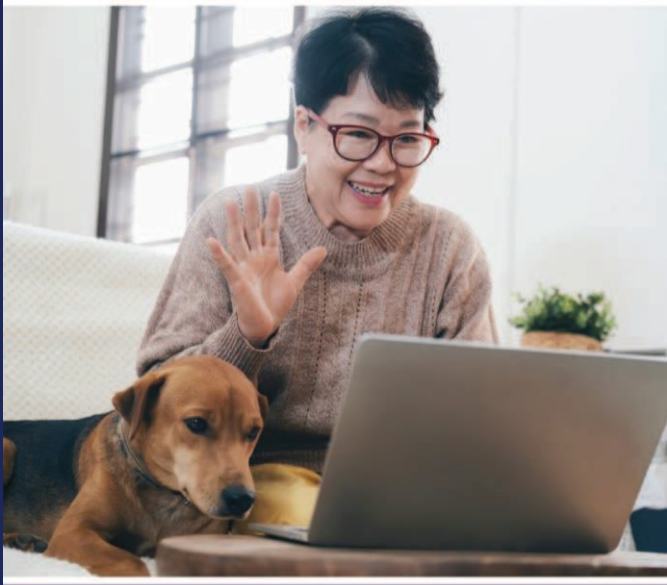




SEPT/OCT 2020



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FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE 507-280-3157

*Supported by Rochester Community and Technical College*

Greetings from the RCTC  
LIFE Program Office!

All Fall 2020 classes will be held online using Zoom. We have split Fall 2020 into two catalogs – one encompassing Sep/Oct and the second one featuring Nov/Dec. Our goal is to keep you safe, but not bored!

You will find a wide-range of classes included. Please note that the LIFE Annual Harvest Dinner featuring Professor Steven Ackerman of UW-Madison will now be a Zoom lecture titled "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: the Ship, the Storm, and the Song." This year is the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - The final voyage of the Edmund Fitzgerald began November 9, 1975 at the Burlington Northern Railroad Dock No.1, Superior, Wisconsin.

We hope to see you on Zoom – give it a try, it is easy and definitely worth it!

Chrisanne and Jamie



### Upcoming LIFE Classes associated with Universities:

"China—The Coming Breakup?" and "The Coming Age of Chinese World Leadership?" with Richard Leitch PhD, Gustavus Adolphus Professor of Political Science – page 4

"Tulips, Chocolate & Silk: How Perspective Affects History" with Marguerite Ragnow PhD, University of Minnesota's Bell Museum – page 7

"Humor and Experimentation in Fiction" with Julie Schumacher MFA, University of Minnesota Professor of English and Creative Writing – page 8

"Intro to the History & Philosophy of Science. Question 1" with Brendan Shea PhD, RCTC Professor of Philosophy page 12

"Presidential Elections" with Chad Israelson MA, RCTC Professor of History page 17

"The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: the Ship, the Storm, and the Song" with Steve Ackerman, UW-Madison Professor of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences – page 23

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# Letter from the LIFE Board Chair

It's been about three months since a very nasty virus swooped in and relocated us from the Heinz Center plopping us down, mask and all, in front of our computers. Thanks to Chrisanne Pieper and Steve Troutman, we made an amazing transition to the world of online classes. How wonderful it is to be in this world of technology where we can continue to learn by so many different ways!

You have likely gotten e-mails about the online classes being offered in May, June and July. We have many of the same popular instructors and a few new ones. We can still listen and ask questions like we did in the classroom. Like other parts of our daily routines, we don't know what is in the future. We don't know if RCTC will be open in the fall. If they do, we don't know the restrictions and the recommended class sizes we will have as we socially distance. We don't know what instructors would be willing to come. And, of course, since many of us are seniors, we don't know if we want to subject ourselves to crowds, large or small.

So there are downsides and upsides, of course. We can't socialize with friends in person. But hey, the parking is great! You know where the restrooms are. The chairs are far more comfortable. We can eat and drink with wild abandon. We can wear jammies (in good taste, of course.)

So LIFE goes on in a slightly different venue. Hopefully you can join us in this endeavor and continue to enjoy the many, many things LIFE has to offer. The fall offerings have been scheduled and will continue to offer mostly the same great instructors and topics we know you like. At this time we are planning to offer them online and wait for the vaccine to be available to all of us.

Thank you all so much for sticking by us. Ten years ago, we likely wouldn't be able to do this. We have continued to have expenses during this time, so we welcome donations to the LIFE program so we can continue our efforts to bring you the best there is to offer. Thank you to Jane Callahan who is leaving the LIFE Board after six years of service. We welcome Martha Batzner, Brenda Dicken, and Phil Karsell.

Please stay safe, follow the rules, listen to the science, and continue to enjoy the offerings we have been given--like LIFE programs!



*Pamela Haase, LIFE Advisory Board Chair (2019-20)*

Colleen Arnold Janet Bartz Martha Batzner Brenda Dicken Peg Farrell Steve Frytak Tom Gaffey Pamela Haase Jane Hallman Judy Haugen	<b>LIFE Advisory Board Officers 2020-21</b> <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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# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Joe Kimball** was a rookie reporter who'd just started at the Minneapolis Tribune at the time of the murders. He happened to be in Duluth that day in 1977, but does have an iron-clad alibi! He continued to work at the paper as a reporter and columnist for 31 years, then wrote for MinnPost. He lives in White Bear Lake with his wife Julie Kramer, a mystery novelist and television producer. They have four children and three grandchildren.

## **Secrets of the Congdon Mansion, with Joe Kimball, An inside look at the infamous Duluth Murders**

Joe Kimball will give a first-hand account of the infamous Congdon murders in Duluth, where one of Minnesota's richest women was smothered to death in her 39-room mansion, and her night nurse was bludgeoned to death on the stairway. Miss Congdon's adopted daughter was accused of planning the murders to speed up her \$8 million inheritance. There were convictions and acquittals in the case, followed by more murders, arson, bigamy and more. The mansion, known as Glensheen, has become a popular tour site on the shores of Lake Superior, but the guides won't tell you much about the case. It was one of Minnesota's most publicized and sensational murder trials and Joe had a front-row seat, covering it from start to finish as a reporter. When the mansion opened for tours, guides wouldn't discuss the murders at all, so he published the book to help people understand the case and navigate through the mansion.

