

Horizons Extra

Summer 2014

Lifelong Education at Colby-Sawyer College

AIL's 15th Annual Meeting

Members and friends of AIL gathered at the renovated and expanded Ware Student Center on the campus of Colby-Sawyer College on Thursday afternoon, May 15, to celebrate another exceptional year of lifelong learning. The program kicked off with Maureen Rosen's moving video presentation "An Evergreen Year," a photographic and musical retrospective of the past year. President Joanna Henderson then conducted a short business meeting.



Highlights

- AIL received prestigious Town and Gown Awards at Colby-Sawyer College's 2014 Commencement;
- Estate of Julien Le Bourgeois, one of AIL's principal founders, gifted \$10,000 to help fund a dedicated classroom in the future new Arts Center on campus;
- Record course registrations of 1096 achieved. *Storefront*, the new online registration program, well received and utilized by membership;
- AIL contributed \$15,000 to the Colby-Sawyer Fund in recognition of the college's generous support for the AIL program. Vice President for Advancement Beth Cahill gratefully accepted the donation on behalf of President Galligan;
- Beth Cahill lauded the ongoing, vibrant partnership between the two organizations; and
- Bylaws amended to give AIL board flexibility throughout the year to respond in a timely fashion to new challenges and growth opportunities as they arise.

Click [here](#) for the 2014 Annual Report by the president and committee chairs.

Honors and Recognition

- Study leaders, including nine first-timers, and guest lecturers, the heart and soul of AIL, acknowledged for their dedicated service leading and participating in 42 courses in 2013–2014;
- Julie Machen, incoming board president, recognized Joanna Henderson, outgoing board president, for her multi-faceted contributions as board member, study group leader and past curriculum chair. Joanna, an avid reader, was presented with a handsome pair of bookends to house the many volumes she now will have time to read;

Continued on page 5

In this issue:

Page 2

- Bringing China Alive

Page 3

- Study Leader Profile: Becky Fitts Rylander
- Study Leader Profile: Jeff Holmes

Page 4

- Preview of Summer '14 Computer Workshops and Courses

Page 5

- AIL Receives Town and Gown Awards

Page 6

- Thank You to our Study Group Leaders and Lecturers

Page 7

- AIL Happenings

Page 8

- Osher @ Dartmouth Summer 2014 Lecture Series

Reminder:

It's time to pay your membership dues for the 2014–2015 fiscal year: July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015.

Click [here](#) to pay your membership dues.



Bringing China Alive

The highlight of my AIL winter '14 course, "China's Relentless Journey to Global Dominance," occurred on February 27 when two Chinese students from Colby-Sawyer participated as guest speakers.

Those students, Xiaoxiao Lu '16 and Ge Huang (Vicky) '15, talked passionately and thoughtfully about their country. They answered a wide variety of questions on subjects such as how the transformation has helped their families in China, and what they think of their new Chinese leader and the challenges ahead. They candidly expressed their opinions on issues like the "one-child" policy, human rights in China, pollution in China and the hyper-competitive Chinese educational system. And, on a personal side, they answered why they decided to attend Colby-Sawyer, rather than a university in China (and how they convinced their parents to let them do it), and what their plans are after graduation.

I asked the students to reflect on their AIL class experience. The following are excerpts from their responses:

Vicky:

"The level of enthusiasm and hospitality that I received from the community members in the class was truly heartwarming. What I also saw was the sincere curiosity and concern for China and the Chinese culture by the New London residents who 'bombarded' us with questions of all sorts. Never have I felt more willing and even eager to bring my country alive to the audience in front of me by trying to answer those questions with honesty and intelligence. The surprising aspect of participating in this class is that by sharing my own understandings of China's issues and the Chinese culture, I have been able to look at them from a different perspective – one that I'm sure will prove to be greatly beneficial to my academic engagements in the future."

In the spring '14 term, 50 percent of the people who registered for courses did so online using Storefront. All were entered in a drawing to win a free AIL course to be used within one full year.

