

APRIL/MAY 2021



Providing adult education, insight, and engagement

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FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE 507-280-3157

Supported by Rochester Community and Technical College



We continue to work from our homes. The best way to contact us is using **email**. You will find a variety of classes from presenters from throughout the United States. Zoom has opened the door to many topics and presenters.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Chrisanne & Jamie

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Jamie.Schroeder@rctc.edu

A huge **thank you** to People's Cooperative's Operation Round-Up Program for awarding RCTC LIFE with a \$1,500 grant to be used for marketing the RCTC LIFE Program.



Your Summer 2021 LIFE

Catalog will be arriving the first week in May!

There are more than 30 Zoom classes in June/July/August!

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021

Letter from the LIFE Board Chair

When I was teaching kindergarten I often would tell the kids that March was a month that had trouble making up its mind. I would go on to say that sometimes March weather reminded you that Spring was “just around the corner” and then it could quickly turn around and remind you of winter with a huge snowfall. We can all hope for more Spring-like weather this March. But even if the weather is not cooperative we know there is light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel with more of us getting vaccinated. Vaccinations bring the hope that we can start feeling more confident that our life is becoming safer to be out and about. While we are patiently waiting for Spring and the loosening of Covid restrictions we have amazing LIFE class to attend! Our Program Committee and the ever-resourceful Chrisanne Pieper have put together an outstanding array of classes for your consideration.

We appreciate the time it takes for you to fill out the class evaluations and we value your comments. A current board member looked closely at your comments on the class evaluations from this past Fall and Winter, taking note of the frequent positive comments about speakers. Also the number of attendees for a particular class were noted. We have many speakers that have gained quite a reputation for thought-provoking classes and their excellent presentation skills, even adapting to Zoom. We are pleased to announce that many popular speakers from the past are returning this Spring, but I would like to highlight three speakers that presented for the first time this past year and received excellent reviews. Scott Hill, Chief Interpreter at George Washington’s Birthplace, is back with “The Faith of Our Fathers” on April 5th. Marguerite Ragnow, PhD. who is the curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the U of M will be talking about “Both Seen and Unseen: Early Modern Women in Global Perspective” with travel narratives on May 6. Dr. Timothy Johnson, JD, PhD is back with his class on “The Freedom of Speech in the U.S. Supreme Court” on May 17. Even though I have highlighted three excellent instructors there are numerous interesting classes and knowledgeable instructors to tempt you!

Our LIFE program has been very successful in attracting presenters from all over the country. We have noted that speakers are more willing to agree to present if they don’t need to travel and it is also financially beneficial for us as we don’t need to pay travel expenses. Word is getting out that our audiences; you, our members, are engaged, well-educated and receptive to life-long learning. Frequently, our presenters will tell Chrisanne that they have thoroughly enjoyed our engaged audiences and are eager to present again. In spite of the pandemic our program has been growing! Through adversity, we have been forced to look at alternatives to meet our goals and as a result have reinvented our program. We are excited to see what is in store for us in the future! See you in class!



*Julie Stenehjelm,
LIFE Board Chair*

Colleen Arnold Janet Bartz Martha Batzner Brenda Dicken Peg Farrell Steve Frytak Tom Gaffey Pamela Haase Jane Hallman Judy Haugen	LIFE Advisory Board Officers 2020-21 <i>Julie Stenehjelm</i> Chair <i>Chuck Stupca</i> Vice Chair <i>Frank Iossi</i> Secretary	Chad Israelson Phil Karsell Walt Menning Judy Pease Maureen Plitzuweit Pixy Russell Steve Troutman Bill Wiktor Mary Wilson
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March 2021 Classes – Register Today!



Class Descriptions are online at www.learningisforever.net
and can be found in your Winter 2021 LIFE Catalog!

- “Unelected Leaders: America’s First Ladies” with Katherine Jellison PhD, Ohio University, College of Arts and Sciences, 3/2/2021, 10 am-Noon
- The 1980s. with Chad Israelson MA, 3/3/2021, 10 am-Noon
- Unlearned Lessons from 1918 with Curt Brown, MN History columnist, Minneapolis Star Tribune, 3/4/2021, 1-3 pm
- A Royal SCANDAL: Queen Victoria’s SONS with Andrew O'Brien, 3/8/2021, 9-11 am
- Nellie Francis: Fighting for Racial Justice and Women's Equality in Minnesota with William Green PhD, JD, Augsburg University Professor, Department of History, 3/9/2021, 10 am-Noon
- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Minnesota with Eric Seabloom PhD, Department of Ecology, Peter Larsen, PhD and Marc Schwabenlander, MPH, Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, Tiffany Wolf, DVM, PhD Department of Veterinary Population Medicine, University of Minnesota, 3/10/2021, 1-2:30 pm
- Disease Tales from the Dark Universe with Eric Matteson MD, 3/11/2021, 10-11:30 am
- Introduction to the History and Philosophy of Science. Question 4 with Brendan Shea PhD, 3/12/2021, 10 am-Noon
- Marine Aviation: From Afghanistan to the White House with Phillip Wiktor USMC, 3/15/2021, 1-3 pm
- Human Evolution-The Fossil and DNA Evidence with Constance Arzigian, UW-LaCrosse, Department of Archaeology, 3/16/2021, 10 am-Noon
- Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group - 8 Part Series with Steve Troutman, 3/16/2021, 3:15-5:15 pm
- Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group Topic: Global Supply Chains and National Security with Steve Troutman, 3/16/2021, 3:15-5:15 pm
- Kilts, Castles, Gardens and Ghosts with Sherrie Hansen, Author, 3/17/2021, 1-3 pm
- Smithsonian Artful Connections: American Indians with Smithsonian American Art Museum and Renwick Gallery, 3/18/2021, 10-11:30 am
- British Royal Grandchildren: Lives of Czarina Alexandra and Kaiser Wilhelm with Andrew O'Brien, 3/22/2021, 9-11 am
- That Championship Season: The Story of the 1965 Minnesota Twins with Tom Rooney, Minnesota Twins, 3/23/2021 and 3/30/2021, 10 am-Noon
- Tony Oliva and the 1960s Minnesota Twins with Thomas Henninger, 3/24/2021, 1-3 pm
- Diagnosing Giants: Solving the Medical Mysteries: Beethoven and Washington with Dr. Philip Mackowiak, University of Maryland School of Medicine, 3/25/2021, 1-3 pm
- Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group Topic: Persian Gulf Security Issues with Steve Troutman, 3/30/2021, 3:15-5:15 pm

**LIFE members can register online with a credit card at
www.learningisforever.net**

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Andrew O'Brien was born in the U.K. and graduated with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in History from Oxford University. Andrew also has a teaching degree from London University and a Masters in teaching from Johns Hopkins University. After teaching in the UK, he taught middle school for 21 years in Maryland. Recently retired, Andrew and his wife live in North Carolina and St. Petersburg, FL.

British Life in the Victorian Age: How did the Poor and Rich live? with Andrew O'Brien

In Part 1: Learn how to live as a wealthy Victorian from how your hair is washed by your servants to the correct way to entertain guests for dinner. In Part 2: We will explore what life was like for poor Victorians including their diet, their daily schedule and their clothing.

Date(s): Mondays, April 5 and 12 Time(s): 9-11 am # of Sessions: 2

Member Fee: \$29 Non-Member Fee: \$49



Scott Hill was born in Beeville, Texas but moved to Colorado at a very young age. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Metropolitan State College in Denver, Colorado and a Master's Degree in American History from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Scott has worked for the Federal Government for over 27 years; 24 of those years with the National Park Service as an Interpretive and Supervisory Park Ranger at eight different NPS units (Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania NMP, Richmond NBP, Petersburg NB, C&O Canal NHP, Ford's Theatre NHS, Appomattox Court House NHP, George

Washington Birthplace NM and Thomas Stone NHS.) For the last ten years, he has served as the Chief of Interpretation at George Washington Birthplace NM and Thomas Stone NHS. During his NPS experience, Scott has been filmed for C-Span and Fox News about the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre NHS; written an article published in the book, "Oh, Ranger" about Thomas Stone NHS; read the Declaration of Independence in front of a large crowd at the Washington Monument on the 4th of July and participated in Civil War Sesquicentennial events at Manassas NB, Antietam NB, Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania NMP and Appomattox Court House NHP as well as a War of 1812 Bicentennial event at Fort McHenry NM and Historic Shrine. For the past eight years, he has also taught U.S. History and American Military History as an adjunct professor at the College of Southern Maryland in LaPlata and at Rappahannock Community College in King George, Virginia.

