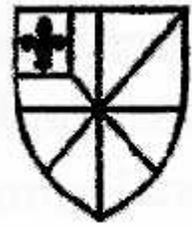




# Albion Area Lifelong Learners



Albion College

2014 Fall Newsletter

## 2014 Fall Assembly

September 25, 2014

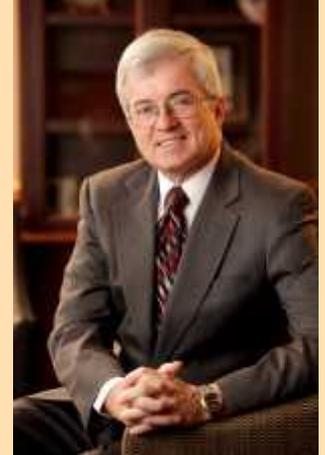
First United Methodist Church, (Tennant Hall) 10:00 a.m.

Speaker: Albion College President Mauri Ditzler

We have heard and read of the energy and educational vision President Ditzler has shared with Albion faculty, administration, and the local press. Our unique opportunity at AALL's Fall Assembly is to hear and interact with his vision for the college, and for him personally, to be an involved community partner.

In the Spring-Summer 2014 *Io Triumph!*, Ditzler noted: "[Albion College loses] credibility to our claim that we are a central player in building a civil society if those who are our closest neighbors don't enjoy the benefits of a solid economy, safe communities, and a dignified and rewarding life."

As always, Assembly participants will have the much anticipated opportunity to welcome Albion College President Mauri Ditzler and engage in a Q & A at the close of his prepared remarks .



**The last day for Registration for classes will be at the Fall Assembly (Sept. 25) as classes will begin one (1) week later.**

### Subscribe to Albion College's E-Newsletter, "Britonline"

Stay up to date with the latest news and events from Albion College through our e-newsletter, Britonline.

The Britonline is sent to alumni, parents, community members, and subscribers once a month.

To subscribe: highlight link below, paste in browser "location" line, Go to...

<http://www.albion.edu/ia/alumniengagement/stay-connected/subscribe-to-e-news>

Click on "Subscribe" and fill in the information asked for. (Also, check out the archive links as well)

VIBRANT ALBION: A WORK IN PROGRESS. Various Community Leaders. Wednesdays, 10:00-12:15. October 8, 15, 22, 29. TBA.

Many groups and individuals in Albion and the surrounding area are building on the strength that this community has always had. They are bringing to reality a vision of a vibrant town.

Each meeting of this class will be divided into two parts comprised of a panel of leaders and will provide an opportunity for questions and answers. The class will provide an opportunity to interact with over twenty-five community advocates and leaders. Each Wednesday will cover a different topic.

On the first week, we will consider the contributions of the clubs and non-profit organizations to this community. The second week will be devoted to recreation and travel opportunities. Week three addresses the evolving scope and innovations in education from Kindergarten through college and beyond. And the class concludes with the exploration of city development in areas of business, health care, and city government.



Fall Class Announcements

Fall 2014 Newsletter

Albion, Michigan 49224

P.O. Box 188

AALL

# AALL Course Descriptions, Fall, 2014

Registration required

GMO FOOD TO GENETIC MEDICINE. Robert Armstrong, Ph.D., Biochemistry. Professor Emeritus, Chemistry, Albion College. Mondays, 10:00-12:00. October 6, 13, 20, 27. TBA.

The ability of farmers to feed the earth's population is due to the genetic selection of the best species over thousands of years. Recently the use of recombinant DNA has allowed another increase in food production. We will discuss how these genetically modified plants are designed and their advantages and disadvantages.

The second topic of discussion will be Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) which monitor all experimental medical procedures. These reviews are required by the Federal Government to assure that the risk to patients is justified by the potential benefit of the new treatment.

During the remainder of the course we will look at medical treatments that are designed to work with individual genotypes rather than the average person.

The course will be presented at a level not requiring more than a general understanding of science. Discussion will be encouraged.

THE QUANTUM ENIGMA. Aaron Miller, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Physics, Albion College. Tuesdays, 10:00-12:00. September 30, October 7, 14, 21. TBA.

