

ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

Horizons

Fall 2023

Adventures in Learning Welcomes New Study Leaders

While several veteran study leaders will return to teach courses this fall, AIL is excited to welcome Woody Canaday, Peter Gunn and Bob Rex to our community of lifelong learners.

Woody Canaday, leading *A Good Thing That Runs Amok: The History of Money, Credit and Banking*



In the late 1970s, Woody Canaday began spending summers on Lake Sunapee with his soon-to-be wife, Cynthia, whose family had been coming to the area for generations. Before moving full time to New London in 2017, Woody lived in Connecticut for thirty-three years working for Greenwich Associates, consultants to

banks around the world regarding their services to large corporations and institutional investors. Woody studied classics at Harvard and business at Stanford.

Woody's course is *A Good Thing That Runs Amok: The History of Money, Credit and Banking*. His goal is to make a complex subject understandable and fun. He is interested in the "boom and bust" cycles that have occurred repeatedly and the historical and more recent responses to them. The course material will include hard and soft money (gold standard vs. fiat), credit and even cryptocurrencies. (No investment advice will be given.) There is no prerequisite of a banking or financial background to enjoy this course. Though Woody previously taught this course at Osher via Zoom, he looks forward to a more interactive experience leading the course in person at AIL.

Outside of his interest in finance, Woody volunteers with Braver Angels, a national program to depolarize political discourse. He is an organizer for workshops that emphasize listening with curiosity and responding with sensitivity rather than trying to win arguments. Locally, these workshops are offered through St. Andrew's Church. He loves all the outdoor activities that New Hampshire has to offer including skiing, cycling, hiking and rowing.

Woody has enjoyed taking courses at AIL and looks forward to being a study leader for a subject that he hopes will fascinate others as much as it does him.

– Susan Lynn

Peter Gunn, leading *God and the Founders*



Peter Gunn has deep roots in the New London community. While he grew up in Connecticut, he summered on Little Lake Sunapee his whole life, living in the home his grandparents purchased in the 1950s. His father currently lives in New London, his son teaches in a local school system, and Gunn has been living in the area full time for

about a year.

A short conversation with Gunn quickly reveals that he is a man of high enthusiasm, energy and conviction. He attended Dartmouth College and Harvard University – earning a B.A. in Government and a Master of Education, respectively, and taught government and civics in a western Massachusetts secondary school for four decades. During this period, he also coached cross country, squash, ice hockey and soccer. Although technically retired, Gunn keeps busy as part of the Spring Ledge field

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"We are not what we know but what we are willing to learn."

– Mary Catherine Bateson

President's Message

Dear Friends,

I am so grateful for all that AIL has come to mean to me over the years. I hope that you, too, feel enriched by being part of this community.

In June, we celebrated 25 years of lifelong learning with a beautiful party in Wheeler Hall at CSC. For the first time in AIL's history, we kicked off a fundraising campaign to meet growing program needs and to ensure a bright future for the organization. Happily, we're enjoying a generous response to our appeals, an indication of AIL's importance in the lives of so many. We are thrilled that we have gained many new friends and community partners.

June 30 also marked the retirement of six stalwart board members: Joanna Henderson, Bob Lyon, Nancy Marashio, Ginger Milord, Dick Showalter and Harry Tether. We are deeply grateful for their many years of dedicated service. We are also excited to welcome new board members David Click, Carol Emanuelson, June Fichter, Janet Miller Haines and Susan Lynn.

Now in the midst of celebrating our 25th anniversary year, we can reflect on our growth as an organization, due to the investment of so many among us: study leaders who volunteer their time and expertise to provide compelling courses, committee chairs and volunteers past and present, AIL office staff, CSC staff, and our enthusiastic general members. Thank you. Our community is strong and vibrant because of your contributions.

I have only recently assumed this new position, and I look forward very much to hearing what is important to you as AIL continues to celebrate its past and make plans for its future.

With sincere gratitude,
Katrina Wagner



ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

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Welcome and Farewell to Members of the AIL Board of Directors

In June, AIL members cast ballots to elect the 2023-24 AIL Board of Directors. Congratulations to our five new board members and one returning board member!

Our newly elected board members bring to their leadership positions remarkable career and life experiences that enrich AIL's lifelong learning mission.



