Message from the Treasurer

By Ed Westenbroek

Peer Instruction

Financial responsibility was CALL’s goal from the beginning. CALL’s bylaws and the Board Handbook stipulate the need for financial stability and reporting accuracy. Program fees are to be sufficient to cover all related expenses, plus 5-10% for office overhead. Through years of deliberate scrutiny, CALL currently has a solid financial base.

The three most prominent programs from the very beginning of CALL were Curriculum, Public Events, and Member Events. Participation in those programs continues to increase. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016:

1. CALL’s membership grew to a record 2,073. Membership revenue was $67,000.
2. CALL offered 120 fall, spring, and summer classes, which were attended by nearly 3,700 registrants. Curriculum revenue was $82,000.
3. The Passport to Adventure Series presented five travel films which generated over 600 season tickets for $17,600 in ticket sales. Public Events also sponsors the Noontime Series which are free to the public.
4. Member Events organized fourteen events which attracted over 700 individuals. Member Events revenue was $49,750.

In a more recent development in 2007, the CALL board, in participation with Calvin’s Development office and the Witte Travel agency, agreed to initiate a program that would offer domestic and international trips of 7-16 days. These trips have seen great success and we look forward to a multitude of extended trips to come.

Not all attempts to expand CALL’s events are successful. A three day ArtPrize event targeted to Calvin alumni living outside the West Michigan community was tried twice and twice had to be canceled because of low registrations. Going forward, however, new ideas will be tried and are always welcomed.

CALL enjoys a close association with Calvin College. CALL receives free use of classrooms and office space. Calvin also provides accounting and computer support. In return, CALL makes annual contributions to the January Series, CALL’s Scholarship fund, and the Calvin Community Symphony.

In summary, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, total revenue amounted to $236,300, expenses were $232,600, resulting in a net income of $3,700.

New CALL Book bags

A newly designed, CALL book bag with color logo is available on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in Hiemenga Hall. Using the honor system, anyone who wishes to upgrade to the new bag is asked to pay $3, or 2 for $5. If you are a newer CALL member and did not receive a bag previously, please feel free to take one at no charge. These bags are also available in the CALL office.
Passport to Adventure

by Henry Baron

Two films complete the 2017-2018 film series. On March 29, we journey on a road not typically traveled with our Passport Travelogue program, a story titled Sudan: The Inside Story with Karin Muller. Her accomplishments in weaving stories combined with her career in cinematography for National Geographic and PBS will surely provide a riveting look at one of the most complex countries in Africa.

An unforgettable journey into a world few Westerners will ever see, Sudan's Secret Side goes undercover inside a Sudanese refugee camp, exploring the thriving camp economy that exists just below the surface—bakers, barbers, tanners, the local grain-milling mafia, and the women who brew illegal beer for a willing male clientele. This eye-opening documentary also reveals the camp's medieval medical practices—from bleeding to burning—and discovers a butcher who moonlights as the camp surgeon. Sudan's Secret Side shows how the refugees have created their own village life inside a camp outside of their home country.

Our final film of the series is Thursday, May 11, at 7:00 pm. on The Promised Land narrated by Rick Ray.

The Middle East is a region of paradoxes.

It's a land where people go out of their way to make a stranger feel at home, but it is also a land where throughout history has witnessed acts of unspeakable brutality between enemy tribes and clans.

This film represents a travel documentary in words and images through several Middle Eastern countries including Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

The film will include wonders such as Petra, Jerusalem, the Cedars of Lebanon, and Cappadocia. Be sure to join us in May and be the first to receive the brochure for our next season's lineup.

Tickets are $6 each online at www.calvin.edu/boxoffice or you can call the box office at 526-6282. Season tickets are no longer cost advantageous, so only individual tickets are available for purchase, and all seats are reserved.

The 2017 Spring Noontime Series is free and open to the public. These in-depth and thought-provoking lectures are one hour in length from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm and located in the campus Chapel. Parking is best in lot #2 off the Burton Street entrance.

