

Albion Area Lifelong Learners

AN INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING IN COOPERATION WITH ALBION COLLEGE

Greetings

Dear Friends,

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday, and now we can all look forward to new learning opportunities with AALL. First, our Assembly speaker, Richard Porter, will be informing us about the new solar developments around Albion. Assembly is Thursday, January 19, 10 a.m., at First United Methodist Church, Tennant Hall.

Next, our February schedule is full with six offerings. Topics include the history of medical remedies, short-term and long-term memory issues, conceptions of the natural world, the Negro Baseball League, films at the Bohm, and a single-class workshop on climate solutions. We are so grateful to have such a diligent Curriculum Committee.

We are still sensitive to COVID issues. Classes will be in person. Masks are optional. If there are any changes, you will be informed.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Mary Slater, Board President

Upcoming Events

Winter Assembly - Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 10 a.m.

Update and Background of Solar Installation in Sheridan Township
Richard Porter, Sheridan Township Supervisor, 2016 - present

As township supervisor, Richard is responsible for representing the board, appointing committee members, doing all research for the board and making recommendations on issues that come before the board. He was chairman of the township planning committee when they first became aware of large solar farms 10 years ago.

Richard also serves as a member of the County planning commission currently. The ordinance they developed is widely used throughout the state as a template. He is required to make the annual Township budget, review all invoices and approve all payments of bills. He is also required to be at all tax boards of reviews and take the minutes and sign all contracts and documents for the township.

Richard is active in the community and has served on his church's board for over 40 years, is the Co-founder and president of Albion Community Garden. A Navy veteran and past commander of the American Legion and President of the Albion chapter of VMCCA Antique auto club. He also serves on Troop 158 board.

Upcoming Courses

Inventing Nature: Humboldt, Darwin, Thoreau, and Leopold

Douglas White, Professor emeritus, Biology Department, Albion College.

Email: dwhite@albion.edu, phone: 517-629-6905.

Mondays. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. January 30, February 6, 13, 20.

In Person. Ludington. Class size 35.

We will examine the idea that our holistic conception of nature is rooted in the writings of four naturalists: Alexander von Humboldt (1769 – 1859), Charles Darwin (1809 – 1882), Henry David Thoreau (1817 – 1862), and Aldo Leopold (1887 – 1948). Today, humans are widely accepted as part and product of an interconnected, dynamic, and wondrous ecological system. This viewpoint drives research, education, recreation, and environmentalism. It was not always so. Each class will focus on the biography, writings, and contributions of one naturalist. Electronic writing excerpts will be provided for discussion. We'll also see evidence that later authors were inspired by their predecessors. Ultimately, we'll examine how the social construct of "the balance of nature" is a popular but scientifically unjustified myth.

Down Memory Lane: the Relationship Between Long and Short Term Memory

David Hogberg, Professor Emeritus, Psychology Department, Albion College.

Email: dhogberg@albion.edu.

Martha O’Kennon, Professor Emerita, Mathematics and Computer Science Department, Albion College.

Email: mokennon@albion.edu; phone: 517-629-8216.

Tuesdays. 2 – 4 p.m. January 31, February 7, 14, 21.

In Person. Ludington 113. Class size limit 35.

You know how they say we older folks lose our short-term memory but never can get rid of those annoying evidences of long-term memory, like those Tom Lehrer songs that some of us know by heart to the annoyance of some of our friends. Dave Hogberg is studying the relationship between Long- and Short-term memories, and has found evidence that our long-term memory may actually be able to help with our short-term memory. At the beginning of each class, he will discuss these topics: Day 1: Stages of Memory: Echoic and iconic, short/long term. Day 2: Measures of memory: Recall vs recognition. Day 3: Memory maintenance: Brain and Memory. Day 4: Memory improvement/memory and aging; fluid vs crystallized memory.