The Faith of Our Fathers with Scott Hill, Chief of Interpretation, George Washington Birthplace National Monument & Thomas Stone National Historic Site

Religion in the American Revolution played a major role by offering assurance that it was sanctioned by God, by turning colonial resistance into a righteous cause, and by crying the message to all ranks in all areas of the colonies. Yet, the message was heard differently from one person to another as Christians, Jews, and Quakers all heard the call, along with those who were agnostic, atheist, or deist. There was no one faith of our fathers. Learn how men and women with different religious backgrounds, took on the greatest empire of the 18th century and established the United States of America.

Date(s): Monday, April 5 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

**LIFE members can register online with a credit card at
www.learningisforever.net**

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David Stenejhem PhD is an Associate Professor and Associate Department Head in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota. He is a board-certified clinical oncology pharmacist and specializes in oncology outcomes research and clinical research in precision medicine. He is a member of the Masonic Cancer Center where he serves on the molecular tumor board. His outcomes research initiatives focus on understanding role and value of precision oncology. He is also a co-director of a pharmacy pharmacogenomic implementation

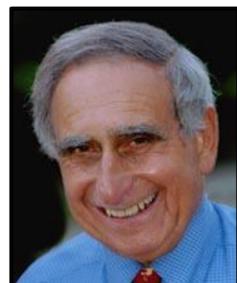
fellowship program in partnership with Essentia Health in Duluth

Precision Medicine: Passing Fad or a New Standard of Care? with David Stenejhem PhD, Associate Professor and Associate Department Head in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Minnesota-Duluth

Dr. Stenejhem will discuss concepts of personalized and precision medicine and how these approaches are tailoring the prevention and treatment of disease to the individual. He will provide an overview of how these approaches are currently implemented within the United States health system and how this may evolve in the future.

Date(s): Tuesday, April 6 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Dr. Henry Buchwald is professor of surgery and biomedical engineering and the Owen H. and Sarah Davidson Wangensteen Chair in Experimental Surgery Emeritus at the University of Minnesota. The recipient of numerous awards and honors in recognition of his clinical and scholarly accomplishments, he is the past president of five surgical organizations. He lives with his wife, Emilie Buchwald, the founder of The Gryphon Press and cofounder of Milkweed Editions, in Minneapolis.

Surgical Renaissance in the Heartland: A Memoir of the Wangensteen Era with Henry Buchwald, MD, PhD, FACS, HonFRCS

The golden era in American surgery, described by a young doctor practicing under innovator Owen Wangensteen at the U of MN. In 1960, fresh out of a stint in the Air Force, Henry Buchwald was recruited by Dr. Owen H. Wangensteen to join the Department of Surgery at the University of Minnesota's medical school. For an American born in Austria, a child of the Holocaust, a position in a city then considered by some to be the "anti-Semitic capital of the United States" might seem an uneasy fit, but in the culture of innovation created by Wangensteen, Buchwald, who had chafed against the rigidity of East Coast medical practice, found everything an imaginative young surgeon could have asked for. "Surgical Renaissance in the Heartland" is the story of a golden era in American surgery, ushered in by Wangensteen's creative approach to medical practice, told by one who lived it. Buchwald describes the roots, heritage, and traditions of this remarkable period at the U of M's medical school, where the foundations of open-heart procedures, heart and pancreas transplantation, bariatric surgery, and other medical landmarks originated. "The significance and origin of the values behind the Wangensteen legacy are brought to life in "Surgical Renaissance in the Heartland." This is a must read for everyone involved in American surgery and will help us remember the origin of our wonderful profession. Dr. Buchwald was there throughout and tells the story with great pride and affection. Spend an evening reading this book."—David B. Hoyt, M.D., executive director, American College of Surgeons

Date(s): Tuesday, April 6 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21

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Taylor Hagood teaches American literature, with specialization in the writing of William Faulkner, African American literature, and the literature and culture of the United States South. His scholarship examines literary and cultural production in an approach informed by postcolonial theory, theorizing of social interaction via secrecy as a cultural item, and disability studies. Hagood's books include Faulkner's Imperialism: Space, Place, and the Materiality of Myth (2008) and Faulkner: Writer of Disability (2014), winner of the C. Hugh Holman Award for Best Book in Southern Literary Studies.

Faulkner: Mississippi's World Writer with Taylor Hagood Professor of American

Literature English Department Florida Atlantic University

One of the nation's greatest writers came from one its least likely states, Mississippi, and William Faulkner's accepting the 1949 Nobel Prize in literature in Sweden marked an anomaly for citizens of a state that consistently ranks low in education and wealth. Paradoxically, it was out of these ostensibly poor materials that Faulkner forged his bold, innovative work, applying the techniques of Modernism to a largely rural, conservative, and distinctly non-Modernist southern society. This two-part lecture traces Faulkner's life and career, from his early efforts as a poet to his mature command of fiction. The lecturer, Taylor Hagood, is a native of Ripley, Mississippi, the Faulkner ancestral home, and ranks among the top Faulkner scholars internationally, having authored multiple books and articles, including Faulkner, Writer of Disability, winner of the C. Hugh Holman Award for Best Book in Southern Studies. Hagood brings the enigmatic author to life in these lectures and makes accessible Faulkner's famously challenging writing.

Date(s): Wednesdays, April 7 and 14 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 2

Member Fee: \$29 Non-Member Fee: \$49



Todd Lefko is the President of the International Business Development Council, an import-export firm. He has homes in Minnesota and Moscow and has worked in Russia for more than 25 years. His weekly articles appear in "Rossiske Vesti," a Russian political newspaper, and he is a contributor to "Rusya-Al Youm," the Russian Arabic Television channel for the Middle East. He has lectured at universities in Russia, China, Belarus, Germany, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan. Mr. Lefko has also taught urban affairs and sociology at the University of Minnesota, and political

science, international relations, political philosophy, political campaign management, leadership, organizational development, and public administration at other Minnesota colleges. He is one of the founders and current treasurer of Global Volunteers, and has worked in villages in Jamaica, Mexico, and Guatemala. He is the group's representative at the United Nations.

The End of Globalization with Todd Lefko

We are part of a global society. Information, climate warming, disease, terrorism, and trade increase, without attention to borders. At the same time, national politics are challenging the role of the US to outside politics and influence question whether America or forces outside Washington control our lives. Protectionist trade, immigration and competition policies between the US, China, Europe, and the world raise questions of how the future of the United States will be affected by globalization. The issue of the American role as leader of the world is being faced in Washington and world centers. We will examine the role of globalization now and in the future. This topic is among the Great Decisions 2021 Topics from the Foreign Policy Association.

Date(s): Wednesday, April 7 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

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A Professor of Biology at Davidson College in North Carolina, **David Wessner** teaches introductory biology and courses on microbiology and HIV/AIDS. He co-authored *Microbiology*, a textbook for undergraduate biology majors, and *The Cartoon Guide to Biology*. He also is a contributor to *Forbes.com*, writing articles on COVID-19. Prior to joining the faculty at Davidson, David conducted research on coronaviruses at the Navy Medical Center in Washington, DC. He earned his PhD in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics from Harvard University and his BA in Biology from Franklin and Marshall College.

How Art Can Help Us Learn Science with David R. Wessner PhD, Professor of Biology, Chair, Department of Health and Human Values, Davidson College

Too often, we classify ourselves as left-brained or right-brained, analytical or artistic. Unfortunately, this dichotomy tends to be reinforced early and often in school; science class often is very separate from art class. Yet, we know that our intellectual exploration of any topic flourishes when we consider that topic from various perspectives. So, how can we better integrate art and science? How can we use art to help us develop a richer understanding of science? In this class, we will explore several ways in which art has been used in a biology class to help students explore various scientific issues. We'll also examine how we can use art to help us develop an appreciation of the lived experience underlying so much of biomedical research.

Date(s): Thursday, April 8 Time(s): 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15



Dr. Richard Leitch earned his BA in East Asian Studies from Colby College in 1985, and went on to earn an MA in Asian Studies from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign after a two year career on Wall Street. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from Illinois in 1995, where he was the recipient of the Harriet and Charles Luckman Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching, and the College of Liberal Arts Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Graduate Assistant. He has been a member of the Political Science Department at Gustavus since 1996, where he teaches courses in International Relations, Comparative Politics, Asian Politics, Environmental Politics, and the Politics of Poverty. In 2000 he received the Swenson-Bunn Award for Teaching Excellence at Gustavus, and in 2008 the Edgar M. Carlson Award for Distinguished Teaching. In 2012 he was included in *The Princeton Review's The Best 300 Professors*. His research interests include Japanese domestic politics and foreign policy, and he is the co-author of *Japan's Role in the Post-Cold War World*.

