

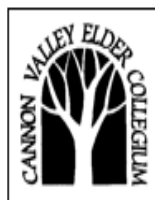
Volume 13 Issue 3

August 2010



NEWSLETTER OF THE CANNON VALLEY ELDER COLLEGIUM

Collegium News



CVEC Class Schedule—Fall 2010 ***For Lifelong Learning***

The Questing Intellect Never Retires

September 13 – November 5, 2010
(Registration Begins August 16, 2010)

Title of Class Time of Class	Professor Location
The Literature of Northern Ireland 1966-98 Monday 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Jim McDonnell Northfield Senior Center Rm 106
In Translation-Works of Isabel Allende Monday 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Marie Gery Kildahl Park Pointe
Insecurity and Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan Tuesday 9:30 – 11:30 am	Hartley Clark Village on the Cannon
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The Vice Squad: Vanity, Anger, Envy, Greed, Lust Tuesday 9:30 – 11:30 am	Walt Stromseth Northfield Senior Center Rm 106
The Cannon River: A Watershed Perspective Tuesday 1:30 – 3:30 pm Course will finish Nov 16	Gary Wagenbach Northfield Senior Center Rm 106
Northfield, History and More Wednesday 9:30 – 11:30 am	Brynhild Rowberg NRC Sun Room
Discovering Choral Masterworks II Wednesday 9:30 – 11:30 am	Bob Scholz Village on the Cannon
The Power of Stories to Change Our Lives Wednesday 1:30-3:30 pm	Bruce Roberts Village on the Cannon
Outstanding Shorter Works 19th Cent Russian Literature Thursday 9:30 – 11:30 am	Jim Walker NRC Sun Room
Beginning Music Reading Thursday 9:30 – 11:30 am	Elizabeth Olson Village on the Cannon
Patterns and Symmetry Thursday 1:30-3:30 pm Two Sessions will start at 12:30	Judy Cederberg Millstream Commons

NRC = Northfield Retirement Community

2. 2010-11: COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FALL 2010

1. Jim McDonnell - The Literature of Northern Ireland, 1966-1998

jmcdonne@carleton.edu

The biggest event in the Irish Republic in 1966 was the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, while in Northern Ireland discontent was rising among the Catholic population, whose peaceful civil rights protests led to 30 years of terrible civil war between those who wanted it to remain British and those who believed it could be liberated from “British occupation” by means of military action. “The Troubles” were essentially resolved by the “Good Friday Agreement” of 1998 whereby the IRA agreed to abandon the use of violence to achieve its objective of a united Ireland.

In literature the main event of 1966 was the publication of Seamus Heaney’s first volume of poetry (*Death of a Naturalist*). Heaney’s instant fame was the first sign that in the midst of tribal and sectarian violence an extraordinary burst of creativity was occurring in Northern Ireland in poetry, fiction and drama. We will read a selection of that literature: poetry by Heaney and Derek Mahon; fiction including Seamus Deane’s *Reading in the Dark*; and – *Translations*, the finest play of Brian Friel, Ireland’s most celebrated living playwright.

Jim McDonnell retired from Carleton College in 2007 after teaching there for 38 years in the English Department. He started as a specialist in Victorian literature, but in the past twenty years his interests have changed to Irish Literature and Shakespeare. He was born of Irish parents in London, but his earliest memories are of being a child in the West of Ireland, where he lived from ages 2 to 10. He has returned many times to Ireland including four times as director of the Carleton Ireland program, and three times as leader of adult groups.

2. Marie Gery - *In Translation -- works of Isabel Allende*

voglgery1@msn.com

The class will read and share Allende’s PAULA, which is written as a letter to Isabel's dying daughter. Since Paula is comatose, the purpose of this letter is to give her back her memory. So PAULA becomes a memoir as stories from Allende's life take over. While PAULA is not Allende's first book, it opens up THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS, which was also written as a letter, this time to her dying grandfather, assuring him that she would remember all of the stories he told. By the time this letter reached 500 pages, Isabel's mother pronounced it a book.

