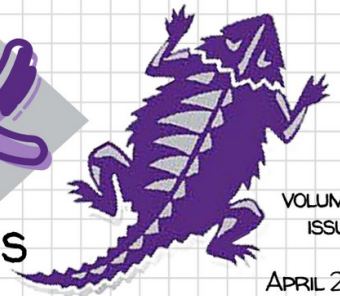


SILVER STREAK

CONNECTING AND INFORMING TCU'S SILVER FROGS



VOLUME 5
ISSUE 5

APRIL 2021

WELCOME SPRING!

LOOKING AHEAD TO FALL 2021 by Randy Smith, Curriculum Committee Chair

As we complete the spring semester, we are working hard on our fall schedule. The good news is that we expect to be able to return to limited in-person classes! Extended Education has also been granted full use of “our” Secrest-Wible classroom. However, we will have to make do with just this one classroom, since the other facilities we have used in the past are committed to credit courses (also working with limited attendance). TCU administration has provided guidelines for fall classes which allow in-person classes with reduced attendance (probably about 50%); since Secrest-Wible classroom seats 30, 15 will likely be our limit — distanced and masked.

Based on this guidance the Silver Frogs schedule will have some changes. So, while we may conduct in-person classes, the lone classroom and reduced attendance will require us to limit our in-person seats. We will schedule classes on weekdays at 9 and 11am, 1 and 3pm as in the past. Also, to provide more classroom time, the SF Advisory Board and Extended Education have added a 5-6:30pm class period on Mondays through Thursdays, in Sessions I and II. We will not have the late class in Session III because this will be after we go off daylight saving time and it will be dark by 6:30pm.

While we have learned to live with Zoom this last semester and a half, I'm sure we're all pleased for the opportunity to return to campus. However, we are going to maintain Zoom capability because some courses/lectures seem to work very well with this

format. We also don't have enough on-campus class periods to support our full catalog of classes. Therefore, we will be offering some classes only on Zoom, at the instructor's choice. We may also have to schedule some classes as “Zoom only” simply because of the lack of classroom availability.

In-person classes will be in a hybrid on-campus/ Zoom format. The Secrest-Wible classroom has been setup to present in-person courses to the limited on-campus students and stream to the remaining students. All classes will be limited to 40 enrollment, with only approximately 15 in person. For example, with a total enrollment of 40, 15 may be in the classroom and 25 will be online. On-campus students will attend class as in the past; Zoom students will be able to watch the instructor in the classroom and see their slides projected on the classroom screen.



ABOUT FALL 2021 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Current Members (guaranteed seat during this time): Wednesday, June 2 at 9am thru Friday, June 4 at 5pm

Public Registration: Monday, June 7 at 9am, until sold out

Maximum Number of Memberships: 600

Fall 2021 Membership Fee: \$125 with a \$30 discount for members teaching this fall

We will be sending you additional membership registration information as we get closer.

Please mark your calendars now for June 2-4—don't lose your spot!!

We anticipate a return to “sold out” memberships and look forward to seeing you all again!

Questions? Email us at lifelong@tcu.edu or call 817-257-7132.

—TCU Extended Education

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A SILVER FROGS INSTRUCTOR?

REMINDER: CLASS PROPOSALS DUE! by Randy Smith

The core of the Silver Frogs program is the wonderful array of classes we offer our members. These four-session courses and one-time lectures are taught by volunteer members and non-members who are willing to share their knowledge with us. Without these instructors, we do not have Silver Frogs. We have been very lucky to have a great group of instructors step up to the challenge, even in this virtual Zoom world. Thanks to you all. However, we need new topics and new instructors to join in the SF experience.

For next semester, there are some changes in the schedule and class format (see page 1 for more).

- ◆ **Zoom-only:** by instructor's request or because of limited availability of classroom periods
- ◆ **Hybrid:** in-person classes in Secrest-Wible for limited number of students (probably ~15) and simultaneous streaming to the remaining students (~25)
- ◆ **A 5-6:30pm class period** has been added in Sessions I and II, Mondays through Thursdays

When instructors submit a proposal, they are asked to indicate their preference: Zoom-only, classroom (with simultaneous streaming via Zoom), or—hopefully—no preference. The “no preference” option will allow the Curriculum Committee the most flexibility in offering classes at the times they prefer. The form also asks for information regarding which sessions, days of the week and times you are available to teach. Please use the scheduling comments field on the form to note any special requirements or desires.