**Date(s): Wednesday, September 2 Time: 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1**

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

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## **Great Books**

The Great Books group meets monthly, on first Thursdays, for the academic year. It remains one of the best "bargains" at LIFE!! You pay one fee in the fall for the entire year! The first class will be devoted to a discussion of our summer reading choices: Olive Kitteridge and Olive Again by Elizabeth Strout. The remainder of

the year we will read from the Great Books Anthology Great Conversations 3 which includes works from Chaucer to Lahiri, including writing of Shelley, Balzac, Tolstoy, Kipling, Crane and others. The anthology is available at the LIFE office--you will be responsible for paying for the anthology at the RCTC LIFE office (Jamie will let you know when books have arrived). Consider joining us.

Facilitators for this offering are **Bob Morse, Marita Heller, and Betty Spitzmiller.**

**Date(s): Thursdays, Sep. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 4**

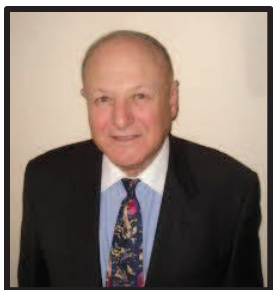
**Member Fee: \$40 Non-Member Fee: \$50**

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# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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***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.*

## **Russia and the World**

Russia remains a changed power in the world. Whether it is interference in American and other elections, sending troops to Syria, Libya, and other nations, supporting anti-American actions in Venezuela or demanding control of the arctic, Putin has ensured that Russia remains at the decision table. Russia faces major issues of dependence upon oil and gas prices, a lack of investment in needed infrastructure, major impacts from climate change, and a population lacking adequate health care, Russia struggles with their future. Nations become dangerous when they struggle with themselves. We will discuss how Russia fits into the modern world and how US-Russian relations have changed in 2020.

**Date(s): Tuesday, September 8 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25**

## **How the Pandemic Will Change the World**

Coronavirus has changed our lives in 2020. It will continue to impact social relationships, the nature of work, the role of government, sporting events and how we protect ourselves from forces that appear beyond our individual control. The world is changing and will continue to produce both supportive and threatening patterns to our privacy, security, and governance. We will discuss how these changes will modify our lives. We are living through a historic moment, which historians will recognize as a moment of change. The better we understand these changes, the better can be our preparation and possible design of our lives.

**Date(s): Tuesday, September 8 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25**



# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Larry Millett** is an architectural historian and the author of "Lost Twin Cities, Twin Cities Then and Now," and "AIA Guide to the Twin Cities." He has also written six mystery novels featuring Sherlock Holmes, all but one of them set in Minnesota. He lives in St. Paul.

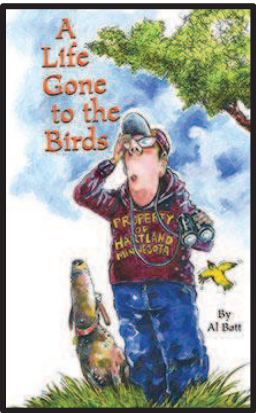
## **"Once There Were Castles: Lost Mansions and Estates of the Twin Cities"**

Although streets such as Summit Avenue in St. Paul and Park Avenue in Minneapolis remain the site of many notable mansions, hundreds of other great houses that once stood all around the Twin Cities and their suburbs are gone. Among these lost mansions were truly extraordinary homes built by prominent families whose names in many cases still resonate across Minnesota. Everything from railroad construction to downtown commercial expansion to urban renewal and even fire doomed the mansions, more than 600 of which have come and gone. Larry Millett's illustrated talk will tell the story behind some of the most fascinating of these lost homes and estates.

**Date(s): Wednesday, September 9 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**Al Batt** of Hartland, Minnesota is a writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist. Al writes humor and nature columns for many newspapers and does regular radio shows about nature. He writes a number of popular cartoon strips that are syndicated nationally and is author of the book, "A Life Gone to the Birds." He is a columnist for "Bird Watcher's Digest" and writes for a number of magazines and books. He is a trustee of the American Bald Eagle Foundation in Haines, Alaska. Al hosted TV shows for many years and speaks at various festivals, conferences and conventions all over the world. He has received the Ed Franey Conservation Media Award from the Izaak Walton League, the Thomas Sadler Roberts Award from the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union for lifetime contributions to birding and was recognized by Bluebirds Across Nebraska for outstanding contributions to wildlife conservation. Al speaks to anyone who will listen. His mother thinks he is special.

## **Every Bird has a Story**

We love birds and share our lives with them. Bring your stories on how you got interested in birds or how birds enhance your existence.

**Date(s): Thursday, September 10 Time: 11 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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

## **More Tall Tales than a Herd of Giraffes**

Travel the story road along with Al back to the good old days. Where does the time go? It goes to stories. Why you should tell your stories.

**Date(s): Thursday, September 10 Time: 1-2 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**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*.

## **China—The Coming Breakup?**

Nearly every country of the world includes restive groups of people who seek official, greater autonomy from the central government. This session will examine four areas of China—Xinjiang, Tibet, Taiwan, and Hong Kong—that are challenging China's image as a consolidated nation-state.

**Date(s): Friday, September 11 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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

## **The Coming Age of Chinese World Leadership?**

All of us have known only U.S. world leadership during our lives. But what is the potential for Chinese world leadership, what might it look like, and why should we care? Are we already in a transition period from U.S. to Chinese world leadership?

