



## CMWIC NEWS for April 2021

### San Quentin College President To Speak at April 13 Meeting



Jody Lewen, founder and president of Mount Tamalpais College at San Quentin, will be the speaker for our April 13 General Meeting (over Zoom). We are inviting members of the community to join our Zoom meeting, since the prison is so visible to our community, yet its workings are largely unknown by us. We hope to get an exceptional turnout for this speaker.

For 25 years, Mount Tamalpais College, known until last year as the Prison University Project, has provided an intellectually rigorous Associate of Arts degree program and college preparatory program, free of charge, to people at San Quentin State Prison. Since its founding, more than 5,000 students have participated. The college maintains a commitment to inclusivity for those who wish to work toward a college degree, regardless of their academic history or qualifications at the time they begin, their age, the length of their sentence, their commitment offense, the time they have left to serve, or any other similar criteria.

Each semester, the college provides 20 courses in the humanities, social sciences, math, and science, as well as intensive college preparatory courses in math and writing,

to more than 350 people. All instructors are volunteers, primarily faculty and graduate students from local universities including UC Berkeley, Stanford, and San Francisco State. In September 2016, President Obama awarded the organization the 2015 National Humanities Medal. In 2020, Mount Tamalpais College achieved candidacy for independent accreditation.



Jody Lewen was the 2006 recipient of the Peter E. Haas Public Service Award from UC Berkeley and a 2015 recipient of the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award in recognition of her work to support higher education for incarcerated people in California.

She received a BA in Modern European History from Wesleyan University; an MA in Comparative Literature and Philosophy from the Freie Universität, Berlin; and a PhD in Rhetoric from UC Berkeley.

This should be a fascinating program. Please let your friends who may not read the newsletter know about this Zoom meeting.

### **Member Trivia**

Time permitting, Trivia Czarina Janis Luft has prepared a short quiz that may touch on the edges of today's topic.

Next month we can resume our usual member trivia, "Who Did That?" Those who have not yet been featured in member trivia, please, please, overcome any shyness and tell us something trivial about yourself.

Other stories or interesting/entertaining/scandalous facts about yourself are also welcome anytime, as they're all great for the game. Send to [janislucht@comcast.net](mailto:janislucht@comcast.net)

### **Zoom Information for General Meeting and Trivia**

**April 13, Noon**

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2240949581?pwd=SU5aRjFIM0REVDd6TUpsa2ZFaXRIQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 224 094 9581

**Passcode:** CMWIC2021

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### **Business Meeting April 7, All Members Welcome**

All CMWIC members are invited to attend the board's Business Meeting on Wednesday, April 7, at 2:00 PM. Among the topics will be next year's budget, scholarships, insurance, and our cookbook project. Please join us.

### **CMWIC Business Zoom Meeting**

Wednesday, April 7, 2:00 PM

## Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2240949581?pwd=SU5aRjFIM0REVDd6TUpsa2ZFaXRIQT09>

Meeting ID: 224 094 9581

Passcode: CMWIC2021

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## Cooking Up a Fundraiser: It's Easy to Include Your Recipe!

*"People who love to eat are always the best people." -- Julia Child*

Do you love to eat? Then *you* are one of the Best People! And loving to eat is the first step toward becoming a good cook. We have many accomplished cooks among our membership, and they have begun sending in their recipe(s) and notes for inclusion in the club cookbook.

Says one of our most active and beloved club members, "I am having a ball thinking of recipes new and old and sharing these time-tested favorites. ... At least you will want to buy one or two of the cookbooks for yourself or as gifts next fall." This hiker, swimmer, crafter, and retired teacher adds, "Janet Sayles has a cookbook she got from her mom that was written in the 1970's by the CMWC."

(Note to Janet: How can the newsletter editor get a peek at your mother's "vintage" CMWIC cookbook?)

As the month of March came to a close, we had received about 30 recipes. Quite respectable, but we crave more! We have a nice, eclectic mix so far. Although there's still plenty of time until deadline, sending in a recipe or two now would be a great show of support and very much appreciated.

Please send us at least one recipe that you particularly enjoy and briefly tell us what makes it special or what memories it holds. Is it your father's scramble, your best friend's vegetable soup? Is it the recipe you can whip up with your eyes closed or the one that showcases your favorite ingredient? Tell us about it in the note section of the contribution form.

When this cookbook is printed, it will bind together not only our recipes but all of us as well. The process for contributing a recipe is simple and it can be done online in just a few minutes.

### Here's how:

Go to [www.CookbookFundraiser.com](http://www.CookbookFundraiser.com)

- In the login area in the right-hand column, enter your name as contributor **as you would like it to appear** in the final printed cookbook.
- Enter your email address so we can keep you up to date on this project.
- Finally, enter "**CMWIC**" as our Group Name and the Password **recipe60**.

Once on the cookbook homepage, click on 'Add a Recipe' under the Recipes tab.

Enter the ingredients and directions for the recipe as well as the personal note that make this recipe special. Don't forget to click the 'Submit' button at the end.

Finally, to be successful with this fundraiser, we need to know how many cookbooks you would like to purchase (\$20 each.) In the 'Home' section, on the right side, choose the number of books in the dropdown box and click 'OK.'

If you prefer, you can email the recipe along with your personal note and we will enter it for you. Be sure to include the special note so we know why you selected this particular recipe.

To submit a recipe or for questions email [claudiakeast@att.net](mailto:claudiakeast@att.net) or [rmlvanfutt@gmail.com](mailto:rmlvanfutt@gmail.com)

This project is already bringing us all together and we look forward to your participation.

Thank you,

*Claudia Keast and Armelle Futterman, Co-Cooks*

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### **"Social Hour" Zooms Offered April 5 and 20**

"Zoom Social Hours" are drop-in meetings with no agenda, just friendly faces and conversation. They are held the first and third weeks of each month.

