Message from the Treasurer

by Ed Westenbroek, Treasurer and Board Liaison to the Finance Committee

CALL ended its fiscal year June 30, 2017, with $209,200 in total revenue, and a $10,900 profit.

CALL’s operating expenses last year were $198,300, which is summarized into three categories - $85,000 for the direct cost of its courses and events, $13,000 that was contributed to various organizations, and $100,300 for administrative costs, which includes staff salaries and benefits, printing, mailing, marketing and hospitality expenses.

Those operating expenses are likely to increase as CALL assumes certain expenses currently funded by the college. CALL is closely tied to the college, and receives many benefits and services from the college, mainly the provision of classroom and office space, and computer support. Over the years, CALL has grown significantly, requiring additional office staff. About ten years ago CALL hired its first administrative person. As CALL continued to increase in membership, the office staff has expanded to two individuals, Sonja and Marjo. In addition, the contract for the current software program we use for CALL’s online registration is expiring, and many organizations and departments at Calvin will need to pay their portion of use moving forward. CALL will assume this cost to purchase new software, as well as the related annual maintenance cost.

CALL operates on a near break-even budget, but usually ends its fiscal year with a slight profit of $5,000 to $10,000. Over the years, those annual profits resulted in an accumulated surplus, which at June 30, 2017, had a balance of $80,000. That surplus allows CALL to make contributions to Calvin for specific facility improvements besides maintaining a cash reserve of $40,000. At its December board meeting, the CALL board approved a $29,500 contribution to the college for a hearing loop system in the Great Hall of the Prince Conference Center. The last contribution to the college for facility improvements occurred in 2010 when CALL provided $17,300 for a hearing loop in the Fine Arts Center.

CALL intends to maintain its stable financial structure and its favorable partnership with the college. Pricing its courses and events is part of its planning process. Compared to other colleges in the Grand Rapids area with similar senior programs, CALL’s fees are substantially less. Hope’s lifelong learning program (HASP) charges a membership fee of $100 annually and the Aquinas OLLI program offers three options for membership and classes as follows (M= Membership, and C= Course fees per class):

- $25 M, $68 C (per 4 wk class)
- $60 M, $56 C
- $385 M, C=No charge

(CALL is $35 for membership and $25 for any course.)

As costs are reviewed for next year’s budget, Additional revenue will support CALL’s objectives of high quality programs, diverse courses and events, a welcoming and hospitable atmosphere, and the means to contribute long-term support to the college.
Our National Parks: Sunrise to Sunset

Wednesday, March 21
7:00 pm.

**During Calvin’s spring break so much improved parking options.**

They are breathtaking...our National Parks. They are our sanctuaries, full of timeless marvels that still rejuvenate the soul. Trace the sun’s course from the first hushed moments of dawn to dusk’s final glow.

The sun illuminates Voyageurs in Minnesota, The Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Canyonlands in Utah, The Grand Canyon, Crater Lake in Oregon, Mount Rainier, Yosemite, Saguaro in Arizona, Olympic in Washington and the Haleakala and Hawaii Volcanoes in the Hawaiian Islands, to name a few. No two vistas are alike in this stunning program, but every park has one thing in common: each of them is a living symbol of the untamed American spirit.

Dennis Burkhart, Director of Cinematography for Special Projects at the Travel Channel, takes us on this journey through America's national parks. Burkhart has worked and traveled around the world as a Peace Corps volunteer, an underwater excavator, mountaineer, photographer and filmmaker, and a travel guide.

Burkhart has filmed in all kinds of climates and faced a wide variety of challenges. And what was his worst experience? "Filming the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. I had to fly into it in a helicopter. Filming hot lava is inherently dangerous, and the helicopter flight was made more precarious because the door was opened to give Dennis a clear shot.

Hanging outside, you look down on this incredible molten lava underneath you and there's no door there, and it's kind of frightening," recalled Burkhart.

"You have a safety harness. That and duct tape." The duct tape was used to tape over the quick-release of the safety harness, to make sure it wouldn't pop open while Burkhart was straining against it to get his shots.

