

## ***Instructor Biographical Information***

**Katie Barney** is the author of six cookbooks and has taught in the IAL program for a number of years.

**Nancy Brandenburger** is a speech-language pathologist with many years of experience working with adults with cognitive challenges.

**Christopher Burke** is a paramedic and the stroke coordinator for Queen Anne's County Department of Emergency Services. He has worked as an RN at Bayhealth and at Shore Regional Health and has worked in emergency and trauma services and in critical care transport.

**Kerria Burns** is a graduate research assistant at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. She earned her B.S. in biology at University of Maryland Baltimore County in 2017.

**Adele Claggett** is a volunteer at Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center who manages the care and feeding of the captive birds of prey, works with American kestrels and takes part in birds of prey educational programs. Adele monitors and documents nests of bald eagles, great horned owls, wood ducks, and American kestrels. As a member of the Maryland Ornithological Society she attends and leads bird walks. Adele maintains an active website (Birding.Pictures) which includes a catalog of the birds she has photographed, nest monitoring information and commentary, raptor identification information and more.

**Susan Claggett** has been teaching yoga for more than ten years, including at IAL and at Queen Anne's County and Talbot County senior centers. She has taught Pickleball for more than five years and is certified through the Professional Pickleball Registry. She loves to exercise and enjoys all aspects of the game from teaching a spin serve to volleying with confidence.

**Carol Conrad** is a retired independent high school history teacher with 40 years of experience in NC, RI, and MD independent schools. She holds a B.A. in history from

Allegheny College and an M.A. in history from Brown University. She had the privilege to chaperone many unusual student trips and in retirement, she and her husband continue to seek out cultural experiences around the world.

**Dennis Conrad** earned a Ph.D. in early American history from Duke University. His dissertation topic is Nathanael Greene and the Southern Campaigns, 1780-1783. He has published Papers of General Nathanael Greene (10 of the 13 volumes in the series), serving as editor and project director of the Greene Papers for volumes 7 through 13 (the War in the South volumes). He is the editor of Naval Documents of the American Revolution, volumes 11-13 and has written essays on Greene and other Revolutionary War topics in several anthologies and journals. He is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution Association. As a historian with the Naval History and Heritage Command, he published a digital documentary edition entitled *The United States Navy in World War I*.

**Sue Elter** is a self-taught genealogist and loves to share what she knows. She has a B.A. and an M.A. in history and is a retired archivist; she worked 32 years at the National Archives and six and a half years at Washington College. She has been interested in genealogy since the age of ten and has traveled overseas in search of ancestors.

**Nancy Fink** has worked in a management capacity in both the public and private sectors in workforce and organizational development and human resources. She holds a B.A. in sociology and French and an M.A. in education from the George Washington University.

**Elaine Friedman** spent most of her career working in education as a secondary math teacher, a department head, and an assistant principal for Montgomery County Public Schools. Prior to that she taught in Bergenfield, NJ. She went to Ohio State University for her undergraduate degree and Fairleigh Dickinson University for her master's degree. She received her Maryland administrative certification from Trinity. She has lived on the Eastern Shore for more than 31 years and has been a part of the IAL for approximately 15 years.

**Teddy Griffin** has a B.S. in computer science from the University of Maryland and spent over 30 years in application and system programming. After retirement, she has enjoyed making jewelry and other beaded projects and is eager to share that passion with others.

**Ryan Helfenbein** is an owner, certified preplanning counselor, and undertaker at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newman Funeral Homes. He was “born and raised in the death care profession” and makes presentations and writes a column called *Ask the Undertaker* for several local publications.

**Rabbi Peter Hyman** recently retired as the rabbi of Temple B'nai Israel, and has an M.A. of Hebrew Letters and a Doctor of Divinity. He has taught many courses on religious history, Jewish scripture, the New Testament and western theology.

**Cindy King** worked in wholesale nursery for eight years and ran The Mill of Kingstown Garden Center for 22 years; she is a graduate of Longwood Gardens Horticultural Series 1 and a certified professional horticulturalist through the State of Maryland. She also holds specialty titles in composting, weed identification and control, plant identification, herbaceous perennials, and pest identification and control. She has a pesticide license, fertilizer license and is certified for lanternfly. She is also a Board member of the Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association.

**Marshall Klinefelter** recently retired after working in the asphalt industry for more than 35 years, most recently as president of the Maryland Asphalt Association. His interests include travel and photography, and he plans to devote a great deal of time to both in retirement.

**Frank Kratovil, Jr.**, has served as an associate District Court judge for Queen Anne's County since 2012. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 1st Congressional District of Maryland from 2009 - 2011 and was State's Attorney for Queen Anne's County from 2003 - 2009. He earned his B.A. in political science from Western Maryland College and his J.D. from University of Baltimore School of Law.

**Courtney Leigh** is the ShoreRivers Membership Manager. She previously worked at the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center as the adult learning educator. She volunteers with several nonprofit organizations, and serves on the Board of Plastic Free Queen Anne's County.

**Candace Liccione** is the owner of Wye River Designs, a creativity and wellness studio in Grasonville. Wye River Designs features classes in mosaics, collage, mixed media and jewelry making. Before she moved to the Eastern Shore, she had an herb business in PA. Wye River Designs combines her love of arts and crafts and wellness. Wye River Designs also offers more than 200 kinds of medicinal herbs, teas, aromatherapy and wellness classes.