One third of our nation's economy is based on products that were developed using quantum mechanics. For eighty years quantum theory has been repeatedly experimentally verified, and is arguably the most successful predictive theory in the history of science. Unfortunately, no one really understands it and its deeper implications for our sense of what is physical reality. Guided by the book *Quantum Enigma: Physics Encounters Consciousness* and related readings we discuss the essential mysteries of our quantum world in non-technical, but physically accurate, terms in an effort to explore the bizarre physical and philosophical implications of the fundamental quantum nature of the universe.

Together we will explore the conventional understanding of "science" and the process of scientific inquiry; we will discuss the understanding of the nature of reality under a "Newtonian" worldview; and we will explore a revised "quantum" worldview that is heavily supported by empirical evidence. We conclude the course with discussions on the implications that a quantum worldview has on our personal concept of the nature of reality.

Book: *Quantum Enigma: Physics Encounters Consciousness*, 2nd edition, Rosenblum and Kuttner. \$10.48.

continued

JAPAN TODAY: POLITICS AND SOCIETY. Dyron Dabney, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Political Science, Albion College. Thursdays, 2:00-4:00. October 2, 9, 23, 30. TBA

This short course begins with a historical reflection of Japan's early postwar years, and continues with in-depth overviews of contemporary government and politics in Japan. The main foci are 1) Japan's decision-making bodies, 2) electoral politics, and 3) party politics. Within the context of these political institutions, this short course surveys policy issues of current interest among Japanese society and political leaders. These policy issues include constitutional revision (i.e., remilitarization), a declining birthrate and an aging population, immigration, and women in the work force. An important objective of the course is to showcase political pluralism and democracy from a Japanese (i.e., non-Western) lens and context. That said, frequent comparisons are made against other democracies, namely the U.S. Participants should have access to a computer since some class materials will be distributed as email pdf attachments.

NATURE'S MYTHS, PHOBIAS, AND PHENOMENA! David Green, B.A., Director, Whitehouse Nature Center. Wednesdays, 2:00-4:00. October 1, 8, 15, 22. Whitehouse Nature Center. Class size limit: 25 persons.

The ordinary will become the extraordinary. This series of classes will investigate Michigan's unique, amazing, and often misunderstood flora and fauna. Are there cougar and bear in Michigan? Is hogweed as bad as they say it is? Are Daddy-long legs poisonous? Are there sea lamprey in the Kalamazoo River? Learn about the direct connection Albion College has with the nationally-celebrated Arbor Day. Each of the four classes will heighten your appreciation and understanding of our local insects, reptiles, mammals, plants, and birds. There will be inside lectures and outdoor excursions on the Whitehouse Nature Center's trails. Come prepared to go outdoors rain or shine. Easy walking, (with slight inclines) up to a mile, per class.

**Participants are advised to bring insect repellent.**

GEORGE GERSHWIN. Linda Jo Scott, Ph.D. in English. Music Contributor to the Battle Creek Enquirer. Thursdays, 10:00-12:00. October 2, 9, 16, 23. TBA.

George Gershwin (1898-1937) was an American composer whose compositions spanned both popular and classical genres. He died at the age of 38 from a brain tumor, but in his short lifetime he composed over 500 songs as well as a number of longer works including the orchestral compositions, Rhapsody in Blue and An American in Paris, and the opera, Porgy and Bess.

His brother, Ira Gershwin, had a comparable talent for composing poems and lyrics. The two of them worked almost exclusively together from 1924 until Gershwin's death, composing over two dozen scores for Broadway and Hollywood. Their music defined the sound of the jazz age and, some would argue, elevated musical comedy of the 1920-30's to an American Art Form.

Throughout the course we will talk about Gershwin's life and listen to some of his more famous songs such as "Swanee," "Fascinating Rhythm," "Strike Up the Band," "S'Wonderful," and "Lady Be Good." The course will conclude with viewing and discussing the most famous of all American operas, Porgy and Bess.

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"My dad is getting old and cranky. Last night at dinner, he told the wild rice to settle down."

## AALL Officers

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| President :         | Robin Reed    |
| Vice President:     | John Kondelik |
| Treasurer:          | Alice Cook    |
| Secretary:          | Hal Wyss      |
| Editor, Newsletter: | Dick Lewin    |

## New AALL Website: AlbionAALL.org

You will be able to view, and download the PDF and some Word versions of AALL's newsletters, class descriptions, and the registration form to be filled in and sent to the registrar. On-line registration may be available in the near future. Information about each term will be posted as soon as available.

