



EVELYN WRENCH
SPEAKER PROGRAM

Evelyn Wrench Speakers Series Source List

April 2020

Introduction

Evelyn Wrench Speakers Series Source List is a compilation of popular speakers who have participated in our programs. We encourage our ESU Branches to take advantage of their knowledge as they plan their programs. These speakers live in the US or the UK, and are delighted to share their expertise with ESU members around the country. The Sourcelist has been recently updated to reflect current contact information, and also to introduce new speakers we recommend.

When scheduling lectures, Branch Speaker Contacts should contact Sourcelist speakers directly at least three to four months in advance of the event date. You may also want to contact other Branches to arrange additional lectures for a short tour. Headquarters is able to provide up-to-date information on current Branch officers. Email addresses for the speakers are provided in the Sourcelist entries, but for additional contact information please be in touch with Helena Fontaine or 212-818-1200.

Financial terms:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| <u>Honorarium:</u> | Can be paid by the Branch in cash or check at the time of the lecture. |
| <u>Transportation:</u> | Branches should cover the costs of all speaker travel, including transportation, lodging, meals and any additional hospitality. Branch Speaker Contacts should be able to help coordinate all travel arrangements, especially local transportation. |
| <u>Accommodation:</u> | The Branch provides meals and at least one night's accommodation in a private home, club or hotel. |

About the lectures:

Lectures should last no more than 45 minutes, followed by ten minutes of Q and A. Lectures should be delivered clearly, in a conversational tone, and without being read, although the use of notes is fine. Sourcelist speakers usually address one or more of the following topics:

History, Art, Current Events, Gardens History, Language Literature, Music, Poetry, Politics, Theater and Travel

All information about the event such as time, location, dress code, schedule, and contact, should be communicated to the speaker well in advance of the program. Speakers may not use ESU events to solicit funds for any personal cause or preferred organization.

NOTE: Inclusion in the Sourcelist is not a guarantee of an ESU speaking engagement.

Technical equipment:

Each entry indicates the speaker's technical requirements. If the speaker is illustrating his/her lecture with slides or PowerPoint, please consult with the speaker about any specific requirements. See the following page for set-up tips. Please be sure that:

- The lecture room can be darkened
- You have a run-through of the presentation with the speaker well in advance to check the sound system, audio-visual equipment, and to make sure the speaker is comfortable with your available technology (i.e. provided computer, remote controls, etc.)
- if the speaker plans to bring his/her own device (i.e. laptop, iPad, etc.) please make certain the venue has appropriate compatibility.

Book Sales:

Many speakers are authors who will request that their books be available for sale at their lectures. Having a book signing can be an appealing addition to a program, and if the speaker is in agreement, a way to provide additional monetary support to the Branch. However, in most cases, speakers are seeking to sell their books. Some speakers may bring their own books to sell, and others may request that the Branch order from a Publisher or online

distributor such as Amazon, and keep any profits from the sale. Make sure these details are arranged well in advance of the event.

Publicity:

National Headquarters encourages the Branches to publicize their speaker programs by arranging local media coverage and to open them to non-ESU members. When announcing a speaker event, the Branch should require advance registration in order to avoid overcrowding.

Ticket Sales:

Branches are encouraged to charge minimal fees to purchase tickets to speaker programs to defray any costs that might be incurred. Online ticket vendors such as PayPal, Event Brite and Paper Bag Tickets can be extremely helpful, both to track attendance and also to reduce administrative time spent by the Branch responding to questions and maintaining lists. Branches might consider a “tiered” fee structure for lectures with the cheapest ticket going to ESU National Patrons, with a slightly more expensive ticket for ESU members, and the most expensive ticket for non-members as a way to encourage them to become members.

The English-Speaking Blending of the United States reserves the right to use the names and images of participants in its speaker programs for informational or promotional use in its printed and electronic publications.

If you have any questions about using the Sourcelist of Speakers or any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact Helena Fontaine in hfontaine@esuus.org or 212-818-1200. We hope that this Source List will provide the Branches with many interesting, engaging speakers.

Set-up Tips for Illustrated Lectures

PowerPoint

Equipment required:

- Digital projector with power cord and laptop cable (extra long if possible)
- Screen
- Compatible power cords for PC and/or Apple product.
- UK/US adaptor, for use with speaker's laptop if necessary
- Remote control to advance PowerPoint slides
- Laser pointer (often part of the remote control)

Determine well in advance of the event who will provide the laptop: the speaker or the Branch. In either case, if the laptop is an Apple computer, you may need a separate adaptor for the projector.

If the speaker provides a laptop, be sure to have a UK/US adapter for the power cord.

If the Branch provides laptop:

- Load the presentation onto the hard drive from the speaker's flash drive.
Ask the speaker for this ahead of time.
- On the laptop, go to the Control Panel and then to Power Options. On the Power Schemes page, choose Never for all settings on the drop down menus.
This will keep the screen from going to sleep in the middle of the presentation.
- Please make certain you are aware of the settings needed to prevent the presentation device from going into sleep-mode during the presentation.

IMPORTANT: If you are in a new venue or one that you are not familiar with, make sure to contact the facilities manager in advance of the event to run through logistics, as noted below. Request, if possible, that a facilities person be present during the event to assist/troubleshoot.

If it is feasible for the presenter and Branch contact, try to have a run through prior to the event.

- Make sure the speaker is comfortable with the presentation space, height of podium, if used, need for speaker seating (stool or chair). Ask about these considerations well in advance of presentation.
- Always provide a pitcher of water and a glass, or bottled water.
- Check with the speaker to make sure he/she is comfortable with temperature and adjust if necessary.

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PATRICK ALLITT

Decatur, Georgia

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Phone: 404-727-4471

Address: History Department
Emory University
561 South Kilgo Circle NE

DATES OF VISIT: open to invitations

AREAS TO VISIT: Any

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS: Can give PowerPoint shows if facilities are available

**TOPICS: History & Current Events****PRESENTATIONS:**

Anglo-American Relations
Great Eccentrics of Victorian Britain
Rise and Fall of the British Empire
Is Higher Education in Crisis?
Environment
Global Warming
American Religious history

Patrick Allitt is the Cahoon Family Professor of American History at Emory University in Atlanta, but he was born and raised in Derbyshire, England. From 2004 to 2007, he was the Director of Emory's Center for Teaching and Curriculum, and, from 2000 to 2004, he held the title of N.E.H./Arthur Blank Professor of Teaching. Patrick received his B.A. (honors) in Modern History from Oxford in 1977 and his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1986. Postdoctoral fellowships include: Henry Luce Fellow, Harvard Divinity School, 1985 to 1988; Fellow, Princeton Center for the Study of American Religion, 1992 to 1993.

His most recent book is *A Climate of Crisis: America in the Age of Environmentalism* (Penguin, 2014). Others include *I'm the Teacher, You're the Student* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005); *Religion in America Since 1945: A History* (Columbia University Press, 2003) and *The Conservatives: Ideas and Personalities Throughout American History* (Yale University Press, 2009). In addition, Patrick has produced eight audio and video series with "The Great Courses," including "American Religious History" (24 half-hour episodes); "Victorian Britain" (36 half-hour episodes); and "The Industrial Revolution" (36 half-hour episodes). He contributes to the *Spectator* in London and lectures each summer on Silversea cruise ships.

JOHN F. ANDREWS, OBE

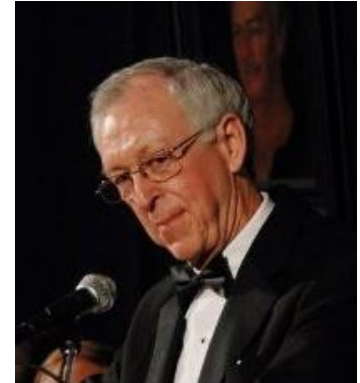
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Email: shakesguild@msn.com

Website: www.shakesguild.org

DATES OF VISIT: Open, subject to schedule
AREAS TO VISIT: Open, subject to schedule
WILL TRAVEL: Either alone or with wife

AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS: None



TOPICS: History, Theatre, Literature & Poetry

PRESENTATIONS:

Shakespeare's Role in the Lincoln Assassination -- Fresh perspectives on a playwright who was behind the most dramatic event in American history. Stirring material on John Wilkes Booth and his family, on the President and on such influential works as *Hamlet*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Macbeth*.

Old Light on Shakespeare's Dramatic and Poetic Texts -- An editor's look at how the language to be found in the original 16th- and 17th-century printings of Shakespeare's works differs from what we experience when we read modern editions or hear his words delivered in today's theaters.

Shakespeare as an American Playwright -- Do today's British citizens have a greater claim on Shakespeare's artistic legacy than do descendants of their ancestors' relatives who crossed the Atlantic in the 16th and 17th centuries? If not, should American actors feel that their counterparts in the U.K. enjoy special advantages when they produce plays such as *Romeo and Juliet*?

