



Profile: The AIL Board

This fall's *Profile* highlights exceptionally talented people elected to the Adventures in Learning Board at the May 20 Annual Meeting: Betsy Boege, Judy Bohn and Dick Pearson. In recognition of their continued and valued service, Julie Boardman, *ex officio* and chairperson of the Public Relations Committee and Dan Darrow, *ex officio* and past chairperson of the Curriculum Committee, both assumed full Board status. All are experienced AIL committee members and have already contributed to the development of an exciting and creative Adventures in Learning program. In addition, Judy and Dick are past study leaders.



Betsy Boege

Betsy Boege and her husband Sheldon (an AIL study leader) lived abroad for 23 years in the Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, Taiwan, Saudi

Arabia, and Greece. Betsy spoke of the fascinating volunteer museum work she did in Jakarta. When they finally settled in Connecticut, she participated in and eventually directed a unique emergency

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A New Lecture Series: The Protestant Reformation

“Priests implicated in parishioner abuse.” “Bishop involved in real estate speculation.” “Vatican denies rumors of impropriety.”

“Europe threatened by radical Islam.” “Turkish armies move up the Danube.”

“Reports of alien civilizations reach London.” “Human sacrifice still practiced in America.”

And you thought today's headlines were scary! All of the above describe events around the year 1500 that impacted the course of history in Western Europe and contributed to that major watershed known as the Protestant Reformation.

For all the glories of the Renaissance in art, literature and scholarship, an observer of life in Western Europe around 1500 could not help but notice what one church historian called the contrast between “the nominal acceptance but cynical and practical disregard of the Christian ideal....” Christianity was facing a crisis of major proportions.

The great missionary passion of the monks—Dominicans and Franciscans—had degenerated into bickering over the “market share” of fees for preaching and other services. One Florentine family was torn apart by “the murder of one brother by another over the love of their sister who was the mistress of her uncle.” The cost of expansive building programs in Rome by the popes prompted money-raising schemes that were, in fact, scams.

In the realm of diplomacy, nation-states were flexing their muscles: Spain, supported by the gold of Mexico; France and England, centralizing their monarchies; Germany and Italy still partitioned into many small states, waiting for the leadership to unify.

Foreign policy, as we might call it today, was dominated by the arrival of the Ottoman Turks in the East and the possibility of a forcible conversion of Europe to Islam, something not seen since the days of Charles Martel in the 7th century. The Cross that signified Christian Europe stretched from Scotland to Italy, from Spain to Scandinavia. But

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medical service program (EMS) that involved fifty Darien High School students. She is now a New London sewer commissioner, a Hospice volunteer and vice-chair of the Baker Hill Women's Golf Committee. Already a member of the Curriculum Committee, Betsy enthusiastically accepted the responsibility of committee chair.



Judy Bohn

Judy Bohn, microbiologist, earned her master's degree at Rutgers University during a period of major discoveries in genetic engineering.

She has twenty-five years experience in medical microbiology and laboratory work. In addition, Judy held teaching positions as adjunct professor at William Paterson College in New Jersey and here at Colby-Sawyer College where she taught basic cell biology. Judy was a "sold out" study leader *par excellence* for both ILEAD and AIL.

As an experienced member of the Curriculum Committee, Judy continues to generate diversity and vitality in the program.



Dick Pearson

Dick Pearson earned his law degree from Yale University and Boston University. He practiced law for six years in Concord, NH, and then taught law in

at Boston University, the University of Florida and a variety of other law schools. His dual career made him a thoughtful and appropriate member of the AIL Curriculum Committee on which he continues to serve. Dick is a respected study leader of law-related courses at both AIL and ILEAD. He is also involved in Summer Music Associates, and is currently its treasurer. Dick will serve as the AIL treasurer and chair of the finance committee.



Julie Boardman

Julie Boardman AIL benefits tremendously from Julie's creative and organizational abilities. As Public Relations Committee

chairperson, she skillfully writes, compiles and is responsible for the publication of the *Adventures in Learning Update*. Publicity, special events and group travel also thrive under her expertise. Julie continues as committee chair.

