

ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

Horizons

Learning Later, Living Greater

Spring 2022

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Becoming a Study Leader, But Were Afraid to Ask: Part 1

Adventures In Learning (AIL) is always looking for new study leaders. Did you know that most of our AIL study leaders began as course participants? They then considered if their background or interests could be the subject matter for a course. In part one of “becoming a study leader,” let’s look at two study leaders who are currently offering their professional expertise in the form of an AIL course. In the next issue of *Horizons* we will look at a few study leaders who have designed courses based on their lifelong interests and passions.

More than likely, you’ve seen a set on TV or in the movies that Lee Mayman designed. Nominated for two Emmy awards and recipient of the Art Directors Guild award, Lee now shares his insights into how films are made for AIL.

Recently Lee offered a course called *Art Direction in Italian Film (Or Where to go on Your Next Italian Vacation)*. Although he had led courses in the past that were more technical in nature, for this course he decided to use his professional expertise to appeal to the travel spirit in each of us. As Lee notes, “They were my favorite films, which I strung together by turning it into a travelogue. I’m guessing that what works best is the participants being entertained, with a little nostalgia thrown in for comfort, and learning a bit along the way. Class reaction to having homework to prep before each class, to outline the basics of what we will see in the class, works wonderfully.”

This spring, Lee is offering a very popular course: *Audrey Hepburn Film Festival*.



Lee Mayman

I love the deep commitment and inquiry efforts of AIL participants. Classes each become a community of learners; that’s why I keep student numbers lower than many others do. They also value the Native American courses — totally new perspectives for them.”

Nancy also saw an opportunity at AIL to become more involved with AIL governance and volunteered to join, and eventually lead, our Curriculum Committee. Like so many AIL members, Nancy saw opportunities to expand the vision of AIL



Nancy Marashio

(Continued on pg 4)

“Commit yourself to lifelong learning. The most valuable asset you’ll ever have is your mind and what you put into it.”

~Brian Tracey

President's Message

From my perch at home in Sunapee I see the snow covered trails of Mt. Sunapee and the frozen big lake. Winter seems to hang on and so does the pandemic. However, I hope that AIL classes, Science Pub, Lunch and Learn and e-blasts have helped brighten your winter days. And remember, spring will come!

AIL's spring term offers an attractive range of stimulating courses featuring in-person classes at Lethbridge Lodge. As well, we welcome the return of lecture classes and a Zoom course. Please read the profiles of some of our dedicated study leaders. While we continue to favor in-person classes, AIL will explore opportunities to reach out to our membership, whatever learning venue they prefer. Remote learning offers some attraction, particularly to our seasonal travelers.

Thank you to the many donors who have helped bridge a financial shortfall and provided funding for learning upgrades. Together with the support of Colby-Sawyer College, your donations allow AIL to maintain low membership and course fees.

As we did last August, we are planning a membership gathering to help us shake off winter hibernation and appreciate newfound normalcy. Stay tuned....

America's beloved poet Robert Frost reminds us of the joy of spring in the first stanza of "A Prayer in Spring."

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
 And give us not to think so far away
 As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
 All simply in the springing of the year.



Harry Tether
 President



ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

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New Study Leaders

AIL is excited to announce three new study leaders who will lead courses this summer. See the back cover for a sneak preview of our summer course schedule!

Bruce Cronin - *Sleight of Hand Magic*



We are very fortunate to have Bruce Cronin teach *Sleight of Hand Magic* this summer at AIL. Bruce began his career in magic in Sunapee when he was 12 years old. His parents owned an inn and he and a friend would go to the big hotels and perform. He attributes the success at that time to the fact that they were “young and cute.”

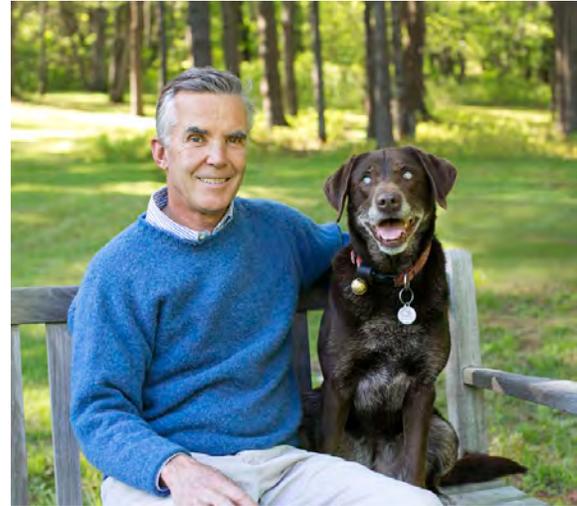
Bruce attended Springfield College where he majored in physical education. He also has a master's degree from Boston University in broadcasting and film and became head of the film program at Emerson College.

