

**Conveniently located in downtown Punta Gorda at 117 Herald Court , #211
on the first floor of the "FREE" parking garage**



The
**Renaissance
Academy**
of Florida Gulf Coast University

Single Lectures

Short Courses

Film Series

Computer Classes

Life Enrichment

Travel Abroad

**Lectures also offered at
South Port Square in Port Charlotte**

New Classes Begin Each Week!

**Winter/Spring 2012
Adult Lectures
& Short Courses**



**The Renaissance Academy
Of Florida Gulf Coast University
117 Herald Court, Suite 211
Punta Gorda, FL 33950**

Register Online: <https://RegisterRA.fgcu.edu>

Website: www.fgcu.edu/hcc

Email: nstaub@fgcu.edu

Phone (941) 505-0130

John J. Guerra

Interim Executive Director, Continuing Education
and The Renaissance Academy

Nancy Staub

Program Assistant

Kara Sofilka

Student Assistant

Richard A. Ramos

Student Advising Assistant

HOW TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES!

ONLINE – Use a credit card to safely and securely register online at www.fgcu.edu/hcc or <https://RegisterRA.fgcu.edu>

BY PHONE – Use a credit card to register by calling: (941) 505-0130

IN-PERSON or BY MAIL – See address below:

**Florida Gulf Coast University
Herald Court Centre
117 Herald Court, Suite 211
Punta Gorda, FL. 33950**

The Renaissance Academy is the University's and region's premier lifelong learning program for adults, seniors, and retirees. It is based on the premise that learning should never cease, that keeping the mind intellectually, creatively, and culturally active fundamentally enriches and invigorates lives. There are no exams or grades, just learning for the joy of learning with friends and neighbors.

DIRECTIONS:

| <u>From the South:</u> | <u>From the North:</u> |
|---|---|
| 1. Take I-75 N toward Tampa | 1. I-75S to toward Naples |
| 2. Take the US-17 S exit, Exit 164 toward Punta Gorda, FL 0.4 mi. | 2. Take exit 164 (Punta Gorda/Arcadia) .23 mi. |
| 3. Turn left onto US-17 S/Duncan Rd. Continue to follow US-17S. 2.3 mi. | 3. Turn left on Duncan Rd. (US-17 S) .79 mi. |
| 4. Turn left onto Taylor Road/ CR-765A. 0.0 mi. | 4. Continue on US-17 S 1.32 mi. |
| 5. Turn left onto Herald Ct. | 5. Turn Left on Taylor Rd. (CR-765A) 249 ft. |
| 6. 117 Herald Ct. is on the right. | 6. Turn Left on Herald Ct 367 ft. |
| or | 7. Arrive at 117 Herald Ct., Punta Gorda, on the right. |
| 1. Take US-41 N toward Tampa | or |
| 2. Turn left at Herald Ct | 1. Take US-41 S toward Naples |
| 3. Destination will be on the left | 2. Turn left at W Olympia Ave |
| | 3. Take the 2nd left onto Taylor St |
| | 4. Take the 1st right onto Herald Ct |

CONFIRMATION POLICY: Except for Special Programs (course numbers which begin with “SP”) and limited enrollment courses (as specified herein), please consider yourself confirmed for all courses for which you register. You will receive confirmation for all “SP” and limited enrollment courses. Early enrollment is strongly recommended for such courses as they tend to fill quickly. All Renaissance Academy courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

CANCELLATION POLICY: If a class is canceled, you will be notified by phone and issued a full refund within 30 business days. If you wish to withdraw from a class, please notify the Renaissance Academy at 941-505-0130 no later than 5:00 pm three (3) business days prior to the first session of the class in order to receive a refund. Individuals who cancel after the start of the class will not receive a refund. Unless otherwise stated, a fourteen (14) business day notice is required for refunds on all special programs (SP).

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: Most Renaissance Academy locations are handicapped-accessible. Please call the Academy’s office before the start of your first class if you require additional information on handicapped-accessible parking or wheel chair-accessible restrooms and classrooms.

PARKING at Herald Court Centre is FREE and located in the adjacent easily accessible, lighted parking garage.

The views, analyses, findings and opinions expressed by Renaissance Academy instructors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of the Renaissance Academy or Florida Gulf Coast University.

In all of its operations, including admissions, employment, and access to its programs and services, Florida Gulf Coast University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, creed, national origin, disability, marital status, disabled veteran status or age.

Beginning Hawaiian Hula

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|--|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0239 | January 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 2012 | Tuesdays | 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. | \$60 |

Hawaiian Hula's graceful swaying of the hips strengthens and improves flexibility in the abdominal and lower back muscles promoting better health and increased vitality. Performed to music (*mele*) or chants (*oli*), Hula's whole body movements improve cardiovascular fitness, endurance, balance, and agility, helping to avoid falls. Learn basic Hula steps and choreography. Wear comfortable clothing. *Instructor: Ms. Mary Taglieri*

China and Tibet in the 21st Century

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0229 | January 11, 2012 | Wednesday | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Author and East Asia expert Diane Wolff discusses China and its complex relationship with Tibet. Wolff draws on her recent book *Tibet Unconquered: An Epic Struggle for Freedom*. *Instructor: Ms. Diane Wolff*

Beginning Landscape Painting in Oils

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0240 | January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2012 | Thursdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$80 |

Have you always wanted to learn to paint but could never figure out where to begin? This class will help you get started with what materials you need, how to inspire yourself, and how to start painting. *Instructor: Ms. Mary Taglieri*

Materials Needed: An easel (table or floor), stretched gessoed canvas (size 8x10" or 11x14"), basic oil paints – buy a small set or small tubes of the following colors: titanium white, Payne's grey, cadmium yellow light, burnt sienna, green thalo or permanent green, ultramarine blue, alizarin crimson, and cadmium red light, brushes (4 or 5 different sizes and shapes: brights, filberts, rounds, a liner), thinner/turpentine, rag/paper towels, palette knife, lyquin (makes the paint dry faster), and a picture you would like to paint.

