

life@ELON

FALL/WINTER 2020/2021 – Tuesday Schedule

Morning Class: 10:00 – 12:00 and Afternoon Class: 1:30 – 3:30

September 29, 2020

The Magic of Audrey

Janna Trout

(Extra session added to our regular schedule, to practice using Zoom.)

The essence of chic and a beautiful woman, Audrey Hepburn, brought a certain “magic” quality to the screen. Synonymous with oversized sunglasses and the little black dress, many are unaware of the hardships she endured while growing up in Nazi-occupied Holland. Starring in classic movies such as *Sabrina*, *My Fair Lady*, and of course, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, Audrey Hepburn brought effortless style and grace to the silver screen.

Following the many Zoom training opportunities offered in the last two weeks of September, let's put our training to the test! The Technology Team recommended we conduct the first zoom class without a live presenter so we can ensure that everything is working correctly to set us up for a successful semester. Below is the format of our first LIFE@ Elon class on Zoom – enjoy this documentary about the one and only Audrey Hepburn!

Open Class

On Tuesday mornings, you will receive an email with a link for the class. (If the presenter has a handout, we will attach it to the email.) Twenty minutes before the start of class, we will have the meeting open so you can click on the link to join. Kathryn Bennett, the Program Coordinator, will be there to greet members as they are logging on, and Katie Mars, the Technology Specialist, will be present, as well. Joining this class early is entirely optional.

Announcements and Introduction

At 10:00, Kathryn Bennett will begin by giving us updates and announcements about the program. Andy Mangano, Executive Committee Chair, will welcome everyone and say a few words about our transition to a virtual program. Janna Trout, Executive Committee member and leader of the Technology Team, will introduce the program and get us started.

Presentation

To minimize distractions during the presentation, all participants will have their cameras turned off and voices muted.

Virtual break

About halfway through the documentary, we will take a ten-minute break. During this time, enjoy great music that will be playing on the screen while you stretch your legs, get more coffee or water, and go to the restroom.

Presentation

Watch the remainder of the program.

When the program ends, we will leave the Zoom meeting open for members who want to connect with others to continue the conversation. Think of this time as chatting on the way to the parking lot. After the first week, we will have discussion boards where you can also share thoughts and ideas with other members.

Please note, we will follow this structure, which mimics our in-person classes as closely as possible, throughout the semester.

October 6, 2020

Past, Present, and Future of Glen Raven, Inc.

Allen E. Gant, Jr.

Glen Raven, Inc., was recently defined by an article in the *Triad Business Journal* on August 21, 2020, as “an advanced and technical fabric maker, the grandfather of industry in Alamance County, which not only survived, but thrived, amid the textile exodus that devastated the county and regional economies for nearly a decade.” Hear insights, experiences, and stories from their Chairman of the Board and former CEO, Allen E. Gant, Jr.

Allen E. Gant, Jr. leads the company that was founded by his grandfather in 1880 and continues to operate as a family-owned company. He joined Glen Raven in 1971, holding many positions before being named president and CEO in 1996. With 45 years of service, he continues as the chairman today.

Gant, who attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and was honored with a degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Elon University, is a global business and textile industry leader. He is also active with numerous community and educational organizations. Allen and his wife Denise have two children and one grandchild.

October 13, 2020

From the Earth: A Look at a Modern Pottery Studio

Sarah and Curry Wilkinson

(Rescheduled from Spring 2020, after COVID-19 cut our semester short.)

North Carolina is sometimes called the pottery capital of the United States. Seagrove is a major location and boasts the North Carolina Pottery Center. Several Western North Carolina communities are noted for pottery making, but did you know that Alamance County has a long history of pottery production? Join Sarah and Curry Wilkinson as they take us behind the scenes of their pottery studio to discuss historical references to pottery making in Alamance County and how it relates to their work. They will share how they create a piece of pottery from start to finish, how they wood-fire the piece, and how they decorate their work.

Sarah and Curry are both graduates of the University of North Carolina: Sarah from Chapel Hill and Curry from Greensboro. Curry is a seasoned potter who, in addition to his degree, completed a three-year apprenticeship with a Mark Hewitt trained potter, Joseph Sand. (Mark Hewitt is the much-recognized Pittsboro, North Carolina potter who hails from England). Curry also teaches pottery classes at our local community college, ACC. Sarah makes pottery jewelry and serves as the researcher and manager for their business. Together, they run Curry Wilkinson Pottery full-time. They have two kiln openings each year – fall and spring.