In the second half of each class, we will practice our long-term memories. We will sing to and with each other. There are hymns, for example, that most of us know by heart. We can also choose to recite poems that we learned in school (or the better ones we learned outside of class). Maybe you still remember how to do the fox-trot or waltz? We can reminisce about scenes from childhood or younger adulthood. Can these long-term memories be used to aid our short-term memory? Let’s find out!

Cures, Quacks, and Remedies: From Ancient to Modern Times

Marc Roy, Professor, Biology Department, Albion College.

Email: mroy@albion.edu.

Tuesdays 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. January 31, February 7, 14, 21.

In Person. Ludington 113. Class size limit 35.

Books that participants will need before class starts: Quackery : A brief history of the worst ways to cure everything (recommended) by Lydia King, MD and Nate Pedersen; available through Amazon.

From the earliest recorded times, humans have been sick and injured. The ways that we have treated illness and injury are interesting and, from our present point of view, often quite strange and even funny. In this class we will learn about some of those treatments including quacks and some that may be legitimate remedies.

The History of Negro Leagues Baseball and the Impact on The Black Community

Marc Newman, Vice President of Advancement at Albion College, Negro Leagues Baseball Collector, former player, and coach.

Email: manewman23@gmail.com.

Wednesdays 3 – 5 p.m., February 1, 8, 15, 22.

In Person. Ludington 113. Class size limit 35.

Book that participants will need before class starts: Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution (recommended) by Neil Lanctot.

2022 marked the first time since 1950 that no US-born Black players played in the major league baseball world series. The History of Negro Leagues Baseball and the Impact on the Black Community will examine baseball's reaction to segregation, its response to integration, the demise of one of the strongest financial enterprises, and the loss of Black participation in the sport. The course will also examine the impact of these actions on the black community.

En-ROADS Climate Solutions Workshop

Thom Wilch, Professor, Department of Earth and Environment, Faculty Director of the Center for Sustainability and the Environment. Albion College.

Email: twilch@albion.edu.

Monday, February 6, 2 – 4:30 p.m., In Person, Ludington 103. Class size unlimited.

This class is free, and anyone who took it previously is welcome to attend again.

This is a one-session AALL class. The En-ROADS Climate Solutions Workshop is an interactive group exercise guided by Dr. Thom Wilch, a trained facilitator, where people work together to test solutions for addressing climate change. In the workshop, participants propose climate solutions such as energy efficiency, carbon pricing, fossil

fuel taxes, reducing deforestation, and carbon dioxide removal. We will test these approaches in the En-ROADS Climate Solutions Simulator, so participants can see the impact on global temperature and other factors in real time. The goal of the workshop is to create a scenario that limits global warming to well below 2°C and aims for 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, the international goals formally recognized in the Paris climate agreement.

Join us to experience what it's like to create your own climate future using grounded conversations; the resulting experience is hopeful, scientifically grounded, action-oriented, and eye-opening.

Movies Everyone Should But May Not Have Seen

Richard Lewin, United Church of Christ pastor, retired.

Thursdays. 2 – 4 p.m. February 2, 9, 16, 23.

Bohm Theatre. No class limit. Fee for Theatre, \$10 for the series.

Movie 1: The Red Shoes (1948)

Widely considered to be one of the greatest films ever made. A young ballerina becomes torn between her love for composer Julian Craster and artistic devotion to her profession, which is dominated by impresario Lermontov. Winner of two academy awards, the film is visually one of the most innovative and beautiful works of cinema.

Movie 2: The Turin Horse (2011)

On January 3, 1889, Turin Italy, Friedrich Nietzsche steps out of the doorway of number six, Via Carlo Albert. Not far from him, a cab driver is having trouble with a stubborn horse. The horse refuses to move, whereupon the driver loses his patience and takes his whip to it. Nietzsche puts an end to the brutal scene, throwing his arm around the horse's neck, sobbing. After this, he lies motionless and silent for two days on a divan, until he loses consciousness and his mind. Somewhere in the countryside, the driver of the cab lives with his daughter and the horse. Outside, a windstorm rages. Immaculately photographed in the director's renowned long takes, THE TURIN HORSE is the final statement from a master filmmaker.