Eat Real Food: Simplicity, Enjoyment, and Health

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0243 | January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 2012 | Thursdays | 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$60 |

This course explains what real food is (fresh, local, organic, minimally processed, no additives, hormones, or antibiotics) and how eating it leads to a healthy life. We will discuss the differences between real foods and 'non-real' foods and how to buy, cook, grow, and eat real food. A list of local resources will be provided. *Instructor: Ms. Barbara Rendell*

Genghis Khan and the Mongol Empire (The Silk Road)

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0230 | January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2012 | Thursdays | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$60 |

While the crusades were going on in the Middle East and Europe was still a backwater, Genghis Khan "The Conqueror" ruled from the Pacific to the Mediterranean and almost conquered Europe. Learn how a "barbarian" ruled the major civilizations of the time. You can register for **individual lectures at \$15** each or all five for \$60. *Instructor: Ms. Diane Wolff*

1. "Everything You Wanted to Know about Genghis Khan" – Jan 12, 2012 – **HC0267**: Was he a bloodthirsty barbarian or an aristocratic khan of the steppes. We will explore his life, times, and how he conquered China.
2. "An Empire Built on Horseback" – Jan 19, 2012 – **HC0268**: We will discuss Genghis Khan's style of warfare and its relationship to modern war. We will also explore the politics of barbarians and why China needed a Wall.
3. "Mongols and Muslims" – Jan 26, 2012 – **HC0269**: Genghis Khan in central Asia and Khubilai Khan in China built roads to connect the empire, protect trade, and ensure freedom of religion.
4. "Women Wielding Power" – Feb 2, 2012 – **HC0270**: A discussion of the great women of Mongol history: Genghis Khan's principle wife, Bortai, and Khubilai Khan's principle wife, Chabi.
5. "Xanadu" – Feb 9, 2012 – **HC0271**: The relationship of Khubilai Khan and Marco Polo, a European who held a position in the court of the Supreme Khan, is discussed. Khubilai's contributions would advance art and science.

Foreign Film Series

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| HC0255 | January 17- March 27, 2012 | Tuesdays | 1-3:30 p.m. | \$5 Series:\$45 |

This winter, our film series presents 11 foreign films. The series includes an introduction to each of the films with moderator Mr. Lee Stein and an opportunity for discussion afterwards. Refreshments will be served. Each film individually is \$5 per person or purchase the complete series of 11 films for \$45.

- ***La Vie En Rose (France 2007)*** – January 17, 2012 – **HC0256**: In this award-winning biography, Parisian singer Edith Piaf comes to life in one of the best biopics on film. Marion Cotillard, winner of the Best Actress Academy Award, inhabits the role of Piaf, showing the passion for music that carried her through a life filled with triumphs and tragedy. Rated PG-13 for substance abuse, sexual content, and language
- ***Eat Drink Man Woman (China 1994)*** – January 24, 2012 – **HC0257**: Distracted by their love lives and ambitions, three adult children reluctantly humor their widower father by enduring their traditional Sunday dinners together. The clash between modernity and tradition within the family is wonderfully explored in this Academy Award-nominated film directed by Ang Li. Not Rated.
- ***The Secret in Their Eyes (Argentina 2009)*** – January 31, 2012 – **HC0258**: The 2009 Foreign Film Oscar Winner, this suspenseful crime thriller follows a retired criminal investigator trying to pen a novel about an unsolved murder. The more the layers are peeled away, the deeper the political and social significances are revealed. Justice, pain, and love collide in this deeply involving character study. Rated R for sexual content and language.
- ***The Red Violin (Canada 1998)*** – February 7, 2012 – **HC0259**: During an auction of a very valuable red violin, its story comes to life in the span of three centuries. As told in multi-languages, this engrossing tale tells of how the violin causes anger, betrayal, love and sacrifice to all who possess it. Rated R for some sexuality
- ***Muriel's Wedding (Australia 1995)*** – February 14, 2012 – **HC0260**: Muriel finds life in Porpoise Spit, Australia dull. She spends her days in her room listening to Abba and dreaming of her wedding day. She steals some money, goes on a tropical vacation, meets a wacky friend, changes her name to Mariel, and turns her world upside down. **Spouses are free, today! Happy Valentine's Day!** Rated R for sexual content and language.
- ***The Lives of Others (Germany 2006)*** – February 21, 2012 – **HC0261**: Set in 1980s Berlin, this is an exquisitely nuanced portrait of life under the watchful eye of the state police. This Best Foreign Film Oscar winner deftly shows how every life is affected, even those who are initially spying. Rated R for some sexual content
- ***Cinema Paradiso (Italy 1988)*** – February 28, 2012 **HC0262**: This 1988 Best Foreign Film Oscar Winner, told in flashback is the story of a successful film director visiting his native Sicilian village and reliving the past, and how the local movie theatre helped shape lives. It explores issues of youth, coming of age, and reflections about the past. This is a movie, about movies, for people who love movies. Rated R for sexual content.
- ***Blackboards (Iran 2003)*** - March 6, 2012 – **HC0263**: Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, this film tells the tale of a group of teachers crossing the mountainous paths of the Iranian Kurdistan region. They wander from village to village in search of students, carrying large blackboards on their backs, using them as shelter, camouflage, and shields against gunfire. Not Rated.
- ***The Remains of the Day (Britain 1993)*** – March 13, 2012 – **HC0264**: Nominated for eight Academy Awards, this film starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson, tells of life in and out of an English manor, by its servants and staff. Hopkins portrayal of a dignified butler, "a gentleman's gentleman" is a deeply felt character study of how a life in service, full of dignity, and loyalty, and short on emotions, can lead to tragedy and loss. Rated PG
- ***Waste Land (Brazil 2010)*** – March 20, 2012 – **HC0265**: An uplifting, feature documentary highlighting the transformative power of art and the beauty of the human spirit. Top-selling contemporary artist Vik Muniz takes us on an emotional journey from Jardim Gramacho, the world's largest landfill on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, to the heights of international art stardom. Not Rated.
- ***The Diving Bell and the Butterfly (France 2007)*** – March 27, 2012 – **HC0266**: This film depicts the true story of a successful and charismatic editor-in-chief of French *Elle*, who believes he is living his life to its absolute fullest when a stroke leaves him in a life-altered state. While the physical challenges of his fate leave him with little hope for the future, he begins to discover how life's passions, rich memories, and his newfound imagination can help him achieve a life without boundaries. Unrated

