

Baylor Lifelong Learners

2021 Spring Newsletter

President's Message

Dear Lifelong Learning Members,

As my year comes to a close as President of this wonderful group of people, I look back upon this year as one in which the true nature of our people has been exemplified. We have had 68 Lifelong Learning members serve in a variety of volunteer roles to keep the engines roaring on our program, bringing a superb program to our people while we were unable to gather together.

I've participated in many of the courses, special events, and shared interest groups (SIGs) along with many of you, and it has been a real treat!



Primarily, I'd like to thank Past President Elaine White and incoming President Terry Wright for their extraordinary service to our organization. The three of us were tasked with transitioning our program from Continuing Education to the Mayborn Museum. The enormity of the task was daunting, but these two people made my job easier by being on every ZOOM meeting, reading and writing various materials, and helping in the decision-making. Our hope is that our program will be even bigger and better than ever before as we are enjoying a wonderful welcome to the Mayborn family under the leadership of our new program administrator Cindee Millard and her colleagues! Watch for the Fall LLL brochure being mailed this summer to find all the new courses, events, and SIGs starting again in September.

Our LLL Board is truly amazing. Thanks to past leadership, we have a strong and steady force that meets on alternate months to review, consider, and approve the recommendations that are brought to them. Our words of thanks are but a small

part of our grateful hearts for their willingness to serve in their roles and bring knowledge and wisdom to the administrative and policy decisions they are called on to make.

The large number of other volunteer roles are filled by those who have agreed to serve as team leaders and team members of our curriculum team, special events team, course hosts team, publicity team, and history team. In addition to planning and preparation for our organization's programs, we are ready months ahead of schedule to create our brochure and inform our members about the coming attractions!

Our course hosts handle the details as our program is implemented. What a difference they make in the smooth operation of our many courses! They prepare for their jobs ahead of time, arrive early, greet the enrollees, introduce the speaker and handle on-the-spot questions and concerns. It is just wonderful to enjoy the many skills and abilities of our members who do these jobs with amazing precision!

New opportunities are just ahead as we come under the umbrella of the Mayborn Museum's great expansion of adult programming, new courses and events in the fall, and the continuation of our shared interest groups. Your next membership at Lifelong Learning will include a membership to the Mayborn Museum where your intellectual curiosity can be further expanded and enjoyed. We look forward to the next steps as we return to in-person occasions together where we can learn and have fun together. Thank you for being involved.

Judy Staples, President

LLL 2021-2022 Slate of Officers and Voting Instructions

Since we are not able to meet in-person, Theresa Hagan will send an email to LLL members around May 13 containing a link to the ballot that must be completed by May 16. The ballot will also contain voting information and a link to By-laws revisions needed for us to complete our move to the Mayborn Museum. Results will be announced at the May Coffee.

Slate of Officers:

Terry Wright, President

Terry grew up in Southwest Ohio, graduating from Miami University as an Accounting Major with a B.S. in Business Administration. Serving as an Air Force Officer, he worked in Washington DC, Thailand, and Southern Georgia. Later he transitioned from working as an Accountant into Programming and System Analysis work that brought him to Texas where he met his wife, Linda. He worked for a local non-profit, supporting their (and like agencies across Texas) computer software. In 1997, he responded to an ad for a System Analyst in the Office for Scholarships and Financial Aid at Baylor where he worked 20 years until retirement. In 2009 he earned an MBA from Tarleton. Terry and Linda have been active in Lifelong Learning courses and events for many years. Terry has most recently served as Vice President after serving on the Publicity Team, first as a member then as chair.

Douglas Baldwin, Vice President

Doug lives in Lorena. He was born and grew up in Florida, attended University Florida for a Chemical Engineering Degree and University of Houston Bates Law school for a JD. Doug has worked for Shell Oil Company as an engineer and an Intellectual Property attorney. He retired from Shell as Assistant General Counsel for Intellectual Property. Since retirement, Doug has maintained a sole private practice of Intellectual Property (patents, trademarks and copyright). He is widowed.

