

Adventures in Learning Update

Fall 2005

COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE

LEARNING AMONG FRIENDS

Profile: The AIL Board

At the annual meeting on May 19, the Adventures in Learning membership elected three new members to its Board, each to serve a three-year term. The new Board in turn elected a new president and officers. Three former presidents retired from Board: Charlie Carey, Peter McKee and past president, John Callahan. All received grateful thanks from the membership for their years of leadership and commitment. Julie Machen, Art Rosen, and Ben Acard are the new Board members, and Dick Cogswell is the new president, with Betsy Boege serving as vice-president, Dick Pearson as treasurer, and Sandy Stark as secretary.



Julie Machen taught the first AIL mini-course on "Revolutionary Virginia" during the spring term. The idea of a

mini-series was very well received, and the class participants were enthusiastic in their response to both the subject matter and Julie's presentation. She has some ideas

See Profile, Pg. 2

Stem Cell Research

AIL's First Summer Program Will Take Place July 30

Stem cells. What are they? Where do they come from? Why are they of interest? Why is there public contention about stem cell research?

On July 30, Adventures in Learning will offer a special program dealing with this timely and fascinating topic. It will take place from 10 a.m. to noon in Clements Hall in the new Curtis L. Ivey Science Center at Colby-Sawyer College.

The program will feature two distinguished speakers. One will be Dr. James Bernat, professor of medicine at Dartmouth Medical School and director of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinical Ethics Program. Dr. Bernat is a nationally recognized expert in ethical and philosophical issues in neurology. He has written over 150 journal articles and chapters on these topics and is the author of *Ethical Issues in Neurology* and co-editor of *Palliative Care in Neurology*.

The other speaker will be Dr. Judy Stern, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and of pathology at Dartmouth Medical School and director of Dartmouth-Hitchcock's in vitro fertilization clinic for the past 15 years. She has taught at the graduate level on the topic of medical/legal issues in reproduction and is an adjunct faculty member at Vermont Law School.

The speakers will explain what stem cells are, how they are captured, and their potential research and clinical applications. They will also discuss the ethical issues involved in the current debate about stem cell research and clinical use. A question and answer period will follow.

Adventures in Learning is honored to have such knowledgeable guests come to New London to assist our community in understanding this important tool for the study of cellular and developmental processes and why there is concern about ethical issues.

This special program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Ben Acard at 526-2117.

Profile: The AIL Board, from Pg 1

for courses that we hope will be presented in the future.

A relatively new resident of this area, Julie has nevertheless been coming to this area her whole life. She actually went to a one-room schoolhouse in Sutton through the third grade. A graduate of DePauw University in history and English, she did post-graduate work in history and writing and taught American

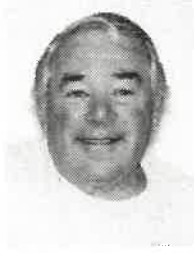
history and advanced placement European history at Greenwich High School in Connecticut. She has received a number of grants that have allowed her to continue learning and enhancing her teaching. She and her husband are avid participants in Adventures in Learning classes. She says, "AIL is one of the biggest assets offered by this area."



Art Rosen spent his working career in advertising but has devoted himself, in what he calls his "second career," to teaching AIL

and ILEAD courses. He has been chair of ILEAD's Curriculum Committee, a member of its Executive Council, and will bring his experience to the AIL Board.

A graduate of Yale University, Brooklyn College, and the Columbia University Graduate School, his interest in religion prepared him to lead AIL classes on "Who Wrote The Bible," "Religion in Collision," and "Stones, Bones, and Biblical Tomes." He is a member of the New Hampshire Jewish-Christian Interfaith Partnership and is the Lynch Scholar at Temple Emanuel in Andover, MA.

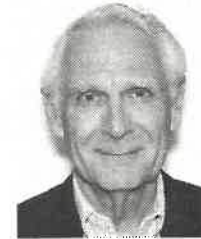


Ben Acard has been active in AIL affairs since he and his wife moved to this area. He has been a study leader for two courses and vice-chair of the

Curriculum Committee. One of his most significant contributions was the introduction of survey courses with different lectures for various

aspects of the subject matter. These courses have proved to be extremely popular with as many as 100 people in attendance. He is hoping for another lecture series on the Enlightenment in the near future.

A graduate of Adelphi University, Ben spent his working career marketing forest products. He traveled world-wide and established offices for his company in Asia, Europe, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Russia.



The new AIL president, **Dick Cogswell**, has also been an enthusiastic participant in AIL classes from the day that he and

his wife moved here in 1998. He has taken 40 AIL classes – usually two and sometimes three courses at a time. His primary interest has been in literature, history, and religious studies. In 2002 he joined the AIL Board as treasurer and chair of the Facilities Committee. He has been the organization's vice-president during John Callahan's term of office. He says, "AIL has been the centerpiece of my activities."

