

## 2017 Summer Catalog of Programs and Events

### High Country Lifelong Learners

Most speaker presentations, writing workshops, Lifelong Painters, and book talks are held at the Lois E. Harrill Senior Center, 132 Poplar Grove Connector in Boone, with some exceptions. Please note room location and time.

Monday Movies at the Library are held at the Watauga County Public Library, 140 Queen St., Boone.

#### LIFELONG PAINTERS

LIFELONG PAINTERS WATERCOLOR STUDIO with local artist JoAnn Pippin meets weekly on Fridays from 10:00 to 3:30 at the Harrill Senior Center. No fee. Come any time during these hours to be inspired by local artists who are wild about watercolor. Bring your paints and maybe your lunch. For more information, contact JoAnn Pippin at [rj2pip@yahoo.com](mailto:rj2pip@yahoo.com).

#### A Note About Book Discussions

Our first book discussion will be on June 20: *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad. This novella of 75 pages is available to read at [www.Gutenberg.org](http://www.Gutenberg.org). *King Lear* by Shakespeare in 5 classes (one for each act) for Sept/Oct. available to read on Gutenberg.org. Other books we might cover if there is enough interest include the ASU Common Reading for fall term: *One Amazing Thing* by Divakarun, *House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende (in spring) and *Remains of the Day* by Ishiguro (summer '18). Books published after 1924 will not be on Gutenberg; check with Watauga County or ASU Libraries for available copies or to order on reserve from other counties well ahead of time. Refer questions to June ([junemannwhs@Aol.com](mailto:junemannwhs@Aol.com)).

#### CLASSES IN JUNE:

**Monday, June 5:** D-Day Stories—The Battle That Changed the World. Keith Buchanan will be speaking on the historical subject of the D-Day Normandy invasion that began the liberation of the European continent on the eve of the 73rd anniversary of that invasion. Stories from D-Day will include: 1. Ike and the dilemma the weather caused on D-Day. 2. Thoughts of 101st Airborne Paratroopers before taking off on June 5. 3. John Steele – Paratrooper hanging from a cathedral. 4. Ted Roosevelt, Jr. – Utah Beach guiding force. 5. Simon Fraser and Bill Millen – Inspirations on D-Day 6. Horace Flack – Fate sometimes has more in mind for one than they can ever expect. 7. A young Dutch girl's diary entry on June 6, 1944. Mr Buchanan has been both assisting and leading tours since 2013 for Ambrose Tours and

his body of work includes not only historical research but has personally interviewed many WWII vets as well as been a published author for articles in WWII magazine. Mr Buchanan's European tours have included: D-Day on the Rhine, In the Footsteps of Patton, and Band of Brothers. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Tuesday, June 6:** Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases in Western North Carolina. Prof. Steven Seagle of the Biology Dept. at ASU will discuss the most common ailments spread by ticks in our area and what steps we inhabitants of the high country can take in our gardens and yards to lower risk of contact with the vectors responsible for the spread of these diseases. Multiple diseases can be transmitted to humans by tick bites. Some of these diseases are relatively common and others are very rare. So what determines your risk of being exposed to ticks and the diseases they carry here in western North Carolina? The answer to this question is changing as some tick species are becoming more common and others more rare. This presentation will discuss the basic biology of tick species, tick-borne diseases found in western NC, changing risks for exposure to these diseases, how to lower your risk of tick bites, and what to do if you are bitten. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Wednesday, June 7:** Writing Workshop. Sue Spirit leads a series of writing workshops for those who love to write. We have lots of fun writing from prompts and thinking of ways we might share our work with the world. Memoir-writing, short essays, and poems are what we do. This class will meet every Wednesday in June from noon to 2:00 pm in Classroom 3.

**Thursday, June 8:** Outing to Reynolda House Art Museum and Gardens, Winston Salem. We will carpool from the Lois Harrill Senior Center to tour this restored 1917 mansion and gardens. Enjoy the premier art gallery ranging from the colonial period to the present. Admission Fee \$14. We will include lunch at the Tavern in the Village. Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 to make a reservation and get details. Approximate time required: 9am to 4pm

**Monday June 12:** Monday at the Movies: "True Grit" (2010), 110 minutes. In the Coen Brothers' "True Grit," Jeff Bridges is not playing the John Wayne role. He's playing the role created in the enduring novel by Charles Portis, much of whose original dialogue can be heard in this film. Nominated for 10 Oscars. Directors and writers Ethan and Joel Cohen. Stars: Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon, and, Hailee Steinfeld and Matt Damon and Josh Brolin. Watauga Public Library, 2-4pm. If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

