Have you ever wondered about the relationship between Calvin College and CALL? Many of you are new to our organization, and here’s the story.

CALL started 18 years ago with a small group of dedicated Calvin faculty and alumni. It wanted a unique organization which was independent of the college structure, yet aligned with Calvin in spirit and purpose. CALL is a separate entity with its own mission and purpose. CALL benefits greatly from this relationship, and, in fact, has a “revolving” account which means that if we have any money left over at the end of the year, we may use it as the board desires. CALL does not get charged for the use of classroom space, but we do pay for direct, out-of-pocket expenses, e.g., luncheon costs, printing and marketing that’s CALL related. Bottom line—we try to break even financially!

But the college benefits as well. Here’s how: CALL sponsors one of the 15 January Series lectures. We keep emeriti and current faculty involved with CALL. Faculty love to teach us seniors because we are an attentive and eager audience. (we’re usually in class on time or before!) There are several “named” scholarships as a result of CALL activity. Fifty-percent of us have not had a previous relationship with the college, so CALL is able to showcase Calvin to a broader community. The 1,600 CALL members are a wonderful resource for students and faculty who want to do research about seniors; and finally, both Calvin and CALL members love to be a part of a successful partnership.

The story of CALL is getting out—and as a result, I have been asked to present a paper about these benefits at a major conference in Chicago, in mid-April.

In other actions, your Board in April . . .

• reviewed the excellent luncheon program and annual meeting planned for Wednesday, May 22 at the Prince Center. Be sure to see the separate announcement. Karin Maag will be great! How did she end up at Calvin and in Grand Rapids? You may sign up on-line. We hope to see you there!

• heard that participation in courses this Spring is 1,443, including the Holland Home campuses, compared to 1,300 last year.

• welcomed 438 new members since September, 2012. Please help them feel welcome and encourage them to participate in our many great classes and activities.

See you at the annual meeting!

Ray Vander Weele
President
Annual CALL Meeting and Luncheon

Join us on May 22 for our Annual CALL Meeting and Luncheon. It will be held in the Great Hall of the Prince Conference Center. There will be musical entertainment by our very own CALL Brass Ensemble, a delicious lunch of salad, rolls and Italian-Parmesan crusted turkey tenderloin, updates about CALL, presentation of the Distinguished Service Award, wonderful fellowship, and an informative and amusing talk given by one of our favorite CALL course presenters, Karin Maag.

There’s something a bit different about her: a non-Dutch Canadian in Grand Rapids

given by Karin Maag

Come hear how a non-Dutch, non-CRC Canadian came to Grand Rapids and settled into the community after growing up in Montreal and spending eight years on her studies in Scotland. What was it like to come without family ties, and with no prior experience of living in the United States, to put down roots in West Michigan, and how can we, as a community and as CALL members, welcome the stranger in our midst?

For the first time in over 20 years, a Passport to Adventure Travel Film was canceled this past winter because of unfavorable travel conditions!

Sandy Mortimer’s “Stories from the Holy Land.” was rescheduled for Saturday, May 4 at 2 p.m. Your ticket for the February 7 show will be honored for admission on May 4. For those snowbirds who didn’t buy season tickets, please take advantage of this golden opportunity to catch a world-class travel film in the spring. Plans for next season are complete and the brochures were passed out at the April 15th program. There will be six films again next year, and even though the price of tickets is up slightly, the value of a world of travel from the comfort of a Covenant Fine Arts Center auditorium seat can’t be beat. These films are a great experience for young and old alike. Invite others to take a trip with you! Contact the Calvin Box Office (526-6282) for tickets.

Public Events Committee

Henry Baron, Chair

Saturday May 4, 2013 at 2:00 PM

Stories from the Holy Land

with Sandy Mortimer

Along with a cultural past that included Phoenician, Roman Crusader and Turk influence, Israel offers a 5,000 year-old tradition of rich storytelling-accounts of love, hate, cruelty and compassion. In addition to visiting the sites of many Old Testament stories and following in the steps of Jesus, we experience the customs of unforgettable and obscure cultures and visit a modern-day kibbutz to experience this unique Israeli lifestyle.

