



October 2026

Email: endacottsociety@gmail.com

Web page: Endacottsociety.org

Endacott is a Joy!

It is the Joy of visiting with friends about topics "I didn't have time for" during your pre-retirement life. (But maybe you did in school.)

I hear stories of building a new house, from scratch. Stories of travels around the world. Chats about books I would never pick up in a bookstore and chats about movies I've never heard of. We hear stories of our children and grandchildren and friends we know.

Each of these conversations brings new enlightenment to the knowledge we each possess.

Recently, I joined Jim Woelfel's "Great Books." I had heard of "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" but never read the book, but, that tied into a later book Jim suggested. It was Martha Gellhorn's "The Face of War," which made a connection. Making connections is what we are about. Jim encourages me to read outside my box and make connections.

I have yet to tackle "Drama Studies." Watchout.

September brought us "back in the saddle, again." Multiple study groups restarted with new topics, new adventures, and new challenges.

October will bring us Fall Colors on campus, the need for a sweater in the morning, that crisp morning air, and new ideas. Let us welcome those new connections.

Come visit our Coffee Break on Wednesdays, 10 AM at the KU Alumni Center, and try a new group. You will find new, interesting connections.

This is Endacott!

--G. Minden (gminden@ku.edu)



YOU SHOULD BE ASKING YOURSELF, HOW CAN THIS NOT WORK? PEOPLE LOVE FREE STUFF

October Activities & Events

Armchair Travel

Ron Schorr rwwschorr@gmail.com

No travel adventures scheduled for October.

Arts & Sciences Lecture Program

Kevin Boatright kboatright@ku.edu

Thursday, October 29th at 1:30pm—Summerfield room, Adams Alumni Center

Araceli Masterson-Algar: Día de los Muertos: Its Origins and Significance Today
Most people have heard of Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), which falls on November 1-2. How many of us understand its origins and significance today, as a traditional Mexican holiday that's culturally meaningful in other ways? Araceli Masterson-Algar is a Professor in KU's Department of Spanish and Portuguese and in the Department of Africana and American Studies, where she serves as Director of Graduate Studies and as Coordinator for the Chicana and Latina Studies program. She is a great resource on this topic, and is a volunteer with Somos Lawrence, affiliated with the Ballard Center. Since 2021, Somos Lawrence and the Lawrence Percolator Art Collective have put together Lawrence's Annual Día de los Muertos celebration. This year, it will take place on Sunday, November 1, from 6-9pm at John Taylor Park in North Lawrence.

Cinema Studies

J. Tom Adams papawmik2004@yahoo.com

Nora Clark

nora.clark@washburn.edu

Continuation of Cinema Studies has not been determined.

Drama Studies

Michael Shaw michaelhearneshaw@gmail.com

Tuesdays October 6th & 20th at 1:30pm

ART ROOM in Pioneer Ridge Independent Living.

We will read Moliere's "The Learned Ladies." Our leader in reading this play, Preston Fambrough, has this to say about it: "As in his other comedies Moliere (1622-1673) reiterates in "The Learned Ladies" the Apollonian ideals of moderation and self-knowledge while satirizing the meretricious "learning" of the salons and academies of his time."

Games Theory

Steven Lee swlee@ku.edu

Tuesday, October 20th at 1:30pm-3:00pm

Senior Resource Center Garden room

We will be playing a **Mind Reading Game**, which is a fun and interactive group activity where players team up to try to "read" each other's minds—often through clever guessing, empathy, or shared thinking patterns. Try to guess what another player is thinking or match answers with them using clues, intuition, or shared experiences. Please join us.

Garden Seminar

Cal & Jo Cink ccinkbird76@gmail.com

Wednesday, October 14th at 9:00 am, Adams Alumni Center

---Hardy Mums.

Wednesday, October 28th at 9:00 am, **Summerfield room**--Adams Alumni Center

--- Simple Guide to Pollinator Plants.

Great Books (Zoom)

Jim Woelfel woelfel@ku.edu

Wednesday, October 14th at 1:30 pm.

