



## Adventures in Lifelong Learning

A Community Partnership with University of Wisconsin-Parkside  
900 Wood Road, PO Box 2000, Kenosha WI 53141-2000

### The ALL Points Bulletin

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Barbara Leable, Editor, bleable@gmail.com  
Norma Rukavina, Co-Editor, nrukavina@wi.rr.com

Vanessa Greco, University Service Associate  
262.595.2793, Greco@uwp.edu  
Or email: Lifelonglearning@uwp.edu  
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8:30-1:30



#### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I recently reviewed the [roadscholar.org](http://roadscholar.org) website to see if all 13 of the University of Wisconsin locations are members of the Road Scholar Institute Network. Five locations were not listed: Eau Claire, Platteville, Stout, River Falls and Whitewater. Green Bay listed their membership at 1,007, and Milwaukee at 1,000.

I also did a search for the zip code 33705 and found two lifelong learning groups listed in the St. Petersburg area. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute group has a membership of 1,200 and offers classes, trips and interest groups.

Lifelong learning groups are located throughout the United States. Perhaps you spend six months of the year in Florida. You can locate a local group on the web by searching for:

- 1) Roadscholar.org
- 2) In the left hand column, click on Road Scholar Institute **Network** (the last listing under "Get Involved.") Then under "Find a LLI" enter a zip code to find a group of lifelong learners when you're away from home.

3) At the same time, you can put in your local zip code to see what is going on at:

Adventures in Lifelong Learning  
University of Wisconsin – Parkside

I hope this information is of interest to each and every member as you enjoy your learning opportunities – wherever you hang your hat.

*Patti Gross, ALL President*

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DID YOU KNOW? There are more than 400 Lifelong Learning groups in the US and Canada.  
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#### IMPORTANT CREDIT CARD PAYMENT CHANGE!

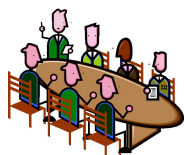
To comply with University financial and audit procedures, we've made a change to how we handle **credit card payments** for ALL events.



When an ALL class, day trip, or other event (such as the annual meeting in June or the September picnic) is announced, in addition to the paper flyers in your ALL mail, Vanessa will send an email with key information for each event.

The email includes a **link** you can click on to register online via credit card. Note: this feature is open to members only; guests need to send in their paper registration forms and checks to Vanessa at the ALL office. Of course, members still have the regular options of paying by cash (there’s a drop box outside of Vanessa’s office if she’s not there when you drop off your payment) or by writing and mailing your check(s).

## COMMITTEES



### **ALL’S WEEK OF LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Charlotte Short, charshort1@hotmail.com, 764-3066

We're pleased that the 2015 Week of Learning was a wonderful success. The **2016** All Week of Learning committee will be organizing soon. Previous committee members will be contacted in late October. If you are newly interested in serving on the committee or would like to suggest a topic for AWOL 2016, send an email to Charlotte Short, Chair, charshort1@hotmail.com



Photos from the June 2015 Week of Learning. Top: Examining scrolls at Milwaukee’s Jewish Museum. Left: Joyce Gyurina sharing a map of the Middle East to AWOL participants.



### **AUDIO-VISUAL COMMITTEE**

Larry Gregg: lgregg@wi.rr.com  
Jarlene Kriehn: jkriehn2007@att.net

Jarlene needs help with equipment setups for classes in Tallent Hall. If you already attend these classes and have a curiosity about this technology, contact her about on-the-job training opportunities. It would be appreciated!

### **WHO DO I CALL WITH A QUESTION?**

Have a question about an ALL event? Contact:

> Vanessa, if you want to know if there are still spaces available for an ALL event, if you need to cancel your registration, or anything else related to registration-specific questions.

> The Committee chairs or the event sponsor (the person who’s name and contact info is shown in the “question” line of each flyer) if you have a question such as “can I order a vegetarian lunch?” or “will there be a lot of walking; will there be an elevator?”