David Click

David moved to New London in 2020 after spending 35 years practicing as a tax attorney in government and in private practice. He has taught The English Musical Renaissance at AIL, led a Lunch & Learn on Music for the Coronation and is preparing two classes for 2024. David serves as treasurer and as a member of the Curriculum Committee.



Carol Emanuelson

Carol retired as an assistant professor at Lasell University. Prior to teaching, she was a designer in the fashion industry. She moved to New London in the summer of 2019 and began taking AIL classes soon thereafter. Since joining, she has served on the Curriculum Committee, and proposed and developed *Community Spotlight*. She chairs the Curriculum Committee.



June Fichter

June held engineering and management positions at Polaroid Corp. and Abbott Laboratories. Her 35-year career included research, development and collaboration with overseas partners. Most recently, she served as executive director of Lake Sunapee Protective Association. Since moving to Newbury in 2005 with her husband Peter, June has taken and taught several AIL courses. She serves on the Curriculum Committee.

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Lethbridge Lodge Gets An Upgrade

Having just come away from the wonderful AIL 25th anniversary celebration where we recognized the founders, board members, volunteers, staff and participants who are the lifeblood of Adventures in Learning, we now look forward to the future. AIL is poised to continue to advance its mission and seek ways to improve what is already a strong community organization.

During the first half of the 25th anniversary fundraising campaign, Celebrating Our Past, Investing in Our Future, many AIL members and community businesses generously contributed funds that will be used, according to outgoing president Harry Tether, "to provide funding for classroom enhancements, program expansion, technology upgrades and improved presence in the community."

Many ideas to improve the AIL experience have begun to come to life, beginning with the decision by the board in May to purchase new furniture for the classroom. As

past president and founder Mary Doyle noted, "There are now more than 40 courses being offered this year to more than 400 members from New London and the surrounding communities. This represents an incredible amount of growth over the past 25 years." This growth and engagement highlight a need for an enhanced learning environment.

New furniture will provide more comfort and flexibility in the classroom. Tether noted that this investment is an answer to "the requests of both study leaders and participants." He shared that the furniture is "lighter and more adaptable to different configurations depending on the needs and activities for each course."

Nancy Marashio, outgoing chair of the Curriculum Committee, also spoke to the critical need for new furniture in the AIL classroom. She shared that the main concern with the old furniture was that "the tables were heavy and awkward to move." She added that study leaders

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Transitions, continued from page 3**Susan Lynn**

Prior to moving to Sunapee with her husband Mort in 2005, Susan worked in the field of adoption for many years and in 1989 became the fertility counselor in the reproductive endocrinology department at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA. Since moving to Sunapee, she has taken several AIL courses and served on the Public Relations (now Communications) and Nominating Committees. She chairs the Communications Committee.

**Janet Miller Haines**

Janet and her husband Richard moved to NH full-time in 2005, leaving behind the hustle bustle of New Jersey, and have never looked back. Janet became active in church and Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust and Northern Stage, where she ultimately held the post of board chair. During her tenure, they raised the funds and built their new home, the Barrette Center for the Arts. More recently, she's been active in the League of Women Voters and the New London Barn Playhouse. She chairs the Membership Committee.

**Joanna Henderson**

Joanna joined the board in 2017. She has been chair the Curriculum Committee twice and was the first chair of the newly formed Nominating Committee. Joanna is most proud of having taught twenty courses for AIL. This winter, she will be moderating a lecture series entitled Women Who Made A Difference. Joanna says she loves AIL and has learned so much from taking and teaching courses.

With the "hellos" come a few "goodbyes." Six board members (Joanna Henderson, Bob Lyon, Nancy Marashio, Ginger Milord, Dick Showalter and Harry Tether) retired, effective July 1. Each of these volunteers served AIL in many ways over the years. As they depart, their legacy to the 2023-24 board is a strong AIL organization, grown and reinforced through diligent work and a commitment to excellence. Thank you and farewell to these generous leaders:

**Bob Lyon**

Bob joined AIL in 2018 and has served on the Curriculum, Membership, Finance and Nominating Committees. He joined the board in 2020. Bob has taught a course and presented at Lunch & Learn, Woodcrest and Science Pub. Last spring, Bob coordinated a special presentation in collaboration with NEHSA entitled "The Last Traverse: Tragedy and Resilience in Winter Whites."

