

Documentary Discussion Club By Virtual NJ ACG

Starting in the Fall of 2022, the virtual ACG included a Documentary Discussion Club as part of our meetings. Members choose episodes from different documentary series currently on Netflix. Members are sent an outline of important information and discussion questions by email to guide their documentary watching. We have watched a variety of documentaries on topics such as: Marilyn Monroe, Formula 1 car racing, chimpanzees, BBQ and more! Members had a lot to say about Documentary club:

What is the best part of Documentary Club?

Adam: “[You get to watch what] you wouldn’t have seen.”

Marti: “Different kinds of categories. Usually has somebody who has an interest.”

Adam: “Some of them we hate!”

Jackie: “Wrestle for...I liked it, I didn’t like it.”

Marti: “Yeah we have different opinions.”

Is it sometimes hard to follow along with a documentary?

Jackie: “Names [are hard]. Questions up on the screen- terrific for me.”

Many: “Yes helpful.” (about the discussion questions)

How has the Documentary Discussion Club helped you?

Many: “Help me develop my speaking.”

Adam: “The things that they do. What documentary is about.” (learned about different topics)

Would you recommend a documentary discussion club for other people with aphasia?

Many: “Yes.”

Jackie: “The Documentary Club is terrific for speech.”

Marti: “We all watch the same program, so we have something in common.”



Virtual ACG Members
Top row: **Adam E., Kelly H.**
(facilitator)
Middle row: **Jackie K., Marti S.**
Bottom row: **Many B.**

Son of Zambia

By John C. – Maywood Member

I was born in Kitwe, Zambia, formerly Northern Rhodesia. Was the 2nd child out of 4. My eldest sister is Anne. As a child, for high school I had to go out of the country. I went to St. Georges, a Jesuit school in Salisbury in S. Rhodesia. Went by train. 1000 miles away! Came home 3 times per year. It was a “school train.” Boys were in one car of the train, girls were in another, and in the car in between was a restaurant. Train monitors were very strict about boy/girl mixing. Sometimes there was an organized dance in the restaurant.



John C.

The trip took 3 days and 2 nights. Had to switch trains in Bulawayo. My friends and I got off the train at Livingston. Took a taxi to Victoria Falls Hotel. On the way saw the falls! At the hotel, boys would hide in the garden to drink and smoke. (Good times!) NEVER GOT CAUGHT.

Summers considered not healthy to be in Zambia (due to high risk of getting malaria). So, I went to South Africa for 6 weeks. Had family there.

After high school there was no graduation like there is today. No ceremony. After I got my degree after “varsity “(university) then there was a graduation ceremony. My degree was in Social Work. It was considered part of the sciences. When I was training, I worked in the slums in Johannesburg. I decided that Social Work was not the field for me. I didn’t know what I wanted to do. Also, my country’s government changed. Northern Rhodesia became Zambia.

I left to go England. My degree was useless there. I worked in a variety of jobs such as in an income tax department, and also as an inspector for an exterminator company. At this company I worked with a cast of characters!

I met a man who was an antique dealer. I worked for him buying and selling antiques. They were dated to the time from before 1830.

After that I met a man who was planning to open an antique dealership in Virginia. This is when I moved to the United States. The job was a disaster and I moved on but I stayed in the U.S.

This was around 1972. I was looking for jobs in the want ads and found a job at a furniture dealer. I was living in Florida. I took classes in interior design and decided that I wanted to work in this field. Through connections with friends, I eventually took a job with a furniture dealer in New York, and I was happy.

This is part one of my story. Maybe someday I will write about part two.

A Few of Our Favorite Things By Toms River Members



Toms River Members
(Pictured from left to right)
John, Charlie, Lucille, Matthew, Chris, Paul, Chuck, and Craig

What was your favorite group or discussion this semester?

Charlie: “I enjoyed talking and listening about Dracula, I mean Sherlock. It was something I never read. The book was new to me and showed me something new about novel writing which projected a new train of thought.”

Chuck: “I liked the triplets raised apart documentary, because I was adopted too.”

Chris: “I like music. We just sat around talking about different music. It doesn’t matter, I like all types of music.”

John: “Building straw tower. Science experiments.”

Matthew: “All the science experiments.”

Paul: “I liked talking about sports. Pretty much anything.”

Lucille: “Toy trivia.”

Craig: “Frankenstein. Reading and talking about actors. My favorite actor is Boris Karloff. Natural history, all topics. Nice.”

"I Am" Poem

By West Orange Monday/Wednesday Members

West Orange recently had a Zoom visit with the Elevate theater company, a small theater company. The Elevate Theater Company had the Mon/Wed group finish the sentence "I am..." This poem was assembled from all the members contributions.

"I Am" Poem

I'm here
I am reckless-crazy
I am a dancer dancing, a singing singer
I am a piano and organ player
I am tenacious, ambitious, determined
"I enjoy meeting new people because everyone is a new idea"
I am gregarious
I am a joker
I am a traveler, a cook
I am happy and sad and optimistic
I am loving
I am kind
I am handsome - "I'll take that!"
I am friendly
I am about Adler
I AM HERE
I share a wave and leave it at that



Monday/Wednesday West Orange Members
(Pictured from left to right)
**Betty M, Mimi D, Ed H., George G., Gayle J.,
Brenda M., Wayne P., Stephen H., Abe B.,
Chris G.**

Programs offered throughout the state of New Jersey:

- **Maywood Campus:** kcastka@adleraphasiacenter.org
- **West Orange Campus:** sglaser@adleraphasiacenter.org
- **Toms River Campus:** brein@adleraphasiacenter.org
- **Aphasia Communication Groups (9 sites in NJ):** gszabo@adleraphasiacenter.org

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Adler Aphasia Center, a non-profit organization with three full service facilities based in Maywood, West Orange, and Toms River, NJ and eleven Aphasia Communication Groups located throughout the state, is an innovative post-rehabilitative therapeutic program that addresses the long-term needs of people with aphasia and their families. Aphasia is a communication disorder that impairs the expression and understanding of spoken language, reading and writing. It occurs most often from a stroke or other brain injury. It affects a person's ability to communicate, but not his or her intellect. For more information about our programs and services in Maywood, West Orange, or Toms River, NJ, or for information about our Aphasia Communication Groups in Belvidere, Bridgewater, Haddonfield, Hammonton, Maywood, Monroe, Morristown, North Bergen, Scotch Plains and Toms River, NJ, visit our website at www.adleraphasiacenter.org or call 201.368.8585