When asked which national park someone should visit if they can visit only one, Burkhart doesn't hesitate to respond: "The one closest to you. There's no place in the world that compares to our National Park system. There are countries in Africa and Europe that have national parks, but nowhere do you find the diversity of landscapes, the scope of history, and the sheer quality of protection that exists in the National Parks of the United States. And it's something to be very proud of."

Single tickets are $6 for adults or $3 for students and can be purchased in advance by phone at 526-6282 or in person the night of the film. Seating is reserved. Many participants park on the east side of the Beltline and walk the Calvin Crossing to the main campus.
Noontime lectures are scheduled from 12:00 to 1:00 pm in the Calvin Chapel. The Chapel is the second building to your right as you enter the campus from Burton Street. Parking is best in lot 1&2. All lectures are free and open to the community.

World War I on April 6, 1917, the war had already been destroying European lives, cities, and the countryside for nearly three years; many from West Michigan were already involved.

Some immigrants who were not yet U.S. citizens had been called to serve in their homeland armies, others made airplanes in former Grand Rapids furniture plants, a small number of young men had volunteered for combat units especially as pilots in France, and a few West Michigan travelers who were trapped in Germany when war broke out, had to remain there until it ended.

This lecture will look at the many areas of West Michigan’s involvement in World War I in Europe and at home, from military engagement to war industry suppliers and home front volunteers.

On March 8, Dr. Scott Westhouse, Muriel Zandstra and Dr. Larry Gerbens present a lecture titled The Eyes of the Artist.

Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) has affected many artists through the ages. We will use the life and work of prominent Grand Rapids artist Armand Merizon to illustrate the effect of AMD on an individual and his art. Although he gained repute as a painter of photo-realistic landscapes and imaginative nature scenes early in his career, Merizon started experimenting with abstraction in the late 1980s when macular degeneration began to blur his vision. A just-released book on the life and art of Mr. Merizon will be introduced and available. We will also present the latest information and advances in the treatment of both wet and dry AMD in an easy-to-understand format.
Announcements
by Sonja DeJong, CALL Program Manager

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Spring Courses
The following courses in the first session are beginning soon and still have openings:

#3 Healthy Society in a Sinful World
#9 Sense and Sensibility
#10 Literature of the Middle East
#12 The Four-Dimensional Gospel
#13 Athens and Sparta
#16 The First English Kings
#17 Dementia, Aging, and End of Life

The popularity of our Fridays at the Movies course continues to draw over 100 registrants each semester. Independent films at Celebration Cinema are decided only one month in advance. Based on this timing, we now know the first film we will show. This Friday, Feb. 23, we have the pleasure of viewing the “Darkest Hour.” Nominated for Oscar’s Best Picture and Best Actor, the “Darkest Hour” dramatizes the plight of Winston Churchill in the early dark days of World War II as he confronts the decision whether to fight the onslaught of Nazism across Europe or negotiate. The film is rated PG-13 and 125 mins. The film begins at 3:30 and Roy Anker will provide a time for Q&A following the movie.

Great Decisions Global Discussions
Offered by the World Affairs Council of West Michigan, Calvin is hosting for the first time this global discussion series in Calvin’s Recital Hall. World Affairs Council of Western Michigan is an educational, non-partisan and non-advocacy organization headed by Executive Director and former Calvin Alumni Director Michael Van Denend. Although CALL has no direct connection to the lecture series, we are happy to provide information about this opportunity on behalf of the college.

Four lectures remain in this series on Mondays at noon starting with February 26:

Is American Global Leadership Waning
Putin, Russia, and the New Cold War
South Africa at a Crossroads: Implications for the U.S.-South Africa Relations
Global Health: Equity, Ethics, and Eradication

The cost is $10 per lecture. Find details at: www.worldmichigan.org/greatdecisions2018.

Annual Meeting and Luncheon
Registration is open for the Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Tuesday, May 22 at a cost of $12.50. (CALL covers a portion of the cost of this event.) Doors open at 11:30 am. This annual event includes a 15-minute business meeting, presentation of the Distinguished Service Award, and special entertainment. A catered hot lunch is expertly prepared by the culinary staff of the Prince Conference Center. Signup information is listed under the Member Events section on pg. 6.

Calvin Community Symphony
CALL sponsors the Calvin Community Symphony, under the direction of John Varineau. You’re invited to their spring concert on Saturday, March 10, at 3:00 pm, in the Covenant Fine Arts Center. Admission is free.

