OH-IO fall trip planned for September
Tuesday and Wednesday 29 - 30, 2015

In and Around Columbus

Ohio State seems to catch the attention of even non-sports lovers.

It’s a place all Ohioans can be proud of, so we’ll have lunch at the Buckeye Hall of Fame before our stadium tour, which will include one of the nations’ largest collegiate press boxes, a visit to the $1.5 million Steinbrenner Band Canter, home of the “Best Damn Band in the Land,” and a view of the field from one of the 81 suites on the Huntington Club level. We’re even promised a walk along the sidelines where Woody once roamed.

But before we get to campus we’ll stop in Ada at the Wilson Sporting Goods factory where they make 3,000 – 5,000 footballs each day. (You have to have shoes with a closed toe for this stop.) Only one tour is scheduled there each week and we have the slot for late September!

After checking into our LaQuinta Inn in Reynoldsburg, we’re travelling to dinner at the 94th Aero Squadron where World War I and II memorabilia and aviation themes are creatively showcased throughout the restaurant.

Wednesday morning after breakfast in our hotel, we’ll stop at an American whistle factory that supplies whistles to the New York Police and the NFL referees, as well as the United States military. Before lunch Wednesday, we’re going to stroll down memory lane at a new 1950s exhibit at the Ohio Historical Society. To go with that stop it seems only fitting that we stop for a burger and fries at a ‘50s- style diner for lunch before heading toward the Robbins-Hunter Museum in Granville. Enroute we’ll learn of a women’s rights leader, Victoria Woodhall, who, although not especially well-known today, has attracted more media attention than just about any female in the United States. PBS is currently filming a documentary on this fascinating woman from OH-IO!

After a stop for dinner in Bowling Green, we plan to conclude our two-day adventure and be unloading at the College by 9:00 p.m.

Join us by filling out the registration form found in this newsletter or on-line. Cost is $320. per person and includes everything: lodging, transportation, tips, guides, and admissions.

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**Forms for all activities are included on separate sheets of paper

All information (including trip and program forms) can be found online at: www.NorthwestState.edu/Lifelong-Learning
From Hieroglyphics to Chinese Characters

At the one-day seminar on Friday, April 10th the 45 of us who gathered for the Chinese Calligraphy day learned that the Chinese characters are really a very old writing form that evolved directly from the early hieroglyphics found from earliest civilizations. We even made a few hieroglyphics and with a swish of our wrist, they became meaningful Chinese characters. Now they probably won’t be hanging in any art institute, but it was fun to give it a try.

Professor SuiWah Chan of both Michigan State and the University of Michigan spent time in lecture and teaching us our characters. We also heard from Keith and Cheryl Wyse, Archbold residents, who have opened, Agape Family Life Home, a foster home south of Beijing for children with brittle bone disease. Chris Gohr of Sauder Woodworking presented some interesting stories of her work as Director of Import Operations that takes her to China and the Far East several times each year.

Maybe the most overwhelming nugget we learned was that while American school children learn to speak and spell with 26 letters in the alphabet, the challenge in basic Chinese is much more grueling. It is usually

Always connected…..

The Lifelong Learners always seem to be involved with visits and topics that make the newspaper. While at Graceland in Memphis we learned of a dispute between the Graceland foundation and the people who owned the two jets Elvis used. Although they were parked on site, visitors needed to pay another company a fee to get inside. We weren’t home a week until the news said, “Elvis’ planes will become part of the Graceland experience. Agreement reached.”

While on Beale Street we learned of the greats like BB King. Just one month later the blues great that we heard so much about died in a Hospice Center. AND the home of Johnny Cash that we visited was in the May issue of Guideposts!
Spring Travelers Telling Great Stories of new Experiences

Thirty seven of us enjoyed the week-long trip to Memphis this spring. Just hours after we left the College parking lot, we arrived in Marion, Indiana to enjoy a brunch set up just for us in a beautifully restored mansion near downtown. After a few more hours, we were in the middle of wine country with lush rolling hills and vineyards on both sides of the bus. We had our dinner at the Chaumette Vineyards and Winery just outside St. Genevieve, Missouri.

We arrived in Memphis by noon on our second day and ate right along the river in a part of town that had literally risen from the slums to a waterfront treasure for shopping, housing and dining. That’s the day we visited Graceland. Our timing worked wonderfully as we had almost no crowds to fight and word has it that sometimes the iconic site is overrun with Elvis fans. We finished there just in time to get downtown to the Peabody Hotel to see the famous ducks march. We were front and center when the red-suited official rolled out the red carpet runner, Sousa’s King Cotton March started up and the famous birds climbed out of their spacious lobby pond, and marched directly to the elevator for their ride to the top floor where they live. (Now why people from all nationalities were gathered in that lobby to watch the ducks, we can’t be sure. But they were!) It wasn’t far from the ducks to Beale Street, the center of the Memphis music scene. Our dinner and entertainment that night was a highlight for many of our travelers. A fine, fine night!

