

**2/18/14**

**David D. Moore, “Blackbeard the Pirate and *Queen Anne’s Revenge*: The History of the Notorious Pirate Captain and His Flagship”**

Colonial-era letters, reports, and even trial records are primary sources that reveal much of the known history of Blackbeard the pirate. The first half of this presentation will cover these fascinating documents; the second part will review the results of 17 years of archaeological effort at the *Queen Anne’s Revenge* shipwreck site.

*Curator of Nautical Archaeology at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort, David D. Moore has been involved in maritime history and shipwreck research for more than 30 years. He received a B.A. in marine science from UNC-Wilmington and completed course work for a master’s in maritime history and nautical archaeology at East Carolina University. He began researching piracy and proposed a project to locate Blackbeard’s shipwrecks as a graduate student at ECU. Mr. Moore worked in Florida as an archaeological consultant, performing structural investigations of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Spanish galleons Nuestra Señora de Atocha (c. 1622), Santa Margarita (c. 1622), and San Martin (c. 1618). He directed the first deep-water shipwreck excavation utilizing robotic technology off the Dry Tortugas on the wreck of the Spanish vessel Nuestra Señora del Rosario y Buen Jesus (c. 1622). As principal investigator on the Henrietta Marie project (National Geographic Magazine, August 2002), his work led to the completion of his master’s thesis at ECU in 1989 on the historical and archaeological investigations of this significant slave ship site. Mr. Moore returned to North Carolina in 1996 to join the N.C. Maritime Museum staff. Since 1997, he has directed recording efforts on the excavation of Blackbeard’s flagship Queen Anne’s Revenge (National Geographic Magazine, July 2006).*

**2/25/14**

**Richard H. Cox, “Science, Theology and Faith”**

This presentation will introduce recent discoveries in science and debated topics surrounding theology and faith. The convergence of “modern thought” and “traditional understanding” will be discussed, with an opportunity for questions and interactions.

*Dr. Cox holds earned doctorates in medicine, psychology, and theology. He is the author of 15 books and dozens of chapters in professional texts and journal articles. He is Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University Medical School.*

**3/4/15**

**Bill White, “The Idea of America: How Values Shaped Our Republic and Hold the Key to Our Future”**

At the heart of America is a great debate. At the heart of that debate are our shared values: law and ethics, freedom and equality, diversity and unity, common wealth and private wealth. Bill White describes these values and demonstrates how the tensions between them have shaped and continue to shape our history.

*Dr. William E. White holds a Ph.D. in American studies from the College of William and Mary. He co-authored The Idea of America: How Values Shaped Our Republic and Hold the Key to Our Future. He serves as the Royce R. and Kathryn M. Baker Vice President of Productions, Publications, and Learning Ventures for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, leading the organization’s educational media outreach programs to inform and expand citizenship education. Colonial Williamsburg is a not-for-profit foundation dedicated to teaching American history and citizenship, the operation and preservation of the restored 18th-century Revolutionary capital of Virginia, and telling the inspirational stories of our nation’s founding men and women.*

**3/11/14**

**Lumen Scholars Present Their Research**

The work of Lumen Prize winners represents the highest achievements of Elon University's premier undergraduate researchers. The Lumen Prize supports students' ambitious and serious intellectual goals, providing \$15,000 grants to fund two-year research projects guided by faculty mentors.

*At each LIFE@Elon session, three Lumen Scholars will present their research in a variety of fields including chemistry, political science, French history, psychology, English, music, and international studies. The students' class schedules will determine which Lumen Scholars will speak at each session. No matter which students speak to your class, the presentations will be compelling!*

**3/18/14**

**“Five Places to Visit Before We Die”**

Different from anything we have offered before, this presentation will feature LIFE@Elon class members sharing the thrill and excitement of memorable trips. Each class will hear from four presenters who have traveled to destinations such as China, Russia, the Grand Tetons, Morocco, Thailand, or Sicily. Jenna Johnson will moderate. Visual aids will enhance the presentations. Feel free to question our speakers about their travels or their planning processes. Sit back and enjoy a session of armchair adventures, and be inspired to plan your own excursions.

**3/25/14**

**Hannah Gill and Blanca Nienhaus, “The History, Impact and Hospitality-Awareness of Immigration”**

In recent decades, the Southeast has become a new frontier for Latin American migration to and within the United States. North Carolina has one of the fastest-growing Latino populations in the nation. Latinos are no longer visitors to the state; they are part of the inevitably changing, long-term makeup of our population. Emerging migrant communities and the integration of Latino populations remain salient issues as the U.S. Congress stands on the verge of formulating comprehensive immigration reform for the first time in nearly three decades. This session offers a better understanding of our Latino neighbors, bringing light instead of heat to local and national debates on immigration. Exploring the larger social forces behind demographic shifts, Hannah Gill will show how North Carolina communities are facing the challenges and opportunities presented by these changes and how migrants experience the economic and social realities of their new lives. Co-presenter Blanca Nienhaus will help participants imagine they are immigrants who decide to leave their homeland and loved ones, risking their lives to come to the U.S. and facing the reality of being unwanted, persecuted, exploited, labeled, and not understood. She offers ways to open doors of understanding and close gaps of misconception and lack of knowledge.

