

EXTENSION



ALP-HORN

FALL 2016

Newsletter of the ADULT LEARNING PROGRAM

FALL PREVIEW MEETING - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 Seabury, Bloomfield SPEAKER - JAMES ARENA-DeROSA

"THE CHALLENGE OF HUNGER IN AMERICA"

As President and CEO of Foodshare, James Arena-DeRosa provides overall leadership to the regional food bank, tasked with fighting hunger here in Greater Hartford and building lasting solutions to poverty and inequity. In collaboration with the Board of Directors, Senior Executives and

leadership team, he provides strategic direction for all aspects of the organization.

A life-long advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty, James has dedicated his entire career to confronting food security and hunger issues and building collaborations with community organizations. He has served as Northeast Regional Administrator of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, leading the oversight of 15 federal food and nutrition programs serving one in four Americans in the Northeast United States. He was the New England Regional Director of United States Peace Corps, providing leadership and guidance for all Peace Corps operations in a 5-state region. He also conceptualized and led the Public Advocacy Program for Oxfam America, a global organization committed to eliminating the causes of poverty



James' previous experience in Connecticut includes working with Governor Malloy's team, the Department of Social Services and the Connecticut Legislature to address long term recovery issues after Hurricane Sandy. He is a graduate of Harvard University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree, cum laude.

AGENDA, FALL PREVIEW MEETING

9:30 – 10:15 am	Visit with course presenters at tables set up in Heritage Hall and ask questions or obtain further information about a particular course.
9:30 – 10:30 am	Coffee and tea will be available at the top of the stairs.
10:15 – 10:30 am	Heritage Hall will be vacated while it is being set up for the meeting.
10:30 —11:00 am	Brief membership meeting in Heritage Hall.
11:00— 12:00 noon	Our speaker will be introduced. After his presentation there will be a short question and answer period.
12:00 Noon	Adjournment. The shuttle will return you to the Beth Hillel parking lot.

PREVIEW MEETING PARKING AT SEABURY

As usual for preview meetings, you must park at the Beth Hillel Synagogue parking lot and take the Seabury shuttle bus (it will run from 9:00 to 10:15 am) to the front entrance of Seabury. Beth Hillel is adjacent to Seabury at 160 Wintonbury Avenue, Bloomfield

SEABURY SHUTTLE SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ALL ALP CLASSES.

Parking for ALP classes this year will be tight because of ongoing construction at Seabury. Seabury will provide shuttle service from Beth Hillel Synagogue for all ALP classes during the upcoming semester. The shuttle will leave the Synagogue at 15 minute intervals. Please plan ahead to utilize this service. Details will be discussed at the Fall Preview meeting.

McAULEY PARKING

The McAuley is at 275 Steele Road, West Hartford. Follow the "Event" signs to Building A

FALL SOCIAL: ALP MEMBERS MEET & GREET

Mark **Tuesday, November 1,** on your calendar for the annual ALP Social. All ALP members are invited. This is an opportunity to welcome and meet new members and visit with other Alpers while enjoying hor d'oeuvres with wine or punch. The Social will again be <u>at Seabury in Heritage Hall, about 3:15 p.m.</u>, and follows a presentation on Death Penalty Decisions by Richard Palmer, Associate Justice, Connecticut Supreme Court. We encourage you to attend the Social and enjoy this popular fall term get-together.

DUNCASTER PARKING

Duncaster is pleased to welcome ALP for the upcoming fall semester. Due to the limited number of visitor spaces, carpooling is recommended. Please follow the ALP parking signs on campus to visitor parking at each entrance.

ALP participants are welcome to have lunch in the Courtyard Café which opens at noon. Payment in the form of cash or check is accepted.

HELP NEEDED

The ALP Board of Directors is seeking an Access expert who will maintain two databases, trouble shoot as necessary and take the steps needed for the system to continue its usefulness to the ALP organization. For further information contact Agnes Pier, Co-chair of the Curriculum Committee at ampier@sbcglobal.net.

SPECIAL AND ONGOING EVENTS AT DUNCASTER AND SEABURY

As an ALP member, you are welcome to attend some non-ALP events scheduled for Duncaster and Seabury residents. Events such as lectures, concerts, courses and recitals are described on our website at *alp.uconn.edu*

BORROWING ALP DVDs

The DVDs on this page are available for borrowing subject to a refundable deposit of \$25.00. Contact Bertina Williams at the ALP office (860-380-5038) if you wish to borrow a DVD. If you are a resident of Seabury or Duncaster or a member of ALP scheduled to attend a class at either venue, Bertina can deliver the DVD to you.

