CWA Summer Session June 4 - June 22

Detailed course information will be posted on May 5 on our website.

Registration for the summer begins May 9, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Pay per course $25 each.

Encourage someone you know to check out CWA!

Summer Course Titles are:

- Art and Anecdote: An Overview of Art at the Turn of the 20th Century
- Enslaved People and Masters in Virginia 1619 to 1705
- NASA’s Search for Life Beyond Earth
- Fools and Crazy Men: A Short History of Submarine Warfare
- Understanding Today’s U.S. and Global Economic Trends, Issues and Institutions
- Five Amazing People Who Made the World a Better Place
- Congress, the Constitution, and You
- From Page to Stage: Musicals Based on Literary Works
- The Holocaust: Confronting the Perpetrators

A SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to our outgoing Board Members.

Everyone in the Christopher Wren Association thanks you for your service.

Lisa Brickey
Amy Corcoran
Gary Drake
Thank You to Our 2018 Committee Members

As a volunteer run organization, we appreciate the help of those who give their time to ensure CWA runs smoothly.

Jayne Barnard
Lynda Barone
Bill Bean
Don Berg
Jim Bowers
Gordon Bratz
Sarah Carey
Dennis Cogswell
Bob DiIorio
Paul Doucette
Peter Eastman
Fred Eddowes
Cathy Flanagan
JoAnn Gora
Kay Grady
Art Grant
John Hickok
Ron Johnson
Elizabeth Keller
Michael Kerley
Judy Knudson
Ruurdje Laarhoven
Tom Lamb
Madelyn Larkin
Joan Lawson
Paul Luchsinger
John McLaughlin
Karen McPherson
Tim McSwain
Newt Munson
Helen Oderisi
Jim Palmer
Annie Rex
George Richmond
Judy Roberto
Ellen Rosen
Dave Scherer
Karen Schifrin
Jean Scott
Jill Sitcer
Vernon Stocker
Jan Stone
Ann Teske
Tom Thompson
Sue Voigt
Hazel Whitney

Fare Thee Well, Joe!

When Joe Freitus stopped by the Christopher Wren Office the other day he said, “I’ve done adult ed
classes before, but none are run as well as this!” What a high compliment from someone who started teaching in 1960.

A botanist by profession, Joe and his wife, Ann, chose to retire in Williamsburg in 1998. They soon began volunteering at Jamestown Settlement, she in the gift shop, and he on site where he made 17th century sails by hand. One day while talking with visitors, someone approached Joe and asked, “Can you make a monkey fist?” (a type of knot at the end of a rope used as a weight by sailors.) Joe demonstrated that he could and the man then inquired if he would like to work in the movies.

Thus began a multi-year collaboration with Hollywood for several films made in Virginia, including the TV mini-series John Adams, Spielberg’s Lincoln, The New World, and To Have and To Hold.

While Joe was making movies, Ann was taking classes with the Christopher Wren Association. When she started raving about the course she was taking with Feather Foster about the First Ladies, Ann ended up drafting her husband to take classes as well. After taking a course on the Romans taught by Glenn Markus, Joe was inspired to become a CWA instructor, too.

Joe first taught a course on the history of food plants and then decided to share his love of history with several courses about Jamestown, the archeology of Green Springs, the American Revolution and his favorite, “The Making of the John Adams Movie.” Tom Hanks personally sent him several 2x2 images to share with the class.

So what does Joe do in his spare time? He is working on his 22nd book of historical fiction, most relating to American military history. In fact, he will likely have more time to devote to his writing, as he and wife are moving to Morgantown, West Virginia, to be closer to family. He reports he already has a new teaching position at West Virginia University but reiterated, “Out of 40 years of teaching, CWA has been my favorite!”

Please join us in thanking one of our favorite instructors and wishing Joe and Ann all the best in their new home!
Don't miss the Deadline!

Help us offset the cost of our catalog by placing an ad in our upcoming Fall 2018 catalog, or ask one of your favorite vendors to place an ad. Contact the CWA office for more information and pricing. Due date is May 14.

