Central RED Society Class Schedule & Registration  
Summer/Fall 2021

“Finding Different Japans Through Walk Japan Ltd.” with Tom Stanley  
5:30 p.m. - dinner, 6 p.m. - presentation Wednesday, July 14  
Boat Moore Weller Room, Maytag Student Center  
Cost: $15, cash bar available

Walk Japan provides authentic and enjoyable tours to discover Japan, its people, society, and culture. Beginning in 1992, they were the first to successfully introduce the real Japan, geographically and culturally, that often remains inaccessible for most visitors to the country. Since then, Walk Japan has created more original tours throughout Japan and been widely recognized for its work, including selection by National Geographic as one of the 200 Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth. This course will root around in the origins and development of a company with defined goals well beyond those of a traditional travel company. It led Tom to versions of Japan vastly different from the ones he grew up with.

Tom was born into a family with connections to China rather than Japan. All grandparents and one pair of great-grandparents were China missionaries. His parents were also professionally engaged with China, which led to imprisonment during World War II by the Japanese. Tom’s father was a diplomat and accepted a post in Japan where they stayed for 5 ½ years. This background led to Tom becoming interested in Japan, and to a PhD in modern Japanese history followed by university positions mainly in Asia from 1979 to 2008: Japan, Singapore, Australia, and Hong Kong. Tom semi-retired to Pella in 2008 with his wife, Susan Kuyper. He continued until 2020 (thank you, coronavirus) to travel frequently to Japan to lead tours, sometimes with Susan. Those trips will begin again in 2021 or 2022. Two sons continue to live in Hong Kong, their home since 1986.

Welcome Back Social  
5 p.m., Tuesday, August 24  
Dave & Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex  
Cost: $15, cash bar available

After being physically apart for 17 months, we are celebrating being in person again. Dinner and great conversation are on the agenda with a little bit of hugging thrown in.
Prior to European settlement, wetland basins covered approximately 11% of Iowa’s surface area but nearly 95% have been drained. We will learn about some of the creatures living under the water, around and above, mainly focusing on our real-life dragons and damsels, (dragonflies and damselflies), whose ancestors date back over 300 million years ago, long before dinosaurs and birds.

Marla has served Marion County as Naturalist with the Marion County Conservation Department for the past 25 years. Environmental education and awareness of our local environment is her main duty. Working with numerous ecosystems and their communities is one of the many benefits of this position and the love to share these treasures with everyone.

Mixed practice veterinarians are practitioners that specialize in health management of both large and small animals. We will start with lunch on campus then travel to Dr. Yoder’s where we will have an interactive discussion of what it is like to be a mixed animal veterinarian. Please bring your own chair to the presentation.

Russ Benedict has taught Biology at Central College since 2002 and has spent most of his life exploring the prairies and woods of the Midwest. Although his graduate education emphasized mammals, he loves to study birds, insects, plants and all other aspects of nature. His favorite word is billions. (He will explain)
“An Iowa History Capstone” with Dave Baker
5:30 p.m. – dinner 6 p.m. – presentation, Wednesday, November 17
Dave & Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex
Cost: $15 cash bar available

In 2009 a crazy idea and a friendly roommate disagreement began an unusual adventure. Dave decided to photograph all 947 communities in the state of Iowa. While he anticipated making a photography book of all the communities, he instead had experiences and lessons that were beyond his imagination. Come along with Dave and learn some Iowa history, see some of the insights, peer into the sociology of rural culture, and discover some of the unique places in our state.

Dave Baker graduated from Central College in 2010 with a degree in Business Management and History. Although he works for Iowa State University as an assistant finance manager, in his spare time he runs The 29th State: a blog devoted to celebrating Iowa History, heritage, and architecture. In addition to the programs on communities, he has a one person show on Iowa in the Civil War where he portrays George Cruikshank, a Fort Dodge soldier. Dave resides in Ankeny with his wife Danielle and their two children.

“Origami for Anyone and Everyone! ”with Russ Goodman
5:30 p.m. – dinner 6 p.m. – presentation, Monday, December 6
Dave & Ardie Sutphen Common Room, Graham Annex
Cost: $25 cash bar available
Class Limit: 40

Origami is the art of paper folding and is commonly associated with Japanese culture. In this class, participants will learn basic techniques and vocabulary in origami and come away with a few cool creations to show off to friends and family. Cost includes dinner and supplies.

Russ Goodman has taught Mathematics at Central College since 2002 and loves to learn about and share the patterns, beauty, and creativity found in mathematics. He enjoys working sports data, which connects well to him also being an assistant coach for the Central women’s soccer team.