We will also view and discuss the 1993 movie of THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS, directed by **Bill August**, starring **Jeremy Irons, Meryl Streep, Glenn Close, Winona Ryder, Vanessa Redgrave,** and **Antonio Banderas**. Marie promises that the class will get a taste of magical realism.

3. & 4. Hartley Clark - *Insecurity and Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan*

clark@carleton.edu

While American troops leave Iraq, and that country struggles to regain its footing, acts and threats of violence against the U.S. and its allies persist from Iran and Afghanistan, and other countries of opportunity, like Pakistan and Yemen, from which some attacks are launched. The cultural traditions of the region favor leaving the countries alone, and President Obama has announced his intent to begin removing American troops from Afghanistan. But, the countries will continue to harbor a new nuclear weapons program and sanctuaries for the leadership and training of terrorists to haunt the capitals of the West and “infidel” Muslim governments in the Middle and Far East. Understanding of the problem will be pursued by the class through study of (1) recent terrorist attacks and the level of nuclear threat; (2) regional social and political traditions and (3) the forms of influence that can be

exerted upon problem countries, such as diplomacy, activities of international organizations, peace forces, economic aid, boycotts and embargos, intelligence gathering, training and advising of local forces, use of pilotless aircraft, and limited intervention with ground, sea, and air forces. Reading recommendations will be mailed to persons who register for the class.

Hartley Clark, Ph.D., Prof. Emeritus of International Relations, Carleton College. Prof. Clark has taught nine courses at CVEC, including “Oil and Middle Eastern International Relations,” “The Arab-Israeli Conflict,” and “The War In Iraq.”

5. Walt Stromseth - The Vice Squad: Vanity, Anger, Envy, Greed, Lust, Gluttony, Sloth stroms@stolaf.edu

We will examine the negative role and current relevance of these "vices" in our personal and collective life as Americans. We will focus on the extent to which our engagement in American society invites these "vices" as well as the difficulty of developing their opposing "virtues" in our present culture. As traits of character that find expression in personal attitudes and social interactions, these persistent vices were called "the seven deadly sins" in the early Christian era. In our more secular age they remain pervasive "evils" that disrupt the well-being of persons and peoples.

Walt Stromseth, Ph.D. A retired professor, he taught in both the Departments of Philosophy and Religion at St. Olaf College. He developed a late interest in ethical approaches, both Western and non-Western, that emphasize the virtues or personal character in the conduct of moral life.

6. Judy Cederberg - Patterns and Symmetry cederj@stolaf.edu

Note this class will be held at 1:30-3:30 on most days, but from 12:30 – 2:30 on September 23 and October 28.

Using tools such as pencil, paper and mirrors, we will carry out “hands-on” exploration of patterns found in nature, tile floors, quilts, wallpaper and Islamic art to determine characteristics responsible for their beauty, sense of balance, and harmony – qualities described by the term *symmetry*. Starting with simple figures, class members will be coached in using reflections, rotations and translations to build their own patterns illustrating various types of symmetry. We’ll learn how these 3 symmetry motions are used to understand geometric ideas in schools and how similar motions create beautiful computer-generated shapes known as *fractals*. Brief handouts will explain major ideas in the course.

Judy Cederberg was a member of the St. Olaf mathematics faculty for 39 years. Her major area of mathematical interest is geometry and she is the author of the college text, *A Course in Modern Geometries* (2nd Ed., 2001). Her recreational interests include travel and gardening.

7. Gary Wagenbach - The Cannon River: A Watershed Perspective, Past, Present, and Future gwagenba@kmwb.net

How can we leave the Cannon River system and its watershed in good shape for our grandchildren and their grandchildren? We need to experience, learn, and understand more deeply in order to love and care for the land and its rivers. This course explores the rivers in our area, the roles they have played in deeper and contemporary history, selected water quality issues, and a vision for the future. Scientific and historical perspectives will provide guidance. Three field trips are anticipated. This course will not meet on October 12 and 19, but will extend its meetings to November 16.

