

CALL

NEWS



CALVIN ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

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Presidents Report

Read this *Newsletter* for details of future CALL activities—short trips, extended trips, NOONTIME Series, Passport to Adventure, Interest Groups and summer programs. We hope you participate!

Hold the date--Wednesday, May 25, 2011--annual meeting at the Prince Conference Center. Prof. James Vanden Bosch is our guest speaker. Be prepared for a good time!

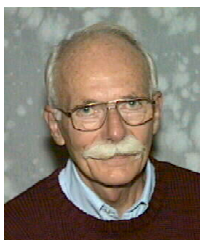
How will you participate in CALL? Do you want to join a committee? An Interest Group? Will you be a presenter for a class? An interest group leader? Do you have ideas for classes? Will you be a Board member? Let the office or me know your interests. We'd love to talk with you about opportunities to serve.

Ray Vander Weele, President



SPOTLIGHT ON ...

The beginnings of CALL The Chair of the Task Force & first CALL President *Phil Lucasse*



The Task Force made choices as it created and adopted a Constitution for the new organization (CALL). At the invitation of Calvin's Alumni Office, representatives from the *Hope College Academy of Senior*

Professionals (HASP) shared information about their organization with Calvin's Task Force. Phil Lucasse was then sent to the 1996 *Midwest Conference of Institutes for Learning in Retirement* in Chicago. From those initial meetings evolved the following list of "creative tension points" that would have to be resolved by the Task Force before it wrote a constitution.

1. The Calvin College Relationship: *Partner vs. Appendage vs. Independent Autonomy*. The decision was that we would be a partner, have common cause with Calvin, yet make independent decisions for our direction and programs. There was some tension here – not in concept, but in how to ensure this relationship. A first thought was to require that Board members and the CALL president be retired Calvin Faculty members. While easy to administer, this choice would

conflict with our purpose to involve senior citizens of greater Grand Rapids in the CALL organization. The final decision was articulated in the constitution, Art. 2.2 (*to create an abiding partnership*), Art. 2.3 (*subject to superintending control by the President of Calvin College*), and Art. 4. noting that nominees for CALL Board membership and President must be supportive of the goals of the college.

2. Membership Characteristics: *Community Fellowship vs. Fraternal Affiliation, and the additional choice of married couple vs. individual memberships*. The models here were an east coast group that had limited membership and a waiting list of 200 from which approximately 20 openings a year were filled by screening with long individual interviews. And another group that had married couple memberships. The decisions (Art. 3) were to have open community membership for people that are supportive of Calvin's goals and for individual memberships to enhance active participation.

3. Program Balance: *Courses vs. Community Fellowship Activities*. This tension is expressed in the membership/course dues structure. The membership fee (required of all) supports the community fellowship part of CALL, e.g. the luncheon, the Newsletter, and the overall planning. The course and trip fees support the independent choices for learning – a sort of user fee for adult education. This "creative tension" is revisited frequently to strike a learning-in-fellowship balance with a goal of keeping almost everybody "quite" happy.

4. Teaching Leadership: *Teachers drawn from the membership vs. Hired, non-members*. At the start CALL was envisioned as a community of peers, gathered in fellowship, to share interests and knowledge. The problem comes when the members' interests outpace the knowledge within the group and CALL must reach outside the membership for expert teachers in the field. Happily this question was not made a constitutional issue, and it continues to be worked on by the Curriculum Committee and the Board as the needs of the organization and membership evolve.

from Public Events Committee *Henry Baron, Chair*

The Passport to Adventure Series has its own adventurous journey to talk about. It began way back in 1966 with the Millbrook Minute Men for Missions, who were looking to use it as a money-raiser for various needs in the "service of

God's Kingdom." In those early years, travelogues were presented downtown Grand Rapids in the Welsh Civic Auditorium. When that became too costly, the move was made, in the late 70s, to the more accessible and reasonable Calvin Fine Arts Center.

