

# LIFE TIMES

SINCE 1993

APRIL 2022

## April 2022

4-Treasures from the Farnsworth Art Museum: Marguerite Zorach  
4-The Bucharest Dossier  
5-"Sins of the Fathers"  
5-The Last Bookseller: A Life in the Rare Book Trade  
6-Almost an Abolitionist: Lincoln's Antislavery Constitution  
6-No Dinosaurs Here, Only Mammals!  
7-Great Books  
11-The Hemingway-Pfeiffer Museum  
11-Genetic Control of Insect Populations  
12-History and Customs of Easter  
12-The Bombardment of Lewes  
12-Great Decisions 2022 Group Topic: Climate Change  
13-Rearview Mirror: Highlights of the Studebaker National Museum  
13-Topic Expert: Polar Opposites: Russia and the U.S.  
14-Being and Becoming in Nature with Young Children  
14-A Natural Curiosity: A Story of the Bell Museum  
15-LIFE Book Group (**date changed!**)  
18-Curry and Kreplach: A Look at 12 Unique Jewish Communities  
18-Continental Soldier and the American Revolution (**in-person**)  
19-Germany, Angela Merkel, and the recent Election  
19- Mary McLeod Bethune and the Quest for a More Harmonious World  
20-Remembering the Cold War  
20-Booth Girls  
21-Launch Control Center at Minuteman Missile Launch Control Center  
21-Experience the Ten Crucial Days of the American Revolution  
21-Dear Earth: A Love Letter to the Planet  
25-Susan B. Anthony's Life & Influence  
25-A Conversation with Thomas Jefferson (**in-person**)  
26-Mayowood  
26-The Others: Part 3: Behind the DMZ: North Korean Art  
26-Great Decisions 2022 Group Topic: Russia  
27-Houdini  
27-Topic Expert: Biden's Agenda: The Role of Leadership in America  
28-BOTTLED GOODBYES  
28-"Somerset: Or Why and How Benjamin Franklin Orchestrated the American Revolution "

## LIFE: A Smorgasbord of Topics and Experts

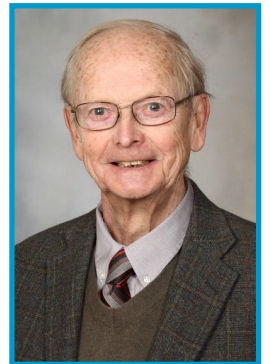
As a recent member of the LIFE Board, let me briefly introduce myself before reviewing my take on the LIFE program. My story is just one example of the wide range of backgrounds of members of the LIFE community. This ensures that we hear different points of view and shared experiences in class discussions and associated social interactions.

My wife and two toddler boys came to the Mayo Clinic in 1968 to take part in a Federally funded research program to evaluate the impact of orbital rocket launch on blood supply to the lung. This project was at Mayo Clinic because it had a human centrifuge which could mimic the "G" forces experienced in a rocket launched to orbit. Subsequently my job morphed into development of imaging techniques used to better measure physiological processes in the cardiovascular system.

As you might imagine, when I retired a few years ago I suddenly lost the companionship of my work-colleagues and the stimulus of tomorrow's tasks and promises. The distraction of the usual post retirement travel to distant family, friends and exotic places was fine, but my curiosity needed more feeding and the LIFE program was a good match.

My take on joining the LIFE community, like many of its members who are also in similar situations, is that the program provides topics on the wide spectrum of past, present and possibly future interesting events, scientific developments and diverse cultural aspects. Expert presentations on that range of topics and the companionship resulting from discussions of the various topics as well as the personal interactions at get-together functions go a fair way in filling the contact void.

I hope to illustrate some of those LIFE's activities by the following topics of presentations over the coming months. The presentation calendar of April through June 2022 LIFE classes again covers topics ranging from US history (eg Lewis and Clark ), treasured structures (eg Hoover Dam), arts (eg treasures in Art musea), war-related issues (eg Vietnam war), foreign issues (eg post WW2 Germany) and many other thought provoking (and memory resurrecting) issues. This smorgasbord of topics and associated expert presenters from all states, a variety of institutions and personal experiences was assembled by Chrisanne Pieper and facilitated by Jamie Schroeder of the LIFE office, for which we are all grateful. Finally, in the spirit of the perceived tapering off of the Covid-19 pandemic's incidence to manageable levels we are excited to see that a selected number of classes will return to in-person presentations at the Heintz Center again, although most remain via the very successful Zoom method.



**Erik Ritman**  
LIFE Board Member

Learning Is ForEver...Providing adult education, insight, and engagement

## Teacher Feature...

**James Oakes**, one of the leading historians of nineteenth-century America, has an international reputation for path-breaking scholarship. In a series of influential books and essays, he tackled the history of the United States from the Revolution through the Civil War. Dr. Oakes holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California—Berkeley. He has been on the faculty of the Graduate Center since 1997, Humanities Chair since 1998.



**James Oakes PhD** will  
present on April 6