

Profile: Hilary Cleveland: Advocate for Adventure

In the fall of 1997, a group of New London area residents gathered around the fireplace in Hilary Cleveland's living room to talk about their shared passion: development of a lifelong learning program to meet the needs of a growing community. As the fire crackled so did a burst of ideas. By evening's end, the basic architecture for what in time became Adventures in Learning had been sketched out. This program, designed to offer local residents an opportunity to explore new horizons, has evolved, in Hilary's words, into "the most interesting educational experience I have ever had."



The founders themselves comprised an exceptionally interesting mix, each bringing dedication to adult education inspired in part by courses taken at ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth) as well as commitment to hard work in making it happen here in New London. Among those working on the initial project who were in attendance that evening were: Priscilla and Julien

See Profile, Pg. 2

Winter Lecture Series Looks at the Industrial Revolution

In 1750, Great Britain was a pastoral place. Most people lived in rural areas and traveled around on foot or horseback. They usually worked at home, growing their own food and spinning cloth for their own handmade clothing.

One hundred years later, cities that had been mere villages were bursting at the seams with people who had moved there to find manufacturing jobs. Railroads crisscrossed the land. Textile mills turned out great quantities of cloth, and in some places, the sky was black with smoke from factory smokestacks. Life had changed profoundly.

This amazing transformation is known as the Industrial Revolution. What factors brought it about? Why did it begin in Great Britain? What were its negative aspects?

During the winter term, these and other questions will be addressed in an eight-session series on the Industrial Revolution. Some of our most outstanding study leaders will serve as lecturers, and Ben Acard will be the moderator.

The first four sessions will deal with the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain. In the first session, Julie Machen, the study leader of the popular course on Victorian England, will introduce the subject. Julie will also lead the second session, which will be devoted to industry and transportation. The third session will focus on Scottish and regional aspects of the Industrial Revolution. The presenter will be Morris Edwards, well known to Adventures in Learning members for his course on early English kings and his fine Enlightenment series lecture on the Scottish philosophers. Session four will feature Chuck Kennedy, who has done everything from lecturing on the Renaissance to leading a course on Gilbert and Sullivan. Chuck will cover the Wesleyan movement and the Crystal Palace exhibition.

The next three sessions will look at the American Industrial Revolution. In session five, Dick Pearson, the leader of study groups devoted to legal issues, will discuss the development of trusts. In the sixth session, Chuck Kennedy will cover urban upheaval and social/religious problems. Session seven, devoted to transportation

See Winter Lecture Series, Pg. 3

Profile, from Pg. 1

LeBourgeois (She came up with the Adventures in Learning name. He was chairman of the original program organizing committee.); Anne and Charles Carey (He served as the first president.); Jean and Peter McKee (He was the second president.); Dick and Sue Eaton; and Hilary (whose job it was to present the program to the college). Other founding members were: Bob and Susie Gray (He drafted the by-laws.); Mary Doyle; and Dale Garvey (He had also been a member of

ILEAD's organizing committee.) As Julien has observed, the original committee "was the most congenial, most willing, and most cooperative group of volunteers I have been associated with."

Hilary's own particular interest in continuing education stemmed from her experience not only as a student and teacher at ILEAD, but also as a professor of history at Colby-Sawyer, where she has taught since 1955. Early on she was impressed by the efforts of Eugene M. Austin, president of Colby Junior College in the 1950s, to sponsor a community-college series exploring current issues of local and national interest. "It was an effective program," she explains, "but never as clearly structured as Adventures in Learning." And with blue eyes sparkling, she describes some of her classes at the college that were initially open to adults from the local area as well as undergraduates. "Those adults added tremendously to a course," she says, "in that they stimulated the kids and were not afraid to challenge the professor." They were "dynamite," she grins. Clearly an advocate of such vertical learning, she was disappointed when the college decided to charge adults full-course tuition, effectively resulting in their not registering, a development which further motivated her to seek new channels for the "knowledgeable, fascinating people in this community" she had come to know through her teaching.

