

August 19, 1997

C-SPAN in the CLASSROOM,  
400 North Capitol St., NW, Suite 650  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Attention: Brian Lamb

Dear Mr. Lamb,

One of the best 'evenings of conversation in summer '97' was at the Nixon Library with Brian Lamb! However, time was too short, may I extend on that conversation.?

You spoke of visiting President's grave sites....I mentioned that in September and October, 1997, we will complete our challenge to visit everyone of the fifty states, capitals and at least one place dedicated to each American President. Fully aware that we are in a "global" era....it still seems to us that we are greatly remiss if we are not fully informed about our Great Country if we're going to deal with the rest of the World.

I enclose a copy of the letter I have submitted to your "in the CLASSROOM" program. Recalling that you mentioned the CLOSE UP PROGRAM when we met, I would encourage you to support the Elderhostel Institute Network Program for Seniors who want to continue learning!

You speak often of volunteer programs.....the efforts, results, participants and sponsors. Perhaps there is program material in this for C-SPAN. Many volunteer programs are to assist "needy persons", this one keeps us from becoming needy. Alert, active minds equal healthy, contributing seniors. The program, locally, is very independent...not requiring tax dollars. We're good "PR" for Victor Valley College and the entire High Desert Community! There are not many folks here who do not know what you mean when you say S.W.I.M. (SENIORS WITH INQUIRING MINDS.)

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There are some two hundred twenty groups in the United States, plus several in Canada; the program is 'happening around the Globe'. The variety of program is as great as the number of participants. We do not offer classes that duplicate those offered by other groups in the community. S.W.I.M. has just observed its fourth anniversary, several groups are preparing for silver anniversaries. Senior Learning is here to stay.....something for the next generation of 'Senior Citizens' to look forward to!

Because schools experience cash concerns this is a great way to offer good program at minimal expense. We, as do many of the groups, meet at a local church. Classroom space and convenient parking (many SWIMers have mobility concerns) and churches are most gracious about offering space as a part of their program of community "outreach". Being responsible members of the community we pledge a monthly donation to them for the use of the facility.

PLEASE IGNORE those folks who are bored by the Tocqueville saga! If they can dial to express boredom they surely have the strength to change the channel on their TV! Thank you for appealing to a 'higher level' of viewing .....In SWIM we say "count the people who participate, not those who stay at home" ! We meet year round and fifty to sixty percent of the membership attends each Friday. Of those attending thirty to forty-five per cent take an active part in the presentation/discussion. No time for boredom here!

Thank you for lending your ear, your GREAT PROGRAMS and be aware of us out here watching, listening and learning.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]

Apple Valley, Ca. 92308-4920

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