OPERAS (DVD quality may be uneven)

I Puritani

II Tabarro/Pagliacci

II Trittico Armida Capriccio

Carmen Der Rosenkavalier

Die Walkure/Bayreuth Festival

Die Walkurie (Stuttgart)

Doctor Atomic Gotterdammerung Iphigenie en Taunde

La Boheme

La Faniculla del West La Fille du Regiment

La Sonnambula

Macbeth

New Year's Eve Gala

Berlin Philharmonic 1997

Orfeo ed Euridice Peter Grimes Romeo et Juliette

The Wonders are Many: The Making of Dr. Atomic

Tristan und Isolde (Version 1) Tristan und Isolde (Version 2)

GREAT COURSES LECTURES

A History of European Art Art Across the Ages

From Monet to Van Gogh:

A History of Impressionism How to Look At and Understand

Great Art

Masterworks of American Art

Museum Masterpieces:

The Louvre

America and the New

Global Economy

China, India and the U.S.: Future of Economic Supremacy

The Myths of Fitness and Nutrition

A History of Freedom

A History of Hitler's Empire

A History of Hitler's Empire:

2nd Edition

From Yao to Mao: 5000 Years

Of Chinese History

Great Presidents

The Life of Abraham Lincoln

Great American Music:

Broadway Musicals

How to Listen to and Understand

Opera

Symphonies of Beethoven

Origins of Ancient Civilizations The Long 19th Century: European History from 1789 to 1917

The Vikings

The Wisdom of History

The World Was Never the Same: **Events that Changed History**

United States and the Middle East 1914 to 9/11

Classics of American Literature Great American Bestsellers

Heroes and Legends: The Most

How to Read and Understand

Shakespeare

Shakespeare: The Word and the

William Shakespeare: Comedies,

Histories and Tragedies

The Life and Work of Mark Twain **Great World Religions**

How Jesus Became God

Introduction to the Study of Religion

Popes and the Papacy:

A History

The Dead Sea Scrolls

Biology: The Science of Life

Hubble: Images of the Universe

My Favorite Universe

Oceanography: Exploring the

Earth's Final Wilderness Science in the 20th Century

Science of Self

The Darwinian Revolution

The Meaning of Life

Influential Characters of Literature The Nature of the Earth: An

Introduction to Geology

Understanding the Human Body: Introduction to Anatomy and

Physiology

Understanding the Mysteries

of Human Behavior Understanding the Universe:

An Introduction to Astronomy

What Are the Chances? Probability Made Clear

RECENT DONATIONS TO ALP

In memory of Helen Lansberg from Ann Steele In memory of Helen Lansberg from Carol Matzke In memory of Dick Carlson from Carol Matzke

FALL 2016 MULTISESSION SEMINARS

An asterix (*) indicates a course with limited enrollment. See registration form, Side 2.

FS-01 Hikes

Kevin Gough & Jim Trail, Wintonbury Land Trust -- Fridays 9:00-12:00, 9/23, 10/14, 11/4 -- Offsite Explorations of interesting sites in our area. Participants should be able to walk three or four miles over uneven terrain. (1.) Seabury WildWoods hike is mild, even terrain. (2). Speer/Talcott Ridge is moderate to steep terrain depending on the route, with many stream crossings. *The 10/14 date is an afternoon hike 1:00 to 4:00. There is a November date scheduled to be used as a rain date or an extra hike.*

FS-02* Writing Your Memoirs

Leta Marks -- Tuesdays 1:00-3:00, 9/27, 10/4, 10/18, 10/25 -- Seabury Garden View Room ***Size Limit: 15

Each week we write short memoirs, bring them to the group to read, and delight in hearing one another's stories. You too can come and participate in writing, talking about good writing, and giving/receiving positive, constructive conversation about your piece so we all feel energized to write more.

FS-03* Exploring Critical Thinking

Louise Loomis -- Thursdays 2:00-4:00, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13 -- Seabury Community Activity Studio ***Size Limit: 20

What is Critical Thinking? Why is it Important? How do we use it? These questions are addressed in this three session course through mini-lectures, activities and discussion. Aspects of brain research relating to critical thinking, as well as its relationship to creativity, will be included. You will enjoy these exercises: Twenty Minute Problem Solver, the Propaganda Fallacy Exercise, the Thinking Circles Analyzer, and the Cognitive Six "Train of Thought".

