

# PILLAR INSTITUTE



*LEARNING FOR THE FUN OF IT*

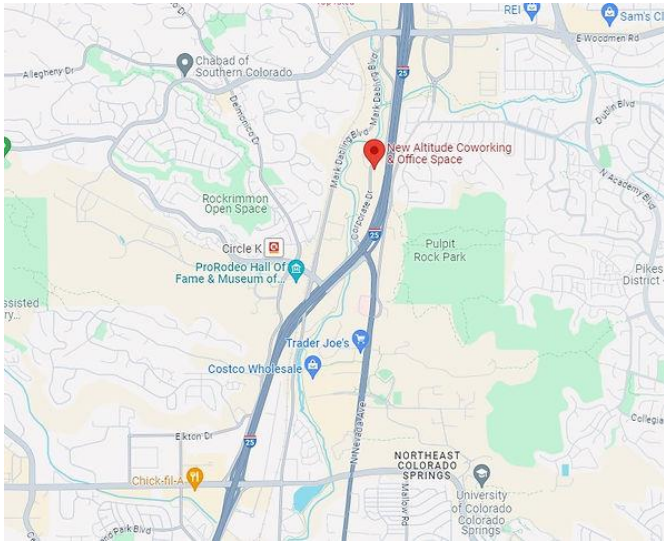


## Summer 2024 Class Catalog

**New PILLAR Location**

6385 Corporate Dr., Suite 200, Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
719-633-4991 <https://www.PillarInstitute.org/>

**PILLAR Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:30am-12:30pm, Closed on Friday.**



## **New PILLAR Location: New Altitude Q&A**

### **Where is PILLAR located now?**

PILLAR is located on the New Altitude floor of the Resource Exchange Building across from Furniture Row. You can take I-25, Nevada Ave., or Woodmen Rd. to get to Corporate Drive.

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### **Where do I park?**

You must park on the north side of The Resource Exchange building. The south doors are usually locked as that floor is The Resource Exchange. The north entrance will have you enter directly into the New Altitude floor without having to climb stairs or use the elevator. That is the floor on which our office is located, and our classes are held.

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### **Where is the new PILLAR office in New Altitude?**

Take the first hallway to the right as you enter the main lobby (not the first lobby) and follow the Redwood signs. PILLAR is the last office on the right before Redwood. You do not need to check in with the receptionist.

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### **Where are the classes held?**

At New Altitude there are six conference rooms. We will try to use the same room (Pinon) all of the time, but sometimes, due to class size or someone else having the room, we will be in another room. Check to make sure you know in what room the class is being held. Class sizes will be limited to the room capacity.

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### **What time are classes at New Altitude?**

At New Altitude, we will reserve the conference room for two hours from 10am - 12pm. That means the class will start at 10 minutes after the hour so that we can get the computer running. Use those ten minutes as getting your coffee time. So morning classes will begin at **10:10am** and go to 12:00pm. Afternoon classes will begin at **1:10pm** and go to 3:00pm. Zoom classes and classes outside of New Altitude will begin at 10am. Do not arrive earlier than 10am or 1pm in the assigned conference room. You are welcome to wait in the lobby.

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**Coffee and tea are free at New Altitude. Each conference room has a Keurig.**

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### **Important Class Registration Information**

- Pre-registration is required for all classes and tours, as all classes have maximums.
  - Check the times and locations of each class, as some are at different times or locations.
  - You can register for classes online at <https://www.PillarInstitute.org/learn>, call the office at 719.633.4991, mail in a registration form, or come in when the office is open.
  - Most classes are at the 2019 pricing of \$25 for members and \$40 for nonmembers.
  - The most current class schedule is on the website and weekly emails. Make sure you are on the PILLAR email list. Classes are subject to change due to the instructor's illness or weather.
  - Print catalogs are \$3. A mailed print catalog is \$5. Call or come by the office to request one.
  - Cancellations: As each conference room is reserved and paid for, registrations cannot be canceled at the last minute. Please read the cancellation policy.
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## PILLAR Sponsors and Partners



### Director's Letter

*Welcome to PILLAR*, the Pikes Peak region's only institute for lifelong learning for the past 25 years! Each year over three hundred lifelong learning opportunities are created for and by adults with no homework, no tests, and no papers. *Just learning for the fun of it!* PILLAR offers lifelong learning in a variety of subjects including history, science, philosophy, literature, art history, music appreciation, global affairs, and more.