A native of Westfield, NJ, Dick graduated from Lehigh College with a degree in accounting. He earned a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of New Haven and worked in industry. During the last 15 years of his working career, he had a CPA practice in Westport, CT. A music lover, Dick is president of Summer Music Associates and sings in the St. Andrew's Church choir.

.... Heidi Beckwith

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Richard Cogswell

Vice President

Betsy Boege

Secretary

Sandra Stark

Treasurer

Richard Pearson

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Ben Acard

Julie Boardman

Judy Bohn

James Bowditch

Robert Foote

Dusty Logan

Julie Machen

Arthur Rosen

Robert Scott

Gusta Teach

George Tracy

EX-OFFICIO

Sharon Ames

John Callahan

HONORARY

Julien LeBourgeois

Colby-Sawyer College

541 Main Street

New London, NH 03257

(603)526-3720

Fax: (603) 526-3780

adventures@colby-sawyer.edu

www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

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

Adventures in Learning FAST FACTS

AIL Office Location

The AIL Office is located on the first floor of the Colby Homestead on the Colby-Sawyer College campus. Enter through the yellow door on the side of the building.

Time to Renew Your Membership

AIL's new membership year runs from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

Sign up now! \$40 per person, per year

New Fall Class Times

Due to numerous suggestions, we will offer different class times this year on an experimental basis. Classes will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 11:30 a.m. Please take note of the new time when you sign up for courses.

Program Coordinator

Sharon Ames
(603) 526-3720

Office Closed

Please note that the AIL Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th, in observance of Labor Day and Monday, October 17th for a Colby-Sawyer College fall holiday.

Fall 2005 Registration

The deadline to register for fall courses is Friday, August 19th. Following the close of registration, members are invited to sign up for a second course at no charge when class space is available.

Cost of Courses

Please note that the cost for a 3 to 4 session mini-course is \$20 per person. A 6 to 8 session full course is \$35 per person. Your second course at no charge must be of the same length as your first course.

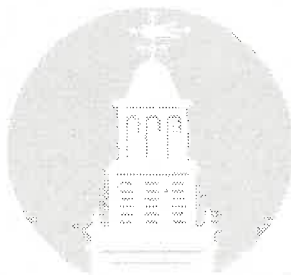
Program Assistant

Janet St. Laurent
(603) 526-3690

Did You Know?

The Colby Sawyer Library extends borrowing privileges to all members of AIL. Members may acquire a temporary card from the circulation desk that can be used during the term of the class in which they are registered. Simply identify yourself and the class you are taking when applying for the temporary card.

Many class leaders provide extensive bibliographies referencing additional reading that may enhance the understanding of a class topic. The fact that we use the Colby-Sawyer library to seek out these materials is a real benefit of our AIL membership.



Of additional interest: all New London residents may acquire a permanent library card for \$1 a year. People who are not New London residents can acquire a permanent card by joining the Friends of Colby Sawyer library for \$25 a year.

What a great example of good "Town and Gown" relationships. Thank you Colby-Sawyer!

~ NEWS FLASH ~

Adventures in Learning is very pleased to announce that Janet St. Laurent will join the AIL administrative staff as Program Assistant on July 5th. Janet brings a wealth of knowledge and experience gained from over ten years working in the student development area of Colby-Sawyer College, most recently as senior staff assistant for the Vice President and Dean of Students. She will be a tremendous asset to the Adventures in Learning program as it continues to expand in providing intellectual opportunities for adult learners in our community.

Please join us in welcoming Janet as she begins her new "adventure" with us.

Preview of Fall 2005 Courses

Welcome to Adventures in Learning's eighth full year. The fall term, which begins September 19 and ends November 11 will explore a wide array of fascinating subjects. The fall Catalog will be mailed during the week of July 18, and the registration period will open on Monday, August 1 and close on Friday, August 19. Here's a preview of the fall courses:



Art Rosen

Breaking the DaVinci Code

Did Jesus father a child with Mary Magdalene? Did Constantine invent the concept of Jesus' divinity? Art Rosen will answer these and other questions in a study group that explores the principal issues raised by the best-selling book *The Da Vinci Code*.



Natalie Davis



Julie Boardman

Adventure Bound: Women Hikers and Mountaineers

In spite of the obstacles of long dresses and restrictive social attitudes, many women have sought out mountain adventures. This course with Natalie Davis and Julie Boardman will introduce some women hikers and explorers of the past. In addition, several present-day women mountaineers will visit the class to discuss their adventures.



