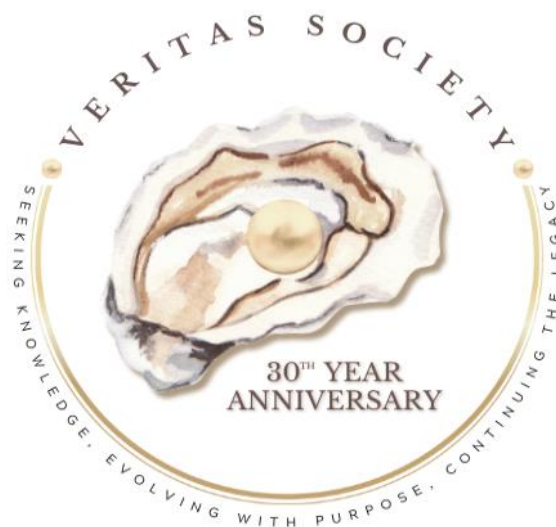


VERITAS AT THIRTY: MOVING FORWARD

Veritas is excited to offer a vibrant set of spring classes, beginning in March, giving an opportunity for members to explore new interests, expand their knowledge, and connect with like-minded peers. As always, our classes cover a wide range of topics, ensuring there's something for everyone. As Veritas begins its 30th Anniversary Celebration, join us this spring and help recruit new members to join our lifelong learning program!

Our spring schedule is reflective of the Veritas standard we set out to meet and will continue to strive for when thinking about future curriculums: **providing engaging instructors with thought-provoking topics in flexible learning formats.** While we are always evolving and refining, this core standard will never change.

Twenty-six courses fill the Spring schedule and are highlighted on the next page. Lunch and Learn will continue to be held on campus, with lunch to follow in the University Dining Hall. The Spring catalog is scheduled to be emailed on Wednesday, January 29th. Online registration will open on our website at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, February 5th and run until February 23rd. Classes begin on March 3rd and run through April 11th. The membership fee remains at \$50 for the Spring term, with 6-week courses costing \$30 each and 3-week courses costing \$15 each.



Spring 2025 – Key Dates to Remember

Veritas Spring Catalog Emailed to Members – January 29th

Spring Registration Opens – February 5th at 9 am

Prospective Member Information Session – February 5th at 1:30 pm

Curriculum Kick Off – February 5th from 2 – 3:30 pm

Spring Registration Closes – February 23rd

Confirmation Emails Sent – Week of February 24th

Spring Classes Begin – March 3rd

A SNEAK PEEK AT SPRING CLASSES

As we begin 2025, delve into your “Inner Life” with a variety of intriguing subjects. Start your morning exploring the Enneagram Personality Types, then “Discover How Your Personality Influences Your Relationships” with Christine Adams. Discuss the question, “How Should I Live My Life?” by examining ethical theories with Tom Kennedy. Michael Rousse will survey world

women throughout history with Jonathan Smith. And examine stories that are close to home in “Home and Beyond: An Anthology of KY Short Stories,” presented by Barry Chafin.

Expand your global knowledge with “The World” category. Dennis Wiseman will begin the week with The Great Courses “Board Games of the



Christine Adams



Tom Kennedy



Barry Chafin



Dennis Wiseman

religions throughout history and cultures as “A Path to Understanding Other Worldviews,” and in “Who Do You Say I Am?” Barbara MacDonald will cast Jesus in a new light—both as a historical and religious figure.

Is reading more one of your New Years Goals? Our “Literature” category is here to help. Adrienne Regnier will take students through the witty and thought-provoking book *Young Jane Young*. Study poetry from African American

Ancient World,” and Eric Schmall will follow with “Recognizing and Resisting Authoritarianism: A Quest to Restore Democracy.” Question the way historical figures and events are commemorated through monuments and memorials with Brad Asher’s “Remembering History, Forgetting History” and explore “International Issues and Challenges” with John Sistarenik. Lastly, learn about Winston Churchill, “The Greatest Briton,” presented by Don Graeter.



