

# LRI news

VOL. 2, NO. 4

DECEMBER 1992

## CALENDAR

### December

- Tues., Dec.15, 10:00 a.m., Board meeting  
Tues., Dec.15, 1:00 p.m., Publicity Com.  
meeting  
Wed., Dec. 16, 10:00 a.m., Curriculum Com.  
meeting

### January

- Tues., Jan.5, 1:30 p.m., Finance Com. meeting  
Tues., Jan.12, 10:00 a.m., Board meeting  
Wed., Jan.13, 10:00 a.m., Curriculum Com.  
meeting  
Mon., Jan.18, 4-week winter term begins  
Fri., Jan.22, 12-2:00 p.m., Luncheon/lecture  
on GMU campus  
Sat., Jan.23, 8 p.m., Navy Band Concert  
Tues., Jan.26, 1:30 p.m., Membership Com.  
meeting  
Fri., Jan.29, 2:00 p.m., Lecture/video on  
"Ballet at GMU"

### February

- Tues., Feb.2, 1:30 p.m., Finance Com. meeting  
Wed., Feb.3, 2:00 p.m., "Music of the 20s,  
30s, and 40s"  
Fri., Feb.5, 1:45 p.m., Tour of Greek sculp-  
ture exhibit at National Gallery of Art  
Fri., Feb.12, 2:00 p.m., Video on "Education  
Reform"  
Tues., Feb.16, 10:00 a.m., Board meeting  
Wed., Feb.17, 10:00 a.m., Curriculum Com.  
meeting

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President	Shirley Fox
Vice President	Audrey Markham
Treasurer	Don Simpson
Secretary	Martha Poling

### Board of Directors

Vincent Boylan	Martha Ford	Aldo Scalzilli
Kathryn Brooks	Frank McMahon	Henry Shenker
William Cooley	Dorothy Millner	Lilyan Spero
Edna Derrick	Alix Naff	Ed Swoboda
George Felton	Garrett Ruhl	Ellis Woody

Coordinator: Carol Ferrara

Editor, LRI News: Marjorie White

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all LRI members, faculty and especially to Carol Ferrara, our Coordinator, who has enabled us to complete another exciting eight-week semester. The catalog for the four-week winter 1993 semester is enclosed. Class assignments will be made starting January 8, so get your Registration Form in early.

Your Board of Directors continues to seek more space for classes. In addition to our regular classroom and office space in Room 215 at 4085 University Drive, we will continue to meet in Room 306 of City Hall, and we have scheduled one class in Board Room A of the Court House, 4000 Chain Bridge Road, which is just a short walk from our office. Information on where classes will meet will be sent along with your Confirmation of Classes form.

My thanks to all who volunteered their assistance on committees and at the desk. And thanks also for your suggestions, which help make LRI a truly membership-run organization. After the spring semester, we will hold our second annual membership meeting to consider important changes in our present by-laws now being considered by an ad hoc committee of the Board. Members will receive a copy of the proposed by-laws for review prior to the annual meeting.

It's not too soon to begin to identify those members who you think would make good leaders of the Institute--including yourself! The Nominating Committee will be announced early enough for you to submit candidates.

Don't forget LRI when you make your end-of-year tax-deductible contributions. Again, happy holidays, and come back January 18.

*PRF*

## FOOD, FLOWERS AND SONG

Magda Boylan got the end-of-semester party on November 20 off to a great start with her solo tribute to the teachers, who then received boutonnieres from President Shirley Fox. Audrey Markham followed with a rundown on the courses scheduled for the four-week winter term and a sneak preview of the spring term. After that everyone headed for the tables loaded with punch and cookies provided by Edna Derrick's Hospitality Committee.

Here are the words to Magda's version of "Thanks for the Memories."

### "Thanksgiving Song"

Here's to our L.R.I.  
The founding VIP  
The vision she could see  
Blood, tears and sweat  
But goals were met  
For lucky you and me —  
How perfect it was.

