

April LLI Forum

Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at 10 a.m.
(Information Fair 9:00–10:00 a.m.)

***Kirstin Downey Discusses One of the
Most Influential Women in History:
Isabella, the Warrior Queen***



Kirstin Downey

Kirstin Downey writes about the Queen who turned Spain into a global empire and was a powerful force for both good and evil. The Los Angeles Times has selected her book *Isabella, The Warrior Queen* as a finalist for best biography of 2014. Based on five years of research, Downey takes us inside the marriage of

Isabella of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon and how it was Isabella who made the decisions and was the powerhouse behind the throne. She was the queen with the vision to commission Christopher Columbus on voyages to the New World and follow-up aggressively after his discoveries. She organized and accompanied Spanish troops against the Moors, defeating the Muslims at Grenada. But on the dark side, her fanatical Catholicism was the driving force behind the Inquisition and the expulsion of the Jews in 1492. Downey examines the palace intrigues, the Queen's leadership style, her toughness and her place in history.

This will be an LLI return engagement for Kirstin Downey. She spoke at the Forum on March 1, 2011, about her book *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins*. From 1998 - 2008, Ms. Downey was a business journalist for the Washington Post and wrote a widely syndicated column called "On the Job." She wrote 32 articles from 2005 - 2006 about toxic mortgages and other speculative practices of banks and mortgage companies. Unfortunately her clear, early warnings

Attend the LLI Information Fair at the April 1 Forum

Plan to come early to attend the LLI Information Fair to be held prior to the April 1st Forum (9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.). Chat with representatives of our Special Interest Groups and Committees to learn what they've been up to and what they're planning for the months ahead. We'll be raffling off a lovely gift basket, as well as two paid parking passes to use that day. Earn a raffle ticket by bringing a guest to the Forum. If you joined LLI since August 2014, you earn a raffle ticket for being a new member. Below are some additional ways to earn raffle tickets. The drawing will be held after the Forum. **Remember, you must be present to win!**

You can score a ticket by: 1) Being a new member who has joined LLI since August 2014 or bringing a guest to the April Forum (Membership Table); 2) Bringing snacks to the April Forum or signing up to bring snacks to a future Forum (Hospitality Table); 3) Stopping by a SIG or Committee table to chat — signing up to join that group earns you an additional ticket; 4) Bringing four or more items to donate to a food bank at the Community Service table.

were not heeded, and the abuses she had investigated led to the real estate and global financial collapse of 2008. In 2008, she shared the Pulitzer Prize with the *Washington Post* staff for her reporting about the slayings at Virginia Tech. Downey wrote about two professors, Liviu Librescu and Kevin Granata, who lost their lives while protecting the lives of students. A prize-winning journalist and author and a most compelling speaker, Kirstin Downey is our guest at the next Forum.

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.*

Calendar of Events



April 2015

- 1 Forum
- 8 May/June newsletter deadline
- 10 Board Meeting
- 21 May/June newsletter mailing

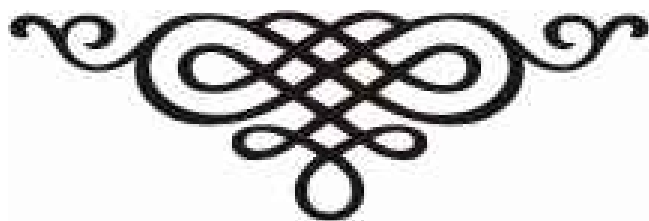
6 June Update deadline

June 2015

- 3 Forum
- 12 Board Meeting

May 2015

- 1 Board Meeting
- 6 Forum



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 Co-Editors: Peg McCall, 703-532-1405, pegmcnews@juno.com
and 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

Tess Ehrenberg, 3117 Beechwood Lane, Falls Church, VA 22044, (703) 578-0948,
tnehrenberg@aol.com

Blake Myers, 10012 Marshall Pond Road, Burke, VA 22015, (703) 239-2528, (703) 868-1728,
jb11thva@cox.net

Update

Ferne Beyer, ferne.music@gmail.com

Katrin Fletcher, 8112 Bullock Ln., Springfield, VA 22151

Annette Henzke, Apt. 452 (new apartment number only)

Martie Klee, martieklee@gmail.com

Important — Keep Your Membership Directory Current

Please remember to retain your LLI Handbook and Membership Directory and note in it the Members information that is provided each month on this page of the newsletter. This will help keep your directory up to date with changes that occur between the annual directory issuance dates. Member information that is received during the summer months, when no newsletter is published, will be included in the September edition.



Scholarship Program

It is not too late to donate to the scholarship program for this year. We will be interviewing the students and making our choices before the end of April. The awards will be given out at the June meeting. Remember your donations are tax deductible. You can mail your checks to Lifetime Learning Institute, Godwin Building, Room 202, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003-3743. If you would like to serve on the Scholarship Committee, contact Arline Sachs, (703) 646-5606, or sachs@nova.org.

