

February LLI Forum

Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at 10 a.m.
(Social Time at 9:30 a.m.)

A Divided America: How Did We Get Here and How Do We Get Out of Here?



Bill Schneider

Bill Schneider has been labeled “the nation’s electionmeister” by the *Washington Times* and “the Aristotle of American politics” by the *Boston Globe*. *Campaigns & Elections* magazine called him “the most consistently intelligent analyst on television.” Mr. Schneider was a member of the CNN political team that won an Emmy for its 2006 election coverage and a Peabody for

its 2008 coverage. In 2009, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems presented him with a special award “for his extensive coverage and keen insight of the 2008 United States presidential elections...showcasing democracy in action” to the world.

After serving nineteen years as senior political analyst at CNN, Mr. Schneider currently is Professor of Policy, Government and International Affairs at George Mason University. His book, *Journey to the New America*, is scheduled to be published by Simon & Schuster in 2015. A contributor to Al Jazeera English, the Huffington Post, and Reuters.com, he also co-authored, with Seymour Martin Lipset, *The Confidence Gap: Business, Labor, and Government in the Public Mind*. He has also written extensively on politics and public opinion for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New Republic*, the *Atlantic*, the *Washington Post*, Reuters, and *National Journal*.

As we begin a new Congress and the next presidential campaign, come to the Forum and bring your questions for our distinguished guest, best known for his coverage of Beltway politics.

Please Note: *Parking is available in the parking garage (\$2/hour). Parking in B and C lots is by permit only. If no garage slots are available, a \$12 daily permit for the B lot is available at the office to the right just inside the garage entry gate.*

Romantic Poetry — Candlelight — Live Music — Chocolate — Light Fare

Mark Your Calendar
 and
 Celebrate Valentine’s Day
 at the

11th Annual Valentine’s Day Open House

Sponsored by the
 LLI Poetry Class

Friday, February 13
 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Little River United Church of Christ
 Social Hall

Flowers — Balloons



Logo Contest Entries Due by March 17, 2015

By now, LLI members should have received an email message explaining the Board of Directors’ goal of modernizing and redesigning the LLI logo in connection with creating an interactive, more modern website. A contest has been established inviting members to participate in an LLI Logo contest. We know we have much artistic and graphic design talent among our members and we’d like to see that talent displayed in a large variety of entries.

The full rules and manner of submitting your ideas were explained in the email message. The key item now is that entries are due by **March 17, 2015**. The winning design will be announced at a spring 2015 Forum and the prize is payment for one year of the winner’s LLI membership dues.

Calendar of Events



February 2015

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 4 | Forum | 17 | Logo contest deadline |
| 11 | March newsletter deadline | 23 | April newsletter mailing |
| 13 | Board Meeting | | |
| 13 | Poetry Class Open House | | |
| 23 | March newsletter mailing | | |

March 2015

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 2 | Flower Show | 1 | Board Meeting |
| 4 | Forum | 6 | Forum |
| 11 | April newsletter deadline | 6 | June newsletter deadline |
| 13 | Board Meeting | 18 | May newsletter mailing |

April 2015

- | | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Forum |
| 8 | May newsletter deadline |
| 10 | Board Meeting |
| 20 | May newsletter mailing |

May 2015

- | | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 1 | Board Meeting |
| 6 | Forum |
| 6 | June newsletter deadline |
| 18 | May newsletter mailing |



IMPORTANT: Report Address / E-Mail / Phone Number Changes

Laura Charron, Administrator

To be assured of receiving important notices concerning classes and trips, **please remember** to notify the LLI office as soon as possible of a new e-mail address as well as a change in mailing address and/or telephone number. Notify the office by phone at (703) 503-0600, or e-mail at llinova@juno.com.

