

GET BACK IN CLASS THIS FALL WITH VERITAS!

The Fall term is right around the corner! Curriculum Chair Judith Skretny and the Curriculum Committee have put together a schedule that is sure to please! Hopefully there will be so many classes that interest you that you will make Veritas your full-time “job” (retirement is all about filling up your free time, right?)

Veritas is once again living up to our goal: **providing engaging instructors with thought-provoking topics in flexible learning formats.** While we are always evolving and refining, this core standard will never change.

Highlighted on the following pages are our twenty-one six-week courses, six three-week courses, and Lunch & Learn program that fill this Fall schedule. Classes will run all day, with the first class beginning at 10 am and the last class of the day beginning at 6 pm.

The Fall catalog is scheduled to be emailed on Wednesday, September 4th. Online registration will open on our website at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, September 11th and run until September 22nd. Classes begin on September 30th and run through November 8th. The membership fee remains at \$50 for the Fall term, with six-week courses costing \$30 each and three-week courses costing \$15 each.

Fall 2024 – Key Dates to Remember

Veritas Fall Catalog Emailed to Members – September 4

Fall Registration Opens – September 11 at 9 am

Prospective Member Information Session – September 11 at 2 pm

Curriculum Kick Off – September 11 from 2 pm – 4 pm

Fall Registration Closes – September 22

Confirmation Emails Sent – Week of September 23

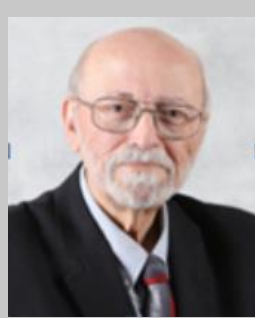
Fall Classes Begin – September 30

A SNEAK PEEK AT FALL CLASSES

Our Veritas fall term begins with a Monday full of insightful zoom courses. Dennis Wiseman will present on *Lighthouses of the Great Lakes, How They Work, Their Locations and History*, followed by Bud Spalding's *New Amsterdam, Before It Became New York*. Sandra Cherry returns with new *Chautauqua Lectures* and Mike Williams introduces us to the landscape of the *US Supreme Court 2023-2024*. Lastly, Bob Tiell will explore *The Changing Landscape of College Basketball: NIL, the Portal and Much More*.

Join in person for our Tuesday courses! We will return to the well-reviewed Flash Cube building for *The Old Man and the Sea, and a Few Short Stories by Ernest Hemingway* with Barry Chafin and *Faith, Reason, and Science: Pointing to God* with Tom Kennedy. Visit Bellarmine's campus in the afternoon for *Listening to Lincoln: A Close Reading and Discussion of Six Significant Speeches* with Don Whitfield. A.T. Simpson and Jim Bahr will close out Tuesday with their respective courses, *The Most Segregated Hour* and *Scotch, Irish and World Whiskey*.

Wednesday offers a mix of new and returning courses in both in person and hybrid classroom styles. Wednesday will open with 3-week courses on the *Impact of Hearing Loss* and *Nutrition and Cognition*. The



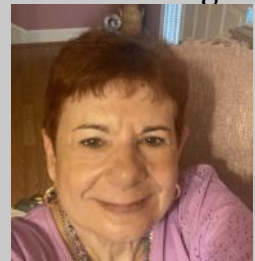
Bob Tiell



Tom Kennedy



Susan Irving



Panzi Panzera



Brad Asher

popular *Tour of Olmsted Parks* brought to you by Denise Davis is back. Adrienne Regnier will share *A Brief History of Feminism* and Eric Schmall entertaining with his much-loved *Greatest Comedy Movie Teams* course, this time from 1920 to 2000. Lynn Meckler returns with a new art course: *Art and War: In the Best of Times and the Worst of Times, the Human Spirit Produces Art*. Susan Irving welcomes us to explore our city's past in *Louisville: A Century Ago*.

