

CALL NEWS



CALVIN ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

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President's Message

I trust you had wonderful Christmas and New Year's holidays with your family and friends. We now look forward to a new year of CALL activities, and hope that you find our offerings a wonderful way to meet your educational and spiritual needs. What a wonderful time of the year to look ahead to make resolutions to attend more CALL activities!

The Board did not meet in January, but at the December meeting the Board . . .

. . . celebrated the fact that 156 new members joined CALL this fall, for a total membership now at 1,172 compared to 1,093 at this time last year. We have been growing at 15% per year!

. . . noted that we had 1,407 course registrations this fall compared to 1,353 last year—employing 58 different instructors!

. . . heard reports by the member events committee that the bus trip to Detroit to see the Rembrandt exhibit is full; that the night at the Broadway musical, *Les Miserables* was a tremendous success; that the January series brunch has lots of sign-ups; that the lunch with Tom Rademacher already has over 100 enrolled; and that other activities planned demonstrates another dynamite year for special events and trips.

. . . reviewed the courses and instructors planned for spring, 2012. Check the wonderful array of courses and sign up early to avoid disappointments with full classes.

. . . approved the formation of a marketing and communications committee with a mandate "to develop and evaluate the marketing, advertising, and promotion of CALL, ensuring that the organization's mission and goals are advanced. This work will be done in collaboration with other CALL committees as appropriate."

. . . approved the report from a special interest group ad-hoc committee which recommended how we should proceed to develop more interest groups.

. . . reminds all members of their need to participate as leaders in CALL activities as a Board member, as a member of one of our many outstanding committees, and as an active participant in our courses or other activities.

. . . received a letter requesting retirement from one of our mainstays at CALL—Wally Bratt, who has served us faithfully as our curriculum director for nearly as long as CALL has been in existence.

. . . received a letter of resignation from Frank Roberts as chair of the Extended Trips committee. John Apol will serve as the new chair.

So, when you can, thank the board members, staff and committee chairs who attempt to "enrich your lifelong spiritual, intellectual, cultural and social lives."



CALL President, *Ray Vander Weele*
2010 to present



SPOTLIGHT ON ...

The Future of CALL

During the past year you heard from all past CALL presidents and other leaders who were instrumental in getting CALL started and maintaining the high quality and

variety of its programs.

We now focus on the future to determine how best to build on 17 years of past successes created for us. How can CALL as an organization think holistically about its future when most of us frame our vision by what has worked well in the past? We need to free ourselves from the myopia of that vision and look to possibilities for the future.

Your board has been and will continue to think creatively about how we can innovate and add value in all possible dimensions of CALL. The chart below explains these dimensions and how each relates to one another. The question for the Board and committees is to determine if changes need to be made incrementally, substantially, or radically.

➤ **Why?** First and foremost we need to remind ourselves that our constitution states that . . .

"The purpose of CALL 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 area who wish to share knowledge, talents and experience."

Our focus will always be about why we are doing things—there is nothing being discussed which will change our purpose, so all activities will revolve around our core purposes.

years former leaders of CALL have built a firm foundation on which to build for the future.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact a board member or email me at either rvweele@comcast.net or rv37@calvin.edu to discuss.

Watch future Newsletters for value-added innovations.
Ray Vander Weele



- **Who? Customers** are you members and other senior citizens who currently engage with CALL via course offerings or member events. Are we doing all we can to discover new segments of our population who need CALL to fulfill unmet or unarticulated needs?
- **What? Member services** involves courses, member events, Noontime Series, summer sessions, Passport Series—and other offerings intended to meet our enrichment goals. What else could we be offering to enrich our lives further?
- **Where? Location** usually implies events on Calvin’s Campus. Does it always have to be? Could we offer activities closer to where our members live, e.g., Raybrook, Breton Woods, or in other West Michigan locations?
- **When? Our Timing** of course offerings has been quite traditional. We usually hold classes on Tuesdays and Thursday afternoons in the Fall and Spring. The Passport Travelogue Series has been offered at night. Does it make sense to consider holding classes for a full day, or on half-days, or even on Saturdays? If so, there may be folks who might travel to Grand Rapids from distant locations to participate for an entire course in one day.
- **How? Methods** used in CALL offerings have been classroom oriented—there is a faculty member who presents; CALL members listen and/or participate in a lecture or discussion. Would there be interest groups who would meet and determine their own leadership and topics for discussion? How about using “Facebook” to hold on-line discussion forums on specific topics? Perhaps the use of webinars broadcast throughout the world, with top faculty and excellent visuals and technology, might increase the viewing and listening audience for CALL programs. Technology makes this possible now!