LLI Board of Directors

President: George Chalou	Members: Susan Alexander 17 *
Vice President: Scott Pinckney	Ray Bednarsky 15, Phil Centini 15,
Secretary: Karren Scott	Anna Dixon 17, Delsa Hildebrandt
Treasurer: Charles Hulick	17, Nancy Jerdan 16, HB 'Buck'
Past President: Ed McKnight	Myers 17, Phil Myers 16, Kathryn
	O'Toole 17, Arline Sachs 16

* year term ends

Administrator: Laura Charron

Newsletter Staff

Newsletter Editor: Lynda Brittain 703-425-8240 brittains@cox.net
Assistant Editor: Bev Portman, 703-560-6740 firse@juno.com
Graphic Design/Desktop Publisher: Alfred Brothers
Mailing Coordinators: Bob and Merry Huley

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Members

Louise Blakely 703-451-2084
blakelylk001@gmail.com

Welcome, New Members! We hope you will participate in our classes and volunteer your time and talent.

New Members

Marion Beavers, 5517 Southampton Dr., Springfield, VA 22151, (703) 978-8242, marion.beavers@verizon.net

Sharon Dattilo, 10431 Stallworth Court, Fairfax, VA 22032, (703) 425-1788, (703) 986-9986, sdattilo@verizon.net

Jim Mangi, 3907 Moss Drive, Annandale, VA 22003, (703) 395-3824, jmangi@mangi.com

Kathleen Schmidt, 3907 Moss Drive, Annandale, VA 22003, (703) 395-3824, jmangi@mangi.com

Mark Shoob, 8802 Prudence Drive, Annandale, VA 22003, (703) 425-7721, (703) 864-6168, mshoob@aol.com

Margaret Whitfield, 8813 Skokie Lane, Vienna, VA 22182, (703) 539-8561, (703) 281-5527, margaretwhitfield@yahoo.com

Carol Younger, 1102 Wimbledon Drive, McLean, VA 22101, (703) 821-3339, carolyounger@verizon.net

Update

Jim Hughes, jhughes5335@gmail.com



Please remember to wear your name badge as this is now a requirement for many facilities where classes are scheduled. It is also the best way for new members to get to know others and a way for established members to welcome new members. If you have lost your badge, just contact Laura Charron at the LLI office and she will send you a new one; a replacement lanyard has a fee of \$1.00.



President's Message

Help! LLI Needs You! We are in need of a LLI newsletter coeditor. Even though we are losing Lynda Brittain this winter, Bev Portman has agreed to stay on as coeditor. This new coeditor is more like an assembler and facilitator, as Bev does the style editing. The draft pieces that come in from the chairs of committees and the Special Interest Groups are then forwarded to Bev for editing. The new coeditor is the contact person (almost always only by email) with the LLI membership, our desktop publisher, and our printer. If we cannot find someone to serve, we may be forced to suspend the LLI Newsletter. This long-standing means of communication is vital to the smooth operation of our organization because it covers the entire spectrum of LLI activities and is especially critical to members who do not attend Forums. Please assist our organization in filling this critical need by contacting Phil Centini for more information and offering to help out. Her contact information appears elsewhere in this newsletter under **Volunteer Opportunities**.

As you know, LLI has been without a Trip Committee for several years. Pat Harrison has graciously volunteered to restart this activity and she has written of her plans elsewhere in this newsletter. What a wonderful volunteer to see a need and agree to step in to help. If you see Pat at one of the Forums, walk up and give her a warm thank you.

Another group of volunteers that has done a marvelous job is the Automation Committee headed by Ray Bednarsky. This committee was named by past president Ed McKnight to update and modernize our computerized systems. The committee has worked especially hard on improving the LLI website and in carefully defining our financial reserves. The LLI Board members will shortly be the "guinea pigs" for this prospective LLI web site. Wish us luck! Related to the new website and other LLI publications, the Board is inviting members to participate in a contest for a new visual representation to grace our website and those publications. There is a prize of a one-year free LLI membership — Yes, I said *free!* — for the winning entry. You artists, get busy. See Bob Huley's article in this newsletter for further details.

George Chalou

Community Outreach

Carol Weber, caroljeanweber@hotmail.com
Marianne Moerman, mcmoerman@juno.com

Due to the small turn-out for the snowy day of our January meeting, we were able to collect very little food for ECHO. Therefore, we will support ECHO's food pantry again in the spring. In February, we have selected the Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA) for our food donations.



