

# The MICL Letter

August 2023

Fall Session A

## ***Message from our President - Annette Olsen***



### ***Bloom and Grow with Lifelong Learning***

Dear MICLites,

I hope everyone has been having a wonderful summer! Whether you were in the MICL classroom enjoying our Summer Session, traveling out and about, or having a *staycation* at home, I am happy that you are joining us for the 2023 Fall Session. I hope that MICL will enrich your life, and broaden your world.



Thanks to our Curriculum Director Dave Froba and the Curriculum Committee, we had a Summer Session that was thought provoking, and enjoyed by all.

We also enjoyed an outing to Elkhorn Slough, where we had a lovely day. We saw beautiful views with lots of wildlife, followed by a tasty lunch. Our Field Trip Director Roger Jackson and the Field Trip Committee have planned more great trips for this fall - see the attached flyers.

Registration Day was a great success, and we had a really good turnout! We premiered an Orientation Presentation as a new feature of Registration Day.

We also got a great overview of our updated website by Debi Jackson, who has been in training with Bruce Gallmeyer, our Website Coordinator. They work hard to keep our website up to date, so that you can stay informed. Please visit our website to see all the great information that can be found there.

Our President Elect Bruce Clifton and the Curriculum Committee did a great job telling us about the classes that are coming up in 2023 Fall Session A. The Curriculum Committee has organized some excellent classes! You can now see our 2023 Fall Catalog for Sessions A-C by going to our website: [micl-online.org](http://micl-online.org).

We ended the Summer Session with a return of the Ice Cream Social. Thank you to President Elect Bruce Clifton, and Past Presidents Dorothy Winke and Jenny Krajewski for their help making it a great success!

I want to welcome everyone to our exciting 2023 Fall Session! I want to extend a special welcome to our new members, I am eager to get to know you all! I look forward to seeing everyone back together in the classroom, as we all continue to **bloom and grow with lifelong learning**.

Sincerely,

Annette Olsen, President



## FIELD TRIPS:

**1. San Luis Wildlife Refuge and Double T Ranch**

**2. Sacramento River Cruise**

**See attached flyers**

**SESSION A Classes:**

**August 28 thru**

**September 29, 2023**

Fall 2023 Session A					
August 28 – September 29, 2023					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 am to NOON	 <p>Travels Around the World</p>	 <p>The Fall and Rise of China</p>	 <p>Law School for Everyone</p>	 <p>Current Events</p>	 <p>Friday at The Movies</p>
1 pm to 3 pm	 <p>The Art of The Documentary</p>	 <p>Social Zoom</p>	 <p>Writing it Down!</p>	 <p>Rome in Movies</p>	

### 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Annette Olsen
President-Elect	Bruce Clifton
Secretary	Debi Jackson
Treasurer	Dorothy Ford
Curriculum, VP	David Froba
Communications	Johnnie Williams
Facilities	Open
Membership	Ron Rutschman
Publicity	Betty Stewart
Hospitality	Maureen Fuertes
Field Trips	Roger Jackson

### CLASSES ARE HELD

**IN THE EL CAPITAN CENTER BUILDING**

**MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY**

**DURING FALL & SPRING SEMESTERS**

**Summer Session No Mondays or Fridays**

Diana Sicard	Immediate Past President
Vicki Vander Veen	MJC Comm. Ed. Specialist
MJC Lifelong Learning	(209) 575-6063
MJC West Campus, El Capitan Bldg.	2201 Blue Gum Ave. Modesto, CA
<b>George Pettygrove, 1920-2014</b>	<b>Founders</b>
<b>Odessa Johnson</b>	

# MONDAY

10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
Jerry Jackman



**TRAVELS AROUND THE WORLD:** In this class we bring in MICL members and friends of members to tell us about their trips, near as well as far and wide. You can expect lots of great pictures, perhaps videos, and most of all, stories about the trips. In addition to the experience of virtually going along on these trips, you will learn how the trip was planned and other background information. For good reason, this course has consistently been the MICL class with the largest attendance. Come and see the world!

**\*September 4 Labor Day Holiday\***

12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM BREAK

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
Betty Stewart



**THE ART OF THE DOCUMENTARY:** An often-overlooked art form, documentaries, cover a wide range of subjects - people, strange events and places and things you would normally never learn about. Join us for a diverse collection of documentaries, followed by discussion.

