



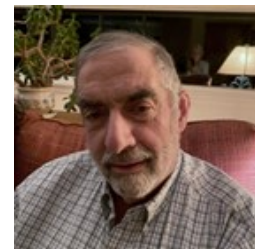
MARIST COLLEGE

Center for Lifetime Study

Chronicle

Fall 2021

Message from the President



After four decades as President of Marist College, Dr. Dennis Murray has stepped down. During his tenure, Marist has grown from a local college to a distinguished institution with international reach.

In his farewell message, he described the CLS program as one of the centers of excellence at Marist College. In a note to me, he described our program as one of the finest of its kind in the country. He indicated that Marist is fortunate to have a relationship with so many seniors who have helped to build our community over the years.

It is apparent that the success of our program is due largely to the efforts of those members who are most engaged. Volunteers work on the council, as committee members, as class managers and as presenters. These volunteers are the backbone of our community. They share diverse and rich histories that expose us to experiences that we would not otherwise have. There is also current ongoing discussion within the council of how best to recognize these volunteers for their efforts.

This is a transitional time for CLS. We have had a successful Fall semester using a virtual class format only. When we return to Locust Grove we will move to a hybrid format. Members will then have the option of attending classes in person or continue to learn via Zoom. Our thanks to Leathem Mehaffey and Ange Rapa who configured the cameras, computers and other equipment and did the field testing needed to provide this dual learning capability.

Anticipating the coming semester, the CLS office will be mailing the Winter 2022 catalog and instructions for selecting your winter courses. Please make sure you read the instructions carefully, which incorporate the specific modifications necessary to accommodate our hybrid course delivery options.

In the interest of our communal health, we are guided by the current weekly recommendations of the CDC for Dutchess County. ALL members will eventually be required to submit documentation that they have been fully vaccinated. Those members who plan to take winter 2022 classes in-person are asked to submit their proof of vaccination no later than Dec. 13th. As we return to Locust Grove, members taking in-person classes or attending an event will be asked to wear a mask at all times.

Several enhancements to our registration and financial process are in the works and should simplify doing business. Robin Will has arranged with the Marist IT and Finance Departments to allow for electronic payments using both PayPal and credit cards. These will eventually be used both for special events and membership renewal. We also expect that in the next few weeks, new member registrations will be 100% electronic.

As we approach the thirty-year anniversary of CLS, we can reflect on how the program has grown. All of the enhancements and progress have come about as a result of member efforts and involvement. We encourage your suggestions and active participation.

Jack

Marist College

Center for Lifetime Study

OFFICERS (2021-22)

President:	Jack Fein
VP Admin:	Michael Cowan
VP Curriculum:	Leonard Turkenkopf
VP Public Info:	Lauren Muffs
Secretary:	Dewey Lee
Treasurer:	Roger D'Aquino

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Classroom Support:	Leathem Mehaffey
Finance:	Anne Sileno
Member Services:	Pegeen & Tom Wall
Membership:	Barbara Carpenter
Office Support:	RongYi Pan
Scholarship:	Ken Knapp
Special Events:	Mary Lou Davis Barbara Marmillo

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Ken Knapp
Betsy Kopstein-Stuts
Patricia Luczai
John Wargo

CLS Chronicle

Editor: Lauren Muffs

Reporter: Wilma Schmidt

Layout & Design: Robin Will



October 28, 2021

(Email sent to all members)

COVID Protocols for Marist CLS

Dear CLS Members,

In January, the Marist Center for Lifetime Study program (CLS) will offer members the option to select in-person classes at Locust Grove or virtual classes via Zoom.

During the week of Nov. 8th, you can expect an email from the CLS office that will provide the Winter 2022 catalog and instructions for selecting your winter courses. Please make sure you read the instructions carefully; slight modifications have been made in order to accommodate our hybrid course delivery options.

In the interest of our communal health, ALL members will eventually be required to submit documentation that they have been fully vaccinated to the CLS office. At this point, **ONLY** those members requesting to take winter 2022 classes in-person will need to submit their proof of vaccination by Dec.13th. If you are opting to take classes via Zoom for winter 2022, you do not have to submit proof of vaccination by Dec. 13th.

Further instructions regarding vaccination will be sent after January 1st, for those who intend to register for classes in the spring of 2022.

For those attending in-person classes at Locust Grove, masks will be required at all times.

The new CLS ID badges will be coded to indicate vaccination status. Members will be required to wear and show the CLS ID badge for entry to Locust Grove.

CLS ID badges will be issued in the following order:

Members that are **officially confirmed** to attend in-person classes at Locust Grove for winter 2022 and have confirmed vaccination status, will be issued a new ID badge on the first day of class.