ACCA provides a range of services for the needy in Annandale, Lincolnia, Bailey's Crossroads and Culmore through the collaboration of 26 member churches with Fairfax County and other human service agencies. ACCA's core ministries are developmental childcare provided by the Child Development Center (CDC), family emergency assistance, emergency food and hygiene products, pick-up and delivery of furniture for needy families, and transportation to medical appointments. ACCA also supports Rebuilding Together (housing rehab), the CROP Hunger walk in Annandale, Meals on Wheels, and college scholarships for students with disabilities. With the exception of the staff of the CDC, volunteers deliver all ACCA services.

In FY 2014, there was a 40% increase in the number of households served by ACCA's food pantry over the previous year. Deliveries were made to 1,131 households, including nearly 4,000 individuals. **At this time the pantry is in need of the following: small bags of rice and dried black beans, cereal, jelly, canned fruit, cookies, and crackers. And, if you don't have any of these items available, any non-perishable food would be appreciated.** Thank you as always.

Carol Weber will deliver our donations to ACCA.



Special Interest Groups



LLI Bridge Group

Bob or Merry Huley, (703) 534-4819 or
(703) 489-9045 roberthuley@cox.net

Time: 10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Location: Mason District Governmental Center,
6507 Columbia Pike

February/March Play Dates — In February, we will play on **Wednesday, February 11**, and **Thursday, February 26**. In March, we plan to play on **Thursdays, March 12** and **March 26** (Note: two Thursdays).

Bring a bag lunch. You do not need a partner because we rotate partners so you will play with everyone. We are always looking for new players, and all levels of players are welcome in this very friendly game. Please call or email me if you would like to attend (or for more information) so that we can provide sufficient card tables.

Recent Results — In our game on **December 10**, the top four players were **Mary Ann Craft, Jim McCall, Raymond Burmester, and Connie Fullerton**; for the game on **December 17**, the top four were **Marie Schacher, Dick Schacher, Nancy Sherman**, and tied **Lynda Brittain** with **Carole Compton**. Congratulations to all.



LLI Current Events Group

Peter Schwarzkopf (703) 998-0769
pschwarzkopf@verizon.net

Date/Time: Friday, February 6, 10:00 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Location: Small Conference Room, Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike

The Current Events Group meets monthly for interesting and educational discussions. Topics reflect the current social, political and worldly events surrounding the time of the meeting. Please join us to share your ideas and/or learn more about current events — whatever is your pleasure.

For further information, please contact Peter Schwarzkopf.

Deadline for the March issue of the newsletter is Wednesday, February 11.



LLI Favorite Books Club

Lynne Smaldone, (703) 525-9623
smaldonega@hotmail.com

Date/Time: Thursday, February 19,
11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center,
9002 Burke Lake Road (in back of King's Park Library)

In recognition of Black History Month, we will be reading *The Known World*, by Edward P. Jones. Set in the 1840s, the novel takes an unflinching look at slavery in all its moral complexities. Henry Townsend is a black farmer and former slave with an unusual mentor: William Robbins, perhaps the most powerful white man in Manchester County, Virginia. Under his tutelage, Henry becomes a proprietor of his own plantation, as well as his own slaves. But upon Henry's early death, this "known world" begins to unravel.

Come join us! For further information, please contact Lynne Smaldone.



Financial Discussion Group

Doug Johnson, (703) 628-3115
llinovadoug@gmail.com

Date/Time: Friday, February 13, 1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center,
9002 Burke Lake Road (in back of the King's Park Library)

Come join your fellow LLers as we try to figure out the market's financial matters and to discuss our options. Hope to see you there.

For further information, please contact Doug Johnson.



LLI French Conversation Group

Lois Czapiewski, (703) 578-7562
loiszap@gmail.com

Date/Time: Tuesdays, February 3 and 17, 10:00 a.m. — noon

Location: Top of the West at the Goodwin House Baileys, 3440 S. Jefferson St., Falls Church

Under the expert guidance of AI Brothers, we will continue to increase our French language skills and

also our appreciation of French culture with the program *French in Action*, Leçon #31.

