

This Week at LRI

Spring 2003, Issue 5

Editor: Michael Coyne

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Events This Week

- **Special Event G, Israeli-Palestinian Relationships**, Rabbi Bruce Aft, Wednesday, April 30, 2:00, Tallwood.

Ongoing Activities

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

Committee Meetings

- Program Committee, Friday, May 2, 10:00, Tallwood.
- Reston Support Committee, Friday, May 2, 1:30, Carol Henderson's house.

Handicapped Parking Survey

There has been very limited response to the Planning Committee's request for information concerning handicapped parking problems at LRI facilities, but it is not too late to call Gordon Canyock at 703-425-4607, or better yet e-mail him at gordon9120@cox.net. Note that this is a different e-mail address for Gordon than was listed in our article the first week of the spring semester.

The committee wants to know if you currently have an official County handicapped parking permit and how often you have experienced difficulties finding an empty handicapped parking space when attending LRI courses. An LRI member who is handicapped told us that Fairfax County terminology for permits is quite specific—there are placards and there are plates. Gordon is looking for a count of members who have either type.

19th Century Internet

It doesn't happen this week, but The History Club wants you to get this meeting on your calendar. The History Club will have presentations of two topics on its agenda when it meets next week. Tom Hady will discuss *The Victorian Internet*, Tom Standage's history of the development of the telegraph and its

Events Next Week

- **Annual Meeting**, presentation of candidates, start of voting, Friday, May 9, 10:00, Tallwood.

Ongoing Activities

- Bridge Club, Wednesday, May 7, 1:30, Tallwood.
- History Club, Wednesday, May 7, 1:30, Tallwood. See article below.

Committee Meetings

- Special Events Committee, Wednesday, May 7, 1:30, Tallwood.

impact on 19th century society and business. Also, Michael Styles will discuss the history and future of democracies, principally as expounded by Fareed Zakaria in his recent book, *The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad*. The History Club meets Wednesday, May 7, 1:30, at Tallwood.

Special Event D has two open slots due to bad weather rescheduling of the second April trip. That event has been rescheduled for Monday, May 12. See the LRI Office to add your name to the trip.

Final Lewis & Clark Classes

LRI courses that invite a different speaker each week sometimes have a drop-off in attendance as the semester progresses. This gives other members a chance to attend sessions without taking the trouble to fill out a drop & add slip. Joanne Lingerfelt reminds us that the Lewis & Clark Expedition class on Tuesdays at 2:00 has two more classes this semester.

This week's class, on April 29, *Merriwether Lewis and Exploration of the West*, will be taught by Jane Henley, past president of the National Lewis and Clark Heritage Foundation. Ms Henley is a descendant of

Meriwether Lewis's sister Jane Lewis Anderson.

Next week, on Tuesday, May 6, the subject is *Journey into Indian Country*, which will feature Native American George Horsecapture, curator of the Plains Indian Museum. That museum is one of five collocated in the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, in Cody, Wyoming, some 50 miles from Yellowstone's East Gate. Mr. Horsecapture is also Senior Counselor for the Director at the National Museum of the American Indian, which will open on the Mall in 2004.

Check with Virilinda Snyder at 703-339-5748 if you have any questions

<http://www.gmu.edu/departments/lri/>

That's the correct address of the LRI web site. There was a misplaced 's' on the cover of the new Membership Directory, making the address unintelligible for a computer. You can leave off the final slash and everything in front of the www. Most browsers add them in automatically.

While on the subject of errors, when Rick Rifkin was proofreading last week's paper he said that no one would know what EIN meant and it should be expanded. So your editor expanded it—incorrectly. EIN means "Elderhostel Institute Network." Elderhostel, the educational trip organization, established and funds EIN, a sort of no cost, resource clearing house, or umbrella group, "to promote communications between existing LLIs and encourage the development of new LLIs."

LLI? There are several words categorizing what we are members of: Lifelong Learning Institutes (LLI), Institutes for Learning in Retirement (ILR). The group at NVCC (Northern Virginia Community College) expands LLI as "Lifetime Learning Institute." How do we know this? We went to LRI's web site and clicked on "Useful Links."

The Real Story

April 16 was Judy Azzara's turn to take over Social Studies class 703. She and Ken Plum—Virginia House of Delegates member and an LRI founding member—are sharing lectures for the class *The Real Story of Virginia's Racial Integration*. Judy Azzara described her 24 years as Principal of Louise Archer

Elementary School, which began as the first elementary school for Negroes in Fairfax County in 1867. It was the only one of seven "colored" elementary schools in the County to survive integration and continue as a school. Integration of the Vienna Colored School, as it was called then, took place in September, 1965.

Guest speaker Sylvia B. Taylor did considerable research on the early years of the school and has published a history of that period. She described for the class the start of the school in 1867, when it shared space with a church on Lawyer's Road in Vienna. In the 1890s, the school moved to a second location, also on Lawyer's Road. Ms Taylor spoke about the situation of the school at its second location and the arrival of Louise Archer as its Principal in September 1922. Archer made great efforts to improve conditions and raise teaching levels. She eventually persuaded the local community to buy property on Nutley Street, where in 1939 a new 3-room building was constructed. It remains there today, much renovated. In 1950, the school was named in honor of the respected and beloved woman principal who guided the school until she died in March 1948.



Judy Azzara

Sylvia B. Taylor