Do not be concerned that changes will be radical. Your board and committees will, however, take a brand new look at what it means to innovate—either incrementally or substantially. We have been given these opportunities to innovate only because for 17

What we need to move forward!

Two New Board Members
(contact Chuck Jansen,
575-9133, c.jansen33@comcast.net)

A replacement for Wally Bratt to serve as our new Curriculum Director
(contact Wally Bratt
975-2738, wbratt@calvin.edu)

Committee Members
(contact a committee chair or member)

Or ...



Ray Vander Weele, President
(954-1852, rvweele@comcast.net)

Extended Trips Committee John Apol, chair

American Southwest, September 6-17, 2012

Due to the success of the National Parks travel experience of last year, alumnus John Apol will be leading another Western U.S. tour, this time through Arizona and New Mexico. A brochure for this trip is being prepared and will be available in early January; the CALL website will also have it available. Questions? John Apol at john@lenscape-photography.com or at 616-243-8600.

A Journey to South Africa, November 2-17, 2012.

Visit a land of many races, cultures and languages with incredible diversity in geography. This trip will include learning about the massive political changes that occurred with the end of apartheid in the early ‘90s. The cities of Cape Town and Johannesburg will be visited as well as townships and remote villages. As we travel from place to place we will view the country’s diverse landscape, including the “highveld” and “lowveld,” seacoast, mountains and plateaus, and unusual flora such as the “fynbos” of the cape region.

Led by Calvin alumnus John Apol. Contact Witte Travel at 957-8113 or groups@wittetravel.com.

A descriptive brochure, “A Journey to South Africa”, is available on the CALL website or from John Apol via email at

john@lenscape-photography.com or at 616 243 8600. The deadline for the discounted trip price is February 15, 2012.

A Pilgrimage to Israel: In the Light of Jesus, March 11-22, 2013

This one-of-a-kind journey to the Holy Land will be led by Rev. Bill Vanden Bosch and wife, Lyn; the Vanden Bosches have organized this special trip a number of years now and add a deep spiritual dimension to the experience. A brochure and website will soon be available with more information. Until then, call the Calvin Alumni Office to get materials sent to you, 616-526-6142.

Public Events Committee

Henry Baron, Chair

from

Passport to Adventure Films Series



Please join us as we travel to amazing places with the Passport Film Series. Tickets are only \$5 and can be purchased the evening of the show at the Calvin Box Office.

Shows begin at 7:00 PM (**note earlier time). A free shuttle service is available from the west parking lot (just off 3201 Burton St. entrance to campus) beginning at 6:00 PM.

Contact the Calvin Box Office for tickets at 526-6282

Upcoming films:

➤ **Thursday, January 19, 2012**

The Heart of San Francisco with Sandy Morton

Capturing as much of the magic of this "City by the Bay" is the object of Sandy Moritmer's new presentation. Collaborating with 4th generation Californian's Rick and Jan Rosefield, this exploration goes beyond the tourist sites and into many of the neighborhoods this city has. Sandy will explore and reveal many of the claims to fame and the local lore in the "hoods" as well as Fisherman's Wharf, North Beach, Chinatown, Embarcadero, Japantown, Union Square, Mission District, Nob Hill, Alcatraz Prison, Presidio Civic Center, and much more. Learn the history of San Francisco including rare footage of the 1906 earthquake. Join Sandy as she takes us on a wonderfully exuberant experience in "The Heart of San Francisco."

➤ **Wednesday, March 28, 2010**

Mongolia, Land of Genghis Khan with Buddy Hatton

Mongolia lies at the heart of Asia, on the balance between the 'East' of China, and the vast wilderness of Siberia in Russia. A place of natural and cultural diversity, this huge, sparsely populated land encompasses a fabulous array of pristine landscapes and nomadic people whose lives are in many ways unchanged from the days of Genghis Khan and the mighty Mongol Empire. As the 19th largest country in

the world, Mongolia's considerable size means an enormous variety of landscapes, from awesome expanses of rolling steeps, high glacial mountains, impenetrable forests and deep, crystal lakes. Travel with Buddy Hatton to visit the Reindeer People, thrill at the world famous Nadaam Festival, stay with a Nomad family in the Gobi Desert, learn the real story of Genghis Khan and so much more.