**Anthony Loscalzo** worked as an aerospace simulation engineer. He is the author of a computer program which creates 12-hour weather predictions. He was a participant in the International Geophysical Year research project. He worked for various computer companies, including Sun Microsystems which contributed to the creation of the internet. He is a pilot involved with search and rescue via the Civil Air Patrol, now a subsidiary of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary.

**Wilson McManus** is an attorney who has been on the forefront of modern estate planning techniques and the use of trusts for clients across Baltimore County since the early 1990s. He has been a practicing attorney in Towson, MD, since 1986 and has made trusts accessible for more than just the wealthy. He believes that everyone should have a right to privacy and a peaceful transition of assets to the next generation.

**Fred McNeil** worked as an educator from 1975 - 2000. He is a former Queen Anne's County Board of Education member and PTA president and has served on the board of directors for several local organizations, including the library, Knights of Columbus and his church.

**Dave Menzie** has a B.A., an M.S. and a Ph.D. in geology, an M.A. in applied statistics, and has taken graduate courses in business administration, and college courses in viticulture, winemaking and basic soil characteristics.

**Cindy Nichols** is a speech-language pathologist in private practice in Queen Anne's County. She learned the art of sourdough baking during the pandemic like many others - through YouTube. She loves how healthy and versatile sourdough bread is and enjoys the many variations that are possible, like focaccia, brioche, crackers, granola and pizza dough.

**Michelle O'Brien** has been a fitness instructor since 2010, most recently teaching at the YMCA in Centreville. She has taught a variety of formats including seated fitness at assisted living facilities, cardio, weights and aqua aerobics.

**Julianna Pax** retired from Montgomery County Schools in 1999 where she developed and taught the nutrition science curriculum in addition to her chemistry classes. She has a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Dayton, an M.S. from University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in nutrition science from the University of Maryland and is the author of several cookbooks. Her fifth cookbook is *Cooking for One (or More)*. She also manages the "Soup and Walk" program at Adkins Arboretum in Ridgely and teaches line dancing at the YMCA in Cambridge.

**Peggy Robertson** has traveled extensively, including a study abroad program in France, several months in Hong Kong and trips to Thailand, Japan, Beijing and Kenya. She has an M.S. in arts administration from Drexel University, a master's of education in history and French from Temple University and a B.A. from Penn State University. She is currently a part-time grant writer and previously worked at Abington Art Center and DePaul USA and for the Cheltenham Township school district.

**Dona Roderick** loves outdoor activities, including hiking, kayaking, bird watching and walking, and since retiring she has had more time to enjoy them. She encourages those who are lucky enough to live in this area to enjoy these opportunities.

**Ben Schlesinger** is a senior fellow at the University of Maryland's Public Policy Center for Global Sustainability. Over five decades he has advised more than 600 clients in 28 countries on the direction of the energy and natural gas industries, gas pricing, valuation and trading

mechanisms, and regulatory and litigation strategies. He has testified as an expert in legal and regulatory proceedings in federal and state bodies in 16 states and Ontario. He received his A.B. and B.E. degrees from Dartmouth College and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University in industrial engineering. As an adjunct at the University of Maryland, Dr. Schlesinger has taught a graduate level course in energy economics.

**Galt Siegrist** received his B.S. in geology from Lehigh and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Penn State in geochemistry and mineralogy. He taught undergraduate and graduate geology courses for 25 years at University of Maryland, College Park and 12 more years in Guam. He conducted sponsored water resources research and consulting in Guam and on many other Pacific islands. He has also taught several courses for IAL.

**Joe Sikes** has 52 years of experience with the Navy and the Department of Defense. He has traveled to most of the locations included in the Foreign Policy Association curriculum. He served as guest leadership instructor at the United States Naval Academy and taught courses while on exchange with the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

**Ben Riley** was a career naval officer. His final tour in the Navy and subsequently as a senior civilian executive was in the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Office of Research and Engineering. A lot of his office's effort was focused on the introduction of unmanned systems.

**M. Bernadette Ryan** is a retired surgical oncologist. During her last several years of practice, her major focus was caring for breast cancer patients and women at increased risk of breast cancer, including genetic counseling and testing. She taught medical students and residents throughout her career.

**Beverly Hall Smith** was a professor of art history for forty years. Since retiring to Chestertown in 2014, she has taught art history classes at IAL and WC-ALL. Since April 2020, she has been writing weekly articles for the Spy titled *Looking at the Masters*. She is also an artist whose work is sometimes in exhibitions at Chestertown River

Arts and she paints sets for the Garfield Center for the Arts in Chestertown.

**Raymond Vergne** is a retired cardiologist with a graduate degree in education and interests in literature, history, music and art. He has taught an array of classes for IAL.

**Maegan White** is a recent graduate of Washington College and is the ShoreRivers Community Engagement Coordinator. She first found her love for the outdoors exploring the mountains and lakes near her home in South Carolina. She moved to the Eastern Shore to attend college and developed a love for the Chesapeake Bay and rivers of the Eastern Shore.