Thursday continues our mix of in-person & hybrid courses. We will open the day with two three-week courses related to *Self-Defense* and *Physical Therapy*. Marilyn Schorin will present on *The Age of Revolutions: Progress and Backlash from 1600 to the Present* by Fareed Zakaria and Panzi Panzera will explore the life and work of *Tennessee Williams: An American Treasure*. Rocky Yates has prepared a course on *Fictional Detectives from Mystery and Suspense Literature* while Mike Marple will present on the *Great American Songbook 1946-??*. Brad Asher will guide us through *Kentucky During the Civil War*.

As in the past, Fridays will begin with *Lunch and Learn*, a program with new, insightful presenters each week on a variety of subjects, followed by a lunch in the University Dining Hall to discuss the topic with fellow Veritas members. After lunch, finish out the week with a movie! Sandra Cherry will present *Friday at the Movies: Films of Courage, Determination, and Suspense*.

Housekeeping Reminders to Improve Classroom Experience

Below are a few items to keep in mind when joining classes to provide positive classroom experiences for yourself and other Veritas Members!

Zoom

- Save Zoom links for each class—you will use the same one each week!
- Allow yourself adequate time to join the meeting and ensure your equipment is working.
- Change your display name to your full first and last name for attendance.
- Keep yourself muted unless asking a question/participating in discussion.
- If you can see yourself on screen, everyone else can see you too! Keeping your camera on is encouraged, but be mindful of your activities and surroundings as they can distract others.

In Person

- Be on time for class and wait in the designated area until it is time to enter the classroom.
- Check yourself in each week on the attendance sheet.
- Silence your cellphone.
- Keep conversations to a bare minimum. Chatter is distracting to others and in hybrid classes can make it impossible for virtual attendees to hear.
- Be respectful of peers.
- Clean up after yourself! Be respectful of the classroom space.
- Exit the classroom when class is over— chances are another class needs to use the space!

The Role of Facilitators in the Classroom

After a successful revamp of the facilitator roll this past Spring, in an effort to improve our classroom management and create a consistent and uniform classroom environment, we are in the preparation stages to continue into the Fall term.

Veritas Facilitators will be responsible for attendance and making special announcements, but they will now also take on the role of giving classes a formal start and end, as well as introduce the classroom etiquette video that will play at the start of class.

Facilitators will be assigned from class rosters after registration begins, using the list of facilitator volunteers. A training session will be held before the start of the term for all facilitators.

The Veritas Office is recruiting new facilitators. If you are interested in serving as a facilitator, please email us at Veritas@bellarmine.edu.

This is an excellent way to volunteer your time when you will already be attending a class!

FRIDAY LUNCH AND LEARN: GUEST SPEAKERS AND FOOD!

Once again this term we will gather on Friday mornings on campus to hear from guest speakers on significant and interesting topics.

Lunch and Learns are paid for individually during registration and include the speaker's presentation and lunch in the University Dining Hall. The University Dining Hall (UDH) offers all-you-care-to-eat restaurant-quality food from the steam table, grill, salad bar, sandwich station, dessert station, and more!

Each of the six programs will begin with the speaker in the George Brown Center, Clayton Hall, room 234 (unless attendance requires a larger space). The presentation will begin promptly at 10:30 am. When you check in with the Lunch & Learn Coordinator in the classroom, you will receive a ticket that is valid for lunch—that day only—in the University Dining Hall, located right downstairs.

The Speakers:

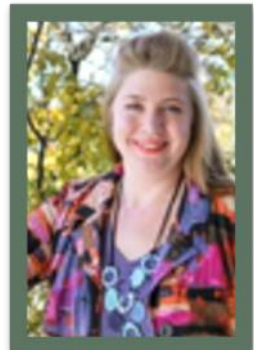
October 4: Keeping Your Water Flowing

Barbara Crow, Strategic Communications Consultant, Louisville Water Company, though officially retired after thirty years as a water utility professional, continues to spearhead Louisville Water's outreach efforts, communicating the company's work, the quality of Louisville's water, and any new initiatives that may need community support. She spends much of her time teaching water-related health in the local schools. Barbara grew up in Louisville, graduated from WKU, and is a two-time cancer survivor.



