

The InForumer

of the FRONT RANGE FORUM

Winter 2010, VOL. 17, NO. 1

A MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION

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From the Chairman

The fall semester is in full swing. This fall, approximately 120 individuals signed up for one or more of the nine courses and ten new members joined Front Range Forum. Though it seems early, it is already time to select your courses for the winter semester. I hope you will find some courses that will keep you interested, involved, and intellectually stimulated over the winter months. Look inside the newsletter for the course details.

As always, we thank all our facilitators that spend untold hours preparing the courses we enjoy. If you have an idea for a course that you'd like to offer, we'd love to hear from you and work with you to get it into the schedule. Just contact anyone on the Curriculum Board.

We do have an opportunity to run a special course but we need a co-facilitator. Kat Speights, a veterinarian and the owner of Countryside Animal Hospital, is willing to facilitate a course for us on the subject of pets. Since Kat isn't a member, we need to pair her with someone who knows our format and who can help her design a course that will be interesting to our members. If you love pets and would like to help, please call me on 377-2012.

Finally, the Curriculum Board is going to spend some time thinking about what other programs, beyond our courses and Front Range Forum Presents, we might offer to make the Front Range Forum experience even richer. If you have an idea, please pass it on to anyone on the Curriculum Board.

Enjoy the winter semester.

Mac McNeill

Winter Classes Beginning January 11, 2010

Historic Buildings of Fort Collins.	p 2
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Limits of Power.	p 7
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WINTER TERM BEGINS JANUARY 11, ENDS MARCH 5, 2010

MON	January 11	9:00-11:00	Historic Buildings of Fort Collins - Mac McNeill
		11:30 - 1:30	Conversations with Merton & the Dalai Lama - Isabel Garity
		2:00 – 4:00	Where In the World Have You Been? - Milt Thompson
TUES	January 12	2:00 - 4:00	A Matriarchal Monarch: Queen Victoria & Her Children* - Barbara McCormack
WED	January 13	9:00 – 11:00	The Anasazi of Chaco Canyon* - Jack Steele
		11:30 – 1:30	Diseases and Their Effect on Human History* - Mary McClintock
		2:00 – 4:00	13 Books That Changed America* - Bill Marquardt
THUR	January 14	9:00 – 11:00	Let's Go To the Movies - Marlene Duncan & Vivian McBride
		11:30 - 1:30	Medieval Stained Glass - Dan Lipp
		2:00 - 4:00	Limits of Power* - Wayne Moellenberg & Bill Marquardt
FRI	January 15	9:00 – 11:00	Literature Meets Art* - Dale Hein

All classes will be held at the Senior Center, Room AC-1. In the event of a scheduling conflict, please check the Scheduling Board at either entrance to the Senior Center for a possible room change.

* Books for these classes have been ordered from Old Firehouse Bookstore located on 232 Walnut St. in Old Town.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS OF FORT COLLINS



Facilitator: Mac McNeill, 377-2012, mneil0115@comcast.net
Dates: Mondays, January 11 through March 1, 2010
Time: 9:00 AM — 11:00 AM
Text: none

Fort Collins has a rich collection of historic buildings. Over 50 buildings, including the Avery House, the Opera House Block, Ammons Hall at CSU, and the Northern Hotel, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). To be eligible for NRHP listing, the building must have significance, defined as a building:

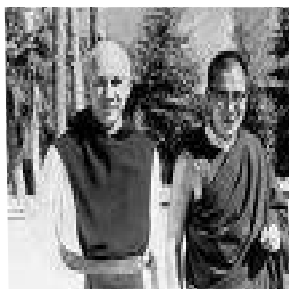
1. That is associated with events, activities, or developments that were historically important; or
2. That is associated with the lives of people who were important in the past; or
3. That displays significant architectural history, landscape history, or engineering achievements.

For eight weeks we are going to explore our historic buildings and, in the process, learn how to research historic buildings and how their stories can add to our knowledge of Fort Collins's history. Each participant will research and present a building, telling us stories about its architecture (or architect), its construction or renovation, why it was built, or its owners or occupants.

Mac McNeill, who has researched a number of Fort Collins' buildings for a book and newspaper articles and Lesley Drayton, the Fort Collins Museum Local History Archivist, will help us through the research process. No book is required but having a little knowledge of computer searches and the Internet would be helpful.

CONVERSATIONS WITH MERTON & THE DALAI LAMA

Facilitator: Isabel Garity, 207-1402, izzygarity@yahoo.com
Dates: Mondays, January 11 through March 1, 2010
Time: 11:30 AM — 1:30 PM
Text: none



For the first time in history, people are beginning to adopt the religion of other cultures and to find inspiration in more than one faith. All emphasize an ultimate reality, which gives meaning and value to human life.

