



MARIST COLLEGE

Center for Lifetime Study Chronicle

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Marist College Center for Lifetime Study

OFFICERS (2019-20)

President:	Bob Nasser
VP Admin:	Barbara Van Itallie
VP Curriculum:	Judy Rubenstein
VP Public Info:	Lauren Muffs
Secretary:	Ken Knapp
Treasurer:	Roger D'Aquino

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Connections:	Jim Temple
Classroom Support:	Leathem Mehaffey
Finance:	Anne Sileno
Member Services:	TBD
Membership:	Barbara Carpenter
Office Support:	Rong Yi Pan
Special Events:	Mary Lou Davis

COUNCIL AT LARGE

Michael Cowan
Betsy Kopstein-Stuts
Dewey Lee
Joe Lombardi
John Marmillo

From the President

Dear Members,

With the conclusion of the fall semester, we now look forward to the mini winter semester and then the spring semester. I appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation during the summer months as we prepared for the fall without the full time Administrative Coordinator. The efforts of all those people identified in the fall Chronicle led to a successful nine weeks and have given us a good foundation for the upcoming semesters. The addition of Robin Will as the new coordinator is a great asset to CLS and she is already providing strong support after fewer than two months on the job.



If you encounter problems or concerns about some aspect of CLS during a semester, remember there is an official channel to convey those items to the council, namely the CouncilLink Box which is on the table in Room A on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. During non-class weeks, you can send any comments to me, and I'll forward them to the appropriate council member.

Finally, I'd like to make everyone aware of a change that we expect to roll out for the 2020 fall semester. Course registration for the fall semester will be done only online. This requires that all members have an email address. For those of you who have an email but have opted not to use it for CLS, you can register online without having your email exposed. For those who don't have emails, we will offer the ability to register in person at Locust Grove. Volunteers will be there to help you with registration. We are also looking into an option of having the ability to register over the phone. More details on all of this will be made available as we near the start of the spring semester.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and look forward to seeing you all again next year as we continue down the journey of exploration and learning.

Warmest holiday greetings,
Bob Nasser



REMINDER!

**CLS Holiday Tea
Monday, December 2, 2019**

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

at Locust Grove

Cost: \$10 per member

(RSVP Payment Deadline was November 20, 2019)

Come and get in the holiday mood, visit with fellow CLS friends and acquaintances, and enjoy a festive Holiday Tea. Refreshments will include fresh brewed Fine Teas, delicate finger sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and other enticing treats. There will also be a 50/50 raffle for the CLS Scholarship. Contact Robin Will at the CLS Office for further details.

CLS COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

During the spring semester, we will conduct our annual election, to fill open positions on the CLS Council, the governing body of our organization. The duties of the Officers and Committee Chairs are outlined below. The President's position is unique, with its prerequisite of one year of previous service in the Council.

If you have any suggestions for ideal candidates, including yourself, send them to Joe Lombardi, the Nomination Committee Chair, at jolnyusa@gmail.com. All suggestions should be sent by year's end and include a brief description of why this person is well-qualified.

DUTIES OF CLS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

OFFICERS

1. The President shall:
 - a. Schedule and run regular council meetings
 - b. Participate as an Ex-officio member of all committees
 - c. Oversee the overall planning, coordination, and running of CLS programs and activities
 - d. Insure that CLS organization meets requirements of the organization by-laws and policies
 - e. Maintain relationship with Marist College

2. The Vice President for Administration shall:
 - a. Oversee overall operations of the organization including calendar, facilities, and membership communications
 - b. Plan/run annual meeting and convocation

DUTIES OF CLS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS: OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

- c. Liaison with Marist College
 - d. Serve on the Finance Committee
 - e. Manage use of classroom facilities
3. The Vice President for Curriculum shall:
- a. Oversee the development, scheduling, registration and delivery of classes
 - b. Provide catalog content
 - c. Guide and coordinate activities of curriculum committees
4. The Vice President for Public Information shall:
- a. Develop public communications related to CLS including media releases and materials
 - b. Oversee the development publication of the newsletter, i.e. the Chronicle
5. The Secretary shall:
- a. Record, archive accurate minutes of all meetings of the Council and the General Membership meetings
6. The Treasurer shall:
- a. Review dues and fees collected
 - b. Review receipts and disbursements vs. budget
 - c. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee

COMMITTEE CHAIRS**CLASSROOM AND AUDIO/VISUAL (A/V) SUPPORT**

1. Ensure that all CLS classes have the necessary classroom supplies and audio/visual equipment is installed and operating at the beginning of each class
2. Oversee training and classroom assignment of audio/visual and technical support volunteers for classes and CLS activities and events
3. Oversee the maintenance of CLS technical equipment