Transform Your Home into a Healthful Place

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0242 | January 17, 2012 | Tuesday | 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Recent studies confirm holistic and feng shui practitioners' beliefs that one's home environment impacts all aspects of life. The nature of the sound, colors, amount of light, and even the texture, size, and position of the objects in one's home will impact physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health. The purpose of this course is to present the essential principles and techniques of feng shui design. *Instructor: Mr. Gregory Whyte*

Introduction to Charlotte Harbor Fishing

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0297 | January 17, 2012 | Tuesday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Captain Van Hubbard shares his 35+ years of experience as a fishing guide to shorten the learning curve for the complete novice or “new to Florida” fisher. He recommends the best tackle and lures to make your Charlotte Harbor angling productive and cost effective. He will also share his knowledge of the local fishing hot spots. *Instructor: Captain Van Hubbard*

Tai Chi: “Meditation in Motion” for Better Health

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| HC0276 | Begins January 18, 2012 - Ongoing | Mondays & Wednesday s | 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. | \$7 per class |

The gentle, flowing movements of Tai Chi promote better health, leg strength, and an overall feeling of well-being, according to the Mayo Clinic. The rhythmic movements and controlled breathing of Tai Chi, or “meditation in motion,” requires practitioners to live in the present, reducing stress, and producing an inner calm. Tai Chi is low impact, reduces blood pressure, and is especially suitable for older adults. Please wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes. An eight (8) session pass is available for \$45. *Instructor: Ms. Sharon Fultz*

China: History, Culture, and Today’s Global Economy

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0244 | January 18, 2012 | Wednesday | 1:30 p.m. -3 p.m. | \$15 |

“Made in China” is a hot button political issue today. Despite a population one-fifth the size of China’s, the U.S. economy is twice as large. Robert McMillan discusses the factors driving China’s current economy and the outlook for its economic future. In addition, using photographs he uncovers the history and culture that led China to its current place in the world. Finally, he discusses President Nixon’s “opening of China” in 1972 and its significance. *Instructor: Mr. Robert McMillan*

Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|------|
| HC0232 | January 18, 25, February 1, 2012 | Wednesdays | 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. | \$60 |

The Tempest is Shakespeare’s last drama, presenting what is perhaps the bard’s final view of the world. Set in Bermuda, *The Tempest* is a magical tale of the New World, with its god-like leader, Prospero, and his innocent daughter, Miranda. Shakespeare introduces his most notable character, Caliban, a savage and deformed slave. While *The Tempest* is a near tragedy, Shakespeare leaves a feeling of hope for the future. The class will discuss the themes and principles of the play. Participants should access http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Tempest to read *The Tempest* and consider printing the entry for use in class. *Instructor: Dr. Robert Willis*

Writing Workshop

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0273 | January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2012 | Thursdays | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$60 |

Trying to finish your book or poetry? Get help from an expert in a cooperative, nurturing environment. James Abraham, literary critic, book editor, and publisher, will lead a writing group toward completion of participants' works. Group members will have an opportunity to read from their work and enjoy suggestions from other writers in a collegial and fun setting designed to facilitate constructive and meaningful feedback. *Instructor: Mr. James Abraham*

Zumba for Beginners: Ditch the Workout!

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----|
| HC0272 | January 23, 2012 weekly | Mondays | 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. | \$8 |

Have fun and improve your health. Join Zumba, the Latin dance/fitness party. Attend this low impact beginners course with a fusion of Latin music and rhythms. Burn calories, develop better balance, and create a more attractive you while dancing Zumba. Wear loose, comfortable clothes and shoes that won't slip on the floor. Walk-ins welcome at \$8 a session, or register for a series of 5 classes for \$30. Free Demo on January 9, 2012 from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. *Instructor: Ms. Jeanna Morrow*

Contracts and the Creative Process: How to Protect Yourself and Your Work

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------|
| HC0285 | January 26, 2012 | Thursday | 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | \$15 |

Are you ready to turn your personal creative endeavors into a business? Learn basic contract concepts, traps, pitfalls, and your legal rights so you can avoid common mistakes in a relaxed workshop setting. *Instructor: Anne Dalton, Esquire*

Conversations on Race in America: Past, Present, and Future

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0236 | February 2, 9, 2012 | Thursdays | 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | \$30 |

The phenomenal success of the book and movie, *The Help* is an indicator Americans are interested in and ready to know more about the role of race in this society. These conversations offer participants an opportunity to learn and talk about the impact of race in the past, present, and future America. *Instructor: Dr. Martha Bireda*

- February 2, 2012-- *The Help*: A Vehicle for Healing and Reconciliation
- February 9, 2012--Are We A Post-Racial America?