The winner of the spring '14 drawing is Cynthia Marshall. Congratulations, Cynthia, and thank you for using Storefront. Upon hearing that she was the winner she said, "No kidding? That's really great!"



PHOTO: Donna Ferries

Pictured with John is Ge Huang (Vicky) on the left and Xiaoxiao Lu on the right.

Xiaoxiao:

"Although I love the sexy title of "China's World Dominance," I can't say I agree with it completely, and that is why Vicky and I each brought our own experiences to the discussion. Both of us are studying history and were very interested in learning about our own country from the eyes of another. There were so many good questions and opinions presented in the class discussion.

When we finished our part in the class and were walking out, a woman approached me and told me with sincerity that my comments on American exceptionalism were heartfelt, and that she resonated with me in my experiences and struggles in keeping my own originality. I was surprised to hear her agreeing with my perspective as an 'outsider.' I then realized why this China course was appealing to them. It was because of their openness and tolerance of all thoughts, opinions, prejudices, etc. that enabled them to learn about other countries with a welcoming attitude, and with genuine interest in our diverse lives. Of course, I recognize that our audience was much wiser than we who are in college still exploring our interests, but I still want to express my appreciation for the stimulating audience. I learned from them the kind of attitude I should hold towards learning. Also I have felt this attitude not only in the China course but also in the Italian Renaissance course I was able to attend last fall, that learning really doesn't stop with age, it stops only with an aged, apathetic heart. That, my friend, is the biggest lesson I have learned from this AIL experience!"

Xiaoxiao and Vicky were wonderful ambassadors for Colby-Sawyer, reinforcing the very special relationship between the college and AIL. But they did more than peel the "China" onion for the course participants. They stole the show!



Becky Fitts Rylander

Study Leader Profile

Becky Fitts Rylander: *Sunapee the Town— Its History and Legends*

We all enjoy our views of impressive Mount Sunapee with its wonderful ski and hiking trails and beautiful Lake Sunapee, one of the largest bodies of water in New Hampshire. We glory in the beauty of the countryside which highway signs call “the Lake Sunapee Region.” But what do we know of the history of the town of Sunapee that shares its name with the mountain and the lake? Becky Fitts Rylander, a Sunapee resident who has a lifelong connection to the town and the area, will lead an Adventures in Learning course on the history and legends of the town going back to pre-Revolutionary times and forward into this century.

The name Sunapee actually derives from *Soo-nipi*, an Indian phrase that translates to “Wild Goose Waters.”

Becky says that there are many aspects to the Sunapee story—from its early agricultural times to the days of the grand hotels and steamboats on the lake. The Sugar River, flowing out of the lake at Sunapee Harbor, enabled a certain amount of industrial development.

The course will be held at the Sunapee Historical Society Museum, which is located in Sunapee Harbor



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

in the Flanders/Osborne stable, and will give course participants ample opportunity to examine historical artifacts in the society’s collection. The four lectures will be augmented with maps, photographs and a recounting of local tales that are such an interesting part of the town’s history.

Becky jokingly says that she was coming to Sunapee “before I was born.” Her parents, Henry and Brenda Fitts, had an old farmhouse off the lake on Trow Hill Road where they spent their summers. They were well known in the area and were friendly with the local farm folk, many of whom were Finnish. Henry was a high school English teacher in Winchester, Mass., and frequently wrote columns on farm and country life that delighted area people. His work was published in the *Argus-Champion* local newspaper.

Becky grew up in Winchester and graduated from Middlebury College with a degree in economics. She lived in Washington, D.C., where she worked as an analyst for the federal government. She has two adult children—one living in North Carolina and the other in California. The lure of small town living brought her back to Sunapee to retire. She became interested in the Sunapee Historical Society and says, “The next thing I knew I was on the board.” She has been president of the historical society since 2010. Becky is convinced that her parents’ love of Sunapee rubbed off on her, and her hope is that the AIL course participants will come to appreciate Sunapee as much as she does.