➤ **Monday, April 16, 2012**

Wales: Land of Song with Monty & Marsha Brown

Think "Wales" and behold images of Celts, choirs, castles, Cardiff, coalmines, coastline and pastoral mountain valleys dotted with sheep. Wales is a small country, smaller than the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with its own language and a large influence. Join Monty and Marsha Brown as they explore U.S.-Welsh connections, particularly in upstate New York, as well as the historical homeland on the eastern shore of the Irish Sea. Visit towns and villages, mostly unknown to the average American, and experience the unique Welsh culture through the people and their music.

from

Member Events Committee

Don and Shirley Lautenbach

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 that 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.

January 25, [Wed] "REMBRANDT AND THE FACE OF JESUS"

Call members and friends are invited to the Detroit Institute of Art to see the "Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus" exhibit. Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus brings together for the first time many of Dutch master Rymbrandt van Rijn's finest paintings and prints that portray Jesus and events described in the Bible. His works illustrate how Rembrandt and his students broke from traditional 17th-presentations of Jesus. Two masterpieces in the exhibition illustrate the significant shift in Rembrandt's approach: Supper at Emmaus, a hauntingly beautiful painting of the biblical account, and Christ Healing the Sick.

The day will begin at 8:00 a.m. at Calvin College with a class on "Rembrandt and his works" by Calvin Professor Henry Luttikhuizen. The class will be in room 150 of the

Spoelhof Center. We will enjoy rolls and coffee and then leave for Detroit. After the visit to the art museum we will enjoy dinner together on the way home.

Cost of \$59.00 includes lecture, coffee and rolls, art exhibit and dinner. The first bus is filled. Reservations are being taken for a possible second bus, if enough people sign up. Contact Irene for a reservation, by phone 977-1792, or e-mail hibolt@att.net.

Questions - call Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244

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. Lunch will be in the Calvin Commons Lecture Hall in the lower level. The Commons is located across from the Covenant Fine Arts Center. This is Calvin's spring break so there will be adequate parking. 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

April 26, [Thu] Amish Acres

Enjoy a one-day trip to Amish Acres - a historic Amish farm. We will experience the lifestyle of the Amish through guided home tours, farm wagon ride tour showing points of interest on the farm, documentary films and quaint shops. Lunch on your own. The special feature will be the musical comedy "Church Basement Ladies."

This comedy is based on the thought that the church kitchen at one time was often the heart and soul of the church. This comedy is funny, heart warming, down to earth and will bring back many memories. After the play we will enjoy a "Thresher's Dinner" - a feast of Amish favorites. The dinner will be served in the century old barn restaurant, originally built in 1876.

Cost \$79.00

Shirley Lautenbach 698-9244

May 9 [Wed] Henry Ford Museum and Ford factory tour Dearborn.

We are planning an exciting day tour of the Henry Ford complex including the IMAX theatre. We will be able to see the production of the truck assembly from an elevated walkway inside the plant. Coffee and donuts, and dinner included in the day's event. Cost for the day: \$90. Questions: Carl & Glenda Welmers 243-6431

from

Administrative Assistant

Lisa Bauman

Keep fit in the cold winter months! Beginning in January the Calvin indoor track can be used by CALL members! Monday – Friday 6:15 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. You must present your CALL ID badge and enter through the main doors of the Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex (other doors will be locked). Track only. CALL members cannot use the Calvin fitness center. Sorry.

CALL Updates

Keep up with what's happening!
Send your e-mail address to call@calvin.edu and receive our weekly CALL updates highlighting CALL and other local events.

If you missed the October 20 Noontime, **In Adam's Fall We Sinned All** with Scott Hoezee, you can watch the video of this Noontime on the CALL website. Go to <http://www.calvin.edu/call> Click the center arrows to enlarge it to full screen.

from

Service and Community Relations Committee

Roberta Rice

The Service and Community Relations Committee would like you to know about the greater Grand Rapids organization "Advocates for Senior Issues". CALL has recently joined as a sponsoring member. It is "a non-partisan association which includes individuals and senior citizen groups who discuss topics of importance to seniors and influence legislation.