*Vickie Heffner & Heather Hopkins*

**PILLAR Executive Director**

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### PILLAR Membership

**PILLAR is a membership organization. Although PILLAR membership is not required to take classes, it does provide a discount per class and free member events.**

**\$100 for a 12-Month PILLAR Membership**

Click here: [Membership | Pillar Institute](#)

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### The Pillar Institute Cancellation and Refund Policy

**PILLAR Cancellations:** PILLAR Institute reserves the right to cancel, combine, or reschedule classes to adjust for enrollment, technical difficulties, weather, instructor illness, or other unavoidable circumstances. If it is necessary for PILLAR Institute to cancel a class for any reason, all registered participants will be informed as soon as possible. If possible, the class will be rescheduled. If the class cannot be rescheduled, then the class fee can be transferred to another class within the same term, donated, or refunded.

**Participants Cancellations:** If a participant cannot attend a previously registered class, they will need to cancel the class with the office by email or phone call (do not leave a message) 72 business hours before the class is to be held to receive a class credit.

**Registration Minimums:** Since each conference room is reserved and paid for based on the number of registered people, classes may be canceled if the minimum registrations are not made. If PILLAR cancels the class, registered participants will receive a class credit.

**Membership:** There are no refunds on membership.

**Day Trips and Special Events:** Day trip and special event fees are non-refundable as fees are paid in advance to secure buses, performers, admissions, food, books, etc. However, day trip and special event fees are transferable to another person.

**Participants will be charged currently acceptable fees for all returned checks and chargebacks of credit cards.**

**Amended and Adopted by PILLAR's Board of Directors – 1-4-2024.**

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**PILLAR's Mission:** To provide lifelong learning, volunteer, and social opportunities for engaged adults.

**PILLAR's Vision:** PILLAR Institute for Lifelong Learning seeks to stimulate adult brain health through interactive learning, volunteering, and socializing opportunities.

Cover photo by kjwathne (Pixabay)

### **Mah Jongg Tuesdays**

**Tuesday afternoons, 1:00pm - 3:00pm, is Mah Jongg Play.**

Every Tuesday afternoon, we will play Mah Jongg with the 2023 National Mah Jongg League card.

Points will be added up for each term and a prize given at the end of each term. No registration needed.

\$2 per session. Pay at the door.

**Location: New Altitude Lobby**

**Thursday, May 2. Friday, May 10, 17, and 24, 10:00am - 12:00pm (note time)**

**#2000 Readings in Philosophy: The Last Days of Socrates**

**Instructor: Dr. Martin Cook**

Have you ever wanted to read some serious philosophy? Dr. Martin L. Cook, PhD in philosophy and religion from the University of Chicago, is offering an experimental short course in reading philosophical literature. He proposes reading together some of the early works of Plato, collected in the small paperback volume *The Last Days of Socrates*. Each week, each participant will read a short Platonic dialogue from this volume, and Dr. Cook will facilitate a discussion of that dialogue. These are all “easy Plato” and a great introduction to reading philosophy. Indeed, the 20th-century philosopher Alfred North Whitehead once remarked that all Western philosophy is a series of footnotes to Plato. So please note that this will be a departure from the more typical Pillar class, which involves an instructor lecturing over the material. This will allow each participant to interact directly with the text, with Dr. Cook serving only as a guide and facilitator. This may sound familiar as the so-called “Great Books” method of education in which Dr. Cook himself was educated at the University of Chicago. **Purchase the book from Amazon <https://a.co/d/71dxV8i> and read before class: *The Last Days of Socrates* (\$8.73 for a new paperback, less for a used book, or \$0.99 Kindle)**

**Martin Cook: PhD and MA** in Philosophy and Religion from the University of Chicago. Dr. Cook has been teaching philosophy and religion for more than fifty years to undergraduates, graduate students, senior military officers, and government civilians at both the Army and Naval War Colleges. Many of these audiences lack a strong humanities background, and, for many, this is their first opportunity to read such material. Dr. Cook has proven quite successful at drawing such students into unfamiliar material.

