May-June, 2015

The Learning Club invites all members to share ideas for programs and attend programming meetings. The next meeting is 4/27/15 at 9:00 am - History Center

Go green - The Learning Club Newsletter is available online the 15th of even months www.winona.edu/retiree (click The Learning Club on the left navigation bar) You may print a copy or read online Save trees - receive an email copy Sign up – 457-2331

How to Register for Classes and Events:

1. Phone: call 507-457-2331
2. Email: retiree@winona.edu
3. By Mail: The Learning Club, c/o WSU Retiree Center, PO Box 5838, Winona, MN 55987
4. In Person: WSU Retiree Center located on the 1st floor of the WSU Alumni House, 227 West 7th Street (Corner of Winona & Wabasha Streets). Parking is available in the back.

All programs/events requiring an additional fee must be paid in advance of the deadline indicated (by mail or in person as indicated above). Reservation for the program/event is not secured until payment is received.
John Phillip Holland and his vision of the modern submarine

John Philip Holland was born in Liscannor, County Clare, Ireland in 1841. He grew up in a country occupied by the British for 800 years at a time of emerging nationalist fervor fueled by British repression and incompetence in dealing with the Famine. He joined the Irish Christian Brothers (CFC) teaching science, mathematics and music. His studies of birds and sea animals influenced his interest in flying and submersibles. After fifteen years of service he was dismissed from the Brothers. He immigrated to America and while teaching at a LaSallian Christian Brother’s High School started building a prototype submarine subsidized by the Fenians, a revolutionary society. In association with Electric Boat Co., he launched the USS Holland SS1. World War I proved the great potential of submarines as weapons. Holland’s vision of the submarine was fulfilled by the launching of the diesel-electric submarine USS Albacore AGSS569 in 1953 and the nuclear submarine USS Skipjack SSN 585 in 1959.

Bill Crozier is professor emeritus in history at Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota. He taught history there for 29 years and was Archivist till 2013. He is a graduate of the United States Naval Submarine School and served on the USS Chopper SS342 and the USS Sea Poacher SS406 in the Korean and Cold Wars. Bill is the author of the recently published History of the Diocese of Winona. His research interests are Winona History, Irish History, and submarines.

Date: Monday, May 4, 2015
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Winona County History Center

My Favorite Physics Demonstrations – Part 1 – Sound

In my forty years as a physics teacher, I have done many demonstration shows for grade school through college students. These demonstrations have delighted and amazed all age groups. I have found many interesting ways to make sound. The dancing flames, singing rods and Doppler football always please the crowd. In the process, you might learn the physics of sound. The demonstration show will be held in Pasteur Hall 133 on the WSU campus. Finals will be over so there should be plenty of parking available. Dr. Richard Shields taught Physics at WSU for over 40 years before retiring in 2014.

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: WSU Campus - Pasteur Hall 133
International Travel

Who doesn't like to talk about travel? Travel is one of Gordon Hoffert's passions, and as the owner of Passage Tours, it's also his business. Gordon will share the personal journey that led him to becoming a tour operator as well as talking about the joys and challenges of arranging customized travel experiences that go beyond mere sightseeing. Some of the things Gordon will touch on: group travel vs. arranging your own trip, China - a new marketing frontier...and the flat out craziest thing that he ever witnessed on a tour.

**Date:** Wednesday, May 13, 2015  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center – Wanek Room

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Winona County Railroad History

Erik Brom has been a resident of Goodview his entire life and got interested in trains when he received a train set for his second birthday! He has modeled in various scales, and has been an active member of the (now dormant) Winona Railroad Club. In the 1970's he was part of the group that built a model RR at the Winona County Historical Society. In 1990 and 1991, he was a volunteer for the Historical Society's Victorian Express excursion trains. This led to Eric joining the Minnesota Transportation Museum (MTM). He has been a volunteer crew member on the MTM's Osceola & St. Croix Valley excursion operation out of Osceola, WI. He has been a qualified locomotive engineer since about 1999.