October 20, 2020

Bloodshed before the Revolution: The Regulator Movement and the Battle of Alamance

Jeremiah DeGennaro, Dr. Ted Henson, and Lisa Cox

(Rescheduled from Spring 2020, after COVID-19 cut our semester short.)

Two hundred fifty years ago, a protest movement in the North Carolina piedmont called the Regulator Movement went from unrest to uprising. Learn about the roots of this important historical moment with presentations from staff and volunteers from the Alamance Battleground State Historic Site. Attendees

will get the chance to meet Regulator Rednap Howell and learn more about the root causes of the unrest in colonial North Carolina. They will also learn more about the campaign to put down the Regulators at the Battle of Alamance and explore the records that have allowed many to trace their family history back to this popular movement.

Jeremiah DeGennaro is Site Manager at Alamance Battleground State Historic Site. He has been employed by the North Carolina Division of Historic Sites since 2008 and has worked at Bennett Place and Historic Stagville in Durham. He also serves on the board of the North Carolina Museums Council and lives in Graham with his daughter.

Dr. Ted Henson is retired after a forty-year career as an educator and historian. He is former President of the North Carolina Council for the Social Studies, The North Carolina Geographic Alliance, the National Social Studies Supervisors Association, and the Alamance Battleground Friends. He resides in Burlington, where he is a volunteer in numerous community organizations.

Lisa Cox is the Historic Interpreter at Alamance Battleground State Historic Site, where she serves as staff genealogist. She is active with the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Alamance County Historical Association, and the Alamance Battleground Friends, Inc.

October 27, 2020

The Outer Banks: a North Carolina Coastal Treasure

Tom Connelly

(Rescheduled from Spring 2020, after COVID-19 cut our semester short.)

North Carolina's Outer Banks is known as a national tourist destination, but more than that, it is a real storybook tale of United States history from 1500 a.d. through modern day. The English, French, Italians, Spanish, and even the Germans have visited these shores by sea over time, leaving stories and bits of unique history behind. This program will take a travelogue approach to exploring the Outer Banks through history, geography, stories, and visuals.

Tom Connelly was born and raised in Durham, North Carolina. He and his wife, Mary Lou, have lived in the Southern Mountain, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain sections of the state. Tom's first trips to the Ocean Coast were in the mid-1950s, where he developed a "fanship" for the region. With no certifiable expertise, he enjoys acting as an OBX tour guide for anyone who will sit still long enough to hear him. Tom holds a B.A. from Hampden Sydney College, an MHA from Duke University, and an Ed.D. from the University of Kentucky. He spends as much time as possible on the coast to continue decompressing from a 38-year career of teaching and administration in higher education.

NOTE: There is no class the week of the 2020 Presidential Election. If you need a ride to your voting location, please contact Kathryn and she will help make arrangements for you. Please be sure to vote!

November 10, 2020

The Technology of Participation and How Mayors are Evolving Democracy

Ian Baltutis

The world of civic engagement has evolved significantly over the past decade. Today, people are re-engaging with local government in new and innovative ways that are rapidly reshaping the policies and priorities of communities across this county. Learn how Burlington is leading the way in engaging

residents in the civic conversation and how that work is changing amid the Coronavirus pandemic, Black Lives Matter movement, and North Carolina's accelerating growth.

Mayor Ian Baltutis, first elected in 2015, is now in his third term as the Mayor of Burlington, North Carolina. He is a 2008 Business Entrepreneurship graduate of Elon University. He has worked for businesses, both large and small, in roles that ranged from customer service to technical support to logistics and management. He has been involved in over a dozen business startups and acquisitions aimed at revitalizing communities, enabling new technologies, reducing recidivism, and empowering adults with disabilities.

Currently, he divides his time between managing his business ventures, inventing new products, serving as Mayor, and applying his leadership skills on a number of state and national boards. In his spare time, he enjoys restoring old cars and houses, hiking with his two dogs, and brewing beer. He and partner Kristina also recently became foster parents.

November 17, 2020

The Irish Bagpipe: Yes, those ARE real pipes

Travis Hicks

(Rescheduled from Spring 2020, after COVID-19 cut our semester short.)