In January of 1976 the Millbrook Minute Men turned the Series over to the Greater Grand Rapids Christian Schools; its profits would now go toward the support of Christian education. But by the 90s, the board was looking for another organization to assume responsibility. Thus, starting with the 31st season ('96-97), CALL took over sponsorship and has continued to this date.

In all that time, Anna Sietsema has been a vital part of the Passport to Adventure Series, the last 37 years as the person with the responsibility to attend the annual conferences, where she gets acquainted with the videographers, screens their productions, and subsequently selects the series program for the next season, a far from simple task. Hers has been a legacy of such significant service that it will not likely be equaled in the years still ahead for the Passport program.

But, sad to say, Anna has decided that this season will be her last as the key person in the Passport program. She certainly has deserved the rest she will be enjoying, but she will be sorely missed. Fortunately, Anna has graciously agreed to stay on long enough to train and assist her successor.

And so the search is on for that successor: a person vitally interested in the travelogue genre, with a love for CALL and Calvin College. The Public Events Committee welcomes your suggestions; please send me an e-mail baro@calvin.edu or give me a call 942-9814.

And don't forget to give Anna a pat on the back next time you see her!



2010-2011 Passport to Adventure: A Travel Film Series

The 2010-2011 Passport to Adventure Film Series is presented in the beautifully renovated Covenant Fine Arts Center. Please join us as we travel to many beautiful, interesting, and historic locations! Call the Box Office for tickets : 526-6282

A Holiday Coach bus will be available to shuttle you from the West Lot (parking lot located off the Burton entrance to Calvin) and from the DeVos parking lot.

March 10 [Thur] St. Vincent and the Grenadines: Caribbean Jewels with Steve Gonser. St. Vincent has been blessed with lush mountains, rich volcanic soil and unspoiled landscapes of brilliant flora and beautiful, crystal clear waters. Join the Gonsers as they experience the many adventures of these Caribbean Jewels--from sailing and dolphin watching, to hiking nature trails and swimming at the base of waterfalls, to climbing a slumbering volcano and exploring the fascinating underwater gardens surrounding this pristine group of islands.

April 27 [Wed] Discovering the Dutch with Sandy Mortimer. Sandy takes us on a journey beyond the cliches and gabled houses and into the stories of Dutch history

already made and history in the making. On this tour we visit 9 of the 12 Provinces and while seeing many of the popular sites, also discover the little known and fascinating aspects of this culture. From incredible Amsterdam to the North Sea and the borders of Germany and Belgium, the Dutch are weaving a remarkable tapestry of both past achievements and future accomplishments.



Spring 2011 Noontime Series

All Noontime Series will be held in the Chapel on Calvin Campus.

March 3 From Helping that Hurts to Local Self-Sustainability Travel with Dennis and Jeni Hoekstra to Africa and discover through pictures and oral presentation how and why they have for the past 16 years encouraged the poor there toward self-sufficiency. Focusing primarily on Kenya, they share what they and their Kenya partners have learned in working together to overcome the problem of intractable poverty.

March 17 On the Bottom of Lake Michigan Valerie van Heest, award-winning author and member of the Women Divers Hall of Fame, takes us back 150 years to the deadliest of disasters on a dark, stormy night, when 400 excursionists on the side-wheel steamer *Lady Elgin* were awakened in the middle of the night by the sound of a terrible crash.

Other Noontime Series Scheduled:

March 31 What Dying Taught Me about Living with John Otterbacher.

April 14 Imani: Music for Passion Week

**from Administrative Assistant
Lisa Bauman**

We have 3 extra copies of the *Sea to Sea in a Model T* DVD from the first Passport film with Don and Fran Van Polen. If you would like to purchase one of these DVDs the cost is \$17. Please contact Lisa at the office 526-8777 or call@calvin.edu.

The CALL office has two copies of Theary Seng's book "*Daughter of the Killing Fields*," for loan to CALL members. Theary Seng was the speaker at the January 7 CALL January Series event. The book is a compilation of her experiences during the Khmer Rouge years in Cambodia, with her personal reflections and remembrances. If you would like to be on the list to borrow this book, phone Lisa 526-8777 or Irene 977-1792.