John F. Andrews is President of The Shakespeare Guild, an organization that presents the annual *Sir John Gielgud Award for Excellence in the Dramatic Arts* and hosts dialogues under such headings as "Speaking of Shakespeare" and "Spotlight on Theater." From 1974 to 1984 he served as Director of Academic Programs at the Folger Shakespeare Library, where he edited *Shakespeare Quarterly* and oversaw a prominent center for Renaissance studies. His publications include two collections of Shakespeare's works, one in cloth for The Literary Guild (1989-92), the second in paperback for The Everyman Library (1993-98). In 1985 he compiled a three-volume reference set, *William Shakespeare: His World, His Work, His Influence*, for Scribners, with Anthony Burgess, Sir John Gielgud, Jonathan Miller, and Sir Peter Ustinov among its 60 contributors. He has taught at several universities and has lectured throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Egypt, England, and Japan. Among the notables he has interviewed are such luminaries as Edward Albee, F. Murray Abraham, Jane Alexander, Sir Derek Jacobi, Kevin Kline, Sir Ian McKellen, Christopher Plummer, Lynn Redgrave, and Patrick Stewart. For more detail regarding Mr. Andrews' work, visit www.shakesguild.org/board.html and click on Mr. Andrews' name.

KATE AUSPITZ

Somerville, Massachusetts

Email: kauspitz@comcast.net

DATES OF VISIT: Open, subject to schedule

AREAS TO VISIT: New England, New York, Pennsylvania,
Maryland, Washington, DC
(other areas negotiable)

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Microphone and podium

**Topics: History****PRESENTATION:**

The War Memoir of (HRH) Wallis, Duchess of Windsor

Wallis Simpson was the first person to be named Woman of the Year by *Time* Magazine, but was her romance with the King of England really the greatest love story of the twentieth century? Or was it something else entirely? Was Wallis a pawn, put into play by Allied statesmen determined to remove a Nazi sympathizer from the throne? This lecture is based on Kate Auspitz's recent novel of the same name (UK edition: *Wallis: My War*) which purports to be the Duchess of Windsor's World War II memoir. It so perfectly captures her voice, and is so meticulously researched, that this interpretation of history seems entirely plausible. Grounded in published recollections of the major figures of the time, and in Wallis's letters, most particularly to her aunt and confidante, Bessie Merryman, as well as the collection of letters exchanged with the Prince of Wales during their courtship, the memoir is by turns fascinating, hilarious, and profoundly sad. Wallis emerges not as history's most shameless gold digger, justly reviled, but a figure far more consequential. When all is said and done, she had an unwitting heroic quality that saw her – and the Allies – through to victory.

Kate Auspitz is a political historian, Fulbright fellow at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and a Harvard Ph.D. She taught at Harvard University and Wellesley College before leaving academia for practical politics. She now works on foreign policy, immigration, and refugee issues.

HOWARD BURNHAM

Pacific Grove, CA

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Cell: 803 467-7267



DATE OF VISIT: open to invitation

AREAS TO BE VISITED: West Coast

WILL TRAVEL alone

AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED: Slide projector and screen for *I Cannot Do It: Send for Winston* and *Alfred Hitchcock Arrives in Hollywood* programs.

TOPICS: Theatre, History & Literature**PRESENTATIONS:**

Edward Lear, Master of Art and Nonsense

Thirty Wagons and a Wine Cellar: General Burgoyne in America, 1775-1777

The story of General Burgoyne's misadventures in America that paved the way for American Independence.

I Cannot Do It: Send for Winston

Lord Halifax, British Minister to Washington from 1940-1946, recalls Churchill, FDR and World War II.

One Man in His Time

William Shakespeare reviews his life and works in 1616.

Alfred Hitchcock Arrives in Hollywood

The master of suspense relates his English period.

Never Play Hockey with a Bishop: Lord Cornwallis Loses America, 1776-1781

Earl Cornwallis gives a wry and rueful account of his campaigns in America that culminated in his defeat at Yorktown.

Pshaw!!! George Bernard Shaw at Ninety

Devised for Shaw's sesquicentennial year, this program has the elderly Shaw reviewing his gadfly life as critic, socialist, vegetarian, playwright and "professional man of genius."

Wellington on Napoleon

Wedding customs and fashions through history

The Lion, the Eagle, and Dixie -- An English reporter in the Civil War.

Howard Burnham is a noted writer and performer of self-researched and written one-man literary and historical plays. Born and raised in England, he currently resides in Pacific Grove, CA. Prior to 2013, he lived in Columbia, SC, where he was Artist-in-Residence at the Richland County Public Library. His Redcoat Revolutionary War characters play regularly for the National Park Service at Bunker Hill, Saratoga, Cowpens, Guilford Courthouse and Yorktown. The BBC has frequently filmed Mr. Burnham's work. In 1972, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in London. He has performed as an Evelyn Wrench speaker for Branches in Regions I, II, III, IV, V and VI.

JOHN LAURENCE BUSCH

New Canaan, Connecticut

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Website: www.steamcoffin.com

DATES OF VISIT: Open, subject to

schedule AREAS TO VISIT: Open, subject

to schedule WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Powerpoint (Speaker will bring own equipment, unless traveling by air.)

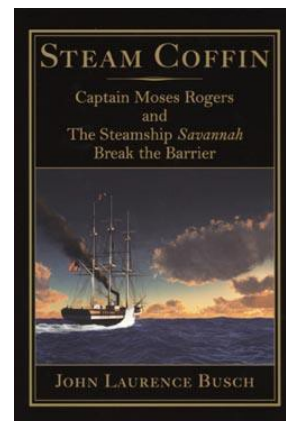
TOPICS: History, Anglo-American Relations

PRESENTATION:

Breaking the Barrier with a 'Steam Coffin' (with book signing)

John Laurence Busch will attempt to re-calibrate your mind before showing why the proposition of making the first crossing of the Atlantic Ocean on a "steamship" was met with a mixture of skepticism and fear. Then he will show how a group of early American technologists--nearly all of whom were descendants of families from the United Kingdom of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales--addressed those fears by building one of the most revolutionary vessels in history. John's multi-media presentation also will illustrate how some of the brightest minds in Britain reacted to this "Wonder of the Age," by vowing to catch up to the Americans. In so doing, Captain Moses Rogers and his steamship *Savannah* ignited what became the most important technological rivalry in the history of the world. This presentation, which is tailor-made for English Speaking Union branches, is based upon John's book, *STEAM COFFIN: Captain Moses Rogers and The Steamship Savannah Break the Barrier*.

John Laurence Busch is an independent historian who specializes in the first generation of steam-powered vessels and their revolutionary role in the creation of the modern world. His book, **STEAM COFFIN** (2010), has been reviewed positively by more than two dozen periodicals based in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia. John has made over 300 presentations on Captain Rogers and the *Savannah* to a wide variety of audiences, stretching from Maine to Puerto Rico to California, and across the Atlantic Ocean to Europe. For additional information, including praise for the book and John's presentation, please visit www.steamcoffin.com.



RAYMOND CALLAHAN

Newark, Delaware

Email: rac@udel.edu

DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitation

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Newark-Wilmington,
North Delaware

WILL TRAVEL: alone

DIETARY RESTRICTION: No shellfish

TOPICS: History**PRESENTATIONS:**

The British Empire

Military History Since the 18th Century

Winston Churchill



After earning his degree at Harvard, Raymond Callahan taught British and Military History for 38 years at the University of Delaware and also served in a variety of administrative positions there, retiring as Associate Dean and Professor of History. He was the John F. Morrison Visiting Professor of Military History at the US Army Command and General Staff College and a regular lecturer at the US Marine Corps Staff College. He has also lectured at the US Army and US Air Force War Colleges and at the Joint Services Command and Staff College in the UK. Mr. Callahan is the author of four books, three of which deal with the Second World War and is a series editor of *Modern War Studies* for the University Press of Kansas. In addition to winning an Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Delaware, he was elected National President of The Association of Graduate Liberal Studies Programs. He also served as a member of the US Army's Historical Advisory Committee and as a board member of The Winston Churchill Memorial and Library in Fulton, Missouri. Mr. Callahan was elected a Fellow of The Royal Historical Society in 1985.

ANGELICA SHIRLEY CARPENTER

Fresno, California

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Website: www.angelicacarpenter.com

Address: 9260 N. Jackson Avenue
Fresno, CA 93720

Phone: 559 434-7427

DATES OF VISIT: open to invitations

AREAS TO VISIT: California and other states

WILL TRAVEL: alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Digital projector, computer, screen and a microphone, if possible

**TOPICS: History, Language, Literature****PRESENTATIONS:***Frances Hodgson Burnett*

This lecture follows the famous author who moved from England to America as a teenager and who made another 32 crossings. The author of *The Secret Garden*, *A Little Princess*, and *Little Lord Fauntleroy* also wrote dozens of best-selling novels for adults, dealing with such serious issues as single mothers and abusive marriages. Her personal life was considered shocking for Victorian times. This lecture offers historical photographs and recent pictures of sites from Burnett's life. Accompanies the books *Frances Hodgson Burnett: Beyond the Secret Garden* and *In the Garden: Essays in Honor of Frances Hodgson Burnett*.

Heather to Hibiscus

This lecture follows Robert Louis Stevenson from Scotland to the South Seas. The author of *Treasure Island*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *A Child's Garden of Verses* was born in 1850 to a wealthy Edinburgh family. He met his American wife-to-be in France. Stevenson later traveled to America and on three voyages through the South Seas. This virtual tour shows historical photos and current views of Edinburgh, France, California and Samoa. Accompanies the book *Robert Louis Stevenson: Finding Treasure Island*.