Dianne Sawyer, Secretary

Dianne was born in Amarillo, Texas but enjoyed living in Taos, New Mexico from the time she was 2 years old until she was twelve. She moved back to Texas for the rest of her education. After attending college for a BS in Biology/premed, she attended medical school at UTMB in Galveston, where she met her husband, Clay of 42 years at the Phi Chi fraternity event. She became a member of Phi Chi shortly after they met. They did their residencies in Cleveland, Ohio before making their home in Waco in 1986. She has been active in several community organizations: American Cancer Society, American Heart Association (Go Red Chairman), Junior League of Waco, Waco Symphony Association and Council, Cameron Park Zoo, Brazos Forum, REACH, TASO, Waco Family Health Board,

Hillcrest Hospital Board, and Family Abuse Center. She enjoys traveling, baking, gardening, and fishing.

Nancy Moore, Member-at-Large

Nancy Moore is a native Texan but a lover of travel, having spent at least 2-3 months on each of six of the seven continents. She graduated from SMU with a degree in Personnel (now called Human Resources) and worked in that field but also taught school one year, started a Volunteer Center for Waco United Way, ran a re-employment placement program for Black & Decker when their flagship plant closed, coordinated a Teacher-Training Center, did event planning and exhibition work, and wrote curriculum for a context-based publishing firm. Nancy and her late husband, Charlie, have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. She has been active in every community where she has lived, serving of Boards of Junior League, Hippodrome Theatre, Waco Civic Theatre, Brazos Forum, Historic Waco, Leadership Carroll County, Waco Panhellenic, Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae, etc. Nancy has also been a docent with the Mayborn Museum since it opened, and she was Chairman of the LLL Special Events Team in 2019-20.

Tom Purdy, Member-at-Large (completing Doug Baldwin's term)

Tom Purdy was born in Augusta, Georgia but grew up in Macon, Georgia. After receiving his degree in organizational management from Baylor, he became manager of the Trinity, Texas Chamber of Commerce and then President of the Galveston, Texas Chamber of Commerce before finishing his 30-year career in that field as President and CEO of the New Orleans and the River Region Chamber of Commerce. For five years he had his own management consulting business and was then asked to come to Baylor as a Senior Development Officer where he worked for fifteen years. Jan and Tom have been married for 57 years and have three children and six grandchildren. They have been members of Calvary Baptist Church since moving to Waco in 1991, and he has been involved in Lifelong Learning by serving in various roles and attending classes for many years.

LLL Teams Make It All Happen

One of the strengths of Baylor Lifelong Learners is that members have opportunities to engage in the planning and execution of our programs. We work

with Baylor personnel to make sure everything meets university standards and protocols, but ideas and plans for all of our work come from our members. Here is a look at what our teams have accomplished this year.

Curriculum Team

The 2020-2021 Curriculum Team members for Lifelong Learning are Susan Stephens, Bob Anne Senter, Larry Smith, Victoria Kendig, Carl Cox, Jan Purdy, C. C. Adams, and Dick Kettler, with Dorothy Schleicher serving as chair, and Judy Staples and Elaine White serving as ex officio members. This year's group has provided a wide variety of classes, presented by gifted teachers. For fall, we have once more a group of excellent offerings-- from music, to history, to psychology, local sites, archeology, religion and literature. A comment we often hear from LLL members is "I want to take everything!"

Course Host Team

You've seen Course Hosts at every Zoom event this past year. They are tasked with opening our meetings, introducing our presenters, and alerting the LLL office of technical difficulties. We appreciate the willingness of our volunteers to transition to working with our online presentations. Sherry Cragen and Jin Surovik work their magic to train and organize course hosts. They describe this year's work this way: "Dear Friends, we are excited that the spring semester classes are now in full swing with course hosts in place for nearly all classes. We learned from the first Zoom semester in the fall that having two course hosts for each class provides strong leadership and it has worked well. We are so appreciative of the willingness of all who said 'yes' when asked to be course hosts and to help make the transition to the Zoom platform. Thanks for your vital role in Lifelong Learning!"

Special Events Team

Although the work of the Special Events Team changed this year (no face-to-face coffees, no bus trips, no luncheons), this group has met challenges of the pandemic by providing some outstanding virtual speakers including Mark Childers, BJ Greaves, Roland Goertz MD, Stuart Smith, Jim Huggins, and Chuck Lewis. However, with the opportunity to offer gatherings in-person in the Fall of 2021, we are planning some very exciting events starting with the Fall Kickoff on

August 27th featuring “After Midnight,” a Baylor faculty and staff musical group. In October, we’ll hear about Cyber Security from an expert at TSTC followed by a November carpool outing to the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth, and then a Christmas luncheon on campus at Baylor University. We encourage you to watch for details and updates on our website at baylor.edu/lifelonglearning to get the latest information on special events.