### COMMITTEES, continued



### **CLASS COMMITTEE**

Merrilee Unrath: mleeu@wi.rr.com  
Darleen Chiappetta: dchiappetta2@wi.rr.com

Watch for more info on these upcoming classes:

**History of Vienna:** presented by Dr. Laura Gellott on two Wednesdays in **January**.

**Ceramics:** hand-building clay pots, late January & early **February** with Professor Lisa Marie Barber.

A **February** class on **Love Poetry**, taught by Professor Patrick McGuire.



Another great history presentation, **The Queens of England**, given by Professor David Bruce.

Specifics on dates and locations will be announced via flyer and email at least one month before the start of each session.

Some of these classes will be conducted in **Tallent Hall**. For those new to ALL, Tallent Hall is the freestanding building located east of Wood Road (30th Avenue). Please be aware that there is another building on the west side of campus named Rita Tallent Picken Center for Arts and Humanities, also known as **“The Rita.”** Although some ALL members attend plays and concerts here, it is **NOT** a class location.

Suggestions or questions can be directed to Class Committee Co-Chairs Merrilee Unrath (mleeu@wi.rr.com) or Darleen Chiappetta (dchiappetta2@wi.rr.com).

When registering for **any** ALL event, please refrain from phoning in your registration.



**DAY TRIP COMMITTEE**

Julie Rae Friedman: 942.7113, jrf@wi.rr.com  
 Martha Krimmer: 554.8122, mkrimmer2@wi.rr.com

Since the last APB we have had three very different trips. First, we visited the **Morton Arboretum**. Then we went to Chicago to visit the **DuSable Museum of African American History**, the **Historic Pullman District** and the **A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum**, with lunch at the **Harborside International Golf Center**. And finally, we toured **Ten Chimneys** in Genesee Wisconsin, the famous estate of Broadway stars Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, and a National Historic Landmark. We enjoyed lunch at the historic **Union House**.

**Coming Up:**

**Saturday, December 12: The Nutcracker - Milwaukee Ballet.** Join us for the lovely holiday tradition of the *Nutcracker* with music by Tchaikovsky. No matter how many times you’ve seen this, it is always spectacular and very beautiful. A very nice way to start the holiday season. Lunch at the Performing Arts Center.



Winter in Wisconsin is beautiful, but tricky for trip plans as snow and icy conditions could require cancellation. So we try to do local trips where you

can drive yourself, and then if we must cancel, we do not incur hefty bus fees. Thus, we have two local **“Explore our Cities”** trips planned:

**January:** We’ll tour The **Racine Masonic Temple**. The Masonic Temple was originally the home of a local businessman, Henry S. Durand, who built it as his residence in 1856. It was donated to the Masons in 1923. We will have a tour in the morning, and one in the afternoon. We will all meet for lunch at Racine’s newest riverfront pub restaurant, **Wharf 209**. For the rest of the day you might want to explore on your own -- perhaps the Racine Art Museum, some of the shops and galleries on Main Street, or perhaps see the ice sculptures if still available.

**February:** We’ll take a trip to the **Kenosha Water Production Plant** to see what is involved in making Lake Michigan’s water potable. Then we’ll lunch at **Mangia Wine Bar**. After lunch, we will tour the advertising and editorial departments of the *Kenosha News* Publishing Corporation too see the role that computers play in how a paper gets published. There is no longer a printing press there; this job is now done by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

**This spring:** In the spring we will really go theatrical. We know this is season is heavy on theatre, but these plays have limited runs and we think you will enjoy attending UW Parkside’s student productions.

The theatre department is not doing a Shakespeare play, but instead is offering Norwegian Henrik Ibsen’s *Hedda Gabler*; and later, Russian Nikolai Gogol’s *The Inspector General* at the Rita. ALL will go to the matinee performances, but subscribers and those who prefer to go in the evening may do so and still attend our two classes on each play: one on the playwright and the play, the other by a member of the production staff to give us the directors’ vision, and how the play is brought to life through the scenery, the lighting, the costumes, and, of course, by the student actors.

