

SAIL INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES

SPRING 2019

Milo Benningfield Dr. Milo Benningfield had a practice in individual and family therapy in Dallas for thirty years. He now lives in Frisco where he divides his time between travel with his wife, yoga, writing, and individual consultations.

George Bouhasin is your expert when it comes to travel! He retired in 2009 and has made (21) international trips, visited more than 75 countries in Europe and Asia, but has also traveled to Africa and South America. He has competency in several foreign languages and has worked and lived in Brazil, Argentina, Chile and China.

Andy Brooks is rapidly approaching Medicare age, kicking and screaming all the way! A native of Dallas, he's a graduate of W.T. White High School (Class of '76) and a Fighting Lumberjack from Stephen F. Austin. He holds a Master's degree from Capella University. Andy is an independent financial Planner with Pilot Wealth Advisors, L.L.C. in Allen, is active in the Senior Service Coalition of the Allen Fairview Chamber of Commerce, and serves on the board of directors for the nonprofit North Texas Area Gerontological Society. His professional experience includes information technology, higher education, and advertising.

Sherry Christiaens is a Certified Dementia Practitioner with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from New Mexico Highlands University. She has worked in memory and senior placement for the past several years and in the medical field for more than fourteen years.

Richard Cudlipp is a graduate of the Naval Academy and a twenty-year veteran of the Air Force. An engineer and a history buff, he previously taught at DeVry University and Richland College.

Lishan Desta Dr. Desta earned a doctorate in political science from UTD. He currently teaches government and economics at the Spring Creek campus of Collin College. He has lived on three continents and teaches from his varied background in history, culture, and world affairs.

Paul Dolliver earned degrees in History and Geology from Baylor University. He is a semi-retired geologist, Texas Master Naturalist, and reader. Paul currently teaches geology courses at Collin, Hill and Richland Colleges.

Ray Dunlap has been with the Town of Fairview and the Fairview EDC since 2009, where he has several areas of responsibility including the marketing and selling of Fairview. Ray serves on the board of directors of the Texas Economic Development Council, the state association of Economic Development Professionals, Team Texas, the marketing arm of TEDC, as well as the Board of Directors of the Allen Fairview Chamber of Commerce. Ray has also been a student of Texas politics since the 1960's. Ray actively follows the Texas legislature and reads about and keeps up on Texas politics. His discussion of politics is done in a humorous, irreverent, and non-offensive manner.

Chris Ebling holds a Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree from the University of Michigan and a Master of Science in Resource Interpretation from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Chris has been part of the Texas Master Naturalist program since 2007 and speaks regularly to master naturalist chapters and other civic organizations on forest ecology, forest management, dendrology, tree identification techniques, and entomology.

Bruce Eisen is a CPA with degrees in political science and economics and a master's degree in accounting. Most of his career was spent as chief operating and financial officer for several Jewish Federations.

Theresa Feighny, M.A. has been teaching for over 20 years and holds a Masters of Arts in teaching from the University of Texas at Dallas and a Bachelor of Arts in Technical Journalism from Colorado State University. She focused on grammar, literature, academic writing, and critical thinking as a means of preparing students for success. She is a lifelong learner and believes that with the proper tools, guidance and a sense of humor, students can excel at writing.

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Judith Fishman has been playing Mah Jongg since her teenage years. Besides playing “mahj”, she has owned and operated her own retail store, founded and led a social service organization for women, and had a home staging/decorating business. She has been married to her wonderful husband for 41 years and has two grown children.

Barbara Fix taught secondary English in Dallas and Plano schools for 28 years. She holds a bachelor’s degree from S.M.U. and a master’s in counseling from U.N.T. She enjoys teaching SAIL students most of all.

Jerry Frankel Dr. Frankel retired from the practice of medicine after almost forty years as a urologist. Now as a Bridge instructor, he feels like an ambassador for improving the lives of fellow seniors through this challenging and fun game.

Richard Furlong Dr. Furlong is an Emeritus professor of civil engineering, taught and supervised research in structural engineering at the University of Texas in Austin from 1958 to 2006.

Fred Haiman JD, MBA was born in California to an Air Force family. After retirement, the family moved back to El Paso, where Fred graduated from Eastwood High School in 1982. He graduated with a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice with honors from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. Fred married his wife Deana in 1989 and joined the El Paso Police Department until 1994. He achieved a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from U.T.E.P. and then proceed to law school at Texas Tech University. Fred graduated in 1997 and spent the first 10 years of his legal career as a trial attorney. In 2007, he experience a near fatal disease and decided to enter the Estate Planning and Elder Law field. Fred moved his practice to Allen in 2013 and in 2016 merged with Rex Hogue to form Haiman Hogue, PLLC.

Janet Harris Dr. Harris has taught literature and writing for over twenty-five years, coached readers and writers in pursuing their personal goals, and reviewed books. As an editor, Dr. Harris has guided writers in publishing over 150 books. She teaches literature and creative writing courses in the Master of Liberal Studies program at SMU. She has retired several times, the first from UT-Dallas.