FS-04 Human Ecology

Michael Park, Professor Emeritus, Anthropology, CCSU -- Fridays 10:00-12:00, 9/30, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

An examination of ecological theory and the impact of the environment on human evolution, human culture, and human philosophy. Sessions: 1. The Language of Ecology / Ecology and Evolutionary Theory. 2. Ecology and Human Evolution. 3. Cultures, Societies, and Ecology: "You Are What You Eat." 4. Ecology and Modern Times / Humans in the Natural World: Orcas, Dogs, and Apes

FS-05* The Play's the Thing

Nancy Kramer -- Mondays 1:00-2:45, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24 -- Seabury Center for Spirituality ***Size Limit: 15

We will be reading two plays. No acting skills are required. The presenter will give some information about the author, and then together we will read the play and discuss it.

FALL 2016 MULTISESSION SEMINARS CONTINUED

FS-06 Everyday Engineering II

Richard Woodring, Professor of Civil Engineering Emeritus, Drexel University -- Tuesdays 10:00-12:00, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

This course is a continuation of the Spring course. It will deal with electric power, renewal sources of electricity, refrigeration, heating, air conditioning and ventilation, the telephone and cellular phone technology, and the global telecommunications network.

FS-07* Short Stories

Carol Matzke -- Wednesdays 1:00-3:00, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7 -- Seabury Media Room ***Size Limit: 28

At each session we will discuss two short stories (copies of which you will be given approximately 1 month before class). The stories for the 1st session will be available at the Short Story table at the September Preview meeting. Otherwise they will be mailed to you. We will also learn about the authors.

FS-08* Movie Buffs

James Hanley, Co-President of Cinestudio -- Thursdays 10:30-12:00, 10/6, 11/3, 12/8 -- Duncaster Meeting Room ***Size Limit: 15

Participants view films at Cinestudio on the campus of Trinity College or elsewhere, at a time of their choosing, and then discuss them in class with the knowledgeable director of Cinestudio.

FS-09 Heroes and Legends II

Jim Yaeger, Professor Emeritus, UCONN Health Center -- Wednesdays 10:00-12:00, 10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23 -- Duncaster Meeting Room

Over the history of storytelling, millions of heroes and heroines have been described, but only a handful survive as immortal characters, inspiring imitations, remakes and responses. From the Great Courses video series, Cambridge University-educated Professor of Humanities Thomas Shippey analyzes the reasons for this impact. His style is informative and amusing as he covers legends from Guinevere to Robinson Crusoe to James Bond and Harry Potter.

FS-10 Good Ol' Days

Bob Ellis, Current ALP webmaster and former multi-media script writer -- Fridays 1:30-3:30, 10/21, 10/28, 11/11, 11/18 -- McAuley Meeting Room

Part history lesson, part nostalgia, part trivia, part interactive sharing and part sing-along, this eight hour power-point-supported presentation is a look back at the good old days of the 40's and early 50's when life - as we remember it - was slower and simpler with a different set of values. Everything is covered from newsmakers to life on the home front during WWII to the music, fashions, radio shows, comics, movies and early TV shows we all enjoyed. If you're over 70, this will be "a program to remember."

FALL 2016 MULTISESSION SEMINARS CONTINUED

FS-11 Three American Dreamers

Eugene Leach, Prof. of History and American Studies Emeritus, Trinity College -- Fridays 1:00-3:00, 10/28, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

This course will examine the ideas of three American visionaries who were also practical builders and leaders: Benjamin Franklin, Frederick Douglass, and Jane Addams. We will strive to understand their thinking in the context of their own time and discover what they may have to teach us in ours. Lecture and discussion with modest (12-15 page) reading assignments for each of the last three sessions.

FS-12* Creative Nonfiction

Dorothy Sterpka, Adjunct Professor, CCSU -- Mondays 1:00-3:00, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28 -- Seabury Garden View Room ***Size Limit: 15

We will use free writing, meditation, and creative writing techniques to express our creativity in memoirs, stories, poems, and essays. Through this activity we will find self-knowledge that can transform us. "*Now write! Nonfiction*", Sherry Ellis's compilation of exercises, as well as models from other sources, will be used.