His work experience includes Admiral Stockdale Professor of Military Ethics at the US Naval War College and Professor and Deputy Department Head of Department of Philosophy at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Dr. Cook taught comparative religion at the U.S. Air Force Academy and Ashesi University in Ghana.

**\$40 PILLAR Members and Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, May 8, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2001 The Ten Commandments Applied Today, Part II (Commandments 6 -10)**

**Instructor: Jamie Foster**

If everyone in the world followed even a subset of the Ten Commandments, we'd be about as close to a utopia as is possible. We'll walk through each of these directives, explain what the commandment actually commands, and look at some real-world applications.

**Jamie Foster: BA** in Geology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. Jamie has been a primary and secondary school teacher, developing and teaching several church-related courses. “God Is Good” (from Genesis and Exodus); “Saint Nicholas Tells His Story;” “In His Own Hand” (a look at the four times God wrote in His own hand); “Is God Expanding, Too?” (a study on cosmology and creation); “Out of the Ashes,” (stories and characteristics of resurrections); and “This Train is Bound for Glory,” (the chapel car experience).

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, May 15 and 22, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2005 History of New Orleans, Parts I and II**

**Instructor: Julia Hargrove**

New Orleans is a rich gumbo of cultures: Spanish and French creoles, Cajuns, the descendants of slaves from Africa, the Choctaws and other Native American tribes, and Vietnamese immigrants from the mid-1970s. Thus, we have Andrew Jackson and the pirate Jean Laffite, zydeco and jazz, jambalaya and beignets, Mardi Gras and Super Bowls, Catholicism and Voodoo, Jim Bowie and Marie Laveau. Come with me on a trip to historic New Orleans and “laissez les bon temps rouler!”

**Julia Hargrove: MA** in American History from the University of Texas at Austin; **BA** with a double major in History and English from WSC (now WSCU) in Gunnison, Colorado. She was a high school teacher for thirty years and was a professional writer of educational materials.

**\$35 PILLAR Members / \$50 Nonmembers for both parts**

**Saturday, May 18, 10:00am - 11:30am (note day and time)**

**#2006 IGP: Geopolitics of the USA: The Economy**

**Instructor: Dr. Jim Poole**

Our economy is one of our country’s most important characteristics. It dwarfs most other economies (except possibly China) in world affairs while providing our fellow citizens a very high standard of living. What makes our economy work? What part does the banking system play in this process? What does the Fed do? What about our current budget deficit? Is it like your household budget? What about inflation? These are just some issues that will be addressed in this discussion.

**Location: Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80910**

**Jim Poole: PhD** in Applied Statistics from the University of Northern Colorado, **MS** in Economics, and an **MS** in Geology. Dr. Poole spent five years working as a geologist and thirty-five years in various roles working for major banks. Jim retired in 2015 and spends a lot of time traveling, reading, and studying geopolitics and photography, his real true passions.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, May 28, 10:00am - 11:00am (note time and location)**

**#2010 It's in the Air: Nutrition for Seasonal Immune Support**

**Instructor: Dawn Franz**

Do you have problems with pollen? Every year, spring brings annoying respiratory frustrations for more and more of us. These seasonal symptoms are often caused by our immune system reacting to harmless airborne substances like pollen. Wave goodbye to your problems with pollen by learning which nutrients help support a balanced immune response to airborne irritants. Breathe deeply!

**Location: Natural Grocers, 7298 North Academy Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80920**

**Dawn Franz: BS** in Nutritional Science with a minor in Biochemistry from the University of Arizona. She has been a Nutritional Health Coach for Natural Grocers since 2005.