**from Member Events Committee
Don and Shirley Lautenbach, Co-Chairs**

April 14 [Thur] 5:30 p.m. Hamlet is coming to Calvin! Award winning Calvin theatre director, Dr. Stephanie Sandberg and her excellent team of Calvin designers are creating a visually stunning masterpiece with sets, lights, and costumes, which will make the production a delight to watch. Because the play is four hours uncut, Dr. Sandberg has cut

the play to under two hours. She promises that this will be without losing any of its heart!

Dr. Sandberg will address us prior to dinner to acquaint us with *Hamlet* and will tell us what to look for and what to expect. Dinner in Calvin College Faculty Dining Room will follow. We will have reserved seating at the play. The cost of \$22.00 includes Dr. Sandberg's presentation, dinner and the production of *Hamlet*.

Questions call Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244.

April 29 [Fri] 9:30a.m. Plymouth Heights Church **America's Second FIRST Lady**. Join us for coffee and goodies and a presentation on the life of Abigail Adams, our country's second FIRST LADY. Hear about her early years, her life in Paris with her husband while serving in his diplomatic post, the difficult role she played as the wife of the US minister to Great Britain, her role as the wife of the vice-president and then as the First Lady of our country.

She is well know for her thousands of letters. Letters that were pungent, witty and vital. Jan Ebels is our presenter. Bring a friend (non CALL members are welcome) and come for coffee and enjoy a morning of fellowship and great entertainment. Cost \$7.50 per person

Questions call Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244

May 2-4 [Mon-Wed] By popular request we are scheduling a repeat **Lincoln Legacy** trip to Springfield, IL. Previous participants have enjoyed this trip immensely and have been very positive about all things Lincoln and the excellent food and lodging. This tour is a journey of Lincoln's life in central Illinois, his years in Washington D.C. and through his tragic return to the city he called home.

The highlight of this trip is a visit to the state-of-the-art Lincoln Presidential Museum. Other points of interest are, the Lincoln home, Lincoln's tomb, the church that Lincoln attended, the Old Capital building, New Salem Village, his law offices and other places of interest. Cost \$325 per person. Please remit a \$50.00 deposit with reservation.

Questions call Don Lautenbach 698-9244

May 17 [Tue] 8:30 a.m. **Gilmore and Pierce Cedar Creek**. Our day features the *Gilmore Car Museum*, an authentic American cultural legacy, and the *Pierce Cedar Creek Institute* where we experience the beauty of spring. At the Gilmore museum we enjoy beautiful vintage automobiles and

the national miniature museum which features one of the most impressive collections of scale architectural miniatures in our country. After lunch at the museum we travel to the *Pierce Cedar Creek Institute*. After an interesting and informatie presentation, we have the option to go on a wildflower hike at Little Grand Canyon or the Springtime hike which is an easier hike and on gentle terrain. Both hikes focus on wildflowers, birds and the beauty of Spring. Cost \$62.00 per person which includes bus, all fees, coffee and rolls, lunch, afternoon snacks and dinner.

Questions Call Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244

Aug 4 [Thur] 8:00 a.m. **A Day at Comerica Park**. Watch the Tigers battle the Texas Rangers in a 1:15 p.m. game. This trip is for CALL members and their grandchildren. Invite your grandchild(ren) to enjoy the day with you. The trip includes deluxe motor coach transportation, tickets to the game, coffee and rolls, hot dog and pop at the park and a buffet dinner on our way home. Cost \$65.00 per person. A \$25.00 deposit must accompany your reservation. Balance of \$40.00 is due July 1st.

Questions call Don Lautenbach 698-9244 or Dwight Penning 452-9405

from Summer Programs - Peter De Boer

It may seem like summer is a long way off, but the Summer programs committee has been busy planning and here is what we have in store for you this summer. *Birding* in late May; *Golf* at the CRC Recreation Center, May 31, June 1-3.; The following CALL summer classes will be held in June; *Wood Carving*, *Computers*; *Sonnets*, *American Foreign Relations*; *Line Dancing*; *The American Revolution*; and *American Presidents*.