Gary Wagenbach, the Winifred and Atherton Bean Professor of Biology, Science, Technology, and Society Emeritus, taught biology and environmental studies at Carleton for 39 years. Gary is a leader in off-campus studies directing ecology-oriented programs in Bermuda, California, New

Zealand, Australia, and Tanzania. His on-campus courses included biology of invertebrates, parasitism and symbiosis, and courses in the Environment and Technology Studies program. He directed Carleton's concentration in Environment and Technology Studies for four years until retiring in 2008. His research interests include water quality issues and threatened species of freshwater mussels. His most recent project involves teacher training and K-12 curriculum development for a bilingual (English & Burmese) school, Lumbini Academy, located in Yangon, Myanmar.

8. Brynhild Rowberg - Northfield, History and More bcrowberg@usfamily.net

This course is designed for lovers of Northfield who want to learn about the city's history, see its historic houses and hear about their past inhabitants. There will be tales of the earliest settlers, personal recollections of Northfield's Civil War veterans, as well as some of the numerous "characters" who enlivened the city's past. Did you know that Carleton College once had a professor who was a king, who strode about town in a flowing cape? That a St. Olaf professor and music critic, recalled from his student days in Leipzig going to hear Brahms conduct the city orchestra? There will be stories of some of the families important to Northfield history: the Norths, the Ames', the Nuttings, the Skinners, the Delancey's. Did you know that Delancey Street in New York's Greenwich Village and Delancey Court in Northfield are named for the same family? Answers and much more will be found in this course. It will include bus tours of the city and the college campuses.

Brynhild Rowberg was born in Northfield in 1917. She graduated from St. Olaf College, started working for the Department of State in 1941, entered the Foreign Service in 1945, worked in various cities in Italy until September, 1945 when she began work in Vienna in the Office of the Political Adviser to the Commanding General, US Forces in Austria. She served in embassies in Prague, Athens, Saigon (commissioned as Vice Consul and Secretary in the Diplomatic Service in 1956), in the Department of State in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Consul in Bremen, political officer in the Office of Korean Affairs, military assistance officer in Taipei. She retired in 1973 due to severe hearing loss, and has been resident in Northfield

since 1977.

9. Bob Scholz - Discovering Choral Masterworks II scholzrc@charter.net

A journey through the world of choral music from the Renaissance to the present with motets and larger works for choir and orchestra. Discussions and listening will include Bach motets, Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, Mozart's *Vespers*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and pieces from the 20th and 21st centuries not covered in previous courses. In addition to cultural and historical context and analysis of the music in layman's terms, the viewpoint of the performer will be presented. (Scholz has conducted most of the chosen works in concert.)

Robert Scholz ("Dr. Bob") is a long-time resident of Northfield who just retired from the choral music faculty of St. Olaf College, where he directed the Chapel Choir and the Viking Chorus. He has also composed and arranged classical liturgical music and is a nationally known choir clinician. In 1995 he received the F. Melius Christiansen Award from the American Choral Directors Association for outstanding contributions to choral music.

10. Bruce Roberts - The Power of Stories to Change Our Lives – Or Not: What We Read, Hear, and Tell Influences our Beliefs, Expectations and Well-Being.

bruroberts@gmail.com

Stories of our lives that influence our well-being tend to start bundling together in our mind during our teen years based on what we read, hear, see, think and believe. For the rest of our life, in a mostly non-conscious manner, we add to, subtract from, confirm, and deny those storied collections of our beliefs and expectations for how the world works and our predicted roles in it. This class will include

a sharing of recalled positive life-narratives and assumption about their influence on our contemporary life – and vice versa. We will explore the type, source and storytelling context of stories that validate our life. We will examine some psychological and neuroscience research on the impact of stories/narratives on our brain. We will explore together (1) the huge benefits from responsive listening, (2) the influence of friend-networks, (3) benefits and problems from stories that confirm vs. disconfirm our beliefs, and (4) the importance of sustained, meaningful and emotionally positive engagements for sharing stories of our experience.

Bruce Roberts, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, St. Olaf College, is co-author with Howard Thorsheim, of *I Remember When: Activity Ideas to Help People Reminisce*. Forest Knolls, CA: Elder Books (2000) and *Reminiscing Together: Ways to Help Us Keep Mentally fit As We Grow Older*. Minneapolis, MN: CompCare.