Rick Moss serves as chair of the Special Events Team. Team members are Bob Cragen, Nancy Moore, Sara Moore, Jane Winston, Debbie Adams, Stan Wilkes, and Paul Dreiseszun.

Publicity Team

Current Publicity Team members are Sharon Lavender, Frank Levy, and JoAnn Simpson. Diana Ramey serves as chair. Brochures were mailed in the fall and the spring to those who have been LLL members, to BU retirees, to BU staff who are of a certain age, and to alumni in the area. New this year, LLL appeared in the February *BU Alumni Digest* and in the *BU Alumni Central Texas Regional Digest*. In addition, each month September through May, we promote LLL events and classes via the following local print calendars and websites: *Waco Today*, *Wacoan*, *Act Locally Waco*, KCEN, KWKT, KWTX, KXXV, and *Waco Tribune*.

Due to Covid 19 protocol last summer and fall, no personal visits were made to display program brochures in local businesses. This spring, our President and Vice President courageously distributed brochures to a few locations that were accepting publications for display.

We look forward to becoming part of Mayborn and their assistance in helping the Publicity Team promote Lifelong Learning.

Looking Forward with Terry Wright, Incoming LLL President

Adopted, Adapted and Amazed. This fall Lifelong Learning starts its new relationship within Baylor University, joining with the Mayborn Museum. Extracting from their Mission Statement, we will



continue: “Engaging our community and inspiring life-long learning...” (this is a phase which sounds vaguely similar). While we have enjoyed the use of the auditorium and classrooms at the Mayborn, we are now full partners with them. While you will notice slight differences in words and phrases and how things are handled along the way, we are all counting on our Lifelong Learning teams (See, you didn’t even flinch when you did not read *committees*.) as we follow our tradition to continue to plan, publicize, and provide support for the classes and events.

Please know they are as anxious as we to resume in person opportunities, as they too understand the value of the people you meet within LLL. At the same time, while Baylor is not our *in loco parentis* (Heck, for the administration, many of us are old enough to be their literal parents.), they are concerned for not only the health and well-being of their traditional students (that are the majority population and thus primary concern) on the campus, but they are also concerned about our safety as well. We look forward to their decisions this summer concerning opening the campus back up and face-to-face opportunities starting in the fall.

Lifelong Learning has again shown this year how it is such a resilient vibrant organization. Think back this past year in our Zoom growth, and how much more comfortable you are using it today, and how our members have helped each other in its use (“You’re muted!!”). For those who backed away during the pandemic, we look forward to having you back. Know that you have been missed.

The Events and Curriculum teams have prepared an outstanding fall for us, and I’m excited to announce both have a backlog of topics to consider as we head into the spring. I look forward to seeing and serving you this year.

Join a SIG (Shared Interest Group)

One of the benefits of membership in Baylor Lifelong Learners is an opportunity to join or host a Shared Interest Group. This year we were able to offer three SIGS: one for planning travel, one for researching genealogy, and one for writing memoirs. Information for each of these groups is on our website, and you are free

to join at any time throughout the year. The groups meet once a month September through December and February through June. A minimum of 5 participants is required for continuation of the SIG. If you think you would like to host an additional SIG, contact the LLL office for more information. These groups are *only open to LLL members* and materials shared are for group members only.

Becoming a Member of Baylor Lifelong Learners

We are excited to announce that beginning June 1, your annual LLL Membership will also include a membership to the Mayborn Museum which will cover admissions to the museum throughout the year! Your LLL Membership will allow you to register for LLL courses and shared interest groups for one year and keep you informed through brochures and emails. It will also continue to contribute a portion of your LLL Membership to our scholarship fund for deserving Baylor students.

Beginning June 1, you may join LLL and register for courses, events, and shared interest groups through the LLL website or in person at the Museum. We will no longer accept phone or mail memberships or registrations. Further details will be included in the Fall Program Brochure. Please let us know if you need help with the transition into these new steps.

Elaine White, Newsletter Editor