The University of North Carolina General Alumni Association

along the

Elbe River

Berlin • Potsdam • Wittenberg • Leipzig • Meissen • Dresden • Prague
cruising aboard the exclusively chartered M.S. Swiss Ruby
with UNC Professor Brent Wissick

May 21 to 29, 2015
Dear Carolina Alumni and Friends:

Come discover the true essence of life along the Elbe River, a land of incomparable treasures and timeless traditions, on this custom-designed journey through the hidden gem of the Elbe River Valley with UNC Professor Brent Wissick—experience the Baroque palaces of Dresden and the medieval river towns of Saxony, the captivating beauty of Bohemia and the splendid castles of Prague.

Enjoy this comprehensive itinerary aboard the exclusively chartered small river ship M.S. SWISS RUBY, the best vessel to cruise the Elbe River. Nearly half the size of typical European river vessels, it provides an intimate experience and personalized service.

Walk in the footsteps of Johann Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Richard Wagner through the grand concert halls where they premiered many of their greatest works, and down the lane leading to the church door in Wittenberg to which Martin Luther nailed his profoundly influential list of 95 Theses.

Explore historic landmarks along the cobblestone streets of rarely visited medieval towns, enjoy specially arranged, private, enriching lectures and experience the exclusive RIVER LIFE FORUM® with local residents who share personal perspectives of the area’s contemporary life and cultural heritage. Delve into the Elbe River Valley’s history, traditions and artistic legacy; visit four UNESCO World Heritage sites; sample locally brewed beers and observe centuries-old porcelain artisans.

RIVER LIFE® along the Elbe River is an excellent value—it includes all accommodations and meals, exclusive CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS and specially designed excursions. We encourage you to book now while Early Booking Savings and space are available!

Yours at Carolina,

Douglas S. Dibbert ’70
President
The University of North Carolina
General Alumni Association

Study Leader
Brent Wissick is the Zachary Taylor Smith Distinguished Term Professor in the Department of Music, where he has taught cello, viola da gamba and chamber music since 1982. A member of Ensemble Chanterelle and principal cellist of the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra, he is also a frequent guest with American Bach Soloists, Folger Consort, Boston Early Music Festival, Concert Royal, Dallas Bach Society, Vancouver Early Music Festival and Collegio di Musica Sacra in Poland. With these ensembles, he has recorded for the Centaur, Albany, Koch, Radio Bremen, Bard and Dux labels as well as in the soundtrack for the Touchstone film Casanova.

Professor Wissick will travel with a minimum of 10 UNC guests.

Cover photo: Stroll across Charles Bridge between Prague’s medieval Old Town and its Baroque Little Quarter.

Visit the splendid Baroque Zwinger Palace and its renowned Old Masters Gallery in Dresden.
The true character of Saxony is best discovered on this exclusive small group journey to UNESCO World Heritage sites in the great historic cities of Prague and Berlin, Martin Luther's Wittenberg and the palaces in Potsdam, and to the small villages and hilltop fortresses throughout the scenic Elbe River Valley. Enjoy an enriching travel experience like no other, including one or more specially designed excursions each day while cruising, comfortable accommodations and all meals. Interact with local people and immerse yourself in the rhythm of daily life along the river; explore the region’s history, culture, language and cuisine; discover its epochal art and architecture, historic religious reformation, political legacies and the musical traditions of Bach, Mozart and Wagner; and unpack just once! This popular program is one of the VILLAGE LIFE® series, a comprehensive and intimate travel experience at just the right pace.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENTS are specially arranged and available on this custom-designed itinerary:

◆ **Experience** the historic Old Town of Prague, the medieval towns of Saxony, the captivating beauty of Bohemia along the Elbe River Valley and the Baroque palaces of Dresden.

◆ **Immerse yourself** in a carefully planned, balanced itinerary of included guided historical and cultural excursions and time on your own to discover and observe the heart and soul of river life along the Elbe.

◆ **Discover** the arts and culture of this region during exclusive, specially arranged live musical interludes—a performance of Bach’s music, Leipzig; a recital of Mozart’s masterpieces, Estates Theatre, Prague; and a German folklore dance presentation, Dresden.

◆ **Explore** Dresden’s incomparable Semper Opera House and the world-famous Meissen Porcelain Museum.

◆ **Visit** Wittenberg’s Luther House and Schlosskirche and learn about Martin Luther and his lasting effects on Christianity and Western history.