Eric Schmall



Brad Asher



Don Graeter



Mike Williams

Our “Arts and Entertainment” category includes a Zoom class exploring “Louisville’s Art Scene” with local art experts joining each week as the speakers. Enjoy a variety of Grace Kelly 1950’s movies selected by Bud Spalding during “Fridays at the Movies.”

In our ever-popular “Americana” category, Mike Williams will examine civil rights and pertinent court cases, while Donald Whitfield will present “De Tocqueville’s Democracy in America.” Dive into the struggles and triumphs of the Transcontinental Railroad with Jeff Conner and join Don Meade in a survey of John C. Breckinridge’s fascinating life. Larry Chandler will cover a “Brief History of Kentucky Prisons,” and Denise Davis

will take us through a virtual tour of New York City’s Central Park.

Sandra Cherry will kick off the “Applied Knowledge category” with a continuation of the Chautauqua lecture series, this time with lectures on Happiness, Wellness, AI, Climate Change, and more! Curious about veganism? Amy Holley will define a “Whole Food Plant-Based Diet” and why it may be suitable for you. Uncover the fantastic world of fungi and its surprising uses with Sheryl Schneider. Become an “Active Knight” under the guidance of an Exercise Science student and learn useful exercises on workout equipment in the Bellarmine SuRF Center.



Donald Whitfield



Jeff Conner



Don Meade



Denise Davis



Sandra Cherry

DID YOU HEAR THE QUESTION?

One of the classroom management areas of focus for the spring is going to be “**questions**”. Our Production Team and Facilitators will coordinate with Presenters on how questions should be addressed. Some Presenters want questions asked when the question arises, others want to wait until the end for all questions. Hybrid instructors will have specific guidelines for how Zoomers should ask their questions. And we are going to make a strong effort to repeat all questions so that everyone – classroom participants or Zoomers – can hear what was asked. We hope this is something that will set expectations from the start of class and make a noticeable difference in your classroom experience!

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!

BY WONDERFUL COINCIDENCE . . .

As Veritas turns THIRTY, so does our peerless Liaison, Abigail Walsh, born January 20, 1995. Wish Abigail a happy thirtieth, and thank her for all she does to keep Veritas humming along!



FRIDAY LUNCH AND LEARN IS SET

Once again this term we will gather Friday mornings on campus to hear from guest speakers on significant and interesting topics. Because of classroom availability, the start time has been moved from 10:30 to 11:00. Spring Lunch & Learn only has 5 weeks due to campus being closed March 7 for Bellarmine Spring Break.

Lunch and Learns are paid for individually (\$12 each) 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 five programs will begin with the speaker in the assigned classroom. The presentation will begin promptly at 11:00 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:

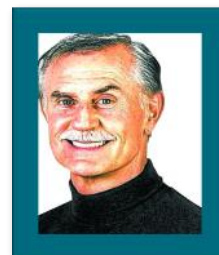


March 14: Bellarmine's Campus Landmarks: Special 30th Anniversary Event

Lynn Meckler, M.A., is a retired art historian who taught classes at the UofL and Bellarmine University for over 20 years. Lynn is a longtime Veritas presenter and Veritas Lifetime Member. Bellarmine University boasts a picturesque campus adorned with distinctive landmarks and sculptures that reflect its history and spirit. Guided from the classroom by Lynn Meckler, explore the sculptures, art, and architecture that make Bellarmine's campus both a cultural and educational treasure. All participants will be given a map noting the locations of the landmarks for self-exploration when it warms up.

March 21: When it Comes to Your Health, What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

Bryant Stamford is a Professor of Kinesiology and Exercise Science at Hanover College, who has also written a weekly Courier-Journal column with health advice for almost fifty years. Of this talk's theme, Bryant writes: "for a civilized country that prides itself on being well informed we are remarkably naïve, if not completely ignorant, about health issues, and it causes us to live sicker and die quicker than almost all industrialized countries in the world."