Also on the site are photos from AALL classes and other information about AALL. Please check it out!

Send suggestions and material for the web site to Dave Kammer: [dkammer@albion.edu](mailto:dkammer@albion.edu)

## AALL Membership

A membership form is included at the bottom of the "Course Registration" form. Dues are \$20 per person, per year, with the year running from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

Members may take one (1) free course per term (fall, winter, spring). There is a charge of \$10 for each additional course taken in any term.

## Registration Information

The Registration form attached to this newsletter should be sent with payment to:

AALL Registrar

P.O Box 188

Albion, Michigan 49224

or brought to the

Fall Assembly on September 25, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m.

in Tennant Hall, First United Methodist Church.

**"If there are additional class fees for supplies, these fees need to be paid at the time of registration and are non-refundable unless the class is canceled."**

In the event that a class which has limited enrollment is oversubscribed, AALL policy is to choose successful applicants on a random basis. Thus, participants for limited classes will be chosen by lottery from all registrations received for that class as soon as possible following the Assembly on September 25, 2014.

**Registrants for all classes will receive notification as soon as possible following the Assembly. That notification will acknowledge their registration and provide additional information about the course(s) for which they have registered.**

If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees will be refunded **ONLY** if the AALL Registrar, Mary Deardurff (517-629-9661), is notified prior to the start of the class.

**PLEASE NOTE:** AALL incorporated as a separate NONPROFIT organization in January 2010 under the incorporation laws of the State of Michigan. However, we have NOT yet become a TAX EXEMPT organization under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service. Therefore, any donations and/or fees paid to AALL are NOT tax deductible. The AALL Board is currently weighing the costs and benefits of applying for tax-exempt status, but no decision has yet been reached.

# Membership & Course Registration Form – Fall, 2014

## Registration Instructions: Please read carefully

1. Fill in the blank below (on the left) for yourself. If you have a spouse/partner who is an AALL member, use the blank (on the right).
2. For each course for which you wish to register, place a number in the box in front of the course name: 1 for the course you most wish to take, 2 for the second course you wish to take, etc. Note: If you only wish to take one course, indicate only one (1) course (mark it with the number 1) — see instruction 4 below.
3. In the column marked FEE, indicate the appropriate cost. Your first course (each term) is free with your AALL membership; simply write FREE in the FEE column. For each additional course, the fee is \$10.
4. If you wish to indicate an alternate choice (in case one of your choices above is oversubscribed and you are not admitted to that course), mark an X in the box before your alternate choice.

**IMPORTANT:**

1. Use numbers in the boxes to indicate which course(s) you wish to take; use and X only to indicate alternate courses.
2. If you are registering for a course with limited enrollment, make sure you mark it number 1 (only those indicating a course as their first choice are entered into the random selection).

“If there are additional class fees for supplies, these fees need to be paid at the time of registration and are non-refundable unless the class is canceled.”

Fall class registration deadline is September 25, 2014. Regretfully, class applications after that date cannot be accepted.

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| NAME: _____  |       |
| phone: _____   |       |
| E-mail: _____  |       |
|  | FEE   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GMO Food to Genetic Medicine          | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Quantum Enigma                    | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrant Albion: A Work in Progress    | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature's Myths, Phobias, & Phenomena! | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> George Gershwin                       | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Japan Today: Politics and Society     | _____ |
| <b>Total Fees</b>  | _____ |
| Signature: _____   |       |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| NAME: _____  |       |
| phone: _____   |       |
| E-mail: _____  |       |
|  | FEE   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GMO Food to Genetic Medicine          | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Quantum Enigma                    | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrant Albion: A Work in Progress    | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature's Myths, Phobias, & Phenomena! | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> George Gershwin                       | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Japan Today: Politics and Society     | _____ |
| <b>Total Fees</b>  | _____ |
| Signature: _____   |       |

## Membership & Course Registration Deadline: September 25, 2014

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>MEMBERSHIP FORM</b>   |                           |
| (To be completed only by those wishing to join AALL or renew their membership in AALL) |                           |
| Name _____   | Spouse/Partner Name _____ |
| Address _____  |                           |
| City _____   | Zip _____ Date _____      |
| Phone (____) _____   | E-mail _____              |
| Dues: \$20 per year per person   | Spouse's E-mail _____     |
| _____ Yes, I am 55 or older (spouse/partner could be younger)                          |                           |