And thanks for the memory  
The knowledge teachers shared  
We really felt they cared  
No perks, no pay  
They said okay  
We'd hug them if we dared —  
How grateful we were.

Many the viewpoints debated  
And some of the readings we hated  
But good-will was always created —  
Now time is up, we've drunk the cup.

So thanks for the memory  
We're smarter than before  
But anxious to learn more.  
Let's meet again in academe  
That's what I'm hoping for  
So thank you all—so much!

## The Volunteer Corner

### Dr. William Cooley

Going from teacher of engineering fundamentals, engineering computer graphics and computer-aided design at George Mason University to enthusiastic supporter of school reform for grades K through 12 is quite a leap, but that's what Bill Cooley did a couple of years ago.

A member of LRI's Board of Directors and its Curriculum Committee, with responsibility for Special Events, Bill spends even more time volunteering as a tutor at J.E.B. Stuart High School and serving on various committees that are trying to improve education in our area. One of these, the Technology Education Advisory Committee, works for curriculum changes that emphasize integrating classroom subjects and requiring students to demonstrate competency. The Education Committee of the Northern Virginia Technology Council that Bill serves on tries to get employers and businesses to support education. Another of his education-oriented activities involves the planned Discoveryville Children's Museum in Loudoun County. In April 1992, Bill was honored by Fairfax County Public Schools as a Community Resource Assistant.

Bill would like to see more LRI members involved with tutoring and other activities that help improve our schools. He can give you information on what you can do and also recommend books and videos on the subject of educational reform; his number is 591-3379.

If you'd like to learn about helping a foreign student at GMU by becoming a Language Partner, call the Office of International Programs and Services, 993-2970.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT LIFETIME LEARNING

"As America's population of retirees continues to grow, it is incumbent on society to meet our mental and emotional needs as well as the physical needs of the elderly. One of the main problems retirees face is the lack of stimulating interchange of ideas. While we can learn from reading and the media, you cannot talk back to a periodical or a television set. And after many years, even the responses of those with whom you share your life are predictable. We know how they will react. Our institute seminars afford us meaningful, often exciting dialogue with our peers. A pleasant side-effect is the new friendships among mature people with shared interest who relish the intellectual challenge of lifelong learning. Thus, it can be said that the Elderhostel Institute Network and participating universities are making a meaningful contribution to society by helping us meet our needs for continued intellectual and social growth."

Gretchen G. Lankford, President  
Academy for Lifelong Learning  
at Carnegie Mellon University

## GETTING DOWN TO CASES

On November 17 the LRI class studying the U.S. Supreme Court visited the Fairfax County Judicial Center for an orientation on the public access to records and trials and to tour the county's public law library. Garrett Ruhl arranged for an explanation of the public use of the collection of Virginia laws and judges' decisions, legal periodicals, encyclopedias and extensive reports of appellate decisions across the country. The LRI members looked up recent cases and learned about the help that staff librarians provide. The library is located at 4110 Chain Bridge Rd.; the phone number is 246-2170.

Afterward, the class had lunch together and discussed new legal topics for the spring semester, including insanity, jury psychology, educational segregation, smoking, business taxes, obscenity and double jeopardy. (If you want to do some reading during the winter, ask Garrett for suggestions.)

## A POET'S TRIBUTE

Mary Beben's fellow poets and teacher Ellen Anderson persuaded her to share her poem about the class with the rest of us.

### Poetry 601

What hidden hunger of the human heart  
has tempted me to tarry in this place  
where wit and wisdom blend in gentle grace  
and I am challenged by a counterpart?

Those deathless Dorothean thoughts impart  
a skyward sweep - a leap to interface  
with fiery verbs, Barbarian-wrought, a pace  
combined of playful wit and poet's art.  
But eloquence is Ellen's spell to cast  
from true perspective of experience;  
Elizabethan lines are warm and bright,  
while Cyril captures currents of the past  
and Mary's scenes enchant our every sense.  
Ah, here the soul is fed and takes delight!