We will examine sacred time, people, signs, stories, and rituals through the eyes of two great mystics: Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk, and His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet. They met in 1968, shortly before Merton's death. Thereafter the Dalai Lama committed the remainder of his life to fulfilling Merton's wish of bringing the worlds of East and West together in compassion.

No text will be required.

WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU BEEN?

Facilitator: Milt Thompson, 206-9917, ahmajo@attbi.com
Dates: Mondays, January 11 through March 1, 2010
Time: 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM
Texts: none



Do you like to travel? Do you like to hear about other people's trips and adventures? If so, then this may be the class for you. We will tell each other about our interesting and exciting travels all over the world, from Wellington, Colorado to Wellington, New Zealand and every place in between. You can show your pictures, tell us what you learned, talk about who you met and tell us about the food. Everyone in the class will be expected to participate and take turns talking about their favorite travels.

The Senior Center has all of the latest in audio-visual equipment, so you will be able to show your digital camera photos or your old 35 mm slides.

A book is not required unless you want to use it to illustrate your presentation.

This is your chance to tell about your travels to non-relatives.

A MATRIARCHAL MONARCH: QUEEN VICTORIA & HER CHILDREN

Facilitator: Barbara McCornack, 493-0985, barbaram4@juno.com
Dates: Tuesdays January 12 through March 2, 2010
Time: 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM
Text: *Victoria's Daughters* by Jerrold Packard; St. Martin's Griffin; 1998; about \$14



Queen Victoria was one of Britain's longest reigning monarchs. By accident of birth, she gave her name to an age and influenced the identity of an empire. Working with eleven prime ministers, she oversaw the consolidation of the sprawling British empire and the emergence of England as a modern nation. Yet politics may have been less stressful for her than being the mother of nine children.

Prince Albert once wrote her some parenting advice: "It is indeed a pity that you find no consolation in the company of your children. The root of the trouble lies in the mistaken notion that the function of a mother is to be always correcting, scolding, ordering them about and organizing their activities. It is not possible to be on happy, friendly terms with people you have just been scolding." However, his advice was not followed, and she continued her "mothering style" until her death.

Individual presentations will include aspects of Queen Victoria's reign and personal life, as well as focusing attention on each of her nine children, as they and their children played important roles in European history.

THE ANASAZI OF CHACO CANYON



Facilitator: Jack Steele, 224-5761, jack_ws@yahoo.com
Dates: Wednesdays, January 13 through March 3, 2010
Time: 9:00 AM — 11:00 AM
Text: *People of Chaco* by Kendrick Frazier (2005 edition only) paperback for about \$15 at Old Firehouse.
Chaco Canyon by Brian Fagan, hardback (used) for less than \$20 at Amazon.com.

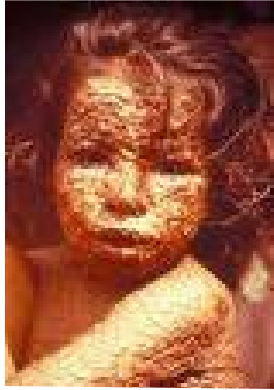
The very name Chaco Canyon invokes images of an inaccessible, vast land of tremendous vistas, and huge, empty stone houses. It is viewed as most inhospitable.

Yet, nearly 1000 years ago, this Canyon was the hub of a flourishing Anasazi society, with Great Houses built of stone, huge Kivas (subterranean ceremonial structures), hundreds of smaller habitation sites, wide roads, excellent watercourses for their agriculture, and an outstanding knowledge of the cosmos. Their control and influence extended across four of the modern U.S. states with as many as 150 "outlier" sites, some larger than the largest Chaco pueblos. Chaco endured for more than three hundred years, always evolving, from about 850 AD to 1150.

It has been called the Chaco Phenomenon since all of their society and culture put together far surpasses anything ever known in prehistoric North America. But there are also mysteries, such as the possibility of violence and cannibalism, as well as questions about their eventual abandonment of their territory. We will survey the rise and fall of Chaco and its empire and will look at lessons from the Anasazi for Modern Life. We will also look at a modern Hopi Indian view of these Anasazi whom they consider their ancestors. Participants will make presentations and some research may be required. The Frazier book (listed above) is strongly suggested for all class members, and some members will need the Fagan book for supplementary material. (At this time, the Fagan book is only available in hardback, most easily from Amazon.)