Some Advisory Board and Curriculum Committee members conducted a test in the Secrest-Wible classroom recently and determined that instructors will be able to present their topic with minimum concern for Zoom management. Their slides will be projected as in the past and the Zoom camera will capture it for the off-campus students. The classroom host will monitor the Zoom students' questions/comments and relay them to the instructor.

Fall instructors may direct any questions to Randy Smith, Curriculum Committee chair, smithrc@flash.net) or the Extended Ed staff. The proposal form may be found [on the Silver Frogs website](#). We'd appreciate receiving all proposals AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. How about today?



END OF SEMESTER EVENT!

Via Zoom

(maybe our last Zoom event? Fingers crossed!)

TUESDAY, MAY 18

7:00 PM

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR EMAIL FOR FULL DETAILS

CHARTER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: CHRIS SHAHAN AND MIKE STRANGE

by Ann Shelton

You've no doubt seen their smiling faces around either the TCU campus or on your Zoom screen; Chris Shahan and Mike Strange are avid lifelong learners who have enjoyed Silver Frogs since the beginning. Not only have they contributed to the development of the program, but they have been responsible for introducing friends—including me!—to the program. I posed a few questions to them, which they graciously answered while vacationing at Arches National Park.

Silver Streak: Tell us a little about yourselves (how long you've been in Fort Worth, professional backgrounds, special interests, hobbies, etc.).

Chris: I have been in Fort Worth since Mike and I were married almost 18 years ago. I lived in Port Arthur and worked for the school district, first as a teacher then as a curriculum specialist. Mike's cousin, with whom I worked, introduced us. After moving to Fort Worth, I taught at Texas Wesleyan for nine years, have been a docent at the Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, and am an active member of Ridglea Presbyterian Church and The Woman's Club of Fort Worth. Mike and I love to travel. I do various kinds of needlework, enjoy reading and book clubs, and play Mah Jongg.

Mike: I am a native Fort Worth and have always had a warm spot for TCU, even though I never attended there. I graduated from Arlington Heights, went to Southwestern University, UT Southwestern Med School, then practiced medicine in Missouri for six years. I got homesick and moved back to Fort Worth in 1982. I retired in 2010 and since then have enjoyed travel with Chris, woodworking and gardening. I



have dedicated a lot of time to my church and Silver Frogs.

SS: Mike...you were part of the original group considering the formation of a lifelong learning group through Extended Education at TCU. How was that experience and where did the name "Silver Frogs" originate?

Mike: I have close friends in Austin that have been involved in their Quest Program for many years (an OLLI Program similar to Silver Frogs). I was envious and half-heartedly talked to people at TCU about starting a similar program here. Suddenly, out of the blue, I got an e-mail from Julie about starting a program very similar to UT's. I thought about it for less than half a second and signed up. I am not sure how I got on the list, but the story I have heard is that Julie reached out to everyone who had signed up for Extended Ed programs and asked for a senior discount. The original Advisory Board was one of the most outstanding groups with which I have ever been involved. It consisted of

(Continued on page 4)

CHRIS AND MIKE

(Continued from page 3)

dedicated, active, smart people who did their jobs and then tackled another task. As far as the name “Silver Frogs,” I just remember at an Advisory Board meeting, someone referring to us as “silver frogs.” No one seemed to take credit (or blame) for the name and we just went on to other business.

SS: The past year dramatically changed the structure of Silver Frogs as we have known it since 2015. Other than not being able to meet in person, how does the current program differ from how you originally envisioned it (if any)?

Chris: Although I have continued to enjoy participating in Silver Frogs on Zoom, I have missed the social aspects of the program. I always enjoyed the luncheons with special speakers and the closing parties at the end of each semester. As a person who has not always lived in Fort Worth, Silver Frogs has been a great way for me to meet new people.

Mike: The past year with COVID has definitely changed Silver Frogs. For me, the major changes have been in the personal contact. I miss the discussions, before, after and during classes, the SIGs, breakfasts and luncheons. I miss meeting new people and getting together with old friends. Interestingly, my main reflection of this last year is one of pride in the members, instructors, and Extended Ed staff in thinking outside the box, being flexible and forging on. This is what Silver Frogs was originally designed to be and makes me know we will continue in some form.

