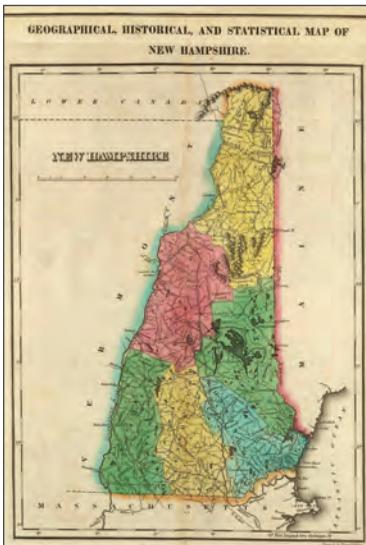


Horizons

Learning Later, Living Greater

Summer 2020

New Summer Lecture Series: New Hampshire is Changing



Carey's 1822 Geographical, Historical and Statistical State Map of New Hampshire

The work that goes on behind the scenes in order to present diverse and interesting courses for each of the four AIL terms never stops. The variables change with the availability of study leaders, committee and subcommittee members, and class locations. Throw in a worldwide pandemic and the flexibility of all involved is severely challenged!

AIL has risen to the challenge, even as Spring and Summer courses were rescheduled or postponed. There is good news, though: the three-week lecture series scheduled for August is proceeding as scheduled, even as it moves online. Members are invited to attend this series free of charge with their 2020-2021 membership. Don't miss your chance to attend ***New Hampshire is Changing: Environmental Shock!***

The subcommittee responsible for the August course was spearheaded by Curriculum Committee member Marion Leyds aided by Katrina Wagner, Ginger Milord, Scott Rappeport, Ken Tentarelli and *ex officio* member Joanna Henderson. Their hope is to continue this series each summer with a New Hampshire-focused topic.

There are two special differences in this Summer offering: first, this will be AIL's debut presentation on Zoom. (See page 5 for step-by-step instructions for attending a Zoom course.) More importantly, this comes as a gift from the AIL Board to 2020-2021 members who renew or join by the end of July. There's still time to join!

Scott Rappeport, a retired geologist and systems engineer who has led courses for AIL and Osher will moderate the two-hour presentations on three Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m.: August 3, 10 and 17. There will be time to address Zoom kinks

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August 3

What to Expect in the Way of Changing Weather Patterns

August 10

The Effects of Climate Change on Wildlife in NH and Beyond: A Conversation

August 17

The Impact of Climate Change and Acid Rain on NH Forests and the Sugar Maple Industry

*Oh, I have roamed o'er many lands, and many friends I've met;
Not one fair scene or kindly smile can this fond heart forget.*

Thomas Haynes Bayly

President's Letter

Dear AIL Friends,

As you will see in this issue, while we've all been hunkered down and socially distancing, AIL has been busy planning for our continued intellectual and social development. I hope many of you were able to hear and see "Bessie's Story" on our virtual Lunch and Learn on July 22nd and that many more will join us for the brand new summer program on climate change in NH (described in the lead article) available FREE to all 2020-2021 AIL members and airing the first three Monday mornings in August. And the good news about virtual programming is that if you are unavailable Monday mornings in August, you will be able to access the lectures at your convenience with a link provided by the AIL office.

Be sure to notice Joan Eaton's wonderful photos further on in this issue. You'll enjoy reminiscing about classes from this past year and, if you go to the AIL YouTube channel, you'll find even more photos put to music in Joan's retrospective for the year. Don't we look like a happy group? (The web address for the AIL YouTube channel is on page 6.)

Finally, a huge thank you to all of you who have renewed your membership for 2020-21. And to the many members who have made generous donations to AIL in this first year that we have made a formal "ask." The very exciting news is that we have already surpassed the \$5,000 mark for donations and that's just in the month since our renewal letter arrived in your mailboxes! A clear indication of what AIL means to all of us. Thank you, thank you!

We're on our way to new adventures in learning this Summer and Fall – zooming, back to small in-person classes and variations on the theme – thanks to the good work of the Curriculum Committee and our hard-working Study Leaders. I do hope that you are all staying well, taking care of yourselves and each other and that I'll "see" many of you in our various venues very soon.

Happy Summer!

– Mary Doyle, President



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An Inspiring Array of Fall Courses

AIL's nine Fall courses include online (Zoom) offerings, in-person classes, and one hybrid model (in-person and online) that Nancy Marashio will introduce this term. We're grateful for our members' adventurous spirit as we navigate this new terrain.