11. Jim Walker - Outstanding Shorter Works of 19th-century Russian literature igw@dwmedia.com

To most people in the West, Russian 19th-century literature represents only the flowering of the great novel. Pushkin's Eugene Onegin, Gogol's Dead Souls, Turgenev's Fathers and Sons, Dostovsky's Crime and Punishment and Brothers Karamazov, and Tolstoy's War and Peace and Anna Karenina, to name but the most popular, became common fare for the Western reader in the 20th century; however, these and other talented Russian writers created masterpieces in shorter forms that are far less familiar in the West. In this course we will read and discuss a few of the most representative poems, short stories, and novellas of the above-mentioned writers. We will also attempt to demonstrate how these works represented stages in the creative lives of the respective authors and how they influenced the scope and direction of much of 19th and 20th-century

Russian literature.

James Walker taught Russian language and literature at St. Olaf for 30 years. He received a BA in Political Science from Long Beach State College, an MS in Russian, German, and Linguistics from Georgetown University, and a Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures from Indiana University. He led one of the first student groups to the then Soviet Union in 1968 and continued to lead groups to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union until his retirement from St. Olaf in 1994. Since retirement, he has been to Russia twice. Before teaching at St. Olaf, he served five years as a translator and interpreter with the Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington, D. C.

12. Elizabeth Olson – Beginning Music Reading elizabeth.k.olson@gmail.com

Participants will develop reading skills while making music through singing and playing the recorder, a type of whistle flute that was very important in renaissance and baroque music. They will want to practice their new skills at home. The class will learn to read music employing a pedagogical model practiced in the United States that evolved from the Hungarian music education system created by Zoltán Kodály (1882-1967) - ethnomusicologist, composer, and educator. Participants will need to purchase materials (recorder, book, CD) from the instructor on the first day of class (\$15)

Elizabeth K. Beery Olson, Ph.D. taught music for more than 25 years, primarily focusing on elementary vocal music. Her research investigated Affirming Parallel Concepts™ (APC) among reading, mathematics, and music through Kodály music instruction. She continues to teach education professionals APC strategies to cross-train the brain during reading, math, and music preparation and practice.



Here's the Scoop

It has been my privilege to serve on the CVEC board twice, once soon after the founding and again, this year. This has given me an opportunity to appreciate all the more the growth of this remarkable organization over the decade since the inspiration of Keith Anderson and Ron Ronning came to be a reality. Gone are the days when board member Bill Narum had to sit outside the election polls in my neighborhood, soliciting registrations to fill out the five or six classes. As this newsletter illustrates, we have a rich palate of offerings, taught by a wide variety of members of the Northfield community, a dedicated board, and an excellent staff. Our financial position is healthy, and we're proud of where we stand today.

However, just as previous boards have nurtured CVEC, your current board made a commitment this spring to spend some quality time in September looking at where we came from, where we are, and more importantly, scanning the future. As we learned from our Annual Meeting speaker, Kyle Nordine, in the next 10 years, the demographic changes will offer challenges for many institutions. We believe it is important for CVEC to examine the challenges and grasp the opportunities those changes offer. At our meeting in September, ReJean Schulte, who just came on the board, will lead the group through a process to help build a framework for planning for future growth.

We invite newsletter readers' submissions of ideas for new program ideas and new paths we can take in the next decade. For example, should we offer evening classes, intergenerational classes, one-day seminars, what course offerings would you like to suggest? What collaborative ventures might lie out there to be grasped? Your ideas will be valuable for our September discussions, so please send them to me: jmcwilli@charter, or to our new Executive Director, Ed Lufkin: edwardlufkin4@gmail.com

Watch the CVEC web site for further information about and ways to participate in this exciting developmental activity.

Jane McWilliams, CVEC Board Chair
(McWilliams is a long time resident of Northfield and an enthusiastic consumer of CVEC courses.)

REGISTRATION FORM
2010 CVEC FALL TERM CLASSES
September 13th – November 5th

Registration Begins August 16

**Complete the form below and bring or mail to: Cannon Valley Elder Collegium,
 @Northfield Senior Center, 1651 Jefferson Parkway, Northfield MN 55057**

Include course fee of \$50.00 or check the financial assistance box. Books, printed materials and travel when specified for a class, are extra and optional.

