

Draft Brochure Summer-Winter 2017

-June-

Norway's Untold Stories: 1940-1945

Tuesday, June 13, 1:30-3:30 P.M.

Dr. Jan Hansen was 10 years old when the occupation of Norway by the Nazis began five long and frightening years from 1940-1945. Stories about insurgent actions, sabotage, heroism, and escapes have been told and retold. Even most Norwegians do not generally know stories about the deceit and tactics of Vidkun Quisling's National Sampling Party, about the horrors of the prisons, labor camps and POW camps. Also less well known are stories about "scorched earth" tactics, which devastated the land as the Nazis retreated from the Russian advance in Northern Norway. Dr. Hansen and his family immigrated to the U.S. after WWII when he was 14 years old. He attended St. Olaf College and became an economics professor at UW Eau Claire. He will focus on these untold stories.

Great Decisions:

Session 5-Geopolitics of Energy

Monday, June 19, 11:00 A.M. -1:30 P.M.

Special Event:

Note Location and Time

Climate Change: Trends and Impact on Northern Minnesota

Friday, June 23, 1:30-2:30 P.M, Salem Lutheran Church, Deerwood

Paul Douglas, meteorologist, will discuss how climate change is affecting Minnesota's weather and weather dependent activities. While best known for his weather reports for 35 years on radio and television, he is also an inventor, serial entrepreneur and founder of several companies that have developed cutting edge weather apps and weather visual effects for films such as *Twister*. He appears monthly on TCPT Almanac and writes for the Star Tribune and has published two books: *Prairie Skies* and *Restless Skies*.

-July-

Mining Our History: Why Did the Union Win the Civil War?

Tuesday, July 11, 1:30-3:30 P.M.

From April 1861 until 1863, the Union struggled to defeat the Confederate States of America and to unite the United States. Then in 1863 everything began to change. Why? This program highlights the challenges the United States overcame as well as

interlocking factors, strategies and tactics that ultimately led to the Union winning the war against the Confederacy. Pam Brunfelt returns to tell this history of the Civil War. She is a history instructor at Vermillion College and a frequent guest speaker on local history issues.

-August-

U.S. Foreign Policy: Will Threatened Nations “Push Back”?

Tuesday, August 8, 1:30-3:30, reception to follow

Former U.S. Foreign Diplomat, Tom Hanson, will explore the latest U.S. foreign policy trends and challenges. Increasing populism, nuclear security issues, shifting alliances, increasing globalization and international trade may produce attitudinal changes from countries worldwide. Reactions toward shifting U.S. policies including “push back” will be discussed. Tom Hanson is a former U.S. Foreign Service Officer. He was posted in East Germany, France, Norway, Sweden and the Soviet Union and also participated in opening new embassies in Mongolia and Estonia. He currently serves as Diplomat in Residence at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. There will be a reception for Tom Hanson after the presentation for attendees who would like to discuss more about the topic at nearby Hallett B&B, 3:45 P.M.

-September-

Winter Dreams, A Discussion

Tuesday, September 12, 1:30-3:30 P.M.

Winter Dreams, a short story by F. Scott Fitzgerald, is considered to be one of his best, written in and about the 1920s. Most critics see it as a preview to his greatest novel, *The Great Gatsby*, exploring several similar themes. Young Dexter Green from St. Paul relentlessly pursues great wealth and Miss Judy Jones who seems to personify his extravagant desires. He has mixed success in his pursuits. Jack Hickerson, retired professor of literature at Southwest State Mn, will lead discussion with a short film depicting Fitzgerald with his flamboyant wife Zelda, a snapshot of the roaring twenties.

Great Decisions:

Session 6-Latin America’s Political Pendulum

Monday, September 16, 11:00 A.M. -1:30 P.M.

-October-

Wild and Free Rehabilitation Program

Tuesday, October 10, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

The Wild & Free Wildlife Rehabilitation Program is a non-profit organization that rescues injured and orphaned wild animals, treats them and attempts to release them back into the wild. It is run by a very dedicated group of volunteers who donate their time and money to help all the animals they receive. Approximately 500 animals are treated per year ranging from small songbirds to hawks, owls and eagles, small bunnies, fawns, fox, coyote, bears. Wild and Free is the only facility in the state of Minnesota licensed by the Minnesota DNR and the Fish & Wildlife Service to take in and treat bears? Bob and Char Wrobel will be presenting pictures and stories.

Western Political Philosophy: Oct. 16&17, Ruttgers Bay Lake

Monday & Tuesday, Oct.16 and 17th overnight at Ruttgers

The Great Debate

In the decade before adoption of the US Constitution in 1789, an ongoing debate took place between Edmund Burke and Thomas Paine, two philosophers and political theorists of the Age of Enlightenment. Their thought will form the basis of our study for our annual conference at Ruttger's this as we focus on how both a conservative philosophy and a liberal-progressive theory came into being. Those differing views govern our political debate to this day and will give historians an analytical tool for better understanding the Election 2016. This Ruttger's Conference of 2017 will search for further insight into these issues.

For over 10 years Merritt Marquardt has led discussions of issues in Western philosophy. He will suggest reading material in advance of the seminar. Meals and overnight stay included in fee. RSVP by September 15. Contact Margaret Lunacek for cost and details, 218.678.2926 .

Great Decisions:

Session 7-Prospects for Afghanistan and Pakistan

Monday, October 16, 11:00 A.M. -1:30 P.M.

-November-

Central Lakes College: Assessing the Future of CLC

Tuesday, November 14, 1:30-3:30 P.M

Hara Charlier joined Central Lakes College July 2016 as the new president. She has a science background and most recently worked for Virginia Highlands Community College, Va. She has experience as instructor, dean and interim vice president at several rural community colleges in Virginia and Ohio. She will discuss her vision for meeting the needs of CLC's future through collaboration with faculty, staff, students and key community partnerships.

Great Decisions:

Session 8-Challenges of Nuclear Weapons

Monday, November 20, 11:00 A.M-1: 30 P.M.

-December-

Year-End Party

December 7, 4:00-6:30 P.M.

Mark your calendar for the third year-end party. The venue, food and entertainment to be determined. Stay tuned.