Although Hilary presented the Adventures in Learning proposal to Colby-Sawyer President Anne Ponder in the fall of 1997, it was not until the following May, after careful review by all segments of the college,

that the founders received the go-ahead signal. A whirlwind organization began immediately, focusing on writing brochures, gathering presenters, finding spaces, developing courses. "We all just went whammo!" explains Hilary. "I'd love to say I was the catalyst," she adds, "but it was Julien LeBourgeois in particular who did the final legwork." And by September, five courses were indeed in place. Adventures in Learning was no longer just a dream.

A few key course guidelines were, from the start, firmly agreed upon. Course developers were not to be referred to as "teachers" but rather "discussion leaders"; course takers were "participants" rather than "students." The underlying belief was that participants were capable of contributing invaluable to one another with a resulting "explosion of interest," as Hilary puts it. Those first five courses, which did in fact produce an explosion of interest that has continued to the present, were: "Breakup of the Soviet Union" (Hilary Cleveland and Jack Richards); "End Crowns All: A Study of Two Tragedies" (George Tracy); "Genetic Engineering" (Judy Bohn); "Plantagenets" (Deniza Martin); and "Simplifying Wine" (Bob Weiss).

Obviously Hilary is gratified by the tremendous success generated by Adventures in Learning. A significantly expanded fall 2006 curriculum offers 12 courses with some 240 participants involved. When asked if she has any future hopes for the program, Hilary points to an interdisciplinary interest inspired by her undergraduate Vassar major which melded history, political

**Adventures in Learning
at Colby-Sawyer College**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Richard Cogswell

Vice President

Betsy Boege

Secretary

Jeanine Berger

Treasurer

Richard Pearson

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Ben Acard

Judy Bohn

James Bowditch

John Callahan

Dusty Logan

Julie Machen

Les Norman

Tony Parra

Arthur Rosen

Charlotte Spencer

George Tracy

EX-OFFICIO

Sharon Ames

Colby-Sawyer College

541 Main Street

New London, NH 03257

(603) 526-3720

Fax: (603) 526-3780

adventures@colby-sawyer.edu

www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

Adventures in Learning Update, published three times annually, highlights the courses and happenings of the Adventures in Learning program at Colby-Sawyer College.

Profile, from Pg. 2

science and economics, providing her with a broader view than she would have experienced with a single major. "I'd like to see Adventures in Learning develop some interdisciplinary courses," she says. Hilary also would encourage a return to adult participation in Colby-Sawyer classes to stimulate college students to higher levels. As she observes, "Adults who have never lost the desire to learn more and create more inspire a love of learning."

Desiring to learn, to create. Inspiring a love of learning in others. In this reporter's view, that is a most apt description of the intellectually adventurous and stimulating Hilary Cleveland herself.

~ Ann Lang

Winter Lecture Series, from Pg. 1

and manufacturing, will be led by Dick Cogswell. A first-time study leader, Dick has been active in Adventures in Learning almost since its inception and is our current president.

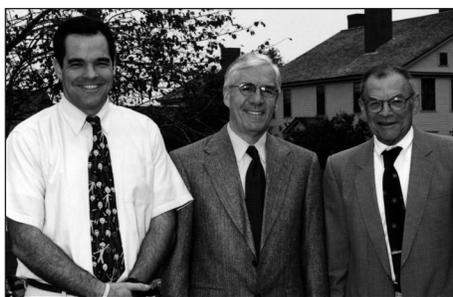
David Pook, who teaches history at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, will sum everything up in the eighth and final session. Many members will remember David's excellent lectures for the Enlightenment series.

The Industrial Revolution is Adventures in Learning's sixth lecture series. All have received rave reviews, and this one promises to be one of the best. It's a series you won't want to miss.

~ Julie Boardman

"Right to Die" Alive with Controversy

On August 19, 2006, Adventures in Learning at Colby-Sawyer College presented a dialogue on physician-assisted suicide. The dialogue centered on issues of individual rights vs. group values with arguments drawn from the classical and Biblical to the modern and post-modern worlds.