Bruce never stopped loving magic and is most proud of having attended the Chavez College of Magic in Los Angeles where he was tutored by Marian Chavez, who helped him to develop his act. Bruce has performed at the Beverly Hilton, the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, Coconut Grove, the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal, the Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas and many other well-known venues. He has also written screenplays and taught tennis and skiing.

Bruce's four-session course will be participatory and will be geared to the individual attendees. The magic he performs and will be teaching is sleight of hand. He believes the hand exercises involved are advantageous to help maintain manual dexterity. Class size will be limited to allow Bruce to work individually with each student. This is a rare opportunity to learn magic from a true professional and have a good time doing it.

Susan Lynn

Tom Farnen - *How to Self-Publish Your Book*



A few years ago, during a wonderful in-person Lunch and Learn program, we were entertained by Tom Farnen and his remarkable chocolate Lab, Bessie. Bessie gradually became completely blind at four years old due to progressive retinal atrophy, an inherited disease. As her eyes continued to cloud over, Tom kept a diary about how she was adapting— how he and his wife, Ashley, were continually inspired by Bessie's indomitable spirit and ability to “stay in the game,” fully participating in all the activities she'd learned to enjoy. Tom turned his diary into a book: *Bessie's Story — Watching the Lights Go Out*, and learned the arts involved in self-publishing.

His three-week course is designed to help others who hope to self-publish and he will work through a checklist of items and associated costs.

Discussion topics will include: self-publishing vs. using a literary agent, choosing test readers, building a budget, selecting a title, the editing process, copywriting your work, offering hardcover, paperback, or e-book versions, choosing front and back cover designs, selecting a self-publishing / printing company, registering your bar codes, choosing fonts and page design, printing decisions and distribution channels.

Tom served for 42 years as a teacher and administrator for a New England boarding school. Presently, he serves on several non-profit boards including Special Olympics of New Hampshire, and he is a greeter at Mount Sunapee.

AIL is also thrilled that Tom, Ashley and Bessie (who will turn 13 on May 13) are returning May 16 to offer another in-person Lunch and Learn about Bessie's story.

Katrina Wagner

Evan Roberts

Post- COVID Retirement Planning



Life transitions can be stressful! But understanding how the various pieces of your financial plan need to change as life changes can help.

COVID has caused many of us to re-evaluate our priorities, from when to take “the big trip” to how we invest, making this an opportune time to review retirement plans.

Evan Roberts works with a team of financial advisors at Merrill Lynch in Hanover, New Hampshire. His specialty is helping people prepare for transitions such as retirement. He is a long-time course leader at OSHER, and this summer he'll bring his five-week course in financial planning to AIL. Each week the course will address a different piece of one's financial life, and then pull it all together using real world examples. Participants are welcome as well to bring issues specific to their own circumstances.

Evan is a native of Cornwall, Vermont, where he grew up on a dairy farm. He majored in finance at Bryant University and now lives in New London with his wife and daughter. He has a transition of his own coming up with a second child due in April.

We are so grateful to Evan for taking time from his busy and soon to get busier life to teach at AIL.

Carol Kinzler

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know

(continued from page 1)

and therefore lent her lifelong experience to enhance our mission. “When I was invited to serve on the curriculum committee, one of my goals was to include more regional representation of AIL within our community.”

You don't have to be an Emmy-nominated artist or a literature professor to offer a course based on your

professional life or personal interests. In the past, a civil engineer offered a course on renewable energy; a marine geologist led a course that gave insights into “the mysteries within the oceans”; and a real estate developer offered his experiences of developing golf communities in a course called “Major Architects and Their Championship Courses.”

So maybe it is time to think about sharing an aspect of your professional life with our community. And we are here to help. Check our website, colby-sawyer.edu/adventures and click on the link for curriculum and study group leader information. Or, for starters, just contact our Program Manager, Nina Tasi at (603) 526-3690. She will be happy to help get you started.

John Peterman

SAVE THE DATE!

let's

CELEBRATE TOGETHER

JUNE 15, 2022 @ 4 P.M.

Wheeler Hall

Ware Student Center

Colby-Sawyer College

Please join us for AIL's annual membership event! This year's event is open to members and their guests.

Wine, beer, and hors d'oeuvres will be served.



~Invitation & RSVP information to follow~

AIL Annual Appeal

The AIL Board of Directors kindly thanks all AIL members who have donated towards this year's annual appeal.