~Heidi Beckwith

Study Leader Profile

Jeff Holmes: *Bringing the Big Band Era (1935–1946) to AIL*

Jeff’s passion for Big Band music began on a Labor Day outing with his dad to the Steel Pier in Atlantic City. It was there that eight-year-old Jeff first heard Big Band music. He went home and began listening avidly to the radio as it played music from hotel ballrooms around the country. Soon thereafter, his parents

gave him a phonograph, and he began spending his twenty-five cent allowance on records.

Following a career in advertising and public relations in New York City and then Providence, R.I., Jeff and his wife, Barbara, retired to the home they had bought in Eastman



Jeff Holmes

in 1985. Taking courses at ILEAD led to Jeff being asked to use his skills on the Public Relations Committee. As he became more involved with ILEAD, he decided to create his popular course entitled, “When Commercial Airline Flying Was Fun,” which stemmed from another childhood passion, Pan American Airlines.

After moving to Greer, S.C., to escape the New Hampshire winters and to be closer to one of their children and grandchildren, Jeff began teaching his “Flying” course at Furman University. Because he enjoyed teaching adult education, Jeff

Continued on page 4

Preview of Summer '14 Courses

Registration is now open for the summer term, which begins the week of July 7. View the complete summer catalog and full descriptions of each workshop and course with start date at www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures/courses.html. On this same web page you can register for courses and view step-by-step instructions on the use of **Storefront**, the college's secure and protected online payment system. The registration deadline is noon on Tuesday, June 24. Register now to ensure a place in the course(s) of your choice. If you register online, your name will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a free AIL course to be used within one year.

- **Computer Workshops** with Tom Stark

Here is your opportunity to gain basic computer skills or to hone those you already have. Tom's five workshops include using the Internet and email, using search engines to find information, uploading and editing photographs, and establishing a Facebook account. Now's your chance to catch up with your grandchildren!

Note: Each workshop requires a separate registration at \$10 per workshop for members and \$15 per workshop for non-members. These workshops, with the exception of Facebook, were offered in the winter 2014 term.

- **The Galileo Affair** with John Roberts

During the round-table discussions, participants will examine Galileo's life and his complex relationships with money, politics, and religion. Such complex relationships continue today, and, with John's guidance, participants will look at the current relationship of science to money, politics and religion.

- **Encore: A Reprise of Popular Lectures** with moderator Joanna Henderson

This summer's offerings include **John Milton Hay, 1838–1905** with David Bradshaw, **The History of Aviation** with David Wright, **Oceans in the Balance** with Charlie Kellogg, and **Who Are the Celts?** with Bill Tighe. Lectures offer a two-hour, distilled version of their crowd-pleasing courses held previously by AIL.

- **Golf Croquet—America's Most Sophisticated Outdoor Sport** with Sharon Kenrick

Learn the history and strategies of golf croquet, a sport that was popularized in Hollywood in the 1920s and has gained increasing participation over the decades. Equipment will be provided and participants are encouraged to wear dress whites.

Note: Due to the limit of eight participants in each session, Sharon will offer a morning and an afternoon session.

- **The Big Band Era: 1935–1946** with Jeff Holmes

Jeff will present the era of great music, bands and singers through slides, videos and on-air broadcast CDs. Relive the era or learn about it as Jeff focuses on composers, arrangers, swing and dance bands, and vocalists. Toe tapping is encouraged!

- **The Faceted History of the Town of Sunapee** with Becky Fitts Rylander

Becky will lecture on Sunapee's history with an emphasis on tourism, agriculture, industry and town life. She has a lifetime of memories dating back to her summers on Lake Sunapee with her grandparents. Included is a visit to the Sunapee Historical Museum for a closer look at the artifacts that bring life to Sunapee's past.

Jeff Holmes (continued from page 3)

decided to create a second course, this one on the big bands. His course includes a condensed history of the music and the period, leaving lots of time in class for music and videos.

