



THE FROMM INSTITUTE  
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING  
at the University of San Francisco

# FROM THE ROOFTOP

FROMM HALL INAUGURAL YEAR 2006 - 2007

## DON'T "WAITE," NOMINATE!

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A long time ago, in its second year of existence, when the Fromm Institute was just a youngster, its students went through something like an organizational puberty. An early adolescence is a tough time, even for institutes, but at two, it was really difficult. Not quite satisfied with just attending a good school with six great classes to choose from each session, the 120 people who were enrolled back in 1978 wanted a social life, too. What kids don't?

The leader of the pack was a crusty but stylish chap (he wore the biggest shirt collars over his suit jacket – hey, it was the late 70s). His name was Captain Girvan Waite. He was a sea captain, a retired merchant marine officer, and he was, as you'll soon see, a born leader.

One day he approached Hanna Fromm in a respectful manner, much like a sea captain to an admiral. He voiced his idea for an association of students who might organize various social events that would add to the overall Fromm Institute experience.

Concerned that no one would be excluded, Mrs. Fromm, who was new to this world of lifelong learning asked, *"How would one belong?"*

In true military style, Captain Waite came up with the perfect conscription. Everybody who enrolled as a student would become a member, automatically, whether they wanted to or not. *"They can pay a voluntary dues, too,"* he added. This universal eligibility struck Mrs. Fromm as very fair and a voluntary dues structure, quite practical. *"It's a great idea Captain,"* she replied and then, just as if she had served in the military herself, she volunteered the man who had the idea to do the job. *"Captain Waite,"* she said, *"You'd make the perfect President!"*

As time marched on the chain of command passed from the captain to Helen MacCollister and then to Sophia Conley. Because Sophia seemed to be more of a benevolent dictator than a president, the Fromm Institute students, who numbered around 250 by then, led by Dr. Ben Budai and Dr. Jean Hayward, formalized the Association creating By-Laws that set election protocols, terms and term limits. Immediately thereafter, the students elected Dr. Budai and subsequently Dr. Hayward to serve full terms as their presidents. No good deed goes unrewarded!

Following them and moving into more recent history, the Fromm Institute Student Association has been led by such talented, dedicated people as Joan San Jule, Dolores Simon and now "P.J." Joseph. While this anecdotal history focuses on the Presidents, it's equally important to understand that these men and women have been served by an incredibly competent corps of officers and steering committee members from which the leadership ascends.

In this the third week of Spring classes you are reminded not only of Capt. Waite and the long history of the Student Association's leadership, but more immediately of your responsibility to it. As required in the By-Laws, it is time to call for nominations for the four officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Those same rules remind all of



*Capt. Girvan Waite, in the driver's seat  
on "Evening Magazine," 1979*

us that (1) the term of service is two years, that (2) no one can serve more than two terms (four years) and that (3) all current students can nominate any other current student who agrees to run.



*From left to right,  
Phyllis "P.J." Joseph,  
Alan Entine, Dorothy  
Auerbach, Joan Cucek*



After two terms in office, President "P.J." Joseph, Treasurer Dorothy Auerbach and Secretary Joan Cucek must relinquish these offices. Their service has been exemplary and their leadership has been exceptional. Throughout their two terms, with their respective responsibilities, the Student Association has continued to grow and mature thanks to their hard work.

Dorothy and Joan could, if willing, serve in other capacities. "P.J." will retire at the end of the year. Vice President Alan Entine is finishing a first term and is able to serve again or to be nominated for another office. The members of the Steering Committee (Jenny Wong, Liz Jonsen, Rosemary Jones and Alan Jackman), if willing to serve as officers, have the organizational experience to do so. When it comes to nominations though, the decision is ultimately yours. Anyone who is willing to serve can run for office and all students can nominate someone so interested.

Students of the Fromm Institute, it's time to keep Captain Waite's good idea alive. For the next week from April 30 until May 4 nominations can be made and placed in the Feedback Box in the Activities Hallway by Magnolia's. Nomination Forms are also there. Remember to get the consent of the person you nominate.

As he was about to retire and pass the gavel to Mrs. MacCollister, Capt. Waite offered his definition of leadership. *"It's the art of getting someone else to do something that you want done because he wants to do it."* Of course he was referring to that moment with Hanna Fromm.

