

## **VERITAS SOCIETY'S 30th ANNIVERSARY PROJECT: NEW SPACE AT THE WATTERSON MEDICAL CENTER**

The Veritas Society is getting a new classroom! Beginning this Fall, Veritas will be hosting many classes in a brand-new 70-person classroom in the recently renovated first-floor suite of the Watterson Medical Center. Since 2018, Bellarmine University has owned the Watterson Medical Center (WMC) that is just over a mile down the road on Newburg Road. This new space marks a significant milestone, as Veritas has steadily grown which means many of our classes have higher demand than the 40-50 seat on-campus classrooms we typically use. The space is also multi-functional and will be able to host some of our more hands-on courses that need open space, such as yoga, tai-chi, and drumming.

In March, the Veritas Board of Directors heard a presentation about the space from 2 Bellarmine Administrators, Dr. Tony Brosky, Dean of the School of Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences and Marisa Zoeller, Director of Donor Relations, and The Thrive Center CEO Sheri Rose. Bellarmine, with the help of The Thrive Center and donors, is currently working on a 1.6 million dollar project renovating the two of the first floor suites. One of the suites will be rented by The Thrive Center as they will be relocating from their previous Main Street building. The second suite contains the 70-person classroom that is equipped with nesting tables and state of the art AV equipment. The classroom is on the first floor right inside the lobby that is easily accessible from the parking lots with no need to navigate hills, steps, or ramps.

"This classroom represents more than just a room—it's a symbol of our enduring partnership with Bellarmine and The Veritas Office's response to changing needs within our membership," said Veritas Liaison Abigail Walsh. "We recognize the accessibility issues that many of our members have on campus, and hope this is a near-by solution that allows us to accommodate our members while staying close to campus."

