Vice-President’s Message

By Barb Engbers

“Oh, the places you'll go.” This famous quotation from Dr. Seuss fittingly describes the popular and growing Extended Trips program that CALL co-sponsors with the Calvin Alumni Association. It wasn't always so. In fact, for many years CALL did not offer any such trips. Their first venture occurred when the Alumni Association invited CALL members to join them in 2003 and 2004 on trips to Spain and the U.S. Southwest. Some CALL members accepted the invitation, yet CALL still did not venture into the extended trips territory. The journey to today's offerings began when a CALL task force met with Witte Travel to plan two trips, one to England and one to some National Parks, for 2008. Both of those trips fell short of the necessary number of participants and hence were cancelled. Unsure of the reasons for lack of interest left CALL with a few options: accept that CALL members weren't interested in traveling together or maintain the vision of extended educational and spiritually bonding experiences for its members. Thankfully, they chose the latter, and in the summer of 2009 the chair of CALL's Extended Trips Committee, Frank Roberts, met with the Calvin Alumni Association to discuss collaboration for the future. These meetings resulted in co-sponsored trips to China, Turkey, the National Parks and a French Riviera Cruise. Over the next 5 years 16 more exciting destinations were added and more are to come. My husband and I recently returned from one of those trips, two weeks in Italy with 32 other Christians led by Dr. Ken Bratt. Words on this page cannot possibly convey our experiences, but let me give you a taste of what is so special about a CALL/Calvin Alumni Association Extended Trip. Certainly there's the aspect of "no hassle." All paperwork, accommodations, tickets, etc., are handled by Witte Travel's experts. All you need do is pack your bags. Along with Ken's expertise, Witte also provided us with a door-to-door travel guide, Marianne Sterk from the Netherlands who so quickly endeared herself to us as well. All accommodations were excellent and the attention to detail meant that the group's time was well-spent. Certainly, too, there is the educational experience. Through Ken's lectures, both at the hotels and impromptu on the bus rides, we gained insight into our Church's earliest years as well as the rich heritage of the Italians. Even during free time, members of our group tried to stay close to Ken to enjoy this continual fountain of insight and information. There is also the experiential component. Together we worshiped at St. Peter's Basilica with Pope Francis, traveled through ancient history as well as modern Italy, enjoyed Italian cuisine, toured museums and basilicas, shopped in piazzas, celebrated birthdays and anniversaries, rode chairlifts to the top of the island of Capri, took subways to St. Paul's Outside the Walls, visited monasteries, stood crooked in front of the Tower of Pisa, hopped in gondolas together, and, well, as you can see, we packed in the experiences. (cont., pg.2)
(cont.) Yet there is something more to these extended trips, something intangible yet palpable. It showed for the first time (of many) that our group sang praises together. It showed in conversations of God’s beauty in nature and art and of God’s love in the stories of our lives. We prayed at the usual times, but also impromptu when one of the group was injured. Huddled together in prayer on that busy street seems a most fitting picture to sum up what that “intangible yet palpable thing” is; we shared a deep and open love for and trust in our God. We got to experience this land of the Church with Christ’s siblings. That’s not something that the price of our trip could buy for us, yet it is the core of our experiences. Christ came with us on this tour; alive in each of the members with whom we traveled—and “oh, the places we went” together!

Passport to Adventure
by Henry Baron

$25 Season Tickets or $6 per film

Thursday, Oct 13, 2016
Tuesday, Feb 7, 2017
Wednesday, March 29, 2017
Thursday, May 11, 2017
All at 7:00 p.m.

Tulips, Windmills, and a Christmas Cruise, Thursday, October 13, 7:00 pm, narrated by Clint and Sue Denn

From the moment the first tulip was planted in Dutch soil, in 1593, the Netherlands has been in extravagant bloom and the Dutch have been in thrall to flowers, inventing a whole horticultural industry and turning their lowland fields into a blanket of blooms. The flowers reach their climax, of course, in April and May, when Holland offers Europe's quintessential spring drive. For anyone who wants to see nature in all its glory and smell the roses—or in this case the tulips, hyacinths, narcissi, and daffodils—Holland is the prime place to be. And the Dutch, as practical as they are aesthetic, have made certain that visitors won't miss a single bloom. In addition to the lure of spring blooms, film travelers will enjoy windmills, ancient towns and the contrast of modern cities.

Few who have traveled to Europe can say they did so in December. We have a rare opportunity to glimpse a whole horticultural industry and turning their lowland fields into a blanket of blooms. The flowers reach their climax, of course, in April and May, when Holland offers Europe's quintessential spring drive. For anyone who wants to see nature in all its glory and smell the roses—or in this case the tulips, hyacinths, narcissi, and daffodils—Holland is the prime place to be. And the Dutch, as practical as they are aesthetic, have made certain that visitors won't miss a single bloom. In addition to the lure of spring blooms, film travelers will enjoy windmills, ancient towns and the contrast of modern cities.