The third day of our trip took us across the river into Arkansas. There we were captivated by the stories we heard in the Tenant Farms Museum. In a very small, sleepy town is a stirring story of grit and determination. Then we drove through fertile farmland to Dyess, the hometown of Johnny Cash. In a now-unused small school, the local women provided a bountiful buffet line of food while...
local performers paid tribute in song to some of Cash’s best known songs. We learned this was the area that Roosevelt’s New Deal helped save. The goal of the administration was to give poor farm families a chance to make a fresh start with a home, a mule, and 40 acres. Johnny Cash’s family was awarded one of those homes. A visit to that home, now restored as it would have been when the Cash family was given the deed, was inspiring.

By late afternoon we had crossed the river again and were in Memphis for a tour of Sun Studios where many of the rock and roll singers made their earliest recordings. It was THE center of the recording industry and is still used today. After a stop for supper in a family-type local restaurant, we had finished day three full of new understandings of a story history doesn’t tell very well.

The visit to the site of Martin Luther King Jr’s assassination was a fitting close to our Memphis experience. The new 28 million dollar renovation to the National Civil Rights Museum there is built right around the Lorraine hotel, where he was shot on the balcony. It was a stirring experience of the horrible history of the behaviors of we Americans. After lunch at Central BBQ and a brief stop at the Cotton Museum, we were headed north. A great Italian dinner worked out well in Imperial, Missouri just a few miles from our overnight motel.

Our final day together brought a unique experience as we stopped for lunch and a tour at a convent, St. Mary’s of the Woods, in Terra Haute, Indiana. The early sisters who settled the colony had a wilderness to tackle, but their faith sustained them and today, it’s a beautiful sanctuary a bit off the beaten path. Finding no need to go home to empty refrigerators and empty stomachs, we finished our 5 day 4 night tour with a meal together at Sam’s in Blakeslee, less than an hour from our arrival at the College.
Changes in our Traveling Procedures

⇒ The late Center’s director, Louisa Strock, always questioned why anyone would go to a city and spend the evening in a motel room after dinner. With her solemn belief that “you can sleep when you’re dead,” she filled our days and our nights with activity. That worked for her, but many of us can’t do those long days and nights. So for the most part, we plan to have only one organized night of entertainment while we’re out. Many travelers just need a little more “down” time in a busy week.

⇒ Travelers with the Center have always had luggage service. Most hotels charge $5 per traveler to take your bags from the bus to the room and back again. But with wheels on most pieces of luggage, and in the interest of saving time, on the last trip the group voted to give up luggage service and we will handle our own. If, of course, a special situation would require assistance, we will be glad to help.

⇒ If you want to be assured of a seat in the first three rows of the bus, we will assess a $15 fee per seat, per trip. It’ll be like flying; if you want first class, you have to pay more for it! Now some prefer the middle or even the rear of the coach. But if you want the privilege of a guaranteed front seat in row 1,2, or 3 on the passenger side or row 2 or 3 behind the driver you should submit $15 extra dollars per traveler.

⇒ Sometimes you might want to consider trip insurance. It is not a “deal”, but does provide security in the event you can’t make the trip. Your College trip planners have no control over the refunds policy of our suppliers, so if any refund would be available for you, it would be their decision and not ours. We WISH it could be ours. In the past, we’ve been able to cover things pretty well, but it is entirely out of our control. We always hope for someone on the waiting list to take your place – that’s the best of all worlds!

⇒ We took a sample survey of some of our travelers to see if an orientation prior to the two-day trips was necessary or helpful. All replies said “not necessary.” So travelers who have signed up will get details via U.S. mail or e-mail instead of the evening gathering.

⇒ The Center for Lifelong Learning is YOUR Center for Lifelong Learning. We can alter our plans and procedures as necessary to meet the interests and needs of our participants. Don’t hesitate to make suggestions. We already have a nice envelope of ideas Lifelong Learners have suggested for upcoming seminars and trips.

Group Travel is fun...Join Us!
Blowin’ In the Wind
Fall Seminar Friday, October 16

The College has one, Archbold has one, Pettisville has one, and Bowling Green has several. But just south of Paulding there are hundreds of them! Wind Turbines. Those giant windmill-type things are changing not only the landscape, but the economy of Ohio. To learn about wind farms and their role in Ohio’s future, join us Friday, October 16, for a different kind of one-day seminar.

