

Albion Area Lifelong Learners

A Lifelong Learning Experience in Cooperation with Albion College

Greetings!

Dear Friends:

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camps in Europe at the end of WWII. Holocaust survivor and peace activist, Dr. Irene Butter, will be our speaker at the Spring Assembly. Copies of her memoir, *Shores Beyond Shores*, will be available for purchase and signing following her presentation.

A day-long field trip is being planned (in conjunction with the Jackson Trippers) to Detroit's Eastern Market for Flower Days on Sunday, May 17. The cost will be around \$45—specific details will be available at the Spring Assembly.

I am happy to announce that Jim Seidl has agreed to serve as AALL treasurer. Our thanks to Alice Cook who has spent many years as our treasurer.

We are cutting back on the number of paper newsletters we send through the mail. This edition will be the last one you automatically receive. If you still wish to get a paper newsletter, please call or write the AALL Registrar.

As usual, there is an interesting selection of classes to choose from this spring. When you register, be sure to notice that two of the classes meet at different times than the usual 10-12 and 2-4.

Royal Ward
President, AALL

Upcoming Events

Spring Assembly – Thursday, April 2, 10:00 am
Tennant Hall, First United Methodist Church
600 East Michigan Avenue

IRENE BUTTER: HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR AND PEACE ACTIVIST

Irene Hasenberg Butter was born in Berlin and grew up as a Jewish child in Nazi-occupied Europe. While living in Holland, she and her family were deported to Nazi-controlled prison camps and finally Bergen-Belsen, where she was a fellow prisoner with Anne Frank. In the years following the Holocaust, she was forbidden from speaking about her experiences by the American relatives who cared for her. Dr. Butter is now making up for lost time. She sends a poignant message against hate at a time when anti-Semitic, fascist and xenophobic movements around the globe are experiencing a resurgence. Dr. Butter has shared the stage with peacemakers such as the Dalai Lama, Desmond

Tutu, and Elie Wiesel, and she considers it her duty to tell her story now and on behalf of the six million Jews who have been permanently silenced.

In 1945 Dr. Butter came to the United States, where she attended high school and college. She was one of the first women to earn a PhD in economics from Duke University, and was a professor of Public Health at the University of Michigan, where she was a co-founder of the Raoul Wallenberg Medal and Lecture series. She is also a cofounder of Zeitouna, an Arab/Jewish women's dialogue group in Ann Arbor.

Dr. Butter's memoir, *Shores Beyond Shores*, will be available for purchase and signing following her presentation.

Upcoming Courses

STEM IN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. Jason Raddatz, Director of the Whitehouse Nature Center, Albion College. Mondays. 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. May 4, 11, 18. Whitehouse Nature Center on Albion Campus.

“STEM in the Natural Environment” will explore applied technologies and their applications in the natural world. Applied technologies include, but are not limited to, 3D modeling and printing, remote robot piloting, coding unmanned aerial vehicles, and using GIS/GPS. Lessons will primarily take place at the Whitehouse Nature Center, The Attic, and the Ferguson Hall Computer Lab.

There is a materials fee of \$15.00 which will cover equipment use and consumption of plastic.

WRITING AND SPEAKING FOR THE FUN OF IT. Jim Whitehouse, B.A. (English, biology from Albion College), JD (University of Toledo), Newspaper columnist and retired lawyer. Tuesdays. 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. May 5, 12, 19, 26. Location TBD.

This course will be a relaxed journey into writing and speaking for fun. It will be a continuation of “Writing for the Fun of It” presented in February 2019, but attendance at that earlier class is NOT a requirement. We will explore new ideas, techniques and challenges and have fun along the way.

Many people are anxious about writing and even more nervous about public speaking. Be assured NOBODY will be required to share what you have written, and NOBODY will be required to speak publicly, in class or out. Instead, we will identify and try to knock down barriers to writing and public speaking.

Writing assignments will be short, and most will be completed during class. A few brief homework assignments will be included. The instructor is willing to ruthlessly or kindly critique your work. Your choice. Bring paper and pencils or pens

SKETCHING. Margaret Wessel Walker, Professional Artist. Tuesdays. 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. May 5, 12, 19, 26. Location TBD.

This class will cover the basics of pencil sketching. We will begin with sketching simple objects, such as spheres and cubes, to understand concepts of shading and perspective. By the end of the four week course, you will be able to choose a photograph of your own to practice sketching.

Margaret Wessel Walker has a life-long love of art. She studied at the Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, an art-intensive school, and did an apprenticeship with a silk painter her senior year. During college at the University of Chicago and King's College London, she continued to practice art on her own, primarily pencil sketching and oil paints. Now, she sells her sketches and prints at Escham Family Farm in Albion, MI, and on Etsy at Adorable Obscenities.

Supplies: two pencils, a 2B and a 6B, a good eraser (such as a high polymer eraser), and a smudge stick. Paper will be provided, or you can bring your own high-quality sketchbook. All of the supplies are available at stores such as JoAnn's or Michael's.

ADRIENNE RICH, POET OF OUR TIME. Judith Lockyer, Ph.D., Professor of English *emerita*, Albion College. Wednesdays. 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. May 6, 13, 20, 27. Location TBD.