FS-13 Industrial Revolution III

Richard Woodring, Professor of Civil Engineering Emeritus, Drexel University -- Mondays 10:00-12:00, 11/7, 11/21, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

This course is a continuation of the Spring course. It will deal with Electricity, Mass Production of Bicycles and Cars, Taking Flight, Industrial Warfare, The Great Depression, The Information Revolution, The New Industrial Nations, and The Benign Transformation. *The 12/12 class is an afternoon class 1:00 to 3:00.*

FS-14 Monet to Van Gogh - The Age of Impressionism

Ruthanne Hartzheim -- Tuesdays 1:00-3:00, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29 -- Seabury Heritage Hall We begin Part I with the troubled state of art in mid-19th century France and the emergence of Napoleon III's new modern Paris. This was a stage set for a new artistic movement. Beginning with the influence of Manet on a group of young painters that would become known as the Impressionists, we will take a chronological approach to the artists' contributions rather than looking at each career separately. Part II will conclude in Spring, 2017.

FS-15* Shakespeare: A Quadricentennial Salute

Karl Mason -- Fridays 10:00-12:00, 11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9 -- Seabury Media Room ***Size Limit: 20

An exploration of the play Macbeth as representative of Shakespeare's extraordinary linguistic, dramatic and poetic skills.

MULTISESSION SEMINARS ARE CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
FOLLOWING THE REGISTRATION FORM.

ALP MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM -- FALL 2016

An Adult Learning Program (ALP) membership entitles you to participate in all seminars and single-session classes for which you have registered.

Please fill out this form, and mail it with your check, made out to UCONN/ALP, to:

Adult Learning Program

University of Connecticut, Hartford County Extension

1800 Asylum Avenue, Room 110

West Hartford, CT 06117

Name			
	Address		
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	\$100 Two-Semester Men	nbership	
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\$	_ Donation to ALP		
	HOW WILI	L YOU CONTRIBUTE?_	
is a vol	lunteer organization with ev	eryone contributing his/h	er share. Please let us know
ch comn	nittee/activity you'd conside	r working on or learning a	about.
Cu	ı rriculum Committee - Plar	ns all seminars and single	e-session classes.
Me	embership Committee - Int	egrates new members in	to ALP, nurtures leadership
ong mei	mbers, nominates board me	embers, plans and staffs i	membership meetings.
Coı	mmunication Committee -	Provides information to p	potential and current members
ough wo	ord of mouth, the preparation	n and distribution of prom	notional handouts, the ALP-
rn news	letter, and the ALP website.		
Pre	sentations - Present a sen	ninar or single-session cla	ass, or put us in touch with

REGISTRATION FORM: SIDE 1

ALP REGISTRATION FORM FALL 2016

NAME: (Ple	ase print):	
From the list	below, please check the courses you	wish to take.
courses will if they sign u	be given to those who are on the waiting for the course this semester. Then, his semester. You will be notified whet	isk (*) in the course code. First priority in these ng list from the last time the course was offered, a random selection will be made from the others her or not you are in the course a few weeks be
	•	se inform the ALP office at (860-380-5038) so notify the office if you will miss only one class.
	l you a list of your course selections. Y alp.uconn.edu	ou can also create your personal calendar on
MULTI	SESSION SEMINARS	SINGLE SESSIONS
FS-01	Hikes	FSS-01 White Privilege/Black Lives
FS-02*	Writing Your Memoirs	FSS-02 Opera Connecticut
FS-03*	Exploring Critical Thinking	FSS-03 Movie and Discussion on Selma
FS-04	Human Ecology	FSS-04 Artificial Intelligence
FS-05*	The Play's the Thing	FSS-05 Death Penalty Decision
FS-06	Everyday Engineering II	FSS-06*Lincoln-Douglas Debate
FS-07*	Short Stories	FSS-07 Scandinavian Sojourn
FS-08*	Movie Buffs	FSS-08 Anasazi Indians of Four Corners
FS-09	Heroes and Legends II	FSS-09 World War II on the Home Front
FS-10	Good Ol' Days	FSS-10 Ice Ages of Southern N. E.
FS-11	Three American Dreamers	
FS-12*	Creative Nonfiction	
FS-13	Industrial Revolution III	

REGISTRATION FORM: SIDE 2

___ FS-14 Monet to Van Gogh

___ FS-17 Connecticut Forum

___ FS-15* Shakespeare: A Salute

___ FS-16 Operatic Femmes Fatales

FALL 2016 MULTISESSION SEMINARS CONTINUED

FS-16 Operatic Femmes Fatales: Salome, Carmen and Delilah

Walter Mayo, Retired Professor, Wesleyan University -- Tuesdays 10:30-12:00, 11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

Exploring the motivations and actions of three opera heroines and the development of the "femme fatale" in literature, art, music and cinema. The presentations will involve lecture demonstrations including clips from DVDs, CDs and YouTube, Power Point slides, and other media.

