President’s Message

Have you been blessed by a wonderful and inspiring passion season? What a joy it is to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. May this season remind of this privilege and gift as we continue to live our lives for Him.

CALL is a dynamic and purposeful organization. At the March Board meeting, we heard that . . .

- we are growing in both membership and participation.
- the committees are reviewing By-Laws and the Board Handbook to be sure that the policies which fostered growth for the past 17 years are still applicable to today’s needs.
- plans for the annual meeting are almost complete. Be sure to send in your reservation and $5 if you plan to attend on Wednesday, May 23. A special event for President Galen Byker is planned!
- the Health Care Summit, a 4-part panel discussion, held at Calvin, was a complete success—thanks to Larry Gerbens and the curriculum committee.
- course registrations are up.
- the member events committee reports lots of sign-ups for trips, the opera, and other events.
- the relationship between CALL and MVP is strong, but we need to be remind ourselves that MVP membership at the ½-price rate requires membership in CALL.
- the nominating committee has reviewed many candidates to serve on the board, and has found capable persons who were willing to submit their names to the full membership for approval.
- the newly-formed marketing and communications committee is looking for someone to chair this committee. Is there anyone out there who has had marketing and/or communications experience who wants a new, volunteer challenge?
- the board approved its annual Distinguished Service Award nominees, and will be presenting their names at the annual meeting.
- the State of Michigan may soon permit friends of Calvin to purchase Calvin license plates. Stay tuned.
- the Curriculum Committee is planning a full array of Fall, 2012 courses, and is eager to work with Uko Zylstra, our new curriculum director, who will officially begin his work this summer.
- the summer programs committee reports a great list of classes and events for this summer. Watch for details.
- the website is a valuable place to view videos, pictures, and announcements. (Calvin.edu/Call)
- we will be ready to take on-line registrations for membership and classes by this summer.

Ray Vander Weele, President

SPOTLIGHT ON …

Passport to Adventure Travelogue Series

In 1966 a group of men from the Millbrook Christian Reformed Church, looking for a way to raise money to combat Communist propaganda in Latin America, decided to start a travelogue series in the downtown George Welsh Auditorium. With the proceeds they sent Christian literature to Christian bookstores in Mexico City and Acapulco.

The very first travelogue held in the Welsh Auditorium was “Incredible Iceland” by Robert Davis. Introducing the film was Iceland’s own ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Peter Thorsteinsson.
The Millbrook Series started with one show on April 30, 1966. The following year it increased to two shows and then added a show each year until they had a total of four shows per season. My husband Jerry Sietsema and I loved travelogues and attended all of the Millbrook shows. From the beginning, however, the downtown area around the auditorium did not have good parking. Many people had to walk across the river bridge in icy and windy winter weather to get to the 4,500 seat auditorium.

Approximately eight years after the Millbrook Committee formed they lost two of the four men who had started it. The two remaining men decided it was too much work for only two people, and persuaded the Grand Rapids Christian School Association plus some teachers from outlying schools to take the series sponsorship. The outlying schools were Ada, Westside, Jenison, and South Christian. It ended up being a large committee of Christian School teachers and myself, I being the only person who was not a teacher.

After a few years the Christian School Association was no longer interested in being part of the committee as it was too much work for the amount of money that we made for the schools. Ada, Westside, Jenison, and South Christian, however, decided to continue with the series. It left a committee of four teachers and myself to run the travelogue.

Shortly after this we decided to move to Calvin College and leave the downtown Welsh Auditorium because of the expense of renting the huge auditorium and the scarcity of parking. It was a good move. For several years we rented the Fine Arts Auditorium, showing five travelogues per year.

In 1996 this committee of teachers finally decided to discontinue, and persuaded the newly formed Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning (CALL) to take over the sponsorship. This also was an answer to prayer and a very successful move.