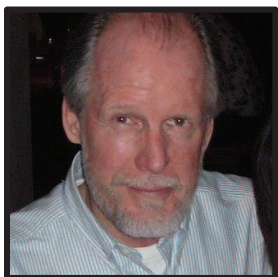
**Date(s): Friday, September 11 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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



# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Rob Scarlett** currently serves as Senior Adviser to Clearwater Biologic, LLC, a bio-remediation business located in Babbitt, Minnesota, and has served as a senior executive in a number of smaller manufacturing companies over the years. Since 1999, he has also led Hunter Scarlett Consulting, and serves as a director for start-ups in the US, Europe, and Latin America. Rob is fluent in English, German, Spanish, and Portuguese. He graduated from Carleton College in the mid-1960s and spent much of the past 50 years working and living in various countries Latin America. In the community, he is a former Chair of Global Minnesota and currently serves as Board Chair for the Venn Foundation and Trustee of the Sundance Family Foundation.

## **Mexico/U.S. Border-A Shared Responsibility**

The 2,000-mile border between the U.S. & Mexico has been the locus of political controversy for many decades. In addition to issues like cross-border migration and trade, the discussions about what to do about smuggling of illegal drugs into the U.S. and the sale of illegal arms into Mexico have often degenerated into a lot of unproductive finger-pointing. To understand these controversies and develop mutually acceptable solutions, it is important to understand the history of the region. This class will focus on the border history of Mexico and the U.S., starting with the period leading up to the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) and will trace the evolution of U.S.-Mexico border relations up to modern times. Our class goal is to lay the foundations for an improved understanding of the facts and trends that feed into these border controversies.

**Date(s): Monday, September 14 Time: 10 am-Noon # 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.

## **Meditation Series**

This 6 session series is a survey of meditation practice, science, and history. You will meditate in each class and we will cover a number of practical techniques of meditation, the science of meditation, types of meditation (including calming and mindfulness) and the historic and theoretical basis for meditation. This is the 11th time Steve has taught this class and we believe it is the only meditation class taught with PowerPoint. No experience is required, and you don't have to sit on the floor (but you may if you want to). You can join at any session or simply come when you can ... don't be concerned if you will miss a session. If you haven't learned to meditate yet, or don't understand meditation, this is your chance!

**Date(s): Mon/Thu, Sep. 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, Oct. 1 Time: 3:15-4:45 pm # of Sessions: 6**

**Member Fee: \$29 Non-Member Fee: \$39**



# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Edward T. Creagan, MD, FAAHPM**, is a medical oncologist and hospice and palliative care specialist who practiced at the Mayo Clinic for more than forty Minnesota winters until his retirement from active medical practice in late 2018. He is professor emeritus of medical oncology at the Mayo Clinic Medical School where he held the endowed chair as the John and Roma Rouse Professor of Humanism in Medicine, and he is now Emeritus Professor of Humanism in Medicine and an Emeritus Consultant in Palliative Medicine there. He was named Outstanding Educator from the Mayo Clinic School of Continuing Medical Education and has received the Distinguished Mayo Clinician Award—Mayo Clinic's highest honor. He completed an elected term as President of the Mayo Staff.

## **Farewell. Vital End-of-Life Questions with Candid Answers**

Being present at the bedside and at the moment of death is embedded in the minds and souls of family members for generations. A profound time of relief, sadness. Anyone on that final journey with a loved one will never forget those moments. Dr. Edward Creagan, a leading palliative care and hospice physician, has been at the bedside, addressing end of life questions patients and families ask. This conversation is about navigating those last days and saying farewell with hope, love, compassion. Dr. Creagan's book has been nominated for A Book Of The Year Award in health and wellness.

**Date(s): Tuesday, September 15 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**Lynne Hemann** is a trained Dementia Friends Champion and Alzheimer Association Community Educator and Caregiver Support Group Facilitator. She is a member of the Resounding Voices Board and hosts a monthly Memory Cafe at Dunn Brothers North. She has a medical background and worked 17 years as a Health Educator and Wellness Coach at Olmsted Medical Center. She retired in 2017 to help care for her mother who lived with Alzheimer's for 10 years.

## **Creating a Dementia-Friendly Community**

The first 45 minutes will be a Dementia Friends Information Session. Dementia Friends is a global movement that is changing the way people think, act and talk about dementia. Participants will learn what dementia is, what it's like to live with the disease, and some tips for communicating with people who have dementia. The last 45 minutes will include information about some of the dementia friendly projects in Rochester including Resounding Voices and Memory Cafe.

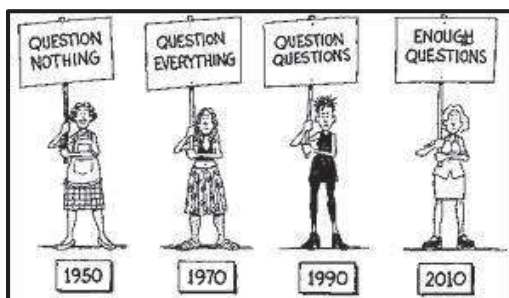
**Date(s): Wednesday, September 16 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

**Member Fee: \$5 Non-Member Fee: \$7**

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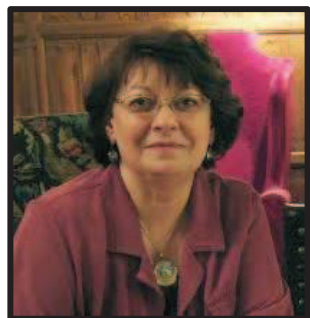
**Stephen Troutman** is a futurist and frequent speaker on a diverse set of futures and business topics, including this, his favorite and oldest topic. He has been a Futurist since 1999, but also completed two careers, retiring from both IBM and the US Naval Reserve. He is an active volunteer serving on the Boards of LIFE and SCORE (free mentors to small business).

## **Generational Cycles – Learning the past, Understanding the present, seeing a vision of the future.**

We've all heard about Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, and, recently, Gen Z. What you may not know is that these generational types are not new. They are part of a parade of generations cycling in a repeating 80-year cycle. This cycle enables us to see, and predict, major shifts in our cultural, and explains the current divisiveness in politics. We will discuss the generations research, the model which it uncovered, and what it predicts for the future. You will understand why we see the societal discord we see today, and what lies ahead.