October 11: The History of the Kentucky Derby in Ten Objects.

Jessica Whitehead, Curator of Collections for the Kentucky Derby Museum, is the author of *The History of the Kentucky Derby in 75 Objects*, published this year to coincide with the 150th Run for the Roses. A graduate of Hanover College, Jessica is an art historian who has also recently published *Driftwood: The Life of Harlan Hubbard*.



October 18: (TENTATIVE) Election Year Update

We are in discussion with **Congressman Morgan McGarvey** to brief us on the political scene, as he did at this time last year. As is probably understandable, the Congressman is unable to give a firm commitment this far out, so keep your fingers crossed—and keep your eyes on your email!



October 25: Passionate About Conservation

Kristin Faurest, Executive Director, River Fields, which is the largest and oldest river conservancy on all 981 miles of the Ohio River. Kristin, who recently replaced Meme Sweets Runyon as the head of the organization, has a Ph.D. and professional background in landscape gardening. She most recently served as director of the Training Center at the Portland Japanese Garden in Oregon, and the head of the education team at Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, before taking her current position.



November 1: The Play's the Thing: Growing Kentucky Shakespeare

Matt Wallace, Producing Artistic Director, Kentucky Shakespeare, returns to Veritas to bring us up to date on all the recent developments at America's oldest continually operating free Shakespeare festival, held every summer in Central Park, with offerings in other venues throughout the year. Matt became Producing Artistic Director of the company in 2013, but in addition to his leadership role, he has been an award-winning director and actor with Kentucky Shakespeare since 2001.



November 8: Louisville Parks' Recent Successes

Brooke Pardue, President and CEO, Louisville Parks Foundation, was the organization's first full-time leader when she became CEO in 2017. She had previously served as Congressman John Yarmuth's assistant for ten years. The Foundation is a non-profit with a special focus on making quality parks available to all in Louisville.



Veritas Membership Benefits

Since becoming a Veritas member, you may have wondered what your Veritas membership is really getting you. Sure, you now have the ability to register for classes, but why else are you paying that fee? See below for a listing of the many great benefits of the Society!

- Register for classes of interest. No prerequisites, tests, or grades!
- Access to year-round activities: lectures, Distance Dialogues, field trips, & social events
- Free parking on campus, full use of Bellarmine Library & SuRF Center
- Free Admission to most Bellarmine Athletic Events
- Bellarmine Veritas Student ID card
- "Student" Discounts at local community partners with Student ID card

Check out our [Membership Handbook](#) for details about membership benefits.

Veritas Society Day Trip: A Visit to My Old Kentucky Home & Talbott Tavern Wednesday, September 18, 2024



Tour Details:

- 8:30 Board the charter coach at Bellarmine
(location will be given in confirmation email)
- 8:45 Coach departs
- 10:00 Arrival at my Old Kentucky Home, Bardstown, KY
- noon Lunch at Talbott Tavern
- 2:00 Coach departs for Bellarmine
- 3:00 Arrive back at Bellarmine

Explore the 200 year old mansion and plantation of the Rowan family. Stories of deadly duels, horse racing, fortune, fame, demise, all alongside original fine antiques, & significant architectural spaces. We have specialized our tour of the halls and rooms of one of America's most famous and celebrated landmarks. See portraits and paintings by renown artists, some of the finest examples of American antiques, and listen to the stories of famous guests and family members of Federal Hill, all explained by your tour guide who will be wearing the latest in 1850s antebellum fashions!

Following the tour and time to explore the grounds, the charter bus will take the group to lunch at the Talbott Tavern. Lunch choices are detailed when purchasing tickets at the below link.

Cost: \$90 - which includes comfy charter bus transport, My Old Kentucky Home admission and tour, tasty lunch at Talbott Tavern, and tips for driver and food servers

Reservations must be made by Wednesday, September 4.
Bus capacity is 55 participants.