A complete list of donors with details for gifts *given in honor or in memory of* will be published in the 2021-2022 AIL Annual Report.



New Hampshire is Changing : What's Happening in Education Today?

In August of 2020 a subgroup of the Curriculum Committee of Adventures in Learning introduced a three-session lecture series entitled *New Hampshire is Changing* whose premise was to look deeper into a topic which affects our home state.

AIL is pleased to announce that *New Hampshire is Changing* returns this August for a third offering, *New Hampshire is Changing: What's Happening in Education Today*.

This series will be presented via Zoom on the first three Tuesdays in August from 4 to 5:30 p.m., and will include time for Q&A by participants.

The dates and speakers for this series are:

August 2 - Frank Edelblut, Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Education

August 9 - Alfred Williams, President of River Valley Community College

August 16 - Christina Pretorius, Director of Policy, Reaching Higher NH



Each of the speakers represents a facet of education in New Hampshire that deserves a closer look as well as presents numerous questions to be considered.

Commissioner Edelblut will have us consider K-12 education, vouchers, homeschooling, accountability standards as well as Special Education.

Alfred Williams will share the background and role of the community college within the New Hampshire education system and the programs that have been developed to enhance relationships between high school students and community colleges.

And lastly, Christina Pretorius will speak to the mission and belief of Reaching Higher NH, that public education is one of the state's most precious assets and providing student centered, competency-based education opens college and career pathways and offers many benefits for communities.

Further details on registering for this provocative series will be shared in the July edition of *Noteworthy News*.

We hope that you will join us!

Digital Photography Beyond the Auto Mode



Photo by Whit Smith

This past winter, study Leader Bill Balsam led a course on ***Digital Photography Beyond the Auto Mode***. Participants learned how to take control of their cameras by using manual mode, and learned settings and adjustments such as f-stop, shutter speed, and ISO. Participants also learned basic photo editing software to crop, straighten, and enhance image color. These are some of their wonderful photos.

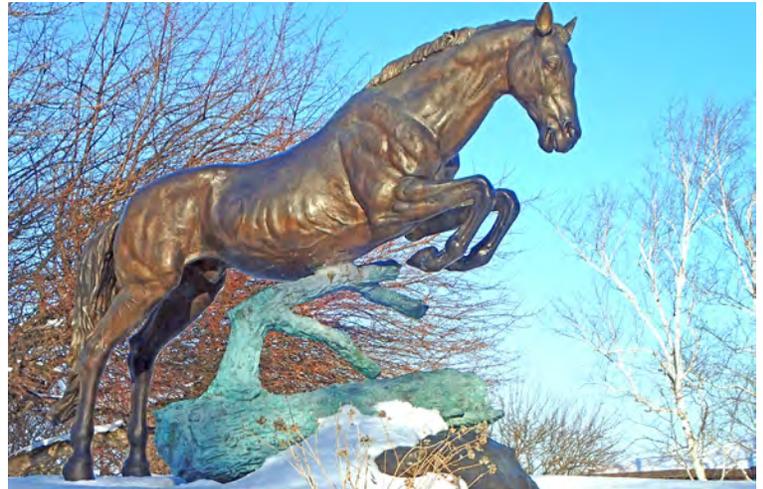
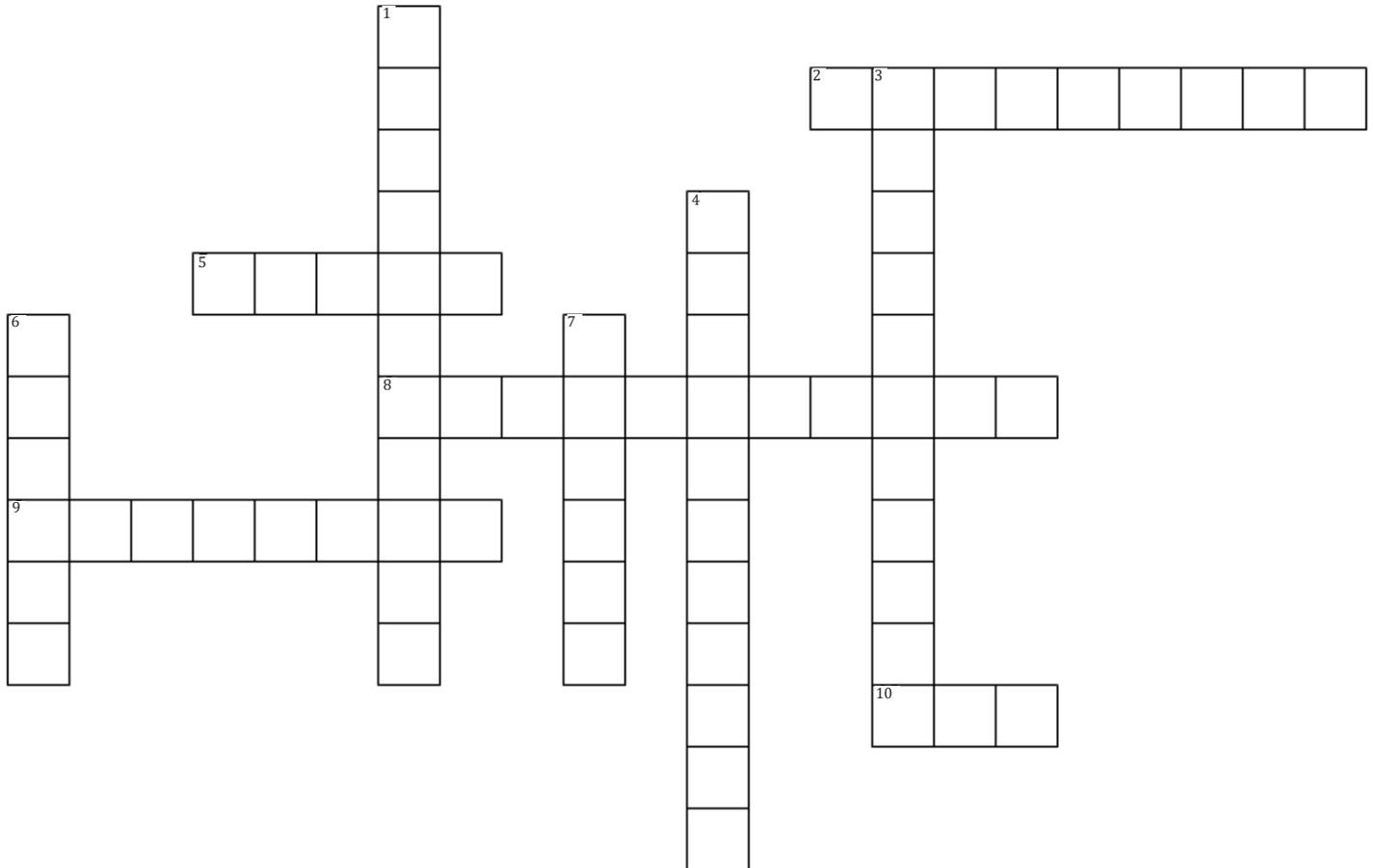


