



Endacott Society

Retired Faculty and Staff endacottsociety.org March 2021



As we begin the month of March we still have some Endacott Society members who are waiting for a chance at their first Covid vaccination, but others have gotten their second shot. Supplies of the vaccine appear to be increasing in the community so hopefully all of us can look forward to getting vaccinated and meeting again in person. It's been nearly a year now that we were shut out of the Alumni Center. Thank goodness Dave Mannering set us up with Zoom so that we could have some contacts together on a regular basis during this trying time.

We are still exploring possible places to meet when it is finally safe to do so. Please help us in this search by making suggestions to your officers or checking with your own houses of worship to see if there are meeting spaces available for meetings of some of our interest groups, coffees and pot luck dinners.

No signs of construction activity at the Alumni Center, but we did contact Heath Peterson, Alumni Association President. He said he will meet with the Endacott Society again in April with an update.

Congratulations to everyone who is celebrating a birthday or anniversary in the month of March. Continue to make personal contacts with members who we don't often see during our Zoom meetings and let us know of those who are hospitalized or just need a note of encouragement. Jo Cink---President

A Year of Zooming

It's been a year now since we sat at the round tables drinking coffee, exploring the treat table, and discussing the newest slogan on Paul's tee-shirt. Our last coffee meeting at the Alumni Center was on March 4, which was also the day that we brought hamburger for Jo Cink to donate to the Campus Cupboard. The following week was spring break, so we met at Dillons instead, passing boxes of mini-cinnamon rolls and other sweets up and down the long table. Although Covid-19 was in the news, little did we know that we would not meet in-person again through the next four seasons.

Notes jotted on my 2020 paper calendar tell me that our first Zoom meeting was on March 19, the first day of Spring. It was the first of more than a dozen Zoom training sessions hosted by David Bushouse or myself. The Endacott Society acquired a Zoom Pro license on March 30, and our first Zoom Coffee meeting was on April 8. The ZOOM Guide also started that month, going out to those who had attended Zoom training (It now goes to 93 e-mail addresses.).

Little by little our former activities began resurrecting on Zoom. Thanks to Paul Lim and John Nicholson, who began using their own Zoom accounts for activities, and to the other activity leaders who took the plunge to move to Zoom, by summer we had most of our former activities on-line in some form. Thanks, also, to

Haskell Springer, who kept in-person outdoor sessions of Tai Chi going as long as weather permitted. Ron Schorr's Lunch Bunch group also managed to have an outdoor gathering during the year.

Looking at the February 2021 calendar on EndacottSociety.org, I see that there are thirty Zoom sessions scheduled, slightly fewer than a year ago, so while it's been a bad year by almost every other standard, the Endacott Society has adapted to the new technology fairly well. That's not bad for a bunch of folks who still remember dial telephones. Now if only someone would figure out how to pass the mini-cinnamon rolls through Zoom.

-Dave Mannering

In previous Endacott Society (Wednesday Coffee) celebrations of the Chinese New Year at the Alumni Center, Paul Lim provided not just traditional Chinese snacks, but also refrigerator magnets and toys of the animals in the Chinese zodiac being celebrated—Monkeys (2016), Roosters (2017), Dogs (2018), Pigs (2019) and Rats (2020).

In 2021, because we are all social-distancing and still meeting only on Zoom, Paul offered a special gift to members born in the Year of the Ox—copies on DVD of "The Brave One," a rare 1956 movie about a Mexican boy and his pet bull, scripted by the legendary Dalton Trumbo under a pseudonym because he had been blacklisted by McCarthy's House Un-American Activities Committee.

The DVD copies of the moo-vie were awarded to the following seven Endacott members who confessed to being not oxen in appearance but perhaps bovine in temperament—Tom Averill, Dean Bevan, Peggy Robinson, Gayle Matchett, Hans-Peter Schultze, Shari Stimetz and Jim Woelfel.

Coming up next, in 2022—The Year of the Tiger. By then, we hope to be back at the Alumni Center, and everything will be GRRRRREAT! - Paul Lim

The Zoom meetings for the month of March offer a variety of interesting programs including those under the category of Cinema Studies. Here are a few descriptions of three of the others that you may find interesting to attend.