Leatrice MacIntosh

The featured speakers of the
Summer Lecture 2006.

From left: Dr. Robert Macauley, Dr. James
Bernat and Dr. David Babbott.

Dr. James Bernat, chair of the Ethics Committee at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, served as moderator. Dr. David Babbott, Board of Directors, Death with Dignity, Vermont, and Dr. Robert Macauley, medical director of clinical ethics, Fletcher Allen Health Care, outlined the arguments. The fourth member of the discussion was a highly involved audience of over 100 with most all in the second half of life.

The question was: *Should physician-assisted suicide be a legally available option?* Dr. Bernat defined physician-assisted suicide as applying to a competent but terminally ill patient who requests a prescription for a life-ending drug and self administers it.

Dr. Bernat pointed out that this fell between euthanasia (physician administered and

illegal throughout the country) and refusal of care or of food and drink (a patient right and legal throughout the country). He also noted that physician-assisted suicide was legal in one state, Oregon.

Dr. Babbott spoke in favor of physician-assisted suicide. Principal among his reasons was relief of suffering and the patient's right to choose from all medical options. He noted that drugs today do not entirely eliminate suffering and that medical technology often prolongs suffering as it prolongs life. Dr. Babbott added that those opposed do not have the right to impose their views on others.

Dr. Macauley argued that in Oregon only 22% of physician-assisted suicides were due to suffering. He raised the slippery-slope issue noting European locations where physician-assisted suicide has been abused and extended as far as impaired newborns. Dr. Macauley concluded by citing an extensive list of medical and nursing associations that were against physician-assisted suicide.

The dialogue concluded with an audience vote. Despite well-stated arguments on both sides, the show-of-hands favored physician-assisted suicide by a measure of approximately two-thirds to one-third.

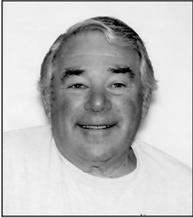
Video taped copies of the dialogue are available and may be borrowed from the Adventures in Learning Office. Look for information about next summer's lecture series in the spring 2007 newsletter.

~ Arthur M. Rosen

A Preview of the Winter 2007 Courses

Lecture Series: The Industrial Revolution in Britain and the United States

This eight-week lecture series, moderated by Ben Acard, will cover the profound changes in human enterprise that became known as the industrial revolution.



Ben Acard



Julie Machen



Morris Edwards



Chuck Kennedy



Dick Pearson



Dick Cogswell



David Pook



Joanna Henderson

Abigail Adams: Her Life and Times

This course with Joanna Henderson will cover the many roles of Abigail Adams and the significance of the social and political history of her time, which is evident in the thousands of letters she wrote.



Tony Parra

Goethe and the Romantic Age of German Literature

Tony Parra will lead participants of this course in the reading and discussion of Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe's *Faust*, an epic poem about man's struggle to gain self-knowledge.



Michael Pannebianco

Plato's Dialogues on Love: An Introduction to Western Philosophy

Plato's major writings on love—*Lysis*, *Symposium*, *Phaedrus* and *Alcibiades* will be the focus of Michael Pannebianco's course.



Jim Bowditch

The Impact of the West on Japan: 1854-1905

This course with Jim Bowditch will cover the fifty years following Commodore Matthew Perry's opening the doors of trade with Japan, including the roles that westerners played in transforming Japan into a major power.



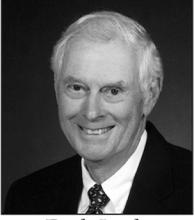
June Fichter



Woody Wood

The Lake Sunapee Watershed: A Delicate Balance

Lake Sunapee Protective Association directors June Fichter and Robert Wood will offer insight into the Lake Sunapee watershed and the implications of both past and future uses of the land it is on.



Dick Little

In Search of Reality

Participants in this course with Dick Little will explore historical and current thinking about reality and the role of the human mind in the development and understanding of it.