**Cheryl Longinotti** will host a social hour on the **first Monday** of the month, **April 5**, at 1:00 PM.

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85866297448>

**Meeting ID:** 858 6629 7448

**Jana Haehl** will host a social hour on the **third Tuesday** of the month, **April 20**, at 1:00 PM.

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5532664079?pwd=Y21kTjhrenNyTUEzQ2pHOVpFUXNIZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 553 266 4079

You are most welcome to attend!

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### **Two Field Trips, April 15 and April 26**

*All Field Trips now begin at 10 AM. They are local so that participants can drive individually and socially distance. Be on time, wear a hat, and bring water! Further information below.*

Linda Varonin is leading two trips a month so she can make it to 100 trips before she retires from being Field Trip Leader in June. All hikes will be in the area so that participants can drive individually and socially distance. Masks are required, even for those who have been vaccinated. None of the hikes will be strenuous and each will last approximately an hour.

### **Thursday, April 15: Turtle Back Hill Nature Trail at China Camp**

Cost to use the trail is \$3, which is a bargain considering all the work volunteers have done on the signage, drainage, and bridges. (800 hours' work by 30 volunteers.) This is the hike that last month's speaker, Ted Schulze, talked about during his presentation.

Take 101 to the North San Pedro exit and go east. North San Pedro Road goes past the JCC and then to China Camp. Park on the shoulder off the road, just past the campground, which will be on your right. Turtle Back will be on your left and you will see signage and a fee kiosk across the street.

The 0.7-mile hike is level and ADA-approved for wheelchairs! Linda offers to lead those who want to keep walking on a second hike across the street after finishing the first hike.

### **Monday, April 26: Deer Island Open Space Preserve**

Take 101 and exit at DeLong Avenue in Novato. Go left on DeLong, right on Redwood, right on Olive (at Trader Joe's), and right on Deer Island. Park to the left of the trailhead along the frontage road.

This is the island that can be seen from the back of Costco or when you are driving along State Route 37. It's a gorgeous spot!

All participants must RSVP to Linda [linda.varonin@gmail.com](mailto:linda.varonin@gmail.com).

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### **Knitting Club Meets Friday, April 16**

The Knitting Club will meet on Friday, April 16, at 11:00 AM at the picnic tables in the park, across the street from the Corte Madera Post Office. All club members are welcome.

The knitters have donated hundreds of handmade items to hospitals and care homes to be distributed to residents and patients. They have also knitted scarves for the HomeKey project in Corte Madera.

At the March meeting, members brought many new blankets including some plush ones. The hit of the day was beautiful yarn that the Mill Valley Outdoor Art Club knitting group gave us. A huge thank you to Sally Porter for making that happen.



*Photos by Linda Varonin*

*Olga Thomsen and Chiz Shiro show some of the beautiful work they made and donated in March.*

Please email Linda [linda.varonin@gmail.com](mailto:linda.varonin@gmail.com) to find out more.

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### **Book Group Meets April 27 at Piper Park**

The Book Group meets on Tuesday, April 27, to discuss "News of the World" by Paulette Jiles.

The novel is set in Texas territory in 1870. Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd travels through northern Texas, giving live readings to paying audiences hungry for news of the world. He is offered a \$50 gold piece to deliver a young orphan recently rescued by the U.S. Army to her relatives in San Antonio.

Kiowa raiders killed the girl's parents and sister four years earlier. They kidnapped Johanna and raised her as one of their own. Now 10, she identifies as a native and is focused on returning to the tribe.

The two travel 400 miles south through unsettled territory and unforgiving terrain. As they overcome challenges, Johanna and the Captain tentatively begin to trust each other, forging a bond.

Although this novel has been made into a movie, we are advised to read the book first!

Before our meeting, a reminder will be sent to all who express interest in attending. Please email Armelle [rmlvanfutt@gmail.com](mailto:rmlvanfutt@gmail.com) to ensure that you receive updates.

Below is a schedule of which books we will read for each meeting (on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM) through June.

The following Zoom information applies to all meetings:

**CMWIC Book Group**

April 27, May 25, June 22

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8362928438>

Meeting ID: 836 292 8438

**Passcode:** CMWICBook

This is an open group; all CMWIC members are welcome and we love it when people take a chance and join us for the first time.

**Book Group Schedule:**

**April 27**, 1:30 PM, Piper Park  
"News of the World" by Paulette Jiles

**May 25**, 1:30 PM Location TBD  
"Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson

**June 22**, 1:30 PM Location TBD  
"Still Life" by Louise Penny

Additional reading suggestions:

"Clock Dance" by Anne Tyler

"Pachinko" by Min Jin Lee

"The Other Einstein" by Marie Benedict

"The Supper Club" by Lara Williams

If you have questions regarding the Book Club, please contact Donna Wenig [donna.wenig@gmail.com](mailto:donna.wenig@gmail.com) or Armelle Futterman [rmlvanfutt@gmail.com](mailto:rmlvanfutt@gmail.com).

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**New Member Spotlight**

Please welcome our newest member, Ann Goforth of San Rafael. Here is how she described herself:

"I am a nurse practitioner, retired from UCSF, now working part-time in addiction medicine at Bayside Marin. I also volunteer as a vaccinator and look forward to the day we achieve herd immunity.



About once a quarter, I travel to Rancho La Puerta in Tecate, Mexico, where I provide first aid to guests while practicing my Spanish with locals.

I especially like to swim and hike. My most recent long-distance hikes include Mont Blanc (2018) and Camino de Santiago (2019). I'm excited to join the Corte Madera Women's Improvement Club and look forward to meeting its members soon!"

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