TALLWOOD TIMES



Published quarterly by the Learning in Retirement Institute at George Mason University 4210 Roberts Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032-1028

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DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL

Wed., Apr.7, 1:30, History Club Wed., Apr.7, 2:00, Special Events Subcommittee

Fri., Apr.9, 10:00, Program Committee Wed., Apr.14, 1:30, Book Club Fri., Apr.16, 10:00, Board of Directors Special Events: Apr.2, 9, 21, 23 and 28 *

MAY

Wed., May 5, 1:30, History Club Wed., May 5, 2:00, Special Events Subcommittee

Fri., May 7, 10:00, Program Committee Fri., May 7, 1:00, New members social Fri., May 7, Summer catalog mailed Wed., May 12, 1:30, Book Club Fri., May 14, Spring term ends Fri., May 21, 10:00, Board of Directors Mon., May 24, 10:00, ANNUAL LRI MEMBERSHIP MEETING Mon., May 24, Registration deadline for

summer term
Special Events: May 7, 12 and 14 *

JUNE

Wed. June 2, 1:30, History Club Wed., June 2, 2:00, Special Events Subcommittee

Mon., June 7, four-week summer term begins

Fri., June 4, 10:00, Program Committee

* Your confirmation letter tells which Special Events you are registered for. Check your spring catalog for more information.

The Learning in Retirement Institute at George Mason University is a non-profit, affirmative action, equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color or ethnic origin. It is a 501(c)(3) organization, and contributions are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

A Word From Your President

Every so often, an organization needs to take stock and look to its future. LRI started with less than 100 members, a limited program of courses held at several locations in Fairfax, a staff of one part-time person (Carol), and great hopes for an uncertain future. We are now in our ninth year with a membership of 560, expanded programs at two sites, a fund-raising plan, and a start on revamping the organizational structure to meet increasing complexity and needs. Many people can take credit for our progress, and all members can take pride in what we do.

We still face daunting problems. One is the need for space—for classes, social interaction, office staff and parking. The Board has approved the installation during the summer of a second modular unit to house our office staff. The present office will become TA2, and the social room will double in size by taking over the existing TA2 space. Though this relieves pressure on social and office space, it does nothing to expand classroom space at Tallwood. Nor is there a prospect of significantly expanded classroom space at Lake Anne in Reston. There are no immediate answers to these needs, other than renting space at rates that would drive the membership fee through the roof. We will explore long-term options, but don't expect miracles. The fact is that we will probably run out of space to accommodate increasing membership within a few years. Exactly when it is impossible to predict.

Another long-term problem is managing the Institute efficiently. We have made a start in this direction by promoting Carol to Program Coordinator. We have a new Administrator and a new Administrative Assistant (see the item on the next page).

I'm sure that you have wondered, as I have, whether LRI is ever going to "settle down." Maybe, but I doubt it! This is partly a matter of perception. Organizations that have no challenges can easily atrophy. That is certainly not happening to us, so perhaps having a few problems where no immediate solutions are evident isn't such a bad thing after all.

Our annual general meeting will be held on Monday, May 24. You'll get more information about this in the mail. If you can't attend, you may cast an absentee ballot for Board nominees. This meeting will also be my last official act as President—my term expires at the first Board meeting after the annual meeting. Now is a good occasion for me to thank, which I do heartily, everyone on the Board, in the office, and in the membership for your support and cooperation during the past year.

Michael Styles

Please check your listing in the Membership Directory, including your email address, and let the office know if any corrections need to be made.

Hello and So Long

Changes have been taking place in the LRI office. On March 1 Jennifer Maloney started work as the Administrative Assistant. Jennifer says she is enjoying the change from her previous position as a preschool teacher. She is married and has three active children, all swimmers at the pool next door.

Robin Zeigler has resigned. Joanne Lingerfelt becomes Administrator in mid April. She comes to us from First Union National Bank and has a degree in math and economics with a strong background in finance and accounting. She and her husband have three teen-age children and live practically next door in Kings Park West off Roberts Road.

April 5 was Robin's last official day at LRI, but she will continue to help with database functions for a while. This willingness to keep helping LRI is typical of Robin. Her ability to cope with so many different tasks so cheerfully and efficiently will be missed. We know she will do well in her new position at the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and her many friends at LRI hope she stays in touch.

History Club

At the April 7 meeting of the History Club, Bill Deary, Coordinator of the club, will report on three biographies of Bismarck and the variety of evaluations historians have made of him.

On May 5 Bernie Topp will talk about the Dred Scott decision and its importance in American history.

All LRI history buffs are encouraged to come to the meetings on the first Wednesday each month at 1:30.

Book Club

Betty Worch has been serving as Coordinator of the LRI Book club. She and her husband. Richard, also an LRI member, are moving from the area this month, but she hopes to be at the April 14 meeting. Club participants appreciate all she has done and wish her well in her new home.

The Book Club meets on the second Wednesday each month at 1:30, and all LRI members are welcome to attend. Because of the snow storm in March, the April 14 meeting will include A Hole in the World, by Richard Rhodes, originally on the schedule for March, moderated by Earl Canfield, and Bluest Eyes, by Toni Morrison, with Katherine Russell moderating.

For May 12, the selection is *Here on Earth*, by Alice Hoffman, with Joanne Becker moderating.