Lewis Carroll

Charles Dodgson went to Christ Church, Oxford, as an undergraduate and remained there all his life, teaching mathematics. He wrote *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass* for his child friend, Alice Liddell, daughter of the college dean, basing the books on her real life experiences. He is considered the most important photographer of children from the Victorian era, but his friendships with little girls and his photos of some of them undressed make him a controversial subject 100 years after his death. Accompanies the book *Lewis Carroll: Through the Looking Glass*.

Magical Sabbatical

Take a virtual tour of children's literature collections and sites. See highlights of collections at Roehampton University in Surrey; the Bodleian Library in Oxford; the Victoria and Albert Museum; Seven Stories, The Centre for the Children's Book, at Newcastle upon Tyne; and English language collections at the National Library of the Netherlands, and the International Youth Library, Munich. Includes photos of programs sponsored by the Lewis Carroll Society, a visit to The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins in Crystal Palace Park, and photos from a home interview with Jacqueline Wilson as she was appointed Children's Laureate of Britain.

MANSEL DAVID

London, England

Email: mansel.david@gmail.com

Website: www.offthepage.org.uk

DATES OF VISIT: Open, subject to availability & schedule

AREAS TO VISIT: Open

WILL TRAVEL alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: CD or minidisk player

**TOPIC: Theatre & Literature****PRESENTATION:***Dramatic Reading Adapted from Nicholas Nickleby*

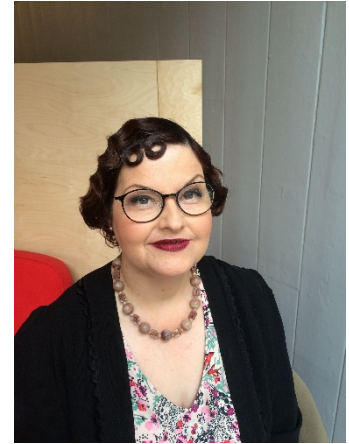
Adapted from the Vincent Crummles Theatre Company episodes of *Nicholas Nickleby* by Charles Dickens, given in the style of the Author (although not impersonating him). "Crummles" is a Theatrical Production, which gives a vivid and amusing picture of the Life and Characters of a Provincial Theatre Touring Company in the early 19th century, filtered through the genius of Charles Dickens. "

Dramatic Reading Adapted from the Poems & Letters of A.E. Housman – Take Desire Away

Explores the emotional life of the poet through his own poems and personal letters.

Born and raised in Camarthen, South Wales, Mansel David earned a double B.A. (Honors) in Drama and English literature from the University of Bristol, before training as an actor at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He has worked as a professional actor in theater, television and radio for over 35 years. While at the West End Theatre, Mr. David worked with some of England's greatest stage actors. During the 1990s, he worked as a founder/member of the Pyramid Theatre Company, specializing in issue-based theater and touring throughout the British Isles and Ireland. He also performed David Rowe's *A House of Leaves*, a one-man show based on the life of Wales' greatest poet, Dafydd Ap Gwilym, which toured throughout Wales in 1995 and later to Scotland, Ireland, California and Texas. In 2008, Mr. David played the role of 'Niels Bohr' in a special production of Michael Frayn's play *Copenhagen* for Northwestern University, Chicago.

Genista Davidson BA (Hons), MA.
Cambridge, England|
Email: artdecotraveller@hotmail.com



DATES OF U.S. VISIT: open to invitation 2020
AREAS OF VISIT: open to invitation from all areas
(a tour would make travel efficient)
WILL TRAVEL: alone
AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Equipment to show a
Powerpoint presentation

TOPICS:
The Iconic Art Deco Era

Presenting on all elements of the art deco era, including architecture, art and design - including the eminent and pioneering individuals from this iconic socially unique period of the twentieth century. Lectures, talks, day schools and courses can be tailored to suit the individual needs of the host.

After graduating in English Language and Humanities, Genista followed a career in teaching English and Social history both at home in the UK and overseas in Madrid and at the Pablo Olavide University, Seville (2007-2009). Acquiring an MA in Art History Genista worked for a charitable non-profit organization and the WEA (Workers Education Association) that offers accessible partially funded courses for adults without a higher level of education. Genista is passionate about the social history from c1920-1940 and has a specialized teaching program and course of lectures from this period covering a wide range of topics and subjects. Having extensively travelled worldwide and experienced first-hand the effects that the Art Deco era had on all sectors of society has subsequently greatly enhanced and influenced Genista's appreciation and knowledge of her specialized area. She has regularly appeared in newspapers and magazines throughout the UK and has published four books in her Art Deco Traveller series. Two further books - an Art Deco Almanac and Art Deco Anecdotes are due to be published summer 2020. Genista is registered with the National Trust and gives guided tours and talks at two of its properties - the 1939 Modernist home of the architect Erno Goldfinger (1902-1987) in Hampstead and Carlton Fishacre in Devon that is an Arts & Crafts designed property that is entirely furnished and decorated in the Art Deco style being the former home of the D'oyly Carte Opera family. Genista is the Chairman and a Founder member of the Art Deco Society of the U.K.

KATHLEEN DIXON DONNELLY

Pittsburgh, PA

Email: kaydee@gypsyteacher.com

Website: www.suchfriends.wordpress.com



DATES OF VISIT: open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: Florida, Northeast

WILL TRAVEL: anywhere feasible

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: PowerPoint, DVD player and internet access if possible, but can do without

TOPIC: Literature and Creative People**LECTURES:**

"Such Friends": Scribner's Editor, Maxwell Perkins and his work with F.Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemmingway and/or Thomas Wolfe

Based on her book, *Manager as Muse*, this lecture focuses on the legendary Scribner's editor, Maxwell Perkins and his work with his most challenging authors. Clips from the motion picture, *Genius*, starring Colin Firth as Perkins and Jude Law can be used.

Britain Before the Great War: The Irish Literary Renaissance and the Bloomsbury Group

While WB Yeats' circle organized the Abbey theatre in Dublin, Virginia Woolf and her crowd reinvented art and literature in the townhouses of Bloomsbury and cottages of Sussex. Until The Great War, the British sat in drawing rooms, talking over whisky, buns and cocoa, late into the night. This presentation looks at the 'homefront' during the war for both groups.

"Such Friends": Dorothy Parker and Her Men

'I loved them until they loved me,' 1920s poet Dorothy Parker opined in one of her short poems. Her work might be classified as light verse, but most of her bitter pieces were written with a heavy heart. This talk is popular around St. Valentine's day!

Happy Bloomsday! James Joyce in Dublin and Paris

James Joyce left Dublin for the continent in 1904, moved to Paris in 1920, and spent most of the rest of his life there. Unlike the American writers, Joyce kept to himself but frequented Paris cafés, bursting into song after a few drinks, rolling home drunk in a taxi. A great way to celebrate Bloomsday on or around June 16th.

"Such Friends:" Supporters of the Arts in the Early 20th Century

What can we learn from those who started and funded the arts at the turn of the last century? The founders of the Abbey Theatre, the Omega Workshops and The New Yorker magazine as well as patrons of writers and artists like James Joyce and Henri Matisse had creative ways of supporting their artistic endeavors. This can be combined with a panel of representatives of local arts organizations for a longer program.

Kathleen Dixon Donnelly, Ph.D., is a writer and teacher of many subjects, from marketing and public relations to literature and creative thinking and has studied and taught in Ireland, the UK and the US. Her research has focused on the creative development of writers in the early 20th-century salons, the Irish Literary Renaissance, the Bloomsbury Group, American expatriates in Paris, and the Algonquin Round Table in New York. She has given presentations about these "Such Friends" at many prestigious institutions in the UK, as well as numerous lifelong learning programs in the US. Dr. Donnelly recently retired to her hometown of Pittsburgh, PA with her Irish husband, Tony Dixon.

MARK ELLIS

London, England

Email: mrkellis7@gmail.com

Website: markellisauthor.com

DATES OF VISIT: open to
invitation AREAS TO VISIT: open
to invitation WILL TRAVEL: alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: microphone

**TOPICS: History****PRESENTATION:***Princes Gate*

Mark Ellis will talk about his book, *Princes Gate*, set in London in the early years of World War II. This new crime novel mixes historical and fictional characters and features the charismatic half-Spanish detective, Frank Merlin. In his lecture, Mr. Ellis will capture the atmosphere of Britain in 1940 during the “phony war;” when, although war raged on the Continent, life continued relatively peacefully in Britain.

Stalin’s Gold

This lecture is based on Ellis’ second mystery, *Stalin’s Gold*, again featuring detective, Frank Merlin and set in Europe during the time of the Battle of Britain. Sweeping from Stalin’s Russia to Civil War Spain, from Aztec Mexico to pre-war Poland, and from Hitler’s Berlin to Churchill’s London, Ellis tells a compelling story of treasure, grand larceny, treachery, torture and murder.