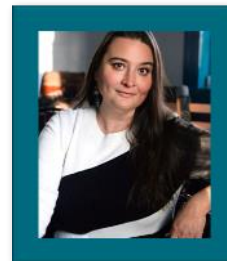


March 28: Smishing, Phishing, and Spoofing—Protecting Seniors from Digital Scams

Paul Troy has been the Senior Crime Victim Advocate at Jewish Family and Career Services since 2022. He has more than twenty years experience in the field of victim advocacy, more than half of that time working with seniors in Jefferson County. He will speak on the recent prevalence of attempted scams via phone or computer.

April 4: The Years Ahead for Locust Grove

Jessica Dawkins is the new Chief Executive Officer of Locust Grove. Jessica brings a passion for storytelling, creative programming, and intentional collaboration to her work. From her local roots to leadership roles across Kentucky and Indiana, Jessica's vision for Locust Grove centers on connecting Louisville's history to the lives of our community today.



April 11: Aging Is Not Optional: How We Handle It — Is Ronald Higdon has over sixty years of pastoral experience, including ten years of intentional interim ministry, and has served churches in Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Texas, and Georgia. He is an author, a certified church consultant, and facilitator. *Aging Is Not Optional: How We Handle It — Is* brings the good news that discussions about aging can bring new purpose, meaning, and hope to all of life—regardless of your present age.

30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: A YEAR TO REMEMBER!

30 Years of Veritas:

Seeking Knowledge, Evolving with Purpose, Continuing the Legacy

The Veritas Office and the Board of Directors are excited to share plans for Veritas' 30th Anniversary celebration, a year-long series of events and initiatives honoring our legacy and looking to the future. Here you see our commemorative logo, which will mark our special events. This logo incorporates our 30th Year motto, the Veritas logo, and the "pearl," a traditional representative symbol of 30 years.

Our celebration kicks off in January with a **special print edition of the Veritas Voice**.

In February, receive a **special commemorative gift** when you attend our Spring Curriculum Kickoff on the 5th at 2 pm in Frazier Hall.

Mingle with other members, talk with the Spring Presenters, and pick up your gift!

In March, we will launch a **"30 Years, 30 Stories" social media campaign**, spotlighting stories and experiences from members, Bellarmine employees, and Veritas partners over the years. March will also feature a special 30th Anniversary Lunch & Learn presented by Lynn Meckler. Learn about the statues and architecture around Bellarmine's campus!

In April, join us for the return of our popular **Veritas Society Trivia Afternoon**. We hope to see

many teams having fun and competing for the top spot!

May's **Spring Celebration at The Olmsted** will be dedicated to our 30th year and will honor all of our members, presenters, and volunteers.

The event on the 6th will be free of charge for all, as Veritas will cover the expenses!

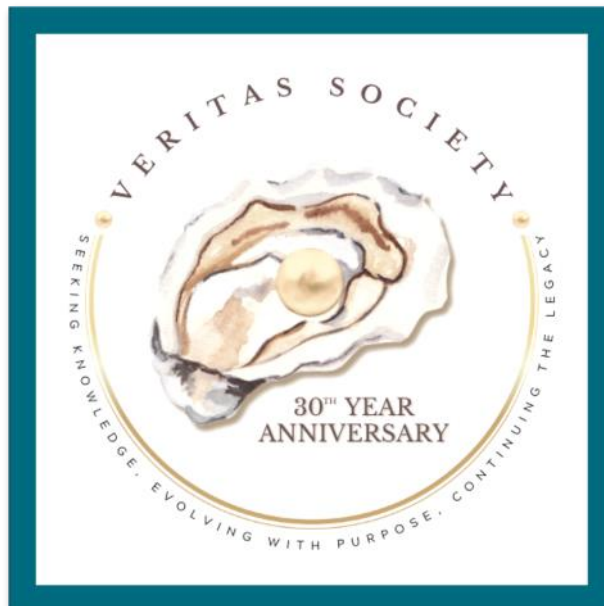
In June, give back to the education community during our **summer mini-field trip series**. Inspired by last summer's initiatives, one day of the week will be dedicated to service-oriented field trips.