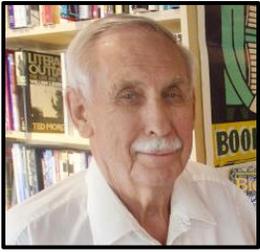
The Korean Peninsula: Diplomacy or Denial? with Richard Leitch PhD, Gustavus Adolphus College

The Korean Peninsula is facing a defining era. Following the acceptance of an armistice in 1953 ending formal hostilities between the US and North Korea, for more than six decades no US President had met his North Korean counterpart. Since 2018, however, what was once an unthinkable meeting was followed by two more. How can we explain this recent diplomatic interaction between these two antagonists, and what might be the future of US-North Korean relations post-2020? What about the roles of South Korea and China in this relationship? This topic is among the Great Decisions 2021 Topics from the Foreign Policy Association.

Date(s): Thursday, April 8 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

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*Richard Kowles PhD is Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Biology at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in Winona, MN. His undergraduate degree was obtained from Winona State University and after completing two masters degrees, one in biology and one in education, he earned a Ph.D. in genetics at the University of Minnesota. He has taught for 58 years at various levels, the last 40 years as a geneticist and cell biologist at Saint Mary's University. Kowles is the author of two college textbooks, *Genetics, Society, and Decisions* and *Problem Solving in Genetics*, and more recently a trade book, "The Wonder of Genetics." His latest book was "A Passion to Teach. Fifty-eight Years of Humorous, Weird, and Engaging Tales."*

Inbreeding: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly with Richard Kowles PhD, Saint Marys University, Emeritus

Inbreeding among humans can take several levels of intensity from mild to extreme. The probability of deleterious effects due to the mating between relatives depends upon the closeness of the relationship involved in such inbreeding. The essence of this power point presentation is as follows: an explanation of the genetics underlying the occurrence of deleterious effects; calculations that predict these effects; religious considerations; and a discussion of certain families and cultures that have ignored the probability of experiencing genetic defects due to inbreeding.

Date(s): Monday, April 12 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Dr. Victoria Hall serves as the first Patrick T. Redig endowed faculty chair in Raptor and Ecosystem Health at The Raptor Center, University of Minnesota. She leads the outreach and scholarly activities of the center, using education ambassador raptors to educate and inspire the public and guides the center's cutting edge research on ecosystem health. Previously, she served as the first veterinary epidemiologist for the Smithsonian National Zoo, performing research and studies to help guide the care, management, and conservation of wildlife in captive and wild settings, as well as create global training programs for wildlife veterinarians around the world. Additionally, Dr. Hall has extensive experience working in the "One Health" world, at the intersection of

human, animal, and environmental health through time spent investigating human disease outbreaks for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and working on animal and human health challenges for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

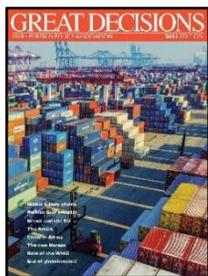
Raptors and the Stories They Tell with Victoria Hall DVM, University of MN Raptor Center, College of Veterinary Medicine

The Raptor Center's veterinary hospital, housed at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota, receives approximately 1,000 sick or injured birds a year to treat, rehabilitate, and hopefully release back into the wild. Raptors, which include eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, and vultures, serve as an amazing barometer of ecological health. As a "top of the food chain" predator, we can see dramatic impacts of ecosystem health threats like environmental contamination, emerging infectious diseases, and habitat loss. In this webinar, learn more about the stories that the raptor patients tell about themselves and the greater health of the ecosystems which we share with them.

Date(s): Tuesday, April 13 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

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Stephen Troutman is a Futurist and frequent speaker on a number of diverse topics. At IBM for 33 years, Steve retired as an Executive Consultant in 2010. In the US Navy Reserve for 23 years, he was Commanding Officer of four units, and attained the rank of Captain. He has been a Futurist since 1999. He is an active volunteer serving on several Boards and as a SCORE Mentor to small business. He currently serves on the Advisory LIFE Board.

Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group Topic: Brexit and the European Union with Steve Troutman

With the “Brexit transition period” coming to an end this year, the United Kingdom will formally leave the European Union at the start of 2021. With negotiations between the two entities continuing to stall, what does the future of Europe and the UK look like? Will the UK survive a possible Scottish vote to leave? Who will step up and take command of Europe now that Angela Merkel is out of the spotlight?

Date(s): Tuesday, April 13 Time(s): 3:15-5:15 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15



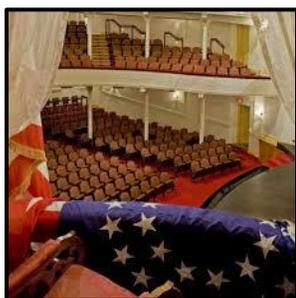
Ken Allsen is a freelance architectural historian, author and artist. He has taught LIFE classes for a number of years covering topics in architectural and local history. He also volunteers at the History Center of Olmsted County, Mayo Clinic Archives and Assisi Heights.

The Boy Hero and the Magic Lantern Show with Ken Allsen

In the Fall of 1862 a major uprising occurred in Minnesota as the native Dakota bands rebelled against the unfair practices of the federal government. The class will first present an overview of the uprising and its terrible aftermath for the Dakota people. It then turns to a local Rochester story concerning a young survivor of the uprising and a local hotel operator. They joined forces in operating a traveling show which helped to fan the flames of the anti-Dakota prejudice that followed the uprising. (The material presented is graphic in nature. Attendees of this class should come with an open mind and a willingness to join in the discussion which will follow the presentation.)

Date(s): Wednesday, April 14 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Investigating the Lincoln Assassination with Detective McDevitt and Reacting to Lincoln's Assassination with Detective McDevitt, Ford's Theatre

First Hour: As Detective McDevitt’s deputies, students will revisit sites and reexamine clues from April 14, 1865. In this interactive, theatrical program, participants will interact with historical characters portrayed by an actor, examine primary source images and hear witness statements. Time is included for questions.

Second Hour: How did people react when they learned of President Lincoln’s assassination? On April 14, 1865, the actor, Confederate sympathizer, and white supremacist John Wilkes Booth shot President Abraham Lincoln at Ford’s Theatre in Washington, D.C. Lincoln died the following morning. Immediately, word of Lincoln’s death spread around the United States and eventually circled the globe. How did people react? In this activity, you’ll take a tour of the United States, exploring that question. What you’ll find may surprise you.

Date(s): Thursday, April 15 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021



Stephen Troutman is a Futurist and frequent speaker on a number of diverse topics. At IBM for 33 years, Steve retired as an Executive Consultant in 2010. In the US Navy Reserve for 23 years, he was Commanding Officer of four units, and attained the rank of Captain. He has been a Futurist since 1999. He is an active volunteer serving on several Boards and as a SCORE Mentor to small business. He currently serves on the Advisory LIFE Board.

LIFE Book Group with Facilitator: Steve Troutman

The April read is "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents" by Isabel Wilkerson. The book for May is "The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz" by Eric Larsen. June's book is "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The summer read for September is "The Ministry for the Future: A Novel" by Kim Stanley Robinson.

Date(s): Fridays, Apr. 16, May 21, Jun. 18 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 3

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15



Dale Heltzer was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He became totally blind at age 11. At the University of Minnesota, he studied computer science and linguistics. In 1989 he moved to Rochester to work at IBM.

How does a Blind Person? with Dale Heltzer

Join LIFE Program participant Dale for a peek inside how a blind person navigates life. How does a blind person read, use a computer, shop, travel, etc? What's proper etiquette when talking to a blind person? He will show you the basics of braille, a screenreader on the computer, and how a white cane is used. This is your chance to

actually ask someone those things you've wondered about. Any question is a good question!

Date(s): Monday, April 19 Time(s): 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12



Jessica Michna, a recipient of the Presidential Service Center's Distinguished Service Award, has become widely known for her riveting portrayals of First Ladies, notable women of history and fictitious characters. Jessica's performances are compelling and emotionally enthralling. Audiences laugh along with her humorous anecdotes. They share in her tears as she relates how the horrors of war have impacted families. She has a powerful effect on an audience.