Christmas in Europe is a time for elaborate pastries straight out of a medieval cookbook, for lyrical midnight masses in Gothic churches, and for the upholding of quirky local traditions—in many countries, Christmas just isn’t complete without mischievous pixies (Copenhagen), treacherous demons (Salzburg), or an 8,000-pound fruitcake (Dresden). Christmas still centers on an Advent market that, in most cases, has filled the square before the cathedral each December for hundreds upon hundreds of years. Join us for a film that warms the body and the soul and kindles that festive mood.

Read more about each of these films under the travel films tab of our website.

Tickets are online at www.calvin.edu/boxoffice or you can call the box office at 526-6282. You may order season or individual tickets and all seats are reserved.
Thursday, September 29
Buck Matthews
*The Book in Each of Us*
No life story should be left untold. With that conviction, Buck Matthews told his story in "Getting Here" a memoir-anthology, available after the presentation. To him, too many people leave only the china and a box of snapshots when they depart, when their life stories are much more to be cherished. Hearing Buck tell about his own life will inspire the audience to tell about theirs.

Thursday, October 13, a panel discussion with Todd Huizenga, Becca McBride, and Joel Westra
*The 2016 Election*
This will be a panel discussion on the fall election and foreign policy, with Huizenga of the Acton Institute, and McBride and Westra of Calvin’s Political Science department. There will be opportunity for audience discussion.

Thursday, October 27, Neal Carlson
*A Transformative Reading of James*
Carlson believes that our model for leadership is a pagan prostitute, and that a serious re-reading of the biblical book of James as a prophetic voice from God’s Word will change the way we see our ethical obligations as Christians in an era of fiercely finger-pointing political rhetoric.

Thursday, November 1, Renee Aupperlee
**The only lecture in the series located in the Recital Hall*
*Donkey Carts and Starbucks: Raising Disciples in a Changing China*
One generation ago Chinese families were loaded with children, but now they live in the land of one child, “the little emperor.” In 1997, university students had never actually touched a computer with their own hands. Now, China is overrun by iPads and iPhones. This presentation tells about the challenges and humorous adventures of raising a family, held by the unrelenting presence of Christ, in a nation of unparalleled change, atheism, communism, and constant transition.

These free lectures are scheduled at noon on Thursdays and have moved back to the Calvin Chapel except for the November 1 lecture. Parking is best in parking lots 1 and 2 off the Burton Street Entrance.
Announcements
by Sonja DeJong

Fall Course Registration
Course numbers 25-60 begin on October 18 and later. The following are some of the courses with seats still available:

- #27 - Finances for Women
- #28 - History in the Rocks
- #30 - Extremism is No Vice
- #32 - Eyewitness Vietnam
- #33 - Symphonic Voices
- #37 - The Era of Irish Revolution
- #42 - Brexit
- #46 - The European Union
- #52 - Water and Civilization
- #54b - Au Sable field trip in fall

Our “Friday at the Movies, The Best of the New”, course #58, has more than 130 registrations. We now know the four movies that will be shown. (Only one has subtitles):

- The Innocents on Oct. 7. (2016, R-rated, 100 minutes, subtitled, Rotten Tomatoes rating 93%) Based on actual events, this movie is a blistering account of a convent of Polish nuns raped by Russian soldiers at the end of WWII. The film offers a thoughtful exploration of complex moral and religious questions. Discussant- Roy Anker.

- Harry and Snowman on Nov. 4. This rich and moving documentary (2016, 84 minutes) recounts the story of post-World War II Dutch immigrant Harry deLeyter who rescues a 12-year old Amish plow horse from slaughter and in two years turns him into the triple crown champion of show jumping, beating enormous odds and the nation’s blue bloods. Discussant: Jennifer Jolene DeHeer.

- Certain Women on Nov. 18. A grown-up look at the lives of three very different women in small-town Montana, Kelly Reichardt’s film (2016, R-rated, 107 minutes; Metacritic Rating 85%) deploys a stunning cast to toll the complexity and longing of living within the human skin. A middle-aged lawyer (Laura Dern) contends with an ornery client, an awkward law graduate (Kristen Stewart) reaches toward friendship and a restless housewife (Michelle Williams) wants to build a house. Discussant: Jennifer Holberg.

CALL Hospitality
When someone mentions the word hospitality, the image that comes to most of our minds is people gathered around a table sharing a meal. But hospitality is so much more than dinner parties and sharing a meal. It is making a space in our lives for people so they feel valued, significant, and welcomed. It is about making others feel at ease as we put their needs ahead of our own. Actually, the word hospitable literally means “given to love of strangers.” As we begin a new academic year at CALL, we will have occasion to meet strangers. Each “stranger” is an opportunity to have our minds opened to new ideas, to learn new information, and to have our lives enriched. It is a temptation to only greet and talk to those we already know in the class, but let’s not give in to temptation. Let’s all work at making space for the people in our classes we don’t know.