**\$15 PILLAR Members and Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, May 29, 10:00am - 12:00pm (note time)**

**#2011 Zoom Only: Through the Lens: The Story of Three Photographers of the Cripple Creek Mining District**

**Instructor: Steven Wade Veatch**

The Cripple Creek Mining District in Colorado was a significant gold mining area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Gold mining continues there today. Several photographers documented life in the district during this time. Three photographers made important and valuable visual records of the mining operations, daily life, and landscapes of the region during the late 1890s and early 1900s.

William J. Gillen (birth date and death date unknown) was an American photographer known for his work in the early days of the Cripple Creek Mining District. His photographs offer a glimpse into the daily lives of the people who inhabited the mining district. His work includes portraits, street scenes, and events, providing a broader perspective on the area beyond mining activities.

Edgar A. Yelton (1866-1946) was a photographer whose notable works captured the mining activities, social scenes, and landscapes of the Cripple Creek mining district. His work provides a visual narrative of the challenges and triumphs of the mining district.

Julia Skolas (1863-1934) was a pioneering woman photographer and postcard publisher known for her work in the early 20th century. She operated a studio in Colorado Springs and then in Cripple Creek during the mining boom. Her collections included images of miners at work, mining equipment, and the rugged terrain of the area. Her work also contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the human experience in the mining district.

These three photographers played a crucial role in documenting the history and culture of the Cripple Creek Mining District, leaving behind a visual legacy that helps us understand the challenges and triumphs of this important period in Colorado's history. Join Steven Veatch for a program that explores their rich legacy of photographs of the gold camp.

**Steven Veatch:** MS in Earth Science from Emporia State University in Kansas. Steven Wade Veatch was born in Denver and grew up in the Pikes Peak region. His family came to Cripple Creek in the 1890s from England and worked in the district's mines. The other side of the family established a ranch in the wilderness near Boulder in 1865. They later moved to the Caribou mining camp, where Steven's great-grandfather attended Caribou's first school session in 1872.

Steven is a geoscientist and was an Adjunct Professor of Earth Science at Emporia State University in Kansas. He is an award-winning writer of over one hundred articles about science, nature, and history and is known for his articles, books, and presentations on local history. He is a Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society member and a 2015 National Rockhound and Lapidary Hall of Fame inductee.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, June 4, 10:00am - 12:00pm (note time)**

**#2015 Zoom Only: Brave Women of the Cripple Creek Labor Wars**

**Instructor: Katherine Sturdevant**

Cripple Creek's Labor Wars were both causes and effects of a degree of activism among women in various walks of life who sympathized with the oppressed miners. Whether nationally known activists, wives of public figures, or normally quiet wives who stepped in because of threats to their families, women "came out" in Cripple Creek to defend their society in ways that sometimes became legendary, especially as they were handed down and influenced their descendants.

**Katherine Scott Sturdevant:** MA, BA in History from San Francisco State University, PhD Candidate in Public History at UC Santa Barbara. She is Pikes Peak State College's Senior History Professor and started teaching with what became PILLAR when PPSC first offered lifelong learning classes. She has won awards in teaching and diversity. Kathy serves as a speaker, writer, editor, and consultant for community history organizations such as the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum and Pikes Peak Library District. Her first two

books teach about using historical methods in family history. As a social historian, Kathy emphasizes past people's authentic experiences.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, June 5, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2016 German History in Song**

**Instructor: Dr. Horst Richardson**

This class will discuss German history as exemplified in German songs. It will offer insight into the complicated past of the German-speaking area of Europe, going back to the days of the Roman Empire. The presentation will focus on the creation of the German Nation from a multitude of mini-states after the Holy Roman Empire collapsed.