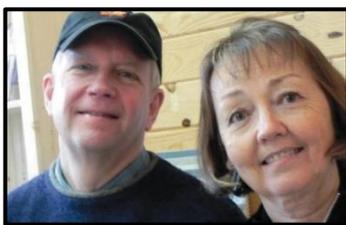
Golda Meir: "The Journey Home" with Jessica Michna

How does a girl born in the Ukraine, raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, travel a path that will lead her to become Prime Minister of Israel? What was it like to emigrate to a country where you didn't know the language, not once, but twice. This informative, entertaining program, developed by Jessica Michna, explores that rather circuitous route. What roadblocks and detours were thrown in Golda's way and how did she overcome them? The journey is a fascinating one, filled with joy, sorrow, seriousness and humor. Let Golda, as portrayed by Ms. Michna, tell you in her own words.

Date(s): Monday, April 19 Time(s): 1-2:15 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15

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Deane Johnson grew up in Grand Forks, ND, and has lived and traveled throughout northern Minnesota. A retired family physician, he was a co-owner of Beagle Books of Park Rapids with his wife, Jill, a store that remains in operation with other owners. After serving as photographer and editorial assistant for Jill's first book, he wrote and photographed "The Best of Itasca: A Guide to Minnesota's Oldest State Park."

Itasca State Park: Traveling Through History with Deane and Jill Johnson

The program will showcase Itasca's natural wonders, sights, and trails, but this will all be seen through the perspective of the history of the land, the people that lived there, and the development of the park.

Date(s): Tuesday, April 20 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25



Bill Karsell chaired the U.S. Technical Advisory Group to the International Organization for Standardization subcommittee on LCA, as well as a committee developing an American national LCA standard using the ANSI process. He chaired the Board Trustees of the Climate Stabilization Council, which works toward practical, effective solutions to the climate issue. As Chief of Environmental Services with the Bureau of Reclamation, Bill managed more than 100 scientists and engineers who provide technical support to Reclamation and other clients on a fee-for-service basis, including ecological assessment

and management, water treatment engineering and research, remote sensing and geographic information, and economics. Bill worked in environmental planning, fisheries assessment and enhancement, pest and hazardous waste management, and environmental education for the Bureau of Reclamation in Denver, Colorado, and Amarillo, Texas.

How to Avert Climate Change without Wrecking the Global Economy with Bill Karsell, Environmental Consultant

In the long term we must shift from fossil fuels to sustainable energy sources like thorium fission to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In the short term without some intervention, radiative forcing from legacy emissions already in the atmosphere will cause runaway global warming. Artificially increasing reflective sea salt aerosols can provide the negative radiative forcing necessary to return global mean temperature to a pre-industrial level.

Date(s): Wednesday, April 21 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



David Jones, a resident of Minneapolis, has been presenting on ten historical topics (Lincoln Assassination, Mount Rushmore, JFK Assassination, Apollo Moon program, Statue of Liberty, Washington Monument, Charles Lindbergh, the 1936 Olympics, United States Flag and Prohibition) since 1996. He has made more than 1,500 presentations to over 40,000 people.

The Washington Monument: Centerpiece of the National Mall with David E. Jones

The 555-foot Washington Monument stands proudly in the center of the National Mall in Washington DC. Building the Monument involved disagreements about the design, political infighting, inability to raise money and a 22-year interruption in the building phase. This is a fascinating story.

Date(s): Thursday, April 22 Time(s): 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12

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Dr. Connie Arzigian is a Senior Lecturer in the Archaeology and Anthropology Department at the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse. In 2010 she led a regional archaeological survey of Olmsted county. Her focus of research is on Midwestern archaeology and paleoecology, examining subsistence and settlement systems, and the origins of agriculture.

Precontact History of the Driftless Area of Wisconsin and Minnesota with Constance Arzigian, UW-LaCrosse, Department of Archaeology

From the mammoth hunters at the end of the Ice Age 13,000 years ago to the first farmers in the region 1000 years ago, the Driftless Area has a remarkable history of adaptation to abundant resources and a challenging climate. How did people survive, and what evidence did they leave us about themselves? We'll examine the archaeological record as people shifted from big game hunters, to hunter-gatherer-fishermen, to the beginnings of cultivation of native plants, to full-scale agriculture. Artifacts and artists' reconstructions help to illustrate this history.

Date(s): Monday, April 26 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



*Crawling into the dens of hibernating black bears in the Rockies, river rafting in China, exploring Antarctica on a Russian research vessel, climbing Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro, **Jeff Rennie** traveled the world for more than 20 years as a writer for such prestigious publications as National Geographic Traveler, Reader's Digest, Backpacker and others. Currently, he lives in Bayfield, WI.*

WITH NEW EYES: Seeking a Sense of Place Through Creativity and Photography

"The real journey of discovery," wrote Marcel Proust "consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes." For more than 20 years, Jeff Rennie traveled the globe as a writer seeking stories in new landscapes, seeing wondrous places. His award-winning travel stories on such places as Alaska, Antarctica, Russia, and Africa, appeared in 10 books and more than 300 magazine articles in such publications as National Geographic Traveler, Reader's Digest, Backpacker, and many others. But it took a camera to show him the beauty of his own backyard. In this presentation, Rennie tells of the joys and frustrations of seeking new ways of seeing the landscape you live in. Filled with philosophy, inspiration, and real hands-on techniques, this presentation will open your eyes again to your own backyard, wherever you live, and leave you seeing the world "with new eyes."

Date(s): Monday, April 26 Time(s): 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

***Stephen Troutman** is a Futurist and frequent speaker on a number of diverse topics. At IBM for 33 years, Steve retired as an Executive Consultant in 2010. He has been a Futurist since 1999. He is an active volunteer serving on several Boards and as a SCORE Mentor to small business. He currently serves on the LIFE Board.*



Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group Topic: Struggles Over the Melting Arctic with Steve Troutman

U.S. President Donald Trump left many scratching their heads when it was rumored that he was looking to purchase the large island nation of Greenland from Denmark. While any potential deal seems highly unlikely, the event shows the changing opinion within the U.S. government toward engagement with the Arctic region. With Russia and China already miles ahead with their Arctic strategies, can the U.S. catch up?

Date(s): Tuesday, April 27 Time(s): 3:15-5:15 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15

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Vauceil Kruse, MAE, taught AP English in a small diverse high school in Illinois for over twenty years. After retirement she served as Communications Coordinator for NAMI WI. She has a Masters in Education with a Specialty in English from Olivet Nazarene University.

From Lyrical Ballads to Silent Spring: Romanticism and the Environmental Movement with Vauceil Kruse MAE

Most of us would acknowledge that the modern environmental movement began with the publication in 1962 of Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring." Carson's "ability to combine scientific ideas and beautiful prose" (Larry Nielson) reminds us that the seeds of the movement were planted 164 years earlier in the poetry of Wordsworth's and Coleridge's "Lyrical Ballads." The Romantics and the Transcendentalists of the 19th century established, through their art as well as their fascination with science, a new way of being in nature. Their vision and their art are worth revisiting as a means of inspiring our own way of being in nature in a rapidly changing environment.

Date(s): Tuesday, April 27 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Historian and author Frederick Johnson's article on Minnesota women voting rights is featured in the October 2020 Minnesota History issue on woman suffrage. He also appears on TPT's Minnesota Experience program centered on that topic. He has written 12 books and numerous articles regarding Minnesota history. His most recent book, "Patriot Hearts: World War I Passion and Prejudice in a Minnesota County" won both national/state awards.

Minnesota Woman Suffrage and the "New Woman" (1890–1915) with Frederick Johnson

As the twentieth century dawned, the decades-long drive for the vote was a major factor, but far from the only one, in the broader Woman's Rights Movement. The emerging "New Woman," notes one historian, "always referred to women who exercised control over their own lives be it personal, social or economic." Such independent-minded, well-educated women, encouraged by progress in the suffrage movement, shattered strict the Victorian Era's cultural standards that literally corseted them. From the independence they demanded, the clothes they wore, and the causes for which they fought, to the personal freedom they brandished, these women expected no less than civil and personal rights equal to those of men.