◆ **Engage** local Einwohner (residents) during the RIVER LIFE FORUM® where they share their candid perspectives on contemporary life in Saxony.

◆ **Hear it from the Experts!** Experienced, English-speaking local guides will accompany you throughout the program and discuss historical, cultural and contemporary Germany and the Czech Republic.

◆ **Savor** the world-renowned flavors of Czech and German beers during a specially arranged tasting.

◆ **Learn key German phrases** to make your interactions with local residents all the more enjoyable.

Admire the dramatic cliffs and sweeping landscapes of Saxony’s Elbe River Valley, a part of Europe known as the “Saxon Switzerland” for its spellbinding beauty. Inset above: Saxony’s coat of arms.
The metropolis of Berlin has seen Napoleon, Bismarck, the German kaisers and Allied forces vie for European and world power. Today, the reunified city has emerged with many of its magnificent landmarks intact, including the iconic Brandenburg Gate, State Opera House, Humboldt University and Gendarmenmarkt Square. The genius of the city’s past and present residents—Felix Mendelssohn and Albert Einstein once called Berlin home—is evident in the art, architecture and flourishing culture on every corner.

Potsdam

Prussian kings and German kaisers developed Potsdam’s magnificent parks and gardens filled with the grand oaks for which the city is famous. In July of 1945, Winston Churchill, Harry S. Truman and Joseph Stalin met for the historic Potsdam Conference to determine post-World War II country borders at Cecilienhof Palace, now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Nearby, Frederick the Great constructed his splendid Sanssouci Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a beautiful example of 18th-century Rococo architecture, set on 700 acres of sculptured gardens and parkland.

Stroll Dresden’s magnificent promenades along the banks of the Elbe River and admire its architectural treasures, including the impressive Baroque Dresden Cathedral and the elaborate 18th-century Frauenkirche.
Wittenberg
This historic, charming town on the banks of the Elbe River is best known for Martin Luther, who profoundly changed the Christian world and the course of Western history when he nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Schlosskirche (“Castle Church”) in 1517. Although the original door is gone, the church still stands and contains the tombs of several historic figures, including Luther himself and the Great Elector, Frederick the Wise, who presided over the town’s cultural and intellectual zenith during the Reformation. Wittenberg also holds a place in the literary canon as the fictional characters of Hamlet and Dr. Faustus both attended its famous university.

Leipzig
Leipzig is celebrated as one of the major European centers of learning and culture. Richard Wagner was born here (1813), and Robert Schumann, Felix Mendelssohn and Gustav Mahler all achieved acclaim in Leipzig. Perhaps the most lasting influence on the city’s music history is Johann Sebastian Bach, who served as cantor (1723 to 1750) for the boys’ choir at St. Thomas Church, where you will enjoy a specially arranged performance of the composer’s masterpieces.

Meissen
Legend holds that in 1710, the fabled August the Strong—Elector of Saxony and King of Poland—commanded his alchemists to discover the secret of making gold. They inadvertently created the formula for porcelain, which catapulted Meissen into being one of the richest towns in Saxony. For nearly 200 years, porcelain was produced in Europe’s first porcelain factory located in the Elector’s castle, the Albrechtsburg, a magnificent Gothic cathedral and a classic medieval castle.

Dresden
Hailed as the “Florence of the North” for its exquisite Baroque architecture, Dresden has been Saxony’s preeminent center of wealth and power since the House of Wettin divided lands in 1485. Today, after decades of German reunification and meticulous restoration, Dresden’s opera house, palaces and cathedrals stand resplendent, and the city has reclaimed its mantle as one of Europe’s foremost centers of culture and art. Its opulent Zwinger Palace houses a spectacular collection of works by Old Masters, including Raphael’s famous Sistine Madonna. Tour the Old Town to see the magnificent Frauenkirche and the 334-foot-long porcelain Fürstenzug mural depicting the noblemen of the House of Wettin.

Königstein Fortress
In the 13th century, to secure his hold of the Elbe River Valley, King Wenceslaus I of Bohemia had this impressive and nearly impregnable fortress constructed atop a 1000-foot-high mountain overlooking “Saxon Switzerland.”
M.S. SWISS RUBY

There is no better way to visit the towns and villages along Germany’s historic Elbe River than by cruising aboard the exclusively chartered M.S. SWISS RUBY. This intimate, fully air-conditioned vessel features only 44 cabins and is the best river ship cruising the Elbe River.