This year as we end our thirty-first, the Fromm Institute is a long way from organizational puberty and we do have a strong social program thanks to the leadership of so many in the Fromm Institute Student Association. With your nominations this week, and your participation in the election in the weeks to come, you can insure that this tradition continues. Make the Captain proud. Don't "Waite," Nominate!

## **SPRING BARBEQUE CELEBRATES THE MANY FACETS OF FROMM HALL**

On **Wednesday, May 9 from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at lunchtime**, a spring social is planned so that the many occupants of Alfred & Hanna Fromm Hall can get to know each other. The inner courtyard will be smokin' with burgers, hot dogs, salad and slaw and you'll have a chance to eat, meet and greet all the diverse people who share this USF facility with us.

Fromm Hall not only houses the Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning and its 1,000 students but it also is home to the Fromm Residence, four floors of dorm rooms for 172 undergraduate women. At its 650 Parker entrance, St. Ignatius Church has its dedicated staff and parish offices, and on the Golden Gate Avenue side, USF's XART Program for the Visual & Performing Arts is located in what once was the building's garage.

Garage? Yes, when it was originally built in 1957, Fromm Hall was called Xavier Hall and was the Jesuit residence for USF. You know all about the chapel, but how about a meditation garden, a dining room and that garage? Did you know the university's copy center is here, or what good work the St. Ignatius Parish does? Can you imagine what it's like to look out of your dorm down into our atrium? Ever wonder how large the USF's Visual Arts program is?

Join us after the *"Inward Eye"* lecture and before your Wednesday afternoon classes for an "eat, meet and greet" to gab and mingle with all the residents of Fromm Hall, to hear how they live, teach, work and create here and to celebrate the multi-generational and multi-purpose facility. **Wednesday, May 9 is Fromm Hall Day here at Fromm Hall!**

# SPRING “BROWN BAGS”

## FEATURE CULTURE, ADVENTURE & PERSONAL INTEREST

*The Maraschi Room of Fromm Hall is filled with activity during the third, fourth and fifth weeks of your Fromm Institute classes as five “Brown Bags” will provide “food for thought” during many of your lunchtimes. You bring your lunch and thanks to the Fromm Institute Student Association, a “Brown Bag” Buck will be furnished entitling you to a free cup of coffee or tea while the “Brown Bag” is taking place. Here’s what’s being served on our intellectual noontime menu.*

### MONDAY, APRIL 30 “TOUR & TRAVEL” LOOKS AT WINDY CITY WONDERS

A trip anywhere with a Fromm Institute Professor is always a joy. Add to that mix Professor Rod Handeland, and that Toddlin’ Town Chicago, and you’ve got a rare opportunity to visit one of America’s great cities with a real expert. More details about this appear on page 5 of the “Rooftop” in Susan Kennelly’s “Tour & Travel” column.

### TUESDAY, MAY 1 “COMMAND PERFORMANCES” & SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY’S STUDENT DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Captivating performances and treasured memories are promised to all who subscribe to the 07/08 Student Series (see page 5). Come join Robert Morgan and a SF Symphony representative, Mary Goto, to hear about all the perks of being a student subscriber. For the discounts alone, you’ll want to hear all about it.

### THURSDAY, MAY 10 “STUDENT & MENTOR - SIDE BY SIDE” A POETY READING

**Melanie Maier**, Fromm student and wife of Professor Peter Maier, will read from her chapbook “The Art of Everyday.” Listening to her powerful, clear and toned diction, you hear her more traditional aesthetics as they resonate off her mentor’s more experimental style. **Jane Miller** will read from [A Palace of Pearls](#) and [Memory at These Speeds: New and Selected Poems](#). Her work is both modern and cutting edge yet grounded in historical references. Author of nine books, Ms. Miller is currently a Visiting Writer for a USF Undergraduate Workshop and regularly teaches at the University of Arizona. A book signing will follow.

### TUESDAY, MAY 15 “CHRONIC BACK PAIN RELIEF”

At this “Brown Bag” **Robert Miller**, co-author of [Back Pain Relief: The Ultimate Guide](#), will discuss the concepts for managing and relieving chronic back pain from conventional and alternative medicine perspectives. Mr. Miller is a Fromm Institute student as well as a Certified Holistic Health Counselor and has over 600 hours of formal education in alternative medicine and holistic health subjects. An attorney by profession, Robert retired from a 40 year legal career with the Federal Government where he most recently served as the Regional Director of the San Francisco Office of the National Labor Relations Board for nearly 24 years. He also has co-authored [Boyle Endorphin Releasing Massage Therapy](#) and [Bicycle Trails of Southern California](#). He has been a student at the Fromm Institute since September, 2005.

