



Newsletter

SUMMER/FALL 2016

AFFILIATED WITH WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

SOAR Fall Term Begins October 10



THE CHAIR'S CORNER

This year, SOAR's Fall Schedule of Classes will appear in what the advertising community refers to as a **New and Improved Version**. It will be entitled *SOAR: Schedule of Classes, Field Trips, and Special Events*. Unlike its predecessors, the *Schedule's* new format will be 8 ½ by 11. It will feature a front cover, in full color, with advertising copy carried on its reverse side as well as on both sides of the back cover. It will look spiffier, but **the main improvement** will be its content and organization. In addition to describing all Fall Term classes, it will provide information about Field Trips and Special Events planned for the coming months. Forms to register for Fall classes, Field Trips, and other activities will be included in the new schedule. In addition, the option to **sign up for all SOAR activities online through SOAR's**

website will be available. Finally, the *Schedule* will also include descriptions of all SOAR's Shared Interest Groups and a list of other planned social activities: e.g., lunches.

By adopting this new format, the number of individual mailings will be reduced, and money will be saved. However, mindful of all members' needs, e-mail reminders of all upcoming events and activities will be sent to the Society's entire membership.

The goal of this new arrangement is to provide SOAR members with a **complete** picture of **everything** that is being offered over each term: Fall, Winter and Spring/Summer. It is our hope that members will thereby be better able to plan for those activities in which they wish to participate.

Before closing, I want to thank the Curriculum and Instruction Committee for providing the membership with an outstanding Spring Term.

I am looking forward eagerly to the Fall Term, anticipating that the high standards to which we have become accustomed will once again be maintained or exceeded.

Alan Harman, Chair

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OFFERED BY SOAR

Attention SOAR members, veterans and newcomers alike! Be reminded that SOAR, in addition to its regular program of class offerings, sponsors a rich array of Cultural Field Trips, an extracurricular program in which all SOAR members are invited to participate. Trips, at a nominal cost, are scheduled on a monthly basis. Some include a meal; others do not. Since weather conditions in Michigan during the winter months are problematic, and since some members spend winters away, no trips are scheduled during January or February.

Watch for information about upcoming events. Flyers will be delivered by mail, appear in the Schedule of Classes, and/or be posted on the SOAR website. Since the number of participants who can be accommodated on some trips may be limited, be certain to subscribe early if you wish to be included. Please pay particular attention to the details listed on the Trip Flyer. They may indicate activity level, allowance for guests, items directly related to a specific trip site, and the all-important deadline date. These Cultural Field Trips, another benefit of SOAR membership, offer an opportunity to socialize with other members outside of class.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY ART TOUR

If you've ever wondered about the origins of the paintings that line the walls of WSU Oakland Center, here's an opportunity for you. The curator of the Wayne State University Art Collection has created a walking tour guide of the 26 works that decorate the center's halls, offices, and conference rooms. SOAR members can borrow the guide on request from the SOAR Office or the WSU Administrative Office.

The works at Oakland Center are just a small part of the 6000-piece WSU collection. They represent local, national, and international artists, including alumni and faculty of Wayne State University. Many are examples of the Cass Corridor school, sometimes referred to as Detroit's avant garde.

To learn more about the paintings we pass each day, visit the SOAR Office or the WSU Administrative Office at Oakland Center.





THE SOAR BOOK CLUB

If you enjoy discussing books, please consider joining the SOAR Book Club.

The Book Club meets at the Oakland Center at 1:15 p.m. on the third Friday of each month.

For more information or a schedule of our reading list contact: Bev Hords, 248-557-3425

HOW TO CONTACT SOAR

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• WebSite:
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Many thanks to those of you who volunteered as attendance takers, greeters, and introducers! Time devoted to implementing these important tasks facilitates and enhances SOAR's curricular programming. The Society is grateful for the time and effort that you so generously devoted on its behalf.

If you are interested in helping SOAR, be assured that we welcome all prospective volunteers! Taking attendance and serving as a greeter take only a half an hour of your time, and it's a fun way to meet like-minded people.

In particular, we are currently looking for people who might be interested in contributing a few hours to help during Fall registration, especially those with basic computer skills. Volunteers are needed to help input data from those who chose to register by mail, and to assist those who come to the Oakland Center seeking assistance in registering online.

Right now, only about ten percent of our members serve as volunteers. It is my hope that many more will respond to this call for help, thereby substantially increasing the current percentage. If you wish to volunteer as an attendance taker and/or greeter, you may do so online when you register for Fall classes. Or, you can email me at volunteerssoar@gmail.com and let me know in what capacity you would like to volunteer: attendance taker, greeter, introducer, or registration helper.

I hope to hear from you soon!

Sue Toth
Volunteer Committee Chairman

I Like SOAR Because...

“I look forward to taking classes at SOAR.

There is always a variety of very interesting courses.

I educated my children and now it is my turn!”

Bernice Miller
SOAR member since 2011

SOAR WEBSITE

Soarexplore.com

Have you visited our website lately? If so, you may have noticed many improvements, with still more yet to come! Our website is currently undergoing a major redesign, one focused on ease of use and improved functionality. Members will soon be able to sign up for Field Trips, Special Events, and, of course, register for our Fall, Winter, and Spring terms. It will soon be easier for viewers to see precisely what is happening at SOAR each day: where classes are being held, which Shared Interest Groups will be meeting and where the meetings will take place, and much, much more.

So, please do keep visiting soarexplore.com. It is the place to go for information related to all things SOAR.

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