This presentation focuses on the early history of railroads in Winona County starting with Minnesota's second railroad, the Winona & St. Peter. It includes the fascinating history of the Winona & Southwestern RR, which had a line from Winona through Rollingstone and up Bear Creek Valley to Altura and beyond. Several "then and now" pictures will also be included.

**Date:** Wednesday, May 20, 2015  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center – Wanek Room
**Birding and Sustainability**

Retired Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge wildlife biologist Tex Hawkins will talk about the connection between birding and environmental sustainability in this presentation. Have you wondered how the drought in California is affecting bird populations in Minnesota? Come and learn about this connection and many other interesting facts about spring birds and the relationship between birding and a sustainable lifestyle.

**Date:** Tuesday, May 26, 2015  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center

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**Winona Bridge Project Update**

Terry Ward is a Project Manager for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) from Rochester, Minnesota. He currently serves as the Project Manager for the $162 million Winona Bridge project, MnDOT’s first Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC) project. He also is managing the $6 million Rural Intersection Conflict Warning System (RICWS) Design Build project, MnDOT’s first Indefinite Delivery / Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) project.

Terry has 29 years of engineering experience with both the public and private sectors and holds a Master’s Degree in Infrastructure Systems Engineering from the University of Minnesota. He has a Civil Engineering Degree from North Dakota State University, is a Registered Professional Engineer and a certified Project Management Professional.

**Date:** Tuesday, June 2, 2015  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center
Minnesota Marine Art Museum

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum is an inspiring, meaningful, and exciting experience. The MMAM exhibits ten or more historical or contemporary exhibitions and hosts educational experiences for thousands of people each year. The Museum's exhibitions and programs are inspired by one of the highest quality collections of art in the country. The Museum’s initial collections focused on traditional marine or maritime art; however, through a collection on long-term loan, today the MMAM is home to a large variety of the greatest European and American masters. The MMAM is the public home to masterpieces by Turner, Monet, Renoir, Van Gogh, Cassatt, Gauguin, Picasso, Matisse, Kandinsky, O’Keeffe, Homer, Wyeth, and many more. Join us for this presentation by the MMAM’s education curator, Heather Casper, and learn more about this amazing museum that sits right in our backyard!

**Date:** Thursday, June 4, 2015  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center

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MN Trout Unlimited Win-Cres Chapter  
**Garvin Brook Project & Fly Fishing the Driftless Region**

Mark Reisetter of Lewiston and Tom Stevens of Stockton are retired educators and active members of the local Win-Cres Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Both men have their early roots in Iowa, but have found Minnesota’s Driftless Area to be a wonderful location in which to live, work, and play.

Six years ago the citizens of Minnesota, in an economic recession, voted to increase their sales tax by 3/8ths of one percent for the benefit of the Arts and the Environment. Statewide, in the first five years of funding, Minnesota Trout Unlimited has received over $11 million from that revenue for Trout Stream habitat improvement. In 2014, the Win-Cres Chapter, in conjunction with MN TU, MN DNR Fisheries, and MN DNR Forestry, completed a 1.2-mile habitat improvement project on Garvin Brook, located between Stockton and Lewiston, along U.S. Highway 14. A description of that Garvin Brook work, including before and after photos, will be the focus of the first half of the presentation. The last part of the program will be an Introduction to Fly Fishing Southeast Minnesota.

**Date:** Tuesday, June 9, 2015  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center
Learning Club Annual Potluck Picnic

Please join us for the annual Learning Club Picnic. The Learning Club will provide sloppy joes, buns, lemonade, tableware and wine, but we ask you to bring a dish to share with the group (salad, casserole or dessert – don’t forget to include a serving spoon!) Door prizes will be awarded.

**Date:** Thursday, June 11, 2015  
**Time:** 11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** La Canne Park, Goodview, MN

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**Human Trafficking**

Topics included in this timely presentation cover defining human trafficking, the intersection of human trafficking and prostitution, Minnesota’s response to human trafficking, resources in our community, what human trafficking cases look like in Winona County, and what we can do.