Julie is a graduate of the University of Michigan and is a local celebrity. She is the author of *When Women and Mountains Meet*, published in 2001. This book of nonfiction is an historical account of the White Mountains as seen through the eyes of remarkable 19th and early 20th century women. She follows the tradition and is an avid hiker and climber. The book has drawn many lecture requests for Julie to speak at various organizations.



Dan Darrow

Dan Darrow is an avid reader and book collector as well as a restorer of a two-hundred-year-old farmhouse in Connecticut. His business and teaching experience

bring talents helpful in developing AIL curriculum. As well as Board responsibility, he continues on the Curriculum Committee. Dan's *Profile* appeared in the Winter 2003 issue of *Adventures in Learning Update*.

Adventures in Learning at Colby-Sawyer College

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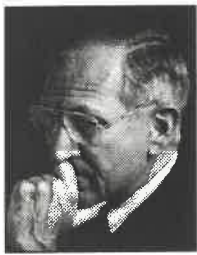
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Adventures in Learning Update, published three times annually, highlights the courses and happenings of the Adventures in Learning program at Colby-Sawyer College.

Adventures in Learning wishes to acknowledge the able leadership of retiring president **Peter McKee**. Happily, he remains on the Board for an additional year, and AIL continues to take advantage of his experience as a leader and educator. Though his successful presidential shoes were hard to fill, AIL continues to profit and grow in the capable hands of president John Callahan.



John Callahan

John Callahan is an alumnus of Dartmouth College and Yale University. John's career focused on administration within educational

and museum institutions, specifically, the University of Chicago, Amherst College, Winterthur Museum and Gardens and the American Philosophical Society.

John is an active participant in the community, has a passion for education and a firm commitment to Adventures in Learning. He continually emphasizes the important role of AIL study leaders. John recently commented, "In his book *The Aims of Education*, Alfred North Whitehead observed that in order to truly understand a subject one must learn about it from someone in whom it lives. One of the joys of AIL is that we have so many course leaders in whom their subjects live."

John is past vice-president of AIL and past chairperson of the Nominating Committee and now chairs the Adventures in Learning Board.

Retiring from the Board this year were the remaining two founding members of Adventures in Learning, **Hilary Cleveland** and **Bob Gray**. AIL pays tribute to them and to founding member colleagues for their vision, creativity and plain hard work.

Join the Board to welcome in the new and to give heartfelt thanks and kudos to the Adventures in Learning retiring leaders.

Dusty Logan

A New Lecture Series, cont'd from Pg 1

partially encircling it was the Crescent of Islam, arcing from the Balkans through the Middle East and across North Africa. Islam controlled four of the five historical patriarchies of Christendom: Jerusalem, Antioch, Alexandria and Constantinople. Only Rome remained untouched. Christian children were threatened with tales of the "Bulgar-man" (later "boogie man") taking them off in the night for a life of slavery in the East.

"History is bunk!?" Don't you believe it. There are more exciting things to learn about the Protestant Reformation at AIL. Not content to rest on their laurels after last year's successful course on "The Renaissance," Ben Acard and Chuck Kennedy have organized a sequel for this fall that will examine the various facets of the Protestant Reformation. A series Information: (603) 526-3720

of knowledgeable speakers will focus on the topics that contributed to the transformation of the medieval into the modern world. They include:

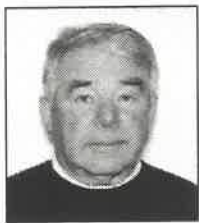
- **Chuck Kennedy** on the origins of the Reformation
- **Dick Lizotte** on Martin Luther's role in starting both the Reformation and Lutheranism.
- **Charlotte Spencer** on John Calvin's approach to the issues of church and society.
- **Jeff Zurheide** on the Anabaptists and their understanding of Christian life.
- **Ben Acard**, who will present the film "A Man for All Seasons."

- **Charles Clark** on the interweaving claims of church and state during this period of growing nationalism.
- **Philip Major** on the music of the Reformation.
- And **Chuck Kennedy**, who will conclude the series with a session on the birth of religious freedom in Europe and Colonial America.

Space will be limited to the size of the room at the Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church, so sign up early for this exciting trip through the formative years of the modern world.