SS: What do you think we as members of Silver Frogs might do to encourage greater diversity within our organization?

Chris: I think that the classes offered this semester that help educate us on the history of discrimination in the US is a good start. Asking faculty members of diverse backgrounds to participate as instructors might begin to build relationships to encourage a more diverse membership.

Mike: As far as diversity, I think this is a huge challenge for us and for similar programs across the country. Gosh, I wish I had an answer. I think the first step is to reach out to as many ethnic groups as possible and explain our program, and try to find out what they think we can do to make it more attractive. Recruiting minority instructors for Silver Frogs may open doors. A committee that is dedicated to act as ambassadors to the community may make progress.

SS: What would you like to see going forward with the Silver Frogs?

Chris: I am so impressed with the variety of offerings through Silver Frogs: classes, lectures, special outings and activities, social opportunities, etc. We have a creative group of leaders and members and amazing support from TCU. With that ongoing support we will continue to attract top-quality presentations.

Mike: I am not sure where Silver Frogs is going. I have no doubt it will be different. As long as the Extended Ed staff, members and leaders continue with the ideals and goals we originally had when we started out—worried if we could get 10 classes and 50 members—we will do fine.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ARE ALIVE AND WELL

The **Women & Wine** SIGs, vaccinated and distanced (except for our pictures), resumed in-person meetings in April at the homes of Cathy Sunkel (April 15) and Katie Bray (April 29). What a delight to see each other again! For the first meeting, Andi Smith graciously put together a basket of goodies as a door prize celebrating our return to in-person and Gail Stephens was the lucky winner.

—*Sian Borne*



Women & Wine II, April 29



Women & Wine I, April 15



The **Bake Anything Better** SIG has met monthly in 2021 via Zoom, with bake-along kitchen sessions featuring buttermilk biscuits, cherry pie, angel food cake roll, and pavlova. Each meeting has been both educational and fun—a different member leads the demonstration and discussion—with loads of baking tips along with the recipes. And we always take time to share pictures of what we've been baking and answer each other's questions, so we can all improve our techniques.

—*Sharon Harrelson*

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) foster fellowship and allow members to engage with others who share a common interest. SIGs are open to current Silver Frogs members only. Membership or participation in specific SIG activities may be limited and a waitlist may be in place. These groups are member-driven and during normal conditions they meet at various locations on a regular schedule according to what the group members decide. During global pandemics, some of the SIGs continue to meet virtually, while others are on hold until they can meet in person...which we're eagerly anticipating to be in the fall!

Current meeting status is shown in *red for paused groups, green for active groups.*

CULTURE

Art of Fort Worth — contact: [Ann Heinz](#) *Connecting via email.*

Discussion of Current Societal Issues — contacts: [Larry & Elaine Klos](#) *Meeting virtually, every other week.*

German Conversation — contact: [Helga Gerlinger](#) *Waiting to meet in person.*

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

Ladies Lunch Out — contact: [Virginia Dias](#) *Waiting to meet in person.*

Men's Breakfast Group — contacts: [Gary Harrell](#) and [Jim Box](#) *Connecting via email.*

Positive Aging — contact: [Anne Carlson](#) *Waiting to meet in person.*

Women & Wine — contact: [Sian Borne](#) *Two groups; meeting in person, distanced for happy hour.*

Bake Anything Better — contact: [Sharon Harrelson](#) *Meeting virtually, monthly, with bake-along sessions.*

SPORTS AND GAMES

Classic Canasta — contact: [Virginia Dias](#) *Connecting via email.*

Liverpool Rummy — contact: [Polly Hooper](#) *Connecting via email.*

Silver Frogs Fly Fishers — contact: [Ken Bowers](#) *Waiting to meet in person.*

WORKING TOGETHER, DEVELOPING SKILLS

American Sign Language — contact: [Lisa Winter](#) *Meeting virtually with Zoom.*

Give Me A Break — contact: [Roger Norman](#) *Waiting to meet in person.*

Knitting — contact: [Lisa Winter](#) *Waiting to meet in person.*

For details about any of these groups, or to inquire about joining, click on a name above to contact the organizers. [Click here](#) to see all of the descriptions on the Silver Frogs website or to access the proposal form to start a group of your own.