On June 9, Shirley Hyland will lead a discussion of *Brave New World*, by Aldous Huxley.

The club doesn't plan to meet in July. The book for August is *Memoirs* of a Geisha, by Arthur Golden.

Thanking Our Teachers

The Program Committee is getting good reports on the many courses and special events that are going on this term. Our teachers receive no compensation for the time and effort they put into presenting their courses, so thanks from the students are espe-

cially appreciated. Write a note or take a moment to thank teachers, coordinators and other presenters for activities you've especially enjoyed.

Mail From LRI

Recently, all members were sent an invitation to become a Friend of LRI by making a donation. The response to this special mailing has been good. Names of those who contribute will appear in the July issue of *Tallwood Times*. Every donation, no matter what amount, is important in helping LRI meet its goal of providing an even better program and in showing that members strongly support the organization. If you haven't sent in your donation, please do so soon at whatever level is comfortable for you.

Coming to your mailbox toward the end of April is a new Volunteer Handbook, designed to tell members about volunteer jobs at LRI: the duties, how much time is involved and the training offered. Included with the Handbook will be an important questionnaire, which all members are urged to fill out and return as soon as possible. A GMU intern will be working at LRI this summer setting up a database to keep track of the information from the questionnaire. After that, we hope to publish a Biographical Directory.

In Memoriam

LRI lost two members in February, Adele Breaux and Laura Cambern. Both were well-known in Fairfax County because of their active involvement in community affairs.

Adele was President of the Rutherford Civic Association and President of the Braddock Tree Planting Project, activities that earned her the Lady Fairfax award. Her husband, Fred, is an LRI member.

Laura worked for many years on the Fairfax County Human Services Council. She also served terms as LRI's President and Vice President. For the fall 1998 term she developed a course with speakers from the county discussing the services the county offers. Before her death Laura arranged to have her obituary state that contributions could be made to LRI, and her many friends both in and out of LRI have given generously in her name.

Contributors to LRI

The lists below show names of those who have made donations to LRI since the listing in the January issue of *Tallwood Times* up to March 23. Nineteen donations were made anonymously. Those whose contributions since the January issue equal or exceed \$100 are shown as Supporters. All Donors and Supporters for 1999 will be listed in the January 2000 issue unless they wish to be anonymous.

Friends of LRI Supporters

Barbara Achilles Beverly George First Union Bank Alice Gigliotti Agnes Kelly Elizabeth Lane Karen Lane Janet Meisenhelder Donell Newsom Martha Poling Benjamin Sokol Lillian Sokol

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LRI Scholarships

Both of the lists above include contributions made in memory of Laura Cambern by LRI members and non-members. The Board of Directors has established the Laura Cambern LRI Scholarship Fund for members in financial need. Anyone wishing to apply for a scholarship should speak personally to the Administrator or to the President.

EIN 10th Anniversary Conference June 27 – 29 Renaissance Hotel Washington, D.C.

The Elderhostel Institute Network is holding a conference to celebrate its tenth anniversary. The Network's mission is to promote the establishment of new institutes like ours and to encourage mutual assistance among existing institutes. There are now over 260 such organizations in 42 states, five Canadian provinces and Bermuda, with more than 65,000 members. We are truly part of a thriving concept.

The program for the three-day conference at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, D.C., near Metro Center, features speakers, entertainers, discussion groups on subjects of interest to our age group and work sessions on ways to improve retirement institutes. Those who have attended regional conferences with such workshops have found them of great benefit in developing better ways of doing things in our own LRI.

Cost for the full three days is \$295 for reservations received by May 1, \$330 after that date. Single-day registration is \$265 before May 1, \$300 after that date. LRI will pay the fee for Carol Ferrara to attend and also the Administrator. Members are encouraged to attend and to share what they learn with the Board, committee chairs and other members.

Registration forms and more details about the conference are available in the LRI office.

Memorial Concert
in honor of
Dr. Sam di Bonaventura
Sunday, April 11, 1999
4 p.m.
Bellarmine Chapel
4515 Roberts Road
Free. Reception following concert.

Dr. di Bonaventura taught many wonderful music courses at LRI. This concert will feature performances in his memory by the GMU Music Department faculty.

Welcome, New Members

William Ackerman
Doris Alvey
Shirley Belz
Irma Brosseau
Jeanne Coons
Catherine Deck
Alfrieda Donaldson
Barbara Ferens
Jeffrey Flood
Virginia Gorski
Marion Grabowski

Marjorie Lane
Kirsten Liebhaber
Anthony Marcin
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Karen Murchie
Helen Nemeth
Mary Nichols
Veronica O'Donnell
Regina Petrecca
Jim Reed
Ruth Rosenbaum

Marie-Therese Sarkis
Betty Shaver
Dawn Smith
Ray Solomon
Nancy St. Germain
Joan Steinmiller
Linda Tucker
Pauline Vraneza
Elfriede Walker
David Witheford

ANNUAL LRI MEMBERSHIP MEETING



May 24, 10:00 a.m.

Pender United Methodist Church (near Rt. 50 & the County Parkway)

Election of Board members for the coming year...Report on LRI's past year and plans for the future...Refreshments.
(More information will be mailed to all members.)

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT INSTITUTE George Mason University 4210 Roberts Road Fairfax, VA 22032-1028

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