



ALLways

Newsletter of the Academy for Lifelong Learning of Cape Cod, Inc.

CONTENTS

[Welcome to November](#)

[4Cs Autumn Harvest Feast](#)

[Upcoming ALL Events](#)

[A New Year Begins](#)

[Back to School Reception](#)

[Evaluations of Courses Matter](#)

[Spotlight - Stew Goodwin](#)

[ALL Members Witness Eclipse, WOW](#)

[Gawande Interviewed by Robin Young of PBS](#)

[ALL Viet Nam Vets Reflect on Burns Documentary](#)

[Display Your Artwork at ALL](#)

[Calendar](#)

November 2017

4Cs College Hotline Number:
508-375-4070 (for school closings)

BSU Hotline Number:
508-531-1777 (for school closings)

A.L.L. Office Number / Email / Web:

774-330-4400 (direct)

or 508-362-2131 x4400

acadlll@capecod.edu

www.capecodall.org

Welcome to November



We're thankful for November and all that it brings - thanking our veterans on Veterans Day and our great American holiday, Thanksgiving. On that day we celebrate with turkey and turnips, pumpkins and puddings, a feast and then a fast.

Our little ALL area is lively with autumn bouquets, smiling volunteers who help newcomers and Kerry, our intrepid administrator.

Those of us who participated in six week classes have, it's hoped, completed evaluations of the courses. Evaluations help coordinators develop future courses.

Three of our members reflect on their times in Viet Nam in light of the 18 hour series on Public TV which aired in September and October. Rob Milne, Peter Borowski and Jay LeFrance are active members of ALL. They took notes for ALLways.

As leaves continue to fall this month, an ALL member artist, Joan Hennessey, and I stood outside Sturgis Library in Barnstable Village. Joan pointed out how bare branches intersect, make patterns, pictures. It's as if they are hugging as they prepare for winter.

Happy learning and Know November. Cheers.

Barbara Leedom, Editor

4Cs Autumn Harvest Feast

The College will be hosting its Autumn Harvest Feast on Wednesday, November 8, from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm. This college event is intended to provide registered Cape Cod Community College students, faculty, and staff a time to enjoy a meal, talk with friends, get to know new people, and celebrate the semester. The cafeteria will not be open for business after 10:30 am that day. ALL members are certainly welcome to share in the meal but we are asked to make a donation (\$10 is suggested) to cover the college's cost. A collection box will be provided on-site.

Jim Lathrop, President

Upcoming ALL Events



Please save the date of November 12 for the Sunday matinee of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance" at the Barnstable Comedy Club, and dinner afterwards at the Barnstable Restaurant across the street. Reservations are required by signing up by Friday, November 3, at the ALL desk for \$47 (all inclusive) with a limit of 55 attendees.

Diane Hoover, Special Events Chair



[Click here to view details](#)

****Seating is limited. Sign up at the A.L.L. desk or send a check with your meal choices. Make checks out to A.L.L. and pay by Nov 3rd.***



**ALL HOLIDAY PARTY!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017
CCCC CAFETERIA**

12:00 - 2:00 pm

Holiday Pot Luck



Members are asked to sign up at the ALL desk to bring an appetizer, salad, entrée or dessert.

Sign up in the ALL Office, November 17 - Dec. 1 to bring an appetizer, salad, entrée or dessert.

ALL will supply soft drinks and wine.

'Tis the season to celebrate with your ALL friends.

A New Year Begins

For the fall semester 2017 ALL received 703 Registration Forms; this represents a slight decline (3%) from the 724 we received in the fall of 2016. At the same time, however, the number of people we were unable to accommodate for any of the courses they requested was down 30% from 30 to 21. This is in part due to your Board's decision to offer five courses at the South Yarmouth campus of Bridgewater State University. Another significant factor was the willingness of two of our coordinators, Paula Stefanie and Stew Goodwin, to offer a second session of their very popular courses.