**Horst Richardson: PhD** in German Language and Literature from the University of Connecticut. He has taught and coached men's soccer at Colorado College. He was the D-11 school board president and enjoys international travel, hiking, participating in the Choral Society, and beekeeping.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Thursday, June 6, 13, 20, 27; 10:00am - 12:00pm**

**#2017 Beginning Mah Jongg Lessons: 4 Weeks of Lessons**

**Instructor: Sandy Halby**

Learn American Mah Jongg, an enjoyable game that is great for your brain! This series of classes is Beginning Mah Jongg using the National Mah Jongg League card (2024 version) and NMJL rules. We'll start with the very basics and progress to full-on play by the 4th session. You must attend all 4 sessions. Max: 3 people

**Sandy Halby: BS** in Mathematics from the University of Alaska. She is a military vet and is retired from the federal government as a civil servant. Currently, she is president of a local Mensa group and active in the Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association. Sandy also plays in Mah Jongg tournaments.

**\$75 PILLAR Members / \$100 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, June 11, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2020 The Blues: From the Mississippi Delta to the South Side of Chicago**

**Instructor: Dr. Dick Fairley**

Those who developed and advanced the Delta blues include Charlie Patton, Robert Johnson, Memphis Minnie, Big Bill Bronson, Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Buddy Guy, and B.B. King, plus many others, including the radio stations, record companies, and disc jockeys who did their share of promotion. In this presentation, I will describe the origins of the blues, the development and evolution of acoustic blues, the transition to electric blues, those who made the transition, and the reasons for it. The effect of the Great Depression and the Great Migration on the development of blues music will also be covered. I will play examples of the great Delta blues recordings, both acoustic and electric, from 1929 to 2008.

**Dick Fairley: PhD** in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. He has worked as an engineer, university professor, consultant, and a jazz disk jockey at KRCC.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, June 12, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2022 Creation, Part II**

**Instructor: Jamie Foster**

In this session, we'll look at the Second Creation Story in chapters 2-4 of Genesis. This includes a brief recapitulation of the First Creation story (Genesis 1:1 through 2:3) and a far more detailed discussion of the creation of humans. Hopefully, we'll get through the creation of Adam and Eve, the Garden of Eden, the serpent, Cain and Abel, and maybe some tidbits about their offspring.

**Jamie Foster: BA** in Geology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. Jamie has been a primary and secondary school teacher, developing and teaching several church-related courses. “God Is Good” (from Genesis and Exodus); “Saint Nicholas Tells His Story;” “In His Own Hand” (a look at the four times God wrote in His own hand); “Is God Expanding, Too?” (a study on cosmology and creation); “Out of the Ashes,” (stories and characteristics of resurrections); and “This Train is Bound for Glory,” (the chapel car experience).

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesdays, June 18 and 25, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2025 Explore New Zealand like a Kiwi! Parts I and II**

**Instructor: Dr. Deborah Johnson**

If you’ve dreamed of seeing New Zealand but are worried about the expense and hassle of going on a group tour with no flexibility and little tolerance for people who want to stop and take pictures, guess what? You can certainly DIY! They do speak English, after all! This class will provide many beautiful pictures and ideas on where to go. Part I will emphasize the North Island, and Part II the South Island.

I’ll explain every step you need to take to visit New Zealand and explore this beautiful country on your own while saving thousands of dollars, from what visa you need, the best way to get there, when to get your tickets, tips on how to rent a car and drive on the left like a Brit, the best times of the year to go, how to avoid the crowds, the best deals on lodging – including the pros and cons of holiday parks and caravanning. (I’ve done both in six trips over the past thirteen years, the most recent being in Oct 2023)

**Deborah G. Johnson: MD** from CU School of Medicine, Denver, Colorado, and **MS** and **BS** in Chemistry from CU Boulder and Texas Tech Lubbock, respectively. Dr. Johnson is a USAF Vietnam-era veteran (Space Defense Center and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) and forensic pathologist who has spent 18 months working in New Zealand. She has also worked in Colorado, Kansas, Texas, and New York.