Each outside cabin offers panoramic views with a floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door (Ruby Deck) or a large window (Emerald Deck). Cabins are tastefully furnished in classic decor and feature one double bed on Ruby Deck, two twin beds on Emerald Deck, private bathroom with shower, individual climate control, radio, television, minibar, safe and hair dryer.

The ship’s spacious dining room accommodates all passengers at a single, unassigned seating for buffet breakfast, lunch and four-course dinner. Complimentary house wine and beer are included with lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is served daily. Meals are skillfully prepared by European chefs and feature international cuisine and local specialties.

The ship’s public spaces include an inviting lounge and bar with panoramic windows, comfortable reading area equipped with books and games, boutique and sun deck with reclining deck chairs.

The professional, international English-speaking crew provides attentive service. The ship is equipped with a state-of-the-art navigation system, meets all safety standards and is ecologically friendly.

Double cabin with French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door).

Today, it flanks the German/Czech border and features breathtaking vistas of mountains, dense forests and imposing sandstone cliffs. The Königstein complex comprises more than 40 buildings and structures—from barracks and bakeries to churches, stables and dungeons, and retains more than 700 years of architectural history and fascinating insights into life during the Middle Ages.

Prague

The “City of a Thousand Spires”—with its splendid combination of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings—is a UNESCO World Heritage site showcasing 600 years of virtually untouched architecture.

Following the Czech Republic’s Velvet Revolution (1989), which heralded the end of the Soviet era, the city of Prague has undergone a grand resurgence. Thriving local businesses and lively cafés line the narrow lanes of the city’s Staré Město (Old Town), and in its heart stands the magnificent Old Town Hall, originally established in the 1300s and home to the oldest working astronomical clock in the world, the 15th-century Pražský Orloj.

The city’s fascinating Josefov, the Old Jewish Quarter, has been a major center of Jewish culture for 1000 years—the impressive Old-New Synagogue is the oldest extant synagogue in Europe. In the Jewish Cemetery, see thousands of headstones that reflect over 300 years of Jewish history.
Included Features

On board the intimate, exclusively chartered M.S. Swiss Ruby
- Seven-night cruise from Berlin, Germany, to Prague, Czech Republic, with port calls at Potsdam, Wittenberg, Torgau for Leipzig, Meissen, Dresden and Königstein, Germany.
- Comfortable outside accommodations with private bathroom and individual climate control.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner are served daily, each in a single, unassigned seating.
- House wine and beer are included with lunch and dinner.

Expert-Guided Excursions
- Excursion in Potsdam to visit the 10th-century Cecilienhof Palace and the Rococo Sanssouci Palace, both UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- Walking tour of Wittenberg’s historic sites.
- Tour of Leipzig’s St. Thomas Church, where Johann Sebastian Bach served as cantor.
- Guided visit to see Zwinger Palace’s impressive “Old Masters” Gallery collection in Dresden.
- Walking tour of magnificent Dresden, the “Florence of the North.”
- Tour of the medieval fortifications of Königstein Fortress.
- Walking tour of Prague, a UNESCO World Heritage site, through the Staré Město (Old Town) and Josefov (Old Jewish Quarter).

Exclusive Cultural Enrichments
- Specially arranged performance of Bach’s music in Leipzig’s St. Thomas Church.
- Exclusive, private, behind-the-scenes tour of Prague’s Estates Theatre, featuring a short recital of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s music.
- Specially arranged, exclusive backstage tour of the Semper Opera House in Dresden.
- Special guided visits to the Schlosskirche and Luther House in Wittenberg, UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- Tour of Meissen’s world-famous Porcelain Museum, followed by a demonstration of porcelain craftsmanship.
- Exclusive River Life Forum® with local residents who will discuss contemporary life in Saxony.
- Specially arranged German folklore dance performance.
- Special tasting of German and Czech beers on board.
- German language introduction.

Enhanced Travel Services
- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, with experienced local guides.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
- Hospitality desk aboard ship.
- The services of an experienced Gohagan & Company Program Director throughout the program.
- Complimentary state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
The 14th-century Bridge Tower on the Old Town side of Prague’s Charles Bridge is one of Europe’s most striking examples of High Gothic architecture.