Cerene Holley has more than 20 years working as a professional in the education industry. She has caught herself saying things that she later regretted and is amazed at what she hears from others. She came to realize the power and impact that the spoken word or a well presented apology has on others. It became her passion and mission to help others realize the power within themselves and the importance of the spoken word.

ChiChi Hoquee is an information technology coach and consultant with over 25 years of experience. A bilingual instructor (Spanish and English), she teaches computer and language skills. She especially enjoys teaching seniors how to “speak Spanish creatively.”

Mike Howard is a retired Secret Service Agent who served and protected four presidents. He began working for the Secret Service in the late 1950’s and was recruited while he was attending Texas Christian University. He shares his recollections and insights gained from being part of the family at the White House and in their private homes.

Michael Karson, J.D., MA is a retired attorney and educator who served in various positions of increasing responsibility within the Bell Telephone System, from entry level attorney to Vice- President & General Counsel, at pre-divestiture Illinois Bell, through post-divestiture Ameritech and the recombined entity now known as AT&T. Mike is a Vietnam veteran with a broad range of life experiences, from serving as a laborer in the grease pits at Inland Steel in East Chicago, Indiana to serving with President Reagan’s Commission on Executive Exchange in Washington, D.C.

James Lamb Dr. Lamb is a retired college professor and IT manager. After receiving a doctorate in philosophy from Brown University, he taught classes at SMU He was also Director of Computer Services at Ebby Halliday Realtors for 28 years.

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Barney Lane holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts and a master's degree in radio-TV. He has worked as a professional broadcaster, middle school teacher, videographer and podcast developer. One of Barney's favorite hobbies is wood carving and he has honed his craft and creative process over many years.

Daphne Lee has been teaching Technology at Collin College since 2005, teaching computer, mobile device, software, and social media classes in both SAIL and Continuing Education. Discover how to make technology fun and easy with Daphne's classes. She shows you how to connect with friends and family with mobile device technology such as photos, videos, and texts.

Barbara Leon Dr. Leon came from Cuba 38 years ago and lived in Southern California for 34 years. Dr. Leon earned her PhD. And Master's Degree in Spanish from the University of California, Irvine, majoring in Literature of Spain and Latin America. Dr. Leon retired from Pasadena City College where she worked for 14 years as a Spanish Professor. After retiring, she moved to Allen, Texas, where her daughters and grandchildren live. She is currently teaching Spanish at Collin College in McKinney and is the owner of *Study and Travel in Spain, LLC*. She looks forward to sharing her love of the culture with the SAIL members.

Steve Lund has taught writing, literature, and music classes to adult, college, high school, ESL, even prison inmate populations for over 40 years. He has appeared on local radio stations talking about Mozart's opera, *The Magic Flute*, and Wordsworth's poem about "Tintern Abbey." He is the author of two books.

Sarita Malhotra is a Certified Personal Trainer with a special focus on nutrition and gentle yoga. She holds a B.S. in psychology from UTD. Sarita has a passion for healthy cooking and eating and is an advocate of a healthy lifestyle for both mind and body.

Curtis McIntyre Dr. McIntyre is a Professor Emeritus, Psychology, Southern Methodist University, retired after teaching psychology courses for 40 years. He earned his doctoral degree at Vanderbilt University. Also, he has taught as an Adjunct Professor at both the UTHSC-Dallas and University of Texas at Dallas.

Sonia Meltzer is a graduate of UT Dallas with a master's in interdisciplinary studies with coursework in holocaust studies, literature, history, history of criticism and aesthetics.

Ted Ogilvie, JD, MBA is a practicing attorney in Frisco, Texas. He obtained his undergraduate degree at the University of New Mexico and his MBA from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. He earned his Juris Doctor from what is now the Texas A&M University School of Law. His practice areas include Family Law, Estate and Probate Law, and Business Formation. He holds the American Institute of Family Law Attorneys 10 Best.

James Parker recently ended his twenty year ownership of The Book Gallery, an antiquarian bookstore in McKinney, Texas. Formerly an executive with the Southland Corporation, he retired from the business world and taught literature at the Fairhill School in Dallas before arriving at SAIL in 1999.

Shaila Parker You know that person who just has to write a "To Do List," and who gets excited as the tasks are being checked off? That's Shaila! Through her experience, she has learned that organization is the key to success and has always felt God gave her a love for order and a heart to help others. At the top of Mrs. Parker's To-Do-List, you will find, spending time with her family, going to church and enjoying life.

Kathryn Pinkney Dr. Kathryn Pinkney (Kathie) is a graduate of Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) with a BA in American History. After moving to Texas in 1986, she earned an MA and Ph.D. in American History from the University of North Texas. She is retired from teaching at the University of Texas at Arlington.

David Plaut is semi-retired after more than 40 years in clinical chemistry and statistics. He writes for several different medical journals and has written a number of medical and chemistry articles. He has taught at the high school, college and post graduate levels and now tutors and mentors 6-12th grade math students.

