

4085 University Drive
 Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
 (703) 385-1593

Published by the
 Learning in Retirement Institute
 at George Mason University

LRI news

VOL. 2, NO. 1

FEBRUARY 1992

CALENDAR

February

Tues., Feb.18, 10 a.m., Board meeting

Tues., Feb.25, 1:30 p.m., Publicity/
 Membership Committee meeting

March

Tues., Mar.3, 1:30 p.m., Finance
 Committee meeting

Tues., Mar.10, 1:30 p.m., Curriculum
 Committee meeting

Thurs., Mar.12, 2 p.m. Annual LRI meeting

Tues., Mar.17, 1:30 p.m. Board meeting

Thurs., Mar.19, 2 p.m., Teacher
 orientation

Tues., Mar.24, 1:30 p.m., Publicity/
 Membership meeting

Mon., Mar.30, Spring term begins

April

Tues., Apr.7, 1:30 p.m., Finance
 Committee meeting

Tues., Apr.14, 1:30 p.m., Curriculum
 Committee meeting

Tues., Apr.21, 1:30 a.m., Board meeting

Tues., Apr.28, 1:30 p.m., Publicity/
 Membership meeting

May

Fri., May 22, Spring term ends

Kathryn Brooks Speaking

You know that I have said again and again that our Learning in Retirement Institute could never have come into existence without the efforts of this person and that person. It is certainly true that our success, in fact our very being, is due to the input of many. However, until today, I have not called attention, nor given credit, to our very sine qua non. I refer, of course, to the contribution of George Mason University. I think it would be nice for everyone who enjoys LRI to write to President George Johnson and thank him.

* * * * *

* **ANNUAL MEETING** *

* Thursday, March 12, 2 p.m. *

* John Woods Center *

* 3936 Old Lee Highway *

* 3730 *

* Enclosed with this newsletter is a notice of the first Annual LRI Meeting to elect new Board members and officers. This is a good opportunity to meet other members, so come and bring friends who might be interested in joining LRI. *

* * * * *

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT INSTITUTE

President	Kathryn Brooks
Vice President	Shirley Fox
Coordinator	Carol Ferrara

NOT EVERYONE WENT SOUTH

When it was first decided to try having a four-week winter term, no one was sure how many members would be interested. As it turned out, 72 enrolled, including eight new members. In addition to five classes, a series of special events brought out good attendance.

Former Virginia State Senator **Emilie Miller** reviewed how Virginia's recent governors have dealt with budget issues, noting that agriculture and tourism are still the leading revenue sources and that our state is 44th in taxes.

Dianne Hennessy King, a cultural anthropologist who teaches frequently on health issues, provided much information on aspects of wellness, urging listeners to remember that friends, food and fitness are the three most important aspects of healthy aging.

LRI member **Helene Layman** held members enthralled with her lecture and recorded

arias from Tosca prior to the New York City Opera production at GMU.

Katherine Hanley, member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, spoke about issues facing Northern Virginia and explained the County's relationship to the state legislature.

Her talk was an excellent preparation for the LRI trip to Richmond on February 3. Over 30 people went on the chartered bus and started their visit with a box lunch with Delegate Ken Plum. They then attended a General Assembly session and toured the Capitol and the Governor's Mansion.

THE WORD ABOUT LRI IS GETTING OUT

- * The Department of State invited LRI to participate in a Retirement Planning Seminar for about 150 retiring personnel. **Frank McMahan**, chairperson of LRI's Publicity Committee, represented LRI in the panel discussion.
- * Channel 8 filmed **Bert Kassell's** China class and used the film in a live interview with **Kathryn Brooks**.
- * LRI presented a panel discussion on Channel 25, moderated by **Audrey Markham**, along with **Kathryn Brooks**, **Shirley Fox** and **Frank McMahan**. The program, which included a call-in segment, was an excellent opportunity to tell people about LRI.

SOME SPECIAL "THANK YOUS"

The aging LRI computer is up and working again, thanks to the computer wizardry of **Kathryn Brooks'** grandson, **Sheldon "Lonney" Dexter**. The computer, a donation, manages to do our registration, scheduling and correspondence, but a donation of new higher-tech hardware and software would be greatly appreciated.

The wonderful Russian dinner prepared by **Bertha Elkins** in her home for **Garrett Ruhl's** Russian class was also a bonanza for LRI. **Bertha** generously gave to LRI all of the money that class members had contributed for expenses, so LRI's treasury grew by \$110.

ASK AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN ???

The last LRI News listed some items the office needed, and look what happened: **Matthew Gallagher** donated a projection screen, **Bobbie Rapp** gave a 30-cup coffee pot, **Mildred Lill** provided a slide projector, and **George Felton**, LRI's Treasurer, arranged for the use of a blackboard and tripod from Fairfax County Schools as well as some cash contributions.

What is LRI wishing for now? **Carol Ferrara** longs for an electric pencil sharpener. We need an LP record player for music appreciation courses. And LRI is always in need of volunteers; right now, we're looking for a raised hand offering to be the editor of catalogs and someone proficient in Data-base II and Microsoft Works programming.