Date(s): Wednesday, April 28 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25



They Shall Be Counted: Theresienstadt Ghetto Art of Erich Lichtblau-Leskly with Docent, Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center

They Shall Be Counted is a gallery of original paintings and drawings by Erich Lichtblau-Leskly created while imprisoned in Theresienstadt (Terezin) Ghetto. In the spring of 1945, Lichtblau-Leskly cut most of his artwork into pieces. His wife, Elsa Lichtblau, hid the fragmented artwork under the floorboards of the barracks, and Lichtblau-Leskly was able to retrieve it after liberation. While living in Israel during the 1950s and 1960s, he reworked these fragments into larger watercolor illustrations. Both original sketches and reworked illustrations will be on display in the collection. Meghan Giesecker, Education Associate at Illinois Holocaust Museum expertly guides the viewer through each slide that artistically depicts the daily lives of its residents, poignantly capturing the complications and ironies of ghetto life. This exhibition is on loan from Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

Date(s): Thursday, April 29 Time(s): 10-11:15 am # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15

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John Decker currently serves as an Emeritus Advisor to the Flight Projects Directorate at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, from which he retired in September 2013, after nearly thirty years of service. Immediately prior to his retirement, John served as the Associate Director of the Flight Projects Directorate. In that capacity, John was the Directorate's focal point for developing, interpreting, and implementing program and project management policies and processes. For the nine years prior to that, John served as the Deputy Project Manager for the James Webb Space Telescope Project at Goddard. JWST is the successor to the Hubble Space Telescope, with a planned launch date in October of 2021. Under John's leadership, the JWST Project completed Phases A and B, and moved into Phase C of its development. Under his leadership, all of the major contracts for the Project were awarded, international partnerships and contributions were established, integration and test facilities were selected, enabling technologies were matured, and the production of long-lead flight hardware and software items were initiated. Prior to his JWST assignment, John served as the Head of the Mechanical Systems Analysis and Simulation Branch within the Applied Engineering and Technology Directorate at GSFC. For the first fifteen years of his NASA career, John supported the Hubble Space Telescope Project in numerous capacities. His final role was as the Deputy Program Manager/Technical for the HST Project. Prior to becoming a Branch Head, John served for more than ten years as the Lead Mechanical Systems and Flight Systems Engineer for the HST Project, supporting the HST deployment mission in 1990, as well as the four subsequent HST servicing missions.

Building and Maintaining Space Telescopes with John Decker

A retired NASA aerospace engineer reflects on his 35-year career building and maintaining the Hubble Space Telescope and its successor, the James Webb Space Telescope.

Date(s): Thursday, April 29 Time(s): 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15

Andrew O'Brien was born in the U.K. and graduated with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in History from Oxford University. Andrew also has a teaching degree from London University and a Masters in teaching from Johns Hopkins University. After teaching in the UK, he taught middle school for 21 years in Maryland. Recently retired, Andrew and his wife live in North Carolina and St. Petersburg, FL.



Wallis Simpson & King Edward: Marriage & Mischief with Andrew O'Brien

The course will cover the dramatic relationship of Edward VIII and American, Wallis Simpson, focusing on their courtship and its impact on the royal family, the abdication and its impact on Britain, their wedding, the scandal during the Second World War, and their post-war life in Paris until her death in 1986.

Date(s): Mondays, May 3, 10 Time(s): 9-11 am # of Sessions: 2

Member Fee: \$29 Non-Member Fee: \$49



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*As the Green Resources Manager for EarthWays Center, a division of Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, **Jean Ponzi** responds to public inquiries with resources, referrals and information on sustainable practices, products and services. She is in demand as a public speaker. As a Resource Advisor to the St. Louis Green Business Challenge, a program of the St. Louis Regional Chamber, Jean has since 2010 coached over 190 companies to efficiently integrate sustainable policy and practice into everyday business operations. She is often the face and voice of EarthWays Center in print and electronic media coverage. She has written for GreenBiz.com, Home Energy, Grist and Missouri Resources magazines and many local publications, in addition to contributing an environmental column, Earthworms' Castings, to The Healthy Planet Magazine since 1997.*

The Power of Plants: Natives! followed by Monarchs and Mosquitos with Jean Ponzi, Green Resources Manager, EarthWays Center of Missouri Botanical Garden

Part One: The Power of Plants: Natives!: The plants native to a place contribute super-powers to their living communities: conserving and cycling water, recharging soil, cutting labor and chemical inputs, and growing habitat for native critters plus beauty and health-giving liveliness for us!

Part Two: Monarchs and Mosquitos: Control the pests, protect the pollinators, enjoy more of nature – and educate your neighbors! Insect ecology shows the way to maintain healthy habitat for us and the “little things that things that rule the world.”

Date(s): Monday, May 3 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



***Elaine O'Keefe** is a Mayo Clinic Certified and Nationally Board Certified Health and Wellness Coach, with an MN State Social Work License and is a Certified Stephen Minster. She has a passion for helping people who want to shift from surviving to thriving on a personal and/or professional level.*

***Laurie Jonas** is a Certified Art Life & Spirituality Coach, an Infinite Possibilities Certified Trainer and Trailblazer, a Certified Stephen Minster, and is an international author & blogger. Laurie delights in helping people clarify their dreams to live a marvelous life. Elaine & Laurie both enjoy creating safe spaces for exploration and transformation. They are part of the leadership team for Transformations In Nature - a start-up business that is transforming the way for people who are tired of going it alone connect to finding and working with coaching resources.*

ReCalibrate! with Elaine O'Keefe and Laurie Jonas

Are you struggling to cope with the lifestyle and work changes the Coronavirus Pandemic has forced? Do you have a hard time coping with change? You're not alone. It's common to feel anxious, disoriented, and confused. Through a series of conversations, interactive activities, and self-reflection exercises, certified health & wellness and life coaches, Elaine O'Keefe and Laurie Jonas, will guide you through a dynamic process designed to equip you with the tools you need to regain control, build resilience, and flourish in this new environment and beyond. It includes a journal and optional post-session coaching session to give you 1:1 assistance in putting your plan into play.

Date(s): Tuesdays, May 4 and 11 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 2

Member Fee: \$29 Non-Member Fee: \$49

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Twenty-nine years ago, Minnesota author **Sherrie Hansen** rescued a dilapidated Victorian and turned it into a B&B and teahouse, the Blue Belle Inn, Saint Ansgar, Iowa. After 12 years of writing romance novels, Sherrie married her real-life hero, Mark Decker, a pastor. Sherrie writes on the run. Sherrie's highly-acclaimed contemporary romantic suspense novels and mysteries include her popular Wildflowers of Scotland novels, "SEASIDE DAISY," "DAYBREAK," and new release, "PLUM TART IRIS."

The Attributes of Wildflowers: Lessons Learned from a Garden with Sherrie Hansen

Sherrie has written 9 novels using the names of wildflowers for titles including her latest releases "Seaside Daisy," "Plum Tart Iris," and "Ragged Robin." After rambling through beautiful gardens in places around the world as diverse as Romania, Germany, France, England and Wales, Sherrie has learned how the meanings and sentiments associated with various flowers can be used to form parallels in life that teach us valuable lessons. If you enjoy contemplating the intricacies of gardening, the flowers that flourish within their walls, the weeds that try to invade their beds, and the weather patterns that influence how blossoms form - or not - you'll enjoy Sherrie's look at gardens. Passages from her novel, "Daybreak," which highlights gardens in Denmark and Canada, will be featured.

Date(s): Tuesday, May 4 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



David Yorks is a life-long resident of Lake Minnetonka and a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a History degree and a Masters Degree in American History, and a fifty-five-year interest in the presidency of John Kennedy. Regarding the Kennedy assassination; David has attended several national conferences and has met with and discussed the assassination with witnesses present in Dealey Plaza as well as discussing the assassination with several doctors who were present at Parkland Hospital, where they attempted to save the President's life. David's business career included being a buyer at Dayton's Department Store, owning a business that sold apparel to J.C. Penney- which is headquartered in Dallas- which allowed David to visit Dallas frequently- sixteen times in one year alone. David also worked for Minnesota United States Senator Rudy Boschwitz, and recently sold his group of small retail gift stores.

The Warren Commission Report: Fact or Fiction with David Yorks

This presentation highlights the major discrepancies between the findings of the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy in 1964 for ten months; versus the conclusions of the United States House of Representatives Select Committee on Assassinations, which investigated the assassination for thirty-one months, ending in 1979. The talk discusses the challenges facing the Warren Commission along with the many advantages available to the House Select Committee on Assassinations. The goal of the presentation is to present the Kennedy assassination in a perspective that will generate interest or may lead to additional individual research amongst the members of the audience.

Date(s): Wednesday, May 5 Time(s): 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12

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After retirement from IBM, **Bill Bakken** attended Minnesota State University Mankato and received an MA in History in 1996. His focus of study was Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman England. He taught a wide selection of history courses at Rochester Community and Technical College as a part-time instructor from 1996 until retirement in 2008. His interests include reading science fiction, adventure, and history, research and collection of North Dakota Pottery.

