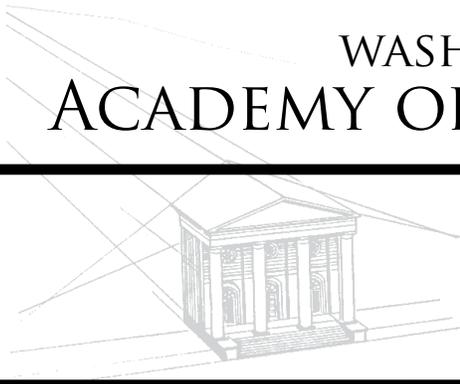


WASHINGTON COLLEGE ACADEMY OF LIFELONG LEARNING



Spring 2012 Newsletter

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

As WC-ALL's academic year begins to wind down with our second session of spring classes and special events, we would like to express appreciation to all of our Members who continue to enthusiastically support our programs. We have more Members than ever, up to 425 for the 2011-2012 academic year. Enrollments in our courses by those Members are close to 2,000 this year, as against 1,200 just two years ago. Our Learn at Lunch speakers have been well rewarded by record-breaking crowds and we successfully completed our first overnight trip, a visit to historic Gettysburg and the adjacent Eisenhower farm.

Credit for all of this is heavily due to a very hardworking and dedicated Council. I would particularly like to thank Ginny Barker, Lucia Rather and Kathy Sack, all three of whom shortly will be retiring from the Council. Ginny, my predecessor as Chair of the Council, has also been our Special Events Committee Chair. Lucia continues to be one of our most popular instructors and a thoughtful voice in Council deliberations. Kathy has been our liaison representative from Washington College and a wonderful advocate for us on the campus. Each of them has been a super active supporter of WC-ALL and has worked tirelessly on your behalf. They shall all be very much missed.

Beginning with the opening

of our next academic year this coming fall, WC-ALL will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary of bringing continuing learning to the greater Kent County community, with the generous support of Washington College. We are already engaged in planning some special features and events for the year and look forward to your participation in commemorating this milestone in our history.

— John Christie, Chair

ANOTHER RECORD YEAR FOR COURSES

The spring semester is well underway with an interesting array of courses—twenty-two in all. Three new instructors are teaching WC-ALL courses for the first time. Terrence Finn, local author, is offering a course on four critical battles of World War II. A long-needed course on the Eastern Shore of Maryland was the contribution of Fletcher Hall. Having been born in Dorchester County and having graduated from Washington College, Fletcher is well-qualified to explain

Save The Date!

Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 17, for our annual Year End Cocktail Party. It's your opportunity to meet with WC-ALL faculty and your classmates on an informal basis, to enjoy a glass of wine or a cocktail and some delicious hors d'oeuvres. Please join us as we celebrate another record year, and to help us extend our thanks to the great instructors who make WC-ALL possible.

the Shore's unique character. Finally, Redge Mahaffey, a physicist and investment manager, explained the process of "Failing Your Way to Success."

The number of Members enrolled this semester exceeds that of any recent spring semester, and two classes attracted sufficiently large enrollments that they had to be scheduled in Norman James Theatre and the Goldstein Lecture Hall. We are pleased that our offerings are

attracting an increasing number of Members, and also that the College was able to accommodate our classes in larger venues.

We are currently working to develop a program of interesting courses for the fall 2012 and are delighted to announce that, following this year's successful program on Pakistan, Charlotte Staelin Hawes is preparing a course on understanding present-day Afghanistan by knowing its past.

The Committee works constantly to recruit new instructors and to satisfy requests for specific courses. We urge Members to help in this effort by identifying potential instructors and telling us of new courses that they would like to have.

One of our popular traditions at WC-ALL is our

Annual Meeting where we honor our volunteer instructors for their efforts in providing the outstanding classes we're able to offer. We also take time to recognize outgoing Council members, welcome newly-elected Council, and present the WC-ALL Scholarship for a deserving student. This formal "thank you" has evolved and in the past few years has been in the form of a festive cocktail party. We

hope you'll join us at the Casey Academic Center Forum on May 17 to visit informally with our instructors while enjoying WC-ALL camaraderie, some terrific food, and magical sounds from the keyboard of Joe Holt.

— Jack Stenger, Curriculum Chair

SPECIAL EVENTS

Six years ago I jumped on board the WC-ALL educational train and have been rewarded at each stop along the way. The conductor first directed me to the publicity car to bring more people on board. Then the train needed a chief engineer and I was privileged to aid in continuing the

creative development of new platforms for future development. My last stop has been guiding the special events dining car and caboose, where this spring's luncheons have taken us from the tensions and complexity of Afghanistan with Tom Timberman to the frozen Arctic, with its navigational challenges for even a seasoned first mate such as Mike Auth. Adam Goodheart taught us about courage and heroism beyond the battlefields of the Civil War, reminding us of the principles on which this country was founded. And finally, through the sun-filled windows of our dining car we will share laughs in an unexpected way on April 11 as Fred Rasmussen, historian and obituary writer for the *Baltimore Sun*, regales us with his many stories in "The Last Word, and other Tales from the Crypt."

Last month, the Metro DC Express took us to the Islamic Center where we were introduced to the role of Islam in America, and then to the Franciscan Monastery where we toured the church, catacombs and – thanks to the early spring weather – lush gardens.

On April 26 we'll call our final "all aboard" of the season for a trip to DC where we'll disembark at The Hillwood Museum, the fabulous creation of Marjorie Merriweather Post of the Post Cereal fortune. The last wine dinner of the season



Following two sold-out sessions on Pakistan this year, perennially-popular instructor Charlotte Staelin Hawes has put together a course on Afghanistan for the coming Fall Semester.