George Montgomery

Global Trends 2020

What will the world be like 15 years from now? This study group—a sequel to George Montgomery's "Global Trends 2015"—will consider recent trends in global populations, governance, security, resources, and the environment.



Charlotte Brook-Signor

The Science of "Understanding Music"

This study group with Charlotte Brook-Signor will examine program notes and listen to music to gain a better understanding of its terminology and structure.



Richard Steele

Digging into Archaeology

Led by Richard Steele, this course will trace the history of archaeology, discuss the techniques of excavation and interpretation, and consider some of the moral and ethical problems that archaeology faces.



Anne Carey

King Lear

Under Anne Carey's leadership, the class will read Shakespeare's great tragedy and discuss the behavior and motivation of the characters and the lessons to be learned. Anne has given this course for ILEAD.



Dianalee Velie

Poetry: The Quill of the Soul

Dianalee Velie invites AIL members to “come get in touch with the passion and the power of poetry.” Participants will read poems, use them to explore feelings, and experiment with the writing of poetry.



Richard Pearson

Religion in Public Life

What is the “proper” extent to which religion may be intertwined with the affairs of state? Richard Pearson returns to examine this important question. He will offer a brief history of the church/state relationship and discuss contemporary issues such as the display of the Ten Commandments in public places and the Pledge of Allegiance controversy.



Sheldon Boege



Bill Sullivan



Chuck Kennedy

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The experienced team of Sheldon Boege, Bill Sullivan and Chuck Kennedy will cover the historical origins of the Kingdom, concentrating on the latest period from 1902 to the present. Discussion topics will include political developments in the Middle East in the inter-war years, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the internal politics of the Saudi royal family, trends in the oil sector, and the role of women and Saudi Arabia’s influence in the Middle East.



Lee VanBremen

The Fifties

Lee VanBremen will lead an examination of the 1950s, a time when everyone was optimistic about the future and blissfully ignorant of the many changes that lay just ahead. Selections of David Halberstam’s *The Fifties* and literature from the period will be discussed.



Ben Acard

War and Peace

Under the guidance of Ben Acard, this study group will read and discuss one of the greatest novels ever written, *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy.



Sarah Drew Reeves

Augustine’s Confessions

Sarah Drew Reeves returns to lead a course on St. Augustine. The class will read Augustine’s *Confessions* and study the life of a man who became the fundamental influence for western Christianity.

Build Thee Ever More Stately Mansions

The Reverend Charles H. Clark (aka Kelly Clark) was introduced to the attendees of the AIL annual meeting on May 19 by New London's own Greek scholar George Tracy. The two met at St. Paul's in Concord, when Dr. Clark arrived to take the post of the rector of the school. Tracy's glowing words prepared the audience for the speech to come that would tell of a man whose whole life is dedicated to the continual pursuit of adventures in learning and living.

Dr. Clark warned us that the time of year—May, the time of commencement—entitled him, in his role as parson and schoolmaster, to deliver the equivalent of a baccalaureate address. And with a ringing endorsement of the principles and goals of the AIL program, he did just that in words that were powerful and inspirational.

As a boy of 14, he spent his early years at a boys' boarding school in California. The Thatcher school, founded by Sherman Thatcher, is located next to the Los Andres National Forest. Here every student was attached to a horse to fulfill Thatcher's homely philosophy that "there is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a boy." The students embellished their school learning with the important lessons of life discovered while exploring the trails of the forest.

The ancient Persian saying "Ride hard, shoot straight and always tell the truth" was ingrained in their minds. Most importantly,



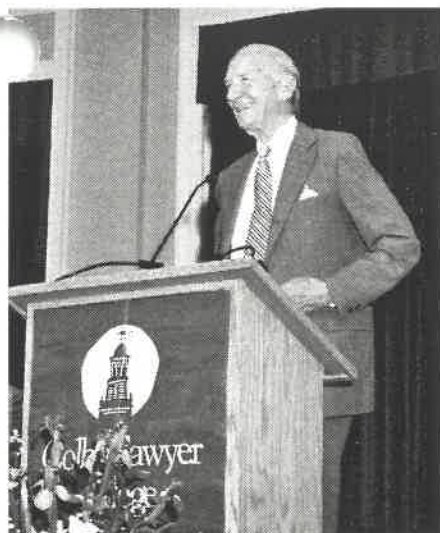
AIL President John Callahan welcomes the Reverend Charles "Kelly" Clark, guest speaker at the annual meeting.

the students were surrounded with continual reminders of ancient Greek civilization with plaques of the Parthenon frieze placed around the campus and the ever-present school symbol of Pegasus; the flying horse from Greek mythology. Here we have a true emblem of the adventure inherent in the lifelong business of learning, and the implications of a rider being carried over the dark chimeras below in the pursuit of the goodness of the mind and spirit of humanity.

