

Lifelong Learning at the Mayborn Museum Spring 2023 Newsletter



A Message from our president

Baylor Lifelong Learning is off to a great start this semester. I continue to be amazed at the diligence, the commitment, and the competence of the LLL volunteers; they make LLL such a success. Kudos to all the Team leaders and members of Teams. The courses, so far, are proceeding without any more than the usual hitches. Every Team is hitting on all cylinders. The Curriculum Team has completed the courses for the Spring 2023 semester and has a great starter list for the Fall of 2023.

The newsletter from the Publications Team is before you. Special Events has everything under control. A Fall trip is on schedule and Spring trip planned.

I continue to be amazed at the talent, brilliance, dedication, and commitment of our eight teams and about sixty volunteers.

*Volunteers in lifelong learning,
At the Mayborn they are yearning,
To share their knowledge and their passion,
For all to learn and grow with satisfaction*

Written by ChatGPT – In answer to “Write an four line poem about lifelong learning volunteers at the Mayborn”.

Lifelong Learners in the Wild—

Lifelong Learners had a busy fall semester. Members enjoyed gathering for coffee at the Lee Lockwood Library (featured in the Fall Newsletter), coffee at the Mayborn with Dr. Gerald Powell, a bus trip to the Dinosaur Company in Allen, TX, and the popular Christmas Luncheon featuring Trey Oakley from the Methodist Children’s Home.



LLL members were captivated by Dr. Powell's information.



Dr. Powell always mixes interesting information with entertainment.



Bus Trip participants gather for a group photo.



Larry Adamik couldn't resist tempting the wildlife.



Sue Adamik, Larry Adamik, and Nancy Moore



Norma Fritz wishing us "Merry Christmas!"



Scholarship Recipient Aurora Phan and Terry Wright



Preston Kirk and Elaine White shared original pieces from their Shared Interest Groups at the Christmas Luncheon.



Volunteers for Life

25th Lifelong Learning Celebration

By Judy Staples

Baylor Lifelong Learning will celebrate its 25th Anniversary on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm with heavy appetizers on the mezzanine of the Mayborn Museum. Join us for food and fellowship at 2:00 pm!

A program of memories will be held in the Mayborn Theater at 2:30 pm. The program is open to our present and past members, along with friends of Lifelong Learning. During the program, memories will be shared and organizational leaders over the years will be recognized.

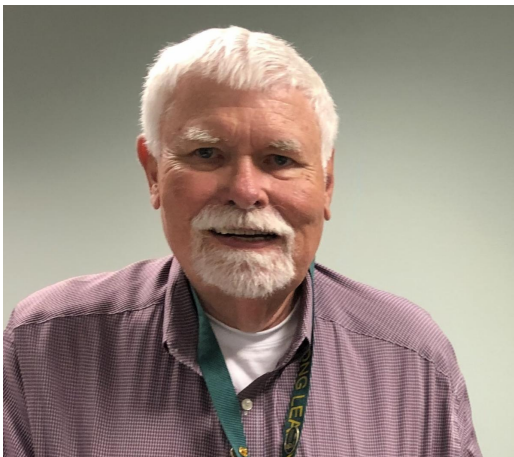
Lifelong Learning documents and records from the beginning have been collected into 25 annual notebooks that will be transferred from Baylor Lifelong Learning to the archives at The Texas Collection in the Baylor library system. The Texas Collection will index the descriptions of the pages for future research and review. A representative will give a brief presentation on The Texas Collection, what it is, and what is in the Collection.

A special color brochure has been prepared for the 25th Anniversary event summarizing the history of our program for hundreds of intellectually curious adults ages 50 and better who have enjoyed our courses and events! Copies of the brochure will be distributed to the celebration participants.

Food and memories and a presentation on The Texas Collection! Tuesday, April 25th from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at the Mayborn Museum! See you there!

Lifelong Learning Communications Team

By Terry Wright and Sam Wilson



One of the very newest groups of volunteers within Baylor Lifelong Learning is the Communications Team. It is so new, in fact, that it will not officially exist until this summer, when the necessary by-laws changes are voted on to make it so. The team is not yet completely formed. The team leader, former LLL president Terry Wright, is still looking for two more volunteers for the team to be fully staffed. Sherry Cragen is the other team member working with Terry at this time.