## LUNCHESES...DINNERS...EVEN A REUNION

When the fall semester ended, members of a number of classes met again for a meal together. Dorothy Millner's Shakespeare class had lunch, as did Flora Hedblom's Point of View class. Flora's class then followed up with a pot-luck dinner at Laura Cambern's home. As mentioned above, Garrett Ruhl's Supreme Court Decisions class used time together at a restaurant to suggest topics for a similar course in the spring. Glenn Markus's class on Art and Architecture of Ancient Greece had lunch at the Phoenix, a Greek restaurant in Arlington. And then there's the report from the spring Great Decisions class; those folks held a reunion that started with cocktails at the Dewires' home and then proceeded to a Chinese restaurant for dinner.

## ALICE RIVLIN SPEAKS TO LRI

A large number of LRI members must be concerned about the economy, judging by the attendance at a lecture by economist Alice Rivlin on November 13. Speaking on "The Economy After the Election," Dr. Rivlin noted that in the 1984 and 1988 elections, the public was not much aware of the deficit, and she gave Ross Perot considerable credit for the difference this year. She said today's deficit is "structural" and would be difficult to fix even in good times. Her recommendation is to concentrate on long-range solutions, such as investments and improvements to the infrastructure, education and the health system. Her stimulating talk was followed by questions from the audience. Dr. Rivlin commented at the end that she was impressed with the breadth of knowledge the questions showed.

## ELDERHOSTEL INSTITUTE STUDY/TRAVEL PROGRAMS

February 1 is the deadline for registration for the trips to Rome (June 20-July 3, 1993) and Costa Rica (June 12-26, 1993) sponsored by the Elderhostel Institute Network. Call Dorothy Payne, coordinator, for more information (860-2733).

The Auburn University Academy for Life-long Learners will host a new study/travel program called "From Field to Mill: Cotton and the People of the South, 1812-1992." Based in Auburn and Eufaula, the residential program features travel in Southern Alabama from March 7-19, 1993. Sponsored by the Elderhostel Institute Network, the course is open to all members of affiliate Institutes. Excursions planned include Eufaula, Montgomery, Prattville and Callaway Gardens. Preparatory study themes are biography, history and literature.

**HELP NEEDED!**

LRI needs members to volunteer for five important jobs. If you can take on any of these positions, please let Carol Ferrara know as soon as possible.

Recording Secretary: You would attend the Board of Directors meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, take the minutes and prepare them for distribution.

Grant Writer: Someone with experience in proposal writing is needed to help in fund-raising.

Auditor: You would help in bookkeeping and auditing functions.

Letterer: Can you help make signs and do other lettering?

Scrapbook Keeper: The media coverage LRI is getting needs to be gathered in one attractively presented format.

Remember, LRI works only if all of us contribute our particular skills and are willing to help.

**BIRDIE WINS AGAIN**

In September about 450 seniors participated in the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. LRI member Birdie Hughes won golds in Shot Put, Archery, Miniature Golf and Frisbee, plus silvers in Basketball Throw, Baseball Hit and Baseball Throw. You amaze us, Birdie!

**OUR NEW MEMBERS**

A telephone welcome to the 57 new members this fall revealed that 20 of them heard about LRI through current members and 16 read about the organization in newspapers. That proves we members and the Publicity Committee are LRI's best recruiters. Think how fast we'll grow if everyone brings in just one new member.

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**WINTER ALERT:** LRI will be closed whenever Fairfax County schools are closed or opening late, as reported by local media.

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**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:** LRI's office and classroom building, 4085 University Drive, will be closed from December 21 to January 4. You can leave phone messages (385-1593) and someone will respond as soon as convenient. From January 4 to 18, the office hours will be 9:30 to 1:00 p.m.

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