

This Week at LRI

Spring 2003, Issue 2

Editor: Michael Coyne

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Events This Week

- **Special Event B, *Green Thumb Alert!***, Wednesday, April 9, 2:00-3:30, Tallwood, Washington Post's Adrian Higgins.
- **Special Event C, *Wilderness Search and Rescue***, Friday, April 11, 2:00-3:30, Tallwood, Bud Hyland, rescue expert.
- **Special Event D, *Biking on the C&O Canal***, first trip, Friday, April 11, 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., bus pickup at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston.

Ongoing Activities

- Bridge Club, April 9, 1:30, Tallwood.

Other Meetings

- Reston Lunch Bunch, Tuesday, April 8, 1:00 (new time), Jasmine Cafe, Lake Anne (Reston).
- The LRI Board is not meeting this week as scheduled. The next meeting is Friday, April 25.

Bio Boards

Today is the date John DeVoll's Nominating Committee will put up information on the eight candidates for the LRI Board of Directors. Look for the candidates' pictures and biographic data at Lake Anne (Reston) and Tallwood. Jan and George Dewire took the pictures this year. Joyce DeVoll did the typing and layout of the material on the boards. There are eight choices because candidate Carr Whitener notified the Nominating Committee last week that he would be unable to run at this time. Remember, you can see and hear the candidates make their pitches at the LRI Annual Meeting, May 9, at Tallwood. Voting starts after that meeting and continues until May 22.

Events Next Week

- **Special Event D, *Biking on the C&O Canal***, second trip, Friday, April 18. Same time and pickup location as this week's event—at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Remember your flashlight for the Paw Paw Tunnel.

Ongoing Activities

- Bridge Club, Fiction Writing Group, both meet Wednesday, April 16, 1:30, Tallwood.

Other Items

- LRI office closed, Friday, April 18.
- Book Club at Tallwood, Wednesday, April 16.

Spring Exhibit

Last week's *This Week* left out an important fact about Dick Hibbert's photographs of



China. They are only going to be in the Social Room Annex another three weeks. After that, Peter Ball's students will display their

artwork for the final four weeks of this session. There will be more on the students later, but this gives us a chance to put up our own photograph—Dick Hibbert pinning up his China pictures.

Sitting in the Annex

Last Monday afternoon there were some expressions of irritation as members departed the Middle East class session at Tallwood. It had to do with who got to sit in TA-1 and who had to watch on TV in the Social Room

Annex. It seems that some nonregistered drop-ins had shown up early, usurping the seats of officially registered members.

The LRI staff has tried very hard to set up the unmanned camera in TA-1 and to make sure that the lavalier microphone is attached to the instructor. Nevertheless, for the overflow crowd there are some shortcomings to watching a lecture on TV. When TA-1's lights go down for video material, the camera automatically adjusts its exposure for a darker room, washing out anything on the bright screen. And, while the instructor wearing the microphone can be heard clearly, questions from the class usually are inaudible. No matter how often the liaison suggests the speaker repeat the question, it rarely happens. In truth, many questions are so long they could only be repeated by a court stenographer.

Some members at Tallwood could be heard saying that at least nonregistered members could play fair by heading straight for the simulcast seating in the Annex.

Correction

Last week's story about *Fairfax Ink* was absolutely correct except that it was about the wrong issue. Your editor was looking at last fall's issue and not the new spring 2003 issue. *Fairfax Ink*, Spring 2003, which is now available in the LRI office, has a picture of a horse on the cover. LRI cannot sell the literary magazine, but you need to make a \$2 donation before you can take your copy out of the office.

Two Authors

If you have not heard of Fairfax County Public Library's *Perspectives*, series you have already missed the talks by Ken Starr and Eleanor Clift. But it is not too late to hear James Carville, on April 15, and Sandra Day O'Connor, on May 6. What do these people have in common? They are all authors and are talking about their new books. The time is 7:30 p.m. You can pick up free tickets at the door at 6:00 p.m.—the door of the Alden Theater of the McLean Community Center. Call 703-790-0123 for details.

Brass, String, or Woodwind

It's too early to tell how many takers there have been to Eric Henderson's request to hear from members interested in brushing up their musical instrument skills. It's not too late to get in touch, though. Eric has an idea that there are members who would like to wipe the dust off the guitar or see if the old cornet is still in the basement and maybe give the instruments another try in a "nonthreatening" group atmosphere.

The first step, Eric says, is to see who is interested in getting together to talk about it. Then, depending on the mix of instruments, some practice groups might be set up. Eventually, perhaps, even an LRI band or orchestra to perform after the choral group at meetings. Eric is waiting to take your calls at 703-318-4892 or read your e-mail at ericcarol@earthlink.net. He will even listen to members who do not play an instrument, but would like to learn.

Directory Changes

LRI staffer Jennifer Maloney wants members to know that she is starting to put together the Spring LRI directory of members. She will use the information we put down on our registration forms unless she hears that changes are desired. If you would like to change a residence address, phone number, or e-mail address, let Jennifer know by April 10. That date is this Thursday. Jennifer's number is 703-503-3384.

Volunteers Needed

Another request from the LRI staff is for volunteers to help out with the phones and other office work. Volunteers are needed from 9:00 a.m. to noon, especially on Tuesdays and Fridays, for the next couple of months. Call the LRI office or drop in to sign up.