Drama Study on March 2 will read "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Wedding," a modern translation of "Casina" by the Roman playwright Plautus (c. 254-184 BCE). It involves a lecherous old man, his wife, their neighbors, a servant girl, two canny slaves, and many manic moments. The works of Plautus have influenced both Shakespeare and the creators of zany TV sit-coms. On the 16th, the group will watch the 1966 film, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," a Sondheim musical inspired by Plautus and set in ancient Rome. Starring Zero Mostel, Phil Silvers and Jack Gilford, it's "A Comedy Tonight" that Plautus would applaud!

Great Books- Jim Woelfel notes that Ireland has produced notable writers in numbers out of all proportion to its population, and just about all of them have written short stories as well as novels and essays. To celebrate Irish literature and also Women's History Month, in March the Great Books group will be reading three short stories by Edna O'Brien, universally acknowledged as one of the finest Irish writers of the 20th and into the 21st centuries. Having written many works of fiction, and also studies of other writers such as James Joyce, in 2011, at the age of 81, she published a collection of short stories about contemporary Irish life entitled *Saints and Sinners*. We'll be reading three of those stories: "Black Flower," "Send My Roots Rain," and "Old Wounds." Great Books meets March 10 at 1:30 PM.

Old Time Radio- How does listening to The Lone Ranger, The Green Hornet, and Challenge of the Yukon (with Sgt. Preston & King) sound to you? These were all created, written, and acted by mostly the same people out of Chicago. The Green Hornet even starred a direct descendant of The Lone Ranger. These three programs changed the face of children's radio and lasted for decades. With over a thousand episodes each, these were the pinnacle of children's radio programming. Join us on March 29th (the fifth Monday of the month) from 1:30 to 3:30 on Zoom. The waiting room will open at 1:15 PM.- John Nicholson

Answers to last month's **Letters Challenge**
(Other correct answers are possible)

1. Jab, jag, jam, jar, jaw, jay, jet, jib, jig, job, jog, jot, joy, jug, jus, jut
2. Ace, act, ice, ich, icy
3. Boil, coif, coil, coin, foil, join, loin, moil, noir, roil, soil, soil, toil, void
4. Sawn, scan, seen, sewn, shin, shun, sign, skin, soon, sown, span, spin, spun, stun, swan

Can you match the eastern Kansas County with its County Seat? (same names omitted)

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| 1. Doniphan Co. _____ | a) Oskaloosa |
| 2. Brown Co. _____ | b) Abilene |
| 3. Nemaha Co. _____ | c) Emporia |
| 4. Riley Co. _____ | d) Olathe |
| 5. Pottawatomie Co. _____ | e) Kansas City |
| 6. Jackson Co. _____ | f) Lyndon |
| 7. Jefferson Co. _____ | g) Alma |
| 8. Wyandotte Co. _____ | h) Troy |
| 9. Johnson Co. _____ | i) Ottawa |
| 10. Miami Co. _____ | j) Hiawatha |
| 11. Franklin Co. _____ | k) Manhattan |
| 12. Osage Co. _____ | l) Seneca |
| 13. Waubesa Co. _____ | m) Westmoreland |
| 14. Lyon Co. _____ | n) Holton |
| 15. Morris Co. _____ | o) Paola |
| 16. Dickinson Co. _____ | p) Council Grove |

Paul Stephen Lim's "*Figures in Clay*," a semi-autobiographical play about three gay men in an interracial, intergenerational relationship, will be given a special Zoom reading by the Missouri Playwrights Workshop at the Univ. of Missouri- Columbia on Tuesday March 9.

The play is about the three men seeking therapy with an unseen marriage counselor because at least one of them has been sexually promiscuous before there was any known treatment for AIDS, and who in the process discover how their special relationships were based on mentorship.

The event was organized by UMC playwriting professor David Crespy, and featured professional actors Jeremy Rafal and Dylan Paul Hilpman from New York City, and Paul Hough from Kansas City. Both Hilpman and Hough are University of Kansas graduates and had worked previously with Lim.



Is spring around the corner if the crocus is blooming in Cal and Jo Cink's backyard in Baldwin on Feb 26th?