And, once again, Donald Cress has given ALL 50 free tickets to the **Milwaukee Chamber Theatre** in Milwaukee and we will go there in **April** to see Noel Coward’s *Fallen Angels* with a late lunch/early dinner following the performance.

We are investigating the **Field Museum’s** new exhibit “**The Greeks - Agamemnon to Alexander the Great**” a journey through 5,000 years of Greek history and culture.



And finally, on a lighter note, the **Dancing Horses** at Delavan.

**Milwaukee Symphony:**

Don’t forget the remaining five concerts in the Friday Prelude Series at the Milwaukee Symphony on November 20, March 11, April 22, May 6, and June 10. We leave Tallent at 8:30 AM and Racine Roma Lodge about 8:45 AM, return about 2:30.



For information about this season, or for information on single tickets if there is a cancellation, contact Bev Friedrich at 633.2304 or bevfried@aol.com. Or you can phone Darleen Chiappetta, 654-0177.

We are always looking for new committee members to help us plan and implement day trips. Please call Martha or Julie if interested.

**Registering for Day Trips.** If you are interested in a trip, please get your registration in right away – online if possible.

If you find you cannot attend an event, call Vanessa at the ALL office at 595-2793.

If we know about it *before* the deadline, we can refund your money (but we do have to pay for tickets and confirm restaurants in advance, and we need to pay what we’ve contracted for).

If you are unable to attend *after* the deadline, we usually have a waiting list and will try to sell your spot to the next person on the waitlist.

*As always, events are subject to change. Call the trip leader listed on the flyer for more information and details on each trip.*



**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Pat Koessl: 694.3453 patricia.koessl@gmail.com



**LECTURE COMMITTEE**

Mac MacCaughey: mmctwo@wi.rr.com

Lectures at 2 PM in the Parkside Student Cinema

**November 2:** “A Pictorial Tour of Major Cities in Poland: Gdansk, Warsaw, Krawkow” with Professor Helen Rosenbert and Kevin Rydzik.

**November 16:** “Higher Expectations for Racine County Youth” with Jeffery Neubauer.



**December 7:** Our 2015 Holiday Gala at the Racine Marriott Hotel. *Reservations required.*

**January 11:** Sr. Pat Chaffee, a member of the Racine Dominicans, will discuss her recent visit with the Kurdish people in northern Iraq. It was an eye opening experience for her and should be fascinating to her what she has learned. Talk about continuing our education!


**January 25:** Mark Buesing will speak on the changes to the polar ice fields – a critical and interesting add to our learning experiences.

Check ALL's page on UWP's website for more details on the lectures listed above. Type in this URL to get to lecture details on ALL's page of the UWP website: <http://goo.gl/Zlt600>

**WHAT DID HE SAY?**

If you're having a bit of trouble hearing the speaker at our lectures, there's help! Just ask for one of the hearing assistance devices available at the concierge desk, right outside the cinema. After the lecture, just return the device.



 **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
Marion Sperer: 634.0336, mjs1831@yahoo.com

We had just under 600 members as of October!

We'll hold a "Meet & Greet" on **November 16** at 10 AM for new members who have joined since May. This is a great opportunity for new (or even old) members to ask questions and explore ALL options. Meet in the Orchard Room, Tallent Hall.

Afterwards, why not join us for lunch in the Student Center, and then enjoy the 2 PM lecture in the Student Cinema.

 **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**  
If you have a flair for publicity, contact Patti Gross. We need a new chairperson.

 **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**  
Joyce Gyurina: 657.5990, joygy31@wi.rr.com

The ALL annual picnic was held September 15, 2015 at Pritchard Park in Racine. It was a great day to enjoy as the sun was shining and the weather cooperated. Everyone enjoyed the food, beverages, games, and socializing.

A huge thank you to Trisha Frost, Patti Gross, and Vanessa Greco who helped me plan, organize and execute the event. I also want to thank Pam Drummond for organizing the beverages, Martha Krimmer and Mary Rose Williams for handling the registration, Nat Cycenas for directing the NFL puzzle, Frank Santarelli for leading the hikers, Bob Jensen, Margie Hannes, and all who pitched in to make the picnic a success. They arrived at 9:30 AM to help set up and organize, and then later, they helped with clean up.

