President’s Message
As CALL members, we are usually in a position of receiving rather than giving. However, we also have the opportunity to serve. Perhaps it has not received quite the publicity it has needed. Mike VanDenend made the board aware of at least twelve students who would like to have a mentor. Please look for Mike’s report from College Support Committee in this issue for further details.

There is an ad hoc committee which continues to look for funding opportunities which are offered to lifelong learning organizations such as CALL. In this process they have also been developing some of the data available about our membership. One of the interesting and encouraging pieces of data is that it appears that over fifty per cent of our membership are not Calvin alumni. That is encouraging because the purpose of CALL, as defined in our constitution, “…is twofold: first to enrich the lifelong spiritual, intellectual, cultural and social lives of its members, and second, to create an abiding partnership between Calvin College and senior citizens in greater Grand Rapids who wish to share knowledge, talents and experience.” I have talked with some people who think that they must have some connection with the college in order to be a CALL member. Not at all. We are eager to reach out to all seniors in the greater Grand Rapids area. It is also our desire to increase diversity among our membership. The executive committee is looking at possible means by which to reach out to interested minority groups. Thoughts regarding possible efforts would also be welcome from CALL members.

The CALL scholarship fund is again assisting two older students. They are Melanie Evans and Ryan Sprague. Melanie was a recipient last year as well. All scholarship recipients and fund sponsors were honored by the college at a recent dinner at DeVos Place. This year, Calvin College awarded over $2 million in scholarships.

Once again Thanksgiving Day is upon us to remind us of all of God’s goodness and grace which He has showered on us. The needs around us are huge this year. May we be instruments of His mercy as opportunities are open to us.

Chuck Jansen, CALL President

SPOTLIGHT ON …
The 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.

from the CALL Constitution

Seated left to right are: Frank and Ula Calsbeek, and Jessica and Harold Kuizema. Missing: Roger and Mary Boerema, and Sally Vander Ploeg

The CALL Membership Committee works to increase and retain members. Recruiting new members has been relatively easy due to many factors such as an excellent curriculum and many satisfied members. The membership committee does track member interests for class subjects and volunteer interests by means of a periodic membership survey. The most recent survey of the membership was sent out in the Spring 2009 CALL packets. A small number of surveys were returned, and the results were shared with other CALL Committees. The Membership Committee also receives nominations for the CALL Distinguished Service Award given out for the first time in 2005, and now awarded annually at the membership meeting in May to one or two worthy candidates chosen from the CALL membership. The 2009
recipients of the Distinguished Service Award were Jeni Hoekstra and Roger Griffioen.

Curriculum Committee
Wally Bratt, Chair

Let’s talk about some of the problems in registering for courses.

One problem is that because of our growth as an organization more courses are being filled early and we are not able to accommodate all who want to enroll in them.

Another is that several courses are offered during each session, and you may have to miss a class you want to take because of this overlapping.

A third problem is that some can take courses on only one day--either Tuesday or Thursday. The courses you want may not be scheduled for the day that you have available.

There are no easy solutions to these problems. We can try to repeat courses that have waiting lists, and we can try to place the repetitions on the alternate day. We can also try to place courses so that the same types of courses are not always placed at the same time slots. But repeating and scheduling courses depend on the instructors’ preferences.

In addition to asking for your patience and understanding, we can ask you to place in the comment box (located on the coffee table) an indication of courses you would like to see repeated. That would give you an opportunity also to make any other suggestions you may have for the Curriculum Committee.

We think that for each term we have been able to offer an attractive list of courses, and we hope that every member can find good courses to enroll in. If you occasionally become annoyed because you cannot get into courses that you want, please let us know. We will do what we can to repeat courses that have waiting lists or ones you have missed because of scheduling conflicts.

Passport to Adventure: A Travel Film Series

Held at the DeVos Center for Arts and Worship (CAW) at Grand Rapids Christian High School. Tickets can be purchased through Calvin Box office(526-6282) or at the DeVos CAW the evening of the program. (Adults $5, Students $2.50) Films begin at 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 21, 2010 [Thu] Worlds of the Maya
Explore two of the countries that hold the stories of the great classical Maya past, Belize and Guatemala on the Yucatan Peninsula. Similar to the Greeks, they were religiously and artistically a nation, but politically sovereign states. Join film maker Sandy Mortimer on a journey to temples and caves, as well as today's isolated villages with their age-old rituals and ceremonies.