In addition to other virtual activities, July will feature a free **"Throwback Thursday" mini-course** on Kentucky's history.

Still in planning, August and September will include a **Special Lecture** co-sponsored by Bellarmine University and an Anniversary-themed field trip.

The celebrations continue into our fall term! In October, we will hold a **Veritas Member Appreciation Week** during the second week of the Fall term.

Make sure to join us in November at a **Veritas Night at the Bellarmine Basketball game**.



SPRING 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, February 5th at 1:30 pm in Frazier Hall on Bellarmine's campus 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! Email veritas@bellarmine.edu to RSVP. Specific location information will be sent to those who RSVP.

SPRING CURRICULUM KICK-OFF

The Veritas Board of Directors, Curriculum Committee, and Spring Presenters invite you to join us for our Spring Curriculum Kick-Off on Wednesday, February 5th from 2 – 3:30 pm. This drop-in event will allow you to socialize with Veritas friends over light refreshments, receive registration help if needed, and meet the Spring Presenters who will preview their classes. A commemorative 30th Anniversary Celebration gift will also be given out at the event! Bring your nametags! The event will be held in Frazier Hall on Bellarmine's Campus.



VERITAS VOCAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDS YOU!

As you know, Veritas at Bellarmine is a wonderful, fulfilling program. Ours is a story the Vocal Veritas Volunteers want to continue sharing with senior groups throughout the community.

To do that, **we need you!** There are 2 ways to get involved:

1. We are looking for connections! Connect us with senior groups—this could be a church, a senior living facility, social clubs, or any other group that meets our “Veritas Member” criteria.
2. We need additional enthusiastic, willing volunteers to present to these groups. The PowerPoint presentation is already created, the senior groups are/will be established, dates and times will be arranged, and 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 assist in sharing our Veritas story, contact co-chairs Herb Shulhafer at johnaka-herb@gmail.com or Don Snow at don.snow46@gmail.com.

JOIN THE VERITAS BOARD

This spring, eight seats on the Veritas Board of Directors will be up for election for a two-year term, running from June 2025 through May 2027.

If you'd like to get on the ballot—which will be emailed to members in March—contact Rebecca Beyerle, board vice president, at beyerler@gmail.com by March 1. Remember, newcomers are often elected to the board, so give it a try!

It's recommended you attend a board meeting before deciding to seek election to see if your skills and interests fit with those of the organization. The next meeting is February 7 on campus. You must have paid membership fees for at least one term within the academic year to be eligible to run.

Being on the board is a great way to meet new people and help design and implement programs and activities. Board members attend about four meetings a year, each lasting two hours. They also chair or serve on committees, including Curriculum, Field Trips, Lunch & Learn, Membership, Newsletter, Production, Promotion, Special Events, and Volunteers. Standing committees also hold meetings, but time commitments are reasonable.

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 and "Student" Discounts at local community partners with Student ID card

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

MEET DON MEADE

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

I joined Veritas last year and was impressed with the class on The Speeches of Abraham Lincoln. I find no figure inspires me more than Lincoln. The most influential book I have read on this subject was *Team of Rivals*, by historian Doris Goodwin.

What is your professional or career background?

I am a recently retired labor and employment law attorney.

You are offering a class on John C. Breckinridge. What sparked your interest in this topic?

I have been a long time casual student of the Civil War era. Although I became familiar with the major political and military figures of that time, I was unaware of John C. Breckinridge, who grew up in Lexington and knew Mary Todd Lincoln's family. When I read the only major biography of Breckinridge, I was astonished to discover a personal, political, military, and family story that rivaled, if not exceeded, those of many better known leaders. I've been hooked on his life story, and its Kentucky roots, ever since. I find that the study of his decisions, when faced

with the momentous moral and political dilemmas of the time, illustrate the agonizing complexities of the struggle between the good and the evil, and makes the story of his life, although he chose treason and rebellion, worthy of consideration.