Most lectures are video recorded, and links to watch at home on your computer can be found on the main page of our website under the Noontime tab.

This spring marks the final season that Henry Baron will chair the Public Events Committee and introduce our Noontime speakers. Join us in his final semester with us and mark your calendar for the following bi-weekly Thursday presentations:

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On Thursday, February 23, Pamela Alderman speaks with us on Healing in Art: A Pathway to Flourishing.

Art has the unique potential to touch deep places within the human spirit. ArtPrize artist Pamela Alderman seeks just that: “to enter into the hearts of the wounded” through unique and compelling interactive art that move people to identify their struggles and release their hurts. A portion of her presentation centers on her exhibit on sex-trafficking, The Scarlet Cord. At any given moment in the state of Michigan there are 2,400 minors for sale.

Alderman’s presentation will include highlights from her eight-year ArtPrize journey and a short video filmed in Phoenix during the 2015 Super Bowl at her sex trafficking art installation. Alderman’s art invites transformation and hope. This lecture complements a separate and different presentation with Pamela at the CALL Member Event on Wednesday, March 29.

Recently, our news media and reporting ethics have fueled many arguments. On March 9, Randy Bytwerk presents Making Sense of News in an Age of Propaganda.

What are the characteristics of propaganda in today’s world?
What role did propaganda play in the recent election?
How can we discern the difference between fake news and authentic news?
What can we, as citizens, do to build some resistance against the flood of confusing and contradictory messages we receive?
And how do we witness for “the truth?”

Henry Baron presents our fourth lecture on March 23, Growing Up in WWII: Memories and Reflections that Don’t Fade.

Childhood innocence shatters, evil takes on a human face, fear often penetrates as a knifepoint to the heart, and faith’s questions surface permanently when war invades.

Hear reflections and stories that tell what is remembered and will not let go after 75 years.

Steve Timmermans and Peter Borgdorff provide insight into A Season of Challenges: Facing the Times In and Beyond the CRC on April 6. This lecture addresses challenges within the CRC and contextualizes these challenges in regional, national, and global ways. While the subject addresses matters internal to the Christian Reformed Church in North America, all--regardless of denominational home--will profit from understanding the contexts in which denominations such as the CRC address contemporary challenges and face the future with hope and humility.
Announcements
by Sonja DeJong

Spring Courses
Registration continues for our 53 spring CALL courses!

Over 1400 seats have filled for our spring courses. Although most of our first session courses are underway, six of the first session courses begin as late as February 24, 28 or the first week of March. Those courses are APPle Explorations, iPad out of the Box, Footsteps in Jerusalem, Cuba: The Ever-Faithful Isle, Reading Esther in the Old Testament, A Groundhog Case and Friday at the Movies.

Following our first session, many opportunities remain available to enroll in one of our 27 second-session courses. Two of our most popular course this spring still have room for additional students, The Book of Acts, with Dan Kroeze and Friday at the Movies, off-campus at Woodland Celebration Cinema.

We now know the four Indie films that will comprise the Friday at the Movies lineup:

February 24, 2017

I Am Not Your Negro (2017). A provocative and lavishly praised documentary of race relations in the United States, the film provides an unsettling prophetic examination of racial conflict over the last half century. The film is based on a draft of a proposed film by celebrated African-American writer James Baldwin (1924-87). Samuel L. Jackson narrates. PG-13, 93 min. Rotten Tomatoes rating 97%; Metacritic 95%. Discussant: Roy Anker.

March 10, 2017

The Red Turtle (2017). This remarkable animated French film for grownups offers a dazzling treatment of the old tales of man-lost-on-desert-island. One prominent critic praises the effort to “contemplate humanity's connections to the natural world and the realm of the spirit.” PG, 80 mins, subtitles. Rotten Tomatoes 93%, Metacritic 88%. Viewers liked the film almost as much as critics. Discussant: Eric Kuiper.

