



LIFE TIMES

SINCE 1993

DECEMBER 2022

December 2022

- 1-Great Books
- 1-One Last Time: WW II Part 2, **(postponed from 11/10)**
- 5-Legends & Folklore of Winter
- 5-Songs about Obsolete Technology
- 6-The 2022 Elections: Who Won, Who Lost, Who Cares?
- 7-From the Bishop Myra to Santa Claus: The Many Faces of St. Nicholas
- 7-Explore the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- 8-Play It Again: The Toys and Games We Remember
- 12-A Very British Christmas and Other Strange Christmas Traditions
- 12-The 1783 Treaty of Paris: America's Future on the Brink **(moved from 12/14)**
- 13-Holiday Joy: Russian Winter Celebrations followed by Mother Love: Mary and Jesus in Russian Visual Culture
- 13-The Christmas Tree Ships
- 14-Bringing Dayton's Original Christmas Displays Back To Life **(moved from 12/13)**
- 15-Whitman **(moved from 12/14)**
- 15-"A Game Maker's Life"
- 16-LIFE Book Group
- 20-Christmas Traditions in Boston



Winter 2023 Catalog is in the Mail! You can access it now online!



Get in the Holiday Mood with LIFE!

December is a month that many of us look forward to all year long. It is a season of festive gatherings of family and friends, colorful decorations and lights, exchanging of presents, and the beginning of winter activities, all culminating in Christmas day itself.

Following up on these December themes and perhaps to put people in a Christmas mood, LIFE has scheduled an abundance of class offerings and numerous Christmas related trips. The Christmas trips scheduled are to such places as the St. Paul History Theatre (including lunch at DeGideo's), the elegant St. Paul Hotel, the Octagon Museum and Lake Elmo Inn, the Ives Auditorium, and Chanhassen. Classes will include the Legends and Folklore of Winter presented by Chad Lewis, a paranormal author and researcher. Professor of Art Kristin Anderson of Augsburg will inform us of The Many Faces of St. Nicholas of Myra over the centuries from early Christian saint to modern holiday icon. Next Andrew O'Brien who received much of his educational background from his studies at Oxford and London Universities will focus on A Very British Christmas and Other Strange Christmas Traditions Around The world. Carol Veldman Rudie, the lead docent at The Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis, has a two part presentation with the first hour devoted to Holiday Joy: Russian Winter Celebrations and the second hour covering Mother Love: Mary and Jesus in Russian Visual Culture. Ric Mixer is a Great Lakes maritime historian and lecturer as well as a radio, TV, and u-tube personality who will enlighten us on several shipwrecks including The Rouse Simmons schooner which sank off the Wisconsin coast along with its Christmas tree cargo more than 100 years ago. Bill Ewald is likely to mine a rich vein of nostalgia by Bringing Dayton's Original Displays Back to Life. Finally, Anthony M. Sammarco, noted historian and author having an encyclopedic knowledge of Boston, will trace the evolution of Christmas Traditions in Boston over its nearly four centuries of existence.

If Christmas is not your thing, don't despair. LIFE has a number of intriguing classes on a good variety of other topics. For example, Paul Koeller will present a class entitled Songs about Obsolete Technology where the musical lyrics concern electronic, mechanical and other items with which young people today would likely be unfamiliar since these items are obsolete. If you enjoy political matters, you won't want to miss the recap of the 2022 elections by Hamline Professor David Schultz as he examines who won and why and what the outcome may mean for at least the immediate future. Michael O'Dell will help us Explore The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Drawing upon his experience as a tomb guard, he will touch upon the history of the tomb and the men buried there as well as a host of related topics. One of LIFE's regular (and favorite) presenters, Professor Taylor Hagood, will speak on American literary giant, Walt Whitman's life and work in the context of the time in which he lived. An important early development in American history will be explored when Professor Richard Bell of the University of Maryland discusses The Treaty of 1783, the formal document that ended the Revolutionary War. The Treaty was significant in connection with our relations with England, France, and Spain and the status of different peoples within the newly created United States.

Finally, if you are or know someone who loves toys and games LIFE has two options for your viewing pleasure, First, Candace Summers, an educator with the McLean County Museum of History, will take us back in time to the toys and games from approximately the 1920's to the 1960's. Next LIFE will present Jeffery Breslow, a preeminent toy and game designer and inventor. He has written a book entitled "A Game Maker's Life" which among other things is about achieving success under pressure, rebuilding a business, and bringing joy to children and families. **I hope to see you in class.**



Joe Wieners
LIFE Board Member

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