Born in Windsor, Mark Ellis was educated in Wales and spent a year in Pittsburgh as an ESU exchange student. He graduated from Cambridge and practiced law as a barrister for a short time before going into corporate finance and management. He co-founded a computer services firm, 4Front Technologies, and after its expansion and sale, he scaled down his business activities and began devoting more time to writing. Mr. Ellis’s business interests continue, including serving as an independent director for two American companies. He is currently working on his second Frank Merlin novel, *The Polish Squadron*. He has lived in New York and Los Angeles and now resides in London with his wife

KARIN FERNALD

London, England

Email: karinp@tiscali.co.uk

Website: www.karinfernald.com

DATES OF VISIT: open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: Philadelphia, NYC, Massachusetts, Maine,

WILL TRAVEL: alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Equipment for Power Point

TOPICS: 18th -20th century celebrity diarists and writers

PRESENTATIONS:

Jane Austen; life, letters and one or two early works: With illustrations by her sister to Jane's comic *History of England* and watercolors of Regency life from Diana Sperling's *Mrs. Hurst Dancing*.

Jane Austen and the Slave Trade: Austen's England was hotly divided over the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. She never wrote directly about it, but her favorite authors were abolitionists. There are references in *Mansfield Park* and *Emma*. And she claims to have once been "in love" with its most ardent abolitionist, Thomas Clarkson.

Dr. Samuel Johnson and Hester Thrale, later Piozzi: The friendship between the lexicographer and his blue-stocking hostess, who compared themselves to "*The Rattlesnake and the Elephant*." With paintings by Hogarth, Rowlandson, Reynolds, Richard Wilson, Francis Hayman and George Hayman.

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel: Brilliant composer sister of Felix Mendelssohn; her passionate life, her witty, sharp and intelligent letters and exquisite music. With landscape paintings by Caspar David Friedrich.

Florence Nightingale: Karin brings to life some of Nightingale's passions, ideas and preoccupations before and after the Crimean War. From letters and diaries. With paintings and drawings by Jerry Barrett, Parthenope Nightingale, Hilary Bonham-Carter and Nightingale's aunt Julia Smith.

Queen Victoria: 'I was most excessively delighted!!': Young Victoria delighted with opera, ballet and the theatre and wrote about them in her diary. This talk is illustrated by her own watercolors and sketches from the Windsor Archives, together with other paintings and portraits.

The Queen, The Prince and the Artists: Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were talented amateur artists; keen to promote both English and continental arts and, and enjoying friendships with two in particular: Edwin Landseer from London, and Franz Xavier Winterhalter from Germany.

Karin Fernald, performer and writer, is an established speaker for the UK's prestigious National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies. She is known for entertaining lecture-recitals on writers, correspondents and diarists from the 18th to the 20th centuries, mostly connected with the fine arts. Her background is in theatre. . Together with BBC producer Piers Plowright, she researched and compiled a documentary on the potter Bernard Leach. In 2010 her young people's book on the childhood of Queen Victoria, *The Dumpy Princess*, was published by Frances Lincoln Children's Books.

As a popular NADFAS speaker, Karin has twice been invited to perform and lecture up and down Australia's East Coast, and in New Zealand, Berlin, Hamburg and Paris. She has visited Japan four times for the British Council. She has appeared in venues throughout the UK and London, including the National Portrait Gallery, and makes regular appearances at Dr. Johnson's House, Gough Square.



DR. BONNIE GORDON FLICKINGER

Buffalo, New York

Email: rainbowlectures@gmail.com



DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Flexible

WILL TRAVEL alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Slide projector and microphone

TOPICS: History, Art & Literature

PRESENTATIONS:

- *Magnificent Blenheim Palace and the Churchills*
- *Incredible, Incredible Bath, England*
- *Sigmund Freud in Vienna and London*
- *Crossing the British Ocean Liners: The Queen Elizabeth II, The Queen Mary II, and the Concorde*
- *Scottish Castles and Treasure Houses*
- *The Stewart Dynasty: Including Mary Queen of Scots and Bloody Mary*
- *Who Was the Duke of York for Whom New York City and Yorkville Ontario, Were Named?*
- *Irish Gardens and Treasure Houses*
- *Scottish Castles, Gardens, and Treasure Houses*
- *The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown: Scenes from Paris, London and Scotland*
- *Mary Cassatt and Edgar Degas: Partners in Art*
- *Claude Monet: His Life, His Loves, and His Gorgeous Paintings*
- *Auguste Renoir: His Paintings, His Models, and His Beloved Gardens*
- *Lille, France: Rust Belt City to Boom Town, Lessons for Post-Industrial Cities*
- *How the Huguenots Changed the World*
- *Venice: City of Falling Angels by John Berendt*
- *Rhapsody in Green: The History, Art and Legends of Niagara Falls*
- *Buffalo: City of Light, A World's Fair Site and empowered by Niagara Falls*
- *The Kite Runner and a History of Afghanistan, Including Four British-Afghan Wars*
- *Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi*

Dr. Bonnie Gordon Flickinger attended Vassar College, the State University of New York, General Theological Seminary in New York and Jerusalem and the C.G. Jung Institute in Zurich. She currently teaches at Road Scholars, and at Chautauqua. She has been a journalist and professional speaker for more than 20 years, and has appeared on major television networks and cable stations. A world traveler, tour guide, and speaker of five languages, her linguistic skills were tapped at five Olympiads. For four years, Flickinger was the President of the Western New York Branch of the National League of American Pen Women, an organization founded in 1897.

CAROLE FRANCO

Bolton, Connecticut
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Bolton, CT 06043



DATES OF VISIT: open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: All regions

WILL TRAVEL alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: In-focus machine for
PowerPoint presentations, podium and microphone.

TOPIC: Politics**PRESENTATIONS:**

My Year as the First American Lady Mayoress of Westminster, London

“Do you believe in fairy tales? While I did not find a prince, my life changed completely when I was unexpectedly asked to be the Lady Mayoress of Westminster, London, the first American to hold this position.

“One day I was working for a small investment banking firm and the next day I was in London with two chauffeurs, two macebearers, a private secretary, an office staff and a mayoral flat in fashionable Mayfair. I met royalty, presidents, ambassadors, cabinet ministers and traveled officially around the world with the Lord Mayor of Westminster. I truly lived the life of royalty—dinner at Buckingham Palace, regal ceremonies and the glamour of Princess Diana until the clock struck midnight and I had to return to the US. The beginning of the story goes back in time to my years at Cambridge University and is a fascinating tale.”

A native New Englander, Carole Franco was the first American Lady Mayoress of Westminster. Prior to that, she was employed as a Senior Advisor to a privately owned investment-banking firm, Strategic Partners International. Ms. Franco also spent a portion of her time working with AmeriCares, a charitable organization that donates medicines and medical supplies to Third World countries. With AmeriCares, she participated in airlifts to Russia, Congo-Brazzaville, Albania and South Sudan. In 1993, in conjunction with the Soros Foundation, she organized a tour to America for three Albanian artists to exhibit their works. Ms. Franco earned her undergraduate degree from Duke University and went on to receive her Masters in International Relations from Cambridge University where she met the former Lord Mayor, Councilor Robert Davis. Her background includes teaching; research on a biography of Sumner Welles, the Under Secretary of State under President Franklin Roosevelt; working for an international consulting firm in New York City and fundraising for three biotech companies with patents for neurological and cardiovascular diseases. A versatile woman, she created her own company, Kingdom Productions, which undertook the groundwork for the production of an epic film about Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud, the founder of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

SAM FRIED

Titusfield, Florida

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Titusville, FL 32796



DATES OF VISIT: subject to invitation

AREAS AND DATES OF VISITS: subject to invitation

WILL TRAVEL: with wife

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Digital projector and screen

TOPIC: Travel**PRESENTATIONS:**

The following are descriptions of the narrated digital programs Mr. Fried offers at this time, all of which run about one hour in length. Each program emphasizes birds and other animals found in the particular location and also shows their various natural habitats, scenic beauty and history of the surrounding area.

CONTINENTAL DRIFT - AN RV BIRDING JOURNEY ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

Gale and I bought a small RV motorhome and set off to experience North America. Starting in Florida, we traveled across the southern US, north through central California and then made the jump to Alaska, where we spent over a month and a half in near complete sunlight

BIRDING CUBA!

Just 90 miles from Key West, Cuba has been a "lost world" for almost 60 years to American travelers. Despite its political isolation from the USA, Cuba is still a large Caribbean island with a highly diverse bird population including numerous endemic species. This program chronicles my 10-day visit to the island, in search of birds and a sense of what Cuba is really like today.

BIRDING ALASKA

I spent 47 days in Alaska in the spring and summer of 2016, exploring just about every region accessible by motor vehicle and more by plane. Come with me to Anchorage, the Kenai Peninsula, Valdez, the Denali Highway, Denali National Park, Nome, St. Paul in the Pribilof Islands and Prudhoe Bay for the greatest journey ever through our 49th state!

THE WINTER BIRDS OF FLORIDA

Traveling along the east coast of Florida from St. Augustine to the Everglades, I visit some of the best birding spots in the state and come up with a bundle of excellent photographs of our feathered buddies that make Florida their winter home, as well as a few rarities

Sam Fried is past President of the Hartford Audubon Society. More than a thousand of his photographs and 44 feature articles are published in field guides, books and magazines worldwide, including *National Audubon*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, and *Living Bird Quarterly* magazines. He also wrote several chapters of the *Insight Guides* book on birding in North America, published by The Discovery Channel. Mr. Fried is a golf and fishing writer as well, and Co-founder of Flights of Fancy Adventures, Inc., a birding and natural history travel company offering small group, low cost, high quality trips to North, Central and South American destinations.

