Quality Classes for Adults

APRIL DATES
Tuesday 7, 14, 21, 28
Wednesday 8, 15, 22, 29

APRIL 2020 COURSE OFFERINGS
Each class meets for 90 minutes.

TUESDAY

9:00 am EXPLORING THE RIVER RAISIN   Stephen May, Katie Goplerud-Smith

No oars or life-jackets required! This class will examine our watershed, its history, importance, influence, issues, problems and potentials. A major watershed of southeast Michigan, it is a contributor to the environment of Lake Erie and northwest Ohio, as well as its southeast Michigan home. Learn of the recreational opportunities as well as the environmental and agricultural issues, problems and remedies as we travel the Raisin.

Stephen May, the Executive Director of the River Raisin Watershed Council since 2015, served in the Lenawee County Drain Commissioner’s Office for 27 ½ years, the last 18 ½ years as the County’s Drain Commissioner. His career in water resources has spanned over 40 years, beginning in March 1975. Stephen is currently a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the State of Michigan.

Katie Goplerud-Smith, a native of suburban Chicago, earned a Bachelor’s degree in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. After several years of traveling to different states for seasonal natural resource jobs, she landed in Lenawee County after her marriage in 2018. Katie is currently the Outreach Coordinator for the River Raisin Watershed Council. When not working, she can be found exploring nearby nature preserves, kayaking and learning to identify new plants!
11:00 am  ALL ABOUT THE FOODS WE EAT
Session One  FOOD TODAY
Howard Pennington, a retired veterinarian, has spent his life involved with foods and food production. He will explain what the modern food terms mean and how they are developed. GMO, all natural, free range and others will be covered.

Session Two  LIVING WITH DIABETES
Eva Salisbury, Registered Nurse and Certified Diabetic Educator with Herrick and ProMedica hospitals, will talk about how diabetics can control their lives to the best extent. Meal planning, glucose monitoring, exercise and medications will be among the topics covered.

Session Three  WE GROW IT SO WE CAN EAT IT
Lindsey and Caleb Garrison are farmers and will share how they raise their crops and livestock so both are safe and healthy for us to eat.

Session Four  HOW MODERN AGRICULTURE FITS OUR ECOLOGY AND ECONOMY
Matt Shane is the District Director of six Michigan counties in MSU Cooperative Extension Department. He works with farmers and their animals to help in food and animal production. Matt raises sheep and cattle on his farm. He will present how modern agriculture fits in with our ecology and our economy.

1:00 pm  POETRY  Charmaine Stangl
The great poet, Mary Oliver, said, “poems are not words, after all, but fires for the cold, ropes let down to the lost, something as necessary as bread in the pockets of the hungry.” If this seems true to you, maybe you’ve been in this class before! If it intrigues you, even a little, join us in discovering how true it is.

Charmaine Stangl is a retired English teacher and life-long lover of poetry. She has taught in two high schools, a community college, two universities, and Lenawee Lifelong Learning.

3:00 pm  GENEALOGY  Julie Olin, Bob Wessel, & Nathan Marks
Session One: If You Want the Right Answers, Ask the Right Questions
Effective research skills make your search more efficient and fruitful. Start learning these skills, beginning with how to formulate a research question and create a plan for your search.

Session Two: Get Ready to Hit the Road!
Travel costs precious time and money you don’t want to waste just because you were missing a few important details when you ran out the door to catch your plane. Half the work of a genealogy trip is in the planning. Learn how to do your homework and make your trip really pay off.
GENEALOGY, Continued

Session Three: The Research Assistant You Never Knew You Had!
There is more to internet research than typing an ancestor’s name in a search box. Learn how to get the most from Google – the search engine that can focus your search, add books to your digital bookshelf, help you identify photos and search for your ancestors while you sleep!

Session Four: Hands-On Workshop Day
Bring your laptop or other device and bring your questions!!

Julie Olin has been researching her family history since 1997. She is a member of Lenawee County Family Researchers and editor of their newsletter. Julie is a volunteer at the Lenawee District Library where she hosts a monthly genealogy roundtable.

Bob Wessel has been doing genealogy research since 1972. He is a member of Lenawee County Family Researchers and a volunteer at the Lenawee County Historical Museum where he does look-ups for patrons with family research questions. Bob was previously a Family History Consultant with the LDS church.

Nathan Marks has been researching family history since childhood, and doing genealogy seriously since 2011. His focused research areas include Civil War soldier identification, ancestral photo location, genetic genealogy, and newspaper archival searches. Nathan maintains a genealogy blog “The Salt of America” and is nearing completion of his first family history book.

WEDNESDAY

9:00 am    THE LORE AND SECRETS OF CHINESE WRITING  Dr. Michael McGrath
Dr. McGrath will explore and explain Chinese writing. The class will also include some practice of writing Chinese characters.

Dr. McGrath earned his Ph.D. from Princeton University. His experiences include being an Adrian College professor, military service and a history instructor. McGrath has presented LLL classes on many topics, including World Religions.

11:00 am    BANGIN’, TOOTIN’ AND GRINS  Jann Battersby
Here is your opportunity to learn to play the historical musical instrument, the recorder! (Or maybe just advance your technique.) A recorder will be provided or feel free to bring your own. We will accompany our music with hand drums, while also exploring music notation and best ways to teach music reading to children. Throw in some music/theater games and a GOOD time will be had by all.
BANGIN’, TOOTIN’ AND GRINS, Continued

Jann Battersby is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Music and taught K-12 & college level music for 33 years. Jann is a national clinician and proponent of the Orff philosophy of music education. She has been a woodwind player at the Croswell Opera House since 1970.

1:00 pm  SUPREME COURT DECISIONS III    Dr. Robert Gordon

Court ruled that the government had no constitutional right to prohibit publication of the Pentagon Paper.

Case Two: United States v. Nixon, 1974
Court ruled Nixon had to turn his tapes over to a federal district court.

Court ruled Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) constitutional.

Case Four: United States v. Texas
Court in 4-4 vote failed to rule on the constitutionality of the DACA program.

Bob Gordon was born and raised in Holland, Michigan. He graduated from Hope College in 1963 with a major in history. Bob earned both his master’s degree and doctorate degree from Western Michigan University where he also taught in the history department from 1967-1976. From 1977-2013, Bob held a number of positions at Siena Heights, including dean of the college and provost, dean of the graduate college, and library director. A self-taught photographer, he has had more than 30 exhibitions across the United States.

3:00 pm  THE ODYSSEY    Dr. Robert Ploegstra

Homer’s THE ODYSSEY is an epic tale of Odysseus’ 10 year struggle to return after the Trojan War. This class will analyze and discuss this classic story. Students may discuss or merely listen. They will leave with knowledge and opinions.

Dr. Ploegstra, PhD., was born in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, attended Calvin College, Western Michigan University and Michigan State University. A linguist, he’s an expert in names, early European history and a proud Frisian.