

# MARIST COLLEGE Center for Lifetime Study **Chronicle**

Fall 2022

### Message from the President

After our summer hiatus, CLS members returned to a rich Fall curriculum at Locust Grove. The courses reflected our individual interests, as well as events playing out on the world stage. For the last six months, the war in Ukraine has gripped our attention. The complexities of that conflict were put in perspective by Michael O'Sullivan's sessions on the history of Ukraine. We also appreciated the cultural context



of that history, listening to Les Gerber explore Ukrainian music and its composers.

These courses have generated some very animated discussion during our coffee breaks on the patio. This has become one of my own personal favorite activities at CLS. It is now getting to the point where" until I have had coffee I'm only capable of talking about coffee!" We should all enjoy the outdoor coffee breaks a little longer, before the winter chill sets in. For those few who haven't yet walked through the gardens at Locust Grove, don't miss the opportunity. The self-seeding annuals and Tiger Lilies will soon be gone.

The Fall semester also marks the beginning of a new Academic year. It is a time to welcome new members to CLS and new members to the CLS Council. It is refreshing to see members take on the responsibilities of managing the organization. We all enjoy taking courses and participating in the social events , but without volunteers willing to assist in the management of the organization, none of that would be possible. It takes a lot of thought, planning and effort by the four Curriculum committees and the members of all the other support committees to keep us running smoothly.

The Council has dealt with the challenges common to other nonprofit organizations in the Hudson Valley. Covid and the economic shocks have produced stresses on our members and the community. We have adapted and are actively thinking about insuring our long-term sustainability. Our major expenses are related to staff salaries and rent at Locust Grove, which are fixed cost obligations. However, we can work to enhance our revenues which are largely a reflection of the membership dues. We have eliminated the waiting list, which was an obstacle to recruitment. New members can now join CLS at midyear, at a reduced membership fee. We will also offer a bonus for those who help recruit new members. We have developed a documentary feature on Spectrum TV to promote CLS and a new brochure is in the works.

In a recent visit to IBM in Poughkeepsie, President Biden highlighted the future prospects for the high-tech industry in the Hudson Valley. The stimulus provided by passage of the Chips and Science Act will stimulate investments in quantum computing, semiconductors, and mainframe technology. IBM will be investing \$20 billion, geared towards local manufacturing. This should have a significant impact on our demographics and future interest in the CLS program. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you at our Cocktail party on December 2nd, when we celebrate 30 years of CLS.



### Marist College

**Center for Lifetime Study** 

#### **OFFICERS (2022-23)**

President:	Jack Fein
VP Admin:	John Wargo
VP Curriculum:	Leonard Turkenkopf
VP Public Info:	Jerry Hayes
Secretary:	Dewey Lee
Treasurer:	Roger D'Aquino

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Connections:	Vacant
Classroom Support:	Lou Newman
Finance:	Anne Sileno
Member Services:	Pegeen & Tom Wall
Membership:	Wilma Schmidt
Office Support:	RongYi Pan
Scholarship:	Ken Knapp
Special Events:	Betsy Kopstein-Stuts

#### **COUNCIL AT LARGE**

**CLS** Chronicle

Editor: Jerry Hayes Reporter: Vacant Layout & Design: Robin Will



# **Member Corner**

### **CLS MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

# CLS has membership spaces available for the remainder of the 2022/2023 year (Jan. 1, 2023 through June 30,2023)

<u>CLS no longer maintains a waiting list for membership</u>. The word of mouth has always been that it takes a long time to become of member of CLS. Since this is no longer true, we hope that current CLS members will spread the word to friends and to anyone that has expressed an interest in CLS.

New members will be able to start during our virtual Winter 2023 Mini-Session in January or begin classes in April when we launch our Spring 2023 semester. If you know of anyone interested in joining they can contact the CLS Office at (845) 575-3902 or by email: <u>mc.cls@marist.edu</u>.

\* When sharing information about membership, please mention that <u>all</u> members will be <u>required</u> to have an email address and access to a computer, smart phone, or other device with internet capabilities.

Wilma Schmidt, Membership Chair

### **CLS Welcomes New Members**

Carol Demicco John Garrity Joyce Garrity Arthur Gellert Maxine Hayden Kathy McGettrick Beverly McNamara

### ~ IN MEMORIAM ~ CLS mourns the loss of fellow members

Judith (Judy) Dugan (Sept. 2022) Theresa (Terri) O'Shea (Oct. 2022) June Seiden (Aug. 2022)



### TELEVISION INTERVIEW

CLS President Jack Fein and Membership Chair Wilma Schmidt were interviewed at the beginning of the semester by Brooke Reilly, a reporter from Spectrum News.

In explaining the CLS program, they pointed out that there was always plenty to learn and commented on the variety of courses and the social aspects of being CLS members.