Charlotte Spencer

Reading the Bible Again for the First Time with Marcus Borg

Charlotte Spencer will lead a discussion about the book *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, by Marcus Borg, including the influences of the Bible's content on a person's struggle for a meaningful ethical/spiritual life and an understanding of contemporary culture wars.



Charles Carey

The Troubled History of Central America

Charles Carey will lead this study group through the complex history of Central America, from its ancient Maya civilization and the arrival of the Spanish Conquistadors to its exploitation by foreign business interests supported by their governments.



Ron Luchsinger

One-of-a-Kind Operas

Director of productions for Opera North, Ron Luchsinger will present and discuss a group of 14 operas that are each unique in some way—the only examples of their kind, a composer's only opera, or operas that influenced the development of the genre.



Ellen Robertson

Dialogues with Portraits

The social and historic importance of portraiture will be explored in Ellen Robertson's course with original and reproductions of paintings. Portrayals of subjects done by different artists will be discussed as well as influences on artists and those who view their work.



Millard Hunter

Abraham Lincoln and the Politics of His Time

Millard Hunter's class will read about and discuss the slavery issue of the 19th century, the development of the Republican Party, the Lincoln administration and the emancipation.

The Interrogators

Like a plant that sends out shoots that develop into other plants, participation in the Adventures in Learning program has inspired three groups that now meet on a regular basis. The first to sprout up was a journal-writing group that grew out of Rachel Mills' "A Journal Workshop." This was followed by the Poetry Posse whose members discovered a mutual interest in the program's poetry classes. Recently, another offshoot has taken root in the community. The group calls itself The Interrogators, and they meet monthly to discuss a wide range of subjects. The founder is Ben Acard, well known to Adventures in Learning members as the moderator of our lecture series. All three groups are examples of how Adventures in Learning has stimulated continued intellectual exploration by some of its participants. Following is an interview Julie Boardman had with Ben, in which he explains how the group started and how it operates.

Julie B. - Ben, when did you come up with the idea for The Interrogators group?

Ben A. - Actually, I had the thought for a long time, but it wasn't until I attended and led a few Adventures in Learning classes that I decided to ask a few people if they might not like to be part of a small discussion group. The members could present a paper or readings or absolutely anything on any topic the individual felt like sharing with others. This would be the first part of the meeting. The second part would consist of the rest of the group questioning the presenter on any point of his or her presentation.

JB - How did you recruit the members?

BA - I asked a few people that I met through participation in Adventures in Learning and who I thought would be simpatico, be interesting, and be willing to participate in both presenting and questioning. We have 12 attendees some who participate seasonally. They are Donald Clark, George Tracy, Charlotte Spencer, Dick Cogswell, Dick Pearson, Natalie Davis, Dan Allen, Morris Edwards, Jean Edwards, Jim Bowditch, Jan Acard and me.

JB - Where did the name of the group come from?

BA - We had an initial meeting to set up the program and decide on a time and place to meet. We sat around and chatted and selected our name, which came from Charlotte Spencer. Her grandmother belonged to a women's club for self education and they called themselves The Interrogators.

JB - What sort of subjects do you discuss?

BA - At our second meeting, Don Clark did a presentation on the beginnings of medicine focusing on Hippocrates. At the third session, George Tracy read a poem by John Milton, claiming that it was one of the best, if not the very best, poems ever written. Then, Charlotte Spencer did a slide presentation on various artistic conceptions of heaven.

JB - How would you characterize the discussion at your meetings? Are people friendly? Confrontational?

BA - The group is extremely polite and a good deal of humor is exhibited. While we all don't agree, our disagreements are intellectual, not emotional. That was one of the considerations I had in mind when I asked these folks if they would like the idea of the organization.

JB - Have you scheduled any programs for future meetings?

BA - Yes. We have our meetings planned for the next several months. I am scheduled to talk on the mischief we attribute to the culture of our times. Natalie Davis will be giving a poetry reading, and Dick Pearson will give some sort of legal presentation. The others have not yet selected a topic.

