

LRI news

VOL. 3, NO. 2

APRIL 1993

CALENDAR

April

- Fri., Apr. 23, 10 a.m., Board meeting
Mon., Apr. 26, 3:45 p.m., Distinguished
lecturer Roger Wilkins (City Hall)
Fri., Apr. 30 2 p.m., Travel slide show
on South America (City Hall)

May

- Tues., May 4, 1:30 p.m., Finance Com-
mittee meeting
Fri., May 7, 2 p.m., Distinguished
Lecturer Hugh Heclo (City Hall)
Tues., May 11, 1:30 p.m., Publicity
Committee meeting
Fri., May 14, Registration deadline
for summer session
Fri., May 14, 2 p.m., Travel slide show
on Malaysia and Indonesia (City Hall)
Mon., May 17, 1:30 p.m., Board meeting
(tentative date)
Wed., May 19, 10 a.m., Curriculum Com-
mittee meeting (tentative date)
Fri., May 21, 2 p.m., Janet Solinger on
Smithsonian Resident Program (City Hall)
Fri., May 21, Spring session ends
Mon., May 24, 10 a.m. ANNUAL MEETING
(Ballroom, Student Union II)

June

- June 9 - July 1, Summer session
(see enclosed list of Courses and
Special Events)

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

As I write my last "From Your President" column, I can look back to serving on the Steering Committee that began to transform the idea of a Learning in Retirement Institute in Northern Virginia into reality, and becoming the Vice President for Programs and then the President. Since that fall of 1990, the Institute has become an important institution in the community, with a membership of over 170.

The Institute has been recognized by Fairfax County in a Resolution, introduced by Kate Hanley and passed by the Board of Supervisors, that enables us to occupy temporarily available County space at no cost. It has also been the impetus for a Resolution of both houses of the Virginia legislature, introduced by Kenneth Plum, encouraging institutions of higher education in the State to aid the establishment of Learning in Retirement Institutes on their campuses. (A framed copy is in our office.) Our long-term success, however, depends on a number of factors: more members, a stronger financial base, and assured permanent space.

Our two-year experience has shown that we need to divide tasks into more manageable segments and share the work among more members. We will be looking to all of you to contribute your talents and suggestions. As our membership grows, it is difficult to know everyone, so we must rely on you to let us know how you would like to be involved. Much of the satisfaction from being an LRI member is getting to know other members; serving on a committee is one of the best ways to get acquainted.

I urge each of you to attend the annual meeting on May 24, to vote on the new By-laws and to elect eight new Board members.

I look forward to taking courses with you for many years to come.

ARF

Board of Directors

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

Vincent Boylan Judith Lieberman Henry Shenker
Kathryn Brooks Frank McMahon Lilyan Spero
William Cooley Dorothy Millner Ed Swoboda
George Felton Alixa Naff Ellis Woody
Martha Ford Garrett Ruhl

Coordinator: Carol Ferrara

ELDERHOSTEL NETWORK STUDY/TRAVEL

1. "Native Americans of New England" is a weekend program at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. There's a preparatory study program, which can be done independently. The dates are August 20-22, 1993.

2. A program in Oaxaca, Mexico, is scheduled for January 9-22, 1994. The preparatory study course focuses on Mexican culture, with components on novels, poetry and painting. The residential program in Oaxaca is structured around Spanish language classes (for varying levels), with field trips and lectures (in English) on various aspects of Mexican history and culture. The cost is in the range of \$900 - \$950 per person, based on double occupancy (airfare not included).

Whether our LRI will be offering the study course for the Mexico program has not yet been decided, but if you are interested in either of these programs, see Carol Ferrara, who has additional information.

DONATIONS TO LRI

The following people have made special donations to the LRI Endowment Fund mentioned in the last LRI News: Beatrice Hale, Helene Layman, Judith Lieberman, Eleanor Morrow, James O'Keefe, Mary Shea and Don Simpson. Also, the Publicity Committee made a donation.

Remember that all donations to LRI are tax-deductible. The money is used for items not provided for in the budget. Perhaps you would like to make a contribution in memory of someone or to mark an anniversary or some other special event in your life.

Checks should be made payable to "LRI Endowment Fund."

* * * SUMMER SESSION STARTS JUNE 9 * * *

Enclosed with this newsletter is the list of courses and special events scheduled for the summer and a Registration Form. Please mail your Form by Friday, May 14.