Dr. Clark then read to us from Oliver Wendell Holmes' poem "The Chambered Nautilus." While walking the beach, Holmes came upon the shell of a chambered nautilus. This small sea creature, which travels far and wide, propelled by the winds on the surface of the sea, and which continues to build ever larger graceful curved shells to

house its growing size, inspired Holmes to write the line, "Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul..." This message stuck with Clark and became an almost divine imperative that would shape his future life and learning experiences.

There was yet one more mantra that was taught to the young Thatcher students. The Parthenon frieze depicts the young men of Athens. These Greek youth were charged with the goal of being useful in their lives. This "Be of Use" goal became one more guiding force to Dr. Clark as he helped frame the lives of the students at St. Paul's. The meaning of citizenship and the understanding that life should be lived for the good of others is the underlying force of a liberal arts education. This is as valid today as it was during the time of ancient Athens.



Looking out at the audience of—let's face it—"mature" participants of AIL, Clark saw eager faces soaking up his words. There is no question in my mind that we are a group dedicated to "Always to go forward, never to turn back." The generous sharing of the intellect and experiences of the AIL study leaders, and the clear hunger of the program's participants to continue to learn is indeed encompassed by the icon of a horse with wings soaring high above the dark chimeras below.

... Sally Southard

Calendar of Upcoming Events

AIL SUMMER LECTURE
"Stem Cell Research"
Saturday, July 30th 10:00 a.m.
Clements Hall
Curtis L. Ivey Science Center
Colby-Sawyer College

AIL STUDY LEADER
RECEPTION
Wednesday,
September 21st
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Tracy Memorial Library

COLBY-SAWYER
COLLEGE
GOLF CLASSIC
Thursday, September 15th
Lake Sunapee Country Club
Public Welcome

FACULTY ART EXHIBIT
Thursday, September 29th
Mugar Gallery
Sawyer Center for the Arts
Colby-Sawyer College
Public Welcome

TOUR DE
COUNTRYSIDE
Saturday, September 17th
Colby-Sawyer College
Public Welcome

AIL FALL TRIP
Harvard University
Art Museums
Cambridge, MA
Thursday, November 3rd

At the annual meeting, the 2004-2005 study group leaders were recognized and thanked for their contributions. Pictured are, left to right: Julien LeBourgeois, Julie Machen, Tom Vannatta, George Tracy, Charlie Carey, Hardy Hasenfuss, Joe Kun, Douglas Marshall, Brent Scudder, Morris Edwards, Art Rosen, Richard Burmann, Charlotte Spencer and Ben Acard.



Adventures in Learning Membership Renewal

It's time, once again, to renew your membership in the Adventures in Learning program and take part in our eighth year of offering not-for-credit educational enrichment for adults in the Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee region.

Adventures in Learning is looking forward to the year ahead. The Curriculum Committee has a broad range of terrific course offerings planned for you and some exciting special programs and events are coming up as well. We hope you will want to be a part of all the rewarding activities scheduled for the 2005-2006 membership year.

As always, our membership year runs parallel to the academic year which is July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. In order to be eligible to enroll in any of our upcoming study groups you must be a current member of the program so we hope you will take this opportunity to renew your Adventures in Learning membership by sending in your annual membership fee of \$40 per person.

Renew your membership today! Simply complete the form below and return it with a check made payable to: Colby-Sawyer College. Please mail membership renewal form and payment to Janet St. Laurent, Adventures in Learning, Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257. For your convenience, a membership card for the current year will be sent to you upon receipt of your membership renewal payment.

Adventures in Learning Membership 2005-2006

Name(s)

Address

Town/State/Zip

Telephone

E-mail

____ Please check if first time member

Amount enclosed (\$40 x number of memberships) = \$ _____



Adventures in Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
541 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEW LONDON, NH
PERMIT 4

SAVE THE DATE

Reception for Prospective Study Leaders

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Adventures in Learning is especially fortunate to have a cadre of 65 exceptional study leaders who have given over 200 courses to our membership since AIL's inception in 1998. Are they all former teachers or professors? Some are, but not all. Many are leading a study group for the first time. Our dedicated leaders, coming from a wide range of backgrounds, wish to share their enthusiasm and learned expertise on a particular subject. They are all volunteers who spend countless hours preparing their material and whose only reward is our members' satisfaction.

The Curriculum Committee is always searching for study leaders to give new courses of interest to our membership. If you would like to learn more about the role of a study leader and how to go about giving a course for AIL, come to our wine and cheese reception and informational meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 21, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Tracy Memorial Library. Members of the Curriculum Committee and veteran study leaders will be in attendance to answer all your questions.

For information call Betsy Boege at 526-7426.