SILVER STREAK MAGAZINE BRINGS YOU THE WONDERFUL VARIETY THAT DEFINES THE MEMBERS OF SILVER FROGS!

Want to read more? You'll find all sorts of special-interest stories written by our members in the newest edition of Silver Streak Magazine. Take a look below, and click on the links to access just the stories you want. Or you can access the Silver Streak Magazine in its entirety using [this link](#).

Here's what we've got inside the April 2021 Silver Streak Magazine:

- ◆ No matter the season, there's always a need for a good read! Take your cue from [Shari Barnes' seasonal classics](#), or pick up a book [recommended by members](#),
- ◆ In the mood for some lighthearted verse? [Penny McAdoo offers a poetry break](#),
- ◆ [Elaine Klos](#) shares a grandparent's love and heartache,
- ◆ Take a nostalgic trip to [meet an electric-company icon](#) with Dick Ramsey, and [make some soup](#) while you're at it,
- ◆ Pick up some ideas for [a variety of outdoor pursuits](#) from our members,
- ◆ Find out [where Silver Frogs are eating](#) these days,
- ◆ [Pie, anyone?](#)
- ◆ See [what members are watching](#) this spring,
- ◆ Visit Silver Frogs' backyards and [see what's growing!](#)
- ◆ Richard Ranc muses about [a taxing topic](#),
- ◆ And Buddy McIntyre urges us to [be prepared](#) for spring's crazy weather.

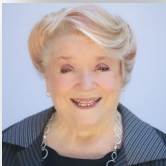


If the links above are not working for your computer, phone or tablet, you can [use this link](#) to access the entire Silver Streak Magazine, starting with the cover page

SILVER STREAK STAFF



Siân Borne A Silver Frog since Spring '17, Siân came to Fort Worth in 1973, after moving to the US from England. She has two daughters and five grandchildren. She loves to read and travel, and is active in several Silver Frog committees, serves on the Advisory Board and is the SIG Chair.



Diane Griffin has enjoyed Silver Frogs since Spring 2016 and is an enthusiastic advocate for lifelong learning. She is a retired business owner who loves reading, writing, listening, travel, theater, volunteering, and frequent interaction with family and friends.



Sharon Harrelson (Editor, etc.) is a Fort Worth native who's been editing various publications for work and fun since middle school. She's delighted to be a Silver Frogs instructor as well as a student; she also enjoys cooking/baking, gardening, games and being a band mom to twin high-schoolers.



Polly Hooper is a native Texan and is passionate about all types of photography. Her hobbies include travel and reading. She also loves to play games and is in a neighborhood book club. Her grandsons keep her very busy as well.



Richard Ranc came to Silver Frogs four years ago following an affiliation with Senior University in Georgetown. He's a retired VP of Investments at Wachovia Securities. He is a Silver Frog instructor who serves on the Curriculum Committee in addition to writing for Silver Streak.



Ann Shelton (Charter Member Spotlight) is a charter member of Silver Frogs. She retired after many years as an Administrative / Executive Assistant, and now enjoys being a grandmother, playing tennis (when TCU's courts are available!) and volunteering.



Carolyn Stephens came to Silver Frogs four years ago following a career in journalism, public relations and crisis communications. She loves the concept of lifelong learning and enjoys reading, cooking, gardening and new adventures.

What do you enjoy about Silver Streak?
[Click here](#) to send feedback. [Click here](#) to view past issues.



Office of Extended Education
817-257-7132
lifelong@tcu.edu
[Visit the Silver Frogs website](#)

SILVER FROGS DATES TO REMEMBER

Today
Fall Proposals Due

May 18
End of Semester Virtual Event

June 2-4
**Fall Membership Registration for
current members!!**

PLANNING AHEAD

Our final Spring 2021 issue will be published after all activities and classes have wrapped up for the semester.

We'd love to hear what you've got planned for this summer. Travel? Entertaining? Day trips? Visits to or from family you haven't seen in months?

And, we'd also like to wrap up the semester with **your comments about the classes you've enjoyed** — send a shout-out to your instructors!

Share your stories [via email](#) or using our [easy online form](#).