While the decline in membership this fall is minor, it nonetheless represents the continuation of a trend we have experienced more or less steadily since membership peaked in 2011. In part, this may be because we have had to increase the ALL membership fees by over 20% since Cape Cod Community College found it necessary to reduce its level of support in 2014. Meanwhile, your Board is trying to further analyze the data to see if it can glean further insights into this disturbing trend.

In financial terms, revenue from fall 2017 Membership Fees is little changed - \$64,447.50 this year vs \$65,100 in 2016.

Kirk Young, Treasurer

Back to School Reception at the Cultural Center - Thanks to All who Made it happen.

Hurricane Jose may have swept the Cape with wind and rain, but it didn't dampen the spirits of those ALL members who came to the rescheduled Back to School Social on Monday, October 2nd. It was a gorgeous late fall afternoon, with crisp temperatures, and the Cape Cod Cultural Center was decorated in vibrant colors of the season. Once a bank, the Cultural Center is now a perfect venue for social gatherings, concerts, lectures and art displays.



The 70 ALL members who came to share a beverage and socialize enjoyed the venue. Kit Kat, the Center's resident cat, also seemed to enjoy the party. The Hospitality committee and Board of Directors made some delicious appetizers which were appreciated by all in attendance. Dr. Cox, President of Cape Cod Community college, Lisa Kopecky, Vice President of Finance and operations, and Lore DeBower, faculty member and ALL coordinator, were also in attendance. Dr. Cox spoke about some

changes to come at the college.

The social was a success and a great way to kick off the year - Kudos to the Hospitality Committee!

Dianne Tattersall, Hospitality Chairperson



Evaluations of Courses Matter to Coordinators



As a class participant, why evaluate the courses you take? You don't want to hurt the feelings of the coordinator. Of course you don't. You want to help the coordinator make the course better. You can evaluate courses anonymously or you can use the standard evaluation form located in the ALL Office or, as the coordinator, you can create your own. You can distribute blank sheets of paper and ask the participants to write whatever they want to write.

You, as a coordinator, will not analyze handwriting or try to guess who wrote what. We coordinators are always looking for how to better present our courses.

Always in a rush, I either sent out subjects to be discussed at the next class the day before or the morning of the day's class. I emailed the participants, noting that three members didn't have email, another two did but didn't have printers and another whose printer crashed on the evening before the class.

Evaluations taught me I should send topics for discussion at least three days before the class. This was a class about Existentialism, where we discussed big questions such as: Who is God? Class members said they needed more than two hours to reflect on this question. They were correct.

It's always good to have some rules on the first day. My classes are always discussion classes. Everyone should be able to voice opinions, give us further knowledge on the topics and understand no one dominates the precious time we have. Think Keep it Simple and Brevity is Beautiful. *BSL*

Spotlight - Stew Goodwin



Stew Goodwin has coordinated many classes and made presentations on a variety of subjects. He is considered by all that have been in his classes as exceptionally knowledgeable and well prepared. However, Stew does not try to impress anyone with his knowledge and is never arrogant. Stew knows that he does not know everything and is willing to learn. He is not threatened by questions. He understands that learning occurs when people question, think, and make a subject their own. Stew provides a great example for all life-long learners by reading and bringing to the attention of those in his classes numerous relevant books and articles.

Stew is a native of New York City. He also has a deep and personal connection to Cape Cod. He spent his summers from an early age in Cotuit where he first developed a passion for being on the ocean that he now shares with his children and grandchildren. He was a batboy and a player for the Cotuit Kettleers.

His first date with his wife Margot included a trip to Cotuit. Stew graduated from Harvard where he majored in Russian History. After graduation Stew served in the Army including assignments working with Israelis and as advisor in Vietnam. He next went to Columbia for his MBA and started working in the finance industry. Stew was involved in international investments which required travel to and knowledge of virtually every major country. He then retired to Cotuit where he has given back to his community by serving and being a leader for many organizations including the Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association, Cotuit Water Department, and Cotuit Kettleers. He has also authored several books and newspaper articles.

Stew has a passion for many topics. By sharing his interests and life experiences, he has provided a great learning experience to ALL members.