The Dead Sea Scrolls

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0226 | February 6, 8, 10, 2012 | Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$60 |

How did we get our Bibles? What was life like for Jews and Christians living in the Holy Land under Roman rule? The 900 or so fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls, found in several caves in the Judean desert, have revolutionized our understanding of ancient Judaism and early Christianity and have offered new insights into the 2000 year old transmission and formation of the Bible. *Instructor: Mr. Brian B. Schmidt*

Dutch of the Hudson Valley: Their Legacy

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0228 | February 7, 2012 | Tuesday | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$20 |

This lecture discusses the world events leading to the settlement of New Netherlands, and the legacy of the Dutch influence on America. Primary emphasis is on the Lower Hudson Valley, New Amsterdam, but also includes events in the Beverwyck (Albany) area. Our common place names and words will be traced to their Dutch roots. *Instructor: Mr. Richard Johnson*

PCs For Beginners

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0241 | February 7, 14, 21, 28 2012 | Tuesdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$80 |

This personal computer (PC) introductory class is designed for those who do not know how to use a computer. If you have just bought a computer, or are considering getting one, you will learn computer basics, how to use the Windows operating system, as well as a simple computer application. *Instructor: Ms. Vivien Haima.*

10 Great Gifts for Your Grandchildren

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0227 | February 9, 2012 | Thursday | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$20 |

Learn lots of great ideas for exciting personal presents for you grandchildren, from Sticker Calendars, to creating their own Clip Art Library. With average computer skills, anyone can delight their grandchildren with these very personal presents. Create a special world with special friends, where a child can use their imagination and you can be really creative. Be part of your grandchild's life even when you are far away. *Instructor: Mr. Paul Holmes*

Great Decisions

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0233 | February 14 - April 3, 2012 | Tuesdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$60 |

Great Decisions is a discussion group composed of individuals interested in important foreign policy issues. Great Decisions groups are centered on the *Great Decision* briefing book. This well researched annual publication provides eight timely global topics to be read by group participants. Participants should read the briefing book articles prior to group meetings, in order to guarantee that all group members come together from the same point of reference, with the same facts and basic understanding of the issues. Active participation is encouraged. The *Great Decisions Briefing Book* is covered in the cost of the class. *Instructor: Dr. Benjamin Crosby*

Immigration: Past and Present

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0247 | February 15, 2012 | Wednesday | 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. | \$15 |

Learn about the history of people from around the world, and their decisions to migrate to the U.S. Who were the first legal immigrants to the U.S.? How has our immigration law evolved over the last two hundred years? Should illegal aliens be given amnesty and permitted to remain in the United States? *Instructor: Mr. Robert McMillan*

Hypnosis Demystified

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0289 | February 16, 2012 | Thursday | 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Learn what self-hypnosis really is, its fascinating history, the many myths and misconceptions which surround it, and how it really works and why. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

Practical Self-Hypnosis

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0290 | February 16, 2012 | Thursday | 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

This lecture will offer a step-by-step guide to self-hypnosis including useful exercises, skills, and techniques you can practice. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

Einstein in Person! (Relatively Speaking)

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0234 | February 16, 2012 | Thursday | 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Punta Gorda resident Ford Cooper portrays Albert Einstein, with the bushy white hair and German accent, returning to Earth 57 years after his death to describe his life and times. Cooper discusses Einstein's breakthrough physics discoveries like relativity, other phenomena that astounded the world, the sometimes controversial causes Einstein supported and commented on, and some bizarre facts about Einstein's private life. *Instructor: Mr. Ford Cooper*

Writing Memoirs and Uncovering the Hidden You

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0274 | February 16, 23, 2012 | Thursdays | 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | \$30 |

Our children grow to know us as full-fledged adults, with jobs, homes, and all the accumulation of years. But what of that hidden history, those years we spent growing, learning, knowing? Shouldn't we share those lessons of life with our children and grandchildren? Join a book publisher in a unique approach to writing our life stories. *Instructor: Mr. James Abraham*

Catch the Fish You Want: Species Specific Rigs

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0298 | February 16, 2012 | Thursday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Catching specific fish species demands that fishers rig their gear in certain ways. Captain Van Hubbard explains how to rig fishing tackle specifically suited to catch trout, redfish, snook, and other species common to Charlotte Harbor. *Instructor: Captain Van Hubbard*

Back Roads to Freedom: Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0286 | February 22, 2012 | Wednesday | 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

The early life of American icon and Underground Railroad conductor Harriet Tubman was turbulent. Learn about her life as a slave, her family, how she learned about the larger world, her escape to freedom, why she returned to assist other slaves, stories of her daring rescues, and how she financed her activities. *Instructors: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Herbert*

The World of Non-Verbal Communication

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0291 | February 23, 2012 | Thursday | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Non-verbal communication – what it is, how it works, the latest discoveries and why it is critically important to understand and master. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

Understanding Body Language

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0292 | February 23, 2012 | Thursday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Learn the differences between image, gestures and signs, cultural differences, and detecting lies. Learn about the work of Dr. Paul Eckman, the prototype for the character in the show *Lie to Me*. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

Strong Women in Film Series

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0248 | February 23 & March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2012 | Thursdays | 2 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | \$35 |

View and discuss six films challenging female stereotypes moderated by Dr. Sharon Whitehill. Register for individual movies at \$7 per person or all six for \$35.