SPRING IS COMING TO LRI

The spring '92 semester begins March 30 and ends May 22. Catalogs will be mailed before March 1. Some of your favorite teachers will be expanding on previous courses or offering new ones. We also have some exciting new courses and teachers. For example, country studies will add India and China to the Commonwealth of Independent States (the former USSR), and German for the Tourist will join French and Spanish. Look for a new course on Music Appreciation, taught by a GMU professor, and one on the History of Technology. Be sure to register early because maximum class size is about 24; language and some other classes are smaller.

The spring semester will also include many special classes and events, such as a visit to the media and telecommunications center of Fairfax County Public Schools, four slide presentations on art and history, a sharing of the impact of World War II on members' lives, and how to relax in Hawaii!!

Remember, DUES ARE DUE for our next academic year. If you joined the Institute last March/April, your dues must be paid with your registration for the upcoming spring semester.

HAVE TIME, WILL TRAVEL

A number of LRI members signed up as interested in trips of a week or more, arranged perhaps through Elderhostel or a local travel agency. If you can help form a committee to get this program started, call the office (385-1593) and leave a brief message and your name and telephone number.

WHAT OTHER LRI'S ARE DOING

LYCEUM, a Lifetime Learning Association at State University of New York-Binghamton, is hosting the 1992 Northeast Conference of Institutes for Learning in Retirement from March 1 to 3, sponsored by the Elderhostel Institute Network to which we belong. The cost is \$105. Carol Ferrara has a brochure on the conference or you can call (603) 862-3642.

"YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD"

Have you seen the new LRI brochure with the window design? Thanks to the group effort of **Connie Dillman** of Suzuki Design, who donated her art work, **Sally Haynes**, Director of Public Affairs at the Washington Gas Co., which generously paid for printing costs, Board member **Alix Naff** and LRI's hard-working Coordinator, **Carol Ferrara**, we have 5,000 copies of this attractive brochure that describes who we are and what we do. You can pick up copies to give to prospective members or to distribute at organization meetings you attend.

The brochure is also a good way to explain the LRI concept to potential contributors. Keep in mind that LRI needs funds beyond membership dues in order to acquire equipment to improve our administration, to attract occasional guest speakers who don't volunteer, and to enable us to expand. If you have contacts with corporate fund grantors (perhaps with your former employer) or with individuals interested in supporting LRI, use the new brochure as part of your effort to enlist their help. All contributions are tax-deductible and can be acknowledged in our publications. (Please let Board member **Don Simpson** know which corporations you approach so he can coordinate LRI's fund-raising program; you can leave a message for him at the office: 385-1593.)

GMU'S "READ" PROGRAM

READ (Reading Education for Adult Development) is a program that uses student volunteers to improve English skills of foreign speakers who work on the GMU campus. LRI members have been invited to participate as volunteers. After a brief training session, tutors work one-on-one for two one-hour lessons a week. You can get more information from **Carla Morelli** (993-5688), the GMU senior who heads the program.

WATCH FOR YOUR SPRING SEMESTER

CATALOG AND SIGN UP EARLY FOR

THE CLASSES YOU WANT TO TAKE

PRODUCTIVE PARTYING

It's becoming a pattern: When LRI people get together for an open house party, there's good food, good conversation and good ideas exchanged. All of this was true of the December party that marked the end of the fall semester.

About 100 people, including Delegate Kenneth Plum, one of LRI's strongest supporters, enjoyed a program that brought members up to date on our organization's first year, financial status and future growth plans. Breaking up into smaller groups, everyone brainstormed ideas for improving LRI's operations.

Some of the ideas have already been implemented, including having a liaison person in each class to take attendance, inform the class of upcoming events and take care of other administrative tasks. **Dagmar Lending**, chairperson of volunteers, and **Ruth Shields**, **Vince Boylan**, **Grace Evans** and **Golde Rhodes** started this system in the winter semester.

The holiday buffet at the party was provided by **Edna Derrick** and her much-appreciated group of volunteers.

TAKE THE CUE TO GMU

For an easy way to zip over to the campus, park your car at LRI and take the yellow or green CUE bus. The No. 1 bus takes you to the kiosk, within easy walking distance of the library and bookstore. Take the No. 2 bus back from the kiosk pick-up point and get off at Sager St. near LRI. The buses run about every 10 minutes; call 385-7859 if you want a schedule. The ride is free for those over 60 and 35 cents for others not GMU students.

EVERY TUESDAY AT 1:30

Committees are meeting on a regular monthly schedule now. Meetings are on Tuesdays and start at 1:30. All LRI members are welcome at all meetings.

1st Tuesday	Finance
2nd Tuesday	Curriculum
3rd Tuesday	Board
4th Tuesday	Publicity/Membership

Learning in Retirement Institute
George Mason University
4085 University Drive
Fairfax, VA. 22030-4444

Telephone: (703) 385-1593