March 24, 2017

Neruda (2016). Based loosely on the life of Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet (and politician) Pablo Neruda, the film treats an investigator's search for Neruda when he becomes a fugitive in his own country for his Communist leanings during the 1940s. The film treats both the pursued and the pursuer, one rather a sensualist and the other resolute and ascetic, and as one reviewer put it, they learn a lot from each other. R (for sexuality/nudity and some language), 107 mins, subtitles. Rotten Tomatoes 96%, Metacritic 82%. Discussant: Roy Anker.

April 7, 2017

I, Daniel Blake (2016; winner of big prize at Cannes Film Festival, 2016). Directed by celebrated, and 80 year-old British director Ken Loach, this heartfelt film depicts the trials of a middle-aged carpenter (recovering from a heart attack) and a single-mother he befriends as they both confront an impersonal public assistance bureaucracy. Though the topic is dispiriting the film is about human bonds of humor, warmth, and care. R (Language: this is a
realistic film about British working class life, and there, as in the States, the language can be very offensive, add to that the fact that in England the “f-word” has the same semantic weight as “darn”), 100 mins. Rotten Tomatoes 92%; Metacritic 78. Another film that audiences liked as much as critics, if not more. Discussant: Jennifer Holberg.

**Calvin Community Symphony**

As a program for which we are a sponsor, Calvin Community Symphony, under the direction of John Varineau, will hold its spring concert on Saturday, March 4 at 3:00 pm in the Covenant Fine Arts Center. Admission is free and tickets are not required.

**Annual Meeting and Luncheon**

Registration is open for the Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Thursday, May 25 for a cost of $10. Doors open at 11:30 am. This annual event includes a brief 15-minute business meeting, presentation of the Distinguished Service Award, and entertainment by Half-n-Half Quartet, a four-man acapella group known for their close harmonies and audience-pleasing antics. This is one of the few opportunities to mingle and share conversations with other members of CALL in a social setting. A catered hot lunch is expertly prepared by the culinary staff of the Prince Conference Center and CALL covers a portion of the cost of this event. Signup information is listed under the Member Events section on page 7.

**Calvin 5K, Cost Reduction**

CALL is a sponsor for the third consecutive year of the Calvin 5k on Saturday, April 29. Walk or run for a reason as proceeds fund scholarships that directly benefit Calvin students.

CALL is committed to the health of our members and offers a $10 discount for each CALL participant, reducing the cost for the event to $15. In addition, the college is always grateful for volunteers in a number of areas the day of the race. Visit [https://calvin.edu/events/spring-classic](https://calvin.edu/events/spring-classic) to sign up. If you are walking or running the race, use code “Call17” for the $10 discount in the coupon code box located on the final page of registration just above the credit card information.

**Service Grants**

CALL recently received 22 thank-you cards from 3rd grade students at River City Scholars Charter Academy. A grant was awarded to this classroom for new level reading books at the request of one of our members who volunteers in this classroom. One of the cards is included below.

Email the CALL office for the service grant form to help the charity with whom you volunteer.
Member Events
by Shirley Lautenbach

Lincoln Legacy Trip, Springfield

Due to insufficient numbers, this trip is now cancelled.

Spring Luncheon, Wednesday, March 29
An ArtPrize Artist's Journey
Artist Pamela Alderman

ArtPrize has opened surprising doors for artist Pamela Alderman. Over the past eight years, her interactive exhibits have touched thousands of visitors with the message of hope and healing. Pamela creates unique exhibits that focus on the viewers and their needs. Every year visitors express appreciation for the sacred space to talk about their stories.

Alderman's presentation will include an inside look of creating her 2016 ArtPrize installation called Color Me Orange—Color Me Kind where visitors tied 100,000 orange ribbons as a promise to be kind in addition to a live demonstration of painting with her hands.