Members that did not get their CLS ID badged during winter 2022 will be able to pick-up their badges in April when spring classes start. A check-in table will be set-up at Locust Grove and the Membership Committee volunteers will distribute the badges.

Submitting Vaccination Proof:

A scanned copy or picture of your vaccination card can be sent to the CLS office **by email**.

Robin Will, our administrative coordinator, will also be setting up a series of Zoom sessions where members can “share” their vaccination card virtually. The dates and times of these Zoom sessions will be forthcoming.

For members that are not fully vaccinated, you will be required to show documentation of a negative Covid test done within 72 hours of any in-person class or indoor event.

If you have any questions or need assistance with this process please call the CLS office at (845) 575-3902, Robin will be happy to help.

Jack

Jack Fein, President

Winter Hybrid Mini-Semester

By Leonard Turkenkopf, VP for Curriculum



Why is CLS offering hybrid classes and what is a hybrid class?

Due to the ongoing situation with the pandemic and adhering to CDC and local guidelines, Locust Grove may be limiting the number of people in their facility and reducing the number of seats available in each room for in-person classes. A 'hybrid' class (which will allow us to offer a class to more members) is defined as a class that meets in-person (at Locust Grove) AND live-streamed using the Zoom platform at the same exact time.

How do I register for a hybrid class, and do I have to choose how I will attend the class?

The class registration process will continue to be done through the online registration portal. However, when you click on the class you want to select, you will get a drop-down for that class and you will have to select the "In-Person" option OR the "Zoom" option. **You must select one or the other.**

Example: If you want to take "LLS1 – The Story of the Czechs", you will click on that course. You will get a drop down that looks like this: **LLS1LG=Locust Grove/In-Person**
 LLS1ZV=Zoom/Virtual

You will then be required to click on one of these options to select in-person or virtual.

***Make sure you check your selections carefully before you submit your registration!**

Please understand, there is a possibility that you will not get to go to Locust Grove for a class you selected as "In-Person" due to room capacity limitations being established by Locust Grove.

How and when will I know if I get to go to Locust Grove for a class or if I must use Zoom?

The CLS office is scheduled to send out the Winter 2022 class confirmation emails to all registered members on December 17th. Your confirmation will note if you are confirmed for "In-Person" at LG or Zoom (virtual).

More Changes Are Coming!

We have heard the complaints that whether you register for a 4-week course or an 8-week course it still counted as 1 course against the 6-course limit. As of the spring semester this will change. Without going into the technical, programming details a 4-week course will count as ½ a course. This will allow member to, say, register for 5 8-week courses and 2 4-week courses, for a total of 7 courses. Of course, other combinations will also be available if the specific course selections fit the schedule. Please note that a bug in the system that allowed you to register for two different courses that are offered in the same time slot has been fixed. You can't be in two places at the same time. (LOL)



~ CLASS MANAGERS NEEDED FOR SPRING 2022 ~

Our curriculum committees are working hard to finalize the Spring 2022 semester course offerings and they are looking for a few members to volunteer to serve as class managers. If interested, please contact the Len Turkenkopf, VP for Curriculum at: curriculumclsmarist@gmail.com. You will receive detailed instructions on what you need to do as a Class Manager.

Member Corner

Welcome New Members

Haleh Ardalan
Jane Flanagan
Samantha Knowlton
JoAnne Pelletier
Judith Riordan

In Memoriam
CLS mourns the loss of fellow members
Jerry Toepfer (Oct. 2021)
Marilyn Worona (Sept. 2021)

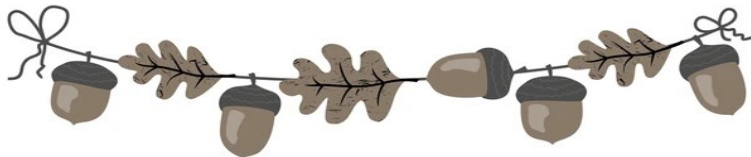
SPREAD THE WORD CLS IS ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

Now is the time to let your friends know that CLS is accepting new members. New members starting in Spring 2022 will pay 1/2-year membership dues (\$120).

Once CLS gets back to in-person classes at Locust Grove, we will most likely be back to our full membership capacity in no time. So, don't wait, reach out now to your friends and family and share the news -- **CLS is now accepting new members.**

Our goal is to bring our membership base back up to 650 members. As you are well aware, our members and the dues we collect are vital in delivering and sustaining the quality CLS program we are used to and known for in the Hudson Valley region.

** When sharing the news about membership, please make mention that **all** members will be **required** to have an email address and access to a computer, smart phone, or other device with internet capabilities.*



**HELP
WANTED**

This section will be used to recruit volunteers to help with CLS related activities, events and projects.