President's Message

There will be no message from our President, George Chalou, as he recovers from major surgery. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, June and family. May you have a speedy and uneventful recovery.

Study / Travel

The Study Travel Committee is very pleased to announce that the LLI members who participated in the poll, by a significant margin, selected the Grand Circle Travel (GCT) trip, "Romantic Villages of Alpine Europe," a tour of Switzerland and Austria, as our destination for 2016. We are still negotiating the dates for this trip, but most likely it will be in June 2016. The specifics will be in the May newsletter, including information on how to save 10 percent by signing up early.

The Committee is also excited to announce that we will offer a second trip in 2016, Overseas Adventure Travel's (OAT) trip to Iceland, "Untamed Iceland." This trip will most likely be scheduled in July 2016 to enable members to participate in both trips. More information on this trip will also be in the May newsletter.

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

Happy traveling!

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, phil.centini@verizon.net

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

Community Outreach

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

Our April food donations will help fill the pantry shelves of the Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO). Although originally scheduled for January, our collection netted only a few items since the weather kept most of us at home.



So this month we are hoping for spring weather. ECHO meets emergency needs for food in the Springfield/Burke communities and provides many other services. Twenty-six congregations operate the program with over 400 volunteers. At this time, ECHO welcomes any non-perishable food items and/or household supplies. **Remember**, during the Information Fair, you will receive a raffle ticket for every four items you donate. Martie and Chuck Klee will deliver our donations. Thank you.

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.

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.

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

April/May/June Play Dates — In April, we will play on **Thursday, April 2** and **Wednesday, April 22**. In May, our bridge games will be in Sicily (just kidding)! Because many of us will be on travel with LLI's Study Travel program, there will be no bridge games in May. In June, we plan to play on **Wednesday, June 10** and **Thursday, June 25**.

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 — Because of the snow, we only had one bridge game in February. The top four players at the Feb. 11 game were **Nate Rosenbaum, Janet Goodrich, Carole Compton** and **Bob Huley**. Congratulations to all!



LLI Current Events Discussion Group

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

Date/Time: **Friday, April 3**, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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

The Current Events Discussion Group meets the first Friday of each month 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
May/June newsletter is
Wednesday, April 8.*



LLI Favorite Books Club

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

Date/Time: **Thursday, April 16**,
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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

Our selection this month is *John Adams*, by David McCullough. In this epic biography, he unfolds the adventurous life journey of this brilliant, fiercely independent, often irascible, always honest Yankee patriot who rose to become the second president of the United States.

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



Financial Discussion Group

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

Date/Time: **Fridays, April 10, June 12, July 10, August 14, and Sept. 11**, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING IN MAY.

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

Come join your fellow LLIers as we try to figure out the market's financial matters and 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, April 7 and 21**, 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*, Leçons #32 and 33.

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

GIVE YOUR BODY A WELL-DESERVED BREAK!

Join the Gourmands at **True Food Kitchen**, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax, VA, in the Mosaic District, on **Tuesday, April 28, at 11:30 a.m.** Open at this location only a few months, True Food Kitchen features an anti-inflammatory menu that nourishes your body and pleases your palate. Whether you prefer vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free or “none of the above,” you will find delectable, interesting, healthy selections from which to choose. For more details about this new restaurant concept, the complete menu, and location information, go to www.truefoodkitchen.com. Please RSVP to Bev Portman, firse@juno.com, or 703-560-6740, by Friday, April 24. The Mosaic District is located at Gallows Rd. and Lee Hwy. in Merrifield, a few blocks from the Dunn Loring Metro stop, and provides ample parking either on the street or in covered multi-story lots.



LLI Photography Group

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

Date/Time: Friday, April 17,
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: Braddock District Governmental Center (Braddock Hall Meeting Room), 9002 Burke Lake Road (on right hand side 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 such as Spring. Meetings also include lessons from the “Fundamentals of Photography” or “The Art of Travel Photography” courses which are 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.

New members are always welcome.

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.

April 10: Hunter Mill Road and Hunter Station Road: Take I-66 west to Rte.123 north. On the left, look for Hunter Mill Road, going north and follow that until it intersects with Hunter Station Road. There is a small parking lot on the left. We will meet there and walk east to the W&O Trail to Tamarack Park and follow Difficult Run.

April 24: Fairview Park: From I-495 towards Tysons Corner, turn right (east) on Rte. 50 and follow the signs to Fairview Park south until you see the Marriott Hotel on your left. Park there and meet in front of the hotel.



Course Catalog Revisions

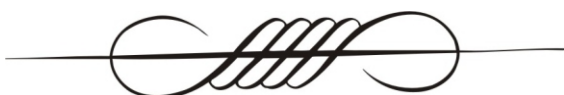
15W48P, Christian Gnosticism, originally scheduled for May 29 and June 5, is **cancelled**. This course may be rescheduled for the Fall 2015 term.