Also, a "sweet" thank you to the donors of all the delicious desserts: Jean Clementi, Doris Colombe, Nat Cycenas, Margie Hannes, Martha Krimmer, Dorene & Frank Santarelli. Norma Rukavina, Vera Schalk, Dawn Storves, Sharon Uttley, Mary Rose Williams and Carol Zelt. So good, not even a crumb left for the ants. Applause to all of them — so much appreciated as I was not able to be there.

The **Holiday Gala** flyer is out. Don't forget to sign up for this fun event to be held this year at Racine's Marriott on Highway 20. Celebrate with friendly members, great food and surprise entertainment that I'm sure you will enjoy.

October and November greeters welcomed members to the lectures. October greeters

included Doris Colombe, Dee Smith, Carol Zelt, and Charlotte Short. November greeters are Judy Treleven, Nola Gordon, Barb Scholwin, and Bennie Oass. Thank you all for your time, effort, and especially your warm friendly greetings.

*Hope everyone has a beautiful Christmas season and a happy and healthy 2016 !!*



**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Ted R. Anderson. trawisc@gmail.com  
262-639-7863 or 414-745-5656 (cell)



**VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE**

Kathy Hoffmann: 847.746.3416,  
kathyhoffmann@mac.com

Would you like to be an ALL volunteer?  
Contact Kathy to learn more.



**Nancy Elsmo** was one of our original ALL members, and was the first and long-time editor of the APB. She recently came “home” for a visit – attending a lecture with Dick and Pat Ehlert.

She looked wonderful, sounded great, and is enjoying life in Oak Park! She noted that programming in the Oak Park Arms is much like ALL: lots of good educational opportunities, and an impressive schedule of events!

Nancy said she’d love to stay in touch with old friends, so consider dropping her a line. Her address is: Oak Park Arms Senior Housing Complex, 408 S. Oak Park Avenue, #570, Oak Park, Illinois 60302. Or call at 708-200-2404.

**CONFIRMATIONS AND CHANGES**



Confirmations from the ALL office on classes and trips or room changes are sent via e-mail. This only works if we have your correct and current email address. If you change your email address, send your new info to Vanessa Greco, greco@uwp.edu. Please check for new messages every few days! No email? We’ll phone you.



**FOCUS GROUPS**



**ALL-A-BLOOM**

Dawn Feldman-Brown: 694.1748  
pdfbrown@yahoo.com, Judy Knutson:  
657.5658, jknutson6906@sbcglobal.net

Our final meeting of 2015 will be November 18. We’ll be discussing plans for 2016. Our first meeting in **2016** will be in March. Watch for a definite date in late spring.

Judith (and some Internet gardening friends) have some tips for winterizing your gardens:

1. “Every fall, I put my garden to bed by raking all my leaves into it. It’s easy and helps the soil.”  
*Ann Proffit, Bellbrook, Ohio.*

2. “Leave the dead insect-free and disease-free annuals in your garden. They’ll come out much more easily in spring after the roots have rotted. If you cover your beds with leaves in the fall, the annuals also help hold the leaves in place.”  
*Jodie Stevenson, Export Pennsylvania*

3. “Plant bulbs once the nighttime temperature drops to a consistent 40-50 degrees. Bulbs like tulips, daffodils, crocus, and alliums all need a full winter in the ground. Plant the bulbs 2 to 3 times their height deep and then fertilize.”

4. "Cut back disease- and insect-infected perennials after a hard freeze. Cutting them so only an inch remains saves that space and reminds you of the plant next spring. Also pull out any spent veggie plants and herbs. Don't forget to get rid of the weeds. Save the final cleanup for late winter."

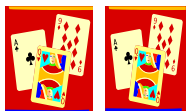


**CURRENT AFFAIRS DISCUSSIONS**

Sy J. Adler: 877.3628, Cell: 708.785.4067  
 seymourjadler@gmail.com  
 Ted Anderson: 639.7863 trawisc@gmail.com

Current Affairs meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the Orchard Room of Tallent Hall from 12 to 1:30 PM (so you have time to get to the 2 PM lecture).