SPRING “BROWN BAGS” continue next page

## SPRING “BROWN BAGS” continued...

### THURSDAY, MAY 17 IMAGES OF AMERICA — JEWISH SAN FRANCISCO

You’ve seen it featured prominently in bookstores and shops throughout San Francisco, now you can hear about this outstanding record of local Jewish history from the author himself. Rabbi Edward Zerin, Ph.D., a retired congregational rabbi, psychotherapist, university professor and Fromm Institute student will speak about his book Jewish San Francisco at this “Brown Bag.” Published by Arcadia Press his book celebrates the history, character and contributions of those pioneering giants upon whose shoulders 70,000 San Francisco’s Jews stand today. A book signing will follow Rabbi Zerin’s presentation.

*More “Brown Bags” have been scheduled for the Maraschi Room during the last three weeks of school and this newsletter will carry the details to you in its next issue. Rooftop No. 3 will appear in the sixth week of the school term on Monday, May 21.*



## THE INWARD EYE

### *Installation Artists Explore Nanosciene, Environment, Ancient Symbols*

With the ‘*Inward Eye*’ Series off to a great start, you can look forward to more fascinating lectures on art and art-making. On **Wednesday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. in Xavier 120, Dr. Victoria Vesna** will speak to you about “**Art | Science Collaborations: Between Blue Skies and Sobering Facts.**” Dr. Vesna, Director of the ArtScience center at UCLA, is a media artist exploring the overlap between technology and identity formation. Her installations bridge the gap between scientific and artistic languages from mandalas to the Internet, and bring nanoscience into the experiential realm. In this lecture, Dr. Vesna will go over a few recent art | science collaborations that address nanotechnology dreams and nightmares, environmental effects on mental health and water as a source of life and reflection of our collective (un)consciousness. Working in between the amazing potential and fast pace changes of new sciences and technologies and the realities of our collective existence, Dr. Vesna will discuss the challenges one faces when creating art in the world today.

Next **Wednesday, May 9, same time and place, Loreen Barry** will speak to us about her recent project entitled “**Of Serpent and Stone.**” This Sonoma County artist has become known for her installations, each of which explored a particular symbolic theme. These one person shows include “Stations Along the Way” at the Museum of Contemporary Art, “The Way of the Serpent” and “Walking the Stone’s Path” at Quicksilver Gallery, and an exhibition of her mandalas at the C.G. Jung Institute. “Of Serpent and Stone” is an examination of the interplay between natural forms and inner symbols in creating a work of art. Both the serpent and stone are powerful symbols in our collective psyche as well as a dominant presence in the natural world. The serpent is the ultimate shape shifter; the stone is permanent, enduring, and ancient. Gourds, assemblage boxes and pen and ink drawings containing the images and remnants of both serpent and stone will be shown and the process of their creation discussed.

The ‘*Inward Eye*’ Series is open to all members of the Fromm Institute who are enrolled this session. Everyone is invited to attend any or all of the lectures as they interest them.

# TOUR AND TRAVEL NEWS

“BROWN BAG” ON CHICAGO  
MONDAY, APRIL 30

Professor Rod Handeland will be on hand to talk about the tour he’s leading to the Windy City next September 5 – 9. A Chicago-land native and graduate of Northwestern University, this enthusiastic teacher will preview some of the architectural, cultural and historic aspects of this travel program.

He’ll also have a video presentation and time for questions. Join us in the **Maraschi Room at noon**. The tour is priced at \$1299 per person and early registration is always a must for these tours. Flyers in the Activities Hallway.

If you’re interested in Ashland Shakespeare Festival June 19 – 22 or the Smithsonian Journey Crossing the Pyrenees Oct 4 – 15, sign up for the Wait List now! See me on campus every Monday, contact me at 707-257-1804, or email [spk@napanet.net](mailto:spk@napanet.net). Happy Travels! *Susan Kennelly*

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## COMMAND PERFORMANCES

*Two “Brown Bags” • SF Opera • SF Conservatory of Music*

We’re having a “Brown Bag” at **noon on Tuesday, May 1 in the Maraschi Room**. **Mary Goto** of the *SF Symphony Student Subscription Program* will fully explain the ins & outs of the program. I encourage both current members and those interested to attend. Current subscribers should have their student renewal brochures and order forms in the mail a few weeks ago. If you have not received yours yet, please call the symphony box-office and request it be sent. The renewal date is May 25th to guarantee your current series and seats. Over 200 of you currently subscribe and are constantly telling me what a great program this is and how much you enjoy the ease and convenience the Symphony provides.