- “**Iron-Jawed Angels**” (2004 American) – February 23, 2012 **HC0249**: Hilary Swank stars in this film about suffragettes and their struggle to pass the 19th Amendment.
- “**Calendar Girls**” (2003 English) – March 1, 2012 **HC0250**: Helen Mirren stars in this tale about older women posing nude to raise money for their Institute.
- “**Antonia’s Line**” (1995 Belgium) – March 8, 2012 **HC0251**: Called a “feminist fairytale.”
- “**Made in Dagenham**” (2010 English) – March 15, 2012 **HC0252**: A film about a 1968 strike at a Ford Factory in Dagenham, Great Britain. This is an English “Norma Rae.”
- “**Betrayed**” (1988 American) – March 22, 2012 **HC0253**: A disturbing but penetrating story about terror in America’s heartland.
- “**I’ve Loved You So Long**” (2008 Belgian) – March 29, 2012 **HC0254**: A film about a woman just released from prison for killing her son.

Psychology of History: Mysteries, Reality, & Fiction

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0293 | February 29, 2012 | Wednesday | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Our concept of history is often based on distorted perspectives and myths rather than facts. Discoveries of modern historians often shake the foundations of our beliefs about what really happened in the past – from antiquity to the discovery of America to the urban legends of today. Together we will separate fact from fiction, examine surprising new findings, and shed some light on old mysteries. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

History of Secret Societies and Conspiracy Theories

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0294 | February 29, 2012 | Wednesday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Learn the real facts about Templars, Illuminati, Masons, and other secret groups in history. Find out what is behind Dan Brown's exciting novel *The Da Vinci Code*. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

Health and Wellness Plan

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|------|
| HC0282 | March 2, 9, 2012 | Fridays | 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. | \$40 |

Live the life you have always dreamed of. Happiness is a choice. Learn how to make a life plan to help you achieve the dreams you have always had, but never acted upon. We will explore how to positively embrace life, health challenges, and even financial worries so each student can create an individualized life plan to bring about positive changes leading to the life of your dreams. Yes, you can make it happen, enroll today. *Instructor: Dr. Gail Mooney*

Anti-Cancer Nutrition, Cooking, and Living

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0281 | March 2, 9, 16, 2012 | Fridays | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | \$60 |

Food and supplies cost \$7 collected at each class. Improve your life and health with the latest nutritional information: 20 best foods to eat, 40 anti-inflammatory foods. In Class 1, sample healthy breads, crackers, dips, spreads and hot/cold teas. In Class 2, learn to boost your immune system with herbs and spices while enjoying paella, spinach salad, and various salad dressings. In Class 3, learn to use a juicer, how to make shakes, and sample various juices, fruits, and vegetables. Easy recipes and shopping lists are provided. *Instructor: Dr. Gail Mooney*

Dream Ecstasy-The Art of Sleep

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0275 | March 7, 14, 21 2012 | Thursdays | 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | \$45 |

Sleep is an important aspect of a healthy life. It is defined as a period of time when animal species enter a trance like state to rest and recuperation of mental and physical abilities. Learn what science knows about sleep, the current research on sleep, the many causes of sleeplessness and their remedies. The topic of dream interpretation will be introduced and presented in an open forum for discussion. *Instructor: Mr. T. J. Ginn*

- March 7- Introduction: Understanding Sleep
- March 14- Sleep Maladies, Remedies, Dreams
- March 21- Lucid Dreaming (including methods and techniques), Dream Interpretation

Beyond the Lines of Calligraphy

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0245 | March 7, 14, 21, 28 2012 | Thursdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$80 |

Calligraphic drawing uses “the line” to connect left-brained rationality with right-brained creativity in a subtle exchange of points of view. Learn techniques that transform calligraphy’s “beautiful writing” into creative images. *Instructor: Ms. Elinor Thompson*

The Hidden Power of Words

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0295 | March 7, 2012 | Wednesday | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

Learn how to use specific verbal techniques for success in business and personal life. Find out which powerful words and phrases you must always use and which ones you should avoid. Learn the “hypnotic” techniques of power communicators.
Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall

Verbal Martial Arts

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0296 | March 7, 2012 | Wednesday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Learn how to respond to verbal attacks, win arguments, and negotiate successfully using “sleight of mouth” techniques. Understand how logic and reasoning are used and abused and the “mysteries” of female logic. *Instructor: Dr. Alex Crandall*

China and Freedom of the Press...Or Not

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|------|
| HC0288 | March 8, 2012 | Thursday | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$15 |

This lecture details the media conditions and controls in present day China. Learn the constitutional rights guaranteed to the Chinese people and the struggles and restrictions imposed by the past and current government of China. All forms of media will be covered including the gigantic growth of the internet, social networks, expansion of newspapers, and the cost of controls to the government and people of China. *Instructor: Mr. Lyle Bultman*

Islam, a Religion, and a Way of Life

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0238 | March 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2012 | Thursdays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$80 |

This course focuses on Islam as: a belief system, a way of life, and its relation to other religions. Topics include: Islam’s Ideological Foundation, its basic concepts and application to daily life, the Quran’s Prophets, Jesus, Peace Be Upon Him, Mary in Islam, immortality and salvation, Islam and science, sects and schools of thought, American Muslims, and the 9/11 Commission Report. *Instructor: Dr. Ahmed Elrefai*

Catch the Fish You Want: Habitats or “Where The Fish Live”

