

Dynamic Learning set to start

Jeff Anderson - Special to The Times | Front Page - December 30, 2017

The Dynamic Learning Institute (DLI) will open its doors on Jan. 19 to all who have an interest in continuing to learn and never stop growing.

Kerr County Commissioner, Tom Moser, championed the development of DLI. When asked why he dedicated his time to this learning initiative with all else that he has going on, he shared, "I am a great believer in 'we must reach to grow and if we do not grow, we die.'

DLI is intended for everyone with a desire to continue learning. My wife, Ginnie, and I are excited about DLI's course offerings and, in fact, have circled our calendars to register for 16 classes during the opening semester."

Tom will also lead the first DLI class "Human Spaceflight - Past, Present and Future," which features three NASA space exploration pioneers: Space Shuttle Commander Jack Lousma, Mission Control Flight Director Gerry Griffin and NASA Chief Engineer Tom Moser. The Human Spaceflight class is free, yet seating is limited, so pre-register by calling 792-4044 or visit www.ClubEd.net and click Dynamic Learning Institute.

Community Partnership

DLI is a Kerrville community partnership between the Dietert Center's Club Ed, Schreiner University, SERV Kerrville and the Dynamic Learning Institute Board of Directors.

Dynamic Learning is purposed to provide the Kerrville area with fun, interactive and stimulating learning experiences. The DLI Board encourages your participation and hopes you will join us in discovering the joy of learning from dynamic instructors with a lifetime of subject experiences to share. There are no tests, no grades and no papers — just the opportunity to explore interesting topics and develop new interests.

My personal involvement in the development of Dynamic Learning started last June, when Commissioner Moser challenged my wife, Barbara, and myself: "Kerrville is a community of intelligent, lively people who desire to continue learning, and Kerr County needs an academic, quality, lifelong learning program available year-round to support their interests in learning and sharing experiences and expertise with one another."



After research and prayer, our nonprofit SERV Kerrville, which collaborates with community partners to empower lifelong learning, accepted Commissioner Moser's challenge. Soon, we engaged in encouraging discussions with the Dietert Center's Club Ed and Schreiner University. We also discovered significant interest from local leaders, some of whom joined DLI as founding board members. Certainly the enthusiasm of our founding board members provided the momentum that quickly lifted Dynamic Learning Institute to life.

The Dynamic Learning Institute is modeled after successful university-led adult learning programs studied in other Texas communities.

Getting its start

On Jan. 19, DLI will begin with a diverse schedule of 26 classes for the Spring 2018 semester. Classes will feature interesting topics delivered by teachers with a lifetime of experience to share.

The instructors hail from Austin, San Antonio, Houston and the Texas Hill Country, and will share their expertise and engage interactively with class participants.

Classes will be presented at the Dietert Center, 451 Guadalupe St.; the Schreiner University campus as well as two unique culture classes featuring media personality John DeMers' "Valentines Evening in Paris and An Evening in New Orleans" presented at Fischer & Weiser's Culinary Adventure Classroom in Fredericksburg.

The courses offered and selection of speakers have one common denominator "Is this a presentation I want to attend myself?" asserted Kathleen Maxwell-Rambie, vice chairwoman and a regular columnist for The Kerrville Daily Times.

"The first semester roster of classes was developed to provide a variety of course offerings that will appeal to a many in our community," Maxwell said. Future semester topics and speakers are currently under development. Anyone who has a recommendation for a future topic or potential speaker with expert knowledge and dynamic teaching skills is asked to please let us know.

A combined effort

The Dynamic Learning Institute is led by Kerrville community partners with years of experience in lifelong learning.

Club Ed Director Waverly Jones, said, "Club Ed has been the Hill Country's largest lifelong learning program for more than 35 years, and has operated under the Dietert Center since 2013. We are excited to have DLI join Club Ed to provide a new dimension of continuing education for all ages in our community."

"The DLI partnership provides a more academically-oriented learning experience, which complements our current Club Ed offerings."

Likewise, Schreiner University Vice President of Advancement Mark Tuschak, who is also a DLI founding board member, expressed enthusiasm about the DLI courses that Schreiner professors will lead. "Schreiner

professors will be teaching at campus locations, including the Loftis Observatory, the Soaring Spirits Resilience Research Center and the Callioux Ballroom, where President Charlie McCormick will present "More than a Race of Spectators — How Folklore Impacts our Lives" at a luncheon April 24," Tuschak said.