Many of you continue to ask me if the *SF Opera* is going to change their policy that does not regard us as students for discounted tickets. I have checked with the Opera box-office and they assure me that they are not and will continue to require proof of current registration for Student Rush tickets on day-of-performance. Since USF does not issue new ID cards every year, you will have to take a copy of your Fromm Institute “Confirmation Letter” with you to get student discount tickets. If you wish to complain, please feel free to call the box-office manager or the Marketing Manager at the *Opera*. The *Opera* remains the only performing arts organization in the Bay Area that I have worked with that requires enrollment confirmation for Rush Tickets. In contrast, the *SF Symphony* has now made it easier this year for Rush Tickets. They offer Rush Tickets when available, 2 per person on day-of-performance at \$20 each. They also have a recorded hotline number 415-503-5577, which you can call any time of the day or night to get current Rush Ticket updates.

Please continue to check the display racks every week as we are getting next season brochures for different organizations. We now have *42nd Street Moon*, *The Playhouse*, *Theatreworks*, *SF Symphony*, and *A.C.T.* Finally, a reminder that the next Performing Arts “Brown Bag” will be Tuesday, May 22 at noon featuring the SF Conservatory of Music. Be sure to join us for a real treat with speakers June Hom and Bess Touma. See you in 3 weeks! *Bob Morgan*

## DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM SCHEDULED FOR MAY 25 AND JUNE 1

On the dates noted above Fromm Hall will be filled with thirty Fromm Institute students who are eager to improve their driving skills and qualify for insurance discounts. That's when the Fromm Institute Student Association will sponsor the **AARP Driver Safety Program** over **two consecutive Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** This 8-hour classroom refresher taught in two, four-hour sessions can help you learn the effects of aging on driving and how you can adjust your driving. The course will be taught by AARP-trained volunteers.



### *Why Take a Driver Safety Class?*

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest refresher course for drivers age 50 and older that has helped millions of drivers remain safe on today's roads. AARP has offered the course in the classroom for 25 years. It is designed to help you: tune up your driving skills and update your knowledge of the rules of the road; learn about normal age-related physical changes, and how to adjust your driving to allow for these changes; reduce your traffic violations, crashes, and chances for injuries; drive more safely and get an insurance discount.

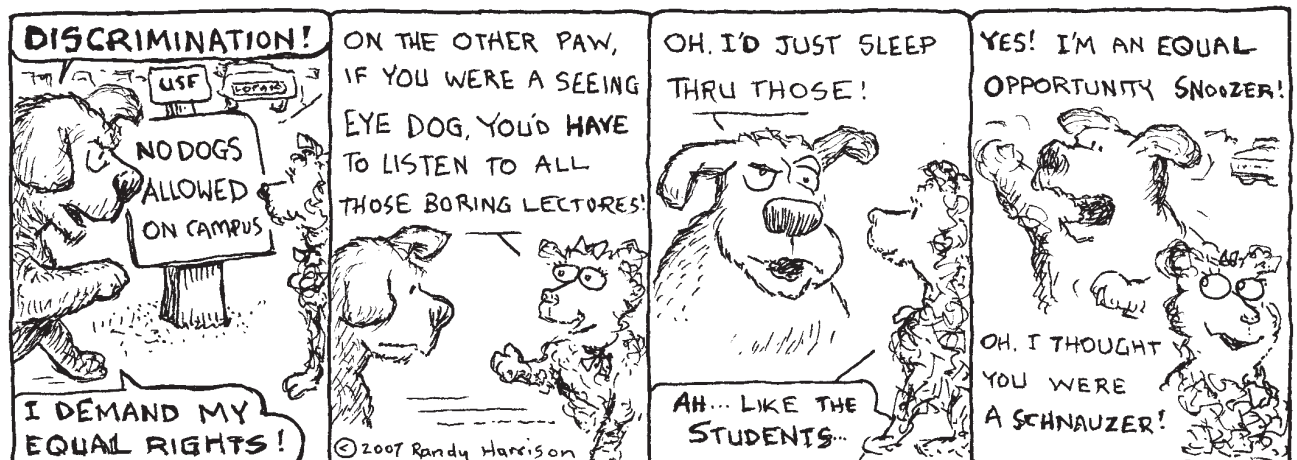
You can expect to learn about current rules of the road, how to operate your vehicle more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment, and some adjustments to common age-related changes in vision, hearing, and reaction time.