Meetings include legislators who speak on current issues and answer questions from the audience. The program portion of the meetings educates members on topics which affect the quality of life for Kent County seniors. At recent meetings we learned about the program to return unwanted meds to pharmacies; information about the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiative to improve health and reduce health care cost; and which bills concerning seniors are being considered in our Michigan legislature. For more information contact the website www.advocates4seniors.org.

Meetings are held the 3rd Friday of the month at Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. Registration is at 10 a.m. and the program begins at 10:15. A lunch voucher and entrance to the gardens is given to members and first time guests. Why not join us and give it a try? The first time is free and you get a lunch voucher worth \$5! The January meeting will be January 20 and the next one is February 17, 2012.

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 (Gordon Kamps, Editor)

from

Hospitality Committee Shery 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

Spring 2012 Noontime Series

Free and open to everyone. Bring along a neighbor or a friend. Held in the Chapel at Calvin College from 12 -1 p.m.

Learn more about these lectures at

<http://www.calvin.edu/academic/call/noontime.htm>

Thursday, February 2 Seeing God's World Through a Lens

The father and son outdoor photography team of Todd and Brad Reed will present a stunning slide show of their work that helps people learn how to better see and capture the beauty of God's creations. This visual journey will take you to the Lake Michigan shoreline of West Michigan and will show you the power and beauty that surrounds us every day. You will leave with a better understanding of how to appreciate the peek visual moments of your life.

http://www.toddandbradreed.com/lightbox/index/new_photos

Thursday, February 16 Dutch Immigrant Women and Their Work in Grand Rapids, 1880-1900

Among the many nationalities that settled in Grand Rapids, the Dutch were well represented. Under-represented is the history of the Dutch women. Many immigrant women are subordinated in

the records as wives and daughters; but in the last two decades of the nineteenth century, among the 10,640 immigrants from the province of Groningen alone were 791 single women, unmarried or widowed. Who were these women and what work did they engage in? Born in the Netherlands herself, Janet Sheeres has been able to search Dutch sources about the plight of women and their occupations in the Netherlands and to follow them to Grand Rapids. What were conditions like for them in their new homeland? Finally, Sheeres will reflect on how first-generation immigrant Dutch women contributed to their new community as well as what hindered them from engaging fully in the American culture.

Janet Sjaarda Sheeres has been president of the Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies, chair of the Christian Reformed Church Historical Committee, and is the associate editor of Origins, the historical magazine of Calvin College's Heritage Hall Archives.

Special continued discussion time with Janet Sheeres from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the Choir room of the Chapel Undercroft. Free and open to all. Please let us know if you plan to attend by calling the CALL office at 526-8777 or e-mail

call@calvin.edu.

Thursday, March 1 Unsolved Mysteries: The Shipwreck Thomas Hume

Presented by Valerie van Heest

Thursday, March 15 Growing Sculpture: How The American Horse helped change the face of Meijer Gardens

Presented by Larry TenHarmsel

Thursday, March 29 Music for All Seasons with Fitah, Calvin student and opera star

Thursday, April 12 Festival of Faith and Writing with author Gary Schmidt

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:

January 20 [Fri] January Series Brunch \$15

April 26 [Thu] Amish Acres \$79

January 25 [Wed] Rembrandt \$59

May 9 [Wed] Henry Ford Museum Tour \$90

March 21 [Wed] Lunch with Tom Rademacher \$15

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

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 an interest group (no charge):

Knitting

Birding

Gardening

Brass Ensemble



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS – NOMINATION FORM
Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning

Each year one or two Distinguished Service Awards will be presented at CALL's Spring Association Meeting to recognize individuals who have given extraordinary service to our Academy. Your help is critical to identifying worthy candidates. Criteria for Selection of award recipients are that the recipient must be a long-term CALL member (5 years or more). All areas and types of service should be considered and the service to CALL should be for an extended period of time (3 years or more).

Name of Nominee: _____

Years of Nominee's Membership in CALL: _____

Nature of Nominee's Service to CALL: _____

Years of This Sustained Service: _____

Rationale (Please give a brief statement regarding what your nominee has done for CALL over a long period of time and why he/she should be considered for this award.)

Signature: _____

Please send to: CALL

c/o Irene Bolthouse

3201 Burton St. SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Or email this form to Irene at hibolt@att.net.