### **Summer 2025 – Key Dates to Remember**

**Veritas Summer Activities — June 10th—July 24th**

#### **Looking ahead at Fall Dates:**

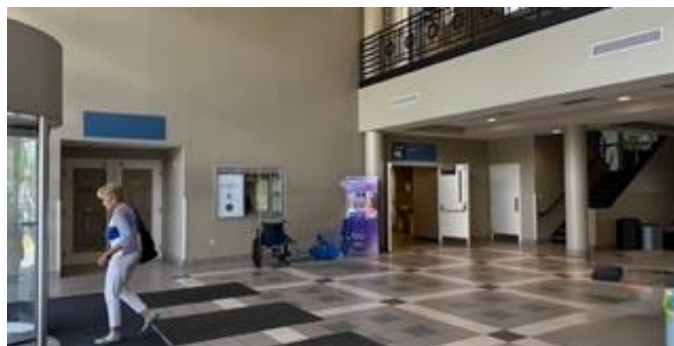
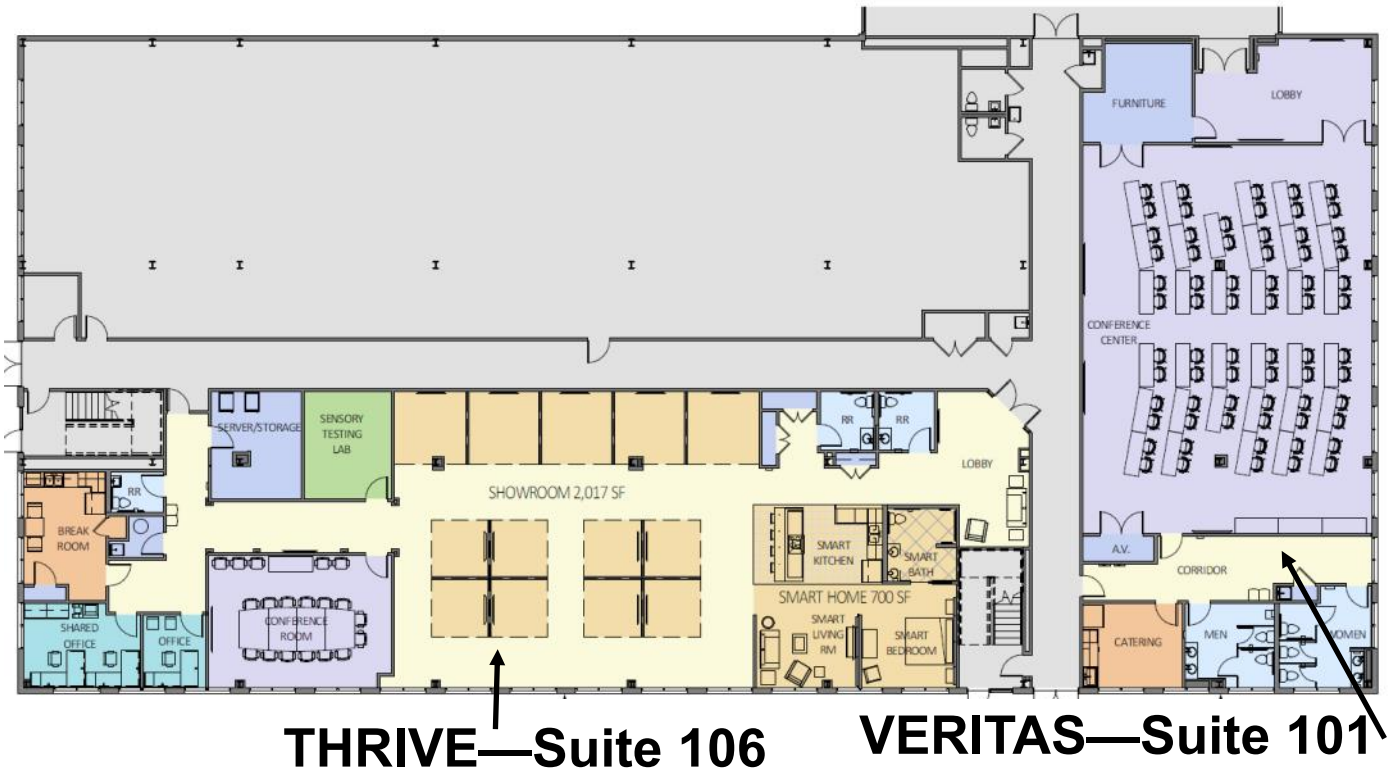
**Fall Catalog emailed—September 3**

**Fall Registration Opens – September 10**

**Classes Begin – October 6**

**Classes End – November 14**

The Veritas Board of Directors voted to use \$75,000 out of our retained earnings fund to purchase the AV equipment for the classroom. We are looking to raise an additional \$25,000 to cover the remaining cost. A generous Veritas member has already pledged \$10,000, so we need your help to raise the other \$15,000. Be on the lookout for more information soon on contributing to this fundraising project!





## STAY ACTIVE THIS SUMMER WITH VERITAS!

This summer, Veritas is offering a range of in-person and virtual activities for learning and enrichment. By now you should have received an email with complete instructions on how to sign up and take part in the June activities; we will just summarize the offerings here. (If you missed the email, notify [veritas@bellarmine.edu](mailto:veritas@bellarmine.edu).)

**VOLUNTEER TUESDAYS:** Each Tuesday in June will be an opportunity to volunteer.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 10:** Lunches of Love at Ronald McDonald House. Help provide a nutritious lunch for family members of children in hospitals. 10AM to noon; FREE, 8 spots.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 17:** Boys and Girls Haven. Help children and youth in foster care wrap up the past school year and prepare for the next one. 11AM; FREE, 10 spots.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 24:** Feed the West at Park-Hill Community Center. Sorting and assembling groceries for residents of food deserts in West Louisville. 10:45AM to 2:30PM; FREE, 10 spots.



## Week 1 Picture





**BEHIND THE SCENES FIELD TRIPS:** Behind the scenes tours of some local venues.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11:** Kentucky Railway Museum. Guided tour to parts of the museum not open ordinarily. 1:30-2:30 PM; \$15, 10 Spots. NOTE: the Museum is in New Haven, KY, and you must provide your own transportation

**THURSDAY, JUNE 12:** Lynn Family Stadium. The award-winning soccer stadium which is home to the LouCity FC and Racing Louisville professional soccer teams. 11AM-NOON; FREE, 25 spots.