Do we have any Elvis Presley experts among us? Would you be willing to present a one-session class during the Spring 2022 semester? Contact Merrilee merrileecls@aol.com

Writers wanted for the Winter 2022 edition of the Chronicle (due out in Feb. 2022). Contact Lauren Muffs at: clspubinfo@gmail.com to find out more.



Member Spotlight Bernard Handel



Long time CLS member, **Bernard Handel** is the recipient of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Hudson Valley Vision Award. This honor recognizes his efforts to improve the future of the Hudson Valley which resulted in new innovations, creative solutions, and an enhanced quality of life for all.

Bernard served in the Army in the Pacific during World War II. As a CPA, attorney, and corporate executive for over 50 years, he served on many professional, charitable and educational boards as chair, trustee, director and committee member, including Vassar Brothers Hospital, Health Quest, Dutchess Community College, Rotary, and many others.

He was involved in developing the first health insurance plans for seniors before Medicare and also in the formation of AARP. He received an honorary Doctorate from SUNY in 2011 and was nominated by two New York state governors to serve 12 years on the State Hospital Review Council after ratification by the Senate.

He and his wife Shirley, also a CLS member, founded a charitable foundation many years ago which has provided scholarships, community grants, art and cultural programs, health and medical services, and other worthy programs.

Bernard has been a moderator and speaker for CLS classes for many years and was a member of the Curriculum Committee. His programs included Health Care in the World, Social Security and Pensions, Labor in America and others. He also moderated programs in Higher Education and Freedom of the Press.

We congratulate Bernard Handel on this very well deserved award.



CLS Enjoying the Beauty of the Hudson Valley

By Mary Lou Davis, Special Events

CLS members participated in two events this fall. The first was to Wethersfield Estate and the second to Poets' Walk.

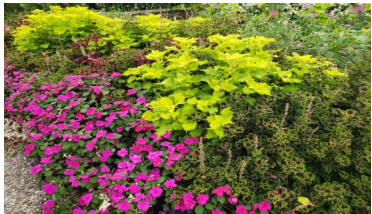
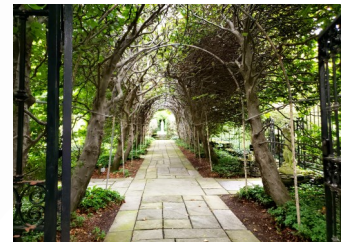
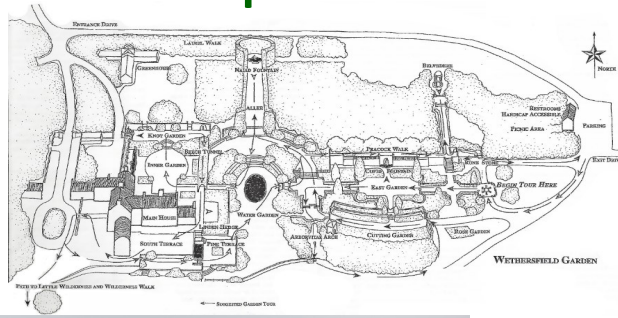
Chauncey Devereux Stillman founded Wethersfield as the living expression of everything that he first experienced of the rural beauty of Dutchess County while riding with the Millbrook Hunt. During his many rides, he was struck by the beautiful rolling hills and dramatic views. In 1937, realizing the potential of the land, he purchased two abandoned farms comprising several hundred acres. Mr. Stillman named the property Wethersfield in a tribute to Wethersfield, Connecticut, where his family first settled in America in 1705. As land became available, the estate expanded to its current size.

The Wethersfield Estate was constructed and refined over 50 years by Chauncey Stillman's careful eye as a place of personal retreat, agricultural experimentation, cultural enrichment, and scholarly conviviality.

Inspiring poets and non-writers alike since 1850, Poet's Walk in Red Hook is a designed landscape — a series of "outdoor rooms" separated by stands of trees and stone walls — created for the owners of two neighboring estates around 1850. It got its name because writers like Washington Irving loved rambling here; legend has it he came up with the idea for "Rip Van Winkle" while gazing toward the Catskill Mountains, site of his protagonist's long sleep. Walkers can often spot colorful (and mellifluous) songbirds in the meadow and can enjoy majestic vistas.

~ Enjoy the photos on page 5

Wethersfield Garden Tour Sept. 17th



Poets' Walk — Oct. 8th



Covid Adventures

By Jack Fein

We are all starting to become a little more adventurous. For our first in-person event of the season, we are indebted to both Jacopo Pontormo, a Florentine Mannerist and Mary Lou Davis our Special Events Chair. As a result of their efforts, twenty-five CLS members spent a delightful morning, touring Wethersfield Gardens in Eastern Dutchess County.