For more information, please contact Lois Czapiewski.



LLI Gourmands

Linda Cyr (703) 750-1257,
linda.cyr@verizon.net
Patti Volz, (703) 892-6124,
pattivolz@verizon.net

Dark Chocolate Is Good for You! Join the Gourmands on **Sunday, February 15**, from **1:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.** at **Sweet City Desserts**, 131-A Maple Ave West, Vienna. Extend Valentine's Day by one day and enjoy casual afternoon conversation and sweet treats, including gluten-free options, along with a selection of coffees, teas, and hot chocolate. A dedicated seating area will be reserved for Gourmands, who may drop in at their leisure between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. You will order and pay individually at the café counter. Sweet City Desserts website is www.sweetcitydesserts.com. If you are interested in attending please contact Patti Volz by **February 9** at (703) 892-6124, or by email to pattivolz@verizon.net. Mattress Discounters will be your landmark on Maple Ave. Turn down that alley and the shop is on the left.

A dedicated seating area will be reserved for Gourmands, who may drop in at their leisure between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.



LLI Photography Group

Buck Myers, (703) 532-3726
hbm@hbmphoto.com

Date/Time: Friday, February 20, 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center, 9002 Burke Lake Road (in back of the King's Park Library)

Members have a wide range of photographic abilities and interests and share a common desire to hone existing skills or learn new ones. Meetings center on a specific topic, area of interest or theme decided by the group. Recent meetings have focused on getting the most out of your camera, editing and organizing techniques for digital pictures and photographic themes. Meetings also include lessons from the "Fundamentals of Photography" or "The Art of Travel Photography" courses, part of the curriculum offered by *The Great Courses*. Each lesson is presented as a video and includes a small assignment to practice the information taught, which we review at the following meeting. Come join the group if you have an interest in photography.

For further information, please contact Buck Myers.



LLI Walkabouts

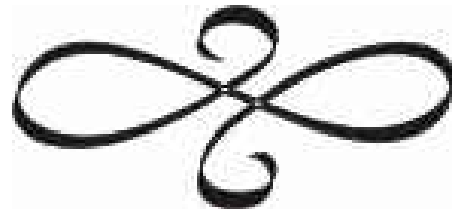
Merry Macke, (703) 451-3248, cell phone:
(703) 987-7751 merry.macke@verizon.net

Date/Time: Fridays at noon. **If the temperature is below freezing or the roads are icy, the walk will be**

cancelled.

February 13: Eakin Park: From Little River Turnpike, go north on Prosperity Ave. The park is on the right at the second dip in the road. We can walk either east or west on the Cross-County Trail.

February 27: Backyard of Greenspring Community: From Old Keene Mill Rd, take Rolling Rd. south and just before the Springfield-Franconia Parkway (Rte. 289), turn onto Hunter Village Dr. to your left which parallels Rolling Road for a brief distance and then goes to the east. Where the road curves to go northward, park around there on Hunter Village Dr. The CCT (Cross County Trail) crosses the road right around there.



Study / Travel

Study/Travel has scheduled several "study" sessions in the LLI Winter-Spring Course Catalog as we continue to prepare for our 2015 trip, **Discover Sicily: Heart of the Mediterranean**, which is now only a short three months away. We encourage all of our travelers to take advantage of these courses.

As we prepare for this year's trip, we are continuing the process of selecting our 2016 trip. The snow storm required us to cancel the January meeting; but we will be emailing a summary of our research, analysis and recommendations for the 10 preliminary destinations selected last November. To reduce this list, prior to the February Forum, we will poll our members to determine their preferences among the 10 destinations. Join us at a meeting following the February Forum to learn the results of the poll as the 2016 trip selection continues to be refined.

If you are interested in getting on our email list, contact Bob Huley at (703) 534-4819 or roberthuley@cox.net.

Happy traveling!

Calling All Those Interested in Day Trips!

