President’s Message

The board is involved in planning and implementing many ideas that came from brainstorming sessions, from our annual planning meeting, and from our previous board meetings. Specifically, the Board . . .

1. Appointed an ad hoc committee to study the feasibility and future of Interest Groups—how can CALL secure greater involvement in interest groups; how can we better serve our members? . . . are among the questions to consider. Gordon Van Harn will chair this committee.

2. Appointed an ad hoc Information Technology (IT) Committee to determine next steps to improving our electronic platforms. When should we install electronic payment systems? When should we begin to make on-line registrations available? . . . these are some of the questions which this committee will address. Bruce Klanderman will chair this committee.

3. Appointed an ad hoc Marketing Committee to recommend actions CALL should take to improve its message and image in the broader West Michigan community. Jeanette Sprik will chair this committee.

Watch for other innovations this year!

For all these exciting events, programs and classes, we invite you to join the board of directors or a committee. Will you consider working with a dynamic group of leaders for whom CALL is a very important service? Contact Lisa Bauman (leb2@calvin.edu) or Ray Vander Weele (rwweele@comcast.net) to discuss opportunities.

Ray Vander Weele, President

SPOTLIGHT ON …

Peter Van Vliet

It was my privilege to serve as President of the CALL Board from August 2, 2006 to June 12, 2008. Several interesting things happened during that time. We decided that past presidents should continue to serve for one year on the Executive Committee. The Sportsplex program continued to grow; thirty-nine members by the fall of 2006. A Fall Retreat was held in the fall of 2006 for Board members and committees. It was decided to have the annual spring meeting include business items as well as social. The Extended Trips Committee continued to work at the problems involved in planning overseas trips. A representative group attended the Midwest Regional Conference of Lifelong Learning organizations in Schaumberg, Illinois (August 2007). CALL was given an office of its own in the new Youngsma Center across the beltline.

Also, in September 2007, I appointed an Ad Hoc committee to study how CALL is administered. This committee, chaired by Chuck Jansen, included Henry Baron, Roger Griffioen, Shirley Lautenbach, Phil Lucasse, and Clare Walhout. After lengthy discussions, this committee eventually recommended that we employ a part-time Administrative Assistant. (Lisa Bauman later accepted this appointment.)

One more item: The Board prepared and approved, June 2008, a Board Policy Handbook to be helpful when new Board members are elected and to guide them in their duties.

Peter Van Vliet
Past Trip Report: American’s Majestic National Parks

On Sept 8, 2011, members of both CALL and the Calvin Alumni Association met John Apol, tour host, in Salt Lake City, Utah to begin a travel adventure through three national parks. The first motor coach stop was at Jackson Hole, Wyo. Travelers had enough time for a tour of the National Museum of Wildlife Art led by docent Martha Van Genderen, a Calvin alumna, before preparing for the next morning’s raft trip on the Snake River. The raft trip was a peaceful, scenic float in the grandeur of a beautiful river valley between mountain ranges. Then, the group went to the shore of Jenny Lake, a peaceful mountain lake with the Grand Teton Mountains as a backdrop.

Traveling on to Yellowstone National Park, we observed Old Faithful faithfully performing on schedule before arriving at our hotel base for three nights in West Yellowstone. Sunday morning, we stopped for morning worship on the banks of the Madison River where we gave thanks for many blessings, remembered September 11 and ended our time of reflection with the Doxology. For the remainder of this day and all of the next, the group visited geyser basins and waterfalls (including the 300-foot Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River), and saw buffalo, elk, and other wildlife. On the way to Missoula, Mont., we passed Earthquake Lake, formed in 1959 by a massive landslide caused by an earthquake. After lunch, a stop was made at the Grand-Kohrs cattle ranch, once one of the largest cattle ranches of the West.

We had an educational tour of the Smoke Jumper Base - Aerial Fire Depot at the Missoula airport, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. At the St. Ignatius Mission on the Flathead Indian Reservation, we marveled at the interior frescos and met a Sister who formerly worked at Aquinas College.

Arriving in the Many Glacier Valley in Glacier National Park, the travelers set out on a hike up the valley. As we stood on the shores of Fishercap Lake, the group broke into song with “God Bless America” and later at Redrock Lake they sang “How Great Thou Art.” Next was our much-anticipated ride for the day at the St. Mary Visitor Center--in the “Red Jammer” buses. Built in the 1930s, these updated, well-maintained, open-topped vehicles piloted by knowledgeable, skilled drivers took us up and over Logan Pass on the “Going to the Sun” highway, a route of continuous, wonderful views of lakes, waterfalls, mountains, cliffs and glaciers. We were delivered to the Lake McDonald Lodge where we caught a boat ride on the lake. Just before finding our hotel in Kalispell that evening, we stopped to tour the “Conrad Mansion Museum.” The next morning we motored south through “Big Sky” country to Idaho Falls for our last hotel and last dinner together before saying our goodbyes.