The interview aired on September 20, 2022 and can be seen by <u>clicking here</u>.



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

The **Chronicle needs a reporter and a photographer** (anyone with a smartphone) to cover CLS events, such as the upcoming December 2 Thirtieth Anniversary Celebration. Clark Kent, Lois Lane and Jimmy Olsen are not available. This would be a great opportunity for you to display your writing skills and make a contribution to the organization.

Needed additionally are articles or stories about topics that may be of interest to CLS members, such as local history, human interest, and current Dutchess County events.

Please consider getting involved and then contact Jerry Hayes at clspubinfo@gmail.com.

### CONVOCATION By Jerry Hayes



The fall 2022 Convocation was held on September 12, 2022. CLS President Jack Fein announced that the theme of the event was Our Future – The Children of Dutchess County.

The first two speakers were representatives of the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie: Erin Cafarelli, Chief Development and Public Relations Officer and Courtney Doyle, Assistant Executive Director of Community Based Programs.

In 1847, a group of Poughkeepsie women, out of their concern for poor, abandoned and neglected children formed what was essentially an orphanage. That orphanage eventually became the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie.

It remained pretty much exclusively a long term residence for children until relatively recent years. Over 10,000 children have come through the facility.

Today, the Children's Home provides a full range of community based services as well as residential services. There are approximately 134 youths in short term residential facilities and approximately 450 youths in the community based program. There is a staff of 250, including social workers, case workers, nurses, direct care workers and program staff to provide therapeutic services to children and their families.

The residential program includes three off campus boarding homes. The purpose of these homes is to provide each youth an opportunity to strengthen interpersonal relationships within a home and neighborhood setting. One goal is to develop skills for independent living. Each boarding home has direct care staff who provide daily guidance and supervision and interact regularly with school personnel and transport the youths to family visits.

The Community based programs provide services and support to try to keep families intact and prevent out of home placement for the child.

The staff goes out to the youths and their families rather than having them come to the campus. The staff works with other agencies to obtain and provide services. These services include pre-vocational services, for example, the development of career skills, resume' writing and completing job applications. This can also include coordinating with other agencies to increase services. Staff assists with finding jobs and working with employers. Other services include individual, group and family therapy, short term care and intervention necessitated by a child's mental health issues or substance abuse.

Although the present day emphasis is trying to keep families together, that the child be in a home and be with a family, there will always be a need for some residential programs. The Children's Home works with Social Services and other organizations with respect to an Adoption Recruitment Program. Adoption Recruiters find permanent homes for children who have been lingering in foster homes.

Finally, volunteers pre-covid were very effective in such things as providing internships, sports, crafts, tutoring and library. It is hoped that volunteers will in the future once again play a role in improving the lives of youths in need of such services.

Following the Children's Home representatives was Dutchess County Chief Assistant District Attorney Matthew Weishaupt, a 35 year veteran of that office.

He explained and discussed several changes in the law during the past few years pertaining to children, primarily the Raise The Age Law enacted in 2017. Prior to that, the adult age was considered to be sixteen. Today's adult age is eighteen. There is essentially a new court system for sixteen and seventeen year olds.

Most non-violent felonies are transferred from the Youth Part to Family Court. Violent felonies are kept in the Youth Part.

The focus on offenders whose cases are heard in the Family Court is to try to help rehabilitate **those** offenders, hopefully to induce and persuade them not to engage in criminal activity in the future. An important but very difficult part of that is to try to get them out of gangs and give them roots in the community.

In response to a question about safety in the schools, Mr. Weishaupt stated that they were in the process of creating a Threat Assessment Group consisting of various entities such as the Department of Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Mental Health and Probation. Their goal will be to spot an issue and try to address it to prevent something violent from happening.



### New Member Orientation by Jerry Hayes

Following the Convocation was an Orientation program for new members.

President Jack Fein began the Orientation by telling the new members that CLS is a great opportunity for people who want to continue learning. It is a chance to learn not just from books but from other people. The classes are an opportunity for people of varying backgrounds to come together and learn from other people.

Several Committee Chairpersons then spoke about the work of their Committees and asked the new members to consider volunteering to join a committee.

The Orientation concluded with new members introducing themselves and telling how they learned about CLS.



Hello fellow CLS members,

At the time of this writing, we're about 75% into our Fall semester. I hope you, like me, are enjoying the very professional and diverse series of classes that are being offered in person at Locust Grove. I continue to be amazed by the sustainability of this organization and the quality of the programs being offered. This is all made possible by members like you that volunteer their time and life skills, and for this we are deeply appreciative.

There are several opportunities to serve in this organization and I hope you will consider getting more involved, if you're not already. There are many ways to do this, recruit new members (**there's no waiting list now**), teach a class, be a class manager, or offer to help on one of the many committees that keep the CLS running smoothly and moving forward.

