

Adventures in Learning Update



Spring 2001

COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE

LEARNING AMONG FRIENDS

Profile: Julien LeBourgeois

Julien LeBourgeois has been involved with Adventures in Learning from its inception. As chairman of the original program organizing committee, he was one of the key volunteers in getting this successful program off the ground. As is true with other Adventures in Learning organizers, he has previously taken and also has taught courses at ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Learning at Dartmouth) and wanted to bring something similar to the New London-Lake Sunapee Region. As a study group leader, Julien has led classes on Napoleon, and currently is leading, with Millard Hunter, a class on the Civil War for the second time.

Organizing the Adventures in Learning



Julien LeBourgeois

Program was a lot of fun for Julien who says the original committee "was the most congenial, most willing, and most cooperative group of volunteers I have ever been associated with."

A man with a great appetite for learning, a prodigious memory about all sorts of things, and a keen wit—all marvelous qualities for an Adventures in Learning study leader—Julien is a retired Navy Vice Admiral who has

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Adventures Goes Online

With an ever-expanding membership and growing participation in its study groups—a more than one-third increase for the fall term—Adventures in Learning has continued to explore new ways to further expand its communication with the community it serves. Beginning with last year's spring term, the first issue of the newsletter *Adventures in Learning Update* was published to provide general information about current activities of the Adventures in Learning Program and to offer an advance preview of the courses offered in the next academic term. Three times per year, a course catalog with detailed course descriptions and study group leader bios is sent to the full Adventures in Learning mailing list prior to the beginning of each term.

In yet another leap forward, Adventures in Learning has launched a new Web site to provide to members up-to-date program and course information, special features, and in-depth profiles. Simply go to www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures and click through a continuous display of information on the Adventures in Learning Program. Periodically, we plan to publish arti-

cles of interest, particularly in relation to current topics being discussed by study leaders, expanding further on the subjects offered in the classroom. Study group leaders also will be able to inform students about helpful publications to read and television programs to watch as a part of their studies. Additionally, applications are



Adventures in Learning Program Coordinator Sharon Ames and Colby-Sawyer Editorial Webmaster Doug Minor put the finishing touches on Adventures in Learning's new Web page.

available online for becoming a member of Adventures in Learning and for enrolling in courses in advance of receiving the printed catalog.

The development of the Adventures in Learning Web site is a natural progression for the program. The movement from a paper to a digital culture is happening everywhere in our society. The Web can be a great aid to the learning experience because of the vast amount of information and

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Profile, cont'd

seen and experienced much. Born in North Carolina, he grew up in New Orleans—no doubt the source of his collection of hilarious Cajun dialect stories.

He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1944 and went to war as a young ensign on the U.S.S. Columbia and lived through kamikaze attacks which took the lives of many of his crew members and nearly destroyed his ship. After the war, he served on the U.S.S. Harveson and the U.S.S. Brownson. After attending U.S. Naval

Intelligence and Language schools, he was attached to the Office of Naval Intelligence in the Counter Intelligence branch.

He and his wife Priscilla lived for a time in Tangier, Morocco, where, as a Lieutenant, he served as Assistant Naval Attaché. Climbing steadily through the ranks, Julien was Executive Officer on the U.S.S. Blandy in 1958, which brought home the last unknown soldier, and he was Captain and Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Halsey in 1965 when it successfully rescued nineteen airmen who had been shot down in the Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam.

In 1970, Rear Admiral LeBourgeois and his wife Priscilla moved to Belgium where he was attached to NATO and then, still with NATO and now a Vice Admiral, to Norfolk where he became Chief of Staff of the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic.

Julien's last assignment was President of the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. He retired in 1977, when he and Priscilla moved to New Hampshire: first to Tamworth and then in 1989 to New London, where both have been valued and enthusiastic participants in a variety of community activities.

—Heidi Beckwith

**Adventures in Learning
At Colby-Sawyer College**

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Adventures in Learning Update, published three times annually, highlights the courses and happenings of the Adventures in Learning Program at Colby-Sawyer College.

