

This Week at LRI

Spring 2004, Issue 6

www.lri.gmu.edu

May 3, 2004

Events This Week

Special Events

- None

Meetings

- Special Events Committee, Wed., May 5, 1:30, Tallwood.
- Annual Meeting, Fri., May 7, 10:00, Tallwood.

Ongoing Activities

- Walking Group, Tues., May 4, 8:15-9:15, Lake Anne Church.
- Fiction Writers' Club, Wed., May 5, 1:30-3:30, Tallwood.
- History Club, Wed., May 5, 2:00, Tallwood.
- Bridge Club/Scrabble Club, Wed., May 5, 1:30-3:30, Tallwood.

Events Next Week

Special Events

- Global History 200 Years Ago and a True Story, Wed., May 12, 2:00-3:30, Tallwood.
- Virginia's Executive Mansion and the State Capitol, Fri., May 14, 8:30-5:30, Bus Trip.

Meetings

- Reston Support Committee, Thurs., May 13, 2:15, Lake Anne Baptist Church.
- Program Committee, Fri., May 14, 10:00, Tallwood.

Ongoing Activities

- Walking Group, Tues., May 11, 8:15-9:15, Lake Anne Church.
 - Book Club at Tallwood, Wed., May 12, 1:30-3:00, Tallwood.
 - Bridge Club/Scrabble Club, Wed., May 12, 1:30-3:30, Tallwood.
 - Reston Lunch Bunch, Thurs., May 13, 1:00, at Jasmine.
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Tired of Waiting in Line?

Well, relief is on the way! One of the persistent frustrations and source for complaints at Tallwood has been the limited availability of rest rooms. On certain peak days, up to 200 people may be attending classes at the same time. On those days, the demand for the three available rest rooms can be overwhelming. When classes break, the queue is often very long and trying, especially on a cold winter day.

The Board of Directors is acutely aware of the problem but has not been able to do anything about it. That is, up to now. When the university began work to correct the structural damage at Tallwood House, we asked if they would construct two new rest rooms across from the existing two in the hallway off the patio.

GMU said yes but made it clear that it would have to be at LRI's expense, estimated at \$30,000 to \$40,000. This price includes the cost of heating and air conditioning.

This will put a demand on LRI's resources, but the Board approved it believing that it is in the best interest of the members. LRI is exploring some outside funding sources that may cover the cost of the project, but nothing is certain.

We anticipate that the work will be completed before the beginning of the fall term.

Source: Charles Duggan

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What Is Happening at TA-1?

Look on the bulletin board in the Social Room. You will find a diagram for the landscape plan for TA-1. And then when you see the volunteers digging, hauling, planting and grunting, please cast a kind word their way to lift their spirits. We would like you to know who they are. Their contributions to LRI are most appreciated.

>Special thanks to Bob Bohall for the use of his truck and for assembling our "New Age" wheelbarrow (directions in Spanish and Japanese).

>Kudos to Jack Underhill who dug-out sod, rototilled the area for hours in the hot sun, and so much more.

>John DeVoll survived hours of strenuous labor and the "whip cracking" of the project forewoman. John has never declined a call for help.

>Then, there is the phantom worker, LaVonne Kern, who over many years shows up before the office opens. She tends to the beds between the White House and TA-1. When her time is up, she dusts herself off and hurries on to class.

>Beverly George has been a regular volunteer for several years, any job, any time, Bev is there.

>Ray Solomon began the campus-wide landscape project in the spring of 2001. He is now liaison with GMU and has garnered equipment and manpower for LRI. Ray is co-chair with Valerie Braybrooke of the Landscape Committee.

>Sylvia Myers may be a new kid on the block, but she wields a heavy mallet like an "old pro.". Side by side with Valerie, she has set a work standard that many would be hard-pressed to match.

>And then there is Valerie, energy unlimited, knowledge encyclopedic, the drive, spirit and muscle of the project.

Now, all you shy gardeners, wouldn't you want to join a group like this? Just call Valerie Braybrooke at 323-0550 or Ray Solomon at 569-4828. Source: Ray Solomon

Free: Gold Volunteer Stickers

Have you noticed the gold "LRI Volunteer" stickers on many name tags? Each of those members is a proud LRI volunteer who helps in the office, serves on the board or a committee, teaches a class, writes, edits or proofreads, does gardening or performs other important work! You, too, can have one of those classy stickers for your name tag. Just become a volunteer and you instantly qualify for a sticker. To read about LRI volunteer opportunities, pick up a Member & Volunteer Handbook or visit the LRI Website at www.lri.gmu.edu and click on the "Volunteer at LRI" link. Volunteering is central to our continued existence. We need you. Please help!

Source: Susanne Zumbro

Anyone Need a SPEAKER?

Did you know that LRI has a Speakers' Bureau? We are pleased to provide speakers to interested groups whose members include retired persons and seniors. Are you a member of a church or synagogue group, retirement group, book-discussion group or any other group with potential LRI members who might be interested in learning more about our wonderful institute? Please give the office a call at 503-3384 (or e-mail lri@gmu.edu) and tell the staff the name of your group and how to reach the appropriate contact person. We will take it from there and arrange for a speaker to appear before the seniors and retired members of your group. Help us spread the word about LRI!

Source: Susanne Zumbro

Reminder to All Members

Please be sure to pick up a copy of the Spring Membership Directory, located in all of the classrooms at Tallwood and Lake Anne, as well as a copy of the yellow membership questionnaire. The latter may be returned to Mathilde Speier at Lake Anne or placed in the return box in the Social Room at Tallwood.

Source: Jennifer Maloney

Oops! A Typo

By now every member of LRI has received a letter from the Development Committee soliciting financial support for the Friends of LRI. For those of you not familiar with the Friends of LRI annual campaign, it is a program by which we call upon our members' generosity to fund special purchases such as capital equipment items and to help balance our budget.

After this year's letter was posted, we discovered an error. At the letter's end we explain that the names of all contributors are published once a year in the *LRI Times*. There are three categories of contributors, Patron, Supporter and Donor. The distinction between the three is the level of giving. This is where we made our mistake. The Donor line reads, "for cumulative contributions of \$100 or more." It should read, "for cumulative contributions up to \$100."

Our apologies for the error. What the line means is that all contributions, be they large or small, will be recognized. Of course, we respect any donor's wish to remain anonymous.

So, while we are on the subject, please contribute to the fund. Your generosity will make for a better LRI.

Source: Eileen Duggan

Last Call

The annual Meet-the-Candidates meeting, with the fun Pot Luck as an added attraction is this Friday, May 7, and your finger food contributions will be gladly received —just get them to Tallwood by 9:30 and enjoy sampling other members' goodies.

Source: Art Cook

Summer Luncheon

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

LRI Wants to Hear from You

Please notice the SUGGESTION BOX that is hanging on the wall in the coffee room at Tallwood. To make sure we are doing our best to meet the needs of our members, we invite you to submit comments, suggestions, ideas, complaints, criticism and praise. Fill out a form, or just write down your comments and place them in the box. If you would like a personal response, please include your name. If you would like to remain anonymous, that is fine too.

If you cannot get to Tallwood but have something to say, visit our Website at

www.gmu.edu/departments/lri,

and click on the suggestion box to enter comments. Again, you will have the option of remaining anonymous, if you so desire. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Source: Susanne Zumbro