Ms. Erin Stephens graduated from the University of WI – Madison with her B.A. in political science and legal studies, and obtained her J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law. Ms. Stephens joined the Winona Co. Attorney’s Office in 2014, where she prosecutes a wide variety of criminal cases, specializing in predatory offender registration violations.

Ms. Christina Davenport graduated from the University of MN – Twin Cities with her B.A. in political science and sociology, with a Spanish minor, and then obtained her J.D. from the University of St. Thomas School of Law. Ms. Davenport joined the Winona Co. Attorney’s Office in 2010, where she specializes in prosecuting drug and prostitution cases. Ms. Davenport and Ms. Stephens jointly prosecute all human trafficking cases.

**Date:** Thursday, June 18, 2015  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center

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**THE LEARNING CLUB PRESENTS: HERITAGE SERIES**

**The Pelowski Family**

On July 10th, 2008, a Minnesota Sesquicentennial Certificate was presented to “The Gene Pelowski Sr. Family” in recognition of 150 years of heritage in Winona County, State of Minnesota. Gene Pelowski Jr. continues to add some significant recognitions of his own to the Pelowski (with one “L”) heritage during his tenure with MN State government. Today Gene will share some significant details of his research and personal memories of the Pelowski family.

**Date:** Thursday, June 25, 2015  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Winona County History Center
MYSTERY READERS BOOK CLUB

The Mystery Readers Book Club meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at Callista Court. Members read any work by the author chosen for the month. To begin discussion one member gives a biographic summary of the author and information about his/her work.

Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 - Author: Martha Grimes
      Tuesday, June 23, 2015 – Author: William Kent Krueger
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Callista Court - 1455 West Broadway

STORYTELLING GROUP

September to May - Meeting Date: 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Dates: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 (this is the 4th Wednesday – we had to reschedule due to room availability)
       Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: WSU Retiree Center, WSU Alumni House, 227 West Wabasha.

Visitors or participants are always welcome. New members are welcome to come and listen or participate by telling a short story.

Learning Club Calendar of Events – May/June, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 – Monday</td>
<td>John Phillip Holland – USS Holland</td>
<td>Winona County History Center</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 – Tuesday</td>
<td>Physics Demonstrations</td>
<td>WSU Campus – 133 Pasteur Hall</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
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<td>13 – Wednesday</td>
<td>International Travel</td>
<td>Winona County History Center-Wanek</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<td>18 – Monday</td>
<td>Learning Club Council Meeting</td>
<td>Winona County History Center-Wanek</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 – Wednesday</td>
<td>Railroad History</td>
<td>Winona County History Center-Wanek</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 – Tuesday</td>
<td>Mystery Readers Book Club</td>
<td>Callista Court - 1455 West Broadway</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
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<td>26 – Tuesday</td>
<td>Birding and Sustainability</td>
<td>Winona County History Center</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 – Wednesday</td>
<td>Storytellers Group</td>
<td>WSU Retiree Center/Alumni House</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td>2 – Tuesday</td>
<td>Bridge Construction</td>
<td>Winona County History Center</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<td>4 – Thursday</td>
<td>MN Marine Art Museum</td>
<td>Winona County History Center</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<td>9 – Tuesday</td>
<td>Trout Unlimited – Garvin Brook Project</td>
<td>Winona County History Center</td>
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<td>11 – Thursday</td>
<td>Potluck Picnic</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
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<td>23 – Tuesday</td>
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<td>Callista Court - 1455 West Broadway</td>
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<td>25 – Thursday</td>
<td>Pelowski Polish Heritage</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 – Monday</td>
<td>Learning Club Council Meeting</td>
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Stay Curious – Keep Learning!
Are you looking for an engaging, hands-on learning experience to share with your grandchild? Winona State’s Retiree Center invites you and your grandchild to explore college life and create life-long memories at Grandparent’s University®, June 25 & 26, 2015. Class information and schedules are posted online at www.winona.edu/grandparents.

Find out more at www.winona.edu/grandparents
507.457.5565
jkauphusman@winona.edu