**Date(s): Thursday, September 17 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21**

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**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.

## **Tulips, Chocolate & Silk: How Perspective Affects History**

An image in a book seems to be a pretty static thing; once printed it is there for all to see. It is often assumed that everyone looking at that image will see the same thing, and understand the same things about it and what it represents. However, that is often not the case. We see this in media reports of the same event on a daily basis. But how does that apply to our understanding of history in the premodern world? Through a discussion of photographs taken of the illustrations and artifacts in the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota, Curator Dr. Marguerite Ragnow will offer some insights that may shed new light on how we view history.

**Date(s): Thursday, September 17 Time: 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15**

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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## **LIFE Book Group**

The summer read for the September meeting will be "Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover. October's book is "The Fifth Risk" by Michael Lewis. November's book is "The Moment of Lift" by Melinda Gates, and December's book is "A Mother's Reckoning: Living in the Aftermath of Tragedy" by Sue Klebold. **Steve Troutman** serves as facilitator for this group.

**Date(s): Fri, Sep. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 4**  
**Member Fee: \$10 Non-Member Fee: \$15**

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**Julie Schumacher** is the author of ten books, including the national bestseller "Dear Committee Members," winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor. Ms. Schumacher is the first woman to have won the Thurber Prize. Schumacher's first novel, "The Body Is Water," was an ALA Notable Book of the Year and a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award. Her essays and short stories have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Chronicle for Higher Education* and other publications; most recently, she is the author of "The Shakespeare Requirement," an academic satire. She is a professor of English and Creative Writing program at the University of Minnesota. Julie graduated from Oberlin College and from Cornell University with an MFA in fiction.

## **Humor and Experimentation in Fiction**

Novelist Julie Schumacher will discuss the serious nature of humor in literature, and will talk about experimentation and playfulness as starting points in writing fiction -- and in other many endeavors as well.

**Date(s): Friday, September 18 Time: 1-3 pm # 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.

## **The 1918 Flu Pandemic in Rochester - Day by Day Through the Headlines**

The flu pandemic of 1918-1920 is considered the worst flu outbreak in history. By some estimations over half the people in the world contracted the flu and between 50 to 100 million people died worldwide. Join Paul Koeller as he uses Rochester Post headlines from late 1918 for a day by day look at the flu in Southern Minnesota from the initial mention to massive outbreaks.

**Date(s): Monday, September 21 Time: 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12**

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**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.

## **Across Cultures: Western Painting in Ukraine**

Western influences came into Ukraine in several media. These influences blend with indigenous visual themes in the painting tradition. Tracing this history of painting shows how Ukrainian artists skillfully communicate their cultural roots in Western visual language. This ppt provides background to the current exhibit at The Museum of Russian Art.

**Date(s): Monday, September 21 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**Mark Mueller** is a graduate of the RCTC Building Utilities Mechanic program (yes he's a BUM). He is currently a Building Automation Specialist, and helps to maintain over 40 buildings on the Mayo Clinic downtown campus. He has also done a variety of other jobs: hearing aid repair, radio broadcasting, inventory control, and the assembly and testing of electronic circuit boards used in large computer systems.

## **A Peek behind the Curtain of Large Build Maintenance**

We all spend time in large buildings such as schools, auditoriums, churches and hospitals to name a few. However, most people do not know what goes on behind the scenes to keep everything running. In this lecture we will take a peek behind the curtain, and discuss the inner workings of large building maintenance. A wide range of topics will be covered. Everything from air handlers to zone temperature controls. Also, included will be information about maintaining building air pressures, temperatures, air flow, humidity, life safety systems, building automation and even super cold freezers.

**Date(s): Tuesday, September 22 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

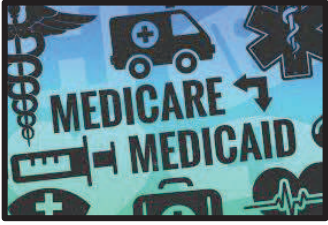
**Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21**





# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Janice Domke** is a licensed Life and Health Insurance agent with the State of Minnesota who specializes in Medicare. For over 15 years, she has helped hundreds of Medicare Beneficiaries learn about Medicare and understand the options that go with it. She has presented most recently to staff at Bremer Bank and retiring Mayo Clinic doctors. Janice is active in her community and volunteers on various boards. She is also a member of The Rotary Club.

## **Medicare and Medicaid – What Are They and Why Should I Care?**

Understanding Medicare can seem like an easy thing to do until you start digging into it – then you wonder, “What have I gotten into?” There’s Medicare Part A, Part B, Part C, and Part D, just to begin with but what do those letters mean? In this class, you will learn what Medicare is, what the “alphabet soup” of Medicare means and why you should have at least a basic understanding of this important part of your life after 65. We will also talk briefly about Medicaid, what it is and how it can work with Medicare, if you are eligible.

**Date(s): Wednesday, September 23 Time: 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12**

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**Ben Welter**, a Minneapolis native and veteran Twin Cities journalist, has been reading newspapers since Sister Romana taught him how to say the alphabet backward and forward in first grade. In 2005, he began scouring Star Tribune microfilm in search of interesting stories and photos dating back to 1867. He has posted more than 500 of the best on his blog, *Yesterday's News*, [startribune.com/yesterday](http://startribune.com/yesterday). Three books based on the blog have been published by The History Press and are available in Minnesota bookstores and on Amazon. The latest, “Minnesota Moxie,” features mostly true tales about Minnesotans, famous and obscure, who demonstrate grit, muscle and determination.

## **"Minnesota Mayhem, Mystery and Moxie, Part 1: A History of Calamitous Events and Unexplained Wonders in the Land of 10,000 Lakes."**

Turn back the yellowing pages of Minnesota newspapers and explore original accounts of some of the state's worst moments, from the catastrophic to the merely curious: A judge sentences a 15-year-old boy to reform school for stealing a sled (1882). A flu outbreak kills more than ten thousand Minnesotans (1918). Frank Lloyd Wright is arrested at a Lake Minnetonka cottage (1926). A jailed stripper blames her arrest on a wardrobe malfunction (1953). These fascinating stories and more are presented in their original form, along with photos from the Minneapolis Tribune, St. Paul Daily News, Minneapolis Star, the Minnesota Historical Society and other sources.