JANE S. GABIN

Chapel Hill, North Carolina
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DATES OF VISIT: subject to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: open, but most available to Northeast and North Carolina

WILL TRAVEL: alone

ACCOMMODATION: Needed outside New York, Boston and Research Triangle

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: cable connector and digital projector for a PowerPoint presentation

TOPICS: Literature, History PRESENTATIONS:

Lovely Transatlantic Invaders: American Women in Victorian London

Taken from Edith Wharton's novel *The Buccaneers*, this phrase describes the many young American women who came to the UK between 1870 and WWI making places for themselves in English life. Many were wealthy and married into titled families; others were independent professionals. Dr. Gabin's talk provides an overview of this group of determined, talented and independent women who contributed to the literary, political, social and artistic life of their adopted country. Some of their stories are romantic, some are tragic, but all are compelling.

Jennie Jerome Churchill: An Extraordinary Woman

Jennie was so much more than a society leader and the mother of the future Prime Minister; she was active in political life, founded a literary journal, and wrote for the stage.

American Women on the Victorian Stage

The prevailing opinion in 19th-century England and America was that an actress was little more than a woman of the streets. Mary Anderson changed that. She made her stage debut in 1877 age 17, demure and always accompanied by her mother. Audiences fell in love with her. America's first transatlantic celebrity transformed the way people felt about the theatre.

The "Uncrowned Queen of Americans in London"

Mary Frances Ronalds, a socialite from Boston, moved to Paris and then London, where she became a favorite of Queen Victoria. Charming and talented, she made her home at Cadogan Place, the gathering spot of the American community. She played a pivotal role in London life for many years, but has had no biographer until this reconstruction of her moving story.

Elizabeth Banks: an American on Fleet Street

She left the U.S. in 1892 because England offered more opportunities for female journalists. She posed as a housemaid, flower seller and heiress to write exposes. Ultimately, she became a very popular columnist, contributing to over dozens of newspapers and magazines. When the English-Speaking Union formed in London in 1918, Banks was one of its first members.

Dr. Jane S. Gabin is an educator and writer living in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She earned her Ph.D. in literature at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has taught there, at Queens College in New York, and at the NYU School of Professional Studies. Currently an independent educational consultant, she worked as a college counselor in the New York metropolitan area for eleven years, and previously worked in university admissions. Dr. Gabin has published three books, the most recent of which is *American Women in Gilded Age London: Expatriates Rediscovered*, and has also contributed to several encyclopedias and volumes of essays. In addition, she currently writes an online college admission advice column at www.insideschools.org.

SAM GOODYEAR

Oneonta, New York

Email: hemstekka@yahoo.com

DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Northeast

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

TOPIC: Theater**PRESENTATIONS:***John Adams*

In the summer of 1995, Sam Goodyear portrayed John Adams in the Leatherstocking Theatre Company premier production of Howard Ginsberg's *Jefferson and Adams* in Cooperstown, New York. He has been connected with multiple productions of the play ever since, including: annual Fourth of July performance at Colonial Williamsburg since 2001 with acclaimed Thomas Jefferson interpreter Bill Barker; appearances with Sam Waterston at the Circle Repertory Theater and the Century Association in New York; national airing of an Emmy-nominated Colonial Williamsburg Productions DVD of the play on PBS on July 4th, 2005; a return engagement at Peacefield, the Adams homestead in Quincy, Massachusetts, on July 4th, 2006. He portrayed John Adams at the initiation of the US mint in Quincy, Massachusetts for the first day of issue of the new John Adams coin in May 2007.

In addition to performances of the play itself, he has been invited to appear as John Adams at historical societies and museums, in schools, at private functions, as well as at the annual meeting of the Colonial Dames in 2005 in Mobile, Alabama.

This intense activity has led to *The Man from Massachusetts*, a modular one-man piece easily tailored to individual requirements, from a full evening in the theatre to guest speaker appearances in schools or seminars, or serving as master of ceremonies at historical themed events and benefits. Alternating between direct quotations and speculative formulations, as well as improvisation, *The Man from Massachusetts* offers an intimate encounter with the, among other distinctions, first American vice-president, first United States diplomat, first resident of the White House, author of the world's oldest written constitution and original declarer of independence.

SIR CHRISTOPHER HUM

Lives in London, UK

Email ch407@cam.ac.uk

DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Northeast

WILL TRAVEL: with Spouse

TOPIC: Politics,

Current Events

PRESENTATIONS:

***Will China rule the World?***

On his first visit to China, during the tumult of the Cultural Revolution, Christopher Hum watched Chairman Mao receive the adoration of his Red Guards. He lived there in all for ten years, as a diplomat and as British Ambassador between 2002 and 2005, and saw its transformation into the superpower it is today. In his lecture he gives a first-hand account of China's rise and asks whether today's resurgent China is a threat or an opportunity for the world.

Christopher Hum joined Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service in 1967 and much of his diplomatic career was connected with China. He studied Chinese at Hong Kong University and went on to spend a total of eight years in postings to the British Embassy in Beijing, culminating in four years as British Ambassador (2002-2005). He also served in the Asian departments of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and for several years was closely involved in the negotiations on the return of Hong Kong to China. Other overseas postings included Brussels (European Communities), Paris, the United Nations in New York and Warsaw (as Ambassador, 1996-1998).

Between 2006 and 2012 Christopher Hum was Master of Gonville and Caius College Cambridge, where he remains as a Life Fellow. He is a commentator on China in the media and has just completed a post-graduate degree in East Asian art at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University.

KATE HURNEY

New York, New York

Email: khurneyb@msn.com

DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Regions I, II, III; Region V; Region VIII

WILL TRAVEL with a pianist. For many East Coast Branches, accommodations are not necessary.

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: A piano

**TOPICS: Music & Theatre****PRESENTATIONS:***Light, Bright and Sparkling*

The music and theater Jane Austen knew and heard. Music of Haydn, Arne, Hook, Rossini, etc.

We Are Amused

A command performance at Windsor Castle for Queen Victoria. Music by Mozart, Tosti, Balfe, Donizetti, Gilbert and Sullivan, etc.

A Brood of Eagles, not Nightingales: The Garcia Family in England

Father Manuel, daughters Maria Malibran and Pauline Viardot and son Manuel, teacher of Jenny Lind and their friends Turgenev, Chorley and Chopin. Music by the Garcias, Chopin, Gluck, Rossini, etc.

“As I Walked Down Piccadilly”

The music and ambiance of London’s theatres: Drury Lane, Her Majesty’s Covent Garden in the work of her great 19th century authors Jane Austen, George Eliot, Thackeray and G.B. Shaw. Music by Bellini, Bishop, Moore, etc.

A soprano, Kate Hurney has sung throughout Europe with Theatre de la Monnaie, Brussels; Theatre des Champs Elysees, Paris; L’Opera de Nice; and the Opera Rara at London’s Queen Elizabeth Hall. She has also performed at the Wexford and Belfast festivals, the Zurich Opera, the Hackney Empire in London and was engaged for two years at Freiburg, Germany. In the U.S., Ms. Hurney has appeared at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the opera companies of Dallas, Houston and Boston, along with the orchestras of Miami and Buffalo, and the Tanglewood and Marlboro music festivals. She has also recorded for Decca, Crystal and Music Minus One.

ELIZABETH J. ST. JOHN

Raleigh, San Diego

Email:elizabeth.stjohn@l

ydiardparkfriends.org.uk

DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: Open to invitation

WILL TRAVEL: alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS:

Digital projector and screen for PowerPoint

**TOPICS: History****PRESENTATIONS:**

“Even the kept must have their keepers.” So opens Elizabeth St. John’s critically-acclaimed historical fiction novel of her ancestress’s life in the most famous prison in the world—The Tower of London. Orphaned Lucy St. John defies English society by carving her own path through the decadent Stuart court. In 1609, the early days of the rule of James I—time of glittering pageantry and cutthroat ambition, Lucy catches the eye of the Earl of Suffolk, but her envious sister Barbara is determined to ruin her happiness. Exiling herself from the court, Lucy finds her own path, becoming mistress of the Tower of London. Riding the coattails of the king’s favorite, the Duke of Buckingham, the fortunes of the St. Johns rise to dizzying heights. But with great wealth comes betrayal, leaving Lucy to fight for her survival—and her honor—in a world of patronage and deceit.

Elizabeth St. John tells this dramatic true story of love and betrayal through the eyes of her ancestor Lucy and her family’s surviving diaries, letters and court papers. Raised in England, Elizabeth St. John spends her time between California, England, and the past. A best-selling author, historian and genealogist, she has tracked down family papers and residences from Nottingham Castle, Lydiard Park, and Castle Fonmon to the Tower of London. Although the family sold a few castles and country homes along the way, Elizabeth’s family still occupy them - in the form of portraits, memoirs, and gardens that carry their imprint.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM KIMLER

Raleigh, North Carolina
Email: kimler@ncsu.edu
Phone: 919-513-2238



DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitation
AREAS TO VISIT: Open to invitation
WILL TRAVEL: alone or with wife
AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Digital projector and screen for PowerPoint

TOPICS: History**PRESENTATIONS:***Darwin and the British Empire*

As the British Empire expanded in the early years of the 19th century, attention to foreign lands grew at home beyond the interest of merchants and colonial officials. Public interest in the exotic lands of Australia, Africa, and the Pacific was fed by traveling naturalists on dramatic expeditions. Charles Darwin and other explorers brought home more than natural history objects and tales of derring-do. Kimler describes the travels of a selection of these naturalists, as well as their work as innovative scientists. They developed the new sciences of ecology and evolution, using experiences made possible by the imperial vision.