**\$35 PILLAR Members / \$50 Nonmembers for both parts**

**Wednesday, June 19, 10:00am - 11:30am**

**#2026 The Essentials of Estate Planning and Probate**

**Presenter: Whitney Hay, JD**

Join us for a knowledge-packed session on Trusts, Wills, Power of Attorney (POA), Medical POA, Medicaid Planning, Probate, and Trust Administration.

**Whitney Hey: JD** from Gonzaga University School of Law and **BS** from Metropolitan State University of Denver. She is an attorney with the Hammond Law Group, specializing in Trusts and Estate Planning.

**\$15 PILLAR Members / \$15 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, June 26, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2031 The Human Side of Mathematics**

**Instructor: Sandy Halby**

Mathematics is story problems, equations, statistics, and cold, hard numbers. Mathematicians are live, warm-blooded and have fantastic stories to tell! They are the men and women whose minds explored and produced new ways of looking at the world through their work with mathematics. Let’s meet some of them, including Omar Khayyam, who you know from his poetry and Rene Descartes, who wrote *I think, therefore I am*. We will also learn about Alan Turing and J. Robert Oppenheimer, both portrayed in popular films. Let’s learn about these influential individuals from ancient times to current times!

**Sandy Halby: BS** in Mathematics from the University of Alaska. She is a military veteran and retired from the federal government as a civil servant. She is president of a local Mensa group and active in the Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association.



**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, July 3, 10:10am - 11:30am**

**#2036 Babel and Noah**

**Instructor: Jamie Foster**

Between Creation and the Patriarchs are two early-history stories in Genesis that deserve some attention. We'll look at the particulars and the lessons they teach for us today in the stories of the City (not Tower) of Babel and the story of Noah and the Flood.

**Jamie Foster: BA** in Geology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. Jamie has been a primary and secondary school teacher and has developed and taught several church-related courses: "God Is Good" (from Genesis and Exodus); "Saint Nicholas Tells His Story;" "In His Own Hand" (a look at the four times God wrote in His own hand); "Is God Expanding, Too?" (a study on cosmology and creation); "Out of the Ashes," (stories and characteristics of resurrections); and "This Train is Bound for Glory," (the chapel car experience).

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, July 10, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2041 Ella Fitzgerald: First Lady of Song**

**Instructor: Dr. Dick Fairley**

Ella deserves to be known as "The First Lady of Song" for many reasons: for the forty million record albums sold, for the number of Grammy Awards she earned (fourteen including one for lifetime achievements), a Kennedy Center Honor for lifetime achievement, and a National Medal of Arts. Other reasons to be called First Lady include her rise from a difficult childhood living on the streets of Harlem in New York City; being hired off the streets as a girl singer by her first bandleader, who said she was talented but he had hoped for someone better kept and more attractive; her learning curve with the band; the reputation she earned among jazz musicians as a scat singer; her later worldwide popularity among all manners of people; and her gracefulness during her difficult final years after she retired. Her musical style encapsulated her vocal range (three octaves), her pure intonation with harmonics that could shatter glass goblets, her phrasing, her fresh interpretations of well-known songs, and her ability to improvise lyrics while singing. In this presentation you will learn about her life and her collaborations with other musicians, including trumpeter and vocalist Louis Armstrong and bandleaders Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and Nelson Riddle. I will play and you will hear some of her better-known and lesser-known songs, including some songs from my pick for her best album ever during her long career that started in 1935 and ended in 1991.

**Dick Fairley: PhD** in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. He worked as an engineer, university professor, consultant, and as a jazz disk jockey at KRCC.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Thursday, July 11, 10:00am - 11:30am (note time and location)**

**#2042 IGP: 101 Years of Warner Bros!**

**Instructor: Sandy Halby**

Warner Bros. was founded one hundred and one years ago on April 4, 1923. We all recognize the iconic WB logo from Looney Tunes, the many films Warner Bros. produced, and the company's entertainment venues and video games. Warner Bros. today is home to the Harry Potter movies, *Game of Thrones*, and Hanna-Barbera, to name a few immediately recognized brands. Let's learn a bit more about this studio's history, the stars that walked through its sound stages and across its screens, and what might be coming in the future!