A special two day lecture series has also been planned for June 21 and 22. Five lectures will be given by Everett Nienhouse. He will speak at a morning and afternoon lectures and give one special evening lecture. His topics will be: *The Shroud of Turin*; *Miraculous Pace Maker*; *The Dutch at New Amsterdam*; *French Fries*; *Island Hopping (Vadlopen) in the Netherlands*

More information and registration forms will be coming out later this spring. Please remember that you do NOT have to be a CALL member to take these summer classes. Share the learning, fun, and opportunity with friends, neighbors, and family. Each class is \$15.

Member Events / Interest Group Registration

Send completed form to: CALL 3201 Burton St SE Grand Rapids MI 49546

- April 14 [Thursday 5:30 p.m.] **Hamlet (presentation, dinner, play)** \$22 per person
- April 29 [Friday 9:30 a.m.] **America's Second FIRST Lady** \$7.50 per person
- May 2-4 [Monday-Wednesday] **Lincoln Legacy** \$325 (\$50 deposit) per person
- May 17 [Tuesday] **Gilmore and Pierce Cedar Creek** \$62 per person
- August 4 [Thursday] **A Day at Comerica Park** \$65 (\$25 deposit) per person

Name(s) _____

Phone(____)_____ Email _____

Your check must accompany your reservation. Make check payable to CALL. Your cancelled check is your receipt. Confirmation will be sent. If an event is already filled, you will be notified.

I would like to join interest group (no charge):

- Knitting
- Birding
- Gardening
- Brass Ensemble

from **Extended Trips Committee**
Frank Roberts, Chair

There are four tours now approved by the Extended Trips Committee. These tours are a CALL partnership with the Calvin Alumni Association. For more information on all of these tours, go to www.calvin.edu/alumni/travel. Printable itineraries are available at that web site.

from **Membership Secretary Irene Bolthouse**

Please note these changes in the spring classes:

Correction- the Curriculum booklet has a number of omissions in the calendar section. #5 Advanced Drawing meets on 3/1; #9 Draw See meets on 3/22; #35 WWII meets on 4/14 and 4/21; #36 Faces of Love meets on 3/31 and 4/7; #37 Films meets on 3/8 .

#7 Bach b-minor Mass Professor Cal Stapert has requested his class #7 Bach b-minor Mass to begin on February 22 (rather than March 1 as listed in the Curriculum booklet), so that the four sessions will be completed before the Artist Series program on March 17. Please note this change on your calendar.

#4 Daniel Has a room change and will now be held in the Woodlawn Ministry Center (across Burton from the main campus, at the traffic light), same dates and time. There is adequate parking in the Ministry Center lot.

from **Interest groups**

Birding Interest Group: To all interested birders, come join us to witness the wonder of spring migration. All are welcome. Here are some dates to put on your calendar: April 12, 19, and 26, May 10-11 (for a possible overnight to a migration hot spot), and May 17. These dates are tentative and may change once the group reforms in April. Our typical outings are 2-4 hours in the mornings of the days that we meet. The 4 hour sessions occur on days when we travel to a birding site outside of Grand Rapids. If you have questions please contact the group leader, Bill Sweetman at bweettours@gmail.com or 247-6741.

from **College Support Sally Vander Ploeg**

March 17 [Thur] 7:30p.m. **Artist Series** in the Calvin College Covenant Fine Arts Center, **Bach Collegium Japan** is performing the *Bach B minor Mass*.

To order tickets:

call 526-6282,

go to www.calvin.edu/boxoffice/tickets ,

or e-mail tickets@calvin.edu.

Orchestra players and singers - you are invited to observe a rehearsal of the **Bach Collegium Japan** on Wednesday, March 16, 2-5 p.m. This is not a substitute for attending the concert, but rather a supplemental, educational, free opportunity. To sign up, contact Carol Rienstra at 526-6175 or crienstr@calvin.edu.



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