One task of the new team will be to work with the Membership Team to ensure that LLL has up-to-date and accurate contact information for the membership, including postal service address, phone number, and email address. It is sometimes the case that the email address a member uses to register for a course differs from the one they used at the time they purchased their LLL membership.

More importantly, the Communications team will ensure that messages to members about courses, coffees, luncheons, bus trips, etc., are handled in a consistent and timely manner. One consideration is that the number of messages sent in a given time

period be kept fairly low, so as to not trigger spam filters or cause irritation on the part of the recipient. Information about a course includes not just the reminder of the date, time, and location just prior to the start of the course, but also any changes that may arise due to

weather conditions or other reasons. The team will also work to ensure that LLL members without active email addresses (currently about 5% of the membership) will get the same information via telephone, text, or regular mail. It is envisioned that the team will also maintain an email address which can be used for the membership to send in questions.

The team has primarily been using the <Lifelonglearning@baylor.edu> email account. The advantage of this is that the From: address on the email looks more official and is less likely to be overlooked and discarded by the member receiving the mail. Using an official baylor.edu email account is possible because Terry is a Baylor retiree and still has access to the system. Future members of the team may not have this access, so the team is also exploring the use of a gmail.com account. If LLL members receive an email from a <bulifelonglearning@gmail.com>, they should be aware that it will be an announcement or other information from the Communications Team.

These communications used to be handled directly by Baylor personnel, when Lifelong Learning was under the Continuing Education program. As the Mayborn Museum took over responsibility for LLL, they decided communications would be better handled by LLL itself rather than by Mayborn staff. It was proposed that the Course Hosts for each course would send out notifications for their class, with some training from Mayborn staff. Given the variations in computer skills of the hosts, however, and to maintain consistency across the board, the LLL

Executive Team decided to handle communications and not expect the course hosts to do so.

Terry Wright volunteered to take this on, with some help from then-Vice President Doug Baldwin. The new Communications Team will remove this burden from the Executive Team.

If you are interested in working with the Communications Team, please contact Terry Wright or a member of the LLL leadership. Computer skills are useful but not a requirement.

Connecting With... LLL Presenter Julie Sweet

By Liz Arend

Keep an eye out for the Fall 2023 Lifelong Learning brochure, as you are in for a treat! Dr. Julie Anne Sweet, a very popular Lifelong Learning presenter, is signed up to teach a class this fall called *The Road to Revolution – 1765 – 1775*.

Dr. Sweet earned her B.A. at the University of Notre Dame, *magna cum laude*, in History and Theater. She earned her M.A. from the University of Richmond and her Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. She met her husband, Tom Riley, a former naval officer, while training at Colonial Williamsburg, a living history museum in Williamsburg,



Virginia. Her husband taught history at Baylor for a few years himself. Dr. Sweet has used her theater experience along with her time as a historical interpreter at Williamsburg to make her classes come alive! Her mentor at Notre Dame told her that “teaching is theater.” In order that students enjoy and value history, she has found that “making history real and connecting with students is most important. Memorization of dates is a killer; rather, make history the story of people and events.” Reading comments from students confirms that they agree with her! You can see her in action on C-Span “Lectures on History” Presentations: *“American Military in the Revolutionary War.”* – Spring 2019.

Dr. Sweet joined the Baylor faculty in 2002 and cannot believe she has been at Baylor for over twenty years. During her time at Baylor, she has taught undergraduate courses such as History of the United States to 1877, American Colonial History, American Revolution & Constitution, American Military History to 1890, and the History of Indigenous Peoples of America. She also spearheaded a collaborative class with the Baylor Law school called the Boston Massacre Trials. You can read more about this class here: https://societyforhistoryeducation.org/pdfs/M21_Sweet.pdf

I asked Dr. Sweet where she found the passion for history. She shared that her father LOVED history. As a family, they would travel to an historical spot each summer. She said she will never forget the park ranger who gave the tour of Gettysburg; he made history come alive. She was only nine at the time. To this day, she has the Golden Book of the Civil War in her classroom.