The Origins of World War I with Bill Bakken MA

World War I did not begin in a vacuum, but erupted as a result of many years of political, military, and economic developments. This class will trace events beginning in the mid 1800's and continuing to August 1914 when the war began. We will look at how alliances and political relationships changed during that time as various countries dealt with the challenges they faced.

Date(s): Wednesday, May 5 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Dr. Marguerite Ragnow is the curator of the James Ford Bell Library, which documents the history and impact of global trade and cultural exchange in the premodern era, before ca. 1800. She also is on the graduate faculties of History, Early Modern Studies, and Medieval Studies at the University of Minnesota. The immediate past president of the Society for the History of Discoveries and past editor of its journal, *Terrae Incognitae*, Dr Ragnow is the co-author (with photographer Natasha D'Schommer) of *Tulips, Chocolate & Silk. Celebrating 65 Years of the James Ford Bell Library*, which was a finalist for the 2020 Minnesota Book Award in the Minnesota Non-Fiction category and also is a finalist for a Midwest Book Award.

Both Seen and Unseen: Early Modern Women in Global Perspective with Marguerite Ragnow, Ph.D.

Curator, James Ford Bell Library, University of MN

Women fill the pages of early modern travel narratives, many authored by men, but a few written by women. Yet, somehow, we seem to know very little about these women; most of them remain unseen by history. Join curator Marguerite Ragnow of the James Ford Bell Library as she shares some of the stories of female travelers and takes a look at a few women depicted by men. There will be pirates!

Date(s): Thursday, May 6 Time(s): 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15



Carol Veldman Rudie is the lead docent and the coordinator of outreach education at The Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis. She regularly leads classes and speaks on topics of Russian art. A former college teacher, she has done PhD work at the University of Minnesota in English literature and art history.

Another Face: Masks in Russian Culture with Carol L. Veldman Rudie

Exploring the relationship of one's face to one's identity probes the various roles a person can play in society's structure. The use masks and of other masking techniques allows somebody to create identities that are both extensions of and different from oneself. Russian culture offered various opportunities for people to use these masking opportunities as this walk through history will illustrate.

Date(s): Friday, May 7 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

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Paul Koeller is a retired IBMer and active Mayo Volunteer who loves researching and presenting music and local history topics. He has given numerous history presentations in Rochester and presented about twenty different rock music classes for Rochester Community Education. Paul also loves traveling and gardening.

Homestead Addition - Turning William Worrall Mayo's farm into a 1940s progressive solar neighborhood with Paul Koeller

Just south and east of 4th Street and 13th Avenue Southeast in Rochester is a unique single family home housing development named Homestead Addition. The area was developed by Mayo Properties starting in the mid 1940s to house the influx of returning World War II veterans who would work at Mayo Clinic. The land previously had been the homestead farm of Dr. William Worrall Mayo and he had raised his boys Will and Charlie on the farm. When the plan was developed, several progressive ideas including back sidewalks, passive solar, and more were incorporated into the neighborhood. The streets consist of a set of interconnected courts that are all named for historical families that are in some way associated with the Mayos. In this lecture, Paul Koeller who lived in the neighborhood from 1977 to 1986, will share stories about the origins of the neighborhood and the historical names behind the courts. You'll come away knowing more the history of the neighborhood, passive solar housing, and quite a bit of Mayo genealogy and history.

Date(s): Monday, May 10 Time(s): 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15

Stephen Troutman is a Futurist and frequent speaker on a number of diverse topics. At IBM for 33 years, Steve retired as an Executive Consultant in 2010. In the US Navy Reserve for 23 years, he was Commanding Officer of four units, and attained the rank of Captain. He has been a Futurist since 1999. He is an active volunteer serving on several Boards and as a SCORE Mentor to small business. He currently serves on the Advisory LIFE Board.



Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group Topic: China's Role in Africa with Steve Troutman

The Covid-19 crisis has put a massive strain on what was growing a positive economic and political relationship between China and the continent of Africa. As Chinese President Xi Jinping's centerpiece "Belt and Road initiative" continues to expand Chinese power, the response to the spread of Covid-19, as well as the African government's growing debt to China, has seen pushback. What are some of the growing economic and political issues

between China and Africa?

Date(s): Tuesday, May 11 Time(s): 3:15-5:15 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15



Smithsonian Artful Connections: Lure of the West with Smithsonian American Art Museum and Renwick Gallery

Part geography and part mythology, the American West retains a powerful allure in popular culture. Explore depictions of the people, lifestyles, and landscapes of the 19th century West to better understand this dynamic period of history.

Date(s): Wednesday, May 12 Time(s): 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15

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***Gary Stamm** has entertained and informed people from coast to coast with his portrayal of our 32nd President. His uncanny resemblance and capture of the personality of FDR coupled with his extensive knowledge of the man all team to leave audiences feeling that they have been in the presence of the individual many historians judge to be the greatest person of the twentieth century.*

Inside FDR and the National Park Service with Gary Stamm

Franklin Roosevelt had many passions and interests. One was his love of the outdoors and another was his love of history. In 1933 FDR expanded the National Park Service (NPS) mission to include not only parks and monuments but also national cemeteries, national memorials, and national military parks. Learn about Roosevelt's involvement with the NPS and resulting improvements that we still enjoy to this day. Then the program will move on to discover a potpourri of information on FDR that history classes do not normally touch on. Q & A will follow the presentation.

Date(s): Thursday, May 13 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25



***Brendan Shea, PhD**, is an Instructor of Philosophy at RCTC. He also serves as a Resident Fellow at the Minnesota Center for Philosophy at UM-Twin Cities, and as a Public Member on the Institutional Biosafety Committee at Mayo Clinic. Brendan has published numerous articles and book chapters concerning ethics, the philosophy of science, the history of philosophy, and other issues. He currently lives in Rochester with his wife Anne and son Harry.*

Introduction to the History and Philosophy of Science. Question 5 with Brendan Shea PhD

This final course will tackle the question "What is the difference between science and non-science?" Examples will be drawn from a wide variety of disciplines, including medicine, biology, astronomy, and economics.

Date(s): Friday, May 14 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



***Timothy R. Johnson** is the Morse Alumni Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Law at the U of M. He is a nationally recognized expert on U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments and decision making. During his career Johnson has co-authored three books about Supreme Court oral arguments and his work appears in a wide variety of academic journals. His research and commentary have been covered by *The Economist*, *The Guardian*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *NPR*, *C-SPAN*, *USA**

Today, *ABC*, *CNN*, and *The National Journal*. Tim has won multiple college level and university wide awards for teaching and was named the 2018 American Political Science Association's Distinguished Teacher.

The Development of Freedom of Speech in the U.S. Supreme Court with Timothy R. Johnson PhD, JD, University of MN Department of Political Science and Law

The First Amendment states that "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech." The question that piques scholars' interest is whether no law literally means no law. This course delves into this important question by evaluating the development of free speech law in the 20th century and then applying these standards to current cases during the Roberts' Court Era.

Date(s): Monday, May 17 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021



John Oswald is a policy and research leader in global health and human services with a specific focus on Latin America including México. After five years providing support for federal health policy and human services issues including the U.S.-México Border Health Commission, Dr. Oswald has returned from Washington, D.C. to Minnesota to explore opportunities working with Minnesota-based and national organizations involved in Latin America. An initial opportunity has been working with health and human services programs in México and with the National School of Public Health of México. Dr. Oswald holds a Ph.D. in Public Health with extensive experience and publications related to Latin American health and human services in México, Cuba, and Argentina.

What is the WHO's Role in Responding to International Pandemics? with John Oswald PhD

The Covid-19 pandemic has thrust the World Health Organization (WHO) into the limelight, for better and for worse. While some of the criticism of the organization is unfair, the response to the early stages of the pandemic left many experts wanting more from the WHO. What is the WHO's role in responding to international pandemics? What can be done to improve the WHO's response to future global health crises?

Date(s): Tuesday, May 18 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25



Katherine Jellison is Professor of History at Ohio University, where she teaches courses on U.S. women's and gender history. Her publications include "Entitled to Power: Farm Women and Technology, 1913-1963" (University of North Carolina Press, 1993) and "It's Our Day: America's Love Affair with the White Wedding, 1945-2005" (University Press of Kansas, 2008), both of which include "guest appearances" by a few first ladies. She also wrote the biography of Jacqueline Kennedy in Katherine A.S. Sibley, ed., "Blackwell Companion to First Ladies" (Wiley-Blackwell, 2016). She frequently appears in print and on television and radio as a commentator on first ladies and their role in U.S. politics and history.