What makes you laugh?

I laugh heartily at screwball comedy films and some of my wife's jibes.

What is the best piece of advice you ever received?

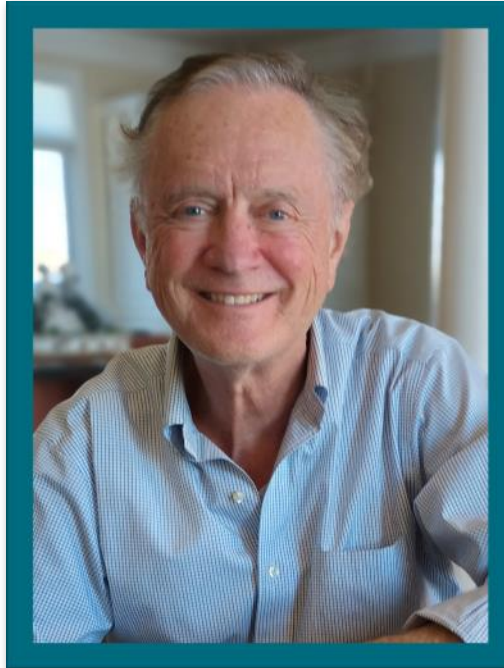
The best piece of advice I ever received was from a female friend who told me to take my college girlfriend more seriously. We will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary this year.

How would you describe a perfect day in Louisville ?

A perfect day out in Louisville would involve the waterfront, a good meal downtown, some drinks, and live music.

Who inspires or did inspire you?

I owe a never ending debt of gratitude to Alice Jane Montgomery, who as a speech and drama teacher at Paintsville High School, pushed me forward into public speaking and dramatic competitions, opening future doors that I never imagined.





HOLIDAY LUNCHEON ON DECEMBER 13

A large, cheerful gathering of Veritas members celebrated the holiday season with a festive luncheon in Frazier Hall. Entertainment before the meal was a sprightly set of Christmas songs by Owen Sammons (piano) and the Calvary Quartet: Mary Redden, Marsha Webb, Harvey Turner, and Alex Redden. Welcoming remarks were given by Veritas President Dennis Wiseman and event organizer Sandra Cherry.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

NEW: DoBU (Do Bellarmine University events): This group will select and attend BU music and theater productions. Events have a nominal charge or are free. Dinner beforehand at BU or nearby is an option. If interested, please email Ann McWilliams at veritasDoBU@yahoo.com. We'll put you on the campus event newsletter email list, then decide as a group which events to attend.

The Healthy Eating Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, eating at various restaurants chosen by the members. Contact Barb Simmons at barbsimmons88@gmail.com or Debbie Heuser at debbieheuser@twc.com for reservations or additional information.

Eat and Talk is a group that gathers for lunch and conversation, usually on the third Monday of the month. Contact Dennis Wiseman at Dennis.sinnedagain@yahoo.com.

The Mystery Book Discussion Group meets in person and on Zoom, on the first Tuesday of the month from 10:30 a.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.

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 with the subject line: Request a Catalog

A SPECIAL INVITATION TO VOLUNTEER

Last summer, Veritas members had the opportunity to spend a day with Feed Louisville, an organization that re-purposes food that would otherwise go to waste, and provides meals for the hungry in our city. Feed Louisville has extended a general invitation to Veritas members who would like to get involved in this vital work.

Visit www.feedlouisville.org/volunteer to learn more.



Load/unload food/donations Do food prep (chopping, peeling, etc.)



Package meals

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 term each fall and spring, and activity throughout the year.

CONTACT US

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Kiersten Monroy — Program Coordinator
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kmonroy@bellarmine.edu

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Curriculum	Judith Skretny '26
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

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Jeff Conner '26	Rose Nett '25
Donna Edgar '25	Marilyn Schorin '25
Ann McWilliams '26	Deloris White '25