Ed Wirtanen, Board Member-at-Large

ALL Members Witness Eclipse, WOW



A long time ago, I read that seeing a total eclipse of the sun was a life-changing event. 2017 promised to be a year when the total eclipse would be visible along a path from Oregon to South Carolina, provided the weather cooperated.

Alison and I were keen to experience this event, choosing Wyoming as a suitable venue with a high likelihood of a cloudless sky. On the day of the eclipse we were north of Cheyenne among an ever-increasing volume of traffic. With an hour to go before totality we pulled into a roadside area and waited. As the shadow of the moon moved slowly across the sun, special glasses were essential for viewing.

Totality occurred quite rapidly with a dimming of the light, a drop in temperature and a gasp from the crowd followed by silence; no cars moved and no birds sang. The black sun disc with its corona could be looked at with the naked eye. Through binoculars shafts of light looking like a Maltese Cross beamed into space. A little distance from the sun, the planet Mercury could be seen.

Was the experience life-changing? No, but I shall always remember the black disk, the bright corona and above all, Mercury, as an extraordinary event. Something to be experienced by all who can, before shuffling off this mortal coil.

Ray Partridge, Board Member-at-Large

Gawande Interviewed by Robin Young of PBS

Atul Gawande, author of the best-selling book, *Being Mortal*, was the featured speaker at an ALL sponsored and well-attended webinar at the Cultural Center in South Yarmouth. The event originated to celebrate 15 years of the first Village, started in Boston. It has turned into a movement that has spread across the country to 350 locations with the goal to help elders "age in place."

The main argument in Gawande's book was reinforced in the interview. He wants elders, facing the remaining years of their lives, to have choices. He praised movements like the humanization of nursing homes, to the assisted living alternative, and the Village movement as ways to enhance the choices available. He also advocates that physicians passionately enable their patients to address end-of-life health choices.

The webinar was sent to Villages across the country. The Village Movement is a grassroots effort for organizations that commit to helping their members age in a place of their choosing. To learn more about the Village movement here on the Cape, visit the websites of either Neighborhood Falmouth or Nauset Neighbors. In the mid-Cape, another Village is in development for Yarmouth and Dennis. Contact any of these three if you would like to know more or get involved, either as a volunteer or a member. The contacts for the mid-Cape location are Kate Lathrop lathrop_kate@yahoo.com and Marcy Cohen marcohen52@gmail.com .



Atul Gawande
(photo by Tim
Llewellyn)

Marilyn Nouri, Long Range Planning Chair

ALL Viet Nam Vets Reflect on Burns Documentary

It is an exceptional series. It was personally difficult to watch some of the segments and others were entirely different from what I thought happened. They did a superb job of presenting both sides of the issues.

For me, the series was both complex and personal. My feeling is that only those who were involved or were actively following the war as it happened would invest the amount of time necessary to watch it from start to finish. It should be required watching for all Americans.

Like many veterans of the war, it was the most significant event in my life. This is true for every veteran I have asked or spoken with. After 50 years I still have flashbacks and nightmares. I would guess that I have read at least a couple of hundred books about the war, both fiction and non-fiction.

I have learned some things I was not aware of. For instance, I was not aware of the roles Ho Chi Minh and General Giap played. Their roles were overtaken by younger and more aggressive successors. It is clear that the producers spent an extraordinary amount of time locating not just some of the major figures from both sides of the conflict but also the families and fellow soldiers and the parts they played. It is no wonder they took ten years to make the documentary.

I also thought the analyses of the roles LBJ, his cabinet, and the interaction with the military and the comparable rolls played by the North Vietnamese. The interviews and meetings were pretty gripping. The choice of authors and correspondents were right on. The episode which included the battle of Ia Drang was tough to watch. The first soldier to be killed from my high school was killed at LZ Albany. He was the first of far too many friends from my childhood to lose their lives for nothing.

Rob Milne

I arrived in Saigon Vietnam well in advance of the period in which Rob served his country, a time when most US military men had never heard of South Vietnam.