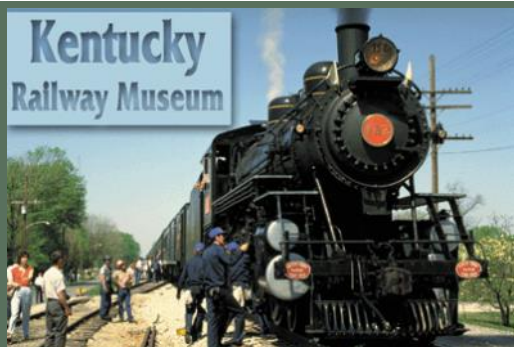
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18:** Schimpff's Confectionary. The Schimpff family has been making candy in the Louisville area since the 1850s. 11AM to NOON; FREE, 25 spots.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 19:** The Kentucky Center for the Arts. Louisville's principal venue for the performing arts. Special back-stage look at Whitney Hall and Bomhard and Martin Theatres. 3 PM; FREE, 25 spots.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 26:** Seelbach Hotel Historic Tour. A historical and architectural landmark dating to 1869. 11AM; FREE, 25 spots.

## JULY PREVIEW:

Our July activities will be virtual on Zoom and information about them will come out in an email soon. To give a sneak peek, there will be a 3-part class from the Smithsonian American Art Museum called "*This is Art. This is America: Art and Artists from the Collection of SAAM.*" Then there will be Distance Dialogues or Virtual Field Trips from the Country Music Hall of Fame, Houston Space Center- and more!



## THE 2025 VERITAS BOARD ELECTION

Eight seats were up for reelection this Spring for a place on the 2025 – 2027 Veritas Board of Directors. Since one member of the Veritas Board was not running for re-election, and there were two new candidates who were nominated, the Election Committee decided a vote was not necessary, and all candidates on the ballot were elected to the Board. The new members are Denise Davis and Patty Walker FitzGerald. Re-elected are Donna Edgar, Rose Nett, Marilyn Schorin, Don Snow, Bud Spalding, Dennis Wiseman, and Deloris White. All will serve a two-year term. We would like to give a special thank you to Rebecca Beyerle for her service to the board

## VERITAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDS YOU!

As you know, Veritas at Bellarmine is a wonderful, fulfilling program. It's a story we want to continue sharing with senior groups throughout the community. To do that, we need additional enthusiastic, willing volunteers to join our "Veritas Vocal Volunteers" team in making presentations.

**So that means we want you!**

The PowerPoint presentation is already created. The senior groups are/will be established. Dates and times will be arranged. Each volunteer will be paired with another. To get a taste of how easy and fun it is, you could shadow a presentation if you'd like.

If you are willing to share our Veritas story and have some fun in the process, contact Herb Shulhafer at [johnakaherb@gmail.com](mailto:johnakaherb@gmail.com) or Don Snow at [don.snow46@gmail.com](mailto:don.snow46@gmail.com).

## VERITAS MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Since becoming a Veritas member, you may have wondered what your Veritas membership is really getting you. Sure, you now have the ability to register for classes, but why else are you paying that fee? See below for a listing of the many great benefits of the Society!

- Register for classes of interest. No prerequisites, tests, or grades!
- Access to year-round activities: lectures, Distance Dialogues, field trips, & social events
- Free parking on campus, full use of Bellarmine Library & SuRF Center
- Free Admission to most Bellarmine Athletic Events
- Bellarmine Veritas Student ID card
- "Student" Discounts at local community partners with Student ID card

Check out our [Membership Handbook](#) for details about membership benefits.

## MEET THE NEW OFFICERS

At its May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Veritas Board elected a full set of new officers. We introduce them here.