[Register Here!](#)



2024 Wyatt Lecture

September 6th

4 pm at Frazier Hall

Admission is free and open to the public, but those who plan to attend are asked to register by Sept. 2 at the [Wyatt Lecture Series website](#).

FALL PROSPECTIVE MEMBER INFORMATION SESSION

The Veritas Society is always accepting and recruiting new members! The Promotion Committee will be hosting an Information Session on Wednesday, September 11th at 2 pm on Bellarmine's campus and on Zoom for those interested in joining Veritas.

Membership is open to those retired or semi-retired, 50 years and older, who want to keep their minds active, open, and growing. Membership is no longer restricted to those in the Louisville area due to the availability of Zoom and Hybrid courses.

We encourage you to invite your friends to attend the information session to hear what Veritas is all about! They can RSVP by emailing veritas@bellarmine.edu. Specific location information will be sent to those that RSVP.

FALL CURRICULUM KICK-OFF

The Veritas Board of Directors, Curriculum Committee, and Fall Presenters invite you to join us for our Curriculum Kick-Off on Wednesday, September 11th from 2 – 4 pm. This drop-in event will allow you to socialize with Veritas friends over light refreshments, receive registration help if needed, and meet the Fall Presenters who will be previewing their classes. The event will be held in Hillary's in the Centro building.



VERITAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDS YOU!

As you know, Veritas at Bellarmine is a wonderful, fulfilling program. It's a story we want to continue sharing with senior groups throughout the community. To do that, we need additional enthusiastic, willing volunteers to join our "Veritas Vocal Volunteers" team in making presentations. **So that means we want you!**

The PowerPoint presentation is already created. The senior groups are/will be established. Dates and times will be arranged. Each volunteer will be paired with another. To get a taste of how easy and fun it is, you could shadow a presentation if you'd like.

If you are willing to share our Veritas story and have some fun in the process, contact Herb Shulhafer at johnakaherb@gmail.com or Don Snow at don.snow46@gmail.com. We are also always looking for senior groups to present to. You can send contact information for those groups to the emails above.

MEET DONALD WHITFIELD

How long have you been a Veritas member? How would you describe your experience in the organization?

I participated in Veritas for the first time in the Spring of 2024 as a class leader. My class had 25 students and attendance was consistently good, perhaps because of strong interest in the timely topic, the nature of the US Presidency. I am not an academic lecturer, but rather a discussion leader, and the participants responded well. As in most adult non-credit continuing education programs, the Veritas students were clearly in the class for intellectual enrichment and the love of life-long learning.

What is your professional or career background?

After college, I worked for several years as an editor at Encyclopaedia Britannica in Chicago. Looking for a more stimulating work environment, my occupation for the next fifteen years was designing and producing multi-media presentations for corporate meetings and conferences. For much of the 1980's I was based in California's Silicon Valley. Then I shifted to the non-profit educational world and worked as Vice President for Adult Education and Community Programs at the Great Books Foundation in Chicago, from which I retired in 2017 after eighteen years. In this position, among other responsibilities, I trained adult discussion group leaders and conducted many discussion-based courses in continuing education programs in the United States and in Toronto, Ontario.



You are offering a class on Lincoln speeches. What sparked your interest in this topic?

The class is based on six key speeches of Abraham Lincoln that were delivered in the years leading up to and during the American Civil War. Many of the political and social fracture lines that characterize that period are familiar to us in 2024. Lincoln understood that his times were fated to grapple, in a particularly violent way, with many unresolved issues that had been raised at the founding of the United States in 1776, and in 1787, when the Constitution was drafted. These issues, still with us today, may be inevitable aspects of a representative republic. The intention of this course is to provide an opportunity to gain perspective on these unresolved issues by looking at them through some of Lincoln's public addresses, stepping back from election-year frenzy, and, I hope, achieving some understanding of our ongoing responsibilities for "the perpetuation of our political institutions," as Lincoln said in his 1838 Lyceum Address.

I hear you have an unusually impressive record collection. How would you describe it?