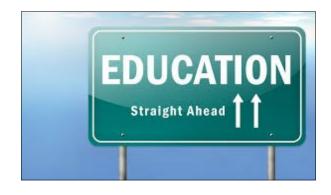
FS-17 Connecticut Forum

Karen Will -- Wednesday 9:30-12:00, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

Viewing and discussing videos of three previously conducted CT Forum programs: A Meaningful Life - Getting to What Really Matters. Anna Quindlen, Tim Shriver, Larry Brilliant. Forum Book Club - An Evening with Authors We Love. John Irving, Azar Nafisi, Jonathan Franzen. Science of Our Minds - Understanding the Body and Mind through Neuroscience. Lisa Genove, Sacher Keltner, Susan Cain, John Dankosky.



Edward Cumming, Keynote Speaker at the 2016 ALP Annual Meeting



FALL 2016 SINGLE SESSIONS

FSS-01 White Privilege/Black Lives Matter

Warren Goldstein, Professor of History and Chair, Department of History, University of Hartford -- Thursday 10:00-12:00, 9/29 -- Duncaster Meeting Room

In this course we will consider the hot topics of white privilege and the Black Lives Matter Movement in the last years of the Obama era. What's new about this movement? Has there really been no progress in the last 50 years? Are white folks more racist than we realize—or are people of color magnifying small things into big ones? Let's talk openly about these matters, in historical context.

FSS-02 Connecticut Concert Opera

Doris Lang Kosloff, Artistic Director of CT Concert Opera — Friday 1:00-3:00, 9/30—Seabury Heritage Hall

Englebert Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel will be performed on November 4 and November 6 at the Hoffman Auditorium of the University of St Joseph. Maestro Kosloff will discuss various topics about the opera, its composer, and perform excerpts from the score to illustrate pertinent examples of its music.

FSS-03 Movie Screening and Discussion on Selma

Cheryl Greenberg, Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of History, Trinity College -- Monday 10:00-12:00, 10/3 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

The movie Selma depicts a frightening, yet ennobling moment in our history when those without political power stood up to those who had both power and weapons, to demand access to the ballot and the privileges of first class citizenship. After watching the movie, we will explore issues of political activism and civil rights past and present: What can Selma teach us? What civil rights challenges do we face today, and how can we address them most effectively?

FSS-04 Artificial Intelligence: Out of Control?

Wendall Wallach, Consultant, Ethicist, and Scholar at Yale University's Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics -- Thursday 10:00-12:00, 10/13 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

In March, an artificial intelligence program (AlphaGo) beat the world's best GO (an abstract strategy board game) player in a match. This is one example of why recent breakthroughs in the development of artificial intelligence have led Stephen Hawking, Elon Musk and others to question whether the development of AI poses future risks. This talk will offer proposals for minimizing the risks arising from AI and robotics, while maximizing their benefits through ethics, engineering, and oversight. In particular, I will propose the creation of an International Committee for the Oversight and Governance of AI and Robotics.

FSS-05 Death Penalty Decision

Richard Palmer, Associate Justice, CT Supreme Court -- Tuesday 1:00-3:00, 11/1 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

In 2015, Justice Palmer authored the *Majority Opinion* on the case of State vs Santiago, which determined Connecticut's death penalty no longer comports with contemporary standards of decency and constitutes cruel and unusual punishment forbidden by Article One, Sections 8 and 9

FALL 2016 SINGLE SESSIONS CONTINUED

of the State Constitution. The Santiago decision illustrates the matrix of considerations which are involved in resolving a constitutional issue. The course of analysis in Santiago reviewed the history and nature of cruel and unusual punishment; the relationship between legislative judgment and court analysis; State and Federal precedents; as well as the opinions and recommendations of professional associations.