The Genius of Charles Darwin

-- what Darwin did, and the historical trajectory of his reputation, as a way of asking what we mean by "genius".

How Charles Darwin Discovered Evolution

-- the story and the myths about how Darwin discovered his theory.

The Exploration of the Tropics by Victorian Naturalists and Artists

-- how we gained an image of tropical wonders and luxuriance through the travels, books, and paintings of Victorian explorers.

Gentlemen, Parsons, and Dons -- How Britain became the Leader of Modern Science

-- how science became a sociable activity in British culture, including fashion, religious sensibility, and eventually even the universities!

William Kimler, Ph.D., grew up in the Commonwealth, spending his childhood in Canada, Australia, and Singapore. Ending up in Texas, a B.A. in biology from Rice University led to professional life as a scientist. He then earned his M.S. and Ph.D. at Cornell University in ecology, evolutionary biology, and the history of science. Today he teaches at NC State University, where he is an Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor and an Associate Professor of History. William's interests are in the history of naturalists and their contributions to theories of ecology and evolution, focusing in particular on the British naturalists who explored the tropics in the 19th and 20th centuries. He lives in Raleigh with his wife, the nature artist and landscape painter Patricia Savage.

NANCY KRIPLEN

Indianapolis, Indiana

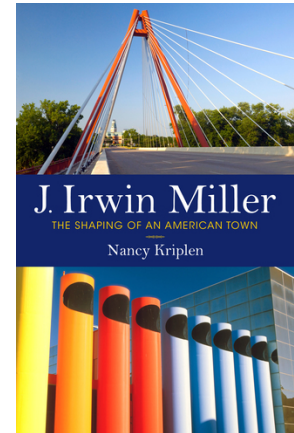
Email: nkriplen@ameritech.net

DATES OF VISIT: open invitation

FEE: \$1500

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS:

Projector and screen for PowerPoint presentations.

TOPICS: History & Literature**PRESENTATIONS:**

Backstage at the Biography: The Art and Craft of Writing about People's Lives

Said the great French actress, Rachel, shortly before she died in 1858, "A week from now I will begin to be devoured by worms and biographers." From Lytton Stacey came the pronouncement, "Discretion is not the better part of biography." In this lecture, biographer Nancy Kriplen nevertheless will try to defend her craft.

Wrapped in Plaid: The Colorful Life of Billionaire (& Professional Scot) John MacArthur

This lecture looks at the life of the controversial American insurance/real estate tycoon who used the green and yellow MacArthur tartan as a motif while making the fortune that funds the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, including its famous "Genius Awards."

The English Polish on a Fabled American Trophy

This lecture weaves the story of the design and manufacture of the elegant piece of sporting silver known as the Davis Cup into a century of tennis history and narrative of Dwight Davis' high profile life.

Formerly a staff member of *Time Magazine*, Nancy Kriplen's freelance articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *American History Illustrated*, *Opera News* and *Smithsonian*, among others. She is a member of The American Society of Journalists and Authors and The Author's Guild. Mrs. Kriplen's latest book, *Dwight Davis: The Man and the Cup*, was commissioned by The International Tennis Federation at the time of the 100th anniversary of the Davis Cup competition. Mrs. Kriplen's family has had a long relationship with the ESU. Her father was Secretary of the Indianapolis Branch when it was organized in 1949.

ALASTAIR LACK

Oxford, England

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Phone: 00 33 1865 511326

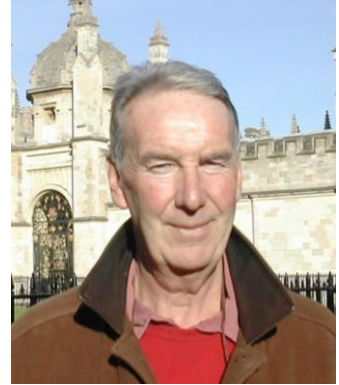
Cell: 07702 88 02 49

DATES OF VISIT: In general any time

AREAS TO VISIT: To be agreed, but willing to visit any area

WILL TRAVEL with wife (if dates fit)

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: PowerPoint presentation (a lap top will be provided but a projector and screen will be required).

**TOPICS: History & Gardens****PRESENTATIONS:***Travels with Auntie: A Career in the BBC*

In this lighthearted talk, Mr. Lack recalls some of his meetings and adventures over 27 years with the BBC and explores why it is held in so much renown throughout the world.

Oxford: A Special Place

Until recently, Alastair Lack was Secretary of the Oxford University Society, the organization that supports groups of Oxonians worldwide. As an Oxonian himself and now living in 'the city of dreaming spires' Alastair Lack is ideally placed to recount its history and explain why Oxford retains such a hold on its former students, whether politicians or poets, academics or artists.

Oxford: The American Connection

From Laurence Washington, a direct forbear of George Washington, to Bill Clinton, the roll call of Americans attending Oxford is long often illustrious. Currently some 1400 American are in residence, the latest in a long line of 'Yanks at Oxford.'

The Country Houses and Gardens of England

The English country house and garden, along with the English parish church, have been a great British contribution to European and world culture. Alastair Lack takes some of the most important and imposing houses (such as Blenheim Palace) and some of the most beautiful gardens (such as Rousham) and places them in the continuing history of the land and its people.

Alastair Lack was educated at Oxford University and then taught in India before joining the BBC in 1971. He retired in 1997 as Head of English Programs, BBC World Service, having worked in more than 40 countries. He then moved to Oxford (where he lives with his wife) and became the Secretary of the Oxford University Society, the alumni organization that supports Oxonians worldwide. His wide interests include history, the arts, travel and sport. Mr. Lack has lectured to many of ESU Branches as an Evelyn Wrench speaker.

WENDY LAWSON

Cambridgeshire, England

Email: awlawson@madasafish.com

Website: www.selfaccompaniedsong.com

DATES OF U.S. VISIT: Open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: To be determined

WILL TRAVEL: Alone (or possibly with husband)

**TOPICS: *Self-accompanied Song: the Forgotten Art*
PRESENTATION:**

Lecture/lecture recital/recital.

—In these unique presentations, Wendy Lawson combines her skills as Pianist, Singer, Researcher to rediscover and reinvigorate the Forgotten Art of Self-accompanied Song. Placing her own performance within its historical context, her presentations also include rare historic sound recordings and contemporary accounts. Because Self-accompanied Song is most at home within the informal and intimate environment of the salon or music room, her programs are ideally suited to Music Societies or House Concerts. For more information visit her website www.selfaccompaniedsong.com

Wendy Lawson holds degrees and diplomas from Cambridge, London and Dartington. Trained initially as a musician, she has worked extensively in university education, arts and the media. Her presentations are increasingly in demand in the U.S. Ms. Lawson is a member of the ESU in the U.K.

WAYNE E. LEE

Durham, North Carolina

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DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: Subject to invitation

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: Allergic to nuts

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Data projector

TOPICS: History**PRESENTATIONS:**

Reaping the Rewards: How the Governor, the Priest, the Taxman, and the Garrison Secure Victory in World History

In this sweep through world military history, strategy, and logistics, Lee explores the "four pillars" of conquest (the titular governor, priest, tax man and garrison) and he then compares how those same pillars worked in non-state societies on the Eurasian steppe and in the Native American woodlands.

Speaking Through Skulls: Objects of Death and the Culture of Soldiers in the Eighteenth-Century Anglo-American World

Examines widespread beliefs and superstitions about objects associated with death, and then examines how such beliefs might have affected Continental soldiers on Sullivan's Expedition against the Iroquois in 1779.

Trafalgar

An exploration of the problems of "scale" in the warfare of the Age of Sail, focusing on Trafalgar as an example of the many ways that British society committed extraordinary human, material, and fiscal resources to naval warfare.

Fortify, Fight, or Flee: Comparing the Tuscarora and Cherokee Response to English Invasions

A study of Native military culture, and how they tried to deal with the military problem of defending the home village, using the Tuscarora War of 1712-15 and the Cherokee War of 1759-61 as examples.

Mercenaries, Allies, or Subjects?: Recruiting the Locals on the Irish Borderlands of the 16th Century

A look at the ways the English employed a wide array of strategies for utilizing local military labor in the borderlands of 16th century Ireland.

The Past and Present of Targeted Drone Strikes: Technology, Law, and Strategy

Examines the complex history of how we got to where we are in relying on drone strikes. Per the title, includes technology development, doctrinal preference, debates over legality, and the question of strategic effectiveness.