To get to the area with hundreds of turbines standing majestically above the silos, we’re heading to the Paulding / Van Wert area. And because a charter bus for the journey would be almost a thousand dollars, we’ve been assured a yellow school bus from Archbold Area Schools. It’s just over an hour’s journey, so you’ll be just fine! (Instead of your usual $5 seminar fee, we’ll collect $10 from each traveler to cover the cost for using the yellow bus.) We will be picked up at the East Entrance of the College and off we’ll go. Plans are that as we travel, we’ll hear from Eric Romich, OSU extension Field Specialist for Energy Development. This knowledgeable fellow is not for or against Ohio’s newest industry, but presents both sides of this innovative development.

Another quick stop is in the works, but not confirmed before time to print this newsletter. Either way, we’ll be back at the College for lunch by 12:30 and then plan to spend an hour or so in the afternoon on current topics, in round-table discussions. Come enjoy a different kind of day with us.

Somewhere Over (or under) the Rainbow!

Somewhere over or under the rainbow one of us will find one of the two books that still belong to the College library. We were getting ready to go to Gullah Country and had a book rack with things we could borrow. Somewhere under a bed, or in a drawer these two pieces are hiding. If by chance they appear, please let us know. No fine. No fee, just gratitude from the library! (The library is located on the east end of campus in the “A” Building on the first floor)
Spring in Milwaukee – Bus Trip
April 2016

We have completed the details of our spring trip to Milwaukee. Some people have said, “What’s in Milwaukee?” Come join us and you’ll see that there’s plenty going on in this Wisconsin city on the lake.

It’ll be a trip of diversity. One thing we’ll all appreciate is that, because Milwaukee is only a 5-hour drive, we’ll have only one hotel. So we unpack once, and pack up just once! In-between we’ll enjoy some mansions of the early beer barons, spend a day along Lake Michigan with spectacular views, visit the UWM Freshwater Institute and Great Lakes Aquaculture Center featuring an innovative process allowing freshwater fish to be grown in repurposed urban buildings. We’ll visit the Milwaukee Art Museum and enjoy a luncheon cruise. There’s a 70-minute tour of the home of the Milwaukee Brewers at Miller Park, a beautiful basilica, a visit to the three seven-story glass conservatory and yes, a stop at the Harley-Davidson Museum since Milwaukee is the home of that American classic.

One day, we’ll travel just over an hour to Madison to visit the state capital, visit Frank Lloyd Wright’s Unitarian Meeting Hall, the Circus World Museum, and the Wollersheim Winery.

For all the details on this spring 2016 trip, go to the college website at northweststate.edu and then click on community in the tan banner. One more click gets you to the Center for Lifelong Learning. There you’ll see an opportunity to click for our activities. You’ll even find a way to get details of the days’ activities and a registration form to save yourself a seat! Not a computer wizard? Take this to your local library and they’ll pull it up for you in a wink. And for just a few cents they’ll print it for you to take along home.

Oh, and we’ll eat well. Remember it’s all included for $945 per person.

• Students earning an Associate Degree from our Engineering Technologies program can enroll at Miami University and complete a Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Electro-mechanical Engineering on the NSCC campus.

• This spring, an NSCC student graduating from Miami University received the College of Professional Studies and Applied Sciences Outstanding Technology Student Award. This is a college and department-wide award at Miami.

• Bluffton University offers a Bachelor’s in Organizational Management and a Master’s in Business Administration on NSCC’s campus.

Sometimes we forget just how fortunate we are to live where we do. Do you realize that if a student wanted or needed to stay in our area and still obtain an affordable college education there are more possibilities than ever?
Datebook for Lifelong Learners

Friday, July 11 - last day for fall Columbus trip registrations if seats still available.

Tuesday, Wednesday, September 29, 30 – Fall Ovenight Trip to Columbus area. OH-IO

Friday, October 2 - Last day to register for bus trip to wind turbine farms (if seats still available)

Friday, October 16 - Fall One-Day Seminar, Blowin’ in the Wind – All those pre-registered should meet in East Entrance of College. Bus will leave promptly at 8:30.

April 24-28, 2016 – Spring in Milwaukee bus trip. Registrations and complete itinerary now available on line.

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To see all the details of upcoming trips, or to register for any of the activities, remember everything is now on-line and at your fingertips.

1. Go to: www.NorthwestState.edu
2. Click on “Community” at the top of the page in the tan banner
3. Click on the tab on the right that say “Lifelong Learning”

For more information or clarification contact the Center’s Coordinator:
Cecily Rohrs
Call 419-267-5502 or email her at crohrs@northweststate.edu

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- The spring semester the total NSCC enrollment was 4,784 students. Included in this number are more than 1,000 students who took a class or classes online. (This could mean that the student took both online and face-to-face classes during the semester.)

- The average age of the NSCC student body 30. The average age in the graduation class this spring was 33.

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Northwest State Community College

You’re in Good Hands with NSCC Graduates!
100% of the December registered nursing graduates passed their state board exams on the first attempt. The December practical nursing graduates also have a 100% pass rate with two additional graduates still needing to test.