The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum, Wednesday-Friday, May 3, 4, 5
We will travel to Kentucky to visit the Creation Museum and The Ark Encounter. The state-of-the-art Creation Museum allows you to venture through biblical history, stunning exhibits, botanical gardens and much more. The 75,000 square - foot museum brings the pages of the Bible to life through its 160 exhibits. We will also experience the high-definition digital technology of the Stargazer's Planetarium. Enjoy an incredible journey through space.

Experience the life size Noah's Ark - 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high. The ark only recently opened and is one of only three full size Noah's Ark replicas in the world and is the largest of the three. The Ark Encounter is one of the largest “green” construction projects in the country, taking advantage of the latest environmental technologies to be good stewards of creation.

This exciting trip includes bus transportation, lodging, coffee and rolls, one lunch, and three dinners. Cost - $499 per person, double occupancy. Add $100 total for single room.

Cheer for the Tigers, Thursday, June 29
The Detroit Tigers will play the Kansas City Royals at Comerica Park on Thursday, June 29 at 1:00 pm. CALL members may invite their friends and grandchildren. The bus leaves the Prince Conference Center parking lot at 8:30 am. Coffee and rolls en route. At the game you will have a voucher for a hot dog and a soft drink.

We will return to Calvin by 7:30 pm.

Cost - $87.00 per person.
Questions: Don-901-2170, Shirley-299-3584.
Member Events Registration

Two ways to register:

1. Online:
   [www.calvin.edu/CALL > Member Events]

2. Complete this form (make checks payable to CALL) and send to CALL, Youngsma Center, 3201 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. Event fees are per person. CALL will notify you if an event has filled.

- □ Mar 29  Spring Luncheon with Pamela Alderman  $19
- □ May 3-5  The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum  $499
- □ May 3-5  The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum-single-room supplement  $100
- □ May 25  Annual Meeting and Luncheon  $10
- □ June 29  Detroit Tigers  $89

Name: __________________________________________
Phone: __________________________________________
Email:  Confirm by email? □ Yes  □ No, I don’t use email

Contact Shirley with questions: 299-3584 or lautenshirley@gmail.com
The cancellation policy is posted on the CALL website

Extended Trips
by John Apol

Of the trips scheduled for 2017, Israel, Iceland, and Cuba have closed for registration. Three additional trips have openings: America Southwest, In the Footsteps of the Reformation to Germany and Switzerland and the newest trip, Stratford Festival.

American Southwest

With already 22 registrations, the American Southwest tour with John Apol promises 12 days of breathtaking adventure to incredible majestic creations of Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park, Grand Canyon, Antelope Canyon, and so much more.

The Southwestern desert states of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Nevada stretch across an elemental landscape ranging from towering monoliths of red sandstone to snowcapped mountains, on a high desert plateau that repeatedly splits open to reveal yawning canyons. This overwhelming scenery is complemented by the emphatic presence of Native American cultures and the palpable legacy of America’s Wild West frontier. This magnificent adventure is rated moderate for exercise.

In the Footsteps of the Reformers

To date we have had 13 register for the September 12-22 trip to cities and sites in Germany and Switzerland in addition to celebrating the 500th anniversary of The Reformation. The tour leaders are Karin Maag and Paul Fields. Highlights include numerous evening lectures, Berlin and remnants of the Berlin Wall, Heidelberg Castle, Strasbourg Parliament tour, ascending Uetliberg Mountain in Zurich, a Lake Zurich boat excursion, the preserved medieval city of Bern, the Reformation Museum in Geneva, and an evening cruise on Lake Geneva.
Stratford Festival (Canada)

After a wildly popular trip last year, the CALL office, in partnership with the Alumni office and Witte Travel, are offering a return trip to the Stratford Festival in Ontario, Canada, June 7-9. The brochure and registration are available online. The trip, led again by Gary Schmidt, includes five performances:

- **Twelfth Night** by William Shakespeare
- **The Virgin Trial** by Kate Hennig
- **Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson
- **H.M.S. Pinafore** (an operetta) by W.S. Gilbert
- **and Romeo and Juliet** by William Shakespeare