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Volume 14 No 3

*Sept, Oct, Nov
2015*

Greetings From The President:

It is an honor to be your President for the next year. I am joined by a great new group of officers: Gerri Penny, Vice President; Anne Gant, Secretary; and Ellen Norris, Treasurer. Returning are our great experienced committee chairpersons Reta Lindstrom, Rollie Lindstrom and Art Limbird who are responsible for Curriculum, Membership and Trips. And a special thanks to Erhard Gross who put together the tour of Coast Guard facilities and ships earlier this year. A change to our ByLaws now allows the Immediate Past President, in this case, Tod Lundy, to be a voting member of the Board. This provides institutional continuity that we didn't have before.

You are invited to go to our website, ENCORElearn.org, which we have just moved "inhouse" from an outside vendor. It has been completely revised and updated by our Treasurer Ellen Norris. Great job! Now everyone can go online to view upcoming classes, events, trips, minutes of all of the committees and the Board of Directors, and links to other educational opportunities. Keep informed.

Paid your dues yet? The college sent out membership renewals a few weeks ago and we certainly hope you join us for another year. We have 147 members at last count. The most members that I see at any one meeting is around 40. Where are the rest of you? What can we do or offer that will get you to participate? We are always looking for suggestions to make our offerings more interesting: Like the upcoming three day trip to visit several Indian Reservations along the Washington coast in October. (Cont'd on P 2)

(Cont'd from P 1) We already have four vans lined up that can carry seven people each for members who have already made reservations and paid their \$100 deposit.

And don't forget to sign up for the annual *Conference on Extraordinary Living* to be held at the college on Saturday, September 12th, 9am - 4pm. Elsewhere in this Newsletter is the Schedule of Classes that will be offered in the Fall Term. Please consider one or more.

Don't hesitate to contact me anytime with your suggestions and comments at frspence@bellsouth.net. Keep learning and growing!

FRANK SPENCE

IN MEMORIAM

Joan Ryan

Meg Weaver, longtime ENCORE member, webmaster, officer, and Science Exchange facilitator, died unexpectedly on July 20, 2015 after a massive stroke suffered a week earlier. She was airlifted from CMH to Legacy Emanuel hospital in Portland where she died after a second stroke. A memorial gathering will be held after ENCORE classes resume in late September. Meg was a brilliant, interesting, funny, and very private woman; she will be sadly missed.

(Submitted by Kit Ketcham)

Member Survey Yields Ideas for ENCORE Classes

Submitted by Anne Gant

A wealth of new and unique ideas for design of future ENCORE classes are helping guide the Curriculum Committee as it develops the Fall, Winter, And Spring course offerings for 2015-16.

The member survey was distributed at the May 2015 Annual Meeting and completed by 25 members. Nine members selected Technology as a focus for a class, with 13 ideas ranging from use of Facebook to Office software to privacy online. Look for new or reprised classes this year on privacy issues; how-to's on web design, Facebook, and Smart Phones; presentation software; and documentaries.

Travel or trips was mentioned by 15 responders, both as a topic (armchair cruises, pairing up for travel with other singles), and as a preferred teaching mode in which classroom activities are paired with trips or out-of-the-classroom experiences. The second most popular teaching method was use of discussion as opposed to solely lecture (9 mentions).

Social studies/history topics were suggested by 9 members. Four mentions for current events, such as Diplomacy and Terrorism or the Patriot Act, may lead to new offerings in the future.

Arts and crafts generated 10 ideas for classes, including Women in Art History, knitting, right

(Cont'd on P 3 Col 1)

(Cont'd on P 3 Col 1) brain drawing, and drawing objects. Look for classes in knitting and crocheting coming soon. A series of artists such as Grandma Moses, Carol Keane, Frieda Kahlo, and Georgia O'Keefe will be weekly topics in a proposed Women in Art History series class being considered. Members with knowledge about one or more of the artists are being sought to teach these classes.

Two new instructors volunteered to teach ENCORE classes. Look for Dani Williams on

October 1 and Sally Kiess at a future date. New member Mary Carpenter has skills to teach web development and using Facebook and social media; the Clatsop CC labs in Seaside and/or Astoria will be used for these classes.