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0299 | March 13, 2012 | Tuesday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Catching specific fish species demands the angler “go where the fish are.” Captain Van Hubbard teaches you how to select specific habitats and lures to catch the species you’re fishing for. Participants will also learn how to hook and unhook fish, identify, handle, and when necessary, release their catch. *Instructor: Captain Van Hubbard*

iPad: Tips, Tricks, & Apps

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|------|
| HC0283 | March 14, 2012 | Wednesday | 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$20 |

You have an iPad or are considering buying one, now join us as we show you how to make the most of your tablet experience. Learn insights, tips and tricks to using the iPad, and a demo of some of the most interesting and unique applications available. Experience the magic of the iPad! *Instructor: Mr. John Guerra*

The High Renaissance: Adventures in the History of Painting

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|------|
| HC0280 | March 16, 2012 | Friday | 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. | \$15 |

The High Renaissance in Italian painting is attributed to da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael. View their works as they struggled with the papal powers, Medici family, other commissions, and one another. Learn why so many of their works were left unfinished and why their competition for commissions led to growing jealousies. These multi-faceted artists painted, sculpted, invented, wrote poetry, and provided the world with some of the greatest artistic masterpieces of all time.

Instructor: Dr. Gail Mooney

The Ten Most Important Archaeological Discoveries from the Holy Land

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------|
| HC0225 | March 19, 21, 23, 2012 | Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | \$60 |

During the last century, the Holy Land has been the object of unprecedented archaeological research. Recent advances and new discoveries have transformed our understanding of early Israel, ancient Judaism, Christianity's origins, and the formation of our Bibles. This is an extended survey of the ten most important archaeological discoveries from the Holy Land, and what they have uncovered about the sacred texts of the peoples mentioned in the Bible and their daily lives. *Instructor: Mr. Brian B. Schmidt*

Surf the Internet: Tips & Tricks

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|------|
| HC0284 | March 20, 2012 | Tuesday | 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | \$20 |

This lecture/demonstration is for students who already possess a basic knowledge of Internet surfing, but who want to improve their skills and enrich their online experience. Learn how to make the most of your time on the Internet. The web can be a powerful tool if you know how to use it. In addition to visits to some of the most useful and interesting sites on the Internet topics covered in class will include: Internet security, search engines, browser options, and free email opportunities.

Instructor: Mr. John J. Guerra

Frank Sinatra: The Man and His Music

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0235 | March 22, 2012 | Thursday | 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | \$15 |

This lecture examines key events in the stormy life and career of Frank Sinatra. At various points, Ford Cooper sings hit songs from the various phases of Sinatra's career, using original musical arrangements. For fans of Sinatra, the effect evokes memories of "the man and his music." *Instructor: Mr. Ford Cooper*

The Late Great 1950s

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|------|
| HC0287 | April 5, 2012 | Thursday | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | \$15 |

Remember the vicuna coat scandal? What oil company sponsored Milton Berle's variety show? What country lost its battle to regain its colonial holdings in Vietnam? Who said "I will go to Korea?" Who rocked around the clock? All of those events happened during the Fifties, a decade of unlimited prosperity and unbelievable paranoia. Participate in a decade quiz, share your memories, and enjoy a lecture by publisher James Abraham on "The Fifties, Prosperity and Paranoia," its culture, politics and history. *Instructor: Mr. James Abraham*

South Port Square Course Offerings

These lectures are offered in the South Port Square Town Hall located at 23033 Westchester Boulevard, Port Charlotte

History of the Big Band Era

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|---------------------|------|
| SS0048 | January 19, 2012 | Thursday | 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. | \$15 |

Go back to the era of the Big Band leaders like Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Stan Kenton, and Artie Shaw and singers Billie Holliday, Joe Williams, Ella Fitzgerald, Lena Horne, and Frank Sinatra. The Big Bands and the singers they accompanied are part of the jazz movement, a uniquely American musical genre characterized by, “a spontaneity and vitality of musical production in which improvisation plays a role.” *Instructor: Dr. Robert Peterson*

My Kingdom for a Horse

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|------------------|-------------|---------------------|------|
| SS0049 | February 2, 2012 | Thursday | 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. | \$15 |

Question: What do paintings and sculptures, myths and religions, oceans have in common? Answer: the horse. Both as physical fact and psychological symbol, the horse has accompanied us throughout human history. This lecture-- illustrated with poems, personal stories, video excerpts, and stills--proposes that the enduring appeal of everything equine comes not just from the horse's beauty and power but also grows out of the dangers inherent in these. Enjoy discussion of the famous Lipizzaner stallions. *Instructor: Dr. Sharon Whitehill*

China and Tibet in the 21st Century – Offered at South Port Square

| Course # | Dates | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|------|
| SS0046 | March 1, 2012 | Thursday | 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | \$15 |

Author and East Asia expert Diane Wolff discusses China and its complex relationship with Tibet. Presenting current and historical information, Wolff will draw on her recent book *Tibet Unconquered: An Epic Struggle for Freedom*. *Instructor: Ms. Diane Wolff*

Dutch of the Hudson Valley: Their Legacy

| Course # | Date | Day of Week | Time | Fee |
|----------|---------------|-------------|---------------------|------|
| SS0047 | April 5, 2012 | Thursday | 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. | \$15 |

This lecture discusses the world events leading to the settlement of New Netherlands, and the legacy of the Dutch influence on America. Primary emphasis is on the Lower Hudson Valle, New Amsterdam, but also includes events in the Beverwyck (Albany) area. The founding principles and objectives will be compared to New England. Our common place names and words will be traced to their Dutch roots. *Instructor: Mr. Richard Johnson*

