

August Presenter Chris Benda “Illinois Botanizer”

August 20 Meeting

Location:

Epiphany Lutheran Church
West Chautauqua Rd.,
Carbondale

- 9:30 - Coffee, Tea & Conversation
- 10:30 - Meeting & Program

LIR Board Meeting

Location:

Epiphany Lutheran Church
West Chautauqua Rd.,
Carbondale

- September 15, 1:30PM

August Greeters:

- Marilyn Hogan
- Deb Corker
- Marsha Clements

President:

Gary Hartlieb

AT A GLANCE

Monthly Meetings:

August 20
September 17
October 15

QUESTIONS?

OR SUGGESTIONS

Email SILIR at
silir@siu.edu
or call 618/536-7751



Visit SI Learning in Retirement
web page at:
conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir

Wednesday, August 20

10:30AM

Results of a Plant Inventory at City Parks



In 2024, Chris conducted a botanical survey at a selection of 10 parks managed by the city of Carbondale. His presentation will include a summary of the findings from this survey. The audience will find some pleasant surprises.

Christopher David Benda is a botanist living in southern Illinois. He coordinates the Plants of Concern Southern Illinois Program for the Chicago Botanic Garden, conducts rare plant surveys for the Shawnee National Forest, and teaches The Flora of Southern Illinois at Southern Illinois University.

An accomplished photographer working under the moniker Illinois Botanizer, Chris will share some remarkable images from his extensive collection of plant photos.

Course Registration and Membership Renewal Now Available Online

Registration for the Southern Illinois Learning in Retirement (SILIR) is now open and available online! To register, simply visit <https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir/>.

For those who prefer to register using a paper form, that option is also available on the website or through the SILIR newsletter.

We're Looking for Class Ideas

Do you have an idea for a class? Is there a subject you'd like to see explored in a classroom situation or at one of our general meeting presentations?

SILIR is always looking to serve the interests of its members, and we'd welcome ideas from you regarding future offerings. Is there a period of history, either local, nationwide or worldwide you'd like to know more about? Curious about some area of health or medicine? Do you know of an artist, musician, or craftsman who would be willing to share details about what they do? Perhaps there's some area of government or public affairs you'd like to see covered. For that matter, is there some area you would be willing to present?

If you have a notion for a class or know someone who might be approached as a possible resource, let Roland Persons, the Curriculum Committee Chair, know. His email is rpers@siu.edu.

Registration Open for Fall Trip - *All Things French in the Heartland* -

For all things French in the Heartland, make plans to join Learning in Retirement **Thursday, October 16** on the next ***OnTheRoad*** excursion! We'll head north to Baetje Farms, maker of award-winning goat cheese, for a creamery tour and cheese tasting. After brunch we'll continue to Cahokia Heights, Ill., to tour three important French colonial buildings.

As we wend our way home along the Mississippi River, passing through Prairie du Rocher (1722), Illinois's second-oldest town, we will follow the Kaskaskia Trace, the oldest road in Illinois, established by Native Mound Builders and conveniently adopted by the French.

Registration is open now and will close August 28. The non-refundable cost is \$119.00, including brunch. If you need a gluten-free meal, specify when you register. Call SIU Events and Outreach 618-536-7751.

Our bus will leave the Arena parking lot at 8:00 a.m., returning by 6:30:

9:30-11 Baetje Farms, Bloomsdale, Mo.. Tour the creamery, meet the goats, and taste their chevre.

11:15-12 Brunch at The Kozy in Bloomsdale: two mini-quiches, a charcuterie board, house salad, and coffee.

1 - 3 Guided tour of the Old Cahokia Courthouse (1740/1793), Holy Family Log Church (1799), both constructed in the French Colonial vertical timber, post-on-sill style, **and the Jarrot Mansion (1810)**, the oldest brick home in Illinois built in the American Federal style. While the courthouse is largely a 1939 CCC reconstruction using some original materials—it was moved to the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, to Chicago's Jackson Park in 1906, and finally back to its original location—the log church is fully original and the only French Colonialstyle church in the U.S. or Canada still in regular use.

4-4:45 Fort des Chartres (1718). Rebuilt four times in the 18th century, this is part of a chain of French forts that also included Fort Massac and Fort Kaskaskia, ceded to the British in 1763.

5-5:15 Modoc Rock Shelter National Historic Site. This shelter bluff was occupied by indigenous peoples over a period of 9,000 years and excavated in 1951 by SIU anthropologist Irving Peitman.

Become a Member – Renew Your Membership & Bring a Friend!

Now is the perfect time to **renew or start your full-year SILIR membership**. Annual dues are just **\$25**, and membership is required to participate in Fall Session courses, interest groups, or trips.

You can **renew or join online** by visiting <https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir/>, or you may:

- **Mail** the registration form included in this or upcoming newsletter issues to Events & Outreach or download the form by visiting <https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir/>

Don't forget to **invite a friend** to join and experience the lifelong learning community!