**\*September 4 Labor Day Holiday\***

# TUESDAY

10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
Jerry Jackman



**THE FALL AND RISE OF CHINA:** China is a world in transition, a civilization represented by a nation state. In area, China is half the size of Russia, but its population is 1.45 billion compared to that of Russia at 145 million. With the Chinese Communist Party's aggressive counterintelligence and espionage actions against the US, are they the biggest threat to our democracy? On the heels of our Russia course, join us in this comprehensive look at China to decide for yourself. Reactive discussion will follow each lecture.

12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM BREAK

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
Diana Sicard



**SOCIAL ZOOM:** If you're missing your friends during these days of social distancing, consider joining our MICL Social Zoom. It's fun, and it will lift your spirits more than you might imagine. Time spent talking to, and hanging out with people will lift your mood! Please join us!

# WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
**Martha Carlton**



**LAW SCHOOL FOR EVERYONE/CRIMINAL LAW:** This course will be the last in a series of classes on law. This session we are talking about criminal law. We are very fortunate to have Martha Carlton Magaña as our instructor. Here is her bio in her own words: I've been a criminal defense attorney for 47 years. I've represented thousands of clients and hundreds charged with serious felonies. I've done a hundred plus trials including 12 murder trials and many 'three strikes' trials. I have represented a number of clients facing the death penalty. I've had the privilege of trying a case with Tony Serra. I've also had the privilege to appear in television documentaries on the Frank Carson case, and the Brandon Petit case. I am originally from San Mateo, I went to high school in Hinsdale Illinois, college at Michigan State, and law school at Berkely Law School, University of California (formally known as Boalt Hall). I was an Alameda County public defender for ten years and a Stanislaus County public defender for 29 years. In 2007 I joined my husband Ramon Magaña's practice and practiced with him until his passing in 2014. Ramon and I met in the Alameda Public Defenders office, married in an Alameda Superior Court room, and were married for 34 years. We have three children. The oldest is a now a Mar- in County public defender.

12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM **BREAK**

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
**Joyce Starkey**



**WRITING IT DOWN:** Do you like to write? Do you have family stories you want to share with your grandkids? Do you like to write poetry? If you answered yes to any of these questions, come join our writing group. Write anything you like at home and bring it to class when you are ready to share. We will enjoy what you wrote and offer friendly feedback. Don't worry, sharing is always voluntary! If you are not sure, come and listen to check it out. Come and join our writing community of writers and listeners.

# THURSDAY

10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
**To Be Announced**



**CURRENT EVENTS:** Have you ever watched TV or read a news paper article, opinion, or letter to the editor and really wanted to discuss or react to what you read? "Current Events" is just the class for you. We discuss all kinds of issues and happenings from your neighborhood, local, regional, state, national, and world news. You bring in the topic, introduce it, and we all discuss it with the help of our collective expertise.

12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM **BREAK**

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
**Duane Nelson**



**ROME IN THE MOVIES:** Our ideas of Ancient Rome are based on portrayals from Hollywood Movies. Emperors, Roman Armies, Slaves, Gladiators, Christianity, Downfall of Rome, Evolution into modern Western world. In this 4 week course, we take a look at 8 most famous/memorable movies about Roman Antiquity. A historian of ancient Rome discusses each of the 8 movies, and we comment. History or Fiction?

Aug. 31: 1) Quo Vadis: Kick start the Sword & Sandal Game. 2) Ben Hur: The Greatest Chariot Race.

Sept. 7: 1) Spartacus: Kubrick's Controversial Epic. 2) Cleopatra: Spectacle Gone Wild.

Sept. 14: 1) The Fall of the Roman Empire and Ancient Epics. 2) I, Claudius: The BBC's Anti-Epic.

Sept 21 – 1) Life of Brian: The Roman World's Funny Place. 2) Gladiator: The Historical Epic Revived.



# T H U R S

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
**Carol Sullivan**



**BOOK CLUB:** We meet the last Thursday of each Session. We read a nonfiction book one month and a fiction book the next month. The book is suggested and selected by the group and will be moderated by the person that suggested the book title. Our group is open to everyone, even if you have not read or have previously read the book. Please feel free to join the group for any of the meetings. Keep Reading!

**September 28, 2023**

**The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race**

When Jennifer Doudna was in sixth grade, she came home one day to find that her dad had left a paperback titled *The Double Helix* on her bed. She put it aside, thinking it was one of those detective tales she loved. When she read it on a rainy Saturday, she discovered she was right, in a way. As she sped through the pages, she became enthralled by the intense drama behind the competition to discover the code of life. Even though her high school counselor told her girls didn't become scientists, she decided she would.