Our reading will be five short stories from a collection of ten stories by Charles Waddell Chesnutt entitled *Tales of Conjure and the Color Line* (Dover Thrift, 1998). Charles Chesnutt (1859-1932), a contemporary of Edith Wharton's, was a Black journalist, teacher, writer, and attorney in the decades following the end of the Civil War. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he grew up mainly in Fayetteville, NC, his parents' home state. Both parents were "mulattoes" (to use the terminology of the time), each with a Black and a white parent. Chesnutt was so light-skinned that he easily "passed" for white, but he chose to identify as Black and devoted himself to communicating to literate American society African-American life and culture and to working actively to end Jim Crow and the wider social disabilities of Black Americans.

Chesnutt had high aspirations as a writer, and early on began writing short stories and novels. (He would also later publish a biography of Frederick Douglass.) His first short story, "The Goophered Grapevine," was published in *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1887, the first by an African-American, and subsequent short stories also found publication in national magazines. His first book was a collection of short stories entitled *The Conjure Woman* (1899). His stories featured Southern Black characters who spoke in their vernacular English. What especially drew me to Chesnutt's stories is that he describes the nuances and complexities of skin color and class among Black Americans as well as in their interactions with white racism. Living in both the North and South at the time he did and with the relative freedom he had to move between Black and white communities, he challenges us to reflect on the whole concept and phenomenon of "race" and the significance placed upon it as a marker of identity and status. While Chesnutt was well-respected as a writer by leading American literary figures including William Dean Howells and Mark Twain, and his early short stories had an appreciative audience, his novels enjoyed only limited success and were criticized for their "ideological" agenda. Although Chesnutt was clearly a pioneering Black writer, his reputation and influence were eclipsed after his death until the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

The short stories we'll discuss are contained in the Dover Thrift edition, which contains a brief biography of Chesnutt. They're also available online in pdf versions. The stories are as follows: "The Sheriff's Children," "The Wife of His Youth," "A Matter of Principle," "The Passing of Grandison," and "The Doll." I look forward to seeing you onscreen on Wednesday, October 14.

Lunch Bunch

Ron Schorr rwwschorr@gmail.com

Wednesdays, 11:45 am.

An email will be sent as to where the lunch bunch group will meet.

Movement Workshop

Haskell springer@ku.edu

Fridays- at 9am

Senior Resource Center

Tai Chi will meet every Friday in October at 9:00 at the Senior Resource Center.

Old-Time Radio (Zoom)

John Nicholson wryterjccc@gmail.com

Old-Time Radio will be on hiatus until further notice.

Out-of-Town Travel

Judy Niebaum jniebaum@sunflower.com

No travel adventures are scheduled for October.

Potluck Dinner & Lecture

Linda Mullens lmullens@ku.edu

Thursday October 8th-- appetizers at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Our speaker will be Brett Bricker, KU Debate Team coach. The sign-up sheet is available during the Wednesday morning coffees. You may also sign up by responding to this email or calling me at [785-766-3698](tel:785-766-3698). The information needed is: # of guests, name, and what potluck item you plan to bring...appetizer, salad, vegetable or dessert. Meat is provided.

We will set up the food and dining in the Summerfield Room on the first floor of the Adams Alumni Center.

Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, September 30. Hope you can attend!

IF YOU NEED A RIDE TO AND FROM THE EVENT, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Technology Studies

Dave Mannering dmannering@yahoo.com

Wednesday, October 7 9:00 AM, Adams Alumni Center

--- *P(doom)* - Will A.I. cause an apocalypse?

Wednesday, October 21 9:00 AM, Adams Alumni Center

---*3D Printing Demo* - We'll design & print something.

Wednesday Coffee

Gary Minden gminden@ku.edu

Wednesday, October 7- Adams Alumni Center

Wednesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. - Adams Alumni Center

Wednesday, October 21, 10:00 a.m. - Adams Alumni Center - **Birthday cake**

Wednesday, October 28, 10:00 a.m. - Adams Alumni Center-**Summerfield room**