Walk in the footsteps of Paul during the day and learn more about the apostle at night! Travel by motor coach (8 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's 2nd and 3rd missionary journeys (such as Philippi, Apollonia, Thessaloniki, Berea, Athens and Corinth) as well as other major sites of biblical, archeological and cultural interest (such as Patmos, Delphi and Santorini). Each evening features a study session on "Paul: His Life & Letters." Join host Dr. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary, for this truly inspirational tour.

Contact Witte Travel at 957-8113 or groups@wittetravel.com; you can also view the entire itinerary at www.calvin.edu/alumni/travel/2011-2012/greece.

Other extended trips being discussed: Israel, South Africa, National Parks II, and Guatemala.

Public Events Committee

Henry Baron, Chair

Noontime Series Fall 2011

Held in the Calvin Chapel from 12-1 pm

October 20 In Adam’s Fall We Sinned All Scott Hoezee, director of the Calvin Theological Seminary Center for Excellence in Preaching, will summarize recent discussions about the history of life on earth and questions related to understanding the origins of our sinfulness.

November 3 Adapting to the Changing Media Landscape: Dealing with Disruption in the Marketplace Dan Gaydou, publisher of the Grand Rapids Press, will tell us how the local newspaper intends to thrive in the future when digital publication of information is the norm.

November 17 International Adoption Agents: How Songs Find New Homes Emily Brink, program director of conferences and global resources for the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, will look at psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that get “adopted” from one country or culture to another.

Passport to Adventure Films Series

If you haven’t ordered your tickets for the 2011-2012 season, consider doing so today. Note that the programs start at 7pm and not at 7:30pm, as in the past. More than 500 seats are already reserved for the season, which includes:

• Thursday, November 10, 2011 Texas

There is a lot to explore in Texas where you will find NASA, metropoles, the Big Thicket, a technological Silicone Valley around Austin, the capital. The Alamo still stands as an iconic
symbol of the Texas spirit, and the battle is reenacted every year. Join award winning film producer Dale Johnson as he visits many places in Texas, including Dealey Plaza, site of John Kennedy's assassination. Ft. Worth with its many stockyards, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Braken Cave where 20 million bats emerge each evening at dusk, Texas wineries and much, much more.

• Thursday, January 19, 2012  The Heart of San Francisco
• Wednesday, March 28, 2012  Mongolia, Land of Genghis Khan
• Monday, April 16, 2012  Wales: Land of Song

Call the Calvin box office - 616-526-6282 - for more information.

Member Events Committee
Don and Shirley Lautenbach
November 29 [Tues] LES MISERABLES - Dinner and Theater (Trip filled – waiting list only)

January 20 [Fri] JANUARY SERIES BRUNCH
Join your fellow CALL members at the Prince Center for brunch and our special speaker, Ralph Edmond. Entrepreneur, businessman, mentor and native of Haiti, Mr. Edmond is the co-founder of Laboratories Farmatrix, a pharmaceutical company in Port-au-Prince which employs over 65 people. Through the tool of mentoring, Ralph believes that business people and entrepreneurs can break the barriers of social and economic class.

Your morning will include brunch, our special speaker, Mr. Ralph Edmond, transportation to the Covenant Fine Arts Center, reserved seating for the January Series lecture and transportation back to your car. Cost $15.00.

March 21 [Wed] Lunch with Tom Rademacher
ALL members and their friends are invited to a winter luncheon on Wed. March 21 at Calvin College. Our speaker will be Tom Rademacher, the well-known press columnist. Mr. Rademacher is a life-long resident of West Michigan and joined the Grand Rapids Press in 1978. He covered various beats for ten years before being named the metro columnist, a job he held full-time until the summer of 2009. He continues in a part-time capacity, specializing in stories about everyday people both struggling and soaring. Twice in the last three years, the National Society of Newspaper Columnists has named him the top columnist for general columns nationwide. He is the father of three sons and he and his wife Holly live in Rockford. Cost $15.00.

Service and Community Relations Committee
Roberta Rice
Where do you volunteer? Our members are active in helping others in countless ways.

Do you know that CALL gives grants up to $200 to help you in your volunteer efforts?
Recent grants have:

➢ helped purchase materials for quilts for children with cancer
➢ helped pay for transportation and meals for nursing home patients
➢ provided books as incentive for elementary students

To obtain a grant request form please call the CALL office at 526-8777 or visit the website and download a copy of the form at www.calvin.edu/call. Upon completing the form, please send it to the CALL office.

Hospitality Committee
Sherry Levy, Board Liaison
The Hospitality Committee serves the CALL community faithfully by serving coffee, tea and cookies between classes in Hiemenga Hall whenever CALL classes are in session.

The Hospitality committee is looking for a few individuals who would be willing to help in this service. If you are interested in serving please contact Sherry Levy at levy.sherry@gmail.com or 245-4831 or Mary Rienstra at 975-9053.

CALLNews is published monthly except for August and January. It is sent to CALL members and posted on the CALL Web site www.calvin.edu/call. Announcements should be submitted by the first Friday of the month for the following month's CALLNews to call@calvin.edu or to gkamps1@mac.com
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:


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  ☐ Gardening  ☐ Brass Ensemble