DISEASES AND THEIR EFFECT ON HUMAN HISTORY

Facilitator: Mary McClintock, 484-5163, mcclintockm@comcast.net
Dates: Wednesdays, January 13 through March 3
Time: 11:30 AM — 1:30 PM
Text: *Disease, the Extraordinary Stories Behind History's Deadliest Killers*, Mary Dobson, 2007 \$13



This class will probe diseases, particularly those which have had an effect on human history. Everyone in the class will give a 25-minute presentation. Subjects to be assigned to class participants include The Black Death, Smallpox, The Silk Road, Vaccines and vaccination, Native Americans and Disease, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Malaria, etc. The class will include a presentation by an employee of the local CDC laboratory and 2 films on diseases.

Throughout history, disease has affected our animals, our crops, our bodies and our societies. Come to learn of the profound effect on our culture.

13 BOOKS THAT CHANGED AMERICA

Facilitator: Bill Marquardt, 416-1601, billmarq@comcast.net
Dates: Wednesdays, January 14 through March 4, 2010
Time: 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM
Text: *Welcome to the Promised Land*



Thirteen books? Who says so? Jay Parini, who made this compendium, says so. But he agrees that there are a lot of other books, as well. His choices include some of those that you probably would include such as *Huckleberry Finn* and *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and others that are a surprise such as *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, and *On the Road*.

Parini approaches each book in four sections: a short introduction, a setting of its time and place, a description of its contents, and finally how the book impacted us, as a country. Each class participant's presentation will follow the the author's sequence and then offer his/her own evaluation of the book's influence. Discussion by all participants will ensue.

Discussion of thirteen books will not fill all of our class sessions, and some participants will be able to pick their own favorite tomes.

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES



Facilitator: Marlene Duncan, 206-1844 and Vivian McBride, 484-5261
Dates: Thursdays, January 15 through March 5, 2010
Time: 9:00 AM — 11:00 AM
Text: none

Director John Ford said, “A great movie evolves from a lie that tells the truth.” The focus of the seventh class of “Let’s Go To the Movies” is to view and discuss eight critically acclaimed films that tell the truth about the human condition, values, and emotions rather than escaping into a Hollywood blockbuster production. We will look at and discuss nominated and award-winning movies that have blended engaging narratives, insightful human relationships, sincere intellectual visions, and imaginative, inventive cinematic styles.

Discussion will be the center of each class. The participants should formulate worthy thought-provoking questions that have “no one right answer.” The discussion questions can be formulated from reviews, the film itself, and, most of all, participants’ perceptions. The weekly class leaders should plan their presentations so that each class will be one-half presentation and one-half discussion.

No specialized knowledge and no textbook will be needed. In order to have a lively, fulfilling discussion, participants must plan to view each film prior to the class session devoted to that film. Participants should view *The Savages* for the first session. Should anyone have questions, please call either of the facilitators.

MEDIEVAL STAINED GLASS



Facilitator: Dan Lipp, 206-9575, lipp@peakpeak.com
Dates: Thursdays, January 15 through March 5, 2010
Time: 11:30 AM — 1:30 PM
Text: none

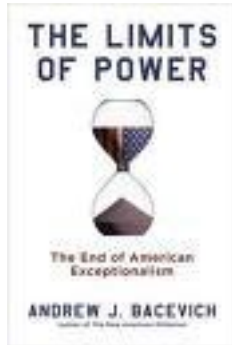
Medieval Stained Glass delights and awes us when we visit the ancient cathedrals of western Europe or see them in pictures. Who did all this? How did they do it? What drove them?

The period we call “Medieval” includes the eleventh to fourteenth centuries, roughly 1000 to 1399 AD. The tradition that created these windows grew out of earlier experience in mosaic and wall painting with developments in glass making and advances in monumental architecture which provided the wall openings to hold them. At this time the Church held unquestioned sway over Europe and had the power and money to create gigantic buildings to glorify God and to symbolize the church’s dominance on earth. The stained glass windows, like the mosaics and frescoes, were teaching tools for the illiterate peasantry of the day as much as they were decorations and sources of light.

In our class, we’ll discuss materials, methods, themes, colors, and the patrons, artists and artisans. Participants will be encouraged to choose a church or cathedral and describe its windows, their history and preservation, and share with us typical illustrations. If possible, we’ll have one or two guest speakers who are experts in the history or the craft.