There are dozens of different types of bagpipes played around the world. The Great Highland Bagpipes from Scotland are the most prevalent and recognizable in the United States. The highland pipes, which first appeared on the battlefield as an instrument of war, frequently appear in pipe and drum bands, parades, marches, weddings, and funerals in North Carolina. A less common form of bagpipe, native to Ireland, are the uilleann pipes. "Uilleann" is the Irish Gaelic word for "elbow," as the bag on a set of Irish pipes is inflated using a set of bellows strapped to one's elbow, not one's mouth. Dating to the early 18th century, uilleann pipes are considered one of the most complex musical instruments and one of the most challenging varieties of bagpipe ever developed. Uilleann pipes, unlike war pipes, are generally played indoors, in a seated posture, either solo or with other traditional Irish or modern instruments. Reels, jigs, hornpipes, polkas, and airs form the basis of traditional Irish tunes that are typically played on the uilleann pipes; however, modern pipers have taken the instrument in a multitude of directions and genres.

Travis Lee Hicks, Associate Professor of Interior Architecture and Director of the Center for Community-Engaged Design at UNC Greensboro, is an architect and designer who left a full-time architectural practice to teach at UNCG in 2010. He holds a bachelor's degree from Georgia Tech and a master's degree from Princeton, and he recently published his first book, No Match for Her, a memoir about his experience as a pediatric cancer father. A native of Eatonton, GA, Hicks is one of the few uilleann pipers in the state of North Carolina. After graduate school, Hicks attended a Chieftains concert and fell in love with the uilleann pipes, the primary instrument played by Chieftains' leader, Paddy Moloney. Hicks learned to play tin whistle and uilleann pipes beginning in 1999. Hicks's presentation will include a survey of uilleann pipes history, a demonstration of the instrument, and a performance on pipes and whistles.

NOTE: There is no class the week of Thanksgiving. Please enjoy the holiday safely!

December 1, 2020

Aging in the 21st Century

Stephen P. Fleming

This presentation will explore the changing demographics of our nation and implications for our older citizens. We will examine the 21st century challenges of growing old in America from savings rates to cost of care including the dilution of public safety nets for middle and lower income Americans. We will present possible alternative service models and financing plans to maintain a post-Medicare/Medicaid level of service. Lastly, we'll explore implications, disruptions and opportunities from advancing technology to assist older adults maintain independence.

Stephen P. Fleming, NHA, MBA is the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Well•Spring Group. The Well•Spring Group is a multi-modal aging services provider serving over one thousand individuals and their families. Services provided by Well•Spring include; Life Plan Communities, Adult Day programs, caregiver educational services, Home Care, PACE (Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) and Management Consulting Services. Mr. Fleming is a member of the LeadingAge Board of Directors and is its immediate past Chair. He is Chair of the Appalachian State University's Beaver College of Health Sciences Advisory Board, Past Chair of LeadingAge North Carolina, and the North Carolina State Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators. Mr. Fleming is active with the Greensboro Airport Rotary Club and is a past President.

Mr. Fleming received a B.S. in Public Health, from UNC-Chapel Hill, an MBA from Appalachian State University and a Graduate Fellowship in Strategic and Financial Planning from Harvard University. Fleming is a frequent speaker on older adult and aging services issues, including a sought-after keynote at LeadingAge state affiliate annual meetings. Throughout his 34 year career in aging services, he has mentored more than a dozen professionals who eventually became aging services professionals.

NOTE: Winter break – we will see you in 2021. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

January 12, 2021

The Goldsboro Broken Arrow: America's Brush With Nuclear Disaster

Joel Dobson

Sixty years ago, a U. S. Air Force B-52 bomber disintegrated in mid-air near Goldsboro, North Carolina. Two enormous H-Bombs, with the combined destructive force of more than 500 Hiroshimas, fell to earth. One of the bombs came very close to a nuclear explosion that would have killed thousands and changed the coastline of North Carolina. It would have been America's only accidental nuclear detonation.

Joel Dobson earned his bachelor's degree from David Lipscomb College in Nashville, Tennessee. He was an Air Force officer in personnel and security with SAC, the Strategic Air Command, for four years during the 1960's including the Cuban Missile Crisis. His Division had B-58 Hustler bombers on the flight line and Titan II ICBMs in their underground silos.