Photo by Jim Harris

Below are some photos by Bill Balsam. Bill will be leading another photography course this fall, so if you like what you see, be on the lookout for our fall course catalog in August!



ALL Crossword Puzzle



Down:

- 1. This new study leader attended the Chavez College of Magic in Los Angeles
- 3. This new study leader grew up on a dairy farm in Vermont.
- 4. What type of course does Bill Balsam lead?
- 6. The name of the Colby-Sawyer mascot pictured on page 6
- 7. Tom Farmen’s chocolate lab’s name

Across:

- 2. This study leader was nominated for two Emmy Awards
- 5. The number of *New Hampshire is Changing* presentations that will be held this summer
- 8. This poet wrote “A Prayer in Spring”
- 9. Nancy Marashio says, “_____” is my art.”
- 10. The number of courses to be offered this summer

ANSWER KEY

- Down:
 1. Bruce Cronin
 3. Evan Roberts
 4. Photography
 6. Victor
 7. Bessie
- Across:
 2. Lee Mayman
 3. Three
 5. Robert Frost
 8. Teaching
 9. Six
 10. Six



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

AIL Presents . . .
**WHAT WILL BE AMERICA'S POSITION IN
THE EMERGING NEW WORLD ORDER?**
A Zoom presentation by AIL President Emeritus John Ferries

**Tuesday,
May 24th
3:30 p.m.**

Additional details and registration link will be included in the May edition of Noteworthy News

Summer Term at a Glance

Classes begin the week of June 20th unless otherwise noted.

TUESDAY

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. **How to Self-Publish Your Book** / Tom Farmen
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Sleight of Hand Magic** / Bruce Cronin

WEDNESDAY

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. **The Aging Process: What to Expect and How to Slow it Down!** / Don Catino
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Summertime is for Painting** / Fran Wilson

THURSDAY

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Post-COVID Retirement Planning** / Evan Roberts
3:00 - 5:00 p.m. **Classic Mythology for Grown-Ups** / Philip Freeman