Something as simple as a smile and a friendly greeting can open the door to blessings. May CALL be known not only as a place of excellent educational opportunities, but also as a place where hospitality is practiced.

Jolene DeHeer
Chair-Hospitality Committee

Calvin Service Grants
77 grants and nearly $15,000 are the amounts of funds this program has distributed to charity organizations in which our members are involved. Each year CALL members of one year or more are eligible to request funds for a charity/non-profit in which they are involved.

The form is simple and available online at www.calvin.edu/call or at our office.

Identify something specific your charity needs to which we can contribute.

Up to $200 is given to each request submitted and approved. Some previous examples include a listening center for Anchor Point Christian School, books for a Christian school, material costs for nurse instruction in Haiti, funds toward a small tractor in Kenya, and a vacuum cleaner for HQ in Grand Rapids, a safe haven for runaway teens in Grand Rapids.

We are passionately committed to helping where you are involved!

Partnerships
Identify yourself as a CALL member when ordering Grand Rapids Broadway or Opera tickets and receive a discount as high as 30%. Enjoy productions of A Christmas Story or The Sound of Music before general ticket sales in October or Grand Rapids Opera’s Maria de Buenos Aires, a surreal spiritual journey set to the beat of Argentine tango. See our website for details.
Member Events
by Shirley Lautenbach

ArtPrize, Monday, October 3 or Thursday, October 6.
Choose one of two dates for our annual ArtPrize day tours in downtown Grand Rapids. This year we again will spend the day touring the top entries in this world class exhibit. We will leave Calvin at 9:00 a.m. and return around 4:00 p.m.


Lansing with Dick Harms, Wednesday, October 12.

CALL members and guests will appreciate the beauty of the fall colors and the colorful narration of Dick Harms on our trip to Lansing. Our first stop will be at Grand Ledge for coffee and rolls. At this stop Dick will highlight the Stevens Island resort. Dick will take us to additional landmarks including the Frank D. Fitzgerald home, the Seventh Day Adventist campground, Ransom E. Olds, Oldsmobile and Reo, the Turner Dodge Mansion, Old Towne, the Lansing Lugnuts and the State Capitol. The tour will conclude with a tour of the MSU campus, its facilities, architecture and interesting stories.

If you enjoy the tranquility of a scenic boat ride, the exhilaration of live music and delight in eating good food, you will enjoy our lunch cruise. We will marvel in the beautiful fall colors as we have lunch and cruise on the Grand River aboard the Lansing Princess riverboat.

Cost $89.

Christmas in October, Thursday, October 27.

Invite your friends and share an evening listening to the delightful music of The Voices of Freedom. The Voices of Freedom is West Michigan’s eight-part acapella voice ensemble. They are returning to us by the request of many people who heard them last year at our October event. You will be tapping your toes as you hear the lilting sounds of Carol of the Bells, Deck the Halls, White Christmas and other Christmas classics. You will be inspired by the beautiful sounds of Joy to the World, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, O Come All Ye Faithful and many more of our Christmas favorites.

Dinner is at 5:30 pm in the Undercroft of the Chapel. The concert will be at 7:00 pm in the college chapel. Invite your friends and enjoy this special evening with delicious food, warm fellowship and music that will entertain and bless.

Cost $30.00 dinner and concert.

January Series Brunch, Friday, January 13.

CALL members and friends are invited to the January Series Brunch featuring Todd Huizinga speaking on The European Union and Global Governance.

Todd Huizinga is a senior research fellow at the Paul B. Henry institute for the study of Christianity and Politics at Calvin College. As a U.S. diplomat from 1992-2012, he served as deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassy in Luxembourg, political counselor at the U.S. mission to the European Union in Brussels, consul for political and economic affairs at the U.S. consulates in Hamburg and Munich, and consul for public affairs at the U.S. Consulate in Monterrey, Mexico. From 2014-2016 he was director of International Outreach for the Acton Institute. He is an author and speaks five languages.

Brunch will begin at 9:30 am in the Willow room at the Prince Center. Bus service is provided to and from the Covenant Fine Arts Center where we will enjoy reserved seating for Mr. Huizinga’s lecture. Cost: $19.00, includes brunch, speaker, bus service and reserved seating.

Questions - Call Shirley - 299-3584.
Lincoln Legacy Trip, Springfield Illinois, Wednesday-Friday. April 5, 6, and 7.

Our *Lincoln Legacy* trip has been scheduled in response to requests from a number of our CALL members. This will be our fourth trip to Lincoln land. Those who have gone previously are very enthusiastic about the trip and its historic content. Their comments include "This is a trip every American should take."

