From the President

Spring has arrived and once again we see God’s faithfulness to his creation as the flowers begin to bloom and the trees burst with new life. This is also the time of year we celebrate God’s faithfulness to CALL at the Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2006. Be sure to make your reservations for the luncheon, either by mail or on the sign-up sheets available when you come to your CALL classes.

The Board adopted the budget for 2006-2007, and I am pleased to report that the membership dues and course fees will remain the same for next year. The yearly growth in membership and in reservations for courses and excursions enables us to expand our programs without any increase in fees.

In this issue of CALLNews are the by-laws changes that the board is recommending to reflect additional responsibilities of existing committees and the creation of two new committees –Summer Program and Health, Fitness and Recreation.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Luncheon.

Roger Griffioen, President of CALL

Announcements

MENTORING STUDENTS AT CALVIN COLLEGE

Would you like to relive your college years? Try mentoring a Calvin College student. Lisa Jousma in Calvin’s Mentoring Office will be happy to pair you with a student, many from other countries and cultures, who has requested a mentor. You and your student will mutually decide where and how often you will meet with one another. The Mentoring Office has printed guides that can help you plan your time together. For more information about mentoring (not tutoring), or to sign up for a short-term commitment, please call Lisa Jousma at (616) 526-8861 or e-mail her at ljb2@calvin.edu

Here is an example of such a mentoring relationship

My student:
Sara has helped me re-examine my own goals and values as we discuss what is crucial for us as Christians to include in our lives to live out our faith in whatever we do. Sara has been an encouragement to me and her readiness to set up another time to meet indicates to me that the feelings are mutual.

Jessica Kuizema, CALL member

My mentor:
Jessica is a very sweet person whose passion, satisfaction, and enjoyment for life permeate through those who meet her. I had the privilege this year to have her as my mentor. For an international student like me, whose family is far away, the ability to be in a family environment is priceless. Being at Jessica’s house and having her as my friend makes me feel extremely blessed. I feel like I can connect with her in so many ways. There are spiritual issues that concern us both, and we are able to work through them together. I really appreciate having someone who has experienced life more than me, and who is able to give me advice on how, when, and where to go, as I face different situations.

I really thank God for allowing me to have people like Jessica in my life, and I thank Jessica for sharing her life, friendship, and love with me.

Sara Salavarria
Changes in Bylaws

ARTICLE 3 – COMMITTEES

3.1 Standing Committees
Standing Committees of the Board shall be as follows

3.1.1 College Support Committee
This committee will work with Calvin College in establishing college support in providing space, equipment, mailing and duplicating services, and other appropriate needs.

3.1.2 Curriculum Committee
This committee will establish a curriculum that is based on the interests of the membership, and that is in harmony with the stated purpose of CALL as described in Article 2.2 of the CALL Constitution. Qualified instructors or leaders will be drawn both from within the membership and from the community.

3.1.3 Finance Committee
This committee will establish a yearly budget, and will recommend membership and class fees to the Board. This committee will also investigate other means of support, such as private donations and foundation grants.

3.1.4 Hospitality Committee
This committee will maintain appropriate services to members, and provide hospitality at all sessions and meetings.

3.1.5 Member Events Committee
This committee will establish and plan social gatherings for members, and will arrange a program of special trips and events for members.

3.1.6 Membership Committee
This committee will recruit members from among the senior citizens of the Greater Grand Rapids area, maintain records of their interests and volunteer preferences, and distribute such information to appropriate committees. This committee will also serve as the Distinguished Service Award Nominating Committee.

3.1.7 Nominating Committee
This committee will prepare a slate of candidates for Board members, and present it to the Board for their approval, before the slate goes to the membership for election. This committee will also suggest names of persons to the Board for candidates to fill unexpired terms on the Board.

3.1.8 Public Events Committee
This committee will coordinate the Passport to Adventure Travelogue series and the Noontime Lecture Series, and establish appropriate new events open to the public.

3.1.9 Publicity Committee
This committee will prepare publicity announcements, publish a membership newsletter, and handle all CALL mailings.