When Dr. Sweet announced to her parents that she wanted to be a history major, they were less than thrilled. Her father, an accountant, wanted her to be an accountant and her mother wanted her to be a lawyer. She went on to explain the career paths for history majors beyond teaching history. She said that students going into law, careers in government and public policy find the skills such as writing, analyzing documents, synthesizing information, and thinking critically are invaluable skills no matter one’s career path.

Having chatted with Dr. Julie Anne Sweet, I heartily recommend that you sign up for her class next fall! She is looking forward to teaching a Lifelong Learning class again, as she values the fact that we are all eager to learn. I think you will agree that she makes history come alive. You will want her to come back EVERY year!

LLL Members Grant and Donell Teaff

By Mary Taylor and Elaine White



The LL Publications Committee recently had the opportunity to interview Grant Teaff and his wife Donnell about their years at Baylor. Both are members of Lifelong Learners and in retirement have enjoyed taking several courses, particularly those concerning military history and world wars. Most recently they have signed up for historian Brad Livingstone's spring course on the Vietnam War.

After Grant had taken the job at Baylor he was told, unofficially, that Baylor dropping out of Division I football had been a strong consideration. Fortunately, his first year the team won five games and there was no more talk of dropping football and leaving the Southwest Conference. He came with so much excitement and belief that a great school like Baylor University could not only compete, but win in the Southwest Conference. His job clearly was to convince the University Administration, student body and the players that not only could they win, but they could also become champions.

Grant explained, "From the very beginning, I shared with them my belief that, in a football game, all things being equal, if they, as a team were in better shape than their opponent, the chances of winning were much better. I used this as a carrot and a teaching tool. They needed to know and understand THIS WAS THEIR TEAM." His system worked and Baylor won two SW Conference titles and 8 bowl games.

Not only did Grant's approach lead to winning Baylor teams, it also impacted football leadership across the nation. Grant states, "It has always been one of my goals to help provide leadership that could be modeled by high school coaches and college coaches to do a better job teaching values and character. My reason for having written 8 books, strictly for coaches, is to give insight as to how one might accomplish goals related to the physical, mental, and spiritual aspects of their lives."

Grant's dedication extended to his work in church as well. He taught a college Sunday School class at First Baptist Church in Waco and never missed a class, regardless of the previous night's football score. He recalls the morning after an away game at Southern Cal. "I remember well our team trip to play Southern Cal in California. (Which we won by the way). Because of the time change, we landed in Waco just in time for me to get to church to teach my Sunday school class of some 500 Baylor students. I explained to them how important it is when you make a commitment to be true to it. I used my own situation that morning to say to them, "I will commit to you to be here no matter how difficult travel, game, or score may be, and I hope you will make that commitment as well."

Even after retirement, Grant continued contributing to the sport of football. Some of the awards earned and positions held after retirement include Executive Director of the American Football Coaches Association for 20 years; supervision of the building of a national headquarters in Waco, Texas; Board of Directors Citizens Insurance Company; Board of Directors NACTA; Television Football Analyst, ESPN; Deacon, First Baptist Church (former Chairman) and Chairman First Baptist Church Foundation; National Football Foundation Hall of Fame and several other Halls of Fame; Texas Sports Hall of Fame Induction and Legend; USA National Operating Committee on Standards for Safety of Athletic Equipment; Southwest Conference Coach of the Year 6 times; and Amos Alonzo Stagg Award.

Grant's wife Donell worked alongside him as a mentor during his coaching career. She was the founder of the American Football Coaches Wives Association and served for 10 years as a Baylor Regent. She was also a member of the Baylor Roundtable and worked to organize the first scholarship given by that group. She served on the Advisory Council of the Baylor School of Education and was named First Lady of Football by the All-American Football Foundation.

Her position as the head coach's wife required her presence on recruiting weekends, as recruits were invited with their families into their home. She was responsible for the organization of coaches' families...football games, staff get-togethers, bowl games, etc. And often when a player required surgery and parents were not able to be there, she sat in the hospital with the young athlete.

There was a bit of danger in attending some of the football practices. She tells of once such incident: "My most shocking afternoon.... I was sitting alone in the stands, when suddenly a golf ball came over the back of the stands and hit me on top of the head. It rendered me unconscious for a few minutes, and I fell forward in the stands. Immediately, practice on the field stopped and all the trainers, Coach Teaff, and the coaching staff ran up into the stands to assist me. Fortunately, there was no great damage, and the 'golfer' who was practicing in the parking lot got away!!!"