"We look forward to welcoming the community to enjoy the rich, learning resources of Schreiner University's professors," he said.

DLI Founding Board

The Dynamic Learning Institute founding board members, who helped develop this new venture in Kerrville, include: Brent Bates, Art Bell, Neice Bell, Bob Carey, JoAnne English, Waverly Jones, Walt Koenig, Charlie McIlvain, Tom Moser, Ginnie Moser, Darcie Mosier, Kristin Mudry, Mark Tuschak, Tina Woods, DLI Vice Chairwoman Kathleen Maxwell-Rambie and myself, Jeff Anderson, as chairman.

DLI's mission

For each of these lifelong learning purposes, DLI plans non-credit spring and fall learning experiences for the enjoyment and growth of those seeking to learn and grow. The goal of DLI is to stimulate personal growth with a selection of fascinating topics delivered by dynamic speakers.

In the weeks ahead, look for this column to provide greater insights into upcoming DLI course offerings and speakers. Detailed information is available now for registration, courses and speakers at www.ClubEd.net click on Dynamic Learning Institute or call 792-4044.

May we never stop growing.

DLI Chairman Jeff Anderson is the servant pastor of SERV Kerrville, a nonprofit collaborating with community partners to empower lifelong learning.

January:

"Human Spaceflight" — taught by three NASA pioneers, Astronaut Jack Lousma, NASA Flight Director Gerry Griffin and NASA Chief Engineer Tom Moser;

"Thriving through Seasons of Grief" will be led by popular newspaper columnist, Kathleen Maxwell Rambie;

"Cyber Security — Be Secure and Safe" will be taught by retired director of the U.S. Air Force Cyber Command, Col. Tom Dean;

"You have a Story to be Told — Write Your Book Now" will be led by Rick Malm, founder of Commission to Every Nation.

February:

"Adolph Hitler's Illnesses May Have Won WWII for the Allies" will be taught by Tom Hutton, Ph.D., a national authority on neurological diseases;

"Understanding Chemical Addiction and Recovery" will be led by LPC Chris Daniel;

"Global Experiences of a Hall of Fame Army Ranger" will be led by retired SGM Tommy Shook;

"Everything DISC — Assessment to Action" will be a two-session class led by Pastor David Danielson MRE;

"Valentine's Dinner in Paris" at the Culinary Adventure Classroom in Fredericksburg will be led by media personality John DeMers;

"Pluto and Friends — Smaller Solar System Bodies" at the Loftis Observatory led by Schreiner University's Kim Arvidsson Ph.D.;

"A Diplomat's Perspective of the War in Afghanistan" led by Kerrville Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Walt Koenig;

"Texas Tales — Tall and True" taught by "Texas biggest liar" Donna Ingham Ph.D.;

"The Last Texas Outlaw Frontier" taught by historian and rancher Peter Rose Ph.D.

March:

"Terrorism 2.0-18" led by former FBI counterterrorism authority Jim Conway;

"Interesting Aspects of Hill Country Geology" will be led by Theron Sage Ph.D.;

"Reaching Your Full Potential," a life coaching course recommended by Tony Robbins, will be led by Steve Schmidt, Ph.D.;

"The Arts and Sciences of Beer" taught by Schreiner University's Chris Distel Ph.D.;

"The Archeology of the Texas Hill Country" taught by Steve Stoutamire MS;

"Self Publish Your Book Now" will be led by Rick Malm MS.

April:

"Building Your Toolbox for Life's Challenges" taught by Schreiner University's Soaring Spirits Research Director Carrie West, Ph.D.;

"Radical Islam — Confronting Jihad at Home and Abroad" led by St. Mary's University Director of Terrorism Law Jeffrey Addicott LLM SJD;

"An Evening in New Orleans" led by media personality John DeMers;

"Germans Come to Texas" taught by novelist Myra McIlvain;

"Hill Country Ecology" will be led by author and Daily Times columnist, Jim Stanley Ph.D.;

"More than a Race of Spectators — How Folklore Impacts our Lives," will be a luncheon featuring Schreiner University President Charlie McCormick Ph.D.;

"The Iraq War — Lessons Learned from a Diplomat's Perspective" will be led by Walt Koenig III.

For details and registration information on particular courses and speakers, visit www.ClubEd.net and click on Dynamic Learning Institute or call 792-4044.