When asked how the Depression affected the growth of the big bands, Jeff said that the combination of the lengthy Depression and four years of World War II contributed to the ever-increasing popularity of the bands. Beginning in the mid-thirties, the bands played in large ballrooms, some holding 2,500 dancers or more. In addition, the three major radio networks transmitted their music nightly across the country. This

created a boom in record sales and greatly increased the bands' exposure and popularity. With the advent of the war, the ballrooms catered to the military and also to those at home working for the war effort. The twenty-five cent admission fee was easily affordable to the lucky couples who danced to Glenn Miller's "In the Mood" at New York's famous Glen Island Casino. Growing up in the late forties on the Jersey Shore, Jeff and his dates joined the throngs for many an evening of dancing at Asbury Park's Convention Hall to the music of Harry James, Jimmy Dorsey, Vaughn Monroe and other



big band orchestras.

When I asked Jeff how he kept his students in their chairs, he answered, "I don't!" Not only is there foot tapping and more in his class, there is also time for people to share their remembrances of listening and dancing to the big bands.

~Deb Rucci

Adventures in Learning Awarded the Town and Gown Awards

Board members Joanna Henderson, president, and Julie Machen, president-elect, accepted the Town Award on behalf of AIL at Colby-Sawyer College's May 10, 2014, Commencement ceremony. The Town Award is presented to a resident or organization in the New London area that has shown extraordinary involvement in and made noteworthy contributions to the college.

Colby-Sawyer staff members and program coordinators Marianne Harrison and Janet St. Laurent accepted the Gown Award. The Gown Award is presented to an individual or department from Colby-Sawyer College whose work and contributions in the New London area are extraordinary.

AIL provides a sense of community for its approximately 500 members. It endows the Adventures in Learning Achievement Award presented to a deserving and qualified Colby-Sawyer College junior. The program truly embraces its philosophy of *Learning Later, Living Greater*.

Colby-Sawyer staff members and program coordinators Marianne Harrison and Janet St. Laurent accepted the Gown Award for their work with AIL at the college.



PHOTO: Skip Wareham

Board members Julie Machen, president-elect, (l) and Joanna Henderson, president, accepted the Town Award on behalf of AIL.



PHOTO: Skip Wareham

AIL 15th Annual Meeting (continued from page 1)

- President Tom Galligan honored as a Distinguished Study Group Leader for his outstanding contribution to AIL and reaching the milestone of leading ten courses/lectures; and
- Betsy Boege presented with the first AIL Distinguished Leader Award for filling multiple AIL leadership positions during the past 10 years.

Board Elections

- Deborah Rucci, Sheldon Boege and Les Norman elected for first three-year terms. John Ferries and Michael Moss re-elected for second three-year terms; and
- **Officers for 2014–2015:** Julie Machen, president; Van Crawford, vice-president; Tom Stark, treasurer; Dan Schneider, secretary.

The festive gathering concluded with wine and hors d'oeuvres accompanied by lively contemporary and traditional folk music performed by the Kearsarge-based trio, *Folk Fusion*. A first-time art exhibit showcased original artwork by AIL members and study leaders before and after the meeting and was enjoyed by all.



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

Past president Morris Edwards, president Joanna Henderson, founder and first president Charles "Charlie" Carey, past presidents Elizabeth "Betsy" Boege and Arthur "Art" Rosen were in attendance at AIL's 15th annual meeting. Charlie holds the Town Award plaque presented to AIL at this year's Colby-Sawyer Commencement. The Gown Award was also presented to AIL at this year's Commencement. Below is a list of all the AIL presidents.

Charles Carey	Founder, 1st president
Peter Q. McKee	2nd president
John C. Callahan, Jr.	3rd president
Richard Cogswell	4th president
Elizabeth F. Boege	5th president
Arthur M. Rosen	6th president
Morris Edwards	7th president
Joanna Henderson	8th president
Julie Machen	9th president

Italics indicate individual is deceased.