All three of the Teaff's daughters are Baylor graduates, and so are three granddaughters and several nieces and nephews.

Grant and Donell remain in touch with many of the people who came through the football program, both coaches and players. They enjoy remaining connected to Baylor and are pleased that Lifelong Learners offers them opportunities to grow and learn. Donell says, "I don't think there is another University where we could have been any happier or enjoyed more the friends we have made over the years. How grateful we are that being Baylor Bears continues to bring such joy....and remember you can have continuing education even now!!!"

Lights Around Waco

The Waco Farmers Market

By Cheryl Foster

The Waco Downtown Farmers Market (WDFM) is the weekend jewel of our growing city. Launched in 2011, the Farmers Market started at the corner of University Parks and Webster Ave, beside the old Fire Tower. In 2017, the upcoming Riverwalk updates moved to Market to the corner of 4th and Washington across from the courthouse, but the change didn't dampen the wonderful market experience.

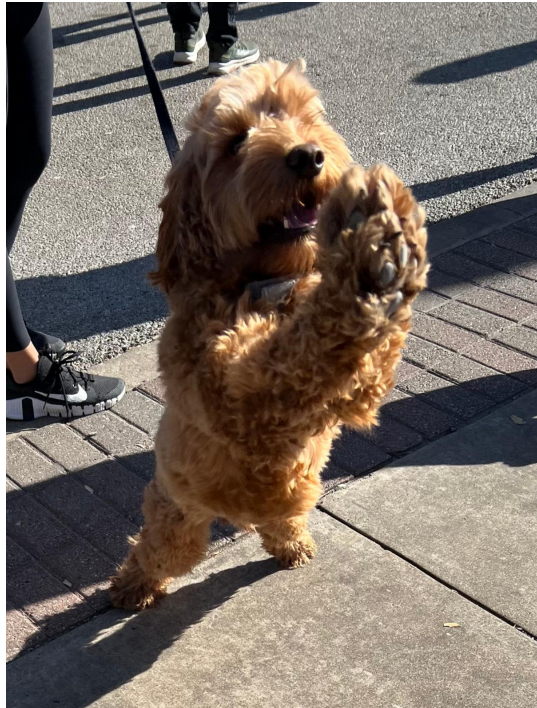
The Farmers Market is a great place to meet your friends for breakfast and conversation, along with their dogs! Waffles, tacos, quesadillas, papusas, coffee, chocolate and more make for a great visit. The Farmers Market is great for Waco too – the market brought in over \$1.5 million in sales last year, while tripling participation in nutrition incentive programs and hosting up to 80 vendors on special event weekends. City ordinances

require that the market maintain an 80/20 balance of agricultural producers to artisan goods (non-agricultural products). Local community involvement is not limited to veggies and treats. The Market hosts tents for local groups such as the Master Gardeners and non-partisan Voter Registration tables. The music is great too! Each weekend a new musician or group plays to the delight of shoppers.

Bethel Erickson is the Market Director and is working with the Baylor Philanthropy & Public Service Program to engage students in the expansion of the Farmers Market to the East Waco Bridge Street Market on Wednesday evenings.

The Downtown Farmers Market runs from 9am to 1pm on Saturdays, and 9am to 12pm in July and August.

Learn more about the Farmers Market at <https://wacodowntownfarmersmarket.org/>





Coming Up:

- **Experience “Heaven’s Front Porch” in Waxahachie, TX**

Saturday, March 25, All Day

Cost: \$65 each for LLL members, \$70 each for non-LLL members

Join Lifelong Learning for a bus trip to Waxahachie. Participants will attend the afternoon performance of “Heaven’s Front Porch” of early gospel songs in the Chautauqua Auditorium and enjoy a Pullman car tour. Snacks and water will be provided on the bus. Fee includes ticket to performance.

Lunch will be on you own at local restaurants nearby.

[Learn More](#)

The Lifelong Learning Newsletter is created by the Publications Team. Thanks to Liz Arend, Cheryl Foster, Karen Holder, Gayle Lintz, Patti Nottgrass, Judy Staples, Mary Taylor, Sam Wilson, and Elaine White

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