**Location: Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80910**

**Sandy Halby: BS** in Mathematics from the University of Alaska. She is a military veteran and retired from the federal government as a civil servant. Currently, she is president of a local Mensa group and active in the Pikes Peak Beekeepers Association.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, July 16, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2045 Marxism In America**

**Instructor: Whitney Galbraith**

Why the sudden influx of Marxism today in our political dialogue and literature a century and a half after its origins, a century after its installation in Russia, and over thirty years after its ignominious collapse in Russia? Has it ever left the U.S. and the west and why has it had such a lasting influence?

**Whitney H. Galbraith: MA** in international relations from Columbia University. He served in the Navy in the 1960s during the Cuban missile crisis. He has been a political analyst for the CIA (1966-1973) and the Naval Reserve Intelligence Unit. He worked in the insurance industry for twenty-five years and in the Colorado Springs World Affairs Council as a writer and speaker. Galbraith is the author of *European Menu Translator* and *Valley of the Shadow: An Account of American POWs of the Japanese*.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, July 17, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2046 The Pillars of Russian History**

**Instructor: Melvyn Weissman**

This presentation will explore the evolution and conversion of early Russia.

**Melvyn Weissman:** Since 1991, Mel has visited Russia forty-three times. He lived in St. Petersburg, Russia, and taught at the university there. He has had two books published: *Pillars of Russian History* and *Treasures Left Behind*.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, July 23, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**2050 I Am Lucky To Be Here: A Holocaust Story**

**Instructor: Dr. Peter Knepell**

My parents miraculously escaped the Holocaust in 1939. I grew up knowing very little about my family. This is a follow-up to my presentation given in September of 2023, called *Isidor's Gift* and the Holocaust. In that presentation, I covered my father's family. In this presentation, I will discuss the remarkable survival stories of my mother's family. ALL of my mother's direct family escaped Nazi persecution. This talk will take us to Austria, New York, Bolivia, Argentina, and China. I will share these remarkable stories of incredible courage, kindness, fortitude, survival, and tragedy.

**Peter Knepell: PhD** in Applied Mathematics at Cornell University and **BS** in Mathematics at the United States Air Force Academy. Peter taught at the United States Air Force Academy for ten years.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, July 24, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2051 Lost Myths and Legends of Wales**

**Instructor: Heather Hopkins**

Discover the enchanting world of ancient Welsh myths and legends with us in this class of enchanting tales. We'll dive deep into the captivating tales of the Mabinogi, a treasury of medieval Welsh stories, along with

three additional tales from the same tradition. Together, we'll unravel Welsh folklore's rich tapestry, from legendary figures' courageous deeds to mythical creatures' supernatural adventures.

**Heather Hopkins:** MS in Library and Information Science from the University of South Florida and a BA in English from the University of Alabama. Heather is a highly skilled professional librarian with extensive experience spanning academic, secondary school, university, and government libraries.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, July 30, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

**#2055 Zoom Only: Coloradan Teachers' Impact on the Relocated Japanese Americans of World War II**

**Instructor: Katherine Sturdevant**

Japanese American families relocated during World War II usually meant plenty of children needing teachers. This remarkable duty fell to assorted educators for assorted reasons with assorted training and support. Nevertheless, the opportunity was unforgettable for all involved and even represented much more integration with surrounding societies than we usually imagine Japanese Americans having during that unjust experience. This presentation will especially focus on two teachers known to the speaker. One was a nominee for the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame, and one was the speaker's grandfather. There are many other examples of remarkable civilians who supported Japanese Americans through the ordeal, even someone named Penrose.