Driven by a passion to understand how nature works and to turn discoveries into inventions, she would help to make what the book's author, James Watson, told her was the most important biological advance since his co-discovery of the structure of DNA. She and her collaborators turned a curiosity of nature into an invention that will transform the human race: an easy-to-use tool that can edit DNA. Known as CRISPR, it opened a brave new world of medical miracles and moral questions.

# F R I D A Y

10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
**Noel Russell**



**FRIDAY AT THE MOVIES:** Start your weekend relaxation with a film classic or foreign film (subtitled in English, of course) that will carry you away to other times and other places. Discussion encouraged but not required. Details of the movies are posted just before the semester starts.

Sept. 1 - "The Good Earth "

Sept. 8 - "12 Angry Men "

Sept. 15 - "The Life of Brian"

Sept. 22 - "To Live "

Sept. 29 - "Winged Migration"

**\*SEE FIELD TRIP FLYER ON NEXT PAGE**

## EVENT SCHEDULE

Session A Starts	August 28, 2023		
Curriculum Committee	1st Tuesday	Sept. 5, 2023	3:15 pm
Board Meeting	2nd Wednesday	Sept. 13, 2023	3:15 pm
Birthday Luncheon	3rd Friday	Sept. 22, 2023	1:00 pm
Potluck	Last Thursday	Sept. 28, 2023	11:30 am
Book Club	Last Thursday	Sept. 28, 2023	1:00 pm
Session A Ends	September 29, 2023		



Join us on Facebook: Enter MICTL in search field, at site click on **+ Join Group**

# SAN LUIS WILDLIFE REFUGE and DOUBLE T RANCH

## SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

**\$30.00 (includes lunch) NON-REFUNDABLE**

**PAYMENT DUE: AUGUST 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**Make check payable to MICL – Mail check to Roger Jackson,  
2376 Valentine Ct. Turlock, CA 95382**

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### **9:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Tour of SLW Refuge**



Located in California's San Joaquin Valley, **San Luis National Wildlife Refuge** encompasses over 26,800 acres of wetlands, riparian woodlands, native grasslands, and vernal pools. The refuge is a major wintering ground and migratory stopover point for large concentrations of waterfowl, shorebirds, and other waterbirds. **A thriving population of tule elk is showcased by one of three auto tour routes.**

- Sandhill cranes begin returning mid-month
  - Songbirds migrate south
- Monarch butterfly fall migration peaks
  - Black-tailed deer rut begins
  - Tule Elk

### **12:00- 1:30 – Lunch and Tour of Double T Ranch**

**The Double T Agriculture Museum** has been built as a tribute to all the farm families of the past that have fed our great country. **Our exhibits reflect the life and times of family farmers and industry from the 1800s to the 1950s. From horse-drawn vehicles and carriages to our steam locomotive, the collection is host to many vintage treasures.**

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- Leave El Capitan at 8:15 a.m.
- Arrive at San Luis Wildlife Refuge at 9:00 a.m.
- Depart Refuge at 11:30
- Arrive at Double T Ranch 12:00 noon
- Lunch 12:00 -12:30
- Tour of Ranch 12:30 – 1:30 ish...
- Return to Modesto – 2:30



Shopping

Dinner

Cocktail Cruise - "ALIVE AFTER 5 "

OLD SACRAMENTO RIVER CRUISE and *TIME FOR SHOPPING* \$\$

**OCTOBER 20, 2023**

12:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**\$55.00 (non-refundable)**

Make Check out to MICL: Mail to Roger Jackson, 2376 Valentine Court, Turlock, CA 95382

**Payment due: August 25<sup>th</sup>**

**DINNER (on your own) BEFORE THE CRUISE** - Restaurant to be determined



Leave EL Capitan – 12:00 noon

Arrive Old Sacramento 1:30 p.m. – SHOPPING TIME

Dinner 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. (on your own) at Joe's Crab Shack or Rio City Café or??

Board River Cruise – 5:30 p.m.

Leave boat dock – 6:00 p.m. Return to dock 7:30 p.m.

Return to Modesto – 9:00 ish....

Head out on City Cruises' ALIVE **AFTER 5 – Cocktail Cruise**, the only party you can't find on land! Sip on some drinks from the bar and take in the fresh river breezes and sounds from the DJ, as you cruise under the Tower Bridge and past the Sacramento city lights.