Wayne E. Lee is a Distinguished Professor of History at the University of North Carolina. Author of *Barbarians and Brothers: Anglo-American Warfare, 1500-1865* (2011) and *Crowds and Soldiers in Revolutionary North Carolina* (2001), he has also edited two volumes on world military history (both 2011) and in 2015 published a survey of world military history for Oxford University Press, entitled *Waging War: Conflict, Culture, and Innovation in World History*. He has an additional career as an archaeologist, having done field work in Greece, Albania, Hungary, Croatia, and Virginia, including co-directing two field projects, and was a principal author and co-editor of *Light and Shadow: Isolation and Interaction in the Shala Valley of Northern Albania*, winner of the 2014 Society for American Archaeology's book award. In 2015/2016 he was the Harold K. Johnson Visiting Professor of Military History at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

DENIS LIPMAN

Rye, New Hampshire

E-mail: denisklipman@gmail.com

DATES OF VISIT: Anytime

AREAS TO VISIT: Anywhere

WILL TRAVEL: Alone or with his wife

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Microphone

TOPICS: History, Travel

PRESENTATION:



A Yank Back to England

This lecture is about an Englishman's rediscovery of his native land, through the delights and dilemmas of touring the English countryside with his aged parents and American wife and young daughter. Seeing England through their eyes, he uncovers historic sites and literary landmarks near London but off the tourist track. This is a humorous and heartfelt take on touring the "green and pleasant land."

Denis Lipman is an author and playwright. He is a former member of the writers' workshop at the Royal Shakespeare Company in London. While living in the Washington area, he had a number of plays produced in the Washington Theater Festival, The Kennedy Center's Page to Stage Festival, and The Arts Club of Washington. Prior to his career in theater, Mr. Lipman was a magician and co-wrote film scripts and songs featured on *Dave Allen and Friends* and *The Benny Hill Show*. He is a co-owner of The Creative Shop, an advertising and marketing company based in the Washington, DC area. His book, *A Yank Back to England*, was published in 2010. Michael Dirda, Pulitzer-winning literary critic and author, calls it "an absolutely wonderful book" while Michael York, the acclaimed British actor writes, "a perceptive, engaging and informative take on contemporary England as seen through the eyes of a fellow expatriate who writes with humor and affection."

THOMAS J. NAPIERKOWSKI, Ph.D.

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Email: tnapierk@uccs.edu

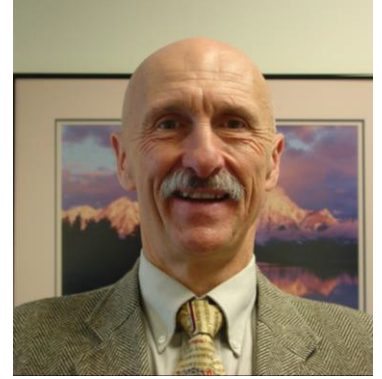
DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitation

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Chicago, Philadelphia, New Hampshire, Florida, January-April; Wisconsin and Midwest, July

WILL TRAVEL: Alone, but occasionally travels with wife

TOPICS: Literature, Poetry, & Theatre

PRESENTATIONS:



Performance of Geoffrey Chaucer, “The Father of English Poetry” (in costume)

This lecture is intended to introduce the audience to Chaucer’s life, the age in which he lived, his ideas on literature, and his influence on the English language.

“The History of the English Language”

A course Dr. Napierkowski regularly teaches.

Beowulf

With or without reference to Seamus Heaney’s celebrated, best-selling translation of the poem.

Dr. Thomas Napierkowski is Professor of English at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. His area of specialization is medieval English literature, with particular emphasis on the works of Chaucer and of the 15th century. He has also worked, and has been published, in the fields of minority American literature and Slavic literature.

LOUISE NICHOLSON

New York, New York

Email: lousienicholson999@gmail.com

DATES OF VISIT: Resident of New York City

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Open to invitations

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: None

**TOPICS: ART**Art:

- How Americans went on art shopping binges to create the world's most show-stopping museums.
- America's dream museums from Chicago and Cleveland to Dallas and Detroit; treasure-houses built by the people for the people.
- Inside minds of great art collectors: why they collect, how they collect, and what they do with it.

India:

- The Taj Mahal: The unlikely story of the world's symbol of love
- India and America: Stories from the War of Independence and the Civil War to Silicon Valley
- Emperor Shah Jahan: all-powerful ruler of the world's most dazzling court, inspiration for America's 'Moguls'
- The Seven Wonders of India: a romp from the cradle of civilization to the world's largest democracy
- Giving back: 30 years of ups and downs running an NGO for Indian kids the joy of it all!

London:

- The Great Royal Parks of London: a story of the English gardening obsession led by the royals, adopted by the people.
- The magnetic draw of Royal London: Thames-side palaces from Greenwich to Hampton Court
- London: from Roman outpost to Empire hub to independent island, the First 2000 Years
- The River Thames: London's Nerve Center Through the Centuries.

Louise Nicholson is a citizen of Britain and the US whose art journalism is published by *Apollo* (the leading art magazine in the UK), *Country Life* (UK), and *Fine Art Connoisseur* (US). She leads cultural tours to India, is a consultant for private travel to India and runs a charity for Indian children. Raised in England, Louise earned an MA Honors in Art History from Edinburgh, then worked in London for 25 years before moving to New York in 2001. She's been a pioneer conservationist of British building, built up the Indian and Islamic art department at Christie's London and worked as an arts journalist for *The London Times*. Louise has traveled to India more than 200 times to research and lead lecture tours. She was the Executive Producer on the highly acclaimed six-part television documentary, *The Great Moghuls*. In 1985, she found Save-a-Child, a charity that gives long-term support to enable hundreds of destitute Indian children to have education and flourish. Louise has written 27 books, and they all concern aspects of the history and culture of London and India. On both subjects, Louise demonstrates an infectious enthusiasm matched by deep knowledge.

Diana Preston

London, England

Email: dianapreston@yahoo.co.uk



DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Open to invitations

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Microphone, lectern and lamp

TOPIC: History**PRESENTATION:**

Ms. Preston's illustrated lectures are based on the various narrative histories that she has written. For example

--***Eighteen Minutes That Changed the World - The Sinking of the Lusitania***, is based on her definitive *Lusitania: An Epic Tragedy*. The Cunard liner *Lusitania* sailed from New York on May 1, 1915 to be sunk by a German submarine without warning six days later. This attack on civilians during the first year of the First World War provoked international condemnation. This is a story of personal tragedy on the scale of "Titanic" but also a geo-political tale with special resonance in the year we mark the centenary of the outbreak of the 'war to end all wars.'

Diana Preston is an acclaimed British author and historian, graduate of Oxford University and Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. She is the author of the definitive *Lusitania: An Epic Tragedy*; *Before the Fallout: From Marie Curie to The Boxer Rebellion*; and *The Dark Defile: Britain's Catastrophic Invasion of Afghanistan, 1838-1842*; among other works of narrative history. Her most recent book *Eight Days at Yalta* about the 1945 Yalta Conference was published in the UK in October 2019 and comes out in the US in February 2020.

Under the pseudonym Alex Rutherford, Diana, with her husband Michael, is author of the best-selling Empire of the Moghul sextet of historical novels launched in the UK, USA and India where each reached number one. The books are now being filmed by Disney's Indian arm, Star TV and have been optioned and are under development by Hollywood

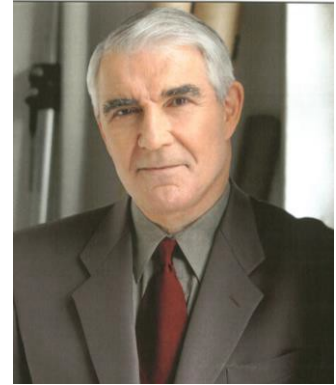
As well as lecturing for the ESU, including as a Wrench Fellow, Diana has lectured at The Smithsonian Institution, The Los Angeles Times Book Festival, The Peabody Essex Museum, New York's Museum of Natural History, the UK and US National War Museums, the National Maritime Museums in London and Sydney and the Edinburgh Book Festival. She has appeared in documentaries and interviews on BBC TV, CNN, CSPAN, the Discovery and History Channels, Smithsonian TV and many PBS radio and TV stations. She was filmed recently for National Geographic's 'Origins' series for which she also acted as historical consultant.

ALAN H. SKLAR

Somers, New York

Email: alan@alansklar.com

Website: www.alansklar.com



DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Open to invitations

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Microphone, lectern and lamp

TOPIC: Literature

PRESENTATION:

Readings of the Short Stories of H.H. Munro ("Saki")

A Dartmouth graduate, Alan Sklar has been a freelance voice actor for over 25 years, voicing radio and TV commercials, narrating everything from audio books to documentaries to corporate video projects and medical videos. He was employed for more than three years as a promotional announcer at WPIX-TV (Channel 11) in New York City. He has narrated in excess of 200 audio books. He especially loves to read stories by H. H. Munro ("Saki") to English-Speaking Union audiences.

PATRICK SMITHWICK

Monkton, Maryland

Email: flyingchangememoir@gmail.com

Website: www.patricksmith.com



DATES OF VISIT: open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: Region III, Virginia Branches

WILL TRAVEL: alone, sometimes with wife Ansley

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: projector and screen for PowerPoint.