In these sessions we continue to try to solve the problems of the day. We search for solutions that seem to elude leading politicians, economists, and leaders in business, labor and education. We attack local, state, national, and international issues, all with equal gusto. And we generate a better understanding of the issues due to the diversity of our participants. Simply put: we learn from each other. Join us for our spirited discussions.



**DUPLICATE BRIDGE**

Patti Gross: 658.8849  
 patriciagross368@yahoo.com

The Duplicate Bridge group has a lot of fun while learning to play and score a round for 2 and 3 tables, or learning how to use the Stayman Convention. You do not need a bridge partner to join the group. If you want to be dealt in, call Patti or email to be included in our schedule.



**GREAT BOOKS**

Jacki Andersen, 262-498-8381,  
 jandersen17@wi.rr.com,  
 Doris Nice, nice@uwp.edu, 262-694-2650

The Great Books group meets at 9 AM on the 4th Monday of every month in Tallent Hall. We take turns leading the discussions, guided by included questions. Everyone is welcome.



**GREAT DECISIONS**

Terrence & Therese Constant  
 T2constant@aol.com, 657-0877

An organization meeting for the 2016 Great Decision discussion group will be held on **Wednesday, January 27, 2016** in Tallent Hall, Room #182 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Briefing books and work sheets for the first topic will be distributed at this meeting.

The initial order of the Great Decisions briefing books was submitted in late October. We are placing a **second (and final) order of books** in late November, so if you want to join the February/March discussion group, please send **\$25** to Therese Constant, 5126 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Kenosha WI 53144 no later than November 26<sup>th</sup>.

See the **HIGHLIGHT** article in this issue for more information on the February/March 2016 Great Decision discussion group.

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**Read the ALL POINTS BULLETIN online**

Just type in

<http://goo.gl/ifkzgg>

to read current and previous editions.  
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**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FRIENDSHIP**

Linda Burch: lindaburch11@gmail.com  
 Jim Burch: 948.9249

If you want to the make the world a better place and meet bright, interesting young people from other countries, this is the group for you. There are many students, and we can always use more ALL volunteers! Be involved only as much as you want—there are no set duties or time requirements. A friendly, open spirit and the desire to promote international goodwill are the only requirements. Members sometimes offer transportation, home-cooked meals, shopping, or showing off nearby cultural adventures.

International Friendship members, Parkside’s International Club, international students, and UW-Parkside staff and faculty would like to thank ALL for sponsoring our picnic in September. Over 80 people enjoyed wonderful food and activities. We would also like to thank Main Moon II in Racine for catering the picnic so generously. If you get a chance to try their food, we highly recommend it. Thanks also to Kam Buhler for suggesting them. *The picnic would not be possible without ALL’s sponsorship. THANK YOU!*

No replacement for Consuelo Clemens has been hired yet, but we sat in on interviews and were able to provide feedback. We are hoping someone will be hired by December.

We met on October 14<sup>th</sup> and agreed on some changes to our schedule. We will meet at **11 AM** instead of at 10:30 one **Wednesday** a month. However, there will be no meetings before friendship hours in November or December. Friendship hours with the students will be at noon on **November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**. We will greet Consuelo’s replacement with an afternoon get-together at Linda and Jim’s house in December.

Although due to budget cuts Parkside no longer has its own Diwali (Indian Festival of Light) banquet, we encourage ALL members to attend **Racine’s Diwali** at Festival Hall on **November 7<sup>th</sup>**. Many international students will be involved.

Meeting dates are subject to change based on other student activities, so be sure to contact us to get on our list of instructions and reminders. Contact Linda at lindaburch11@gmail.com. No email? Just phone Jim Burch at (262) 948-9249.