LIMITS OF POWER

Facilitators: Wayne Moellenberg, 223-2159, waynem@frii.com
 Bill Marquardt, 416-1601, billmarq@comcast.net
Dates: Thursdays, January 14 through March 4, 2010
Time: 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM
Text: *Limits of Power*, Andrew Bacevich



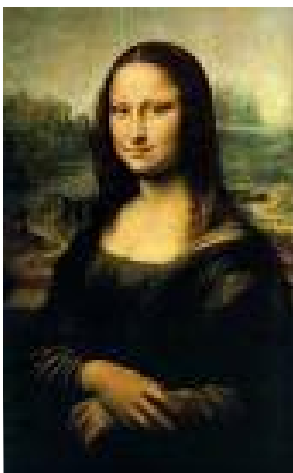
Not many Americans would disagree with the idea that we live in the greatest country in the world. At the same time, we sometimes, as a country, make mistakes. The author of *The Limits of Power*, Andrew Bacevich, makes the case that we have erred in trying to export our concept of democracy to other countries of the world.

The political establishment has assumed that the U.S. has unlimited resources that it could generate a “soft” empire and police the world. The result is that the U.S faces economic, cultural, political and military crises. Bacevich concludes that we, as a nation, must make drastic changes in the way we do things at home and abroad.

Along with the four chapters of *The Limits of Power*, we will discuss some other articles that present differing views of the role of the U.S. in the world. We anticipate spirited discussion on these issues that are so important to the health of our country, not so much for us senior citizens, but more importantly for our grandchildren and their grandchildren.

LITERATURE MEETS ART

Facilitator: Dale Hein, 484-7730. mkd.hein@wdemail.com
Dates: Fridays, January 15 through March 5, 2010
Time: 9:00 AM — 11:00 AM
Text: *Life Studies: Stories*, Susan Vreeland, Penguin Books
 2005, trade paperback < \$15
Girl In Hyacinth Blue, Susan Vreeland, Penguin Books
 1999, trade paperback < \$12



In 15 short stories, author Susan Vreeland wrote historically accurate literary fiction for two purposes: (1) To explore and illuminate the personalities and lives of nineteenth century French impressionist painters, e.g., Renoir, Monet, Morisot, VanGogh, et al. (2) To reveal influences of diverse contemporary art on lives of persons today. Concomitant with these 15 stories, we shall read a short novel in which Vreeland traced the effects of a painting attributed to Dutch master Vermeer on various owners through three centuries.

Class “presentations” will be **brief**. At least once, each participant will present a 10 minute introduction and critique of a story and then lead and stimulate discussion in a 20 minute review by the class, all of whom will have read the stories - less than 50 pages from *Life Studies*, plus one chapter from *Girl In Hyacinth Blue* each week.

WINTER 2010 REGISTRATION FORM — *One member per form*

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____
(last name, first name)

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

_____ If you are a new FRF member and this is your first time registering for a class, please check here.

I would like to be enrolled in **ONE** or **MORE** of the Winter 2010 Courses. If my first preference is over-subscribed and a lottery does not include me, the next preference will be satisfactory.

1. _____

2. _____

_____ I would like to be enrolled in **BOTH** courses if they are available.

If neither is available, I would like to enroll in the following:

3. _____

Please note that your Front Range Forum dues are good for any classes you want to take for a full year.

Registrations accepted through Friday, November 25, 2009.

Please do not sign up for a class if you plan to be away for more than two class periods.

If not present at the Facilitators' Faire
MAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO

Front Range Forum
Fort Collins Senior Center
1200 Raintree Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80526

SEND EMAIL REGISTRATIONS TO

mayberry@cahs.colostate.edu

If you are registering by email, please be sure to follow the outline of the registration form so that it will be clear which course/courses you desire.

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**FRONT RANGE FORUM
Fort Collins Senior Center
1200 Raintree Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80526**



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Facilitators' Faire — The date is Wednesday, November 11 from 2:30 – 3:30 pm, at the Fort Collins Senior Center. This is your opportunity to visit with the facilitators about their course offerings and to register for the class/classes of your choice. Light refreshments will be served. If your Senior Center membership has expired, please pay \$40 for both Senior Center (\$25) and Front Range Forum (\$15) dues. Otherwise, be prepared to renew both memberships whenever you pay for the Senior Center. Both now will run for one full year from the date of payment. Dues are paid at the Senior Center front desk; the Front Range Forum registrar no longer accepts payments for either the Senior Center dues or Front Range Forum membership.

Front Range Forum Presents — Thursday, December 10, from 1:30 to 3:30 Laura Pritchett will be our speaker. Laura Pritchett is a local author who has written and edited five books along with many essays and short stories. She will speak on Contemporary Literature, Creative Writing and the Creative Process. If you are interested in reading any of her works before December, a few titles include: *Sky Bridge*; *Hell's Bottom, Colorado*; *Pulse of the River*(about the Poudre); *Home Land: Ranching* and *A West that Works*.

Facilitator Vouchers - Facilitators please note that it is your responsibility to keep track of these.