Thank You...

AIL wishes to thank all of this year's study leaders and lecturers for their outstanding service and dedication. Our study leaders and lecturers are the heart of our program, and they deserve our sincere thanks.

David Almond •The Pipe Organ: Its History and Its Music

Jack Barrett •The Italian Renaissance—A Closer Look

Jay Barrett •Bending Reality: America's Visionary Entrepreneurs

Sue Anne Bottomley •Colorful Journey: Capturing the Moment •Drawing on Your Memories: An Intermediate Level Sketching Class

Chris Bowditch •Figure Drawing •Project-Based Drawing

Charlotte Brook-Signor •The Psyche of Five Prolific Composers

Charlotte Broughton •Places, Please, for the One-Act Express!

Dick Cavallaro •Bending Reality: America's Visionary Entrepreneurs

Anne Chandler •Israel and Palestine—Another View

Hilary Cleveland •Eighty Years of Social Change in the U.S. (1933–2013) [two terms]

Dale Conly •How the Architecture of Our Homes Reflects Our Values

Robert Crane •Regional Climate Change and Global Warming

Morris Edwards •Encore: A Reprise of Popular Lectures •The Italian Renaissance—A Closer Look

Caroline Fairless •Earth in Crisis—Ecological Healing as a Moral Imperative

Joseph Fanning •1933: Great Films in an Awful Year

John Ferries •China's Relentless Journey to Global Dominance •South Africa After Apartheid •Bending Reality: America's Visionary Entrepreneurs

June Fichter •Follow the Water: All About Watersheds

Tom Galligan •The Italian Renaissance—A Closer Look •The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Randy Hanson •The Mexico You Do Not Read About in the Headlines

Joanna Henderson •Encore: A Reprise of Popular Lectures •Downton Abbey's Real Edwardian Family •Bending Reality: America's Visionary Entrepreneurs

Derek Hunt •Bending Reality: America's Visionary Entrepreneurs

André Hurtgen •Afternoon Tea with Marcel Proust

Chuck Kennedy •The Films of Buster Keaton

Gene Lariviere •From $E=mc^2$ to the Bikini Atoll: A History of the Manhattan Project •Hooded Americanism, a Look at Home Grown Terrorism

Julie Machen •Encore: A Reprise of Popular Lectures •The Italian Renaissance—A Closer Look •Charles Dickens: A Product of His Time and Place

Buffy Draper McPhee •Beautiful Soup •Beautiful Winter Soups

Mike Moss •Encore: A Reprise of Popular Lectures •The Italian Renaissance—A Closer Look

Dick Pearson •The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

David Pook •The Italian Renaissance—A Closer Look

John Raby •Pursuing Peace: Nonviolence in American Life

John Roberts •Lessons From the Life of Samuel de Champlain

Art Rosen •The Dead Sea Scrolls and the World to Come •Religion in Collision III: the Dark Side of the Reformation

Dan Schneider •Bending Reality: America's Visionary Entrepreneurs

Tom Stark •Computer Workshops: Intro/Photos–Basic/Photos–Editing/Microsoft Office

Bill Tighe •Vikings: Forays of the Northmen

Aarne Vesilind •Almost Great Composers

Brenda Watts •The Isles of Shoals: Your Passport to Adventure

Dwight Wilder •“De-lighted!”—Theodore Roosevelt in the First Person

Robert Wood •Follow the Water: All About Watersheds

Diana Wyman •Hormones: Maintaining Balance

Gardner Yenawine •The End of Life, a Discussion Among Friends [two terms]

PHOTOS: Marianne Harrison



Members of the AIL board hosted an informal reception for this year's AIL Achievement Award recipient, Shaina Driscoll.

AIL board reception for Shaina Driscoll



AIL President Joanna Henderson presented Shaina with a parting gift at the conclusion of the reception and thanked her for sharing highlights from her Colby-Sawyer experience and her plans for the future.

