



The Impact of the Railroads on American Music

Folk, Country, Blues, Religious, and Classical

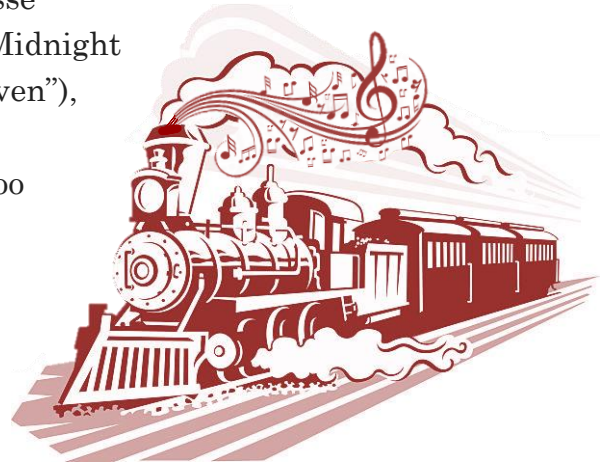
Presented by: Norm Cohen

Four Wednesdays: September 13, 20, 27, and October 4
9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

805-967-6030
vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org

Bethany Congregational Church
556 N. Hope Avenue, Santa Barbara

RAILROADS shaped American history in the century after the Civil War—a story chronicled in songs and compositions that had lasting impact on American music. In this series of presentations we’ll hear and discuss examples representing railroad construction (“John Henry,” “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad,” “Drill, Ye Tarriers, Drill”), disasters (“Casey Jones,” “Wreck of the Old 97”), badmen (“Jesse James”), imaginary trains (“Wabash Cannonball,” “Midnight Special”), religious imagery (“Life’s Railroad to Heaven”), hoboes (“Hobo Bill’s Last Ride”), and pop songs (“Atcheson Topeka and Santa Fe,” “Chattanooga Choo Choo,” “City of New Orleans,” “Mystery Train”). Instrumental music (“Orange Blossom Special,” “Honky Tonk Train”) and classical compositions (“The Lonesome Train,” “Different Trains”) will be discussed. An overview of the history of the railroads will also be included.



PLEASE REVIEW THE STATEMENT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FLYER REGARDING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS.

Preferred registration deadline*: September 6, 2023

*Early enrollment helps us with our planning; also, those who register by the preferred deadline will be given priority in case of over-enrollment.

Enrollment form: The Impact of the Railroads on American Music

Four Wednesdays: September 13, 20, 27, and October 4

VISTAS members \$50; non-members \$75

- **EITHER pay online** on our website by secure credit card through PayPal: <https://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/current-courses>
- **OR mail this form** and your check to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc.
P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara CA 93121

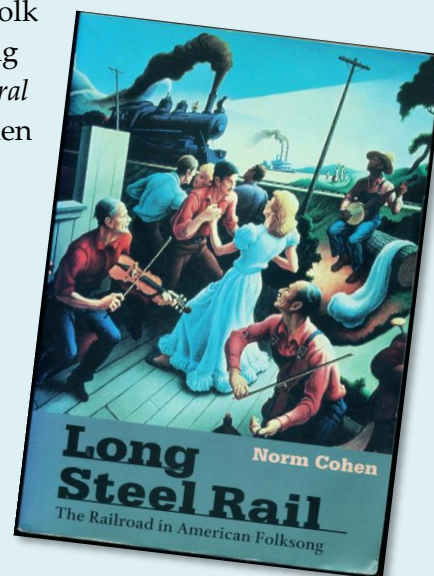
Number of persons _____ \$ _____ Check # _____

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

It is understood that attendance is limited to those who are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

Norm Cohen is the author of numerous publications on American folk and folk-derived music, including, most recently, the award-winning *An American Singing Heritage: Songs from the British-Irish-American Oral Tradition as Recorded in the Early Twentieth Century* (with Carson Cohen and Anne Dhu McLucas, 2021). Previous publications include *American Folk Song: A Regional Encyclopedia*, 2 vols. (2008), *American Folk Music: A Regional Exploration* (2005), *Long Steel Rail: The Railroad in American Folksong* (2nd ed., 2001), and *Folk Song America: A 20th Century Revival* (1990). He has edited and/or annotated more than three dozen albums of folk and country music and has written numerous articles, book chapters, and book reviews on various aspects of folk, country, and popular music. Last year he presented a VISTAS course titled “Exodus for Atheists: The Israelite Exodus and Conquest of Canaan.” A retired physical chemist, he and his wife divide their time between Santa Barbara and Green Valley AZ.



IMPORTANT COVID-19 POLICY

The health and safety of our attendees and their families are of utmost importance to us. **Accordingly, we are limiting attendance to those who are fully vaccinated.** Proof of vaccinations and boosters (digital Covid-19 Vaccination Card or a photo of your printed card) must be sent to our business manager via email (vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org) or text (805-967-6030). Participants may also be asked to show vaccination status on the first day of each course in case our records are incomplete. This needs to be done only once—your proof of vaccination will remain valid for all VISTAS events. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

VISTAS Fall 2023 Calendar

SUBJECT TO CHANGE; for up-to-date information, visit our website (VistasLifelongLearning.org) frequently!

Course / Event	Date(s)	Time	Venue
Annual Fall Picnic	Saturday, September 9	12:30 pm	Tucker's Grove
Fiction Book Club / Sharon Alvarado	3rd Thursday monthly	10:00 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Monday Nonfiction Book Club / Dawn McGrew	4th Monday monthly	1:30 pm	Via Zoom
Flight—Ups and Downs of Aviation / Bruce Phillips	Mon. Sep. 11 and 18	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
Impact of Railroads on Am. Music / Norm Cohen	Wed. Sep. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Legendary Foods of France and Italy / Larry Canepa	Fri. Sep. 15 and 22	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Women behind Walls / Bee Bloeser	Thur. Sep. 28	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Rethinking Obesity / Dr. Fima Lifshitz	Tues. Oct. 3	9:30 am	Valle Verde
Money in America's Political System / Ted Anagnoson	Mon. Oct. 16, 23, 30	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
The Nature of Time / Jim Hemmer	Wed. Oct. 18	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Pirates! / Peter Beuret	Thur. Oct. 26	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
History and Development of the Bible / Norm Cohen	Fri. Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17	9:30 am	Venue TBD
The US in the World: A Top-10 Summary / D. Stowell	Tues. Oct. 31	10:00 am	Via Zoom
Thirty-Six Years in the CIA / Heidi August	Mon. Nov. 6	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
<i>Sitting Bull: In His Own Words</i> / J. Ferry & G. DeSoto	Wed. Nov. 8	9:30 am	Valle Verde Theater
Church Music in the 16th Century / Henry Michaels	Mon. Nov. 13, 20, 27	10:00 am	Via Zoom
“The Opulent Summer” Mural / C. Garfinkle	Wed. Nov. 15	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Combating Human Trafficking / Florrie Burke	Fri. Dec. 1	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Women Architects of S.B. / Rose Thomas	Mon. Dec. 4, 11	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
Science Behind the Botanic Garden / S. Windhager	Wed. Dec. 6	1:00 pm	Santa Barbara Botanic Garden