In closing, I and the rest of the Council are here to serve you the membership. Please contact me if you have any questions, and please let me know how we can jointly help further the growth of our CLS organization.

> Sincerely yours, John Wargo CLS VP of Administration



### Message from the Classroom and Audio/Visual Support Team

The AV Team would like to express thanks to the general membership for your patience when things don't go smoothly, and express thanks for your kudos when they do. The team hustles around before classes start on Tuesdays to make sure everything works, and stays after class on Wednesdays to take down the equipment and secure it. The dedicated members of the AV Committee, sporting special blue badges, are self-motivated and technically astute. They have my personal gratitude as well!

### From the Desk of the VP for Curriculum Len Turkenkopf

As I write this, we have just completed the sixth week of our fall 2022 semester. It was an exciting and interesting one, with such diverse courses as NASA Exploration of Space along side Art History: Abstract Art. We could throw in a few poets as well. Your curriculum committees have been busy during this time putting together both the winter Zoom only mini-semester and next springs full semester, and I can tell you that again there will be some very interesting and diverse offerings. Our NASA Ambassador will be back, this time focusing on aeronautics. We will have flower arrangements, along with more literature, history, and science courses. I think this is an exciting time to be a member of CLS. You might want to share that excitement with some of your non-CLS member friends. Let them now about us.

On a more administrative note, the restriction of registering for no more than six courses has been permanently removed. As I have previously written, this has been replaced by summing the number of weeks each course you register for and limiting that sum to 48. Therefore, you could register for 12 four-week courses if we offered them. We've also fixed a programming bug which allowed you to register for two courses in the same time slot.

One final note. There are 58 of your friends spread across the four curriculum committees. Why not join them in one (or more) of these committees. You can provide some new ideas on courses we can offer. If you want to know who is on the committees, just look at a recent course catalog. The committee memberships are listed there.



### The Center for Lifetime Study Endowed Scholarship By Ken Knapp

The Marist Center for Lifetime Study (CLS) made outreach and support of the Marist College community an integral part of its mission. In 2015, CLS established the CLS Endowed Scholarship to address the unique needs of adult students who are enrolled in degree programs at Marist College. These students face significant challenges as they balance education, family, and work responsibilities, without access to the variety of financial aid opportunities afforded to most traditional college students.

Each spring semester, the CLS Scholarship is awarded to one or more students who need additional financial support to help with tuition expenses and to help make their academic endeavors become a reality. Potential award candidates are identified based on the criteria I noted above and are formally invited to apply for the scholarship. (This process has been significantly improved over the last year.)

The application process is simple. Each candidate must submit an essay stating their goals, aspirations and why they feel they are deserving of the award. The Scholarship Award Committee will review the essays that are submitted and make a recommendation to the CLS Council on the awardee(s).

This initiative is the perfect opportunity for CLS members to get involved and to help make a difference. Please contact Ken Knapp at <u>kjkloon@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in joining the CLS Scholarship Award Committee.



### CLS & DIVERSITY by Pat Luczai

This spring, Marist CLS was invited by the Bard Lifetime Learning Institute (LLI) to attend a regional LLI workshop focused on issues surrounding DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) and social justice. The initial

meeting was attended by Jack Fein, Len Turkenkopf, Mike Cowan and Pat Luczai. Bard has continued to host these meetings where the participating LLIs can share their experiences and challenges, primarily in attracting a more diverse membership and ensuring that our offerings include subjects that cover a range of topics including those related to DEI. Subsequent to the initial meeting, a committee was formed, chaired by Pat Luczai, with the goal of renewing our efforts towards a more inclusive membership. Along with those already mentioned, Fred Wolinsky and Dewey Lee joined the committee.

As a result of our discussions, the committee proposed adding the following to the CLS Mission Statement:

## "CLS strives to foster an inclusive environment in our offerings and our membership, welcoming those of all backgrounds, beliefs, and identities."

On September 16, 2022, the proposal was approved by the CLS Council, and the amended Mission Statement will appear in the next update of the Member Handbook.

Another benefit of cooperation with other regional LLIs is the opportunity to share resources. Len Turkenkopf is part of a regional team looking at setting up a database of speakers willing to present at other LLIs and considering joint presentations where feasible.

As we look to attract a more diverse membership, we have come to realize that building relationships with other diverse organizations is key to this effort. At this time, we have openings for new members. If you know anyone who identifies as a member of an under-represented group, please consider inviting them to join CLS. If you know of potential speakers or have an idea for a class that focuses on diversity, equity, inclusion and/or social justice, please contact Pat Luczai (pat.luczai@gmail.com).



