Adventures in Learning

Summer 2011
Course Offerings

Deadline for Registration:
Noon on Friday, July 1

Lifelong Education at Colby-Sawyer College
Tuesdays

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. “Give ’em Hell, Harry!” The Presidency of Harry S. Truman / Eugene Lariviere / pg. 1
4 weeks beginning July 19 at the Draper Room, The Center at Eastman

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Aging in America and the Concept of Slow Medicine / Drs. Dennis McCullough and Dale Gephart / pg. 2
4 weeks beginning July 19 at Tracy Memorial Library

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Old-Time Radio Shows / Chuck Kennedy and Bill Tighe / pg. 3
4 weeks beginning July 19 at the Newbury Community Room

Thursdays

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Our Energy Challenge Updated / Jim Broadhead / pg. 6
4 weeks beginning July 21 at Tracy Memorial Library

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. The Isles of Shoals: Passport to Adventure / Brenda Watts / pg. 7
4 weeks beginning July 21 at New London Town Office Building

Fridays

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. American Education: Problems and Prospects / Sheldon Boege / pg. 8
4-week lecture series beginning July 22 in Clements Hall, Curtis L. Ivey Science Center

Please remember: If you will not be able to attend the majority of the class sessions, we advise that you do not sign up for the course.
“Give ’em Hell, Harry!”
The Presidency of Harry S. Truman

Study Group Leader: Gene Lariviere
Tuesdays, 9:30–11:30 a.m.
Four weeks beginning July 19, 2011
Draper Room, the Center at Eastman

Thrown suddenly into the presidency after being vice-president for fewer than three months, Harry S. Truman served in the Oval Office during some of the most challenging and historically significant years of the 20th century. We will look at how Truman rose from being scorned as the senator from the Kansas City political machine to become president, how he had to deal with Stalin at Potsdam with little background experience or preparation, and how he had to decide on the use of the atomic bomb.

During his presidency, he was confronted with the Cold War, the Berlin Blockade, the fall of China to the Communists, the Soviet A-bomb, the Korean War, the Red Scare and much more. He also recognized Israel, instituted the Marshall Plan and fired Douglas MacArthur.

He left the presidency with one of the lowest approval ratings ever, but now is ranked among the top 10 presidents by many historians.
More and more doctors are rethinking the established line of medical care for the elderly and looking again at older, gentler options. One new approach, based on research at the Dartmouth Medical School, has been termed ‘slow medicine’ by Dr. McCullough, one of its first proponents. He describes slow medicine as “care that is more measured and reflective, and that actually stands back from rushed, in-hospital interventions and slows down to balance thoughtfully the separate, multiple and complex issues of late life.” Shared decision-making, community and family involvement, and sophisticated knowledge and use of the American health care system are some of the slow medicine practices.

Participants will discuss these issues based on their own experiences. Topics for consideration include elder health, successful aging, life cycles, passages, chronic illness and negotiating the health care system.
Old-Time Radio Shows

For more than 30 glorious years, from the 1920s to the 1950s, radio held sway over Americans for news, entertainment, sports and serials. This course will focus on the comedians who cheered us each week. Selections from the original shows will be played and discussed. Old Time Radio presented many programs that were adapted from vaudeville performances already well-known to their audiences.

The course begins with Lum and Abner and their homespun humor, and Amos and Andy, blackface comedians in a non-visual medium. Then we hear the stand-up comedians Fibber McGee & Molly and George Burns & Gracie Allen and their antics. Jack Benny and Fred Allen were monologists with a cast of characters that appeared weekly in situation comedies. Finally, there are the unlikely successes in radio such as ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and juggler W. C. Fields.

Outside reading and listening is encouraged.

Chuck Kennedy and Bill Tighe

Tuesdays, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
4 weeks beginning July 19, 2011
Newbury Community Room

Chuck Kennedy is professor emeritus of religion at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. His primary interests are the religions of the Middle East, but he also has a strong background in Gilbert and Sullivan, as well as in vaudeville.

Bill Tighe earned a B.S. degree from UNH and retired in 1993 after 35 years in the aerospace industry. He is a former local radio talk show host with a program on food and wine and is a weekly columnist for Upper Valley Food and Wine.
Louis Burkot is the Artistic Director of Opera North and has conducted more than 35 productions for the company. He studied conducting at the Yale School of Music, Central City Opera, and Houston Grand Opera. He served as Director of Opera New England, and is Director of the Dartmouth Glee Club. Senior Lecturer in the Department of Music since 1982, he was the recipient of the Distinguished Lecturer Award in 2000.

Join us on July 23rd for an evening with ON at Colby-Sawyer College. This is a joint benefit performance with net proceeds going to Opera North and the Adventures in Learning scholarship fund. ON Young Artists will sing arias and bring beloved opera scenes to life during this wonderful event. The performance will be followed by a summer dessert reception and an opportunity to meet the Young Artists. All this for only $25!

We look forward to another exciting collaboration and celebrate the strong partnership between Opera North and Adventures in Learning.