I am less impressed than my friends by the inordinate number of vinyl records that I have moved cross-country several times. They constitute an accumulation, not a collection. They are primarily recordings of what is loosely called "classical" music and are a portal to much music that I would rarely, if ever, be able to hear in a concert hall. Although I am the first to admit that a recording cannot capture the *frisson* of a live performance, listening at home,

late at night when the electrical power grid is putting out purer amplitudes of sine waves, without the distraction of other concertgoers, can be an exhilarating experience.

What makes you laugh?

I laugh at myself when daylight fades into darkness or a closed bud opens and sheds its bloom almost as soon as it emerges, because of my presumption in expecting that it could be otherwise.

Who inspires or did inspire you?

People who make the well-being of others essential to their self-interest and whose goodness has an edge to it.

Describe yourself in three words.

Always lavishly ascetic .

What is your most vivid childhood memory?

My first view of the flowering of hundreds of water lilies along the banks of the St. Joseph River in northern Indiana, around the summer of 1952. I hadn't seen them before and asked my grandmother where they came from. Her answer, that they came from the previous year's lilies, did not satisfy me because at some primordial childish level, it dawned on me that there could be lilies back and back and back, year before year, without limit, and the wonder of infinity's gulf opened to my awareness, never to close again.

What is the best piece of advice you ever received?

There are three: The poet Mark van Doren advised me in 1965 not to miss "the big thing". When I asked what that might be, he replied, "You won't know until you've missed it."

My friend and mentor, Sidney Hyman, at the age of 103, advised me to keep in mind that none of us is self-created.

And my father said that when lost in the mountains, always go downhill, as water flows, since there will inevitably be a stream, a bridge, and a road for returning. An upward course, he said, leads only to more confusion, even though the prospect of a view from the heights might be seductive.

Is there a material object in your house that means a lot to you?

There are two: A red clay brick from Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello (please don't ask how I got it - I was ten at the time). I sometimes wonder about the person who shaped it to fulfill the vision of his owner.

And a WWII German artillery shell casing mounted on a polished marble base and made for my father by a POW in exchange for a package of cigarettes. It has displayed a picture of my German-American mother since 1945, looking serene.

What is the most influential book you've read ?

There are two: The novelist John Gardner claimed that there are only two stories of self-discovery: You leave your hometown; or, a stranger comes to town. Homer's *Odyssey* encompasses both and I return to it repeatedly.

And *The Federalist Papers* of Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay. They are for me an inexhaustible touchstone and springboard for pondering the complexity of our ongoing national experiment in self-governance.

IF YOU ARE READING THIS VERITAS VOICE BECAUSE A FRIEND FORWARDED IT TO YOU . . .

Sign up for our mailing list by emailing veritas@bellarmine.edu

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

By Rebecca Beyerle

Five Veritas Board members and our Veritas liaison attended the 2024 Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement. The 3-day conference was held in Lexington, Kentucky and hosted by the University of Kentucky's Office for Lifelong Learning and their Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). Rebecca Beyerle, Donna Edgar, Ann McWilliams, Judith Skretny, Abigail Walsh, and Dennis Wiseman represented the Veritas Society among 140+ attendees from 66 different LLIs (Lifelong Learning Institutes) across 25 states. Collectively, the LLIs share similar challenges, strengths, and opportunities and it is reassuring that our Veritas Society is in line with other senior learning programs around the country. We shared experiences with learning groups of all sizes, some with student numbers in the 200s to others with over 1000 students in their program. At meal times, during breakout sessions, and while enjoying guest speakers, we received insight on how other organizations survived the pandemic and moved forward into the future.