### CLS Walk Down Memory Lane Merrilee Osterhoudt

The year 2022 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Marist Center for Lifetime Study. In February, 1992, the first set of CLS classes were conducted at the FDR Presidential Library, the result of the dedication of Jonah and Joan Sherman and Ellie Charwat, of Marist College, to a shared vision for a Lifetime Learning Institute in Dutchess County. Over the years many have contributed to the growth of CLS and many more have enjoyed personal growth from their membership in CLS.



Joan Sherman Founding member First VP of Curriculum

### The 30 Year Club

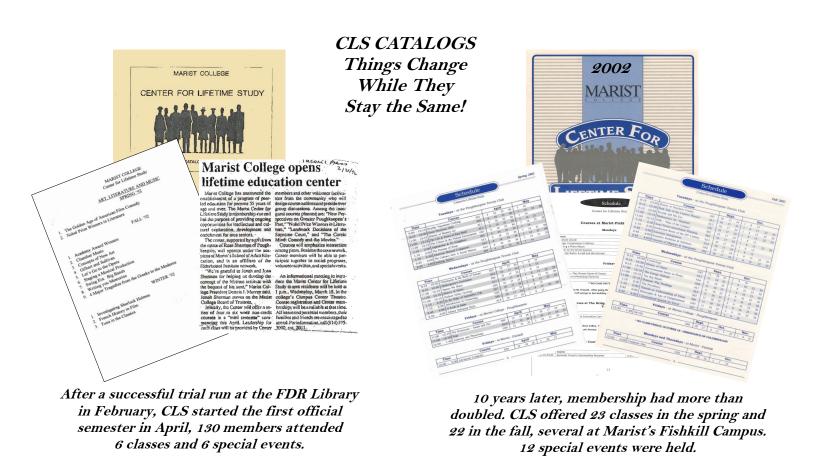


Stan Schmidt Member since Fall 1992



Marlene Straus Member since Fall 1992

30 years later, let's take a walk down memory lane and see how our organization and our world has evolved.





Membership tripled in the next decade, and the number of offerings expanded to 42 classes in the spring & 43 in the fall with 23 special events across the 2 semesters.

Over the last 10 years, classes were held at LG, the Pok Town Hall, the Pok Library & we returned to FDR Library. In 2020-21 we took classes at home over ZOOM! Membership peaked at 650+ but took a hit during COVID years. We are still recovering.

#### 1st CLS CLASSES AT FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



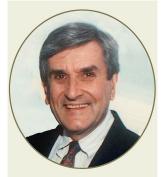


Milk \$1.13 Eggs \$.89 Bread \$.75



**Best Picture** 

**CLS PRESIDENT** JONAH SHERMAN





Mail was delivered to a box in front of the house by a human being

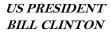


Dyson Center Home of the School of Professional Programs and the CLS Office



MARIST PRESIDENT

**DENNIS MURRAY** 







Phone service came over a wire connected to our house, and we had to answer to find out who was calling.



Hurricane Andrew Devastated Florida

WOMEN

MAN OF THE YEAR









**CLS PRESIDENT** 

STAN SCHMIDT

POUGHKEEPSIE TENNIS CLUB







MARIST PRESIDENT

DENNIS MURRAY

US PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH





Milk \$2.78

*Eggs \$.96 Bread \$1.02* 



Bills still came by "snail mail" but letters were being replaced by "emails"



Just about everyone had a flip phone for "emergencies", but most of the time left them at home.







It was the year of tornados from Nebraska to Maryland



#### LOCUST GROVE

**CLS PRESIDENT** 

MARIST PRESIDENT DENNIS MURRAY

**US PRESIDENT** BARACK OBAMA









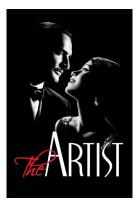
Milk \$3.65 Eggs \$1.84 Bread \$1.42



We had new, more personal ways to stay in touch with more folks, but we still watched for the mailman.



Phones got smarter and made us feel dumber. But, no one left home without one!



**Best Picture** 





Hurricane Sandy rocked the Northeast



LOCUST GROVE HISTORICAL SITE





CLS PRESIDENT

MARIST PRESIDENT KEVIN WEINMAN US PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN





Milk \$3.59 Eggs \$4.39 Bread \$3.49





Texting & facetime keep our grandchildren close. Shopping, research & games all in the palm of your hand.



Best Picture











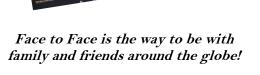


*Lucid* Car of the Year

*Hurricane Ian devastated the gulf coast* 









# Celebrating 30 Years of CLS



Registration for the cocktail reception is open until Wednesday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>.

Click link below to register: https://www.marist.edu/professional-programs/cls/event-registration

Note: Payment is due immediately after submitting your event registration. Look for the email confirming your registration was submitted along with payment information

If a member would like to bring <u>one non-member</u> to the reception, contact the CLS Office immediately by phone or email.