**Prague • Berlin**

**Berlin Pre-Cruise Option**

Berlin, Germany’s reunified capital, is one of Europe’s preeminent centers of history, art and music and is known for its world-class museums, grand opera and eclectic architecture. Exclusive tours visit the Pergamon Museum, exhibiting relics of ancient Babylon; the Gemäldegalerie, known for its leading collection of magnificent 13th- to 18th-century European masterpieces; and the Wall Museum at Checkpoint Charlie, the former border crossing between East and West Berlin. Spend two nights in Berlin’s centrally located, Five-Star **The Westin Grand, Berlin** hotel.

**Prague Post-Cruise Option**

Prague, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the Czech Republic’s elegant capital city, is known as the “City of a Thousand Spires” for its splendid Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. During exclusive included excursions, explore the vast complex of palaces, churches and towers of Hradčany, the residence of Bohemian royalty and center of political power for more than 1000 years; tour Nelahozeves Castle, home to a priceless collection of rare art and antiques, including manuscripts by Beethoven and Gluck; and visit the Antonín Dvořák Museum, former residence of the legendary composer. Accommodations are for two nights in the ideally located, deluxe **InterContinental Praha** hotel.

Pre- and Post-Cruise Options are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
LAND/Cruise Tariff (per person, based on double occupancy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cabin Category</th>
<th>Description - All accommodations are outside with two twin beds or one double bed, private bathroom with shower, climate control, television, radio, mini bar, safe and hair dryer.</th>
<th>Early Booking Price through November 17, 2014</th>
<th>Regular Price after November 17, 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>One large picture window, two twin beds convertible to one double bed. Emerald Deck, aft.</td>
<td>$3995</td>
<td>$4995</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>One large picture window, two twin beds convertible to one double bed. Emerald Deck, forward.</td>
<td>$4595</td>
<td>$5595</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>One large picture window, two twin beds convertible to one double bed. Emerald Deck.</td>
<td>$5195</td>
<td>$6195</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>French balcony (expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with railing), one double bed. Ruby Deck, aft.</td>
<td>$5395</td>
<td>$6395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>French balcony (expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with railing), one double bed. Ruby Deck, forward.</td>
<td>$5995</td>
<td>$6995</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>French balcony (expansive floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with railing), one double bed. Ruby Deck.</td>
<td>$6495</td>
<td>$7495</td>
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◆ Singles are available in category 4 at $9395 and in category 1 at $10095 on or before November 17, 2014. Add $1000 for reservations made after November 17, 2014.
◆ Taxes are an additional $395 per person and are subject to change.

* M.S. Swiss Ruby has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

Reservations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. I accept the conditions as stated in this brochure and submit my reservation as indicated.

Please make my/our reservation(s): Berlin Pre-Cruise Option
- Double at $795 per person.
- Single at $1295 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Prague Post-Cruise Option
- Double at $635 per person.
- Single at $1095 per person.
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

Please make my/our reservation(s):
- I/We want you to book my/our air from ________________ to Berlin, Germany, with return from Prague, Czech Republic, at an additional cost to be advised.
- Economy Class
- Business Class
- First Class

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

Membership Requirement: Tour participants who are not members of the General Alumni Association must join the Association ($45 for singles, $55 for couples) or pay a $45 surcharge to participate. Please pay by separate check made payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

Deposits can also be made by credit card. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Bonding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $_______ to:
- Visa
- MasterCard

Card Number: ____________ Exp. Date: ____________

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by February 13, 2015.
Today the historic Brandenburg Gate is not only a symbol of Germany’s divided past, but also of European unity and peace.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Thomas P. Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring association, and its subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for your trip, including, but not limited to, land or sea transportation, accommodations, or any facility or service you may choose to use. Gohagan is not responsible for any act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party. Gohagan is not responsible for any personal injury or death, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability or lack of supply of hotels or accommodations, strikes or other labor disturbances, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, or any acts of animals, insects or pests, or for any failure of or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip included in your Pre-Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellations are subject to a $200 Pre-Post Program(s) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from through 99 days to prior to departure, $500 ($200 Pre-Post Program(s)) per person; from day 90 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 95 days or less or post departure late show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees, optional excursion fees and administrative fees may apply.

LUGGAGE: Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. Please contact your airline(s) for the most current luggage allowance policy.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or medical condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance (for example, the need for a wheelchair) must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motorcoaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will provide necessary support.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit, by November 17, 2014. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

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ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.

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