**Date(s): Wednesday, September 23 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$19 Non-Member Fee: \$29**

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020



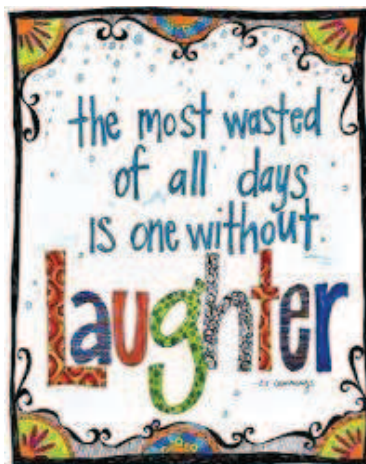
Since 1989 **Greta Grosch** has worked as a freelance writer, performer and director across the country. She works regularly as a voice over and commercial artist; travels the country as a motivational speaker, corporate entertainer and a **LOONEY LUTHERAN**; and writes the annual **MEDORA MUSICAL**. An original cast member of **CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES**, Greta served as the scriptwriter for the last seven installments of the hugely popular musicals.

## **How I Became a Church Basement Lady**

Since The Church Basement Ladies' shows first opened in September 2005, these shows have played to millions of audience members across the country. What is the secret behind these successful shows? Why do they strike a chord with Lutherans and Catholics alike? And how can the stories, and struggles, of a group of rural Minnesota church ladies in the 50's and 60's, be relevant to our lives today? The hugely successful **CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES** musicals celebrate a group of women charged to live a life of service. When Greta Grosch (an actress and writer from a Lutheran background) made the decision to pursue a career in show business, she wondered, "How can I live a life of service, while still using my gifts?" Over the last decade of working on these shows, she found a surprising answer. Join original cast member and playwright Greta Grosch as she shares the story behind the creation of these successful musicals, and the impact they have had on her life. Everyone loves to hear "backstage stories" – stories about how stage moments were discovered, what happened when things went array, stories of personality struggles and conflict – and this is an opportunity to hear those stories straight from the horse's mouth. What inspired the "wonder bread bag" boots; who writes the music; do the actors have other jobs? These questions, and others you didn't even know you had, are answered in this funny, inspirational and interactive presentation.

**Date(s): Thursday, September 24 Time: 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1**

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



**LIFE members can register online with a credit card at  
[www.learningisforever.net](http://www.learningisforever.net)**

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**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.

## **Introduction to the History and Philosophy of Science. Question 1**

This series of short courses will provide a friendly introduction to some big questions about science and its role in our lives and society: what it is, how it has changed over time, some philosophical ideas about it, and ways in which we can distinguish “science” from “non-science.” Examples will be drawn from a wide variety of disciplines, including medicine, biology, astronomy, and economics. The individual courses are as follows:

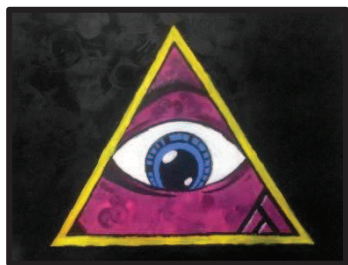
1. Is absolute (scientific) knowledge possible? (Sep)
2. What is the scientific method? (Nov)
3. How do scientific theories change over time? (Jan)
4. Is scientific progress possible? If so, how? (Mar)
5. What is the difference between science and non-science? (May)

While the courses are designed as a sequence, each course can be taken independently of any other.

**Date(s): Friday, September 25 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**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.

## **The Art of Seeing: Session Three - Turn on the Lights!**

Shadows make all the difference in many art pieces. See the effects of light on objects and observe how artists use them to painterly advantage.

**Date(s): Monday, September 28 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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

## **The Art of Seeing: Session Four - Designs on Canvas**

Artists make many decisions about how to combine elements in their work. Composition is the total of those decisions.

**Date(s): Monday, September 28 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Stephen Troutman** is a futurist and frequent speaker on a diverse set of futures and business topics, including this, his favorite and oldest topic. He has been a Futurist since 1999, but also completed two careers, retiring from both IBM and the US Naval Reserve. He is an active volunteer serving on the Boards of LIFE and SCORE (free mentors to small business).

## **Climate Change: What we know and what it means?**

Climate change is an increasingly important topic. Steve has been a student of the climate change research for many years, and he has presented on the topic of climate change a number of times. His most recent climate presentation to LIFE was in 2014. It is time for an update! We will review key scientific research, the resulting findings, and recent model projections. We will learn why there is, but should not be, an on-going debate about global warming. We will look at the projected effects worldwide, and in the Midwest, and will discuss the likely impacts on daily lives.

**Date(s): Tuesday, September 29 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**Adam Lindquist** is a 3-time National Champion living History performer who portrays Roosevelt across the country to over 125,000 people annually. His work sends him to schools, colleges, Washington D.C and more. Adam's uncanny resemblance and portrayal of our 26th President will bring the man to life in this fun, educational, and entertaining course.

## **Teddy Roosevelt and the Crusade for the American Wilderness**

Teddy Roosevelt believed that the expansion of the populations and westward movement would have a critical impact on resource utilization and wilderness protection. In this course, we will examine Roosevelt himself along with those who influenced, and ultimately helped in the Conversation movement. Q&A will occur after the presentation.

**Date(s): Wednesday, September 30 Time: 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1**

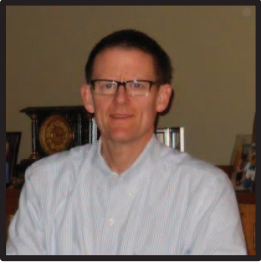
**Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25**





# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**David Jones**, a resident of Minneapolis, has been presenting on historical topics since 1996. He has made more than 1,500 presentations to over 40,000 people. He is a native of St. Peter, MN and a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College.