FSS-06* Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Ketti Marks, Retired NYC English Teacher -- Wednesday 1:00-3:00, 11/9 -- Seabury Media Room ***Size Limit: 20

Debate is formal argumentation. It has structure and rules. Lincoln-Douglas, a type of one-on-one debate practiced mainly in the United States at the high school level, developed because there was a concern that traditional debate did not put enough emphasis on values. I will discuss the philosophy and rules governing L-D debate and also explain how students go about constructing a debate case. I will include highlights from my career as a debate coach and conclude with a CD of my students' winning debate in a round moderated by Charlie Rose.

FSS-07 Scandinavian Sojourn

Bob Hewey & Carol Simpson -- Wednesday 1:00-3:00, 11/16 -- Seabury Heritage Hall Whether you've always wanted to go to Scandinavia or have fond memories of your own trip, join us for a travelogue through Denmark, Norway and Stockholm, Sweden.

FSS-08 Anasazi Indians from the Four Corners

Catherine & Christopher Brooks, Authors -- Wednesday 1:30-3:00, 11/30 -- Seabury Heritage Hall The Brooks will take you on a fascinating journey through the Four Corner States (UT, CO, AZ, NM) exploring the multi-faceted legacy of the Anasazi Indians of the west. Through a colorful slide show they will highlight how these ancestral pueblo people evolved from hunter-gatherers to farmers, artists, architects and resourceful survivors, and how important it is to protect their heritage.

FSS-09 Recreating the World War II Home Front

David Garnes, Writer and Lecturer -- Monday 1:00-3:00, 12/5 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

In preparing for and writing *Waitin' For The Train To Come In: A Novel of World War II*, David Garnes used a variety of sources-newspapers, magazines, library archives, reminiscences of older friends and acquaintances, and his own life-to create a fictional account of the war years on the home front in Springfield, Massachusetts and in the Pacific. After a discussion of this research process and examples from the novel, David will encourage participants to share some of their own wartime memories. Following the session, books will be available for purchase and signing.

FSS-10 Ice Ages of Southern New England

Mark Evans, Professor of Geology at Central Connecticut State University. -- Wednesday 1:00-3:00, 12/14 -- Seabury Heritage Hall

This course will provide an overview of the glacial periods in southern New England in terms of when and why they occurred, their extent, and their impacts on the landscape. The effect of this glaciation on the history and development of Southern New England and its culture will also be included.

PROGRAMS BY DAY OF THE WEEK

(Asterix (*) indicates program with limited enrollment)

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FS-05* FS-12* FS-13 FSS-03 FSS-09	The Play's the Thing Creative Nonfiction Industrial Revolution III Movie and Discussion on Selma World War II on the Home Front	1:00-2:45 1:00-3:00 10:00-12:00 10:00-12:00 1:00-3:00	10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28 11/7, 11/21, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19 10/3 12/5	
FS-02*	TUES Writing Your Memoirs	DAY 1:00-3:00	9/27, 10/4, 10/18, 10/25	
FS-06	Everyday Engineering	10:00-3:00	10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15	
FS-14	Monet to Van Gogh	1:00-3:00	11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29	
FS-16	Operatic Femmes Fatales	10:30-12:00	11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13	
FSS-05	Death Penalty Decision	1:00-3:00	11/1	
		NESDAY		
FS-07*	Short Stories	1:00-3:00	10/5, 11/2, 12/7	
FS-09 FS-17	Heroes and Legends II Connecticut Forum	10:00-12:00 9:30-12:00	10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23	
FSS-17	Lincoln-Douglas Debate	1:00-3:00	11/30, 12/7, 12/14 11/9	
FSS-07	Scandinavian Sojourn	1:00-3:00	11/16	
FSS-08	Anasazi Indians of Four Corners	1:30-3:00	11/30	
FSS-10	Ice Ages of Southern N. E.	1:00-3:00	12/14	
	THUR	SDAY		
FS-03*	Exploring Critical Thinking	2:00-4:00	9/29, 10/6, 10/13	
FS-08*	Movie Buffs	10:30-12:00	10/6, 11/3, 12/8	
FSS-01	White Privilege/Black Lives	10:00-12:00		
FSS-04	Artificial Intelligence	10:00-12:00	10/13	
FRIDAY				
FS-01	Hikes	9:00-12:00	9/23, 10/14, 11/4	
FS-04 FS-10	Human Ecology Good Ol' Days	10:00-12:00 1:30-3:30	9/30, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28 10/21, 10/28, 11/11, 11/18	
FS-10 FS-11	Three American Dreamers	1:00-3:00	10/21, 10/26, 11/11, 11/16	
FS-15*	Shakespeare: A Salute	10:00-12:00	11/11, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9	
FSS-02	Opera Connecticut	1:00-3:00	9/30	