CALL Annual Meeting and Registration Form

Wednesday, May 22, 11:30 A.M.
Prince Conference Center
Guest Speaker: Karin Maag

Two ways to sign up
1. Online - go to www.calvin.edu/call
   Look under "Events & Information" (first section in the middle of the home page)
   Click the link under "Sign up for CALL Annual Luncheon"

2. Complete this form, make check payable to CALL and send to:
   CALL Office, 3201 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Name(s) ________________________________________________________________
Phone or email: __________________________________________________________
Cost of luncheon: $10 per person Amount enclosed: ________
May we confirm this registration and send a reminder by email?
   ___ Yes ___ No, I don’t use email.
The Israel tour group of 35 persons had a wonderful and inspirational time in the Holy Land. You can read about their pilgrimage at calvinalumniassociation.blogspot.com—and there is a sizable number of persons on an “get information” list for Israel 2014; if you want to be on it, contact the alumni office at 616-526-6142 or e-mail alumni@calvin.edu. The Canadian Rockies trip in September is also full; again, to get on an information list for a possible 2014 reprise, use the same phone and e-mail as above.

For 2014, other trips are being planned for Hungary (with a Reformed heritage emphasis) with Professor Corwin Smidt; the great art museums of Europe (moved from 2013 to 2014) with Professor Henry Luttikhuizen; and an author-related tour of New England with Professor Gary Schmidt. Stay tuned for more details on them soon!

Thursday and Friday, May 9 and 10 Chicago and More -
Our day in Chicago will begin with the Chicago Grand guided tour - the ultimate tour of the city of Chicago. This is a comprehensive tour of much of what Chicago has to offer in both the North and South side business and residential districts. On this tour we will visit the beautiful parks, Lincoln Park, Washington Park, Grants Park and we will tour virtually the entire length of the outer drive.

After settling in at the Hilton Gardens we will have dinner at the Drury Lane Dinner theater. After dinner we will see the ageless, timeless and matchless musical “Oliver.” Oliver is the very successful British musical based on the novel by Charles Dickens.

On Friday we will have guided tours of the Hemingway Birthplace and the Frank Lloyd Wright home and studio.

We will also see several homes in the area that he designed. We will enjoy dinner together on the way home.

Cost is $249 per person. (double occupancy). Cost includes motor coach, rolls and coffee, Grand Chicago tour, dinner and theater, hotel, breakfast and the Hemingway and Frank Lloyd Wright guided tours and dinner.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 11, 12 and 13 Lincoln Legacy trip - Springfield, IL
Due to many requests, your Member Events team has scheduled another trip to Lincoln land. Those who have gone previously have been very enthusiastic about the trip and its value. The comments include statements like “this is a trip every American citizen should take.” The places we visit are: Lincoln Museum, Lincoln tomb, New Salem Village, “Old” Capital Building, Lincoln’s Law Office and the church the Lincoln family attended.

This trip is open to CALL members and their friends.

Cost - $340 (double occupancy) Send in your reservation with a $50 deposit. Balance due May 15.

Questions - call Don - 698-9244 or cell 901-2170

Thursday, July 11, Detroit Tigers and the Chicago White Sox ball game.
These two teams battle each year as rivals in the Central Division of the American League. This event is open to CALL members and their friends and grandchildren. Coffee and rolls on the way to the stadium, pop and hot dog at the stadium, admission to the game and dinner on the way home.

Cost - $82.00
We need a volunteer coordinator for a new Interest Group!!

Have any of your grandchildren participated in “Odyssey of the Mind”? A new program in West Michigan is similar to this, but engages seniors in cognition, decision-making, creativity, collaboration and evaluation of ideas and competition.

Check out www.seniorodyssey.org, and if you are interested, talk with me about what's involved and let's get an Interest Group started. . . . . Ray Vander Weele
rayvweele@gmail.com

Birding Interest Group
Bill Sweetman will be leading our birding interest group again this spring.
He will be leading outings on the following Tuesdays--April 30, and May 7, 14 and 21.
The group will meet at 8:15 a.m. on these Tuesdays at the gate house by the Bunker Interpretive Center on the east side of the Beltline. Questions: contact Bill at bsweettours@gmail.com

Knitting Interest Group
The CALL knitting interest group meets on Wednesdays, now through May 8, from 2 - 4 PM in the De Vos Center room 160 (east side of the Beltline, next to the Prince Conference Center).
All knitting levels are welcome. If you have questions, please contact or Diane Noorman at: dnoorman@sbcglobal.net, or 942-0046

Brass Ensemble Interest Group
If you are interested in learning more about the joining the CALL Brass Ensemble please contact Roger Griffioen (rd Griffioen@att.net or 452-3328)