**Monday, June 19:** Rome—The Bad Emperors. Presented by Dr. John Stephenson, ASU Art Dept. Even in their day, Romans had declared certain emperors "good" and others "bad." Based on a set of valued properties, each emperor was judged a success, or alternately a colossal failure. The implications were great, and Rome's bad emperors faced the destruction of their carefully created public personas as well as their images, memory and very physical bodies. It is in this breach that the Roman genius for political communication and propaganda is most exposed, and here we can examine the mix of artistic and literary projects that underpinned a leader's messaging and reputation. This talk examines some of the "bad emperors" in terms of visual communication and propaganda, looks at the tales of their outrageous behavior by the ancient historians, and seeks a fresh view of these maligned figures from the ancient world. Part of the talk will be a presentation of ancient Roman coins issued by each of several "bad" emperors, with a look at the positive messages they tried to communicate. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Tuesday, June 20:** Book Discussion—*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad. Dr. James Ivory will discuss with us the novella *Heart of Darkness* by the British author Joseph Conrad. This 75 page novella is available to read in full online at [www.Gutenberg.org](http://www.Gutenberg.org). The story centers around Marlow's journey up Africa's Congo River to meet Kurtz, both being connected to a Belgian Company involved in the ivory and rubber trade. The native inhabitants have been forced into the Company's service and suffer terribly from overwork and ill treatment from agents of imperialism. Consider how Africa's issues today grew out of this history. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Thursday, June 22:** Picnic on Flat Top Overlook. This is a short, delightful loop trail with signs along the way explaining the trees, shrubs, and plants located at mile 308.2 of the Blue Ridge Parkway. The loop trail is only 0.6 mi. long, with a fairly moderate rise up to a rock outcropping with spectacular views of the Linville Valley and Grandfather Mountain. Rated easy in the Blue Ridge Parkway literature. Bring lunch/your favorite drink, a walking stick, dark glasses and a hat for the sun. 10—2pm, carpooling from the Senior Center. Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 so she can line up enough cars for the carpooling and advise you of any last minutes changes.

**Monday, June 26:** The Protestant Reformation, Part 1 of 2. Presented by Dr. Alan Hauser. A number of factors led to the Protestant Reformation, which began in 1517 and rapidly encompassed most all of Europe, producing major leaders such as Martin Luther, John Calvin, Ulrich Zwingli, and John Knox, each with their own views of what constituted the core teachings of Christianity. The factors spurring on the Reformation include: the technology of the printing press, which made possible rapid communication over great distances; the shape and form of the Roman Catholic Church, which had significant issues both in its teachings and in its clerical

hierarchy; the impact of the Renaissance, which opened Europe to the revival of ancient learning and texts of the Bible in Greek and Hebrew, rather than Latin; the growth of large cities and international commerce; and the beginnings of science and the secularization of European society. The refocusing of Christianity that took place as a result of the Reformation has had a tremendous impact on European culture, one that persists to this day, with a wide variety of teachings present in the various contemporary denominations of Protestantism. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room.

**Tuesday, June 27:** The Protestant Reformation, Part 2 of 2, presented by Dr. Alan Hauser. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room.

## CLASSES IN JULY

**Monday, July 10:** Monday at the Movies: "Chinatown" (1974), 130 minutes. Jack Nicholson Stars in this private-eye movie set in 1940's CA where a private detective hired to expose an adulterer finds himself caught up in a web of deceit, corruption and murder. Director Roman Polanski. The film cast includes four Oscar winners: Jack Nicholson, Faye Dunaway, John Huston, Roman Polanski; and three Oscar nominees: Burt Young, Diane Ladd and Joe Mantell. Nominated for 11 Oscars with 1 win. Watauga Public Library, 2-4:30 pm. If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

**Thursday, July 13:** Linville Falls Hike. After carpooling from the Senior Center, we will stroll out to the overlook of the lower falls from Chimney view 0.7 mile and then on to Erwin View overlook another 0.1 mile for a total of 0.8 out. Total out and back 1.6 miles. Gradual uphill walk on wide, even trails. Rated easy. Bring snack/lunch and we will eat in the picnic ground across the parkway after. 9:30—2pm. Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 so she has a head count and in case she needs to alert you to cancellation or change of plans.

**Monday, July 17:** All About Solar Eclipses. Retired Prof of Physics and Astronomy, Tom Rokoske, discusses everything you'll want to know about solar eclipses including the big one coming in August! 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Tuesday, July 18:** The Denim Dynasty. Appalachian State University faculty member and documentary filmmaker Beth Davison will present her film "The Denim Dynasty," a

documentary about the legacy of the Cone family that shaped prominent features of North Carolina's landscape. A national park, a regional medical center, an amazing art collection, roads and schools all bear the name of the family whose corporation made North Carolina a leading producer of textiles for much of the 20th century. The documentary explores the early days of North Carolina's textile history through stories of the Cone family and the textile workers who lived and raised their families in the mill villages. Together, the Cone family and workers helped make Cone textiles a world leader in producing denim. The Cone family's story encompasses many of the themes that form the American narrative: immigration, reconstruction, industrial revolution, paternalism and philanthropy. [2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room](#)

[Monday, July 24:](#) Which Form of Exercise Best Improves and Preserves Cognitive Health As We Age? Prof. Erin Bouldin of the Dept. of Health and Exercise Science at ASU will discuss the relationship of physical activity to disability and cognitive health. [2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room](#)

[Monday, July 31:](#) History of the Study of Religion at Public Universities. Presented by Dr. Sandie Gravett. Learn about the beginnings and progression of the study of religion within the academic setting at our public universities with a focus on religious studies at ASU. [2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room](#)