3.1.10 Service and Community Relations Committee
This committee will assist members in finding ways to use their skills on a volunteer basis in the community and will initiate activities by which CALL can serve the community. One member of this committee will serve as the Community Connections Liaison. This committee will also supervise the CALL Service Grant Program, and make recommendations to the Board for such grants.

3.1.11 Summer Programs Committee
This committee will arrange summer events and summer courses, based on the interests of the membership.

3.1.12 Health, Fitness, and Recreation Committee
This committee will establish programs to assist members in leading a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle. This committee will collaborate with the HPERDS Department of Calvin College, as well as with other agencies, in establishing and operating some of these programs.

New CALL Board Members

PETER DEBOER brings to CALL his valuable experience in the teaching of the Philosophy of Christian Education as a member of the Calvin Education Department. Besides he has always generously shared his gifts of speaking and singing with the many organizations he has served in the past. We look forward to using his many talents in various ways as a member of our organization.

CLARENCE WALHOUT has taught Literature and Philosophical Hermeneutics as a member of Calvin’s English Department. We know that Clarence has edited many student papers over the years! Besides he has done extensive writing of his own during his career. He also has taught a wood-carving course for CALL on two occasions. Presently he is taking lessons in playing the bassoon and, as rumor has it, has made excellent progress!

RAYMOND BRUGGINK joins our Board having the perspective of being a regular attendee at our Academy for several years. He is a graduate of Calvin’s two-year Engineering Program and completed the Engineering Program at the University of Michigan through the Master’s Degree. He has been the City of Grand Rapids Engineer and later headed his own Engineering Consulting firm. Of interest also is the fact that, in former days, he was a member of the Knollcrest Planning Committee! Presently he has serves the Christian School community as member of the Bryon Center Christian School Foundation Board.
CALL Service Committee
Jim Bonnema has volunteered at the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the past six years and currently chairs the agency's Board of Trustees. Jim is visually impaired himself and received assistance from the agency 25 years ago. As a CALL member, Jim requested a CALL service grant to help purchase four high-quality lighted magnifiers to be distributed to impaired persons who are financially unable to pay for this necessary aid. For 93 years the non-profit ABVI has been serving many blind and visually impaired persons in west Michigan. Anyone who is losing his/her eyesight is invited to phone the agency at 458-1187 or stop in at 456 Cherry St., SE Grand Rapids, M-F from 8:30AM-4:30PM to find out more about their services.

CALL Member Events

May 23 [Tue] - Annual Spring CALL Luncheon
The annual CALL luncheon will take place on Tuesday, May 23. In order to plan effectively, it is very important that CALL members sign up ahead of time (at the Hieminga Hall refreshment table, by emailing call@calvin.edu or by calling 977-1792) and CANCEL if not able to attend. This year the program will include a musical presentation by John and Gwen Varineau.

Jun 13 [Tue] Muskegon - Lumber Queen of the World
This trip is filled and has a waiting list.

Stratford Trip
The STRATFORD TRIP is scheduled for September 14 and 15. The two exciting productions are "Twelfth Night" and the musical, "South Pacific." We will be staying at the Victorian Inn. The cost is approximately $220 (Depending on Canadian exchange and fuel prices.) Price includes bus fare, theatre tickets (Orchestra seats in both productions), lodging and two meals at the Victorian Inn.

Make your reservations by sending a $50.00 deposit to the CALL office. Final payment (+$170 must be in by July 14, and your membership must be renewed in July, unless you have a multiple year membership. No refunds after July 14. (Waiting list has usually eliminated any empty seats.)
Questions, Call Jeanne & Clarence Vos at 949-2888

CALL Members discount to Artist Series
The Artist Series of Calvin College is offering to CALL members half-price season tickets in the orchestra section for the 5-concert 2006-2007 series ($120 value for $60). A brochure detailing the concert dates and performers will be coming to you by mail soon. To take advantage of the offer, write "CALL" behind your name on the ticket order form. There will be a CALL course about these programs offered next fall and spring. For more information, contact Carol Rienstra, CALL college liaison, at 526-6175.

