



A Nonprofit Education Corporation  
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 Web: [vistaslifelonglearning.org](http://vistaslifelonglearning.org)  
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**RIVERS OF THE WORLD**  
 Coordinator: Wayne Hoffman  
 Wednesdays, May 4, 11, & 18  
 1:30-4:30pm  
 Valle Verde Theater  
 900 Calle de los Amigos

From the crashing, wild waters of Teddy Roosevelt’s River of Doubt in Brazil to the well-mannered Erie Canal, the VISTAS team of seven presenters will lead us on a three-session journey down some of the Western Hemisphere’s most historic waterways.

**May 4 presentations:**

**Sue Mellor** will tell the amazing story of Teddy Roosevelt’s 1913, 1914 exploration of the River of Doubt in Stone Age areas of the Amazon in Brazil. The story of this 1,000 mile un-charted river is complete with murder, intrigue, and heroism. Especially the heroism of Kermit Roosevelt in saving his father’s life just as this cruel river was ready to claim him.

The Erie Canal and its vital importance to our county’s westward expansion will be presented by **Charlie Schneider**. The 360 mile long Canal was an engineering marvel. By lowering transportation costs by 95%, it opened the mid-west to vigorous growth and established New York as our major city. Today’s Erie Canal enjoys a new life as a recreational destination.

**Gretchen Bercaw** will take us along on her family’s 1974 passage down the Intercoastal Waterway from Virginia to Florida by way of canals, rivers, sounds, and dredged land cuts. The joys and wonders of nature along with its challenges give us a view of life aboard a cruising sailboat in the capable hands of this seagoing family.



**ENROLLMENT FORM: Rivers of the World**

**VISTAS Members \$30 per person — Non-members \$45 per person**

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc., P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228**

**Deadline for registration: April 20**  
**Street Parking, Please**

### May 11 presentations:

The Mississippi River flood of 1927 is still considered our worst flood by a wide and deep margin. It covered seven states and buried some cities under ten feet of water. It helped elect Herbert Hoover as President and Huey Long as Governor of Louisiana. It began the great migration of the South's poorest to the North. **Barbara Krahn** will present the story of this great flood and all its devastation.

The Missouri River carried the Lewis and Clark expedition. The "Big Muddy" at over 2,300 miles, became the unofficial boundary for the American

frontier in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. **Ray Stone** will explain the river's vital role in American history as well as its present state as a battleground of conflicting interests among agriculture, electrical power, and environmentalists.

### May 18 presentations:

**Ed Vernon** and **Phil Wilcox** will present the Colorado River beginning with its first recorded mention by European explorers, and the many failed attempts to accurately map the river. The discovery of the Grand Canyon, the building of Hoover Dam, and fights over water rights, Indian rights, and Mexican rights.

## VISTAS Spring 2011 Calendar

Seminar/Event	Inclusive Dates	Time	Venue
Documentary Club	Thursday, April 28	2:00PM	Maravilla Theater
Lewis Carroll	Monday, April 11, 18	9:30-12Noon	Goleta Library
Panama Canal	Tuesday, June 14, 21, 28	1:30-4:30pm	Valle Verde Theater
Documentary Club	Thursday, May 26	2:00PM	Maravilla Theater
Documentary Club	Thursday, June 23	2:00PM	Maravilla Theater



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