## **1936 Berlin Olympics**

The 1936 Olympic Games held in Berlin are notorious for the tightly controlled image the Nazis presented to the world. But, these Games also became a blueprint for future Games that is followed to the present day. We will look at the history of the Olympics and the complicated legacy of the 1936 Games.

**Date(s): Monday, October 5 Time: 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**Megan Schnitker** heads the Mahkato Revitalization Project. The Project became an idea of creating educational services and opportunities after she was invited to be on the Mahkato Wacipi Committee. She saw the interest to learn from the community and wanted to provide her experience, lifestyle, and expertise to assist those that want to learn about Indigenous Culture from Indigenous people. Mahkato Revitalization Project focuses on preserving and sharing Lakota and Dakota Culture and Language by documenting and providing educational opportunities to the community.

## **Indigenous Traditional Plant Medicinals**

Megan will talk about common plants, historical uses, and today's uses. She will give you an introduction to backyard medicinals.

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

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

## **Lakota Women and the Land**

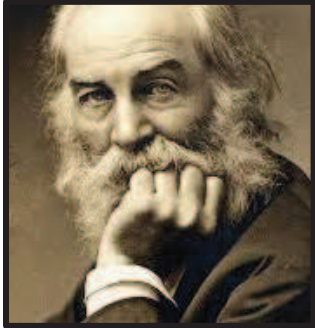
Megan will share stories of Lakota Women and their connections to the land and their medicines. From birth to death.

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

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

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

**Vaunceil 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 Wisconsin. She has a Master's Degree in Education with a Specialty in English from Olivet Nazarene University.

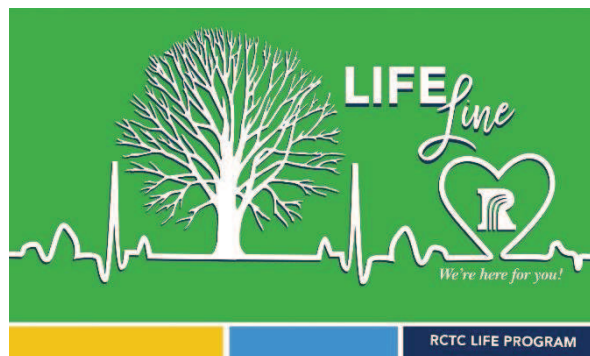


## Walt Whitman: America's Promise

As I write this proposal, we are living through a global pandemic. According to author David Reynolds, author of "Walt Whitman's America," "The seeds of "Leaves of Grass" were sown in the political crisis of 1850. In "Song of Myself" Whitman repeated the oft-made charge that the "idle" rich cruelly appropriated the hard-working poor...government authority was proving to be corrupt... politically and socially, America was in some ways close to chaos." Whitman said, "America is still in the making. It's a promise, a possible something: it's to come: it's by no means here." Poet Mark Doty in "What Is the Grass" says, "...the change he wished to effect, and sometimes believed he could, was more important to him than art." We will discuss historical parallels between that "chaotic" decade and our own political and social uncertainties against the backdrop of the promise of the 1855 First Edition of "Leaves of Grass." (Available from American Renaissance Publishers or online at whitmanarchive.org)

**Date(s): Wednesday, October 7 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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



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 30<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904. Checks must be made out to RCTC Foundation – LIFE Program. Thank you for your ongoing support!

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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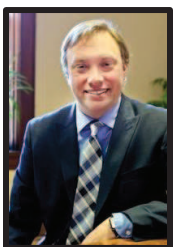


**Anatoly Liberman** is a professor in the Department of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch at the University of Minnesota where he teaches courses in linguistics, etymology, and folklore. An internationally renowned scholar of word origins, Liberman discusses the topic regularly on MPR and is the author of "Word Origins and How We Know Them: Etymology for Everyone" (Oxford University Press, 2005).

## **"Beating About the Bush: English Idioms and Other Wild and Woolly, Tongue-in-Cheek Phrases"**

Most travelers to English-speaking countries might be puzzled if informed that for some goods and services we pay through the nose. By contrast, English speakers would know what is meant, but have no idea why they have said such a strange thing. Nor do they think to question what is the brunt in "to bear the brunt" or what dander is in "to get one's dander up." Most speakers of English are not interested in the whereabouts of the lurch in which they are often left (they take the phrase for granted), and if one says that at the moment they are in a brown study, not everybody will know where to look for them. Our mastery of everything is limited, and just as no one has encountered all the words of one's native language, no one understands all its idioms. But ask anyone in a course on language history and they will tell you that the study of the derivation of idioms is wildly entertaining. In this class, Professor Anatoly Liberman will offer a preview of his recently completed "Take My Word for It: The Inscrutable Origin of English Idioms," in which the meanings of such collocations and, more importantly, their origins are explained. After seven years of scholarly research (not counting the 20 that were preparatory), this dictionary is scheduled to be published in late 2020, leaving the good Professor thrilled to bits!

**Date(s): Thursday, October 8 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25**



**Aaron Klemz** is the Director of Public Engagement at the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy. He's been researching and leading opposition to copper-nickel mining proposals since 2009, and is the former Advocacy Director of the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness. He also teaches in the Masters of Advocacy and Political Leadership program at Metropolitan State University, and holds masters degrees in Communication and Advocacy and Political Leadership.

## **The Past, Present, and Future of Copper-Nickel Mining in Minnesota**

Minnesota has a long iron mining history, stretching back to the 1880's, but new proposals to mine copper-nickel ore in northern Minnesota have been controversial. This course will look at the history of exploration for copper-nickel ore in Minnesota, the two current proposals (PolyMet and Twin Metals), and the economic and legal future for these proposals. What was once a regional issue has turned into a statewide, even national political fight about the future of northern Minnesota's economy and water. This course will address why that change occurred, and connect you with resources to learn more on your own.