CALL Public Events

Apr 20 [Thur] The Noontime Series program will be in the Fieldhouse as part of the Festival of Faith and Writing. Luci Shaw's lecture is titled "The Thumbprint on the Clay." There will be a separate reserved section for CALL members until 11:50AM. That opening keynote session is FREE and open to the public, so arrive on time.

There are four other Faith and Writing events in the Calvin College Fieldhouse which are open to the public. However these are ticketed, not free programs. CALL members may get tickets for those at student rates, thanks to a special arrangement with the Festival organizers.

Thursday evening, April 20, 7:30PM. - Alice McDermott
Friday evening, April 21, 7:30PM - Salman Rushdie
Saturday morning, April 22, 10:00AM - Marilynne Robinson
Saturday evening, April 22, 7:30PM. - Walter Wangerin, Jr.

(continued page 4)

A 2006-2007 CALL membership is needed to take part in this trip

Stratford Trip
$50.00 (deposit) per person
Name(s)__________________________________________
__________________________________________________
Address__________________________________________
Telephone________________________________________
Enclosed $_________ e-mail________________________

Send to: CALL c/o Irene Bolthouse
3201 Burton St SE
Grand Rapids MI 49546
Individual tickets for these lectures are now on sale through the Calvin College Box Office (616.526.6282). Ticket prices: Individual lecture - $15 (Students* & Calvin faculty/staff $8) Two or more lectures - $12 each (Students* & Calvin faculty/staff $5 each) *The student rate applies to CALL members as well as students from any institution. (If you have registered for Festival 2006, these events are included in your registration.)

PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE - 40 YEARS OF ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

The Passport to Adventure travel series completes its 40th season on May 11 [Thur] 7:30PM at FAC with a trip up Alaska's Inside Passage. Single tickets are $5.00 each Student Tickets: $2.50 Calvin Box Office is open 9 AM to 5 PM, Mon – Fri. Phone (616)-526-6282

The series itself has experienced an interesting journey through the years since it was launched by the Millbrook Minute Men in 1965, and later sponsored by the Grand Rapids Christian School Association and outlying Christian schools, including the one in Ada where Jerry and Anna Sietsema's five children were enrolled

There were many years when revenue barely covered expenses and survival of the series was challenged. Shortly after CALL was organized, the Public Events Committee took over the coordination of the program, and Anna Sietsema was asked to continue her long-standing involvement by serving on a committee along with Robert and Carolyn Bolt and Edwin and Alma Walthout. Witte Travel became a supportive sponsor.

Anna's expertise and hard work provides CALL and the Grand Rapids community with consistently excellent programs. Her tireless efforts affect every level of the process of putting on a series - film critique and selection, brochure development, arranging for speaker accommodations, greeting and ticket-taking, selling media at intermission and, on occasion, running the projector! Anna usually sends homemade cookies home with the videotographer/speaker because "they are on the road so much, and seldom get homemade goodies." Not only does the local community realize that Anna is one of a kind, but a much larger community is impressed with her energy and talent as evidenced in the awards that she has brought to the series. In 2000 the Travel Adventure Cinema Society honored Anna with their annual award for the best university travel series in the U.S.A. and Canada. In 2005 she received the outstanding sponsor award from the same organization. Anna has also been asked to serve as consultant to travel series committees in other cities.

People attend travelogues for various reasons. Ralph Windoes, owner and president of Windoes Travel Agency, called it the "urge to travel." He said "God placed a urgent desire in men to see all of God's wonders and to see them while "on the go." Motion pictures in full color are one of life's great blessings. They play an important part in the lives of thousands who want to learn of the beauties and wonders that God created in this earth of ours."

In Grand Rapids we enjoy armchair travel in large part because Anna Sietsema has been a devoted advocate of this method of satisfying the human desire to go to distant places. Thanks to Anna and other members of the CALL Public Events Committee, we look forward to many future adventures.