Calvin 5K
Walk or run for a reason! When you sign up for the 5K Spring Classic, you support scholarships which directly benefit Calvin students. The race begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 28, and the cost is reduced to just $15 for CALL members until April 1. Visit https://calvin.edu/events/spring-classic to register. CALL pays $10 of your race fee. In the Registration Cart, enter CALL2018 in the Coupon Code box.

Festival of Faith and Writing
CALL members receive a reduced price of $200 to attend the conference from April 12-14. Registration can be found at www.festival.calvin.edu/festival-2018/registration/. When signing up, enter call2018 at the bottom of page 1 and select regular registration on page 2.
Member Events
by Marjorie Goosen and Amy Shellenbarger, Co-Chairs

Love Thy Neighbor
Friday, March 16, 9:00 am

Registration is climbing for our interfaith church tour on March 16. Twenty seats remain to spend a day getting to know about the Buddhist, Jewish and Muslim members of our community and how they worship. The schedule is as follows:

9:30 am - depart from the Prince Conference Center

9:45 am - Temple Emanuel with an overview of the Jewish community and a tour of this beautiful facility.

11:30 am - The Islamic Mosque and Religious Institute which includes a buffet lunch, featuring a selection of typical Middle Eastern food, including baklava for dessert. Guests receive an overview of the Islamic faith and observe the 1:30 pm prayer service.

3:00 pm - The Grand Rapids Buddhist and Zen Center which includes a tour and an overview of Buddhism. Please wear warm socks as we'll be asked to leave our shoes/boots at the door.

5:30 pm Return to Calvin.

Cost: $55 per person, includes lunch and coach bus transportation.

For any questions, contact the CALL office at call@calvin.edu or 526-8777.

Dinner and a Play
Sense and Sensibility
Performed by Calvin Theater
Thursday, April 19, 5:30 pm

Jessica Swale’s cleverly-written, fast-paced and delightful adaptation of Jane Austen’s novel follows the fortunes of the Dashwood sisters as, cheated of their inheritance by their selfish brother, they pursue their dreams.

We will enjoy a delectable dinner at the Chapel Undercroft before the play and enjoy a short lecture by the play director, Professor Debra Freeberg. The meal features rosemary roasted pork loin, topped with a gorgonzola cream sauce and served with parmesan mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables, salad, rolls and tiramisu for dessert.

Following the dinner and lecture, it is just a short walk to the Gezon Theater where we will have the pleasure of watching one of Jane Austin’s great period dramas, Sense and Sensibility.

Cost: $35 per person, includes dinner and play. Dinner is at 5:30 pm followed by the play at 7:30 pm.

If you have any dietary restrictions, please contact the CALL office.

For questions, contact Edy Borgondy at borgondy@gmail.com or phone at 313-247-3537.

Grand Rapids Broadway’s
The King and I
Thursday, June 7, 5:00 pm
Signup Deadline April 15

Two worlds collide in the Lincoln Center Theater production of this “breathtaking and exquisite” (The New York Times) musical. One of Rodgers & Hammerstein’s finest works, The King and I boasts a musical score of beloved classics. Set in 1860’s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the King of Siam and Anna Leonowens, a British schoolteacher whom the modernist King, in an imperialistic world, brings to Siam to teach his many wives and children. Winner of the 2015 Tony Award® for Best Musical Revival, The King and I is “too beautiful to miss” (New York Magazine).

(Cont. pg.6)
Enjoying coach bus transportation for the evening, we begin this June night at First Wok restaurant. Our buffet meal includes beef with broccoli, sesame or orange chicken, chicken vegetable supreme, Hunan chicken or beef, egg rolls, crab rangoon and steamed or fried rice. A cash bar is available if desired. Calvin Professor Larry Hertzberg, who is the Calvin Director of Asian Studies, sets the stage for the night’s performance as he shares his expertise on Thailand and this time period during our meal.

Eliminating the busyness, hassles, challenges, and walking distances of self-parking downtown, your coach bus transportation provides guests with valuable front-door service to the DeVos Performance Hall for the 7:30 performance time. With seats reserved in Zone 1 of the mezzanine, you enjoy nearly unobstructed views of this highly-acclaimed cast. How fortunate we are as Grand Rapidians to experience these exceptional national tours here in Grand Rapids!