It was wonderful over the years to see the audience grow in number. Twice in just the past season we have had sold out performances. When the artists come to Calvin they say ours is the most beautiful venue in the nation. In 2000 I was honored with the Outstanding Sponsor in the University Category, and in 2005 I was given the Presenter of the Year award by the Travel Cinema Society. I wish to thank all of you for faithfully attending the travelogues at Calvin College and giving me this opportunity for the past 37 years to travel around the world by means of film.

Travelogues are one of the ways that we can learn of the beauties and wonders that God gave us when he created this earth of ours. We have traveled places in the world we could only dream of. We have circled the globe. Let’s sit back in our comfortable seats and dim the lights for another adventure to a foreign land.

Anna Sietsema
Thursday, April 19 Festival of Faith and Writing
Come and hear author and Calvin professor, Gary Schmidt talk about "Where the Servants Dwell." This lecture is free and open to all and will be held in the Van Noord Arena at Calvin from 12 - 1 PM.

Summer Programs
Peter DeBoer, Chair
The Summer Programs committee has been busy planning a great line-up of classes for the month of June. Some are popular repeats, others offer something new and different. Remember you do not need to be a CALL member to take the summer classes so be sure to invite your friends and family. We are offering an ETHNIC FOODS COOKING CLASS: Monday, June 11 & Tuesday, June 12 from 10:00 am. to 2:00 pm. at Grand Rapids Christian High school with Lindsey Pedersen.
Bill Van Dyke will be teaching a class on PRAYER, June 4-7
Also new this summer will be our SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL which will take place June 18-21 from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Calvin College Chapel.
June 18: Amy Netz, flute and Ken Bos, organ
June 19: Lisa Walhout, soprano
June 20: Charsie Sawyer, soprano
June 21: Norma de Wal Malefyt, organ
Summer favorites of Birding, Golf, American Foreign Relations, Immigration, American Revolution, Line Dancing, and Computers will also be offered during the month of June. Watch for more details and registration information.

Extended Trips Committee
John Apol, chair
American Southwest, September 6-17, 2012
Due to the success of the National Parks travel experience of last year; alumnus John Apol will be leading another Western U.S. tour, this time through Arizona and New Mexico. A brochure is available on the CALL web site, Calvin Alumni Assn. web site, or from John Apol. The sign up deadline for the lowest price is April 1. Questions? John Apol at john@lenscape-photography.com or at 616-243-8600.
A Journey to South Africa, November 2-17, 2012.
Visit a land of many races, cultures and languages with incredible diversity in geography. This trip will include learning about the massive political changes that occurred with the end of apartheid in the early ‘90s. The cities of Cape Town and Johannesburg will be visited as well as townships and remote villages. As we travel from place to place we will view the country’s diverse landscape, including the “highveld” and “lowveld,” seacoast, mountains and plateaus, and unusual flora such as the “fynbos” of the cape region.
Led by Calvin alumnus John Apol. Contact Witte Travel at 957-8113 or groups@wittetravel.com.
A descriptive brochure, “A Journey to South Africa,” is available on the CALL website or from John Apol via email at john@lenscape-photography.com or at 616 243 8600. Some reservations may still be made.

A Pilgrimage to Israel: In the Light of Jesus,
March 11-22, 2013
This one-of-a-kind journey to the Holy Land will be led by Rev. Bill Vanden Bosch and wife, Lyn; the Vanden Bosches have organized this special trip a number of years now and add a deep spiritual dimension to the experience. A brochure and website will soon be available with more information. Until then, call the Calvin Alumni Office to get materials sent to you, 616-526-6142.

Membership Secretary
Irene Bolthouse
The second session of Spring classes will soon begin (on March 27). Please note:
1) Classes filled, with waiting list only:
   #19 Revelation
   #20 Memoir
   #23 World War II
   #25 Computers
   #31 Underground Railroad
   #32 Love Wins
2) Room changes
   #18 Faith & Science, to CFAC-115
   #26 Visual Arts, to H-336
   #29 Cuban Crisis, to H-332.