Contact any member of the Curriculum Committee (see website) if you would like to design a class or teach any of those mentioned above. Chairperson Reta Lindstrom can be reached at 360-777-8750.

OOPS !

Several years ago while at the Senior Center waiting for an ENCORE class to begin, I was chatting with one of the earliest ENCORE members. She mentioned how fortunate we had been to receive a bequest from a former member. At our recent annual meeting I shared that information with the group. Later I found out my friend had not been talking about ENCORE being fortunate to receive a bequest...she was talking about the Senior Center. I have no idea how often I passed along that misinformation, but I now stand corrected. From Marjie Spence

RE-INTRODUCING ENCORE'S TREASURER and NOW OUR WEBMASTER!

ELLEN D NORRIS, (formerly known as Ellen Stoner) ENCORE's treasurer, and now also our new webmistress, has completely refurbished our website and it is an absolute joy to browse through from one end to the other. Everything is accurate and up to date. All the links work. All the Fall class information is posted; you'll find archived Board Minutes, events & fliers, community connections, our newsletters with color photos, membership forms, Q&A about our organization...you name it, you can find it on the website. If it's important, Ellen can put it there!

This is our collective digital dream come true. As big and old a group as we are, 14 years and counting, we have really been hampered in achieving a responsive website for quite a long time. Too costly, too few techies among us. But now Ellen has offered to share her considerable computer skills with us by providing a website we can all use, be proud of, and recommend to our friends & families. Many thanks, Ellen, for making this vision a reality.

Check it out at encorelearn.org

Submitted by Sue Zerangue

TO ALL OUR DEAR FRIENDS IN ENCORE,

As you all probably know, we have tried to sell our home here in Mill Pond for the last two years. And now a couple that has kept their eye on it has come through with an offer. We'll probably leave the week of Labor Day.

We're packing and discarding the usual as we see so many friends strolling (Cont'd bottom of P 4)

Fall 2015 Class schedule:

(Unless otherwise indicated, AM classes meet from 10 to noon, PM class from 1:30 to 3:30)

Tue. & Thu. Kathleen Hudson; **Aquanastics**; 9/8 & 10, 9/15 & 17; 9:00 to 10:30 AM; KOA pool

Related article on P 5

Mon. AM Drew Herzig; **Folk Dance**, 9/28 through 11/16; ASC

Mon PM Committee meetings

Tue. AM Sandra Baker; **Bridge**; 9:30 to noon; 9/29 through 11/17; Port of Astoria

Tue. PM Art Limbird; **Some Significant Archeological Discoveries**; 9/29, 10/6,20,27; CCC
South County Center

Wed. AM Maria Brooks; **Art & Politics of the Documentary**; 9/30 through 11/4; ESD

Wed. PM Charles Blight & Rick Soler; **Science Exchange**; 9/30 through 11/18

Thurs (All Thursday classes are held in Astoria City Council Chambers)

AM Various instructors; **Potpourri**;

Dani Williams; **Personal Data Use/ Privacy**; 10/1 & 10/8;

Merianne Myers; **Food Web**; 10/15

Ellen Norris; **Time Banking**; 10/22

Yvonne Whitney & Chuck Myers; **Winterizing Your Garden**; 10/29

Thurs PM Erhard Gross; **Indian Tribes of the Washington Coast**; 10/1 & 10/8, Field Trip 10/12 through 14 (see separate trip details in its announcement)

Thurs PM Erhard Gross, facilitator; **Contrasting Cultures**; 10/22 through 11/19 Related article P 5

Erhard Gross; **Germany**; 10/22

Jean McGonigle and Cindy Hawkins; **Deaf Culture and American Sign Language**; 10/29

Kathleen Zunkel; **New Zealand**; 11/12

Shigemi Tajiri; **Japan**; 11/19

Fri AM Steve Berk; Book Discussion: **The Human Stain**, by Phillip Roth; 10/9 through 11/13; Astoria Senior Center

(Cont'd from P 3) the Riverwalk. Then the ships are teasing us with their smooth-sailing beauty. We look at each other and wonder - did we do the right thing? Will we ever have the opportunity, again, to live in an incredible climate and never ending views. But especially the friends, more like family, who welcomed us with open arms eight years ago. These friendships will last a lifetime.

What about our teachers and their remarkable knowledge as we attend each class? We feel so fortunate to have met you, and learned with you, and celebrated the joys of life with you. Of course, as life goes we have shared sadness too, what with losing dear friends. What would we do without having each other to share these life changes with?

Be assured all of you will not be forgotten and you will always hold a special place in our hearts. You are the Bridge, the Column and Streetcar all rolled into one class of extraordinary people. Thank you for allowing us to share eight wonderful years with you.

Rodger & Madeline Gobel

LOOKING FORWARD:

AQUANASTICS CLASS FOR FALL

WHAT? Gentle water exercise that's lots of fun. This water fitness class is energizing and strengthening, yet gentle on the joints. Knowing how to swim is not required. This is not a swimming class. Class is conducted in a 3-5 foot deep heated pool. Pool beach balls, 'noodles', and kick boards are provided free for class use and enjoyment. As an added bonus, students are given basic water health and safety tips, and enjoy water games. Both men and women are welcomed.

WHEN? Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Sept. 8,10, 15 and 17. Each class begins at 9 AM to 10:30 AM. Includes time for the fantastic HOT TUB.

WHERE? KOA heated indoor pool, 1100 Ridge Road in Hammond. The camp

grounds provides hot showers, rest rooms and hot tub, to relax the muscles after class. There is no fee for the use. Showers are supplied with shampoo, conditioner and shower gel. Bring your own towel and arrive with your swim suit on. Check in the main office and obtain a parking sticker. Only 12 ENCORE students are allowed in class. Sign up with Evy Berger at CCC 503-338-2566.

WHO? Kathleen Hudson, experienced instructor, holds certification from American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor, Arthritis Aquatic Training program, Aqua Aerobics classes in Pismo Beach Athletic Club. Kathleen has also completed training in A Matter of Balance from Columbia Medical Hospital.



Contrasting Cultures

Submitted by Erhard Gross

For fall term of 2015, ENCORE will offer a course on Contrasting Cultures. We have assembled a team of instructors with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Each instructor will present a two-hour session on a culture from whence they came or in which they lived long enough to enable them to contrast that nation's culture with the culture of the United States.

Shigemi Tajiri, the presenter of Japanese culture, will lead us through the major differences between his country and where he lives now. Among other things, Shige will let us in on the mysteries of the Japanese language. Surely Japanese computer keyboards don't have room for several thousand symbols. If Japanese has no alphabet, how can you look up words in dictionaries? How can the Japanese language be used to write names like Madeline and Geronimo?

Kathleen Zunkel has learned a lot about the peculiarities of English used by the "Kiwis." With her theatrical flair, she'll clue us in on the idiosyncrasies she observed during her extended stay in New Zealand. Be prepared for lots of laughter and interesting morsels from this gifted lady.

Cori and John Bitterman lived in Bogota, Colombia for three years. They not only learned a great deal of Spanish but also local customs and information about the inner workings of various drug cartels. John was attached to the U.S. Embassy as an observer of Colombian society. They attended and hosted official functions as representatives of the U.S. and regularly met U.S. and Colombian government officials, including Colombia's president and the Vice President of the United States. (Cont'd on P 6)

(Cont'd from P 6 **LUNCH BUNCH**) Reta really outdid herself for this Lunch Bunch! Not only did she encourage us to share good stories about our fathers/Dads/Daddys (remember, June 21st was Father's Day), she also informed us that June had "National Donut Day!", which is celebrated on the first Friday of June. And so, I ask you . . . how many of you knew that the event was actually created by The Salvation Army, clear back in 1938, to honor those of their members who served doughnuts to soldiers during World War I? (Is the phrase "doughboy" starting to come to mind?) AND . . . if you're lucky enough to live by the right donut shop, some American donut stores offer FREE doughnuts on that special Friday!

So, all in all, June was a pretty full month - full of lots of memories and history!

Submitted by Lorri Bradley



We met at the Golden Star Chinese Café on **July 7**. Present were Aletha Westerberg, Carol Sigurdson, Hazel Sealy, Lorri Bradley, Ellen Norris, and Linda Brandon, Hazel's guest and soon to be new ENCORE member. The barbecue pork appetizers that Hazel shared with everyone at the table were excellent; we all had more food than we could eat for lunch, and every one of us had a takeout container to take home!

Aletha presented the program about July in general and July 4th in particular. We talked about July 2, "I Forgot Day" and July 21, "National Junk Food Day". We were also given details about the circumstances surrounding Francis Scott Key's writing of The Star Spangled Banner, which was inspired by activities occurring during the War of 1812. Did you know: during that time, Astoria was under British rule?

Submitted by Ellen Norris



August 3rd Lunch Bunch was held at B.J.'s Pizza Palace in Seaside. Reta Leithner started by thanking Bob Cook for his help in planning the activity.

Reta presented information about the "Lady with the Lamp". Along with being the Mother of modern Nursing, did you know that Florence Nightingale advocated for improved sewer systems, and as a statistician, was the first to use the ever-popular pie chart? During the Crimean War, Florence was directly responsible for bringing the mortality rate in the soldier's hospital down from around 42% to around 2%. She got her nickname from her habit of walking through the hospital wards at night with her lamp, checking to be certain the wounded soldiers were receiving the care they needed.

After our "quiz" and door prize drawing, we enjoyed a good lunch and lively conversations! Present were: Reta Leithner, Rodger & Madeline Gobel, Jennie Ulbricht, Doug & Cecilia Balcomb, Bob Cook, Bernie Thomas, Rose Power, Nancy Anderson, Ellen Norris, Kit Ketcham, Hazel Sealy, and Carol Sigurdson. Winners of the door prizes were Bernie and Ellen.

Submitted by Ellen Norris

CLASS REVIEW

"I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS" by Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou's book, "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings" proved to be a thought provoking work as to both content and style. Erhard Gross, who taught the class, had chosen this book to study and discuss autobiography in particular and literary criticism in general. As a guide for our reading and discussions, his syllabus listed the

main elements of autobiography and we discussed other writers of this genre, such as Ann Frank, Nelson Mandela, and Colin Powell, for comparisons. By the end of the five-session class, after discussing the various elements of fiction in the book, we did not have a definitive agreement (Cont'd on P 8)

(Cont'd from P 7 CLASS REVIEW) as to the genre – fiction? autobiography? And we learned that neither do most critics who have reviewed her books. But most agree that this book is auto-biography, the genre which she attempts to critique and change. This book covers Angelou's early life, written by her as an adult from the point of view as a child in Stamps, Arkansas. When Maya was three years old, she and her older brother were sent by their mother from California to Arkansas. The children were raised there by their paternal grandmother until Maya was in her teens. Maya's observations and views about racism are told through her own words, and the words of her grandmother, uncle and others in the town.

Other strong themes in the book besides racism include family relationships, particularly her

loyalty toward her brother, ambiguity toward her mother; also rape as a means of oppression. All these themes generated lively discussions among the class members.

Very good discussions also occurred about Angelou's use of language. Since she's known principally as a poet, her use of language was interesting to study. Three months after our last class, several of us had a lively exchange about the book at Lunch Bunch, demonstrating that the interest in the book hasn't lessened, has, in fact, encouraged many of us to seek out more of Angelou's autobiographies and other works.

Submitted by Carol Ann Sigurdson

OUR TRIP TO WOLFHAVEN

We had a wonderful trip to Wolf Haven on May 28, 2015. Wolf Haven is located just a little north of the small town of Tenino, located on Hwy 99 east of I-5 in Washington State. We were 27 strong when we left the Maritime Museum parking lot in five vans at 7:30 am. The vans were full of excited and maybe sleepy members as we headed out, agreeing to meet up at the first rest area on I-5 just north of Toutle. Originally we were going to leave the freeway at Exit 88, but while at the rest area we noticed an ad for Wolf Haven and it suggested getting off at Exit 99. That is where we were headed.

We arrived on time for our scheduled visit and had a few minutes to check out the gift shop and pay our fees. Half of our group then walked down to the Administration Building where our one- hour class was being held. There, we learned how Wolf Haven came to be and what some of the wolves had to endure before being rescued. Once rescued, we learned all about their care including diet, medical care and enrichment.



Carol Newman photos

The other half of our group was with our guide, Suzanne, who took us to the enclosure where the wolves on tour lived. Some of the wolves were off tour due to the fact they were uncomfortable around humans. Here we learned more about Wolf Haven, how many wolves lived in the North America years ago, how many had disappeared, how many have returned and some interesting and funny facts about the individual wolves we were allowed to view. I think we all had our own favorites. We then traded places so that none of us missed a single thing. I was hoping the wolves would start howling as that is amazing when you hear 47 wolves howling at the same time but that was not to be on this visit. (Cont'd on P 9)

(Cont'd from P 8 WOLFHAVEN TRIP)

We decided each van would be on their own heading back to Astoria so the van I drove decided to head back the other direction join I-5 at Exit 88. Some of the vans stopped on the way back and had lunch. Our group stopped at a restaurant/bakery at Exit 68 and enjoyed homemade rhubarb pie ala-mode. Yummmm!

I fell in love with Wolf Haven when I was a volunteer there and was so happy I was able to share it with ENCORE members. Did you know you can adopt a wolf? When you adopt a wolf, your donation goes to the care of that wonderful animal. I had adopted Shadow in my parents name when he was just a pup. He is now about 6 years old and I renew it and the quarterly magazine every year for my parents' Christmas present. They get new pictures of him each Christmas, too. I think this is the only magazine my father reads cover to cover.

Submitted by Gail Sunderland



A LETTER TO THE EDITOR (for ALL members to ponder)

From Erhard Gross

What Is Best for ENCORE?

This is a Letter to the Editor of ENCORE's "Class Act." I want to give my reaction to the opinion voiced by Tod Lundy, our Immediate Past President. After lauding the chairs of the current standing committees, Tod says in volume 14, number 2 of "Class Act" that the current structure of the organization would make it difficult to replace a less than competent chairperson and that those chairs need to be subjected to term limits, and further: "At a bare minimum, these chairs must serve only with the consent of the board of directors."

I applaud Tod for bringing to our membership's attention the potential problems that might arise when the chairs of our standing committees become superannuated. What are chances that any of our chairpersons will become stale and ineffectual? Those chances are less real than getting duds among the four officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Board -- all elected by the general membership. Why? It's the common goals of members of standing committees that unites them.

The last review of our By-Laws dealt with Tod's question extensively because one current officer of the Board asked us specifically to do so. Historically, members of the standing committees, Curriculum, Membership and Trip, have elected their own chairpersons. ENCORE's By-Laws state:

The chairs of these committees are elected annually among the members of each committee and will be Board members. Committee Chairs will not be subjected to term limits.

The three members of the Review committee considered the attempt by an ENCORE President several years ago who came to a Trip committee meeting for the purpose of firing its chairperson. The members of that committee unanimously rebuffed this interference with the rationale that it might sew internal discontent and cripple the committee.

Marjie Spence, Anne Gant and I unanimously reaffirmed this aspect of the ByLaws, reasoning not to change anything that works well. The Board at its March meeting unanimously accepted our recommendations. The 2015 Annual General Membership voted to uphold the Board.

What are chances that members of the Board are better acquainted with the qualifications of members and chairpersons of our standing committees than their sitting members? Virtually none! Here is why: Of the 2014-15 Board, one person never attended any standing committee meetings, one other attended one such meeting. How can such persons be qualified to judge?

Why would a Board want to dictate to the standing committees, when the same leadership did not assert its responsibility when one of its own was unable to perform the designated tasks for six months.

Tod raised an interesting issue. I think an astute membership might see it as an invitation to join a standing committee of their choice.

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Next "Class Act" deadline is Monday, NOVEMBER 16, 2015