Preview of Fall 2004 Courses

Adventures in Learning is delighted to offer an exciting group of courses for the fall term, which begins September 20th and continues through October 29th for six-week courses or November 12th for eight-week courses. The fall *Catalog* will be mailed during the week of July 19th and the registration period will open on August 2nd and close on August 20th. We will continue to follow the practice of accumulating all registration applications received prior to the opening of registration as well as those received on opening day. At the end of the opening day, if it is determined that more applications have been received for any of the courses than there are spaces available, the "first-day lottery" will apply for those particular courses only. In the event that an applicant does not gain entry into any of his/her first three course selections, the enrollment fee will be returned. Here is a preview of our course offerings for fall 2004:



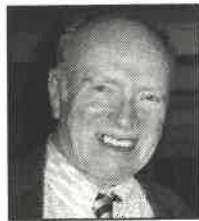
Ben Acard



Charles Kennedy

The Protestant Reformation – A Lecture Series

Not content to rest on their laurels after their successful course on "The Renaissance," Ben Acard and Chuck Kennedy have organized a sequel that will examine the various facets of the Protestant Reformation. A series of knowledgeable speakers will focus on aspects of a period that is often regarded as the transition from the Middle Ages to modern times.



George Tracy

Two Views of a Play

Once again, George Tracy will lead a course on a play by William Shakespeare. This time the class will read *Henry V* and then view Laurence Olivier's 1944 film and Kenneth Branagh's 1989 film of the play. By comparing the films, the class will have a chance to examine some of our changing beliefs about loyalty and love, peace and war.



Sarah Drew Reeves

Job, "J.B." and "The Masque of Reason"

This course with Sarah Drew Reeves will wrestle with the story of Job, a tale that has challenged and captivated the West since the day it was written. The readings will include the Biblical book of Job, Archibald MacLeish's play "J.B." and Robert Frost's "The Masque of Reason".



Bob Gray

Homer's *Odyssey*

One of the greatest epics of all time, the *Odyssey* of Homer describes the travails of Odysseus as he returned home after the Trojan War. The course will include lectures and class discussions under the leadership of Bob Gray.



Bob Simon

Opera Appreciation

A single performance of an opera combines a vocal recital, a symphonic program, dramatic staging, costumes, scenery, lighting, and possibly dance. This course, led by Bob Simon, will focus on each of these elements in order to deepen the participants' appreciation of this complex art.



Jane Ann
McSwiney



Evan
Fradenburgh

Great Music from the American Theater (Not Just Gershwin Alone)

Blending education and entertainment, this course with Jane Ann McSwiney and Evan Fradenburgh will study composers and lyricists (the Gershwins, Kern, Weill, Rodgers, Hart, Sondheim, Hammerstein and others). Musical selections will be performed and analyzed and special guests will sing some of the songs.



Sheldon Boege

Economics from Adam Smith to Credit Cards

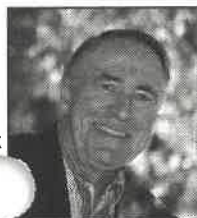
Under the leadership of Sheldon Boege, this course will review the development of economic thought from the Enlightenment through the modern era and then consider such practical matters as money creation, the role of the Federal Reserve, supply and demand curves, government finance, trade, and economics of the community and the family.



Rachel Mills

A Journal Workshop

Rachel Mills will present an encore of her popular course, which is designed to encourage students to develop their own voice for telling their personal stories. Participants will first explore identity and origin, then personal language, family stories, current and historic life patterns, and dreams for the future.



Charlie Carey

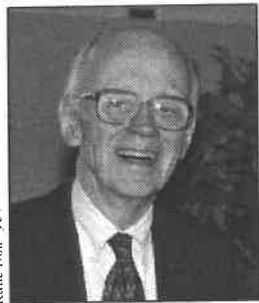
Man vs. Nature – Winners and Losers

Charlie Carey returns to consider the role that natural resources have played in the history of human societies. The class will evaluate the changes man has made to the natural environment and discuss the difficulty of balancing present benefits and long-term costs.

A Risky Personal Adventure in Learning

The members of AIL who attended the annual meeting on May 20th had the rare and wonderful experience of being offered a glimpse into one man's personal and risky journey into an adventure in learning.