15W03P, How to Take Control of Your Finances in Retirement, has been **rescheduled to Monday, April 6, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.**, at the Goodwin House (Auditorium), Falls Church. **The coordinator has opened the class to any LLI member who is interested in this subject.** Questions: Contact the LLI coordinator, Delsa Hildebrandt, at (703) 532-3970 or delsa007@aol.com.

Space is available for the following courses that Lorin Goodrich is coordinating during the Winter/ Spring term. If you are interested, please contact Lorin directly at lorin.goodrich@verizon.net or (703) 425-9574. No additional registration is required.

15W05P, Popes in the Age of Charlemagne, Monday, May 4, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., Ernst Cultural Center

15W45A, Mapping the Course to Afghanistan's Future, Fridays, May 22 & 29, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Ernst Cultural Center



Diplomatic Reception Rooms Tour

June 5, 2015 — Tour seven Diplomatic Reception Rooms at the State Department that are used by the Secretary of State, the Vice President, and Cabinet members to entertain world leaders. We will see a magnificent collection of early American art and furnishings, including the desk where Benjamin Franklin and John Adams signed the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

Individuals will be responsible for getting to and from the State Department on their own. Check-in time is 10:00 a.m. and the tour starts at 10:30 a.m. Late arrivals will not be permitted on the tour. A photo ID is required. The tour lasts 45 minutes. The State Department headquarters is approximately a six-block walk from the Foggy Bottom Metro station. The building is located between 22nd and 23rd Streets and C and D Streets NW. Additional information will be provided at a later date to those who sign up for the tour.

This tour is limited to 25 participants. If you are interested in attending or have questions, please contact Margaret Whitfield at margaretwhitfield@yahoo.com or 703-539-8561. Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 5th and note that this tour is subject to change or cancellation by the State Department.

Let's Get Moving



The LLI Trip Committee is looking into some potential trips for the latter part of 2015. They are researching information for the following:

- **September 3:** Cheer on the Washington Nationals during an evening baseball game. Confirmed and hosted by Bonnie Hople.
- **October:** Tour the first national cemetery, D.C.'s Congressional Cemetery, and learn the history of how this National Historic Landmark has survived since 1807.
- **October:** Visit the Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater house near Ohiopyle, Pa. and pay respect to the fallen at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pa.
- **December:** Tour the Evergreen mansion, a home considered the jewel in the crown of Baltimore's most distinctive historic homes.

As plans are finalized, details will be published in upcoming LLI newsletters. Stay tuned.

Art and Flowers in the Brandywine River Valley



Tuesday, June 16, 2015 — The Brandywine River Museum in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, is a unique home to American art. This museum is famous for three generations of Wyeth art and noted illustrators such as Howard Pyle. The group will take a shuttle bus to Andrew Wyeth's studio where this well-respected American artist created some of his best work. This special studio tour delves into the very private life of Andrew Wyeth, his relationship with his wife Betsy, and recreates what went into his long remembered works of art.

Next, we are on to Longwood Gardens, started by Pierre DuPont, to experience the colors and smells of spring and reminiscent of the great gardens of Italy, France, and England. June is a breathtaking month to view these gardens with many different flowers in bloom, from peonies to dogwoods. View the stunning Victorian conservatory which always has amazing displays. Lunch will be in the Café, serving only the best, fresh, regional cooking.

This is a spring trip not to be missed. Flowers, history, and art all wrapped up in one incredible package!

Price: \$138 per person, includes deluxe motor coach transportation; admissions to Longwood Gardens, Brandywine River Museum, and the Andrew Wyeth Studio Tour; a lunch voucher; driver's tip; and morning snack.

Please arrive by 6:45 a.m.; we will leave promptly at 7:00 a.m. and return at approximately 7:00 p.m. Departure will be from the Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Little River Turnpike Annandale, OR Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, also in Annandale. **FINAL DEPARTURE LOCATION WILL BE PROVIDED ATTENDEES AT A LATER DATE. PAYMENT IS DUE BY JUNE 1, 2015.** Please make checks payable to **Excursionaire** and mail to Maureen Cyron, 5205 Olley Lane, Burke, VA 22015. Any cancellation must be made in writing to **Excursionaire** and received at the above address no later than June 9. This tour is limited to 28 people.

For questions or additional information, the LLI point of contact is Pat Harrison, 703-550-7530 or pjharris80@msn.com, or Linda Mitchell, 703-493-9440 or donlincd@msn.com, or you may contact **Excursionaire's** Maureen Cyron at 703-323-9040 or cyron@aol.com.

From the LLI Scrapbook

RED
was the
Color of the Day
at the
Annual Valentine's Day
Open House

At the
Valentine's Day Party



At the March Forum



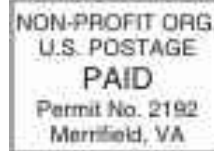
Dr. William Gilcher (r.) with LLI President, George Chalou, after the March Forum.

Established 1996



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Change Service Requested

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

April 1 **April Fools' Day**

April 3 **Happy Passover**

April 5 **Happy Easter**

April 22 **Earth Day**

April 2015