Ginny Barker has remained aboard for two three-year Council terms, including Chair, and has agreed to remain active in WC-ALL by serving on several committees.

instructors to help guide our way. So save those frequent flyer miles and buy that lightweight luggage so you can be ready to join your friends as WC-ALL heads “across the pond!”

will be on May 1 at Occasions Catering where, as always, good food, good wine and good friends are always on the menu.

Your Council has been working hard to lay more track towards the continued development of WC-ALL’s future and now, with the new five-year plan in place, and entering our 20th year, we’re initiating changes that will better meet the diverse needs of our community of learners.

As an example, last November we embarked on a trip to Gettysburg, our first overnight journey. Based on the enthusiastic comments from participants we are planning another overnight excursion, this time to Williamsburg, Virginia, in early October. We’ve also taken on another challenge: how to lay track for a more ambitious voyage across the ocean with a spring 2012 European trip with one of our many talented

In closing, I want to make a couple of personal remarks. Being on the WC-ALL Council has been a terrific ride for me. It has been my pleasure to work alongside a very committed team. We investigate, we discuss, we create, we plan and

Bunny Adams was just one of our Members who lined up for Adam Goodheart to sign her copy of 1861: *The Civil War Awakening*, after his Learn at Lunch presentation this spring.



we have fun. We listen to our Members and respect each other’s views. The biggest benefit of being on Council has been getting to know so many of you, both as Members and also as friends. I have been given a truly wonderful opportunity through WC-ALL to keep my brain “in gear” so I could help keep the WC-ALL wheels of progress on track towards an exciting future.

— Ginny Barker, Special Events Chair

ON THE HILL

WELCOME TO WC-ALL FOR THE SPRING TERM.

I have just been informed by John Christie, Council Chair, that we now have 425 members in WC-ALL! What a terrific amount of growth this organization has shown in just the seven years that I have



WC-ALL Members attended a fascinating briefing by Brother Abassie Doroma while visiting the Islamic Center of America.

been privileged to serve as the College Liaison. I attribute this good growth to the strength of leadership from your elected Council. The energy and vision they have devoted to the organization have resulted in bringing you high-quality engaging courses, satisfying and diverse bus trips, wine dinners and

other related events. The capstone of this leadership was the launch of WC-ALL's first "travel program" which visited the Gettysburg battlefields in conjunction with a related WC-ALL course. We hope that this popular and successful event will be the starting point for many others to come. Who

Membership and Friend-ship

Membership in WC-ALL is annual or by semester, so you need to renew your membership regularly. There may be some semesters when you are traveling or for some other reason not taking any classes. You may retain an "inactive" status in WC-ALL by becoming a "Friend" for just \$30 a year. While this doesn't allow you to take any classes, you'll continue to receive a print catalog, notices of special events (we hope by email), and discounts for lunches and day trips until you're ready to renew your full and active membership.

knows where we can go....

This will be my last opportunity to greet you via the newsletter as the Washington College liaison to WC-ALL. I will be retiring from the College this summer. I hope then to join you in some classes and events that my present responsibilities deny me. Meanwhile take advantage of all the College offers you. Enjoy classical music at **12 @ Hotchkiss** each first Friday, the film, drama and concert series, new shows in the Kohl Gallery, and last but not least, the sporting events. I tell my students that our goal for them is to "eat-up the curriculum"; I hope you will do the same.

Farewell.

— Kathy Sack, WC Liaison
to WC-ALL

MENTOR PROGRAM

The mentor program is surging ahead with the help of the Office of International Programs where Kate McCleary, the new director, is having a real impact as she finds ways to expand the mentor and mentee interface with the College. She has begun a monthly Coffee Hour program during which students will make presentations about their countries and their cultures, with question and answer and discussion periods to follow. The first one was a presentation on



Abby and Lindsay Powell, daughters of mentors Seth and Sally Powell, were also benefitting from the cross-cultural experience with Japanese students Hiroe Ito and Emi Takemoto at last autumn's Mentor Barbecue.

Jordan. This provides mentors with yet another way to get together with their students and the larger international student body. Kate has graciously arranged for reminder invitations to these events to be sent directly to mentors so they will have plenty of time to mark their calendars and to invite students to participate.

Requests to mentor continue to come in, so the list of potential mentors is expanding. By fall, we should be prepared for whatever number of students we receive. As the number of international students fluctuates from year to year and semester to semester, it is good to have a pool of people so that no one needs grow weary of mentoring.

A special thanks to mentors Marti Hawkins and Cindy

Fulton who pulled together boxes of children's books for donation to the special Japanese tsunami relief effort spearheaded by Professor Noriko Narita. These books were translated into Japanese and delivered during a spring break trip by Washington College students to a village hard hit by last year's disaster.

— Barbara Parker, Mentor Coordinator

Going Green-er!

In keeping with the campus-wide "George Goes Green" initiative of Washington College, as of May 30 WC-ALL will no longer mail announcements of upcoming events to non-members. Non-members should send their email address to **wc_all@washcoll.edu** to get updates sent to their inboxes. Don't forget you can always check **wc-all.washcoll.edu** to see what's coming up.

Photo Call

We're always looking for great photos to enhance our newsletter. If you have shots of our Members enjoying one of our recent trips or events, please email them to 4wc.all@gmail.com with captions and full names. And our thanks to Dick Barker, Sandy Bjork, Brooke Harwood and Barbara Parker for their photos in this issue.



WASHINGTON COLLEGE
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The Washington College
Academy of Lifelong Learning

Cocktails and hors d' oeuvres
to honor our faculty and
to celebrate another outstanding year

Thursday, May 17th ~ 5 to 7 p.m.
The Forum

Casey Academic Center at Washington College
Music by Joe Holt

Members — \$25.00 Non Members — \$35.00
Pre-paid reservations only; please use enclosed card.