

ENDACOTT SOCIETY

Retired Faculty and Staff of the University of Kansas

<http://oldku.org>

May 2016

SCHEDULED EVENTS *All activities meet at the Adams Alumni Center unless otherwise noted.*

Afternoon Lecture and Birthday Celebration

Sharon and Bob Brown (842-2079) are in charge of Birthday preparations. Loraine Lindenbaum (lhindenbaum@sunflower.com, 843-4308), Lee Ketznel (leeketznel@yahoo.com, 843-4834) and Pat Kelly (842-0523) are in charge of programs.

May 12—Program at 2:30, sherry at 2:00, in the Summerfield Room. Following the celebration of May birthdays, Lynne Green, Executive Director of Van Go, Inc. will be our speaker.

Card and Game Theory

Edna Galle (galle@ku.edu, 843-2950)

May 19—1:00 in the Paul Adam Lounge. The sign-up sheet for bridge and scrabble is available at the Wednesday Coffee.

Cinema Studies

Domestic Films: Fred Madaus (fmadaus@ku.edu, 841-4939), Audrey Kamb-Studdard (audkamb@ku.edu, 843-4166), and Bruce Linton (balinton@ku.edu, 843-6796). *Foreign Films:* Paul Lim (plim@ku.edu, 841-1544).

May 3—Film at 1:45, coffee at 1:30 in the Paul Adam Lounge. Drama Study presents a 1951 film (subtitles) directed by Marcel Pagnon of his 1920 play "Topaze" starring Fernandel. Topaze, a private school teacher is fired for failing a rich patron's son. He's then hired by a corrupt politician to be a respectable "front" in an illegal deal. Topaze turns the tables on them in this tale of politics and business collusion possibly as timely in 2016 as it was in 1920?

May 10—Film at 2:00, coffee at 1:45, in the Paul Adam Lounge. The film this month will be the comedy/drama *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, starring James Stewart, Jean Arthur and Claude Rains. In this 1939 film, a naive young man is appointed to fill a vacancy in the U. S. Senate. His plans promptly collide with the standard political corruption, but he stands his ground. (Things just don't seem to change do they?)

The film was nominated for eleven Oscars and won one. Running time is 129 minutes. Please join us for coffee and a movie!

May 31—Film at 2:00, German pretzels and light refreshments at 1:45, in the Bruckmiller Room. Wim Wenders' *Wings of Desire* (1987) is part romance, part comedy, part meditation on matters both political and philosophical. It is the story of Daniel, an angel who perches atop buildings high over Berlin, invisible to everyone except children. Because he can hear the thoughts of all the people living below, he tries to comfort those who are sad or suicidal, but not always successfully. On one of his frequent forays into the streets of the city, he falls in love with a beautiful trapeze artist, and what happens next will linger in your mind long after the film is over. Bruno Ganz is Daniel, and the American actor Peter Falk plays himself in this valentine to Berlin. (In German, with English subtitles, 128 minutes.)

Computer Study

Alan Swarts (aswarts25@gmail.com, 913-238-4732)

All meetings are at 9:00 in the Paul Adam Lounge:

May 4—"KU Library."

May 11—"Lawrence Public Library."

May 18—"End of Year Review and Planning" (Alan Swarts).

May 25—"Mycroft: A Local Startup" (Earl Schweppe).

Drama Study

Arnold Weiss (ahweiss@ku.edu, 842-5502), and Bob Procter (robert@procter.com, 221-2100)

May 13—1:30 in the Music Room. The group will begin reading G. Bernard Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, which he wrote to spark change in the treatment of women (e.g., denied many male jobs; given lower wages for equal work). Copies are available and all are welcome.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Gardening

Allen Wiechert (wiechert@ku.edu, 842-5467) and Dick Schiefelbusch (843-5869)

May 4, 11, 18, 25—9:00 in the Music Room. Conversation and readings, mostly about gardening, sometimes just about nature,

Great Books Study

Lucy J. Price (lucyjprice@outlook.com, (843-1682) and Ellen Reid Gold (843-6933)

May 11—1:30 in the McGinnis Library. Great Books will discuss the novella *The Lifted Veil* by George Eliot. The novella can be found on-line at www.gutenberg.org/files/2165/2165-h/2165-h.htm and is also available for download in other formats through Project Gutenberg. Our discussion will be led by Rich Ring. All are welcome!

Music

Thelma Taylor (842-2578).

May 4, 11, 18, 25—Immediately following Coffee, in the Music Room. Relax with a program of recorded classical music.

Opera Study

Vic Wallace (wallace@ku.edu, 842-7930), and Paul Lim (plim@ku.edu, 841-1544)

May 20—1:30 in the Summerfield Room. Jewish composer Andre Tchaikovsky was born in Poland in 1935, where his mother perished in the extermination camp in Treblinka. He was smuggled out of the Warsaw Ghetto when he was seven years old, and ended up in Paris and England where, many years later, he had a brilliant career as a concert pianist.

Based on the Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* was Tchaikovsky's only opera, on which he worked

for over 25 years. The provocative 2013 Bregenz production of this fairly unknown but brilliant opera not only bravely addresses the subject of anti-Semitism unflinchingly, but also tackles the modern Freudian interpretation of the merchant Antonio's relationship with his friend Bassanio, for whom he is willing to die when he is unable to pay back the loan from the much-maligned money-lender Shylock, who now demands payment with "a pound of flesh."

Babka from Russ & Daughters in NYC will be offered along with the usual light refreshments at 1:15. (Sung in English, with English subtitles, 2 hours and 40 minutes.)

Stop Day Walking Tour

Ted Johnson (jtj@ku.edu, 842-5328)

May 6—9:00 am at the Natural History Museum. Ted Johnson will conduct the traditional Stop Day walking tour of the KU campus beginning at 9 am in front of the Museum of Natural History. Folks come and go, and there may be an afternoon tour as well.

The tour will start at the Natural History Museum and then proceed to the Wilcox Classical Museum in Lippincott at 10 am, Twente Hall, and Watson Library by noon. After examining several levels of Wescoe Hall, we will have lunch at 1 p.m. in *The Underground* food court on the ground floor. A full program of topics and sites will be distributed at the Wednesday morning meetings or can be obtained by email at jtj@ku.edu.

Ten O'clock Scholars, AKA "Wednesday Coffee"

Pat Kelly (patckelly@sbcglobal.net, 842-0523)

May 4, 11, 18, 25—10:00, in the Summerfield Room. Conversation, coffee, tea, cookies and announcements.