CONNECTIONS

1. To initiate, oversee and administer CLS volunteer and community service activities including Book Buddies, Outreach

FINANCE

1. To oversee the financial viability of the organization
2. Prepare annual budget and coordinate with Treasurer to insure a balanced budget

MEMBER SERVICES

1. To arrange for refreshments, set up and clean up between classes and assist at other social functions of the organization

MEMBERSHIP

1. Oversee the renewal process
2. Manage the enrollment process
3. Maintain waitlist
4. Administer CLS membership policies established by the CLS council
5. Communicate to members and prospective members in matters related to membership policies and processes as needed

SPECIAL EVENTS

1. Oversee the planning and coordination of activities and events outside the classroom that enhance the CLS learning experience
2. Oversee the planning and coordination of Holiday Tea and Annual Picnic

OFFICE SUPPORT

1. Manage volunteer resources supporting the CLS Marist Office
2. Consult with the CLS Administrative Coordinator to determine the tasks (course and special events registration, membership record keeping, etc.) necessary to support the CLS office
3. Provide support with mailings, phone calls, and data entry as needed

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Robin L. Will, the new Administrative Coordinator for the Marist College Center for Lifetime Study (CLS) is the liaison between the CLS Council and Marist and would like to bring the behind-the-scenes support of the organization to the next level.

She believes that rising through the ranks since starting at Marist in 1984 has allowed her to gain valuable experience from many years of providing “front-line support in high-volume, high-traffic and fast-paced office environments

and has yielded an adaptable, fast-learning and analytically thinking administrative coordinator.”

Robin wants to use technology to make the functions and operational tasks easier and better defined. “I am documenting each task and its process into a comprehensive and evolving procedural

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR (CONTINUED)

manual for the CLS Administrative Coordinator position,” she said. “The CLS ‘show’ must go on; if the person in my position changes, CLS will be able to continue its full-swing operations with limited disruption and/or down time.” She added, “This is a solid and successful organization led by people who are passionate and dedicated to CLS and I’m here to support them and to keep that momentum going. I hope that some of the ideas and suggestions that I make along the way will be contributing factors to that ongoing success.”

She notes that the list of duties and tasks the CLS Administrative Coordinator has to oversee to is quite expansive. “Some of the critical and most obvious are serving as a home-based coordinator responsible for taking care of all the behind-the-scenes secretarial and clerical support of the CLS,” she said. “That includes the President, about 14 committee chairs, and of course, the CLS membership.”

In her role, Robin also serves as the communications hub through email, written correspondence and telephone. She is the central database administrator who keeps track of the membership and the financial housekeeper for the organization’s accounts receivable and payable needs. She requests the purchase orders and check requests and makes sure that invoices are paid.

Further, she even changes hats and designs course catalogs, invitations and flyers for trips and special events. She provides data and reports needed to complete the course registration processes, including special events and trips. She is involved, at some level, with every component of the CLS organization.

In regard to personal background, we already know that Robin enjoys reading, cooking, baking and hanging with her furry family.

However, she said most of us likely do not know that she rides a motorcycle. “Yup, at age 50, I decided that I was going to get my motorcycle license. Let me tell you, that was a rough and bumpy learning process,” she said. “For the sake of my husband, my safety and the safety of others, I ended up getting a three-wheel Can-Am Spyder. Having three wheels on the ground is a heck of a lot safer, trust me!” Robin said that she joined a very active riding group, went on amazing road trips and participated in numerous charity events and fund raisers. “One year, the Easter Bunny made his grand entrance to a community Easter Egg Hunt at a park in Orange County, on the back of my Spyder. The event and my motorcycle even made it into the local newspaper,” she said.

Welcome Robin! We hope you enjoy the “CLS Ride” as much as your 3-wheel rides.

NEW ADDITION TO THE CHRONICLE TEAM

Curtis Schmidt is a new member of the Center for Lifetime Study at Marist College and has joined the team of The Chronicle.

He is the general manager and executive editor of the Northern & Southern Dutchess News, Beacon Free Press. The all-local weekly newspapers cover all of Dutchess County. He has served in this role for the past 15 years.

Curtis will be writing news and feature stories and working on a variety of projects as part of The Chronicle team.

Originally from Texas, he moved to New York in 1988 and spent 10 years with the Poughkeepsie Journal. He holds degrees in Journalism and Photography.

With over 40 years of experience in the media industry, he enjoys working with individuals of all backgrounds, helping them to improve their writing skills. He would also like to assist CLS members as an editor, writing coach or ghost writer. Individuals working on books, memoirs, short stories and even blogs and podcasts are welcome to contact Curtis. (cschmidt@s Dutchessnews.com).