**OVER THE HILL HIKERS**

Wren Ide: ALL-Hiking@wi.rr.com, 694.1046

Our hiking season ended in October. We enjoyed 22 hikes this past season with several at locations that were new for us. Attendance at hikes varied, but overall averaged a higher number than last year. We had several hikes with more than 30 hikers. A few hikes were along the lakefronts in Kenosha and Racine, with many more in wooded areas and parks. New hikes included Moraine Hills State Park in McHenry Illinois, the Winthrop Harbor Marina in Winthrop Harbor, Illinois, and St. Francis Seminary Woods in St. Francis, Wisconsin.

In October, our group was featured in the “My Life” section of the *Kenosha News*, which is published for the Kenosha County Division of Aging Service and is geared toward older adults.

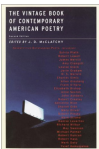


Three of our hikers were interviewed during the hike at the Winthrop Harbor Marina. Great coverage for our group and the ALL organization.

Although the hiking season has ended there has been interest each year in the possibility of a winter snowshoe outing. One of our hikers may take the lead on this. If anything gets arranged, it will come out in the ALL hiking email group.



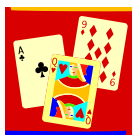
Contact Wren if you'd like to be included in this email list – for a possible snowshoe hike, or to be included in announcements on our next hiking season which will begin in April of 2016.



**POETRY**

Ron Story: ron.story@att.net, 577.5864

In August, the Poetry focus group hosted Kenosha's poet-laureate, Jean Preston. Jean presented us with a reading of her own work, as well as an exercise to stir our memories for material suitable for a poem of our own. Results of the latter were decidedly mixed, while her own writings were warmly received. We are looking forward to a similar opportunity to host Kenosha's next poet-laureate, to be announced later this fall.



**SOCIAL BRIDGE**

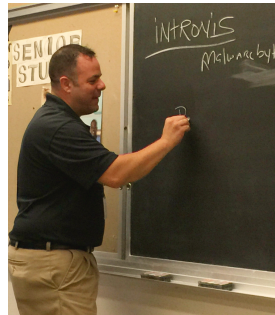
Patti Gross: 658.8849:  
patriciagross368@yahoo.com

The ALL Social Bridge focus group is a friendly group of players trying to improve their skills while practicing strategies in the Tallent Hall break room on Thursdays from 1:30-3:30 PM. Please call or email Patti so we know you are coming. Everyone gets to play.



**TECHNOLOGY**

Tom Coe: tecoe@wi.rr.com  
Frank Klein: frankmarnie@gmail.com  
Roger Stasik: rrstasik@gmail.com  
Jarlene Kriehn: jkriehn2007@att.net, 948-0836



Ramon Flores from TechHelp in Kenosha spoke to the Tech Group in August about ways to improve our security in the digital world. One of his many tips: Avast is a good (and free) software to help protect your computer - [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Upcoming Meeting Dates, Mondays, 1:30 PM:**

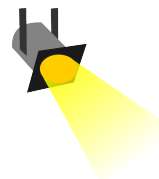
November 23th, 1:30, Tallent Hall #182.

December 28<sup>th</sup>, **cancelled** due to the holidays.

January: check your Tech Group emails for an alternative meeting date in January.

**TECH TIP:** When you're typing on your smart phone, don't bother putting in the apostrophes. Just type dont or cant, etc. The phone will put the apostrophe in for you (resulting in don't or can't) – unless it's not sure. If you type "were" – your phone doesn't know if you want "were" or "we're." So type the last letter twice (i.e. weree); that tells the phone you want the contraction.

*Tip by David Pogue at Yahoo Tech!*



**MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

**Terrence Constant** participated in the 29<sup>th</sup> National Veterans Golden Age Games in Omaha





this summer, and received medals in the 100-meter dash (gold), men’s singles table tennis (silver), men’s singles badminton singles and doubles (bronze/silver). The event is for veterans 55+. Over 800 veterans from 46 states and two territories participated.

Terrence also participated in the 36<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Senior Olympics in the Milwaukee area in August/September, winning many awards in softball, racquetball, table tennis (singles and doubles), badminton, and track and field.

Amazing accomplishments — congratulations!