*Hannah Gill, Director of the Latino Migration Project and Assistant Director of the Institute for the Study of the Americas at UNC-Chapel Hill, is an anthropologist with a specialization in Latin American/Caribbean migration studies. She is the author and co-author of two books, North Carolina and the Latino Migration Experience: New Roots in the Old North State and Going to Carolina de Norte, Narrating Mexican Migrant Experiences. A native North Carolinian and an alumna of UNC-Chapel Hill, she received a D.Phil. in social anthropology from the University of Oxford, England.*

*Blanca Zendejas Nienhaus was born in Mexico City and lived in Merida, the capital city of the Mayan state of Yucatán, before coming to the U.S. 11 years ago. In Mexico, Nienhaus worked as a teacher and as a journalist and English-to-Spanish translator for El Diario de Yucatán. In the U.S. she has edited La Voz de Alamance, a Spanish newspaper published by The Times-News, produced and published the magazine Contacto Latino, and taught “Spanish for the Work Place” at Alamance Community College. Ms. Nienhaus leads LUPE (Latinos Unidos Promoviendo Esperanza, or Latinos United Promoting Hope), a local Hispanic community organization.*

**4/1/14**

**Tony Crider, “Are We Alone in the Universe?”**

Astronomers have discovered that there are billions of planets within the Milky Way Galaxy. With so many planets, it is reasonable to expect that some would be capable of producing life. With enough time, such life could easily colonize the whole galaxy. However, no one has found any real evidence whatsoever for aliens. Scientists refer to this as Fermi's Paradox: the galaxy should be filled with alien civilizations, but so far we appear to be alone. We will explore possible solutions to this paradox offered by astronomers, biologists, computer scientists, and philosophers.

*Tony Crider is Associate Professor of Physics and chair of the Department of Physics at Elon. He received his Ph.D. in space physics and astronomy from Rice University in 1999 and continued his research of gamma-ray bursts as a National Research Council associate at the Naval Research Laboratory. Before moving to Elon, Dr. Crider taught at American University, where he coordinated the Multimedia Design and Development program. His interest in science visualization led him to create virtual planetariums, telescopes, and lunar landscapes within the 3D online world of Second Life. In 2006, he co-founded the SciLands, an archipelago of Second Life islands dedicated to science education and outreach. Currently, he is assessing the effectiveness of both Second Life and short “Reacting to the Past” role-playing games in science courses. He is also using robotic telescopes and computer modeling to study near-Earth asteroids.*

**4/8/14**

**Steve Hickle and Kim Crawford, “Hunger and Hope”**

Steve Hickle will provide a snapshot of the state of world hunger, including signs of progress as organizations work to take the bite out of hunger. His presentation will feature a close look at the work of Stop Hunger Now in Uganda. Co-presenter Kim Crawford will speak about hunger in North Carolina and Alamance County, focusing on how citizens can help alleviate the problem. She will describe the mission and work of Allied Churches and the volunteer opportunities available there and at other local nonprofits. Ms. Crawford will also recognize several leaders who have been instrumental in the fight against hunger.

*A native of Waverly, Iowa, Steve Hickle graduated from Iowa State University with a B.S. in fisheries and wildlife biology. He graduated from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, and moved to North Carolina to serve United Methodist churches in Johnston County, Craven County, Haw River, and Raleigh. Mr. Hickle has worked with hunger ministries since 1981, when Alamance County held the first of 33 CROP Walks. He served as the Shelter, Board and Building Committee chair of the Allied Churches of Alamance County from 1982 to 1990 and on the board of Stop Hunger Now from 2004 to 2010. In July 2012, he was appointed Faith Outreach Director at Stop Hunger Now. He is president-elect of the N.C. Council of Churches.*

*Kim Crawford is the Executive Director of Allied Churches of Alamance County, which provides assistance to the homeless and needy: daily lunches in the Good Shepherd Kitchen, an emergency night shelter, financial aid for utility bills, and access to services from mental health evaluations to résumé writing. Ms. Crawford earned her bachelor's and master's degree in corporate communications at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri. She has a second master's degree in religion and theology from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.*

**4/15/14**

**McKennon Shea, “The Passion: An Enactment”**

Using a minimum of props to bring maximum impact to the story of the Passion of Christ, McKennon Shea previously presented this moving one-person drama at Duke University Chapel.