**Nancy Marashio**

Nancy joined AIL in 2014 and has been on the board since 2016. She served on the Curriculum Committee from 2015 to 2023 and was chair of that committee from 2020 to 2023. She has been on the Governance Committee since its inception. Nancy has taught twelve AIL courses over 20 different terms and will be teaching another one this fall.

**Ginger Milord**

An avid course participant, Ginger joined AIL in 2013 and began serving on the Curriculum Committee in 2017. In 2019, she joined the board and began spearheading AIL's Science Pub series. Ginger has led or lectured in five AIL courses and has another film course lined up for fall 2023.

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have been asking for new and lighter-weight furniture over a long period of time, pushing for a replacement that would “work for a wide variety of setups used for the many different subject matters being taught.”

Jim Perkins, a new study leader in fall 2022, noted that the classroom has great presentation technology; however, the older furniture posed several challenges. When it needed to be “reconfigured from smaller seminar to round table, to large group format, it was always cumbersome and sometimes dangerous.” With the new mobile tables and lighter stacking chairs, changing up the seating arrangements becomes easier. “The adapting of the space for each individual’s instructional needs can be done quickly and safely,” Perkins said.

This is a very exciting improvement for our membership, and it will definitely enhance the experience of study leaders, participants and other presenters. The smaller dimension of the tables, their wheels, and their ability to flip almost flat for storage will also allow for more seats in the classroom. This translates to having the option for larger caps on course enrollment and larger audiences for presentations held in Lethbridge Lodge.

As we all await the arrival of the new furniture, expected in August, we look forward to this upgrade for the fall 2023 term. The fall lineup of courses promises to provide lots of enrichment and opportunity for a continued lifetime of learning.

– Mary Lou Hoyt

AIL Hosts Carter Roberts

AIL was excited to host World Wildlife Fund (WWF) President & CEO Carter Roberts and local wildlife photographer Jen Esten at a members-only event on July 25 at Colby-Sawyer College’s Davidow Center for Art + Design.

WWF, the world’s largest network of international conservation organizations, works across 100 countries and enjoys the support of 5 million members worldwide. Its panda logo is recognized and well loved throughout the world.

Roberts leads WWF’s efforts to save the world’s great ecosystems and address climate change by linking science, field, and policy programs with an ambitious initiative to work with markets and businesses to light-

en their impact on the planet. He has worked with communities and heads of state in North America, Africa, Latin America and Asia; and he has built partnerships with some of the world’s largest corporations to set new industry standards for resource efficiency. Before coming to WWF in 2004, Roberts led international conservation and science programs for fifteen years at The Nature Con-



Photo by Nina Tasi

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Dick Showalter

Dick Showalter has both taken classes and taught classes since joining AIL. He joined the board in 2018. He has chaired the Membership Committee and has been treasurer and Finance Committee chair for the past three years. Dick has also served on the Chairs Coordinating Committee and the Executive Committee, as well as two AIL Vision Task Forces. During his term as treasurer, Dick has revamped and constructed systems to help the board, committees and the AIL office manage their roles in the budget process.



Harry Tether

In 2016, Harry joined the board and was nominated as treasurer. Following his term as treasurer, he served as vice president and then as president. Harry chaired two Vision Task Forces and led three courses. During his presidency, he initiated the Executive Council and committee charters, and he increased the number of board meetings from four to six per year. Harry initiated the 25th anniversary celebration and the fund drive, which has raised \$80,000 to date. During his tenure, the catalogue transitioned to an online version and fees for courses and membership increased, both of which led to the increased sustainability of AIL.

– Susan Lynn & Sherry Williams

AIL Donates to CSC

In early July, outgoing AIL President Harry Tether, incoming President Katrina Wagner, and AIL Secretary Betsy Boege presented Colby-Sawyer College President Sue Stuebner with a check for \$15,000 as a donation to the college's Annual Fund, acknowledging the close working relationship between Colby-Sawyer College and Adventures in Learning. AIL looks forward to the continuation of this important collaboration.