Before leaving the United States I was in Fort Meade, Maryland, where an extensive briefing and historical outline of North and South Vietnam was provided.

My assignment in South Vietnam lasted eighteen months. During that time I observed the transition from a quiet country in the Far East to the beginnings of a war between the peoples of South and North Vietnam.

I have been watching Ken Burns Nam Doc, and I think of my friend Rob who participated in the horrors of war, and the 50,000 who died fighting a war that a large portion of the US population detested.

For those of us who were there, each has his own memories, and the documentary reminds how brutal it was.

Jay LaFrance



As I watched the Ken Burns documentary on the Vietnam war, particularly Episode 3 (1964-65), I recalled the circumstances which sent me to war.

In 1965, the US Navy offered a special incentive to prospective enlistees. Any high school graduate who volunteered to join would be guaranteed the "Rate" of his choice. "Rate" is the navy term for job, or career path. For me, the chance to be trained as a photographer proved irresistible. In September of that year I was up and off to boot camp, after which I would be sent to Photographers Mate School.

An eye examination at boot camp revealed a mild case of color blindness. Photographers in the Navy cannot be color blind. As an alternative, the Navy offered me training as an instrument repairman - navigation equipment, watches and clocks, and office equipment. Upon graduation from boot camp, I learned that my attendance at the school for this Rate would be postponed for one year, and my interim assignment would be as a gunner on a US Navy destroyer deployed to the coastal waters of Vietnam.

My recollection of the war is primarily the blur of a naïve 17 year old seaman second class coping with such a new experience, punctuated by memories of witnessing the carnage from the safety of my ship. I watched in horror as helicopters carrying my fellow soldiers and sailors were blown out of the sky.

Scenes such as these in the Burns program were especially disturbing. Had I been a photographer, some of the images used in the documentary might have been mine.

I completed my tour, attended the promised school and spent the rest of my enlistment attached to a submarine tender in Charleston, South Carolina. One hundred thirty five photographers died in the Vietnam conflict.

Peter Borowski

Display Your Artwork at ALL

We are always looking for ALL member artists who want to show their work and talent in our ALL Art Gallery in the lounge area. We feature two both paintings and photography in each show for six week periods during the school year. Thirty percent of the sales proceeds are donated to ALL. We know there are many of you out there with artistic talent and we would love the opportunity to show your work so don't be shy.

Please stay tuned for new creative works to be shown.

Ann Corbett, ALL Art Gallery



Ann Corbett

Please contact Ann Corbett at
anncape@comcast.net or
call **508-428-4171**

Now showing in the ALL office are paintings by **Ann Corbett** (A display of *The Animal Parade*) and photographs by **Jean Arnold**:



by Ann Corbett



by Jean Arnold

Calendar of Events

Check out our website at www.capecodall.org for changes, updates and a monthly calendar.

November 2017

Pirates of Penzance

Sunday, November 8
2:00 pm

Barnstable Comedy Club
Friday, November 10

Veterans Day
NO CLASSES

Thanksgiving Break
NO CLASSES

Tuesday-Friday
November 21-24

Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 21

December 2017

ALL Holiday Party

Sunday, December 10
Grossman Commons Cafeteria
12:00 - 2:00 pm

Classes End

Friday, December 15

Things to do in November



See patterns in bare branches



Grab a falling leaf press it in a big book.



Buy a new hat.

ALLways welcomes Letters to the Editor with comments and suggestions on just about anything related to our organization. We also welcome articles, blurbs and snippets. We don't accept unsigned material.

Please remember to check the bulletin board in the office for additional ALL news and updates. The list of Board members and the current Board member meetings are also posted.

Thank you.

Barbara Leedom
bleedom@gmail.com

ALLways

Editor

Barbara Leedom

Production

Kerry Arnett, Lee Pledger

Photography

Dianne Tattersall, Lee Pledger

Join Our List!

Academy for
Lifelong Learning
CCCC
2240 Iyannough Rd
West Barnstable,
Massachusetts 02668
508-330-4400

acadlll@capecod.edu
www.capecodall.org