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WRITING WORKSHOP

The Arts Project Renaissance is sponsoring a six-week discussion and writing workshop on Multicultural Writing from April 23 to May 28. The class will write and share creative work as well as discuss writings that reflect the rich cultural heritage of the United States. Included will be writings embracing a range of African-American, Hispanic, Native American and Asian-American voices, including Lucille Clifton, Amy Tan, Maya Angelou, Reuben Jackson and Leslie Marmon Silko. The class will meet from 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. at St. Mary's Court, 725 24th St., N.W., Washington, D.C., which is close to the Foggy Bottom Metro stop. Call Margaret Pully (202-223-5712) to register.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

Whenever you learn that an LRI member is ill, let the office know so that a card can be sent and other members informed.

A SALUTE TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

National Volunteer Week takes place in April, so this is a good time to talk about how much LRI depends on its volunteers. Just about everything that goes on to keep us "up and running" is done by volunteers. The spirit, enthusiasm and talent of our members are what shapes the Institute. Volunteers take on jobs that range from revamping the By-laws to wrangling with the photocopy machine to assisting teachers in the classroom. No task is too big or too small. Our unpaid teachers not only lead stimulating classes but also on occasion even pitch in to move furniture. Through committees, volunteers work together to explore curriculum ideas, find outstanding teachers, search for classroom space, recruit new members, plan our get togethers and let the world know what a great program we have. They've even managed to figure out how to keep us afloat financially. Our office staff aides are helpful and efficient in answering the phone and dealing with questions. They put a "friendly face" on LRI for all who call.

To all you volunteers who share your talents and take the time to make LRI what it is, a big THANK YOU!

SOME OF THE WHEREAS'S IN RESOLUTION NO. 568

The impressive Resolution now framed and hanging in our LRI office is House Joint Resolution No. 568, agreed to by the House of Delegates and the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia in February 1993. Delegate Kenneth Plum, an early and continuing supporter of our LRI, introduced the Resolution in the House of Delegates, and Senator Joseph Gartlan co-sponsored it in the Senate.

The Resolution encourages the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, the Virginia Community College System and the Commonwealth's institutions of higher education to support the establishment of Learning in Retirement institutes and organizations.

Among the WHEREAS's in the Resolution are these:

WHEREAS, many retired or semiretired individuals possess valuable skills and knowledge acquired through their educational and professional experiences in the arts,

business, industry, and other areas of expertise, and often share these skills through community service and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, these citizens might continue to share and enrich their skills through specially designed educational programs created and taught by other retirees through membership-governed institutes sponsored by institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, by drawing on the lifetime experiences of their members, these "Learning in Retirement" institutes and organizations permit retiree members to explore higher learning for personal enrichment without examinations, grades or degrees and afford members the opportunity to establish appropriate educational objectives; and

WHEREAS, the multifaceted missions of Virginia's two- and four-year institutions of higher education may incorporate opportunities through the use of campus facilities, benefiting not only retirees but local communities as well; ...

Sounds just like our LRI, doesn't it?

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1993 LRI ANNUAL MEETING, MONDAY, MAY 24, 10:00 A.M.

The second annual meeting of LRI will be held in the ballroom of Student Union II on the George Mason University campus. Parking is available at no cost in Parking Lot B.

This is an especially important meeting. You will be asked to approve new By-laws, which determine how the Institute is governed, and to elect eight new members to the Board of Directors. You will receive in the mail an agenda for the meeting, a copy of the proposed By-laws, and biographical information for the slate of nominees prepared by the Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting provided the nominees have agreed to serve if elected.

Coffee and refreshments will be served, and you will have a chance to talk with the nominees and other LRI friends.

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PROMOTING LRI INSIDE THE BELTWAY

On February 22, Garrett Ruhl, Allen Montecino and Charles Cremeans explained the opportunities of continuing education at Goodwin House, a large retirement community in Falls Church. Introduced as offering "no tests, no grades, no homework and all you can learn," the LRI program was explained by Garrett, who also described the spring courses and special events. Al gave a sample of his class on intelligence operations in the Revolutionary War, using slides and handouts. Charles related the basics of his new course on Africa to the current news and persuaded the 34 lively retirees in the audience that LRI was relaxed fun. Our team left catalogs and flyers with the Goodwin House residents, who promised to spread the word to several hundred others in their community.

By the way, the Publicity Committee apologizes to Bob Ritchie for omitting his name from the news release about the February TV program featuring LRI.

A N N U A L M E E T I N G

Monday, May 24

10 A.M.

Ballroom, Student Union II
George Mason University

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