**Date(s): Thursday, October 8 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21**

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Dr. Bobbi Pritt** is a Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Mayo Clinic who specializes in the laboratory detection of tick-borne and parasitic infections. She received her medical degree from the University of Vermont, followed by residency training in pathology. She then came to the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota to complete a fellowship in Clinical Microbiology, and was hired on staff as the Laboratory Director of the Clinical Parasitology Laboratory. As part of her work, she led the efforts to identify and characterize two novel tick-borne bacteria that infect people living in the upper Midwest. Dr. Pritt has authored more than 150 manuscripts on the laboratory detection of infectious diseases and has delivered talks around the world on tick-borne and parasitic diseases.

## **Tick Talk - Boom! Tick-borne Diseases in Minnesota**

Tick-borne diseases continue to rise in our state, with the major culprits being Lyme disease, anaplasmosis and babesiosis. In recent years, we have also recognized the presence of new tick-borne pathogens, including 2 that were discovered at the Mayo Clinic. Dr. Pritt will talk about the tick-borne diseases in Minnesota, including new and emerging threats. She will also talk about the potential reasons for increasing cases in Minnesota, and the steps that people can take to protect themselves against tick bites.

**Date(s): Monday, October 12 Time: 1-3 pm # 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" in 2003, 2011, and 2012. Chad recently coauthored the book "The Political World of Bob Dylan: Freedom and Justice, Power and Sin." Chad is on the RCTC LIFE Board.

## **Presidential Elections**

This course will cover the most significant presidential elections in American history--and they won't all be the obvious ones. We will look at the issues and outcomes of these elections that changed the path that American History traveled.

**Date(s): Tuesday, October 13 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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





# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020



**Andy Sturdevant** is an artist and writer living in Minneapolis. He has written about art, history and culture for a variety of Twin Cities-based publications and websites, including *ArchitectureMN*, *Mpls. St. Paul*, *MinnPost*, *Apology*, *The Smudge*, *The Growler* and others. He also made art and creates public projects. Some of this work has been exhibited at the Minneapolis Institute of Art and the Flaten Art Museum at St. Olaf College, as well as in museums, galleries and spaces in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Seattle and elsewhere. He was born in Ohio, raised in Kentucky and has lived in Minneapolis since 2005.

*"If you're looking for someone who's always on the cutting edge of the Twin Cities art scene, Andy Sturdevant is your man." \* - Minnesota Public Radio*

*"Andy Sturdevant is one of those charming, inquisitive writers who reminds you the world is more interesting than it has any right to be." - David Rees*

## **Closing Time: A Brief History of Bars and Saloons of the Twin Cities**

In 1838, a rum trader named "Pig's Eye" Parrant built a small shack in a Mississippi bluff that became the first business in the city of St. Paul: a saloon. Since then, bars, taverns, saloons, and speakeasies have been part of the cultural, social, and physical landscape of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Serving as neighborhood landmarks, sites of political engagement, welcoming centers for immigrants, hotbeds of criminal activity, targets of ire from church and state alike, and, of course, a place to get a drink, the story of the taverns and saloons of the Twin Cities is the story of the cities themselves.

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

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



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**Rob Scarlett** currently serves as Senior Adviser to Clearwater Biologic, LLC, a bio-remediation business located in Babbitt, Minnesota, and has served as a senior executive in a number of smaller manufacturing companies over the years. Since 1999, he has also led Hunter Scarlett Consulting, and serves as a director for start-ups in the US, Europe, and Latin America. Rob is fluent in English, German, Spanish, and Portuguese. He graduated from Carleton College in the mid-1960s and spent much of the past 50 years working and living in various countries Latin America. In the community, he is a former Chair of Global Minnesota and currently serves as Board Chair for the Venn Foundation and Trustee of the Sundance Family Foundation.

## **The U.S. and Mexico: Partnership Tested**

The U.S. & Mexico share a 2,000-mile-long border, a common pre- and post-colonial history and participate in an increasingly integrated North American economy. It is estimated that the combined economies of just the ten border states constitute the world's 4th largest economy. At the time Spain's colonial rule ended on September 16, 1810, Mexico governed a huge expanse of what is now the Western United States. A region that included the states of California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and a portion of Colorado. In recent years, the cross-border collaboration in matters of trade, labor mobility and security - a partnership that was growing steadily - has been challenged by a shift in U.S. border policy and by declining economic and security conditions in Central America. This class will focus on the shared history of Mexico and the U.S., the current border controversies and the issues surrounding the economic integration and the decades-long trend that shows more Mexicans have been leaving the U.S. than entering the U.S., contrary to popular belief.

**Date(s): Wednesday, October 14 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**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.

## **Sari (Ma) Semple "The Truth, As I Recollect"**

In the great oral tradition of the storyteller, Sari Semple takes us back to the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of the mid-nineteenth century. As Sari spins her tales the listener is transported to those hills. The stories blend together the folklore and the gritty reality of life in the ridges and hollers of Appalachia. These original stories, written and performed by Jessica, are comic, dramatic and even tragic. Young and old alike will be spellbound by the rich tapestry of words woven by Sari. She is the First Lady of Appalachia.

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

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

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Ben Welter**, a Minneapolis native and veteran Twin Cities journalist, has been reading newspapers since Sister Romana taught him how to say the alphabet backward and forward in first grade. In 2005, he began scouring Star Tribune microfilm in search of interesting stories and photos dating back to 1867. He has posted more than 500 of the best on his blog, *Yesterday's News*, [startribune.com/yesterday](http://startribune.com/yesterday). Three books based on the blog have been published by The History Press and are available in Minnesota bookstores and on Amazon. The latest, "Minnesota Moxie," features mostly true tales about Minnesotans, famous and obscure, who demonstrate grit, muscle and determination.