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Bulbin Sunar-Reeder Dr. Sunar-Reeder has taught in England, Germany, Turkey, and the U.S. as a professor of medical genetics and biochemistry. While teaching medical students, she observed they need to know how to deal with patients (i.e., reading body language). She has seen the same need in forensic case studies, court hearings and day to day activities. As a Turkish ex-patriot with a strong love of travel, she arranges interesting adventures around the world. Bulbin is currently pursuing her other passion as a self-employed biotechnology consultant.

Christina Robinowitz has had a love for foreign languages since they were introduced to her in Middle School in her native Sweden. She worked as a tour guide in Europe, before moving to the United States. Christina has spent more than 20 years as an intercultural coach & trainer. She works with corporate clients, individuals and organizations, teaching intercultural awareness and how to be more culturally competent when interacting with people from around the world. She is a published co-author of *Modern-Day Vikings: A Practical Guide to Interacting with the Swedes*.

Cindy Sandell taught Texas History for 25 of her 33 years in the classroom, uncovering hundreds of fascinating stories along the way! She has written several text books and produced 20 documentary films on Texas that are used in schools across the state. She has also published four historical novels set in Texas and collected several literary awards.

Stuart Sax is a veteran, husband, father and grandfather! He and his wife **Lauren** have worked side by side in women's fashion retail for forty years and are still talking to each other! Stuart hosts two weekly radio shows and Lauren opened a boutique. They both enjoy volunteer work, concerts, movies, moderate exercise, and spending time with family, especially their grandson.

Gary Schaper Dr. Schaper is a former leadership advisor. He holds a B.A. in English, a Master's in Theology, and a Doctorate in counseling. Prior to retiring, Gary was the Director of Personality and Leadership at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

Christine Smith is a professional artist whose career has spanned multiple areas of expertise. A graduate of The Art Institute of Dallas, she started her career right out of college into the video game industry, creating art and animation. She is accredited on 7 published titles. From there she freelanced as a graphic designer, photographer, illustrator, and web developer. She also started and ran her own small business for a couple of years, which got her interested in small business development. In 2014 she founded The WERX Foundation, and served as president and Executive Director, assisting nearly 100 start-up companies over to become successful small businesses. She also taught painting classes for 4+ years on the side to feed her creative nature. Christine now is fully re-immersing herself into an artist career path again and is serving as Vice-Chair on the board for the Visual Arts Alliance of Allen (VALA).

Fred Smith is a military retiree who has seen a lot of history first hand and enjoys teaching historical subject matter. He is a native Texan who has retired to his Texas roots after years of military experience all over the world. He retired from the U.S. Army as a Brigadier General.

Michael Smith is a retired husband and grandfather of 4. He has a M.Ed. degree as well as a B.S., and has had one book published, "Hidden Memories". As a passionate Civil War historian, Michael has visited some 40 battlefield sites and has read hundreds of books on the subject. Additionally, he teaches Life Learning at Frisco Lakes community and writes for the monthly newsletter.

Larry and Barbara Stern Barbara Lusk Stern, born in South Carolina and educated at the University of Alabama with a graduate degree in clinical psychology, has been a full-time professor at Collin College since 1988. Larry Stern, a New Yorker, educated at Columbia University with a graduate degree in sociology, has been a full-time professor at Collin College since 1990.

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Paul Tobolowsky Dr. Tobolowsky is a retired physician, lecturer and the author of *Stardust Dancing (A Seeker's Guide to the Miraculous.)* His special interest is the intersection between science and spirituality.

Judy Tyler retired in 2000 and became an avid Bridge player. She is an accredited American Contract Bridge League teacher. She enjoys teaching beginners how to play Bridge and experienced players how to improve their game.

Elizabeth Wallenberg is a psychologist and counselor with ample experience in bilingual school counseling and psychotherapy. She has a Master's degree in Science and a Master's in Education. Elizabeth is an L.P.C. and work in private practice.

Barbara Walters has an MA in Human Resource Development from U.T. Austin. She has spent 30+ years in the corporate world in Leadership Training and Development. This included designing and delivering training to employees and managers at all levels as well as managing teams of trainers. Barbara strongly believes in sharing information and her knowledge to SAIL members about how to exercise your brain to keep it from declining.

Herbert Weinstein Dr. Weinstein received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Tufts University and his Ph.D. from Princeton University. After a 32-year career in industry and as a private consultant doing oilfield research, adjunct teaching at colleges & private tutoring, he chose to enter secondary education. He has taught math at all levels and fundamentals of computer programming at Yavneh Academy, The Hockaday School and Parish Episcopal School. He enjoys making a major difference in the lives of his students- of all ages!

Sheila Williamson is the Director of Community Services for a law firm. She has a passion for seniors and believes in living our best life NOW! This course is designed to show you ways to find adventure everywhere and embrace it! Sheila has been married for 34 years, has an adult child, and is very outgoing and friendly.

Don Wolman holds degrees in both science (Tufts University) and engineering (M.I.T.) and has worked in the fields of electric power generation, scientific equipment design, high energy physics and telecommunications. Currently he is a technical writer and creates user guides for a variety of high-techequipment. Don has been teaching in the SAIL program for several years and enjoys the knowledge and interaction from the SAIL members.