Photo by Mac MacCaughey

Congratulations, **Dee Smith**, on your **85th birthday!** The photo above shows Dee celebrating her birthday with friends this past August.

*If you, or an ALL member you know, deserve to be in the **SPOTLIGHT**, drop the newsletter editors a note with the details (a digital pix would be nice, if available).*

### ODDS AND ENDS



When sending in event registrations, mark “**ALL**” on the envelope, so the mailroom knows where to send it.

Vanessa Greco staffs the **ALL office** in Tallent #115 from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM, Monday through Thursday (hours subject to change). To pay for memberships, parking permits, or register for classes or day trips in person, please visit during these times.



To keep our membership directory up to date, mail all address changes to Vanessa Greco, ALL, Tallent Hall #115, UW-Parkside, 900 Wood Rd. PO Box 2000, Kenosha, WI, 53141-2000.

### LUNCH BEFORE LECTURES

Receive a 10% discount on food items purchased at the Parkside Brickstone Grill with your ALL Membership Card.



Join other ALL members prior to the lectures around 12:45PM for “Lunch at the U” to chat and dine.



### PARKSIDE SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

There’s a free shuttle to take you from Tallent Hall to the Student Center, although the bus driver takes a lunch break from 1-1:30 PM, so plan your ride needs accordingly.

### FREE ONLINE UNIVERSITY COURSES

You can explore more lifelong learning opportunities at **COURSERA**, a group that partners with top universities to offer free short-term courses online (as of this publication, 1,466 courses to be exact). [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org)



**HIGHLIGHT ON . . .  
GREAT DECISIONS Discussion Group**

ALL’s Great Decision group started about nine years ago, coordinated by Sara Neubauer. Sara noted, “It’s important to stay up on current topics; these are things I probably wouldn’t get in the newspaper.” Seeing the 2016 topics, she remarked, “that covers a LOT of territory!”



Since 2012, the husband/wife team of **Terrence and Therese Constant** have coordinated the discussion

group, now about 45 members and still growing.

**Why participate?** Therese and Terrence said the Great Decisions process gives people a non-partisan background in key foreign policy matters. “So when we hear and read news about them, we have a deeper understanding of what’s involved in the US policy making process. This program helps us interpret the news and decide what direction we think the US should be taking; it helps clarify but does not tell us how to think about these important policy issues.”

**Participant preparation:** Chapters in the Great Decisions book typically take about an hour to read, with perhaps another hour to research and complete topic worksheets. If members have questions about a subject, they’re welcome to bring them up during the discussion. Many members do extra research on their own, reading more about the

- 2016 Great Decisions  
Discussion Topics**
- Middle East
  - The Rise of ISIS
  - The Future of Kurdistan
  - Migration
  - The Koreas
  - The United Nations
  - Climate Change
  - Cuba and the US

topics in magazines, newspapers, or on the Internet. So each week, we probably spend 2-3 hours of prep time.

**The DVD:** At the start of each meeting we watch a 20-30 minute DVD on that week’s subject. (Volunteer discussion leaders can watch the DVD beforehand to prepare for group discussions.)

Opinions of politicians and experts from both sides of the aisle are given equal weight. Among those interviewed for the 2015 DVDs were former US ambassadors, diplomatic reporters from NPR and the *Foreign Policy* magazine, former directors of the CIA, *New York Times* reps, people from the Brookings Institution, US State Department, Council on Foreign Relations, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, National Security Council, and more! A wide range of opinions, although the Foreign Policy Association tries to be non-partisan.

**Volunteers:** After the whole group views each week’s DVD, we break into two groups, each one led by a volunteer discussion leader who often does further research on the topic. Therese notes that her husband, Terry, is an over achiever in this area and always prepares for many hours (including making up his own discussion questions). Actually participants don’t need any special expertise to be a discussion leader, just an interest in discussing foreign policy. If a person has been to a topic country or has experience in a specific area, it’s great if they lead a discussion the group on that subject.