**President: Ann McWilliams.** Ann has been a member of Veritas for ten years. In addition to serving on the Board, she has been one of our most active Production Team members, applying her technical skills to troubleshoot and advance our class technology. Her professional background was in corporate communications, web and software development business ownership, and architecture. In the non-Veritas part of her life, she enjoys hiking, biking, and reading. Asked to comment on the value of Veritas, she said, “Veritas classes are both challenging and fun. The chance to exchange ideas with my fellow lifelong learners is a gift. Plus: no exams or papers; what’s not to like?” She added that her proudest Veritas moment was surviving de Tocqueville.

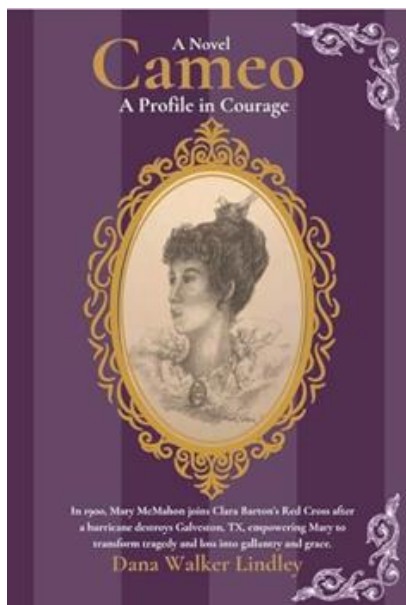
**Vice President: Donna Edgar.** Donna joined Veritas in 2018. A “student” in countless classes, she has also been a volunteer, a trainer of facilitators, and a member of the Board. Before retirement she was a middle school teacher and then a Professor of K-12 Education at JCTC, as well as the Director of Academic Advising and Transfer. When not busy with Veritas, she enjoys walking or playing with her dog, sitting on her deck, sharing movies or meals with friends, word games and spatial relationship games, and visiting with her family. About Veritas she says: “I love getting to know new people and tend to be an eclectic learner—knowing a bit about many things and master of none. Veritas fits perfectly into my personality. We are so fortunate to have interesting, knowledgeable people willing to share their expertise.”

**Secretary: Maureen Fitzgerald.** Maureen has been a member for eleven years, serving on the Board, as Chair of the Membership Committee and as member of the Volunteer Committee; she is also a facilitator for classes. In her professional life she worked for Protection and Advocacy, a federally funded legal rights organization for people with disabilities. Apart from Veritas, she enjoys genealogy research, swimming, attending cultural events in Louisville, volunteering, and reading. Of Veritas she says, “It’s my attempt to keep my brain engaged and to continuously learn.”

Get to know these splendid people who will be leading our organization in the years ahead!

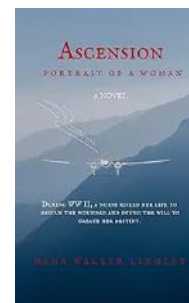






## LINDLEY COMPLETES TRILOGY

Veritas member Dana Walker Lindley has published the third book in her series about three generations of women in one Irish-American family. The books were published in reverse-chronological order, so the third, *Cameo: A Profile in Courage*, is about the first of the generations, Mary Caroline McMahon Donnelly, and is set in the Galveston hurricane of 1900. Her daughter, Colleen Donnelly O'Brien, a flight nurse in World War II, is the subject of *Ascension: Portrait of a Woman*; and her granddaughter, Dr. Chloe O'Brien McGuire, an explorer in Kenya in 1985, is the subject of *The Kinship of All Creatures*. All three books combine history and fiction, and make for good reading!



## MEET NEW PROGRAM COORDINATOR: KRISTEN MARCELA

Kristen joined the Center for Community & Professional Education in May and will be working in a part-time capacity as Program Coordinator with Veritas. We are thrilled to welcome her and know you will enjoy hearing her friendly voice on the phone line and seeing her smiling face at the Veritas desk or in the classroom!