FALL SEMESTER PRESENTERS

The fall semester featured many outstanding, enjoyable classes. Many courses and single classes were taught by our own CLS members. We thank them for their time and effort in preparing presentations. Thanks to the class managers and AV Committee members for supporting the presenters and making this a most successful semester. Thanks to the following presenters, including: Lydia Bauman, Sheila Zweifler, Walter Jablonski, Diane Jablonski, Eleanor Charwat, Klaus Beyer, Rita Minnerly, Barbara Mindel, Anne Constantinople, Allen Fink, Mike Foley, Marilyn Price, Michelle Kelley, Frank Dispensa, Arnold Most, Herb Stoller, Lynn Ruggiero, John Scileppi, Sue Osterhoudt, Ann Mehaffey, Leathem Mehaffey, Rolf Nijuis, Esther Odescalchi, Katherine Friedman, John Marmillo, Barbara Marmillo, Linda Lebensold, Sharon Steinvurzel, Candace Pisterzi, Edward Rosenberg, Linda Cantor, Ed Rosenberg, John Gavin, Mariellen Pangia, Len Turkenkopf, Bob Nasser, and Frank Rubin.

~ We hope that we didn't leave anyone out! We certainly did our best to make sure that everyone that contributed to the success of our fall semester is represented in our acknowledgement.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN SCHOOLS AND EMPLOYMENT

On Monday, April 6, 2020, at Locust Grove, the Marist College Center for Lifetime Study will kick off our spring semester with a moderated discussion on a topic for which just about everyone has an opinion, affirmative action in school and employment. Two speakers will present opposing viewpoints. D. Jen Brown is a local civil rights lawyer, and Allison Lee Pillinger Choi is an author and commentator. Join us for what promises to be a lively discussion. CLS member Dewey Lee will moderate. We will start the discussion at 10:00 a.m. and end at approximately 11:30 a.m., which includes an opportunity for a Q&A from the class. Put this program on your calendar now! Registration details will be forthcoming.

CLS TRIP TO LAKE MINNEWASKA

On October 18, 2019, about a dozen CLS members enjoyed a guided walk around Lake Minnewaska. First, Rick Martin, our guide, showed a timeline of the history of the area, from its early geology to the history of the two hotels which were on the grounds. It was a gorgeous fall day, the views were beautiful, and the leaves were at their peak colors. This trip was arranged by Judy Harkavy and Angela Stultz.



ROAD SCHOLAR UPDATE

We are almost at our maximum number of participants for the June 21-24 trip to Cape Cod. There are two places left for this exciting adventure to explore the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, the Marine Biological Laboratory, and the Woods Hole Aquarium. We will also enjoy a scientific cruise on a research vessel with local marine experts. Our hotel is located in the heart of Falmouth's Historic District, within easy walking distance of shops, restaurants, and the Village Green.

This trip promises to be interesting and fun. It is a private charter group guided tour for just CLS and Vassar Lifelong Learning Institute. It will include a maximum of only 20 participants. We can take just two (2) more people! Call or email Linda Beyer for more information: (845) 462-0345.

BOOK BUDDIES AND MATH BUDDIES

CLS members have been volunteering as Book Buddies and Math Buddies at Clinton and Morse Elementary Schools in the Poughkeepsie school district.

Book Buddies read at school with children one-on-one on a weekly basis. The commitment is approximately one hour per week. Book Buddies help struggling readers in grades 1 through grade 5. Classroom Book Buddies help in Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms. Principals and teachers have enthusiastically asked our volunteers to return every year. Students greatly improve their reading skills.

According to test scores, 94% of students in the program have improved their reading skills. One teacher told us, after working with his Book Buddy, he was able to read a book to the class – it made his year.

Math Buddies help students with math during class each week. Math Buddies generally help students in third through fifth grade. A fifth grade teacher told us, “Under his Math Buddies tutelage, my student’s math skills have blossomed. Thank you a million times.”

More volunteers are needed. If you are interested please contact Judy Connolly, Book & Math Buddies Coordinator for Literacy Connections of the Hudson Valley. 845-452-8670 or Bookbuddies@LiteracyConnections.org. The main Literacy Connections website is www.LiteracyConnections.org

JANUARY WINTER SESSION PREVIEW

Here are the titles of the upcoming, January 2020, classes:

Hudson Valley Drinking Water: Where It Comes From, and How It’s Managed

Personal Computer: Windows 10 for the Novice User

Metallurgy: From Ores to Spaceships to Electronics

The Life and Painting of Andrew Wyeth

Kolya: An Academy Award-Winning Film

When the Garden was Eden: Madison Square Garden

Six courses in total are being offered. Each course will have three sessions. Tuesday/Thursday classes will meet January 7th, 9th, and 14th (Snow date: January 16th); Wednesday/Friday classes will meet January 8th, 10th, and 15th (Snow date: January 17th). Members can register for two courses during the winter (included with membership). The registration portal is open. All members are strongly encouraged to register online. The registration deadline is Monday, December 9th. The registration portal will close then, and no additional paper registrations will be accepted.

C.L.S CHRONICLE

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