Renaissance Academy Travel Abroad Programs

Since 2002, the Renaissance Academy has sponsored more than 20 high-end, intimately sized, concierge-style excursions abroad. Through unique custom itineraries, participants have the opportunity to learn outside the classroom, to visit historic and cultural sites with outstanding local guides, to experience another culture – its customs, cuisine, language and history – and to delight in conversation and laughter with fellow travelers who share a love of learning and a sense of adventure. Our excursions generally include accommodations in four/five star hotels; most meals and gratuities; private English-speaking guides; deluxe motor coach transportation; and all entrance fees. Register online at <https://RegisterRA.fgcu.edu> to receive complete itineraries, cost information and registration forms or call 239-425-3272. *Reserve early! Our exclusive excursions are each limited to 24 travelers.*

China, Tibet and the Yangtze River

From \$5,395 per person (Land & Air)

SP3036 – May 30 – June 17, 2012 – 19 days

Discover the classical highlights of China including a special excursion to mystical Tibet. Starting in Beijing, savor the capital's legendary sites: Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, and the Great Wall. A tour highlight is a special inside look at communal life along Beijing's ancient alleyways or *hutongs*, fast disappearing as the city rushes to modernize. View the famed life-size terracotta army in Xian. Spend three days in Lhasa, high in the Himalayas, exploring sacred temples and the vast Potala Palace. Cruise along the Yangtze River, one of the world's longest and busiest rivers, aboard our Victoria Cruise ship. Witness daily life along its shores and see the spectacular Three Gorges and the much-heralded new dam. Our tour concludes in Shanghai, a city that epitomizes 21st century China. A 3-day/2-night "On Your Own" post-tour extension in Shanghai is also available.

Southern Italy and Sicily

From \$4,495 per person (Land & Air)

SP3038 – September 5 – 19, 2012 – 15 days

Delight in a special exploration of southern Italy, from striking Sicily to the breathtaking Amalfi Coast to unheralded Apulia, the alluring "boot heel" where a vivid history, unique architecture, distinctive traditions, and bountiful plains join the sun and sea in creating a prized (and crowd-free) region. Explore Sicily, staying in lovely Taormina with excursions to Agrigento and Mt. Etna. Discover Lecce, the "Florence of the South," and visit Alberobello, whose 400 or so trulli – conical houses with grey stone roofs – rank as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Enjoy lunch and a walking tour of Bari, capital of the Apulia region. Tour the UNESCO site of Pompeii, the city frozen in time by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, and gather for a hands-on Neapolitan cuisine cooking lesson in Naples. Travel to the storied isle of Capri. Embark on a breathtaking drive along the winding cliff-top Amalfi Coast. Bid "*arrivederci*" to Italy and fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. Spend 4-days/3-nights in Rome "On Your Own" as an optional post-tour extension.

Invitation to Tuscany

\$3,295 per person (Land Only)

SP3037 – September 22 – 30, 2012 – 8 days

Tuscany's vineyards, olive groves and soaring cypress trees provide a setting that soothes the soul, delights the eye and raises the spirit. Medieval towns and villages, hilltop castles and ancient farmsteads dotting the landscape await discovery in the most welcoming of climates. The cultural, artistic and architectural treasures of Florence, Siena, Lucca, Pisa, Certaldo, Bologna, Fiesole and San Gimignano will all be explored. This Tuscany excursion includes seven nights in a four-star Tuscan villa; most meals (with wine); English-speaking tour guides; art history and wine lessons; deluxe motor coach transportation; all entrance fees, and a farewell feast at the private castle of Santa Maria Novella.

Journey to Vietnam

From \$3,995 per person (Land & Air)

SP3041 – March 14 – 29, 2013 – 15 days

Discover Vietnam's captivating beauty, enduring traditions, and profound hospitality. Tour the highlights of the French-accented capital Hanoi and take a full-day excursion to scenic Ha Long Bay. See Da Nang's acclaimed Cham Museum, explore the nearby colorful village of Hoi An, and relax at a lovely resort on China Beach. Visit the imperial capital Hue, once home to emperors. Cruise the Perfume River to peaceful Thien Mu Pagoda, a significant Buddhist monastery. In southern Vietnam explore the tributaries and floating markets of the beautiful Mekong River Delta. Conclude in Saigon with tours of Reunification Palace, the History Museum, and the underground Cu Chi Tunnels. An optional post-tour extension to Cambodia to explore the incredible Angkor Wat temple complex is also available. *Pricing is subject to change until the final travel brochure is released.*

Legendary Turkey & the Turquoise Coast

From \$3,995 per person (Land & Air)

SP3039 – September 5 – 19, 2013 – 15 days

Turkey—where Europe and Asia meet to form “the cradle of civilization”—is yours to discover. Begin in Istanbul, Turkey's cultural and spiritual heart. The city astonishes with its legendary Blue Mosque, Hagia Sofia, and Topkapi Palace, one of the world's richest museums. Travel south to the WWI battlefield of Gallipoli, ferry across the Dardanelles to Troy, and explore the wealth of Greco-Roman ruins at ancient Pergamum. Spend a day at Turkey's classical city of Ephesus. Among its treasures are the grand Library of Celsus and a 25,000-seat amphitheater. Enjoy lunch in a local village before boarding a privately chartered gulet yacht. For four splendid days cruise the exquisite Turquoise Coast, relaxing and discovering hidden sights, quaint fishing villages, and remote ruins. End your journey in the seaside resort Antalya, with a side trip to ancient Perge. There is an optional 5-day/4-night post-tour extension to Cappadocia and Ankara, Turkey's capital. *Pricing is subject to change until the final travel brochure is released.*