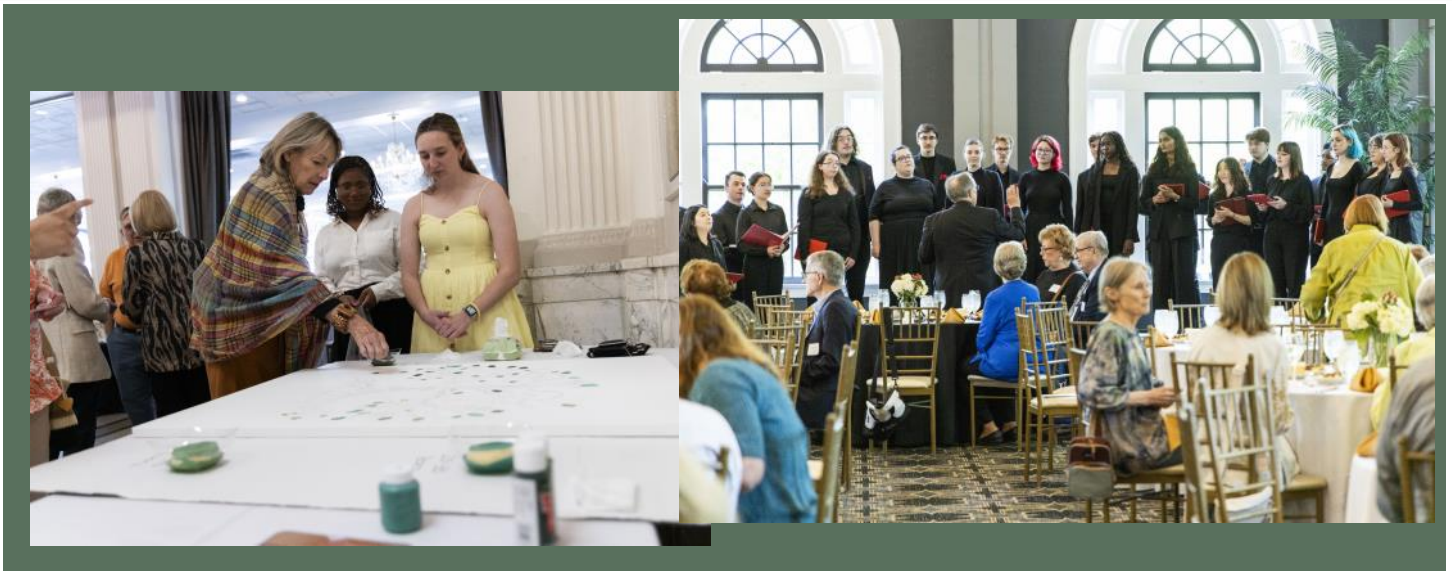


**What is your educational background? What are your degrees in?** I have a bachelors in business administration (BBA) with a minor in Spanish and a concentration in health care administration from Roanoke college(2016) and a masters of science in higher education student affairs from Baylor University (MSEd)(2023).

**What brings you to Louisville?** My husband and I moved from Manhattan, Kansas to Louisville , KY to be stationed at Fort Knox.

**What do you like to do outside of work?** Right now outside of work I'm enjoying getting to explore a new city that has a ton to offer!

**What's attracted you to working with Veritas?** Working with Veritas seemed like a wonderful opportunity because Bellarmine is pouring back into the community and showing that education is a lifelong endeavor.



## 30th ANNIVERSARY SPRING CELEBRATION BANQUET

The Veritas Society celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> year honoring Presenters, Production Assistants, and Volunteers at the Spring Celebration Banquet on May 6<sup>th</sup> at The Olmstead. The Louisville Cardinal Singers delighted with their program of music, and members enjoyed participating in an interactive art piece that will be hung in the Veritas space at the new Watterson Medical Center facility. The Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Awards were given to Donna Edgar and Mary Moll. Anna Marie “Panzi” Panzera and Eric Schmall received the Betts Meehan Lifetime Membership Award for teaching 10 courses for Veritas. Outgoing Veritas President Dennis Wiseman and longtime Board Member and Past President Marilyn Schorin were honored with the Bill Stewart Distinguished Service Award.





## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Beyond the Veritas classes—and not limited to term-time—Veritas members are invited to take part in a variety of voluntary interest groups. Here are the ones currently meeting.