U.S. poet Adrienne Rich died in 2012, leaving those who read her poetry a rich legacy of passionate and powerful explorations of the false assumptions and lies about our history and present that perpetuate inequality and smother hope. We will analyze her feminism and her early anger about women's identities as tied only to their bodies. At the same time, her poems create images of the world "revised." She never fails to connect humans to her larger subject—the powerful lies our past, present, and futures. Her interrogation of power leads her to find an expansive creative space. Rich's poetry gives her a powerful means to interrogate language, humanity, the lives of men, women and children, as well as the failures of old powers and unexamined lives.

Her poetry is perhaps more relevant than ever as we live in such confused, confusing times. Adrienne Rich is certainly a poet of our time because she thinks about our environment and the damage industries have left behind. She writes about love and war, lies and hard truths, our need for words that will not lie, even calling for a new language in *Dreams of a Common Language*. She writes poetry as "if [our] lives depend upon it." ** Her poetry gives us much to think and talk about. As she moves through poetic forms, she shows us how ancient poetic forms such as the ghazal (originally Persian) and more recent lyric poetry is the most powerful way to think more critically about our lives and our land. (**from Essay VI in her book *What is Found There*)

Book: *Adrienne Rich, 1950-2012: Selected Poems* (New York: W.W. Norton). Available at Stirling Books and Brew and the Albion College bookstore.

MOVIES EVERYONE SHOULD, BUT MAY NOT, HAVE SEEN. Richard Lewin, United Church of Christ pastor, *retired*. Wednesdays. 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. May 6, 13, 20, 27. Bohm Theatre.

There are many movies of historical significance, artistic genius, with wonderful storylines and ground-breaking technology that should be seen, even decades after their release. This class will view four such

movies -- wonderful movies that should be seen... ESPECIALLY if you have not been fortunate enough to have already seen them. There will be time provided for conversation regarding the viewing event.

Movie 1: METROPOLIS (1927) (Hopefully, the Restored 2010 version)

Is a 1927 expressionist drama film: a pioneering science-fiction movie, among the first feature-length movies of that genre. Made in Germany during the Weimar period, filming took place over 17 months (1925-1926) at a cost of more than 5 million Reichsmarks. A "classic."

Movie 2: IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT (1934)

A pre-Code American screwball comedy film directed by Frank Capra and Harry Cohn. Starring Claudette Colbert and Clark Gable, the film was the first film (of three: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, and The Silence of the Lambs) to win all five major academy Awards: Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, and Best Adapted Screenplay.

Movie 3: DAUGHTERS OF THE DUST (1991)

The first feature film directed by an African-American woman distributed in the U.S. Set in 1902 it tells the story of three generations of Gullah (also known as Geechee) women in the Peasant family on Saint Helena Island as they prepare to migrate to the North on the mainland. The film gained critical praise for its lush visuals, Gullah dialogue, and non-linear storytelling.

Movie 4: RENOIR (2012)

This is a 2012 French drama film based on the last years of Pierre-Auguste Renoir at Cagnes-sur-Mer during World War I, and tells the forgotten story of Andrée Heuschling (Catherine Hessling) the last model of the impressionist painter, and first actress in the films of his son, the film director, Jean Renoir. The film won the AARP Movies for Grownups "Best Foreign Film" Award.

Registration Information

Course Registration Form Instructions

1. For each course for which you want to register, place a number in the box in front of the course name: 1 for the course you most want to take, 2 for the second course you wish to take, etc. (NOTE: If you only wish to take one course, mark it with the number 1—see instruction 3 below.)
2. 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.
3. If you wish to indicate an alternate choice (in case one of your choices is oversubscribed and you are not admitted to that course), mark an X in the box before your alternate choice.
4. If there are additional class fees for supplies, these fees need to be paid at the time of registration. If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees can be refunded up until the start of the course.

AALL Spring Term 2020 - REGISTRATION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 9

REGISTRATION 1

	COURSE TITLE	FEE
	STEM in the Natural Environment	
	Writing and Speaking for the Fun of It	
	Sketching	
	Adrienne Rich, Poet of Our Time	
	Movies Everyone Should, But May Not, Have Seen	

TOTAL:

Name	
Phone	
Email	
Signature	

REGISTRATION 2

	COURSE TITLE	FEE
	STEM in the Natural Environment	
	Writing and Speaking for the Fun of It	
	Sketching	
	Adrienne Rich, Poet of Our Time	
	Movies Everyone Should, But May Not Have Seen	

TOTAL:

Name	
Phone	
Email	
Signature	

Membership Form — If you are not already a member, please join now

Dues: \$20 per year, per person (July 1 – June 30)

AALL Registrar, P. O. Box 188, Albion, MI 49224

Yes, I am 55 or older (spouse partner could be younger)

Name _____ Spouse/partner name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone (_____) _____

Email _____ Spouse email _____

AALL
P. O. Box 188
Albion. MI 49224

AALL Spring 2020 Newsletter
and Spring Classes

ABOUT AALL

AALL Officers

President: Royal Ward
Vice President: Bruce Nelson
Secretary: Kathleen Seidl
Treasurer: Jim Seidl

Support Staff

Registrar: Mary Deardurff
Webmaster: Eric Westmoreland

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 is currently in the process of applying for tax-exempt status.