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

- Instructor Appreciation and Annual Member Meeting is May 14.
- Catalogs for Fall 2018 will be mailed July 5, 2018.
- Registration for Fall 2018 begins July 17, 2018.
- If you have changed your address to ensure receipt of your catalog, please go to the online registration site and update your address.
- Please update all email changes as well.

How Much Do You Know About Custer?
CWA members enthusiastically packed the room to learn about "Custer and the Sioux at Little Bighorn 1876" in the Wightman Cup Room in Kaplan Arena. John Rogers has been teaching for CWA for over 10 years. We can't thank him, as well as all of our instructors, enough for the time and talent they share with our members.

---

Instructor Appreciation Reception and Annual Member Meeting

Come and show your appreciation to your instructors on Monday, May 14th at 1:30 pm at Legacy Hall!

---

A Note From a Town and Gown Speaker

Christopher Hein, Assistant Professor, Virginia Institute of Marine Science

I had the privilege to present in mid-April to the Christopher Wren
Association and introduced the audience to my personal and academic passion: barrier islands and coastal change. During the discussion period following the talk, the question was raised of climate change and the role of humans in its cause or exacerbation. I was later asked by several audience members to clarify my response.

I have spoken many times in public settings on barrier islands and sea-level rise, and, for good reason, the topic of climate change always arises. Most commonly, this is asked in some form of the question: “Do you believe in climate change?” Early on, this struck me. I accept fully the scientific consensus based on overwhelming data and evidence that the climate is changing, and humans are the cause. In fact, overwhelmingly abundant evidence demonstrates that, under fully natural conditions, the global climate would be undergoing very slow cooling; instead, because of human activities which have greatly increased the amount of carbon (largely in the form of carbon dioxide and methane) in the atmosphere, it is experiencing warming at a rate never before seen during human civilization, if not much, much longer.

However, to say that one “believes” in climate change relegates evidence-based science to the realm of personal opinion or religion, where it can be (and has been) politicized. A “belief” quickly becomes a choice, and beliefs can be altered if they are uncomfortable or inconvenient. As a scientist, it is my responsibility to objectively study the world, and draw observation-and fact-based conclusions. In my personal life I, like everyone else, have a set of beliefs; things I “know” to be true whether or not I can observe them. As a scientist, I rely upon data and observation. Thus, I do not “believe” in human caused climate change; I, like 99.7% of climate scientists, accept its reality as founded in evidence-based science. This makes the reality of human-caused climate change, which is evident throughout the world and on a daily basis, unassailable and beyond the reproach of subjective politics or convictions.

I attempted to relay this vital distinction during the post-talk discussion at the Christopher Wren Association. It since came to my attention that, perhaps because of my own failure in communication, my attention-grabbing statement “I do not believe in climate change” became, for some, the memorable message, supplanting my intended meaning that the science of human-caused climate change is settled. I hope this op-ed serves as a means to clarify that point, and to again highlight my other key take-aways as related to the coast: (1) sea level has, in fact, changed faster in the past than it is today; (2) the natural world that we know was very different during those times of more rapid change; for example, no barrier islands existed the last time sea level rose this fast; (3) humans have
developed complex civilization during a period of relative climatic stability (very slow change); never in the history of civilization have humans experienced widespread change in the natural system as fast as it is occurring now, and certainly not as fast as it will occur as climate change and sea-level rise accelerate; and (4) there are difficult decisions facing society in regard to our response: mitigation and decreased carbon emissions are critical, but so much warming is “baked in” now that, at least along the coasts, where people experience ever more frequent “recurrent flooding”, adaptation and retreat must be considered. It is those discussions which require insight and opinions from economics, sociobehavioral sciences, and, yes, politics.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify my remarks. I greatly enjoyed interacting with the Christopher Wren Association community, and look forward to doing so again in the future.

Christopher Hein, Assistant Professor
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
www.vims.edu/coastal_geology

CWA Members are Welcome to Join in W&M Alumni Trips

There is a sense of enchantment about being out on the fabled Amazon River. Join us for an exploration of Peru’s biodiverse reserve aboard an exquisite 28-guest ship with open, airy decks, spacious cabins, custom made skiffs and kayaks!
Click here for more information.

For more information, contact Donna Coggins, manager of the W&M Alumni Journeys travel program, at travel@wm.edu.