### *Sign Up Now*

**Seating is limited to the first thirty Fromm Institute students who register.** To enroll you must pay \$10 (checks payable to the Fromm Institute Student Association). Make sure you can attend both sessions because this fee is non-refundable. Should there be greater interest than seats, the Fromm Institute Student Association will plan more such sessions next fall.

by **RANDY HARRISON**

**FROMMTOONS**



## LIBRARY TOURS STILL AVAILABLE

*There is still space available for Fromm Institute students who wish to take part in any of the library instruction classes offered just to us. They take place from 3 to 4 p.m. and you meet in the lobby of the library next to the Circulation Desk on each appointed day. As a reminder, here they are again for your consideration. Come on, sign up today!*

<b>Monday, April 30 at 3 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Library Computer Basics</i></b>
Intimidated by the library's computers? Uncomfortable using the computer's mouse? Wish the library still had the old card catalog? This session is a very basic introduction to using computers in the library. We will practice using the mouse, seeing what is important on the screen, and understand how the library arranges the computers. We assume no prior knowledge of using computers or the library. This is a hands on session.	
<b>Wednesday, May 2 at 3 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Finding Books in Gleeson Library</i></b>
Know how to use a computer, but still not sure where things are in Gleeson? In this session, we will tour the library building, visit the Rare Book Room, and then do some hands on practice using Ignacio, the USF library catalog, to find books in the library. Then we'll look at Link+, which lets you search the catalogs of over 40 libraries and borrow books from them.	
<b>Tuesday, May 8 at 3 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Finding Magazine and Newspaper Articles Using Gleeson Library's Computers</i></b>
In this session, we will briefly tour the library's Periodicals Department to see the library's holdings. Then we'll do some hands on practice to find magazine and newspaper articles on the library's computers. Gleeson subscribes to over 150 databases, like LexisNexis, which have a vast amount of articles and news sources.	
<b>Thursday, May 10 at 3 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Where is the Web Going?</i></b>
This session we will look at what is now being called Web 2.0. More and more of the content on the web is "user-created." We'll look at some of these sites, like Wikipedia, MySpace, Digg, that let users have more control over their content. What are the issues these kinds of sites raise?	

## LECTURES ANYONE?

**Audio copies of the weekly lectures in Prof. John Rothmann's "The Life & Times of Richard Nixon" course, Professors Buxton's & Watts' course on "The Beat Generation" and Prof. Friedman's "The Other Victorians" are available for sale at Magnolia's. They are only \$3 per lecture. Don't miss this limited edition of recordings that will not be available for long. Get your copies today.**

## "RELIGION, POETRY & THE BRAIN" – CONTINUES

This Fall Session class taught by Dr. Tom Lewis and Dr. David Watts was video recorded and Dr. Lewis has made a copy available this session for screening in Fromm Hall only. (No individual screening rights.) Lectures three, four and five will run over the next three weeks on **Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon, from 1 p.m. until 2:40 p.m. in the Broad Conference Room.** You can experience these class for the first time or recall them again. The same lecture will be screened on Tuesday and Wednesday.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS**

### **'INWARD EYE' SERIES:**

Wednesday, May 2  
10 a.m., Xavier

Victoria Vensa, Dept. of Design/Media, UCLA *presents*  
*"The Collaboration Between the Artist and the Scientist"*

Wednesday, April 9  
10 a.m., Xavier

Loreen Barry, a Sonoma based Artist *presents*  
*"Of Serpent and Stone"*

Wednesday, May 16  
10 a.m., Xavier

Don Alberts Trio *on*  
*"Intuition"*

### **FROMM INSTITUTE "BROWN BAGS:"**

Mon., April 30 *"Tour and Travel" - Windy City Wonders*

Tues., May 1 *"Command Performances" Brown Bag - SF Symphony*

Thurs., May 10 *"Student & Mentor - Side by Side" - A Poetry Reading*

Tues., May 15 *"Chronic Back Pain Relief" with Robert Miller*

Thurs., May 17 *"Images of America - Jewish SF" - Rabbi Ed Zerlin*

### **ON-GOING:**

*"Religion, Poetry & the Brain" - A Video Encore. Each Tuesday and Wednesday at 1 p.m., screened in the Broad Conference Room.*



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