Adventures in Learning Happenings



PHOTOS: Maureen Rosen

Brenda Watts zooms in for a close look on her laptop in her ever-popular "Isles of Shoals" AIL course.



PHOTO: Joyce Kellogg

Soups On! Two AIL courses collaborated when Buffy McPhee's "Soup" course and Randy Hanson's "Mexico" course met to taste a delicious oxtail soup prepared and served by Buffy and her course participants.



PHOTOS: Maureen Rosen

Art Rosen stands at the screen leading his spring '14 AIL course, "Religion in Collision III: the Dark Side of the Reformation."



PHOTO: Joyce Kellogg



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

A smiling Dick Pearson leading a class in this spring's AIL course "The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution."



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

Course participants settle in for what promises to be a stimulating and entertaining class with Dick Pearson and Tom Galligan in "The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution" course.

Board of Directors

Julie Machen, *president*
 Van Crawford, *vice president*
 Dan Schneider, *secretary*
 Tom Stark, *treasurer*

Directors at Large

Betsy Boege
 Sheldon Boege
 Dick Cavallaro
 John Ferries
 Joyce Kellogg
 Chuck Kennedy
 Gene Lariviere
 Mike Moss
 Les Norman
 Deb Rucci
 Pat Stewart
 Aarne Vesilind
 Brenda Watts

Public Relations Committee

Joyce Kellogg, *chair*
 Deb Rucci, *co-chair*
 Kathleen Belko
 Betsy Boege
 Sheldon Boege
 Jennifer Mack
 Maureen Rosen

Writer Emeritus

Heidi Beckwith



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

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the articles in this publication are strictly those of the respective authors.

Information offered should not be considered authoritative or complete, nor should it be construed to reflect the views or opinions of the Adventures in Learning program or Colby-Sawyer College.

Credits**Design and Production:**

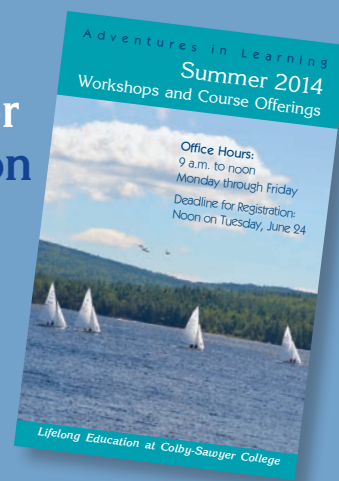
Lisa Swanson, Second Story Design
 Manchester, N.H.

REMINDER:

Registration deadline for
 spring courses is **noon on
 Tuesday,
 June 24.**

Click [here](#) to register online.

Summer workshops
 and courses begin on
Monday, July 7.

**Osher @ Dartmouth Summer 2014 Lecture Series:**

The Most Dangerous Region in the World? The Middle East

It's an area we all watch, wonder and worry about, because there's always a clash, often a crisis. Tribe against tribe, country against country, religion against religion, my bomb vs. your bomb. Governments destroy their own cities; drop bombs on their own citizens. Peace talks never begin, or start one day and disintegrate the next. These are conflicts we address and soften with labels like "Arab Spring," "popular uprisings," or "peace initiatives," but should we?

The Osher @ Dartmouth (formerly ILEAD) Summer 2014 Lecture Series, which will treat this extremely important and timely topic, starts Wednesday morning July 9 and runs for 7 weeks to August 20. An impressive collection of experts will help us understand why the Middle East is the way it is, and what the future is likely to hold in store. Mark your calendars now. You'll not want to miss it.

Series details and ticket information will be available soon.

~Bruce Macdonald, Osher @ Dartmouth Summer Lecture Series

**AIL Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to noon
 Monday – Friday**

**The Adventures in Learning administrative
 offices will be closed on**

**Friday, July 4
 in observance of Independence Day.**

PHOTO: Maureen Rosen