Preview of Spring 2001 Courses

Although we are just beginning winter 2001 courses, it is not too early to "think Spring." You will receive the spring *Catalog* during the week in January, and the registration period opens on Monday, February 5, 2001. This advance notice will give you a chance to contemplate the spring offerings and be ready to make your choices when the catalog arrives. To avoid disappointment, register early and please designate a second choice. All participants are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and classes are restricted in size to ensure the most enjoyable learning experience.



James Bowditch

American Literary Renaissance

Led by James Bowditch of New London, this course will involve reading and discussing selected works of Emerson, Hawthorne, Melville, Thoreau, Whitman and Dickinson. The leader will present two philosophical/religious aspects of their writings: Calvinism and Transcendentalism, giving you ample material for lively discussions.



William Tighe

Speechcraft: Effective Communication

This course is designed to help develop your public speaking abilities. Through the relaxed atmosphere of the Toastmasters Club, you will become a more experienced and poised speaker. William Tighe is retired from the aerospace industry. He is a poet and a former radio talk host and newspaper columnist.



Donald Clark

The Personal Physician: What Was, Is, and Might Be

Retired New London physician Dr. Donald Clark will lead this group discussion to examine various topics concerning public health. Subjects will include the role of the personal physician in society since the dawn of time, how the physician's role in health care is changing, and caring above curing.



George Tracy

The Trial and Death of Socrates

The writings of Plato are arguably the most influential philosophical documents in Western thought. Such thought had its foundation based in his "teacher," Socrates, the central figure in this course, who held the firm conviction that "the unexamined life is not worth living." George Tracy returns to lead such an examination as the substance of study. The method employed will, of course, be Socratic.



Dusty Logan

Rags to Riches II: A Historical and Cultural Survey of Decorative Textiles

Dusty Logan, a former ILEAD study group leader, will conduct a fascinating look at how textiles—practical and frivolous, high style and low style—have provided comfort and beauty, and defined rank and status since human history began. No prior knowledge of textiles is necessary. A love for color, texture, design, and material culture as well as an interest in the creative process is all that is required for this course.



Charles Kennedy

A Short, Short Course on Islam for Non-Muslims

Although Islam is the fastest growing major religion in the United States, it remains one of the least understood by non-Muslims. It is too frequently linked with the words "terrorist" or "fanatic" in the media, adding to the misinformation about the religion itself. Led by Dr. Charles Kennedy, this course will examine the similarities and differences between Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, and explore the reasons behind the popular misconceptions about Islam.

Please refer to the *Adventures in Learning Spring 2001 Catalog* for complete course descriptions. Catalogs will be mailed in late January.

Web Site, cont'd

resources that are immediately available to Web users. As the name implies, the Web is a world-wide medium that knows no geographic boundaries and is open for business 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Web users comprise all nationalities and persuasions, with interests varying from the serious to the frivolous.

Originally begun as a military experiment whose aim was to secure computer-to-computer communication, today's World Wide Web continues to be a rapidly growing interactive community of computer users and information and business vendors.

Like the rest of the Web, the Adventures in Learning site will continue to evolve and expand over time and continue to open up new avenues and opportunities for adult education and enrichment both inside and outside of the classroom.

As with everything Adventures in Learning does, we would love to hear your suggestions for the new Web site. Communication is an important two-way street for the Adventures in Learning Program. While we want to let the community know about the courses offered, we need to know what subjects or additional services the community would like included in their learning experience.

Please feel free to send your suggestions by e-mail to Sharon Ames, program coordinator at adventures@colby-sawyer, or send them by the traditional route to:

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What members are saying about Adventures in Learning.



Jan Acard,
New London, N.H.

TO BE

Learning,
Sharing ideas,
Challenged,
Meeting new people,
Having fun,

OR NOT TO BE

Adventures in Learning is where you want to be because I know I would have missed out on *The Civil War, The Habsburgs, Hamlet, and 22 Years That Changed the World.*

Not to be there is missing a great experience.

“The variety has been wonderful and allowed us to venture into subjects we felt we knew almost nothing about. All of the instructors were very passionate about their subject, and to varying degrees, had devoted their life-long energy to it...”

Sue Eaton, Sunapee, N.H.

Adventures in Learning • 2nd Annual Meeting
May 24, 2001 • Colby-Sawyer College