Dr. John Hennessey, former dean of the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College, accepted his long-time friend Hilary Cleveland's request to address the



Dr. John Hennessey

AIL membership at the annual meeting. He then decided to take on a personal risky challenge. Having moved into his 80th year on this earth, and accepting the fact that he had reached the point of "older middle age," Dr. Hennessey embarked on his own adventure in learning: to explore the issue of aging, and he added the factor of poetry to his quest. The risk inherent in this exploration was to put to a test his assumptions about what certain poets meant in expressing their thoughts and feelings about old age and death.

He prefaced his remarks by drawing our attention to the tension between the moral rule of "Don't lie, don't deceive" and the moral ideal "Tell the truth and tell the whole truth" illustrated by Emily Dickinson's poem written in 1872. The poem begins "Tell all the truth, but tell it slant," and ends "Truth must dazzle gradually or every man be blind." Dr. Hennessey

then went on to make the distinction between sentimentality and sentiment and promised his attentive audience that he would indeed try to avoid the emotional pollution of sentimentality.

The title of his address "Ethics and the Poetic Image that 'Old age should burn,'" was chosen from Dylan Thomas's famous poem "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night." Hennessey, suspecting Thomas of sentimentality, and disapproving of his wastrel lifestyle, questioned if Thomas had the experience to write a poem of such powerful sentiments as "Rage, rage against the dying of the light." However, in his research, Hennessey discovered that, in fact, Thomas's father was dying a silent, ignoble death, and that Thomas, in his pain and in a moment of intimate poignancy, cried out in rage for a dignified death for his father. Hennessey, humbled, then related the poem to his own rage at witnessing the illnesses of friends, such as Alzheimer's, that rob the body and mind of vital sensibilities.

He went on to talk about Robert Browning's poem "Rabbi Ben Ezra," which begins with the sweet lines, "Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be..." He said he had always imagined that Browning's wife would have found that reassuring if sentimental. But Hennessey's research (adventure) revealed that Browning wrote those lines after Elizabeth Barrett Browning's death, at a time of deep bereavement, and he was expressing cosmic concerns. Browning was also replying critically to Fitzgerald's depiction of hedonism

and atheism in the "Rubaiyat." Hennessey also spoke of Matthew Arnold's sardonic reply to Browning in his poem "Growing Old."

Hennessey continued his journey into literature with a quote from E.M. Forster's novel *Howard's End* that discusses the tragedy of preparedness and the need to control and plan, particularly for Type A personalities such as Hennessey. Looking up at his audience of, let's admit, aging members of AIL, who honor the program by their participation, inquiring minds, and intellectual curiosity, Hennessey announced his intent to pursue his intellectual discovery of the poetry and life of Robert Browning and the humor and perspective of the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Dylan Thomas. With a twinkle in his eye, Dr. Hennessey left the audience with his parting shot, a quote from Forster, "The essence of life is not a battle but a romance."

There is no doubt in my mind that Dr. Hennessey's risk-taking venture became our extraordinary good fortune. The AIL membership was truly honored by Hennessey's energetic and youthful approach to his "assignment." Clearly, the acuity of an active brain keeps one young...despite what the years and gravity do to the flesh. How many of us went home, I wonder, to dig out our old poetry anthologies to look up the poems referenced in his speech? The rousing Hip! Hip! Hoorays that started and ended the annual meeting, were a testament to the youth of Dr. Hennessey and all AIL participants.

Sally Southard

www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again! Come be a part of Adventures in Learning's seventh year of offering not-for-credit educational enrichment for adults in Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee communities.

Our new membership year will run from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, which means that its time to renew your Adventures in Learning membership by sending in your annual membership fee of \$40 per person. In order to be eligible to enroll in any of our upcoming study groups, you must be a member of the program.

Once again, Adventures in Learning is looking forward to the year ahead. We have planned a broad range of exciting course offerings and rewarding activities to stimulate your interest, and we hope you will want to be a part of all that is scheduled for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Renew your membership today! Simply complete the form below and return it with a check made payable to: Colby-Sawyer College. Please mail renewal form and payment to Laura Powers, 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 Renewal

(2004-2005)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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



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to
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in Salem, Massachusetts