



# The MICL Letter

October 2023

Fall Session B

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



### *Bloom and Grow with Lifelong Learning*

Dear MICLites,

I am so glad to see Session A getting Fall 2023 off to such a good start! We have had fantastic attendance and obtained some great new members. I want to give a warm

welcome all of our new MICL members! I look forward to getting to know you all.



Session A started us off with Travels Around the World, a continuing favorite Coordinated by Jerry Jackman, which took us to many different places where we saw many new things, as we learned about different cultures, traditions and lifestyles, not to mention food. Betty Stewart presented The Art of The Documentary which offered a wide variety of engaging subjects. We also began The Fall and Rise of China, an important class that will run from Sessions A thru C. Jerry Jackman got us off to a great start in Session A, to be followed by Bob Droual in Session B, and Betty Stewart in Session C. We were fortunate to have Martha Carlson Magaña as the presenter for our final installment of Law School for Everyone. The truth about Roman life on film was unveiled with Rome in Movies, presented by Duane Nelson.

We also had our ongoing classes, such as Social Zoom, where we have enjoyed chatting and getting to know each other. Writing it Down and Current Events are also longtime ongoing favorites. Friday at The Movies have been coordinated with the Session's subjects, and we had lunch (various locations) after the movie for discussion. If you have not attended these classes before, try attending them to see what you are missing.

We were treated to a special field trip to the San Luis Wildlife Refuge, and the Double T Ranch where we enjoyed a generous lunch and a fascinating tour. Check out our website for pictures of this great trip.

Session B offers more intriguing and informative classes. Plus, there will be another fun trip, as well as our monthly Birthday Lunches and Session B Potluck. I look forward to seeing you all there! Pictures of these fun events will be found on our website.

Sincerely,

Annette Olsen, President



**FIELD TRIPS:**  
**Sacramento River Cruise**  
**October 20, 2023**  
**12:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**SESSION B Classes:**  
**October 2 thru**  
**November 3, 2023**

**Fall 2023 Session B**

**October 2 – November 3, 2023**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>10 am to NOON</b>	 Travels Around the World	 The Fall and Rise of China	 All Things Considered	 Current Events	 Friday at The Movies
<b>1 pm to 3 pm</b>	 Propaganda	 Social Zoom	 Writing it Down!	 Everyday Engineering	

**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

**George Pettygrove, 1920-2014 Founders**  
**Odessa Johnson**

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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!

12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM BREAK

1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Coordinator:  
Bruce Clifton



**PROPAGANDA:** Come and learn about propaganda and its various forms of strategies that manipulate the human mind. By the end of this course, we will be equipped with valuable knowledge and skills that will enable us to spot propaganda. Success in our modern world requires our ability to navigate through these obstacles. Come and have fun with your MICL friends as we learn, discuss, and grapple with the issues of misinformation we face in our everyday lives.

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10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
Bob Droual



**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!

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10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
David Froba



**ALL THINGS CONSIDERED:** In this course we will focus on topics of interest that lend themselves to a one or two hour class but not a full five-week session. Special emphasis will be on topics that are particularly timely at this point in history.

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.

10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Coordinator:  
Duane Nelson



**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:  
Ed Ponganis



**Everyday Engineering: The Marvels of Daily Life:** We go though life largely unaware of how our complicated technological society works because few of us has ever taken a class on engineering. This is your chance to become aware of some of the marvelous things that we interact with daily and are still clueless about. We will focus on electricity, how it is generated and used. What are the characteristics of the different types of fossil fuels used and why they are selected? What are the fundamental blocks of a power plant facility? How are fossil fuels, nuclear, wind, and solar used to generate power and what are their trade offs? How is electricity transmitted form the power source to your house? How does your refrigerator, air conditioner, heater, and telephone system work?

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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!

**November 2, 2023**

**Book to be determined.** The book has yet to be selected, but all the details will be announced in the Session B Weekly Update.

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.

- Oct. 6 - "Birth of a Nation", part 1 of a three hour movie shown in two sessions
- Oct. 13 - "Birth of a Nation", part 2 of a three hour movie shown in two sessions
- Oct. 20 - "The Last Emperor", part 1 of a three hour movie shown in two sessions
- Oct. 27 - "The Last Emperor", part 1 of a three hour movie shown in two sessions
- Nov. 3 - "Building Wonders", another long movie that we will only see a part of

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

### EVENT SCHEDULE

Session B Starts	October 2, 2023		
Curriculum Committee	1st Tuesday	Oct. 3, 2023	3:15 pm
Board Meeting	2nd Wednesday	Oct. 11, 2023	3:15 pm
Birthday Luncheon	4th Friday	Oct. 27, 2023	1:00 pm
Potluck	Last Thursday	Nov. 2, 2023	11:30 am
Book Club	Last Thursday	Nov. 2, 2023	1:00 pm
Session B Ends	November 3, 2023		

[micl-online.org](http://micl-online.org)

Find pictures, videos, archives, calendars, MICLetter, Weekly Update



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



**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.

## MICL – Field Trip to Sacramento

**Immersed in the Arts**

**December 1, 2023**

**\$65 - includes lunch (non-refundable)**

**ONLY 26 SPOTS AVAILABLE**

**Due: November 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Mail a check payable to: MICL**

**Send to Roger Jackson, 2376 Valentine Court, Turlock, CA 95382**



### **Enjoy the Art of Cooking**

**Café Napoli** was founded on October 13, 1992, by Hassi Sadri. It has been the place to go-to for mouth-watering gourmet dishes and for the best event caterings.

You will be sure to enjoy this cooking experience! This is the Disneyland ride of cooking classes. You will experience the wonderful talents of the funny Chef Hassi and his fellow culinary experts.

You'll learn priceless cooking tips and great traditional recipes, sample many foods, get hands-on experience making your own food that you get to eat and bring home. Full bar is available as well. Desserts for purchase! You don't want to miss this **FUN** experience!



**The Crocker Art Museum** features the world's foremost display of California art and is renowned for its holdings of European master drawings and international ceramics. The Crocker serves as the primary regional resource for the study and appreciation of fine art and offers a diverse spectrum of exhibitions, events, and programs to augment its collections, including films, concerts, studio classes, lectures, children's activities, and more.

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### **Itinerary:**

Depart the El Capitan - Modesto 8:30 a.m.  
Arrive at Napoli Culinary Academy – 10:15 a.m.  
Culinary Experience – 10:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Crocker Museum 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Arrive Modesto – 7:30 p.m.