JB - Has the group lived up to your expectations?

BA - Absolutely. I believe we will get better as time goes on and we decide to approach deeper, meaningful questions that mankind has been struggling with since we crawled out of the cave. I am also certain we will discuss topical issues, because the group is well informed and cares about so many issues that face us today.

If you know of other groups that have taken root and sprouted as a result of participation in Adventures in Learning, we would love to hear about them.

~ Julie Boardman

AIL Catalog

Ten pages of invitation
And each a summons to explore.
Empires, four weeks; Weather in six
Islam in five, Décor in eight.

Because we meant to study at same hours, same days
Your choice of Archeology condemned me to
Eight weeks of Poetry Workshop.

I served that sentence out
And now claim twenty poems
Five times that in abandoned thoughts
And five times that in words dismissed.

See how a poet led me week by week to frame ideas.
While your adventure crossed the globe
Mine was within. A personal archeology.

~ Sidney Grove

"Adventures in Learning Update" is pleased to publish this poem that Sidney Grove wrote when she was in Dianalee Velie's study group "Poetry: The Quill of the Soul." Sidney and her husband Bo live in North Sutton, New Hampshire. They moved to this area in late 2001 and signed up for their first Adventures in Learning class in the winter of 2002.

FAST FACTS

Office Location

The Adventures in Learning office is located on the first floor of the Colby Homestead on the Colby-Sawyer College campus. Look for the sign at the end of the driveway.

Seasonal Address Changes

Our database is capable of tracking seasonal address changes. Just let us know what dates to send your mail to which address.

Study Group Proposal Form

The study group leader proposal form is now on the Adventures in Learning Web site.

Guest Policy

Many of our classes are oversubscribed and have a waiting list. As a courtesy to our membership, please remember that attendance in Adventures in Learning classes is reserved only for members who have registered and been accepted into the class.

Office Closed

Please note that the office will be closed on Monday, October 16 for a college fall holiday, from November 22 through 24 for Thanksgiving and from December 24 through January 5 for the winter break.

Audio/Video Library

We have started to build a library of taped events. If you would like to borrow a copy of the summer lecture, you may sign one out at the Adventures in Learning Office. In the future we will tape the annual meeting as well.

Kearsarge Magazine Article

The fall edition of the Kearsarge Magazine includes a very interesting article about the Adventures in Learning program at Colby-Sawyer College.

Winter 2007 Registration

The deadline to register for winter courses is Friday, November 24.

Program Coordinator

Sharon Ames
(603) 526-3720

Program Assistant

Janet St. Laurent
(603) 526-3690

Calendar of Upcoming Events

ART FACULTY OPENING EXHIBITION

Thursday, October 12
from 7 to 9 p.m.

Marian Graves Mugar
Art Gallery

Sawyer Fine Arts Center Theatre

ADVENTURES IN LEARNING FALL TRIP

Adams National Historical Park
and JFK Library

Thursday, October 26 at 7 a.m.

From the Lake Sunapee
Country Club

SHAFAAATULLAH KHAN PERFORMANCE

Indian classical music

Wednesday, November 8 at 8 p.m.
Wheeler Hall

Ware Campus Center

HIDDEN COLLAGE OPENING EXHIBITION

Thursday, November 16
from 7 to 9 p.m.

Marian Graves Mugar Art Gallery
Sawyer Fine Arts Center Theatre

COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE SINGERS

Holiday Concert

Thursday, December 7
from 7 to 9 p.m.

Sawyer Fine Arts Center Theatre

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS Communication student

video showcase

Thursday, December 14 at 7 p.m.
Wheeler Hall

Ware Campus Center



Adventures in Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
541 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEW LONDON, NH
PERMIT 4

Maureen Rosen



Adventures in Learning is featured July 20 on WNTK's "Twin State Journal."
From left: Julie Machen, Sharon Ames, host Janine Weins and Art Rosen
discuss the variety of courses being offered for fall 2006.