Apr. 5, 2010 [Mon] Egypt's Treasures and Cruising the Nile

Service and Community Relations Committee
Roberta Rice, Chair

Last month the CALL Board approved a grant request to make Passport to Adventure Travel Series tickets available to CALL members wishing to reach out to the unemployed, immigrants, ESL participants and low income families. CALL member, Helen Bonzelaar, took advantage of this opportunity and brought 14 ESL students from Church of the Servant with her to the November 2 film, Inside Iran Today. The students were thrilled to see the film, many for whom this was their homeland. Helen remarks that part of what made the evening and the outing so special were the greetings and warm welcomes of the ESL students on the part of CALL members and fellow film goers. Helen says "The mostly mature audience dared to reach out to greet and engage with the ESL guests. Visiting Passport provided an opening to meeting some of God's wider creation in love. Thanks for the givers for your imaginative gift. I hope this leads to more mutual learning."

Nov. 19 Greg Scheer: “Is there still a place for Psalmsinging in worship?” Greg Scheer, Music Associate at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, will discuss and demonstrate how Psalm-songs through the ages can be creatively adapted to church use today. He will lead the audience in singing a sampling of these as well as his own setting of Psalm 78, “People of the Lord”, which recently won the Calvin 09 international hymn contest.

Public Events Committee
Henry Baron, Chair

Fall 2009 CALL Noontime Series

The free every-other Thursday Noontime Series programs are great events to which to invite a friend or use as a church group outing after brunch or before lunch. All Noontime Series are in held the chapel. The last Noontime series for the fall season is:
If you would like more information about how to get some of the limited supply of tickets for the season's remaining two films, contact Lisa in the CALL office at call@calvin.edu or 526-8777.

Board member Jeanette Sprik reports: Attending my first Calvin College Scholarship Dinner at DeVos on November 3, I didn't know what to expect. When the evening was finished, I was overwhelmed with the high quality experience and value of a Christian liberal arts education at Calvin. Over 1200 people and $2,700,000 plus in scholarship represented only the beginning. The Calvin College Orchestra and Capella Singers performed classic repertoire at their finest. Both student speakers demonstrated superb quality and maturity in their presentations, thoughts, leadership experience and Christian values—all of which brightly highlighted the value of a liberal arts education for me. We in CALL can be deeply thankful to both be in partnership with one of the top Christian Institutions of Higher Learning in the U.S. (and their generous spirit toward us), and to be able to contribute two scholarships annually to undergraduate Calvin students over the age of 25. I believe and celebrate now more than ever, that this is a quality investment that will yield quality fruit for generations to come.

Member Events Committee
Don and Shirley Lautenbach, Co-Chairs

Jan 14, 2010 [Thu] CALL January Series Brunch
Prince Center - 10:00 a.m. Our special speaker will be Syada Greiss, a member of the Egyptian Parliament. Ms. Greiss works with the poor and marginalized Christians in Cairo. Her work focuses on environmental protection and the empowerment of women. Our morning features our speaker, a delicious brunch, transportation to the lecture series and reserved seating. Cost $16.00
Questions call Don or Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244.

Membership Secretary Irene Bolthouse
Membership for 2009-10 as of November 2 is 906, compared with last year at this time, 864. Of the 36 CALL courses offered in Fall 2009, 15 are completely filled (necessitating a number of room changes), and one was canceled. There are 1215 registrations for classes, with 594 participants. Last year's records for Fall'08 show 1081 registrations with 539 participants.

Administrative Assistant Lisa Bauman
CALL has begun an e-mail list serve to send out announcements, reminders, and last minute updates to the CALL membership. If you have not been receiving these e-mails, and would like to be added to the list, please send your e-mail address to Lisa at the CALL office lcbl2@calvin.edu.

College Support Committee
Michael Van Denend, Chair
We’re whittling down the list of current Calvin students who are still looking for mentors -- “wise Christian friends” who will meet with them occasionally and give prayer, counsel and encouragement.

Here’s an example: “Natasha is a sophomore from Ontario hoping to go into youth ministry. She enjoys music, piano and travel and describes herself as quiet (yet outgoing when needed), a good listener, and a sincere Christian. She would like a wholehearted Christian who will listen and advise her.”

If you or someone you know might be willing to be a Calvin Mentor, contact Lisa Jousma in the Mentorship Office at 526-7274 or at mentoring@calvin.edu via e-mail. Lisa has a list of student descriptions such as the one above for you to review.

A great opportunity to “buy Calvin” is coming at the annual “Christmas at the Campus Store” event on Saturday, December 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Calvin Campus Store...
will be open (a rarity for a Saturday), with many Christmas specials. In addition, a number of recently published authors will be signing books, such as Calvin English professor Bill Vande Kopple, writer of *The Release*, a set of stories about "family, faith and fishing" that's the sequel to his earlier volume, *The Catch*. A portion of the proceeds during this day will go to Calvin scholarships for local young people.

The schedule for Calvin's January Series 2010 can be found at [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january) or by calling 526-7018. These free lectures are open to the community. You can attend in person at Calvin's Chapel, weekdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m. January 6-26. Visit [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january) for a listing of speakers and remote webcast locations in Michigan and across North America. CALL is underwriting the lecture given by James K.A. Smith on Wednesday, January 13 entitled "Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation."