

CLASS ACT



Letter From the President

Happy 2019! I hope this will be an outstanding educational year for ENCORE members. Reta Lindstrom and her curriculum committee have arranged an excellent menu of winter courses and are hard at work planning for the spring quarter. Thank you Reta and your committee!

There are several things going on behind the scenes in ENCORE I want you to know about. First, I am sorry to report that Ellen Silverman, who assumed the role as ENCORE secretary last year, has resigned due her relocation from the North coast. ENCORE is currently looking for a volunteer replacement to fill this important position, which largely entails taking minutes at the monthly board meetings. Contact me if you are interested. Second, I am happy to report that Maria Brooks has assumed the role of media liaison for ENCORE. Her talents and her prior experience will define and expand this position. Thanks to both Ellen and Maria. Third, ENCORE has joined the Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce which we hope will increase our visibility in the area and bring in new members.

Finally, ENCORE and Clatsop Community College are in the process of negotiating a new relationship agreement. In this agreement ENCORE will be a separate financial entity from the college and a registered Oregon business, but will remain in close partnership with the college. An ad hoc committee of four board members and two non-board ENCORE members has provided the Board a first draft of ENCORE's proposal. The exact details of the new agreement will be worked out over the next few months, but we expect that most of any changes will be transparent to members.

I will keep you updated on future developments, but until then, Happy Learning!!

Dave Zunkel



**Snow in Astoria on
February 4th**



Interesting Class Coming Up

German History 1870 to Present By Erhard Gross

"The Germans are bad, very bad. See the millions of cars they are selling to the US. Terrible. We will stop this," an American politician thundered in May of 2017. There is truth to some of this politician's "facts." Sales of German vehicles worldwide are rivaled only by the Japanese. In March of the same year, the same American had snubbed German Chancellor Angela Merkel's handshake. Germany was down but not out in 1945. For decades now, Chancellor Angela Merkel has led the largest economy in Europe.

Ironically, the foundation for the strong German economy of today was laid by a powerful leader in the second half of the 19th century. German Chancellor Otto von Bismarck in 1881 rammed social security, followed by health insurance in 1883 and workman's compensation in 1884 through parliament. Knowing that Germany was poor in natural resources, Bismarck's goal was to maintain the country's manufacturing preeminence.

Bismarck also provoked the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. The North German alliance that was spear-headed by Prussia, could finally declare the founding of the Second Reich. (The First Reich had been established by Charlemagne in the year 800, the Third Reich was proclaimed by Hitler in January of 1933.)

My class on the history of Germany from 1870 to the present will survey nation building to nation destruction. It is ironic that while the post WWI Weimar Republic — the first German attempt at democracy — gradually became mired in party politics, it opened the door for Nazism.

As we study what happened in Germany toward the middle of the 20th century, we will encounter one of the most vicious murderers in all history. Millions of Jews as well as critics and opponents of the Nazi regime fell victim to the veritable bestiality of the dictatorship, some as late as April of 1945. At the same time Germany produced some remarkable scientific breakthroughs during WWII: the first jet planes, ballistic missiles, night vision devices and even methamphetamines.

No sooner did the Nazis disappear than the Cold War broke out. It pitted the West against the East Block, with Germany, and especially Berlin, being split by the infamous Iron Curtain. Born in 1935, for me personally, it meant replacement of Nazi with Communist propaganda. I escaped from East Germany in 1953. Four years later I immigrated to the United States.

In order to gain direct insights into the greatest change in the history of post-WWII, I will read from eye witness accounts provided by my direct contacts with citizens of former East Germany. We will study how the East German government's speaker erroneously set the masses in motion that breached the wall that had symbolized the great divide between East and West.

The fall of the Berlin Wall and with it the reunification of the country known as the Federal Republic of Germany continues its strong leadership position in the European Union. Its social democratic government under the current leadership of Angela Merkel continues its successful policies. Forbes' listing of the 100 most powerful women in the world continues with Chancellor Merkel as Number 1 for the seventh straight year. As was envisioned by the post WWII Marshall Plan, Germany became a strong ally of the United States. The only one who fails to respect that fact is the current US president.

The class meets at 1:30 PM, for six sessions: April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, at elevator equipped Astoria's City Hall.

Literary Sharing Class
Submitted by Carol Sigurdson

Do you read a lot? And would you like being read to by another person, either for pleasure or information? If you answer yes to either or both of those questions, you would enjoy attending the Literary Sharing Class in Seaside on Tuesday afternoons. We are just winding up our winter quarter, after completing the fall quarter, and looking forward to the class being repeated in the future.

Nellie Hutchison, who leads the class, has conducted several quarters of it in the past years. Nellie is an accomplished poet and she and other classmates have read her work aloud in class, along with works by Wordsworth, Keats, Robert Service, current poets from Oregon and Washington, poems by Bob Dylan, articles by Benjamin Franklin, works from our contemporary Oliver Sacks, and excerpts from an new historical novel about Queen Victoria.

As you can tell from the variety of literary works, mentioned above, you can read aloud practically anything which you have enjoyed or has intrigued you in some way. Case in point – recently Nellie has been reading to us from a huge book of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland – huge because it contains not only the text of the Lewis Carroll story, but notes on all the allusions in the story which Carroll made of things happening in the time which was mid-century 1800's to the end of the century. The re-reading of the story as an adult gives us a much different and broader view of the story than we perceived as a child.

Many of the readings we hear each week give rise to some very interesting discussions among our class members. These are enjoyable, and at times Nellie has to use what she calls her "gentle guidance" to get us on track to the next reading!

Ode To My Left Arm

By Nell Hutchison

Oh, let arm my lesser arm your hand never
held my fork or learned to write my name.

So when I fractured one small bone I
thought it was of no great matter. It was
only my left arm.

How could I have been so unaware of the
sweet rhythm of duality.

One hand plays the chord the other plays
the melody. One cuts the flowers the other
carries the bouquet. One holds the book the
Other turns the page. It is so natural this way.

Long connected, when one is injured the
other know the pain but now when the
body cries out, five fingers have to stop and
think before they act and even one small
bottle cap becomes a challenge.

Oh, fractured left arm ache of bone, you
have captured my attention and when I can
once again raise you high, I will give praise.

February Lunch Bunch

By Gerrie Penny

All of our beautiful sunny January weather came to an end and just as Lunch Bunch for



February rolled around. But even the clouds and raindrops didn't dampen the spirits of the 8 hearty ENCORE members who gathered at Buoy Beer. A lot of catching up between friends was done while enjoying the top-notch food and beverages. It never disappoints. Members present were: Kit Ketcham, Ellen Norris, Jean & Norm Hooge, Frank Spence, Lynn Ryan, Bernie Thomas, & Gerrie Penny.

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Writing Exchange Class

By Erhard Gross

The director general of Our Writing Exchange class is Eric Anderson. He is writing a novel and reads chapters as he finishes them. Normally, we have five or six persons in this very beneficial and enjoyable class. Although not a requirement, most people in the class read what they have written during the week. Most write their weekly pieces on the computer but we also have someone who writes their piece in longhand.

Perhaps the most important aspect of Eric's class is the Exchange part. Everybody in the class gets a crack at critique. Most pieces read benefit from the critique. I personally have never read one of my stories which did not benefit from the questions or suggestions my fellow writers advance.

I have often wondered why not more ENCORE members avail themselves of this fine teaching vehicle. We are not afraid of presenting pieces that might not be perfect. We learn from each other, and we encourage others to join this good opportunity for improving their writing skills. Eric puts a lot of effort into his class.

Mary Lucy Varga, Eric Anderson, Kay Limbird, Dale Rue, Tod Lundy, and Erhard Gross.



FROM THE EDITOR:

I feel the more contributions we get from our readers the more meaningful to each of us Class Act will become. So send in your articles, notices, jokes, pictures, class and event reviews or whatever you want to see here. A lot of you did make contributions and I thank you so much for that. I am afraid I need to change the deadline for submissions again. I found out that I do not need to have the Newsletter ready to submit until the 22nd of the month so we can make the deadline the 8th of the month. So for next time that would be May 8. As soon as your group has an event please assign someone to write it up and send it in with pictures whenever possible. I thought more students would write something appreciative about their teacher and class and include a picture. Maybe we will see that next semester. If we want to keep our great classes we need more people attending them. Again, many thanks to all who have contributed!

Jean Hooge

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Initial Report On Classes

Winter term 2019

Winter term classes are well underway, with a variety of subjects offered in Astoria and Seaside. Many members are attending one or more classes; however, enrollment is quite low in several classes.

How should the Curriculum Committee address this problem of diminishing enrollment?

Instructors prepare extensively to prepare for multi-session (up to eight) classes to produce their courses. Venues and non-ENCORE member taught courses cost money. Seaside classes typically have fewer participants, yet South County residents request courses to be held in their area. Astoria classes are much better attended.

Should the Curriculum Committee stop offering classes at the South County site of Clatsop Community College? What courses would ENCORE members like to have offered? Who are some possible instructors? Can you plan and offer a course? These questions confront the Curriculum Committee every term.

Members of ENCORE, please call your Curriculum Committee with your suggestions!

Reta Lindstrom, Chair
1-360-777-8750

Erhard Gross, Secretary
503-468-0752

On December 1st was the **ENCORE Holiday Bash**. And here are some of the hard working ladies that put it together - Nancy Hutchins, Gail Sunderland, Marlene Colendich, Charlotte Thiringer, and Kit Ketcham.



To My Old Home

By Norm Hooge

I didn't want to drive at night so my wife and I left early for Seattle. Seattle was a better connection to South Texas. The next morning planes were grounded due to fog – what a mess. Our flight was supposed to be straight to San Antonio with a stopover in Denver. It didn't happen. The plane was grounded in Denver. We were rerouted to Houston missing the 6:30 planned dinner with my daughter and husband. We arrived at 11:30. Such is life.

We weren't that anxious to go back after almost four years as we love Astoria. When there, however, the old nostalgia returns. It really is a good place especially this time of year. My daughter lives in Boerne TX, the "Hill Country," northwest of San Antonio. I was born and raised south of San Antonio in flat farming, ranching country. My parents have passed and the land has been split among myself and nephews.

We were invited to have Thanksgiving dinner at my son-in-law's mother's home (a gracious lady), the Blaha ranch, near Tilden TX. This is further south of my original home. It is a land of cattle, oil, mesquite, deer, javelina, and rattlesnakes. It is called the "Brush Country." The rugged land is matched by friendly people, a mixture of Mexican and European cultures.

After dinner I went past the long porch to the barbed-wire fence near a large cactus. I looked across the land and felt happy to be there that day.

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Q. What do you call two straight days of rain in Seattle?

A. A weekend

Q. Can Bees fly in the rain?

A. Not without their yellow jackets.

Q. What does a dolphin say when he's confused?

A. Can you please be more Pacific.

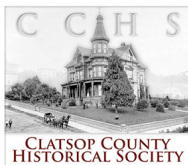
Q. What's the first thing you should do if a bull charges you?

A. Pay it!

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NOTICE

When you attend an ENCORE class or event, you will be entering a place where photography, video and audio recordings may occur.



The Chinese in Astoria

ENCORE in conjunction with the Clatsop County Historical Society (CCHS) presents a public program on the subject of the Chinese in Astoria. The program will start with an overview by Erhard Gross on the history of Chinese Immigrants in Oregon. The executive director of the CCHS will then present the history of the Chinese in Astoria and moderate a panel discussion involving community members of Chinese heritage.

FREE
and open to
the public

Sunday, March 24, 2:30 to 4:00 pm

Performing Arts Center, 588 16th St, Astoria OR
For additional information, call Erhard Gross at
503 468-0752.

Non-Discrimination Declaration It is the policy of Clatsop Community College that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, color, sex, gender, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or disability in any educational programs, activities, or employment. Questions or complaints should be directed to Leslie Hall, Affirmative Action/Gender Equity (Title IX) Officer, Tower Hall, Suite 110, lhall@clatsopcc.edu 503-338-2450; TDD 503-338-2468. The Title II/Section 504 Coordinator, Lisa Deneen, is located in Tower Hall, Suite 312B, ldeneen@clatsopcc.edu (link sends e-mail) 503-338-2474. **Accommodations** Persons having questions about or a request for special needs and accommodation should contact JoAnn Zahn, Vice President of Finance and Operations, at Clatsop Community College, 1651 Lexington Avenue, Astoria, Oregon 97103, Library Suite 110, jzahn@clatsopcc.edu. Phone (503) 338-2421 or TDD (503) 338-2468. Contact should be made at least two business days in advance of the event. **Declaración de no-discriminación** Es la política de Clatsop Community College que no habrá ningún tipo de discriminación o acoso por razón de raza, color, sexo, género, estado civil, religión, origen nacional, edad, orientación sexual, identidad de género o expresión discapacitada en los programas educativos, actividades o en la contratación. Preguntas o quejas deben ser dirigidas al Leslie Hall, Oficial de Acción Afirmativa / Título IX localizado en Tower Hall número 110, lhall@clatsopcc.edu número de teléfono 503-338-2450, TDD (discapacidad auditiva) 503-338-2468. El Coordinador de la Título II/Sección 504, Lisa Deneen, se encuentra en Tower Hall, número 312B, ldeneen@clatsopcc.edu número de teléfono 503-338-2474. Para AODA y otros peticiones de servicios llame al 503-338-2474 o para TDD (discapacidad auditiva) 503-338-2468. **Ayuda a personas discapacitadas:** En cuanto a las personas discapacitadas, se les pide que se comuniquen con JoAnn Zahn, la Vice Presidente de Finanzas y Operaciones en Clatsop Community College, 1651 Lexington Avenue, Astoria, Oregon 97103, Library Suite 110, jzahn@clatsopcc.edu número telefónico (503) 338-2421 o a TDD (503) 338-2468. Haga el favor de notificar a la oficina para que se le pueda proporcionar apoyo. La comunicación debe tomar lugar por lo menos dos días de trabajo antes del evento por el cual se requiera tal ayuda.

ENCORE/CLATSOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE
"Exploring New Concepts Of Retirement Education"
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www.encorelearn.org

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