Movie 3: Withnail & I (1987)

The finest "cult film known to humanity"! Camden Town, the arse-end of the sixties. Two struggling, unemployed actors decide some respite is in order and so depart their miserable flat for a week in the Lake District — one that will involve rain, booze, minimal supplies, a randy bull, and an even randier Uncle Monte.

Based on the real-life experiences of former actor turned writer/director Bruce Robinson, *WITHNAIL & I* has become one of British cinema's most fondly remembered comedies. A cult film in the truest sense that has also become a classic — crammed with irresistibly quotable dialogue; a sheer delight, even on the umpteenth viewing.

Movie 4: Harold & Maude (1971)

A coming of age comedy. In this essential cult-classic, Harold [Bud Cort] is a death-obsessed teen, who falls for Maude [Ruth Gordon], a happy-go-lucky, eccentric 79-year-old. Maude teaches Harold a valuable lesson about making the most of his time on Earth.

Reminders for Winter 2023

1. Annual membership dues for 2023-2024 are \$20. Members may take one class each term without additional fee; each additional class is \$10. If you have questions, you can call the Registrar, Mary Deardurff at 517-990-4158.
2. The Winter Assembly (on Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 10 a.m.) will be held in Tennant Hall at the First United Methodist Church. You may register in person from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Please bring your completed registration form (or facsimile) with you.
3. Mail-in registration forms (along with a check or money order made out to AALL) must be received by Thursday, January 19, 2023. Mail the completed form along with a check or money order payable to AALL to: AALL Registrar, P. O. Box 188, Albion, MI 49224

Registration Information

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)
2. 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.
3. In the column marked FEE, indicate the appropriate cost. The first course (each term) is free with your AALL membership; simply write FREE in the FEE column. Each additional course is \$10 (plus any special fees). All fees need to be paid at the time of registration.

4. If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees can be refunded up until the start of the course

Policy for Limited Enrollment Classes

When a course with limits is over-enrolled, the names of all those who had it listed as #1 shall be entered in a lottery. Those randomly drawn shall be placed in the class. Those not selected will comprise the waiting list and also be given first access if that course is offered again. The Registrar will keep a record of those on the waiting list until the course is offered again.

Those selected for the course in its first offering will not be eligible to retake it until all those on the waiting list have had the opportunity to take the course.

Those who have signed up for a class with limits and listed it as #1 are encouraged to sign up for at least one additional class. Members are also encouraged not to sign up for a course with limited enrollment if they know they won't be there for all four sessions.

AALL Winter Term 2023

Registration deadline: Thursday, January 19, 2023

Registration 1

	Cost
2022 - 23 annual dues (\$20)	
Inventing Nature: Humboldt, Darwin, Thoreau, and Leopold	
Down Memory Lane: the Relationship Between Long and Short Term Memory	
Cures, Quacks, and Remedies: From Ancient to Modern Times	
The History of Negro Leagues Baseball and the Impact on The Black Community	
En-ROADS Climate Solutions Workshop	
Movies Everyone Should But May Not Have Seen	
Total:	

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Registration 2

	Cost
2022 - 23 annual dues (\$20)	
Inventing Nature: Humboldt, Darwin, Thoreau, and Leopold	
Down Memory Lane: the Relationship Between Long and Short Term Memory	
Cures, Quacks, and Remedies: From Ancient to Modern Times	
The History of Negro Leagues Baseball and the Impact on The Black Community	
En-ROADS Climate Solutions Workshop	
Movies Everyone Should But May Not Have Seen	
Total:	

Name:

Phone:

Email:

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

**MAIL form and check or money order to:
AALL Registrar, P. O. Box 188, Albion, MI 49224**