Administrative Assistant
Lisa Bauman
We have a wonderful opportunity for you to serve CALL and its members. Our Membership Committee is looking for a few new volunteers. This committee helps to spread the word about CALL and its offerings, gathers information about our membership through surveys so that we can continue to offer relevant classes and activities, and prepares the CALL Distinguished Service Award. This is a great way to become involved, meet some new friends, and help CALL to continue its dedication to our membership and our community.
If you'd like to learn more please contact Lisa in the CALL office at 526-8777 or lcb2@calvin.edu
Member Events Committee
Don and Shirley Lautenbach, Co-Chairs

April 14 [Sat] Lunch and "La Traviata."

Join CALL members and friends for the experience of seeing the opera "La Traviata" by Verdi. Our day will begin with Howard Slenk, a retired Calvin music professor, who will introduce us to opera, Verdi and "LaTraviata". After lunch we will go to Celebration North to enjoy the opera.

The lecture and lunch will be in the Calvin Commons Lecture Hall on the lower level. The Commons is located across from the Covenant Fine Arts Center.

Cost $35.00. Includes lecture, lunch and admission to the opera.

Questions: Shirley Lautenbach - 698.9244

April 26 [Thu] Amish Acres

Enjoy a one-day trip to Amish Acres - a historic Amish farm. We will experience the lifestyle of the Amish through guided home tours, farm wagon ride tour showing points of interest on the farm, documentary films and quaint shops. Lunch on your own. The special feature will be the musical comedy "Church Basement Ladies."

This comedy is based on the thought that the church kitchen at one time was often the heart and soul of the church. This comedy is funny, heart warming, down to earth and will bring back many memories. After the play we will enjoy a "Thresher's Dinner" - a feast of Amish favorites. The dinner will be served in the century old barn restaurant, originally built in 1876.

Cost $79.00 Questions: Shirley Lautenbach - 698.9244


We are planning an exciting tour of the Ford Rouge factory assembly where the Ford F-150 truck production is assembled. Our tour is self-guided and includes a five-part series of events including the history of the Rouge video, gallery display, observation deck, and assembly walking tour. There are plenty of places to sit while on the tour. We will enjoy a nice dinner/lunch at a local restaurant and then view the current film at the Dearborn IMAX theatre. Coffee and donuts enroute and dinner included in the day's event.

Cost for the day: $90. Questions: Carl and Glenda Welmers 243-6431

May 14 and 15 [Mon & Tues] REMBRANDT in AMERICA - Cleveland, Ohio

REMBRANDT in AMERICA is a highly acclaimed exhibit of 50 paintings with 27 autographed by Rembrandt. Other Dutch masters are Jans Lieuens and Covert Flink.

Our trip begins with a lecture on the Rembrandt exhibit by Calvin College Art professor Henry Luttkhuizen. The lecture will be at Calvin College. After coffee and rolls we will board the bus for Cleveland. Boxed lunches on the way.

Monday evening we will enjoy dinner and a cruise on the "Nautical Queen." Thursday we will visit the Rembrandt exhibit. On the way home we will stop at the Libby Glass Outlet store in Toledo, Ohio. Dinner enroute home.

Cost $189 pp (double occupancy) includes bus, lecture, coffee and rolls, boxed lunches, lodging, dinner cruise, Rembrandt exhibit and dinner on the way home.

Questions: Shirley Lautenbach - 698-9244

June 21 [Thu] Brown Bag and Flowered Quilt Gardens

Enjoy a day with the Amish and your CALL friends. We will visit four Amish places of business. Places such as the cheese factory, the bakery etc. You will receive a gift from each business to put in your brown bag. Our day will also include visits to several elaborate quilt patterned gardens that display over 100,000 flowers.

Lunch will be at an Amish home and dinner at the DasEssenhaus.

Cost $80.00

Questions: Shirley Lautenbach - 698-9244

July 12 [Thu] A Day at the Farm

We will enjoy breakfast together on the way to DeMotte, Indiana. Enjoy the morning at the VanderMolen Blueberry farm in DeMotte. We will ride on people movers to tour the blueberry and sweet corn farms. In the afternoon we will have a guided tour of their large commercial pig farm. These farms are featured in a farm display at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.