This is a garden designed in classical Italian Renaissance style. It uses commonly available shrubs, trees, perennials and evergreens to create a series of delightful outdoor rooms. The formality of the design is in striking contrast to the rolling hills of the surrounding farmland. There are three acres of formal Italian garden and seven acres of wilderness garden. The trails are open for hiking, horseback and cross-country skiing. The extensive property is managed by a staff of only three gardeners, who do all the planting, edging and sculpting of the shrubbery. The combination of green plant life, selected sculpture and artistic masonry is luxurious. Their

horticulturist, Toshi Yano, is married to Claire Davis who is the horticulturist at Locust Grove.



The Wethersfield Estate was created and developed by Chauncey Stillman whose grandfather was the founder of Citibank. To help fund the extensive renovation and updates, in 1989 the Wethersfield Estate sold a masterpiece painting that had been in the family since World War I. The painting by Jacopo Pontormo called *Portrait of a Halberdier* sold at auction for \$35,000,000. It was purchased by the Getty Museum in California. Between 1989 and 2002, Pontormo's *Portrait of a Halberdier* held the title of the world's most expensive painting by an Old Master. It was recently part of the Medici Exhibit at the Met in New York City.

Vasari's *Lives of the Artists* indicates that the subject of the portrait is Francesco Guardi, a very young soldier of the Florentine Republic during the Siege of Florence. Others have argued it shows a young Cosimo I de' Medici after his victory at the 1537 Battle of Montemurlo. The work is recorded in the Riccardi family collection in Florence before passing eventually to the Stillman family.

The Halberdier as you can see was not wearing a mask and there is no documentation by Vasari that he was vaccinated. By contrast everyone in our tour group adhered to the current CDC protocols. We were therefore able to enjoy a really interesting morning trip together.

We look forward to more of these in-person social events. We anticipate that these restrictions will be necessary for the winter semester, but that eventually, they will be a historical memory.

The Marist College Oral History Project

By John F. Ansley, PhD—Marist College Director, Archives and Special Collections



The Marist College Oral History Project is looking for new interviewees!

The Oral History Project is part of the Marist Heritage Project which was established in 2001. The Project is run by the Marist College Archives and Special Collections and is a collection of resources that tell the story of the Marist Brothers and the foundation and evolution of Marist College. This is done

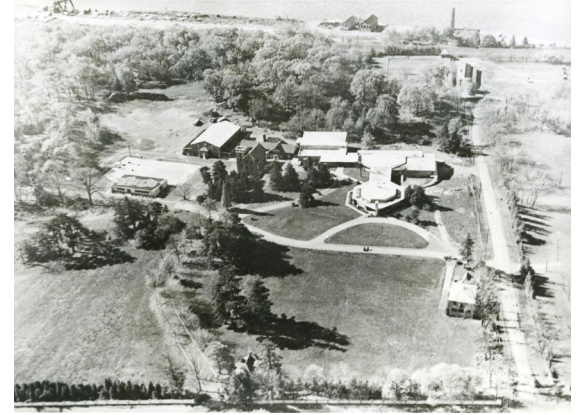
through written and oral histories, images, and publications. Resources within this project span from before the college came to be to the present day. We have collected over 150 oral history interviews to date and we would love to record more interviews with long-time members of the Marist Community in our ongoing effort to document the history of Marist College.

Please contact Dr. John Ansley, the Director of the Archives and Special Collections, if you are interested in learning more about doing an interview for the Marist College Archives.

Contact information: john.ansley@marist.edu
(845) 575-5217



Please visit the Marist College Heritage Project website at:
<https://exhibits.archives.marist.edu/s/marist-heritage-project/page/home>



CLS 30th Anniversary Trivia



January, 2022 will be the anniversary of the launch of CLS classes, and we will embark on our 30th year as a Lifetime Learning Institute (LLI) with our Winter Semester at Locust Grove. The theme of our 2022 annual meeting and picnic next spring will be a celebration of our success as the first LLI established in the Mid-Hudson area.

How much do you know about CLS and its heritage? Over the ensuing months trivia questions and the answers will appear in various places, such as the CLS Facebook group page, future Chronicles, announcements and around Locust Grove. A drawing will be held at the end of the spring semester, for everyone who has all the correct answers. Keep your eyes peeled!

Today's Trivia Questions:

- 1.) Who were the co-founders of CLS?
- 2.) Where were the first CLS class held?
- 3.) In what year did CLS start holding classes there again?

If you use Facebook and you aren't a member of the CLS Facebook Group page, send an email to merrileecls@aol.com so you can be part of our social media community.

If you would like to be part of the 30th Anniversary Celebration Committee, email Merrilee Osterhoudt, merrileecls@aol.com.