The deadline for registration is April 15 so we can return the unused tickets. CALL members are welcome to bring friends or family members to this special evening.

Cost: $118 per person, includes dinner, transportation, and performance. The performance time, including intermission, is three hours.

If you have any dietary restrictions, please contact the CALL office.

For questions, contact Darlene Meyering at meyrda1@gmail.com or phone the CALL office at 526-8777.

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. A reminder is sent two weeks before the event.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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Name (s): __________________________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________________________________

Confirm by email?    Yes  No, I don’t use email
Extended Trips
by John Apol

Registration is open for all 2018 extended trips, including the latest, South Africa. Two trips are closed except for waitlists: Peru and Alaska. Peru departs March 26-April 10 and Alaska dates are May 13-23.

**Stratford:**
Last month we noted dates for a repeat Stratford trip from June 6-8. Due to schedule conflicts, this trip is postponed to next year.

We have received high interest and heavy registration for the Canadian Rockies trip. This trip is already 2/3 full. Anyone interested should complete registration soon.

The Canadian Rockies is home to five national parks and charming alpine towns, and is one of Canada's most popular destinations. Travel into the heart of incredible scenery on a Canadian Rockies vacation and experience stunning vistas ranging from verdant river valleys and dramatic rock sheds to lush rainforests and deep canyons with the peaks of the majestic mountains, which span more than 69,000 square miles across two provinces, looming high above.

This trip includes Calgary, Banff, Lake Moraine and Lake Louise, Yoho National Park, Emerald Lake, Athabasca Glacier, Maligne Lake and Canyon and the mountain town of Jasper before ending our tour in Edmonton. This trip opportunity is offered once every four years.

**The Civil War, May 4-13**
Civil War battlefields and related sites are the focus of this 10-day tour. Walk where armies won triumphs and suffered losses, see the memorials that stand today, and learn how America remembers the Civil War.

By the close of the Civil War, Washington, D.C. was the most heavily fortified city in North America, perhaps even in the world. According to the report of the army's official engineer, her defenses boasted 68 enclosed forts with 807 mounted cannon and 93 mortars, 93 unarmed batteries with 401 emplacements for field guns and 20 miles of rifle trenches plus three blockhouses.

America’s battlefields and associated historic sites are living monuments — places of remembrance and reflection. They are windows into our history, the lessons of which help us shed light upon the way forward. Walk in the footsteps of those who forged our country. Honor our heroes. Explore our past. Envision our future.

**Acadia Hiking and Biking Adventure, Aug. 2-9**
Registration continues for this summer trip to Maine. This trip is struggling for enrollment and may be canceled in March without more registrations. If you are regularly active, you should be prepared for hikes from 2-4 miles and one leisure pace bike ride of 11 miles.

Highlights include scenic hikes to the mountains of Cadillac and Acadia as well as Jordan Pond, a trolley tour in Bar Harbor, afternoon tea at the Jordan Pond House, leisurely bike rides, a lobster boat tour, Frenchmen Bay Cruise and a trip to Rockefeller gardens, where larger-than-life Korean dignitaries carved from granite flank the 980-foot-long Spirit Path, a domestic diminution of the four-mile road to China's Ming Tombs.

*(South Africa, pg. 8)*
South Africa- Oct 5-19

Our itinerary includes the two largest cities, Johannesburg and Pretoria, as well as Cape Town, visits to townships and remote villages, and two days in the village of Kgautswane. We will spend three days in Kruger National Park (the size of Massachusetts), viewing African animals in the wild from guided, open-air vehicles as well as from our motorcoach. We will pass through a marvelous, constantly changing landscape of mountains, plateaus, and sea coast, observing (during the southern African spring) unusual flora such as the “fynbos” in the Cape of Good Hope region. While in the Cape Town area, we will take a cable car to the top of Table Mountain (3000 feet above the city) for magnificent views. We will also take a boat trip to Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for many years. On our drive to the actual Cape of Good Hope, we will visit a penguin colony and take a short boat trip to a small island, home to hundreds of seals. No trip to South Africa would be complete without a visit to Cape Winelands, where we will visit a vineyard and sample its fine wines.