Pictured L to R: Sue Stuebner, Katrina Wagner, Betsy Boege, Harry Tether

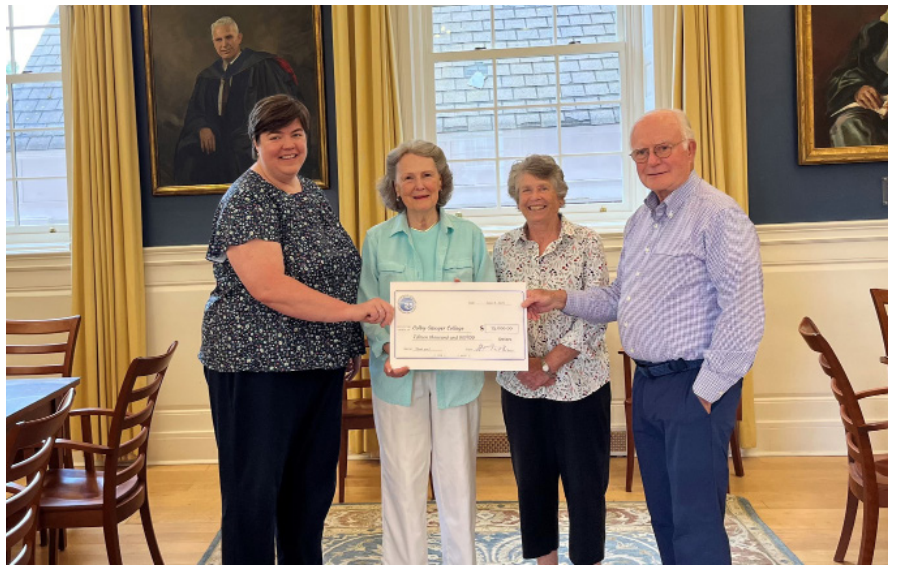


Photo by Dan Parish

New Study Leaders, continued from page 1

crew, by organizing social activities and by assisting golfers at the Baker Hill Pro Shop. He also aims to contribute to the quality of life in New London and wants to be involved with civic education, a goal which drove his interest in becoming an AIL study leader.

Gunn conceived of his fall 2023 course out of his concern for the lack of civility in political discourse and the direction in which the U.S. is moving. He thinks that people often quote the Founding Fathers as the source of authority without always knowing what the founders actually said. By examining recent Supreme Court decisions and other events, he hopes to help people navigate conversations about cultural and constitutional issues. He also hopes that participants will be open to new perspectives and have the capacity to entertain new ideas that may change their thinking. While we are told to never discuss religion or politics with friends, this course may facilitate friendlier discussions about substantive issues as we gather around the Thanksgiving table next fall.

– Jan Harrison

Bob Rex, leading Watching Football Doesn't Have to Be Boring



More people in the USA watch professional football than other sports. How many of them really understand it enough to fully enjoy it? Those who take Bob Rex's course will certainly raise their level of enjoyment as they gain insight into many details about the game. Some aspects of football have changed dramatically (e.g., instant replay

and direct communication from an offensive coordinator directly into the helmet of the quarterback). Other features have remained the same. Bob will review some of these basic, unchanged facets of the game, including penalties, the officials' signals, formations, pass routes and commonly used phrases.

Bob became involved in sports at a young age. He grew up in Mamaroneck, NY, where he played three sports. After two years in a public high school, he attended a private high school where he not only continued athletic participation, but he also improved his academic credentials. After high school, he followed his brother to Dartmouth where football became his primary athletic endeavor. He credits coach Bob Blackman as the main reason for his and the team's remarkable success. Football, after college, continued as a major part of Bob's adult life. He has mentored 15 student football players through his involvement with Friends of Football at Dartmouth for many years.

Most of Bob's professional career has been in investment banking, first with Morgan Guarantee Trust for 18 years, and then the Smith Barney Division of Citicorp. Since moving to New London with his wife Isa in 2013, he has served on the board of New London Hospital and is an active member of the Lake Sunapee Country Club golf community.

Bob's goal is to increase course participants' interest in football by answering questions such as "What is the neutral zone, and how is it measured?" He will also invite a local coach and a previous NFL player to provide personal insights into a game which has become such a large part of American life.