**Katherine Scott Sturdevant:** MA, BA in History from San Francisco State University, PhD Candidate in Public History at UC Santa Barbara. She is Pikes Peak State College's Senior History Professor and started teaching with what became PILLAR when PPSC first offered lifelong learning classes. She has won awards in teaching and diversity. Kathy serves as a speaker, writer, editor, and consultant for community history organizations such as the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum and Pikes Peak Library District. Her first two books teach about using historical methods in family history. As a social historian, Kathy emphasizes past people's authentic experiences.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, August 6, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2060 Five Inventors Who Invented the Modern World**

**Instructor: Dr. Dick Fairley**

The five inventors who invented modern society in the late 1800s and early 1900s are Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Emile Berliner, Nicola Tesla, and Henry Ford. They invented, among other things, a practical light bulb, the telephone, the phonograph, cylindrical and flat phonograph records, an electrical power distribution system, the helicopter, the axial aircraft engine, long-distance AC power transmission, the AC induction motor, the modern assembly line, and the Model T Ford. In this presentation I will provide a brief overview of each of the inventors, display images of them and their inventions, and summarize the impact each invention had in shaping modern society.

**Dick Fairley:** PhD in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. He has worked as an engineer, university professor, consultant, and as a jazz disk jockey at KRCC.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, August 7, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2061 Abraham**

**Instructor: Jamie Foster**

How/Why did God choose Abram (later Abraham)? What tests did God put Abraham through, and what do we learn from those? Hopefully, we'll get through the Binding of Isaac. Other topics we'll try to hit along the way include wealth creation, lying, faith versus works, both sides of the covenant, how God communicates (at least back then), family/marriage, the perpetuation of "The Way," and Sodom and Gomorrah.

**Jamie Foster: BA** in Geology from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. Jamie has been a primary and secondary school teacher, developing and teaching several church-related courses, including “God Is Good” (from Genesis and Exodus); “Saint Nicholas Tells His Story;” “In His Own Hand” (a look at the four times God wrote in His own hand); “Is God Expanding, Too?” (a study on cosmology and creation); “Out of the Ashes,” (stories and characteristics of resurrections); and “This Train is Bound for Glory,” (the chapel car experience).  
**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Wednesday, August 14, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2066 Geopolitics of Oil**

**Instructor: Dr. Jim Poole**

If you want to understand the geopolitics of oil, you must first understand the oil (and gas) industry because crude can be very different from country to country, region to region, and even formation to formation. If crude oil is different, how does this affect the refining infrastructure? What is shale oil? How does transportation affect oil? Did you know that the world consumes 97,000,000 barrels of oil per day (a barrel is 42 gallons)? How much oil does China have to import? Do you think this affects how they conduct their foreign policy? How about the US? How about Russia? What about Europe? What is LNG? Why do countries concern themselves with the Middle East? Did you know there are 3,500 oil tankers operating on any given day? Where are the world’s choke points? These are just some of the questions that will be addressed in this discussion.

**Jim Poole: PhD** in Applied Statistics from the University of Northern Colorado, **MS** in Economics, and an **MS** in Geology. Dr. Poole spent five years working as a geologist and thirty-five years in various roles working for major banks. Jim retired in 2015 and spends a lot of time traveling, reading, and studying geopolitics and photography, his real true passions.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**

**Tuesday, August 20, 10:10am - 12:00pm**

**#2070 How Domestic Politics in the U.S. and Taiwan Is Influencing the Relationship with China**

**Instructor: Dr. Bill Berry**

This course navigates the intricate dynamics of domestic politics within the United States and Taiwan, examining their profound influence on the trilateral relationship with the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Through a comparative lens, it explores how internal political forces, such as party politics, interest groups, and public sentiment, drive foreign policy decisions and mold the complexities of cross-strait relations.

**William Berry: PhD** in International Relations focusing on East Asian Politics from Cornell University. He was a career Air Force Officer, retiring with the rank of colonel. He served in several East Asian assignments. Dr. Berry also taught at the Air Force Academy, the National War College, and the Asian Pacific Center for Security Studies.

**\$25 PILLAR Members / \$40 Nonmembers**



## **21st Annual Palisade Peach Fundraiser**

**Taking peach orders June 15**

**Pickup Saturday, August 17 - Time: TBD**