*McKennon Shea is Director of Admissions at Duke University Divinity School. A United Methodist pastor, he served churches in the Virginia Conference before being appointed to his present position. He earned a B.A. in religion and psychology from Hampden-Sydney in 2005 and an M.Div. from Duke Divinity School in 2008. He and his wife, Anna, worship and serve with the congregation at Duke University Chapel in Durham.*

**4/22/14**

**John Claude Bemis, “Exercising the Imagination”**

Creativity, like a muscle, can be strengthened through exercising the imagination. Join author John Claude Bemis as he shares fun creativity-building exercises and activities. Whether you enjoy writing, art, crafts, music, cooking, or any pursuit that requires imagination, he will have you thinking in new and unexpected ways. Bring a pen, paper, and an eagerness to discover unique ideas in your imagination.

*John Claude Bemis is the 2013 Piedmont Laureate for Children’s Literature and recipient of this year’s Excellence in Teaching Award from the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education for his work as an author-educator. A dynamic speaker and presenter, Mr. Bemis has written four novels for young readers, including The Nine Pound Hammer, which was selected as a New York Public Library Best Children’s Book and won the North Carolina Juvenile Literature Award. He also wrote The Prince Who Fell from the Sky, an Amazon Editor’s Pick: Best Book for Summer Reading 2013. Learn more about Mr. Bemis and his books at [www.johnclaudebemis.com](http://www.johnclaudebemis.com).*

**4/29/14**

**Rachel Kizhnerman and Shelley Weiner, “Through the Slats at the Back of the Barn: How We Saw and Survived the Holocaust”**

In 1939, World War II erupted and transformed the lives of Rachel Kizhnerman, then age five, and her cousin, Shelley Weiner, age four. The girls lived in Rovno, Ukraine (then Poland), 60 miles from the Russian border. When Weiner’s father was drafted into the Soviet army and Kizhnerman’s father was killed early in the conflict, the two girls and their mothers were left to face a new reality. The four hid for more than two years, first in a farmer’s hayloft and later in an underground compartment. The women returned to Rovno recently with photographer and filmmaker Edward Serotta to revisit the farm where they found sanctuary. For Ms. Weiner, the memories flooded back as she peeked through the slats at the back of the barn, just as she had as a child. “I would see the chickens and the kittens out there, and I said to my mother, ‘I’ll be very good, just let me go out and play a little bit,’” Ms. Weiner recalled. “I never did, not once.”

*Cousins Rachel Kizhnerman and Shelley Weiner, who now live in Greensboro, are Holocaust survivors. Many in their family were among the nearly 25,000 Jews from the Rovno area who perished during the Nazi occupation.*

**5/6/14**

**LIFE@Elon End-of-the-Year Wrap-up**

**Business Meeting led by Bob Knox, Executive Chairman**

**Rod and Marilyn Fox, “Dixieland and Other Music of the Early 1900s”**

Enjoy live music played on the banjo, saxophone, keyboard, and other instruments. The Foxes will share brief historical information, and the audience will be invited to sing along. Dancing is also encouraged!

*A native of southern Indiana, Rod Fox holds a bachelor’s degree in biology and a master’s degree in botany, both earned at Indiana University. In 1994, he began Questra, Inc., a company specializing in commercial embroidery and advertising specialty products. He plays four-string banjo (used in Dixieland music), guitar, clarinet, and baritone saxophone. He has performed with the Rose City Banjoliers (Portland, Oregon), the Old South Dixieland Band (Greensboro), and the pit orchestras of many local musical theater shows. After earning a bachelor of music degree and an M.A. in music education from Appalachian State University, Marilyn Fox taught music in the Alamance-Burlington School System for more than 34 years, primarily at Elon Elementary. She has been pianist for Shallow Ford Christian Church for the past 17 years and has been music director and/or piano accompanist for numerous area musical theater productions. Both Foxes are charter members of the Alamance Jazz Band, which is still going strong after 26 years!*

**Lunch under a tent on the front lawn of Johnston Hall**

As we get closer to the end of the semester, more details will be available and responses will be taken.

## Offerings in Addition to Our Tuesday Classes

### History Book Club

**2/12/14, 2:00 p.m. or**

**2/13/14, 10:30 a.m., Johnston Hall**

*Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History*, by S. C. Gwynne

**4/9/14, 2:00 p.m. or**

**4/10/14, 10:30 a.m., Johnston Hall**

*The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic - and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World*, by Steven Johnson

**3/27/14, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Johnston Hall**

**World War II: On the Front Lines and on the Home Front**

Led by WWII veterans and women from the home front; moderated by Rod Fox

**4/17/14, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Rudd Room, Johnston Hall**

**Poetry and the Uses of Memory**

Led by Bob Demaree