SILIR Monthly Interest Groups

Monthly Lunch Club Discussion Group

Members are cordially invited to join this group which meets monthly to share lunch and open conversation.

August 28 - 11:30 Thursday
17th Street BBQ
Murphysboro

Monthly Book Club

The Book Club meets on the
third Monday of the month
at 9:30 a.m. at
Epiphany Lutheran Church
on West Chautauqua.

August 18
Guns Germs and Steel:
The Fates of Human Society
By Jared Diamond

September 15
Runaway (short story collection)
By Alice Munroe

October 20
Raising Hare (memoir)
By Chloe Dalton

SILIR Fall Session I Classes

September 8-October 6(Session I)

Mondays

Cost:\$ 15.00

9:30-11:30a.m.

Epiphany Lutheran Church

Instructors: Delaney Rhea and Sabrina Starnaman

Becoming Death Literate: Understanding Life's Inevitable End

These classes will provide information about key areas surrounding death, dying and grief to promote more successful aging. They will include a cultural history of death and death practices, body disposition options in America, end-of-life and funeral planning, and grief.

September 8-October 6(Session I)**Mondays****Cost:\$ 15.00****1:30-3:30p.m.****Epiphany Lutheran Church****Instructor Fran Oros****Archaeology: an Introduction to the World's Greatest Sites**

A Great Courses DVD in conjunction with National Geographic will discuss some of the most famous archaeological discoveries of all time, including King Tut's tomb, the excavation of Pompeii, the Nasca Lines, the terracotta warriors and others from around the world. It will answer questions such as how do archaeologists find ancient sites? What happens during an actual excavation? How do we know how old something is?

September 9-October 7(Session I)**Tuesdays****Cost: \$ 15.00****1:30-3:30p.m.****Epiphany Lutheran Church****Instructor: Gary Hartlieb****Great American Musicals: Broadway Musicals**

This DVD course taught by Bill Messenger covers the 200 year history of American musical theater. It includes some interviews, songs and background information on such famous composers as Jerry Herman, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein.

September 11-October 9(Session I)**Thursdays****Cost \$15.00****1:30 – 3:30p.m.****Epiphany Lutheran Church****Instructors: Kay Ripplemeyer-Tippy, Darrel Dexter, Jon Musgrave**

Stories of the History of Southern Illinois This course will cover French settlements, English traders, the College in the Hills experiment, slavery, the KKK, organized crime and more.

REGISTRATION FORM

•Please fill out and send entire form with payment•

SILIR REGISTRATION FORM (PLEASE FILL IN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Day Phone Number _____ Cell Phone _____

*E-mail Address _____

NEW MEMBERS: How did you hear about us? ☐ Friend ☐ Newspaper ☐ Social Media/Online ☐ Radio/TV*If you are registering more than yourself for a class/trip, please list the name(s) of the SILIR member you are registering.*

Name: _____ (26M0901901)

Addtl. Name: _____

FY26 Membership Dues\$25 x _____ = _____**July 1, 2025—June 30, 2026**

Name: _____ (26M0901904)

Name: _____ (26M0901905)

Name: _____ (26M0901906)

Name: _____ (26M0901907)

Name: _____ (26M0901908)

Name: _____ (26M0901909)

Name: _____ (26M0901910)

INTEREST GROUPS — July 1, 2025—June 30, 2026

Book Study Group\$10 x _____ = _____

Lunch Discussion Group\$10 x _____ = _____

French in the Heartland\$119 x _____ = _____

OnTheRoad (Non Refundable Trip)

Becoming Death Literate.....\$15x _____ = _____

Intro to World's Greatest Sites\$15 x _____ = _____

Great American Musicals:.....\$15x _____ = _____

Stories of the History of Southern Ill.....\$15x _____ = _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT PROGRAM WAIVER DISCLAIMER: Most SILIR activities require very little mobility. When an activity requires traveling up to 1 mile or more or navigating 10 steps or more, or involves longer waiting or standing times, we will alert you so that you may choose wisely.

Signature _____ Date _____

My signature confirms that I have read and understand the activity level of any trip sponsored by Learning in Retirement and accept the risks and conditions of the trip. I am aware that some trips may encounter rough terrain and closed-toe shoes will aid in maintaining my safety.

Please submit a check payable to "SIU Carbondale" or credit card information below.

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. _____

Name on Card _____ CVC _____

Email (for receipt): _____

**Mail to: Events & Outreach
Anthony Hall - Mail Code 6705
Carbondale, IL 62901****or call Registration at 618-536-7751 to
register with your credit card.**



EVENTS AND OUTREACH
ANTHONY HALL - MAIL CODE 6705
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
1265 LINCOLN DRIVE
CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS 62901

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 15
Carbondale, IL

Visit the SI Learning in Retirement
web page at:
<https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/silir>



What will you learn today?