**Ballot process:** Everyone (privately) expresses their opinions by filling out a Foreign Policy Association ballot online, which are then are presented to the White House, the Departments of State and Defense, Members of Congress and to the nation’s media. One participant noted, “Your vote and your letters and e-mails to legislators can make a difference, but you need to know what is going on in order to do this.”

## ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS TO THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

We will continue to publish new members' phone numbers and emails as they are received. Contact Vanessa Greco in the ALL office of any changes.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Belland, Dianne 5034 Cynthia Lane Racine, WI 53406 262.632.5529 Jbelland1@wi.rr.com	Burlingame, Virginia 111 11 <sup>th</sup> ST 6BS Racine, WI 53403 262.770.4106 vburlinga@aol.com
Callewaert, Roger 4840 N Main ST Racine, WI 53402 262.633.5170	Dawson, Kate 132 Lakefield Court Wind Point, WI 53402 262.639.5343 patandkatie@gmail.com
Dickert, Dixie 4401 Washington AVE Racine, WI 53405 262.930.1846 dldickert@aol.com	Dietzler, William 4127 81 <sup>st</sup> Place Kenosha, WI 53142 262.497.8738 wdietzler@wi.rr.com
Dougherty, Geri 9048 16 <sup>th</sup> Ave. #204 Kenosha, WI 53143 262.515.7173 geridougherty214@gmail.com	Drake, Darlene 9831 81 <sup>st</sup> Place Pl. Prairie, WI 53158 262.947.0603 ddrake12345@yahoo.com
Nancy Dyke 3067 25 <sup>th</sup> ST Kenosha, WI 53144 262.551.9963 dyke.n@sbcglobal.net	Fournier, Suzanne 3312 47 <sup>th</sup> AVE Kenosha, WI 53144 262.764.9619 fourniersuz@gmail.com
Hansen, JoAnn 3424 Daisy Lane Racine, WI 53405 262.554.7030 Jhansen120@wi.rr.com	Klabo, Mark & Sheree 3438 Elm Tree Court Racine, WI 53405 262.554.7881 msklabo@att.net
Knudson, JoAnn 3116 Kearney AVE Racine, WI 53403 262.554.0615	Lee, Judith 9406 14 <sup>th</sup> ST Kenosha, WI 53144 262.859.2304 jlee118@wi.rr.com

Maletis, Kay 2923 Old Mill Drive Racine, WI 53405 262.632.1927 kaymaletis@yahoo.com	Miller, Claudia 11447 8 <sup>th</sup> AVE Pl Prairie, WI 53158 262.496.7373 clueddy830@hotmail.com
Modory, Terry 2422 73 <sup>rd</sup> ST Kenosha, WI 53143 262.652.2354 tmodory@sbcglobal.net	Muzenski, Ann & Bob 414 Green Valley DR MT Pleasant, WI 53402 262.884.0187 muzenski@att.net
Noer, Linda 6117 5 <sup>th</sup> AVE Kenosha, WI 53143 262.657.5438 lnoer@carthage.edu	Randolph, Amy 1440 Wisconsin AVE Racine, WI 53403 262.632.1328 arandolph2@wi.rr.com
Rutchik, Mary 4113 Prairie Village DR Kenosha, WI 53142 262.818.2644 mbrutchik@gmail.com	Schell, Kristine 3011 14th AVE S. Milwaukee, WI 53172 414.571.1478 kschell11@att.net
Taskonis, Karen 2600 20 <sup>th</sup> Place Kenosha, WI 53140 262.551.0323 rtaskonis@wi.rr.com	Thomson, Alice 406 16 <sup>th</sup> ST Racine, WI 53403 262.637.0985 alice.thomson@uwmalumni.com
Tigges, Barbara 3200 Island Club N #16 MT Pleasant, WI 53405 262.554.4866 bjtigges@wi.rr.com	Tsokatos, Jean 1850 Raintree Lane Racine, WI 53406 262.939.4991 jtsokatos@wi.rr.com
Ventura, Pat 7822 42 <sup>nd</sup> AVE Kenosha, WI 53142 262.654.6684	