A pig roast will be our lunch experience. Fresh roasted pork with side dishes including sweet corn and blueberry desserts. Malcolm DeKryger and Jon Hoek, both Calvin graduates, will be our hosts.

Our day includes breakfast, the day on the farm, dinner on the way home and bus transportation. Come and enjoy "A Day at the Farm." Cost $80.00.

Questions call Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244

July 19 [Thu] Detroit Tigers and the Los Angeles Angels

Watch these two teams battle each other. They both have added an outstanding player - Albert Pujols (LA) and Fielder (Tigers). This event is open to CALL
August 9 & 10 [Thu & Fri] Lake Geneva and "The Rock and the Rabbi."
Enjoy beautiful Lake Geneva with CALL members and their friends. Historic Greendale, Wisconsin will be our first stop. We will enjoy lunch at the "Harmony House." After lunch we will board the bus and have a step on guide who will tour us through Greendale and tell us the history of this unique town. After our historic tour we will experience the "Test Kitchen" tour at Taste of Homes.

We will begin with the fabulous Signature Buffet. The musical "The Rock and the Rabbi" will be entertaining and inspirational. This story of a fisherman and a teacher is outstanding. "The Rock and the Rabbi" sets the stage as there will be ample opportunity to shop and take advantage of the "good" buys at the Taste of Home center. In the evening we will enjoy all that the Fireside Theater offers.

Simon, a simple fisherman, draws the audience into his story. See how he becomes Peter the "Rock" and begins his journey with Jesus, the "Rabbi" from the sea of Galilee, to the agony of the cross and the Messiah of all ages.

On Friday we will enjoy the very informative narrated trip on the "mail delivery" cruise on beautiful Lake Geneva. After lunch on your own and shopping in the quaint stores, we will depart for home. Dinner together on the way home.

Cost $239 per person (double occupancy)
Questions call Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244

September 25-28 [Tue –Fri] Civil War Battlefields
Visit the historic Civil War battlefields - Gettysburg and Antietam with expert guides. We will also visit Harper's Ferry, Flight 93 and the fabulous Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pa.

CALL members and their friends will enjoy four days of great history.
Cost. $499. A $50 deposit will confirm your reservation.
Questions - Call Don Lautenbach. 698-9244

CALL Updates
Keep up with what’s happening!
Send your e-mail address to:
call@calvin.edu
and receive our weekly CALL updates highlighting CALL and other local events.

Member Events / Interest Group Registration
Send completed form to: CALL Youngsma Center 3201 Burton St. SE Grand Rapids MI 49546
Event fees are per person:

- April 14 [Sat] Lunch and "La Traviata" $35
- April 26, [Thu] Amish Acres $79
- May 9 [Wed] Henry Ford Museum and Ford factory $90
- May 14 and 15 [Mon & Tues] REMBRANDT in AMERICA $199 pp
- June 21 [Thu] Brown Bag and Quilt Gardens $80
- July 12 [Thu] A Day at the Farm $80
- July 19 [Thu] Detroit Tigers and the Los Angeles Angels $70
- August 9 & 10 [Thu & Fri] Lake Geneva and "The Rock and the Rabbi. "$239
- September 25-28 [Tue –Fri] Civil War Battlefields $499 ($50 Deposit)

Name(s) _____________________________________________
Phone ___________________________ e-mail ___________________________

Your check must accompany your reservation. Make check payable to CALL.
Confirmation will be sent. If an event is already filled you will be notified.
I would like to join an interest group (no charge):
□ Knitting □ Birding □ Yoga □ Brass Ensemble
CALL Annual Meeting and Luncheon Reservation Form

Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.
Prince Conference Center

We will watch a special CALL Board Q&A time with retiring Calvin president Gaylen Byker via video.

Please join us by sending in your completed reservation.

Name(s):

Phone and/or e-mail

Cost of luncheon $5/person: Amount enclosed:

Send to: CALL Office, 3201 Burton St., SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Your check must accompany your reservation. Make check payable to CALL

An e-mail or postcard confirmation will be sent to you.