The places we will visit include: the Lincoln Museum, New Salem Village, Lincoln tomb, the railroad station where Lincoln gave his farewell speech, the Capitol Building and the church the Lincoln family attended. The three day trip will begin Wednesday, April 5, at 6:30 am and will conclude on Friday, April 7, around 9:00 pm.

This trip is open to CALL members and their friends.

Cost - $399.00 per person (double occupancy). Single room supplement $100.00 ($50 per night).

Send your reservation with a $50.00 deposit to the CALL office. $200.00 due January 1 with the balance due March 1.

Cost includes: deluxe bus, lodging (double occupancy), meals (one dinner on your own) and all admission fees.

Questions - Call Don - 901-2170.

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**Member Events Registration**

**Two ways to register:**

1. Online: [www.calvin.edu/CALL](http://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.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>Thursday ArtPrize</td>
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<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Lansing with Dick Harms</td>
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<td>Oct 27</td>
<td>Christmas in October</td>
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<td>Jan 13</td>
<td>January Series Brunch</td>
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<td>Apr 5-7</td>
<td>Lincoln Legacy deposit</td>
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Name: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Email: Confirm by email?  □ Yes  □ No, I don’t use email
Extended Trips
by John Apol

After several sold out trips in 2016 and amazing destinations, we look forward with great anticipation to the trips planned for 2017.

Our 2017 travels begin with a repeat trip to Israel in March. As you travel the length and breadth of Israel, practically any destination you arrive at will be a place of biblical significance. That means a tour of this country will make you feel what no other journey can, as you'll identify the places that you've read about all your life. 18 persons are registered for this spiritual journey.

In May we offer our members and friends an opportunity to travel close to the Arctic circle to Iceland. Iceland is a country of sharp contrasts. A place where fire and ice co-exist. Where dark winters are offset by the summer’s midnight sun. Travelers will experience the stunning Icelandic nature, the beauty of the rugged landscape and the creativity of the Icelandic people whose family ties are close and the sense of tradition is strong.

Tour details for Cuba continue to develop and we expect a full itinerary at the end of September. At this time the expected dates are May 9-19. You’ll learn about Cuban culture, history and have opportunities to experience everyday Cuban life first-hand. This is sure to be an unforgettable experience exploring Cuba on the edge of change! The trip leader is Calvin history professor emeriti Dan Miller who recently taught twice for CALL on After the Civil War: What Ken Burns and Stephen Spielberg Didn’t Mention. Join our interest list to ensure you receive the details as soon as they are available.

Moderating September temperatures are the ideal time to join the American Southwest trip on September 7-18 with John Apol. The Wild West of the United States: gun smoke, silver, oil and salt, vast desert landscapes, cacti as tall as houses, ancient boulders and huge canyons that take our breath away. Immerse yourself in the Navajo culture and the beauty of Canyon de Chelly National Monument and Monument Valley.

Discover the uniqueness of Antelope Canyon and the stunning magnitude of the Grand Canyon. Experience hiking in the fascinating hoodoos of Bryce Canyon and take in the views at Zion National Park.

Preliminary details are available for the September 2017 trip on the Protestant Reformation with Karin Maag and look for dates and information for a repeat visit to the Stratford Festival in 2017 that will be available later this fall. Potential travelers may place their names on an interest list for the 2017 trips not yet open for registration with the CALL office or the Calvin Alumni at call@calvin.edu. See our website for more information.
Interest groups

Our Memoir writing class with Carol Rottman and the CALL memoir interest group provide opportunities to share life lessons and immortalize experiences. Read what student writes: “In the early 1900’s my paternal grandfather was the foreman of a railroad ‘gang,’ comprised of strong, hard-working Turks. They were required to manually lay railroad ties and rails. No modern machinery to assist in this task. The men worked as teams, carrying the ties between two men, balanced on their shoulders. The work days were from early morning until suppertime. Long, hard days. Friday was payday. The Turks looked forward to spending their money on a weekend of drinking and merriment. The Paymaster would arrive Friday, prepare the checks, sign and distribute them. This particular weekend, the Paymaster didn’t arrive. The men waited past suppertime and were getting anxious. Tempers flared. Realizing the situation was escalating, Grandpa decided to take matters into his hands. Knowing the procedure for payroll, he retrieved the checks, signed the Paymaster’s name and paid the Turks. They were grateful for their pay and were happily on their way. Grandpa was sure the Paymaster would understand. Not so…” —Gladys Fletcher

Read next month’s newsletter to see how the story ends.

In addition to Memoir Writing, CALL offers an interest group for men on dementia/alzheimers, a knitting group and a brass ensemble. See the tab “interest groups” on our web page for dates, times and details. Each groups is underway for the fall and you can join at any time. The biking group has concluded for the year.