"Making Plain Work Fancy: Amish and Mennonite Women's Creative Expression in Daily Labor" with Katherine Jellison PhD, Ohio University, College of Arts and Sciences

Although their religion discouraged individualism and prohibited prideful behavior, Amish and Mennonite women in depression-era Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, nevertheless found opportunities for self-expression in their households and gardens. Their culture emphasized conformity, hard work, and large families, but Amish and conservative Mennonite women discovered paths of self-expression within these boundaries. Their circumstances did not allow them to paint portraits or create sculptures, but they found means of expression in their prescribed roles as farm producers, mothers, and homemakers. The quilts that Amish and Mennonite women constructed to keep their families warm were also objects of beauty. The flowers and produce they raised and arranged attractively at farmers markets brought in needed cash for their families but also created aesthetically appealing tableaux that customers and visiting photographers admired. While the women and their families did not label these creations "works of art," these products of women's labor nonetheless represented creative achievement.

Date(s): Tuesday, May 18 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021



Chris Bingham's family is largely from Wisconsin and Iowa, He grew up in Washington state, Florida, North Carolina and Virginia. He has a B.A. in History from Longwood University and an M.A. in American History from East Carolina University. He's been with the National Park Service since 2003, working at the following parks: Petersburg National Battlefield, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and Stones River National Battlefield. I've been a Park Guide (seasonal and permanent) at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park for the past 12 years, doing a variety of Interpretive tours and Educational programs as well as 1st person Living History talks.

Appomattox, the Ending of the Civil War and the Realization of Emancipation with Chris Bingham, Park Ranger, Ranger, Appomattox Court House NHP

Brought about by a decisive military campaign, in which General Ulysses S. Grant's Federal troops out marched and out fought General Robert E. Lee's Confederates, the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865 was the beginning of the end of the American Civil War. The surrender of Lee's army brought about the realization of Emancipation to enslaved people throughout Virginia while Grant's lenient terms largely set the tone for the ultimate reunion of the nation. Within two months of Lee's surrender, the remaining Confederate armies had laid down their arms and the promise of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation could finally be enforced throughout former Confederate territory.

Date(s): Wednesday, May 19 Time(s): 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Chad Israelson received his BA from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and his MA from the University of Nebraska. Israelson has taught at RCTC since 1996. He has also taught at UW-La Crosse, Augsburg, and Winona State. Chad won "Teacher of the Year"

The Modernist Age with Chad Israelson MA

The late 19th and early 20th centuries are often overlooked in terms of explaining the world in which we now live. The suffrage movement, modernism, imperialism, and technological developments are a short-list of events from that time from which we can draw a direct line to the present. Sometimes referred to as the Belle Epoque it is a vibrant and troublesome time.

Date(s): Wednesday, May 19 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21



Humanity: Meeting Hate with Humanity: Life During the Holocaust

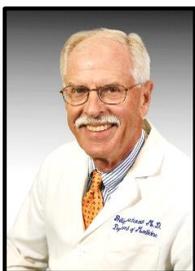
Docent, Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, NY, NY followed by a Survivor Testimony

This tour examines the impact of World War II and the Nazi genocide on Jewish lives and communities in Europe. Through inquiry-based artifact exploration, participants will examine issues of continuity of cultural identity, responsibility to community, and decision-making. A live, zoom presentation will be shared by a Holocaust survivor sharing his/her testimony.

Date(s): Thursday, May 20 Time(s): 10:30 am-12 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021



Philip A. Mackowiak is Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Carolyn Frenkil and Selvin Passen History of Medicine Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. He is the author of "Diagnosing Giants: Solving the Medical Mysteries of Thirteen Patients Who Changed the World."

Diagnosing Giants: Solving the Medical Mysteries: Mozart's Fatal Edema and Florence Nightingale "Glimmering Gloom" with Dr. Philip Mackowiak, University of Maryland School of Medicine

Mozart's Fatal Edema: Mozart was never really healthy, and when he died of a strange illness in 1791 at the age of 35, that illness was simply the finale of a life-long fuge of disorders that had plagued him since his birth. Aside from its fatal outcome, the most striking feature of Mozart's final illness was edema -- edema so pronounced and generalized that according to his son, Carl Thomas, his father "was so swollen, he was unable to make even the smallest movement." Was Mozart poisoned (by the Masons); had he contracted syphilis; did his heart fail because of rheumatic heart disease? These and other possibilities will be considered in this podcast as the cause of perhaps "the greatest tragedy in the history of music."

Florence Nightingale's "Glimmering Gloom": When Nightingale returned to England after serving 21 months in the Crimea, she was a different person from the one who traveled there as the nurse in charge of the British Expeditionary Force. At age 36, she had become hardened and aged by illness and exhaustion, slept no more than 2 hours a night, and complained of persistent fever and poor appetite. For the next 30 years, she remained closetted in her room. Since her death in 1910, a host of disorders has been proposed as her diagnosis, of which neurosis, feigned illness, self-pity and Victorian melodrama are some of the most popular. I will offer a different diagnosis, which I believe is more consistent with the nature of her illness.

Date(s): Thursday, May 20 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25



Thomas Hubka is a Professor Emeritus from the Department of Architecture, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. Through almost forty years of scholarship and teaching he has attempted to link the practice and teaching of architecture to historical and cultural context. He has published widely on topics of popular, vernacular architecture including theoretical works and detailed studies of common buildings such as New England farms, bungalows, ranch houses, and workers' cottages. He is currently living in Portland, Oregon where he has taught courses at the University of Oregon, Portland State University, and Portland Community College and continues to study the housing and neighborhoods of Portland and Oregon.

An Introduction to Architectural House Styles with Thomas C. Hubka, Professor Emeritus, Department of Architecture, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

If you've ever wanted to learn what style to call your house or a favorite house from down the street, here's a great opportunity! Please join us, as Professor Thomas Hubka presents a short course in architectural styles and house types, as he identifies the most common houses (in Rochester and) throughout America. Through photos and diagrams, Professor Hubka will help us help us make sense out of the myriad architectural styles to better understand the details to look for in these styles, including Greek Revival, Arts and Crafts, Classical Revival, and even the International Style. From architect designed to common builder vernacular, this program will provide you with a better understanding of the dwelling that surround us.

Date(s): Monday, May 24 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

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Stephen Troutman is a Futurist and frequent speaker on a number of diverse topics. At IBM for 33 years, Steve retired as an Executive Consultant in 2010. In the US Navy Reserve for 23 years, he was Commanding Officer of four units, and attained the rank of Captain. He has been a Futurist since 1999. He is an active volunteer serving on several Boards and as a SCORE Mentor to small business. He currently serves on the Advisory LIFE Board.

Great Decisions 2021 Discussion Group Topic: Korean Peninsula with Steve Troutman

The Korean Peninsula is facing a defining era. Attempts by South Korean President Moon Jae-in and U.S. President Donald Trump to repair the rift between North and South have lost any momentum as Pyongyang continues to test long-range missiles for its nuclear weapons program. As the rift between the U.S. and China grows further, South Korea may end up in the middle of the two superpowers. What does the future hold for the U.S. relationship with the ROK?

Date(s): Tuesday, May 25 Time(s): 3:15-5:15 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15



Thomas Emmert, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus at Gustavus Adolphus College, is an historian of Russia and Eastern Europe. Professor Emmert received his B.A. in history from St. Olaf College and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Russian and Balkan history from Stanford University. He has had visiting appointments at the University of Zagreb, the University of Minnesota and Stanford University. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, he has been awarded research fellowships from the Fulbright Program, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the National Council For Eurasian and East European Research. His publications include "Serbian Golgotha: Kosovo, 1389" (1990) and, most recently, "The Scholars' Initiative: Confronting the Yugoslav Controversies"(2009), a collaborative project of scholars from around the world dedicated to providing an objective analysis of what happened to Yugoslavia at the end of the 20th Century. For 38 years Professor Emmert taught popular courses in Western Civilization, the Balkans, Imperial and Modern Russia, the Ottoman Empire, and a highly regarded seminar on Stalin for senior history majors. He has taken students to Europe on several study tours, and has served as director and professor for a number of American undergraduate semester Programs in Zagreb and Berlin. Professor Emmert also has had the pleasure of leading many alumni travel/study programs in Europe.