TOPICS: History, Literature**PRESENTATIONS:**

Racing Time: A Memoir of Love, Loss and Liberation (published 2019)

This talk and reading celebrates Patrick's life-long friendships with three men—each outspoken, authentic, and a lover of the out-of-doors. The third of a trilogy, *Racing Time* delves into the psyche of men, taking the reader through the joy of shared youthful experiences, into the camaraderie of adulthood, and ends with the clap of a thundercloud, calling on us all to live life to the fullest.

Flying Change: A Year of Flying and Family and Steeplechasing (pub. 2012)

This talk and reading focuses on Patrick's return to the life of a steeplechase jockey in his 50s. With humor, elegance, and introspection, he recalls the difficult road back from complacent middle-age to athletic fitness ... the doubts, joys, and setbacks along the way in his quest to defy the passage of time. *Flying Change* won the \$10,000 Dr. Tony Ryan Book Award in 2013.

Racing My Father: Growing up with a Riding Legend (pub. 2006)

This lecture is based on the speaker's moving memoir about growing up in the hell-bent-for-leather world of Thoroughbred racing as the son of Hall of Fame steeplechase jockey A. P. "Paddy" Smithwick. Patrick tells about a boy coming of age and his deep love for his father.

Patrick Smithwick has won awards for the writing of newspaper features, short stories and magazine pieces while working as a steeplechase jockey, Chesapeake Bay waterman, newspaper reporter, and English teacher. He holds a B.A. and an M.L.A. from Johns Hopkins University, an M.A. from Hollins College, and an EFM (Education in Ministry) from the University of the South. The author lives with his wife Ansley on the farm.

MARY MILEY THEOBALD

Richmond, Virginia
mmtheobald@gmail.com
www.marymileytheobald.com



DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitations

AREAS TO BE VISITED: Branches within three hours of Richmond
(travel expenses must be reimbursed)

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

DIETARY RESTRICTION: None

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: lectern and microphone, for some
lectures digital projector, laptop and screen for PowerPoint

TOPICS: Literature & History**PRESENTATIONS:**

- Weird-but-True Things No One Knows about the Roaring Twenties*
- Weird-but-True Things No One Knows about Silent Movies*
- Four Centuries of Virginia Christmas Traditions*
- O Christmas Tree: A History of the Christmas Tree in America*
- *Christmas Myths*
- Dinner or Decoration? Table Settings in Colonial America*
- *Christmas Decoration in Colonial America*
- First House: Two Centuries with Virginia's First Families*
- Death by Petticoat and other History Myths Debunked*
- *The Truth Behind the Twelve Days of Christmas Song*
- Christmas Myths* (lectures can be tailored to specific topics such as women's history, religion, antiques, architecture, etc.)
- Thomas Jefferson and the Maple Sugar Scheme*
- Pumpkins Progress*
- The Colonial Revival*

Mary Miley Theobald is a historian and free-lance writer specializing in history, travel, and business topics. She received her B.A. and M.A. from the College of William and Mary, worked for Colonial Williamsburg for many years, and taught American history and museum studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. She has written fifteen nonfiction books and 200 articles for a variety of magazines and newspapers. Her alter ego, Mary Miley, is a fiction writer who won the national competition for Best First Crime Novel with her Roaring Twenties murder mystery, *The Impersonator*; three more in that series were published in 2014-2017.

IAN WILLIAMS

New York, NY

E-mail: uswarreport@igc.org

Blog: <http://deadlinepundit.blogspot.com>

DATES OF VISIT: Open to invitation

AREAS TO VISIT: Open to invitation

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

TOPICS: History & Literature**PRESENTATIONS:**

Rum: A Social and Sociable History of the Real Spirit of 1776

—Based on Mr. Williams' book of the same name, with emphasis on the role of the Caribbean and rum, in Anglo-American history

Tequila: A Global History

—Based on his latest book of the same name

George Orwell: The Seemingly Insular Englishman Who Globalized Common Sense

Britain and the U.S. at the United Nations

The Special Relationship (UK and US) and Its Development

The American Loyalists: expunged from history?

—Based on his research on the forgotten one third of Americans who opposed the Declaration

British Politics & the Labour Party

—Mr. Williams was a speech and article writer for Neil Kinnock, the LP Leader during the 1987 election



Born in Liverpool, Ian Williams graduated from Liverpool University despite several years' suspension for protests against its investments in South Africa. Consequently, his variegated career path included a drinking competition with Chinese Premier Chou En Lai and an argument about English literature with Chiang Ching, a.k.a. Mme. Mao, before taking up writing.

He has written for newspapers and magazines around the world, ranging from *The Australian* to *The Independent*, from the *New York Observer* and the *Village Voice* to the *New Statesman* and *Newsday*, to the *Financial Times* and the *Guardian*. He has also "pundited" on BBC, CNN, MSNBC, FOX, CBC and innumerable radio stations, for example appearing on "Hardball with Chris Matthews," "The O'Reilly Factor," and Wolf Blitzer. Online, he writes for Salon, AlterNet and MaximsNews, among many others. His books include: *The Alms Trade*, a study of the role of charities in Britain; *The U.N. for Beginners*; *Deserter*, published by Nation Books in July 2004; *Rum: A Social & Sociable History of the Real Spirit of 1776*, and his latest *Tequila: A Global History*. A new completely revised edition of the *UN For Beginners* will be published next year. Mr. Williams has spoken at both our Washington, DC Area and New York Branches.

MARTIN WOOD

West Yorkshire, England

E-mail: martinwood15@gmail.com

DATES OF VISIT: Subject to schedule

AREAS TO VISIT: Subject to schedule

WILL TRAVEL: Alone

AUDIO/VISUAL REQUIREMENTS: Screen,
digital projector and laptop for PowerPoint

TOPICS: Art (Interior Design)**PRESENTATIONS:**

Sister Parish: American Style -- Sister Parish was the *grande dame* of American 20th-century decorators. Parish-Hadley, the decorating firm she founded and ran with Albert Hadley was extremely successful and produced a huge body of work. Sister's most famous client was Jacqueline Kennedy, for whom she worked at the White House and at Glen Ora, a presidential retreat in Virginia. Martin Wood discusses the sumptuous and prolific work of Sister Parish, *grande dame* of American 20th-century decorators.

Designer to the Nation: John Fowler and English Country House Style -- During the course of his career, interior designer John Fowler was responsible for transforming some of Britain's important historic interiors, including Sudbury Hall, Chequers and Buckingham Palace. In 1938 he co-founded the design firm, Colefax and Fowler. Fowler's pioneering mix of painted furniture and cotton chintzes with old collections of art and objects created a new look for historic interiors in keeping with the romantic taste of the 20th century. Drawing upon his extensive research, Martin Wood will sketch Fowler's career from his early work to the last major house he decorated, showing the development of his style and taste.

Nancy Lancaster: English Country House Style -- Nancy Lancaster was one of the premier tastemakers of the 20th century and created what is known as the "English Country House Style." The owner of the design firm, Colefax & Fowler, Nancy had an assured sense of scale, boldness, a sharp wit, and an instinctive understanding of how to make a house mellow, elegant and unpretentious. In this lecture, Martin Wood discusses her own houses and gardens as well as her work for Colefax and Fowler. He also considers Nancy's remarkable personal life, her dynamic design partnership with John Fowler, and her friends and family, including Nancy Astor, Duff and Lady Diana Cooper, David Niven and Winston Churchill.

Martin Wood is a designer of textiles, interiors and gardens, as well as an author. His books include *Gertrude Jekyll at Munstead Wood* (1996), *Nancy Lancaster: English Country House Style* (2005), *John Fowler: Prince of Decorators* (2007), *Laura Ashley* (2009), and *Sister Parrish: American Style* (2011).

LIST OF ESU BRANCHES

REGION I

Albany Area, NY
Boston, MA
Greenwich, CT
New York, NY
Buffalo, NY
Rhode Island
Rochester, NY
Syracuse, NY

REGION II

Atlanta, GA
Birmingham, AL
Charleston, SC
Columbia, SC
Jackson, MS
Memphis, TN
Nashville, TN
Savannah, GA

REGION III

Central PA
Delaware Maryland
Monmouth Co., NJ
Philadelphia, PA
Princeton, NJ
Washington, DC Area

REGION IV

Charlotte, NC
Charlottesville, VA
Colonial NC (New Bern)
Greensboro, NC
Lexington, VA
Research Triangle (Raleigh, NC)
Richmond, VA
Salisbury, NC
Sandhills/Pinehurst, NC
Southwestern VA (Roanoke)

REGION V

Central FL (Winter Park)
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Jacksonville, FL
Miami, FL
Naples, FL
Palm Beach, FL

REGION VI

Chicago, IL
Cincinnati, OH
Cleveland, OH
Columbus, OH
Indianapolis, IN
Kansas City, MO
Kentucky (Louisville)
Michigan (Detroit)
St. Louis, MO

REGION VII

Austin, TX
Dallas, TX
Houston, TX
New Orleans, LA
Oklahoma City, OK
Shreveport, LA
Tulsa, OK

REGION VIII

Denver, CO
Desert, CA (Palm Springs)
Hawaii (Honolulu)
Los Angeles, CA
Phoenix, AZ
Portland, OR
San Diego, CA
San Francisco, CA
Seattle, WA
Tucson, AZ