Summer Fare with ON Order Form

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS:

\[ \text{___} \times \$25 = \$\text{______} \]

Please mail completed order form with full payment to:
Adventures in Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
541 Main Street
New London, NH 03257

Name_____________________________________________________

Address_________________________________________________

City, State, Zip_____________________________________________

Telephone_________________________________________________

Email_____________________________________________________

☐ Enclosed is my check for $_______
   (Please make checks payable to Colby-Sawyer College)
A Sneak Preview of the Summer Fare with ON

- The touching “Final Duet” from *The Telephone* by Gian-Carlo Menotti (sung in English)
- Scenes and Aria’s from Douglas Moore’s *The Ballad of Baby Doe* (sung in English)
- The charming “Drunken Scene” from Donizetti’s *The Elixir of Love*
- Plus excerpts from this summer’s Opera North Production *The Marriage of Figaro* by Mozart

Cinderella
*Music by Gioachino Rossini*
*Libretto by Jacopo Ferretti*

AUG 12, 14*, 18, 20

The Marriage of Figaro
*Music by W.A. Mozart*
*Libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte*

AUG 6, 11, 13, 17, 19

Enjoy this wonderful performance with returning Young Artists Lauren Ashleigh Lyles, Omar Najmi, and Dee Donasco, and new Young Artists Nicholas Nelson and Amedee Moore.

To order opera tickets, go to www.operanorth.org or call the Lebanon Opera House at 603-448-0400
Few subjects generate as much debate and concern as the appropriate energy policy for our nation. The challenge has become even more complex in recent years as environmental concerns have intensified and many major fuel suppliers have become increasingly hostile or politically unstable. This course was first given in the winter of 2009. Since that time, the gulf oil spill has raised new questions about crude oil drilling in deep water, vast new sources of natural gas have been found in the United States, enhanced crude oil production techniques have reduced American dependence on foreign sources, and the economic substitution costs of non-traditional energy have changed. The class will also discuss concerns about the safety of nuclear power plants following the recent earthquake off the coast of Japan and the subsequent tsunami. New material and updates make this course a timely review of the energy picture.

Study Group Leader: Jim Broadhead

Thursdays, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
4 weeks beginning July 21, 2011
Tracy Memorial Library

Jim Broadhead is the former chairman and CEO of FPL Group, Inc., and its principal subsidiary, Florida Power & Light Company (FPL). Prior to joining FPL he had been president of St. Joe Minerals Corporation and president of GTE Telephone Operations. Jim has been a director of several other companies and a member of the Business Roundtable and the Business Council. He is an engineering graduate of Cornell University and holds a J.D. degree from Columbia Law School.
The Isles of Shoals: Passport to Adventure

Study Group Leader: Brenda Watts
Thursdays, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
4 weeks beginning July 21, 2011
New London Town Office Building

This course is your passport to an adventure known as The Isles of Shoals. Together we’ll uncover stories that have made this small archipelago a local treasure. Luring explorers, artists, writers, scientists, naturalists, families and those seeking spiritual connection, the Shoals offer a retreat to a calmer, simpler lifestyle. We’ll imagine what life was like on these isles through 400 years of New England history. Our exploration will include lecture with discussion, local lore, photos, music, old letters, poetry and the food of the islanders. We’ll investigate who and what inhabit the Shoals today, why they are there and the efforts to sustain these islands despite time, tide and waves of change. Local photographer and author, Bruce Parsons, and Professor Emeritus Jere Daniell of Dartmouth College will join us to share their unique perspectives on the Shoals and to answer questions.

An optional day or overnight visit to Star Island will be available in August at an additional cost.

Brenda Watts has been a conferee on Star Island, Isles of Shoals, over the past 27 years. She calls Star Island her “spirit’s home.” Before retiring in 1999, she led educational programs in hospitals, schools, the Cooperative Extension Service and several volunteer organizations. She holds degrees from both Indiana and Michigan State Universities and is a member of ISHRA, the Isles of Shoals Historical and Research Association. A lifelong learner, as well as an “Old Shoaler,” she’s been inspired to study more about the history of this special place and to share what she has learned with fellow Adventures in Learning adventure seekers.
Over the last several years, American education, from kindergarten through post-graduate levels, has received increased public scrutiny. Report after report from both government and private groups has questioned the efficacy and expense of our school systems. Is this perception correct and, if so, why, and what must be done to fix our schools? Is it fair to condemn the entire field of education, or are the problems isolated and being over-blown? Is testing the only measure of student success, or are we overlooking other more important factors? What, really, are the goals of our education system? These four sessions will address these and other issues in American education and in New Hampshire schools. All the speakers and panel members will be open to questions.

A reading list will be sent with the participant confirmation letter.
The Curriculum Committee of Adventures in Learning proudly brings you six course offerings for the summer 2011 term, which begins on July 19 and continues through August 12.

We are delighted to introduce new study group leaders Dale Gephart, Dennis McCullough, and Brenda Watts, and we thank all of our volunteer study group leaders for making the summer courses possible. We also wish to thank Colby-Sawyer College, the community of Eastman, the towns of Newbury and New London, and Tracy Memorial Library for making space available for our summer courses.

Registration Process
Summer courses are $30 for members and $35 for non-members. This form must be returned no later than noon on Friday, July 1. Confirmation of your enrollment in a course will be sent on July 7 via e-mail unless we do not have an e-mail address for you.

Registration by mail
Include a check made payable to Colby-Sawyer College along with your registration form and send them to Adventures in Learning, Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257.

Registration in person
Registration forms may also be dropped off Monday through Thursday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Friday 8 a.m. to noon) at the Adventures in Learning Office. We are located on the first floor of the Colby Homestead, the building to the right of the entrance to the Dan and Kathleen Hogan Sports Center parking lot.

Guest Policy
As a courtesy to our membership, please remember that attendance in Adventures in Learning courses is reserved for only those members or non-members who have registered and enrolled in the course.

2011–2012 Curriculum Committee
Joanna Henderson, chair
Sheldon Boege
Jim Bowditch
Van Crawford
Morris Edwards
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Joseph Kun
Jim Moore
Les Norman
Dan Schneider
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