– Mort Lynn

Adventures in Learning Holds Celebration to Commemorate 25th Anniversary

On June 8, AIL members gathered in Wheeler Hall to celebrate 25 years of lifelong learning. The evening was filled with tributes to the tireless work of AIL's founders, the imagination and dedication of study leaders past and present, the hard work of the board, committee members and volunteers, and the loyalty of our members. For more photos of the event, visit www.ailcsc.com/25.

Photos by Gil Talbot



CELEBRATING **25** YEARS

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servancy. His philosophy is reflected in the following quote:

“People look to WWF and its leadership to bring imagination and perseverance to the important work of conservation, and to build bridges between government, civil society and business in devising solutions at the scale of the challenges we face. The world demands no less of us.”

Jen Esten co-authors the Pleasant Lake Protective Association (PLPA) e-newsletter “The Nature of Pleasant Lake” with her husband, Jonathan Waage. Jen has been photographing birds on Pleasant Lake since 2007. She is currently chair of the Wildlife Committee for PLPA and active member and volunteer with New Hampshire Audubon and Audubon of the Everglades.

The teaming of Roberts and Esten for this presentation is a natural extension of their friendship that goes back to their childhoods. The conversation between these two friends – with Esten posing questions to Roberts – covered a wide range of themes – from the personal to those of international importance, including the following.

New London Connection – Roberts’ New London connection goes back four generations and fostered his love of sailing, bird watching, and community. Long-time AIL members may remember Roberts’ father, John Roberts, who served as AIL curriculum chair and taught many courses in history, and his Aunt Fran, who taught art courses at AIL.

Love of Nature – Roberts recalled his delight in discovering red salamanders under logs every spring in the woods and smooshed on roads. This love of red salamanders will be carried over to the family sign he’s designing for his New London home.

Career Path – After college, business school and a stint at world shaving headquarters in Boston, Roberts and a friend started a company that would provide services to mothers with newborn children. He acknowledged that the model (an early Amazon) was about 20 years too early. He moved on to The Nature Conservancy and then the WWF, where he’s worked for the last 20 years.

Climate Change – Roberts acknowledged that we should be nervous about climate change, but he worries more about missed opportunities. He is excited about the monies available and opportunities to invent new ways to do things, but underscores that we need to get busy. He also

discussed how solutions addressing climate change and loss of nature must be intertwined.

Definition of Leadership – Roberts said that a good leader sees where we are today, determines where we need to be, and figures out how to bring people along to make it happen. He admitted that we live in an angry world right now, where people see things in black and white, but our work should be about being in the middle: understanding people who are different, listening to each other, being able to see the other side, and crafting bipartisan solutions that last.

Interesting Project – Roberts shared a story about WWF’s participation in the Global Tiger Recovery Program to double the number of Bengal tigers in the wild. While visiting Nepal, which has been extremely successful in this effort, Roberts was assisting in putting a collar on a tranquilized tiger when one of the team started shouting something in the Nepali language. Asking for a translation, he learned: “It’s waking up!”

Politics – Roberts stated that while the WWF is fiercely apolitical, its positions on conservation issues can make it a target for some government actions. WWF’s challenging of Russia’s approach to oil drilling recently resulted in Russia’s designation of WWF as an “undesirable organization.” This label is equivalent to a ban on the group’s activities in Russia.

On Retirement – New London friends frequently ask when Carter will retire because they’d like to have him around more. But Roberts loves his job, thinks he’s one of the luckiest people in the world, and, even after he leaves WWF to make room for the next generation, he plans to work in the conservation field as long as he can.

AIL would like to thank Esten and Roberts for this enjoyable, candid, and informative conversation - and AIL members for their participation in this special event.

–Jan Harrison





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

AIL extends its sincere appreciation to ECHO Communications, Inc., for 14 years of partnership in providing mailing and printing services for AIL's quarterly publications.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Science Pub Returns
to Galligan's Pub for its
8th Season this Fall!

**JOIN US ON THE FOLLOWING
WEDNESDAYS AT 5 P.M.**

September 13 ◦ November 15
October 18 ◦ December 6

As always, advanced registration is required. Look for more details in your inbox soon!