

This Week at LRI

Spring 2004, Issue 1

www.lri.gmu.edu

March 29, 2004

Events This Week

Special Events

- The Art of Molas, Wed., Mar. 31, 2:00-3:30, Tallwood.
- New Members Coffee, Fri., Apr. 2, 10:30. Tallwood.

Meetings

- Program Committee, Fri., Apr. 2, 10:00, Tallwood.

Ongoing Activities

- Walking Group, Tues., Mar. 30, 8:15-9:15, Lake Anne Church.
- Bridge Club/Scrabble Club, Wed., Mar. 31, 1:30-3:30, Tallwood.

Events Next Week

Special Events

- Maestro William Hudson, Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, Wed., Apr. 7, 2:00-3:30. Tallwood.

Meetings

- Special Events Committee, Wed., Apr. 7, 2:00, Tallwood.

Ongoing Activities

- Bridge Club/Scrabble Club, Wed., Apr. 7, 1:30-3:30, Tallwood.
- Fiction Writers' Club, Wed., Apr. 7, 1:30-3:00, Tallwood.
- History Club, Wed., Apr. 7, 1:30-3:00, Tallwood.

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Hello

It's fun to see the cherry blossoms and welcome to everyone in LRI. Spring, with 50 plus great LRI courses, 11 interesting special events and eight ongoing activities plus clubs "makes my day". Welcome those with red dots, our new members. We all look forward to getting acquainted, making new friendships and settling in for the spring term. If you need help or have suggestions, check with members with green tags indicating a member of the Board of Directors who are always available and interested in your ideas.

A few notes: Welcome to Ashleigh Shipe, our new Administrative Assistant. Kudos to Jennifer Maloney and all the volunteers that helped in the office the past few months. Mark your calendars for 10:00 May 7 for the LRI Annual Meeting and Meet the Candidates event. Thank you to Harold Davey and the members of the Nominating Committee for their work in developing a fine slate of candidates interested in running for election to the LRI Board. How about that new entrance to TA-1? It keeps us up to snuff with regards to fire safety regulations. We hope you will have an enjoyable spring with classes, cookies and friends. Bob Bohall

Ashleigh Shipe Joins LRI Staff

The new face in the LRI Office is Ashleigh Shipe, who began on February 25 as the Administrative Assistant at Tallwood. Ashleigh has a degree in social work, was a U.S. Army Transportation Officer in Korea and Germany, and worked as a commercial real estate paralegal for thirteen years after leaving the Army. She lives in Chantilly with husband Paul and daughters Marin and Mallory, who are ten and nine.

LRI Board Meeting

The LRI Board met on February 20th, 2004 at Tallwood. Ashleigh Shipe, the new Administrative Assistant, was introduced to the Board.

It was announced that Don Igo resigned from the Board. The Board agreed to consider a motion to appoint Charles Duggan to fill the term of Don Igo expiring in May, 2006. Final consideration was deferred until the March Board meeting.

It was announced that copies of the new issue of Fairfax Ink are available in the office for \$2, and copies of the Member and Volunteer Handbook are available in the Social Room.

It was noted that the Friends of LRI raised \$28,053 in 2003.

A number of "LRI VOLUNTEER" stickers have been printed, and they will be distributed to all volunteers to place on their name tags.

A motion was made that the LRI closing policy as indicated in the Executive Handbook be amended by adding the following sentence: *Subject to the availability of the instructor, the week following the end of the regularly scheduled LRI Winter Term is designated to make up classes canceled due to inclement weather.* A final passing vote on this motion was taken at the March 19 LRI Board meeting.

The next meeting of the LRI Board will be Friday, April 16. LRI Board meetings are open to all LRI members and attendance is encouraged.

Candidates for Board Elections

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates to run for election to the LRI Board of Directors: Jan Dewire, Eileen Duggan, Tom Hady, Caroline Hartzler, Manny Pablo, Peter Poole, Kathryn Russell and Virlinda Snyder.

Bios and photos of nominees will soon be posted on display boards at Tallwood and Lake Anne. Nominees will also wear a special ribbon on their name tags and be introduced by liaisons in the classrooms, so please take the opportunity to get acquainted.

Voting for six positions on the Board will begin at the Annual Meeting on May 7 and continue until May 19. Candidates will be introduced at the meeting and have the opportunity to address the membership, indicate their perspective on LRI and say a few words regarding their qualifications. Time will be available for informal discussion after "Meet-the-Candidates".

Further information on the voting procedures for the election will follow in later editions of this newsletter.

The Committee wishes to express its thanks to the nominees who are willing to devote their time and efforts to help LRI continue to meet the educational needs and desires of our membership.

LRI Campus Getting Makeover

The LRI Board has approved a major design and cost estimate for the complete replanting of the Roberts Road side of TA-1. We have the plans; we have the approval; and we have the budget. Now, all we need is you. You do not have to be a Paul Bunyan to be able to assist in this exciting venture. If you cannot lift a shovel of heavy soil, you can plant annuals. If your back will not let you lower a heavy shrub into a hole, you can clear the path by raking leaves and debris out of the planter's way.

Spring and summer means the cheerful visage and delightful aroma of flowering trees and shrubs. You can help create this for LRI and yourself. To be part of it call Valerie Braybrooke at (703)323-0550 or Ray Solomon at (703)569-4828.