Courses offered through Zoom (positive note: learning from the comfort of your own home, no masks required) will include the following: *A Practical Guide to Renewable Energy* with Jamie Hess, described in the article below; *Charles Dickens: A Product of His Time and Place* with Julie Machen; *The Pinocchio Signal: Recognizing Fake News* with Scott Rappeport; *100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in America* with John Ferries and guest lecturers; *When Stars Were Born: 1919* with John Peterman; and *The Saved Ones: The Wrongfully Convicted and Exonerated* with Colby-Sawyer College Prof. Lynn Garrioch.

In-person classes will include *Writing Workshop* with Nancy Marashio (already filled in the Spring and moved to Fall term); *Understanding Gender Fluidity* with Sage Chase, a small discussion group; and *Autumn Colors in New England*, a painting course led by Fran Wilson.

Full details will be in the Fall course catalog that members will receive in early August.

A New Look at Renewable Energy

This Fall, new study leader Jamie Hess is leading an AIL course on renewable energy and energy-efficient lifestyles. His purpose is to show us the opportunities we have to reduce our energy use and save money at the same time. He will bring his own experience and that of guest speakers to discuss what is happening now and what the future is likely to bring.

Jamie, a native of Cape Cod, has had an interesting and varied career, starting with a B.S. in Civil Engineering at Princeton, co-founding an engineering software company in North Billerica, MA and hosting a program of folk and acoustic music on NPR. He then returned to software engineering, specializing in operations analysis of subways and commuter railroads. After a brief stint teaching at the Community College of Vermont, he started an e-commerce business, NordicSkater.com, which became one of the largest discount retailers of cross-country skis in the country. After retiring from the ski business, he joined the New London Energy Committee and has been its chairman since 2017.

Jamie's interest in reducing fossil fuel use has led him to make a lot of changes in and around his house. He began by retrofitting his house with solar panels, mini-split heat pumps, LED lighting and an electric car charging station. He then purchased an electric lawnmower, snow

blower and chainsaw, an electric car and even an electric boat. Most of these technologies will be on display at New London's Electric Vehicle Expo in late September, which will be a part of the course.



Jamie Hess

As head of the New London Energy Committee, Jamie spearheaded a \$500,000 municipal solar project, which came online in May of 2020 and will produce 40% of the electricity consumed by New London municipal facilities, all at zero cost to the Town of New London. The committee has also overseen LED lighting upgrades at town facilities, resulting in substantial savings to the town.

Jamie feels there is plenty we can all do to reduce our 'carbon footprint' utilizing practical energy-saving technology readily available to the average homeowner. Jamie's goal is to get the word out in time to take advantage of federal and state financial incentives. Here in New Hampshire we pay some of the highest energy costs in the nation, so Jamie's advice on saving energy and saving money is worth listening to.

– Sheldon Boege

New Summer Lecture Series

continued from page 1

before each session (it's recommended that you sign in at 9:15 a.m. to be sure you're ready at the start) and each lecture will be followed by a Question & Answer session.

A vast body of scientific evidence indicates that rapid changes in our climate have far-reaching consequences. ***New Hampshire is Changing: Environmental Shock*** will explore the impact of climate change in New Hampshire. The presenters are all experts in the fields of weather, water, wildlife and forests. The changing climate affects New Hampshire's natural habitats and resources as well as its long-term economic well-being.

Most environmental scientists consider that our rapidly changing climate is significantly driven by human activities such as greenhouse gas emissions from combustion of fossil fuels as well as the reduction of our forest canopies due to logging and farming. These lectures will introduce us to the current effects of climate change in New Hampshire and provide us with a better awareness of the need to reduce our individual carbon footprint as we think about sustainability, conservation, recycling and so much more.

The **August 3** session will feature Mary Stampone, NH State Climatologist and Associate Professor of Geography at the University of New Hampshire. Dr. Stampone will address what

we can expect in the way of changing weather patterns.

On **August 10**, two presenters will engage in a conversation about the effects of climate change on wildlife in New Hampshire and beyond. Carter Roberts, President and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund in Washington, DC, will be joined by Jonathan Waage, *Emeritus* Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Brown University.

Many AIL members attended Prof. Waage's excellent Science Pub talk, *What Does Evolutionary Theory Teach Us?*, last September. Locally, he and Jen Estes publish a newsletter for the Pleasant Lake Protective Association. In addition to his summer residence in the Lake Sunapee region, Carter Roberts also has a notable local association: he is the son of esteemed study leader and past chair of the Curriculum Committee, John Roberts.

On **August 17**, we welcome Sarah Thorne, Director of Education for the Hubbard Brook National Science Foundation's Long-Term Ecological Research Program in North Woodstock, NH. The focus of their research is the impact of climate change and acid rain on New Hampshire forests and the sugar maple industry.

You won't want to miss this fascinating series on the first three Mondays in August!

– Janie Webster and
the August Series Subcommittee

It's Membership Renewal Time!

Many thanks to the members who have already renewed their AIL membership and a warm welcome to our new members.

You can join AIL for 2020-2021 online with your credit card at www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures. Click on ONLINE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION. You can also mail your form or use the drop box now located outside of the AIL classroom in Lethbridge Lodge.

**Our new mailing address includes a box number:
AIL, Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main St., Box 2027, New London, NH 03257**

How to “Zoom” – Step-by-Step Instructions for Attending Online Courses & Lectures

The challenges of Covid-19 have given AIL a chance to try something new: online courses. While some members have used Zoom for meetings, book clubs, or family conversations, this is new technology for many of us. While the move to online courses was prompted by the pandemic, we see this as a way to expand AIL’s offerings for all members, whether they’re in the area or away.

The first step is getting comfortable with Zoom. Here’s a quick introduction:

- 1** Turn on your computer or tablet, such as your iPad; it has to be connected to the internet, so a Kindle won’t work. Open Safari, Explorer, or Firefox, web browsers that allow you to go to different websites.
- 2** Position the blinking cursor in the search bar at the top of that window and enter **zoom.us**, which will take you to the Zoom home page.
- 3** Sign up for a **FREE account** with your email address. This allows you to download the Zoom operating software to your computer or tablet. You will receive an email from Zoom to activate your account. You have to **INSTALL** this software by clicking on the installation button.
- 4** On the day and time a class is scheduled, you simply click on the link provided in your course confirmation email and it will take you there. Each class has its own ID number and password embedded in the link.
- 5** A camera and microphone are built into your computer. Look straight ahead at the screen. You’ll enter your **first and last name** the first time you use Zoom; your name will be visible to other participants. When you sign into a class or a lecture, you’ll **JOIN WITH VIDEO** and **USE COMPUTER AUDIO** to be seen and heard; you will be prompted to choose each of those options.

6 There are some handy buttons on the Zoom screen once you’re in a class. One is the **MUTE** button which keeps your background noise from being a distraction. The study leader may mute everyone so ringing phones or other noises don’t disrupt class. There is also a **CHAT** button that allows you to send a text message to the study leader or his/her assistant. (We plan to have a Zoom facilitator compiling questions for the study leader from the Chat function.)

7 AIL will be offering two types of Zoom courses. One is the **MEETING** format, where you see course participants on the screen in individual frames. The other is a **WEBINAR** format which allows more people to attend. Their faces are shown down on the right side of the screen with the presenter in the center. The webinar leader can also limit the people on screen to presenters only. Presenters can share PowerPoint slides, documents, and even videos that appear on everyone’s screen.

We will offer online sessions in August for members to practice with Zoom. Details to follow in the August Noteworthy News.

Zoom has allowed us to have a modicum of normal life.

I’m excited to be able to take a course while spending winter months in a warmer climate!

Love being able to socialize with family and friends without wearing a mask! Zoom has even made it possible to attend weddings and memorial services.

Adventures in Learning, 2019-2020 Peaks and Valleys

Joan Eaton creates memorable slide shows for AIL's annual meeting every year and this year was no exception. Here are some of the photos in this year's show. You can see 2019-2020 online, all set to music. Go to www.bit.ly/2YvMKJj to watch the whole show.







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Adventures in Learning's *Horizons* highlights
the activities of the lifelong learning program
at Colby-Sawyer College.

Fall Term at a Glance *Classes begin the week of Sept. 14 unless otherwise indicated*

TUESDAYS

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Understanding Gender Fluidity** / Sage D. Chase

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **The Pinocchio Signal: Recognizing Fake News** / Scott Rappeport

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **Autumn Colors in New Hampshire** / Fran Wilson

WEDNESDAYS

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **A Practical Guide to Renewable Energy** / Jamie Hess (*begins Sept. 23*)

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in America** / Moderator: John Ferries

THURSDAYS

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Charles Dickens: A Product of His Time and Place** / Julie Machen

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. **When Stars Were Born: 1919** / John Peterman

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. **The Saved Ones: The Wrongfully Convicted and Exonerated** / Lynn Garrioch
(*begins in late October*)

FRIDAYS

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Writing Workshop** / Nancy Marashio