NOTICE. School for Working Men. A School is held at the FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE, Rust Stockwell Street, to which Working Men above 18 years of uge are invated, who decire instruction in READING AND WRITING. The School is open every SUNDAY MORNING from 9 outside to a quarter-part 10, and a SCHOOL is held in our needless with it of TUESDAY MUSININGS from 8 octoor to half-page 9.

Editorial Note: From time to time, the ALP-Horn publishes an essay or poem written by an ALP member for one of our seminars.

THE LETTER

by Pauline Topazian, Writing Your Memoirs Class, April 2016

"What'd we get today, Hon?" my husband called, as I stepped into the kitchen from picking up the mail."

"Nothing much," I replied, "except this - I wonder what this is."

I was holding a very professional looking white business envelope addressed to me. Usually it was my husband who received the professional letters! The sender appeared to be a firm of some sort – perhaps an attorney's office. A slight shiver went through my body. "Was someone suing me or what?"

Unfolding the letter I read, "Our firm traces the heirs to unclaimed estates; we have reason to believe that you are a rightful heir to the estate of John W. Mason, born in Boston, MA in 1905 (it was now 1999). He died without a will leaving an estate of close to one million dollars."

"Was this for real? Who was this unknown relative whose name was unfamiliar?" We puzzled over it. "This must be a scam. Let's call Jason." Our son, practicing with a large Boston law firm agreed. "Don't respond to it", he advised. "They are baiting you and just want your money." Mary, our niece, a lawyer in Hartford seconded his words.

BUT – the letter clearly stated, "No one agrees to pay us a fee for tracing heirs, but rather we speculate on our ability to locate the proper heirs and make arrangements directly with them on a contingent fee basis. Upon successful conclusion of the case, as may be anticipated, you will receive, NET, a full two-thirds of the sum to which you are entitled; the remaining one-third will be retained by us as reimbursement for our expenses and as compensation for our services. If we are unable to make a successful claim we expect nothing in return."

"What do we have to lose by engaging these people?" we asked each other; "after all we don't have to send any money." Still, we hesitated. I spoke with my brother and my nephew who had received the same letter. "Was it possible to trace this matter ourselves? Should I give away one third of the inheritance that was legally mine? So many questions raced through my mind." But after much angst, I did sign the agreement and mailed it. And then the firm disclosed some interesting facts.

Heirs would not be able to trace this decedent on their own. Shortly after he was born, his father died. The mother remarried and her new husband adopted the young boy – thus John King became John Mason. The deceased had no children. He had one half-brother, also childless, who predeceased him. Both parents were only children, meaning he had no aunts, uncles or cousins. "Counsel informs us that in circumstances such as these the descendants of great-grandparents would inherit. It is therefore our belief that you may have an interest in the pending estate of John King as one of the descendants of his paternal great-grandparents." Four distinct lines of heirs were established: paternal/paternal, paternal/maternal, maternal/paternal and maternal/maternal. "The relatives of each of the four grandparents would be entitled to share one fourth of the estate."

"Fascinating," we mused. "Two hundred and fifty thousand isn't as nice as one million, but this is the process!"

"Now that we have located you," the letter continued, "our work is far from finished. To process the matter to conclusion, it will be our responsibility to develop the full family genealogy, prepare an accurate genealogical chart and substantiate relationships by appropriate birth, death and marriage records. Ultimately, the completed project will be presented in court for a judicial determination of heirship."

Wondering how long that would take, we proceeded to wait, discussing the issue with some of my relatives. Arriving by mail months later was the whole genealogical chart. There were my parents and grandparents, aunts, cousins and siblings – interesting to have regardless of any money. Wait a minute! It looked like my quarter of the family was much more prolific than the others. In fact, one group had ten heirs, another twelve, a third twenty, but ours had forty-four! That's not fair!"

Just about a year following the original letter I received a check in the amount of five thousand two hundred dollars and three cents – my share of the million dollars.



EXTENSION

ALP: ADULT LEARNING PROGRAM

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