Central and Eastern Europe Three Decades after the end of Communism with Thomas Emmert PhD, Smithsonian Historian

This course will examine the transformation of the one-time communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe since 1989. The hopefulness that characterized the region at the end of Communism has given way to extreme nationalism, xenophobia, and something now defined as "illiberalism." Particular emphasis on Hungary and Poland. Is there a way back to the promise of 1989?

Date(s): Wednesday, May 26 Time(s): 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25

**LIFE members can register online with a credit card at
www.learningisforever.net**

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021



Chad Lewis is a paranormal researcher and author for Unexplained Research L.L.C. Lewis holds a master's of science degree in psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. He had trekked across the world in search of the paranormal. From tracking vampires in Transylvania and chasing the Chupacabras in Puerto Rico, to searching for the elusive monster in Loch Ness, and pursuing ghosts in Ireland's castles, Lewis brings more than 14 years of research experience to his presentations. Lewis has been featured on the Discovery Channel's "A Haunting," ABC's "World's Scariest Places"

and hundreds of radio interviews, TV appearances and newspaper articles. Lewis is the author of the "Hidden Headlines" series and also the co-author of the "Road Guide to Haunted Locations" book series. Lewis has presented at hundreds of libraries, universities, schools and private functions for crowds of seven to 700.

Minnesota's Gangster Past--Land of 10,000 Crimes with Chad Lewis

Put on your zoot suit and follow in the footsteps of America's most infamous gangsters as they turn MN into their personal crime vacation land. Filled with deadly bank robberies, explosive shootouts, brutal murders, and daring kidnappings, this presentation lets the audience discover the grisly locations where the gangster history will never die.

Date(s): Thursday, May 27 Time(s): 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12

Effortless Excursions-One-Day Trips with Community Ed.

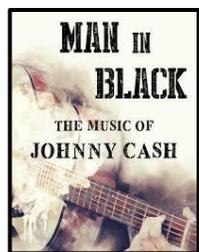


"The Piano Man" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington

Enjoy this melodious salute of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s through the classic songs of Jerry Lee Lewis, Elton John, Billy Joel, and more! Fee includes coach transportation, theatre ticket, and lunch (BBQ chicken, beer cheese mac, southern style green beans, coleslaw, buttermilk biscuits with honey, assorted desserts and coffee/hot tea) at the Masonic Heritage Center. **No refunds after May 15.**

Date(s): Wednesday, June 23 Time(s): 10 am-5:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$92



"Man in Black" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington

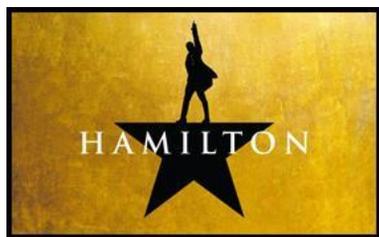
"The Music of Johnny Cash"

Johnny Cash traditionally began his concerts with the simple introduction, "Hello, I'm Johnny Cash," followed by his signature song "Folsom Prison Blues". Get ready for Brian Pekol and his trio of chugging backing musicians to do the same! Johnny Cash's sound embraced country music, rock and roll, rockabilly, blues, folk, and gospel, so expect this concert to be jam-packed with hits! You'll hear classic Cash songs including "I Walk the Line", "Ring of Fire", and "Get Rhythm", and even witness a visit from a surprise guest who sings as Johnny's wife, June Carter Cash. Don't miss this one, y'all. Fee includes coach transportation, theatre ticket, and lunch (Traditional meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean almondine, cold salad, dinner rolls, assorted desserts and coffee/hot tea) at the Masonic Heritage Center. **No refunds after June 20.**

Date(s): Wednesday, July 21 Time(s): 10 am-5:30 pm # of Sessions: 1

Member Fee: \$92

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"Hamilton" at the Orpheum Theatre

Hamilton is the story of the unlikely Founding Father determined to make his mark on the new nation as hungry and ambitious as he is. From bastard orphan to Washington's right-hand man, rebel to war hero, a loving husband caught in the country's first sex scandal, to the Treasury head who made an untrusting world believe in the American economy. George Washington, Eliza

Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, and Hamilton's lifelong friend/foil Aaron Burr all make their mark in this astonishing new musical exploration of a political mastermind. Featuring a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, blues, rap, R&B, and Broadway, HAMILTON is the story of America then, told by America now. Go back to the era of the Founding Fathers with Lin-Manuel Miranda's inventive Tony-winning musical, winner of 11 Broadway.com Audience Choice Awards. You will need to choose between two price offerings (Main Floor Center and Main Floor Sides). Fee includes coach transportation and theatre ticket. No ticket only sales. **No refunds after April 1.**

Date: Sunday, August 15 Time(s): 10:30 am-6 pm Main Floor Center Fee: \$216 Main Floor Side Fee: \$196
OR

Date: Sunday, August 29 Time(s): 10:30 am-6 pm Main Floor Center Fee: \$216 Main Floor Side Fee: \$196



"Come from Away" at the Orpheum Theatre

On 9/11, the world stopped. On 9/12, their stories moved us all. The true story of the small town that welcomed the world, Broadway's "Come From Away" has won Best Musical all across North America! The show takes you into the heart of the

remarkable true story of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed them. Cultures clashed and nerves ran tight, but uneasiness turned into trust, music soared into the night, and gratitude grew into enduring friendships. Don't miss this breathtaking new musical written by Tony® nominees Irene Sankoff and David Hein, and helmed by 2017 Tony®-winning Best Director, Christopher Ashley. Newsweek cheers, "It takes you to a place you never want to leave!" Fee includes coach transportation and main floor theatre ticket (MF3 Z-AA, and MF4 L-R, BB). **No refunds after June 1.**

Date(s): Sunday, September 26 Time(s): 10:30 am-5:30 pm

Member Fee: \$96



"Breaking Up is Hard to Do" at the Ives Auditorium in Bloomington

Book by ERIK JACKSON and BEN H. WINTERS Music by NEIL SEDAKA
Lyrics by NEIL SEDAKA, HOWARD GREENFIELD, and PHILIP CODY

Set at a Catskills resort in 1960, this is the sweetly comic story of Lois and Marge, two friends from Brooklyn in search of good times and romance over one wild Labor Day weekend. The score showcases 18 Neil Sedaka classics, including "Where the Boys Are", "Sweet Sixteen", "Calendar Girl",

"Love Will Keep Us Together", and of course, the chart-topping title song. Fee includes coach transportation, theatre ticket, and lunch (chicken breast in herb & wine cream sauce served with parsley potatoes, seasonal vegetables, cold salad, rolls, dessert and coffee/hot tea) at the Masonic Heritage Center. **No refunds after August 1.**

Date(s): Wednesday, October 27 Time(s): 10 am-5:30 pm

Member Fee: \$86

RCTC LIFE – SPRING 2021

LIFE Program Registration Information

Cost / LIFE Membership

All individuals participating in LIFE classes are required to either be LIFE members or pay an increased fee as a non-member. Membership for the year is **\$25** per person and is in effect August 1 through July 30 each academic year. An additional fee is charged per course or event. Anyone is welcome to join. The only prerequisite is an active interest in learning. There are no educational requirements, no term papers, no tests—everyone succeeds!

All ages are welcome! Gift Certificates are available!

Faculty/Presenters

A variety of courses are led by professional educators, community leaders, and peer volunteers.

Location

LIFE will present classes for Fall 2020 thru Spring 2021 via Zoom due to COVID-19. Your safety is our number one priority.

Registration

To register for any of the activities in this catalog

* Return the registration form by mail to RCTC LIFE Program, 851 - 30th Avenue S.E.-Box 50 Rochester, MN 55904-4999 – **CHECK PAYMENT TO 'RCTC LIFE' REQUIRED.**

* **Online registration is now available for LIFE members only with credit card payment!!** Please contact Jamie at jamie.schroeder@rctc.edu.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available. Please contact Chrisanne at chrisanne.pieper@rctc.edu for more information.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Class refunds: will only be given **5 business days prior** to the class start date—a \$5 processing fee will be charged. In the event that a class is canceled due to low enrollment or instructor conflict, refunds will be processed in full. LIFE annual membership fees are non-refundable.

Contact Information:

(507) 280-3157

jamie.schroeder@rctc.edu

chrisanne.pieper@rctc.edu



LIFE has moved to this online offering of classes to keep us connected and safe. LIFE still has budgetary obligations. Tax deductible donations for the program can be sent to RCTC Foundation, 851 30th Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904. Checks must be made out to RCTC Foundation—LIFE Program. Thank you for your ongoing support!