yrs, including the USDA Forest Service, the Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice and the Vermont State Hospital. In my last position (prior to VSH), I was Finance Director at the Vermont Bar Association. I also have experience working on newsletters, printing and bulk mailings and in marketing and will be regular volunteer in the NAMI-VT office helping with a number of projects. I have had life-long involvement in mental health issue in various ways.

Thomas A. Simpatico, M.D.

Appointed to 1 year Term November 2009. Term expires November 2010



Dr. Tom Simpatico is Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Public Psychiatry at the University of Vermont, where he has dual appointments in the Department of Psychiatry and at the Center for Clinical & Translational Science. His areas of interest include schizophrenia, the intersection of psychiatry and the law, health care delivery systems and public policy relating to persons with serious mental illness.

Dr. Simpatico is an active researcher and teacher. He was a panelist for the recent Fred Friendly Seminar MINDS ON THE EDGE-Facing Mental Illness that aired nationally on PBS. He is the recipient of the Exemplary Psychiatrist Award of the Illinois Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the American Psychiatric Association Gold Achievement Award for Outstanding Innovative Program Development, and the Featherfist Humanitarian Service Award. He serves as an examiner for the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, and is currently President of the Vermont Psychiatric Association.

Connie Stabler

Elected to 1st Term November 2008. Term expires November 2011



Board President

Connie Stabler has been a member of NAMI-VT for over two years. She lives with her husband and 11 year-old son in South Burlington. Her older son was diagnosed with schizophrenia three and a half years ago when he was 20 years old. She has become an experienced advocate for him to receive the services that he needs to live as independently as possible. Connie works as the Executive Assistant to the CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden & Grand Isle Counties. In that capacity, she coordinates the activities for their Board of Directors and Senior Leadership Team.

Connie became a regular member of the NAMI-VT support group in Burlington and took the Family-to-Family Education course. She was so grateful for these resources that she wanted to give back and become more active in NAMI-VT. She joined the NAMI-VT Advocacy Committee last fall, and helped advocate for the Mental Health Parity bill which passed during the last legislative session. This past summer she was trained to be a Family-to-Family Educator, and is currently helping to teach the class in Chittenden County this fall.

Ellen Vaut

Elected to 1st Term November 2009. Term expires November 2012



I discovered NAMI shortly after a close family member was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. The NAMI website offered more than just information about mental illness. It provided the opportunity to connect with others who were struggling to help a family member or friend cope with mental illness. In the past year, I was able to take the Family-to-Family class and have become committed to educating others about mental illness and the stigma that surrounds it. In my present position as family consultant at Vermont Family Network, I work with families whose children have a mental illness that not only affects their school and social lives but also has a major impact on the entire family. I am particularly concerned about the number of transition-age youth who end up on the street or in corrections due to a lack of meaningful transitional planning. I would like to see NAMI provide more family training geared to children and youth.

On a personal note, I live in South Burlington with my family and pets. I love to sing and belong to a barbershop chorus. I have worked with people from other countries for many years and appreciate diversity and learning about other cultures