In addition to the idea-sharing opportunities, we were entertained by three keynote speakers who put their spin on "aging" among different Lexington industries. First was Linda J. Van Eldik, the Director of the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging at UK. By studying the brain through a person's life, the Center has done pioneering research on age-related brain diseases to find the answers to dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Her

focus is on dysregulated neuroinflammation. The study collects data from volunteers in the aging process and after their death their brain is donated for research. The second keynote speaker, Michael Blowen, is a prime example of a major life change by going from being a writer for the Boston Globe to becoming the owner and manager of the Old Friends Farm. Old Friends is a retirement farm for Thoroughbreds, providing dignified retirement and equine aftercare to a herd of over 280 retired Thoroughbreds. Michael was quite a comedian too! The final keynote presented by OLLI at UK instructor Diane Vance looked at the science involved in the bourbon-production process and how "Bourbon Gets Better with Age (and So Do We)!"

Breakout sessions covered a multitude of topics including membership growth, recruiting class teachers, and student involvement. Curriculum challenges, successes, failures, and utilizing volunteers were also hot topics.

It was great to see that Veritas is in line with other programs because we promote camaraderie and engagement with our "Lunch and Learn" programs, interest groups, celebrations, social events, field trips, and of course excellent classes! It was an exciting opportunity to spend time with fellow enthusiastic senior learners. Even though we are always searching for improvement, it's wonderful to confirm that Veritas is already a great program!



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Beyond the Veritas classes—and not limited to the 6-week terms—Veritas members are invited to take part in a variety of voluntary interest groups. Here are the ones currently meeting:

The Healthy Eating Group is meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month, eating at various restaurants that specialize in healthy fare. Recent venues have included Wagner's Pharmacy, House of Marigold, and Connor's Steak and Seafood. Contact Barb Simmons at barbsimmons88@gmail.com or Debbie Heuser at debbieheuser@twc.com for reservations or additional information.

Eat and Talk will return after some time off, with the first meeting September 16 at the University Club. Contact Dennis Wiseman at Dennis.sinnedagain@yahoo.com.

The Mystery Book Discussion Group is meeting in person and on Zoom; it meets the first Tuesday of the month from 10:30 p.m. to noon at the Highlands-Shelby Park Library in the Mid-City Mall. Contact Rebecca Beyerle by email at beyerler@gmail.com to receive notices of future book choices.

The Spirituality Interest Group meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, 10:30 a.m., at the Immanuel United Church of Christ, 2300 Taylorsville Road. The group is led by Barbara MacDonald, who has presented classes on Christianity, Spirituality, Cosmology, and Inter-religious Dialogue. For more information or to register, email Barbara at barbpmac@gmail.com.

The Ethnic Lunch Group meets the second Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at various locations for different ethnic food each time. For information and reservations, contact organizer Mary Helen Thompson at (502) 459-5750 or email her at thompsonmaryhelen1@gmail.com.

The Veritas Movie Dinner Group is on a pause as the members seek a new facilitator. If you are interested in organizing this group—which attends a movie each month and then discusses it over dinner—please contact the Veritas office.

SAVE THE DATE:

**Veritas Holiday Luncheon,
Friday, December 13**



WHO WE ARE

Since 1995, Veritas has offered the preeminent learning experience to people over 50 in the Louisville area. Our mission is to keep our minds active, open and growing, with the goals of:

- Understanding our past history and cultural heritage
- Informing members about what is happening around us
- Recognizing changes in the world and finding our place in it

We are retired or semi-retired people: doctors, educators, homemakers, office workers, administrators, artists, laborers, and executives. We are governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership.

WHAT WE DO

We are an active, participatory group that devises and develops its own programs, enlisting the best of regional talent for presentations. We offer a six-week program each fall and spring, and a three-week term in July.

CONTACT US

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Dennis Wiseman '25
Vice President	Rebecca Beyerle '25
Secretary	Bud Spalding '25

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Field Trips	Ann Nunn '26
Lunch & Learn	Bud Spalding & Jonathan Smith '26
Finance	Abigail Walsh
Membership	Maureen Fitzgerald '26
Newsletter	Jonathan Smith
Production	Ron Gordon '26
Promotion	Don Snow '25
Special Events	Sandra Cherry '26
Volunteers	Herb Shulhafer '26
BU Liaison	Abigail Walsh

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Jeff Conner '26	Rose Nett '25
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