## **"Minnesota Mayhem, Mystery and Moxie, Part 2: (Mostly) True Tales of Courage, Muscle and Grit in the Land of 10,000 Lakes."**

Any Minnesotan worth his lutefisk has heard of the Kensington Runestone. But have you heard of Victor Setterlund? In 1949, he uncovered another runestone less than ten miles away. How about young Phoebe Omlie? In 1921, she set a world parachute record, stepping off the wing of a biplane 15,200 feet above the Twin Cities. How about Jean Webb? In 1963, the Minneapolis teen risked arrest and refused to leave a segregated restaurant in Arkansas. These off-beat and inspiring stories, along with dozens more culled from Minnesota newspaper archives, are presented in their original form, along with photos from the Minneapolis Tribune, Minneapolis Star, St. Paul Globe, the Minnesota Historical Society and other sources.

**Date(s): Tuesday, October 20 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$19 Non-Member Fee: \$29**



**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 College of St. Teresa**

Almost everyone knows about the major building projects undertaken by the Franciscan sisters here in Rochester. But generally lesser known is the college for women they founded in Winona, Minnesota and operated from 1912 to 1989. This class focuses on its architectural history, and also the underlying story of how it became one of the premier Catholic women's colleges in the country.

**Date(s): Wednesday, October 21 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$13 Non-Member Fee: \$21**

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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 has presented about twenty different rock music classes for Rochester Community Education.

## **Rochester 1959: 60 Years of Progress**

Rochester was growing quickly in 1959 with the recent arrival of IBM. The Cold War was raging and the Space Race was starting. The automobile industry was in turmoil much like today. Mayo Clinic was defending their reputation. Rochester hosted dignitaries such as Ann Landers; Satchel Paige; and Mrs. George McGill, a Gypsy Queen. Join Paul Koeller as he uses the headlines and photos of 1959 Rochester to explore how much has changed and how much remains the same.

**Date(s): Thursday, October 22 Time: 1-2:30 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$9 Non-Member Fee: \$12**

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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.

## **FDR and the Fight for Freedom**

Our country and, indeed, the entire world was challenged and changed as a result of WWII. Franklin Roosevelt, at first, faced pressure to keep our country out of the conflict. But once the war was thrust upon us he very successfully stepped into the role of Commander in Chief and also kept the nation productive and engaged. This program will discuss our country's military and civilian involvement in the mightiest struggle of mankind. Certainly, "The Greatest Generation fought for our freedom and kept the home fires burning." Q&A will follow the presentation.

**Date(s): Monday, October 26 Time: 1-3 pm # of Sessions: 1**  
**Member Fee: \$15 Non-Member Fee: \$25**





# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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**Heather Casper** has been the Curator of Education at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona, MN since February 2007. Casper holds a MS degree in Art Education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and a BFA in Ceramics from the University of Colorado at Boulder. In 2011, Casper won "outstanding community educator award" from the Winona Area Education Association. She was selected to participate in the Teaching in Museum Education Seminar at the School of the Chicago Art Institute in August of 2014.

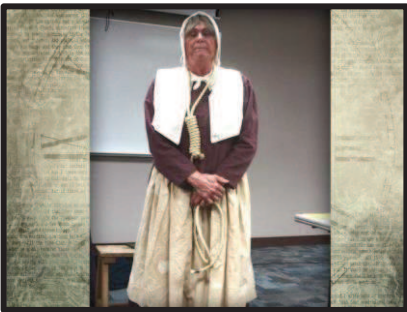
## **The Minnesota Marine Art Museum and You!**

Baffled, bored, or intimidated by most art museums? Curator of Education, Heather Casper, will casually introduce you to the collections of the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona, MN and highlight three different artworks throughout the program. Casper will engage you in dialogue, answer any questions, and try some fun approaches like sketching, poetry and more to leave you feeling rejuvenated. As Pablo Picasso once said, "Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." Life these days could definitely use some dusting.

**Date(s): Tuesday, October 27 Time: 10-11:30 am # of Sessions: 1**

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

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**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.

## **Goode Rebeka, Trial by Fire "The Salem Witch Trials"**

It was a new world. The settlers from England had gained a foothold in the verdant land called "Amerika". Old traditions would be laid aside, new ones instituted. Greed, jealousy, suspicion would still persist. Were these at the root of "The Salem Witch Trials"? Innocent residents of Salem, Massachusetts were tried and many executed in perhaps the most infamous chapter in early American history. Learn the true story of one of those unlucky residents.

**Date(s): Wednesday, October 28 Time: 6:30-7:45 pm # of Sessions: 1**

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

**[www.learningisforever.net](http://www.learningisforever.net)**

# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

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***Steve Ackerman**, a professor of atmospheric and oceanic sciences, is an expert in the area of satellite meteorology, a field largely invented at UW–Madison. He is well known as an accomplished researcher, teacher and communicator of the science of weather and climate.*

## **"The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: the Ship, the Storm, and the Song"**

The legend of the Edmund Fitzgerald remains the a mysterious and controversial of all shipwreck tales heard around the Great Lakes. Only that of the Titanic surpasses her story in books, film and media. Canadian folksinger Gordon Lightfoot inspired popular interest in this vessel with his 1976 ballad, "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald." This presentation will discuss the ship, look at the weather associated with the sinking of the ship, and how the sequence of events aligns with Lightfoot's Ballad.

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

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

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***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 Most Haunted Locations**

You will go on a ghostly journey to some of the most haunted places in Minnesota, including the Wandering Ghosts in the North Woods to the Haunted Bed and Breakfast in Wabasha. The presentation is complete with photos, case history, eyewitness accounts, ghost lore and directions and encourages participants to visit the places for their own ghost story. Participants will find out where they can see possessed statues that come to life, pick up a phantom hitchhiker, encounter a ghost train, enjoy a play in a haunted theater, and have their car pushed by spirits.

**Date(s): Friday, October 30 Time: 10 am-Noon # of Sessions: 1**

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

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## **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 via Zoom due to the 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 - 30<sup>th</sup> 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 payments!! Please call (507) 280-3157 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



# RCTC Learning Is ForEver – Sep/Oct 2020

*Greetings from the LIFE Program!*

*We know you will find some great classes in this catalog. Please know that we are trying our best to keep you engaged and connected while maintaining your health. We miss you and look forward to seeing you on Zoom in the coming days. Stay in touch!*

*Chrisanne and Jamie*