## CLASSES IN AUGUST

[Tuesday, August 1:](#) Book Talk. Led by June Mann, Book Talk provides a time for members to informally discuss the books that we have been reading, to recommend or not to add to our future reading lists. [2:00—3:30 pm, Classroom 3, 1st Floor.](#)

[Thursday, August 3:](#) Otter Creek Falls Hike at Seven Devils and Grandfather Winery. Walk down to Otter Falls, Seven Devils and stop for wine by the river at Grandfather Winery in Foscoe. This is a very short trail. Less than 2-3 miles. Bring a snack to go with your wine afterwards. Carpool from the Senior Center or meet at the trailhead. Call Juin Adams 828-295-9607 so she can arrange cars for those who want to spend time at the winery and those who don't, or to let her know you will meet the group at the trailhead. [10am—2pm](#)

**Friday, August 11:** A History of Early Botanical Exploration in the Southern Appalachians. Dr. Gary Walker, Biology Department, ASU, will review the early European botanists who ventured into the remote regions of the Southern Appalachians in search of new plant species. They were inspired by their own natural curiosity and the search for horticultural and medicinal uses of plants. Several discovered the similarities of the Appalachian flora to that of Eastern Asia and more northerly latitudes of North America. 2:00—3:30 pm, Dining Room, 1st Floor.

**Monday, August 14:** Monday at the Movies--"Dead Man Walking" (1995), 122 minutes. A convicted murderer on Death Row and the nun who befriends him. Through the portrayal of finely drawn characters and their interactions as the days, hours, and minutes tick down to the condemned man's execution, powerful emotions are unleashed. Sister Helen, as played here by Susan Sarandon and written and directed by Tim Robbins (from the memoir by the real Helen Prejean), "is one of the few truly spiritual characters I have seen in the movies," says Roger Ebert. Nominated for 4 Oscars and a win for best actress. Watauga Public Library, 2-4pm. If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

**Tuesday, August 15:** The Impact of Human Activities on the Global Climate. Presented by Dr. Gregg Marland, Research Professor in the Research Institute for Environment, Energy, and Economics; and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geology at Appalachian State University. This will be the basic science, the remaining questions, and the ongoing research that every citizen ought to have as a starting point. Discussion will be encouraged. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Wednesday, August 16:** Writing Workshop. Sue Spirit continues her series of writing workshops for those who love to write. We have lots of fun writing from prompts and thinking of ways we might share our work with the world. Memoir-writing, short essays, and poems are what we do. This class will meet again in 2 weeks on Aug. 30, both days noon to 2:00 pm in Classroom 3.

**Monday, August 21:** The Great Escape. During WWII there was a mass escape of allied prisoners from a German prisoner of war camp known as "escape proof". The event was immortalized in a 1963 movie known as the "Great Escape", which will be shown in November at the library. Virgil Hilts was the Steve McQueen character in the movie. We know the character Hilts was based upon the experiences of several prisoners and these will be discussed. The speaker for this presentation, Keith Buchanan, has been both assisting and leading tours since 2013 for Ambrose Tours and his body of work includes not only historical research but has

personally interviewed many WWII vets as well as has been a published author for articles in WWII magazine. Mr Buchanan's European tours have included: D-Day on the Rhine, In the Footsteps of Patton, and Band of Brothers. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Tuesday, August 22:** Sri Lanka and Southern India. World traveler Diana White will present a travelogue of her trip to Sri Lanka and southern India. The trip was filled with ancient Hindu temples, brightly-colored saris, and historic landmarks. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

**Wednesday, August 23:** Writing Trip. Come along on our summer writing trip! We will drive to a scenic or interesting spot, write, drive to a second spot and write, and drive to a third spot and write. At the third spot we will share some of our work and have refreshments. Bring a lunch, water, and writing materials. Notify Sue Spirit, 336-385-1640, if you are planning to go. Noon—4pm, leaving from the Senior Center.

**Thursday, August 24:** Linville Caverns and Wiseman's View. A delightful way to cool off on a hot day. A guided tour explains about the history, geology, blind fish and limestone formations. \$7.50 for seniors and \$8.50 for adults. When we finish we will choose between a picnic at Wiseman's overlook with spectacular Linville Gorge views if the weather permits, or lunch at Famous Louise's Rock House restaurant that straddles three counties. They are also known for their homemade pies! Carpool from the Senior Center, 9:30—2pm. Contact Juin Adams with questions: 828-295-9607

**Tuesday, August 29:** Immigrants and Muslims Out! Myths and Facts About Immigration in America. Dr. Cameron Lippard, Associate Professor in ASU's Department of Sociology, will discuss America's problem with immigration. 2:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

We hope you enjoy our programs! We are always open to suggestions and appreciate any speakers our participants may recommend. We are a team of volunteers who sincerely believe that learning never stops!

Eva Rand, Director

Mike Duus

Lory Whitehead

Deb Gooch

Sue Spirit

Marcia Hickman

June Mann

Mitch Murray

Sharon Howard

Juin Adams