Name(s) _____

(A) _____

(B) _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____

E-mail Address _____

(To be used only for CVEC activities)

Check if you need financial assistance _____

Check if this is your first CVEC class _____

Included is a tax-deductible gift of _____

Register Early to Avoid Being Disappointed

A registration box will be available at the Northfield Senior Center beginning August 16, 2010. All registrations must be accompanied by a check unless financial assistance has been requested. If you must mail your registration, send it early enough to arrive by August 16. All mail and box registrations received by the end of the first day (Aug 16) will be treated as arriving at the same time, and random selection will be used to fill courses if necessary.

Please register by September 3, 2010. If the class for which you register is oversubscribed, you will be given your second choice or notified as soon as possible so you may register for another course. After Sept 3, cards will be mailed to confirm course registration. If a course fills prior to Sept 3, cards will be mailed immediately to those class members. The Registration Book in the Senior Center provides information on class availability. Course enrollment numbers will also be updated on the web page: www.cvec.org.

MEMBERSHIP FUNDING: The difference between CVEC's tuition revenue and total cost has been bridged by member contributions and grants. Because many volunteer their time, our administrative costs have always been minimal. Tax deductible contributions are needed and greatly appreciated.

For class selection, in the first column indicate person A, B or A/B (both), and in the second column indicate first or second choice. You may register for more than one course by writing another 1 next to the second course, and including the tuition for each course.

A/B 1/2 (First or Second Choice)

- | | | |
|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | The Literature of Northern Ireland, 1966-1998 |
| ___ | ___ | In Translation-Works of Isabel Allende |
| ___ | ___ | Insecurity and Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan 9:30 |
| ___ | ___ | Insecurity and Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan 1:30 |
| ___ | ___ | The Vice Squad: Vanity Anger, Envy, Greed, Lust, Gluttony, Sloth |
| ___ | ___ | The Cannon River: A Watershed Perspective, Past, Present and Future |
| ___ | ___ | Northfield, History and More |
| ___ | ___ | Discovering Choral Masterworks II |
| ___ | ___ | The Power of Stories to Change Our Lives – Or Not |
| ___ | ___ | Outstanding Shorter Works of 19th-cent Russian Literature |
| ___ | ___ | Beginning Music Reading |
| ___ | ___ | Patterns and Symmetry |

Cannon Valley Elder Collegium Goals

Our Purpose:

- To provide a content oriented study experience for elder students with senior faculty.

Our Program:

- CVEC focuses on a desire for life-long learning
- The courses of study are selected to provide rich academic experiences in the liberal arts
- Most of these studies will take a seminar format with learners actively participating in research and dialogue
- CVEC welcomes younger registrants (under 50) on a seat-available basis
- Previous formal education is not a requirement

Our Policies:

- Class size is generally limited to 15
- Most classes will meet 8 times, once/week
- Classes are 2 hours/session
- Financial assistance is available for registrants who can not afford the fee (Check above)
- Students may withdraw from a course before the 2nd class meeting and request a refund

Questions concerning registration should be directed to:
 David Halsor, Operations Director 507-645-6052
dhalsor@reconnect.com

Cannon Valley Elder Collegium

1651 Jefferson Parkway

Northfield, MN 55057

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organization**

Non-Profit

Organization

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From the Director:

We hope you like the new look of our newsletters as much as we do. Again we express our gratitude to Patsy Dew and Lynne Pederson, who together manage the publicity (and many other things) for the Northfield Senior Center, and who have arranged for CVEC to publish our own newsletter using their facilities and guidance.

As part of our continuing effort to keep our members in touch with our evolving publicity strategies, our Board has decided to omit the traditional fall meeting this year. Our reasoning was that this meeting has reached only a small percentage of our membership, has grown unwieldy because of the larger number of course offerings, and has therefore not been adding greatly to publicity from our newsletters, web site, and e.mail efforts. We hasten to point out that this is on a trial basis only, and that we would welcome your comments to any of the board or officers concerning this matter.

Another idea: we'll be having a planning retreat for our Board, now scheduled for Wed. Sept 15. This will give us more time and focus for the future than would occur in our monthly meetings. Ed