Pat Harrison is looking for some *easygoing, cheerful and open-minded* members interested in talking about day trips. She would like to meet for coffee/tea or lunch and have a relaxing, productive conversation to discuss places to go/tour and ways to organize and manage trips. The goal would be to come up with ideas for some great trips that can be easily pulled together. Some of you may be interested in managing a future day trip, while others may simply want to contribute ideas. Any and all contributions are most welcome! Talk to Pat to learn more. She can be reached at (703)550-7530 and at pjharris80@msn.com.

Important — LLI Handbook and Membership Directory to Be Issued Annually

Recently, the Board decided to issue the *LLI Handbook and Membership Directory* only once a year, rather than the previous twice a year, in order to reduce operating costs. We expect the next directory to be dated February 2015. Please remember to keep this directory until you receive your next one approximately a year after that.

Humor Corner

Paraprofessionals

Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

Where there's a will, I want to be in it.

Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather

If the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) cancel school for the day due to inclement weather or other emergency, all LLI classes, Forums, and other activities, except trips, are cancelled regardless of class location. LLI morning classes are cancelled if the FCPS announces a 2-hour delay in class openings; LLI afternoon classes are cancelled if the FCPS announces early dismissal.

Campus Parking for the Handicapped



NVCC does not issue special permits for using the parking spaces designated for the handicapped on the Annandale campus. Appropriate parking permits issued by any state and the District of Columbia are honored. The permit must be properly displayed and used only by the person or persons to whom it is issued.



Membership Renewal Reminder

The mailing label on each newsletter includes your membership renewal date. You must renew and be a member in good standing in order to register for courses and to participate in LLI's many other activities. Complete the membership form (last page in the current course catalog), check "renewal," indicate any new information, and mail it to the LLI office with a check in the amount of \$110 for each person wishing to continue membership with LLI. Please print clearly to help ensure that your information is entered correctly. **It is important to include the form with your check, for ease in crediting your membership**



Remember to Sign Up for the March 2 Philadelphia Flower Show!



Registration is still open for the March 2 trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show. The show, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, has been called “the largest indoor flower show in the world.” The show features large-scale gardens that range from elaborate landscaped displays to individual and club entries of horticultural specimens.

Bluebird Tours has arranged for both our admission fee and transportation to and from Philadelphia for the bargain price of \$75.00. Meals are on your own at the cafeteria on the second floor of the Convention Center; from vendors along the hallway; or you can take the rear exit and visit the Reading Terminal, which offers a wide variety of restaurants under one roof. The trip is always popular and reservations are filled on a first come first served basis, so **CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT ON THE BUS.** Contact Bluebird Tours at (703) 339-0333. Payment by cash, credit card, or check is due two weeks after you make your reservation. **Be sure to inform Bluebird that you are traveling as part of the LLI/NOVA group.** If you have questions about the trip, the LLI contact is Pat Harrison, (703) 550-7530, and by email at pjharris80@msn.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

LLI always needs volunteers to help with a variety of activities. For a list of these activities please contact one or more of the LLI Coordinators listed below. Match your talents with an area in which you can contribute your time and energy. Join other volunteers, support LLI, and have fun!

Volunteer Coordinator: Phil Centini, 703-658-1545, barry.centini@verizon.net

Speaker Forum Committee: Joseph Pincus, 703-569-0973, joseph@pincus.org

From the LLI Scrapbook

January Forum

LLI President George Chalou (l.) thanks Dr. Jim Zimbelman for his informative tour of our Solar System. A special thanks on such a “bad weather” day.



Who Does What for LLI

*Sid Sachs —
Webmaster,
LLI’s website.*



Forum Refreshments

If you are unable to deliver refreshments on the day for which you have volunteered, please notify **Nancy Jerdan**, (703) 455-2699, or **Phil Centini**, (703) 658-1545, as soon as possible so they may make other arrangements.



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E-Mail: llinova@juno.com — Website: <http://lli.nova.org>



Change Service Requested

**Time Sensitive Material
Please Deliver by
January 23, 2015**

Look at the date on this label.
Is it time to send your dues?

February 2015

February 2



February 14



February 16