*After the Air Force, he had a career with Burlington Industries and other organizations in industrial engineering and management. During his career, he found time to fly and obtained his commercial pilot's license with an instrument rating. He retired in 2006 and is the author of *The Goldsboro Broken Arrow*, and co-author along with James Oskins, of the book *The Nuclear Weapon Chronicles*.*

January 19, 2021

Mobilization, Sacrifice, and the Vote: North Carolina Women Fight Back

Kathelene McCarty Smith

With the declaration of war in 1917, President Woodrow Wilson's administration realized that the nation must mobilize the homefront, as well as its military forces, to fight an overseas war in Europe. Yet, the government's push to mobilize was not always accompanied by notions of wartime gender roles, such as the concept of female patriotic service. With reliance on both government and non-government leaders to promote the war effort, a temporary political and social space opened that allowed women to shape their wartime public roles and identities. This new collective public identity resulted in a strong post-war commitment to winning the right to vote. This presentation will focus on how the women of North Carolina fought back, in both their mobilization effort and their struggle for the vote.

Kathelene McCarty Smith is currently serving as Interim Head of the Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives at UNC Greensboro. Smith is an Assistant Professor and until this appointment, served as Instruction and Outreach Archivist. She earned both her bachelor's degree in History and master's degree in Art History from Louisiana State University. She also holds a master's degree in Library and Information Studies from UNC Greensboro. Smith's research has involved the role of academic libraries in fostering life-long learning, the mobilization of North Carolina's women's colleges during World War I, and the Women's Suffrage Movement.

January 26, 2021

From Page to Stage: The Process of Launching a Live Theatrical Production
Bill Webb

This presentation will focus on the many elements that come together to launch a live stage performance successfully. Using an Elon University production as a case study, we will investigate the creative process that theatre artists undertake in order to bring a work of theatrical literature to life.

Bill Webb is an Associate Professor of Performing Art at Elon University, serving as the department Lighting Designer and Production Manager. Bill has been a member of the Elon University community since 1996. Bill received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Alfred University in 1988 and his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in 1994.

Bill has had an active professional career in theatrical design and production and has had the opportunity to travel extensively working with companies such as Cirque Du Soliel, Mill Mountain Theatre, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, Bungalow Scenic Studios and I. Weiss Inc.

February 2, 2021

Zoos Across Time: Today's Modern Zoo
Steve Gerkin

Zoos have changed dramatically over millennia, from the earliest menageries over 5000 years ago to today's state of the art zoos. Join in and discover the reasons behind the dramatic changes, and how your North Carolina Zoo is among the leaders in the zoo community.

Steve Gerkin has worked in formal education settings for over 25 years and informal education settings such as zoos and museums for 22 years. He graduated from Marietta College with a B.A. in Psychology, and later earned his M.Ed. in Secondary Science Education from Auburn University in Alabama.

Mr. Gerkin has been privileged to work at zoos across the country, including: the Alaska Zoo, the Baton Rouge Zoo, Oglebay's Good Zoo in Wheeling, WV, and currently the North Carolina Zoo where he has

been for 13 years. He is the Interpretive Programs Manager in the education team. He is happily married to his wife of 17 years, has one daughter, four step-kids, and several “step” grandchildren.

February 9, 2021

A Plague of Piracy on the Chesapeake and in the Carolinas

John V. Quarstein

A dazzling array of swashbuckling pirates, privateers, and sea rovers once harried the coast from Cape Charles to Cape Fear preying upon innocent merchants who labored to make these colonies economically viable. The Golden Age of Piracy featured colorful evildoers like Stede Bonnet, Blackbeard, Charles Vane, William Dampier, and a host of others who made merchants fear for their well-being and many a colonial official wealthy beyond comparison. Nevertheless, the life of a pirate was harsh, and most ended their lives on the gallows. They did leave behind glorious tales to tell from the days of yore.

John V. Quarstein is an award-winning historian, preservationist, and author of 19 books. He is director emeritus of the USS MONITOR Center at The Mariners’ Museum & Park in Newport News, Virginia. Quarstein is the recipient of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s President’s Award for Historic Preservation, the Civil War Society’s Preservation Award, and the Daughters of the American Revolution Gold Historians Medal.

All classes will be held on Zoom.

Presenters and topics for the weekly classes are subject to change.

Classes canceled for any reason will not be made up, and no refund will be given.