Memorial Service

A Memorial Service has been planned for the late Paula Schwartz on Sunday, May 2nd, from 2:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon. The service will be held at the Northern Virginia Jewish Community Center, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Annandale.

Paula taught excellent classes in literature and poetry at LRI for a number of years. She was a playwright and novelist, at times using the pen name of Elizabeth Mansfield (also Paula Reid, Paula Jonas, or Paula Reibel). Paula died on December 21, 2003.

Friends of Paula are welcome to attend, and those who wish to do so are encouraged to say a brief piece concerning their relationship with Paula. The service is being coordinated by Lyda Rochmis, who may be contacted for additional information at (703)435-3841.

Get Acquainted

Friday, April 2nd, at 10:30 AM (and the first Friday of each class term) a New Members' Coffee is held at Tallwood. This is an ideal opportunity to meet and get acquainted with your classmates, LRI Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairs. They're "at your service" and prepared to answer your questions about LRI and LRI activities, and to hear about you and what you'd like from LRI. So mark your calendar and plan to attend for cookies, coffee and conversation.

Collected Art in TA-1

The Facilities Committee thanks Carol Farrara for loaning her collected "office art" for us to enjoy in TA-1. In the time remaining for the exhibit, be sure to read Carol's insightful and delightful comments about the art. Anyone interested in sharing their original or collected art please call Marvina Munch.

It Bears Repeating

We had such a positive response in the winter semester to this article on CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE that we thought it would be a good idea to repeat it as the Spring Semester begins.

— Try to arrive on time. If you enter after the class has started, make every attempt to find a seat via the back of the room rather than walk in front of the speaker, and check your name on the attendance sheet after the class is over.

— If you wish to comment or ask a question, please remember to raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged by the speaker rather than interrupt the speaker by calling out your question or comment.

— Please respect your classmates by not dominating the class period with your own questions/comments. Let others have a chance, and remember that your classmates came to hear the speaker.

— Please be mindful that it is discourteous to the speaker and distracting to your fellow members if you spend your time in class talking to your neighbor, filing your nails, knitting, dozing off or doing other such things rather than paying attention.

— In summary, remember that our speakers are giving us the benefit of their experience, knowledge and time. Express your appreciation by showing interest in the presentation and observing classroom etiquette.

Needlework Art in The Annex Room

Joyce DeVoll began her first piece of needlework forty years ago. Her continued interest in needlework art is shown by the fact that while vacationing in Florida last winter, she took a class in advanced techniques. Joyce's skill and creativity in this art form are exhibited in the Social Room Annex.

Reston Support Committee Profile

The Reston Support Committee evolved from a small group actively involved in locating a site for LRI classes in Reston in the late 1990s to a much larger group which still meets regularly to monitor and explore needs at the Lake Anne site. The committee serves a valuable function as liaison to Program Committee members and LRI staff by imparting information and feedback on what is going well and what is not going well at the Reston site. Ideas for programs, classes and teachers are also solicited from this group.

Lydia MacDonald and Jan Dewire guided the group in its initial phases, then Carol Henderson served as committee chair for a few years and recently Abbie Edwards took on the responsibility of chairing the committee. All LRI members, however, are welcome to attend the meetings, participate in discussion and provide input.

To Submit a Notice or Article

Your editor prints almost anything that comes his way, but there are a few requirements. To submit a notice/article for *This Week at LRI*, write it up, preferably in no more than 200 words, and attach your name and how to contact you. If it involves the work of an LRI committee, run it by the committee chair, then send it by email to Rick Rifkin. For those without computer or e-mail, place a typed draft in the *This Week at LRI* folder in the Tallwood social room

Your draft may be edited and may be shortened to fit space constraints. The weekly deadline is 5:00 p.m. on the Friday that is ten days before the issue is distributed. The editor does not write original copy and will not accept anonymous submissions. Priority goes to LRI activity, then to GMU material, and only rarely to other items. The Publications Committee welcomes new writers and ideas for interesting articles. If you would like to discuss an idea, contact committee chair Carol Henderson.

Spring Short Story Contest

April 16 is the deadline for submitting stories to the Spring Short Story Contest. First prize is \$50.00 and publication in Fairfax Ink. Stories may be submitted at the LRI office with a check for \$5.00 (to LRI) accompanying each story. The contest will be judged blind by the chairman of the GMU English Department and a young novelist named Liam Callanan. (Entry fees will cover the prize and a small honorarium for the judge.) Each story should have a detachable cover sheet with the name of the author and the title of the story. The author's name should not appear on the story. Maximum word length is 5000 words. Stories should be typed double-spaced. If you have questions, call Peter Poole at (703)281-0530.

LRI Member Directory

An LRI member directory will be published in the next few weeks. If there are any changes/corrections/deletions to your member information, please notify the LRI office as soon as possible. The directory will contain member data obtained from information listed on the registration form. Thank you!

Summer Luncheon

The Marco Polo Restaurant in Vienna, Virginia has been selected for the first of LRI's planned Summer Luncheons. June 8th is the date but reservations must be in by May 28th. The catalog will have all the details, and future issues of *This Week at LRI* will keep you posted.