Paradores & Pousadas: Historic Lodgings of Spain & Portugal

From \$4,195 pp (Land & Air)

SP3040 – September 16 – 30, 2013 – 15 days

Stay in distinctive lodgings and experience the rich history of Portugal and Spain during this Iberian sojourn. Beginning in Lisbon, tour the capital city and take an excursion to the National Palace of Queluz. Travel through picturesque Alentejo, a region of olive groves, vineyards, and wheat fields, to one of Portugal's finest pousadas set in a former 15th-century convent. Cross into Spain and see the ancient, ruin-filled city of Merida, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cordoba, and Seville with its marvelous Moorish architecture. Visit Toledo, capital of medieval Spain. In Madrid, tour the Palacio Royal, the Plaza Mayor, and the world-famous Prado. Extend your tour with an optional stay in Barcelona. *Pricing is subject to change until the final travel brochure is released.*

Instructor Biographies

James Abraham is a graduate of Oberlin University and an award-winning journalist. He has worked as an editorial writer, city editor, reporter, and columnist for several newspapers.

Martha R. Bireda, Ph.D. has been an equity consultant for twenty years in issues related to race, gender, and cultural diversity. She is founder of the Blanchard House Museum of African American History and Culture and author of six books.

Lyle Bultman enjoyed a successful career in Thailand, China, Japan, India, Philippines, Taiwan, and Korea. His lectures reflect decades of personal and professional experience of living and working in Asia.

Ford Cooper was a U.S. Foreign Service Officer who served in senior positions in U.S. Embassies in Latin America and Europe from 1960 to 1994. He published a book on US/ Finnish relations.

Alex Crandall, M.D. is a retired psychiatrist with 35 years of experience in therapy, research and teaching.

Benjamin Crosby, Ph.D. earned his doctoral degree in Political Science and with a regional specialization in Latin America, where he lived for 18 years. He has been a research scholar at the Overseas Development Council in Washington D.C., and was a Director of MSI, an international development consulting organization.

Anne Dalton, J.D. was a Senior Attorney for Radio City Music Hall, and Network News & Business Affairs Attorney for ABC News “20/20”, and Associate Producer for ABC “Good Morning America/ News” in New York City.

Ahmed Elrefai, Ph.D. graduated from Ohio State University with a Doctorate in Engineering. He has lectured on Islam and related subjects at public libraries, Islamic and religious institutions, and private and public schools and colleges.

Sharon Fultz is a Tai Chi practitioner and has been an instructor since 1995.

T. J. Ginn is an electrical engineer who mid-life sold out and started an organic farm.. He currently sits as CEO and director of research for a non-profit sustainable earth science research group. He is also a published author.

John Guerra is a graduate of Columbia University, former Wall Street merchant banker, and the FGCU Director of Continuing Education.

Vivian Haima has had a successful 10-year track record of teaching computer skills. She is proficient in Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows 7 operating systems.

Frank Herbert and Sheri Herbert are certified guides for the Maryland Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway. They have offered narrated historic tours in Maryland and Florida for fifteen years.

Paul Holmes served as an international judge in multimedia competitions, organized many conferences, workshops, and awards ceremonies in Europe and here in the U.S., including the first ever International DVD awards.

Henry Huber has been instructing for Fortune 500 companies since 1994 and is proficient in Word and various computer programs. He presently teaches the Visually Impaired computers.

Richard Johnson was born and lived most of his life in the Hudson Valley and is a 10th generation descendant of the first Dutch families. He was also a historian for NY State of the Great Mansions on the Hudson.

Robert McMillan served as an Assistant to Richard M. Nixon and Counsel to U.S. Senator Kenneth B. Keating where he was directly involved in the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Gail Mooney, Ph.D., is a painter and was the Art Director for the Town of Bristol, RI.

Jeanna Morrow feels as though she was reborn at 50 when her husband introduced her to Latin dance. She had never danced before. She attended classes for 2 years and then earned the Zumba Basic Instructor certification.

Robert Peterson, Ph.D. grew up in Kansas City and enjoyed many of the jazz greats who got their start there. He played jazz professionally for a few years.

Barbara Rendell, M.Ed. taught for ten years before serving on the Charlotte County School Board for eleven years. She has studied nutrition, cooking, and gardening for 35 years.

Brian B. Schmidt, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible and Ancient Mediterranean West Asian Cultures in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Lee Stein learned the love of film from growing up in a family that owned a theater. He is the Executive Director on the Board of The Charlotte Chorale.

Mary Taglieri has been a landscape painter for over 30 years. She has also studied the Hawaiian culture while living in Hawaii for 14 years.

Elinor Thompson can never remember a time when she did not have the desire to communicate through creative actions. She is an artist, illustrator and has a passion for the ancient art of calligraphy.

Captain Van Hubbard has been a professional Fishing Guide for 35+ years, in both near and offshore sport fisheries. He has been named a Mote Marine Laboratories Sport Fishing Guide.

Sharon Whitehill, Ph.D. earned her doctoral degree in Victorian literature, before spending more than 30 years as a professor of English.

Gregory Whyte, M.S., H.H.P. is a health educator, holistic health practitioner and creator of the Fusion One holistic health system. He has been teaching, speaking and consulting since 1976.

Robert J Willis, Ph.D. joined the faculty of the University of Maryland as an adjunct professor in its “overseas division,” teaching in Korea and Okinawa.

Diane Wolff has a degree in East Asian Languages and Literature from Columbia University with a specialization in Chinese History. While at Columbia, she won a National Defense Foreign Language Fellowship (NDFL) for the study of Advanced Chinese.