**The Healthy Eating Group or Let's Do Lunch** is meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month, eating at various restaurants chosen by the members. Contact Barb Simmons at [barbsimmons88@gmail.com](mailto:barbsimmons88@gmail.com) or Debbie Heuser at [deheu927@gmail.com](mailto:deheu927@gmail.com) for reservations or additional information.

**Eat and Talk** is a group that gathers for lunch and conversation, usually on the third Monday of the month. Contact Dennis Wiseman at [Dennis.sinnedagain@yahoo.com](mailto:Dennis.sinnedagain@yahoo.com).

**The Mystery Book Discussion Group** is meeting in person and on Zoom; it meets the first Tuesday of the month from 10:30 p.m. to noon at the Highlands-Shelby Park Library in the Mid-City Mall. Contact Rebecca Beyerle by email at [beyerler@gmail.com](mailto:beyerler@gmail.com) to receive notices of future book choices.

**The Spirituality Interest Group** meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, 10:30 a.m., at the Immanuel United Church of Christ, 2300 Taylorsville Road. The group is led by Barbara MacDonald, who has presented classes on Christianity, Spirituality, Cosmology, and Inter-religious Dialogue. For more information or to register, email Barbara at [barbpmac@gmail.com](mailto:barbpmac@gmail.com).

**The Ethnic Lunch Group** meets the second Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at various locations for different ethnic food each time. For information and reservations, contact organizer Mary Helen Thompson at (502) 459-5750 or email her at [thompsonmaryhelen1@gmail.com](mailto:thompsonmaryhelen1@gmail.com).

**DoBU (Do Bellarmine University events):** This group will select and attend BU music, theater, sports, lecture events—anything happening at BU that looks interesting and fun. One a month, depending on event schedules. Most events are free or have a nominal charge. Dinner beforehand at BU or nearby is an option. If interested, please email Ann McWilliams at [veritasDoBU@yahoo.com](mailto:veritasDoBU@yahoo.com).

IF YOU ARE READING THIS VERITAS VOICE BECAUSE A FRIEND FORWARDED IT TO YOU . . .

Sign up for our mailing list by emailing [veritas@bellarmine.edu](mailto:veritas@bellarmine.edu) with the subject line: Request a Catalog

## WHO WE ARE

Since 1995, Veritas has offered the preeminent learning experience to people over 50 in the Louisville area. Our mission is to keep our minds active, open and growing, with the goals of:

- Understanding our past history and cultural heritage
- Informing members about what is happening around us
- Recognizing changes in the world and finding our place in it

We are retired or semi-retired people: doctors, educators, homemakers, office workers, administrators, artists, laborers, and executives. We are governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership.

## WHAT WE DO

We are an active, participatory group that devises and develops its own programs, enlisting the best of regional talent for presentations. We offer a six-week program each fall and spring, and activity throughout the year.

## CONTACT US

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## OFFICE STAFF

Abigail Walsh – Liaison  
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Kristen Marcela — Program Coordinator  
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Ann McWilliams '26
<b>Vice President</b>	Donna Edgar '27
<b>Secretary</b>	Maureen Fitzgerald '26

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<b>Curriculum</b>	Judith Skretny '26
<b>Field Trips</b>	Ann Nunn '26
<b>Lunch &amp; Learn</b>	Bud Spalding '27 & Jonathan Smith '26
<b>Finance</b>	Abigail Walsh
<b>Membership</b>	Maureen Fitzgerald
<b>Newsletter</b>	Jonathan Smith
<b>Production</b>	Ron Gordon '26
<b>Promotion</b>	Don Snow '27
<b>Special Events</b>	Sandra Cherry '26
<b>Volunteers</b>	Herb Shulhafer '26
<b>BU Liaison</b>	Abigail Walsh

### DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Jeff Conner '26	Marilyn Schorin '27
Denise Davis '27	Dennis Wiseman '27
Patty FitzGerald '27	Deloris White '27
Rose Nett '27	

